

THE PLEDGE

WORKING TOGETHER FOR A SAFER, STRONGER FUTURE
August 2026 Chapter Newsletter (Volume 12, Issue 8)



AMERICAN SOCIETY OF
SAFETY PROFESSIONALS

Bakersfield Chapter

Chapter Recognition



PLATINUM LEVEL CHAPTER
2023-2024



PLATINUM LEVEL CHAPTER
2022-2023



PLATINUM LEVEL CHAPTER
2021-2022



PLATINUM LEVEL CHAPTER
2020-2021



GOLD LEVEL CHAPTER
2019-2020



PLATINUM LEVEL CHAPTER
2018-2019



PLATINUM LEVEL CHAPTER
2017-2018



PLATINUM LEVEL CHAPTER
2016-2017



GOLD LEVEL CHAPTER
2015-2016



GOLD LEVEL CHAPTER
2014-2015



GOLD LEVEL CHAPTER
2013-2014

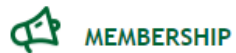


GOLD LEVEL CHAPTER
2012-2013

ASSP Membership is incredibly valuable!



ASSP Membership is incredibly valuable! As a member, you will elevate your career, gain knowledge, tools, and resources to prevent worker injuries, illnesses and fatalities, help improve your company's performance, and become part of a vibrant community of over 40,000 safety professionals working together for a safer, stronger future. Complete the membership application at [ASSP.org](https://assp.org).



Announcements

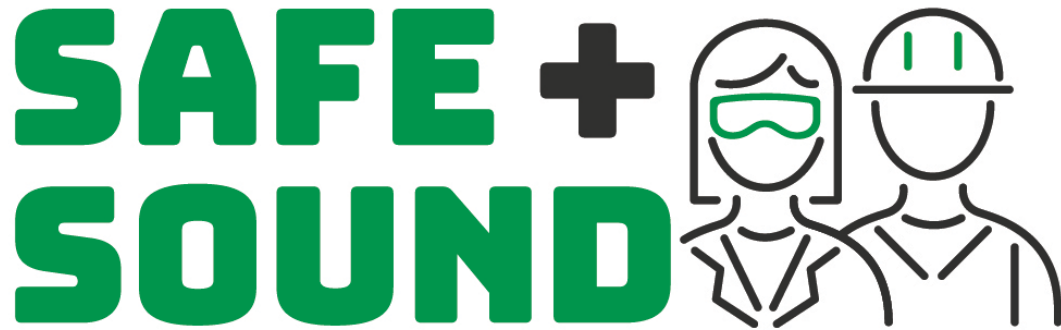
[Online ASSP Community](#) →

Our exclusive online member community connects you with great resources and great people to help you grow professionally and engage with colleagues on a global scale.

[Build Your Leadership Skills](#) →

Serving on an ASSP committee is a great way to build new skills, meet new contacts and make a difference in the OSH profession. We have opportunities in member communities, education, standards and advocacy areas.

OSHA QuickTakes



Safe & Sound is a year-round campaign to encourage every workplace to have a safety and health program, with a week dedicated to recognizing workplace safety.

SAFE + SOUND WEEK

A strong safety culture doesn't happen by chance – it's built one decision at a time, at every level of an organization. From leadership setting expectations to workers speaking up about hazards, every action helps create safer workplaces.

That's what OSHA's [Safe & Sound Week](#) is about. Held each August, the nationwide event recognizes the successes of workplace safety and health programs. These programs serve as blueprints for building a foundation for creating safer workplaces and protecting America's workers from job-related injuries, illnesses, and fatalities. [Sign up](#) today for this year's event, which will take place August 10-16.



August 5, 2026 Chapter Meeting

Gary Garrahan, CHMM, CSP
The Wonderful Company

DOT and EPA Concerns Related to Agriculture in the Central Valley

During his ten years working in agriculture, Gary Garrahan has noted issues common in the Central Valley of California that concern Hazardous Materials Transportation (regulated by DOT) and Aboveground Storage Tanks (regulated by EPA). The purpose of this discussion will be to share "lessons learned."

Gary J. Garrahan, CHMM, CSP, is Senior Manager of Environment, Health and Safety for The Wonderful Company, a private grower, harvester, bottler, packager and marketer of healthy products. A chemical engineer by degree, he is a Certified Hazardous Materials Manager (CHMM) and a Certified Safety Professional (CSP). Prior to joining The Wonderful Company in 2017, he gained over 30 years of experience in Environmental, Health and Safety in plastics manufacturing, compact disc manufacturing and power tool manufacturing. He lives in Bakersfield, California.



Attend in person at Hodel's (7:00AM-8:45AM).

Zoom option [available](#) for January, April, July, and October meetings.

September 2, 2026 Chapter Meeting

Catherine Jones, CSP, ARM, MA
Bakersfield College

Using the Fish to Swim Ahead: From Restorative Problem Solving to Generative Excellence

This session explores the power of leading indicators, bolstered by the addition of Appreciative Inquiry as the paradigm to move the needle from traditional problem solving/restoration/compliance focus to a more generative process which can help move an organization toward exceptional results and new possibilities. Ishikawa's fishbone diagram provides the operational detail and categorization that can be transformed into key leading indicators. Applied positive psychology is woven in to help reframe our focus on a successful path ahead. Finally, the core concepts of risk management are integrated to help us "manage the floor, while we raise the ceiling" of business performance and safety.

Catherine has a Bachelor of Science degree in Health Science: Occupational Safety and Health from Fresno State, is a Certified Safety Professional, and has earned the designations of Associate in Risk Management and Associate in Claims. Her Master's degree is in Homeland Security Studies from the Naval Postgraduate School. During her career, Catherine has worked across a broad range of disciplines, including student safety, liability mitigation, risk assessments, occupational safety, property and environmental risk, employment liability, emergency management, and claim/litigation management. In 2016, she joined Bakersfield College where she created the curriculum for the Associate of Science degree in Occupational Safety and Risk Management. She currently serves as a full-time faculty member teaching in the program.



August 2026 Member Anniversaries – “Celebrating the dedication, commitment, and milestones of our valued members.”

1–4 Years

Rollie Cochran - 4

Johnny Hernandez - 4

Cole Cates - 3

Ruthann Snyder - 2

Juan Escalante Pech - 1

Alex Cordier - 1

Ryan Smith - 1

1–4 Years

Michele Herstad - 1

Juan Suarez - 1

DeeJay Biter - 1

John Mason - 1

Joe Alvarado Jr. - 1

Chris Morales - 1

5–9 Years

David Suarez - 6

10–19 Years

Harlan D Giles - 19

Alison J Currie - 17

Michael Cabrea - 17

Brian D Lane - 15

20+ Years

Allan L Moore - 27

News, Information, and Resources from ASSP

- [The Value of ASSP Membership](#) – Monique Parker, our 2026-2027 ASSP President and ASSP Foundation Chair, shares thoughts on the value of having your ASSP membership. Click to read Monique's story and how it reflects the value found within ASSP.
- [ASSP Online Bookstore](#) – If you haven't visited the ASSP store recently, head over to see what offerings are available to you as a safety professional. Items range from courses and events to certification programs and annual on-demand training passes.
- [Local Job Openings](#) – Bakersfield ASSP post job openings that are communicated direct to the Chapter. Find job titles and company names via the link. Note* -not all job postings may be current and may be expired.
- [ASSP Career Center](#) – Whether you are new to the safety profession, looking for a new opportunity, or searching for the best candidate for an opening, ASSP has resources for you – find a job, continue your education, find a mentor, or make connections.



A Little About ASSP

ASSP publishes the [Professional Safety Journal](#): a flagship monthly journal and top member benefit covering the latest safety management and injury prevention trends.

Our more than 40,000 members are dedicated to making their workplaces safer and healthier, and the Bakersfield Chapter shares in their commitment.

ASSP members create safer work environments by preventing workplace fatalities, injuries and illnesses. Safer organizations enjoy increased productivity, higher employee satisfaction, and a better reputation while recording less lost time, and lower workers' compensation and healthcare costs.

If you are looking for job postings, find current opportunities shared with the Chapter on the [Chapter website](#).

Is your company looking for a qualified safety professional? Contact membershipbakersfieldassp@gmail.com to have the opening sent via email to our members and mailing list.

You can find Chapter Documents, Member Updates, Newsletters, and Presentations on our [Chapter Library page](#).

For comments or suggestions on ways we can improve this newsletter, please contact [Dave Lee](#).



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