

Inside this issue:

Director's Message 1
 NIOSH Research Project 1
 Happenings from the Hill 2
 OSHA GHS Proposed Rulemaking 2
 Mark Your Calendars! 3
 Board Member Contact Information 3
 Membership Form 4

Treasurer's Report

1/1/2006 through 9/30/2006

Inflows		\$
Dues	905.00	
TeleWeb Seminars	330.00	
Uncategorized	5,200.00	
Cash for Change	-150.00	
TOTAL INCOME	6,285.00	
Outflows		\$
Science Fair	348.33	
OSHA Update	4,262.61	
TeleWebs (3)	795.00	
Leadership Conf.	127.42	
Plaque	106.50	
Mail Service	200.00	
TOTAL EXPENSES	5,839.86	
Overall Totals		\$
OVERALL TOTAL	445.14	
Checkbook Balance	5,559.87	
Certificate of Deposit	5,359.06	

North Texas Section - American Industrial Hygiene Association



Director's Message by Stevan Pierce

If you are anything like me, you kinda'/sorta' keep track of your ABIH "points" for renewal of your CIH (and BCSP points for CSP). I have been doing it that way since 1976 (my CIH number is 1034—shows my age, too). More than half those years I was employed and got to go to the annual Conference and other training on my employer' dime and time. In times past I had enough points for two CIH certifications (try being an editor for the *Journal*—beaucoup points). Not so in the past decade or so. Getting to go to the Conference and other out-of-town courses on a regular basis is no longer a given. Also, being a sole proprietor, I not only foot the entire bill

but I lose earnings when I am not available to consult with clients.

I have looked for closer to home (and cheaper) point-gathering events and responsibilities the past 15 years and it has worked out well—I am still a CIH/CSP. I have taught as a guest lecturer at UTA and A&M, I have submitted questions to the Board, and I have attended all manner of more-or-less free events such as our recent OSHA Update seminar (1 CM point, no travel costs, and fellow-ship for \$50—can't beat that).

Recently I have heard that FEMA has pre-approved downloadable courses. After some investigation, I have located the mother lode of internet courses, some costly,

some free, all cheaper than travel. FEMA alone has over 35 approved online courses worth a total of 58.75 points. Be aware that AVIH does not have a cap on the number of points you can earn. There are really no free lunches.

The FEMA approved Distant Learning activities can be viewed at <http://www.training.fema.gov/EMIWeb/IS/crslist.asp>. The entire AIHA Distant Learning approval list can be reviewed at <http://www.abih.org/members/documents/homestudy2006.doc>.

I hope this helps those of you, like me, who must look to more affordable and local educational opportunities.

NIOSH Seeking Businesses for Research Project

NIOSH has announced an opportunity for Businesses to partner with them on a research project to evaluate the reusability of disposable filtering facepiece respirators used for protection against infectious aerosols.

The National Personal Protective Technology Laboratory (NPPTL) is conducting research to determine the reusability of filtering facepiece respirators (FFRs) exposed to infectious aerosols.

One aim of this research is to address whether NIOSH-certified FFRs are suitable for reuse after decontamination. NIOSH pro-

poses to study the effects of decontaminating a diverse array of FFRs including the N95, P100, and N95 FFR/surgical mask. This project will also study the survivability of a stimulant influenza virus on FFRs. NIOSH plans to include some of the respirator models that have been stockpiled by the government to be used in the event of an influenza pandemic. NIOSH also plans to include models with head straps and without head straps, with and without exhalation valves.

Through this announcement, NIOSH is seeking to identify

FFR products or prototypes that possess anti-viral or other novel technologies that disinfect or sterilize infectious aerosols as part of their materials of construction.

Candidate companies will be evaluated based on their capability to achieve the identified criteria in sufficient quantities for testing.

Letters of submission should be sent within 30 days after the date of the notice in the Federal Register: September 26, 2006, Volume 71, Number 186, pages 56151-56152.

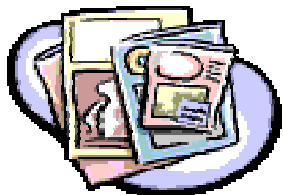
TCEQ News...

Nominations for individuals, communities, companies or organizations may be nominated for the 2007 Texas Environmental Excellence Awards through November 3.

Selected by a Blue Ribbon Committee, the awards recognize outstanding, innovative environmental programs in 10 areas. To learn more, nominate a group or individual, or apply online, visit www.teea.org or call the TCEQ awards coordinator at (512) 239-3150.

“The difference between the right word and the almost right word is the difference between lightning and lightning bug.”

- Mark Twain



Let us know how you like the new format!

Happenings From the Hill thanks to Aaron Trippler

✓ Regarding OSHA's revision of the Respiratory Protection Standard's requirements for Assigned Protection Factors: Labor has come out in opposition to the new standard saying employers will likely opt for the cheapest filtering mask that still meets OSHA's regulations. Industry has praised the final standard for giving the same protection rating to both half masks with elastomeric facepieces and filtering facepieces.

✓ Finding someone to lead MSHA is turning out to be more difficult than originally expected! When President Bush nominated Richard Stickler to head up MSHA, Democratic opposition in the Senate led to a delay in his confirmation. Most expected this delay to last only a couple of months; even

resulting in Mr. Stickler being hired as a "consultant" at MSHA during the interim. Then, the senate returned the nomination to the President, thereby giving the President that chance to nominate someone who will be able to be confirmed by the Senate.

✓ Four separate law suits were filed following the publication of the final Hexavalent Chrome standard. The four were combined into one and the courts will decide what to do next. Industry claims the final PEL is set too low. Public Citizen (the group who originally forced OSHA to adopt a final standard) is arguing that the final PEL is set too high.

✓ One more caveat to the final Hex Chrome standard: OSHA

objects to California's adoption of the final rule. California states that companies that companies that have fewer than 10 employees do not need separate showers for male and female workers so long as the doors lock from the inside. Federal OSHA claims they must provide separate showers and that the State rule must at least be as stringent as the federal rule.

✓ Finally, those waiting to see exactly what health and safety legislation might make its way through this Congress will probably have to wait until the next session. With so little time left in the session, it looks as though all of the major legislative measures monitored by AIHA and others will fall by the wayside.

OSHA Announces Proposed Rulemaking for GHS

OSHA, other Federal agencies, and stakeholder representatives have participated in long-term international negotiations to develop a Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labeling of Chemicals (GHS).

The GHS has been adopted by the United Nations, and there is an international goal for as many countries as possible to implement the GHS by 2008. The GHS includes harmonized provisions for classification of chemicals for their health, physical, and envi-

ronmental effects, as well as for labels on containers and safety data sheets (SDS).

Adoption of the GHS by OSHA would require modifications to the Agency's Hazard Communication Standard (HCS). For example, an order of information would be established for safety data sheets. In this notice, OSHA is providing further information about the GHS, the benefits of adopting it, and its potential impact on the HCS. OSHA is seeking input from the public on

a number of issues related to implementation of the GHS. The Agency is simultaneously announcing the availability of a new guide on its web site at <http://www.osha.gov> that describes the GHS.

GHS would significantly reduce the regulatory burdens placed on companies that manufacture chemicals. It would remove the confusion with regard to the different requirements for classification and labeling by the CPSC, OSHA, EPA, and DOT.

The **WARREN COOK INDUSTRIAL HYGIENE DISCUSSIONAL** is a 1.5-day discussion-based program intended for senior-level industrial hygienists involved in industrial hygiene policy development and management. The 43rd annual offering of this program will occur on November 2-3, 2006 in Ann Arbor Michigan. The discussional has become a valuable tradition for industrial hygiene managers to learn how peers are handling contemporary issues and to benchmark their own activities. If you have not attended this program in the past and are interested in learning more, please contact us at ce_programs@umich.edu or call (734) 936-0148.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!!

National Safety Council Congress and Expo

Date: November 3 – 10, 2006
Location: San Diego, California
Contact: <http://www.nsc.org>

Heart of Texas 5th Annual Health & Safety Conference

Date: November 2-3, 2006
Location: Texas State Technical College, Waco, TX
Contact: <mailto:jerry.atlas@tstc.edu>

Solutions in Safety Through Technology Symposium

Date: November 16-17, 2006
Location: Scottsdale, AZ
Contact: <http://www.asse.org/techsymposium>

Mold, Moisture, and Remediation Workshop

Date: November 13-16, 2006
Location: Cincinnati, OH
Contact: <http://acgih.org>

Symposium on Pandemics: Community Impacts and Professional Responses

Date: November 30, 2006
Location: Austin, TX
Contact: <http://www.texashillcountryaiha.org>

SeminarFest 2007

Date: January 21-27, 2007
Location: Las Vegas, NV
Contact: <http://asse.org>

Pandemics: Community Impact and Professional Response

Date: November 30, 2006
Location: Austin, TX
Contact: <http://www.texashillcountryaiha.org/>

AIHA Texas Hill Country Section Regular Meeting

Date: October 12, 2006
Location: Austin, TX
Contact: <http://www.texashillcountryaiha.org/>

Agroterrorism: Managing Foreign & Emerging Animal Diseases

Date: October 12, 2006
Location: Live Satellite Broadcast/ Webcast
Contact: <http://www.ualbanycphp.org>



Do you own a business? Do you want some advertising?

Have we got a space for YOU!

Contact Kelly Dennison for more information!



Stay Tuned...

A Full Day PDC in November featuring SKC and TSI

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

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

Dues are only \$15 per year!!

NTS-AIHA MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FOR NEW AND RENEWING MEMBERS

New NAME: _____
 Renewing **Last First MI Certification**

Home ADDRESS: _____
 Business **Street/Box City State Zip**

_____ **Phone** _____ **Fax**

Home ADDRESS _____
 Business **Street/Box City State Zip**

_____ **Phone** _____ **Fax**

EMAIL ADDRESS (provide one only for Newsletter and Directory)

Home _____

Business PHONE _____

For the annual Directory, which address do you wish be 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.