

ASSE Big Sky Chapter



Newsletter

November 2014

In This Issue

President's Corner

ASSE/Big Sky Activities

- Welcome new members
- Safety From the Top Down Conference
- Safety Fundamentals Examworkshop
- Missoula Conference
- OSHA Alliance Ask a Question
- Career Center
- Update your member profile

Safety Sense

- 3D Prints new thumbs
- Indoor use of e-cigarettes
- Germs in Offices
- Office Hazards
- Cell Phone Health Hazard Warnings
- Accurate Assessments of Posture
- Asbestos Revisited
- Long Term Shift Work
- New OSHA Reporting Requirements
- Prevent 'UFOs' in Vehicles
- Share the Safety

Newsletter Distribution

You can receive your newsletter via e-mail by contacting Marilyn Cameron at: mcameron@mtech.edu

Big Sky Chapter Board

Mike Wacker – President
mike.wacker@plumcreek.com

Thomas Schmidt – President-Elect
thom@realssi.com

Tina Smollack – Past President
tsmollack@q.com

Bob Kruckenberg – Treasurer
robert.kruckenberg@libertynorthwest.com

Dawn Schwartz – Secretary
Dawn.schwartz@libertynorthwest.com

Jamey Wheeler – Prof Development Coord.
jamwheeler@mt.gov

Marilyn Cameron – Communications Coord.
mcameron@mtech.edu

Roger Jensen – Delegate
RJensen@mtech.edu

President's Corner – Mike Wacker

Involved vs. Committed

Growing up in the South allows you to hear a variety of different perspectives on life. One of my favorites is the 'bacon and eggs' definition of commitment. When it comes to making bacon and eggs, you could say the chicken was involved, but the pig was committed.

As safety professionals, we are all working toward getting people we work with to not only be involved, but also committed to the safety process. I believe any safety professional has to be both involved and committed to that process.

As we put the finishing touches on 2014 (really!), it is great time to look back and see how the year went ... whether that is professionally or relative to some other area of our life. Was I just involved or was I committed to the process in a particular area of my life.

The Big Sky Chapter has some great opportunities for you to not only get involved, but increase your level of commitment to the greatest safety organization in the world.

I have asked our Big Sky Chapter officer team to make an effort to reach out to their local high schools relative to their "Career Days". However, I would also like to make that same challenge to each of you throughout this state to reach out to your local high schools. Maybe it is a discussion with the principal about being involved in their "Career Day" or with a school counselor about the safety profession. I believe the potential may be there for us to reach out to high school kids who want to go to college, but are not sure what they want to do for a career. Maybe a safety or health career is right up their alley.

If you make the effort to reach out to a local high school, I would like to hear from you. Whether it is a positive or negative experience, you at least made the commitment to try. Thank you!

Thanks in advance for being "Involved and Committed" to the safety profession and ASSE.

Mike Wacker
President - Big Sky Chapter

ASSE/Big Sky Chapter Activities & Info

Welcome New Members

Welcome to our new members

Member count 147

Theresa Stack, Butte
Jackie Couture, Sidney
Sean Keeney, Billings
Trina Mailloux, Billings
Tom Manni, Billings
Jeff Funke, Billings
Colin Maloney, Billings
Keith Blank, Alder

Our newest student members:

Kenneth Rohert
Nirap Sainju

Safety From the Top Down Conference

The Big Sky Chapter is continuing its partnership with MSSC and Yellowstone County LEPC for a 2015 conference. **March 3-5, 2015 at the Northern Hotel in Billings, MT.** Go to <http://www.mssc.org/safety-conference/conference-registration/> for online registration.

Cost for the 3 day conference is \$275, and there are options to attend one, two or three days.



Safety Fundamentals ASP Exam Workshop in Missoula

The Big Sky ASSE Chapter is partnering with SPAN International Safety Workshops to host a preparation course for the Associated Safety Professional (ASP) exam. The ASP is part of the process required to obtain a Certified Safety Professional (CSP) designation. The workshop will be held at the Courtyard by Marriott in Missoula April 27-29, 2015.

The cost of the 3 day course is \$950 for non-ASSE members and \$900 for members, and includes a professionally published workbook, BCSP approved scientific calculator, pencils, notepad, highlighter, and SPANs exclusive Exam Prep Software CD.

[Register here](#) for the ASP Prep Course, or if you have any questions contact Marilyn Cameron at mcameron@mtech.edu.

Missoula Conference – Save the Date

As a result of the 2014 member needs survey, 53% of survey takers (18 out of 34) would like a conference on the western side of Montana. You asked for it, you are getting it! The Big Sky Chapter is hosting a one-day safety conference April 30, 2015, at the Courtyard by Marriott in Missoula (following the 3-day ASP course). Topics include an update on the **ISO 45001 Occupational Health & Safety Standard** along with an **OSHA update**. There will be presentations on safety training and safety leadership. Stay tuned for additional email updates regarding presentation and registration information. If you have any questions contact Jamey Wheeler at jamwheeler@mt.gov.

OSHA Alliance Ask a Question

Do you have a burning question you would like to ask OSHA? The Big Sky Chapter and OSHA have signed an Alliance agreement. One of the benefits of the Alliance is to allow our members to submit questions to OSHA through our newsletter and remain anonymous in the process. **Do you have a question that you would like to ask OSHA?** Submit your question to Marilyn Cameron at mcameron@mtech.edu. The question will be submitted to OSHA for an answer, which will be published in our next newsletter. If you need a more immediate answer to your question, indicate that in your request, and you will be sent an email response from Marilyn with OSHA's answer to maintain your anonymity. One of the goals is to alleviate the fear that some may have of OSHA showing up on your doorstep when you ask a question. Realize others may also have that same question, so your asking the question will benefit many!

ASSE Career Center

The American Society of Safety Engineers has re-launched the [Nexsteps Job Board](#) as a new and easy-to-navigate site giving job postings better exposure and even greater access to SH&E professionals. Members get a \$30 discount when posting a position with code MemVal30. Visit the ASSE career center at jobs.asse.org

Update Your Member Profile!

ASSE members can easily update their membership information online. If you have changed addresses, phone numbers, work place, etc., go to <http://www.asse.org/about/addresschange.php> to ensure you receive Chapter information.

Safety Sense

BMW 3D Prints New Thumbs for Workers

German car manufacturer BMW has turned to [3D printing](#) to physically augment its car-plant workers, giving them stronger, augmented thumbs. The 3D-printed apparel acts like support brackets for the workers' thumbs, reducing strain and helping them to fit certain parts into the cars more easily. Each "thumb" is created as a custom orthotic device using a portable 3D camera, which captures the unique size and shape of each line-worker's thumb. [READ MORE](#)

AIHA Cautions Against Indoor Use of Electronic Cigarettes

In a new report, AIHA describes the potential exposures and health risks associated with the use of electronic cigarettes. The report reviews current scientific information, evaluates the effects of chemicals used in e-cigarettes and emitted from them, and indicates that although e-cigarettes may be "safer" for the user than tobacco cigarettes, they can emit airborne contaminants that may affect both the user and people nearby. [READ MORE](#)

Germes Spread Rapidly in Offices

Arizona Daily Star

Avoiding your flu-infected colleague's sneeze isn't going to keep their germs away. Now that flu season is just around the corner, a soon-to-be-published University of Arizona study serves as a warning about the threat of viruses lingering on surfaces like keyboards, doors and coffee pots. [READ MORE](#)

Offices Can Have Hazards, too

By Scott Huntington

Compared to the roles of a power-line worker, bounty hunter, or coal miner, working in an

office may not seem very dangerous. What's the worst that could happen -- a papercut or two? As The Office's Dwight Schrute would say...

[READ MORE](#)

Berkeley Drafts Cell Phone Health Warnings

Do you hold your cell phone against your ear? Your user manual probably warns against it. Bret Bocook knew how to use a cell phone. So he didn't bother to look at the instruction manual until five years ago — after he was diagnosed with a brain tumor. [READ MORE](#)

Accurate & Efficient Assessments of Working Posture

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

Musculoskeletal disorders account for roughly one-third of workplace illness and injuries in the U.S. To address the burden of preventable musculoskeletal and overexertion injuries, practitioners in the fields of occupational safety, industrial hygiene and ergonomics need workplace assessment methods that are both accurate (valid) and time efficient. [READ MORE](#)

Asbestos Revisited: A New Autoimmune Disease?

MedPage Today

In the small town of Libby in northwestern Montana, prospectors in 1916 discovered an unusual mineral known as vermiculite that appeared to be resistant to fire after initial exposure to high heat. The early owners of the mine called their product Zonolite, and for the next half century they dug it out of the Libby mountain and shipped it across the continent for use as insulation and in various commercial products. Unfortunately, the mine and its product also contained asbestos, and by the 1980s, hundreds of the miners who worked at Zonolite mountain — and their family members — had sickened and died of asbestos-related diseases at rates 40 times higher than the U.S. as a whole. [READ MORE](#)

Free Toolbox Talks

OSHA Training Services posts free toolbox talks each month. Go to OSHAtraining.com and check out this great free resource!

Long-Term Shift Work May Drain the Brain

Working non-standard hours -- often called "shift work" -- for many years is not only hard on the body, but may also dull the mind, new research suggests. Those who do shift work for more than 10 years seem to have the equivalent of an extra 6.5 years of age-related decline in...

[READ MORE](#)

New Reporting Requirements Go Into Effect January 1, 2015

Beginning January 1, 2015, there will be a change to what covered employers are required to report to the Occupational Safety and Health Administration. **Employers will now be required to report all work-related fatalities within 8 hours and all in-patient hospitalizations, amputations, and losses of an eye within 24 hours of finding about the incident.**

Previously, employers were required to report all workplace fatalities and when three or more workers were hospitalized in the same incident.

The updated reporting requirements are not simply paperwork but have a life-saving purpose: they will enable employers and workers to prevent future injuries by identifying and eliminating the most serious workplace hazards.

Employers have three options for reporting these severe incidents to OSHA. They can call their [nearest area office](#) during normal business hours, call the 24-hour OSHA hotline at 1-800-321-OSHA (1-800-321-6742), or they can report online at www.osha.gov/report_online. For more information and resources, including a new [YouTube video](#), visit OSHA's [Web page](#) on the updated reporting requirements.

How to Prevent 'UFOs' Inside Vehicles

Source: Automotive Fleet, October 2014

Drivers keep many items within arm's reach while driving, such as sunglasses, mp3 players, smartphones, even tablets; however, there is an inherent danger in keeping these items nearby instead of ensuring they're properly stowed while driving. At 50 mph, a sudden stop caused by a crash will propel a loose, 16 ounce bottle of water and land

a blow on a vehicle occupant with the equivalent force of a 21-pound object. For most drivers and fleet managers, the dangers of loose objects flies under the radar screen and is never considered. Similarly, drivers can momentarily become visually distracted (impaired) by an object catapulted through the cabin or by liquids spilling onto him or her. Unrestrained occupants also add to the dangers as researchers estimate a driver's risk of dying in a car accident increases by 25% if there are unrestrained passengers in the vehicle. To see the full article, go to: www.automotive-fleet.com/

Share the Safety

Have you written an article or have something that should be shared with fellow professionals? Do you have a technical article you would like to share? Have you solved a problem that would benefit others? Do you have a success story that we could all learn from? Are you offering a class that others might be interested in? Anything that would be of interest to our members?

Please send any articles, notices, etc. to Marilyn Cameron, mcameron@mtech.edu, before July 15 for inclusion in the next newsletter. We look forward to hearing from our members.