



AMERICAN SOCIETY OF SAFETY PROFESSIONALS

Heart of America Chapter

Edition 82, Volume 10
June 10, 2021

President's Message June 2021

Greetings HOA Members

Reflecting back, this has been an interesting two terms serving as your President. I never would have envisioned all of the challenges the world experienced with the COVID pandemic, and the impact it had on us personally, and professionally. It was neat to see how the safety community digested new information daily (sometimes with an incomplete picture) and developed strategies to protect the health of our employees.

Despite the challenges of not meeting in person, our Chapter continues to have a solid membership base and has several accomplishments to be proud of, including community support through charitable contributions and increasing the amounts of our two scholarships, and still managing \$28,789 in our bank accounts. Additionally, we're on track to be recognized as an ASSP Platinum Chapter-our fourth year in a row.

As of July 1st, your new board starts their term. I'm looking forward to continued growth under Laurel's and Melissa's leadership, and a return to a new normal.

As a reminder, registration is open for Safety2021 in Austin. Hope to see you there, either in-person or virtually.

*Tom Metzner
Heart of America President*

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Laurie Wolfe

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David Hallerud, ALCM

Safety Spotlight: Member Interview

Mindy Prichard, BS in Safety Management, ASP



The May Spotlight is Mindy Prichard, Safety & Health Inspector, KDOL

Where did you go to school? I went to Central Missouri State University in Warrensburg, MO and have a Bachelor of Science in Safety Management.

How long have you been in the safety industry? 29 years and still love it as much as I did the first year.

How long have you been in your current position? 2 years (2019 to current), but 5 former years (1992-1997).

What is your current position and from a safety standpoint what are your primary responsibilities? I am a Safety & Health Inspector for OSHA 21(d) OSHA Consultation Program in the State of Kansas-Department of Labor, Division of Industrial Safety & Health. We receive requests from small employers (<500) to assist them with OSHA compliance for free, and without fines or penalties. I provide assistance in the northeast corner of the state, but most employer requests are in Johnson & Wyandotte County. I perform physical hazard assessments, program reviews, records reviews, and training as requested.

What made you decide to go into safety? Two things happened. First, my mom was holding the CMSU course catalog (because nothing was online then) at home and she said that I should look into the safety degrees they offered because it had my name all over it. (I dismissed her instantly because I was 18 and knew more than her and said I would major in Biology). LOL! Second thing, I was typing my boyfriend's "safety" papers for him because they didn't have computers then and not everyone had a typewriter and I did and he didn't type well. Typing his papers gave me an "ah-hah" moment as I read what I was typing and I became interested in safety. I took one class in the Gen Ed curriculum and was sold on it! Moral of the story: moms know.

What are some of your memorable experiences or accomplishments related to your time in the safety field? There has never, ever been a dull moment in my career and that is what I love the most about this job. I am convinced after 29 years in safety that over 98% of accidents are the result of human error, including my own accidents (not at work...thank God). I have inspected prisons, a slaughter house, mop makers, grain handlers, machine shops, foundries, railroad, COVID-19 labs, State buildings (including the Capitol where I went in the tunnels and dome), mining equipment manufacturer, etc. And every single place is memorable. My 22 years in manufacturing working for Hallmark Cards, Harley-Davidson, and Russell Stover Chocolates were also very rewarding experiences and I cherish the memories and lessons learned in safety from working there.

What are some of your hobbies or favorite activities? Walking the dogs, riding bikes, eating ice cream, taking naps, watching my 1-yr old granddaughter, going to church, jigsaw puzzles, and going on vacation with my husband.

What does your ASSP Membership do for you? ASSE/ASSP has provided me with 29 years of networking, volunteering opportunities, education, training, field trips, lunches, and friendships in the field of safety. As most of you know, when you are working for an employer, you are typically the only safety person on staff and it is hard to connect with someone not in your field that doesn't share your passion for safety. ASSP provided that connection. I am so proud to be a part of our ASSP HOA Chapter and glad they have been a part of my 29 year journey.

Member Spotlight was coordinated by Laurie Wolfe, KDOL

Upcoming Meetings

ASSP Heart of America Chapter Virtual Cintas – NFPA 70E Updates

June 25, 2021

Upcoming Safety & Health Events to Remember

June			
June	<i>National Safety Month</i>	National Safety Council	https://www.nsc.org
June 6-12	<i>National Trailer Safety Week</i>	Nat'l Assoc. of Trailer Manufacturers.	https://www.trailersafetyweek.com
June 8	<i>National Forklift Safety Day</i>	EHS Today	https://www.ehstoday.com/forklift-safety
June 7-11	<i>Risk Education Week</i>	ASSP	https://www.assp.org/resources/risk-assessment-and-management-for-safety-professionals
June 20-26	<i>National Lightning Safety Awareness Week</i>	National Lightning Safety Council	https://www.weather.gov/iln/lightningsafetyweek

Tornado Preparedness and Response

Tornadoes can occur with little or no warning. Taking precautions in advance of the storms, such as developing an emergency plan, learning the warning signs, and monitoring tornado watches and warnings, can help you stay safe if a tornado occurs in your area.

OSHA and NOAA are working together on a public education effort aimed at improving the way people prepare for and respond to [severe weather](#). This page is designed to help businesses and their workers prepare for [tornadoes](#), and to provide information about hazards that workers may face in the aftermath of a tornado.

To prepare for a tornado, businesses should [develop an emergency plan](#). The plan should include details on suitable places to take shelter, policies to ensure all personnel are accounted for, and procedures for addressing any hazardous materials that are on-site. It is also recommended that individuals develop action plans for their families.

After a tornado has occurred, as businesses take steps to recover from the storm, workers may face significant hazards including the potential for additional storms, downed electric lines, and sharp debris. Workers should also be aware of hazards from heat stress and from equipment used during response/recovery operations, such as portable generators. Workers will need to take special precautions in order to stay safe during response and recovery operations. The [Response/Recovery](#) page has more information on these hazards and protections workers should employ.

Employer Responsibilities

Each employer is responsible for the safety and health of its workers and for providing a safe and healthful workplace. Employers are required to protect workers from the anticipated hazards associated with the response and recovery operations that workers are likely to be involved with.

<https://www.osha.gov/tornado>

Get ready for the 25th anniversary of National Safety Month! Sign up now and we'll notify you when materials are ready. You'll get free access to helpful resources to spread safety messages on pressing topics, including:

**National Safety
Month 2021**
an NSC program

- **Week 1 - Prevent Incidents Before They Start:** Identifying risks and taking proactive safety measures to reduce hazard exposure on important topics from ergonomics to chemical management is crucial to creating a safe workplace.
- **Week 2 - Address Ongoing COVID-19 Safety Concerns:** As the pandemic looms on, employers play an important role in the return to physical workspaces, building trust around vaccines, mental health and so much more.
- **Week 3 - It's Vital to Feel Safe on the Job:** Being able to be one's self at work without fear of retaliation is necessary for an inclusive safety culture. Leading organizations focus not only on physical safety, but psychological safety as well.
- **Week 4 - Advance Your Safety Journey:** Safety is all about continuous improvement. Whether organizationally or individually, NSC can help provide guidance for your path forward.

<https://www.nsc.org/nsm>

Annual Safety Conference and Expo

The Safety 2021 Professional Development Conference and Exposition will take place Sept. 13-15 both online and in-person in Austin, TX.

Discover solutions to your greatest occupational safety and health (OSH) challenges at the premiere annual safety education event in the industry. Take advantage of top-quality safety education options at the conference, along with countless opportunities to network with thousands of attendees across all job roles, industries, experience levels, geographies and demographics.

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



SAVE THE *Date!*

71st Annual
SAFETY & HEALTH CONFERENCE

October 5-8, 2021
DoubleTree by Hilton - Wichita, KS

#KSSafetyCon2021 

"Safety is not an object nor something you can measure! It's a culture, a value."

- *Public Sector*
- *Management/Medical*
- *Safety*
- *10 Hr. Construction*
- *10 Hr. General Industry*
- *Fall Protection Competent Inspector Training*
- *Industrial Hygiene*


MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

Agenda and registration forms will be online summer of 2021 at
www.dol.ks.gov/ISHConference

Newsletter Articles and Whitepapers

The newsletter committee is always looking for helpful links, articles, and white papers. If you have a document that's appropriate for this format, please present your suggestions to our Newsletter Coordinator Laurel Harris. lharris@chubb.com

ASSP Community Interest Group – Heart of America ChapterWISE

 <p>Women in Safety Excellence</p> <p>Contact Laurel Harris for more information: lharris@chubb.com</p>	<p>ASSP's Women in Safety Excellence (WISE) is a common interest group that advances ASSP members and the safety profession through education, mentorship, networking, collaboration, research, and innovation. With over 2,000 members, WISE provides member and community support and collaborative opportunities within the profession. WISE works to bring awareness to the following industry topics:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The need for proper fitting personal protective equipment for women in the workplace• Workplace violence against women, which is the number one cause of fatal injuries to women in the workplace.• To bring awareness to women in leadership roles in safety and to mentor others to help them achieve their goals <p>ChapterWISE</p> <p>The WISE member community has a Chapter level group known as ChapterWISE to help coordinate WISE events, including networking functions, technical talks, community and student outreach and local mentoring. The Heart of America Chapter has many WISE members (both women and men), but we do not have our own established ChapterWISE group. As President-Elect/Vice President, I would like to start a ChapterWISE group within our Chapter. Every safety professional has the opportunity to impact safety within their organization, including those issues that impact women directly in the workplace. If you are a member of WISE or would like to join the WISE community interest group, please help me establish a chapter level group that can continue to educate, support and to take action within the Heart of America. If you are interested in helping to establish our local ChapterWISE, please reach out to me at lharris@chubb.com</p> <p>Thank you, Laurel Harris</p>
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AMERICAN SOCIETY OF
SAFETY PROFESSIONALS

Heart of America Chapter

New Members

Please welcome:

- **Brenda Beatty**
- **Seth Johnson**

Many of us are members of associations and groups that involve safety, health, environmental protection, and risk management advancement. As we engage with our member organizations, remember to network and share the opportunities and benefits available within the Heart of America Chapter of ASSP for members, non-members, and our community.

If you know someone who would like to join ASSP Heart of America Chapter please direct them [HERE!](#)

ASSP Community

Please take a moment to reach out and connect through ASSP Community.

Job Openings

If you or someone that you know in the safety profession are looking for employment, jobs openings are posted on our Chapter website. Please check out our website for recent job postings. <https://kc.assp.org/>

Looking for a Job?

If so, then send your resume to president@kc.assp.org

Upcoming Events

The Chapter website provides information regarding upcoming events and training held by our Chapter, other ASSP Chapters, ASSP, and from other organizations with safety, health, environmental and risk management topics that may interest you. Please visit the website regularly to view upcoming events that may not be specifically listed in the newsletter. <https://kc.assp.org/>



**Pittsburg
State
University**



UNIVERSITY OF
**CENTRAL
MISSOURI**
LEARNING TO A GREATER DEGREE



**Metropolitan
Community College**

Connect with ASSP:



COVID-19 Links

OSHA Interim Recording Keeping Guidance: In a May 19, 2020 Enforcement Memo, OSHA provided updated interim guidance to Compliance Safety and Health Officers (CSHOs) for enforcing the OHA Record Keeping requirements of 29 CFR Part 1904 with respect to recording cases of Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19). The following is a link to the Interim Guidance.

<https://www.osha.gov/memos/2020-05-19/revised-enforcement-guidance-recording-cases-coronavirus-disease-2019-covid-19>

National Safety Council Guidance regarding Safe Actions for Employee Return (SAFER): NSC created a platform for COVID-19 guidance referred to as the SAFER Collection. The task force that supports the collection of information is made up of industry experts from a diverse group of organizations including ASSP, AIHA, NIOSH- CDC, ISSA, BCSP, health professionals, nonprofits, businesses and many more. For updated information to health employers safely return to work, please follow the link below:

<https://www.nsc.org/work-safety/safety-topics/safe-actions-for-employee-returns-safer>

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC): The CDC offers a resource page to keep up with current information regarding the Coronavirus Disease 2019. For evolving news regarding the virus, precautions for adults, forecasts, cleaning and disinfecting, and pandemic planning scenarios, please follow the link below:

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/whats-new-all.html>

Executive Committee

Executive Committee contact information. We always welcome questions, comments and suggestions.



President – president@kc.assp.org
Tom Metzner



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Shelly Killingsworth



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Laurel Harris



Member Engagement
Kristin Danner



Secretary – secretary@kc.assp.org
Andrew Dix



Member Engagement Co-Chair
Melissa Eickleberry



Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Chair
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