Meeting Events and Highlights - October:
The October meeting was entitled “It Ain’t What You Don’t Know That Gets You Into Trouble, It’s What You Know That Ain’t So . . . ”. On October 21st, two great speakers lined up to tell us all about Pokémon trespassers, alligators in amusement parks, who’s to blame at the M’s pub fire and more. They gave us a lot to think about from the perspective of a defense attorney and a claims examiner. Are you doing everything you need to do to protect your company from litigation?

We would like to thank Presenters Jennifer Tricker, Partner at Baird Holm Law firm, and Tony McLaughlin of the Gallagher Bassett Team in Omaha who gave us some very valuable information that may help us protect company resources one day.

Upcoming 2017 Meetings (tentative):

Stay up to date at: [http://greatplains.asse.org](http://greatplains.asse.org).

December: Holiday Celebration
January: Hexavalent Chromium
February: EHS Technology Tools
March: The New OSHA Silica Standards

ASSE GP Chapter November Meeting
On November 18th, the Chapter meeting featured speaker Jeff Funke, CSP, Omaha OSHA Area Director. Mr. Funke provided an update for OSHA Fiscal Year 2016. Mr. Funke let us know what is going on with OSHA, including an end of year review and OSHA's current areas of emphasis. And, being an avid fisherman, he even told us about his fish that got away. Download Jeff's Leadership Conference slides at: [http://www.docslides.com/jeff-funke-csp](http://www.docslides.com/jeff-funke-csp)

New BCSP Scholarships Offered to Students
BCSP is offering $5,000 scholarships to students from participating Graduate Safety Practitioner (GSP) Qualified Academic Programs (QAP)(for qualified programs, go to http://www.bcsp.org/GSP). The scholarships will go to one junior, senior, or Master’s student from each QAP. Participating QAPs will select recipients based on scholarship’s criteria and applicants’ submitted materials during October. BCSP has not published this information on their website, contact BCSP for more information.

Did you realize.....

The number of SH&E professionals that employers expect to hire is expected to exceed the number of graduates finishing safety training programs. Safety practice offers a highly rewarding, growing profession. Your local ASSE Chapter is here to help you grow your skills.

Injury Reporting Rule –
Now that OSHA has finalized its injury reporting rule that requires employers to submit electronically to the agency many injury and illness records, industry is gearing up to block some aspects of the rule. Industry is not happy with the drug testing portion of the rule and also believes that the safety incentive programs in the rule will not reduce injuries. For a thorough explanation of the issues involved, check out our own GP Chapter President, Steve Danon’s excellent article on LinkedIn at: https://www.linkedin.com/in/stevedanon

New Silica Rules Now In Effect
The silica rule is now in effect with a year of implementation underway. §1926.1153 - Construction is June 23, 2017; §1910.1053 - General industry and Maritime compliance will be June 23, 2018. Oil and gas sector has until June 23, 2021. More information at: https://www.osha.gov/silica/

AIHA Nebraska-Western Iowa Local Chapter News
The AIHA Nebraska-Western Iowa Chapter is officially active again. Congratulations Brandon Neilson, President Elect, Ashley Augspurger, Secretary, Doug Marshall, Treasurer and Directors Brenda Finter, Pamela Rosa, Teresa Long and William Crowe. And thanks again to Current (and Past) President Randy Milbrath for keeping it all together for so many years. You don’t have to be a CIH and you don’t have to be a National Member to join. If you are interested in joining, contact Brenda Finter at btinternet@b2environmental.com. Dues is a mere $20 per year. More information to follow!

Will Asbestos Be Banned?
Asbestos is now in effect with a year of implementation underway. The results of the recent Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA) amendments that were signed into law is the question about whether or not EPA now has the ability to ban asbestos. While the debate will continue, don’t look for any ban on asbestos in the near future.

Be sure to check out our Jobs Board

TSCA Reform & Worker Safety
The Frank R. Lautenburg Chemical Safety for the 21st Century Act aims to improve protections for workers who are exposed to hazardous chemicals on the job. The law, which amends the Toxic Substances Control Act, gives the EPA more power to restrict chemicals based upon health risks. Bottom line: For the first time workers are defined as a “susceptible subpopulation” and OSHA is partnering with EPA to control chemical risks in the workplace.

Not an ASSE member?
On the home page of the website you can click on “Join ASSE” at the top right of the page and begin the process of joining. The national ASSE website is http://www.asse.org. There you can get to know a fantastic organization!