

## ASSE New Jersey Chapter



### Chapter Officers

Gregory Decker, President  
 Lauren Cranmer, President Elect  
 Louise Vallee, Vice President  
 Robert Ortiz, Treasurer  
 Anthony Krake, Secretary

### March Meeting

**Date:** Thursday, March 16, 2017  
**Time:** 6:00 PM  
**Location:**  
 Snuffy's in Scotch Plains, NJ  
**Topic:** Annual Joint Meeting with AIHA

### April Meeting

**Date:** Thursday, April 20, 2017  
**Time:** 6:00 PM  
**Location:**  
 NJ Transit Tour/Program Overview NJ  
 Transit Maintenance Yard in Kearny, NJ

### Spring PDC

**Date:** Wednesday, May 3, 2017  
**Time:** 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM  
**Location:**  
 New Brunswick, NJ  
**Topic:** Emergency Planning and  
 Response

### May Meeting

**Date:** Thursday, May 18, 2017  
**Time:** 3:00 PM

### Letter from the President

*Gregory Decker*

Greetings on behalf of the Executive Committee of NJ ASSE, we hope that you and your families had a safe, happy, and healthy holiday season and new year. Just prior to the holidays, we held our Annual Past Presidents / Member Appreciation Dinner at the Stage House Tavern. Numerous past presidents were in attendance, and we honored members for their long service to the Chapter (you can find the list of the members with 25 and 40 years of service in this newsletter). As we begin this New Year, I would like to thank all of our members for the successes we had in 2016, and look to the future. January marked the midpoint of our 2016/2017 Chapter Year, and we have some exciting events scheduled for the remainder of the year. We held a successful FREE lunch and learn webinar on OSHA's Walking-Working Surfaces on January 19th, and a traditional Chapter meeting on February 16th focused on Safety Culture. Our annual joint meeting with NJ AIHA is on March 16, and a tour of the NJ Transit Maintenance Yard is scheduled for April. We are also currently planning our Spring PDC in May.

Please visit our website regularly for upcoming Chapter events, job openings, and other Chapter news. We are always interested in your feedback and ideas, and feel free to email us at [info@njasse.org](mailto:info@njasse.org). We look forward to seeing you at one (or more) of our upcoming Chapter meetings or events.

Sincerely,

Greg Decker, CSP  
 Chapter President

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### **In Memoriam**

#### *Joann V. West*

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It is with much sadness that we must announce the passing of our Past Chapter President, Cindy Mahoney on November 7, 2016. Cindy was a committed safety professional who believed in humanitarianism and disaster relief. Cindy's passion for Environmental, Health and Safety, led her to a career full of accomplishments, including serving as our Chapter President from 2000 – 2001. She served as Chairperson of the New Jersey State Industrial Safety Committee (NJSISC) from 2007 – 2008 and was also an active member of the Summit Volunteer First Aid Squad,



which she considered her second family. Cindy received over a dozen honorary awards for her altruistic volunteer efforts, excellence in global leadership, and tenacious work ethic.

On a personal note, Cindy Mahoney always called me her Mentor, so I tried to discover what to call her in that position. Most organizations use the word Mentoree, however I prefer to call Cindy an Active Imitator of Successful People.

Professionally, she followed suggestions, instructions and her own instincts, knowledge and heart to accomplish an activity. Cindy became her own person, one that others were anxious to imitate and follow whether they realized it or not. She set a Professional example that was difficult to surpass as a member and officer of NJASSE, NJSSIC and VPP associations.

As her Mentor, I am very proud of what she accomplished as a respected Woman in Safety Engineering and as a personal friend. I think of her often and will always miss her smiling face.

Nothing will honor her more than a scholarship for Women in Safety and I will work hard to make sure this happens.

## Welcome to NJASSE

*Dan Rollino*

The Chapter Members and Officers would like to extend a heartfelt welcome to the following new members who have joined the ASSE since last year:

- Joshua Berth
- Bruce Ehrich
- Michael Galley
- Ivan Garzon
- Victor Kovacs
- Samuel Polimary
- Steven Serafin
- George Teese
- Anthony Wright
- Brian Perry
- Doney Ibarguen
- Josh Machtinger
- Lauren Bloch
- Canel Bozkurt
- JamesDietrich
- Luis Gotay
- Nnenna Ugwuala
- Andrew Costa
- Michael Heembrock
- Matthew Daly

Welcome to the ASSE, and we encourage you to take advantage of our network, meetings, and trainings to take your education and career development to the next level. We look forward to meeting you at our next meeting. Please note that your first meeting is free.

## OSHA issues final rule updating walking-working surfaces standards and establishing personal fall protection systems requirements

*Jean Kristensen*

**WASHINGTON** - The U.S. Department of Labor's [Occupational Safety and Health Administration](#) today issued a [final rule](#) updating its general industry [Walking-Working Surfaces](#) standards specific to slip, trip, and fall hazards. The rule also includes a new

section under the general industry Personal Protective Equipment standards that establishes employer requirements for using personal fall protection systems. Most of the rule will become effective 60 days after publication in the Federal Register, but some provisions have delayed effective dates, including:

- Ensuring exposed workers are trained on fall hazards (6 months),
- Ensuring workers who use equipment covered by the final rule are trained (6 months),
- Inspecting and certifying permanent anchorages for rope descent systems (1 year),
- Installing personal fall arrest or ladder safety systems on new fixed ladders over 24 feet and on replacement ladders/ladder sections, including fixed ladders on outdoor advertising structures (2 years),
- Ensuring existing fixed ladders over 24 feet, including those on outdoor advertising structures, are equipped with a cage, well, personal fall arrest system, or ladder safety system (2 years), and
- Replacing cages and wells (used as fall protection) with ladder safety or personal fall arrest systems on all fixed ladders over 24 feet (20 years)

"The final rule will increase workplace protection from those hazards, especially fall hazards, which are a leading cause of worker deaths and injuries," said [Assistant Secretary of Labor for Occupational Safety and Health Dr. David Michaels](#). "OSHA believes advances in technology and greater flexibility will reduce worker deaths and injuries from falls." The final rule also increases consistency between general and construction industries, which will help employers and workers that work in both industries.

OSHA estimates the final standard will prevent 29 fatalities and more than 5,842 injuries annually. The rule becomes effective on Jan. 17, 2017, and will affect approximately 112 million workers at seven million worksites.

The final rule's most significant update is allowing employers to select the fall protection system that works best for them, choosing from a range of accepted options including personal fall protection systems. OSHA has permitted the use of personal fall protection systems in construction since 1994 and the final rule adopts similar requirements for general industry. Other changes include allowing employers to use rope descent systems up to 300 feet above a lower level; prohibiting the use of body belts as part of a personal fall arrest system; and requiring worker training on personal fall protection systems and fall equipment.

Under the [Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970](#), employers are responsible for providing safe and healthful workplaces for their employees. OSHA's role is to ensure these conditions for America's working men and women by setting and enforcing standards, and providing training, education, and assistance. For more information, visit [www.osha.gov](http://www.osha.gov)

## January Meeting Recap (Walking-Working Surfaces)

NJ ASSE hosted one of the largest and most engaging chapter meetings in our history on Thursday, January 19th 2017. NJ ASSE executive committee member, Managing Partner of Fearing International Group and 30 year veteran in occupational safety and health management, Jack Fearing, CPEA, engaged us in a webinar on OSHA's new requirements on Walking and Working Surfaces. The webinar had a hundred attendees and went in-depth

into compliance topics members inquired about since the new standard for prevention of slips, trips, and falls in general industry workplaces. Many thanks, Jack, for sharing this important information and regulatory update with us. Since the success of this program we plan to design more online learning opportunities in the upcoming year.

## **New NIOSH Infographic: Keep Workers Safe on the Road**

*Jean Kristensen,*

The NIOSH Center for Motor Vehicle Safety recently released an infographic that answers the question "Why does workplace motor vehicle safety matter?" It covers the human and economic impact of work-related crashes, information enabling HR or safety professionals to make a business case for a motor vehicle safety program in the workplace. [The infographic is available for download.\(http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/motorvehicle/ncmvs/pdfs/CMVSIInfographic.pdf\)](http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/motorvehicle/ncmvs/pdfs/CMVSIInfographic.pdf)

## **New Jersey ASSE Chapter to Aid Toys for Tots by Providing Christmas Gifts for Needy Children**

*Robert Sagendorf*

**Cranford, NJ, (November 15, 2016)**-- The New Jersey Chapter of the American Society of Safety Engineers (NJASSE) officially kicked off its annual toy drive to garner toys from local ASSE members to be donated to children this holiday season. Proceeds were donated to the National Marine Toys for Tots Foundation benefiting needy children in the central New Jersey area communities this holiday season. Toys were collected during our December 15<sup>th</sup> meeting. Other toy drop off locations can be found by visiting this website:

<http://toysfortots.org/donate/toys.aspx>

During the holiday season, underprivileged children often feel left out of the holiday experience, which includes receiving gifts.

"Participating in the toy drive is the ideal way for local ASSE members and families to give back to the community," ASSE Past President Bob Sagendorf said today. "Our organization has been an integral part of this community's service and growth for many years, therefore, it comes as no surprise that we have decided to assist Toys for Tots again in its annual campaign to raise awareness and donate toys for a worthy cause.

"Participating in the toy drive gives the NJASSE the opportunity to make a difference and bring happiness to many disadvantaged children this Christmas," Sagendorf said. "Day and night our members are committed to keeping people, property and the environment safe. We believe that this effort to help the children in our community is an extension of those efforts."

The mission of the Marine Toys for Tots foundation since its inception in 1947 has been to 'bring the joy of Christmas to America's needy children'. The 2015 Toys for Tots campaign surpassed the goals of last year. Toys were donated to 54 local families.

“The important thing is that we are local people helping local families” Sagendorf said. “We will be seeking donations at our chapter meetings and through other efforts. In the meantime we urge other organizations to do the same.”

### **About Marine Toys for Tots Foundation**

Toys for Tots is the Marine Corps' premier community action program, one of the nation's flagship charitable endeavors, an American tradition and a national treasure. For 50 years, Marines have been the unchallenged leaders in looking after needy children at Christmas. The Toys for Tots message of hope for the future has motivated youngsters to grow into responsible, productive, patriotic citizens and community leaders. Toys for Tots has earned the distinction as a program which plays an important role in helping youngsters emerge from a background of poverty to adulthood as assets to society. Toys for Tots not only benefits children, but also have a positive impact on communities, on businesses - large and small, on the Marine Corps and on the nation. Toys for Tots is one vehicle for addressing the issue of poverty among children. For more information on Toys for Tots, please contact [www.toysfortots.org](http://www.toysfortots.org).

## **Beryllium**

*Jean Kristensen*

The U.S. Occupational Safety and Health Administration has issued a new rule to lower workplace exposure to beryllium.

The rule, a final priority for outgoing Assistant Secretary of Labor for Occupational Safety and Health David Michaels, will require general industry, construction and shipyard employers to take additional steps to protect an estimated 62,000 workers from serious risks such as lung diseases, the agency said Friday in a statement.

Beryllium is used in the aerospace, electronics, energy, telecommunication, medical and defense industries, but it is highly toxic when beryllium-containing materials are processed in a way that releases airborne beryllium dust, fumes or mist into the workplace air that can be then inhaled by workers, potentially damaging their lungs, according to OSHA. Workers in foundry and smelting operations, fabricating, machining, grinding beryllium metal and alloys, beryllium oxide ceramics manufacturing and dental lab work represent the majority of at-risk workers.

“Outdated exposure limits do not adequately protect workers from beryllium exposure,” Mr. Michaels said in the statement. “OSHA’s new standard is based on a strong foundation of science and consensus on the need for action, including peer-reviewed scientific evidence, a model standard developed by industry and labor, current consensus standards and extensive public outreach. The new limits will reduce exposures and protect the lives and lungs of thousands of beryllium-exposed workers.”

The final rule will reduce the eight-hour permissible exposure limit from the previous level of 2.0 micrograms per cubic meter to 0.2 micrograms per cubic meter. Above that level,

employers must take steps to reduce the airborne concentration of beryllium. The rule requires additional protections, including personal protective equipment, medical exams and other medical surveillance and training. It also establishes a short-term exposure limit of 2.0 micrograms per cubic meter over a 15-minute sampling period. Employers have one year after the rule becomes effective to implement most of its provisions, although they have two years to provide required changing rooms and showers and three years to implement engineering controls. [CDC Link](#)

Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response (ASPR) -Zika resources for emergency response personnel

The Health & Human Services' Office of the Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response has released a new comprehensive resource on Zika virus for clinicians and emergency response personnel. [Zika: Resources at Your Fingertips](#) includes an overview of the virus — where it is found, its epidemiology, symptoms and how it is transmitted — as well as considerations and resources for health care providers according to profession/facility. The guide will be updated as new information or guidance emerges.

## **NFPA 101: Life Safety Code and NFPA 99: Health Care Facilities Code are now open for public comment.**

*Jean Kristensen*

The Life Safety Code is the most widely used source for strategies to protect people based on building construction, protection and occupancy features that minimize the effects of fire and related hazards. It is the only document that covers life safety in both new and existing structures. NFPA 99 establishes criteria for levels of health care services or systems based on risk to patients, staff or visitors in health care facilities to minimize the hazards of fire, explosion and electricity.

## **FDA Ban on Powdered Gloves**

The Food and Drug Administration issued a final rule Dec. 19, banning the use of most powdered medical gloves. The rule, went into effect Jan. 18, applies to patient examination gloves, powdered surgeon's gloves and absorbable powder for lubricating a surgeon's glove. The FDA concluded that powdered gloves used by surgeons and for patient exams, as well as absorbable powder for lubricating surgical gloves “present an unreasonable and substantial risk of illness or injury and that the risk cannot be corrected or eliminated by labeling or a change in labeling.” Adverse reactions listed by the FDA include: inflammation, granulomas, respiratory allergic reactions, adverse reactions to natural rubber latex allergens and surgical complications related to peritoneal adhesions.

## **Service Anniversaries**

*Lauren Cranmer*

The Chapter would like to take the time to recognize those members of Region VIII who have been members who have been with the Society for 25, 40 or 50 years. The Chapter appreciates your support of ASSE and the safety community:

- 40 James Manzella
- 40 Anthony Piniat
- 40 Michael Weiner
- 40 H Ray Wheeler
- 25 Craig Huffman
- 25 Thomas James
- 25 Joseph Meyer
- 25 Thomas Dondero
- 25 Rosemary Pasquino
- 25 Joseph Word
- 25 John Flatley
- 25 Van Houten Joseph
- 25 Eric Wokas
- 25 Dennis Dougherty
- 25 Matthew Reilly
- 25 Sellamu Amirthajothi
- 25 Bernard Sloan
- 25 Daniel Gaffney
- 25 Frank Gesualdo

## Elections and Committee Position Openings

*Lauren Cranmer*

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Do you want to get a little more engaged with your local “platinum level” chapter of ASSE and the 5th largest ASSE chapter in the U.S. NJ ASSE is looking for a few individuals to get involved in one of the following roles.

### **Open Position: NJ ASSE Chapter Treasurer**

Our chapter treasurer is responsible for strategic planning in our organization. He or she guides the board to establish a budget, manage expenses, and provide input into projects under and meetings under consideration. The election for treasurer will be held in April so please email us today if you are interested in running for Chapter Treasurer .

Other available positions are also available. Email us to learn more about the following open positions:

- Construction Safety Chair
- Environmental Committee Chair
- Membership Chair
- PEOSHA Chair
- Newsletter

## Safety 2017 ASSE PDC in Denver

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Safety 2017 is just around the corner! June 19-22 is this year's ASSE Professional Development Conference and Exposition in Denver, Colorado. Registration is now open. View sessions, program schedules, pre- and post-seminars, and register online at <http://safety.asse.org>. You can also download the brochure here. We will arrange a networking event for NJ ASSE attendees to get together and announce it on our website. We hope to see you there!

## CSP Question of the Month

*Lauren Cranmer*

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OSHA requires safety belt and lanyard hardware used in fall arresting equipment withstand a tensile load of how much?

- A. 5400 pounds
- B. 5000 pounds
- C. 4000 pounds
- D. 4500 pounds

Last quarter's response: A (installing a fixed guard)

## How to submit an article

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Did you attend an event that you can't wait to let the world know about or have an area of expertise that you love discussing? What about a question on a safety topic or a personal highlight? Want to brag about your company's EHS accomplishments? The NJASSE chapter newsletter focuses on news relevant to you and welcomes all submissions. To enter an article or a personal recognition for publication, please send to the Editor at [news@njasse.org](mailto:news@njasse.org).

## Link to NJ ASSE on your Company Intranet

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Is your organization's EHS or Health and Safety Intranet linked to NJ ASSE? Consider linking us as a valuable resource for NJ Employers and associates to network and gather information in Safety, Health, and the Environment. Simply link to our website: <http://nj.asse.org/>

## NJASSE on LinkedIn and Social Media

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**LinkedIn**  Did you know that the NJASSE has its own community on LinkedIn?

[Click here](#) to join!

Follow us on twitter: [https://twitter.com/ASSE\\_Safety](https://twitter.com/ASSE_Safety) Friend us on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/ASSESafety>