

CoPs Update

Many of us, as safety professionals, are watching to see how the new political climate in Washington and the tough economic times we are enduring will effect the safety profession. It has only taken a few weeks to see changes begin.

On the federal front, several appointments have been made. MSNBC reports that Democratic Rep. Hilda Solis is President Obama's choice for Labor Secretary. Ms. Solis is the 51 year old daughter of a Mexican union steward and a Nicaraguan assembly line worker. She is expected to advocate greater union influence in the workplace and more "green" jobs.

As reported in USA Today, President Obama plans to appoint Steven Chu, director of the Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory and a 1997 Nobel Prize winner for physics as his Energy Secretary. In addition, Lisa Jackson, a former New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection commissioner, is expected to be appointed EPA administrator, and former EPA Chief Carol Browner will be appointed "energy czar". Nancy Sutley, a deputy mayor in Los Angeles, is expected to run the White House Council on Environmental Quality.

In North Carolina, Senator Doug Berger (D-Vance) has introduced legislation that would shift the authority for workplace safety (OSHA) away from Labor Commissioner Cherie Berry and move it to the Governor's office. If this legislation passes, OSHA and its \$14 million annual budget would become part of the Employment Security Commission, which would become the Employment Safety and Security Commission. The same legislation also requires closer oversight of OSHA's performance, including required update reports to lawmakers regularly. An advisory panel is proposed to develop recommendations for enhancing workplace safety.

Federal OSHA Notes Fiscal Year 2008 Most Cited Standards/Highest Fines

Note from the Editor: It has been brought to my attention that the information published in the January newsletter was incomplete. Here is the complete information as indicated on Federal OSHA's website.

The following are the top 10 most frequently cited standards in fiscal year 2008
(10/2007-9/2008)

1. Scaffolding, general requirements, construction (29 CFR 1926.451)
2. Fall Protection, construction (29 CFR 1926.501)
3. Hazard Communication Standard, general industry (29 CFR 1910.1200)
4. Control of hazardous energy(lockout/tagout) general industry
(29 CFR 1910.147)
5. Respiratory Protection, general industry (29 CFR 1910.134)
6. Electrical, wiring methods, components and equipment, general
industry (29 CFR 1910.305)
7. Powered Industrial Trucks, general industry (29 CFR 1910.178)
8. Ladders, construction (29 CFR 1926.1053)
9. Machines, general requirements, general industry (29 CFR 1910.212)
10. Electrical systems design, general requirements, general industry
(29 CFR 1910.303)

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The following are the standards for which OSHA assessed the highest penalties in fiscal year 2008 (October 2007 through September 2008):

- Fall protection, construction ([29 CFR 1926.501](#))
- Scaffolding, general requirements, construction ([29 CFR 1926.451](#))
- Electrical, hazardous (classified) locations ([29 CFR 1910.307](#)) [
- Control of hazardous energy (lockout/tagout), general industry ([29 CFR 1910.147](#))
- Excavations, requirements for protective systems, construction ([29 CFR 1926.652](#))
- Machines, general requirements, general industry ([29 CFR 1910.212](#))
- General duty clause ([Section 5\(a\)\(1\) of the OSH Act](#))
- Powered industrial trucks, general industry ([29 CFR 1910.178](#))
- Walking-working surfaces, general requirements ([29 CFR 1910.22](#))
- Process safety management of highly hazardous chemicals ([29 CFR 1910.119](#))

For more detailed information, visit [Frequently Cited OSHA Standards](#). At that site, you can generate a report on the most frequently cited federal or state OSHA standards by your SIC code and the number of employees in your establishment.

Don't Miss Out!

There are 3 weeks left to register for the ASP study course in Charlotte, NC February 24-26, 2009, hosted by the Tarheel ASSE Chapter. The course will be held at the NC Department of Labor, Charlotte Field Office located at 901 Blairhill Drive in Charlotte.

For more information, call Heidi Hatcher at 704-960-0640 or email at hdhatcher@yahoo.com with any questions.

Mark Your Calendar NOW for These Upcoming Events

<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Place</u>
2/17/09	Joint Meeting with Student Chapter	11:30 AM	A&T—details TBA
	Topic: Safety in the International Community		
3/17/09	March Meeting	11:30 AM	Steelcase of High Pont
	Topic: Plant Tour (thanks Kulema!)		
4/21/09	April Meeting	11:30 AM	Logan's Roadhouse
	Topic: Pandemic Planning		
5/13/09	Statewide Safety Conference	Lunch	Koury Convention Center
	Value of Safety Perception Surveys		
6/16/09	June Meeting	11:30 AM	Logan's Roadhouse
	Topic: OSHA Compliance		

Watch your e-mail and our website for more information.

Visitors are welcome. No charge for the first meeting. Lunch meetings—Networking at 11:30, Lunch at 12:00. Evening Meetings—Networking at 5:30 PM, Dinner at 6:00 P.M. Cost for Members—\$15 Students—\$7.50 (half price).

Logan's Roadhouse is located at 1300 Bridford Parkway, Greensboro, NC.

2008-2009 Triad Chapter Officers

<u>President,</u> <u>ASSE Foundation Chair</u> Ron Graves Key Risk Management Services, Inc. 336-605-7312 rgraves3@triad.rr.com	<u>VP-Membership</u> Debbie Meurs City of High Point 336-442-5207 Debbie.meurs@ highpointnc.gov <u>Secretary,</u> <u>Council on Political Affairs</u> <u>(CoPA)</u> Van Johnson Lorillard Tobacco 336-335-6693 Vjohnson @lortobco.com (Additional Representative Posi- tions Vacant)	<u>Newsletter,</u> <u>CoPS Coordinator</u> Elesa Hurley Key Risk Management Services, Inc. 336-992-9700 ehurley@keyrisk.com <u>Website</u> Drake Evans Senn Dunn 336-346-1385 Devans @senndunn.com	<u>Delegate</u> Jim Gwyn City of High Point 336-442-5207 Jim.gwyn @highpointnc.gov <u>Programs</u> Kulema McKoy Steelcase High Point 336-434-8276 Kulema.mckoy @steelcase.com
<u>President-Elect</u> Richard (Dick) Dunmire Evonik-Stockhausen 336-333-3634 rdunmire@earthlink.net			
<u>Treasurer</u> Todd Beck 336-446-1214 rbeck@rfmd.com			

Professional Development Opportunities

February 8-14, 2009— Seminarfest 2009, Las Vegas, NV

March 23-25—SPE Americas E&P Environmental and Safety Conference, San Antonio, TX

March 23-26, 2009, Applied Ergonomics Conference, Reno, NV

April 20-24, ASSE's First Virtual Symposium, LIVE Online

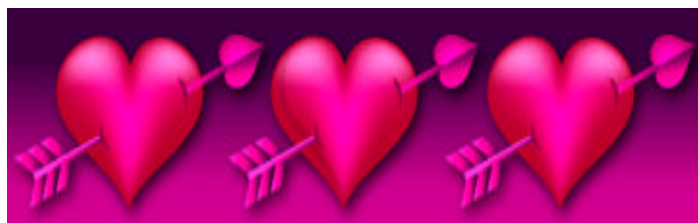
May 3-9—NAOSH Week 2009, Occupational

May 6—Safety & Health Professional Day

June 28—July 1—Safety 2009, San Antonio, TX

GOLF TOURNAMENT UPDATE

We haven't given up yet! After 2 attempts for our annual fun-filled day of golf, which also is a significant fundraiser for our chapter and the Clarice Garrett Scholarship, we are planning for a spring tournament. You still have plenty of time to reserve a spot for a fun day on the golf course, and guess what? We also still have openings for Sponsors. Stay tuned for the new date and time—it will be announced soon. We are planning for a spring day full of sunshine, networking opportunities, and lots of fun! Be there, OK!



Don't forget Valentine's Day!

February 14, 2009

**Be sure to tell someone in your life they
are special that day!**