



January 2021 Newsletter

From the President's Perspective:

The first week of the New Year is a good time to look forward to the coming year. Lots of changes are taking place; politically and socially. But with our Chapter, we are in the middle of the Chapter Year (it starts in July); an update on what's going on is in order.

Our next Chapter Meeting will be at 4:30 PM on January 25, 2021; again, it will be virtual on Zoom. We have an experienced HVAC engineer, Mr. Jason Mock, PE from Watts Architecture and Engineering talk about Ventilation for Workplace Comfort and Safety. This has become a periodic topic in the COVID era as air filtration and movement through a facility can affect the spread of an airborne infectious disease. Even if your organization does not officially involve or designate you, as a safety professional, to comment on HVAC, you should know at least the basics of how it works and how workplace safety and comfort is influenced by HVAC. Jason will provide those basics in understandable terms.

We also are in that time of the year when SPY nominations are due to our Honors & Awards chairs; J. Brett Carruthers (bcarruthers@wrightinsurance.com) and Bo Burghardt (pburghardt@roadrunner.com). If you know of someone who is an outstanding person, who has made significant contributions to the knowledge in our profession, who has significantly served our Professional community or the Community at large; we want to recognize that person's achievement! They do not need to hold professional certification from BSCP or AIHA to win this award. Please email your selection to either Brett or Bo as they need to get information packages out to your nominee for review by the Honors & Awards Committee when they return it..

We could also use some Members who want to become more involved with the Niagara Frontier Chapter and ASSP, to run for Chapter Office. You can run for any position; although typically, the Secretary/Treasurer is promoted to the President position. Terms of office are 1 year; those of us who previously served are willing to mentor the person elected to that position for success. It would be really interesting to hold an election as we have not done so in a while and it does tend to get Members interested in the Chapter. You will have an opportunity to learn and develop leadership skills that will benefit you for the rest of your life! Please let me know at president.nfassp@gmail.com if you are interested. (We have done email ballots before and it works! No fraudulent election shenanigans will be allowed!)

Changes; well, there will always be changes. Some will embrace the 'new normal', some will not. What we need to keep in mind is that opportunities exist to advance positive change under most all circumstances; you just have to look for it. Have your proposal for change worked out in detail, begin getting others to buy in to the benefits of the changes you want to make and time the introduction of your proposal to maximize its acceptance. If you test your proposed changes for rejection and failure by thoroughly reviewing both the positive and negative effects as well as INVOLVING OTHERS in the development process, it may gain acceptance and succeed beyond your expectations.