



COLUMBIA-WILLAMETTE  
CHAPTER

## MAY 2024 NEWSLETTER



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### Letter from the President

ASSP CWC Chapter Members, it has been an honor to serve as your Chapter President for this 2023-2024 session. I have enjoyed giving back to our safety community by holding this position and I hope you all feel that we had a successful year. When I joined

the ASSP, I was fine being part of the crowd, learning about the topics at the meetings, slightly networking, and having lunch. I was hesitant to volunteer and didn't know if I could manage the time with my job responsibilities.

I am glad I did. I am having an amazing experience with my ASSP membership that has included receiving the President's Award, SPY Award, presenting multiple sessions at the GOSH, presenting QPR training for several chapters, serving on the e-board, serving on the GOSH e-board, attending the Regional Operations Committee meetings, presenting, organizing, and attending Professional Development Conferences, attending National Leadership Conferences, and most of all making new connections.

If I had to summarize my experience in one word, Phenomenal! I don't think my safety career would be complete without serving on the e-board. The people that I have had a chance to work with have shown true team support and success based on their individual contributions and expertise.

We are part of something bigger when we are involved with organizations that support us and our peers. The conferences, networking, resources, and opportunities are absolutely amazing. There are chances to get involved at the local, regional, and national level so don't hesitate.

My advice is simple, get involved and make a difference.

Always in your service,

Chapter President,  
Steven Frost



## **Officer Installation at TopGolf**

**Join us for our 2024 Officer Installation Event at Top Golf!**

This annual event brings us together to award our Chapter SPY (Safety Professional of the Year) and student scholarship winners, recognize and thank our 2023-2024 leaders

and induct our incoming 2024-2025 officers!



**Join us for hosted apps, dinner and Top Golf! Members are Free!**

Location: Top Golf, Hillsboro

Date: Friday, May 31st

Time: 5:30-9:30pm

Cost: Members are free! Guests are \$50.

**[RSVPs are required. Registration closes Tuesday, May 21st @ 12pm](#)**

## **Chapter Election Results**

The ASSP Columbia Willamette Chapter recently had their elections and over 110 members voted. Below are the elected members that will serve our membership for the 2024-2025 year.

**President: Brittany Johnston**



Brittany is currently a Safety & Health Services Adviser at SAIF Corporation and was a safety consultant at SAIF for 10 years prior. She has a Bachelor of Science degree from Linfield College, a MBA from Portland State University and is a CSP. Brittany has been a CWC volunteer since 2016 and has served as a Delegate-At-Large, House Delegate, Treasurer-Elect, Treasurer, Vice President, President Elect and Membership Committee Chair. Brittany has also volunteered as a Track Lead on the GOSH Program Planning Committee for the GOSH 2019, 2021 and 2023 conferences.

### **President Elect: Nichole Guilfooy**



Nichole Guilfooy is a Total Worker Health practitioner and consultant with over 20 years of expertise in human resources, safety, well-being, organizational development, and communication. She provides evidence-based education, coaching, and strategic support to organizations across the Pacific Northwest. Nichole has a Bachelor of Science degree from Portland State University with a focus on public health and Industrial/Organizational Psychology.

### **Vice President: Kyle DeHart**



Kyle DeHart is a Senior Safety Management Consultant with SAIF Corporation and has been working in the fields of occupational health and safety and environmental management since 2014. Since 2022, Kyle has served as CWC Advisory Group Member and Membership Committee Chair and has been active in the GOSH Program Planning Committee and Northwest Occupational Health Conference Planning Committee. Kyle holds a Master of Science in Industrial Hygiene from Montana Tech, is a CIH, OSHA 500 Authorized Outreach Trainer, and BCSP Graduate Safety Practitioner.

### **Secretary: Caity Benston**



Caity is gearing up for her second year as an ASSP member and third year in the safety industry, currently acting as Partner Marketing Manager for safety software and consulting company, KPA. Caity also serves as the President for the Toastmasters Club: The Clackamas Stepping Stones.

### **Treasurer: Elena Estrada**



Elena Estrada is a Safety and Risk Analyst for Clackamas County Water Environment Services. Elena previously worked at the City of Portland. Elena has served as Treasurer Elect prior to moving into the Treasurer role.

**Treasurer Elect: Peche Barteaux**



Peche (Pesh) is an Environmental Health and Safety Associate with 8 years of experience in the public sector. She is passionate about creating safe work environments and fostering sustainable practices. Peche oversees respiratory safety program management, indoor air quality and is a Certified Playground Safety Inspector.

**Advisory Group: Amme Standing**



Amme Standing, CSP, is a Safety Director for Charter Mechanical and is approaching 24 years in the construction industry. Amme has served on the board for the SafeBuild Alliance since 2006 and has been part of their executive committee for over 10 years. Recently, Amme joined the Mechanical Contractors Association of America (MCAA) National Safety Committee.

**Advisory Group: Matt Harper**



Matt is a CIH and CSP and is currently a Principal Consultant with BSI, specializing in industrial hygiene and occupational safety and health. Matt holds a Bachelors of Science in Environmental Science with a minor in Environmental Health and Safety from Oregon State University.

**Delegate at Large: Soren Bjerregaard**



Soren has been a Senior Safety Management Consultant at SAIF Corporation for 16 years. Prior he worked as an insurance producer and branch manager. Soren is a CSP and is working towards becoming a Certified Risk Manager. He has held CWC positions as Treasurer Elect, Treasurer and Delegate at Large. Soren earned a BS in Business Administration and an MBA in International Business from the University of Aarhus in Denmark.

**Delegate at Large: Jackie Boyd**



Jackie is a Project Manager at the Oregon Institute of Occupational Health Sciences and manages the Oregon Fatality Assessment and Control Evaluation (OR-FACE) Program. Jackie is also involved in Oyes and has been chair since August 2023. Jackie holds a Master of Public Health in Environmental Systems and Human Health from Oregon Health & Science University - Portland State University School of Public Health.

**1st Past President/Elections Chair: Steven Frost**



**2nd Past President/Bylaws Chair: Jimmy Gibbons**



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## **2024 - 2025 CWC Committee Chairs**

Below are our volunteer committee chairs that will serve our membership for the 2024-2025 year. Thank you for your service!

**Awards Chair: Barbara Aguon**



**Community Service Co-Chairs: Paula Jones & Deb Bridges**



**Public Relations Chair: Linda Spaulding**



**Development Committee Chair: Soren Bjerregaard**



**Newsletter Chair: Terra Wheeler**



**Student Section Liaison: Marta Szabatin**



**WISE Chair: Paula Jones**



**Sunshine Fund: Peche Barteaux**



## 2024-2025 Section Leadership

### Santiam

Chair - Robert Snyder  
Chair Elect - Jacquie Strand  
Vice Chair - Jennifer Boykin  
Secretary - open  
Treasurer - Naomi Hernandez  
1st Past Chair - Carl Halter  
Oregon OSHA Liaison - Bryon Snapp

### Mt St Helens

Chair - Dave McNeil  
Chair Elect - Matt Strand  
Vice Chair - Jim Lawrence  
Secretary - Melinda Coker  
Treasurer - Rob Dahl  
Delegate at Large - Clark Hislop  
Bylaws Chair - Susan Knowles-Berry  
1st Past Chair - Rob Dahl  
WA Governor's Industrial Safety & Health Advisory Board - Rob Dahl

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## 2023 - 2024 Oregon State University Student Section

Thank you to the faculty advisers Barbara Hanley and Allison Hagihara for their support of the OSU Student Section.

Student President - Denna Alnasser  
Student VP - Brett Zimmerman  
Student Secretary - Victor Hernandez-Triana  
Student Treasurer - Matt Agnew



## Open call for volunteer leaders!

We are seeking volunteer leaders for the following committee chair positions for our 2024-2025 term:

Role	Key duties
<b>Membership Chair</b>	Welcome emails, member surveys, organize a social event, member appreciation at December meeting
<b>Website / Job Placement Chair</b>	Job postings on website, uploading files to website, some updates/changes to website (society provides support too)
<b>WISE (Women in Safety Excellence) Chair</b>	Plan WISE event on Tuesday night of GOSH Conference (every 2 years) along with other Oregon WISE chairs
<b>Government Relations Chair</b>	Represent the chapter by having ASSP booth at Coffee Capital Break

**Note: BCSP certification holders will receive [1 recertification point per year of service](#) when you serve as an officer or committee member of ASSP CWC!**



(some of your 2023 - 2024 CWC Leadership at the 80th Celebration meeting)

No previous experience is required! These non-elected positions are an opportunity to get familiar with the workings of our chapter and contribute to our success. Getting engaged and involved with ASSP is a rewarding experience and a meaningful way to give back to your profession while expanding your network!

If you are interested or just want to learn more, please contact  
Brittany Johnston at [brijoh@saif.com](mailto:brijoh@saif.com)

## Summer Planning Meetings

Each year the chapter's leadership team comes together to reflect on our successes and opportunities for growth as we look into the next term. These meetings include our planning and budget meetings.

**Planning meeting:** July 26<sup>th</sup>, 8:30am-2:00pm, in-person Tualatin area

**Budget meeting:** August 2<sup>nd</sup>, 9:00am-12:00pm, virtual

If you are interested in learning more about how the chapter operates, want to get more involved or have ideas on how we can strengthen our chapter's impact in our profession, this could be a great opportunity for you to join us! Reach out to Brittany Johnston at [brijoh@saif.com](mailto:brijoh@saif.com) if you'd like to attend or learn more.

## Upcoming Conferences

### [2024 Pacific Northwest Safety Symposium](#)

May 23, 2024 | Auburn, WA

### [Blue Mountain Occupational Safety & Health Conference](#)

June 3-4, 2024 | Pendleton, OR

### [ASSP Safety24 | Conference & Expo](#)

August 7-9, 2024 | Denver, CO

**SAVE-THE-DATE! GOSH 2025**



**GOSH 2025**  
**SAFETY & HEALTH**

**OREGON GOVERNOR'S  
OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY  
& HEALTH CONFERENCE**

*Workplace safety and health solutions for all industries*

**STAY UPDATED!**  
MARCH 3-6,  
**2025**

**OREGON CONVENTION CENTER**  
*Portland, OR*

**QUESTIONS?**

- [oregon.gosh@dcbcs.oregon.gov](mailto:oregon.gosh@dcbcs.oregon.gov)
- [oregongosh.com](http://oregongosh.com)
- 503-947-7411

**OSHA**  
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

*The GOSH Conference is a joint effort of American Society of Safety Professionals, Columbia-Willamette Chapter and Oregon OSHA, a division of the Department of Consumer and Business Services.*

**ATTEND • EXHIBIT • HONOR • SUPPORT • COMPETE**

**Sponsorship opportunities are open for the 2025 GOSH Conference!**

Learn more here: [Oregon Governor's Occupational Safety and Health Conference \(GOSH\) Support \(oregongosh.com\)](https://oregongosh.com)

## **Membership Meetings Recap**

**March: Occupational and Social Safety for People with Disabilities with Ian Jaquiss, JD**



Following a traumatic spinal cord injury as a toddler, Ian has had to learn how to navigate a world not built for people who use wheels to get around. His tenacity led him to represent the United States at the 1984 and 1988 Paralympic Games, winning four medals, including two golds at the Seoul games in 1988. In his talk, Ian shared his expert insights on creating inclusive and welcoming climates and cultures, in both work and social settings, for all people but especially people with disabilities. In our candid conversation with Ian at the March member meeting, we learned the role safety professionals play in issues related to disability access, equity, justice, and opportunity.

#### **April: Drugs of Abuse with Annie Duncan, BSN, RN, CEN, CSPI**



For our annual joint meeting with Oregon State Association of Occupational Health Nurses (OSAOHN), Annie Duncan, Nurse Manager of the Oregon Poison Center, shared an update on the types of drugs causing the most serious problems in our area today, and those emerging on the horizon. We learned how to recognize the drug's effects and "overdose" risk, how to recognize the most common signs of overdose, and apply appropriate first aid or rescue treatments that may be available.

#### **May: Unlocking Workplace Safety: bold strategies and collaborative innovations with:**

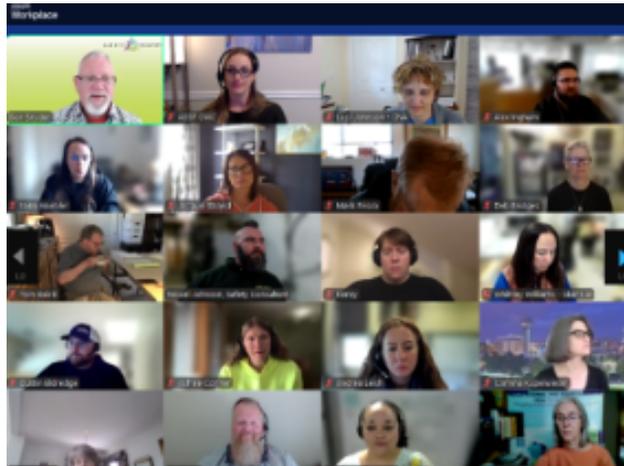
**Nick Cordell (Safety Director, Mortenson), Maggie Creps Weaver (HR Director Medical Teams International), Everett Runyan (Total Worker Health Coordinator Oregon Dept of Human Services) and Paul Wallman (Facilities Manager World Trade Center)**



In this dynamic panel discussion, we learned from experts from diverse fields to explore the strategies, collaborative approaches, and innovative technologies shaping the future of workplace safety. From Mortenson's consistent engagement of front-line employees in fostering a culture of safety to Medical Teams International's dedication to duty of care for employees working in environments plagued with armed conflict and disease, we explored the foundational values and policies essential to worker safety and well-being. Everett Runyan described the challenges and opportunities in supporting a diverse workforce spread across urban and rural environments and his recommendations for implementing meaningful interventions and strategies and evaluating outcomes. Paul Wallman demonstrated his skills in managing conflict and compassionate communication for bringing stakeholders together to align values and resources for workforce safety.

## Spring PDC Recap

On May 13<sup>th</sup> the chapter hosted a **virtual workshop, Ethics for the Safety Professional – from Research to Practice**, led by Dr. Daniel Snyder. We had **27 attendees** and were able to provide **0.2 CEUs in ethics** for those with BCSP certifications. Dr. Snyder provided this workshop at no cost, allowing ASSP and non-ASSP members to obtain these CEUs in ethics at a very low cost. All proceeds go towards the Columbia Willamette Chapter supporting students and professionals in the safety and health profession. **Thank you to Dr. Daniel Snyder and [Safety Mentor!](#)**



## Community Service Recap

**The 2023/2024 Chapter year was another success for the Community Service Committee! Chapter members had numerous opportunities to donate to local organizations or to volunteer time.**

**Here is a recap of the year:**

- In October, the Chapter partnered with Chelsea's Closet raising **\$354 in monetary donations and 33 costumes donated.**
- In December, Chapter members had a number of choices: donations of toys to Doernbechers Children's Hospital, monetary donations to Oregon Food Bank, or volunteering for Sunshine Division delivering food boxes. **The toy table was full at the December meeting and \$275 for Oregon Food Bank**



- In April, Chapter members gathered to celebrate Earth Day at a local SOLVE event. We assisted in a clean-up along NE 82<sup>nd</sup> Ave, accumulating **over 400 pounds of waste** and celebrated with lunch afterwards.



Thank you for your support of these important organizations in our community and please feel free to give us any feedback on your experience or any ideas for next Chapter year.

## Oyes Media Contest Winners!

High school students across Oregon were invited to participate in the annual O[yes] Media Contest.

This contest, now in its 16<sup>th</sup> year, puts a spotlight on the importance of young worker safety and health. This year's competition challenged participants to create either a 30- to 90-second video or graphic design that inspires young workers to take the O[yes] online Safety Awareness Training to bolster their knowledge of how to stay safe and healthy while on the job.

**Our Columbia-Willamette ASSP Chapter is proud to join other organizations to help sponsor this contest.**

This year's finalists came from high schools around the state: Hermiston High School (Hermiston), Silverton High School (Silverton), McLoughlin High School (Milton-Freewater), Crescent Valley High School (Corvallis), Henley High School (Klamath Falls), Lincoln High School (Portland), Parkrose High School (Portland), Beaverton High School (Beaverton), and Nyssa High School (Nyssa).



Visit the O[yes] website to check out the winning entries and to watch videos made by the winning producers about why they participated and what they learned: <https://youngemployeesafety.org>

## View our meeting recordings from this year!

Our monthly meetings are recorded and available on our website. Check out the [recordings and accompanying slides](#).

### # OF DOWNLOADS AND COUNTING...

John Brix, Eyes Wide Open = 146  
Gian Loranzo, Power of an Apology = 212  
Avery Dukes, Life's Essential 8 = 351  
Renee Stapleton, OSHA Update = 379

## Job Postings



Check out the [Job Board](#)

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## ASSP Member Benefits!

### Member Get A Member

The more members you recruit, the more awards you can earn -

like complimentary dues renewal if two of your referrals become full members in February or March. [Refer a future member today.](#)

### **Career Development Grants**

The ASSP Foundation provides Career Development Grants to occupational safety and health students and professionals working towards their educational goals. Available for those needing financial support for certification expenses, conference attendance, webinar attendance, and similar professional development support. College courses are not covered. Applications accepted year-round, with awards made on a rolling basis, based on availability.

[\*\*Apply here!\*\*](#)