



# AMERICAN SOCIETY OF SAFETY PROFESSIONALS

Heart of America Chapter

Edition 84, Volume 5  
December 13, 2022

## President's Message: December 2022

Greetings Heart of America Members:

Happy Holidays and Merry Christmas. It's hard to believe it's December already, and the ASSP term is at the half way point.

Instead of our typical meeting, this month we're hosting a volunteer/networking event at Harvester's to support our community. We had a great turnout last year, and are anticipating another great turnout by our Chapter. Also, we'll be donating \$250 to Harvesters to help people put food on their table this holiday season.

A special congratulations is in order to Chris Braamse, Corporate Safety Director at DH Pace Company, for receiving the Heart of America Chapter's Safety Professional of the Year (SPY) award. Congratulations Chris.

Please take a couple of minutes to read through this newsletter, including a special Member Spotlight on Bruce Lyon for 40 years of ASSP membership; Save the Date announcements for our upcoming monthly meetings; and resources for winter fire safety, holiday safety, and safe driving.

We're currently seeking interested individuals for the position of Vice President/President Elect for the 2023-24 term. If you're interested in learning more about the position or serving on the Executive Committee, please reach out to Derek Farmer or me. This is a great opportunity to learn more about ASSP, our local Chapter, and bring new ideas to our organization.

And don't forget, UCM's Safety Sciences 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration is Thursday the 15<sup>th</sup>, starting at 5:30 at Chicken N Pickle in Overland Park. RSVP's are encouraged:

[ucmfoundation.org/safety-sciences](https://ucmfoundation.org/safety-sciences)

Wishing everybody a safe and enjoyable holiday season, and a great start to 2023!

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

### 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

## December Safety Spotlight: Member Interview

**40  
YEARS**

**Bruce Lyon**

**CSP, P.E., SMS, ARM, CHMM**

**MEMBER OF ASSP FOR 40 YEARS**



**Where did you go to school?** I received my undergraduate degree from Central Missouri State University (now known as University of Central Missouri) in 1981 with a double major - Graphic Arts Technology & Management, and Industrial Safety. In 1998, I received my MS in Occupational Safety Management. Obviously, I chose the safety route ;-), which was one of the best decisions I have made.

**How long have you been in the safety industry?** Over 41 years.

**What is your current position and from a safety standpoint, what are your primary responsibilities?** I've been with Hays Companies (now Brown & Brown), an insurance brokerage firm as a Vice President of Risk Management Services since 2008. Most of my career I have worked as a risk control consultant in the insurance industry.

My primary responsibilities are to provide risk management consulting services to our clients helping them assess and reduce risks. My clients range in all types of industries from oil and gas, construction, manufacturing, agribusiness, chemical, food processing, wineries, retail, logistics, etc., which keeps life interesting.

**What made you decide to go into safety?** I started out as an Art major and took some electives in safety. Safety seemed to really resonate with me and I eventually decided to get a second major in safety.

**What are some of your memorable experiences or accomplishments related to your time in the safety field?**

One of my memorable experiences was Dr. Bob Semonsick who was the Chair of the Safety Program at the time and helped me get my first job in safety. He later became my client when he left CMSU and went to work for United Telecom (Sprint) in the EHS department. I really enjoyed working with 'Dr. Bob' and appreciate all that he has done for the safety profession. I was also fortunate to have worked for Fred Manuele when I was with Marsh (M&M Protection Consultants) and learned a tremendous amount during that time. Later I was extremely fortunate to work with Dr. Georgi Popov who I have had the privilege of writing articles and books as well as developing standards. I have been very fortunate to have excellent mentors.

**What are some of your hobbies or favorite activities?** Fly tying and fly fishing for trout in the Colorado mountains; hiking and camping; working at our farm; family time.

**Any advice for younger adults who are safety professionals?**

Have a 'can do' attitude, be responsive and caring to others, be a life-long learner, get involved in ASSP and the OSH profession, and speak, write, and act with purpose.

**What does your ASSP Membership do for you?** It provides me multiple opportunities to enrich my life and advance the profession.

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



## December Meeting

Thanks to those who showed up to our November 16th chapter meeting at WaterOne to hear Guy Snowdy discuss the "Hidden Risk and Cost of Material Handling". WaterOne was awarded the "Best Of The Best" drinking water award this year from The American Water Works Association (AWWA).

## Heart of America: Safety Professional of the Year – Chris Braamse, CSP, CDS

We would like to announce our Prestigious ASSP Heart of America Chapter Safety Professional of the Year Award goes to Mr. Chris Braamse, CSP, CDS. Chris is a Certified Safety Professional, a Certified Director of Safety, a Construction Risk Insurance Specialist with a Bachelors in Safety from University of Central Missouri and a M.S. in Business Management from Baker University.

Chris has been a productive member of ASSP for many years serving on the Executive Committee for over 5 years in many roles including one of our Past Presidents.

Chris is currently the Corporate Safety Director of DH Pace Company, Inc. where his colleagues describe his approach to safety as a "pure representation of practicing what he preaches, his say what we do and do what we say mentality is never bending". Chris has impacted the culture and lead the team to reduction in injuries and risk.





## Toys for Tots Donations

Thank you to everyone who donated to our Toys for Tots toy drive last month. We were able to collect many toys at our November meeting and contributed to the Examinetics collection. Special thank you to Karen Santoyo who coordinated the collaboration with Examinetics.

## You can now follow us on Instagram!

Scan this QR code with your phone and follow our new Instagram page. Stay up to date on all things HOA.



## ASSP Community Interest Group – Heart of America ChapterWISE



Contact Laurel Harris for more information:  
[lharris@chubb.com](mailto: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](mailto: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

## Upcoming HOA Chapter Meeting Calendar – Save the Date!

<b>Thursday, December 15<sup>th</sup>, 2022</b>	Harvesters KC, MO 1:30 to 3:30pm <b>3801 Topping Ave, Kansas City, MO 64129</b>	<b><u>Chapter Volunteer Event</u></b> Sorting and Repacking at Harvesters
<b>Friday, January 20<sup>th</sup>, 2023</b>	Scheels – Overland Park 11:30am to 1pm	<b><u>Risk Reduction through Preventative Maintenance</u></b> Presented by: Marcus Neal – Owner of Ag Solutions LLC
<b>Thursday, February 16<sup>th</sup>, 2023</b>	TBD 11:30am to 4pm	<b><u>Wearables Technology:</u></b> Professional Development Workshop

## Local Community Events

December 15th	<b><u>50 Years of Safety Sciences</u></b> Hosted by the UCM Safety Sciences Program Chicken and Pickle - Overland Park, MO <a href="https://ucmfoundation.org">Safety Sciences - UCM Alumni Foundation (ucmfoundation.org)</a>
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## Upcoming Safety & Health Events to Remember

Winter Fire Safety Tips	National Fire Protection Agency	<a href="https://www.firstalert.com">Winter Fire Safety Tips   Winter Home Safety Tips (firstalert.com)</a>
Holiday Safety	National Safety Council	<a href="https://www.nsc.org">Holiday Safety - National Safety Council (nsc.org)</a>
Safe Toys and Gifts Month	Prevent Blindness America	<a href="https://www.preventblindness.org">Safe Toy Checklist - Prevent Blindness</a>
Holiday Season Drunk Driving Campaign	National Highway Traffic Safety Administration	<a href="https://www.nhtsa.gov">Holiday Season   Traffic Safety Marketing</a>
Shovel Snow Safely	National Safety Council	<a href="https://www.nsc.org">Snow Shovel Safety - National Safety Council (nsc.org)</a>
Avoid Frostbite and Hypothermia	National Safety Council	<a href="https://www.nsc.org">Avoid Frostbite and Hypothermia - National Safety Council (nsc.org)</a>



AMERICAN SOCIETY OF  
**SAFETY PROFESSIONALS**

Heart of America Chapter



AMERICAN SOCIETY OF  
**SAFETY PROFESSIONALS**

Pittsburg State University  
Student Section



AMERICAN SOCIETY OF  
**SAFETY PROFESSIONALS**

University of Central Missouri  
Student Section



## New Members

**Please welcome: Kane Southwick Marco Luna, Maurice Jones, Mike Catlin, Tanner Gulick, Charles Dempsey**

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](mailto: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](mailto:president@kc.assp.org)  
Tom Metzner



Treasurer – [treasurer@kc.assp.org](mailto:treasurer@kc.assp.org)  
Ravi Narayan



Vice-President – [vp@kc.assp.org](mailto:vp@kc.assp.org)  
Derek Farmer



Secretary – [secretary@kc.assp.org](mailto:secretary@kc.assp.org)  
Mindy Prichard

OPEN  
Member Engagement