



# AMERICAN SOCIETY OF SAFETY PROFESSIONALS

Heart of America Chapter

**Edition 85, Volume 3**  
**October 16, 2023**

## President's Message October 2023

Hello, Heart of America Members,

Although the area temperatures may have cooled down, our chapter is heating up with exciting updates and opportunities!

Last week marked National Fire Prevention Week, a reminder of the importance of off-the-job safety. Topics such as Fire Prevention, Bloodborne Pathogens, Slip/Trip/Falls, and Emergency Action Plans contain information that employees can take home, ensuring safety in all aspects of their lives.

Our chapter is now a strong community of 549 members and continues to grow. If you haven't visited our website lately, you'll find the next three months of meetings posted with registrations open for each one. We've got some fantastic meetings lined up for the rest of the year, and we're already in the process of finalizing plans for Spring 2024.

Join us for our next meeting on October 26th in Kansas City, MO, where Attorney Melody Rayl from Fisher & Phillips LLP will delve into the ever-relevant topic of "Drugs in the Workplace & Changing Marijuana Laws: Working through the Haze."

As our chapter expands, we need your support more than ever. We have numerous volunteer opportunities for individuals from all backgrounds who want to give back to their profession. Whether you're interested in meeting planning, WISE assistance, speaker coordination, or other roles, we can utilize your unique talents to enhance our community. If you're considering joining our Executive Committee, please reach out to me or any board member at our next meeting.

Additionally, we are on the lookout for the next President-Elect to lead our chapter in the 2025-2026 fiscal year. You would serve as President-Elect/Vice President during the 2024-2025 year. To explore this role and its responsibilities, you can watch a few training session videos provided by ASSP. The first step is to discuss this opportunity with Christian Howell, the current President-Elect, or reach out to me or other board members if you're interested.

Together, we can make a positive impact, and your involvement is the key to our continued success. Get in touch, and let's shape the future of our chapter together!

Derek Farmer, MBA, CSP

## Officers List

### President

Derek Farmer, MBA, CSP

### Vice President

Christian Howell

### Secretary

Mindy Prichard, CSP

### Treasurer

Ravi Narayan, CSP, ARM

### Past President

Tom Metzner, CSP, ARM-P, CFPS

### Website/Social Media

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

### Member Engagement

Anthony Crowder

### Newsletter Coordinator

McKenzie Turner

### Liaison for Student Sections

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

### Members at Large

David Hallerud, ALCM

## September Chapter Meeting: Human Factors – The Science of Safety



Our September Chapter Meeting had a great turnout at University of Central Missouri's, Innovation Center in Lee's Summit, MO. Mark Heidebrecht "Ergo Mark" presented Human Factors – The Science of Safety. He is the owner of ErgoMethods and a managing partner at Ergonomics International. Ergo Mark is a distinguished professional with extensive expertise in the fields of ergonomics, biomechanics, human factors, and work physiology. His presentation covered the human factors research behind many of the common things we consider to be in the "field of Safety".

## NFPA Fire Prevention Week 2023: October 8<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup>

### 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.

### Importance of Fire Prevention

In a fire, mere seconds can mean the difference between a safe escape and a tragedy. Fire safety education isn't just for school children. Teenagers, adults, and the elderly are also at risk in fires, making it important for every member of the community to take some time every October during Fire Prevention Week to make sure they understand how to stay safe in case of a fire.

### Cooking Safety

Cooking brings family and friends together, provides an outlet for creativity and can be relaxing. But did you know that cooking fires are the number one cause of home fires and home injuries? By following a few safety tips you can prevent these fires.

#### "COOK WITH CAUTION"

- Be on alert! If you are sleepy or have consumed alcohol don't use the stove or stovetop.
- Stay in the kitchen while you are frying, boiling, grilling, or broiling food. If you leave the kitchen for even a short period of time, turn off the stove.
- If you are simmering, baking, or roasting food, check it regularly, remain in the home while food is cooking, and use a timer to remind you that you are cooking.
- Keep anything that can catch fire — oven mitts, wooden utensils, food packaging, towels or curtains — away from your stovetop.

#### If you have a small (grease) cooking fire and decide to fight the fire...

- On the stovetop, smother the flames by sliding a lid over the pan and turning off the burner. Leave the pan covered until it is completely cooled.
- For an oven fire, turn off the heat and keep the door closed.

#### If you have any doubt about fighting a small fire...


- Just get out! When you leave, close the door behind you to help contain the fire.
- Call 9-1-1 or the local emergency number from outside the home.

#### Cooking and Kids

Have a "kid-free zone" of at least 3 feet (1 metre) around the stove and areas where hot food or drink is prepared or carried.


#### FACTS

- ❗ The leading cause of fires in the kitchen is unattended cooking.
- ❗ Most cooking fires in the home involve the kitchen stove.

**NATIONAL FIRE PROTECTION ASSOCIATION**  
The leading information and knowledge resource on fire, electrical and related hazards

Your Logo

## ASSP Community Interest Group – Heart of America ChapterWISE

 <p>Women in Safety Excellence</p> <p>Contact Karen Santoyo for more information:  <a href="mailto:karen.santoyo@examinetics.com">karen.santoyo@examinetics.com</a></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"> <li>• The need for proper fitting personal protective equipment for women in the workplace</li> <li>• Workplace violence against women, which is the number one cause of fatal injuries to women in the workplace.</li> <li>• To bring awareness to women in leadership roles in safety and to mentor others to help them achieve their goals</li> </ul>
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## Upcoming HOA Chapter Meeting Calendar – Save the Date!

<b>Thursday, October 26th, 2023</b>	The Builders' Association T&E Center – North Kansas City, MO 11:30am to 1:00pm 105 West 12 <sup>th</sup> Ave, North Kansas City, MO 64116	<b><u>Drugs in the Workplace &amp; Changing Marijuana Laws: Working through the Haze</u></b> Presented by Melody Rayl   Fisher & Phillips, LLP  This presentation provides employers with real-world advice regarding the use and abuse of drugs in the workplace.
<b>Thursday, November 16th, 2023</b>	Midwest Public Risk – Independence, MO 11:30am to 1:00pm 19400 E Valley View Pkwy, Independence, MO 64055	<b><u>ASSP &amp; AIHA Joint Meeting: OSHA Update</u></b> Presented by Billie A. Kizer, MPH, CSP   Regional Administrator, Region VII OSHA
<b>Friday, December 8th, 2023</b>	Harvesters – Kansas City, MO 11:30am to 1:00pm 3801 Topping Ave, Kansas City, MO 64129	<b><u>Harvesters Volunteer Opportunity</u></b> Harvesters needs our help! Last year, Harvesters helped distribute 61.3 million meals to families in need. As we approach the holidays, they rely even more heavily on volunteers to accomplish their mission of distributing food and household products.

## ChapterWISE – Women in Safety Excellence

<b>Monday, October 30<sup>th</sup>, 2023</b>	<b>Virtual Teams Meeting</b> at 1:00pm CST	<b><u>Monthly Meeting</u></b> Lead by Karen Santoyo
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## October Upcoming Safety & Health Events to Remember

October			
October	Fire Prevention Week	Federal Emergency Management Agency	<a href="#">September is National Preparedness Month.pdf</a>
October	Halloween Safety	National Safety Council	<a href="#">Halloween Safety- National Safety Council (nsc.org)</a>
October	Breast Cancer Awareness Month	National Breast Cancer Foundation	<a href="#">Breast Cancer Awareness Month - National Breast Cancer Foundation</a>
October	Protect Your Hearing Month	Center of Disease Control and Prevention	<a href="#">National Protect Your Hearing Month (cdc.gov)</a>



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**SAFETY PROFESSIONALS**

Heart of America Chapter



AMERICAN SOCIETY OF  
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Pittsburg State University  
Student Section



AMERICAN SOCIETY OF  
**SAFETY PROFESSIONALS**

University of Central Missouri  
Student Section



## New Members

**Please welcome: Kyle Rainey, Bryan Scarlett, Carlos Giron, Justin Baglin, Tim Morris, Jessica Liffick and Laura Gehrman**

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)  
Derek Farmer



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



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



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



Past President – Tom Metzner

