



AMERICAN SOCIETY OF SAFETY PROFESSIONALS

Heart of America Chapter

**Edition 84, Volume 1
August 22, 2022**

President's Message August 2022

Greetings Heart of America Members:

It's hard to believe a new ASSP term has started already, representing our Chapter's 83rd anniversary. As I have the opportunity to meet some of our 515 members, I'm continually impressed by the knowledge, experiences, and professionalism of our group. I can't stress enough the value of getting involved and networking within our Chapter and ASSP.

It was a busy couple of months, but here are some of the highlights from the summer:

- HOA was recognized as an ASSP Platinum Chapter for the 5th year in a row.
- Congratulations to Samantha Decker (PSU) and Lu Li (UCM) as recipients of the HOA scholarships.
- Congratulations to Bruce Lyon for being awarded ASSP's Thomas F. Bresnahan Standards Medal.
- Derek and Aaron are working on our Chapter's social media platforms, so please be sure to follow ASSP Heart of America Chapter on LinkedIn. In addition to posting monthly meeting announcements, they are also asking for members to submit articles.
- It was neat to see local companies participating in Safe + Sound Week. 35 businesses in MO registered, and KS had a respectable 25 companies represented.

It was great seeing so many members at our technical tour/meeting at Boulevard Brewing. Speaking of meetings, I'd like to thank Mindy and Aaron for all of their work in planning our monthly meetings for the rest of the year. Registrations will be sent out a month in advance of the meeting, but please mark your calendars to save the dates – dates and topics are on page 4 of this newsletter.

Looking forward to a great 2022-23 term and seeing each of you at upcoming meetings.

Your Chapter President,

Tom Metzner

Officers List

President

Tom Metzner, CSP, ARM-P, CFPS

Vice President

Derek Farmer, MBA, CSP

Secretary

Mindy Prichard, CSP

Treasurer

Ravi Narayan, CSP, ARM

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion

Daniel Snyder, CSP, CHST, OHST

Website/Social Media

Dave Hallerud, ALCM
Aaron Paris, CSP, ASP
Derek Farmer, MBA, CSP

Member Engagement

Open

Newsletter Coordinator

Laurel Harris, CSP, ARM

Liaison for Student Sections

Daniel Snyder, CSP, CHST, OHST
Phil Shoemaker, CSP, CRIS, CHST

Members at Large

David Hallerud, ALCM

August Safety Spotlight: Member Interview

Derek Farmer, CSP

**Director, Environmental Health Safety and Compliance, Wagner Logistics
and
ASSP Heart of America Chapter Vice Present**



Pride in our profession and the job that we do is something that we regularly hear from safety professionals. It is not boasting or pointing out how terrific we are, but simple gratitude in the people we work with, network with, and learn from. This is the same thing that I heard from Derek during our interview. Derek was humbling in the way that he talked about creating a culture in which employees want to come to work, feel safe at work, and recognized Wagner Logistics as a leader organization that cares about their workers and wants to brand a culture that encourages people to want to work at Wagner, employees that want to stay at Wagner, and those that want to grow and expand the safety culture not only within the company but to their homes, neighborhoods and community. These are strong convictions that Derek talks about which include mentoring, networking and valuing ethical principles for which the company can create a boundless culture of respect, inclusion and diversity around Health, Safety, and Respect for the Environment. Derek called this branding “The Wagner Way.”

Derek has worked for Wagner Logistics for a year, this last July. In that time, he has become the leader of the “People and Culture Initiative” that focuses in on a team of seven employees finding ways to pivot the perception of the organizational culture towards finding and keeping talented, smart, positive-minded employees that embrace change and continuous improvement to build the culture of ownership, safety, and belonging throughout the distribution of 23 facilities located throughout the United States.

Current job duties also include wearing a “number of different hats” by maintaining worker health programs, managing worker safety programs, managing environmental permits, conducting hazard assessments, developing, and refining the company’s process safety program and managing fleet operations for over 40 DOT drivers throughout the United States. As a Safety Professional with 18 years in the Safety, Health, and Environmental Industry (two of those as an intern for Alcoa in Denison, TX), Derek is well versed at what it takes to stay abreast of emerging hazards and technology, network with professionals across many different organizations and to mentor and encourage professionals and associates along the way. Derek considered the opportunity to impact the futures of many talented people as one of the primary reasons that he loves this profession and works closely with ASSP. Derek believes that a strong network of peers within ASSP, which started when he was a student member of ASSP back in 2003-2004, has helped him build his knowledge base, grow his support group, and stay current with regulatory requirements and standards through training, conference attendance and meeting professionals from across all industries. He attributes the exhibits at these conference events as an opportunity to learn about new products, find more ways to help his workers and to network with vendors and service providers.

Derek is an undergraduate of the EH&S Program at Southeastern Oklahoma State University in Durant, Oklahoma and has his MBA in Business from the University of Missouri – St. Louis. Kansas City means a lot to Derek. After completing his MBA, he moved back “home” to experience the great sporting teams and entertainment venues that the city and surround communities offer. Derek hobbies include spending time with his wife of 20 years, 18-year-old son who is a freshman in college, and his soon-to-be 15-year-old daughter that is entering into High School this year. Together, they spend time outdoors, at sporting events, hiking, visiting zoos, and seeking out festivals to explore. As a member of our chapter and newly installed Vice President, please reach out and congratulate Derek on the work that he does for our community.

Member Spotlight was conducted by Laurel Harris, Chubb Insurance and ASSP HOA Member

HOA Donates Antifatigue Mats to Harvesters



Pictured from Left to Right: Dave Hallerud, Mindy Prichard, and Tom Metzner present antifatigue mats to Harvester's Community Engagement Manager, Minnie O'Grady on July 25, 2022.

Grainger donated an additional mat to Harvesters.

August's Meeting

The chapter's first meeting of the 2022-2023 Operating Year started with a "hoppin" good time. For those that were able to attend the Boulevard meeting, technical tour and networking reception, members were treated to an "unfiltered" look behind the scenes at the history of Boulevard Brewing, the process of brewing beer and maybe a few quality control samples along the way.



Upcoming HOA Chapter Meeting Calendar – Save the Date!

Friday, September 23, 2022 Joint Meeting with AIHA	Lockton Insurance 12:00pm to 1:00pm	<u>Stressed Out: Headed for Burnout</u> Presented by Dr. Evan Mladenoff
Friday, October 28, 2022	Black & Veach 12:00pm to 1:00pm	<u>OSHA Update</u> Presented by Mitch Wood & Kathryn Wright of Halbrook Wood, P.C.
Wednesday, November 16, 2022	Water One Lenexa, KS 12:00pm to 1:00pm	<u>Forklifts: New Technology, Reducing Damage, REP, Top 10 Violations</u> Presented by Guy Snowdy
December - TBD	Harvesters KC, MO 1:00pm	<u>Chapter Volunteer Event</u>

Local Community Events

October 3, 2022	<u>Safety Fore Kids 26th Annual Golf Classic</u> Creekmoor Golf Course hosted by the Safety & Health Council of Western Missouri https://shcmoks.com/safetyforekids/register.aspx
October 11-14, 2022	<u>72nd Annual Safety & Health Conference</u> Hosted by the Kansas Department of Labor Hilton Garden Inn- Manhattan, KS https://www.dol.ks.gov/ishconference

August Upcoming Safety & Health Events to Remember

August			
August	National Immunization Awareness Month	Centers for Disease Control & Prevention	cdc.gov
August	Back to School Month	National Safety Council	nsc.org
August	Children's Eye Health & Safety Month	Prevent Blindness America	preventblindness.org
August	Rive Sober or Get Pulled Over	National Highway Traffic Safety Administration	nhtsa.gov



AMERICAN SOCIETY OF
SAFETY PROFESSIONALS

Heart of America Chapter

New Members

Please welcome: Michelle Ducre, Tim Swaringam, Linda Percy, Lottie White, and Rebecca Birdsong

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!](#)



AMERICAN SOCIETY OF
SAFETY PROFESSIONALS

Pittsburg State University
Student Section

ASSP Community

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



AMERICAN SOCIETY OF
SAFETY PROFESSIONALS

University of Central Missouri
Student Section

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/>



ASSP Community Interest Group – Heart of America ChapterWISE



WISE

Women in Safety Excellence

Contact Laurel Harris for more information:

lharris@chubb.com

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:

- 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

ChapterWISE

If you are interested in helping to establish our local ChapterWISE, please reach out to me at lharris@chubb.com

More information will be coming out regarding a planning meeting soon. Please help me and Karen Kono establish a chapter level group that can continue to educate, support and to take action within the Heart of America. Thank you, Laurel Harris

Executive Committee

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



President – president@kc.assp.org
Tom Metzner



Treasurer – treasurer@kc.assp.org
Ravi Narayan



Vice-President – vp@kc.assp.org
Derek Farmer

OPEN
Member Engagement



Secretary – secretary@kc.assp.org
Mindy Prichard



Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Chair
Dan Snyder