

AMERICAN SOCIETY OF SAFETY ENGINEERS

Northern Virginia Chapter

Second Quarter NOVA News
ISSUE 02 MAY 2015



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UPCOMING MEETING

Monthly Meeting
VOSH Program
Update/Vendor
Mixer and Officer Elections
May 21, 7:00 AM
Hilton Garden Inn, Fairfax, VA



A Message from the President

Good day fellow ASSE NOVA safety professionals! Where has the time gone? As I sit here contemplating my final President's Message, it seems like just yesterday (July 2013) I was writing my first, yet here we are nearly two years later and it all seems a blur. As I ponder what has ASSE NOVA accomplished and where have we, as a Chapter, been effective over the last couple of years, I take measure of where the Chapter stands with respect to member engagement and to the benefits that it provides to the membership in terms of education and networking opportunities.

Continued...



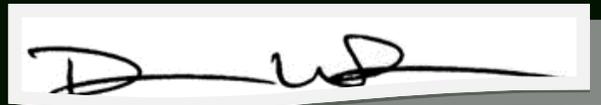
Message from the President cont.

Over the last two years NOVA has seen a significant uptick in volunteer service by established and new Society members alike; more than has been seen since the inception of our Chapter nearly 10 years ago. We've tapped excellent resources to provide strong technical programs and presentation, which have led to some excellent education, discussion, and networking opportunities. Additionally, we've garnered support from within the regional corporate community through sponsorships, which have reached an all-time high in the last two years, to help defray the costs of Chapter operations. And, we've significantly increased meeting attendance over the last two years thanks to our members getting more involved! Indeed, the NOVA Chapter has seen significant and lasting improvement as we strive to be a leading example for Region VI and the Society. The culmination of all of this awesomeness... NOVA Chapter was most recently recognized at the Society level as a *Gold Level Chapter*; a true compliment of their work put in to achieving this level of success is impressive and greatly appreciated by ASSE and myself.

I believe that the folks who have served in Board and Committee Chair positions over the last two years (and longer for some) are an amazing group of people and I'm proud to have been able to be their "guide." Time after time, their ideas, suggestions, efforts, and actions have continued to improve the Chapter for the better and I am proud to call them peers, coworkers, and friends! The tireless efforts of these individuals have continued to improve the Chapter and its operations and for that I say "Thank You" to each of them! NOVA will most certainly remain a *Gold Level Chapter* for years to come with these new and innovative professionals at the helm!! look forward to the next chapter in the story of our NOVA Chapter with great anticipation as those who serve continue to improve the Chapter and its operations for all of its members! What will be your verse? Start by taking the time to come by a meeting or outing and get involved. There are some amazing opportunities to work with some extraordinary individuals here... take full advantage!

Thank you for the opportunity to serve the NOVA Chapter!

David Wenzel,
President



Look for NOVA ASSE on these social networks!



March Chapter Meeting

The monthly meeting was held at Logan's Roadhouse in Fairfax. Terry Sage delivered a very good presentation on Aerial Lifts. The meeting was sponsored by Miller & Long Concrete Construction.

April Chapter Meeting

The monthly meeting was held at Logan's Roadhouse. Juli Dennis delivered a presentation on Health and Wellness. The meeting was sponsored by USI.

May Chapter Meeting

The monthly meeting will be held at Hilton Garden Inn. The topic is the VOSH update. We hope to see you there.

Annual OSHA Update—Crib Notes

On April 2, 2015 the OSHA Directorate of Cooperative and State Programs hosted its 10th Annual Update in cooperation with the American Society of Safety Engineers (ASSE) and American Industrial Hygiene Association (AIHA) Alliances, Northern Virginia, Chesapeake, and National Capital Chapters of ASSE and the Potomac Section of AIHA. Here are some notes .

Dr. Michaels, Assistant Secretary of Labor for OSHA, talked about the importance of safety and emphasized the dangers to temporary workers. He focused on three factors:

1. Temporary workers start several jobs in a year that puts them at greater risk.
2. Employers are not committed to temporary workers.
3. Temporary worker injuries count against the temporary agency and not the company they work for.

Dr. Michaels also spoke about the cost of injuries and illnesses. He noted that some injured employees end up on Social Security Disability Rolls because they do not have worker's compensation. He also noted that 60% of the cost of an injury is borne by the injured employee and his or her family. Continued on page 8.

29th Annual Region VI PDC

The 29th annual Region VI PDC will be in Myrtle Beach. If you only make one conference this year try this one. It gives a great return on investment and provides a great opportunity for networking with other professionals in our Region. For more information go to <http://www.cvent.com/events/2015-asse-region-vi-professional-development-conference-exhibition/event-summary-971b5fb4c02e498f875a21a241290af3.aspx> or <http://region6.asse.org/pdc/>. We hope to see you there!

Safety 2015

ASSE is holding the annual PDC in Dallas Texas. June 7 through 10. This national conference is filled with information and opportunities to network. For more information please go to <http://safety2015.org/>.

NHTSA Prepares to Speed up Takata Air Bag Recall

Automotive News is reporting that NHTSA is nearly ready to take action on the Takata airbag inflator recall. The NHTSA Administrator that a working group has developed options that the agency can take. The Administrator did not disclose the options.

National Safety Stand Down To Prevent Falls in Construction

The National Safety Stand Down hopes to raise awareness of the importance of preventing falls in construction. Falls from elevation are the leading cause of death for construction workers. Two hundred seventy nine of the 806 deaths in the construction industry were from falls, which most professionals believe are preventable. The stand down period is May 4 through the 15. Go to <https://www.osha.gov/StopFallsStandDown/> for more information.

Look for NOVA ASSE on these social networks!



WISE Update

Register to attend our second WISE Personal Development Retreat: WISE-up! on Saturday, June 6th in Dallas. Sessions this year cover career building, multiple streams of income, health, personal strength and once again we will start the day with optional yoga.

Use the www.safety2015.org to “Register Online” button to register for the WISE-up! event. Registration Step 7 shows “WISE Retreat” that you can select. Note: You cannot register for the Retreat by itself online. To register only for the retreat, contact ASSE Customer Service at 847.699.2929.

WISE will also have a Networking Lounge at the Dallas Convention Center in Room C140. The lounge will be open Monday thru Wednesday 7:30 am to 5:00 pm.

Finally, WISE will have a Networking Event sponsored by AirGas Sunday June 7, 6:00—9:00 pm at the Dallas Omni Hotel .

SPALW Update

SPALW (Safety Professionals & Latino Workforce) has taken the initiative to schedule events that will help Business owners, companies, and organizations to learn how to close the communication and cultural gaps with the Latino workforce. SPALW understand how challenging is to work in a Multicultural/Multilanguage environment. The national statistics from BLS shows that among all other ethnics, the Latino workers have the highest fatality rate on the job in the US. These events will focus on providing tips and resources for improving workplace safety, cost reduction, and Increase Company’s profit. The first of these events will take place on SPALW center of excellent ASSE Los Angeles Chapter. SPALW is extending an invitation to all those who are attending Dallas, Safety 2015 PDC to participate of the SPALW Social event. This social event will be held on Sunday, June 7th from 5:30-8:30PM at the convention center.

Calendar of Regional Events

21 - ASSE-NOVA, Annual VOSH Update, Hilton Garden Inn, Fairfax, VA 22033, <http://nova.asse.org/events/> ; 7:00 – 9:00 AM

June

11 - WMACSA, Officer Elections, Clarion Hotel, 8601 Baltimore Ave, College Park, MD 20740, <http://wmacsa.com/calendarofevents.html>; 5:00 – 8:00 PM

16 - ChABSA, Scientific Symposium Workshop Classes, Holiday Inn, Frederick, MD, www.chabsa.org; 8:00 – 5:00 PM

17 - ChABSA, Scientific Symposium, Holiday Inn, Frederick, MD, www.chabsa.org ; 8:00 – 5:00 PM

18 - ASSE-NOVA, Awards and Honors, Logan's Roadhouse, 12821 Fair Lakes Pkwy, Fairfax, VA 22033, <http://nova.asse.org/events/> ; 5:00 – 7:00 PM

18 - ChABSA, 6.2 Hazardous Materials Shipping Course, Frederick, MD, www.chabsa.org; 8:00 – 5:00 PM

Region VI Announces SPY for 2015



Region VI has announced that Julian Mercer CSP, CSHM has been selected as the Safety Professional of the Year for 2015. Julian is a very active member of the ASSE Tarheel Chapter.

Chapter Awards and Honors

The June Chapter meeting will be at Logan's Roadhouse and will be the installation of New Chapter Officers and the Honors and Awards Social. Hope to see you there.

2015-2017 Elections - Final Slate

The current slate of Officer Nominations for the 2015 – 2017 term include:

President: Sara Hoover

Vice-President: Bruce Donato / Kwasi Koranteng

Treasurer: Jorge Otalora

Secretary: Jamie Kohler

Delegate: David Wenzel

Officer elections for the 2015 – 2017 term will take place at the May 21, 2015 membership meeting, please plan to attend. This is a breakfast meeting with the Annual VOSH Program Update and (NEW Vendor Mixer).

NoVA Recognized as Gold Level Chapter

The NoVA Chapter will be recognized at the Chapter Recognition Luncheon as a Gold Level Chapter. The work you have put in to achieving this level of success is impressive and greatly appreciated by ASSE.

The chapter award will be given out at the Chapter Recognition Luncheon on Monday, June 8, 2015, at Safety 2015, ASSE's Professional Development Conference in Dallas Texas. The luncheon will be held from 11:45am to 1:00pm at the Convention Center.

Look for NOVA ASSE on these social networks!



Annual OSHA Update—Crib Notes (continued)

Dr. Michaels also noted that the company where the injury occurred pays little if anything for the injury. He said we need to change this by convincing companies that a good safety program can make the entire company better.

The Directorate of Standards and Guidance:

- Focused on protecting workers from chemical hazards through Green Industry Conversation that focuses on substitution. For a tool kit go to www.osha.gov/dsg/safer_chemicals.
- Annotated Permissible Exposure Limit table is at <http://www.osha.gov/dsg/annotated-pels>. There is a history of exposure limits available at <http://www.osha.gov/chemicalexecutiveorder/index.html>.
- Final ruling on the standard for Crystalline Silica should be out soon
- Working on a proposal for Beryllium.
- Work will be done in the area of infectious diseases.
- A completed revision of a fall protection for the General Industry.
- A new initiative is emergency response and preparedness. OSHA is convening a working group to look at this area.
- Updating the Program Guidance from 1989 to help employees implement safety programs.
- The HAZARD Communication Standard will also be updated.
- Guidance on hazard classification will be issued for public comment.
- Emphasis will be on Agriculture where 25 deaths are experienced per 100,000 workers. A cross-agency task force has been formed.

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Annual OSHA Update—Crib Notes (continued)

The Directorate of Construction:

- Working with confined space rules for construction. They expect this rule to be issued in the next month or two.
- A Request for Information will be sent out to Industry for Communication Tower hazards.
- Additional work will be done to improve operator qualifications for Crane operators by getting a proposal out by the end of the year. Emphasis will be given to safety culture.
- Emphasis will be placed on the Fall Prevention Campaign. This campaign continues the emphasis on Fall Protection while shifting the focus from regions to national. Emphasis will also be placed on the first two weeks of May when the Fall Stand Down occurs with the hope that three million people will be reached.

The Directorate of Enforcement Programs:

- Two thousand and nine hundred reports had been received. Eleven-hundred of those reports resulted in inspections.
- The list of severe injuries and illnesses that must be reported has been expanded.
- The list of exemptions for reporting was updated. The new list of exempted companies uses the North American Industrial Classification Standard and not the Standard Industry Classification.
- OSHA is developing a new means of reporting electronically. More information can be found at <http://www.osha.gov/recordkeeping2014>.
- Emphasis is placed on the triage of reports as they come in, so the response is appropriate.

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Annual OSHA Update—Crib Notes (continued)

The Directorate of Enforcement Program:

- The number of safety inspections has remained constant over the past few years. This is with the reduced effort caused by the Government shut down being considered.
- The number of health inspections is increasing.
- Complaint inspections account for 24% while Industry Inspections account for 40% with Maritime inspections accounting for 1% and Construction inspections accounting for 50-55%.
- Two-thirds of the complaint inspections were for safety hazards while one-third were for health hazards.
- The total number of violations has gone down each year. Twenty-one percent of violations are for health hazards.
- Every year this Directorate provides the Top 10 Cited Standards. There is some jockeying among the citations for five through 10., but the top four have remained the same for several years. They are Fall Protection, HAZCOM, Scaffolding, and Respiratory Protection.
- Since 2010, the Severe Violators Program has been OSHA's primary tool for deterrence. There are usually 485 cases out of 100,000 inspections. Sixty percent of those were for construction. Fifty-five percent were for small business, which are described as having 1 to 25 employees.
- On February 11, 2015 Oil and Gas hazards were incorporated into the Severe Violators Program. These are referred to as Drillers, and they have fatality rates 5 to 8 times that of General Industry. A new initiative to raise awareness of the hazards of temporary workers was implemented two years ago. Emphasis will continue on this program.

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Annual OSHA Update—Crib Notes (continued)

- Temporary workers are those that work for a temporary agency who send the temporary workers to companies.
- Emphasis will continue on Ergonomic hazards. From 2001 to present there have been 41 citations, two notices of unsafe working conditions, and 1,047 alert letters. The focus is on nursing homes where 1,085 inspections with 179 Ergonomic hazards detected. The emphasis will be broadened to cover grocery warehouse workers and continued emphasis on the poultry industry.
- There will be a revised guideline for Preventing Workplace Violence. The majority of inspections for workplace violence are for healthcare facilities.
- The integration of GIS and HAZCOM will continue with the next milestone of June 1, 2015 for updated paperwork from manufacturers.

OSHA's emphasis on improving customer service:

- A lot of work has been done on OSHA's home page.
- The goal is to drive visitors to the A-Z Index and the Question and Answer page.
- This index and question and answer pages are the best tools to help people find the information they are seeking.
- Another tool meant to improve customer is Quick Takes, which is a bi-weekly newsletter.

The Directorate of Cooperative and State Programs highlighted the cooperative programs:

- Alliance Program has 351 participants

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Annual OSHA Update—Crib Notes (continued)

- Volunteer Protection Program has 2,295 sites
- Strategic Partnerships have 64 participants
- Safety and Health Achievement Recognition Program has 1,519 businesses

- Some statistics about OSHA contact with customers:
 - 20 million visits to OSHA website
 - 206,000 Calls to OSHA 1-800 telephone number
 - 22,000 emails
 - 735,000 students trained
 - 811,000 publications provided

- OSHA on-site consultations peaked in 2014 at 34,000 and is now down to 27,000. Thirty-one percent of those consultations were for construction; 32% were in manufacturing, 55% were in small businesses of 1 to 25 workers, and 32% in small businesses with 26-100 workers.
- There were 1,500 site visits for the Safety and Health Achievement Recognition Program. The Voluntary Protection Program grew from 2010 and is now plateaued at 2,200 active sites that include 861,000 workers.

The Division of Safety and Health Statistics for the Bureau of Labor Statistics:

- Research is being done to determine if undercounting is occurring.
- Seventeen percent of fatalities were contractors with ½ of them working in construction.
- Injury and illness rates have been declining since 1990 except in the area of job transfer or restricted work.
- Statics show 95% of reports are for injury and 5% are for illnesses. It is believed that data collecting on illnesses is not done well, which means that number may be low.



Invite a Friend

Don't keep what we have to offer as a chapter to yourself. Share this newsletter with a friend and invite them to join us at a meeting and if they like what they experience ask them to join.

Current Officers & Committee Members

Officers

PRESIDENT

David Wenzel

VICE PRESIDENT

Dennis Sobotka

TREASURER

Chris Littler

SECRETARY

Sara Hoover

1ST DELEGATE

Pete Courtemanche

Committees

AWARDS & HONORS

Troy Torbett

COPS LIAISON

Fred Fanning

FOUNDATION LIAISON

Fred Fanning

GOVT AFFAIRS

Justin Crandol

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Andrew Levitsky

NEWSLETTER EDITOR

Fred Fanning

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Kwasi Koranteng

WEBMASTER

Abdon Friend

MACSC LIAISON

Bruce Donato

SPALW LIAISON

Jorge Otorala

WISE LIAISON

Jamie Kohler

Officer/Committee contact information can be found [here](#).

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