



**GULF COAST CHAPTER**  
HOUSTON, TEXAS

## Summer 2018 Newsletter

### INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- President's Message
- Gulf Coast SPY Award
- Chapter & Member Highlights
- Upcoming Meetings & Events
- Professional Development & Volunteer Opportunities
- Student Section
- Announcements

# AMERICAN SOCIETY OF SAFETY PROFESSIONALS



## Message from our Chapter President

Greetings fellow ASSP members!

The 2017-2018 term year was one filled with challenges and change. Bernice Johnson Reagon said "Life's challenges are not supposed to paralyze you; they're supposed to help you discover who you are," and I believe that captures our journey last year. As a first-time chapter president, there were many days I prayed for God to give me the strength and wisdom to make it through the storm and do right by all of you. Many of our members lost their homes, jobs friends and family members, and we lost our home at Brady's Landing. It was a rough year.

*"Challenges are what make life interesting and overcoming them is what makes life meaningful." – Joshua J. Marine*

Last year may have been rough, but the challenges we faced brought out the best from our members and made us try new things. We stood together and rose above every trial and tribulation, and have used the learnings from it all to help make our Chapter stronger than ever before. Thanks to the efforts of many of our members and supporters, we actually achieved ASSP's "Platinum" chapter status for the first time ever. This is a huge accomplishment considering everything that happened last year and was made possible by the commitment from our members and the necessity to operate outside of our comfort zone to persevere. Many positive outcomes resulted, including:

- Offering assistance to our members and communities during and after Hurricane Harvey.
- Hosting webinars to reach members who cannot attend physical meetings.
- The reinvigoration of our North Section.
- Hosting a speed networking event.
- Awarding \$7,500 in grants and scholarships to our members and their families.
- Becoming more connected with our chapter and student sections.
- Finding a new home!

Yes, you read that right, we have a new home! The Marriott South at Hobby is more centrally located, easy to get to, is focused on providing us the best experience possible and matched our costs from Brady's Landing. As a result, we have signed a contract to meet at the Marriott through the end of 2019. Comments about our new location have been extremely positive: "The location and food is great," "I love the new location, it's so much nicer than Brady's," and many more. I hope you will join us for future meetings and judge for yourself.

I feel incredibly blessed to have been your President last year, and I am humbled and honored to continue serving you this year. As you will see in this Newsletter, the ASSP Gulf Coast Chapter, Sections, and Partners have many exciting events planned for this year to continue improving value for you. A few things to look forward to this year include:

- Introducing our name change to "American Society of Safety Professionals"
- Exciting meeting lineup, and networking events
- Opportunity to earn CEUs
- Educate our youth initiative
- Safe + Sound Week
- Sporting Shoot Fund-raiser
- Region III PDC
- Future Leaders Conference

Your thoughts are essential to our continuous improvement, so please contact us ([info@gulfcoast.asse.org](mailto:info@gulfcoast.asse.org)) to share any concerns and ideas, or if you would like to volunteer to help us on this exciting journey.

It is a real honor serving as your president this year!

Thank you,  
Tabitha A. Laser, CSP

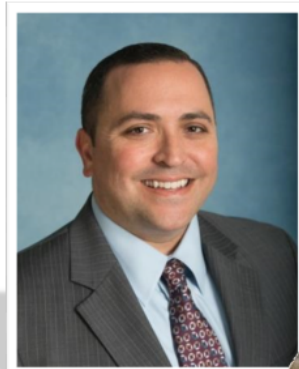


**CONNECT WITH US!**

Chapter Safety Professional of the Year (SPY) Award

## Gulf Coast Chapter SPY

William Gonzales



Congratulations!

## 2018 ASSE Society Blacks in Safety Excellence SPY

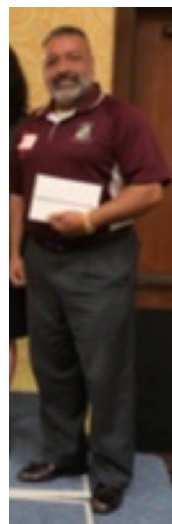
Krystle Hodge, CSP



## Member Get-a-Member Campaign

**Alfred "Freddy" Sustaita Jr.**

Program Director, EHST  
San Jacinto College



## Chapter and Member Highlights

### 2017-2018 President's Award Recipients



"We must never forget that the highest appreciation is not to utter words, but to live by them."

- Former U.S. President John F. Kennedy

### Scholarship & Grant Recipients

#### Professional Education Grants

- Jackie Bowers - EHS Manager, Electrical Systems & Instrumentation
- Alyssa Duncan - Sr. EHS Representative, Linn Energy
- Terry Pena - Safety Manager, EMS Energy Solutions, LLC

#### Past President's Scholarships

- Eric Ball - BS, Occupational Safety & Health Management, Grand Valley State University (MI)
- Dakota Guzler - BS, Fire Protection & Safety Engineering Technology, Oklahoma State University - Stillwater (OK)

**CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL OF OUR 2017 -  
2018 AWARDS AND HONOR RECIPIENTS!**

## Greater Houston Science & Engineering Fair Scholarship Winner

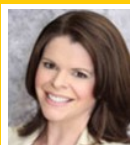


Joshua Bickham, Friendswood High School

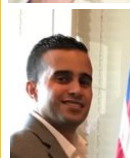
- **Project:** “Vicious Vapors: The Effects of Secondhand E-Cigarette Smoke”
- **Hypothesis** - While the effects of secondhand smoke from traditional cigarettes has been well established, this newer form of “healthier” nicotine intake has not been well researched.



## ASSP Gulf Coast Chapter 2018-2019 Office



**President**  
Tabitha Laser, CSP



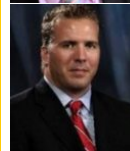
**Sr. Vice President of Communications**  
Jovan Lora, CSP, OHST



**Treasurer**  
James Charo



**Newsletter Chair**  
Scott Kilmer



**Networking & Sponsor Chair**  
Jeron Quincy, CSP



**Vice President of Member Services**  
Dustin Hickey, CSP, ASP



**Secretary**  
Krystle Hodge, CSP



**Program Chair**  
Jessica Good, GSP, ASHM



**Student Liaison**  
Magdy Akladios, PhD, PE, CSP, CPE, CSHM





## ASSP Common Interest Groups Updates

### Blacks in Safety Excellence (BISE):

Advances all people of color in the OSH profession through professional development, networking, collaboration and education.

### Women in Safety Excellence (WISE):

Addresses issues specific to women OSH professionals – helping tackle the specific workplace and industry challenges that women face, in order to advance their careers and gain leadership positions within the OSH profession.

- The Gulf Coast Chapter has received emails to re-establish the **Women in Safety Excellence (WISE) group**. If you are interested in participating in the group, please [email the executive team](#) with your contact information. This is an excellent opportunity to strength the **WISE** group.

### Hispanic Safety Professionals:

Advances Hispanics and Latinos in the OSH profession through professional development, networking and collaboration.

### Young Professionals in Occupational Safety and Health:

Identifies, develops and connects young leaders who possess a passion to expand their knowledge and promote the OSH profession to sustain ASSP and advance the industry as a whole.

## Not receiving Chapter emails?

Please review the two most common issues found. Follow suggestions below to start receiving Chapter emails.

1. **Do not email list:** Please confirm you have not been placed on the “Do not email” list by logging in to [www.assp.org](http://www.assp.org) and ensuring you have “Include in Web/Mobile Directory” selected, and that all of your contact information is current.
2. **Emails blocked by your computer/company settings:** Please go to the link below for instructions to ensure Chapter emails can get through to you.  
<https://www.assp.org/news-and-articles/2018/05/11/how-to-whitelist-assp-emails>

## Professional Development & Volunteer Opportunities

### Volunteers/Assistance Needed:

- Members to assist with our Call a Member Campaign
- Members to audit our financials
- Members to assist plan social events



[Contact us](#) if you are interested in any of the above

### Region III PDC:

The [2018 Region III ASSP PDC](#) to view topics that were covered.

### Future Leaders Conference:

- The [2018 Future Safety Leaders Conference](#) will be held Nov. 8-9, 2018, at the Chicago Marriott Oak Brook in Oak Brook, IL.
- Follow the above hyper-link for registration details and further information about the conference.

### Interested in being a vendor at the Monthly Chapter Meeting?

#### Sponsorship (Single Vendor Exclusive) Vendor

- \$1,000 Exclusive Sponsorship (First Come First Serve Basis)
- Provide Drawing Prizes

#### Benefits

- Recognition during the Meeting "Kick Off"
- 5 min presentation on your services/products
- 2 table spaces in the meeting room
- Display logo on Signage

#### Sponsorship (Multiple Vendors)

- \$500 Sponsorship/Vendor
- Provide Drawing Prizes

#### Benefits

- Limited to first 3 Vendors
- Recognition during the Meeting "Kick Off"
- 1 table space in the meeting room per vendor
- Display logo

Please [Contact us](#), if you are interested in becoming a vendor at one of our monthly Chapter meetings.



## Upcoming Chapter Meetings

Gulf Coast Chapter Upcoming Meeting Schedule:

**REGISTER EARLY FOR EVENTS AND RECEIVE A DISCOUNT!**

**VISIT OUR WEBSITE FOR MORE DETAILS!** [www.gulfcoast.assp.org](http://www.gulfcoast.assp.org)

## 2018-2019 Calendar

### 2018

- September 6** Health & Safety Lessons from Other Public Health Professions (Dr. Robert "Safety Bob" Emery)
- October 11** EHS Challenges & Learnings Executive Panel (EHS, Operations, Regulatory & Legal)
- November 8** challenges in renewable energy (Prashant Krishnan, PE)
- December 6** Holiday Social (Dave & Busters)

### 2019

- January 10** Drugs in the Workplace & New Trends to be aware of" (Margaret Gilbert) NIOSH H&S
- February 7** Learnings from Hurricane (Harvey, Dr. Scott Ward)
- March 7** Vendor and Networking Night
- April 4** Modern Day Ergonomics (Andy Muttamer, CPE)
- May 2** Awards & Honors Meeting (Will be bringing in a big-name speaker... stay tuned!)
- June 6** Webinar for CEUs (topic tbd) & Speed Networking Event
- July & August** Summer Break / No Meetings
- September 5** Technology Discussion Panel (EHS, Operations, Technology & Legal)
- October 3** Legal Review (Adele Abrams) WISE sponsored event
- November 7** Eye Spy Hazards (Sarah Anderson)
- December 5** Holiday Social (Dave & Buster)

## North Section upcoming meeting:

**September 20th: Professional Development Topic: "The 7 Insights into Safety Leadership".** Practical, real-world lessons learned about how to interact, and more importantly engage, with all levels of the organization, from the line level employee to the C-Suite. We all know that a strong safety culture is central to safety performance excellence. Achieving that goal is the challenge. "The 7 Insights into Safety Leadership" are the most essential strategies needed to influence your organization and improve safety performance.

**Speaker:** Laura Fiffick - Krause Bell Group

**Location:** Pallotta's Italian Grill, 27606 Interstate 45, Oak Ridge North, TX 77385

**Meeting timeline:** 11 AM Sign In/Networking  
11:30 Lunch Served  
12PM Start Presentation  
1PM End Presentation

**Cost:** \$25.00 Member/Non-Member  
\$0.00 Student/Unemployed



## In the News:

### ASSP:

- ASSP President Rixio Medina: A Change in Name, A Change in the Game
- Safety 2018 Attendance and Exposition Were Largest Ever
- New ASSP App Brings Virtual Reality to Fall Protection Training



### Technical:

- A [Quick Guide to Combustible Dust Cleaning and Compliance](#): Top Ten Safety Issues for Small to Mid-Size Contractors "Real or Imagined" By John Meola, CSP, ARM, Safety Director (Pillar Inc)



**ASSE is now ASSP to reflect the diverse disciplines  
that make up the vibrant safety community.**

It's official! Effective June 1, 2018, ASSE officially changed their name to the American Society of Safety Professionals (ASSP). This important change reflects the organization's representation of the many disciplines and roles of today's safety professional. It also helps to make the organization more inclusive, providing a stronger platform for continuing to provide educational opportunities, lead in the development of standards, and be an advocate for the occupational safety and health profession.

We are a community of safety professionals. The new name tells the world who we are, what we do, and why it matters. Check out the new ASSP Society website at [www.assp.org](http://www.assp.org) and your very own Gulf Coast Chapter's new website at <https://gulfcoast.assp.org/>. Many thanks to all who helped make this transition happen. Welcome to ASSP!

## Board of Certified Safety Professionals (BCSP)

If you recently passed any Board of Certified Safety Professionals (BCSP) exams, [email us](#), so proper acknowledgments and congratulations can be given on your achievement.

### Certified Safety Professional (CSP):



- Timothy D. Read, PhD - Passed exam on July 30, 2018



## ASSP Practice Specialties

ASSP practice specialty communities provide a dedicated focus on technical insight across a wide range of safety disciplines:

Academics	Construction	Consultants	Engineering	Environmental
Ergonomics	Fire Protection	Healthcare	Industrial Hygiene	International
Management	Manufacturing	Military (branch)	Oil, Gas, Mining & Mineral Resources	Public Sector
Risk Management / Insurance	Training & Communications	Transportation	Utilities	

If you are interested in participating or joining any of the ASSP Practice Specialties groups, [email us](#) or visit the [ASSP website](#) for details on how to join.



**Congratulations to dedicated members that helps ensure our strong membership and keep employees safe in their everyday work.**

### July Anniversary

First Name	Last Name	Years
Luis	Aguilar	10
Gary	Aucoin	10
Scott	Chaney	10
Mark	Hyams	10
Clinton	Lewis	10
Gregory	Marino	25
Cookie	McKee	25
David	Neitzke	10
Sharla	Reynaga	25
Shawn	Roussel	10
Alex	Sierra	10
Gary	Aucoin	10
Dan	Hardisty	10

### August Anniversary

First Name	Last Name	Years
Carrie	Atkins	10
David	Darling	10
Bryan	Farquhar	10
Aaron	Jones	10
Shane	Moser	25
Dennis	Blowers	25
Steven	Ward	40
Joel	Tietjens	40
Samuel	Hoynes	40
Woodrow	Cole	40

## **FREE** FALL PROTECTION IN CONSTRUCTION TRAIN-THE-TRAINER WORKSHOP

Location	Date and Time	Address
La Marque / Texas City	August 30, 2018 8:30 AM to 5 PM	Gulf Coast Safety Institute 320 Delany Rd. La Marque, TX 77568
North Houston	September 7, 2018 8:00 AM to 4:30 PM	OSHA Houston North Area Office 690 South Loop 336 West, Suite 400 Conroe, TX 77304

University of Houston Clear Lake (UHCL) is providing FREE fall protection in construction training for small-businesses in construction. The trainings and materials were produced under grant number SH-31228-SH7 from the Occupational Safety and Health Administration, U.S. Department of Labor. It does not necessarily reflect the views or policies of the U. S. Department of Labor, nor does mention of trade names, commercial products, or organizations imply endorsement by the U. S. Government.

**Instructors:** Professors with safety expertise and years of professional experience.

- Dr. Magdy Akladios, PhD, PE, CSP, CPE, CSHM
- Dr. Robert Phalen, PhD, CIH

### **Benefits of attending**

1. Free training from qualified experts
2. Be able to train workers and future new hires
3. Free training materials and assistance with future trainings
4. Improve safety and reduce costly falls
5. Attendees will receive a certificate of attendance following one observed training

**Register at <http://www.eventzilla.net/user/UHCL>**  
**or contact Robert Phalen for additional dates at**  
**(281) 283-3753 / [phalen@uhcl.edu](mailto:phalen@uhcl.edu)**



# **FREE** WORKER TRAINING FALL PROTECTION IN CONSTRUCTION (ENGLISH AND SPANISH)

**NOTE:** If you have ten or more workers who need training, then we can come to your location. Contact Robert at [phalen@uhcl.edu](mailto:phalen@uhcl.edu) or (281) 283-3753 to schedule.

Location	Date and Time	Address
South Houston	September 1, 2018 (Sat.) 8:30 AM to 12:30 PM (English)	University of Houston Clear Lake 2700 Bay Area Blvd. Houston, TX 77058
	September 6, 2018 (Thurs.) 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM (Spanish & English)	
La Marque / Texas City	September 6, 2018 (Thurs.) 8 AM to 12 PM (Spanish)	Gulf Coast Safety Institute 320 Delany Rd. La Marque, TX 77568
	September 6, 2018 (Thurs.) 1 PM to 5 PM (English)	

University of Houston Clear Lake (UHCL) is providing FREE fall protection in construction training for small-businesses in construction. The trainings and materials were produced under grant number SH- 31228-SH7 from the Occupational Safety and Health Administration, U.S. Department of Labor. It does not necessarily reflect the views or policies of the U. S. Department of Labor, nor does mention of trade names, commercial products, or organizations imply endorsement by the U. S. Government.

Materials developed by professors with safety expertise and years of professional experience.

- Dr. Magdy Akladios, PhD, PE, CSP, CPE, CSHM
- Dr. Robert Phalen, PhD, CIH

## **Benefits of attending**

1. Free training from qualified experts
2. Free training materials and hands-on demonstrations
3. Improve safety and reduce costly falls
4. Attendees will receive a certificate of attendance (card)

**Register at <http://www.eventzilla.net/user/UHCL>  
or contact Robert Phalen at (281) 283-3753 / [phalen@uhcl.edu](mailto:phalen@uhcl.edu).**

## **FREE SAFETY TRAINING**



### Center for Risk Management

September 7, 2018 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM -

#### Introduction to the Department of Homeland Security Chemical Anti-Terrorism Standard

**This course will discuss:** recognizing chemicals of interest; developing a compliance plan; interacting with DHS; adherence to common requirements to comply; costs and budgeting.

Course will be taught by Leslie McGaha.

Contact: SeAlice Hemphill at 409-933-8365 for more information

#### Registration Form

Course sponsored by [Texas Mutual Insurance](#)

September 21, 2018 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM

#### The Art of Conflict Resolution

**This course will discuss:** effective communication strategies, understand how to resolve conflicts more effectively and discover how biases, assumptions, perceptions and opinions not based in reality causes conflict.

Course will be taught by Peter Harrell.

Contact: SeAlice Hemphill at 409-933-8365 for more information

#### Registration Form

Course sponsored by [Texas Mutual Insurance](#)

#### **To Register for any Risk Management Class:**

Contact SeAlice Hemphill, Program Assistant, at 409-933-8365 or download and print the registration form. Form can be returned by fax to 409-933-8027 or emailed to [riskmanagement@com.edu](mailto:riskmanagement@com.edu).

(Note: Form opens best in Internet Explorer or Safari)