



**NORTHWEST
CHAPTER**

December Newsletter

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Happy Holidays!

No matter how you celebrate this time of year, may you find time for yourself and take a moment to consider what you are grateful for.

Have you added your picture to your ASSP profile? If not, please consider doing so. It is easy:

- Log into your ASSP account.
- Go to "My Account" (top right)
- Upload a picture.

If you do it now, you can check it off your list for the year.

We've had a great start to the year, with very interesting presentations at the chapter meetings. And there is more to come!

- While registration for in-person attendance at the January meeting is closed, you can still attend virtually.

- Registration for the PDC is open (in case you need to spend some budget yet in 2025). Mark your calendars for Feb 17.
- We still have three other chapter meetings this year: March will be on HOP, April will be student presentations and May will be on electrical safe work practices.

Northwest Chapter Nominations Committee is looking for people interested in running for the Board. We have seven positions to fill (vice president, treasurer, member-at-large, or Society Advisory Group rep). If you are interested in running for an elected position or want more information about these positions, feel free to reach out to me or Jon Eichmann.

There is still time to make a donation to Second Harvest as part of our food drive in December. We collected a pretty good sized box of donations at the December meeting. Online donations can be made through the dedicated online portal – link [here](#). *Help us reach our goal of \$250!*

Stay safe as the year draws to a close. Not just for you but for those who love you. See you in 2026!

Carol Keyes
Northwest Chapter President

President@northwest.assp.org

UPCOMING EVENTS

January Chapter Event: "Cleared for Safety: Guarding Those Who Guard Us"

Registration for in-person has closed, but virtual attendance registration is still open [here](#).

Get ready for a trip to the Air National Guard 133rd Airlift Wing located at the MSP airport. This event will be co-hosted by the AIHA Upper Midwest Section. At this event we will have the opportunity to tour the air base and hear from Lt. Col Brandon Moore, Chief of Safety.

February Chapter PDC: Tuesday, February 17, 2026 at the Minneapolis Marriott Northwest in Brooklyn Park, Minnesota.

Register [here](#).

The Northwest Chapter of the American Society of Safety Professionals (ASSP) is excited to announce our 2026 Professional Development Conference (PDC). With the theme, “Connecting Today for a Safer Tomorrow”, the PDC is a great, local opportunity for safety professionals to celebrate the EHS profession and earn professional development CEU’s. Networking opportunities will be endless!

With a full day of relevant general sessions, breakout sessions, and an expo area where you can connect with representatives from a wide range of EHS products and service providers, you will want to be a part of this gathering. You do not need to be a member of ASSP to attend – the event is open to **all** who are involved with workplace safety. In 2026 the event includes a Post-Conference Reception where you can unwind and continue the networking. You won’t want to miss all this!

Please see our preliminary schedule and register [here](#):



Agenda

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT CONFERENCE
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 2026
MINNEAPOLIS MARRIOTT NORTHWEST - BROOKLYN PARK, MN

7:00 - 7:45	Registration, Continental Breakfast, Exhibitors Open		
7:45 - 8:00	Welcome & Opening Remarks		
8:00 - 9:00	Keynote: Ten Commandments of Safety Communication Ted Schick		
9:00 - 9:20	Exhibitor & Networking Break		
9:20 - 10:20	Takeaways from OSHA Fatality Investigations		
10:20 - 10:40	Exhibitor & Networking Break		
10:40 - 11:40	Work Injury Prevention and Rehabilitation Lisa Pierson	Methods for Learning from Incidents Involving Human & Organizational Performance (HOP) Norman Richie	Where Leadership Goes, Safety Follows Ted Schick
11:45 - 12:30	Lunch Break / Exhibitors		
12:30 - 1:30	Business Meeting & Awards CLEAR Values: ASSP Regional Speake		
1:30 - 1:50	Exhibitor & Networking Break		
1:50 - 2:50	Active Threat Preparedness for Safety Professionals Drew Moldenhauer	Turn Your Supervisors into Superstars! The Essential Skills They Need to Achieve Success Chris Ross	Ergonomic Program Design and Implementation Beth Mayotte
2:50 - 3:00	Networking Break		
3:00 - 4:00	OSHA Litigation Aaron Dean	Building a Culture of Total Worker Health & Safety Al Roth	Four Dimensions of Engagement - Engagement is More than "Hands On" Learning Ben Wood
4:00 - 4:15	PDC Closing Session		
4:15 - 5:00	Post Conference Networking Reception		



NORTHWEST CHAPTER

Working together for a safer, stronger future.
www.assp.org

2025-2026 Chapter Event Schedule

We have all our engagements planned for the upcoming Chapter year. Please see below for our events and mark your calendars now.

[Check out our registration page.](#)



ASSP Northwest Chapter 2025-2026 Chapter Event Schedule

Event Date:	Topic:	Speaker(s):	Location:
September 9 th	MN OSHA Update: Regulatory Refresh & What's Next	Jim Krueger, Director of Minnesota OSHA	McGough 2737 Fairview Ave N., Roseville, MN 55113
October 14 th	Next-Gen Safety: AI for Smart EHS	Robert McIntosh, M.S. Digital Strategy & Marketing Leader for College of Science & Engineering at the U of MN	Acme Tools 1271 Town Centre Dr. Eagan, Mn 55123
November 11 th	Doing Right by Safety: Ethics in the Workplace	Adele L. Abrams, Esq, ASP, CMSP Law Office of Adele L. Abrams P.C.	Marsh 6160 Golden Hills Drive Golden Valley, MN 55416
December 8 th	What's that Smell? Industrial Hygiene Made Simple	Cathy Hovde, CIH, CSP, Resilient EHS	MN Safety Council Inc. 474 Concordia Ave., Saint Paul, MN 55103
January 20 th 11 am – 1 pm	<i>Joint Meeting with AIHA</i> Cleared for Safety: Guarding those Who Guard Us	Matthew Manjes, Occupational & Weapons Safety Manager	Air National Guard 133 rd Airlift Wing located at MSP International Airport
February 17 th	Professional Development Conference (PDC)		
March 10 th	From Near Misses to Meaningful Change: Harnessing HOP to Learn & Improve	Nikki Knapp, CSP, HOP Champion, Senior Safety Business Process Analyst with ALLETE	The Builders Group 2919 Eagan Dale Blvd Ste 100, Eagan MN 55121
April 14 th	Student Paper Presentations	Chapter Student Members UW-Stout & Duluth	The Builders Group 2919 Eagan Dale Blvd Ste 100, Eagan MN 55121
May 12 th	Stay Current: NFPA 70E Essentials for a Safer Workplace	Kamron Allipour, QSSP	The Builders Group 2919 Eagan Dale Blvd Ste 100, Eagan MN 55121

*Some schedule planning details are subject to change; dates and times will remain the same.

Safety 2026 Registration is Now Open

Join us in Anaheim, and see what everyone's talking about. Registration is officially open for [Safety 2026](#), and we're heading to Anaheim, CA, June 15–17, for what's shaping up to be our biggest event yet.

Last year, Safety's expo hall was the largest in event history and the energy, innovation and engagement were unmatched. From cutting-edge technology and breakthrough products to hands-on demos and direct access to solution providers, the expo floor became the heartbeat of the event. In 2026, we're building on that momentum with an even more dynamic, award-winning expo experience.

Beyond the expo, Safety 2026 brings together thousands of EHS professionals for world-class education, insightful general sessions, valuable CEUs and unmatched networking with peers from across industries. It's where safety professionals come to discover what's next—and take it back to their organizations.

[Register Now](#)

The full session schedule will be announced in early April. If you'd like to get an idea of the types of topics offered, [browse the sessions from Safety 2025](#).

ENGAGEMENTS

Second Harvest Heartland Fundraiser

The ASSP Northwest Chapter has been honored to host a virtual & in-person fundraiser event for Second Harvest Heartland. While our in-person fundraiser has concluded, online donations can still be made through the dedicated online portal – link [here](#).

We have raised \$160 so far and have dropped off a box of various food items from the in-person fundraiser.

Please consider making a donation this holiday season and join our ASSP Chapter in giving back to the community.

The cost of 1 can of food, can provide up to 3 complete meals through Second Harvest. Even a small donation goes a long way!

The virtual drive ends 12/31/2025.

The December Chapter Meeting Presents Industrial Hygiene Concepts

On December 9 the Northwest Chapter held the monthly meeting at the Minnesota Safety Council in St. Paul. It was a great time for networking and learning, with a special presentation by Cathy Hovde, CIH, CSP, of Resilient EHS who delivered a program called, "What's That Smell? Industrial Hygiene Made Simple". This was a great, high-level message that provided a lot of insights into the world of industrial hygiene that are important to remember, whether you are a veteran CIH or if you are occasionally involved in industrial hygiene-related tasks. Thank you, Cathy!

As part of this meeting, we initiated a food and cash drive to support the efforts of Second Harvest Heartland. We had a large box of food donations brought to the meeting, plus we have received \$160.00 in cash donations.

The next meeting is the annual joint meeting with AIHA and takes place Tuesday, January 20, 2026 at the Minnesota Air National Guard base. Although in-person registrations for the presentation and tour had to be completed by December 15 for security clearance purposes, it is still possible to watch the presentation virtually by registering at the Chapter website. A related article in this newsletter provides details.

Engagement at Career Days

The Northwest Chapter is engaging in career days at various high schools and at one college (Gustavus Adolphus) and we are currently seeking additional opportunities to get our message out, relative to the great careers available in EHS. Our mission is of dual nature: encourage students to participate in Chapter-affiliated college and university programs, such as those at Stout, UMD and U of M Minneapolis (via student section membership) and also raise the awareness of student counselors and faculty, about the opportunities in EHS. We welcome the participation of alumni of educational institutions within the Chapter - either as a source of referrals, and/or to directly participate in such events.

Member Get a Member Program

When a new full member lists a current member as their referring member in the membership application, the referring member gets the credit and is eligible for prizes at different thresholds. The prizes are outlined in the link below as well as a refer-a-friend tool with some suggested messaging to new potential members. Members typically refer their own colleagues, friends, and associates in safety to become members.

<https://www.assp.org/membership/member-get-a-member>

Chapter Board Meetings - Guests are Invited!

Did you know your Northwest Chapter Board meets monthly to manage Chapter affairs? These meetings usually take place prior to the regular monthly programs and are open to all Members. It is possible to attend these meetings in person or via a conference call. Observing these meetings is a great way to get an inside look at what it takes to be an ASSP "Platinum Chapter". It is also a good way to learn more about the various Chapter leadership positions and get involved!

If you have never been to a Board Meeting and want to check it out, come early to the location for the monthly Chapter Program and join us. If you want to attend the Board Meeting via conference call, please contact a member of the board to get a unique login credentials.

Mentorship Corner: Need Some Help or Do You Want to Help?

Sometimes, ASSP members encounter difficult matters that transcend and/or may lie outside the professional literature, their coursework, and experience. The chance to discuss creative solutions and resources (on a confidential basis), with a Chapter mentor can often be helpful.

On the other side of the coin, seasoned professionals, in their roles as mentors can gain significant benefit from knowing that they have helped a mentee negotiate a difficult challenge, and have had a positive impact on the safety and well-being of employee groups connected with their mentee's workplace, and (possibly) that organization's customers and the wider community, as well.

We invite you to explore such opportunities.

OTHER NEWS TO SHARE

2026 Northwest Chapter ASSP Student Scholarships are Open

Multiple Scholarships totaling a minimum of \$4000 available for students pursuing a graduate degree, Master of Science in Risk Control, at University of Wisconsin-Stout, Master of Environmental Health & Safety, at the University of Minnesota-Duluth or Master or Doctorate in Public Health or an Occupational Safety, Health or Environmental field of study at the University of MN.

Check out our [website](#) for all the details.

ASSP Foundation Lifetime Giving Societies

The Northwest ASSP Chapter was recongized as a Chapter that has provided gifts to the ASSP Foundation. We were recently recongized in the current edition of Professional Safety Journal as Visionary Giving.

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

Check out our [website](#) to see the latest in current openings!



If you do not wish to receive these emails, please [click here](#) to unsubscribe from ASSP Northwest Chapter messages.

American Society of Safety Professionals | 520 N. Northwest Highway, Park Ridge, IL 60068