



AMERICAN SOCIETY OF  
**SAFETY PROFESSIONALS**

Greater San Jose Chapter

# ASSP Greater San Jose Chapter - Quarter 1 2022 Newsletter

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## Presidents Message

Happy Spring!

As I am closing in on the last quarter as your chapter president, I have begun reflecting over the year and thinking of the goals we had, what we accomplished, and what the next chapter year may look like for all of us.

I reiterate my previous comments – I am proud of the safety profession and all the professionals that have navigated the ups, downs and sudden changes as we strived to keep our workplaces safe and our workers healthy over the past two years. So many of you had to be creative and come up with solutions to an issue we were all learning how to navigate in real time. I know after being in the safety profession for almost 30 years we are required to think on our feet but this has been a doozy!

Throughout all these challenges, we as leaders have had to rethink what it means to be part of a volunteer organization that could not exist without countless hours given in support of advancing the safety profession. During the Bay Area Safety Symposium (BASS) held earlier this month, we acknowledged three members for their contribution to our chapter:

- Nirap Sainju received the Presidents' Choice award. Nirap has been the Communications Chair for our chapter for several years. This role is vital for communicating with our membership, especially within the virtual environment of the past two years. Nirap is always ready to send an email, update the website, or prepare newsletters. He will be stepping into a new role on the executive committee this coming chapter year as the Program Chair. Thank you Nirap.
- Ramon Khu received the Chapter Officer award. Ramon serves as our chapter's Treasurer and always prepares an accurate accounting of our finances to keep us on track. As a volunteer organization, transparency in our finances is key not only to our chapter but to the organization as a whole. Ramon is a solid and consistent contributor to our chapter and the executive committee. While there are a lot of responsibilities handling the chapter finances, Ramon does it with ease. Thank you Ramon.
- Mary Stine was presented with the Chapter Safety Professional of the Year award. Mary holds the ASP designation and is an active member of the Greater San Jose Chapter. She has dedicated years to our profession to help better the community and keep safety top of mind. Mary has tirelessly dedicated her time and effort to our Chapter specifically to help us ensure we bring the best of safety to our members. She has served in various capacities on the executive committee, including leading our WISE section and helping establish WISE sections for at least two other chapters. Her positivity shines through during chapter meetings and Mary is always bringing innovative thoughts and ideas to committee meetings for our various activities. Thank you Mary for all you have done and continue to do. Congratulations.

I encourage you to take a look at the volunteer opportunities we currently have available. There are many ways that you can give your time and talents to help promote the safety profession.

*"Start where you are. Use what you have. Do what you can."* – Arthur Ashe

Respectfully,

Ashli Sturgill

Ashli Sturgill, MS, CSP, ASHM  
President, Greater San Jose Chapter  
American Society of Safety Professionals  
[president@sj.assp.org](mailto:president@sj.assp.org)

The Greater San Jose Chapter of ASSP is recruiting volunteers to fill open Executive Committee positions. The current term commitment is through June 2023. This is a great opportunity to help grow the safety profession, develop leadership and management skills, and earn recertification points. Training and resources to support each role are available. If you are interested in volunteering for any of these positions, please email Ashli Sturgill, President ASSP-GSJC at [president@sj.assp.org](mailto:president@sj.assp.org) or see the position [operating guidelines](#).

Open positions:

**President-Elect** The President-Elect is responsible for serving the Chapter for a three-year period. The person in this position will provide leadership for the Chapter and will interface with the Chapter membership and peers throughout ASSP Region 1 and Society. The first year of service is as President-Elect and the primary purpose is to assist the President in providing direction and support to the Chapter to create a meaningful and high-quality experience for Chapter members. In the second year of service, the President-Elect will automatically become the President. The scope of this position is to lead the Executive Committee, direct activities of the Chapter, and represent the Chapter for the Region. In year three, this person will become the Past President with less established duties but will serve as an overall mentor for the Executive Committee and will serve as Chapter's Nominations & Elections Committee Chair.

**Chapter Delegate** The Chapter Delegate is responsible for representing the Chapter's interest at the House of Delegates meeting at the Annual ASSP Professional Development Conference (PDC) in June. That representation is in the form of voting for proposals, such as a change to Society Bylaws, based on the Chapter Executive Board opinion. This position is in transition to a "committee at large" as recently voted on by the House of Delegates.

**Communications Chair:** The Communications Chair is responsible for keeping the Chapter website up to date with current information reflecting current and past operations of the Chapter, producing the Chapter Newsletter quarterly, and publishing any announcements to the membership via the Society provided emailing service (Real Magnet), and social media (LinkedIn, Facebook). There is a current member serving in this capacity who will be transitioning to a new role at the end of the Chapter year in June 2022. This is a great opportunity to learn the position from the current Communications Chair.

**Awards & Honors Chair:** The chapter Awards and Honors Chair supports member engagement by ensuring that chapter members are recognized for their contributions to the chapter, ASSP and the safety profession. A key responsibility is to oversee chapter awards and honors program, including designation of awards and recognition, all relevant application and selection processes, and ensure presentation of awards to honorees

**Scholarship Chair:** The chapter Scholarship Chair coordinates the chapter scholarship program, including serving as liaison with ASSP Foundation, soliciting donations, supporting promotional efforts to recruit applicants and recognizing scholarship recipients.

## Membership Update

### ASSP San Jose Membership Report

The chapter is working on transitioning the VP of Membership role and will provide the chapter's membership report on the next newsletter.

Sincerely,

Melinda Anderson

Melinda Anderson  
VP of Membership, Greater San Jose Chapter

# Chapter Updates

## Slate of Candidates for 2022-2023

The Greater San Jose Chapter of the American Society of Safety Professionals is pleased to announce the [Slate of Candidates for 2022-2023](#) for the Chapter Executive Committee.

## Bay Area Safety Symposium - Chapter Awards

The following Chapter Executive Committee Members were recognized by the Chapter President, Ashli at the Bay Area Safety Symposium on March 10, 2022.

- Chapter President Choice Award - Nirap Sainju, Communication Chair
- Chapter Officer Award Ramon Khu, Treasurer
- Chapter Safety Professional of the Year (SPY) Award - Mary Stine, Delegate and WISE Chair

Big congrats to the Executive Committee Meeting members above for their contributions and commitments to the chapter!

# WISE Update

**WISE is open to all genders, denoted as WISE Gals and Guys!**

## Chapter WISE News

- March 12 to April 4, 2022 WISE has completed six high school or graduate students papers each as Scholarship Judges for Society of Women Engineering.
- March 10, 2022 - WISE has completed BASS Morning Networking breakfast hosted by Mary Stine with Charity Nichols of the ASSP San Francisco Chapter.
- The ASSP Society WISE ChapterWise Meeting was moved to March 15, 2022 at 7:30 AM PDT. Notes will be provided.

## Upcoming Events

### April 18 to April 21, 2022

WISE invited Speakers to submit proposals for the [XCEL Occupational Health and Safety and Environmental Summit](#)

We are planning an exceptional experience-making Global online event for The Africa and Middle East XCEL OHSE Summit on April 18 to April 21, 2022

**May 21, 2022**

Happy Hour 18:30 PDT at Zoom address

Topic: WISE Happy Hour

**5/21/22 18:30-19:30 PDT**

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/2549317860?pwd=aHJ3LzBhMUV1N2RPaI9RL3k5U0JMQT09>

Meeting ID: 254 931 7860

Passcode: 6dSPAs

One tap mobile

[+166990068332549317860?pwd=aHJ3LzBhMUV1N2RPaI9RL3k5U0JMQT09](tel:+166990068332549317860?pwd=aHJ3LzBhMUV1N2RPaI9RL3k5U0JMQT09) US (San Jose)

[+125321587822549317860?pwd=aHJ3LzBhMUV1N2RPaI9RL3k5U0JMQT09](tel:+125321587822549317860?pwd=aHJ3LzBhMUV1N2RPaI9RL3k5U0JMQT09) US (Tacoma)

- WISE is working with the ASSP Sacramento Chapter leader Rena Goudrey to form a new Chapter WISE section. Congratulations to her young team, and we are here to help as a sister site.
- WISE made one mentor match this quarter. WISE added six new Might Networks members from around the world. We have a total of 18 members in this community.

Sincerely,

Mary Stine

Mary Stine

WISE Chair, Greater San Jose Chapter

## Regulatory Updates

### Senate Bill to Keep an Eye On

SB 1044: If SB 1044 takes effect, any employed Californian could refuse to show up to work if they feel unsafe, regardless of the health and safety precautions taken by their employers during a natural disaster.

Opponents to the bill feel this legislation will cripple emergency response, ignore existing protections, and undermine Cal/OSHA's existing health and safety procedures.

SB 1127: SB 1127 proposes to shorten the time provided for employers to investigate workers' compensation claims from 90 to 30 days for any claim covered by a presumption statute, and 60 days for all other claims. The

bill would also impose new penalties on employers where “liability has been unreasonably rejected for claims of injury” and would more than double the duration of temporary disability for cancer presumption claims.

### **COVID-19 Resources**

- Center for Disease Control - [Coronavirus \(COVID-19\)](#)
- Federal OSHA - [Safety and Health Topics - COVID-19](#)
- US Equal Employment and Opportunity Commission - [Coronavirus and COVID-19](#)
- California Department of Public Health (CDPH) - [CDPH COVID-19 Guidance](#)
- [Cal/OSHA and Statewide Industry Guidance on COVID-19](#)
- National Safety Council - [Guidance for Employers: COVID-19 and the Workplace](#)

### **Cal/OSHA Important Updates**

For more important Cal/OSHA updates and news release at your fingertips, visit the following websites: <https://www.dir.ca.gov/dosh/cal-osh-updates.html> and [https://www.dir.ca.gov/dirnews/link\\_page.html](https://www.dir.ca.gov/dirnews/link_page.html).

## **Career Opportunities**

We are always looking to network and find out if there are job openings. The jobs must be in an Environment, Health and Safety function. For example: Fleet Safety Manager, Director of Environmental, Health and Safety, Risk Manager, Health and Safety Specialist etc.

We will post the jobs to our [website](#). This is done currently at no charge, but the chapter is always accepting donations to help establish our scholarship fund. Your contribution is appreciated.

Please email the job information to the VP Jobs Coordinator, Naci Ozgur, at [jobs@sj.assp.org](mailto:jobs@sj.assp.org).

[Visit the ASSP Greater San Jose Jobs Website Page](#)

## **Upcoming Events**

**TBD**

**To register:**

**Presenter:** TBD

[ASSP San Francisco Chapter](#)

[ASSP Sacramento Chapter](#)

**Other Bay Area Environment, Health and Safety Associations**

[Bay Area Environmental Safety Group \(BAESG\)](#)

[American Industrial Hygiene Association Norcal](#)

[Public Agency Safety Management Association](#)

[Semiconductor Environmental Safety and Health Association \(SESHA\)](#)

## Follow us on Social Media

Follow the ASSP Greater San Jose Chapter on [LinkedIn](#) and [Facebook](#).

As chapter members, please feel free to utilize these platforms to communicate with members on topics for career advice, certification prep course recommendation and regulatory changes and updates, specifically for California.

We look forward to hearing from you!

### Comments from the Author

Hope you enjoy this edition of the ASSP Greater San Jose Chapter Newsletter.

If you have suggestions for content or like to contribute to the newsletter, please contact me at [communications@sj.assp.org](mailto:communications@sj.assp.org).

Stay safe and remember to be vigilant with the COVID-19 safety protocols at work and home.

Sincerely,

Nirap Sainju

Nirap Sainju, CSP, CHMM  
Communication Chair  
American Society of Safety Professionals  
[communications@sj.assp.org](mailto:communications@sj.assp.org)