



NEWSLETTER

June 2024

A Look Back at the 23-24 Term

It seems like just yesterday that our new leadership team took the helm to guide us through the 23-24 term which began 1 July 2023 and ends 30 June 2024. The team, led by Chapter President Chris Rainwater, had some truly ambitious goals, but it also had a tremendous Executive Committee with tons of energy!

This newsletter, the last for this term, will take a look back at the last year to see what we accomplished as the Long Beach Chapter of the ASSP, and it will also look forward to the 24-25 term and all of the exciting things still to come.

There are some who equate “volunteer” with “no effort required,” but that certainly has not been true of the Long Beach Chapter Executive Committee during the 23-24 term. Volunteers who remember that volunteering means giving it your all (just like on your paid job) even though you won’t be rewarded with a paycheck are some of the best people around. They truly understand that their efforts make a positive difference in the lives and careers of others, and



ASSP CEO Jennifer McNelly and Long Beach Chapter President Chris Rainwater

they work hard to make it so.

No one person worked harder in the last term than your current Vice President (and next President) Luis Ortiz. Luis, who has his own consulting firm to manage, gave a lot of his time and energy to making sure that the Long Beach Chapter thrives. When the ASSP (through its chapters) thrives, that means that the safety profession is strengthened, careers enhanced, re-

sources made available, and, at the end of the day, workers are more likely to go home safely to their families.

We’d be remiss if we didn’t also thank the members of Luis’s firm, Safety First Management, including some of his wonderful family members, who also worked so hard this last year. Chief among them was our Program Chair, Mayra Ramirez, whose phone calls to members resulted in a huge increase in the turnout to the monthly Education and Networking events.

Special points of interest:

- THE 23-24 TERM STARTED ON JULY 1, 2023 AND ENDS ON JUNE 30, 2024
- THERE ARE APPROXIMATELY 170 MEMBERS IN THE LONG BEACH CHAPTER OF THE ASSP
- THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE LOCAL CHAPTER IS KNOWN AS THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE AND IS BOUND BY ASSP AND LOCAL BYLAWS

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Grants and Scholarships Awarded in 23-24 Term

At its meeting in July 2023, the Executive Committee (EC) approved a significant increase to the Long Beach Chapter's Grants and Scholarships program. The program is designed to assist any ASSP member with funding for a number of educational opportunities related to safety and occupational health. The specific grants and scholarships include the following:

1. The Long Beach ASSP/CSUDH Scholarship. This \$750 scholarship is matched by CSUDH to pay for safety-related classes taken at CSUDH.
2. Long Beach ASSP/Private Sector Education Grant. This \$1500 grant is for safety-related classes, continuing education, or certifications.
3. Long Beach ASSP/Private Sector ASP/CSP Certification Grant. These \$500 grants (two awarded annually) are for application fees and testing for the ASP/CSP.
4. Long Beach ASSP/Private Sector Bachelor's Degree Scholarship. This \$2,000 scholarship is to support pursuit of a Bachelor's degree within the safety field.
5. Long Beach ASSP/Private Sector Master's Degree Scholarship. This \$2,000 scholarship is to support pursuit of a Master's degree within the safety field.
6. Long Beach ASSP/Private Sector ASSP Conference Grant. This \$1,000 grant will assist with registration, travel, and lodging for an annual ASSP conference/education event.

Any member of the Chapter in good standing may apply for these grants and scholarships. Generally, members will submit an essay of at least 1,000 words on the importance of higher education within the safety field, certifications, or attendance at a conference (depending on the grant/scholarship sought).

The window for submitting essays is July 1 - September 30th of each year.

Scholarship Selection: All essays will be submitted to the Grants and Scholarships Chair. The essays will be reviewed and ranked by the Chair, and recommendations for selection will be provided to the EC. The EC will select a single recipient for each grant and scholar-



ASSP Long Beach members Allyson Clark, Calvin Pierre, and Anthony Campos are presented with checks for their winning applications for the chapter's 23-24 term Grants and Scholarships Program.

ship to be awarded by November 1st of each year.

Thanks to a generous sponsorship from the employer of one of our members, the 23-24 Grants and Scholarships Program was fully funded.

A number of essays were received and reviewed by the Executive Committee, and recipients were selected. At the Education and Networking event on 21 March, 2024, checks were presented to the winning applicants. Congratulations all!

The application period for the 24-25 term is opening soon, so stay tuned for messages from your Executive Committee for more information.

Chapter Awards—What a Great Year!



Marianne Thomas was presented with the Chapter's top honor—*The Founders' Award*.



Brian Nguyen presented the Safety Professional of the Year award to Chris Rainwater.



Tom Butler received a lifetime achievement award.



Rosa Carrillo was presented the Tom Butler award.



Mayra Ramirez and Luis Ortiz received Achievement awards



Executive Committee members received Certificates of Appreciation for their service



Award Gala attendees enjoyed a 5-course meal at the fabulous La Traviata Italian Restaurant

Education and Networking Events



July 2023

Speaker: Allyson Clark, CSP, CHMM

Topic: It's Getting Hot in Here – Heat Illness Standard

August 2023

Speaker: Luis A. Ortiz

Topic: Safety Management vs Safety Hero



September 2023

Speaker: Chris Rainwater

Topic: From Safety Police to Safety Culture: The Transformation of Effective Safety Management

October 2023

Speaker: Dick Monod de Froideville, MPA

Topic: The Cal/OSHA Appeals Process



January 2024

Speaker: Chris Rainwater

Topic: The 300A - A Timely Workshop on Meeting OSHA Record Keeping Regulations

February 2024

Speaker: Chris Rainwater

Topic: Suspension Trauma Syndrome



March 2024

Speaker: Rick Grobart, MBA, Focus Management Associates

Topic: Situational Awareness- Leadership Level: Making Macro Decisions to Implement at a Micro Level

Education and Networking Events



April 2024

Speaker: Joey Freeman

Topic: California Workplace Violence Prevention Law: What Employers Should Know Before July 1, 2024

May 2024

Speaker: Tom Ritter

Topic: Unlock the Essentials of Workplace Safety with ANSI Z359 Fall Protection Standards



June 2024

Speaker: David Carlos

Topic: Workplace Violence Emergency Response

Coming Up...

July 18, 2024

Speaker: Chris Rainwater

Topic: Ethics in Safety and Occupational Health (Meets BCSP CEU requirements)



The Long Beach Chapter has, by far, the most robust Education and Networking Program in Region 1! Members who attended all of the events in the 23-24 term earned 1.2 CEUs! The monthly events are held at CSUDH in their state of the art facilities made available to our Chapter by special agreement (thank you CSUDH)!

Members are welcome to attend the monthly events in person (encouraged) and virtually. Those who attend in person are provided a complimentary lunch of sandwiches and chips from Jimmy Johns!

Every event, once scheduled, appears on the Long Beach ASSP web site under "Events." Members are required to register for the event in advance and indicate whether they will attend in person or virtually.

All members are strongly encouraged to reach out to other safety professionals and bring them as guests to the monthly Education and Networking events. Let's continue to grow membership and reach out to the larger safety community.

Region 1 ROC (Regional Operating Committee)

The Long Beach Chapter played a HUGE role in Region 1 this term. The Long Beach Chapter is one of 20 chapters that make up Region 1 (Alaska, Hawaii, Washington, Oregon, and California). Chapter President Chris Rainwater was elected as Deputy Regional Vice President and will continue in that role through October 2024. Long Beach, together with our colleagues in the Orange County and Los Angeles chapters, successfully hosted the spring meeting of the Region 1 ROC in what members who attended lauded as “one of the best” ROCs in memory! We deeply appreciate the efforts of everyone who put this amazing event together. Some photos from the two-day event are shown below.



REGION 1 ROC
APRIL 2024
LONG BEACH, CALIFORNIA

The Holiday Gathering!

This term, the Executive Committee instituted an annual holiday gathering! The event was held at La Traviata Italian Restaurant in downtown Long Beach. More than forty members and guests attended the festive and fun event (and enjoyed a lot of amazing food). The event was a huge success, but if you missed it in 2023, start planning now for Friday, December 13! Block that date and time on your calendar now for the 2024 Holiday Gathering. Photos from the great evening are shown below.





Chris Rainwater

Looking Back—Looking Ahead

As I sit here at my desk sipping on a hot cup of coffee, I am slightly sentimental about the year we're about to wrap up within ASSP. As my term as your chapter President ends in a few days, and as your next President takes the reigns (July 1), I am extraordinarily optimistic about the Long Beach Chapter!

When we were planning for the 23-24 term, we decided that it was high time to revitalize the chapter. As many of you know, it was very difficult to come back from Covid (many chapters continue to struggle), but we were determined.

We put together an ambitious ("extremely ambitious" some warned us). We decided we would make sure that members got a lot more than they previously received from the chapter. Members have a choice about which chapter they belong to, and we wanted our members to see that the Long Beach Chapter is the best choice by far.

So, how did we do? Let's take a look.

On membership, we said that we would grow the chapter by 10% (the Region 1 goal). **We grew membership by 15%, and it's still growing!**

We said that we would create a dynamic grants and scholarships program and issue payments to help safety professionals excel in their careers. **We expanded the program, received sponsorships to fully fund the program, and awarded four grants and scholarships!**

We said that we would offer monthly Education and Networking sessions to members

and guests, and we promised that these events would be free with a complimentary lunch provided. We also decided that CEUs would be granted for every event! Finally, we determined that every session would be offered both in-person and virtually. **Attendance at the monthly events broke all chapter records. Members were offered ten events on a great variety of topics. More than a third of the chapter membership registered to attend these monthly events...that's incredible!**

So, all in all, it's been a great year. But there remains a great deal of work to do, and ensuring that our members receive the most bang for the buck, improvement must be continuous. As I leave the chapter presidency, the course of the chapter is now vested in hands of the very capable Luis Ortiz.

I am excited about the new Executive Committee and President Luis Ortiz! Luis is an amazing professional with incredible energy, passion, and an innovative spirit. He will be a very successful president!

Luis is joined for the next term by Vice President Allyson Clark. Allyson, as some of you know, served as the Social Media chair during the current term, and she did a fantastic job as the chapter's LinkedIn page grew exponentially!

Other elected members of the Executive Committee include your new Treasurer, Calvin Pierre, and your new Secretary, W. Victor Garvey. The EC is rounded out by

many other great people, but I'll leave their introductions to your next President, Luis.

I want to take this one final opportunity to express my deep thanks to the Executive Committee and to all of you for your tremendous support during my term. I spent a lot of time and effort this year on the chapter, and I really hope that it was obvious to all members how much we truly care about ASSP and about advancing the safety community.

A Few Shout-Outs!

Tom Butler—You're an amazing man and a great mentor!

Jed Douglas—Thanks for all of your leadership to the chapter through the years!

Karen Townsend—I couldn't be in better company as a Past-President!

Julian Arevelo—Thank you for your professional guidance and wisdom!

Marianne Thomas—You're an inspiration! Congratulations on the Founders' Award!

Marianna Lever—Great consequences come from great decisions, and you made a great decision!

Kaye Horton—WISE is in great hands—thank you so much!

Maya Ramirez—Wow. We're so lucky to have you! Thank you for everything.

Luis Ortiz—It's all yours Oh Great Leader! LOL. You're going to be awesome as always, but you've got a plethora of past-presidents who can advise. Go get 'em!