



Pittsburgh  
LOCAL SECTION

## Pittsburgh AIHA News –Fall 2023



### Greetings Pittsburgh Local Section of AIHA!

I hope everyone had a safe and healthy summer as we head into the fall season.

As I begin my term as section president, I want to express a special thanks to our past president Lieutenant (LT) Tim Beck, MPH. LT Beck led us out of the pandemic and started to get our section back to normal. Under his leadership, we started to hold monthly in-person meetings while also strengthening our connections to Indiana University of Pennsylvania (IUP), Slippery Rock University (SRU), and West Virginia University (WVU). In addition to LT Beck, I would like to thank Mr. Thomas Blank, CIH, CSP, FAIHA for his many years of service to our section. We wish Mr. Blank the best of luck in his future endeavors and will miss his routine presence and assistance at our section events.

At our summer business meeting, we welcomed the 2023-2024 executive committee Barry Momyer, CIH (president-elect), Carol Delfino, CIH, CSP (secretary), and Rona Smeak, Ph.D., CSP (director). They will all be playing critical roles as our section moves forward and this newsletter will be announcing the decisions that were made to continue to ensure the success of the section during this summer's business meeting.

Along with the summer business meeting, we had an exciting event at PPG Industries, Inc. on August 31<sup>st</sup>. Ms. MaryAnn Hoff MS, CIH, MPM and Mr. Andy Maier PhD, CIH, DABT presented on the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA) in the Workplace.

This end of the summer presentation will be followed by upcoming presentations in September on statistics and November on ventilation. No meeting will be held in October so our members can participate in the MASHA 2023 Safety and Health Conference. We will finish the year with a Winter Business Meeting in December. We hope all members will have the opportunity to be able to attend these events.

After the December Business Meeting, we are actively looking for presenters and topics. If you are interested or know someone who is interested in presenting to the section, please let us know. Similarly, please let us know if you would be interested or know someone who would be interested in presenting to the student sections at IUP, SRU, and/or WVU.

As always, we are looking for volunteers to our Local Section Committees. Please let us know if you would be interested in participating on a committee. These committees are a great opportunity to learn about our section while determining if you would like to participate on the executive committee in the future like Mr. Bertig and Dr. Smeak did.

Finally, I am looking forward to seeing everyone at the fall events!

***Dane Mitcheson, CIH, CSP, CHST***

Job Opportunity -

Principal Industrial Hygienist - Product Safety & Regulatory Affairs, Covestro



Covestro has a great opportunity for a Principal Industrial Hygienist - Product Safety & Regulatory Affairs that was posted on 9/18. This is a hybrid position located in Pittsburgh PA. Job details can be found at the link below:

[covestro.wd3.myworkdayjobs.com/cov\\_external/job/Pittsburgh-PA/Principal-Industrial-Hygienist---Product-Safety---Regulatory-Affairs\\_JR-2023-02564](https://covestro.wd3.myworkdayjobs.com/cov_external/job/Pittsburgh-PA/Principal-Industrial-Hygienist---Product-Safety---Regulatory-Affairs_JR-2023-02564)

Next Event - Sept. 28, 2023: "The Shocking, Sordid, and Sometimes Tawdry History of Exposure Sampling Strategies"

This event has been cancelled for September 2023 and will be held in January 2024.

MASHA Safety and Health Conference - October 26, 2023

**The Mid-Atlantic Safety and Health Alliance, Inc. (MASHA)** is pleased to announce that their 14th annual Safety and Health Conference will be held on **Thursday, October 26, 2023** at the **Regional Learning Alliance Center (RLA)** in Cranberry Township, PA. The Pittsburgh AIHA is a proud sponsor and exhibitor at this event.



Pittsburgh AIHA Members at MASHA 2022

**Conference Highlights:**

- Annual Conference with educational opportunities on a variety of pertinent safety and health topics.
- Continuing Education Credits.
- Great networking and career mentoring opportunities.
- Vendor displays.
- Occupational safety and health experts.
- Lunch is provided.
- Simple online registration and payment.
- Discounted rate for full-time students and retired/emeritus attendees.
- Limited to 150 attendees, register early!

Register ONLINE:

<https://mashasafetyconference.org/>

## [Meeting Minutes - Local Section Summer 2023 Business Meeting](#)



The Pittsburgh AIHA held the Summer Business Meeting on Wednesday, July 12, 2023, at [Smokey Bones in Robinson, PA.](#)

The meeting minutes are now posted. Thank you to all who attended this meeting.

[2023 summer aiha business meeting minutes-r.pdf](#)

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## [Meeting Review - TSCA Presentation - August 31](#)



Thank you to MaryAnn Hoff (PPG) and Andy Maier (Stantec) for their presentations at the event "The Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA) in the Workplace" held on August 31, 2023 at PPG Industries located in Monroeville, PA.

Pittsburgh AIHA President-Elect, Barry Momyer (AM Health and Safety, Inc.) did the introductions and local section announcements for the group of 23 attendees (both in person and remote).

Thank you to Carol Delfino, CIH, CSP (Pgh. AIHA Secretary/Delfino Health & Safety) who provided the presentation summary below.

Reviewing New Chemicals Under the Toxic Substances Control Act:

The EPA reviews new chemicals under TSCA to ensure their safety and to protect human health and the environment. TSCA was updated in 2016 to provide the EPA with more comprehensive authority to evaluate and regulate chemicals. Their process for evaluating is summarized below:

Companies or individuals planning to manufacture or import a new chemical substance must submit a Pre-Manufacture Notice (PMN) to the EPA. This notice must include chemical identity, intended use, and potential health and environment effects. EPA reviews and conducts a comprehensive risk assessment to determine whether the new chemical poses unreasonable risk to human health and the environment. These assessments include modeling tools. IH's are going to need modeling tools, such as IHMod. The EPA uses ChemSteer. EPA manages the risk based on findings and may take actions that can include lowering the risk by setting an EPA ECEL (Environmental Control Exposure Level) which in many cases is far lower than the PEL. These levels are so low they are very close or lower than laboratory detection levels.

The SACC, Science Advisory Committee on Chemicals established under TSCA provides scientific advice, information, and recommendations to the EPA on issues related to chemical risk.

In summary, the ECELS and the PELs differ greatly.

PELs focus on legally enforceable limits on workplace exposure to hazardous chemicals to protect workers.

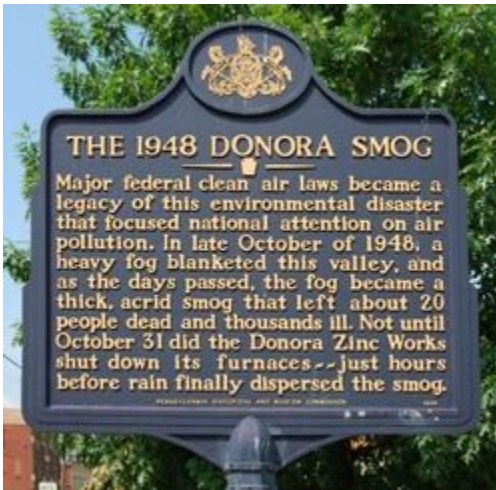
EPA ECEL's are non-binding guidelines used for assessing and managing environmental risks associated with chemical releases to protect the broader environment and public health. Two different standards administered by two different agencies.

The EPA's new involvement may change how we do things. How this is enforced is yet to be seen.

Thanks to the following Pgh. AIHA members/guests who participated in the event:

- Laura Allen-Stantec
- Greg Ashman-Professional Training Associates
- John Bell-Watco
- Darrick Bertig-FirstEnergy Corporation
- Barbara Cummings-AM Health and Safety, Inc.
- Carol Delfino-Delfino Health & Safety
- Tim Feeley-Covestro, LLC
- Zane Frund-MSA Safety, Inc.
- Natalie Gaydos-PPG
- MaryAnn Hoff-PPG
- Warren Houseman-ENTACT, LLC
- Jennifer Kapp-PPG
- Andy Maier-Stantec
- Barry Momyer-AM Health and Safety Inc
- Kevin Otteni-Parker Lord
- Julie Panko-ToxStrategies
- Frank Pokrywka-KTA Tator
- Albert Porco-Giargarlo Scientific
- Parinita Sah-AM Health and Safety
- Cathie Sayles-Covestro LLC
- Leah Tipton-MSHA
- Bill Tomlinson-Professional Training Associates
- Chris Wesley-Colden Corporation

## [Environmental Symposium - Donora Historical Society & Smog Museum](#)



The Donora Historical Society and Smog Museum is dedicated to the victims of the infamous Donora Smog of 1948 that occurred in October of that year.

In their 75th Year of Remembrance of that fateful event, they are hosting an Environmental Symposium on Wednesday, October 18, 2023, in Donora just a few blocks from "ground zero" of the Donora Zinc Works that was the impetus of the deadly smog that killed dozens, sickened thousands and eventually led to clean air legislation and our moniker that "Clean Air Started Here." Their goal on October 18th will be to remember the victims of the 1948 Smog by discussing past, current and future environmental issues.

As a primer for the symposium, on Tuesday, September 26 at 7:30 p.m., they will be doing a combination in person (at the Smog Museum) and Zoom presentation on the 1948 Smog for the Battle of Homestead group.

A lineup of presenters for the Environmental Symposium has mostly been established and they can be found at the link below along with other details of the symposium, including registration for the Sept. 26 7:30 PM zoom presentation:

<https://sites.google.com/site/donorahistoricalsociety/futurepast-historical-events/1948-smog-75th-year-of-remembrance-2023>

The mission of the Donora Historical Society and Smog Museum is to preserve, research, interpret and promote Donora history through cooperative continuing educational relationships with individuals and institutions, focusing on causes and effects of the 1948 "smog" tragedy and its impact on global environmental concerns and issues.



## Pittsburgh AIHA Membership DUES Increase - 2024

The Pittsburgh AIHA will increase membership dues to \$35 for 2024. Members that pay their Pgh. AIHA dues along with their National AIHA dues will notice this increase on the renewal form. National AIHA will begin collecting 2024 dues in October 2023.


Some of the valuable Pgh. AIHA membership benefits include:


- Local networking with industry professionals.
- E-learning credits (up to \$1,000+ on continuing ed.).
- Reduced meeting fees (25-30% discount).
- Catalyst access.

Corporate Sponsor membership will increase to \$250 per year for 2024. The benefits still include:

- 2 free individual Pittsburgh AIHA memberships (\$70 value).
- Pittsburgh AIHA Homepage sidebar logo link.
- 1-year listing on the Pittsburgh AIHA Corporate Sponsors page.
- 1-year listing on the Pittsburgh AIHA Consultants List page.
- Recognition in Pittsburgh AIHA local section newsletter.

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## Pittsburgh AIHA Upcoming Events Calendar:



The Executive Committee of the Pittsburgh AIHA is working on the 2023-2024 program calendar - details will be updated below and on the website as new events are scheduled.

- [September 28, 2023 - \*The Shocking, Sordid, and Sometimes Tawdry History of Exposure Sampling Strategies\*](#), Paul Hewett, Ph.D., CIH
- [October 26, 2023 - MASHA Safety Conference](#)
- November 9th or 30th, 2023 - Ventilation Presentation & Lab, Sergio Caporali-Filho, PhD, CSP, CIH - West Virginia University / Student Section
- December 2023 - Winter Business Meeting



## Call for Volunteers for AIHA Pittsburgh Committees

The AIHA Pittsburgh Local Section has six committees that are chaired by a volunteer appointed by the chapter's president or, in the case of the Program and Nominating committees, designated to an Executive Committee member:

- Audit
- Program
- Corporate Sponsorship
- Newsletter
- Nominating
- Historical

Currently, most of our committees are unfortunately committees of one. We would like to take this opportunity to encourage everyone to consider volunteering to lead or participate in a committee of interest.

### Benefits of Committee Participation

- Provides an opportunity to become more involved with the LS and increase connections with your peers
- Limited time obligation with high impact on the success and future directions of the LS
- Enhanced understanding of LS operations and an 'inside look' into what serving in an executive committee position entail
- Allows individuals that are not National AIHA members a chance to serve in leadership roles outside of the Executive Committee

Our LS chapter and affiliated student chapters survive and thrive by the involvement of our members, so please do your best to stay active and contribute to the success of AIHA Pittsburgh. If you are interested in leading or participating in any of our committees, please reach out to the Executive Committee via email to [info@pittsburghaiha.org](mailto:info@pittsburghaiha.org).

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- Intertek PSI
- MSA Safety
- Premier Safety & Service, Inc.
- Risk Assessment Services, LLC
- SKC, Inc.
- Stantec, Inc.
- U.S. Micro-Solutions, Inc.



The Pittsburgh AIHA is seeking 2023 Corporate Sponsors - For \$200 your company receives two Pittsburgh AIHA Local Section Memberships, a listing on the [Corporate Sponsors page](#), a listing on the [Consultants List page \(if applicable\)](#), homepage weblink, and recognition in the Local Section newsletter.



*Please consider supporting the Pittsburgh AIHA as a Corporate Sponsor!*

2023 E-Learning Subscription - All Sessions Available NOW!

**ALL sessions are available in the online classroom!** Don't forget to take advantage of the free e-learning resources available with your Pittsburgh AIHA membership. You should have received an email from National AIHA E-learning with instructions to log into your online classroom. Any questions regarding the online classroom should be directed to National AIHA E-learning at [DLAssistant@aiha.org](mailto:DLAssistant@aiha.org). The 2023 sessions selected include:

- AIHA University 3-Part Webinar Series: Preparing for and Controlling Biological Hazards
- AIHA University Webinar: Research Laboratory Safety in the 21st Century
- AIHA University Webinar: Strategies for Effective Risk Communication
- AIHA University Webinar: Workplace Violence Primer and Update for the IH
- Why Don't We See the Things That Can Hurt Us? (AIHce EXP 2022 OnDemand)

2023-2024 Executive Committee

**PRESIDENT**

**Dane Mitcheson, CIH, CSP, CHST**  
FedEx Ground

**SECRETARY**

**Carol Delfino, CIH, CSP**  
Delfino Health & Safety, LLC

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**Barry Momyer, CIH**  
AM Health and Safety, Inc.

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**Frank Pokrywka, EdD, CIH**  
KTA Tator, Inc.

**DIRECTORS**

**Darrick Bertig, CIH, CSP, CUSA, MS**  
FirstEnergy

**PAST PRESIDENT**

**Lt. Timothy Beck, MPH**  
CDC/NIOSH

**Rona Smeak, Ph.D, CSP**  
Slippery Rock University

**CORRESPONDING SECRETARY AND WEB COORDINATOR**

**Christy Kirsch**  
Pittsburgh AIHA  
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