



News & Views

*Always Seeking Safety Excellence
through
Growth, Challenge & Change
1939-2006*



Upcoming Chapter Meetings

General Chapter Meeting

Thursday, April 6, 2006
11:30 am to 1:00 pm
Brady's Landing
8505 Cypress, Houston 77012

Speaker: Rebecca Nadel

-Shell Exploration and Production

Sustainable Development: One Perspective

This presentation will introduce the classic definition of sustainable development: "Meeting the needs of the present generation without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their needs." It will discuss the global context of the world we live in and its environmental carrying capacity. The presentation will address the business value that results from it. Several case studies will be presented and the presentation will conclude by discussing how sustainable development can be embedded across an organization and how progress can be reported to stakeholders.

-Meeting cost is \$17.00 per person
-Open to anyone, no reservations required.

Speaker Bio: Rebecca Nadel

Rebecca is the Sustainable Development and Social Performance Manager for Shell Exploration and Production Company in the Americas. She is responsible for designing and executing the sustainable development and social performance strategy for the region and works closely with the Health, Safety and Environment team to do so.

Rebecca earned her MBA and Master of Science in Natural Resource Management from the University of Michigan through the Erb Institute for Global Sustainable Enterprise. She also holds a Bachelor's degree in Electrical Engineering from Duke University and a Master of Engineering in Underwater Acoustics from Penn State. Formerly, Rebecca worked as an acoustical engineer for a military defense contractor on various sonar and noise quieting projects.

North Section Meeting

Monday, May 1st - 11:30 a.m.
Ramada Inn North – Richey Rd. & I-45
Topic: (still being confirmed)

All ASSE members are welcome to attend.

An all-you-can-eat Buffet lunch is included along with all the good information you will get from our presenter for only a \$12.00 fee.

Point of Contact – Bob Tucci at 713-488-7710 or rtucci@reliant.com.

In Brief

Please ensure your ASSE personal profile information (e-mail, address, phone number) is up to date.

Access the Members Only section of www.asse.org to make changes or contact **Nancy O'Toole at 847-699-2929.**

Did you publish an article in a peer reviewed journal (e.g., Professional Safety)?

Did you publish an article in a scientific journal?

Did you publish a technical article in the proceedings of a conference, newsletter, etc?

Did you participate on a National Standards Committee?

Did you participate on an International Standards Committee?

Did you participate as a guest speaker at conference, an ASSE meeting, or another meeting of a Professional organization?

If you did, please forward the referencing information to Lawrence Schulze at ljhs@uh.edu.

The bylaws are on the way for your approval. We have suggested some changes to the ASSE-GCC bylaws. Please review them and be ready to vote on them at the May meeting. Some of the suggested changes were made by ASSE-GCC members and the ASSE-GCC Executive Committee. Others came from the new ASSE Model Bylaws.

What's happening on the Regional level? Well, Region III held its 2nd Region III Student Leadership Conference. Sixty-seven (67) students attended. Rebecca Ginsburg (Gulf Coast Chapter) and Steve Gray (Southwest Chapter) were the conference organizers. Everything went off without a hitch and the program provided students with important information regarding their role as future leaders of our profession and of the ASSE. Don't worry; we're not being put out to pasture quite yet.

The Youth Rules Rally was held here in Houston on March 25th. Thanks to Cindy Lewis (Gulf Coast Chapter) and OSHA, youth between the ages of 16 and 21 were provided with important information regarding their health and safety on the job and after receiving that information, were treated to a phenomenal number of companies looking for employees.

As usual, Walt Chmielewski was the ASSE liaison to the Houston Engineering and Science Fair. The winner of the GCC ASSE scholarship award plans to attend our May 4, 2006 luncheon meeting at Brady's Landing where she will set up and discuss her project.

The following ASSE-GCC members volunteered at the Engineering and Science Fair Richard Arsenault, Tara Fallin, Patricia Ferrell, Robert Gussman, Velma Lee, Don McKee, Helen Patterson, George Tellez, and Travis Tipton. Thanks y'all for your help!

What's next on the horizon?

A training symposium will be held at Brady's Landing on Wednesday, April 19th from 8 AM – 5 PM for only \$250 (lunch included).

The Sam Houston Council Scout Fair will be held April 22. Contact Mike Potts at Lubrizol at 832-260-7660 or mipo@lubrizol.com to volunteer. Volunteer times are from 6 pm – 10 pm Friday April 21 and 10 am – 2 pm on Saturday April 22.

May 4th, our next meeting will be the last General Chapter meeting of the fiscal year. I would like to distribute 25-year certificates at that meeting. The following is the list of professionals who have been with ASSE for 25+ years.

Charles Adams	Jeffrey Addington	Frank Azparren
Ann Basgal	Stephen Bromillard	David Capra
J. Gary Cizek	Michael Davis	Joseph Gallucci
Michael Garvic	Ira Goodin	Karen Harris
Marvin Hendrix	K. Kincaide	John Kogut
John Lee	Williamn Lukens	Paul Merritt
DeWayne Misner	Robert Morris	Kathleen Murray
Michael Nowotny	Russell Owens	Russell Poese
Timothy Racicot	John Satzer	George Thompson
Travis Tipton	Raymond Williams	Richard Young

Please be on hand to get your certificate. When you sign in, make sure you make a note in the far right-hand column of the sign-in sheet so we don't call out the names of those who are not in attendance.

Our Awards and Honors Program has been moved from June to May 20. We are back on the boat this year. We hope you will join us. The cost is only \$30 per person.

ASSE 2006 Society Elections

The 2006 Society Election voting period is March 1 - March 31.

Visit <http://www.asse.org/elections/> to view the Slate of Candidates with their photographs, biographies and platform statements.

Candidate photos and biographies are also included in the February issue of Professional Safety.

Technical Q & A Bulletin

The ASSE Technical Question and Answer (TQA) Bulletin is dedicated to bringing safety, health, and environmental (SH&E) professionals cutting-edge information that impacts SH&E management. This bulletin is published quarterly, and it provides concise answers to technical issues that are of interest to SH&E professionals and can be found at http://www.asse.org/prac_spec_tqa.htm. The Bulletins posted in 2005 are below:

TQA Bulletin #24 (12/05) We have a concrete truck that will drive into our manufacturing plant to pour new concrete. It will be approximately 25-30 feet inside of 20-foot-tall overhead door...

TQA Bulletin #23 (10/05) We are developing machine-specific lockout procedures. If a procedure has multiple energy sources that are either electrical, pneumatic, hydraulic, or mechanical...

TQA Bulletin #22 (08/05) At a recent Safety Committee meeting, our Chief Financial Officer expressed concern about implementing a Safety Suggestion Box.....

TQA Bulletin #21 (04/05) We have a surface that is 6.5 feet off the ground that an employee stands on to clean a specific part.....

TQA Flyer #20 (01/05) This standard establishes requirements for the performance, design, marking of fall protection...

OSHA Tidbits

OSHA Interpretations

There is a new e-mail notification system designed to bring you a monthly update on OSHA Interpretations. Each month this system will e-mail you the previous month's interpretations released by OSHA on its public web page. A small description will be provided concerning the content of the interpretation and a hyperlink that will redirect you to the actual interpretation posted on the OSHA web site at www.osha.gov.

You can register for this e-mail notification system sponsored by the Houston Business Roundtable's Alliance in conjunction with the Houston Area Offices of OSHA.

If interested you can register at the link below:

<http://www.hacsc.com/2004/OSHAListManagement.htm>

April Technical Audio Conference Calls

The American National Standards Institute (ANSI) recently gave its approval of **ANSI/ASSE Z15.1-2006 Safe Practices for Motor Vehicle Operations**. This standard has generated extensive interest, and during public review of this document there were approximately 80 pages of public review comments and statements. The standard was approved on February 15, 2006, with an effective date of April 28, 2006.

To address the standard, ASSE will be holding a technical audio-conference call on **April 13, 2006** from 11:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Central Time. Our featured speakers will be Carmen Daecher, Chairman of the Z15 Accredited Standards Committee, and former administrator of the ASSE Transportation Practice Specialty and Bill Hinderks who is Vice-Chair of the Z15 Accredited Standards Committee. George Pearson, Administrator of the Risk Management and Insurance (RM/I) Practice Specialty will also serve as a moderator and additional technical source.

Carmen, Bill, and George are going to look at the standard "**Z15.1 - Safe Practices for Motor Vehicle Operations**" and the impact it can have on an organization. The presentation will go approximately sixty minutes. Then, we'll open it up to Q&A for the rest of the program!

This program is only \$75 for members and features:

1. The Z15.1 American National Standard.
2. A quality presentation.
3. A website of technical materials.
4. The ability to submit your questions via e-mail to the speakers and moderator.
5. Following the call you will receive a CD recording of the call.

Save the Date: April 13, 2006 from 11:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. central time.

<http://www.asse.org/fr3387.htm>

Fire Protection is a significant issue for SH&E professionals and has impact on how we manage our programs. ASSE recently launched a Fire Protection Branch and the growth of the branch has been impressive. As a result there has been a call from members to have a technical audio conference call addressing the general issue of fire protection. We also know from member data and insight that the issue of fire protection is of significance to virtually the entire membership. The focus of the call will be on preventative fire protection preparations and planning. We are aware that there is some member interest in fire fighting tactics, but this is not a significant part of this call.

To address the issue ASSE will be holding a technical audio-conference call on **April 19, 2006** from 11:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Central Time. Our featured speakers will be Craig Schroll, very active ASSE member and SH&E professional with significant fire protection experience and Mike Messner who is the current chair of the fire protection branch. Craig is our key speaker and members who have heard him before are aware that he is a high-caliber speaker and will give a quality presentation. Craig has spoken on such calls before for ASSE and member response has been overwhelmingly positive. Mike will be as a moderator and as additional technical source.

The presentation will go for approximately one hour and there will be around 25 minutes for questions and answers. We believe that there will be a significant number of technical questions about the subject and hope there will be significant member participation.

This program is only \$75 for members is recognized for BCSP CoC credit and includes the following:

1. A PowerPoint Presentation addressing fire protection.
2. A quality presentation.
3. A website of technical materials.
4. The ability to submit your questions via e-mail to the speakers and moderator.
5. Following the call you will receive a CD recording of the call.

Save the Date: April 19, 2006 from 11:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. central time.

<http://www.asse.org/fr512.htm>

Human Factors and Ergonomics Society (HFES) Conference

Third Annual One-Day Conference: Call for Participation

Hosted by the Houston Chapter of the Human Factors and Ergonomics Society

Date: May 26, 2006

Location: Jesse H. Jones Graduate School of Management, Rice University,
Houston, TX USA.

The purpose of the conference is to provide a forum for sharing information among a community of human factors engineers, designers, developers, and students who are working in the region. The meeting will be designed to provide time for people to share ideas in a variety of formats and to socialize with other ergonomic and human factors professionals. To make this conference a success, we hope you will contribute by offering to present examples of your work, practical applications, or research interests using either a lecture or poster presentation format. Since it is only a one-day conference, the number of speaking positions is limited, but the number of open poster spots is quite large.

IMPORTANT DATES

March 13	Deadline for abstract submissions
March 27	Notification of acceptance
April 10	Presentation materials and final paper are due
May 26	3 rd Annual One-Day HFES Houston Chapter Conference

Areas of interest include: Aerospace Systems, Aging, Cognitive Engineering & Decision Making, Communications, Computer Systems, Consumer Products, Education, Environmental Design, Forensics Professional, Human Error and Performance, Individual Differences in Performance, Industrial Ergonomics, Internet, Medical Systems and Rehabilitation, Macroergonomics, Perception and Performance, Safety, Surface Transportation, System Development, Test and Evaluation, Training, Virtual Environments.

Additionally, the Houston Chapter of HFES is interested in expanding awareness and promoting the education of human factors and ergonomics in the community. Submissions dealing with these issues are particularly encouraged.

Submissions that are purely commercial in content will not be accepted.

If you wish to submit a presentation or poster, draft an abstract of the work and submit it using the abstract submission form. Presentations will be scheduled for 15 minutes. Poster presenters will be provided a 4' by 8' poster panel for their posters.

Note that for all accepted proposals, one of the authors must attend the meeting to present the work. All conference attendees, including presenters, must register for the conference.

Submission Deadline: March 13, 2006.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Web Site: <http://www.houstonhfes.org/conference2006/>

Please direct your questions to our submissions committee - submissions@hhfes.org



American Society of Safety Engineers News

Protecting people, property and the environment.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

dhurns@asse.org

Contact: Diane Hurns, 847-768-3413,

AMERICAN SOCIETY OF SAFETY ENGINEERS' BOARD APPROVES CREATION OF OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY & HEALTH PROFESSIONAL DAY

DES PLAINES, IL (March 28, 2006) – The American Society of Safety Engineers' (ASSE) Board of Directors approved the creation of an "Occupational Safety and Health Professional Day" to be held this May 3 during North American Occupational Safety and Health Week (NAOSH) which runs April 30 – May 6, 2006. Thereafter, Occupational Safety and Health Professional Day will be held on the Wednesday of NAOSH Week each year.

The purpose of the special day is to recognize the ongoing efforts of occupational safety, health and environmental professionals to protect people, property and the environment.

"They are the ones that make sure you go to and come home from work safely and without injury every day," ASSE President Jack H. Dobson Jr., CSP, said. The motion was passed at the February 25th Board meeting.

National Occupational Safety and Health Professional Day also aims to further raise awareness and pride in the profession, a profession where one is qualified by education, training and experience who identifies hazards and develops appropriate controls for these hazards all aimed at preventing occupational injury, illness and property damage. The safety and health professional follows a Code of Professional Conduct and brings to bear technical knowledge, skill and expertise along with management abilities developed through years of continued education and practical experience. Currently there are about 100,000 occupational safety, health and environmental practitioners in the U.S. today in what has become one of the most challenging and rewarding career fields.

Occupational safety and health professionals have been around for a long time, but formalized in 1911 following the tragic Triangle Shirtwaist Factory Fire in New York City on March 21, 1911. On that date nearly 150 women and young girls died in the Triangle factory fire because of locked fire exits and inadequate fire extinguishing systems. This was a major turning point in worker history as the outrage led to changed government regulations, and new laws were instituted to protect workers. ASSE was formed soon after, October 14 of that same year. ASSE members helped and continue to develop safer and healthier workplaces for all.

ASSE now has 30,000 occupational safety, health and environmental practitioner members who manage, supervise, research and consult on safety, health, transportation and environmental issues in all industries, government, labor and education.

Occupational safety and health professionals have made great strides over the years, as have businesses, employees and employers. To think that only a hundred years ago from the time period of 1906-1911 a total of 13,228 miners were killed in U.S. coal mines alone. Safety and health in the workplace has improved dramatically over the decades, yet there is still more to do. Smart businesses know that an unsafe workplace results in a damaged reputation; increased health care, workers compensation and human resource costs; a drop in production and more. Companies that invest consistently in safety realize positive bottom line results, reduced absenteeism, lower turnover rates, higher productivity, increased employee morale and a positive brand image. Occupational safety and health professionals not only protect all of us, but contribute positively to an organization's bottom line.


"We take time this May 3 to say thanks to those invisible heroes, who every day work to make your workplace safer and healthier," Dobson said. "It doesn't happen often, but when a call is made to a family member that their loved one has been injured or killed on the job several lives change forever. Let's continue to work with occupational safety and health professionals to make sure you and your family never receive that call.

"If you know one, thank your occupational safety and health professional today," Dobson said. "It will mean more than you know."

Formed in 1911, the Des Plaines, IL-based ASSE is the oldest and largest professional safety organization and is committed to protecting people, property and the environment. Its 30,000 occupational safety, health and environmental professional members manage, supervise, research and consult on safety, health, transportation and environmental issues in all industries, government, labor and education. For more information check ASSE's website at www.asse.org.

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Thanks a Million!!

Our highly successful Awards and Honors Banquet would not be a reality without the continued support of local vendors. The ASSE GCC Executive Committee would like to sincerely thank these vendors for their support of chapter activities.

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