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Our mission is to offer an opportunity for safety professionals to meet other professionals and to share their experiences and knowledge with one another in an effort to strengthen the reputation of safety throughout the area.



The Secretary's Say

The vernal equinox is upon us bringing warmer weather to the Southern Colorado regions. As a Safety Consultant for Pinnacle Assurance, I live, work and enjoy leisure time in Southern Colorado (we do reside in a stupendous climate!), and bring consultation services to local employers to protect their most important asset – the employee. It is a noble calling, and it is an opportunity to advise employers about workplace conditions which may cause injuries and illnesses; it is a profession to offer environmental health and safety education through formal instruction, a workplace inspection or even at an ASSE Chapter meeting where we share best practices. As a former electrical commercial construction worker, I hold a unique perspective about workplace safety. The reality is the pressures of production and the demands of schedules sometimes override the ethical choice to work safely. Numerous regulations exist from agencies such as *Occupational Health and Safety Administration* with references made to national consensus standards such as *American National Standards Institute*, *National Fire Protection Association* and the *American Society of Mechanical Engineers*, just to name a few. These regulations are written to assure consistent approaches towards the safe keeping of people with properly engineered equipment and buildings constructed with quality standards. Have you ever traveled internationally and observed safety or construction methods? Did they appear to be different than what we would normally see in the United States? Indeed, they are in some places. While the regulatory compliance can be daunting with documentation heavy requirements and reading through engineered codes, I realized, after seeing construction methods in another country, the necessity for guidance to assure our fellow mankind is not injured or killed on the job is a necessity. As you enjoy the communities in which we live in Southern Colorado consider the value added to our life through the commendable profession of safety and the regulations that advise us on safety. Your brother, father, daughter, or mother, who works in Southern Colorado should be able to do so without fear of injury or death in their workplace. In 2013, 4,405 workers were killed on the job (*bls.gov*).

– John Crawmer, Secretary, ASSE SOCO



Chapter News – 2014 Leadership Conference

By Mike Hawkins, CSP, Membership Chair, ASSE SOCO

Last October, I was offered the privilege of representing the Southern Colorado Chapter of ASSE at the 2014 National Leadership Conference. The three day conference had two broad aspects: first was a series of lectures from a world-renowned motivational speaker, Mr. John Spence, on leadership. The second major aspect was a series of “breakout sessions” with different unique topics related to ASSE, such as membership meetings, Body of Knowledge (BoK), and fundraising.

Mr. Spence gave three separate lectures on leadership and empowering personnel within the work environment. He has presented workshops, speeches and executive coaching to more than 300 organizations worldwide including; Microsoft, IBM, GE, Abbott, Merrill Lynch, AT&T, Verizon, Qualcomm, State Farm, and dozens of private companies, government offices and not-for-profits. John is the author of [*Excellence by Design; Leadership: The Six Key Characteristics of Outstanding Leaders*](#) and [*Awesomely Simple, Essential Business Strategies for Turning Ideas into Action*](#). He is also the author of [*Letters to a CEO*](#) and [*Strategies for Success*](#).

As the Membership Chair for the SOCO chapter, a majority of the sessions I attended were on membership. Several different ideas were discussed focusing on how to get more chapter members to attend their respective chapter meetings. When every chapter was asked what percent of general membership attends the monthly or bi-monthly meetings, the answer was typically around 10%; this statistic also holds true for the SOCO chapter. Several different ideas were covered of how to increase this percentage, such as knowing what attendees want to hear about, making sure networking is key, and offer periodic site visits (tours) with the meetings. It was the consensus of most of the chapters that when a chapter offers a site visit, the attendance usually doubles. This is why at the SOCO chapter we try to have several of our meetings throughout the year include a site visit of a company or operations in the Southern Colorado area. Last September the meeting was held at the Air Force Academy where attendees were taken for a tour of the Department of Engineering Applied Mechanics Lab. Additionally, last November the meeting was held at the Martin Drake Power Plant.

The last session I attended was on the Body of Knowledge (BoK). The BoK is one of the world's leading collections of high-caliber vetted knowledge for the safety profession, which gives you access to information that can help you do your job better and identify best practices to better protect people, property, and the environment. The BoK is of great value to ASSE members and includes access to articles, SH&E materials, checklists, presentation, training materials, and other multi-media offerings. More information can be found at <http://www.safetybok.org/>.

It was an honor to attend the 2014 ASSE Leadership Conference and represent all of the members of the SOCO chapter. It was absolutely fascinating to see our chapter is, in reality, a single spoke in a very large wheel of safety professionals whose goal is to protect the American worker while promoting business in a complex and changing workforce.



Upcoming Events News

Friday March 20th, 2015 SOCO ASSE Chapter Meeting

1:30PM – 3:30PM

Library 21c

1175 Chapel Hills Dr. Colorado Springs, CO 80920

Topic: Active Release Techniques

Friday, May 15th, 2015 SOCO ASSE Chapter Meeting *TOUR*

1:30PM – 3:30PM

Alligion (*Formerly known as Schlage Lock Factory*)

3899 Hancock Expressway

Security, CO 80911

Topic: Environmental health and safety best practices

Friday, June 12th, 2015, SOCO ASSE 6th Annual “Safe-Tee-Off” Golf Tournament

1:30PM – 3:30PM

The Broadmoor – Mountain Course

Register here <http://southerncolorado.asse.org/events/?ee=36>

Friday, July 17th, 2015, SOCO ASSE Chapter Meeting *TOUR*

Southern Delivery System Water Treatment Plant

Marksheffel Road and Highway 94

Topic: Environmental health and safety best practices



Chapter Information

Chapter Officers

President • Troy Bridges	Vice President • Currently open	Treasurer • Bill Tuten	Secretary • John Crawmer, CHST	Membership • Mike Hawkins, CSP
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The Southern Colorado Chapter (SOCO) of the American Society of Safety Engineers (ASSE) was formed on June 5, 1962 and is one of the older chapters in the ASSE. We are proud of our heritage and legacy as we have had two **ASSE Fellow's** (George Huber, D.A. Weaver) that have come from our chapter and the National ASSE president in 2002-2003 year, Mark Hansen, was a member and past president of the Southern Colorado Chapter. The Southern Colorado Chapter is located in Region II of the ASSE society structure.

Changing Your Contact Information: If you have a change of address, e-mail or telephone number and you want your ASSE friends to find you, please call the Society office of ASSE at 847-699-2929 or e-mail them at customerservice@asse.org .

Get Involved with ASSE SOCO!

- Do you have a business for our members to tour?
- What can we learn from your safety best practices?
- Everyone is invited to share their stories of safety success. Please contact the ASSE SOCO officers to schedule your onsite facility tour, or present your story at the next chapter meeting.

Call now: 847-699-2929

Email us: customerservice@asse.org