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Lead is the oldest of the industrial poisons except carbon monoxide, which must have begun to take its toll soon after Prometheus made the gift of fire to man.

-Alice Hamilton

North Texas Section - American Industrial Hygiene Association



Mark Your Calendars for April 24th!

Please join us for our first 2007 North Texas Section AIHA meeting on April 24, 2007 at 6:30 pm at Fuddrucker's in Irving Mall (map on page 2).

Our topics will include an infor-

mal presentation from our President-Elect, Dr. Marie Martin on her experience at the AIHA Leadership Conference in early March (see her article below). Our President, Dr. Michael Larranaga will discuss some of the outcomes and lessons

learned from the emergency response drill at the University of North Texas Health Science Center in Fort Worth. Finally, we will have a discussion about our upcoming officer elections.

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President-Elect's Message By Marie Martin

Happy Spring!

I had the privilege of going to the AIHA Leadership Conference at the beginning of March. Our next President-Elect should make a point of going—it's a great way to meet interesting hygienists from all over the country and get tied in to what the national organization is doing. (I didn't know there was a local section in the Middle East until I met some Texans stationed out there.)

That brings up a point—we're about to elect officers again! Please consider lending your ideas and energy—it really doesn't take long to do what I've been doing, the officers are great people to work with, and if you have things you'd like to see happen, you have an opportunity to put it into effect this year!

So—I have news. The North

Texas Section won an award for presenting the largest number of Telewebs of any local section. Yeah for us—but we do need to decide which ones are most important to you so that we offer the ones you want. So please, if you're interested in particular topics, let us know. If you want some offered at other places, please let us know. I'll take email if anyone's interested in giving feedback.

<mailto:drmarie@gmail.com>

We're also looking at the idea of a joint educational event with the other Texas AIHA local sections in San Antonio, with a tentative date of October 27-29, 2007. If you want to hear about a particular topic or would like to suggest a speaker, please let us know!

We spend a good while talking about what members want from local sections. If you want something you're not getting—or some-

thing you are getting from your local section, please let us know!

AIHA is looking at ways to spread the word about what we do and who we are. There is a new marketing type brochure available, aimed at career fair audiences, from national AIHA. I have one paper copy, but it's downloadable at the Local Sections page of (<http://www.aiha.org>) as well. There's a media kit up there along with a student CD-ROM. If we have audiences we want to reach, there are materials available from national AIHA.

If you want to make things happen with your local section—now is the time! Give us your feedback, or consider running for office!

I look forward to seeing you April 24th—and I look forward to actually being there this time!

- Marie

Meeting (Continued from page 1)

Dinner will be on your own, so please try to have your order in and be seated prior to 7:00 pm.

If you have any questions or comments or if you need additional information, please contact Marie Martin (<mailto:drmarie@gmail.com>).

There will be a short Board meeting prior to the Section meeting starting at 5:30 pm.

OSHA Notifications Sent

OSHA recently alerted 14,000 employers of their high injury and illness rates and encouraging them to use free OSHA resources to improve their safety and health performance. The list was compiled based on data reported in 2005 from approximately 80,000 employers surveyed.

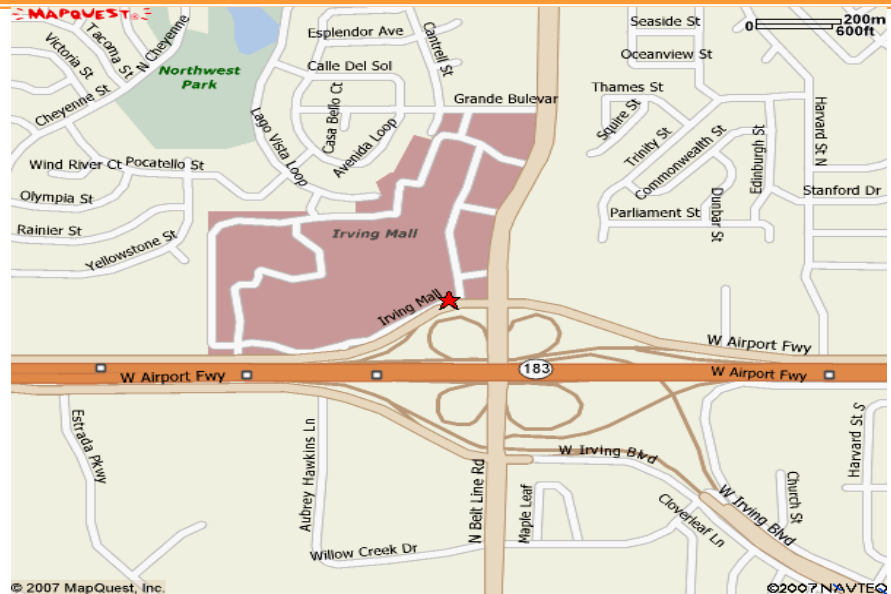
See the report here: http://www.osha.gov/as/opa/foia/hot_13.html



"Walk lightly in the spring; Mother Earth is pregnant."

- American Indian (Kiowa) Proverb

FUDDRUCKER'S
3644 Irving Mall
Irving, TX 75062 972-252-7955



Happenings from the Hill by Aaron Trippler

Nanotechnology

Research continues on the nanotechnology front, trying to determine the extent of any hazard exposure to workers. Most of this research is being done within NIOSH, specifically in the NIOSH Nanotechnology Research Center.

While great strides have been made, the biggest obstacle to determining worker exposure seems to be finding. Within the NIOSH budget, there are literally no funds earmarked for nanotechnology research. In fiscal year 2005, \$3 million was redirected from existing NIOSH program funds to conduct research. In fiscal year 2006, \$3.7 million was redirected and in fiscal year 2007, \$4.6 million will be redirected.

Not sure where the real problem lies. Is it within CDC or has the administration simply refused to provide an earmark for this important research? What is known is that NIOSH believes that an infusion of \$10 million would go a long way toward finding some of the answers about the health and safety of nanotechnology. The president's fiscal year 2008 budget did not include any specific funds for this research, but AIHA and many others are determined to educate Congress on the need for this funding.

Other Activity at OSHA

As OSHA and other federal agencies begin the long process of seeking approval of fiscal year 2008 budget expenditures, it is interesting to see exactly what each agency believes can be accomplished in the coming year.

We all know that the President has requested expenditures of \$490.3 million in fiscal year '08 for OSHA...The figure being tossed about is an actual \$5.1 million decrease after inflation...

In addition to the actual appropriations requested, each agency also supplies Congress with what is known as a "budget justification document." This document outlines plans the agency has for the coming fiscal year and where the appropriated dollars will be spent.

OSHA's justification document includes quite a "wish list." The agency says it expects to issue three notices of proposed rulemaking—including the haz com standard update (GHS and MSDS issues), crystalline silica and beryllium. The agency also says it will begin a small business panel review on ionizing radiation. The first stakeholder meeting on this issue was recently held. OSHA also plans to issue final rules for the standards improvement project phase III, and a

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Happenings (Continued from page 2)

consensus standard update. And finally, the agency says it will issue guidance documents on hazard communication and several other issues.

Whew! Quite an agenda for an agency that has continually back-pedaled on several regulatory issues the last several years. One would think the agency would pick out a couple of realistic activities, perhaps finalizing the PPE standard or begin working with industry and labor to update the permissible exposure limits. Should the agency succeed in more than one or two of the activities in the justification document many would consider the year a huge success.

OSH Advocate Dies

Worker advocate George Taylor passed away on March 23rd in Rockville, MD. He was 95. Mr. Taylor is credited for helping to spawn the OSH Act. "It never would have passed without him, and workers across America are safety today because of him." In 1982, ACGIH presented Taylor with its William Steiger Memorial Award. For his efforts to improve worker safety, NIOSH presented him with the Alice Hamilton award in the 1980s.

"If there is a reasonable belief that a large number of people are going to be put at risk, you try to prevent it. You don't wait until you can count the last pair of lungs on the dissecting table" Mr. Taylor said in an interview with the Washington Post.

AFL-CIO president John Sweeney said that "Millions of workers have been protected from injury and illness because of his tireless work."

Revised ANSI/AIHA Standards

✓ **ANSI/AIHA Z9.2—American National Standard in Fundamentals Governing the Design and Operation of Local Exhaust Ventilation Systems**

ANSI/AIHA Z9.2 establishes minimum requirements for the commissioning, design, specification, construction, and installation of fixed industrial local exhaust ventilation (LEV) systems used for the reduction and prevention of employee exposure to harmful airborne substances in the industrial environment. The standard also establishes fundamental requirements for the management, operation, maintenance, and testing of LEV systems to assure satisfactory performance over the life of the system. It also

describes basic requirements for replacing air exhausted from the space.

✓ **ANSI/AIHA Z9.7—American National Standard on Recirculation of Air From Industrial Process Exhaust Systems**

ANSI/AIHA Z9.7 established minimum criteria for the design and operation of a recirculating industrial process exhaust ventilation system used for contaminant control.

You can order a copy of these standards on the AIHA web site, or call AIHA at (703) 849-8888. If you have any questions, please contact Mili Mavely.

AIHA Urges OSHA to Lower Noise PEL

On March 28th, Frank Renshaw (AIHA President) sent a letter to Edwin Foulke, Jr. (OSHA's Assistant Secretary of Labor), urging OSHA to adopt an 85 dBA exposure limit and the 3 dB exchange rate.

programs, given that there would be one threshold trigger for all hearing conservation activity such as engineering controls, training, and programs.

Renshaw states that lowering the PEL to 85 dBA would reduce the number of workers at risk by at least half. Review of the damage risk estimation based on OSHA's current standard will yield up to 26% excess risk of material hearing impairment over the course of a working lifetime.

In defense of its urging, AIHA cited that the nation's DoD branches (Army and Air Force) have adopted the 85 dBA exposure limit and the 3 dB exchange rate and the Navy is in the process of adopting the lower levels. AIHA also stated that the majority of nations regulate noise exposures at a lower level than the United States.

AIHA also stated that lowering the limits may streamline the management of hearing conservation

Hearing loss significantly affects the ability to communicate and negatively impacts a worker's quality of life. AIHA believes that the 85 dBA exposure limit and the

McDowell Safety & Health Services, LLC

• Audits/Assessments	• Mechanical Integrity
• Procedures	• Exposure Assessment
• Electrical Safety	• Hearing Conservation
• OSHA Assistance	• Personnel Monitoring &
• Ergonomics	Reporting



Cell: 214-497-8627

Phone/Fax: 940-458-5350

E-Mail: mcs@sbcbglobal.net

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!!

American Industrial Hygiene Conference and Exposition

Sponsored by AIHA and ACGIH

Date: June 2-7, 2006

Location: Philadelphia, PA

Contact: <http://www.aiha.org>

Management Skills for Emerging Leaders in Environmental Health and Safety

Sponsored by the Harvard School of Public Health

Date: May 7-9, 2006

Location: Boston, MA

Contact: <http://www.hsph.harvard.edu/ccpe/programs/LMS.shtml>

Environmental Trade Fair and Conference

Sponsored by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality

Date: May 1-3, 2006

Location: Austin, TX

Contact: <mailto:etfc@tceq.state.tx.us>



Articles Needed!

Not everyone gets to go to conferences - whether it is the PCIH, AIHCE, ASSE, or even some of the interesting symposia that we see advertised every month.

Let others know what you have learned! This a great way to educate others as well as provide the newsletter editor with fodder.

Editor's Note:

As events are posted for local CEU/CM point opportunities, the newsletter editor will send out a general email notice to the Membership. Thanks, *Kelly*

Workplace Exacerbation of Asthma a Research Priority

NIOSH is expanding partnerships and research to address emerging concerns about workplace exacerbation of asthma. This includes six articles in peer-reviewed journals, a textbook chapter and ongoing discussions with partners about a possible international collaborative study and the development of preventive strategies. For more information, contact Dr. Paul Henneberger at 304-285-6161 or go to the NIOSH asthma topic page <http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/topics/asthma/>

Board Member Contact Information

President: Michael Larranaga (mailto:michael_larranaga@yahoo.com)

President-Elect: Marie Martin (<mailto:drmarie@gmail.com>)

Past President: Don Hudnall (<mailto:dhudnall@bellhelicopter.textron.com>)

Secretary: Michael Donahue (<mailto:mike.donahue@abbott.com>)

Treasurer: Erika Erikson (<mailto:erikson@guidaslavichflores.com>)

Director: Bill Vining (<mailto:vining@oeci.com>)

Director: William Bird (<mailto:WBird@psc.gov>)

Director: Stevan Pierce (mailto:stevanp_2000@yahoo.com)

Membership Application

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We're on the Web!

See us at:

(<http://www.aiha.org/LocalSections/html/NTS/homepage.htm>)

NTS-AIHA
P.O. Box 610925
Dallas, Texas 75261
Federal Tax ID: 31-1254249

Newsletter Editor: Kelly Dennison
 (<mailto:kadennison@bellhelicopter.textron.com>)

NTS-AIHA Membership Benefits Include:

- ⇒ Subsidized meetings and member discounts
- ⇒ \$10 savings on each issue of newsletter sponsorship. \$15/issue for non-members, \$5/issue for members
- ⇒ NTS-AIHA Membership Directory sent in December and upon request (Members only)
- ⇒ Immediate notification of local job opportunities for members on email distribution list
- ⇒ NTS-AIHA Voting Rights

NTS-AIHA MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FOR NEW AND RENEWING MEMBERS

New

Renewing

NAME Last First MI Certification(s), Title, or Both

COMPANY

Home

Business

ADDRESS Street/Box City State Zip

Home

Business

ADDRESS Street/Box City State Zip

NOTE: HARDCOPIES WILL NOT BE MAILED.

EMAIL ADDRESS (provide one only for newsletter, directory and correspondence)

Home

Home

Business

PHONE

Business

PHONE

For the annual Directory, which address do you want posted? HOME BUS NONE

Do you wish to receive email notification of job opportunities? YES NO

If YES, what type of job would interest you? LOCAL ALL

Are you a National AIHA Member? YES NO

SIGNATURE

DATE

DUES ARE \$15 PER YEAR! MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO NTS-AIHA. SEND THIS FORM AND PAYMENT TO NTS-AIHA, P.O. BOX 610925, DALLAS, TX 75261. FEDERAL TAX ID: 31-1254249.