



COLUMBIA-WILLAMETTE
CHAPTER

DECEMBER 2024 NEWSLETTER



- [Letter from the President](#)
- [2025-2026 Office Nominations Now Open!](#)
- [Join a Committee and Become Famous](#)
- [January 2025 Meeting](#)
- [2024-24 Student Scholarships Available](#)
- [Service the Community & Win Big!](#)
- [Member Spotlight](#)
- [Upcoming Conferences](#)
- [Safety Professional of the Year \(SPY\) Award](#)
- [Member Survey Results](#)
- [November & December Meeting Recap](#)
- [Job Postings](#)
- [Member Survey Results](#)

- [Member Bennies](#)
- [Mental Health Matters](#)

Letter From the President

Happy Holidays ASSP Columbia Willamette Chapter Members!

At the December meeting we celebrated our membership milestones and it reminded me how rewarding my 10 years with the chapter have been. It is truly a gift to be part of such a connected and supportive group of OSH professionals. Here's snapshot of what our membership has accomplished:

# of Members	Years of Membership
30	5
10	10
7	15
9	20
2	25
8	30
2	40

As we turn the page into 2025, we often take time to reflect and set goals for the upcoming year. Next year in March, the GOSH Conference will be upon us. This conference is a culmination of efforts from so many individuals, pouring their passion and energy into creating an immensely memorable conference and education opportunity.

Thank you all for every contribution and piece of heart you give to your careers day in and day out. Wishing you, your loved ones, and furry loved ones a peaceful, renewing, and warm holiday season.

See you in 2025!



Brittany Johnston
President, ASSP Columbia Willamette Chapter

2025-26 Officer Nominations Now Open!

Being an ASSP Officer is low key life changing. You get to work with awesome people, flex your leadership skills and build a network of safety professionals!

Nominate yourself or someone equally fantastic for the upcoming 2025-2026 ASSP officer positions. We have several elected positions available:

- **Delegate at Large** (1 year term, liaison with our Mt St Helens & Santiam sections, 2 positions available)
-

- **Advisory Group Member** (1 year term, liaison to the Advisory Group at the society level, 2 positions available)
-

- **Secretary** (1 year term, responsible for executive meeting agendas and minutes, 1 position available)
-

- **Treasurer-Elect** (2 year term, succeeds to Treasurer following year, 1 position available)
-

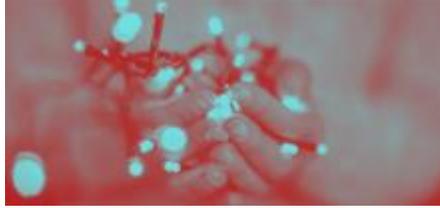
- **Vice President** (President's track, responsible for monthly membership meetings, 1 position available)

Your chapter nominations committee consists of Chair and 1st Past President, Steven Frost, Kerry Byun and Raymon Brison.

Please contact Steven Frost at safetystevefrost@outlook.com if you are interested or have questions. We have an amazing group of volunteer leaders to welcome you and support you every step of the way!

Join a Committee and Become Famous

Open Call to Join a Committee!



Looking to be involved with the chapter but have limited time? We welcome new committee members and may even have a few chair positions opening up. No previous experience is required.

Check out the committees:

Chapter Committees – ASSP Columbia Willamette Chapter

If you are interested or want to learn more contact Nichole Guilfooy Nichole.guilfooy@providence.org

January 2025 Meeting



Kick the new year off strong by joining us on **January 9, 2024** at Brix Tavern Tualatin where we will celebrate our Past Presidents and invite former ASSP-CWC Presidents back to reconnect.

Our featured speaker will be Mr. Robert Pater, Managing Director of Strategic Safety Associates and Founder of the MoveSMART system, who will present his talk titled:

Towards High-Level Safety Performance, Leadership, Culture & Change: Suggested Don'ts and Do's

Robert will share valuable lessons learned over his three-plus decades of experience working with large global companies, offering practical guidance on elevating safety performance, leadership, and culture.

His extensive writing includes over 360 articles, with his 89th article set to be published in the upcoming January 2025 edition of *Professional Safety*.

Keep an eye on your e-mail and visit our website for upcoming registration details. We look forward to seeing you there!

2024-25 Student Scholarships Available



Our chapter awards two scholarships directly:

- [ASSP Columbia-Willamette Chapter Leadership Award](#)
(\$750)

- [Walter G. Thorsell Memorial Scholarship](#) (\$1,000)

One scholarship through the ASSP Foundation:

- [ASSP Foundation Academic Scholarship](#) (\$1,500)

Deadline: February 15, 2025

Serve the Community & Win Big!

December Volunteer Opportunity – Food Box Delivery with Sunshine Division



- Volunteer for the Sunshine Division assisting with the delivery of food boxes on **Saturday, December 21st.**
- Volunteer times are
 - 9:00am
 - 9:45am
 - 10:45am
- Boxes are picked up at Portland International Raceway and your vehicle must be able to hold (5) 30lb boxes (box dimensions are 16"x12"x11").

- Sign up online at [Sunshine Division](#) -- click *Sign up to Volunteer*, select a time, fill out the form and sign a release of liability.
-

Donate to Doernbecher Children's Hospital



Check out the: [Doernbecher Wish List](#)

- Donate online using their Wish Lists on *Amazon* or *Target*
 - Once you land on the donation page, click on either the Amazon or Target wish list, choose your item(s) and they will be shipped directly to Doernbecher.
-

Stay up to date on our current community service opportunities on our website: <https://cwc.assp.org/2024/12/communityservice/>

Member Spotlight

Raymon Brison, CHST

Raymon Brison is the EHS Director for General Sheet Metal. We are lucky to work with him as he gets more involved in our chapter leadership. He is also a recent recipient of the ASSP Foundation Scholarship.



[Check out the full interview with Raymon here!](#)

Upcoming Conferences

[Mid-Oregon Construction Safety Summit](#)

January 27-28, 2025 | Bend, Oregon



[GOSH Conference](#)

March 3-6, 2025 | Portland, Oregon



Safety Professional of the Year (SPY) Award

Do you know someone who always goes beyond what is expected; lives and breathes safety, and who is recognized by both employees and colleagues to protect workers through both actions and words?



If so, nominate them for the **SPY** (Safety Professional of the Year) award. This accolade celebrates a member's exceptional professional contributions and leadership in the workplace, ASSP, and in the community.

Applications due March 28, 2025

Submit your nomination through our Chapter website [here](#). All Columbia Willamette Chapter, Mt St Helens Section, and Santiam Section members are eligible!

Member Survey Results

We recently conducted our annual survey, and we're excited to share the results with you. Thank you to the 49 members who participated! Your feedback is invaluable in helping us better serve you.

Why Our Members Value ASSP

- Our members have shared that they highly value the professional development opportunities we offer, such as our educational lunch meetings and trainings that provide BCSP recertification points.
- Networking and building professional relationships are also key reasons for being part of our chapter. Staying updated on the latest safety research and practices is another top priority.

Meeting Preferences

Timing and Location

- Many of you find the current meeting location in Tualatin convenient, but there were suggestions for rotating locations or considering venues along the Max line.
- There were mixed preferences for meeting times, with some members suggesting later start times or evening meetings to better fit their schedules.

Content and Structure

- While the current structure is appreciated, there's a desire for a mix of basic and advanced topics to cater to different experience levels.
- Topics of interest include emerging safety trends, AI in safety, leadership, and various technical safety topics.

Suggested Meeting Topics

- Our members are interested in a wide range of topics, from AI in safety and safety leadership to psychosocial safety and emerging safety issues. Practical applications, such as best practices and innovative safety program management, are also highly valued. Additionally, industry-specific concerns like safety performance comparisons and new regulations were mentioned.

Guest Speaker Suggestions

- You've suggested a variety of experts, including local professionals and those with practical implementation stories. We'll be reaching out to these individuals to enrich our meetings.

Accomplishments and Recognitions

- Several members shared their recent certifications and awards, showcasing the chapter's achievements in safety excellence. Congratulations to all who have been recognized!

Additional Feedback

- More networking opportunities and mentorship programs were suggested.
- Some members expressed challenges with meeting attendance due to scheduling conflicts and suggested more flexible meeting times.

Member Spotlight

- We're thrilled that several members are interested in participating in a member spotlight feature. This is a great way to highlight the amazing work and experiences within our chapter.

General Sentiments

- Overall, members appreciate the chapter's efforts and the welcoming atmosphere of our meetings. There is a strong sense of community, and we're committed to continuing to improve our offerings.

November and December Meeting Recap

November Membership Meeting

- In November, we hosted a joint event with the Oregon-Columbia Chapter of the Associated General Contractors (AGC), drawing 48 attendees.
- Our featured speaker, Ms. Kimberly Gamble, CHST, ASP, delivered an insightful presentation titled ***Civility at Work: An Introduction to How Low-Level Bad Behaviors Cause Harm and Negatively Impact Workplace Safety.***
- Kimberly's talk highlighted the hidden dangers of incivility in the workplace, emphasizing how seemingly minor negative behaviors can create safety risks.
- Attendees explored the real-world impact of these behaviors and discussed psycho-social risk factors that influence psychological safety in organizations.



Pictured are Brittany Johnston, ASSP-CWC President (left), and Ms. Kimberly Gamble, CHST, ASP (right).

December Membership Meeting

- In December, we brought together 43 attendees for our Annual Member Recognition Meeting.
- In addition to celebrating our members, we enjoyed networking opportunities, a fun icebreaker bingo game with raffle prizes including Amazon gift cards and ASSP swag, and collected toys for donation to Doernbecher Children's Hospital.
- The featured speaker, Mr. Todd Hudson from Maverick Safety Training, delivered an engaging presentation titled ***How to Create Sure-Fire Training Demonstrations***.
- Todd shared valuable insights on how to make safety training more effective by utilizing demonstration techniques that align with how our brains naturally learn.



Pictured are Kyle DeHart, ASSP-CWC Vice President (left),

Todd Hudson (center), and Brittany Johnston, ASSP-CWC President (right).

Job Postings

Check out local and regional [job postings](#).

Member Bennies

Become a member of the American Society of Safety Professionals (ASSP) and have access to:

Career Development Grant \$\$

The ASSP Foundation has grant money for students and professionals who need 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 Now!](#)

Member Get A Member

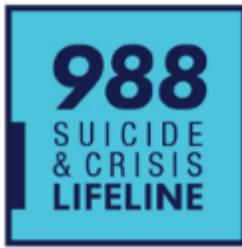
The more members you recruit, the more awards you can earn such as free dues renewal if two of your referrals become full members in February or March. [Refer a future member today.](#)



Mental Health Matters

[988 Lifeline Chat and Text](#)

988 Lifeline Chat and Text is a service of the 988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline (formerly known as the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline), connecting individuals with crisis counselors for emotional support and other services via web chat or texting 988.



[Get Trained To Help](#) (GTTH)

GTTH is a collaboration between Clackamas, Multnomah and Washington counties to provide a spectrum of mental health and suicide prevention trainings for individuals and organizations across the tri-county region.



Working together for a safer, stronger future

