# **Georgia Local Section**

Georgia
Local
Section
AIHA
Protecting Worker Health

Quarterly Newsletter
For electronic versions see the GLS web page.

#### **President's Message**

Dear Georgia Local Section Members,

I hope that you are enjoying the last few weeks of the summer.

I want to thank the GLS members and vendors who participated in our Spring Meeting and Vendor's Day on May 6, 2008. We had a number of outstanding presentations by local members and guest speakers.

Our summer half-day meeting is scheduled for August 22, 2008 at the CDC's Chamblee facility. Because of security requirements we are asking members to preregister for this meeting by August 18, 2008.

Our fall meeting will be held with GA ASSE on November 10, 2008. GLS Board Member Cliff Moseley has been working with GA ASSE Program Chair (and GLS member) Joe Lohkamp to plan this meeting. GLS plans on taking advantage of National AlHA's offer to collect local section dues in

conjunction with national dues at no cost to our section. This should allow us increase our membership and strengthened our financial status.

Through the hard work and effort of Stan Salisbury, Wild Apricot, a web-based database program, for local members has become a reality. Please check out this resource at the http://www.georgiaaiha.org/

As we head into the Fall of 2008, GLS Board is seeking to do a better job of planning our meeting dates in advance, reaching out to other public health professionals and industrial hygiene students, and getting back to funding scholarships for GA IH students. We are also continuing efforts to improve communication and streamlining registration and membership services.

I want to remind you that we are coming up on election season, GLS elections, that is. We are seeking candidates for President-Elect and first year Board member as Past President Margaret Buckalew and 2nd Year Director Steve Tochilin will be rolling off the GLS Board. I want to thank Margaret and Steve for their leadership of the GLS over the past several years.

Barb Epstien will be taking over as President of GLS as we head toward 2009. I am very grateful for the efforts of many GLS members who have volunteered over the years. The Georgia Local Section continues on solid ground as the result on the hard work of these volunteers.

Please contact me or any other board member if you have suggestions, questions, or you wish to volunteer or be nominated for an upcoming position on the board.

—Peter J. Kowalski, MPH, CIH

## **Georgia Local Section Summer Meeting**

Our next GLS meeting is coming up on **22 August**, **200**8. This meeting will be held at the **CDC/ATSDR Chamblee Campus** and there is NO on site registration!! Pre-register by 18 August by sending an e-mail

message to Peter Kowalski at pkowalski@cdc.gov.

To see the agenda of topics to be covered, go to the GLS Web site. This meeting will include a tour of the National Center for Environmental Health Laboratory! You must show your driver's license or passport or other valid government ID to security.

Georgia Local Section American Industrial Hygiene Association Quarterly Newsletter August 2008 www.georgiaaiha

#### NIOSH to Host "No Fit Test" Respirator Workshop

Are innovations in halfmask respirator fit possible? If so, what are the factors that inhibit or encourage the development of better fitting respirators? These topics will be discussed at the "No Fit Test" Respirator Workshop to be held November 6, 2008 in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. The NIOSH **National Personal Protective** Technology Laboratory and the

University of Minnesota, School of Public Health, will host the workshop to focus on the nature and process of product innovation and development in negative pressure half-face piece respirators, to gauge the current "state-of-the-art," and to stimulate new designs and approaches for improved respirator fit. The results of the workshop will lead to a better

understanding of how future NIOSH research can encourage ongoing development of better fitting respirators without compromising long-term protection.

Registration is free but required. You can register at http://cpheo.sph.umn.edu/ mcohs.



11919 Bondurant Drive Richmond, Virginia 23236 877-568-5227

Steve Winiecki swiniecki@galsonlabs.com

Web site: www.galsonlabs.com



#### **ABIH CM Points**

The American Board of Industrial Hygiene has awarded 0.5 certification maintenance (CM) points for the Spring (March 25) 2008 Georgia Local Section Meeting.

The approval numbers are: #08-1074 Spring 2008 Meeting



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#### **Tidbits**

## AIHA-GLS Meeting Attendance Incentive?

AIHA has announced that attendeees of local section meetings are eligible for a 15 percent discount on all publication orders. This offer is valid for orders placed within two weeks following a local section meeting. Your GLS executive board will submit a meeting announcement to AIHA in order for us to receive this discount. There will be a special form you'll receive at the meeting, which you'll mail or fax to AIHA headquarters to redem the discount (prepayment is required; no phone orders for this offer). The discount is applied to member

prices (for national members) and to non-member prices (for those who are GLS members). As always, national members receive free shipping.

We hope this provides aditional incentive for you to attend GLS meetings! We always enjoy seeing you and we welcome your increased participation in our local section.

#### AlHce 2009 PDC Proposals Due August 15

Submissions are now being accepted for AIHce 2009 Call for Professional Development Courses held in Toronto, Canada, on May 30 -June 4, 2009. Make 2009 the year

to present your discoveries, ideas, and solutions to colleagues who can benefit from your expertise and knowledge. Proposals may only be submitted electronically: www.aiha.org/aihce09/pdc

Instructors may receive CM points for presenting their PDCs if approved by the American Board of Industrial Hygiene.

Contact Bruce Hermit at (703) 846-0752 or BHermit@aiha.org for more information about AIHce 2009 Call for PDCs.

BTW: Call for abstracts is October 6th!



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#### **Your 2008 Executive Board**

Thank you to the members who have committed to serve in these important positions. Here are your 2008 Executive Board members:

**President:** Peter Kowalski pek2@cdc.gov 404-498-0492

**President-Elect:** Barb Epstien barb@epstienenv.com 770-238-7160

**Past President:** Margaret Buckalew mbuckalew@environcorp.com 678-388-1657

**Secretary:** Wes Barfield Thomas.Barfield.ctr@robins.af.mil 478-926-0558

**Treasurer:** Kristen Butler kristen.butler@gtri.gatech.edu 404-407-6643

**1st Year Director:** Cliff Moseley CMoseley@email.foh.dhhs.gov 770-498-3449

**2<sup>nd</sup> Year Director:** Steve Tochilin Steve.Tochilin@delta.com 404-715-3303

**Newsletter Editor:** Vicki Ainslie vicki@gatech.edu 404-407-6988

#### **CEFGA Report: A Great Success**

AIHA's Georgia Local Section members teamed up with ASSE, OSHA, and the Georgia Tech Research Institute (GTRI) as part of the Georgia Youth Alliance by participating in the annual Construction Education Foundation of Georgia (CEFGA) Career Expo and SkillsUSA Championships held in suburban Atlanta April 24-25, 2008.

AIHA's booth was among the ten organizations exhibiting in the World of Safety venue, where 107 schools, 211 constructionrelated companies and 4,193 total attendees from all over Georgia made their first stop at the Expo. Following a brief safety and health orientation where students were oriented by OSHA, Georgia Tech and other industry volunteers on how to properly wear a hard hat and safety glasses (Figure 1), which were issued free of charge to all attendees, these students traveled to several "worlds" within the construction trades. These interactive exhibits provided students with "hands on" exercises about the various aspects of the many trades within

the construction industry. In the World of Highway Construction and Maintenance, students were able to drive virtual power equipment (Figure 2). Students also participated in activities in the worlds of Utility Contracting, Masonry and Concrete, Fire Protection, Plumbing and Mechanical Contracting, Energy and Industrial Construction, Highway Construction and Maintenance, Construction Management, and Architecture and Engineering.

Our goal is to help promote AIHA's core message of protecting worker health and to help increase students' awareness of workplace safety and health concerns. This event provided the platform to get them off to a good start. Each student received a "Passport to Safety," and to get the passport stamped in each of the "worlds," each student had to complete a safety exercise related to the industry represented by each world.



Figure 1. Safety briefing in the World of Safety.



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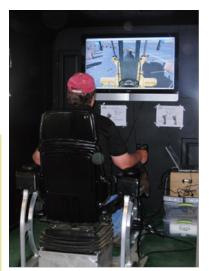


Figure 2. A virtual exercise using power equipment.

#### **CEFGA a Great Success (continued)**

AIHA-GLS awarded prizes to two lucky students as a part of the "Passport to Safety" exercise. Students who received all eleven passport stamps were able to enter their passport into a drawing for prizes during the Expo. Congratulations to Tashay McGhee of Harlem High School, who won an iPod shuffle after being randomly chosen during the event. Congratulations also go to Kayla Lang of Westside High School, who won an iPod Touch, after her "Passport" was selected from all the completed passport entries.

For more information about the Expo, SkillsUSA, or CEFGA, please call 678-889-4445 or visit www.cefga.org.



GLS at CEFGA:

MIchelle Dunham, iPod winner, Tashay McGhee, Barb Epstien, and Jenny Houlroyd

## "QuickTips" from QuickTakes\*

Lead poisoning, caused chiefly by the inhalation of dust and fumes, is a common hazard in the construction industry. Employees involved in demolition, salvage, removal, encapsulation, cleanup and renovation operations are particularly at risk. Lead dust can also be carried home from work on clothing, skin, or hair, so it is important for everyone to take proper preventive measures against exposure. Here are some

pointers from OSHA:

- Know the symptoms of lead overexposure, such as abdominal pain, headaches and loss of motor coordination.
- Use personal protective equipment, such as gloves, nonpermeable clothing and approved respirators.
- Wash your hands and face thoroughly before eating.
- Away from work, never wear clothes and shoes that were

worn during periods of possible lead exposure.
OSHA's Safety and Health
Topics Page on Lead is a resource offering information on the most effective solutions to lead hazards in the workplace. OSHA also offers a QuickCard® on Lead in Construction (English/Spanish) for employees to help prevent health maladies from lead poisoning.

\*Source: OSHA QuickTakes

#### **AIHA Cosponsors D.R.E.A.M. Workshop**

NIOSH is holding the Direct Reading Exposure Assessment Methods (D.R.E.A.M.) Workshop in Washington, D.C., November 13-14, at the Hilton Crystal City at Washington Reagan National Airport. AIHA is a cosponsor of this event.

The workshop will gather

stakeholder input from academia, labor, management, developers, government agencies, and manufacturers on the research needs in the area of direct reading methods for assessing occupational exposures. It is open to the public and will be attended by invited experts, invited

stakeholders, and other interested registrants. The workshop will discuss the critical research needs of direct reading methods. Only 230 participants may attend the workshop.

Information on how you can attend is available online.

## **GLS Well Represented at AIHce**

Did you know that the several Georgia AIHA / ACGIH members shared their expertise by participating as podium session and/or roundtable speakers this year at AIHce in Minneapolis? Who were they and what did they talk about?

- Hilarie Schubert Warren:
   "Silica Control Programs for Construction Safety Managers"
- Jim Drake: "Starting and Maintaining an S&H Consulting Practice

   Learning Through Experience"
- Barb Epstien: "State of the

Science – Resolving Indoor Environmental Quality Concerns: Where Have We Been? Where Are We Now? Where Are We Headed?"

- Brian Shelton: "A Review of MRSA, Collection, Analysis, and Interpretation" and "New Legionella Guidance Criteria and Implications for IH"
- Don Millar (presented by Brian Shelton):
   "Environmental Bacterial Hazards in Recreational Waters"

In addition, Lisa Delaney moderated the luncheon discussion on "NIOSH Emergency Preparedness and Response Activities – Where Do We Go from Here?"

Don Groce moderated the luncheon discussion on "Protective Clothing and Equipment – MRSA: Superbugs and Nasty Germs"

Finally, one of our newest GLS members, Alex Lehocky, moderated the roundtable on "Integrating Field, Laboratory, and Clinical Data for IAQ Investigations."



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#### Theme for Fall Joint Meeting of the GLS/Georgia ASSE—11 Nov 08

Abandoned Military Defense Programs: What is being done?

Торіс	Presenter
Safety and Health issues associated with the cleanup of Formerly Used Defense Sites	Ed Grunwald, CIH, Corporate Health & Safety Manager, Parsons Corporation, ed.grunwald@parsons.com
Overview of the CDC's Chemical Demilitarization Program	John Decker, CIH, Chief, Chemical Demilitarization Program, National Center for Environmental Health, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, jad4@cdc.gov
Process Safety Management and Chem Demil Activities	Terry Tincher, Chemical Demilitarization Program, National Center for Environmental Health, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, brp8@cdc.gov
Air Monitoring in and around Chem Demil Sites	Gino Begluitti, Chemical Demilitarization Program, National Center for Environmental Health, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, gyvo@cdc.gov
Overview of Issues Surrounding Civilian Stockpile Emergency Preparedness Program	Paul Joe, DO, MPH, Chemical Demilitarization Program, National Center for Environmental Health, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, pbj4@cdc.gov
Risk Communication and Community involvement at Defense sites	Speaker TBA

#### **Combustible Dust**

OSHA has posted new resources related to combustible dust on its Web site to help employers understand its associated hazards and ways to prevent those hazards. These resources include a Safety and Health Information Bulletin, fact sheet, poster and the reissued Combustible Dust National Emphasis Program.

The Georgia Insurance Commissioner announces emergency rules and regulations "Loss Prevention Due to Combustible Dust Explosions and Fire."

