Hi there friend,

Take a look at what happened this month in the Northwest Chapter. We wish you all a very Happy Thanksgiving!

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President's Message

Thankful...to be a safety professional. Thankful...to be on an active ASSE Chapter Board. Thankful...for the continuous support from Northwest Chapter members. Thankful...for numerous friendships developed over the past 15+ years within ASSE. November is a time to give thanks for those that keep us going. I would like to thank the Northwest Chapter Board along with University of Wisconsin – Stout students and staff for making our first campus meeting a success. We executed our normal monthly Board meeting on campus followed by “speed networking” lunch with Stout
students. Jim Lange, CSP Region V Area 1 Director, provided our monthly topic entitled Benefits of ASSE Membership. We had approximately 40+ attendees (10 Board members) at the campus meeting. This was a great experience that improved our engagement with Stout students and staff. Special thanks to John Urban for coordinating the campus events along with the support of UW-Stout Advisor Elbert Sorrell.

Check out our upcoming December meeting on the Basics of Drug and Alcohol Testing via Lucy Carlson, RN MPH/MS, COHN-S, CCM, an Occupational Health Specialist from 3M.

- PDC Updates – John Urban, CSP
  - Feb 9th at The Commons Hotel in Mpls
  - Registration is now OPEN
  - Request sponsors & exhibitors

- Committee Chair Reports – Jamison Harrell-Latham, CSP
  - Request each Committee Chair to provide monthly reports to Board
  - Reports to increase Committee involvement along with platform for Board assistance

- Chapter equipment inventory – Chris Flegel, CSP
  - Establish Chapter equipment inventory to track assets along with owners of assets
  - Provide tool for replacement and/or updates of equipment; budget aid

Please feel free to email me at jharrell-latham@baywest.com at any time throughout this new ASSE year with questions, concerns, or interest in participating in any of our Chapter projects.

Jamison—NW Chapter President 2015-2016

[Signature]
PDC Registration is Now OPEN!

Hopefully by now you have heard about the upcoming Professional Development Conference to be held Tuesday, February 9th at The Commons Hotel in Minneapolis and the exciting line up of speakers – including internationally renowned speaker and author Todd Conklin as our keynote speaker. Check out more about Todd and his information by clicking here.

Our luncheon speaker, Dr. Maureen Steinwall will be sharing with us information on how to more effectively work with our business leaders in her session: SIX TRICKS IN UNDERSTANDING THE BUSINESS OWNER

Rixio Medina will be sharing information on Risk Based Process Safety Management Systems which can help us better analyze the risk in our workplaces, regardless of our industry. There will be other sessions on leadership, case studies, as well as compliance – so something for everyone! Click here to review the session descriptions and speaker bios.

NEW THIS YEAR!!!
For every paid registrant who did not attend the conference in 2015 who lists you as the reason for attending the conference, your name will go into a drawing for a gift card – valued up to $250!

You won’t want to miss this event! Click here for more information on the event and to register. Early bird registration is only $150!

Northwest Chapter Visits UW Stout Student Section

The Northwest Chapter hit the road on November 10 by conducting a monthly Board Meeting and a Chapter Program at the facilities of the University of Wisconsin - Stout Campus. The outreach event was hosted by the UW Stout Risk Control Center and our Student Section located there. Joining us was Jim Lange, Area 1 Director of Region 5 that includes Northwest Chapter. A good number of Board Members, Chapter Committee Chairs and other Chapter Members made it over to Menomonie, Wisconsin for the event, held at the Risk Control Center in Jarvis Hall.
Following the Board Meeting, the group moved to a classroom where graduate students of the Risk Control Center joined in for a Chapter-sponsored lunch, a “speed networking” session between students and Chapter members, and a presentation by Jim Lange on the benefits of ASSE membership. The room was full with an estimated 40 students and Chapter members participating.

During the meeting it was announced that Elbert Sorrell, Program Director of the UW Stout Risk Control Program, will be retiring on January 7, 2016 after serving the Risk Control Center for many years. He is to be replaced by fellow faculty member, Brian Finder.

Future Safety Leaders Conference

Four ASSE Northwest Chapter Student Section members were selected to travel to Lombard, Illinois to represent UMD at the National ASSE Future Safety Leaders Conference. The conference was a great networking and learning opportunity for the students on November 5-6, 2015. Liberty Mutual Insurance, The Board of Certified Safety Professionals, Georgia Pacific, CNA Financial Corp, Underwriters Laboratories, AECOM, ProcessMAP Corp., and the ASSE Foundation sponsored the event. Over 150 students were present, representing nearly every state in the U.S.
The conference provided excellent opportunities for students to network and bond with other junior safety professionals, and also gave access to key professionals in the field. There were several presentations on a wide variety of topics such as; leadership, loss control, risk management, professionalism, and ethics. Roundtable discussions with experienced OSH professionals provided the students with a chance to learn and grow as professionals. With this being their first formal experience interacting with the ASSE, the students would like to express their excitement to be a part of a society that will assist them throughout their education and career.

“I had a wonderful experience meeting EH&S students and professionals at the Future Safety Leaders Conference. It’s an honor to be a part of such an inspiring network of people.” - Marissa Johnsen

“My experience at the Future Safety Leaders Conference was absolutely amazing. It was a great opportunity for us to network with students across the entire United States, as well as safety leaders currently working in the industry. The keynote speakers were very inspiring and provided us with great information that we can utilize throughout our careers.” - Brian Jackson

“The opportunity to connect with our peers and safety professionals, located throughout the country, by sharing experiences and strategies on how to approach safety was one of the major highlights of the trip. By connecting with other students we were able to gain a variety of strategies to grow our student chapter by volunteering, fundraising, and educating the public.” - Kaitlin DuChene
“We were given the opportunity to engage in roundtable discussions on a variety of topics ranging from OSHA, Women in Safety, ASSE, Volunteerism, and many more. We were also given the opportunity to participate in resume critiques and mock interviews with our peers, through which we were able to polish our existing approaches in these areas. The presentation regarding “Return on Investment in Safety” stood out to me in particular as a future tool for us to gain management support who don’t see the value in safety. Through attending this conference we were able to gather advice from industry professionals, and better prepare ourselves to enter the workforce as safety professionals.” -Ross Malmgren

Board Member Spotlight: Kristin Heizman, Newsletter Co-Editor

Kristin is the Newsletter Co-Editor for the Northwest Chapter and is currently employed a Corporate Safety Manager with API Group, Inc; previously she was the Safety Coordinator for Midwest Safety Counselors. She currently resides in Orono, MN with her husband, Eric, a feisty toddler named Eleanor, and a Vizsla pheasant hunting dog.

Kristin comes from a strong safety family as her grandfather was in safety, her sister is in safety, as well as Kristin and her husband! Kristin earned her undergraduate degree in English from Gustavus Adolphus College and then graduated from the University of Minnesota Duluth with her Master’s in Environmental Health and Safety.

Kristin is currently the co-chair of Women in Construction, a committee that is encouraging more women to work for API Group, Inc and the construction industry in general. Kristin became more involved in the Northwest Chapter because she wanted to meet more local safety professionals to share best practices.

Kristin’s family loves to travel-last year they went to Japan and Ireland and her other favorite activity is anything outdoors in the winter, she loves Minnesota! If Kristin won the lottery, she would continue her safety career but take time to travel the world with her family!
Board Member Spotlight: Kurt VonRueden, Member at Large and Outreach Committee Chair

Kurt holds a Member at Large position for the Northwest Chapter as well as the Outreach Committee Chairman. Kurt is currently employed as the Environmental Health and Safety Manager at Japs-Olson Company. He resides in Rogers, MN with his wife, Linda, and two sons Alex and Andrew.

Kurt graduated from the University of North Dakota which led him to hold positions as a Loss Control consultant at Meadowbrook Insurance Group and an Environmental Health and Safety Manager with Electrolux Major Appliances.

Chapter involvement and working with peers is what drew Kurt to become involved with the NW Chapter as a Board Member. Kurt has been proud to be able to speak as a concurrent session speaker at Safety 2014, Safety 2015, and you will be able to hear him speak again at Safety 2016!

Kurt’s favorite foods include Mexican food and seafood. He enjoys listening to Eric Clapton, his favorite movies are Shawshank Redemption and The Graduate, and his favorite TV shows are Mad Men, and The Middle. When he isn’t busy being involved with his children’s school and sports activities and serving as a part-time Firefighter for the City of Rogers, he likes traveling to Hawaii. If Kurt won the lottery, nothing would change. He would rent a cruise ship and take all the Northwest Chapter members on a Caribbean vacation (thanks, Kurt!) and also be very charitable.