



# American Society of Safety Engineers

## West Michigan Chapter of ASSE Newsletter

### January 2007

#### Inside this Issue:

News, Notes & Jobs	2
GVSU & Poster Contest	3
Training & Development	4
WorkSafe	5

### January Meeting:

(Information is below)



### December Meeting Wrap-up:

The December meeting had a good turnout. Dave Snider, Kevin Fleming and Scott Strawn from Lincoln Electric demonstrated several welding and cutting techniques, fume capture equipment, and safety issues. We really appreciated their presentation. The high point of the evening was allowing everyone to stick weld and plasma cut. An informal social hour followed at the Grand Rapids Brewing Company.

### WM ASSE January Meeting

The meeting will be at the Steelcase Learning Center (University) located east of the Steelcase Corporate Headquarters Building at Eastern Ave. & 44th St SE

Date: Tuesday, January 16, 2007  
Time: 1:00pm to 3:00pm  
Cost: \$10

Topics: Fellow safety professionals will demonstrate the technology they utilize to conduct their jobs more effectively and efficiently. We have presenters that will illustrate the technology (PDA's, tablet PC's, Software packages, auditing processes, cameras, phones, etc.) A short demonstration of a web based auditing process will be provided.

If you would like to attend, contact Pat Knight:  
PKnight736@aol.com  
(616) 560-1088

If you have a program, device or software that you would like to demonstrate at the meeting, you can contact Pat. We are very interested in showing your fellow chapter members your information.



In the picture, Scott Plummer was the first to try his hand welding at the December meeting.



**Job Change**

Chad Boelman, formerly at Koyo Corporation, is now working with Graphic Packaging in Kalamazoo. Chad is a Safety Manager in charge of safety for the paper mill and the carton plant.

**SAFETY PROFESSIONAL OF THE YEAR**

We are pleased to announce that the West Michigan Safety Professional of the Year for 2006 is Jeff Mather.

Jeff was one of four nominations, and the nominating committee of Pat Knight, Kevin Quigley & Eric Longman had a challenging time to reach a final decision. Through a process of assigning ratings from 0 to 100, it is worth noting that the final total came down to a 10 point swing!

As many of you may know, Jeff has a consulting business and also a past president of West Michigan ASSE.

The other nominations included Clark Corey of Citizen's Insurance, Cameron Main who recently took a position with Johnson Technology and Chuck VanVliet of Kent Companies.

Jeff's nomination read – in part: *“Jeff has an ability to identify with the clients that he works with to assist them in controlling their “Cost of Risk”. He continues to educate himself on the latest Safety & Health issues. I have seen first hand the improvements with companies that he has worked with.”*

We thank all who made nominations. This type of response is a nice reminder of the quality of safety professionals in West Michigan. The recognition is well deserved.

**20 Years of Service**

Pat Knight has now held the Certified Safety Professional (CSP) credential for 20 years. Congratulations Pat, and thanks for your continued service.

**Safety Manager**

PS Associates is searching for a Safety Manager for a 1100 employee unionized facility in the U.P. of Michigan. The candidate should have 8+ years safety experience some of which should have come from a large facility (500+ ee's), have had direct reports and strong union experience. BS is Safety or related. Contact Paul Shrenker [pshrenker@comcast.net](mailto:pshrenker@comcast.net) (413)267-4271

Millennium Search Associates, LLC has various safety management opportunities outside the Michigan area.

**Regional Safety Manager in New Jersey**

**Regional Safety Manager in Miami, Florida**

If you are interested, contact John Callahan at: (973) 758 - 9200 [www.msasearch.net](http://www.msasearch.net)

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**NEWSLETTER**

Brian Oczepek, CSP  
Waste Management  
[boczepek@wm.com](mailto:boczepek@wm.com)

Another semester has come and gone with much promise for the future of the OSH Program at Grand Valley State. The Program is now the Occupational Safety and Health Management program and offers a degree of the same title. The old Industrial Hygiene and Safety emphases have gone away.

For the winter term, we will be offering a new course, OSH 420 - Healthcare Facility Safety, which introduces students to the basics of health care facility safety management, JCAHO, OSHA and environmental regulations as they affect hospitals, nursing homes, etc. The course has drawn a number of students from outside the OSH program.

### Internship Sites Needed

We have a number of students who are seeking internships for next summer. The requirements are that the student be exposed to all of the activities a safety manager would normally perform including safety audits, training, incident investigation, policy development, etc. In addition, students must complete a site-specific cost benefit analysis on a project at the site and complete a portfolio which will be graded.

We are seeking internships in healthcare facilities, manufacturing, construction, and insurance. The internship can start in May and continue until mid-August. Although the internship does not have to be paid, most students receive \$8-10/hour. If you would like to have an intern please send a brief job description

and your contact information to Greg Green, OSH Internship Coordinator at [greeng@gvsu.edu](mailto:greeng@gvsu.edu). If you have questions you can also contact him at 616-331-3686.

### Master's Degree

We are still waiting on word about the University's approval of the Master of Science degree in Safety Management. In the meantime, we have permission to offer courses beginning next fall and winter. We will be offering 2 courses in the fall and winter semesters. Stay tuned for more specifics and a schedule of courses.

From Eric VanFleet, Greg Green, David Cox, and Dave Huizen, our best wishes to all of the members of the West Michigan Chapter of ASSE for a Happy and Safe New Year.

## 2007 'SAFETY-ON-THE-JOB' KIDS' POSTER CONTEST

The American Society of Safety Engineers is sponsoring the fifth annual 'Safety-on-the-Job' Kids Poster Contest for children, grandchildren, nieces and nephews of our members as part of the North American Occupational Safety and Health (NAOSH) Week tribute to the importance of occupational safety, health and the environment. NAOSH Week will be held Sunday, May 6 – Saturday, May 12, 2007. The poster contest competition kicks off Wednesday, September 19, 2006 and ends on Valentine's Day, February 14, 2007. All entries must be postmarked by Wednesday, February 14, 2007.

The contest will be broken down into five age groups with the winning poster from each category to be featured on the NAOSH Week 2007 poster. The posters entered will be displayed in Washington, D.C. during NAOSH Week at the U.S. Department of Labor. The Assistant Secretary of Labor for OSHA along with the ASSE President and a representative from the Canadian Society of Safety Engineering (CSSE) will introduce the poster contest winners at the national NAOSH kick-off in Washington, D.C.

The posters will also be displayed at ASSE's annual Professional Development Conference & Exposition to be held in Orlando in June. An independent panel of judges will select the five winning entries that best illustrate the theme 'Safety-on-the-Job.' Prizes will be awarded to all entrants and each age group winner will win a \$1,000 savings bond.

The entry form and contest rules are below. Be sure to read all the rules carefully so that all posters & drawings will be eligible. Before the children begin drawing, we urge you to talk to them about workplace safety and provide examples of what risks occupational safety, health and environmental professionals address every day on the job, and if possible, provide them with examples of workplace situations. Visit [www.asse.org/naosh06/](http://www.asse.org/naosh06/) for examples of children's workplace safety posters and ASSE's "Safety Through the Decades" timeline. Have fun!

Visit ASSE's website [www.asse.org/naosh06/](http://www.asse.org/naosh06/) for the latest poster contest information, applications, sample posters and past winners.

### If you have any questions please contact:

ASSE PR Manager Diane Horns at 847-768-3413, [dhorns@asse.org](mailto:dhorns@asse.org)

PR Associate Sarajenie Smith at 847-768-3462, [ssmith@asse.org](mailto:ssmith@asse.org)

ASSE Customer Service at 847-699-2929, [CustomerService@asse.org](mailto:CustomerService@asse.org)

**10th Annual  
Applied Ergonomics Conference**  
*Celebrating the Past; Shaping the Future*  
March 12-15, 2007

The 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Applied Ergonomics Conference features over 20 corporations competing for the prestigious Ergo Cup awards for innovative process improvements plus a new competition for graduate students, the "Ergonomics Student Design Competition", all to be held at the InterContinental Dallas in Addison, Texas. The conference, sponsored by the Institute of Industrial Engineers, also offers keynote speakers, educational sessions, exhibits and plant tours.

For information, visit:  
[www.appliedergo.org/conference](http://www.appliedergo.org/conference)  
or call 1-800-494-0460.

**Save the date!**

**ASSE Annual Conference in Orlando, Florida**  
June 24th through the 27th, 2007.

**Michigan Safety Conference in Grand Rapids, MI**  
April 17th-18th, 2007  
[www.michsafetyconference.org](http://www.michsafetyconference.org)

## SeminarFest 2007

**January 21-27, 2007**  
**Las Vegas, Nevada**

With 45 seminars ranging from one to three days in length, SeminarFest offers essential technical, management, and skill development topics for the Safety, Health, and Environmental professional. Whether you join us for one day or the full week, this event will satisfy your continuing education needs in safety and health.

**Register Today at:**  
**[www.asse.org/seminarfest.com](http://www.asse.org/seminarfest.com)**  
**or call (847) 699-2929**

### WORK RELATED ASTHMA DEATHS IN MICHIGAN

By the West Michigan Industrial Hygiene Society  
Wednesday, February 14, 2007  
8:30 am \$20  
WMU Graduate Center  
East Beltline in Grand Rapids

Call Julie Callaway at (269) 329-1237 or email at [jcallaway@bdnihc.com](mailto:jcallaway@bdnihc.com) by Wednesday, February 7, 2007  
[www.aiha.org/localsections/html/W.Mich/homepage.htm](http://www.aiha.org/localsections/html/W.Mich/homepage.htm)

MIOSHA Training Schedule - [www.michigan.gov/cis](http://www.michigan.gov/cis)

Jan 4	<a href="#">Recordkeeping of Occupational Injuries and Illnesses</a>	Howell	Janie Willmore	517.546.3920 or <a href="mailto:jwillsmore@howell.org">jwillsmore@howell.org</a>
Jan 9	<a href="#">Fall Protection for Residential Construction</a>	Brighton	MJ Takagi	810.227.6210 or fax 810.227.1840 <a href="mailto:mitakagi@hbalc.com">mitakagi@hbalc.com</a>
Jan 11	<a href="#">Recordkeeping of Occupational Injuries and Illnesses</a>	Lansing	Sandy Long	517.394.4614 or fax 517.394.1117
Jan 16 & 17	<a href="#">MIOSHA 10 Hour for Construction</a>	Port Huron	Bonnie DiNardo	810.989.5788 or <a href="mailto:workforce@sc4.edu">workforce@sc4.edu</a>
Jan 23 & 24	<a href="#">MIOSHA 10 Hour for Construction</a>	Midland	Linda Bishop	989.832.8879 or fax 989.832.8879 or <a href="mailto:lbishop@abcsvc.org">lbishop@abcsvc.org</a>
Jan 24	<a href="#">Recordkeeping of Occupational Injuries and Illnesses</a>	Grand Rapids	Wendy DeShone	616.698.1167

## WorkSafe - FREE Back Safety Program - Now Available

Free back safety/ergonomic training is available to workers in the Manufacturing, Nursing Home and Corporate Office industry, employing between 10 to 300 people.

WorkSafe is funded through a grant from the Michigan Department of Labor & Economic Growth and the Michigan Chiropractic Association and is now in its sixth year of providing back safety assistance to Michigan employees. Over 5,000 employees have received this training and the program has received great response from the targeted industries.



### WorkSafe - A One-Hour Training Session:

MCA doctors conduct a one-hour, safety training session on proper lifting and movement in the work setting.

### Prior to the Training:

Participating doctors will conduct a walk-through of your facility prior to their presentation to observe the work being done and will use this information to generate a group discussion with your employees.

### The One-Hour Training Includes:

- Viewing a back-safety video;
- Distributing a back-safety quiz completed by each employee (employer may keep);
- Reviewing the back-safety handbook (provided free to each employee);
- A group discussion conducted by the MCA facilitator.

### The Overall Goal:

To create a dynamic discussion with your employees and to urge each employee to take personal responsibility in keeping his/her back safe at work and at home using the techniques presented.

### As Follow Up to the Training:

- A survey will be sent to each participating company to evaluate the back safety program.
- A free back safety CD-ROM containing information to be used for supplemental training, including a web-based quiz will be sent to you.



### To Schedule a Free Back Safety Training:

Go to [MCA\\_Worksafe@yahoo.com](mailto:MCA_Worksafe@yahoo.com) or call us at (517) 333-3133, ext. 3.

**WorkSafe is available from now until September 30,**