



## **CHAPTER OFFICERS**

### ***President:***

*Al Bressler*

### ***Vice President:***

*Maralee Sartain*

### ***Secretary:***

*Chris Chaffin*

### ***Treasurer:***

*Marlena Fox*

### ***Advisory Board Rep:***

*Maralee Sartain*

### ***WebMaster:***

*Matt Parker*

## **November 2023 Chapter President's Message**

### **"WAM" I Never Saw That Coming.**

Earlier this year, when the Chapter's Nominations Committee was struggling to find someone in the approximately 100 members of our chapter who would serve in the various positions – I volunteered to serve in ANY capacity that they needed. At the time, I was in a "LULL" interval in my retired life. So, I gladly accepted the increased activity of serving as Chapter President. Then in the beginning of July, my wife had Hip Joint Replacement Surgery followed by a couple of eye surgeries. As she recovered from all of that by the end of September, I experienced my own medical emergencies (Epigastric hernia). NO MORE LULL !!! I have NOT had time to do ANYTHING that I promised you all THAT I would do back in July.

Reflecting on that, I realize that all of you face that same dilemma every day in your lives and jobs. You may have intended to go to chapter meetings (looking for some benefit for being a member of the Pensacola Chapter), but WAM!!! Something unexpected takes away your time to attend a meeting (I had those "WAM" moments a lot when I was employed). We have embarked on a way for you to still attend a meeting, in spite of those "WAM" moments. We have been offering the option of virtual attendance via a Zoom meeting. You can attend virtually and still participate – you can text or ask questions and we will answer them during the meeting (unfortunately – I don't know of a way to virtually feed you what we physically will be enjoying at the meeting).

THANKS to the efforts and resources of ASSP Chapter Services. Angie Stark (ASSP Community Operations Coordinator) will be helping us conduct Zoom meetings throughout this year. She has been invaluable in this effort. Others at ASSP Headquarters have also been invaluable in helping us serve you, such as Mark Huelskamp, Arielle Semmel, and Geri Golonka. From our chapter, Maralee Sartain and Matthew Parker have both been instrumental in getting this meeting format setup WITH THEIR PRECIOUS TIME AND EFFORTS. THANK YOU EVERYONE.

THAT being said, I still plan to:

1. I will contact every one of you - IF POSSIBLE (some of you do not want to be contacted – I will respect that) and ask you, "what can the Pensacola chapter do for you".
2. I will NOT waste your valuable time at meetings. We promise to keep meetings only 60 minutes long. This virtual meeting is scheduled for a bit more time – we need to conduct some business and allow for physical attendees to get settled.
3. I will encourage members to share with the group about your safety challenges and/or successes at every meeting (that goes for the virtual people).

## Chapter Meetings for 2023-24

The following meetings have been scheduled:

November 16<sup>th</sup> – Wind Mitigation Center on 10 Mile Road

January 24<sup>th</sup> – Devillier's Bldg

OSHA will conduct the following national outreach initiatives in FY 2024:

- **Stand-Up 4 Grain Safety Week**  
This annual event raises awareness of hazards in grain storage and handling operations and is sponsored by the OSHA and National Grain and Feed Association (NGFA), Grain Handling Safety Coalition (GHSC), and Grain Elevator and Processing Society (GEAPS) national Alliance and other agricultural industry groups. March 25-29, 2024 will be the 8th annual Stand-Up Week.
- **Fall Prevention Campaign**  
OSHA's Fall Prevention Campaign raises awareness of the danger of falls in construction and other industries. The signature event is the annual National Safety Stand-Down to Prevent Falls in Construction, which encourages employers to set aside time during the week to focus on fall prevention efforts and training. The Stand-Down coincides with Construction Safety Week: May 6-10, 2024.
- **Heat Illness Prevention Campaign**  
OSHA continues its efforts to educate employers and workers on heat injury and illness prevention in outdoor and indoor work settings. This campaign is ongoing, but OSHA amps up outreach efforts during warmer months (typically from early spring through fall).
- **Safe + Sound: Campaign for Safety and Health Programs**  
The Safe + Sound Campaign encourages employers to implement safety and health programs. The signature event is Safe + Sound Week, when employers can show their safety commitment through activities related to core elements of safety and health programs: management leadership, worker participation, and a systematic approach to finding and fixing hazards. Safe + Sound Week will be in August 2024.
- **Suicide Prevention Campaign**  
Suicide is a complex public health problem with lasting harmful effects on individuals, families, and workplaces. It overlaps with mental health issues (e.g., depression, anxiety, post-traumatic stress disorder), and substance abuse disorders, including opioid addiction. OSHA will amplify its outreach and support activities in commemoration of Mental Health Awareness Month in May, Suicide Prevention Awareness Month in September, Construction Suicide Prevention Week, which is September 9-13, and World Suicide Prevention Day on September 10, 2024.

Our Code of Professional Conduct is an ethical benchmark for our members. These standards bring accountability, responsibility and trust to those whom the safety profession serves.

## Our Commitment to Professionalism

- Serve the public, employees, employers, clients, the Society, and the profession with fidelity, honesty and impartiality.
- In all professional relationships, treat others with respect, civility, and without discrimination.
- Abstain from behavior that will unjustly cause harm to the reputation of the Society, its members and the profession.
- Continually improve professional knowledge, skills, competencies, and awareness of relevant new developments through training, education, networking and work experiences.
- Consider qualifications before undertaking any professional activity and perform only those services that may be handled competently.
- Make informed decisions in the performance of professional duties that adhere to all relevant laws, regulations and recognized standards of practice.
- Inform all appropriate parties when professional judgment indicates that there is an unacceptable level of risk of injury, illness, property damage or environmental harm.
- Maintain the confidentiality of information acquired through professional practice that is designated or generally recognized as non-public, confidential or privileged.
- Accurately represent professional qualifications including education, credentials, designations, affiliations, titles and work experience.
- Avoid situations that create actual, potential or perceived conflicts between personal and professional interests, and if a potential conflict of interest arises disclose all applicable facts to potentially affected parties.