ASSP Central Valley Happy Hour | June 25, 4:00 pm - 5:30 pm

As safety professionals, we work tirelessly to keep our workplaces safe. But do we remember to apply the same standards in our home? Now that many of us are working from home, it is the perfect time to make sure your families are as safe as your coworkers. Here are some activities you can do as a family while you are all home together:

"Zoom" in and join us for a "Virtual Social Networking Happy Hour".

- Meet our newly elected Chapter Officers.
- Introduce yourself and let us know how you are doing.
- Share your successes and challenges with the group.
- Let us know what topics and/or speakers you suggest for upcoming meetings.
- Join in Games for prizes!
- Adult Beverages optional!

Join Zoom Meeting using this link:
https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85494935247?pwd=NC9NV250c01HUHFCUXRVMGNEcGs2QT09
Meeting ID: 854 9493 5247
Password: 078178

Heating Up | A Reminder on Heat Illness Prevention

We are approaching the hottest time of the year in the Central Valley. It is not uncommon for temperatures to be over 100 degrees for weeks at a time. While we have been lucky enough to experience some cool days in June, temperatures will rise overnight. It is important to be prepared to keep employees safe from heat illness.

California employers are required to take these four steps to prevent heat illness:

- Training
  - Train all employees and supervisors about heat illness prevention.
- Water
  - Provide enough fresh water so that each employee can drink at least 1 quart per hour, or four 8 ounce glasses, of water per hour, and encourage them to do so.
- Shade
  - Provide access to shade and encourage employees to take a cool-down rest in the shade for at least 5 minutes. They should not wait until they feel sick to cool down.
- Planning
  - Develop and implement written procedures for complying with the Cal/OSHA Heat Illness Prevention Standard.

Reminder: While current regulations only cover outdoor places of employment, Cal/OSHA is preparing rulemaking documents on heat illness prevention for indoor places of employment. Check the Cal/OSHA website for updates.
Newly Elected Board Members | The following members will be the 2020-2021 Central Valley Chapter Officers

**President | Kevin Parkinson**

Kevin served as President-Elect the 2019-2020. He will assume the position of President on July 1, 2020.

**President-Elect | Brad Perry, SMS**

Being involved in safety for 35 years, I have realized that organizations such as the American Society of Safety Professionals (ASSP) are paramount to improving the occupational safety in our communities. The Central Valley chapter of the ASSP membership is a vast network of Safety Professionals that have given me information, resources and advice that has helped me grow as a Safety Professional. I am honored to be able to run for the position President Elect so that I can give back what this chapter has given me.

**Background:**

Brad has been involved in safety since 1985 as a Quality Assurance/Safety Observer (QA/SO) for aviation ordnance (munitions) loads, in the United States Marine Corps. Since that time, he has sought out higher and more responsible safety positions. From being a member of Aviation Safety Boards, to Chairman of Safety committees, to Safety Coordinator to Safety Manager, as position he has held for 15 years. Brad’s current position is Safety Manager for Azteca Milling in Madera, CA. He is currently certified by the BCSP as a Safety Management Specialist (SMS). He is also authorized to teach the OSHA/Cal-OSHA 10Hr/30Hr course and is currently an Adjunct Instructor at Fresno City College where he teaches Occupational Health and Safety.

**Treasurer | Melissa Robertson, ASP**

The American Society of Safety Professionals (ASSP) Central Valley Chapter provides the opportunity for safety professionals in our community to come together in an effort to support and learn from one another. The knowledge and connections I have gained from the Central Valley ASSP have been valuable to my growth as a safety professional. I am honored to receive your consideration for the position of Treasurer, and look forward to the opportunity to support our chapter and our community.

**Background:**

Melissa holds a B.S. in Environmental/Occupational Health and Safety from California State University, Fresno. She is currently the Safety Director at Kroeker, Inc.

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2020-2021 BOARD MEMBERS

Newly Elected Board Members | The following members will be the 2020-2021 Central Valley Chapter Officers

**Secretary | Elda Brueggemann**

As a member of the American Society of Safety Professionals for the past 2 years I have had the opportunity to engage in the many resources offered. I joined the ASSP Central Valley Chapter in 2019 and have been able to connect with great resources and networking opportunities in safety management. I am honored to receive your support and consideration as Chapter Secretary.

**Background:**

Elda began her safety career in 1991 in the agricultural industry, from handling workers compensation to developing written safety programs and training curriculum. Currently, Elda serves as the Director, Environmental and Safety for the Western Agricultural Processors Association in providing environmental and safety compliance for its members in the tree nut industry. Elda is an executive member and Student Affairs Liaison of the ASSP Central Valley Chapter, member of AgSafe, and member of the Central California Women for Ag.

**Delegate | Ben Cooper, CHST, CIT, CSHO**

With over 15 years in Safety & Regulatory Compliance, Ben offers a valuable perspective to our construction clientele. Ben has earned several certifications and OSHA trainer certification for both Federal and California construction standards.

My goal is to represent my fellow safety professionals in an effective manner and advocate for the needs of our local chapter. I am honored to receive your consideration for the position of Delegate.
U.S. Department of Labor Issues Alert on Social Distancing To Keep Employees Safe at Work During the Coronavirus Pandemic

The U.S. Department of Labor’s Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) has issued an alert listing steps employers can follow to implement social distancing in the workplace and to help protect workers from exposure to the coronavirus.

Safety measures employers can implement include:

- Isolate any worker who begins to exhibit symptoms until they can either go home or leave to seek medical care;
- Establish flexible worksites (e.g., telecommuting) and flexible work hours (e.g., staggered shifts), if feasible;
- Stagger breaks and re-arrange seating in common break areas to maintain physical distance between workers;
- In workplaces where customers are present, mark six-foot distances with floor tape in areas where lines form, use drive-through windows or curbside pickup, and limit the number of customers allowed at one time;
- Move or reposition workstations to create more distance, and install plexiglass partitions; and
- Encourage workers to bring any safety and health concerns to the employer’s attention.

The new alert is available for download in English and Spanish. Visit OSHA’s Publications webpage for other useful workplace safety information.

Department of Labor Issues FAQ Answers About Face Coverings, Surgical Masks and Respirators in the Workplace

“As our economy reopens for business, millions of Americans will be wearing masks in their workplace for the first time,” said Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary for Occupational Safety and Health Loren Sweatt. “OSHA is ready to help workers and employers understand how to properly use masks so they can stay safe and healthy in the workplace.”

The new guidance outlines the differences between cloth face coverings, surgical masks and respirators. It further reminds employers not to use surgical masks or cloth face coverings when respirators are needed. In addition, the guidance notes the need for social distancing measures, even when workers are wearing cloth face coverings, and recommends following the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention’s guidance on washing face coverings.

These frequently asked questions and answers mark the latest guidance from OSHA addressing protective measures for workplaces during the coronavirus pandemic. Previously, OSHA published numerous guidance documents for workers and employers, available at https://www.osha.gov/SLTC/covid-19/, including five guidance documents aimed at expanding the availability of respirators.

For further information and resources about the coronavirus disease, please visit OSHA’s coronavirus webpage.

“It would never happen to me”

Have you ever experienced push-back on PPE or procedures because of this excuse? The next time someone tells you it will never happen to them, remind them of the following quote from the captain of the Titanic, spoken just before sailing.

“When any one asks me how I can best describe my experiences of nearly forty years at sea I merely say uneventful . . . in all my experience I have never been in an accident of any sort worth speaking about . . . I never saw a wreck and have never been wrecked, nor was I ever in any predicament that threatened to end in disaster of any sort. I will say that I cannot imagine any condition which could cause a ship to founder. I cannot conceive of any vital disaster happening to this vessel. Modern ship-building has gone beyond that.”