



AMERICAN SOCIETY OF
SAFETY PROFESSIONALS

Utah Chapter

March 2019 Newsletter

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MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD

Happy March everyone! Spring is right around the corner so it's a good time to do some cleaning. I would encourage everyone to look at areas of their workplaces that may have been overlooked during the Winter months. It is a great time to get rid of items that are taking up space, piled up in the corner, or finally showing themselves as the snow melts. Good housekeeping is a factor in reducing overall injuries to employees. A clean workplace is a safer workplace.

It is also a good time to remind everyone of safe driving habits. One of the top workplace fatality causes is motor vehicle accidents. More people take to the roads for Spring Break, holidays, and family vacations. This means those of us driving for work will have more to contend with in the coming months. Be on alert, always wear your seatbelt, be a defensive driver, and reduce distractions while behind the wheel. Stay safe and enjoy the beautiful days ahead!

Danielle Higley, CSP, MPH

AND NOW, A WORD FROM OUR PRESIDENT:

Why We Do What We Do?

Have you ever been asked "Why do you do that? What made you choose safety as a career?"

There are a lot of reasons for what we do. While there may be a couple "wrong" answers (e.g. to rule the world), there are a million "right" answers. It is very rewarding to help someone and teach them a skill that just may save their life. Like the "swiss cheese" model, we try to layer defenses using policy, procedures, protocols, some good old fashion training and even a little common sense. Then, hopefully, we follow-up by verifying and coaching. Sometimes though, even after we do all of that, bad things still happen. All the "holes" in the swiss cheese line up. When that happens many of us feel bad and can question our value and our resolve. We take those failures personally. I'm not here to say that's a bad thing. I believe it's a natural thing, because we are in the profession of caring. Unfortunately, there have been several serious accidents, fatalities and other incidents that have had fatal potential. I just want to encourage everyone to have a firm, steady and caring resolve to continue and set the right example of being safe in all we do so we can go home, to the things that matter most.

I am proud of my association with all you and our chapter officers. As we work in sometime trying circumstances, please know that we care about you and are here if you need someone to reach out and connect with.

I hope everyone has a fabulous spring.

My best,

Dan Fegel

RESULTS FROM ANNUAL FUNDRAISER

On February 21, the ASSP Utah Chapter held its annual Silent Auction fundraiser to benefit our scholarship fund. This year, it was again held at the WCF offices. Over \$3,000 dollars was raised at this year's event.

Thank you to the following:

- Doug Handy, chairman, for leading the effort
- Danielle Higgins for providing the venue and coordinating
- Olive Garden restaurant for providing a delicious spaghetti dinner
- South Jordan Fire for providing the speaker on Emergency Preparedness

Also, thanks to our many sponsors for providing items for the Silent Auction, and our chapter members and their families who made it such a fun and successful event.

Ed Henkels, Newsletter Editor

UPCOMING EVENTS

March Chapter Meeting

Thursday, March 21 from 11:30 AM – 1:00 PM

LDS Hospital, 8th Avenue, C St E, Salt Lake City

Topic: Business Continuity for the Safety Professional

Register: <https://utah.assp.org/events/chapter-meeting-march-2019/>

April Chapter Meeting

Thursday, April 18 from 11:30 AM – 1:00 PM

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

We are always looking to network and find out if there are job openings. The jobs must be in an Environment, Health and Safety function. For example: Fleet Safety Manager, Director of Environmental, Health and Safety, Risk Manager, etc.

We will post the jobs to our website at <https://utah.assp.org/current-openings/>
This is done at no charge, but the chapter always accepts donations to our scholarship fund. Your contribution is appreciated.



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