

# NEWSLINE



September 2008

Central Ohio  
Chapter - ASSE

## Letter from the President

### In this Issue:

- Letter from the President
- 2008 Executive Committee and Committee Chairs
- Member of Recognition
- Region VII VP Election Information
- Government Affairs
- September Meeting Info
- 2008/2009 Meeting Planner

### New Members Spotlight

#### WELCOME!

Thomas Bennington

Dean Bortz

Kimberly Brown

### Upcoming Dates

#### September

19—Monthly Meeting

#### October

2-4—ASSE Leadership Conference

17—Monthly Meeting

#### November

6-8—ASSE Future Safety Leaders Conference

7—Region VII ROC Meeting

20-21—ASSE Symposium; Solutions in Construction Safety

21—Monthly Meeting



President  
Tracy Thompson

I'm continually amazed at how quickly time passes as we grow older. I clearly remember others telling me that this would happen in complete disbelief - I used to just shake my head and think - yeah, right! It honestly feels like we just held our final meeting and wrapped up another great year and yet another new year is already here. We have eight relevant and exciting meetings scheduled for you and I really hope that you will consider joining us as much as possible. Our kickoff meeting is on Friday, September 19th and our topic is the new Fall Protection Standard and Updates.

Can I ask, are we spectators or true participants in life? Weather I'm helping coach a team, helping an elderly friend around their home or working with a customer, I continually ask, how do we really motivate or encourage others to dive in and truly become active and committed participants? I guess if I knew the answer, I'd write a book, become famous and retire. Every member, guest and potential member, regardless of what stage they are at in life, has valuable talents, gifts and input that would really benefit our chapter and its members. So whether we are telling ourselves that we are simply too busy or that we really don't have anything worth offering, let me say that yes, you do and we really need your involvement as we start this new year.

On behalf of your Steering Committee, may I extend a personal invitation to you to join us and really get plugged into your Central Ohio ASSE chapter? Whether you can only attend a limited number of meetings each year for whatever reason or we see you on a regular and ongoing basis, never question how important you are to this local chapter and its members. Remember, that through our members, we reach thousands of employees, students and their families through the companies and universities that are represented in our chapter.

For the '08-'09 year, we will continue to reach out and serve our members and I am very excited and truly honored to serve as your Chapter President. We always welcome your suggestions and input. Please let any Steering Committee member or me know how we can make this a stronger chapter. I look forward to meeting you soon in an upcoming meeting and thank you for the opportunity to serve.

Tracy Thompson.

## September Meeting Information

September 19, 2008

### Fall Protection Standard - Presented by Mike Wright

**Time:** 8am - Breakfast  
8:15 - 9:15 Presentation  
9:15 - 9:30 Chapter Meeting

**Where:** OCOSH  
(go to [www.centralohioasse.org](http://www.centralohioasse.org) for directions)

**RSVP:** via the website or  
contact John Principe

**Special Thanks:**  
Meeting hosted by Bob Beck, MSA  
Sponsored by Risk Management/Insurance Practice Specialty (see page 3 for more info.)

#### About the Speaker:

Mike is a licensed Structural Engineer, CSP and Certified Plant Engineer. He received his Bachelor's from Ohio Northern University and his Master's from the University of Cincinnati.

Mike initiated the draft of the current Z359 Fall Arrest Code; served as the vice-chair for the ANSI Z359.1- Managed Fall Protection Program committee; and is an active participant in the ANSI A1264.1 - Walking/Working Surfaces, Z117 -Confined Space, and Z490.1 - Safety, Health, and Environmental Training. He provides the critical knowledge and practical approaches to introduce and strengthen fall protection safety in the workplace.

## 2008-2009 Executive Committee



President  
Tracy Thompson  
614/312-9809



President Elect  
Joe Cicero  
937/642-5000



Past President  
John Principe  
740/587-5646



Treasurer  
Corey Moore  
614/424-7567

Photo not available at the time of publishing

Secretary  
Charlie Guinther  
614/888-4160

# ASSE Member Recognition

Amy Stewart, CSP of Mount Vernon, OH was awarded the Public Sector **Practice Specialty Safety Professional of the Year** (SPY) award at ASSE's annual Professional Development Conference (PDC) held in June. Stewart received the SPY for her work as an active member of a number of practice specialties and as a frequent contributor to the practice specialty newsletters. She has most recently been the project director of the Safe Schools/Healthy Students grant initiative for Highland local schools in central Ohio. The US Departments of justice, Education and Health and Human Service fund the project. As a recipient of the Public Sector Practice Specialty SPY award, Stewart

is now eligible for the National COPS SPY award for the coming year. Stewart also received the **ASSE NAOSH Champion Award** for going above and beyond for her sponsorship of several local school children in the "Safety-On-The-Job: poster contest. This not only raised awareness of workplace safety in the local community and schools, but increased local member participation in NAOSH Week. One of the children she sponsored ended up winning first place in his age group. Stewart and our local ASSE chapter helped send the winner and his family to Washington, DC for the poster contest award events.

**CONGRATULATIONS AMY!**

## Region VII VP Election Information

Region VII will elect our Region Vice President during the 2009 society elections. The term for this office will begin July 1, 2009 and will be for the period of 2 years. The Region VII Nominations Committee is required to review candidates from the region and submit no more than 2 nominations to the society headquarters no later than Nov. 1, 2008. To ensure time to review the Region VII nominations, the committee is asking for packages from all interested parties no later than Weds., Oct. 1, 2008. Instructions for completing a package are on the society home-

page. Please feel free to contact any member of the Region VII Nomination Committee with questions.

### The Region VII 2009 Nominations Committee

Stephanie Helgerman—helgermans@battelle.org  
Cindy Medford—cmedford@ci.paducah.ky.us  
John Principe—principej@denison.edu  
Mark Gabinet—mgabinet@trane.com  
Fred Sebastian—fsebastian@cinci.rr.com

### Send completed packages to:

Stephanie Helgerman  
BGB  
505 King Ave, MS 1-3-07  
Columbus, OH 43201

## 2008-2009 Committee Chairs

### **Program**

John Principe (740/587-5646)

### **Membership**

Bob Beck (614/361-5508)

### **Government Affairs**

Stephanie Helgerman (614/424-7363)

### **Newsletter**

Brian Basbagill (614/890-0800)

### **PR/Safety Congress**

Nick Minto (614/761-8385)

### **Webmaster**

Brian Basbagill (614/890-0800)

### **House of Delegates/CoPS**

Amy Stewart (740/892-4226)

### **The Chapter Needs You!**

To volunteer for committee chair positions, special projects or even an executive committee position for '09, contact any of the committee chairs or members of the executive committee.

# ASSE Government Affairs Update

ASSE submitted a statement for the record of the July 29, 2008, Senate Subcommittee on Employment and Workplace Safety hearing "Dangerous Dust – Is OSHA doing enough to protect workers?" Congressional interest in the issue arose this year following the February 2008 combustible dust explosion at the Imperial Sugar refinery in Port Wentworth, Georgia, that killed 13 workers and injured 40. ASSE's statement urges caution in moving ahead to address hazardous dust risks legislatively without developing a deeper understanding of current OSHA standards, their enforcement by OSHA, and the approach taken through national consensus standards.

ASSE agrees with the approach taken in a bill passed by the House seeking an OSHA standard no less effective than the NFPA 654 voluntary consensus standard but also urges inclusion of measures to address OSHA's inadequate inspection resources and inspector training on dust issues, help for employers to deal with 17 different OSHA standards related to hazardous dust, inclusion of related NFPA standards, and extending the deadline for an OSHA standard from 18 months to 24 months.

*If you can't find the time to do it right, when will you find the time to do it over?*

*If you don't have time to do it safe, do you have time to do it with a man down?*

## ASSE Testifies at Confined Space Informal Public Hearing

On Tuesday July 22, Gary Lopez, Chair of ASSE's Standards Development Committee, testified at a public hearing on OSHA's proposed rule for Confined Spaces in Construction at the US Department of Labor. ASSE's testimony was that the proposed rule is unduly complicated, introduces unnecessarily new terminology and requirements that are complicated and burdensome, and fails to recognize current safety practices that are widely understood and have proven successful in practice both in general industry and in

construction. Mr. Lopez highlighted the inconsistency between the proposed rule and the ANSI Z117.1-2003 voluntary consensus standard that is widely adopted throughout both general industry and construction among safety and health professionals managing confined space hazards in all kinds of workplaces across the country. OSHA's docket for the rulemaking can be accessed at <http://tinyurl.com/5g716f>.

Copy of Testimony: <http://tinyurl.com/6xo96p>

## Mark Your Calendars with these upcoming meeting dates!

- |                   |                   |
|-------------------|-------------------|
| October 17, 2008  | February 20, 2009 |
| November 21, 2008 | March 20, 2009    |
| December 19, 2008 | April 17, 2009    |
| January 16, 2009  | May 15, 2009      |

## Website Upgrade

A Special thanks to Kirby Utt for the new website! Over the summer Kirby worked with ASSE staff to transfer our site to ASSE web hosting and upgraded our site at the same time. It really looks great. Thanks to Kirby for his hard work in making this happen. Check it out:



[www.centralohioasse.org](http://www.centralohioasse.org)

## Risk Management/Insurance Practice Specialty

The Risk Management/Insurance Practice Specialty provides a global professional forum for advancing the risk management/insurance issues affecting SH&E professionals through networking opportunities, technical resources and a common voice on issues.

This Practice Specialty serves the interests of risk managers and insurance/loss control specialists in the Safety Profession. Its prime focus is the safety professional who provides safety and health services to policy-holding clients of insurance firms.

It sponsors annual technical sessions at the Society's Professional Development Conference. The Practice Specialty publishes a newsletter 3 times a year and distributes information on computer resources, legislative and regulatory developments pertinent to risk managers/loss control specialists. The Practice Specialty also sponsors an extensive awards program.

We have over 2,800 members within our Practice Specialty, which makes us one of the largest groups. Our ability to draw upon this large resource produces solutions to many risk management questions.