Society Fellow

Being selected Society Fellow is a distinct honor—the highest that a professional member of ASSE can receive. It reflects peer recognition of life-long excellence in the field of safety, honors dedication to advancing the safety profession and acknowledges significant contributions to the Society. ASSE is pleased to announce the 97th and 98th Fellows are Earnest F. Harper, CSP, BCFE, and Braxton D. Routh, CSP, OHST.

Earnest F. Harper, CSP, BCFE

Earnest F. Harper is a site safety engineer with Hewlett Packard Co. (HP) in Boise, ID, where he is well-known for his safety-engineering expertise. A 33-year HP employee, he was instrumental in the creation of the company’s corporate product safety program, and developed the first complete program and written documentation for HazMat control. Harper has authored many chapters of the firm’s Corporate Product Safety Manual and, in 1989, received the Epileptic Assn. of America’s Employer of the Year Award for his workstation designs, which accommodated some 20 affected employees. He developed and published a DC magnetics testing procedure that has enjoyed wide acceptance throughout HP and has earned favorable recognition for the company among commercial air freight carriers.

Harper has testified as a forensics and accident reconstruction expert in electrical injury cases, and has helped set new guidelines and standards to prevent unwarranted injury and potential fatalities. Harper is skilled as a lecturer and trainer in industrial ergonomics, and is a published author in subjects such as product safety, materials handling and ergonomics. He is a professional member of the Snake River Chapter, and throughout his 18 years with the Society, has served as chapter president and elected chapter delegate.

Braxton D. Routh, CSP, OHST

Braxton D. Routh has accomplished much in his 40 plus years in the oil, chemical and space industries. His work as a safety engineer and safety manager with various organizations helped set new guidelines and standards, and prevented unwarranted injury and potential fatalities. Routh was involved in the fabrication, assembly and high-pressure checking of the first-stage rocket booster for the space program. He has written

(continued on page 5)
Redefining the Fiscal Year

At its June meeting, ASSE’s House of Delegates unanimously approved a motion to change the bylaws that define the Society’s fiscal year. As a result of this motion and action by the Board of Directors (BoD), starting in 2002, our fiscal year will be April 1 through March 31.

This change was necessary for two reasons: to improve financial predictability; and to maximize the benefit of our peak revenue periods.

Financial Predictability

The PDC represents 27 percent of the Society’s annual revenue. It is by far the single largest non-dues revenue source. Currently, the PDC is held during the last month of the fourth quarter of the fiscal year. As a result, we cannot benefit from a successful event by freeing up more money for membership programs. Conversely, it is too late to offset expenses if we have a less-financially successful national conference. In this case, the Society’s financial position is weakened. Due to member needs and expectations, PDC scheduling will not likely change. Therefore, the more practical solution is to change the fiscal year instead.

Financial Benefit

There are two advantages to changing the fiscal year:

• Lower contingency reserves more quickly. The BoD requires the Society to hold in reserve 2.5 percent of its non-dues revenue. With the PDC occurring during the last month of the fourth quarter of the fiscal year, this money cannot be used for the entire 12 months. Changing the fiscal year may allow us to lower reserves during the second quarter.
• Save in annual auditor fees.

Cost

The total cost of changing the fiscal year is nominal. Any and all costs for changing the fiscal year will occur during this transition year only. No additional expenses will be incurred by chapters, regions or practice specialties.

Effects

The fiscal year change will be imperceptible to members. The political year will remain the same: July 1 through June 30.

From an administrative perspective, the change will be minor—even advantageous—for chapter and regional officers and practice specialty administrators. Specific instructions will be mailed to these officers in August. Special financial management sessions will be held at this year’s Leadership Conference in Chicago.

Should you have any questions, contact Chuck Kaplan, ASSE controller, at ckaplan@asse.org; or me at marcy.thompson@onsemi.com. The Finance Committee remains committed to maintaining and growing a sound financial base for the Society.

Marcella R. Thompson, CSP
Vice President, Finance
2001 Safety Professional of the Year

Each year, the Society recognizes an ASSE member whose outstanding accomplishments (over a five-year period) have advanced the safety profession and who has demonstrated leadership in the establishment and maintenance of technical or Society programs. Donald S. Jones Sr., P.E., CSP, has been named the 2001 Edgar Monsanto Queeny Safety Professional.

As a 22-year employee with Dow Chemical Co., Jones has worked as an engineer and safety and health professional. He has been involved in all phases of personal and process safety, and has led many initiatives that have resulted in significant reductions in the company’s injury/illness incident rates. Jones worked as part of a team on the initial implementation of OSHA Process Safety Management requirements, the Chemical Manufacturing Assn.’s Process Safety Code and EPA’s Risk Management Plan at Dow facilities across the U.S. He has worked as an OSHA Special Government Employee and is an adjunct safety and health faculty member at Southeastern Louisiana University (SLU).

A member of the Greater Baton Rouge Chapter, Jones has held several offices within the chapter, including president, and has been instrumental in recruiting new members. He currently serves as Administrator of ASSE’s Management Practice Specialty and Vice Chair of the Council on Practices and Standards. Jones has been actively involved in professional safety and health organizations, including the Voluntary Protection Programs Participants Assn., for which he serves on the national board and as chair of the Region VI board. He is chair of the SLU Safety and Health Advisory Board, and is past president of the Louisiana Capital Area Safety Council. He holds a B.S. in Civil Engineering from Louisiana State University, an M.B.A. from Texas A&M University, and is working toward an associate degree in occupational safety and health from SLU: ASSE applauds his accomplishments and contributions to the safety profession.

President’s Awards

“One is not born into the world to do everything but to do something.”
—Henry David Thoreau

Putting forth extra effort to help others is not a lost art. Via the President’s Award, the current Society president can recognize individuals whose outstanding service has positively impacted the Society and its mission. The award is generally for a singular achievement, but can recognize dedication to a series of issues that bring national exposure to ASSE.

Edwin P. Granberry Jr., FAIC, CES, was honored for his efforts and outstanding achievements in support of the ASSE Foundation (ASSEF). A professional member of the Cape Canaveral Chapter, Granberry is ASSEF Chair and has served on many committees during his 30-year Society affiliation. He is also a member of the Consultants, Environmental and International practice specialties.

A professional member of the Western Pennsylvania Chapter, Robert D. Soule, P.E., CSP, CIH, was recognized for his exceptional achievements in helping to prepare thousands of students to enter the safety profession.

Western Pennsylvania Chapter member Robert E. McClay Jr., CSP, was honored for his valuable assistance in helping thousands of students prepare for successful careers within the safety field.

North Carolina Chapter professional member emeritus James A. Oppold, Ph.D., P.E., CSP, was awarded for his achievements in the advancement of safety education for the purpose of reducing and preventing work-related injuries and fatalities.

ASSE executive secretary Marge Krumpolz, a staff member since 1981, was honored for her exceptional competence in support of ASSE, its president and Board of Directors.

Diane Hurns, ASSE’s manager, public relations, was recognized for her outstanding achievements in public relations, and support of ASSE and the Society president.
Charles V. Culbertson Outstanding Volunteer Service Award

Throughout the year, ASSE members willingly give of themselves for the benefit of others. This year, five individuals who have displayed outstanding volunteerism received the Charles V. Culbertson Outstanding Volunteer Service Award in recognition of their tireless efforts to enhance the safety profession. Named for the late Charles V. Culbertson, a former vice president of communications, the award recognizes exceptional Board members, national committee members or practice specialty officers for their contributions to the profession. This year’s recipients are Chesapeake Chapter professional member Emory E. Knowles, CSP, CIH, manager, industrial hygiene and safety, Northrop Grumman Corp., Baltimore; New Mexico Chapter member Margo A. Maher, environmental account representative, Rinchem Inc., Albuquerque, NM; San Francisco Chapter professional member Steven M. McConnell, CSP, REA, SHE team leader, Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, Livermore, CA; Tulsa Chapter professional member Robert Semonisck, Ph.D, chair, Dept. of Occupational Safety and Health, Southeastern Oklahoma State University, Durant, OK; and Central Pennsylvania Chapter professional member Paul G. Specht, Ph.D., CSP, occupational safety and hygiene coordinator, Millersville University, Millersville, PA.

Emory E. Knowles, CSP, CIH

Emory E. Knowles, CSP, CIH, is recognized for his contributions to the Society’s Governmental Affairs Committee (GAC). He led the GAC working group that crafted the GAC Operating Procedures and has testified on ASSE’s behalf before federal legislators and regulators. Knowles is the ASSE Stakeholder Representative for federal OSHA’s ergonomic rulemaking process, and represents GAC as a member of the Council on Professional Affairs (CoPA).

An ASSE member since 1982, Knowles became a professional member in 1988. A member of the Engineering, Industrial Hygiene and Management practice specialties, he remains active in a governmental affairs role at the chapter and regional levels as Assistant Regional Vice President for Governmental Affairs for Region VI, a position he has held since 1994. Knowles also advises the region and state chapters in Maryland, North Carolina, South Carolina and Virginia about title-protection legislation.

Margo A. Maher

Margo A. Maher has served for nearly five years on the Council on Professional Development (CoPD) and is recognized for her contributions to ASSE’s Professional Safety Academy (PSA) and Society education programs. As a key player in the development of PSA, Maher has participated in needs assessments, organizational efforts and program development. In addition, she has served as the CoPD liaison to the Finance Committee.

Maher’s contributions don’t stop there. In November 2000, she chaired the task force for the “Health Risks in the Workplace” symposium. As ASSE’s first significant professional development offering in the health arena, the symposium featured representatives from OSHA’s directorate of health standards and attracted attendees from Canada, Mexico, Puerto Rico and the Netherlands. An ASSE member since 1993, Maher is also a member of the Environmental, International and Transportation practice specialties.
Steven McConnell, CSP, REA

Steven McConnell is recognized for his contributions to the Society’s PSA and education programs, and particularly for his involvement as leader of the Society task force for the 2001 annual safety management symposium, which this year focused on behavior-based safety. McConnell served as master of ceremonies for the general sessions. A Society member since 1982, McConnell became a professional member in 1989. He is also a member of the Society’s Management Practice Specialty.

Robert Semonisck, Ph.D.

Robert Semonisck has provided continuous supervision of the ASSE College/University Safety-Related Degree Program Directory and is recognized for his contributions to the Council on Professional Affairs (CoPA), Strategic Planning Committee and Body of Knowledge Task Force. He has been a CoPA member for the past three years; as liaison to the Professional and Education Standards Committee (PESC), Semonisck has made several recommendations to the group’s special task force, including continuation of the PESC accreditation process, development of a safety-degree program website and development of an ASSE library of technical publications. His involvement with updating CoPA’s strategic plan Goal #1 (education and professional development) resulted in the revision of 20 strategies and development of nine that are now key areas in which funding can be assigned by the Finance Committee. In addition, as a result of Semonisck’s National Assn. of Industrial Technology (NAIT) membership/CoPA association, CoPA has taken a positive position toward NAIT’s accreditation process.

Society Fellow (continued from page 1)

operation safety manuals and company regulations for production processes, and has planned, directed and coordinated various company safety programs. Since 1985, Routh has worked as a loss prevention consultant with Corpus Christi, TX-based Routh & Assoc. The firm provides consulting services in safety, fire protection, medical and training procedures. Routh has worked closely with regulatory agencies and has coordinated programs to establish specific loss-prevention procedures, and conducted safety/fire training and accident (property and personnel) investigations/inspections that have met or exceeded recommendations.

An ASSE member since 1962, Routh is currently a professional member of the Coastal Bend Chapter. He has served as chapter president, on various Society committees and is a member of the Consultants and Management practice specialties. In 1986, he was recognized as an occupational health and safety technologist by American Board of Industrial Hygiene. Routh actively represents the Corpus Christi community through involvement on safety-related task forces and has served as chair of the Corpus Christi Bay Area Advisory Committee of the Texas Safety Assn. He has also served as a committee member in organizing and developing an associate degree program in safety at Del Mar Community College in Corpus Christi, where he was also instrumental in forming the college’s ASSE student section.

Semonisck’s far-reaching involvement as a Strategic Planning Committee member for the past three years include recommendations on a planning process to review vision, budget process, organizational structure and resources. He also helped revise the 2000-2003 plan, and provided critical information on professional development and education issues. As a Body of Knowledge Task Force member, he helped develop a survey matrix and prepare a pilot survey.

An ASSE member since 1975, Semonisck became a professional member in 1976. He has served on the Board of Directors and the ASSE Foundation. Semonisck is a Society Fellow and has served on several Society committees, including Headquarters Space, Long-Range Planning. Professional Development Conference, Member-Needs Assessment and Student Membership.

Paul G. Specht, Ph.D, CSP

Paul G. Specht is recognized for his contributions to PESC, of which he has been a member since 1990. Under his tenure as Committee Chair from 1998 to 2001, Specht provided oversight of the first ASSE-accredited safety degree program and initiated discussion with the Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology (ABET) about the feasibility of ABET’s takeover of accreditation responsibilities for safety programs. In addition, the committee completely revised the criteria for the accreditation of safety-related master, bachelor and associate degrees through ABET.

Specht presented ASSE’s “Outcomes-Based” criteria document to the Research and Advisory Committee—the first criteria document to have its curriculum approved. He has served on nine accreditation teams, including four as team chair, and as an instructor for ABET. In addition, Specht has served as faculty advisor to the Society’s Millersville (PA) University Student Section since 1985; in this role, he has actively recruited students to become ASSE members and participate at both the local and national levels.

Specht has been an ASSE member since 1979 and became a professional member in 1982. He has co-authored and contributed to several ASSE publications, and presented papers at several Society-sponsored conferences.

What You Missed at the PDC

If you missed Safety 2001, this year’s Professional Development Conference in Anaheim, CA, you can read all about it in the August 2001 issue of Professional Safety. The wrap-up article recaps keynote addresses, includes feedback from education session attendees and highlights expo activities. In addition, you can read about the Society’s two newest Fellows, Foundation activities at the PDC, technical tours and the ASSE service center.

If it’s a specific session you’re interested in, it’s not too late! Select general and concurrent sessions are available on audio cassette. For an order form, visit www.asse.org, click on “Annual Conference & Exposition,” then “2001 ASSE Professional Development Conference Audio Cassette Order Form.”

Mark your calendar for next year’s PDC. Safety 2002: Advancing the EH&S Profession will be held June 9-12 in Nashville, TN. Don’t miss out again!
Awards & Honors

Region SPYs

The region Safety Professional of the Year (SPY) awards are presented annually to recognize outstanding safety professionals for their professional competence and dedication to the mission and goals of their individual regions. All eight regions selected SPYs this year, who were honored during the House of Delegates meeting in Anaheim, CA.

Region I
Philip E. Newton, CSP
Midnight Sun Chapter
Golden Valley Electric Assn.
Fairbanks, AK

Region II
David Loe, CSP, CHC
Sierra Nevada Chapter
University of Nevada
Reno, NV

Region III
Martin E. Novich, CSP
Sabine Neches Chapter
Ausimont
Orange, TX

Region IV
Donald S. Jones Sr., PE, CSP
Greater Baton Rouge Chapter
Dow Chemical
Plaquemine, LA

Region V
Keith E. Vidal, PE
St. Louis Chapter
Vidal Engineering Inc.
St. Louis

Region VI
John W. Newbern, CSHM
South Carolina Chapter
EMS-Chemie (North America)
Sumter, SC

Region VII
Patricia L. Bellia, CSP
Greater Detroit Chapter
CNA Commercial Insurance
Southfield, MI

Region VIII
John P. Speth, CSP
Greater Boston Chapter
AOC Inc.
Millis, MA

Practice Specialty SPYs

Each year, ASSE’s practice specialties name their respective Safety Professional of the Year (SPY). The award honors members for their professional competence and dedication to the mission and goals of their respective practice specialties. Six of ASSE’s practice specialties selected SPYs this year; awards were presented during the practice specialty reception, held during the PDC in Anaheim, CA.

CoPS SPY
George W. Pearson, CSP, ARM
International and Risk Management/Insurance practice specialties
National Capital Chapter
Pearson Safety Management Consulting
Ashburn, VA

Robert L. Potts, CSP, ARM
Environmental, Management and Risk Management/Insurance practice specialties
Fort Worth Chapter
Dannon Co.
Ft. Worth, TX

CONSTRUCTION
Gary L. Buffington, CSP, CRSP
Los Angeles Chapter
American Safety Consulting
Los Angeles

HEALTHCARE
Kenneth S. Weinberg, Ph.D.
Greater Boston Chapter
Safdoc Systems LLC
Stoughton, MA

MINING
Randy R. McBurnett
Long Beach Chapter
Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority
Los Angeles

ENVIRONMENTAL
Thomas S. Butler Jr., CSP
Long Beach Chapter
Butler Safety & Health Inc.
San Pedro, CA

MANAGEMENT
Edwin L. “Brownie” Petersen, CSHM
Utah Chapter
Thiokol Propulsion
Ogden, UT

TRANSPORTATION
Carmen W. Daecher, CSP, ARM
Central Pennsylvania Chapter
Daecher Consulting Group Inc.
Camp Hill, PA
MSA Student Section of the Year Award

The profession and Society gain from investments made in today’s students. Co-sponsored by ASSE’s Student Task Force and Mine Safety Appliances Co. (MSA), the award recognizes the ASSE student section that has contributed the most to safety education, and research, and to promoting awareness of the Society.

The Keene (NH) State College (KSC) Student Section received this year’s Outstanding Student Section of the Year Award. The section will receive a $6,000 award, $4,000 of which will be divided between two or more accomplished students; $1,000 is awarded to the section advisor for continuing safety and health research; and $1,000 is applied toward costs for a section representative to attend the PDC. Award criteria include the percentage of eligible students participating in the section; quality and scope of section, campus and community activities; and quality of meetings and research projects.

“This award is an indication of the extraordinary relationship shared by the Keene State safety students, faculty and the professionals in [ASSE’s] Greater Boston and Granite State chapters who have worked so hard to support our program over the years,” says Larry McDonald, CSP, Student Section Advisor and a Greater Boston Chapter member.

The section is part of the Granite State Chapter. Officers are Andrew Knapp, President; Kara Haley, Vice President; Kathryn Brennan, Treasurer; Adam Sotirakopoulos, Secretary; and Kevin Murray, Funding Chair. Of 152 students enrolled in the safety program, 39 are section members.

Section meetings held throughout the year covered topics such as lifesaving techniques and aquatic safety, loss control and prevention, and an on-campus defensive driving course. As part of its community and professional development activities, the section participated in the Ashuelot River clean-up, the Keene High School safety awareness program, KSC’s Campus Safety Walk to raise awareness of recognizable and potential hazards on and around the campus, and the Timken Co. Safety and Health Fair, where the volunteers discussed ASSE programs and distributed poison control and seat belt safety information. For their research project, the students studied indoor air quality, with a focus on carbon dioxide. ASSE salutes these students for their contributions to the profession and the Society.

Professional Paper Awards

Superior writing about the practice of safety was also recognized during ASSE’s recent PDC in Anaheim. The Society’s annual professional paper awards competition recognizes the leading articles published in Professional Safety. To be eligible, all authors must be ASSE members. This year’s award-winning articles are:

1st Place

By Mark D. Hansen, P.E., CSP, CPE, Austin Industrial, Houston; Gulf Coast Chapter.

2nd Place

By Shawn Adams, Ed.D., PHR, CRPS, ARM, Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University, Daytona Beach, FL; Cape Canaveral Chapter.

3rd Place

By Dan Petersen, safety consultant, Tempe, AZ; Arizona Chapter.

Honorable Mention
In addition, four articles received honorable mention certificates. They are:
• “Many Hazard Analyses Conceal Whole-System Risk,” April 2000. By P.L. Clemens, P.E., CSP.

Professional Safety Issues Call for Papers
Professional Safety recently issued a call for papers. The journal welcomes the submission of original manuscripts of interest to the safety, health and environmental profession. Each manuscript is blind-peer-reviewed by ASSE’s Editorial Review Board.

Current topics of interest include:
• Does Safety Pay? Examining the Business of Safety
• The Invisible Elements of Success in Safety
• Prequalifying Construction Contractors
• Fatigue Factors in Construction
• Evaluation Levels of Training: Measuring Success
• The Graying Workforce: The Impact of Older Workers on Safety
• Spheres of Influence: Informal Safety Leadership/Leadership Without Authority
• The Politics of Safety
• Assessing the Future of Safety: Where Will the Profession Be in Five Years? 10 Years?

To download the journal’s manuscript submission guidelines, visit www.asse.org and click on the Professional Safety link.
Henshaw Confirmed Assistant Secretary of Labor for OSH

ASSE professional member John Henshaw was confirmed as Assistant Secretary of Labor for OSH on Aug. 3. During his recent confirmation hearing before the Senate Health, Education, Labor and Pensions Committee, Henshaw vowed that his first priority would be to improve the agency’s credibility and effectiveness through enforcement, outreach, education and voluntary employer efforts. He provided an overview of how he would approach OSHA issues if appointed and shared his expectation that OSHA will lead the national dialogue on advancing workplace safety and health. When asked for an ergonomics commitment, Henshaw noted that the administration plans to announce its intentions in September.

“ASSE is pleased to have a member of our Society confirmed as head of OSHA,” says ASSE President M.E. “Eddie” Greer.

A St. Louis Chapter member, Henshaw holds a master’s in Public Health from the University of Michigan, and is director of environment, safety and health for St. Louis-based Astaris LLC.

Schroll Delivers Emergency Response Program at FutureSafe 2001

Philadelphia Chapter professional member R. Craig Schroll, P.E., CSP, CET, presented “How to Conduct Effective Emergency Response Training” at the FutureSafe 2001 Conference held recently in Brisbane, Australia. The session focused on helping businesses prepare their employees to handle emergencies at work. Schroll emphasized the importance of responder safety and the role of training in keeping response personnel safe during the process of controlling an emergency. “I focused primarily on the issues that make emergency response training unique,” says Schroll, who also stressed the importance of hands-on practice as part of training, and reviewed techniques for making practice sessions realistic and challenging.

As one of the largest safety conferences in Australia, the three-day event, presented by the National Safety Council of Australia, drew more than 300 participants from Australia, New Zealand and other international locations, and featured some 79 exhibitors. Schroll says the “presentations were widely applicable to the safety and health profession, not [solely focused] on Australian issues.”

A 22-year ASSE member, Schroll is also a member of the Consultants Practice Specialty. He is president of FIRECON, an East Earl, PA-based consulting and training company that helps clients prevent, plan for and control emergencies.

Members Elected to CCHEST Board

Several ASSE members were recently elected to the Council on Certification of Health, Environmental and Safety Technologists (CHEST) Board of Directors. The organization, formerly known as the ABIH/BCSP Joint Committee, operates certification programs for safety and health practitioners at the technologist/technician level.

• President: Robert Milligan, CHST, OHST. A member of the Maine Chapter and the Society’s Construction Practice Specialty, he is currently assistant safety director at Cianbro Corp., Pittsfield, ME.

• Vice President: Thomas Ryan, CSP, CHST, OHST. A professional member of the Maine Chapter, Ryan is chair of the Occupational Health and Safety Dept. at Central Maine Technical College in Auburn, ME.

• Secretary-Treasurer: Southwest Chapter member Branden Jones, CSP, OHST, a safety consultant with Maynard, MA-based Sigma Consultants.

• Representative: Nutmeg Chapter professional member David Gioiello Jr., CSP, CIH. He is also a member of the Consultants Practice Specialty. Gioiello is a senior consultant with Industrial Health & Safety Consultants Inc., Woodbridge, CT.

• Technician/Technologist: Kenneth Sheffield, CSP, a member of the Georgia Chapter and of the Industrial Hygiene and Risk Management practice specialties. Sheffield works as a health, safety and environmental specialist with Solvay Pharmaceuticals Inc., Marietta, GA.

Society Members Burkhammer, Herbert Elected 2001 BCSP Officers

Stewart Burkhammer, P.E., CSP, and David Herbert, CSP, were recently elected officers by the Board of Certified Safety Professionals (BCSP). BCSP officers volunteer their time in various activities, including evaluation of applicant qualifications, governance and liaison with other organizations.

• Vice President: Burkhammer has served as a BCSP director since 1997. He is currently principal vice president and manager of corporate environmental, safety and health services for Frederick, MD-based Bechtel Corp. Burkhammer is a professional member of the Chesapeake Chapter. A 30-year member and Society Fellow, he is also a member of the Construction, International and Management practice specialties.

• Secretary-Treasurer: Herbert fills a director-at-large position on BCSP’s board; he has served as a director since 1998. He is president of Herbert Management Services, a safety and strategic business planning firm in Kennett Square, PA. A professional member of the Lower Delaware Valley Chapter, Herbert is also a member of ASSE’s Consultants Practice Specialty.
Sabatino Named OR-OSHA SPY

Columbia-Willamette President-Elect Daniel J. Sabatino, CHST, recently received the State of Oregon Safety Professional of the Year Award (SPY). Selected by a panel of ASSE peers and Oregon OSHA (OR-OSHA) representatives, the award was presented at the Governor’s Occupational Safety & Health Conference, an OR-OSHA/Columbia-Willamette Chapter partnership. In addition, he received OR-OSHA’s Administrator’s Partnership Award for Occupational Safety & Health in recognition of his spirit of volunteerism and partnership. He chairs the NECA/IBEW Joint Industry Safety Committee and is a member of the National Safety Management Society. Sabatino is also a volunteer hunter education instructor in Oregon, where he provides safety instruction to young hunters to help instill safety as a priority. In addition, he produced and delivered a presentation to attendees of OR-OSHA’s Small Business Training sessions. His efforts to stimulate interest in the agency’s Small Business Program in order to promote a higher level of occupational safety and health is further testament of his dedication. A member of the Society’s Construction Practice Specialty, Sabatino is corporate safety director for Christenson Electric Inc., Portland, OR.

Alfred C. Blackman

Remembered for Rational Approach, Dedication to Safety

Alfred C. Blackman, P.E., CSP, ASSE Fellow, passed away earlier this summer. An ASSE professional member emeritus and recent inductee into the Safety and Health Hall of Fame, Blackman began his safety career in 1931 as a field safety engineer for Liberty Mutual Insurance Co., where he was lauded for his rational approach to distinguishing between a machine design defect and a fault in the machine’s use. As chief of industrial safety for the State of California, he promoted the importance of environmental hazard control, worker education and evaluation of procedures related to accident and injury prevention. The 56-year Society member started the Engineers’ Professional Development Project of ASSE in the early 1960s and was instrumental in forming the Board of Certified Safety Professionals. Blackman served as resident engineer in guiding safety activity for National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health, and was internationally recognized as an Honorary Fellow of the Institution of Industrial Safety Officers, U.K.

Schultz Leads Workshop at Powder & Bulk Solids Conference

George Schultz, P.E., conducted a workshop entitled, “The Planned Approach to Engineering a Dry Bulk Manufacturing Plant” at the Powder & Bulk Solids Conference/Exhibition, held recently in Rosemont, IL. The workshop was conducted in conjunction with the largest international conference of manufacturing professionals engaged in the processing, handling, packaging and storage of dry particulate matter. Schultz’s presentation addressed facility layout, analysis of material characteristics, conveyor selection, and project costs and management. A member of the Three Rivers Chapter and the Consultants Practice Specialty, Schultz is the author of Conveyor Safety, published by ASSE in 2000. He is vice president of Siebert Engineers Inc., a Lombard, IL, firm that specializes in design and forensic engineering.

In Memoriam

The Society remembers the following members who passed away in recent months. Our thoughts are with their families, friends and colleagues.

Harold V. Adams, West Hartford, CT
Wilbur K. Agee, Towson, MD
Robert W. Alford, Albany, OR
Nicholas M. Beldner, Sacramento, CA
Alfred C. Blackman, Williamsburg, VA
Arthur A. Bolla, Erie, PA
Walter F. Bray, Liverpool, NY
Laurence W. Brown, East Brunswick, NJ
Andrew T. Brazik, Concord, CA
Charles L. Darnell, Houston, TX
James E. Donaghey, Quincy, MA
Robert J. Dummigan, Winston-Salem, NC
Norman R. Goldstein, Princeton Junction, NJ
C.A. Hassell, Petaluma, CA
Vernon J. Heckman, St. Charles, MO
John M. Hickey, Elm Grove, WI
Warren L. Howe Jr., Portland, OR
Cecil W. Huff, Clovis, NM
Layton L. Jenkins, Pasadena, TX
Robert L. Jenkins, Fairhope, AL
Glenn M. Johnsson, South Lyon, MI
William J. Komarek, Franklin, NJ
Robert A. Koy, Corpus Christi, TX
Matthew A. Kuhta, Newport Beach, CA
Richard N. Manley, Portland, OR
John W. McCaslin, Twin Falls, ID
Fred Mele, Birmingham, AL
Paul J. Mueller, Stone Lake, WI
James S. Nixdorf, Groves, TX
Herbert M. Nowak, Clearwater, FL
Stanley P. Ochmanoski, Miami, FL
Kenneth G. Olson, Randall, IA
Jack B. Parr, El Dorado Hills, CA
Joseph R. Parrulli, Las Vegas, NV
Mark N. Paulaos, Janesville, WI
John M. Ross Jr., Chesapeake, VA
James E. Sailer, Bainowell, SC
Ramon E. Schaffner, Loganport, IN
Joseph R. Snopek, Granby, MA
James S. Sorrow, Marietta, GA
Loren C. Strange Sr., Maryville, TN
Paul Vanderschuyl, St. James, NY
Leonard L. Vick, Louisville, KY
Raymond B. Wangler, San Antonio, TX
Paul C. Witbeck, Latham, NY
Billy D. Young, Clinton, MS
1999-2000 Chapter Achievement Program Awards

The Chapter Achievement Program (CAP) is designed to recognize chapters that have given their members superior programs designed to support continued professional growth. To qualify, a chapter must achieve excellence and meet the basic eligibility requirements, including administration, communications, financial, meeting and communication responsibilities.

Selected by the Society’s regional vice presidents (RVP), the CAP awards are presented each year at the Professional Development Conference for the fiscal year two years prior. The 1999-2000 recipients are listed below, along with their respective RVPs.

Region I: Brian A. Clarke, CSP
Arrowhead Chapter
Bakersfield Chapter
Cascade Chapter
Central Valley Chapter
Columbia-Willamette Chapter
Greater San Jose Chapter
Inland Northwest Chapter
Long Beach Chapter
Lower Columbia Basin Chapter
Midnight Sun Chapter
Orange Coast Chapter
Puget Sound Chapter
Sacramento Chapter
San Diego Chapter
San Francisco Chapter

Region II: Sam A. Lybarger, CSP
Arizona Chapter
Colorado Chapter
New Mexico Chapter
Sierra Nevada Chapter
Southern Nevada Chapter
Utah Chapter

Region III: Michael W. Thompson, CSP
Central Texas Chapter
East Texas Chapter
Fort Worth Chapter
Gulf Coast Chapter
Oklahoma City Chapter
Paso del Norte Chapter
Permian Basin Chapter
Southwest Chapter

Region IV: John S. Fleming Jr.
Cape Canaveral Chapter
Central Florida Chapter
Greater Baton Rouge Chapter
Mobile Chapter
Southern Mississippi Chapter
West Florida Chapter

Region V: Jack Vetter, P.E., CSP
Central Illinois Chapter
Greater Chicago Chapter
Northwest Chapter
St. Louis Chapter
Wichita Chapter

Region VI: Jack H. Luckhardt Jr., CSP
Chesapeake Chapter
Colonial Virginia Chapter
Greater Tidewater Chapter
Low Country Chapter
South Carolina Chapter

Region VII: Warren K. Brown, CSP
Bluegrass Chapter
Central Indiana Chapter
East Tennessee Chapter
Greater Detroit Chapter
Kitty Hawk Chapter
Louisville Chapter
Middle Tennessee Chapter
Northeast Tennessee Chapter
Northern Ohio Chapter
Northwest Tennessee Chapter

Region VIII: Douglas Pastore, CIH
Connecticut Valley Chapter
Greater Boston Chapter
Metropolitan Chapter
New Jersey Chapter
Northeastern Pennsylvania Chapter
Penn-Jersey Chapter
Philadelphia Chapter
Western Pennsylvania Chapter

Website Polls Visitors on Safety Topics

ASSE has begun polling visitors to its website, www.asse.org, on safety-and health-related topics. Poll questions will be posted periodically, and results will be tabulated and posted after a two-day period. Visit the ASSE website regularly to review questions and cast your vote.

Greater Boston Chapter Rewards Students at MA Science Fair

The Greater Boston Chapter recently awarded three $500 cash prizes to student participants in the 52nd Annual Massachusetts Science Fair. The event, which was held at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in Cambridge, is an open competition among the commonwealth’s high-school students. Chapter President John Spath, CSP, presented the awards to Kelsey Byers, John Silva and William Howerton in recognition of their projects’ safety-related theme. In addition, 52 merit certificates were presented to students who factored safety into their projects.

“This was our chapter’s first sponsorship of this event,” Spath says. “Several members volunteered their time to organize and judge the student submit-tals,” including Jim Rowlings, Public Affairs Chair; Mike Murray, Executive Vice President; Kevin Biernacki, CSP, Vice President of Member Services; Michael Blair, Student Affairs Chair; and Mark Bresnahan, CSP. “We were warmly received by the fair’s organizers,” says Spath, who adds that the chapter will likely continue as an event sponsor in the future.
Aggressive Driving Topic of San Diego Chapter Meeting

Speaking to 46 members of the San Diego Chapter, local television and radio traffic reporter Monica Zeck discussed the “aggressive driver” and conflict avoidance. She reflected on her own research and experience, including accompanying paramedics and fire crews to vehicle accident scenes. Zeck, who has earned several awards for media reporting and educational lectures, offered the following observations:

- Bad drivers generally were doing something that contributed to the accident—eating, using a cell phone or not wearing a seat belt.
- Drivers often failed to compensate for personal factors, such as mood, anger and similar emotional conditions.
- Drugs and alcohol contributed to many road accidents, and 41 percent of fatal accidents involved individuals age 15 to 24.

To avert potential road rage situations, Zeck urged attendees to avoid eye contact and confrontations, and encouraged them not to honk the horn or “play cop.” If faced with such an incident, she cautioned, “Yield and get out of the way.” To encourage self-discipline, Zeck suggested that a family photo be placed on the dashboard as a constant reminder of the importance of safe driving. She also reminded the group, “We shouldn’t be guilty of DWS—driving while stupid.”

TX Children’s Hospital Receives Southwest Chapter Donation

As a way to give something back to the community, the Southwest Chapter recently presented Texas Scottish Rite Hospital with a $2,000 donation. “They have allowed us to use their state-of-the-art facilities every year for our one-day professional development seminar,” says Russell Payton, CSP, ARM, Chapter Vice President of Professional Development. “The hospital provides special treatment to children at no cost—we are fortunate to be able to give back in this manner.” Supported solely through private donations, the Dallas hospital provides ongoing care for more than 13,000 children annually, with treatment for orthopedic conditions, related neurological disorders and learning differences.

CT Valley Chapter Presents Scholarships to CCSU Students

Sarah Magnano and Michael Kaseta, both juniors at Central Connecticut State University (CCSU), recently received $1,000 Jeff Carson Memorial Scholarships from the Connecticut Valley Chapter. Named for Jeff Carson, an active member who passed away in 1986, the scholarship pays tribute to his dedication to the advancement of the safety profession. The award recognizes students pursuing undergraduate and graduate degrees in safety-related disciplines. It also improves awareness of the safety profession and ASSE among industry, educators, students and the public. To qualify, candidates must be enrolled in a safety-related program within Connecticut or western Massachusetts. Undergraduate students must have a minimum 2.5 GPA overall and 3.0 GPA in safety-related courses. Graduate students must have a minimum 3.25 GPA overall and 3.5 GPA in core safety courses.
ASSE Launches Academics Practice Specialty

New Practice Specialty Designed to Increase Student Involvement in Safety

Despite the continued growth of public interest in occupational safety as an overall business improvement strategy, the number of students pursuing advanced degrees in occupational safety, health and environmental (SHE) management has dropped significantly in recent years.

In its ongoing efforts to increase student interest in the field, the Society’s Board of Directors recently approved the formation of an Academics Practice Specialty that focuses on the needs and objectives of SHE educators.

The Academics Practice Specialty will serve as a vehicle to: notify Society leadership of important education issues and progressive issues that impact students and the delivery of safety education. It will also hold a seat on the ASSE Professional Education and Standards Committee, which recommends policy and actions about issues that impact the college-level education of safety professionals.

“It is absolutely unthinkable that we refuse this challenge. We need to do more to safeguard the future of the safety profession,” says Kathy Seabrook, CSP, RSP, Vice President, Council on Practices and Standards. “The establishment of the Academics Practice Specialty lays the groundwork for seasoned safety professionals to work with students and faculty on issues important to the profession, and to help ensure the future success of students.”

This fall, the Academics Practice Specialty will survey college and university academicians to determine ways to attract more students to the safety profession. “One of our hopes is that the Academics Practice Specialty will provide the insights needed to ensure that government agencies are aware of the current crisis we are facing in this profession,” says Society President M.E. “Eddie” Greer, CSP. “The recent National Institute of Occupational Safety and Health publication, ‘Safe Work in the 21st Century,’ clearly indicates that we, as a profession and society, need to do more to encourage young people to enter these challenging disciplines. The Academics Practice Specialty can help us meet these challenges.”

The new practice specialty joins 12 other Society groups that focus on the areas of construction, consultants, engineering, environmental issues, healthcare, industrial hygiene, international, management, mining, public sector, risk management/insurance and transportation. These groups provide ASSE members specialized professional development opportunities and a forum for discussion of best practices strategies and research. In addition, they influence relevant programs for professional certification and develop technical standards.

For more information on the Academics Practice Specialty, visit www.asse.org.

Hospitality Branch Moves Forward

Newest Branch of the Management Practice Specialty

The Hospitality Branch of the Management Practice Specialty (MPS) has been quietly taking shape since its inception in June 2000. This reflects the standing of the industry as an important element in the nation’s economy. In terms of revenue, tourism is one of the top three industries in all 50 states. A study in Hotel and Motel Management Journal reported that safety is the number-one consideration of the traveling public—ahead of quality, price and experience.

With that in mind, ASSE, the Council on Practices and Standards and the MPS formed the Hospitality Branch to expand its expertise and contribute to the industry. The branch’s target audience includes hotels, motels, resorts, theaters, golf operations, casino/gaming, restaurants, amusement parks and other entities within the hospitality industry.

As noted, the group’s direction was established in June 2000, while its mission statement and goals were developed during a meeting held last December in Las Vegas. Further organizational development was completed by the steering committee at the 2001 PDC in Anaheim. The long-range plan is being completed under the leadership of Fay F. Feeney, CSP, ARM.

Successes

The branch has already experienced some initial successes. At the invitation of the American Hotel and Lodging Assn. (AHLA), branch representatives made a presentation at the recent Las Vegas International Hotel and Restaurant Assn. show. It featured an expert panel discussion on “Merging Safety with Guest Services.” Panelists were moderator Timothy E. Jones, CSP, director of safety, MGM Grand Hotel and professional member of the Southern Nevada Chapter; Robert R. Bee, CSP, CIH, ARM, safety manager, Walt Disney World and professional member of the Central Florida Chapter; John H. Cheffer, CSP, manager of regulatory compliance, Travelers Property Casualty Corp. and professional member of the Connecticut Valley Chapter; and Feeney, president, Safety Leadership and professional member of the Los Angeles Chapter.

In addition to the presentation, the branch displayed ASSE’s booth at the show. Many AHLA members expressed interest in learning more about the Society, working with its professionals and partnering to support safety in hospitality operations.

For more information on the Hospitality Branch, visit www.asse.org.
Committee Membership Opportunities

ASSE is seeking representatives for the following standards-development committees. Appointment to these committees means that you will vote as the Society’s representative. Expenses are the responsibility of the representative, not the Society. Most committee communication is handled via e-mail or fax. Meetings and symposia are held occasionally, and ASSE recommends that its representatives attend such gatherings. In addition, each representative must submit periodic reports to summarize committee progress.

American National Standards Institute
- ANSI A117 (Accessible & Usable Bldg. & Facilities); alternate committee position open.
- ANSI Z15 (Motor Vehicle Fleet Safety); alternate committee position open.
- ANSI Z87 (Eye and Face Protection); alternate committee position open.
- ANSI Z117 (Confined Spaces); alternate committee position open.
- ANSI Z359 (Fall Protection Equipment); alternate committee position open.
- ANSI Z390 (Hydrogen Sulfide Safety Training); alternate committee position open.
- ANSI Z490 (Safety, Health and Environmental Training); alternate committee position open.

American Society for Testing and Materials
- ASTM E50 (Environmental Assessment Standards); alternate committee position open.

National Fire Protection Assn.
- NFPA 70E (Work Electrical Safety); alternate committee position open.
- NFPA 99 (Health Care Facilities); primary and alternate committee positions open.
- NFPA 101 (Safety to Life Tech Committees, Means of Egress); primary committee position open.
- NFPA 601 (Loss Prevention Procedures and Practices); primary committee position open.

International Organization for Standardization
- US TAG to ISO TC207 (Environmental Management Standards); alternate committee position open.

If you are interested in serving on any of these committees, submit your resume or curriculum vitae to Tim Fisher, ASSE’s director of practices and standards, 1800 E. Oakton St., Des Plaines, IL 60018-2187; fax (847) 296-9221; e-mail tfisher@asse.org.

Building a Bridge to Leadership

ASSE Sets Sights on 2001 Leadership Conference

Incoming and current volunteer leaders within ASSE are encouraged to attend this year’s Leadership Conference, which will be held Sept. 27-29 at the Westin O’Hare in Rosemont, IL (near ASSE headquarters in Des Plaines). The program is designed to encourage idea sharing and networking among Society leaders at the local, regional and national levels. Sessions are designed to help attendees build effective leadership skills; learn how to select and motivate volunteer leaders; and address the daily functions of chapter/region/practice specialty administration. Scheduled topics include financial management, member recruitment, governmental affairs, newsletter production, long-range planning and public relations.

Special events will include a welcome reception on Thursday, Sept. 27, a headquarters tour and reception on Friday, Sept. 28—featuring a “birthday party” to kick off ASSE’s year-long 90th anniversary celebration—and a special Breakfast with Your RVP on Saturday, Sept. 29.

“This is the one time of the year when current and future leaders of the Society are gathered in one forum to brainstorm, build and share ideas,” says James H. “Skipper” Kendrick, CSP, ASSE’s Senior Vice President. “It’s a great way to actively seek answers to questions, share your knowledge with others and challenge the status quo.”

Registration for the event is free. For more information or to receive a registration brochure, call Mary Caplis, ASSE’s membership assistant, at (847) 768-3440; or visit www.asse.org and click the Member & Chapter Services link.

Housing Information
The Westin O’Hare Hotel & Resort is located at 6100 N. River Rd., Rosemont, IL. The nightly room rate is $122 (single/double) plus taxes. To reserve a room, call the hotel directly at (847) 698-6000 before Aug. 28. Identify yourself as part of the ASSE meeting group to receive the special rate.
Cash Awards Competition

Safety Professionals: Be Part of the Solution

A man may die, nations may rise and fall, but an idea lives on.
—John F. Kennedy

Ideas are the lifeblood of innovation. These simple inspirations have given rise to many things we now consider commonplace—electricity, telecommunications, penicillin, air travel, space exploration, airbags and many other technological advances of the last century.

Similarly, your ideas can help advance the safety, health and environmental profession, and keep it on the cutting edge.

As part of a National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health grant to promote occupational safety research, ASSEF is sponsoring a cash awards competition to generate innovative ideas for occupational safety research. A total of $13,000 will be divided among the winners.

Through evaluation of national fatality and injury data, including the insight of ASSE’s membership overall, ASSEF has identified four key areas for research:

- slips, trips and falls;
- machine guarding;
- electrocution;
- materials handling.

Whether you’re an experienced safety professional, academician, researcher, employer, employee or student, ASSEF is seeking your ideas for research that will help in the prevention of workplace injuries and fatalities. Through your ideas and suggestions, ASSEF will be able to identify new and promising research areas. These future initiatives could be of significant assistance in preventing workplace injuries and fatalities, and can help improve the effectiveness of occupational safety programs.


Ford Funds Safety & Health Scholarship for Women

ASSEF received a $45,000 grant from the Ford Motor Co. Fund. The funds will support a scholarship program for women pursuing a degree in safety and health.

Ford joins General Motors Corp. and DaimlerChrysler Corp. in giving to the Foundation. “We are delighted to have the support of Ford Motor Co.,” says Edwin P. Granberry Jr., FAIC, CES, Foundation Chair. In addition to supporting ASSEF, Ford has more than 80 employees who are members of ASSE.

“The safety of our people is paramount to Ford,” says Dr. Vincent Kerr, director of healthcare management for Ford. “We will not compromise on safety; and programs that support this commitment are of vital importance. We commend the ASSE Foundation for making these kinds of scholarship opportunities available to students and professionals. We rely on partnerships with organizations like ASSE to enhance our efforts to adopt programs and processes that protect the well-being of our employees and their families.”

The scholarship will be introduced this fall with four awards of $3,375 each.

Perry Appointed Foundation Trustee

Frank H. Perry, P.E., CSP, was recently appointed to the ASSE Foundation (ASSEF) Board of Trustees. The Board sets ASSEF policy and monitors the execution of those policies. In addition, the Board determines ASSEF’s present and future direction, including long-range planning, management of finances and personnel policy. Perry will serve a three-year term.

Perry is president and CEO of Frank H. Perry & Assoc. Inc., an SHE consulting firm located in Franklin, TX. He recently retired as director, health, safety and environmental for Cameron, a division of Cooper Cameron Corp., Houston, where he had been employed for more than 26 years. Perry is a graduate of Texas A&M University.

A professional member of the Gulf Coast Chapter, Perry has served as 1999-2000 Society President, Vice President of Finance, and four years as Region III Vice President. In 1990, he was named Region III Safety Professional of the Year; in 1995, he received the Charles V. Culberson Award for Volunteer Service, and was named Society Fellow, ASSE’s highest honor, in 1996.

In addition, Perry serves as chair of the ANSI Z390.1-1995 Accepted Practices in Hydrogen Sulfide Training Committee, and is vice-chair of the proposed ANSI Z490 Best Practices in Health, Safety and Environmental Training Committee. He is an adjunct faculty member of the Texas A&M University Texas Engineering Extension Service and an instructor for the Texas Safety Assn. and Safety Training and Consulting Inc., Hobbs, NM.
Liberty Mutual/ASSEF Award Safety Research Fellowships

For the third consecutive year, Liberty Mutual has contributed $30,000 to support the Foundation’s safety research initiatives. This summer, ASSEF and the Liberty Mutual Research Center for Safety and Health (LMRC) awarded two safety research fellowships. This program is designed to encourage research activity in safety; expand and stimulate participants’ understanding of safety research; and provide a forum for linking safety professionals, industry needs and quality research programs.

The recipients are Andrew E. Lincoln, Sc.D., M.S., assistant research professor, Center for Injury Research and Policy at Johns Hopkins School of Hygiene and Public Health, Baltimore, and Jeff S. Casey, a graduate student in the Work Environment Program at the University of Massachusetts-Lowell. The recipients will study at the LMRC in Hopkinton, MA.

Lincoln will research lower back pain among workers in demanding occupations. The primary objectives of his research are to investigate the narrative component of safety reports to discern common mechanisms, circumstances or equipment resulting in acute low back injury; and to investigate whether the mechanisms, circumstances and equipment causing acute low back injury are reflected in the ergonomic exposure profile and disability experience of specific occupations.

Casey will study ergonomic interaction in the meatpacking industry. His research will focus on a worker’s ability to estimate his/her grip force at various force levels. Field evaluations in meatpacking and other hand-intensive industries often rely on these workers’ estimates as indicators of forces being exerted. The objective of Casey’s biomechanical research project is to determine the accuracy of these estimates in several simulated industrial tasks while simultaneously measuring the actual levels of force.

The LMRC facility houses two entities. The Center for Disability Research studies the causes, consequences and prevention of worker disability, and strives to help injured or ill workers return safely to the workforce after rehabilitation, retraining or complete recovery. The Center for Safety Research investigates accidents and the causes of injuries and their associated costs in various industries. It also studies ways to enhance on-the-job safety.

Boston-based Liberty Mutual Group, a diversified financial services company and one of the largest multi-line insurers in the property and casualty industry, has been a leading provider of workers’ compensation insurance, programs and services in the U.S. for nearly 65 years. The company employs 37,000 people in more than 900 offices nationwide.

Chapters Contribute to ASSEF

Sixteen chapters, sections and regions recently donated nearly $12,000 to ASSEF to advance safety and health development and research, as well as education in the public interest.

- Bakersfield Chapter: $500;
- Columbia-Willamette Chapter: $688;
- Gr. Boston Chapter: $1,000; in addition to its donation, the Gr. Boston Chapter participated in the Region VIII Silent Auction, which raised nearly $1,680 for ASSEF;
- Gr. Detroit Chapter: $250;
- Gold Coast Chapter: $200;
- Mount St. Helens Section: $250;
- New Mexico Chapter: $200;
- Nicolet Chapter: $100;
- Northeastern Illinois Chapter: $200;
- Pensacola Chapter: $200;
- Region IV: $1,500;
- South Florida Chapter: $500; this is the chapter’s second contribution this year, totaling $1,000;
- Southwest Chapter: $2,500; over the past four years, the chapter has donated a total of $4,000 to ASSEF;
- St. Louis Chapter: $1,000;
- West Florida Chapter: $500;
- West Tennessee Chapter: $2,000.

ASSEF funding comes from corporations and Society membership—both individuals and through chapters nationwide. The total number of members supporting the Foundation has increased by 25 percent over the past four years.

According to the Foundation, this increased support comes at a critical time. Federal agencies such as the National Institute of Occupational Safety and Health report a drop in the number of students entering the occupational safety and health field, while the need for the expertise is on the rise, both nationally and internationally. Turn to page 12 to read about the Society’s newest practice specialty designed to increase student involvement in safety.

ASSEF Funds Research

ASSEF has awarded a $9,750 grant to Bradley Evanoff, MPH, for research into healthcare workers’ mechanical lifting devices in an effort to minimize traumatic injuries that afflict hundreds of thousands of workers daily. Evanoff is assistant professor for Washington University School of Medicine’s Div. of General Medical Sciences and the Barnes-Jewish Hospital in St. Louis. Elizabeth Aton, professional member of the Society’s St. Louis Chapter, will serve as co-principal investigator.

Entitled “An Evaluation of the Effectiveness of Mechanical Lifting Devices in Reducing Musculoskeletal Injuries Among Healthcare Workers,” the study will evaluate the devices used by all seven BJC Health System hospitals in Missouri and Illinois in hopes of reducing musculoskeletal injuries, more commonly known as repetitive motion disorders. Additional funding for the study comes from Washington University in St. Louis and the BJC Health System.

ASSEF is committed to ensuring the future of the occupational safety and health profession by providing financial resources to individuals and organizations. Each year, the Foundation awards funds for applied safety research, scholarships, fellowships, internships and professional development. Applications for these awards are available online at www.asse.org/foundat.htm.