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Contact an Officer or visit the NEIL website to
get involved in NEIL today!
www.neil.asse.org

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Sixty-five members and guests attended our last meeting on November 21; that amounts to almost 24% of NEIL member participation! That is just outstanding! Few if any ASSE Chapters have that kind of member participation at a chapter meeting. A survey of attending members' pulse showed some of the reasons for this high level of participation: member notification including e-vite and NEIL Newsletters, speaker and the topic of discussion, time (lunch) of the meeting and active interaction among the peers. We will continue to invite outstanding speakers; so keep coming to NEIL meetings for learning, friendship and fun.

If you missed the November meeting please note it was video taped. So look out for the link that will be published on www.neil.asse.org and next month's NEIL Newsletter for viewing.

During the last meeting we discussed some of the benefits of being an ASSE member including:

- Professional Safety Journal and other safety resources such as - BOK
- Monthly Chapter Meetings
- Annual Professional Development Conference PDC
- Annual Chicagoland Safety Conference
- Leadership and Networking Opportunity
- Awards and Scholarships & access to Professional Safety Jobs

Our next NEIL Chapter meeting is December 12, 2014 due to holidays and it will be an annual food bank event at the Northern Illinois Food Bank in Geneva IL. At this volunteer event our members and guests will be donating their time and effort re-packing food to be delivered those in need. It's our members' opportunity to give a supporting hand during this holiday season to those in need and remembering how someone supported us when we really needed supporting hand.

So get engaged; give a hand to those in need. There is no cost for coming to this meeting as NEIL and Three River Chapters will pay for the lunch. Enjoy the friendship and comradery while having fun helping the Food Pantry.

Mike Saujani

President, NEIL Chapter, ASSE

2014 – 15 MEETING CALENDAR

Date	Time lunch / dinner Cost	Location	Topic	Speaker(s)
December 12	9:00am Volunteer Event	Geneva, IL	Northern IL Food Bank	Rick Pokorny 312-496-9653
January 16	12:00 Noon Lunch / \$25	Maggiano's / Woodfield	OSHA Update	Candra Jefferson, OSHA
February 20	12:00 Noon Lunch / \$25	Maggiano's / Woodfield	Round Table Discussions	TBD
March 20	12:00 Noon Lunch / \$25	TBD	Field Trip – Underwriters Laboratories	Todd Honn & Mike Brown Underwriters Lab 615-557-3977
April 17	12:00 Noon Lunch / \$25	Maggiano's / Woodfield	Student Day, Elections & Member Recognition Awards	NIU Student Presentations
May 15	12:00 Noon Lunch / \$25	Maggiano's / Woodfield	Ergonomic Seminar	Barrington Orthopedics
June TBD	12:00 Noon Lunch	Maggiano's / Woodfield	Planning mtg.	NEIL Exec Board
June 7-10	Safety 2015	Dallas, TX	PDC	www.safety2015.org

MEETINGS & EVENTS

The December general NEIL meeting will be Friday, December 12 at the Northern Illinois Food Bank, 273 Dearborn Court, Geneva, IL, 60134. Lunch will be at Noon and will be followed by our members volunteering to assist in packaging food for those in need.

Please pre-register for either meeting by responding to the Evite or sending an email to Dow Carter (dow.carter@abbott.com). There is no cost for the December meeting.

DECEMBER MEETING INFORMATION

We are holding our annual food bank event at the Northern Illinois Food Bank in Geneva, IL on Friday December 12, 2014. This is a joint meeting with the Three Rivers Chapter of ASSE. We will be re-packaging food to be delivered to pantries across northern Illinois. Members can also donate food or money to assist in feeding those served by the Northern Illinois Food Bank. For every dollar donated, eight dollars in meals can be generated. The NEIL Chapter will be donating \$500 to NIFB this year.

In 2013, thirty members of the NEIL and the Three Rivers Chapters of ASSE worked to provide the equivalent of 8,450 meals through their volunteer efforts at the Northern IL Food Bank. We thank those members who donated their time and effort for this worthy cause! We hope to generate more than 9,000 meals in 2014.

JOBS

Check the jobs page on the NEIL website for a listing of job openings.

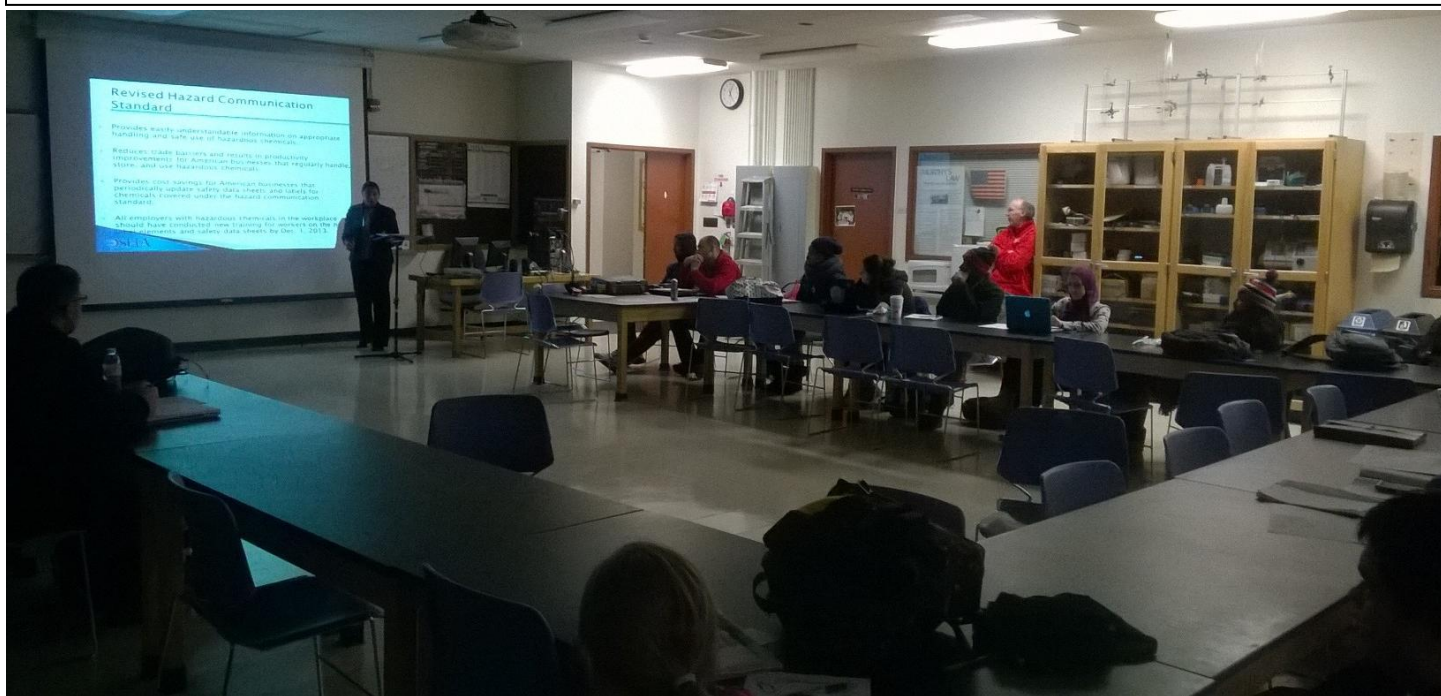
<http://neil.asse.org/jobs.php>

NIU ASSE HUSKIE SECTION NEWS

By: Charlie Vasconez

Student Section Liason

On November 18, 2014, the ASSE Huskie Student Section welcomed Candra Jefferson. Candra is a Compliance Assistant Specialist from the OSHA Aurora Office. Candra spoke to the students about OSHA facts and how it is made to help organizations stay safe. Many students learned that they can turn to OSHA for standard safety programs and safety audits to be implemented at their facility in the future. At the end, Candra gave her information to the students to be contacted for advice and information on OSHA internships.



SOCIETY SPOTLIGHT – PRACTICE SPECIALTIES

Are you getting everything you can from your ASSE membership? Are you a member of a Practice Specialty, Branch or Common Interest Group? ASSE offers nineteen (19) Practice Specialties, four Branches, and four Common Interest Groups. Each month we will feature a Practice Specialty, Branch, and/or Common Interest Group to help our members better understand what's available to make the most of their membership. This month: Training & Communication.

The Training & Communications Practice Specialty (T&C) covers topics such as instructional design, adult learning, e-learning, training diverse workforces and training and communications best practices within the SH&E field. The T&C Branch was established in 2005 and became a Practice Specialty in 2013. T&C develops rich technical content delivered through *The Communicator*, conference material, virtual events and much more. T&C is led by a strong volunteer advisory committee that is available to help members learn and grow. T&C also offers several networking opportunities for members to take advantage of. T&C membership is open to all ASSE members.

Here are some of the member benefits offered by the Training & Communications practice specialty:

- Industry-focused networking via LinkedIn, Facebook, conference calls and annual face-to-face [meetings](#).
- Triannual electronic technical publications via email and access to publication archives.
- Access to [interviews](#) with top industry professionals.
- Publication opportunities.
- Advisory committee guidance and advice.
- Volunteer and leadership opportunities.
- Discounts on group-sponsored [webinars](#).
- Sponsorship on [conference](#) speaking proposals.
- Mentoring services.

The latest issue of “*The Communicator*” is attached with the newsletter. Want to know more? Visit the [T&C page HERE](#) and get more out of your ASSE membership.



From the Editor

December is traditionally a month of celebrations: The Christmas season gets into full gear after Thanksgiving and builds Christmas, closing with New Year's Day. But December is also a month that has seen some of the greatest tragedies in history. December 1 was the 56th anniversary of the Our Lady of The Angels fire which took the lives of 92 students and 3 nuns in the west side Chicago Catholic school in 1958. The month ends with the December 30 anniversary of the 1903 Iroquois Theatre Fire which took at least 602 lives in the Chicago Theater District. The Iroquois fire is especially tragic considering it is deadliest theater and single-building fire in U.S. History yet there is no marker on the site of the fire to commemorate the tragedy; instead, the event is memorialized in Chicago's City Hall. Between these two events, on both the calendar and in years is the day that will live in infamy, December 7, 1941.

It is important that we remember the lives lost in all three of these events so they will not have died in vain. The Iroquois Theatre was believed to be fire proof, much like the Titanic was unsinkable, but the lessons learned from the fire resulted in sweeping changes to fire and building codes including the installation of panic bars and out-swinging doors on public buildings. Our Lady of The Angels also resulted in nation-wide changes to improve fire safety in schools, including to elimination of many grandfather clauses that had not required schools to retrofit to a new standard if they already met previous standards.

Despite these tragedies, buildings continue to be out of code and people continue to perish. The February, 2003 E2 Nightclub stampede in Chicago resulted in 21 deaths when patrons were unable to exit through in-swinging doors. Three days later, 100 patrons died in the Station Nightclub fire in Rhode Island when they were unable to escape through improperly arranged exit.

During the holiday season stores, theaters, restaurants, and even our homes are more crowded with people, decorations, presents, and let's not forget candles. Don't let safety take a holiday. Look around the stores, restaurants, and theaters you visit; do you know the best way out? Look around your house, is it fire safe? The Holiday season should be joyful and by remaining aware of our surroundings, we set the PASE for safety, with a Positive Attitude and Safety Everyday.

Don Phillips
NEILetter Editor



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Photos

Left: IL-113 looking west from I-55

Right: Melissa's cousin's tool shed turned tree house

Bottom: Diamond, IL looking west toward Coal City