

# AMERICAN SOCIETY OF SAFETY PROFESSIONALS



# ASSP



## PENSACOLA CHAPTER NEWSLETTER

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### **June 17th Meeting Chapter Picnic**

**Location:** Navarre Park - Pavilion A  
8513 Navarre Pkwy, Navarre, FL 32566  
**Time:** 5:30pm-???  
**Fee:** Free

A chapter meeting will be held to discuss new business, hold a presentation for the chapter SPY, recognize member service, and vote on the announced bylaw amendment. The menu will consist of a shrimp/low-country boil, and a door prize generously donated by ATC Group Services valued at \$100 will be given away to a lucky attendee! Come out and meet your fellow chapter members and celebrate a successful chapter year!

Please RSVP for the meeting at our website.

<https://pensacola.assp.org/>

# ASSP PENSACOLA CHAPTER NEWSLETTER

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## **IH Corner** **Occupational Health** **Experts Offer Guidelines to** **Prevent Workplace Illness** **and Injury**

Last month the [AIHA](#) announced new guidelines for developing health metrics in workplaces to help prevent illness and injury.

"The focus on identifying measures that occur before worker's health is harmed is critical to safeguarding worker health," said AIHA CEO Lawrence D. Sloan in a statement.

The group says that these guidelines, [Best Practice Guide for Leading Health Metrics in Occupational Health and Safety Programs](#), are intended for both practitioners and managers in the broad occupational health community, including industrial hygiene, occupational medicine, occupational health nursing, engineering, and human resources.

Leading health metrics—as opposed to lagging health metrics—focus on disease prevention and health promotion. They are measurable, evidence-based indicators that are used to monitor, predict, influence, and manage exposures, hazards and conditions in a workplace that may impact worker health.

Health outcomes addressed by leading metrics can be acute, such as eye irritation, dermatitis, or metal fume fever. Or they can be chronic, such as elevated blood pressure, hearing loss or cancer. Leading health metrics can include the number of workers exposed to hazardous noise and the number of those who participate in tobacco cessation programs.

Lagging metrics measure after-the-fact occurrences, such as injury and illness rates and prevalence of disease. Unfortunately, lagging metrics are not preventive, as worker health has already been impacted. Because of the lag time between exposure and adverse health effects, such metrics can give false reassurance when the physical manifestation from an adverse exposure is not yet present.

The [free comprehensive guide](#) includes specific examples of leading health metrics, how to create a balanced set of leading health metrics and how to implement and measure them in a workplace.

Need a good IH?

Matthew Parker, MS, CIH, CSP, ARM  
470-636-1960

## **Membership Benefits**

ASSP is where OSH professionals find a vibrant community, one that helps them grow professionally through education, networking and advocacy for the profession. Through our member communities, ASSP connects OSH professionals across all industries, genders, generations and ethnicities, and enables them to engage with one another on a global scale. Safety Education and Training, Safety Publications, Career Support, Safety Advocacy, Safety Standards, Student Resources, Member Recognition. If you need some hints on convincing your boss, click here. <https://www.assp.org/membership/benefits-qualifications/employer-justification>

## **Membership Information**

Ready to join? You can apply online:

<https://store.assp.org/PersonifyEbusiness/Membership/Join-ASSP>

## **Jobs**

<http://jobs.assp.org/>

<https://jobs.bcspp.org>

<http://www.ehscareers.com>

<https://pensacola.assp.org>

If you have an opening at your organization you would like to share with the chapter and have posted for members to view, let Mario Crocetti or Matthew Parker know. Openings will be shared with ASSP Pensacola Chapter members prior to being shared to the chapter website or LinkedIn page.

# ASSP PENSACOLA CHAPTER NEWSLETTER

## Future Meetings: Third Thursdays

**Mark these dates on your calendars NOW!**

## Tallahassee Meetings

Attention Tallahassee Members. We will be holding supplemental meetings at your end of the Chapter territory this year. We will try to do a full chapter meeting there, but at a very minimum will do a local meeting for you to facilitate local networking. If you know a location for the meeting or have an idea for a speaker or topic, contact Matthew Parker or Mario Crocetti.

## Photo of the Month



**Fall Protection? The rebar will catch me.**

## Open Call for Speakers

We are seeking suggestions, ideas, recommendations, proposals, hints, etc. for speakers for the ASSP meetings. Please contact us with your thoughts!

## Newsletter Information

Please forward this newsletter to any other in the chapter area that might be interested. If you wish to be added to our mailing list, please email [mario.crocetti@gmail.com](mailto:mario.crocetti@gmail.com)

## ASSP Shifts Annual Conference from June to September

The American Society of Safety Professionals has moved its annual safety conference to a new date and location, while adding a hybrid component to it. The [Safety 2021 Professional Development Conference and Exposition](#) will take place Sept. 13-15 both online and in-person in Austin, Texas.

Due to the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic, the last national safety conference to be held in the United States was *EHS Today's* Safety Leadership Conference in November 2019. Interestingly, that conference was also held in Texas (Dallas). This year's [Safety Leadership Conference](#) will be a hybrid event held in Cleveland, Ohio, November 9-11.

ASSP plans to incorporate heightened safety and health measures to protect all attendees, said ASSP president Deborah Roy. Attendees will be required to wear face coverings at the convention center, and the society also plans to integrate other safeguards into its plan and will closely monitor pandemic-related developments in Austin. If the public health situation doesn't improve as expected, ASSP will shift the conference to an all-virtual event.

## Key Takeaways from OSHA's 3990 Publication

Even as we start to get a better handle on the COVID-19 pandemic, it's clear that our lives, including the modern workplace, will never be the same. We may never be able to totally rid ourselves of the virus, and so we must remain vigilant against the potential spread of the disease. Fortunately, [OSHA publication 3990](#) has outlined what employers need to do to keep employees protected from COVID-19. While company leaders should read through the entire document, here are the key takeaways from OSHA publication 3990.

### Develop a Response Plan

The biggest takeaway from OSHA publication 3990 is the need for companies to develop a response plan to COVID-19. This requires a substantial review of employees, practices, and the overall workplace setting. Companies need to try to understand all of the ways that employees could potentially be exposed to COVID-19 or other types of germs and diseases. Once companies understand that, they will be able to create a plan for how they can reduce the risk of exposure.

# ASSP PENSACOLA CHAPTER NEWSLETTER

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## Determine Risk Factors for Employees

It's important for companies to not treat employees the same when it comes to risk factors for COVID-19. After all, different workers have different responsibilities and might work in different areas, so they are not all at the same risk level of spread. At the same time, the age and medical history of each individual employee will also play a role in how vulnerable they are to the disease. That will have an impact on what employers need to do to help protect employees.

## Promote Smart Behavior

According to OSHA publication 3990, it's up to employers to help promote smart and safe behavior among staff members. For example, encourage workers to wash their hands frequently and provide wash stations where they can do that. Along those same lines, discourage employees from sharing work tools and other equipment that can make it easy to pass along germs. Finally, make sure that your employees know to stay home if they feel any symptoms associated with COVID-19.

## Make Housekeeping a Bigger Priority

In the post-pandemic world, OSHA publication 3990 makes it clear that housekeeping must become a bigger priority for all businesses. Work areas should be cleaned and disinfected at the end of the day or before new employees occupy that area. No matter the industry, regular cleaning needs to become an integral part of workplace safety.

## Create More Flexible Work Schedules

For some companies, having employees working remotely will be a lot easier than with others. But even if remote work isn't possible, OSHA publication 3990 stresses that employers need to be more open to flexible work schedules. Is there a way to have fewer employees working at the same time? Is there a way

to allow employees to stay at home if they have a sick family member? Company leaders should explore creative solutions to these types of situations.

## Improve Air Quality

Much like cleaning, air quality will now become a bigger priority after COVID-19. Employers should look into installing air filters or other forms of ventilation in the workplace. This should have been important before the pandemic, but it's even more important now because good ventilation and high air quality can help prevent the spread of the virus.

## **Quote of the Month**

"Our motto is to work for peace based on social justice. Our mandate is to improve the condition, health and safety of workers, and our mission is universal."

- David A. Morse

## **Young Worker Safety**

Every summer sees an influx of young, seasonal workers who may have no previous work experience or familiarity with workplace hazards. Common industries for young workers include construction, farm work, landscaping, life guarding and parks and recreation, and restaurants and retail.

Last year, the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) released a multiyear [study](#) of nonfatal workplace injuries in young workers. Over a 7-year period, from 2012 to 2018, an estimated 3.2 million young workers (15- to 24-year-olds) experienced nonfatal, work-related injuries requiring treatment in a hospital emergency department. Compared with adult workers, young workers experience higher rates of job-related injuries.

While overall rates of nonfatal injuries declined over the 7-year period, workers 15–24 years old experienced rates 1.2 to 2.3 times higher than workers 25–44. Workers 18–19 had the highest rate of injuries requiring treatment in an emergency department.

An earlier [study](#) reported that 5,719 young workers died from occupational injuries over a 10-year period (from 1998 to 2007).

NIOSH views schools as an appropriate venue for reaching young workers before their first jobs. The institute developed [Youth@Work—Talking Safety](#), a foundational curriculum in occupational safety and health, as part of its "Safe • Skilled • Ready Workforce" program.

The curriculum consists of a series of lessons designed for 45-minute class periods and is aimed at helping teens develop 8 core competencies in workplace safety and health:

- Recognizing that, while work has its benefits, all workers can be injured, become sick, or even be killed on the job. Workers need



# ASSP PENSACOLA CHAPTER NEWSLETTER

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to know how workplace risks can affect their lives and their families.

- Recognizing that work-related injuries and illnesses are predictable and can be prevented.
- Identifying hazards at work, evaluating their risks, and predicting how workers can be injured or become sick.
- Recognizing how to prevent injury and illness, describing the best ways to address workplace hazards, and applying the concepts to specific workplace problems.
- Identifying emergencies at work and deciding on the best ways to address them.
- Recognizing the employer and worker rights and responsibilities that play a role in safe and healthy work.
- Finding resources that help keep workers safe and healthy on the job.
- Demonstrating how workers can communicate with others, including people in authority roles, to ask questions or report problems or concerns when they feel unsafe or threatened.

The interactive curriculum is geared toward middle and high school students. There are versions of Talking Safety customized for all U.S. states, the District of Columbia, the U.S. Virgin Islands, and Puerto Rico, as well as Spanish-language versions. The institute also offers a [Staying Safe at Work](#) program for workers with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

NIOSH and the American Industrial Hygiene Association (AIHA) also

produced a 1-hour interactive teaching module and PowerPoint® presentation, [Safety Matters](#), designed for safety professionals and targeting students in grades 7 through 12. The Safety Matters module focuses on the same workplace safety and health competencies as the school-based Talking Safety program.

NIOSH cautions employers to avoid making assumptions about what young workers know, even things that may seem obvious, and to understand that young workers may be embarrassed or uncomfortable asking questions. Young workers should be supervised closely at first to immediately correct any risky work methods or behaviors. They need to be taught how to handle emergencies and how to wear personal protective equipment (PPE) properly.

## News about Society Governance

### -Maralee Sartain, Pensacola Chapter Delegate

From an email received back on May 27<sup>th</sup>, I learned that this year's House of Delegates meeting will not be held in conjunction with Safety 2021. The date is being finalized with an anticipated date being late summer/early fall 2021. According to the email, this was "based on several factors including, greater accessibility to more members and significant cost savings, going forward, these meetings will be virtual and not in conjunction with our annual professional development conference. Governance is a critical factor in the continuity of our organization. It must continuously evolve so ASSP can meet current and future needs of members, customers and the safety profession and make agile business decisions demanded by an increasingly complex and competitive business environment".

On June 1<sup>st</sup> as part of the *Board Connections Series*, there was an event called "Repositioning ASSP for Success". The event was described as "how a proposed governance shift would modernize the Society and help secure our future in a rapidly changing environment. You will learn about the critical need for ASSP to improve its agility and accountability while increasing member voice." I attended the event which had over 140 on the zoom call. This was a well facilitated event and provided an opportunity to learn some new information about current work by volunteers with support from the ASSP staff. Here are a few of the highlights:

- In January, the board formed a **Governance Task Force**, made up of members from different communities, to identify barriers and opportunities in our current governance model.
- In April, the board approved the group's recommendation. The **Task Force Report** was published on the society webpage at <https://www.assp.org/about/assp-governance>.
- Chapter delegates will be asked to serve on the Advisory Committee.
- All interested members of the Society can have the opportunity to join and will be considered "At Large" versus only demonstrating

# ASSP PENSACOLA CHAPTER NEWSLETTER

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representation of a select community (chapter, common interest group, practice specialty, etc.)

- Those selected will apply for this by using the ASSP Leadership Connection Form located on the website  
<https://www.assp.org/membership/volunteer-leadership/leadership-connection>
- As a part of the selection process, candidate applications will be “blinded”. This is to help reduce the (possible unconscious) bias/subjective effect on selection. The true value of what that person can bring or contribute based on experience and past efforts.

## Member Recognition

The Chapter would like to recognize and thank the following members for their longtime service and commitment to the organization:

### 45+ Years

David Triick  
Neil Thorsen

### 40+ Years

William Simkins  
Thomas Martin

### 30+ Years

Harry Cook  
Paul Villane  
Timothy McNamara

### 20+ Years

Charles Clarke  
Matthew Parker  
Kirk Bunger  
Michael Cassady  
Lamar Faulkner  
Gloretta Lawrence  
Farhad Boeshaghi  
Albert Bressler  
Lewis Wiedeman  
Timothy Grobe

I strongly encourage everyone to make some time to increase your situational awareness on this topic. One thing is the same, we as members of ASSP will continue to have a voice and influence the direction of our Society. **Everyone** has an opportunity to volunteer locally, and now virtually at the society level and your voice can be heard. Our success as a society depends on it! I encourage you to learn more about the **Board Connections Series** as it provides you direct communication with society board members. Upcoming dates are June 29th and July 27<sup>th</sup>.