



AMERICAN SOCIETY OF SAFETY PROFESSIONALS

Heart of America Chapter

**Edition 85, Volume 8
May 29, 2024**

President's Message May 2024

As we roll into Summer 2024, there is more happening than usual within our Heart of America Chapter. We are excited to announce a couple of upcoming events that will provide excellent networking opportunities.

Our first event is a "Meet Up" on June 21st at Boulevard Brewery in Kansas City. This gathering is purely for networking, providing a relaxed atmosphere to connect with fellow members. No topics or discussions are planned, just an evening of camaraderie and conversation.

We are also working on organizing a separate networking event in July. Like the June meetup, this will focus on building relationships and sharing experiences within our professional community. Details will be shared soon, so stay tuned.

It has been an honor to serve as President of our chapter over the past year. I am pleased to announce that I will be passing the reins to Mr. Christian Howell. Christian has been an integral part of our committee for the past 1.5 years, and I am confident that his vision and leadership will guide our chapter to new heights.

In case you missed it, our next Women in Safety Excellence (WISE) meeting is on June 24th at The Roasterie. The first 20 attendees will receive coffee and tour. This is a fantastic opportunity to connect with like-minded professionals and enjoy one of Kansas City's iconic coffee spots.

Looking ahead, Safety 2024 is just around the corner, taking place from August 7-9 in Denver, CO. Several of our board members and Alumni will be attending this important event. If you plan to attend, please reach out to the board so we can include you in any email updates about our meetings and activities during the conference.

I hope you all have a fantastic summer and take advantage of the opportunities to connect and network at our upcoming events. Your participation and enthusiasm are what make our chapter vibrant and successful. We look forward to seeing you soon!

Stay safe, and let's make this summer memorable!

Derek Farmer

Officers List

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Derek Farmer, MBA, CSP

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Liaison for Student Sections

Phil Shoemaker, CSP, CRIS, CHST

Members at Large

David Hallerud, ALCM

May Chapter Meeting: AI Safety - Redefining Workplace Risk Management at Owens Corning

Thank you to our speakers Geoff Walter and Keith Bowers for presenting at our May Chapter Meeting covering Workplace Risk Management. It was a great turnout at the University of Central Missouri, Innovation Campus in Lee's Summit to finish out the year for ASSP.

Geoff Walter is Corporate Director of Enterprise Safety for Owens Corning. In this leadership role, he has responsibility for leading and managing the global safety function for Owens Corning which includes developing and implementing the strategy, policy, processes, systems and tactics to deliver world class safety performance for Owens Corning.

Keith Bowers, owner of Bowers Management Analytics uses AI to help Safety Leaders develop effective corrective actions and has invented several AI tools that improve workplace safety. With numerous patents in AI for workplace safety, his innovative approach has earned him recognition, including partnership status with the Campbell Institute of the National Safety Council.

May

Women In Safety Excellence (WISE) met in April to discuss Powered Industrial Trucks and Tour Grainger.




The WISE Group met in April and joined [Shelly Higgins](#) at the [Grainger](#) facility in Kansas City. Thanks [Karen \(Kono\) Santoyo, RN, COHN](#) for leading this wonderful group along with [Shelly Higgins](#) and Scott who lead us on a tour of the facility. Thanks to Vivek Kulkarni with [ARIN Technologies, Inc.](#) for speaking on improving safety around Powered Industrial Trucks.

University of Central Missouri Student Scholarships

On behalf of the Construction Safety Group of Kansas City Scholarship Committee, I am pleased to announce **Four** Pittsburg State University students will be receiving scholarships for 2024. A total of \$9,500.00 is being awarded to four (4) exceptional PSU students. This is the largest dollar amount of scholarships every awarded in one year by the committee to PSU recipients. I commend you and the rest of the faculty for the excellent work that is being done to prepare PSU students for succeeding in our profession. **Congratulations Karlee Shewey, Taylor Cummings, Cifuentes Eliab, and Valentina Narvaez.**

ASSP Community Interest Group – Heart of America ChapterWISE

 <p>Women in Safety Excellence</p> <p>Contact Karen Santoyo for more information: karen.santoyo@examinetics.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
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Upcoming HOA Chapter Meeting Calendar – Save the Date!

Friday, June 21, 2024	Boulevard Brewery 4pm – 6pm 2534 Madison Ave, Kansas City, Missouri	<u>MeetUp – No topic, just networking</u>
Friday, May 10, 2024	UCM Innovation Campus 11:30am – 1pm 1101 NW Innovations Pkwy, Lee's Summit, MO	<u>AI Safety: Redefining Workplace Risk Management at Owens Corning</u> Speakers include Geoff Walter (Owens Corning); Keith Bowers (Bowers AI).

ChapterWISE – Women in Safety Excellence

Monday, June 24 th , 2024	The Roasterie 1:00pm-2:30pm 1204 W. 27th Street, Kansas City, MO	<u>The Roasterie Tour and Coffee</u> 2:00 pm – 3:00 pm Location: The Roasterie Coffee Company – The Factory This hour-long walking tour of The Roasterie Factory includes some history about The Roasterie, a deep-dive into coffee farming and production, a close look at their state-of-the-art roasting equipment, as well as many other fun things to learn and see. There is also an extensive retail section where you can purchase coffee and brewing equipment, as well as a cafe where you can purchase drinks and food.
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May Upcoming Safety & Health Events to Remember

May			
May	National Electrical Safety Month	Electrical Safety Foundation International	Homepage - Electrical Safety Foundation International (esfi.org)

May	Clean Air Month	American Lung Association	Clean Air American Lung Association
May	National Water Safety Month	Association of Pool & Spa Professionals, National Recreation & Parks Association, American Red Cross and World Waterpark Association	Home - National Water Safety Month (phta.org)

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Pittsburg State University
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University of Central Missouri
Student Section



New Members

Please welcome:

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/>

Executive Committee

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



President – president@kc.assp.org
Derek Farmer



Vice-President – vp@kc.assp.org
Christian Howell



Treasurer – treasurer@kc.assp.org
Ravi Narayan



Secretary - secretary@kc.assp.org
Mindy Prichard



ChapterWISE - Karen Santoyo



Past President – Tom Metzner