



NORTHWEST
CHAPTER

May Newsletter

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

We've wrapped up another year of great Chapter meetings and educational presentations. Thank you to Kam Alipour of Cintas for his presentation on electrical safety in May. And thank you to Megan Navarre for lining up all the of the presentations.

Chapter Bylaws

As I have mentioned before, our bylaws were out of date and had provisions that were not in compliance with Society guidelines. We've been working on revisions for many months. A copy of the revised bylaws and a comparison of the changes is available on the [Northwest Chapter website](#). Watch your email around June 17 for the ballot on our bylaws. It is just one quick question – whether you approve the proposed bylaws or not. We appreciate you taking the time to vote.

Upcoming events

- **August 6 Boat Cruise:** Mark your calendar for the summer boat ride, August 6, out of St Paul. This is a joint venture with AIHA-Upper Midwest Section, AHMP, and the Minnesota Safety Council. [Registration is open](#) and there are still sponsorship opportunities.
- **September Meeting:** Our meetings are traditionally held on the second Tuesday, but there is a conflict with Labor Day this year, so we will be

changing the date. Watch the newsletter for more information.

- **Safety 2026 Anaheim:** There will be at least four Board members attending the Leadership conference. The Chapter supports Mark Nichols' attendance, and Scott Huberty, Chris Flegel and I are also attending. We hope to see you at some point during the conference, even if it is just passing in the hallways. Let us know if you are presenting.

Election

Congratulations to the newly elected 2026-2027 Board members:

- **President-Elect & Programs Chair:** Whiteny Larson
- **Vice President:** Tyler Murphy
- **Treasurer:** Chris Flegel
- **Members at Large:** Andrea Peterson, Scott Huberty, Megan Rooney
- **Society Advisory Group Member:** Kate Carlson, Jamison Harrell-Latham

Thank you to all who voted in our recent election. Great appreciation is extended to all who ran for offices; their willingness to volunteer is greatly appreciated.

Congratulations Scholars

The Northwest Chapter has traditionally supported our student sections and students in the form of supporting attendance at our February PDC and scholarships. We raise funds primarily through sponsorships and our PDC. In the past couple of years we have been able to increase our scholarships to \$8500. This year's recipients are:

Abigail Bauer UW-Stout

Evans Owusu UW-Stout

Cora Coz UMD

Tyler Platt UMD

Michael Ward UMD

Haoxeng Thao UMD

Anna Lee UMN

Melissa Mutchler UMN

Kristine Kancans UMN

Thank You

Thank you to The Builders Group (Chris Flegel, Scott Huberty) and Marsh McLennan (David Rumsey, Mike Music), Acme Tools (Curt Schroeder), and the AGC (Stacy Arnold) for hosting our chapter meetings. And to Megan Navarre, Nick Marcella, Chris Flegel, Scott Huberty, Jenn Carlson, and Mark Nichols for setting up speakers, securing CEUs, ordering food, making nametags, getting technology to work and everything else that goes into making meetings happen.

Thank you to Kate Carlson and Jamison Harrell-Latham for all their work on the bylaws.

Thank you to Jeff Jarvela for overseeing the scholarships.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Going to Safety 2026 in Anaheim?

ASSP will hold Safety 2026 - the annual Professional Development Conference; from June 15 - 17 at the Anaheim Convention Center in California. Many Northwest Chapter members will be attending and there are a number of our Members who were selected to speak. If you made a registration to go, keep your eyes open for details on a Northwest Chapter group photo at Anaheim as well as a Meet-Up out there.



Register for the Summer Boat Cruise!

Mark your calendar for the summer boat ride, August 6, out of St Paul. This is a joint venture with AIHA-Upper Midwest Section, AHMP, and the Minnesota

Safety Council. [Registration is open](#) and there are still sponsorship opportunities.

ENGAGEMENTS

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

Please Review: Northwest Chapter Bylaws Proposed Revision

The Northwest Chapter Bylaws Committee and Board have been working to update and revise our bylaws, which serve as a guidance document for the chapter. ASSP (Society) noted that our current bylaws were not in compliance with the model bylaws from Society and there were a few items that had some potential legal concerns. Over a long, thoughtful, much edited, nine month process, the Northwest Board approved the proposed bylaws at our May Board meeting. We now present those bylaws to you, our members, for approval.

We have attached the proposed bylaws along with a summary of the changes. Redlined versions are available upon request.

Around June 17 you will receive an e-ballot from ASSP asking for your vote in favor of or against the proposed bylaws. We need 2/3 of those voting to be in favor for the bylaws to pass.

If you have any questions or concerns about these, please reach out to Carol Keyes, Chapter President, at President@northwest.assp.org or to Jamison Harrell-Latham.

A huge thank you to Jamison and Kate Carlson for all of their work on updating the bylaws.

[NorthwestChapterBylaws2026_051226.pdf](#)
[NW_Chapter_ASSP_Bylaws_Comparison_2023_vs_2026.pdf](#)

Call for Authors

ASSP Northwest Chapter Members, the call is going out for authors willing to contribute to the 4th edition of the Safety Professionals Handbook. The process of creating the next edition of the Safety Professionals Handbook has begun, and ASSP is looking for members to contribute by authoring chapters.

We are looking for new, diverse voices who are excited to share your expertise. If you have an area of expertise and would like to make your contribution to the future of safety, please reach out to Scott Gesinger scott.gesinger@bbrown.com to learn more.

OSHA / MN OSHA Update May 2026

- Minnesota OSHA (MNOSHA) continues emphasizing construction fall prevention and struck-by hazard awareness during spring safety campaigns, including the National Safety Stand-Down to Prevent Falls in Construction (May 4–8).
- MNOSHA recently highlighted that Minnesota’s workplace injury and illness rate remains at a historic low, while reminding employers to stay focused on rising fatality trends and high-hazard industries.
- Federal OSHA’s National Emphasis Program (NEP) on heat-related hazards expired in April 2026, and the proposed permanent federal heat rule remains stalled. Employers should still expect enforcement under OSHA’s General Duty Clause and continue heat illness prevention efforts heading into summer.
- Minnesota employers should continue preparing for OSHA-aligned updates involving hazard communication, PPE fit requirements in construction, and increased penalty structures that were recently adopted into Minnesota OSHA rules.
- OSHA nationally continues increased focus on documentation, injury recordkeeping, trenching, silica, and high-hazard industry inspections during 2026.

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

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



to unsubscribe from ASSP Northwest Chapter messages.

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