



AMERICAN SOCIETY OF SAFETY PROFESSIONALS

Mountain Valley Chapter

October is national hearing protection month. [Listen to these tips!](#)

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HEARING PROTECTION

NATIONAL PROTECT YOUR HEARING MONTH

According to national health surveys about 1 in 8 individuals working in the U.S. has difficulty hearing. Among those surveyed with hearing impairments, 1 in 4 attributed workplace exposures as the cause. Approximately 22 million people work in industries with hazardous noise exposures and additionally those workers may also encounter ototoxic chemicals which can increase the hazardous effects of noise exposure. Hearing loss or impairment from workplace exposure is permanent but can be prevented. It is also associated with additional medical problems such as those associated with cognitive, cardiac, and mental health. During the month of October, attention is brought to protecting worker hearing and preventing hearing loss. For additional information visit [National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health](#).



UPCOMING EVENTS

REGISTER AT [MOUNTAINVALLEY.ASSP.ORG/EVENT](https://mountainvalley.assp.org/event)

Nov1	Student Article Submissions Due
Nov 11	November Chapter Meeting



GOLD LEVEL CHAPTER
2023-2024

MONTHLY MEETING

OCTOBER CHAPTER MEETING

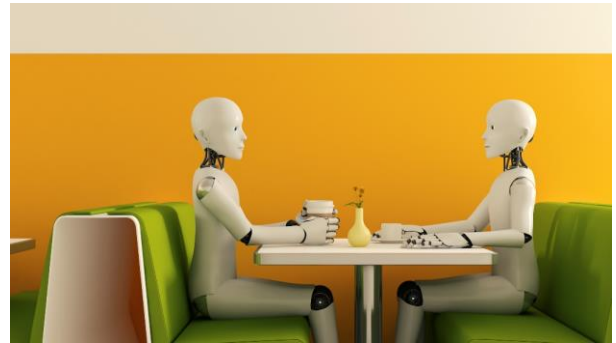
Roanoke GO Fest

It was a gorgeous three days at the 2024 GO Outside Festival in Roanoke, VA! Members of our chapter, the committee, and volunteers came out to help spread the word about safety while enjoying the outdoors in our region. You can see more details and highlights of the festival at <https://roanokegofest.com/>.

In addition to chapter informational handouts we were also able to offer information on:

- Tree stand safety
- Tick identification and removal
- First aid tips
- Bicycle safety and inspection

Thank you to our volunteers and idea makers for bringing these resources to the community!



UPCOMING MEETINGS

NOVEMBER CHAPTER MEETING

November 11, 2024: In Person Noon-1:30pm EST

Address: 102 Market St SE, Roanoke, Virginia, US, 24011

Details:

- Planning for the 2025 season.
- Re-connect with the committee and chapter members.
- We would also like to hear lessons learned from your 2024 safety year!

Register at <https://starvalley.assp.org/event/>



UPCOMING EDUCATION

FREE WEBINAR: SAFETY FROM THE TOP: UNDERSTANDING HEAD PROTECTION

Date: December 5, 2024 from 11:00 a.m. To Noon CT.

Format: Webinar

Credits: 0.1 Continuing Education Units

Register at https://my.assp.org/nc_upcomingevents

Course Description

Join experts from ASSP, ISEA and CPWR to discuss the evolution of head protection and the latest advancements shaping the industry. Explore current research and standards to gain a deeper understanding of how head protection has evolved; discuss common misconceptions; and gain insight on what's next in ensuring even greater protection in the workplace.

What You Will Learn

- Explore the evolution of head protection and how it impacts current practices
- Review common misunderstandings about head protection standards
- Discuss new advancements and the future of headgear safety
- Identify the key factors to consider when selecting head protection

Instructors



Lauren Bauerschmidt, CSP, Senior Manager, Standards and Technical Services, ASSP

Lauren Bauerschmidt is a senior manager of standards and technical Services at ASSP, focusing on standards related to metrics, fall protection and risk management. Before joining ASSP, she worked at Abbott Laboratories with a concentration on ergonomics in manufacturing. Bauerschmidt holds a B.S. and an M.S. in Engineering from the University of Michigan. Her master's degree is focused on ergonomics and safety.



Diana Jones, Senior Director of Technical Programs, ISEA

Diana Jones is the senior director of technical programs and development at the International Safety Equipment Association (ISEA). She supports product groups and provides direction and oversight for all ISEA-administered voluntary standards, working to steward and grow the industry's standards program, identify opportunities for expansion and establish relationships with new stakeholders. Prior to ISEA, Jones spent nearly six years with the National Fire Protection Association, where she managed portfolios for electrical, industrial and chemical solutions.



Rosa Greenberg, M.P.H., Research Analyst, Research to Practice, CPWR

Rosa Greenberg is a research analyst with CPWR – The Center for Construction Research and Training's Research to Practice (r2p) program. Her work focuses on falls, and she develops occupational safety translational products and performs evaluation for the OSHA-NIOSH-CPWR falls campaign. Greenberg co-facilitates CPWR's Expert Evaluation Panel on Head Protection in Construction. She holds an M.P.H. from the University of North Carolina Gillings School of Global Public Health.

SAFETY MINUTE

PREZ SEZ – FROM THE DESK OF GLENN HARGROVE MOUNTAIN VALLEY CHAPTER PRESIDENT

As I was perusing the latest issue of PSJ (October 2024) a couple of items caught my eye.

First was the award to our very own Scott Geller, Ph.D. who tied for 3rd place for Professional Safety Article of the Year with his article titled "Emotional Intelligence: A Crucial Human Dynamic for OSH," December 2023. Dozens and dozens of articles are included in PSJ each year and to receive this achievement is quite an accomplishment. Congratulations Dr. Geller from all your colleagues with the Mountain Valley Chapter.



E. Scott Geller

3RD PLACE (TIE)
E. Scott Geller, Ph.D.
Distinguished Professor, Virginia Tech
Mountain Valley Chapter
"Emotional Intelligence: A Crucial Human Dynamic
for OSH," December 2023

The second thing that jumped out at me was a snippet about Millersville University winning an award for their educational program to save lives. They had set up an exhibit called Stop the Bleed in which they used an artificial limb to simulate a traumatic injury and passersby were encouraged to stop the bleeding. What was amazing was that we had just such an exhibit at our table for the Roanoke Go Outside Festival, thanks to Mr. Eric Cureton. And it was a huge hit with festival visitors!!



Faculty, staff and students at Millersville University participated in the Stop the Bleed initiative, which aims to save lives by preventing blood loss after traumatic injury.

To the left is a photo snipped from PSJ of the Millersville University students stopping the bleed. You can read more about their effort here: <https://www.millersville.edu/nursing/stop-the-bleed.php>

And to the right is our very own Eric educating the public about saving lives by stopping bleeding in an emergency situation.



We are Honest Brokers

PAMELA WALASKI, CSP, FASSP, 2024-25 ASSP PRESIDENT AND ASSP FOUNDATION CHAIR Oct 01, 2024

Throughout our history, ASSP has purposefully worked to maintain the organization's position of an "honest broker," meaning that the Society brings valuable guidance and advice to both sides of the aisle without being politically motivated.

We have built and preserved this position since our formation in 1911. We know it holds significant value for the stakeholders who depend on our Society and our members to provide evidence-based recommendations and trusted guidance that advances occupational safety and health for all workers. We are the experts in workplace safety and health, so we are the people who best know the courses of action organizations should take to protect workers in all settings.

Protecting worker safety, health and overall well-being requires a commitment that is never defined by politics. This is particularly essential during an election year like 2024 when tensions are elevated and divisions can quickly grow across the nation. After all, we naturally gravitate toward candidates who share our beliefs and address issues that impact our families.

That is why we must consistently work to uphold ASSP's reputation as an honest broker. Thank you for remembering our organization's role as we move through this election season. The U.S. presidential election has engaged tens of millions of Americans in a powerful way. Nearly everyone has an opinion about it.

We have been a leading advocate for worker safety and health principles for more than 100 years, regardless of political debate and changing administrations. We are the go-to source for trusted and equitable solutions that protect all workers in all industries. Our ultimate goal is that every worker return home safe and healthy to their loved ones at the end of each workday.

Of course, we all are human. We each have beliefs and feelings to manage in various settings in life. We are all often deeply impacted by local and national developments, especially during an election season. It is part of what makes us a special group of passionate professionals who can meaningfully connect with and relate to our peers, teams and leaders.

As the guardians of workplace safety across various domains—people, property and the environment—our responsibilities range from ensuring the well-being of individual workers to safeguarding our surroundings. As honest brokers, we must always strive to uphold our commitment to ethical practice and focus on protecting all workers in all settings every day.

As work practices evolve and technologies advance, new challenges arise in ensuring worker safety. ASSP continues to strengthen its reputation as a trusted advisor to OSHA, NIOSH and other entities because our guidance is based on evidence and grounded in industry best practices as defined in voluntary consensus standards.

This also provides us an opportunity to demonstrate the Society's **CLEAR** values:

- **Community:** When we help create a sense of community in our workplaces, we ensure that everyone, regardless of background or identity, feels included and valued.
- **Leadership:** When we lead with integrity, we foster a sense of shared purpose to safeguard all workers.
- **Excellence:** When we focus on excellence, we foster a culture of awareness, preparedness and prevention that engages everyone in building toward a safer, stronger future.
- **Accountability:** When we uphold our ethics and act reliably, we build accountability and create trust. (cont. page 6)



(Cont. from page 5)

- **Respect:** And finally, when we act with humility and actively listen to others' perspectives, we create an atmosphere of mutual respect that is vital to continuous improvement and advancement. I truly appreciate your efforts and dedication to worker safety every day. We have demanding jobs that deliver tremendous rewards. Our members are on the front lines to make it all happen.

Thank you for supporting our Society's vision that safety, health and well-being are inherent rights of every worker. Rain or shine, election year or not, we must be there every day to make sure worker safety is the focus above all else.

Reprinted from <https://www.assp.org/news-and-articles/we-are-honest-brokers>

Are You Passionate About Safety?

Volunteer with ASSP today.

[Get involved](#)

WINNERS!

STUDENT CHAPTER ARTICLE CONTEST



The ASSP has a long-standing history of not only supporting career opportunities for budding professionals in the health and safety industries, but also encouraging the building of foundational skill sets within our young talent base. Technical writing is foundational to the industry, but there is also room in there for the weaving of elegant prose heavy with safety acronyms. In partnership with Liberty University's ASSP Student Chapter we are proud to launch the Mountain Valley 2024 Liberty University Safety Article Contest.

We are even prouder to announce our winners for the contest! Congratulations to:

- 🏆 Evan Eads,
- 🏆 Rebecca Hooper
- 🏆 Danielle Zamperini

PRIZES

Each of the winners chosen received their awards at the recent student chapter meeting and will have their article published in an upcoming newsletter as well as featured on our LinkedIn page!

