



The Alabama AIHA Chronicle

Volume 102, Issue 1

January 2002

Local Section News

President's Page

Letter from the Editor—B. Jenkins

I had the best intentions to send out a year-end newsletter. I thought while I was out on maternity leave I would have time. Boy, was I wrong. I apologize for the delay in information to you. Motherhood is very enjoyable and time consuming. ❖

News from the Board

Bylaws -The change to the bylaws regarding students was approved by AIHA national office. John has the signed original copy. **Finances** - John provided a financial statement showing YTD revenues and expenses. The section account balance at year-end is \$1,151.86, a net gain of \$153.44 for the year. There are no large expenses anticipated for the remainder of the year. One relatively large expense the section did not have this year was the cost of sending the President to the Leadership Council Meeting. No meeting was held in 2001. The section will budget for this cost in 2002. John also brought up the question of whether Vern Rose scholarship donations had been made as planned. The section pledged \$1,000 over five years (\$200 per year) beginning in 1998 and continuing through 2002. Section financial records show only one payment of \$200 was made in 1998. John and Jim will investigate.

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September, 2001 Meeting

ACIPCO, Birmingham, AL

ACIPCO's Birmingham Plant Founded in 1905, is one of Birmingham's oldest companies and is the largest manufacturing employer in the city. The facility covers more than 2000 acres. ACIPCO manufactures a diversified product line including ductile iron pipe and fittings, castings, and centrifugally cast steel tubes. ACIPCO has been named to *Fortune* magazine's list of "The 100 Best Companies to Work for in America" five times. The local toured this site on September 13, 2001. ❖

November, 2001 Meeting

Understanding Emergency Response - Birmingham, AL

Kenneth Oldfield gave a great presentation on Understanding Emergency Response Plans (ERP) and Emergency Action Plans (EAP). Do you know the difference? The emergency action plan is a required component of the ERP. Employers MUST have an EAP. If employees are required to respond to emergencies, employers MUST have an Emergency Response Plan, which includes an Emergency Action Plan for non-essential personnel. The HAZWOPER Compliance Documents with a good Checklist can be found at www.osha-slc.gov/OshDoc/Directive_data/CPL_2-2_59A.html. ❖

New Recordkeeping Rule

OSHA's final Recordkeeping rule became effective on January 1, 2002 Some of the specific changes in the new rule are listed in the following chart.

New Rule
Forms- OSHA 300 - Log , OSHA 300A –Summary, And the OSHA 301-Incident Report
Significant aggravation of a pre-existing condition by a workplace event or exposure makes the case work-related
No such criteria as the 30 day rule for CTDs
Aggravation of a case where signs or symptoms have not resolved is a continuation of the original case

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Report on Local Section Council Meeting -The local section council meeting was held on June 4, 2001 during the annual AIHCE in New Orleans, Blake and Jim attended. The main topic of discussion was the cancellation of the leadership development conference in October. This was to be a combined conference with ASSE held in Orlando. The conference was canceled due to ASSE withdrawing their sponsorship. The next leadership development conference is scheduled for February 2002 in Washington D.C. The president elect, Blake, is scheduled to attend. Jim reported that during the local section meeting at the AIHCE, it was recommended that local section bylaws include a statement to allow removal of an officer or board member. **Membership Survey** - Jim would like to conduct a membership survey. Bonnie has a draft document for the survey and Jim will contact national to see if they may have a survey we may use. **Miscellaneous** -UAB is looking for vendors to support scholarships at the School of Public Health. If anyone knows of any vendor who might be interested please have them contact Joan Ohrn. UAB will be hosting a speaker from the Public Health Service to speak on the aftermath of the terrorist attacks in New York and Washington.

Committee Reports – Communications Bonnie is back at work and hopes to have a newsletter out shortly.

Program -The local section will consider sponsoring a question writing workshop through ABIH & BCSP as a low cost certification maintenance point gathering opportunity for CIH's & CSP's. Blake will contact BCSP and John will contact ABIH. John will also e-mail the membership to determine the level of interest. Suggested tours were International Paper in Courtland, and the Birmingham News. The section AIHA Board Coordinator, Donna Doganiero, would like to attend one of the 2002 meetings.

Membership - John distributed a summary of the membership. The headcount is down from the previous two years, but most of this is due to unpaid dues.

Nominating -Bonnie and the nominating committee will begin work and have information ready for discussion at next meeting. ❖

Anthrax Facts

In October 2001, four workers died from inhalation anthrax and an additional 13 developed cutaneous or inhalational disease as a result of intentional terrorist activity. In most cases seen thus far, the disease was linked to unexpected

workplace exposures to anthrax spores contained in letters mailed through the United States Postal Service. Fortunately, the number of workplaces contaminated with the spores has also been quite limited. Nevertheless, employers and workers are concerned about possible exposure to *Bacillus anthracis* in the workplace. The **Risk Reduction Matrix** was developed to offer basic advice and suggest protective measures that OSHA believes will reduce the risk of exposure in light of current concerns about the presence of anthrax spores in the workplace. This matrix is not intended to establish a legal standard of care with respect to anthrax spores in the workplace. These recommendations do not impose and are not intended to result in the imposition of any new legal obligations or constraints on employers or the states. The matrix is a pyramid with a red, a yellow and a green zone. **RED ZONE** Workplaces Where Authorities Have Informed You That Contamination with Anthrax Spores Has Been Confirmed or Is Strongly Suspected. **YELLOW ZONE:** Workplaces Where Contamination with Anthrax Spores Is Possible. **GREEN ZONE:** Workplaces Where Contamination with Anthrax Spores Is Unlikely See the following link for details on the guidance for each zone of the pyramid.

www.osha-slc.gov/bioterrorism/anthrax/matrix/index.html

Revised Steel Erection Standard

The revised steel erection standard has addressed key provisions in the following areas: Site Layout and Construction Sequence, Site-Specific Erection Plan, Hoisting and Rigging, Structural Steel Assembly Column Anchorage, Beams and Columns, Open Web Steel Joists, Systems-Engineered Metal Buildings, Falling Object Protection, Fall Protection and Training. For more detailed information see www.osha-slc.gov/steelerrection/index.html.

New Compliance Directive for Bloodborne Pathogens

On November 28, 2001, OSHA issued a new compliance directive for enforcing the bloodborne pathogens standard that was revised in January. The standard became effective on April 18. The compliance directive guides OSHA's safety and health inspection officers in enforcing the standard that covers occupational exposure to blood and other potentially infectious materials, and ensures consistent inspection procedures are followed. It updates an earlier directive issued in 1999 and incorporates changes mandated by the Needlestick Safety and Prevention Act passed in Nov. 2000.

www.osha-slc.gov/OshDoc/Directive_data/CPL_2-2_69.html

2001-02 OFFICERS

& BOARD MEMBERS

President – Jim Tillery

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Board Member - Past - President - Bonnie Jenkins

Email: bonnie.jenkins@appl.ge.com

Financial News

THE SECTION ACCOUNT BALANCE AS OF JANUARY 31, 2002 IS \$1415.17.

MEMBERSHIP DUES

THAT TIME OF YEAR AGAIN !

Dues for the year are \$10. If you have not paid your dues, please mail a check to the following address.

Attn: John Horwarth, 113 Sweet Gum Lane, Chelsea, AL 35043.

Dues invoices will be mailed out next month a reminder. Next month Membership Directories will be mailed.

CHECK OUT OUR WEB PAGE

www.aiha.org/sections/websect.html

Contact Bonnie Jenkins to add items, such as job openings, articles of interest, etc. ❖

Work-related illnesses are recordable if they meet the general recording criteria

Exceptions to presumption of work relationship:

- 1) Member of the general public
- 2) Symptoms arising on premises totally due to outside factors
- 3) Voluntary participation in wellness program
- 4) Eating, drinking and preparing one's own food
- 5) Personal tasks outside working hours
- 6) Personal grooming, self-medication, self infliction
- 7) Motor vehicle accident in parking lot/ access road during commute
- 8) Cold or flu
- 9) Mental illness unless employee voluntarily presents a medical opinion stating that the employee has a mental illness that is work-related.

Restricted work activity limited to day of injury does not make case recordable

Day Counts: Now you Count Calendar days with an 180 day cap on count. This includes weekends and holidays even if employee is not scheduled to work.

Medical treatment does not include:

- 1) Visits to MD for observation and counseling only
- 2) Diagnostic procedures (including administration of prescription medication for diagnostic purposes)
- 3) First aid

The following are considered medical treatment – 1) single dose prescription med 2) Over The Counter med at prescription strength
The following are first aid 1) Any number of hot/cold treatments, 2) Drilling a nail, 3) Use of Butterfly bandage/Steri-Strip

Significant diagnosed injury or illness recordable:

- 1) fracture, 2) punctured ear drum, 3) cancer , 4) chronic irreversible disease

Hearing loss – From 1/1/02 until 12/31/02 record shift in hearing averaging 25dB or more from the employee's original baseline

Record all needlesticks and injuries that result from sharps potentially contaminated with another persons blood or other potentially infectious material

Medical removal under provisions of OSHA standards are recordable

TB - Positive skin test recordable when known workplace exposure to active TB disease. No presumption of work relationship in any industry

Must enter 'Privacy Cases' rather than the employee's name, and keep a separate list of the case number and corresponding names

Access - employee and authorized representative access to entire log, including names; Employee access to individual's Incident Report (OSHA 301); Authorized Representative access to portion of all OSHA 301s

Fatality reporting - do not need to report fatalities resulting from motor vehicle accident on public street or highway that do not occur in construction zone

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Our 2001-2002 Calendar

September 13 Plant Tour

Topic: ACIPCO, Birmingham

November 1 Dinner Meeting - UAB

Topic: "Understanding Emergency Response Plans and Emergency Action Plans"

February 7 Plant Tour

Topic: Birmingham News

March 14 Dinner Meeting, Birmingham, AL

Topic: TBA & Elections

April 25 UNA, Florence, AL

Topic: Student Presentations

MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT

You are invited to get a close look at the production of a daily newspaper. With over 700 employees, *The Birmingham News* and *Birmingham Post-Herald* boast the largest circulation in Alabama and one of the largest circulations in the South. View the newsroom, graphic departments, composing areas, and presses to see how a newspaper is created, printed, and distributed. (Note: the presses will not be running during the tour.)

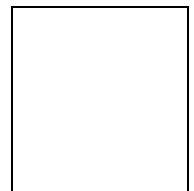
Date: Thursday, February 7, 2002

Time: 5:00 PM

Place: The Birmingham News/Birmingham Post-Herald - 2200 4th Avenue North (NE corner of 4th Ave. North and 22nd Street North)

Park on the street or in the public parking structure at the NW corner of 4th and 22nd.

Bonnie Jenkins
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ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED