

October/November 2009

The Beanpot



Newsletter of the American Society of Safety Engineers
Greater Boston Massachusetts Chapter

WELCOME FALL! PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By Thomas A. Rich

Now that summer has come to a close, we are looking forward to a busy fall filled with technical meetings and a December Social with our neighbors to the north, the Granite State Chapter. As always, if you have ideas or suggestions on what could be a good meeting topic or a specific location, please be sure to speak up and let us know.

This past month, the Chapter held our annual Beanpot Open Scholarship Outing (BOSGO) at the wonderful Blissful Meadows Golf Club in Uxbridge, MA. Though we had few less players than in past years, we still managed to hold a successful tournament here all those that did attend had a great time. I would like to offer many thanks to our Past President for his continued support in making sure this tournament was a success. My thanks to Remi Fleurette for his dedication to the chapter and for making this event such a success!

Please be sure to check out the events section of our website, www.asseboston.com, for a listing of the Technical Meetings that are going to place over the next few months. We held our first technical meeting on October 22nd. The topic, "Workers' Compensation Costs – An In-Depth Analysis on How to Reduce Your Experience Modification Factor." We appreciated the turnout of members and guests attending the meeting, and we are looking forward to seeing you on November 18 for our next technical meeting. Check out the website for details. I hope to see you there!

Be Safe!

Tom Rich

Greater Boston Chapter President 2009-2010



10th ANNUAL BEANPOT OPEN GOLF SCHOLARSHIP OUTING

By Remi Fleurette, Past President

Clouds and cool weather aside, 45 golfers made the journey on September 17th to Blissful Meadows Golf Club in Uxbridge, MA to participate in the 10th Annual Beanpot Open Scholarship Golf Outing (BOSGO). Over the years, the BOSGO has been a wonderful event helping the chapter fund scholarships awards on a local level and through the ASSE Foundation. This year's event raised just under \$3,000 to help support our scholarship efforts.





The Greater Boston Chapter would especially like to thank our sponsors:

Program Sponsor
Atlantic Charter Insurance

Hole Sponsors
AJ Abrams Company, Inc.
Walsh Brothers Construction
Pike Industries
Boston Claims Management Company
Regional Reporting Inc.

We look forward to seeing all of you back next year!



HAPPY 85TH BIRTHDAY TO THE BOSTON CHAPTER!

Originally Chartered: October 2, 1924
 An Organization Dedicated to Over **85** Years of
 Protecting People, Property and the Environment!

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

By Kathy Wunschel, VP Chapter Development

One of the most exciting things that can happen within our Chapter is growth! The Greater Boston Chapter of ASSE is fortunate to have a number of new members since the beginning of 2009. Please join me in extending a warm welcome to:

Edward Akerley	Angelo Bertolino
Christine Boudouris	William Brown
Scott Brown	Maria Brunette
Jason Carima	Harold Connell
Jonathan Duffy	Arthur Dumont
Frederick Dusseault	Jason Edic
Neil Feinberg	Joseph Finnegan
Gloria Foley	Homero Harari
Michael Malue	Luz Marin
Daniel Nicoll	Charles Osgood
Joseph Richwagen	Carl Ryan
Richard Sestokas	Michael Uccello
Colleen Walsh	Mark Williams





BOSTON CHAPTER MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

By Kathy Wunschel, VP Chapter Development

ABOUT OUR CHAPTER

The Greater Boston Chapter is among the largest within ASSE and includes nearly 500 safety, health, and environmental professionals in and around the Boston area. The Chapter provides localized membership services, networking and professional development opportunities through technical meetings and volunteer activities. In keeping with our mission, the GBC:

- Develops and/or promotes educational programs
- Disseminates information and materials that serve the purpose of the chapter and public
- Facilitate networking opportunities for members
- Conduct other activities that reflect the standards, purposes and objectives of the ASSE

GBC VITAL STATISTICS

To become a member of the GBC, one must be a member of ASSE. As the new program year begins on July 1, the GBC boasts some impressive statistics:

- 483 members!
- 56 members in the Ocean State (RI) section
- 9 student members in our UMass Lowell student section
- Greater than 46% have maintained continuous ASSE membership for longer than 10 years
- 3 long service members who have been with the chapter 30+ years:
 - John Fresina - August 1963
 - George Franklin – May 1969
 - David Hirvamaki – August 1969
- 11 members (2.2%) are registered with ASSE in Emeritus status (retired)
- 26 new members have joined the GBC this year

Featured Members Article

Creating and Deploying a Multi-Site Human Factors Standard Operating Procedure

By George R. Batchelder, CSP

When an organization determines and communicates requirements, that action and intent tend to establish organizational policy. And, in order to implement policy across an organization, a standard operating procedure (SOP) is often used. In property protection, a Highly Protected Risk is an organization with high level of property protection, incorporating physical elements and human factor elements resulting in a much lower than normal probability of loss (International Risk Management Institute, Inc.). A human factors SOP deployed across multi-sites can be a challenge. It needs to be created and appropriate to the different locations, yet consistent to the organizational goals. Choosing a minimum standard with flexibility for local authorities can be a daunting task, especially when considering federal, state, local, insurance and other authority's needs. Research and local buy-in is necessary for efficient deployment throughout the organization.

Background

Human factors elements refer to non-physical property protection measures. Physical elements are fixed physical systems such as an automatic fire suppression system. The human factors element refers to something that human must do in order to complement or compensate for physical property protection features or deficiencies. Examples may include a flood plan; hot work permitting system; or the inspection, testing and maintenance of fire suppression systems.

Minimum Standard

Often the driver is a property protection insurance carrier – who will provide guidance. Laws, rules, local ordinances, and consensus standards (NFPA for example) may also be useful. A review of those requirements in each country where your organization operates is essential. Additionally, international sections of major safety associations (such as ASSE!) can be a great help, as are web based translation programs. I recommend that the organization sets the minimum standard at the most restrictive standard. I also suggest that the organization add a statement that will require the implemen-

ter to review local ordinances and determine if there are additional local requirements.

SOP Common elements

Using a modified "S-M-A-R-T objective" (ANSI/AIHA Z10-2005) will help you clearly define the desired outcomes. The SOP should provide the answers to Who, What, Where, When, How, Why.

Simplified examples of common elements:

- Why: "To ensure the automatic fire protection system works when needed"
- Who: "Site general manager is responsible for implementing all elements of this SOP"
- What: "All fire suppression control valves and fire pumps are to be inspected per appendix B..."
- Where: "All xxx company locations worldwide with automatic fire suppression systems"
- When: "Inspection on a weekly basis and testing on a monthly basis per table 1 in appendix A"
- How: "trained facilities personnel or qualified contractors will..."

Other essential parts to include in a SOP

Definitions section: Since this is a new procedure you want everyone involved to understand the first time. Often with our time demands, if we read something for the first time and see a word we do not understand we just skip over it and that part is lost to us. The definition section in the front of the SOP will help take the mental roadblocks out of the text.

Reference section: You did the research - show it, it will help emphasize that it is not just an organizational need, but required by additional authorities. Best to put on the front section, so the person responsible for implementing the SOP will see it right off.

Supporting document: Do not just send out an SOP. Support it fully. Have the references available to the sites to research should they want it. Have charts and tables for others to understand the requirements and alternatives (if any). Have training packages ready to go for all levels. Have checklist examples to help document actions taken. Have an annual audit sheet so the sites will understand how they will be held accountable. Have contact information for the sites to call if there is a conflict.

Buy-in Techniques

Involve the sites- send out a draft and ask for their input. Answer and acknowledge their concerns, it may be that you cannot do what they want, but at least hear them and give reasons. Having seen it in advance may make it easier to accept, even if they do not like it.

Look at the budget cycle. If the SOP will have impact on OI (operating income), suggest a phased-in implementation so that related actions and activities can be planned and budgeted. For example, you might use an in-house training period (perhaps using your insurance carrier), qualification of vendors, etc. Budgeting is an essential element of the business process and it is imperative that safety professionals work within the organization's financial parameters.

Support the SOP process. Launch and forget will surely fail...follow up calls to the stakeholders, re-send supporting documents, assist with talking to local authorities, involve insurance carriers. Assist sites with financial support requests for out of cycle budget expenses. Conduct a mock audit at six months. Acknowledge sites that are doing well, in your organization's newsletter for example.

The human factors SOP is a valuable tool to guide the implementation of specific outcomes of your organization's policy. By determining a common minimal standard, incorporating the common elements and working to obtain buy in from the sites, you will assist your organization in reaching a higher level of property protection.



ASSE REGION VIII NEW ENGLAND AREA

11th Annual Professional Development Conference (PDC) and Exposition

December 1-2, 2009, Sturbridge Host Hotel and
Conf. Center, Sturbridge, Massachusetts

Registration, Vendor/Sponsor Form, and Call for
Speaker Form now available online at: [ASSE New
England Area Website](#)



SALUTE TO THE GBC PAST PRESIDENTS

By Dave Crowley

History, historians! Much has been written about the history of our country, our State capital and our beginnings as a free nation. Likewise, much has been written about the history of safety from long ago and much has also been written on the history of safety for the ASSE Greater Boston Chapter. The Greater Boston Chapter has been blessed with leadership from the beginning and today, ASSE's Greater Boston organization is one of the strongest local chapters in existence!

From the days of the industrial revolution of the 1700's clear through to the 1800's, Massachusetts has made a mark on safety in society. As early as 1867, Massachusetts had begun to use factory inspectors. Ten years later the state passed a law requiring employers to safeguard hazardous machinery. During 1877, Massachusetts also passed the Employer's Liability Law making employers liable for damages when a worker was injured. As years passed into a new century, lawmakers among others fought hard for workplace safety measures.

In 1910, the first bill for workers' compensation was passed in New York – but it was thrown out one year later. The same day this bill was judged as being unconstitutional, March 25th, 1911, was the same exact day a devastating fire broke out in New York City's Triangle clothing factory. This fire has become known as the Shirtwaist Triangle Clothing Factory Fire, which killed 146 employees - - mostly women. This event prompted the first laws requiring things like fire escapes and emergency exits. Unfortunate events such as this prompted engineers and insurance professionals to band together for a common cause – workplace safety.

The Greater Boston Chapter of ASSE formed during the spring of 1924 a group of 54 members of the Massachusetts Safety Council held an organization meeting billed as the "Need of an Engineering Section". This assembly led by General E. L. Sweet formed the Engineering Section of the Mass. Safety Council. Eventually this group of safety professionals formed the ASSE Boston Chapter. Frank E. Morris was selected as the Chairman for the first term of office as Chapter President. This was the beginning of a long string of Chapter leaders that are listed below:

Chapter Presidents Of the 1920's

Frank E. Morris	1924
John E. Walters	1925
C. Earle Sevrens	1926
Thomas J. Whelan	1927
Roger K. Buxton	1928
Eugene E. Place	1929

Chapter Presidents of the 1930's

Alexander Lackey	1930
William A. Coolidge	1931
Frederick A. Washburn	1932
Everett F. King	1933
Francis P. Conway	1934
William J. Urquhart	1935
John F. McCurdy	1936
Hermann Behr	1937
Russell C. Tirrell	1938
George Alexander	1939

Chapter Presidents of the 1940's

Vincent G Pendleton	1940
Charles T Williamson	1941
Frederick J Graf	1942
Robert B McLaughlin	1943
Eugene R Swanson	1944
Paul C Lamb	1945
Walter H Marx	1946
Robert Clair	1947
Robert Clair	1948
Clifton N Fogg	1949

Chapter Presidents of the 1950's

Howard W Kemp	1950
H Lee Donley	1951
Robert A Devlin	1952
Arthur G Lazarus	1953
Henry F McKenna Jr.	1954
Mark J Dondero Jr.	1955

Robert R Conroy	1956
James D Wynne	1957
Charles W Parrott	1958
Ferdinand F Schroth	1959

Chapter Presidents of the 1960's

Clinton L Pendleton	1960
Carl G Moberger	1961
Gerald W. DuWors	1962
Walter W. Forsberg	1963
A. Richard Daniels.	1964
Ernest W. Chadwick	1965
Robert F. Peoples	1966
John W. Gurry	1967
Ludy J. Benfiglio	1968
Eric W. Spencer	1969

Chapter Presidents of the 1970's

Frank H. LaBiaux	1970
John M. Fresina	1971
Norman Reece	1972
Peter Kostic	1973
George Murphy	1974
Clyde C. Duggan	1975
Russell W. Besser	1976
John P. Perry	1977
Norman LaMontagne	1978
Gari T. Gatwood	1979

Chapter Presidents of the 1980's

Kenneth King	1980
Fred Stearns	1981
Alfred Sidel	1982
Rickard Chutoransky	1983
Philip Goldsmith	1984
Edward Bonaccurso	1985
Lawrence Graves	1986
Steven Baier	1987
Gary Slep	1988
Thomas Crupi	1989

Chapter Presidents of the 1990's

Jim Johnson	1990
Richard Gordon	1991
Valerie Lowe	1992
Donald Olesen	1993
John Popp	1994
Thomas Bochart	1995
Joel Myerson	1996
David Pierpont	1997

James Rowlings	1998
Roger Foster	1999

Chapter Presidents of the 2000's

John Spath	2000
Michael Murray	2001
Anthony Schiavi	2002
Eric Stager	2003
David Crowley	2004
Margarita Lobaton	2005
Remi Fleuette	2006
Remi Fleuette	2007
Adam Sotirakopoulos	2008
Thomas Rich	2009



ASSE OFFERS MORE THAN \$100,000 IN SCHOLARSHIPS

By Michael Sample

The ASSE Foundation has recently announced the availability of more than \$100,000 in scholarships and professional development grants for the 2010 academic year. Included in that total are two \$2,500 scholarships offered by the Greater Boston Chapter.

You can learn more about ASSE's scholarships by reviewing the enclosed link:

<http://www.asse.org/newsroom/release.php?pressRelease=1328>

More on the GBC sponsored scholarships will be posted our website (www.asseboston.com) in the near future!



RECOGNIZE THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF FELLOW BOSTON CHAPTER MEMBERS

Member of the Quarter Nominations
By Kathy Wunschel

Would you like to recognize a fellow member of the Greater Boston Chapter for their contributions? Here's your opportunity! GBC members who have made notable contributions to the chapter may be recognized through our "Member of the Quarter" program.

Candidates for nomination may include any Greater Boston Chapter in good standing. Ideally, those nominated should have taken initiative to improve the chapter or have demonstrated consistently superior performance in their service to the chapter. Nominations are welcomed and encouraged from all chapter members.

The nomination process is simple. Send the member's name and a brief description about why you are nominating this individual to: VP Chapter Development, kwunschel@metlife.com, and Awards & Honors Chair, Eugenia Kennedy, ekennedy@exponent.com.

The Awards & Honors Committee will evaluate all MOQ nominations and select award recipients. The Member of the Quarter will be recognized at the annual social (usually held in June). First quarter nominations are requested by October 31, 2009.



JOB SEARCH ASSISTANCE

ASSE has replaced the former Job line service with a new, more powerful employment tool. The new service is called Nexsteps - for job seekers and for companies looking to fill EHS positions. Browse through current positions or post a job listing for your company. The Nextsteps website offers greater access to new job opportunities, so visit today at: www.nexsteps.org. In addition, the Greater Boston Chapter posts positions that may be of interest to members on the Chapter's website. To see current postings, go to: www.asseboston.com/jobposting.htm. To place a posting, please contact Steve Maffettone at Steve_Maff@members.asse.org.

UPDATE YOUR ASSE CONTACT INFO

GBC sends almost all communication electronically these days. Unfortunately, we have either no email address or bad email addresses for about 15% of GBC members. Our roster (for electronic mailings) comes from headquarters. To remain informed of chapter meetings, activities, events, and to continue receiving this newsletter, your contact information must be up-to-date with ASSE. To join or renew your membership – or to update your contact information - please visit www.asse.org or contact the ASSE Customer Service department at 847.699.2929. If you have questions or specific feedback regarding the Boston Chapter, please contact any of our [Committee](#) members. We appreciate the continued commitment of all of our members to ASSE and the Greater Boston Chapter!

NEWSLETTER ARTICLES AND SUBMISSIONS

The Greater Boston Chapter welcomes members to submit technical articles, committee updates and information about upcoming events for inclusion in our newsletter, "*The Beanpot*". Submissions for the next edition of the newsletter are welcome through October 31st! Articles should be submitted to Bryan Murray at murray_bryan@emc.com. Please make sure to include "ASSE GBC" in the subject box!



MEMBERS WANTED FOR VOL- UNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

The Greater Boston ASSE is dedicated to providing its members with quality technical programs, and professional resources through networking. The efforts of dedicated volunteers help to assure the quality of services remains first rate. Volunteers are always needed and welcome to dig in.

Volunteering need not require a huge contribution of time. The reality of the current Chapter needs are that many times that volunteers could assist in discreet activities. Help coordinating a technical meeting, contributing a newsletter article, arranging a facility tour, or helping to keep members informed of a developing issue in the EHS profession are all short time commitments that benefit everyone.

Volunteering provides a sense of contribution to the profession, and chapter members benefit from the various talents of the volunteers. The GBC ASSE asks that you consider sharing your particular talent with us.

If you would like to volunteer, please contact Tom Rich, (Chapter President), Kristin Hoffman (Chapter President Elect) or other Executive Board members to express your interest. Your participation is greatly appreciated.

ASSE GBC EXECUTIVE BOARD 2009-2010



President
Tom Rich
trich@walshbrothers.com

President-Elect
Kristin Hoffman
Hoffmak4@wyeth.com

VP Bylaws & Planning
Roger Foster
roger.foster@quebecorworld.com

VP Chapter Development
Kathleen Wunschel
katwun@comcast.net

VP Communications
Bryan Murray
Bryan_murray@emc.com

VP Finance
Donald Royer
Don.royer@oldcastleprecast.com

VP Government Affairs
Adam Sotirakopoulos
Adam.sotirakopoulos@enel.com

VP Member Services
Mark Brown
mbrown@nerconstruction.com

Secretary
Richard DiBona
richdibona@members.asse.org

Past President
Remi Fleurette
rfleurette@pkeating.com

House of Delegates
Remi Fleurette and Bryan Murray