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Contact an Officer or visit the NEIL website to  
get involved in NEIL today!  
[www.neil.asse.org](http://www.neil.asse.org)

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

On behalf of the NEIL Board, thank you for unanimously voting to increase the NEIL Chapter dues by \$5 as recommended by the Executive Committee to help in balancing the budget. The motion from the Board to increase the Chapter dues was passed by thirty five members voting "yes" with no negative vote.

We received very good feedback from our Round Table Discussions during our last Chapter meeting, suggesting this should be an annual event. The speakers were outstanding and were able to engage members in the discussions.

One presentation was Global Safety Vision for safety professionals. I was born in Uganda, Africa and I understand how important it is to make sure our friends all over the world apply proper safety techniques. I investigated an accident when an African tribesman put his leg inside a cotton ginning machine just for curiosity! What a shame! I see the following regarding global safety:

- Global Employee Safety Standards
- Consistent Global Legal Interpretation of Safety Standards
- Global UN Enforcement Authority
- Clear, Consistent Employee Understanding of Global Safety Standards
- Employees all over the world applying safety consistently

Our March 20 NEIL meeting is a tour of Underwriters Laboratories guided by Michael Brown, Global EHS Manager and Todd Hohn, CSP. Global Director - Workplace H&S. During our April 17 meeting we will elect officers for 2015-16 and the NIU Students will have presentations covering new ideas in Environmental Safety. On May 15, NEIL will offer half a day Ergonomic Seminar starting 8.30 AM and presenting three outstanding presenters: an Ergonomist, a Physical Therapist and a Lawyer showing how you can prevent or manage ergonomic issues such as soft tissue injuries in your businesses.

Please check out the newsletter web site ([www.neil.asse.org](http://www.neil.asse.org)) for details. Come and enjoy the outstanding programs being planned for you: UL tour, Student Presentations, and Ergonomics. Come for fun, friendship and food and a bit of learning as well.

Mike Saujani  
President, NEIL Chapter, ASSE

## JANUARY MEETING INFORMATION

**NEIL Monthly Meeting** – The March, 2015 NEIL Technical meeting will be Friday, March 20 at Underwriter’s Laboratories in Northbrook (333 Pfingsten Rd, Northbrook, IL 60062), follow the signs to building 11. The NEIL Board will meet at 11:30 followed by lunch at 12:00 Noon.

Please pre-register for by responding to the Evite or sending an email to Dow Carter ([dow.carter@abbott.com](mailto:dow.carter@abbott.com)). Cost for the meeting is \$25 if pre-registered or \$30 for walk-ins.

## 2014 – 15 MEETING CALENDAR

Date	Time Meal / Cost	Location	Topic	Speaker(s)
March 20	12:00 Noon Lunch / \$25	TBD	Field Trip – Underwriters Laboratories	Todd Honn & Mike Brown Underwriters Lab
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	<a href="http://www.safety2015.org">www.safety2015.org</a>

The March meeting will include an overview of UL and a tour of the facilities hosted by Michael Brown and Todd Hohn. We will also have nominations for the 2015-2016 officers.

The April 17 meeting will include student presentations by the NIU Section Members and will be attended by Dr. Promod Vohra, Dean of the College of Engineering Technology at Northern Illinois University in De Kalb.

# NEILetter



ASSE Northeastern Illinois Chapter

March, 2015

## MEMBER RECOGNITION

### March ASSE Anniversaries

David Berg – 35 years (February)

Nick Shamsipour – 10 years (February)

Coleen Cook – 5 years

**Thank you for your service and dedication to ASSE and the Safety profession!**

### Welcome New Members

Abigail Scott – KA Steel Chemicals

Michael Themanson

## NIU SECTION NEWS

NIU Students will be showcasing their talents on April 17 at the monthly NIEL meeting with their annual Student Presentations. Dr. Promod Vohra, Dean of the College of Engineering Technology at Northern Illinois University in De Kalb will also be in attendance at the April meeting.



## NEIL CHAPTER NEWS

### Newsletter Address

Do you have information for the newsletter? Please send it to:

[safetydon@hotmail.com](mailto:safetydon@hotmail.com)

I have changed jobs and this is my ONLY e-mail address for ASSE & NEIL.

[safetydon@hotmail.com](mailto:safetydon@hotmail.com)

### Chicagoland Safety, Health & Environment Conference News

Planning has started for the 2015 CSH&EC. Is there a topic you'd like to see covered, let us know. Contact Rich Rapacki, Sheri Lesak or Don Phillips with your suggestions.

The CSH&EC was started by the NEIL Chapter more than 26 years ago and has grown into a premier regional conference, attracting attendees from near and far. The conference is sponsored by:

- ASSE NEIL Chapter
- ASSE Three Rivers Chapter
- ASSE Greater Chicago chapter
- AIHA Chicago Chapter
- AHMO Chicago Chapter

The 27<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference will take place September 21-24 at the Naperville Campus of Northern Illinois University. For more information, visit [www.chisafetyconf.org](http://www.chisafetyconf.org).

## JOBS

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

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

## Chapter Elections

### **It's Election Season!**

We are seeking nominations for chapter office. Nominations will be accepted at the March meeting for President Elect and Treasurer. Rich Petite is Nominations Chair, however nominations will be accepted from the floor at the March meeting. If you are interested or know of someone who is interested in running for office, please contact Rich or make the nomination from the floor. Please don't nominate someone if you haven't asked them. Responsibilities of each office are available on the society website at [www.asse.org](http://www.asse.org).

## MEETINGS & EVENTS

### **Partner organization meetings**

**ASSE Greater Chicago** – Friday, April 14; 11:30 AM; Student Presentations. Cucina Biagio, 7313 Lawrence, just west of Harlem [RSVP here](#)

**ASSE Three Rivers** – Friday, April 14, 11:30am – 1:30pm; ASSE members: \$25, Non-Members \$40; Lisle Hilton, 3003 Corporate West Drive, Lisle, IL 60532. Disaster Preparedness for Business presented by the DuPage Office of Homeland Security. For additional information contact Brenda Allard: [threerivers.asse@gmail.com](mailto:threerivers.asse@gmail.com) or go to <http://threerivers.asse.org/events/>.

### **Have you attended a Chapter Meeting Lately?**

*By Don Phillips, Editor*

I recently saw a post on Facebook by a friend who is a professional recruiter. She was asking where people look when they are job or career hunting. The responses are what you would expect: LinkedIn, Indeed, Career Builder, etc. I added the ASSE Job Boards, both national and local to the list. But we all know the best way to find a career: **NETWORKING**. There is no substitution for the human touch and what better place to network in the safety profession than your local chapter. Whether your considering a move or looking for talent, NEIL meetings are currently drawing 40 or more attendees every month. It's also a great source of information when you have that question you just can't answer. Some of the area's greatest safety talent gathers every month at Maggiano's at Woodfield Mall. Come for the food, stay for the knowledge, experience, and **networking!**



## Spotlight – Partner Newsletter

*Normally this section features an ASSE Practice Specialty. This month we are taking a break and featuring a newsletter from a partner organization. Jim Sharp is a former co-worker of our Editor (Don Phillips) and Vice President of AEGIS Emergency Management. Jim was a presenter at the 2013 Chicagoland Safety and Health Conference and the March edition of his newsletter, SitRep, is attached for your review. SitRep is a free subscription and subscription information is included in the newsletter. You may want to check out the article on page 3. The Practice Specialty spotlight will return in April.*

## From the Editor

I Heard I Was In Town is the title of a Jimmy Buffett song I'm particularly fond of. Being a Parrott Head, it should come as no surprise that I identify with several Buffett tunes but over the last few weeks, this one has been particularly relevant. I received an e-mail from a colleague in Atlanta reporting he heard I was moving to Texas. I received another asking when I was moving out of Illinois and wishing me luck. I have received several asking if MCI was glad to have me back and a few Facebook posts congratulating me on my retirement. To paraphrase Mark Twain: the rumors of my (fill in your favorite story here) have been greatly exaggerated.

Here are the facts: my last day working for the City of Naperville was February 27, my first day with PSAV ([www.psav.com](http://www.psav.com)) was March 2. I was not fired or laid off, I gave 2-weeks notice, and I'm not retired. Well, maybe if you count those two days between jobs, but I digress. I'm not moving to Las Vegas to become Rick Harrison's stunt double on Pawn Stars (OK, I started that one). I'm not giving up my SafetyDon, it was the sponsor of the February Meeting even though I wasn't there, and I'm not leaving NEIL.

So why, exactly, do I think any of you care? Because, as Jimmy said, I heard I was in town. It amazes me the number of rumors that can start and how easily they are believed. Even with the world of information at our fingertips, people would still rather spread the rumor than verify the fact. In safety, we can easily fall victim to this. How many times have we heard about someone's accident and how many pieces they were in only to discover the fact of a paper cut. As safety professionals, we must remain the calm in the midst of the storm, follow the facts, remain unbiased, and identify cause and corrective actions; often times in the face of massive pressure to act on the rumor rather than the facts.

So next time you hear someone went somewhere or did something, I offer you this: "Came to see friends, walk old streets again, maybe strike up a tune with the moon; don't it seem funny, word gets around, I heard I was in town."

Don Phillips  
NEILetter Editor