

# Georgia Local Section

Quarterly Newsletter

For electronic versions see the [GLS web page](#).



## President's Message

*Happy New Year!*

2007 certainly sneaked up on me, but here I find myself starting another year full of professional and personal challenges and possibilities. The city of Atlanta, a backdrop for many of us in the local section, seems to be exploding with growth and unbelievable potential for business development. The Georgia Aquarium and Atlantic Station have joined the city's skyline; the Cobb Energy Centre for Performing Arts is slated to open in September. It is hardly the city I was born and raised in. According to the Metro Atlanta Chamber of Commerce, over

81,000 25- to 34-year-olds moved to Atlanta between 1990 and 2000, more than any other metro area in the country. So much optimism and energy is flowing through this city; hopefully it is inspiring you to take the reigns of your career and personal life and seize every opportunity available.

As far as expanding your own horizons and meeting your professional development goals, there is no greater place for this than local section meetings. Our members come from various government entities like NIOSH, ATSDR, and the CDC. We have members that work for the largest companies in the state—Home

Depot, Delta Air Lines, Children's Healthcare of Atlanta, The Coca Cola Company, KOCH Industries, etc. Many of our section members are consultants, either self-employed or working in firms. Any professional contact you could hope to make can be satisfied at a local section meeting, but everybody has to show up to make it happen.

My wishes to all of you for continued professional growth and a personal life you have longed for. See you at the next meeting.

—Margaret D. Buckalew, MPH

## OSHA Seeking Comments on Standard Improvement Process

The Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) is seeking comments until Feb. 20, 2007, on phase three of its Standards Improvement Project (SIPs III), the third in a series of rulemaking actions intended to improve and streamline OSHA standards and lessen regulatory burdens without reducing employee protections.

An advanced notice of proposed rulemaking (ANPRM) is scheduled for publication in the Federal Register on December 21, 2006.

Through the SIPs III rulemaking, OSHA is seeking to improve its standards by revising confusing, outdated, duplicative, or inconsistent requirements. The

revisions will help employers better understand their obligations, which will lead to increased compliance, ensure greater safety and health for employees, and reduce compliance costs and paperwork burdens.

More information is available on the [OSHA web site](#).

## Future Meetings

### Save the Date!

Winter Meeting Date: *February 26, 2007* at Georgia State University (GSU). Time and exact location details forthcoming.

Spring Meeting Date: *April 23, 2007* at Georgia Tech Research Institute (GTRI).

Georgia Local Section  
American Industrial Hygiene Association  
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[www.georgiaaiha.org](http://www.georgiaaiha.org)

## Avian Flu Pandemic Resources

It is currently estimated that a flu pandemic could infect one in three people, result in the death of approximately two million Americans, and overwhelm the capacity of the nation's health care system. Multiple federal agencies have suggested that business would play a vital role in protecting their own employees'

health and safety, and potentially limiting the economic and societal fallout.

In November 2006, OSHA released new safety and health guidance on educating employers and employees about the potential for occupational exposure to avian influenza. The "OSHA Guidance Update on

Protecting Employees from Avian Flu Viruses" is available at: [www.osha.gov/OshDoc/data\\_AvianFlu/avian\\_flu\\_guidance\\_english.pdf](http://www.osha.gov/OshDoc/data_AvianFlu/avian_flu_guidance_english.pdf). Additional resources can be found under the "In Focus" section of the primary OSHA website ([www.osha.gov/](http://www.osha.gov/)) and on the CDC website: [www.cdc.gov/flu/avian](http://www.cdc.gov/flu/avian).

## Call for CIH Study Group

Several members have expressed a desire to create a Local Section CIH study group as a means of preparing for the certification exam. Keith Hass, a new Local Section member, the Assistant Area Director for the OSHA Atlanta East Office, has kindly offered to spearhead this initiative. Interested GLS members are encouraged to contact Keith at [hass.keith@dol.gov](mailto:hass.keith@dol.gov).



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## FEMA Distance Learning Courses with CM Points!

FEMA's Emergency Management Institute (EMI) offers several independent study courses designed for persons who have emergency management responsibilities. Some of the courses require that you download training materials, others courses are online and interactive. All are offered free-of-charge. You need a passing score 75 percent or better to receive credit. Participants will receive e-mail notification of test results and training certificates are issued

electronically. The courses vary in duration from two to several hours.

Please note that FEMA uses social security numbers for student identification. You can take the training without providing your social security number (SSN), however, your test will not be entered into the FEMA database.

For more information please go to the following links: <http://training.fema.gov/EMIWeb/IS/> (main page) and <http://training.fema.gov/EMIWeb/IS/crslist.asp>

(course listing)

### CM Points

Several of these courses have Certification Maintenance (CM) points and approval numbers already assigned. Check ABIH's listing of approved distance learning courses at: <http://www.abih.org/members/documents/homestudy2006.pdf>. You are limited to 5.0 CM points for distance learning.



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## Applied Ergonomics Network

The next meeting of the Applied Ergonomics Network, a networking group whose goal is to discuss common ergonomic issues and hear an ergonomics speaker, will be Thursday, Feb. 15 from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

David Damico, Humanscale, is hosting. Diane DeGaetano is presenting our topic, *Safety & Ergonomics in A "Seasoned" Workforce*. Please contact Don Robinson ([don.robinson@goldkist.com](mailto:don.robinson@goldkist.com)) for meeting location or to add your name to the mailing list.

## Who Are We?: Your GLS Executive Committee

### **Margaret Buckelew** **Environ International** **Corporation**

#### **GLS President**

Currently I am a senior associate with ENVIRON International Corporation's Atlanta office. I have been working in the environmental health and safety field for ten years, including 8 years as the Corporate IH for Delta Air Lines. As a Special Government Employee (SGE) for OSHA, I have assisted OSHA with on site auditing of several companies in various industries. Participating in AIHA's inaugural Future Leaders Institute in 2005 was probably the best professional development experience I have received and hope to return the favor by increasing the size and participation of our local section members. I am a member of the AIHA Emergency Preparedness and Response Task Force and the Healthcare Working Group.

I received my MPH from Emory's Rollins School of Public Health and my BS in Environmental Science and Biology from George Washington University. While in school, I worked on several research

projects with my professors, which included traveling to Central America to study effects of pesticides on agricultural workers' health. I also traveled to South America with the U.S. Department of Agriculture to research pharmaceutical possibilities of Rainforest plant species with Merck Pharmaceuticals. I have three children (Sylvie 4, Liam 2, Aine 11 months) and own a restaurant named Maddy's in Decatur with my husband.

### **CDR Peter Kowalski, MPH, CIH, CSP**

#### **ATSDR**

#### **President-Elect**

CDR Peter Kowalski MPH CIH, CSP began his career as an Associate Industrial Hygienist for General Dynamic's Electric Boat Division in Groton, Connecticut in 1985. Peter then worked as a corporate industrial hygienist for two electric utility companies, Northeast Utilities (Connecticut) and Carolina Power and Light (Raleigh, NC). Peter then worked for an occupational safety and health consulting firm in Atlanta prior joining the

Commissioned Corps of the US Public Health Service. Peter now serves as an Environmental Health Scientist and team leader at the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry in Atlanta. My industrial hygiene experience includes 4 years at the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, 5 years at Georgia-Pacific, 6+ years as a consultant (Clayton Group Services and Law Engineering), and 12+ years at Delta Air Lines, where I manage the IH group. I have a BS in environmental toxicology from UC Davis, an MPH in environmental health sciences from UC Berkeley, and an MBA from Georgia State. I chair the AIHA practice standards & guidelines committee and am a member of the ASHRAE standard committee for air quality on commercial aircraft.

### **Hilarie L. Schubert** **Georgia Tech Research Institute**

#### **GLS Treasurer**

I currently work as an industrial hygienist for the OSHA Consultation Program which is housed within the Georgia Tech Research Institute. I

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## Who Are We?: Your GLS Executive Committee (continued from Page 4)

spend the majority of my time conducting on-site health and safety consultations for small businesses in Georgia, as well as instructing in several of the OSHA Training Institute courses offered at Tech. The best part of this job is getting out into the field and being able to work one-on-one with employers and employees through their challenges and successes. It's amazing what kind of industry and manufacturing processes take place right here in our own state!

I was indoctrinated into the field of industrial hygiene by two dedicated, professional, and smart cookies – both of whom are now sharing their talent on this

Executive Committee: Margaret Buckalew and Steve Tochilin. I worked as an IH intern for them at Delta Air Lines for almost three years while pursuing my MPH from Emory's Rollins School of Public Health. I moved to Atlanta in 2002, before which I lived in NH, which is where I received my BS in Biology from the University of New Hampshire. I've spent time in south Texas researching border health issues, as well as in Africa evaluating environmental health and coastal populations. I've really enjoyed participating on the Local Section Committee; it's given me an opportunity to meet a multitude of dedicated people following (and enjoying) a variety of interesting and

exciting career paths. Our members are inspirational – especially for this “newbie!”

### **Wes Barfield, MPH, CIH** **S&K Technologies, Inc.** **GLS Secretary**

I began my career in industrial hygiene at CIGNA: Environmental Health Laboratory in Macon, Georgia as an IH chemist. Later, I became the industrial hygienist for Boeing-Macon. Currently I am working for the Air Force Corrosion Prevention and Control Office at Robins AFB. I have been involved with researching, testing, and analysis in the areas of health, environmental, and safety while using process based management, Six Sigma, ISO 9000, and PBM criteria. One of my highlights during my career was teaching for Macon State College in the Business and Economics department in areas of business statistic and quantitative analysis.

### **Steve Tochilin, CIH** **Delta Airlines**

#### **1st Year Director**

I've been the industrial hygiene manager at Delta Air Lines since 1994, and have 28 years of IH experience. My previous employers include the Lawrence Livermore National Lab, Georgia-Pacific, Clayton Group Services, and Law Engineering & Environmental Services. In addition to overseeing Delta's IH and aircraft cabin environment programs, I'm

currently a member of the ASHRAE cabin air quality standard committee and the AIHA practice standards & guidelines committee.

### **Myrtle I. Turner, Ph.D., MPH, CET** **Georgia Tech Research Institute** **2nd Year Director**

I am the Director of the OSHA Training Institute at Georgia Tech. In that capacity, I am responsible for coordinating, scheduling, and conducting training courses and providing related technical assistance to public, local, state, federal agencies, and lay members of the community locally and abroad. I previously worked for the General Services Administration (GSA) as an industrial hygienist and at OSHA as a compliance officer. As an OSHA Compliance Officer, I gained experience in the evaluation, recognition and control of health and safety hazards in various operations and work situations.



We hope you've enjoyed hearing a little about our lives—we'd love you to have an opportunity to share yours. If you'd like to contribute a unique story, a challenge, an opportunity or a question for pondering, please send your contributions to the newsletter editor at [vicki@gatech.edu](mailto:vicki@gatech.edu).



## **Fisher Safety**

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*Jerry Hammock*  
*Safety Specialist*  
*Fisher Safety*  
*Cell 770-815-7662*  
*[jerry.hammock@fishersci.com](mailto:jerry.hammock@fishersci.com)*

## OSHA's List of Top 10 Violations

The complete article may be found at BLR's web page: [www.safety.BLR.com](http://www.safety.BLR.com)

These statistics are from federal OSHA and do not include state-plan states.

The top 10 violations for 2006 (as of September 30) and the number of times cited are:

1. Scaffolding (1926.451)	9,012
2. Hazard Communication (1910.1200)	6,704
3. Fall Protection (1926.501)	6,378
4. Respiratory Protection (1910.134)	4,332
5. Lockout/Tagout (1910.147)	3,659
6. Powered Industrial Trucks (1910.178)	3,080
7. Electrical Wiring (1910.305)	2,953
8. Machine Guarding (1910.212)	2,749
9. Ladders (1926.1056)	2,329
10. Electrical General (1910.303)	2,178

Some comments on the violated standards:

- Ladder violations have been going up the last 3 years.
- OSHA specifically checks for machine guarding violations during an inspection.
- The biggest issue for powered industrial trucks (forklifts) is lack of training.
- OSHA is working on a new directive for lockout/tagout, and it should be out in a month or two.
- The biggest issues in hazard communication are: no written program, MSDSs, and lack of training. OSHA checks for hazard communication violations at every inspection.

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## For the environmental folks

For those of you whose clients (or employers) have to deal with Storm Water Discharge regulations within Georgia, here's an update.

The Environmental Protection Division (EPD) for the State of Georgia released the final 2006 - 2011 NPDES General Permit No. GAR000000 for Storm Water Discharges Associated with Industrial Activity on June 16, 2006. The permit became effective on August 1, 2006. If a facility is operating under a former Notice Of

Intent (NOI) submittal it will need to complete and submit the 2006 Version NOI in order to be covered under the new permit. Existing facilities have up to thirty (30) days after the effective date to submit the NOI and ninety (90) days to update your Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWP3).

Significant changes to the permit include:

- a requirement for an annual report,
- special requirements for

facilities discharging into an Impaired Stream Segment and;

- mandatory storm water sampling for specific types of industries.

You can find guidance documents summarizing the new permit along with a copy of the new permit and the Notice of Intent Version 2006 on GTRI's web site at [www.gecap.org](http://www.gecap.org) under *Publications* or visit the EPD's web site at [www.gaepd.org](http://www.gaepd.org).

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mbuckalew@environcorp.com  
678-388-1657

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pek2@cdc.gov  
404-498-0492

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michelle.dunham@gtri.gatech.edu  
404-407-8284

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

**Treasurer:** Hilarie Schubert  
Hilarie.Schubert@gtri.gatech.edu  
404-407-6255

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

**2<sup>nd</sup> Year Director:** Myrtle Turner  
myrtle.turner@gtri.gatech.edu  
404-407-8066

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

## 2007 Dues Reminder

If you are a returning member, and have not yet paid your 2007 annual dues, please take a moment to mail your \$20 dues check (made payable to GLS AIHA) to:

Hilarie Schubert  
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Thank you for your continued support! Please be an active member and submit any ideas or suggestions for improving the Local Section to any of the Executive Committee members. We would love your feedback on how to better meet your membership needs!

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American Industrial Hygiene Association  
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