



# American Society of Safety Engineers

## *West Michigan Chapter of the ASSE Newsletter*

### December 2009

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Jobs, News & Notes 2

### January Meeting:

#### **ANSI/ASSE Z87.1-2003 Standard Live Webcast**

Thursday, January 7, 2010  
11:30 am Lunch  
12:00 to 1:30 Webcast  
\$10 includes lunch

Wyoming Public Works Building  
2660 Burlingame SW  
Wyoming, MI 49509

### February Meeting:

**MIOSHA Update**  
February 18th, 2010  
More details to come!



## January Meeting

### **Occupational and Educational Eye and Face Protective Devices Live Webcast ANSI/ASSE Z87.1-2003 Standard**

To learn more about this important standard, join us for a live ASSE webcast. The webcast will be led by Jack Hirschman, one of the most respected eye and face protection experts today. He represents ASSE on the Z87 Committee and is the founder and CEO of Oberon Corporation.

Please RSVP to Scott Plummer by January 4th at:  
[Scott.plummer@rmtinc.com](mailto:Scott.plummer@rmtinc.com)

### **“Safety-on-the-job” Poster Contest**

With the holidays close by now is the time to encourage your children, nieces, nephews, sisters, brothers, friends, co-workers' kids and more aged 5-14 to enter the 8<sup>th</sup> annual ASSE kids' 'Safety-on-the-Job' poster contest. The rules and entry form can also be found on our new North American Occupational Safety and Health (NAOSH, May 2-8) Week 2010 and Occupational Safety and Health Professional Day (May 5, 2010) web site at this link:

<http://www.asse.org/newsroom/naosh10/>

There are 5 age groups and the first place winners each win a \$1,000 savings bond. Second place winners receive a \$500 savings bond and third and fourth place winners a \$200 savings bond. All entrants are winners! Everyone receives a letter from ASSE President C. Christopher Patton, CSP, and ASSE Executive Director Fred Fortman along with a small gift. The winners posters are featured on the annual NAOSH poster distributed to companies, schools, hospitals and more worldwide in April and May.

It is a lot of fun and we look forward to seeing a ton of posters by the Valentine's Day, February 14, 2010 deadline! So sit down with the children and help them develop a poster that best displays workplace safety.



## Stories from the Field....

*"Stories from the field" will be a monthly feature highlighting an incident and the follow-up that takes place. Please submit your anonymous stories (old & new) to Brian Becker.*

### June 2009...

Summary: Confined Space Entry into a vault; Water Utility Department. Pre-job communication between operations (water treatment operator), maintenance (actually doing the work), and contractor (providing a vactor truck and sucking up settled material in bottom of vault) missed the fact that there was a mechanism for Lockout to be performed.

It was thought all safety considerations were made. Midway through the job a water treatment operator activated a backwash button that began filling the vault with water. There were four maintenance employees in the vault shoveling sediment to one end and the contractor was sucking it out of the space with the vactor truck. Warnings had been placed at the button, however operating the button is done many times a day and the operator activated the button. He immediately realized what he had done and started the reversal. The vault filled with 4 feet of water before the valves were closed all the way.

An internal investigation found that there was a place for lockout when each of the 12 valves were in the closed position. Although the maintenance department had considered many safety elements, they were not familiar enough with the system and missed that there was a lockout. This is a task that is performed once every 4-5 years. A procedure was put in place for this task.

## 2009/2010 OFFICERS

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[WWW.WMASSE.ORG](http://WWW.WMASSE.ORG)

## Local MIOSHA Training

|        |  |              |                |                     |
|--------|--|--------------|----------------|---------------------|
| Jan 18 | MIOSHA Record-keeping and Cost of Injuries<br><br>MTI Level One General Industry Certification | Grand Haven  | Nancy Manglos  | Phone: 616.842.0529 |
| Jan 20 | Excavations: The Grave Danger<br><br>MTI Level One Construction Certification                  | Grand Rapids | Phillip Greene | Phone: 616.234.3400 |
| Jan 27 | Machine Guarding & Hazard Identification<br><br>MTI Level One General Industry Certification   | Holland      | Brian Cole     | Phone: 800 690.0314 |
| Jan 27 | Part 7 Guards for Power Transmission<br><br>MTI Level Two Compliance Certification             | Holland      | Brian Cole     | Phone: 800 690.0314 |