

SAFETY MATTERS

President's Message

Happy Holidays!

I know it's been a while since you've heard from me. I hope everyone had a great Thanksgiving! I ran (partially walked) my first ever 5k in a Turkey Trot as part of my training for the OKC Memorial Half Marathon in the spring. I really questioned my decision after it was done and needed to get ready to go to dinner with family.

The Annual Clay Shoot was a huge success. It was the most attended clay shoot I have been involved with since I came to OKC in 2011. Thanks to all that helped make it a success, but especially thank you to Mark Huddleston and Cody Vinyard for putting it all together. I would also like to extend great appreciation to our sponsors for making the clay shoot so much fun. You may be wondering, why we do this fundraiser? Each year the OKC Chapter gives funds to students for the ASSP Student Conferences in both the fall and spring semesters. The chapter also donates money to the ASSP Foundation to increase the value of the OKC Chapter scholarship and grant. Last year alone ASSP Region III members received more than \$58,000 in scholarships and grants. Please visit <https://foundation.assp.org/scholarships-and-grants/> for more information.

December is here, football season is almost over, and the leaves continue to fall. We are on the countdown to the end of the year. Are you ready? Are you trying to figure out how to get everything done before the holidays? Have you bought all your presents? Is your mind wandering yet? If you are thinking about these things, so are the rest of the employees. It is easy to get distracted this time of year. As safety professionals, we need to remember to help them focus and make sure we follow our own advice.

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Patrick McGrew, CSP, CHMM
Sr. Safety Specialist
Continental Resources, Inc.

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This is a great time of year to give back to our community. On December 13, we will have our annual Toy for Tots meeting with the Marines, so be sure to bring a toy for someone in need. Accurate Safety is sponsoring lunch; please be sure to thank Danny Thomas. Please come join us if you can, and if not, see you in 2020 for our meeting on January 10.



From my family to yours, I hope you have a safe and Happy Holidays!

Patrick McGrew CSP, CHMM
President, OKC Chapter ASSP

ASSP-OKC Chapter 2019—2020 Meeting Schedule

Date	Location
12/13/19	Toys for Tots—Moore Norman Tech Center, 11:30am-1:00pm
1/10/20	FTTC Reno Campus Room A1020 A, 11:30am-1:00pm
2/14/20	University of Central Oklahoma, Room TBD, 11:30 a.m.—1:00 p.m.
3/13/20	FTTC Reno Campus Room A1020 A, 11:30 a.m.—1:00 p.m.
4/9/20	Safety Expo 2020
5/1/20	FTTC Reno Campus Room A1020 A, 11:30am-1:00pm
6/12/20	FTTC Reno Campus Room A1020 A, 11:30am-1:00pm

PULL!

The ASSP Oklahoma City Chapter held our annual sporting clay shoot fundraiser on November 1st and to say it was a success would be an understatement. More participants, more donors and more money raised for our scholarships than ever before and it's all because of you! A huge thank you to our members and donors who make it possible! Thank you to Cody Vinyard and Mark Huddleston for coordinating another fun and successful event!













WISE

Women in Safety Excellence

What a Great Way to Give Back!

OKC Chapter WISE and ASSP spent the afternoon of November 21st volunteering at the Regional Food Bank of Oklahoma. We boxed up 15 pallets of food equaling 7,886 meals or 9,064 pounds of food to help feed members of our community.

With the day being just a week before Thanksgiving, we all jumped right in to help. It's safe to say that we all left there feeling humbled and our hearts full.

We can't wait for the next opportunity to reach out and serve our community again. Be on the lookout for updates of when and where!

Betsey Kulakowski and Jennifer Styx
OKC Chapter WISE Co-Chairs





Future Safety Leaders

Thanks to the support of the Oklahoma City Chapter of ASSP, four students from Oklahoma State University and the University of Central Oklahoma attended ASSP's Annual Safety Leaders Conference in Illinois. Future leaders below (from L to R) Adam Robertson, Faith Looney, and Talun Thomas, learned how to begin moving from a safety student to a safety professional over the two-day conference.

Let's hear in their own words what this experience meant to them...



This years student leadership conference was even better than last year. Last year, I was new to safety and really had no grasp of anything. This year, I went to the conference as president of my chapter with a full time job lined up. This conference meant so much to me because without last years conference I wouldn't have the career plans I do now. Last year I was introduced to the company I planned to intern for at the conference. I have since completed an internship with them and will now be going back after graduation in May. Without this conference I would be so naive to the different industries of safety. I feel like I would have no idea which direction to turn in regard to picking a career path. ASSP has quite literally directed my entire safety career and going back to the conference for my second year I was able to see all ASSP was able to do for me while also helping others with their direction as well. I am so grateful to the OKC ASSP Chapter for sending my Vice President, Talun Thomas, and I because I feel we were able to network with professionals and students and most importantly, proudly represent Region III, the OKC Chapter, and UCO.

Faith Looney

University of Central Oklahoma

To begin, I want to thank the American Society of Safety Professionals for an opportunity of a lifetime! As a future safety leader, the Future Safety Leaders Conference treated the students with many opportunities, including speaking with safety professionals and great speakers. I genuinely enjoyed my experience in Chicago, Illinois, and created a bond with many students all over the United States. Building your leadership brand and holding close to your values that guide your consistency creates a great future safety leader. The mock interviews were the most exciting part of the FSLC, as it was my favorite part. Gaining the opportunity to interview with safety professionals that will also critique your process was an authentic experience that I will take into the future!

Talun Thomas

University of Central Oklahoma

Dear Oklahoma City ASSP Chapter,

My name is Alex Hernandez and I am a senior studying Fire Protection and Safety Engineering Technology, at Oklahoma State University. I was elected to be the Treasurer for the American Society of Safety Professionals student chapter on our campus for the 2019-2020 school year. Even after half way through the school year, I have already learned a lot through my time as the Treasurer for our student organization.

Thank you to for providing Adam Robertson and I with funding for to attend the ASSP Future Safety Leaders Conference in Chicago, Illinois. At the conference, there were many speakers who shared their experiences in life and the lessons they have learned that allow for them to become better safety professionals. Along with these keynote speakers, we also attended breakout sessions covering specific topics. These breakout sessions were smaller groups which allowed for us to become acquainted with our peers, along with the professionals leading these small groups.

This conference was an amazing opportunity for me to gain experience with professional development and professional networking skills. The large exposure to professionals and employers, involved in the field of safety, has provided me with professional relationships that I hope will lead to successes in my future. This conference has also allowed for me to talk to students from around the country about how their local student ASSP chapter operates This gave me lessons and tips I was able to bring back to the executive committee for our student chapter of ASSP.

My involvement with ASSP has been a contributing factor to my success as a student at here at Oklahoma State University. The organization has brought me closer with the faculty for my major and introduced me to many great safety professionals that I have been able to learn from. This organization has also taught me the importance of professional development and professional organization chapter involvement. Thank you again for your generous support of our students.

Best Regards,
Jose (Alex) Hernandez,
ASSP Treasurer
Oklahoma State University



To: American Society of Safety Professionals - Oklahoma City Chapter

The 2019 future safety leaders conference hosted by the American Society of Safety Professionals was held in Oak Brook, Illinois. The theme of this year's conference was "leading courageously. The featured speakers of the conference included Rebecca Bratton and Julius Rhodes. Bratton gave a compelling presentation of what it takes to lead courageously, she was able to connect to the audience through the use of personal antidotes of experiences that thought her lessons on what it takes to be a leader. One of the main takeaways from the presentation was that being a leader takes courage, because it takes courage to imitate change. Also, Bratton conveyed that being a strong leader requires a person to build a sense of clarity with respect to who they are as a person. Building clarity comes through the practices of, living your values, committing to a purpose, and creating believers.

Julius Rhodes gave a speech that was geared towards understanding and practicing emotional intelligence in positions of leadership, as well as in everyday life. This was an important message because, many of the aspects that define emotional intelligence are qualities that can be observed in influential leaders. The most impactful message that Rhodes conveyed was that the majority of the practice of emotional intelligence requires that a person reflect on their self rather than other people. Rhodes thought that the foundation of emotional intelligence is built on a strong sense self-awareness and self-management and with those it comes easy to evolve a sense of social awareness and relationship management. The keynote speakers, Rhodes and Bratton, both presented strong messages of the aspects and traits that compose strong leaders.

In addition to the keynote speakers, the conference also offered attending students the opportunity to attend round table talks with current and past industry professionals. It remained a choice of the attendee to decide which talks to be a part of and participate in. During these talks student attendees were able to gain a realistic insight to the actual duties and responsibilities of industry professionals, along with the common industry issues faced by current and future industry professionals. The leaders of the talks then offered advice and insight on how to successfully and effectively overcome those issues. The advice and insight given during the talks could be considered invaluable information for students who plan to enter the industry with the goal of becoming an effective and influential safety professional.

The 2019 American Society of Safety Professionals, future safety leaders offered student attendees the opportunity to receive crucial industry insight along with an understanding of the what it takes to develop characteristics of a strong leader. I would like to extend a thank you to the conference sponsors, Liberty Mutual, Georgia Pacific, BCSP, and the ASSP Foundation, for making the conference a truly beneficial experience for the students who attended. Also I would like to personally thank the Oklahoma City chapter of ASSP for allowing me the opportunity to attend. From this experience I will take the lessons I learned at the conference with me to become a better professional in my future career.

Sincerely,

Adam Robertson
Student
OSU Fire Protection and Safety Engineering Technology



The Tulsa and Oklahoma City ASSP Chapters hosted the annual joint meeting with student ASSP members from OSU, NSU, SEOSU, and UCO at the November 20th meeting at Oklahoma State University. Board of Certified Safety Professionals' Treasa Turnbaugh, PhD , Chief Executive Officer, and Joshua Franklin, MBA , Senior Director presented on the value of the certified safety practitioner.



IN MEMORIAM

Bill Thurston



Bill Thurston was a consistent participant and contributor to both ASSE (now ASSP) and MCEPS organizations over his career. Bill passed away on September 3, 2019 at age 66.

Bill was an OKC resident for most of his adult life. His father was in the Air Force and because of that, Bill did travel quite a bit as a child and teenager. He was a confirmed bachelor his whole life, but had many friends and colleagues that he was close with over the years. He is survived by his mother, who is presently living in Edmond, OK.

Bill had a passion for martial arts and was a Master Instruction (many levels of black belt) in Japanese Ju Jitsu. He even traveled to Japan as a young adult to obtain special certification. His students will miss him dearly.

Bill was a true safety professional with a CSP. He began his long career with Liberty Mutual Loss Prevention (now Risk Control) in 1976 and served the company for 39 years until retiring in 2015. He had done just about anything and everything you could do in a safety career, accounting for over 5000 site visits in his career.

He had been a fleet specialist, elevator/escalator specialist, property specialist and energy specialist. There was very little that Bill had not seen or done in safety. His contribution to the field will likely go unnoticed, as the accidents that he prevented, did not happen. Bill embodied the creed of Liberty Mutual and the belief of anyone in the safety field by “helping people live safer, more secure lives.” Howard Sewell, Liberty Mutual Risk Control Manager (OKAR)

Steve Allen



Steve Allen was a long time member of the safety community for the State of Oklahoma and Oklahoma City. Steve passed away on October 11, 2019 at age 77.

Steve served as the Asbestos Division Director for the State Department of Labor. Beyond his work at the state, he loved teaching and passed along his passion for safety to countless students at the University of Central Oklahoma until his retirement in 2014. His legacy can be seen through his students he taught and his family whom he loved.

Thank you to our ASSP-OKC Chapter Sponsors for 2019-2020!



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