



AMERICAN SOCIETY OF
SAFETY PROFESSIONALS

Utah Chapter

December 2020 Newsletter

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MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD

The holiday season is my favorite time of the year. The celebrations with friends and family, the food, the giving and receiving of gifts all make the season wonderful. But the real reason I like this time of the year is special feeling around the holidays. Regardless of whether you celebrate Christmas, Hanukkah, Kwanzaa, Festivus, or any of the numerous other religious and non-religious holidays, or no holiday at all, a special feeling pervades. I've always heard it referred to as the Christmas spirit. Scientific American calls the Christmas spirit "the code of generosity, kindness, and charity toward others [that] is enforced by no one other than ourselves." Whatever you call it, it has real power.

In years past, no matter how difficult, challenging, or divisive were the situations going on in the world, I could feel this spirit during the holiday season. The year 2020 has been incredibly difficult and more divisive than any I have ever encountered. With a public health emergency that only seems to be getting worse by the minute, a resulting financial emergency, a presidential election, and seemingly new challenges at every single turn, our society can sure use a break from the difficult and divisive. Our cure now and

always is civility, which is the essence of this holiday spirit. I am hopeful and optimistic that the holidays this year will heal some wounds, draw people and our society together, and help reset and prepare us for the upcoming year (I sure hope 2021 is better than 2020!). We may not be able to enjoy some of the usual activities and celebrations with friends and family due to the pandemic, but we can still enjoy and spread this holiday spirit.

My hope for each of you and the entire human family this holiday season is that we will feel and be a little more thankful, a little more giving, a little more cheerful, and a little more caring towards everyone. That will be the real cure.

The Board hopes you have a safe and wonderful holiday season full of generosity, kindness, and charity. Happy Holidays!

Danny Dilts, Treasurer, ASSP Utah Chapter

MEMBERSHIP UPDATES

Member Spotlight



Name: Brenna Boelter

Where do you work? UBIC

How many years in Safety & Health? 5+

Education: Bachelors Occupational Safety and Health, Columbia Southern University

Certification(s): CSP, ASP

Why did you become a safety professional?

Many moons ago, I was introduced to the safety world when I suddenly had safety responsibilities to handle. As I learned more about the field, I liked what I was doing and made a career out of it. It took me a little longer than most to get started but I'm here now!

What do you like most about your profession?

I enjoy the exchange of information. We all work together to get people home at the end of the day and that gives all safety professionals a unique goal.

A few years ago, a fellow safety professional suggested that I join WISE (Women in Safety Excellence). The passion, knowledge, and dedication to the profession is personified in this group of people. The WISE social media sites that I am apart of are busy with questions, discussions, events, and even personal stories. These are all met with support and enthusiasm. The energy from this group is inspiring!

What are you most proud of in your career?

Getting my CSP this year!

If you could be anything other than a safety professional what would you be?

I would like to be a guide at a national or state park. I could spend my time outside educating others about nature. I would probably get fired quickly through for wandering off on random hikes when I'm supposed to be working.

What do you like to do when you're not working?

I love being outdoors and will hike as much as my schedule will allow. I have a guilty pleasure of watching international baking competitions and then trying new recipes for things I've have not even heard of before.

Thank you Brenna for contributing to Member Spotlight

UPCOMING EVENTS**December Coat Drive**

Drop-off locations, times and dates to be announced in a future email.

January Meeting

January 21, 2020, 11:30am, location: vitual.

NEWS AND ARTICLES

Fall Conference Results

The annual Joint Conference on Safety and Industrial Hygiene, which was virtual this year, was a big success. Over 130 people attended the keynote address and registered for the various sessions. A bonus to those who registered was that all sessions are now available to them on video to watch again. Alternately, if an attendee wanted to see two sessions that were scheduled for the same time, now they can watch the one they missed. Hopefully next year's conference can again be in-person, with some of the enhancements from this year's conference.

Technical Article

Information Technology

In thinking about writing this technical article I've reflected on some of the challenges we face on a regular basis, well the challenges I have had. One that seems to make a regular reoccurrence is information. It could be quantity too little or even too much. Other challenges could be the quality of information and how to make sense of it.

With these questions in mind many of us have looked to vendors that provide either computer based or mobile application-based programs to assist us. Several people I know use multiple programs with the desire to get "relevant" information which provides "actionable" data. For me there two biggest challenges are "relevant" and "actionable." With more and more companies out there how do we know which ones will help?

Here are some steps that I think are helpful:

1. Identify the problem you are trying to solve.
2. Have some solutions in mind.
3. Talk to trusted advisors about your concerns. This is actually where I find great value in the ASSP. We have so many members in our chapter that are very knowledgeable, skilled willing to listen and share from their experience.
4. Get with vendors you have researched.

- a. Share your problem and thoughts on the solutions
 - b. Get their feedback
 - c. Listen to their pitch
 - d. Review solutions
 - e. Ask for references
 - f. Review references
5. When looking at software, it is important to understand the cost and return on investment (ROI).

Technology is getting better and better, there are even great strides being made with Artificial Intelligence. Many people in the chapter know that I have been working with some of these groups for the last couple years. I have worked with the good, the great and not so great. I am excited to see the progress that's being made.

I hope some of this helps and I wish everyone a Merry Christmas and happy holidays.

Dan Fegel, CSP, CSHM

UOSH issues Emergency rule for Face Masks

On November 9, UOSH issued an emergency rule requiring employers to enforce the wearing of face masks to prevent the spread of COVID-19. The rule does specify some exceptions. Employers who do not enforce the wearing of face masks could be cited by UOSH under the rule. For more information, see link below.

<https://laborcommission.utah.gov/divisions/uosh/emergency-rule/>

Career Opportunities

Liberty Mutual Insurance has openings for Risk Control Consultants in several cities, including Salt Lake City. See links below for more information.

<https://utah.assp.org/current-openings/>
<https://jobs.libertymutualgroup.com/search-jobs/?keyword=risk%20control%20services>

Newsletter Contributions

ASSP Utah Chapter Newsletter is published monthly. Contributions or comments regarding the newsletter can be sent to edhenkels401@gmail.com. Include "ASSP Newsletter" in the subject line. Deadline for contributions is the 15th of the month for publication in the next

month's newsletter. Thank You to all those who contributed to this month's newsletter.

Stay safe and healthy out there and, during this pandemic, endeavor to "Think Positive but Stay Negative."

Ed Henkels, Newsletter Editor



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