

SAFETY EMPHASIS

“SAFETY THROUGH EDUCATION”

**A MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE COLUMBIA-WILLAMETTE CHAPTER OF
THE AMERICAN SOCIETY OF SAFETY ENGINEERS**

September 2001

Vol. 22 No. 1

2000-2001 Executive Board

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503/240-2003
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503/209-6188
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Section Chairs:

Santiam Section -

Trudi Tyler
503/378-3274

Mt. St. Helens -

Marsha Holborn
360/414-9113

Safety Emphasis:

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***Our Success as a Chapter
depends on the Participation of our
Volunteers!***

Chapter Meeting September 10, 2001

Bet you thought that since you have workers' compensation insurance you didn't have to worry about being sued.

“For the reasons that follow, we hold that, if a workers' compensation claim alleging an injury to a right that is protected by the remedy clause is denied for failure to prove that the work-related incident giving rise to the claim was the major contributing cause of the injury or condition for which the worker seeks compensation, then the exclusive remedy provisions or ORS 656.018 (1995) are unconstitutional under the remedy clause. Applying that holding to the facts of this case, we reverse the decision of the Court of Appeals and the judgment of the trial court and remand the case to the trial court for further proceedings.” Do you know what this means to you as an employer?

Dennis VavRosky and Stephen Pfeifer, Attorneys at Law with VavRosky, MacColl, Olson, Busch & Pfeifer will be presenting the facts of this case. Both attorneys are specialists in workers' compensation litigation.

Mark your calendars for Monday, September 10, 2001 and plan to attend this informative presentation regarding the Smother's Decision.

Meeting Location: Governor Hotel, 611 SW 10th Street (10th & Alder), downtown Portland
Social Time -5:30 pm - Dinner-6:00 pm - Program-7:00 pm
Next Meeting: Monday, October 8, 2001

Don't forget to RSVP your attendance to the Dinner Meeting by Thursday before to:

**Judy Reschke, 503/205-6690 or email: judyr@christenson.com
RSVP Dinner—\$15.00 ~ ~ ~ Late RSVP/At the Door—\$20.00**

Executive Committee Meeting

The Executive Committee meets on the **4th Monday** of each month at Elmer's, I-205 & Sandy—1001 NE Sandy Boulevard (Parkrose) 503/256-2150. Note change in day.

The next Executive Board Meeting is scheduled for **Monday, September 24, 2001** at 7:30 a.m. All members are invited to attend and participate.

Annual Chapter Planning Meeting Highlights submitted by: **Donna Ritter**

The Annual Planning Meeting was held on July 10, 2001 at the Eastmoreland Golf Club. The meeting was called to order and a quorum was established.

• **2001/2002 Chapter Achievement Award**—The Chapter Achievement Award is an opportunity to be recognized as a super

2000-2001 Committee Chairs	
Past President, Nominating	Phil Lemons
Past President	John Remmers
Past President	Eric Fullan
Past President	Karen Blythe
Past President	Bruce Poinsette
Sub-Committee Chairs:	
Brown-Bag Lunch Series	Dave Parsons
Dinner Meetings	Dave Parsons
GOSH Conference	LaVerne Gray
NAOSH Month	Barbara Aguon
Seminars	Dave Parsons
ASP/CSP Preparation	Clint VanArsdall
Membership / Orientation	OPEN
Internship	Ken Greenhill
By-Laws	Bruce Conrad
Historian	Dan Sabatino
Scholarship	Al Arguedas
SPY Award	Bob Langager
Communications	OPEN
Photography	
Student Sections:	
OSU Student Section Chair	Anthony Veltri
Faculty Advisor	
MHCC Student Section Chair	Javid Mohtasham, PhD
Faculty Advisor	
WA Gov. Indust. Safety & Health Advisory Board	Herb Maxey
Columbia-Willamette Chapter Construction Safety Summit	Curt Charley 503/892-2557
Job Placement Coordinator	Clint Van Arsdall
<i>Send your Resume to:</i>	17107 SE Kelly Portland, OR 97236
Chapter Web Site Address: www.assecwc.org	

chapter. Guidelines were distributed and briefly reviewed. No changes are anticipated from last year's criterion. **Phil Lemons** shared the expectation that ASSE related meetings, including e-mail correspondence, be distributed to every Executive Board Member and a copy placed in the main file.

- **Three Year Long Range Plan**— A copy of the Long Range Plan was distributed and reviewed. Minor changes were made from last year's goals. **Barbara Aguon** requested a two-year proposed Operating Budget verses a one-year proposed budget to reflect Chapter activities that are on a two-year cycle.

- **Review Chapter Budget**— A preliminary review of the Budget was started. The E-Board will complete a final draft on August 27th, and present the Proposed Budget for member approval at the September 10th. Dinner Meeting.

- **Program & Professional Development**— **Dave Parsons** is scheduling two PDC's, 8 dinner topics and at least 9 Brown-Bag Luncheons. The Chapter's 2001-2002 Bent Calendar was set up, incorporating and coordinating the Sections' events.

- **Section Reports - Mt. St. Helens - John Remmers** reported their Section's goals are to address financial funding, focus on membership needs by possibly changing meeting times, make personal telephone contacts and work on funding the ASSE Foundation. **Santiam** - **Alan Samarín** and **Tim McDonald** reported that their Section's goals are to reconcile an accurate listing of members, increase membership, implement a monthly dinner meeting prize and a yearly prize. Possibly

increase topics at monthly dinner meetings from 45 minutes to two-hour or have two-hour topics as part of their PDC.

Committee Reports

- **Safety Emphasis - Judy Reschke** is stepping down from the Editor's position. The Chapter is looking for a new Editor.

Phil Lemons has researched Graphic Expression's involvement to reduce and simplify the Editor's responsibilities.

- **Membership** - Barbara's goal is to promote retention of current Chapter membership and increase participation. Barb would like to continue New Membership Orientations. **Clint Van Arsdall** suggested the Chapter implement "exiting" interviews. The Chapter's Section's membership list will be reconciled with National's List and the updated information passed on to Sections on a quarterly basis.

- **Scholarships** - Seven (7) applications for 2001/2002 scholarships were received. Award recipients: **Mark Giannoble**, CWU and **Hansel R. New**, OSU

- **By-Laws** - **Phil Lemons** and **Shannon Phillips** put together a draft handbook. A committee will be formed and will work on SOP's.

- **NAOSH** - The Chapter is looking for a Committee Chair. **Terry Ellis** has volunteered to assist.

- **Elections** - Time lines were established for next year's elections; 1) Announce candidates in February, 2) Send out ballots March 1st., 3) Conduct candidate presentations in March, and 4) Announce new officers in April. The Chapter needs to quickly identify candidates for 2002/2004 Treasurer's position. The selected candidate will train with **Ken Greenhill** for up to a year before taking office.

- **Government Affairs** - **Bruce Poinsette** will chair this Committee. **Mike Reiner**, **Rosie Neisz**, and **Dan Sabatino** are assisting Bruce.

- **Awards & Honors** - The Chapter considered sending the Past-President to receive the Chapter Achievement Award. Discussion will continue.

- **Construction Safety Summit (CSS)** - The CSS has requested funding. The CSS would be considered a "Practice Specialty" under National ASSE Guidelines. More information is needed and **Curt Charley** will be consulted.

- **Communication Committee** - Investigate having meetings listed in the DJC and Oregonian. **Barbara Aguon** suggested, that as an ASSE Representative working on volunteer projects, along with your current employer credit ASSE as a supporter .

- **Grant Committee** - **Karen Blythe** and **Gregg Bieber** presented an initial draft. The final draft to be presented for approval to the Executive Board on August 27. If approved, the final draft will be presented for membership approval at the September 10 Dinner Meeting.

Executive Committee Meeting Highlights

submitted by: **Donna Ritter**

The Executive Committee Meeting was called to order on Tuesday, July 24, 2001. A quorum was established.

Treasurer Report: Ken Greenhill reported there is \$28,335.43 in checking, and \$86,994.64 in AMEX Money Market Account, a total of \$115,330.07. Annual Budget was reviewed and deferred to the Finance Committee for final revision. It will be presented to Membership on September 10 for approval.

Section Reports: - Santiam - No news to report since Planning Meeting.

Mt. St. Helens: No news to report since Planning Meeting.

Student Sections - No report

Committee Reports:

Professional Development Education: **Dave Parsons** reported the first Chapter PDC is scheduled for October 17. Topic is "Accident Investigation".

Membership: A membership committee was appointed to look at how we can support our members, increase participation and provide meaningful services to the Chapter. This may include developing assessments and/or campaigns for current and new members.

National Update: **Brian Clarke** reported that National is focusing on student support and international involvement.

Awards & Honors: **Brian Clarke** reported that National will only recognize the top three chapters for future Chapter Achievement Awards.

Communication Committee: Members **Bob Langager**, **Mike Benjamin**, **Ken Greenhill**, and **Dan Sabatino** are putting together a plan for the upcoming year.

(A complete copy of the E-Board minutes is available on the Chapter website.)

Section News

Mt. St. Helens Section

The regular monthly meeting of the Mt. St. Helens Section is held the **third Thursday** of each month.

The next Section meeting will be on **Thursday, September 20, 2001** at 7:30 a. m. at the Red Lion, Exit 39, Kelso. For more information, contact **Marsha Holborn, 360/414-9113**.

Our July speaker was **Stan Strickland**, Safety Director of EC Company, an electrical contracting company that has completed major projects throughout the world. Stan is the Chairman of the Construction Safety Summit (CSS). Stan traced the start of the Summit several years ago, prior to affiliation with ASSE. The CSS has recently become recognized as a "Practice Specialty" of the Columbia-Willamette Chapter of ASSE. They meet monthly at JJ North's Buffet off I-205 Bridge. Their meetings are construction industry-oriented technical sessions.

Santiam Section

The regular monthly meeting of the Santiam Section is held the second Tuesday of each month.

The next regularly scheduled Section meeting will be **Tuesday, September 11, 2001**. For time and location, call **Trudi Tyler., 503/378-3274**.

Larry Ferguson, Operations Technician with Williams Gas Pipeline West and **Roger Kuhlman, P. E.** with Salem Electric presented the topic, "**Call Before You Dig**" at our August 7, 2001 meeting. Both staff the Oregon Underground Location Center, which has been established to enable contractors and homeowners to contact a single telephone number to arrange for location services for underground utilities.

It is against the law to do any digging on private or public property any deeper than 12 inches without contacting the call center. Fines up to \$1,000 may be imposed for not calling, in addition to any expenses for repair work. After contacting the center, appropriate locators will visit the property and indicate with markings the location of electric, gas, water, telephone, cable tv and others, using the following color codes:

RED – Electric power lines, cables, conduit and lighting cables

YELLOW – Gas, oil, steam, petroleum and gaseous materials

ORANGE – Communication, alarm, signal lines or cable tv

BLUE – Water, irrigation and slurry lines

GREEN – Sewer

PINK – Survey Markings

WHITE – Proposed excavation (your lines)

PURPLE – Reclaimed water

The steps to follow if you are planning an excavation are

1) Call before you dig - (888) 258-0808

2) Wait the required time (normally 48 – 72 hours)

3) Respect the marks

4) Dig with care

The Oregon Utility Notification Center is staffed with volunteers.

2001 GOSH Update

The 2001 GOSH Conference was a great success thanks to the efforts of Oregon OSHA and many hours of donated time from our Chapter (including Sections) members.

Our proceeds from the Conference exceeded our expectations. **Phil Lemons**, President at the time, appointed a committee to develop recommendations for how the proceeds could be used to promote safety and health efforts.

The '**Grant Committee**' has thoughtfully put together a proposal to present to the Executive Board on August 27. Pending approval of the E-Board, the proposal will be presented to the general membership at the September 10 Dinner Meeting for voting.

Thanks to **Karen Blythe, Brian Clarke, Charlotte Dolan** and **Gregg Bieber** for their teamwork on this.

Intrastate Chapters Meeting

On Wednesday, June 6, the Columbia-Willamette Chapter hosted an Intrastate Meeting of Oregon ASSE Chapters. The half-day meeting brought together members of our Chapter and Sections and several ASSE members from the Cascade Chapter, located in Eugene.

It was a great get-together, in which both current and incoming Chapter and Section officers reviewed a number of items important to all Oregon chapters and members. RVP **Brian Clarke** brought everyone up to date on regional/national ASSE activities; the group discussed successes and challenges in organizing professional development conferences; several special public relations and marketing projects were looked at, and the

meeting closed with a review of where to get helpful ASSE resource material and ideas. Lunch was provided by your Columbia-Willamette Chapter.

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Chapter Achievement Program

Our 2000-2001 Chapter Achievement Petition and Supporting Documentation was hand-delivered (by our Past-President **Phil Lemons**), to our Regional Vice-President, **Brian Clarke**, on Wednesday, August 15, per National ASSE deadline requirements. The Program follows new and more extensive guidelines published this year by National, with a point system for recognizing accomplishments, and qualifications for an award of Chapter Achievement.

In his cover letter to Mr. Clarke, Phil asks that our Chapter be selected as Chapter of the Year (2000-2001) for Region 1, and that our Program be forwarded to National for consideration as ASSE Chapter of the Year, in the large chapter category.

New Officers Program

On Monday, June 18, our Chapter held its annual Officer's Installation Dinner and Program. And what a program it was! Complete with Polynesian entertainers and an elegant Luau dinner. A silent auction for the ASSE Foundation, coordinated by incoming Vice-President **Dave Parsons**, netted over \$600. Chapter member and Region 1 Vice-President, **Brian Clarke**, was presented our Chapter's SPY award for 2000-2001, by outgoing president **Phil Lemons**.

Phil then recapped some of our Chapter and members' accomplishments for the year, and turned the gavel over to our new president for 2001-2002, **Barbara Aguon**. Barb organized the event (as is custom for the out-going President-Elect), and closed the festivities with a call for all members to become, or to remain involved in as many Chapter affairs, activities and events as possible.

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New Member News



Welcome to all recent new members. If you have recently become a new member and are not receiving our mailings, please contact **Judy Reschke, 503/205-6690**.

September

4	Tues	Santiam Section Meeting @ Change of Seasons 7:30 am
5	Wed	Mt. St. Helens E-Board Meeting @ Red Lion/Kelso 12:00 p.m.
7	Fri	Brown-Bag Lunch @11:30 a.m. —1:00 p.m.
10	Mon	Chapter Dinner Meeting @ The Governor Hotel 5:30 p.m.
10	Mon	Safety Emphasis material due
20	Thurs	Mt. St. Helens Membership @Red Lion/Kelso 7:30a.m.
24	Mon	E-Board Meeting @ Elmer's 7:30 a.m.-9:00 a.m.
25	Tues	Construction Safety Summit @ North's Buffet/Gresham 11:30 a.m.
27	Wed	Santiam E-Board Meeting @ Boones Treasury 4:00 p.m.
October		
3	Wed	Mt. St. Helens E-Board Meeting @ Red Lion/Kelso 12:00 p.m.
5	Fri	Brown-Bag Lunch @ 11:30-1:00
8	Mon	Chapter Dinner Meeting Bosses' Night @ The Governor Hotel 5:30 p.m.
8	Mon	Safety Emphasis material due
22	Mon	E-Board Meeting @ Elmer's 7:30 a.m.-9:00 a.m.
23	Tues	Construction Safety Summit @ Tony Roma's/Mall 205 11:30 a.m.

**A Word From
Our President...**

Greetings! This is the first newsletter of the new fiscal year 2001/02. Much planning has already been done to make this a memorable year. We have many opportunities to promote our Chapter, ASSE, and the companies we work for in the community.

Commitment - The Executive Board wants you to feel welcomed and served by our Chapter. I am looking forward to fulfilling a goal to work with a group of folks who are committed to contacting each member during the course of this year. What are you interested in? How can we help you as a member of our Chapter? Are we meeting your expectations (and what are they?)

Where have all the flowers gone? I have personally benefited from many others in the Chapter who were/are willing to coach me, network, mentor and nurture me in the field of safety and health. Many of the faces of our Chapter, have faded into the background over the years. And I would love to see you again.

Participation! - I would like to encourage participation of all members throughout the year. In fact, we are shooting for a goal of 45% participation. WOW! This includes attendance at dinner meetings, brown bag lunches, seminars, helping out on a committee or volunteering your time as a representative of ASSE to another safety organization or event. (Just drop me a line and let me know what you're up to so we can acknowledge your efforts in our year-end report to National ASSE.)

You make a difference. Collectively, we will continue to have a positively, staggering impact on the quality of the working lives of those in our communities.

Thank you! I am honored to represent the Columbia-Willamette Chapter as your President this year.

Sincerely,

Barbara Aguon, ARM
President

