May Newsletter is here...

Spring into the May Newsletter!
Check out the information we have for you this month:

- President's Message
- ASSE Proposed Changes
- Happy Gnome New Member Networking
- Safe Kids MN
- Boat Cruise Save the Date
- Are You WISE?
- Work, Stress and Health 2017

President’s Message

Why do people sometimes make at-risk decisions that lead to injuries? Since I began reading more and more on human error, this question sticks with me and constantly comes to mind when I’m reviewing any incident. I recognize my question above sounds “judgmental” because I’m suggesting that someone made a decision to do something that led to an injury and I, being all knowledgeable, can clearly see where they made their mistake. If they would...
have worn gloves…. If they could have checked that before continuing… how could he stick his finger in there… it seems obvious that there was ice in the parking lot, why didn’t she walk slower… Wasn’t this person trained?

I’m as guilty as everyone else when it comes to having 20/20 vision post incident, but I will say after “studying-up” on human error I think differently on injury prevention. Below are some notable quotes from Sidney Dekker (my favorite author) on human error. All are from his book “The Field Guide to Understanding Human Error”

- “There is almost no human action or decision that cannot be made to look flawed and less sensible in the misleading light of hindsight.”
- “Underneath every simple, obvious story about ‘human error,’ there is a deeper, more complex story about the organization.”
- “What is the cause of the accident? This question is just as bizarre as asking what the cause is of not having an accident.”

I’m 24 years into my career as a safety professional and have many more years to go (at least I think I do). I am or have been a trainer, auditor, coach, analyst, observer, etc. during this career and what “re-sparked” me was what I’m leaning about Human Error. It’s a really interesting subject and I just thought I’d share. Authors I like: Sydney Dekker, James Reason, Todd Conklin, Atul Gawande

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**ASSE Proposed Changes**

Reminder to please visit [www.assp.org](http://www.assp.org) to review the ASSE proposed changes that will be voted on at Safety 2017 when the House of Delegates meet.

Scroll to the bottom of the page and provide feedback…this feedback funnels right to your Northwest ASSE Chapter delegates. We need your input so we can accurately represent the chapter in the vote that will take place at Safety 2017 in Denver on June 19th!

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**Happy Gnome New Member Networking Event**
Happy Gnome - Northwest ASSE Chapter Board invited numerous new Chapter members to the Happy Gnome in St Paul on May 24th. Board members were able to network with the new Chapter members along with providing valuable insight to each of the open committee roles. Chapter plans to continue these types of social events in order to engage our new members as part of our officer transition plan. We look forward to seeing everyone again at the August 1st Boat Cruise...

Safe Kids Minnesota

The American Society of Safety Engineers, Northwest Chapter recently awarded a $2,000 grant to Safe Kids Minnesota. The funding will specifically support the development of new risk-specific home and community safety resources, such as interactive web-based infographics, to be promoted regularly for ongoing use by members, other safety organizations and the public.

Safe Kids Minnesota, led by the Minnesota Safety Council since 1988, runs programs statewide that help fight preventable childhood injury - the leading cause of death for kids and teens. Through their network of five local coalitions and more than 250 members, Safe Kids Minnesota works in partnership to develop new resources and outreach around specific injury risk areas and offers tools for prevention to increase
awareness and help make life safer.

Check out this link to learn more about Safe Kids Minnesota:
http://www.minnesotasafetycouncil.org/safekids/index.cfm

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**Boat Cruise Reminder**

Many people are already making their summer plans. Around this region it is a cherished time that gets very busy with vacations, travels, and many other activities. Mark your calendar now for the return of the Summer Safety Professionals’ Boat Cruise on Lake Minnetonka! This event is scheduled for Tuesday afternoon, August 1st from 1:30 – 4:30 PM and will sail from the Port of Excelsior. We are working with Paradise Charter Cruises and we’ll be on the Paradise Destiny II, with a capacity of 90 people. Stay tuned for word on when registrations open up...
**Are You WISE?**

WISE (Women In Safety Engineering) is a common interest group formed to foster the advancement of women and sharing of ideas in the OSH profession. On a Society level, WISE sponsors programs and a retreat at the PDC, has a mentoring program and promotes national, regional and local events. That’s where the Northwest Chapter comes in.

Are you a member of WISE (they allow WISE guys, too, so you do not have to be a woman)? Are you interested in joining? Would you be interested in planning chapter WISE activities or being the Chapter representative? If so, let me know.

WISE has helped developed PPE specific for women, and they’ve developed a resource guide of women owned businesses and companies that carry safety supplies that fit women.
If you are interested in knowing more, contact Carol Keyes at carkey@chess-safety.com or 651-842-9210.

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**Work, Stress and Health 2017**

Work, Stress and Health 2017: Contemporary Challenges and Opportunities


**About the Conference**

The 12th International Conference on Occupational Stress and Health, "Work, Stress and Health 2017: Contemporary Challenges and Opportunities," will be held at the Hilton Minneapolis in Minnesota, June 7-10, 2017, with preconference workshops and opening events on June 7. This conference is convened by the American Psychological Association, the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health, and the Society for Occupational Health Psychology.

**Scope**

The Work, Stress and Health Conference series addresses the ever-changing nature of work and the implications of these changes for the health, safety and well-being of workers. The conference covers numerous topics of interest to labor, management, practitioners and researchers. Expert presentations and informal meetings with leading scientists and practitioners provide an exciting forum for learning about the latest developments in occupational health psychology.

**New this year:** A one-day series of sessions designed just for practitioners. The Thursday-only sessions are ideal for professionals working in industrial-organizational or consulting psychology, as well as other fields including occupational health, workplace wellness, benefits management and human resources, who want practical, evidence-based guidance on creating a healthier workplace for employees.

**Contemporary Challenges and Opportunities**
The 2017 conference will give special attention to contemporary workplace challenges that present new research and intervention opportunities. Work continues to change at a rapid pace. Workplaces and their employees face a host of new challenges. Some examples of contemporary challenges and opportunities of special interest include but are certainly not limited to:

- **Dynamic employment patterns**: Labor supply through crowdsourcing and a global “human cloud” of candidates; part-time, contingent, freelance (traditional and online), on-call, and contract work; multiple jobs; uncertainty in career pathways.
- **Technology**: Remote working capabilities; workplace monitoring; scheduling software; mobile computing; the expanding range and capacity of computing and robots (e.g., driverless technology).
- **International emergencies/disasters**: Worldwide mobilization in the wake of disasters; protecting international aid workers.
- **Extreme violence and work**: Preparing for, coping with, and rebuilding after terror threats and workplace violence events.
- **Leave policies**: Paid leave; flexibility; family-supportive work settings.
- **Supportive work**: Work settings that promote work–life balance, provide opportunities for career development, and foster a positive culture of health where safety and employee well-being — both on and off the job — are prioritized, valued and promoted.
- **Changing workforce**: Challenges and opportunities afforded by a diverse workforce in terms of gender, age and ethnicity; healthy aging.
- **Comprehensive or integrated interventions**: Approaches that reach across boundaries, within and/or outside organizations, to address worker safety and health issues in a multipronged, interdisciplinary way.