

# NC-ASSE Newsletter

## 21st Annual Region IV PDC

Mark your calendars for the 21st Annual Region VI Professional Development Conference (PDC), which is scheduled for September 19-21 2007. This conference is held in sunny Myrtle Beach at the Kingston Plantation.

There are a lot of great things to do while in Myrtle beach along with great accommodations, and fun filled family events.

Former speakers at the Region IV PDC have included; Steven Simon, Scott Geller and retired astronaut Cap-

tain Jim Weatherbee.

Keep an eye on the PDC section of the Region VI website <http://www.asse-region6.org/conference.html> for all the details and registration as it becomes available.



## NC-ASSE 2007-2008 Executive Committee

NC ASSE chapter is proud to announce the Executive Committee members for the 2007-2008 calendar year.

The officers include; Stephen Bock who will be serving as the chapter President; David Duke who will be serving

as President-Elect; Horace Rosier who will be serving as the chapter Treasurer; and Steve Kaasa who will be serving as Secretary.

We would also like to welcome Russell Bowen who is serving as the chapters public rela-

tions/communications chair; Marvin Perkins who is serving as our membership chair, Wanda Hughes as the chapter Delegate and Robert Andrews who is over governmental affairs.

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## Looking Back

As serving as President-Elect for the 2006-2007 year, I would have to say we had a great year with many successes and accomplishments.

We had some exceptional speakers throughout the year and were lucky enough to take an off-site plant tour of the Revlon plant. We were also successful in holding our first toys for tots drive in December.

We were successful in enhancing the NC-ASSE website, developing a chapter newsletter, establishing e-vites invitations and giving a free lunch away at each of our ASSE meetings.

We were also lucky enough to have one of our own appointed by North Carolina Governor Michael F. Easley to the state's Environmental

Management Commission along with my daughter who won 4th place in the ASSE "Safety on the job" poster contest.

We the executive committee would like to thank all those who worked behind the scenes in making this year successful and for you the members who have supported our chapter.

## NC-ASSE Survey

ASSE members, please remember to participate in the year end survey. This survey will help guide our executive committee to serve you and our chapter more effectively as well as how you feel with the proposed changes to the professional membership. The survey contains 3 important sections, which are explained below.

The first question is related to our House of Delegate vote on the definition of Professional Membership. If you have not read the April Newsletter article on the chang-

ing of the definition of Professional membership, you might want to refer back to it before answering the question. It is located at <http://www.nc-assse.org/news/letters/200704.pdf>. The House of Delegates meets on June 24 at the PDC in Orlando.

The second section of this survey is related to Chapter STARS report for the time frame July 1, 2006 to June 30, 2007. This gives you the opportunity to share what you have done professionally over the last year in regards to be-

ing speakers or authors for professional publications.

The third section is for planning purposes for next year. What do you prefer and what topics would you like to see presented.

The following link will take you to the survey and we will have it posted on the NC ASSE website:

<http://www.zoomerang.com/survey.zgi?p=WEB226HV9FKF35>

*The secret of joy in work is contained in one word - excellence. To know how to do something well is to enjoy it.*

- Pearl Buck

## Proposed Changes to the ASSE Professional Member Criteria

There is a recommendation to change the professional member criteria in our bylaws. The following is a comparison of the existing bylaws and the recommended changes:

**Existing:** None

**New:** Shall be a certified safety professional (CSP) or certified industrial hygienist (CIH) in good standing with the BCSP or ABIH, respectively, or

**Existing:** Shall be certified as competent by a body recognized by the Admissions Committee and shall have a minimum of five years in the aggregate professional experience

**New:** Shall hold an accredited certification from a body recognized by the Admissions Committee, hold a baccalaureate or higher degree from an

accredited college or university and shall have a minimum of five years in the aggregate professional SH&E experience, or

**Existing:** Shall be registered or licensed by a state agency as a Professional Engineer and shall have a minimum of five (5) years in the aggregate professional safety experience,

**New:** Shall be registered or licensed by a state agency as a Professional Engineer, hold a baccalaureate or higher degree from an accredited college or university and shall have a minimum of five (5) years in the aggregate professional SH&E experience  
Or

**Existing:** Shall hold a baccalaureate or higher degree from an accredited college or university, and shall have a minimum of ten (10) years

in the aggregate professional safety experience,

**New:** Shall hold a **doctorate level degree** from an accredited college or university in an SH&E related field recognized by the Admissions Committee and shall have a minimum of **five (5)** years in the aggregate professional SH&E experience.

In summary there is a category added for certification such as CSP, time requirements with a degree are reduced from 10 years to five, and doctorate level degree is added with five years experience. Please let any of the executive committee members know if you are for or against this change to our by-laws.

- Robert Andrews

## Heat Stress

Many workers spend some part of their working day in a hot environment. Foundries, laundries, construction projects, restaurant kitchens, and bakeries are just a few workplaces that may subject workers to potential heat stress.

Discomfort is not the only problem with working in hot environments. The consequences of heat stress can be seen in decreased worker productivity, increased accident rates, illnesses and fatalities. Work performance rapidly deteriorates at high heat stress levels. Accident rates in hot industries are higher during the hottest months of the year.

### PREVENTING HEAT STRESS

Most heat related health problems can be prevented or the risk of developing them reduced. The following basic precautions should lessen heat stress.

1. Acclimatization to heat through short exposures followed by longer periods of work in the hot environment can reduce heat stress.

2. A variety of engineering controls can be employed, including:

- general ventilation

and spot cooling by local exhaust ventilation at points of high heat production

- shielding from the sun (either reflective or absorptive) and other radiant heat sources
- evaporative cooling and mechanical refrigeration
- cooling fans
- shaded areas for rest
- eliminating steam leaks
- the use of power tools to reduce manual labor
- personal cooling devices or protective clothing

3. Work practice controls include:

- providing a period of acclimatization for new workers and those returning from long absences
- making plenty of drinking water available
- training first aid workers to recognize and treat heat disorders
- alternating work-rest cycles with rest periods in a cool area

If possible, heavy work should be scheduled during cooler parts of the day and appropriate protective clothing provided.

4. Employee education is vital so that workers are aware of the signs and symptoms and prevention of heat disorders. Supervisors should be trained to detect early signs of heat strain, and should permit workers to interrupt their work if they are extremely uncomfortable.

The key to preventing excessive heat stress is awareness by you as well as your employees. Establish a program designed to acclimatize workers who must be exposed to hot environments and provide necessary work-rest cycles and water to minimize heat stress.

Also, educate workers on the hazards they face and their role in preventing heat stress.

- Stephen Bock



Whatever it takes!

*From the NC-ASSE Executive Committee*

*Have a GREAT Summer!!*

