



American Society of Safety Engineers

West Michigan Chapter of ASSE Newsletter

April 2008

Inside this Issue:

News & Notes	2
For Your Information	3
Dues Increase Proposal	4
Job Opportunities	5

May Meeting:

There will not be a May meeting.



June Meeting

The annual golf outing is planned for June. Stay tuned for further details on this event.

It's severe weather season! Have you considered your personal safety, what you will do when weather is developing, while on-the-job, golf course, or at home?

Storm Team 8 and the National Weather Service help separate tornado fact from fiction.

FICTION: Areas near lakes, rivers and mountains are safe from tornadoes.

FACT: No place is safe from a tornado. A tornado near Yellowstone National Park left a path of destruction up and down a 10,000 foot mountain

FICTION: The low pressure with a tornado causes buildings to "explode" as the tornado passes overhead.

FACT: Violent winds and debris slamming into buildings cause most structural damage.

FICTION: Windows should be opened before a tornado approaches to equalize pressure and minimize damage.

FACT: Leave the windows alone. The most important action is to immediately go to a safe place.

FICTION: If you're driving and you see a tornado you should turn and drive at right angles to the storm.

FACT: The best thing to do is seek the best available shelter; a building, basement, ditch or culvert. Many people are killed when remaining in their vehicles.

FICTION: People caught in the open should seek shelter under a bridge or highway overpass.

FACT: Take shelter in a sturdy reinforced building if possible. A bridge or overpasses may provide limited protection from a tornado but may not protect you from flying debris.

By TERRI DEBOER - Lightning

GRAND RAPIDS - Where there's a boom, there's a flash, and it's important to be ready. According to the National Weather Service, lightning kills an average of 80 people each year, and injures another 300. Even when a thunderstorm is 20 miles away, it is still possible to be injured, even killed by lightning. Michigan is the #2 state, behind just Florida, in the nation for deaths and injuries due to lightning. In order to stay safe when lightning threatens, be sure to do the following:

- If outdoors, move indoors to safety, immediately.
- If no building is available, move inside a metal-topped vehicle.
- When no buildings or vehicles are available for shelter, stay away from tall trees or poles. Lightning travels into the ground, and may shock or kill you if you are standing nearby. Always stay off of corded telephones and computers. Lightning can travel through home and office electrical wiring.



Amerisure position

Amerisure is searching for a Loss Control Consultant for the West Michigan area. Contact Dave Andrews for further details.

DAndrews@amerisure.com

For further details, go to: <http://www.wmasse.org/jobs.html>

Seeking Internship

A third year student of Rochester Institute of Technology is seeking a full time internship for 10 weeks (if possible, 40 weeks total). The student is looking to relocate to the Grand Rapids area from Lansing the end of July/early August. She has a background in worker's compensation and other insurance, and is looking to expand her knowledge in other fields of safety. Please contact aloomina@msn.com for more information.

Safety Manager

Falcon Foam, a manufacturer of expandable polystyrene foam in Byron Center, is looking for a Safety Manager.

Go to the following link for further details regarding the position:

www.wmasse.org/jobs.html

Our Delegate Derrick Scheidel submitted this link. Pretty interesting article about the expansion in Las Vegas and construction worker death.

<http://www.lasvegassun.com/news/2008/apr/01/not-city/>

Local MIOSHA Training

April 17	MIOSHA Record-keeping and Cost of Injuries	Holland	Brian Cole, Ph.D.	616.331.7180 or 800.690. Register Online
April 23 & 24	Blueprints for your Safety and Health Management System	Battle Creek	Connie Dawe	269.965.4134
April 30	Powered Industrial Truck Train-The-Trainer	Grand Rapids	Pam Sheely	email psheely@teagr.org
May 6	Ergonomic Principles	Holland	Brian Cole, Ph.D.	616.331.7180 or 800.690.0314 Register Online
May 7, 14, & 21	Fundamentals of Safety and Health	Grand Rapids	Pam Sheely	email psheely@teagr.org

2007/2008 OFFICERS

PRESIDENT

Heather Kubiak
City of Wyoming
kubiakh@ci.wyoming.mi.us

VICE PRESIDENT

Brian Becker
Steelcase

SECRETARY

Jamie Bauer
Johnson Control

TREASURER

Rich DeLeau
Herman Miller

HOUSE OF DELEGATES

Derrick Scheidel
ITW Drawform

MEMBERSHIP

Pat Knight, CSP
Wolverine World Wide, Inc.

PROGRAM CHAIRPERSON

Heather Kubiak
City of Wyoming

ARCHIVIST

Kevin Roehling
Berends, Hendricks Stuit

PAST PRESIDENT

Clara Davis, ASP
Mike Rabach, CSP
Eric Longman, CSP
Dan Grzegorski
Eric Krieger, CSP

WEBSITE

Mike McKay
Ferris State University
mckaym@ferris.edu

NEWSLETTER

Brian Oczepek, CSP
Waste Management
boczepek@wm.com

Here is information from the ASSE:

Dear Chapter Presidents -

As of this week, the security protocols for Officer Central have been changed. Please be advised that all members of ASSE will now be able to access the materials located on Officer Central, with the continued exception of the chapter rosters. The security protocols for the rosters remain the same—only Chapter Presidents, Secretaries and Membership Chairs will be able to search and create a roster of their chapter from Officer Central.

This change has been made with the support of the Council on Member and Region Affairs for several reasons; 1) to let ASSE members gain a clearer understanding of the connection between ASSE leadership and the mission and vision of the organization, 2) to potentially offer a recruiting tool to Chapter officers to help them with their succession planning efforts and 3) to allow members consistent and appropriate access to the governance documents and reporting records of their chapter.

This latest innovation to the ASSE website leads the way to some dramatic changes you will be seeing to Officer Central in the months ahead which are intended to make this site more user friendly, up to date and of greater value to our ASSE leadership.

Please share this information with your members. And, if you have any comments or questions, please feel free to contact me.

Best wishes,
Susan Lewis, PhD
Manager, Chapter/Student Services
American Society of Safety Engineers
847-768-3403

SAFETY PROFESSIONAL OF THE YEAR (SPY)

Here's Your Chance to Nominate a Safety Professional of the Year.

Nominations are now being received for the West Michigan Chapter of The American Society of Safety Engineer's Safety Person of The Year Award. This is one of the most important awards a safety professional can receive as it is bestowed by one's peers and is meant to recognize outstanding service to the profession and the Chapter.

April 30 is the deadline to nominate a deserving safety professional for WM-ASSE Safety Professional of the Year. Please e-mail your nomination, and provide a short description as to why that person should be selected, to Pat Knight at pat.knight@wwwinc. Even if you are not sure your person will win, nomination is a great way to recognize a fellow professional that is doing an extraordinary job! Nominations take only a few minutes and the rewards can be great.

Ergonomics Training

The University of Michigan, Center for Ergonomics is planning to offer a 2-day introductory ergonomics course in Ann Arbor, MI on June 12-13, 2008. Through CET Grant funds from the State of Michigan, scholarships are available to people from small and medium sized Michigan companies. People from small and medium sized Michigan companies can attend the course for \$75 (instead of the full \$475 registration fee), which certainly is a bargain! The following link will take you to more information on the course and a brochure with a registration form you can download.

<http://www.engin.umich.edu/dept/ioe/COHSE/ergoprinciples.html>

Feel free to contact Sheryl Ulin (phone: 734-763-0133; e-mail: Sheryl.Ulin@umich.edu) if you have any questions or require any additional information.

ASSE Dues Increase Proposal

SENT ON BEHALF OF: MICHAEL THOMPSON, PRESIDENT AND HOD CHAIR April 1, 2008

Dear Delegate:

This mailing contains a ballot seeking your approval of a change in membership dues. As a Delegate, your vote is important in determining the outcome of this motion.

The request for a change in society membership dues would increase them from the current \$120 per year to \$149 per year, a \$29 increase. The Society's Finance Committee and your Board of Directors have unanimously approved this proposal and they urge you to do the same.

The needs of our members are outpacing our ability to raise revenue and reduce costs. We must strengthen the Society by enhancing members' professionalism and improving effectiveness and importance to their organizations. We must conduct additional research, expand the Future Leaders conference, increase support to the chapters and regions, expand efforts in government affairs and regulatory, expand technical and research areas, expand voluntary technical standards initiatives, grow electronic delivery of educational programs, develop specialty educational programs, develop new communication and networking tools, implement programs to increase awareness of the SH&E profession, expand services to global members, support the growth of NAOSH week and expand "Safety as good business."

Historically, growth in non-dues revenue has driven successful financial performance, with highly successful annual professional development conference the main contributing factor.

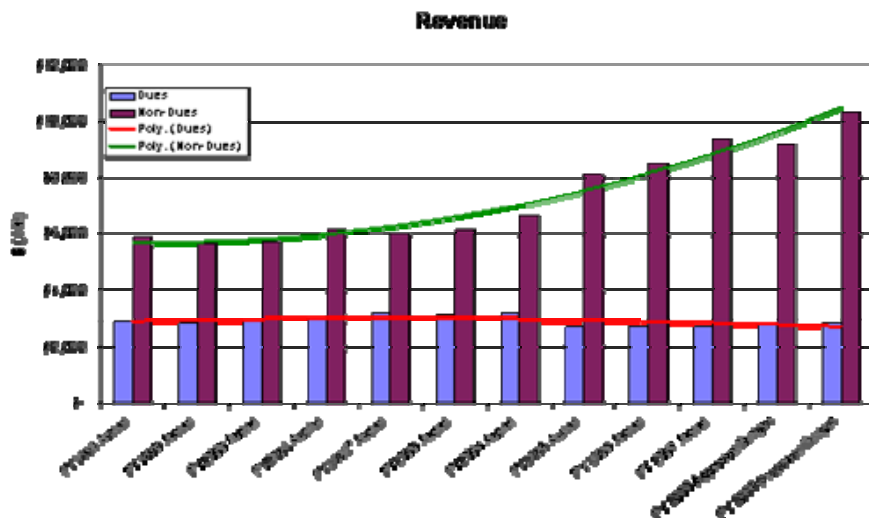
We are financially vulnerable if we depend upon revenue sources that fluctuate with events beyond our control. The consumer price index has risen by 20% since the last dues increase and if Society dues were to keep up with inflation, we would need to raise dues by \$40. Based on projected financial performance, dues –and non-dues revenue growth, expected investment returns and historical Society dues increases (last dues increase in 1999), a dues increase is needed.

The Finance Committee and Board of Directors recommend that the delegates approve this increase to enhance the Society's ability to serve its members. Attached is a white paper that defines new and expanded services as well as additional background information. In addition, attached is a "most frequently asked questions" document as a response to any potential questions. We thank you for your consideration relative to this very important initiative.

To further communicate the justification of a dues increase, Michael W. Thompson and Darryl C. Hill will host two webinars one on April 10, 2008 at 1:00 PM CDT (2:00 EDT) and the other on April 17, 2008 at 1:00 PM CDT (2:00 PM EDT) and all Delegates are encouraged to attend. Society Officers will review where we must expand existing services, develop new services and discuss the financial background relative to this proposal. This webinar will be recorded for those unable to participate in the live session.

We have sent this ballot electronically in an effort to streamline the process for those Delegates who choose to vote electronically. Please reply electronically OR by mail depending upon your preference. Please do NOT send in two replies.

Ballots must be postmarked/e-mailed by May 16, 2008.



You can contact the WMASSE Delegate regarding your thoughts on the dues increase. Please email Derrick Scheidel if you approve or reject the dues increase.

DerrickS@drawform.com



Volunteer Opportunity: Griffins Youth Foundation (Griffin's Hockey)

My name is Lynn Rabaut and I am the Executive Director for the Griffins Youth Foundation. Our organization operates a youth hockey program for at risk and disabled children. We are looking for a volunteer with a safety background to lead an ad-hoc committee to evaluate the safety aspects of our programs. We would be happy with a student member of your association who may be looking for a school project. We will be working on this project over the next six months so we can have suggestions implemented by the time our next season starts on Nov. 1.

We believe we would need a study of:

- Physical plant risks
- Root cause analysis of player injuries (on and off the ice)
- Development of program to identify what should be done in the event of a player or spectator injury. Recommendations in terms of first aid training and supplies.

If you believe that this is something your organization can help us with we would greatly appreciate any help you can give us. Thank you for your consideration.

Please contact Lynn directly if interested. Lynn Rabaut, Executive Director director@griffinskids.org Griffins Youth Foundation, 970-5437

Safety Specialist

A Fortune 500 Company in the Detroit metro area is searching for a Safety Specialist. 2-6 years experience in a manufacturing setting and a BS in Safety or related field is preferred. Will consider consultants with a heavy industrial client base. Relocation assistance available and salary is up to 75K plus bonus. Contact Tom Harrell of Select Search at:

tharrell@selectsearchllc.com

