



# Carolinas Section



Carolinas Section Spring 2008 Newsletter

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## President's Message

Dear Carolina Section Members,

The only thing that is certain (besides taxes and dying) is .....**Change!**

The Presidential election is in full swing and each of the candidates is vying for the title, **"The Candidate of Change"**. This is a catchy cliché, and offers Presidential hopefuls ample opportunity for neat slogans and sound bytes.

As we all know too well, our profession has undergone tremendous change over the past few years. The Carolina region has had its share of change with respect to job loss and creation. Many of us have experienced "first hand" the loss of entire industries such as textiles and the furniture industry. For the most part, the Carolina's has been to absorb these losses and create new employment opportunities. Today, more EHS jobs opportunities exist than ever before in our region and I will discuss this again later in my message.

National AIHA has been very focused on change by adapting to dwindling membership numbers, initiatives to attract young professionals into the membership ranks, while recognizing a broadening in scope of work performed by today's professionals (EHS) to name a few. More recently, National AIHA has begun to direct more of its efforts in supporting local sections such as ours. I want to acknowledge Elizabeth Pullen for her dedication and service as an AIHA National Board representative who has taken a keen interest in assisting our section. I personally believe that the strategy to help strengthen local sections will be key in attracting new members, and launching other initiatives to increase the visibility and value of the profession.

During my tenure on the board, the Carolina's Local Section has been busy recognizing and adapting to change. A couple of years ago, we made a strategic shift away from hard copy mailed newsletter only publications to electronic communication. This strategic change has allowed for more frequent direct contact with our membership while providing timely information about upcoming conferences, PDC's, City Meetings, **Job Announcements**, etc.

To address a slow decline in attendance at conferences and PDC's, coupled with a sharp increase in the cost of meeting space and hospitality, the board responded by moving to

## MemberClicks

The Carolinas Section, with financial support from national AIHA, is now using an online payment processing provider for members to pay their conference registration fees and annual dues. The payment system is expected to be a significant cost savings for the section and a more convenient way for members to submit payment.

To register, simply click on the link found in the Meeting/Conferences section of the website and follow the instructions.



Online registration should be available for your use by February 29th. Please let us know whether or not you are satisfied with the way your registration payment is handled. Keep an eye out for an upcoming poll on the website for you to rate your level of satisfaction!

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## **UPCOMING BOARD ELECTIONS**

The AIHA Carolinas Local Section will be holding elections for available Board positions this coming April. Ms. Amy Baker and Mr. Russell Bowen have been nominated to fill the two open **North Carolina Director** positions. Mr. Chris Murray has been nominated to fill the open **Vice President** position.

*Voting will take place during the business meeting on April 3rd in Raleigh, NC.*

### **Amy L. Baker, CIH, CIEC**

Amy Baker has 30 years of experience in the field of industrial hygiene. Since 1989, Ms. Baker has been a private consultant, with clients in the public and private sector. Her areas of practice include comprehensive industrial hygiene, indoor air quality, and asbestos/lead abatement. She resides in Charlotte, North Carolina with her husband, son and daughter.

### **Russell B. Bowen, CIH, CSP**

Russell Bowen's resume boasts comprehensive industrial hygiene and safety experience with a focus on CIH and CSP online review courses, exposure assessment and statistics, health and safety management for small and medium sized businesses, indoor air quality, hazardous materials and emergency response. Russell founded Bowen EHS, Inc. in 2003 with 13 years professional experience and is well known for his online CIH and CSP review courses.

### **Christopher B. Murray, CIH**

Chris Murray is Vice President of Loss Prevention and Occupational Health Services for The El Group, Inc. and manages loss prevention and occupational health activities across the country. With more than 15 years of professional experience, Mr. Murray is an effective project manager and versatile technical supervisor. Mr. Murray was also recently selected as one of the American Industrial Hygiene Association's future leader's and attended the Future Leader's Institute in Oak Brook, IL and currently serves on AIHA's Student and Early Career Professionals committee. He currently serves as the North Carolina Director for the Carolina's Local Section of the American Industrial Hygiene Association.

more affordable venues. This move was necessary, and successful in shoring up our Section's financial health.

To increase membership, we recently partnered with National AIHA to collect dues. Many of us took advantage of this feature for 2008 and the Section has benefited with an anticipated increase in members and revenue.

All along, the board has been working to continuously improve our web site and I want to recognize Tony Watson for his recent efforts in championing this important initiative. In the next month, we will be launching a new feature to the website called Memberclicks. This feature will allow for electronic registration and payment for Carolina sponsored conferences and PDC's. Memberclicks will help make us more efficient by saving on administrative costs and making it more convenient for our members to register.

The job market for industrial hygiene has changed, and as I previously promised, wanted to discuss EHS jobs in the Region. Many of you have noticed numerous email notifications from Connie McElroy-Bacon containing job opening announcements. More than ever before, employers are directly contacting our local section for assistance in seeking out qualified candidates to fill job openings. This is really a great networking development, and should encourage even more EHS professionals to become members of our section. We appreciate Connie's continued service and appreciate the value she adds to our Section.

While much has changed, our board has worked really hard to make sure that some things do not change .....namely, the quality of speakers and presentations at our conferences and PDC's. As an example, it was tremendous to have Ed Fouke, Jr., Assistant Secretary of Labor (OSHA) at our last fall conference. We continue to have the support of multiple vendors at our conferences, some of which have been associated with our Section for many years. We especially want to thank SKC, Inc. and Susan Walton for printing and mailing our newsletter. Our Section continues to offer additional education and networking opportunities through our city meetings. We continue to offer a bargain in the cost of membership dues, as well as conference and PDC registration fees.

Today, our Section is one of the largest in the country. Only one other Section (Florida) offers two conferences. We are financially healthy, and our Section has been one of the top contributors to the Industrial Hygiene Foundation. Our section has provided some limited financial assistance to North Carolina A&T in support of Dr. Shah and his program.

We continue to sponsor four City Meetings that provide additional educational and networking opportunities for members and interested individuals. I especially want to recognize our city meeting leaders, Susan Buchanan (RTP), Marie Fitzgerald (Triad), Kevin Cosgrove (Charlotte), and Sherman Woodson (Greenville) for their hard work and dedication in championing this effort.

In closing, I have thoroughly enjoyed serving my term as your President. I particularly appreciate the support and confidence that each of you have given me this past year. I am looking forward to serving another year on the board as Past President. The personal rewards of serving so far have been tremendous for me. I have had the opportunity to work along side and get better acquainted with some of the most outstanding and dedicated professionals around.

I hope to see you at our Spring Conference.

John

John Lopez, CIH  
Owens-Illinois, Inc.

# AIHA CAROLINAS SECTION SPRING CONFERENCE & PDC, APRIL 2-4, 2008 CLARION HOTEL - RALEIGH, NORTH CAROLINA

Please find a schedule for the AIHA Carolinas Section Spring Conference and PDC as well as the registration form for participants and vendors on page 5-6.

Get an early start and don't miss this great opportunity for professional development!

Below, you will find the course description for the **PDC-"Radiation Safety Program Management"**.

You can register by check or credit card. Your paid registration will be confirmed with a letter and receipt which will be mailed to you.



## PDC - Radiation Safety Program

With recent news reports on Dirty Bombs and Russian Spy poisonings as well as the increased use of radiation in industry, radiation safety has been forced to the forefront. This seminar is designed to give a fast paced overall look at radiation and how to keep safe around it and with its use.

### Stephen L. Fowler - Resume

- *President, Fowler Associates, Inc.* - A forensics testing, training, consulting company
- *Publisher, The ESD Journal* - Online trade magazine for the ESD Industry
- *Publisher, The RAD Journal* - Online trade magazine for the Radiation Industry
- *US Air Force Veteran* - 1960's
- *Electrical Engineer* - **University of South Carolina** - 37 years of experience
- Considered an international expert in Electrical Engineering, Radiation, Electrostatics and packaging
- Consultant to the international news media on "Radiation Poisoning of the Russian Spy," "Auto Refueling Fires," and "Electrocutions in the Street," to name a few

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**NIOSH 582 Equivalent Training** - Feb. 25-29, 2008

**Location:** *Morrisville, NC*

**Register:** *800.717.3472*

**Nanotechnology Safety & Response Seminar**

**When:** *April 14, 2008; 8am - 2pm*

**Location:** *Dennis Wicker Civic Center - Sanford, NC*

**Host:** *LEPC of Lee, Wake & Guilford Counties*

**Register:** *[www.readylee.org](http://www.readylee.org)*

**AIHA Triad Area City Lunch Mtg** - March 19, 2008

**Topic:** *Effective Use of the Optical Particle Counter in a Non-Sterile Indoor Environment*

**Time:** *11:30 - 1:30*

**Location:** *RJ Reynolds - Winston-Salem*

**Host:** *Mike Edens*

**RSVP:** *[mariefitzgerald@bellsouth.net](mailto:mariefitzgerald@bellsouth.net)*

**AIHA Charlotte City Lunch Mtg** - March 7, 2008

**Topic:** *US MSDS Management (REACH, GHS & DHS)*

**Time & Location:** *11:45am - 1:15pm @ [www.halleyspub.com](http://www.halleyspub.com)*

**Host:** *Kevin Cosgrove*

**RSVP:** *[kevin.cosgrove@schaeffler.com](mailto:kevin.cosgrove@schaeffler.com)*

*Have an upcoming event that you want to share with the group? Let us know by emailing us at [cmurray@ei1.com](mailto:cmurray@ei1.com)*



## 2008 - WHAT WILL THE NEW YEAR BRING?

From Aaron K. Trippler's "Happenings from the Hill."

While Congress remains on its New Year vacation, there is no loss of "happenings" in Washington. Here's a quick look at some of the issues being discussed:

### Budget

Yes, we finally had a budget enacted in mid-December for fiscal year 2008. And let me tell you, trying to tap into the many figures to find out exactly what everyone received is no small task. Before I give you the details on the OSHA budget, understand that there was the president's request for 2008, then the House version, followed by the Senate version, then an amended bill agreed to by both sides, then an across-the-board reduction of 1.74%. Presto! A final budget.

	FY 2007	FY 2008	Change
Safety and Health Standards	\$ 16.892	\$ 16.597	\$ -0.295
Federal Enforcement	176.973	182.136	+5.163
State Programs	91.093	89.502	-1.591
Technical Support	22.392	21.681	-0.711
Federal Compliance Assistance	72.659	71.390	-1.269
State Consultation Grants	53.357	52.425	-0.932
Training Grants	10.116	9.939	-0.177
Safety and Health Statistics	32.374	31.522	-0.752
Executive Direction and Administration	11.169	10.809	-0.360
<b>Total, OSHA Budget Authority</b>	<b>\$486.925</b>	<b>\$486.001</b>	<b>\$ -0.924</b>

As you can see, the agency came out on the short end in '08 as compared to '07. Not a good sign for occupational safety and health. One other note to the OSHA budget. As sent to you earlier, the final bill included language requiring OSHA to inform Congress of progress on several standards. And lastly, the bill did not include a prohibition on OSHA to require annual respirator fit-testing for TB – but no specific word as to when OSHA will begin this requirement.

Over at MSHA the story was totally different. When enacted, the final appropriations bill provided MSHA with a \$32.355 million increase over '07. The final figure for 2008 is \$333.925 million. Of course, the problem here is that the reason MSHA was provided additional funding is because of the continued concern over the increase in mine fatalities. It is unfortunate that it takes a disaster to receive increased funding.

As for NIOSH, it is very difficult to figure out exactly what NIOSH will receive in funding because of the way the budget details are written. Your guess is as good as mine on this one. One summary shows a total of \$284 million, which includes the National Occupational Research Agenda funding. Another detail shows only \$230.5 million, but I am not sure this includes the Research Agenda, which was funded at \$113 million. Looking back at 2007, NIOSH received approximately \$315 million. Perhaps Dr. Howard will be able to straighten this out in short order.

What's Next? Hard to believe, but the President is in the midst of finalizing his fiscal '09 budget that is expected to be presented to Congress sometime in the next 30-60 days. And then we start all over again!

### OSHA

With the semi-annual regulatory agenda out there and being debated, OSHA is being asked numerous questions about its efforts. A few weeks ago, the National Advisory Committee on Occupational Safety and Health held its first meeting in more than a year. NACOSH is an advisory committee that provides recommendations to the Secretaries of Labor and Health and Human Services concerning OSHA and NIOSH. While the Committee made no final recommendations, several issues were discussed. Most notably, the Committee expressed interest in permissible exposure limits, motor safety, and recordkeeping. OSHA personnel mentioned that nanotechnology is an emerging issue. Other issues on the list were immigrant workers, aging, and global harmonization.

The Agency has been active in the last few weeks. Out for comments is a proposed rule for confined spaces in construction, a notice of proposed rulemaking pertaining to a portion of the respiratory protection standard, and a proposed rule for revising the standards on general working conditions in shipyard employment. AIHA Committees have been contacted to elicit their thoughts on AIHA involvement in these proposals. The Agency also published a direct final rule in mid-December to remove references to consensus standards that duplicate or are comparable to other OSHA rules.

AIHA is also awaiting Agency language on a proposed rule that would make changes to Cooperative Agreements, notably a proposal to allow certain employers to avoid OSHA inspections. The comment period was supposed to be announced in January, but the Agency has not even published the request.

### Employers Now Required to Address Ergonomics-Related Hazards

Don't get excited! While this is true it only impacts our neighbors to the North. Final federal regulatory amendments in Canada now require ergo hazards to be addressed in designing hazard protection programs in the workplace. Employers must identify and assess the hazards, then develop preventive measures and education programs.

How did they do it? Seems the regulations came from recommendations of a working group composed of employer, employee, and government representatives. Gee, what a unique approach!

Canada has also proposed amendments that would provide protection against workplace violence for employees in federally regulated workplaces. The draft regulations are now open for public comment.

### Federal and State Legislative Action Centers

Visit the AIHA Federal Legislative Action Center to stay abreast of national issues important to occupational health and safety. The center can be found within the members-only section of the AIHA web page. Also available within this Action Center is the opportunity for any member to directly contact their elected officials in Washington simply by inserting their zip code. You can send an email or learn how to contact them by phone or mail. Take a look!

The State Center offers AIHA members the opportunity to monitor all state legislative sites, scan IH professional recognition/title protection laws in states where adopted, and even review and follow all state legislation being monitored in the state legislatures throughout the year. Included under each State site is access to the various state agencies, including the Governor's office and OSHA state plan sites. If professional recognition/title protection legislation has been enacted in a particular state, this law can also be found. Another important feature is member access to each of the weekly legislative/regulatory reports sent to each state. With this access, members can follow any piece of legislation that may be of interest.

For information on any of the items in this report, please contact Aaron Trippler.

# Carolinas AIHA Spring 2008 PDC/Conference Agenda

April 2-4, 2008

Clarion Hotel, Raleigh, North Carolina

## PDC-Radiation Safety Program Management - Mr. Steve Fowler

### Wednesday - April 2

1:00-2:15	Radiation History
2:15-3:15	Radiation Safety for Personnel Presentation
3:15-3:30	Break
3:30-3:45	S.I. Units..Dose
3:45-4:00	Sources and Types of Radiation
4:00-4:30	Radioactivity
4:30-5:00	Interaction with Matter

### Thursday- April 3

8:00-9:00	X-ray Imaging Movie
9:00-9:30	"Radiation Protection Standards"
9:30-10:00	Biological Effects of Radiation
10:00-10:15	Break
10:15-11:00	Radiation Accidents
11:00-11:30	Shielding and Surveys
11:30-Noon	Open Discussions and Questions

## CONFERENCE

### Thursday - April 3

10:30 AM	Registration
11:00 AM	Exhibitors' Area Opens
Noon	<i>Lunch Provided</i>
1:00 PM	Welcome - John Lopez, President
1:15 PM	AIHA Happenings - Aaron Trippler
2:15 PM	Chemical Safety Review Board - Gary Visscher
3:15 PM	Break - <i>Exhibitors' Area</i>
3:45 PM	P2/Sustainability Talk - Keyes McGee
4:30 PM	Business Meeting
5:30 PM	Past President's Reception ( <i>Exhibitors' Area</i> )

### Friday - April 4

7:30 AM	Coffee and Danish - <i>Exhibitors' Area</i>
8:00 AM	EHS Program and the Making of Beer Bottles - John Lopez, Owens-Illinois
9:00 AM	Ray Niemeyer of the EASE Council
10:30 AM	Break - <i>Exhibitors' Area</i>
11:00 AM	Student Internships - <i>Dr. Dilip Shah, North Carolina A&amp;T State University</i>
Noon	Conference Ends

# Registration Form

## Advance Conference Registration

(add \$20 after March 3)

Member	\$95
Nonmember	\$115
Students	\$20
Exhibit Space	\$220 (per table)

## PDC

(add \$20 after March 3)

Member	\$165
Nonmember	\$200

## Carolinas Section Annual Dues

Member	\$20
Student	\$10

### Method of Payment

\_\_\_Check \_\_\_Visa \_\_\_MasterCard \_\_\_American Express

Card Account Number \_\_\_\_\_

Expiration Date \_\_\_\_\_

Card Holder Signature \_\_\_\_\_

### Card Holder Name

Please Print \_\_\_\_\_

### Billing Address for Card

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Company: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Business Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Business Fax: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

*Make Checks payable to AIHA Carolinas Section and mail Registration Form To:*

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