President's Message

A Note on Hypocrisy: For years I have often thought about the hypocrisy of fall protection at work versus home/other locations. Don’t get me wrong, I think we would mostly agree that falling from a height can severely hurt or kill you and that’s why it is important to assure workers are protected. As a safety professional I have attended the competent person training provided by Capitol Safety (a 3M Company), provided training to hundreds of people in my career, advised management when fall protection is needed and how to set it up, and much more on the subject. So I really do “get it.” My struggle lies with the home/other locations where standing or sitting at a height occurs. I try not to overthink it but accept it because that’s how it’s done. But if you were at work and someone observed you without fall protection you might get disciplined or terminated for being at a height that is completely accepted when not working. Yet, we all know falling from a height can have the same result whether you are at home or work.

Below are a few examples: If you’re a skier/snowboarder, you ride a chairlift…sometimes they have a bar sometimes they do not. If you hunt, you climb a tree…some tie off when they reach the tree stand some do not. If you are a kid, you play/climb on a playground where heights are often above industry trigger heights for fall protection. There are sometimes open railings to fall through or equipment to climb on.
pockets, take off gloves, move around and certainly don't screw around with other kids while riding.

When I hunt, I climb so both hands are free and use a harness when I'm situated in my stand.

On playgrounds, I assure the playground is appropriate for the child's age. Letting your 3 year old child play on playground equipment that is meant to be used by grade schoolers is a bad idea. Also, playing tag on the playground is a recipe for someone to fall. Yeah, the area below playground equipment is supposed to be soft, but still 70% of all playground injuries are from falls.

Coming up...
ASSE Northwest Chapter and AIHA Upper Midwest section have joined to provide you an excellent presentation on “Lifecycle of Safety and Industrial Hygiene careers.” Come join us on January 10, 2017 at Buck Hill (go to Buck Hill Event Center room). We are excited to try out this new location! Register Here

The Northwest Chapters Professional Development Conference is February 14 at the Commons Hotel. We are thrilled to have Michael Williamsen as our keynote speaker presenting on View from the Top: Executive Engagement for Safety Improvement. Mike teamed with safety author Dr. Dan Petersen for three years to develop and implement a nationwide safety accountability and continuous improvement system that helped a Fortune 20 company reduce injuries by 80% within two years. He speaks throughout the world sharing strategies with corporations.

We also have Sam Scribe leading a session on Getting Beyond the Safety Controls and Systems. Sam Scribe is the owner of Alpha Safety USA. He started his career as a miner and then transitioned to teaching safety. He has been an MSHA/OSHA Instructor & Motivational speaker for over 23 years. Sam promotes and motivates safe behavior through a unique style of training interacting with the class and making safety personal. Sam's mission is not just to instruct people but to motivate them to make safety a way of life.

Register at: http://northwest.asse.org/events/professional-development-conference/

NW Chapter PDC - Early Bird Registration Extended!

Early bird registration has been extended until December 31st for the 2017 annual ASSE Northwest Chapter Professional Development Conference which will be held February 14th, 2017 at The Commons Hotel in Minneapolis. The conference will once again bring together local and national expert speakers for a day of learning and development right in our own backyard. So don’t wait, register today to secure your spot at this enjoyable and educational event!
We are very excited to have internationally renowned speaker Mike Williamsen, PhD, CSP as our keynote speaker. Mike is a safety consultant with 30+ years of business exchange-management experience for companies such as Frito-Lay, Inc., General Dynamics, and Standard Oil. He will be sharing with us ways to help us engage our executive leaders and providing a concurrent session on leading indicators to transform our safety culture.

In addition to Mr. Williamsen, there is a plenary session on "Looking beyond safety" – a humorous and enlightening look at how we can be more effective, student poster sessions, and concurrent sessions that cover:

- Preventing Opioid Overuse in Worker’s Compensation
- Risk Assessment Methods
- Environmental Bootcamp
- Machine Safeguarding and Best Practices
- Fit for Duty Pros and Cons
- Crystalline Silica
- ArcFlash Safety
- Experiential Learning and much more!

**Registration is open** with early bird registration until December 31st is only $150.

**Networking reception** February 13th from 4:30 to 6:00 – come in early, stay the night so you don’t miss a minute of the conference!

CEU's have been requested – based on last year we expect 0.6 CEU’s to be awarded for this event.

Also, did you know that Safety 2017 is taking place in Denver and registration is open! Many of our local chapter members will be speaking at the event... [http://safety.asse.org/](http://safety.asse.org/)

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**SPY - LAST CALL: Nominations due January 9, 2017**

We are looking for a few great safety professionals! The American Society of Safety Engineers (ASSE) Safety Professional of the Year Award (SPY) honors exceptional safety professionals each fall. The Northwest Chapter needs your help in identifying great safety leaders in our chapter that deserve consideration for the Chapter, Regional or National SPY award. The **SPY award looks at five primary categories:** Knowledge and Expertise, ASSE Involvement, Professional Contributions, Awards/Innovations and Leadership/Management.

In the link following you can find information on the general criteria for the SPY award along with examples and details in the “SPY Petition Guidance” resource: [http://www.asse.org/professionalaffairs/awards/spy/](http://www.asse.org/professionalaffairs/awards/spy/)

We are encouraging all chapter members to think about those safety professionals who stand out, have been great mentors, volunteered their time and made strides in advancing the safety profession. Please start the process by offering the name of an outstanding safety candidate you know to Dawn Westin at dmwestin@mmm.com or contact Dawn at 651-737-2752 if you have further questions on the SPY criteria and nomination process. Please forward your nomination by January 9, 2017.

**Safety Professional of the Year (SPY) Award Background**

Edgar Monsanto Queeny, son of the founder and third president of Monsanto Company, perhaps more than any other chief executive in the history of American industry, saw first-hand the tragedy that can result from an industrial accident. Mr. Queeny was president of Monsanto on April 16, 1947, when the explosion of a French freighter destroyed Monsanto’s Texas City plant, killing 512 persons, including 145 Monsanto employees.

Mr. Queeny was appalled by what he saw as he viewed the destruction. A short time later, he wrote a report to employees and shareholders describing what he had seen and what it motivated him to do. It was, as a national news correspondent put it, “a masterpiece of restrained agony.”
record to this day reflects Edgar Monsanto Queeny’s deep personal commitment to protect the worker from industrial accidents and health hazards. It is in his memory that Monsanto Company proudly supports the objectives of the ASSE and annually sponsors this award for outstanding accomplishments by one of the Society’s top professionals.

**Monsanto** is proud to sponsor the **Edgar Monsanto Queeny Safety Professional of the Year Award** and convey it annually to the outstanding safety professional selected by the American Society of Safety Engineers. The Safety Professional of the Year award is given to an ASSE member that has demonstrated outstanding accomplishments as a safety professional and has made significant contributions to advance the safety profession.

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**Want Impact? Become a Sponsor!**

Is your organization interested in getting “the most bang for their buck?” If so, then I have the answer- become a sponsor of one of our monthly Chapter meetings!

**Sponsors enjoy the following benefits:**

- Booth exhibit space to showcase your products and services
- 15 minutes of presentation time to advertise and promote your products and services
- Company logo on our Chapter website

Lastly, probably the greatest benefit in becoming a sponsor is that you have a captive audience of 60+ members who are safety and health professionals that are seeking new information and solutions to be even more successful in their roles by adding additional value to their company and organization!

For more information, please contact Leslie Cloonan at 952-240-5023 or leslie.cloonan@ieasafety.com. We have sponsorship availability for our April meeting, so contact me today!

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**North Dakota Safety Council PDC: Registration is Now Open!**

Join us February 20-23, 2017 at the Bismarck Event Center for the region’s largest, most innovative safety event! This year’s conference features a dynamic Vendor Show, great discounts, first-class keynotes, and 97 diverse sessions including:

- a unique track of **hands-on rescue courses** taught by Roco Rescue
- **leading-edge safety concepts**
- multiple **ergonomics courses**, ranging from beginner to advanced topics
- a special **leadership and communication** track on Wednesday and Thursday
- several **ag-specific topics**
- proven **best practices** shared by some of the safest companies in the country

This 2017 event promises to be jam-packed with new speakers, valuable networking time, and ideas that will recharge your safety program.
The ASSE NW Chapter December Newsletter is Here!

http://us6.campaign-archive2.com/?u=ea2eee7f1efb97b54de81cabc&id=22c8ba824f&e=[UNIQID]

Register now for this exciting event!

Go to www.ndsc.org for course descriptions, speaker biographies and discount details.

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Search "ASSE Northwest Chapter" on Facebook to keep up with Chapter news!
The ASSE NW Chapter December Newsletter is Here!

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