



AMERICAN SOCIETY OF SAFETY PROFESSIONALS

Heart of America Chapter

Edition 84, Volume 3
October 7, 2022

President's Message: October 2022

Greetings Heart of America Members:

This year marks the 100th anniversary of Fire Prevention Week, which runs October 9-15. This is a good opportunity to promote safety, including checking smoke and carbon monoxide detectors. There are some additional guidelines later in this newsletter, but we're interested in hearing from you on what your company has done to promote fire safety during Fire Prevention Week. Please email me with any innovative approaches that we can share with our members.

The Board is in the process of soliciting nominations for both the Chapter and Regional Safety Professional of the Year (SPY) awards. You must have received the Chapter SPY to be eligible for the Regional award. Interested members can contact Derek Farmer, and he can provide you with the packet outlining requirements. The Chapter's paperwork is due October 14th and the Regional SPY paperwork is due November 1st.

Members should have received an email from Society about the updated Chapter Bylaws, which was necessitated when the organization voted to replace the House of Delegates with the Advisory Group. If you have questions about our Bylaws, please reach out to Derek or me. Otherwise, please keep an eye out for the official ballot to approve the Bylaws.

Please mark your calendars for the upcoming meetings. The registration is currently open for our OSHA Update on October 28th. We'll be partnering with the AIHA Chapter, so it'll be a good networking opportunity in addition to an always pertinent topic.

WaterOne is hosting us on November 16th, at their Water Treatment Plant. Registration hasn't been sent out yet, but after the Forklift presentation, we'll be able to tour their treatment facility. Due to security protocols, attendees will be asked to provide a copy of their government issued ID.

Finally, don't forget about the ASSP Community resource we have available through www.assp.org. It's a great opportunity to ask, and answer, questions.

Sincerely,
Tom Metzner, Heart of America Chapter President

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

McKenzie Turner

Liaison for Student Sections

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

Members at Large

David Hallerud, ALCM

October Safety Spotlight: Member Interview

Aaron Paris, CSP, ASP

Director of Safety for Robert E. Miller Group



Where did you go to school? Graceland University

How long have you been in the safety industry? 6 years

How long have you been in your current position? 3 years in February

What is your current position and from a safety standpoint, what are your primary responsibilities? Director of Safety for the Robert E. Miller Group. My position provides me the privilege to work with our clients, many of which are in the non-profit, construction, and manufacturing sectors. My work entails assisting clients with loss control and risk management through various means, such as: program and loss control evaluations, fleet safety, training development, and hazard assessments to name a few.

What made you decide to go into safety? Having worked to protect people for 12 years in law enforcement, I was looking to continue assisting others in their day-to-day lives. Safety gives me the opportunity to assist companies in evaluating their current programs and culture to better the work environment for all involved in the process. Safety affects people's ability to be productive, feel valued, and leave each day better than they came. Safety affects all aspects of work. It can be an exhilarating feeling and daunting task, but the reward is no greater with successful application.

What are some of your memorable experiences or accomplishments related to your time in the safety field? My most memorable experience was my first year in safety. Starting in the trades as a safety manager, I was working at a place that did not have a health and safety position in the past. My position was new. On my first day, one of the longest-employed team members approached me and said, "I don't care what you do or say, I'm not changing at this point." The team member proceeded to make jokes in front of others and then began telling about all his injuries and battle wounds as though they were badges of honor. His most serious was his knees, which were now so bad, working on a ladder for an extended period of time was nearly impossible. After a year I began rotating management through OSHA 30 and this employee was slated to be there. On the first day, I introduced the instructor and of course, this employee made sure we knew he was forced to be there. On the last day of the 30 hour course, I got a call from the employee. He began telling me how he was wrong and hadn't seen it from this perspective. At first, I first thought he was kidding. But his sincerity continued and I realized I had finally turned this bullhorn of negativity into my greatest advocate. From that day forward I would be called first by him and he would always push for more protections on the job.

What are some of your hobbies or favorite activities? I enjoy traveling with my family by offroad vehicle. We travel for weeks at a time in remote locations camping and being self-reliant. We recently traveled to Alaska for 2.5 weeks as a family, camping and traveling over 2700 miles.

What does your ASSP Membership do for you? ASSP is a conduit for professional growth and connection with other safety professionals. Opportunities to learn from my peers and have shared experiences is vital in my growth and development. As mentioned above, the safety profession has highs and lows that are experienced among safety professionals in different fields. Having a group to lean on, challenge you, and help you grow is why I value my ASSP membership and the Heart of America Chapter.

Member Spotlight was conducted by McKenzie Turner, Wagner Logistics and ASSP HOA Member

Fire Prevention Week: October 9th-14th

Join NFPA® in celebrating the 100th anniversary of Fire Prevention Week™ (FPW). This year's FPW campaign, "Fire won't wait. Plan your escape™", works to educate everyone about simple but important actions they can take to keep themselves and those around them safe from home fires.

Today's homes burn faster than ever. You may have as little as two minutes (or even less time) to safely escape a home fire from the time the smoke alarm sounds. Your ability to get out of a home during a fire depends on early warning from smoke alarms and advance planning.

Home fire escape planning and practicing

It is important for everyone to plan and practice a home fire escape. Everyone needs to be prepared in advance, so that they know what to do when the smoke alarm sounds. Given that every home is different, every home fire escape plan will also be different.

Have a plan for everyone in the home. Children, older adults, and people with disabilities may need assistance to wake up and get out. Make sure that someone will help them!

Smoke alarms

Smoke alarms sense smoke well before you can, alerting you to danger. Smoke alarms need to be in every bedroom, outside of the sleeping areas (like a hallway), and on each level (including the basement) of your home. Do not put smoke alarms in your kitchen or bathrooms.

Choose an alarm that is listed with a testing laboratory, meaning it has met certain standards for protection.

For the best protection, use combination smoke and carbon monoxide alarms that are interconnected throughout the home. These can be installed by a qualified electrician, so that when one sounds, they all sound. This ensures you can hear the alarm no matter where in your home the alarm originates.

About Fire Prevention Week

Since 1922, the NFPA has sponsored the public observance of Fire Prevention Week. In 1925, President Calvin Coolidge proclaimed Fire Prevention Week a national observance, making it the longest-running public health observance in our country. During Fire Prevention Week, children, adults, and teachers learn how to stay safe in case of a fire. Firefighters provide lifesaving public education in an effort to drastically decrease casualties caused by fires.

Fire Prevention Week is observed each year during the week of October 9th in commemoration of the Great Chicago Fire, which began on October 8, 1871, and caused devastating damage. This horrific conflagration killed more than 250 people, left 100,000 homeless, destroyed more than 17,400 structures, and burned more than 2,000 acres of land.

[Click here to see the full webpage that includes educational videos, lesson plans and safety tip sheets.](#)

September Meeting

At our chapter meeting on September 23rd at Lockton Companies headquarters we were lucky to have **Dr. Evan Mladenoff, DC** join us. He discussed the importance of mental health and its impact throughout our body. Chronic stress can negatively affect our immune system and make you more vulnerable to infections and diseases. What and how we react can have a positive or negative influence in our health. Dr. Mladenoff provided several proven strategies to monitor our response to stress and how to counteract it.



ASSP Community Interest Group – Heart of America ChapterWISE



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 Santoyo establish a chapter level group that can continue to educate, support and to take action within the Heart of America. Thank you, Laurel Harris

Upcoming HOA Chapter Meeting Calendar – Save the Date!

Friday, October 28, 2022 <u>Joint meeting with AIHA</u>	Black & Veatch 12:00pm to 1:00pm 11401 Lamar Ave, Overland Park, KS 66211	<u>OSHA Update</u> Presented by Mitchell Wood & Kate Wright of Halbrook Wood, P.C.
Wednesday, November 16, 2022	WaterOne Hansen Treatment Plant 12:00pm to 1:00pm	<u>Forklifts: New Technology, Reducing Damage, REP, Top 10 Violations</u> Presented by Guy Snowdy Following the presentation, members can take a guided tour of the WaterOne treatment plant
December - TBD	Harvesters KC, MO 1:00pm	<u>Chapter Volunteer Event</u>

Local Community Events

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
October 13th	<u>19th Annual Greater St. Louis Safety and Health Conference</u> Hosted by the Safety Council of Greater St. Louis Saint Louis University Busch Student Center- St. Louis, MO Greater St. Louis Safety and Health Conference (stlsafety.org)
October 14 th -15 th	<u>University of Central Missouri: 50th Anniversary for Safety Department</u> Hosted by the Occupational Risk and Safety Department. UCM Homecoming- Party In The Park- Warrensburg, MO Homecoming - UCM Alumni Foundation (ucmfoundation.org)
December 7-8	<u>The 2022 Summit</u> Hosted by the Missouri Common Ground Alliance Ozark Empire Fair Grounds- Springfield, MO Home - Missouri Common Ground Alliance (mocommonground.org)
December 8-9	<u>The International Locate Rodeo</u> Hosted by the Missouri Common Ground Alliance Springfield, MO Locate Rodeo International Utility Locate Rodeo

Upcoming Safety & Health Events to Remember

October			
October 9-14th	Fire Prevention Week	National Fire Protection Association	Fire Prevention Week (FPW) (nfpa.org)
October	Halloween Safety	National Safety Council	Halloween Safety- National Safety Council (nsc.org)
October	Breast Cancer Awareness Month	National Breast Cancer Foundation	Breast Cancer Awareness Month 2022 - National Breast Cancer Foundation
October	Protect Your Hearing Month	Center of Disease Control and Prevention	National Protect Your Hearing Month (cdc.gov)
October	Cyber Security Awareness Month	Department of Homeland Security	Department of Homeland Security Kicks Off Cybersecurity Awareness Month Homeland Security (dhs.gov)



AMERICAN SOCIETY OF
SAFETY PROFESSIONALS

Heart of America Chapter

New Members

Please welcome: Connor Ramsey

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/>



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