



September 2022 Newsletter

September is back to school month; many of us used to dread returning to school, for some kids, it's the beginning of another adventure. For us adults, it's a time of the year to be aware of your surroundings when driving. We share the road on the way to and from work with school busses and kids walking to and from school. Kids do kid things; like walk out in to traffic when staring at the device in their hands, bump and push each other as they walk along, strike up last minute conversations as they leave the bus, etc. We need to be aware and account for that momentary lapse of rational reason by children. Look for them by the side of the road when driving to and from work (these early mornings are darker than the summer days). Parents, try to convince your kids that wearing bright, visible clothing on dark and dreary days may not only elevate your emotions; it also helps drivers see you as you walk along. School busses can be annoying; allow extra time in your travels for the delays caused by frequently stopping school busses.

We had our first in-person meeting of the Niagara Frontier Chapter on September 12, 2022! We had a great turn out and those that attended enjoyed seeing and socializing with everyone again. We had a great OSHA Update Presentation by Nick Donofrio, OSHA Compliance Assistance Specialist.

Our October meeting will be a presentation on drone use by the University at Buffalo's Safety Department. This meeting is planned for October 10th, at 220 Winspear Avenue on the Main Street Campus. Watch for a meeting notice and reply if you're interested!

Nominations are now being accepted for the Safety Professional of the Year Award (SPY Award). A member of the ASSP can send a nomination to Bo Burghardt (pburghardt@roadrunner.com), Brett Caruthers (bcarruthers@wrightinsurance.com), Ryan Knoph (rknoph@jwdanforth.com) or Carol Schmeidler (cbs2@buffalo.edu). Then you will be sent an application to complete.

As always, we are looking for New Members and Member input into programming as well as robust meeting attendance. The more of us attending meetings seems to make the meeting more memorable.



We have discussed a meeting on Disaster Preparation/Business Interruption Planning, but did not get around to it yet. In the interim, here's some things to think of as summer fades in to fall, then winter arrives.

- Check over your home; servicing Furnace and Air Conditioning systems for the upcoming heating season to ensure it works when it's needed and runs efficiently to conserve fuel. Look for any exterior repairs that may need to be done (I found one!) and get them scheduled. Also, check over your snow removal equipment; service and repair now, before it breaks in the middle of the blizzard (been there, done that).
- Check over your vehicle(s); have any needed repairs done or aging parts replaced (battery, tires, brakes?) before they fail and leave you stranded. Have an emergency kit in your vehicle in case you get caught in a storm; you may not be comfortable, but you can stay alive. Having a vehicle charging cord in your vehicle for you cell phone is a good idea.
- Plan to have enough food in your house to last for at least 4-5 days throughout fall and winter should we have a true Western New York "snow event". Remember, when the local media cranks up the storm warning machine, the local stores are quickly stripped clean of bread, milk and beer. Best to have this stuff on hand prior to 3 hours before flakes fly!
- Employers, think about remote work for your employees if possible. Planning to have employees work remotely from home will keep vehicles off storm compromised roads, not expose them to weather related travel hazards, allow them to stay home with kids (school's closed!), best of all, you don't have to be responsible for feeding them, hygiene and sleeping arrangements for the duration of the storm.