

Safe Plains Newsletter Summer 2015

Recent Events:

In our recent election, our Vice President, Mike Cavanaugh was elected to the position of President. At the board meeting on July 17, 2015 Mike announced that he would be unable to fulfill the duties as President. Mike has been a great supporter and active on the board and his presence will be missed. Thank you to Mike for your service to the Great Plains Chapter.

This unfortunate news was cause for the board to review the chapter by-laws, and from that the position was offered to recently elected Vice President Steve Danon. Steve accepted the position of President of the Chapter. The board also discussed and decided to survey current board members to see who would be willing to move into other positions. A realignment of positions was established. The realigned positions can be found on the board meeting minutes on the website from July 17, 2015. However, more adjustments have been made since the July 17 meeting and those adjustments will be made available soon on the website.

As always, we welcome you to visit any of our membership and/or board meetings. Future meetings are yet to be scheduled and will be listed in future meeting minutes, newsletters, and at the website. If you would like more information about the Great Plains Chapter I encourage you to visit our website at <http://greatplains.asse.org>. There you will find a variety of information regarding our chapter, including the most important item, how to join ASSE.

Once again, thank you, and we look forward to meeting you.

Sincerely,

Kimball Kinnersley, Secretary

Meetings & Events Highlights:

On April 10, 2015 the chapter held a meeting event “*Legal Drug Use Poses ‘Pot Holes’ for Employers.*” The event was held at the National Park Services facility at the Riverfront in Omaha. A special thanks to Eric Allen, Safety & Occupational Health Manager from the Park Service for opening up their facility to host the event.

The all-day event included a variety of experts in the field of legal and illegal drugs and how they affect the workplace. Speakers included; Bill Judge, JD, LL, Chief Research Officer for Encompass Compliance Corporation. Kim Bunjer, Deputy Chief of the Narcotics Enforcement Unit at the US Attorney’s Office in Omaha. Chris Kober, Nebraska State Patrol. Nebraska State Senator Tommy Garrett, District 3.

The chapter would like to thank all of these speakers for their time and invaluable information that they shared. We would also like to thank Nicole Johnson of Catering Creations. The food was fantastic!



(left to right: Wes Dicken, Bill Judge, Steve Danon)

Stay tuned for our upcoming meeting and events schedule!

Meeting & Events Highlights (continued from page 1):

April 10, 2015 “Legal Drug Use Poses ‘Pot Holes’ for Employers”



(Nebraska State Senator Tommy Garrett, District 3)



(Bill Judge presentation)



(Networking between sessions)

Members Monthly Chapter Meetings

Every year the Chapter holds monthly member meetings from September to April. These meetings are a wonderful way to network with other safety professionals in the area, as well as learn new and valuable information. Meetings typically include a speaker from a variety of safety agencies, vendors, or specialists.

Most meetings are held at an Omaha restaurant, Spezia, at 3125 S. 72nd Street in Omaha. Spezia never fails to deliver a great meal. You will find that the meal, speakers, and networking are a great value! Members receive a discounted rate for the meeting. These meetings typically go from 11:30am – 1:00pm.

At times the Chapter goes on location to hold events. This past meeting season we held a meeting at the Food Bank for the Heartland, which included a tour of Majors Plastics. At times the Chapter holds all-day events such as our last meeting of the season. It was held at the beautiful National Park Services building on the Riverfront in downtown Omaha. Again, members receive a discounted rate when attending the meetings.

The Chapter makes signing up for the meetings very easy. You can RSVP for the meetings via the website, and pay at the door when you arrive. Another great option utilized by many is the PayPal option. Via the website you can elect to pay when you RSVP by using your PayPal account.

Non-members are encouraged to attend a meeting and get to know the Chapter members.

Listed below is the schedule of upcoming Great Plains Chapter programs. Remember the schedule is subject to change from time to time, so check back frequently for updates.

- 9/11/15 OSHA Updates
Spezia - featuring OSHA presenter.

- 10/9/15 Dealing with OSHA
Spezia – featuring Doug Fletcher.
- 11/13/15 DOT All Day Seminar
TBD – presenter TBD.
- 12/12/15 Magic of Safety
Spezia – featuring Denny Rourke.
- 1/8/16 Slings and Rigging
Spezia – presenter TBD.
- 2/12/16 Controlling Contractor Liability
Spezia – presenter TBD.
- 3/11/16 International Nutrition
Accident
Spezia – featuring OSHA presenter.
- 4/8/16 Electrical Safety Seminar NFPA
70E
TBD – presenter TBD.

Final thoughts

We're looking forward to a great new season of programs and chapter activity.

Once again a very special thanks to Mike Cavanaugh. We wish him luck on his future endeavors! Also a special thanks to new President of the Chapter Steve Danon for his willingness to step up to the position, and for his commitment to the Chapter. And thanks to all of our members for your continued support, as well as those who have been active in a variety of Chapter positions over the years!

Always remember, the chapter website contains a variety of information. You can find information on safety related area job postings, upcoming events, legislative updates, board member listing, Chapter Bylaws, past newsletters, Board Meeting Minutes, and links to a variety of ASSE websites and Chapters.