

# **AIHA** The AIHA Connection

**The Alberta Local Section Newsletter** 

#### Summer 2008 Volume: 12 Issue: II

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# President's Message ... from the desk of Roy Clough

It's hard to believe that almost half of 2008 has gone by. The past few months have been very busy for me with events to attend such as the Leadership Workshop in Falls Church,VA; the Spring Symposium in Leduc; and the AIHA National Conference in Minneapolis, MN.

In the last newsletter, Luisa described how well attended our Spring Symposium and PDC were. We must thank our excellent speakers for donating their time and energy to discussing the emerging issues in our field. We would also like to thank our sponsors for their financial aid without which it would be much more difficult to hold these events.

The Leadership workshop encompassed a 3-day weekend at the Fairview Park Marriott courtesy of AIHA National. Each year the President Elect from each local section or their designate is invited to this event. Participants are allowed to attend events such as a media training workshop, two free Teleweb workshops, a wine and cheese party at the offices of AIHA headquarters and a number of networking and brainstorming events to improve the Association's effectiveness.

The AIHA National Conference in Minneapolis was exceptional, as always, with a wonderful trade fair and thought-provoking keynote speakers such as Jeremy Rifkin from the "Foundation for Economic Trends", who talked about "The Future of Work". There were about 6000 attendees at the conference this year. Next year's conference is in Toronto so there should be a lot more Canadians there. I attended a number of the National Association events including the "President's Reception" where a former member of our local, Al Johnson, was appointed as a "Fellow" of the AIHA. This designation is given to fewer than 5% of members, and recognizes their significant contribution to the practice.

As in the past, we are planning a number of events and activities for the coming months such as:

- The Edmonton and Calgary Social on September 25 •
- The PDC 03 on Thursday October 30 at the 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Health and Safety Conference at the Shaw Conference Centre in Edmonton. Elliott Berger is speaking on "Hearing Protection Devices and Hearing Conservation Programs." This PDC is free of charge courtesy of E-A-R/Peltor, Airgas and your local AIHA section (as a way of kicking off our local section 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary). Please enroll early, as registration is on a first-come basis and the class size is limited!

The weather is warming up so it's off to the lake for me for golfing, swimming, hiking and fishing. Have a great summer and see you in the fall!



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## **Calendar of Events 2008**

September 14-17

– CSSE PD Conference & Exhibition, Quebec City, QC September 25

- Edmonton & Calgary Social Events

October 27-30

– Alberta H&S Conference & Fall PDC, Edmonton, AB November 8-10

– PCIH, Tampa, FL





## **Photo Fun!**

Show us what you do or see in a day and win a prize in the process.

> Joanna and Rose Ann have set the stage.



# From the Editor's Quill:

thought I'd take little space to а invite each of you to submit a story or picture for our newsletter or website - call it your "15 minutes of fame". This is <u>your</u> local section, your newsletter, your forum. If you need more of an incentivetocontribute, we are also offering a prize for your efforts. In light of our 25th Anniversary, we would especially like to hear from the Alberta Section EHS pioneers in our ranks. Please tell us of the good old days or your worst case scenarios as we hygienists like to say. Send it in any shape or form to ABianco@golder.com.

~ Angela Bianco



Rose Ann McGuinty Receiving AIHF Fun Run Medal





2007 Edmonton Social

#### My AIHce 2008 Experience by Rose Ann McGuinty

This year I had the opportunity to attend the AIHce in Minneapolis – it's been 21 years since I last attended. Of course I was only a toddler then...

I don't actually do a lot of industrial hygiene in my current role, so attending the conference was a great opportunity to catch up on the latest issues and research, as well as touch base with others in the field.

I attended Saturday and Sunday professional development courses - I'm such a keener! - in addition to the conference technical sessions. I learned about what's happening in the field of ergonomics and some interesting ergonomics case studies; the research that NIOSH is doing in the nanotechnology field; some health hazards and solutions in the healthcare industry; what leading companies in the US are doing in the wellness field; and lots more.

The key note speakers were also quite interesting:

- Jeremy Rifkin (president of the Foundation on Economic Trends and an economist who has written extensively about the implications of scientific and technological change) talked about these changes and the role of the health and safety professional.
- Robin Herbert (Director, World Trade Center Medical Monitoring Program Data and Coordination Center) discussed the health impact on workers involved in the rescue and remediation after the World Trade Centre attacks. I found both these presentations quite powerful – so much so that I ordered the conference presentation CD-ROM to share with my colleagues. (If anyone would like to borrow it, give me a shout.)

Between the PDC's and technical sessions, I learned a lot! But it wasn't all work while I was there. I attended the Canadian night, sponsored by the CCOHS. Where I hung out with 3 or 4 other local section members; we had some beer, got caught up on each others' work and personal lives, and generally had a nice evening. (Funny – I didn't see any of them at the technical sessions during the week though. Hmmm...) I also participated in the AIHF fun run, and actually came in second in my age category! Obviously the conference doesn't attract very many fast, middle-aged female delegates. Next year I "graduate" into the next age category, so I'll have to try and get to Toronto and earn another medal... oh yeah, and learn more stuff too.

Well, I better get out now and hit the track.

# **Mouldy Gift Winner**

Thank you for entering the Hydroqual Laboratories Ltd. draw at the 2008 Alberta chapter AIHA Spring Symposium March 28, 2008.

Congratulations once again to Candy Wagner, Sherritt International Corporation as the winner of the "Mouldy" Gift Package (a selection of treats that all have some connection to mould including botrytis wine, Guinness, French bread, cheese and truffles)!

Hydroqual Laboratories Ltd. offers a full suite of testing services related to air, soil and water including:

- Analysis and interpretation of Air-O-Cells, swabs, tape lifts, RCS, bulk and other samples
- Whole Effluent Toxicity (WET) testing
- Marine and Freshwater tests (water/sediments)
- Soil toxicity testing
- Biotreatability tests on soil and groundwater
- Waterborne pathogens, cyanobacterial toxins, endocrine disrupting compounds
- PCR and DNA applications
- Global Issues, Local Solutions.

Feel free to contact Lyriam Marques (LMarques@golder.com, 403-253-7121) or Susanne Golby (SGolby@golder.com, 403-253-7121) for more information.

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# **Annual Alberta AIHA Social**

Come One, Come All. Thursday, September 25, 2008 5PM to 8PM

Edmonton: Suede Lounge 11806 Jasper Ave http://www.suedelounge.ca/

or

Calgary: Ed's Restaurant 202 17th Ave SE http://www.edsrestaurant.com/

Please leave sneakers and ball caps in your vehicle.



#### **Did You Know**

Information and knowledge are powerful tools to support prevention initiatives. It is with a passion for and commitment to worker health and safety that CCOHS equips working Canadians with the information needed to reduce hazards and eliminate risks in the workplace, that all may enjoy a healthy and safe environment!

Visit www.ccohs.ca/ today.

S. Len Hong President & CEO CCOHS

# **Coming Events**

#### **CSSE Professional Development Conference & Exhibition**

#### "Leveraging Partnerships" September 14 - 17, 2008 Québec City, Québec

June 13, 2008

Dear Roy,

I have been a member of the CSSE since 1993 and recently joined the National Conference Organizing Committee as Chair. As Safety Professionals we have numerous conference options to choose from. How we spend our Professional Development and Marketing dollars is an important decision.

I must say that this is an easy decision for me every year. I have attended every CSSE conference since becoming a member and each one has provided me with valuable networking and marketing opportunities as well as quality education. Our safety consulting practice has participated as a Sponsor, Exhibitor, Presenter, Delegate and now as a volunteer.

Our participation in this conference has connected us with Safety Professionals, Vendors, and Government officials and most importantly has created lasting networks. I have found myself connecting to this network on many occasions throughout the year. Sometimes it is for advice and information and sometimes it is to make a purchase. Our Safety Consulting Practice has also received business, quality leads and of course lasting friendships.

This is the one conference that I would highly recommend year after year. Whether you are a seasoned professional who has attended in the past or a new person to the profession, this is definitely the right conference to attend. The trade show and exhibits are expected to produce an all time high attendance. The diverse products and services combined with the exceptional caliber of speakers should make this PDC one of the best yet.

Attend this year's conference, build your network, grow your business, expand your knowledge and make friends and connections that will last a lifetime.

These are all great reasons to visit the web site now and register for the premier OH&S event of the year: http://www.csse.org/content/conference/index.asp.

Hope to see you in Québec City!

Paul Therriault, CHSC Brights Grove, Ontario 2008 Conference Committee Chair Canadian Society of Safety Engineering



#### PCIH 2008: Where Science & Sustainability Meet November 8-11, 2008 Tampa Marriott Waterside Hotel & Marina www.pcih2008.org

Earn up to 6.0 CM points.

We've reserved a seat for you... Look for registration information and additional program details in June. Page 5