**ASSP Penn-Jersey Chapter APRIL 2020**

**President’s Message**

Dear Chapter Members,

The world as we have known it has changed with this Pandemic. Like many of you, I’m juggling responsibilities with teleworking, overseeing my high school seniors course work and delayed Eagle Scout project, maintaining our household while we all follow the Stay Home initiatives. These are stressful times and I was recently reminded, that I need to take care of myself in order to be all I can be to others. So as a reminder, get the sleep you require, shut off the TV, exercise, enjoy this time with your family and find creative ways to connect with others.

I hope this finds you well and safe whatever your circumstances are. I look forward to a time when we can resume in person connections.

Cindy Baldwin

ASSP Penn-Jersey Chapter President

**Upcoming Elections:** You should receive an email to vote electronically on Chapter elections soon. Please take the time to vote and if you have any questions contact the Nominations and Elections Chairperson, Michael McGowan, at [past-president@penn-jersey.assp.org](mailto:pastpresident@penn-jersey.asse.org) .

**Future Meetings –** ASSP guidance restricts in person events through May 15, 2020. We are exploring the possibility of a virtual Chapter meeting and will keep you updated as events unfold. The May 28th joint meeting with the NJ and Philadelphia Chapters at the Lockheed Martin Facility in Moorestown, NJ. has been canceled.

**OSHA Updates** – On April 10, 2020, OSHA issued interim guidance related to recording cases of COVID-19 that occur in the workplace. Normally, illnesses contracted in the workplace are recordable if they are new cases and result in medical treatment beyond first aid, days away from work, or other criteria in 29 CFR 1904.7.

OSHA’s interim guidance for illness recordkeeping relaxes the recordkeeping requirement for COVID-19 cases for all employers **except** those in healthcare industry, emergency response organizations, and correctional institutions.

For these employers, OSHA will only enforce its recordkeeping requirement when two conditions are met:

1. There is objective evidence that a COVID-19 case may be work related; and

2. The evidence was reasonably available to the employer.

Employers in the healthcare industry, emergency response organizations (e.g. EMTs, firefighters, police), and correctional institutions must continue to make work relatedness determinations as laid out in 29 CFR Part 1904. For more information go to <http://www.osha.gov/> .

**Society News** - ASSP has joined the effort of health authorities at the local, state and federal levels to "flatten the curve" or slow down the community spread of COVID-19. They have shifted in-person education events to virtual offerings through May 15. Accessible from any computer, [ASSP’s online courses](https://store.assp.org/PersonifyEbusiness/Events/ASSPEducationalEventsCalendar) cover topics such as incident investigation and prevention, certification preparation, confined spaces, construction, electrical safety, ergonomics and human factors, fall protection, fire safety, fleet safety, industrial hygiene, and many more. Use promo code 20ONLINE to save 20% on online courses. In addition, for a limited time, you can access all 330 recorded sessions from Safety 2019 and beyond free. [Visit our store](https://store.assp.org/PersonifyEbusiness/Store/ASSP-Store" \l "filter={"Facet"%3A{"Name"%3A"On-Demand+Learning","Value"%3A"WEB_FACET_4"},"SubFacet"%3A{"Name"%3A"Recorded+Conference+Sessions","Value"%3A"ASSPPDCSESS"},"Category"%3Anull,"SubCategory"%3Anull}&searchTerm=&searchItemNameTerm=&searchDescriptionTerm=&productClass=) and use code LEARNFREE.

### **An Update on Safety 2020 -** Society has been exploring a wide range of options and factors related to Safety 2020. Due to the progression of the pandemic and its cascading effects on safety and health, work, travel and large gatherings, Safety 2020 will likely shift from an in-person event to a virtual experience. Our goal is to deliver the high-quality professional content our attendees expect and the learning experience they need to achieve the highest levels of personal and organizational performance. We are finalizing event details and will share more information with you by the end of April.

**If you have suggestions for our newsletter, please send them to safetyguy328@aol.com**