CHAPTER PRESIDENT UPDATE

Dear Members,

Happy Holidays to each of you. Your Board of Directors has been working hard this fall to find interesting programs and other opportunities for your all. We are especially excited about becoming a partner with Columbia Southern University. We all know of people who have achieved their Safety Degree through this accredited on-line program. This partnership is of great value to ASSE members because it provides an opportunity for our members to get a 10% discount on class fees for our members and their families. For those of you that are looking to complete a degree program or have children who need to do so, this should be very helpful.

Coming up in the New Year we have an excellent line up of programs to inform and stimulate us. We are going to be switching around the meeting times so that those of you that travel or have kid duties in the evenings will be able to attend at least one or two meetings. In addition, we are attempting to set up a day-long seminar for the spring covering a topic that is near to the heart (or not) of all us safety folks. Safety Training. We are attempting to arrange a day with Regina McMichael, CSP, CET to provide her “Safety Training Ninja” course. Those of you that know Regina, a former Chapter member, know that she is a very dynamic instructor. Keep your ears open for more information on this.

Finally, we are beginning the process of identifying officers for the 2016-2017 year. Janet Brooking will be Chairing that committee. Please let her know if you have any interest in becoming an officer or a committee member. While sometimes it is a lot of work, it can be very satisfying.

Hope to see you soon.

Anna E. Jolly, JD, CHMM
Chapter President, Colonial VA 2016-2017

2016-2017 CHAPTER MEETING SCHEDULE

- September – Lunch meeting at VA Department of Emergency Management, Midlothian
- October 17 – Dinner Meeting – John Meola, presentation on workplace violence, in Goochland
- November 14 - Dinner at New Market (with AIHA) – DOLI Commissioner & AIHA’s Aaron Trippler
- December 9 - Holiday Social – Social at The Strangeway Brewery, Richmond
- **January 23** – Joint with Society of Fire Protection Engineers, **4 PM @Tuckahoe Library** (food by Grapevine Café)
- February 27– Legislative Update program by Courtney Malveaux, JD @ Hard Shell in Bellgrade
- March 20 – Presentation by Rob Stihls @ Dominion in Innsbrook
- April 11– Tour of crash testing facility hosted by Drive Smart @ IIHS-VRC in Ruckersville
- May 15 – Election of Officers, and special topic presentation by Anna Jolly, JD, CHMM @ Circle Safety in Innsbrook
- June – Richmond Squirrels outing-first Friday home game in June

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November 14th Meeting Notes

The Latest Insider News on VOSH and OSHA

At the annual joint meeting of AIHA and ASSE, our combined membership had the good fortune of hearing the latest news about Virginia’s enforcement program and the federal program for safety and health. Our combined group of over more than 40 persons enjoyed a delightful meal catered upstairs at New Market. Our thanks to Lindsay Tycer for arranging the meeting space and the catered meal – such a wonderful atmosphere in which to socialize with our sister society of industrial hygienists.

Assistant Commissioner William P. Burge expressed his gratitude to the safety and health professionals who helped support efforts to promote VPP within the General Assembly. Virginia is first in the nation to make this program of recognition of safety excellence a permanent part of its state program. Mr. Burge also introduced the BEST program, a safety recognition program for the construction industry similar in nature to the VPP program but does not rely on three years of data or single geographic location. He left us with a stalwart plea as he reported that 39 workplace fatalities have already occurred this year, compared to 29 in all of 2015. This number includes two deaths due to a single backing accident where prior to this day, there has only been two deaths throughout the entire six-year period since the backing regulation was put in place (2009). Mr. Burge did not go into detail about PELs and silica as he noted that Mr. Aaron Trippler from AIHA would most likely review these pending changes.

Indeed, Mr. Aaron Trippler, the (retired-but-encored) legislative liaison for AIHA national office, gave a lively accounting of the expectation for federal OSHA over the next year. With the impact of the most recent election, several key pieces of proposed legislation may face treatment under the Congressional Review Act (like what happened to the ergonomic or indoor air quality regulation). Mr. Trippler’s expectation is that as a businessman, President-elect Trump, will continue forward with several proposed safety regulations as they are good for business.

REMINDER - The electronic recordkeeping must be approved by the General Assembly of Commonwealth before the rule goes into effect within Virginia.
NEW Learning Partnership: Colonial VA Chapter and Columbia Southern University

Our chapter is now a learning partner with CSU. This partnership provides chapter members with a discount for attending CSU courses. CSU offers an undergraduate and graduate degrees in a variety of safety, security, environmental and emergency programs, as well as an array of on-line continuing education courses. Looking for an ASP, CSP or PMP prep course? Try CSU.

The Nominating Committee

The nominating committee will start work after the first of the year. The committee this year is headed by Kevin Theriault. They will be working hard to put together a qualified slate of candidates for Chapter Year 2017-18. The slate of officers will be announced in March. The election of officers will occur in April with the induction of these officers will occur in May.

COMING EVENTS

ASSE National Professional Development Conference (National PDC) on June 19-22, 2017 in Denver, CO.

UPDATES YOU MIGHT HAVE MISSED

OSHA – Check out the proposal on Workplace Violence rules for Healthcare/Social Assistance. These may serve as future guidance. California just passed and put into place their regulations applying to Healthcare/Social Assistance.

- The final rule clarifying the continued obligation on accurate recordkeeping is the resolution of a legal case where OSHA lost on multiple citations. Most employers will have been following these recordkeeping practices, so these clarifications should not prove to be a surprise.

- The original enforcement date of August 10 for the anti-retaliation provisions in its Improve Tracking of Workplace Injuries and Illnesses final rule has been delayed until November 1. Recordkeeping revision suspended after Associated Builders & Contractors Inc., National Association of Manufacturers and other industry groups filed suit against OSHA. The lawsuit cites that the regulations of “the New Rule” are “unlawful to the extent that they prohibit or otherwise limit incident-based employer safety incentive programs and/or routine mandatory post-accident drug testing programs.” Watch for more on this one.

US DOT – In addition to the New Clearinghouse, check out FMCSA’s enforcement notice on drivers from staffing agencies. Clearinghouse for positive drug testing has passed the Office of Management and Budget. Now all that’s left is publication in Federal Register as a final rule. In short, the impact of this rule will cause every employer of commercial drivers to electronically file all confirmed positive tests of commercial drivers and permit the look-up of drug and alcohol testing history of drivers before hiring.
UPDATES FROM CHAPTER BOARD MEMBERS REPORTS

Treasurer – Chapter accounts currently total over $9k ($4k in CD and $4500 in Checking). Approval was given for $500 of chapter funds towards the renewal of dues with VA Chamber of Commerce and $100 for renewal of dues with Richmond Joint Engineers Council.

Membership Chair – The number of members in the Colonial VA Chapter continues to be around 220 with an average of 25 members actively attending.

Program Chair – The programs have been lined up for the year and work continues determining if CEUs can be awarded for any of the programs.

Communications Chair – In addition to the existing chapter media vehicles of Facebook, website, newsletter and Twitter, we are exploring the potential to expand the delivery of meetings through web delivery to members. LinkedIn account has been added to our collection of social media to serve our members. Website continues to be updated with current job opportunities.

Awards & Service Chair - In special recognition of our colonial roots, our speakers for November were thanked with engraved Jefferson cups. Two cups were provided, restoring a tradition to our chapter.

Legislative Liaison - All drafts of legislation to be pre-filed are available for review at midnight on December 31. The regular session convenes on January 11, 2017. More information will appear in our January newsletter.

Young Professionals Liaison - A LinkedIn page has been established for our chapter (with several board members as back-ups to Marta.) A partnership was explored with Columbia Southern University, a major on-line learning source for safety professionals.

Newsletter Editor – Six editions will be published during the 2016-2017 chapter year and posted to the chapter site. Special focus will be made to new regulations and national standards issued of interest to members, as well as safety emphasis linked to a specific message of chapter interest (such as training).

Drive Smart Virginia Advocacy Day
Join us on January 26th for DRIVE SMART Virginia’s annual Advocacy Day at Virginia General Assembly. Start at 7:30am at General Assembly Bldg., 201 N. 9th Street, Richmond