

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

### The Spirit of Volunteerism

I hope everyone had a nice and relaxing holiday season. Now that winter is upon us, we are back to shoveling snow and slipping and sliding on our way to our destinations. I know it is hard to believe but I've heard that this winter is supposed to be worse in many ways than last winter. Fortunately, we all know that spring follows winter. You may be asking yourself why we are talking about spring so early.



Sharkey Mingela

Early spring (March) is the time the newly elected MIHS Board and Officers, filled with bright ideas and energy, begin a new MIHS program year. The excellent programs and professional activities that MIHS has produced every year since 1937 do not occur spontaneously. They require significant amount of thought and effort from the leaders of this fine professional organization. This brings us to what happens at MIHS after fall, but before spring. The major task we have to accomplish is to present to the MIHS membership a new slate of candidates willing to serve the organization for the next year. Usually in February, we ask for your support of these candidates through the MIHS election.

Every year we elect a new President Elect, Secretary, Treasurer, and four Board members. The President Elect accedes to the Presidency and the President moves to Past President. Four Board members, elected for a two year term, remain to afford some consistency. These thirteen individuals comprise the Officers and Board of MIHS. These people come from the ranks the MIHS and are members just like you, with no special skills or talents required. All that is necessary is a little time and a good dose of the spirit of volunteerism. Unlike AIHA we have no paid professional staff so everything that we do and accomplish is through our volunteers. We have been successful for more than 75 years so we must be doing something right. However, what we do need is a supply of volunteers willing to serve MIHS as Officers and Board members.

Soon someone from the MIHS Nomination Committee may call you and request that you consider volunteering and serving the organization by running for one of the open positions. Despite your undoubtable busy schedule I hope you agree to run because we need you. If the urge to serve MIHS in you is great, please consider self nomination to any member of the MIHS Nominating Committee. Don't be bashful. please contact Carrie Brown, Andy Crause, or Tom Rancour.

If serving as a Board Member or Officer is something you are not interested in at this time, but you still want to get more involved in MIHS, there are plenty of opportunities. No volunteers have ever been refused. Please see the article on Page 6 for other volunteer opportunities. We'll see you at the next MIHS event.

**Watch your e-mail inbox for the MIHS election announcement in the coming weeks.**

## MARK YOUR CALENDAR

### GHS/SDS Roundtable Event

Roundtable discussion of  
January 21, 2015  
Vista Tech Center at Schoolcraft College, Livonia, MI  
[mihsweb.org](http://mihsweb.org)

### Industrial Ventilation Conference

February 9-13, 2015  
Kellogg Center, East Lansing, MI  
<http://www.michiganivc.org>

### Student Night

February 2015 (Details to Follow)  
[mihsweb.org](http://mihsweb.org)

### Developing Respirator Cartridge Changeout Schedules

Online course (2 contact hours)  
March 10, 2015  
<https://www.aiha.org/education/CourseCalendar/eLearning/Pages/15MAR1WBRespCart.aspx>

### MIHS Past-Presidents' and Annual Business Meeting

March 2015  
Watch for details on the MIHS Website at  
[www.mihsweb.org](http://www.mihsweb.org)

### Fundamentals of Industrial Hygiene (AIHA)

March 23-26, 2015  
Columbus, Ohio  
<https://www.aiha.org/education/CourseCalendar/FacetoFace/Pages/Fundamentals-of-Industrial-Hygiene.aspx>

### Optimizing Hearing Protection and Hearing Loss Prevention

Full-day professional development course presented by  
Western Michigan Industrial Hygiene Society and MIHS  
April 13, 2015, Okemos, MI  
[mihsweb.org](http://mihsweb.org)

### Comprehensive Industrial Hygiene Review Course

Co-sponsored by U of M, MIHS and AIHA  
April 20-24, 2015  
Ann Arbor, Michigan  
<https://www.aiha.org/education/CourseCalendar/FacetoFace/Pages/Comprehensive-Industrial-Hygiene-Review.aspx>

### Michigan Safety Conference 2015

April 14 and 15, 2015  
Lansing Center, Lansing, MI  
[www.michsafetyconference.org](http://www.michsafetyconference.org)

### AIHce 2015

May 30-June 4, 2015  
Salt Lake City, Utah  
[www.aihce2015.org](http://www.aihce2015.org)

## VISIT OUR WEBSITE

The MIHS website is **loaded** with information.

- Helpful links
- Calendar of upcoming events
- Board meeting minutes
- ABIH approval numbers for MIHS-sponsored events going back to 2001

[www.mihsweb.org](http://www.mihsweb.org)



## WHAT'S IN THE SYNERGIST?

The cover story of the December 2014 Synergist, written by Mark Rollins, is entitled *More Apps for the EHS Professional*.

Wow! A \$50 weather station the size of your thumb that plugs into the headphone jack of your smartphone? A Bluetooth sensor that measures carbon monoxide, methane, propane, ozone, and humidity (for now)? A \$300 device that mounts on to a smartphone to provide low resolution thermal imaging (that can be captured and sent from your phone like any other image)?

These things exist, and while they may not be substitutes for NIST-traceable, calibrated equipment, they are excellent, inexpensive screening tools for EHS professionals that can be carried in your pocket. The novelty/conversation starter aspect of this technology is obvious, but the key for all of us would be

to be able to use this technology in the field and have it be defensible and "legit" in the eyes of regulatory agencies. To this end, AIHA's Computer Applications Committee (CAC) will be publishing a listing of apps that can be used for professional purposes. This listing is to be published on the CAC webpage (<http://bit.ly/aihacac>), and will be updated continuously. Imagine walking around with a pocketful of little devices that you can plug into your phone or access wirelessly, and accurately measure CO concentration, ventilation flowrate, sound level, temperature, and relative humidity.

The article also touched on general security and privacy concerns when posting photos and sending data obtained with a smartphone.



Andy Crause



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## MIHS FALL MINI CONFERENCE A SUCCESS

On October 7, 2014, MIHS held its annual Mini Conference at the Michigan State University Management Center in Troy, Michigan. Bart Pickelman, MIOSHA Deputy Director, presented a MIOSHA update. Michigan's own Doug Kalinowski, who is now with Federal OSHA, presented a Washington insider's perspective of state programs and OSHA. Ryan Wolschleger of OSHA talked about the proposed changes to the crystalline silica standard. MIHS's Jim D'arcy spoke about nanotechnology. The final speaker of the day was Nazaret Sandoval of the Michigan DEQ, who talked about fugitive dust emissions.



Clockwise from top left: Auditorium overview, MIHS President Elect Eric Allen with Bart Pickelman, Doug Kalinowski, Ryan Wolschleger, Jim D'Arcy, and Nazaret Sandoval.

## IN MEMORIAM

**Kenneth E. Robinson**

**February 1, 1913 - June 20, 2014**

Kenneth E. Robinson, 101, passed away peacefully in his sleep on June 20, 2014

As a heating and ventilating engineer, he devoted most of his working life to improve working conditions in industrial plants and other places of employment throughout the United States, Canada and overseas. Ken began his career in industrial hygiene when he joined the then Michigan Health Department, Bureau of Industrial Hygiene in August 1943, WWII was in full swing and there was a strong need by Michigan Industry for assistance in the design and implementation of effective ventilation controls in Foundries and other dusty operations. While working with other Department engineers it became apparent that using eight to twelve references was very cumbersome to work with and most difficult to explain to others. As the work continued the idea of having the equations, graphs and such in one place would be very beneficial and thus the Michigan Ventilation Manual was born. By 1947 many groups were asking if they could have copies of the collected material. Since neither the State Government or the Department of Health were in a position to publish books, Ken approached a number of organizations who he felt could do the job. After a lot of time and labor he finally convinced the American Conference of Governmental Industrial Hygienists (ACGIH) to publish "Industrial Ventilation A Manual of Recommended Practice". He guaranteed they wouldn't lose any money by promising he would buy any unsold books with his own money. The first manual was published in 1951 and used in the first Ventilation Conference at Michigan State College, and the rest is history.

In 1953 Ken resigned his position with the Department and joined the General Motors Industrial Hygiene Department where he was extremely successful in upgrading plant facilities and training many people in the art and science of moving air in space. Following his retirement from the General Motors Corporation, he served as a consultant to the United States Navy, helping them solve ventilation problems and training Navy personnel. He continued to write for trade publications and speak at conferences well into his 90s.

In 1974 he and his wife moved to Silver Lake and become active in the Mears Methodist church and the Mears Museum (Michigan). He was predeceased by Marjorie Robinson, his wife of 70 years. He is survived by a son and daughter-in-law, Gary and Sharon Robinson of Silver Lake and daughter an son-in-law, Ann and Chuck Chandler of Apex, N.C.; 5 grand children, 10 great - grand children and 4 great-great grand children.

Honoring his wishes, a graveside service to celebrate his life was conducted by his son at the Golden Township Cemetery in Mears on June 28, 2014. In lieu of flowers the family suggests contributions to the Mears Methodist Church or the Mears Museum Trust Fund.

## GET INVOLVED IN AN MIHS COMMITTEE!

Each Spring, the Officers and Board Members divvy up the various committee assignments for the coming year, and this year will be no different. We are always looking for ways to get our membership more involved, and an excellent way to get involved would be to assist on a committee. If you've ever considered running for one of the MIHS Board or Office positions, but you're not sure you have the time, joining a committee would be a great way to dip a toe in the water.

Let's say you've always wanted to learn how to run a website OR maybe you already are an ace webmaster, and have a great idea on how to improve the MIHS website. Either way, we would love to hear from you.

One of our primary needs, year-in and year-out, is for volunteers to help award the **Best Paper**. This is

an annual award presented at the AIHce by MIHS to the authors of the paper that was deemed to be the best one of the year to appear in the Journal of Occupational and Environmental Health (JOEH). This is as easy as reading an issue of the JOEH and critiquing each of the articles in that month's issue. During late winter and early spring, we need "fresh eyes" to re-read those articles that scored as the best, to determine the best of the best.

"Gee, I would like to help, but I have very little time to offer, and I'm sure they can't use someone that can offer only an hour a month." Nonsense! Any time at all would be greatly appreciated. Contact anyone on the board and let us know what you would like to do, and we will match you with the committee that would best suit you.

We look forward to hearing from you!



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## TELL US A STORY!

We are always on the lookout for content and items of interest to our members. If you have a story to tell that you feel would be of interest to the group and you would like to see it in the MIHS Newsletter, let us know.

- A "Tale from the Front" about something you have done in the field.
- A write-up on a seminar or conference you've attended
- Editorial commentary
- A write-up on a new gadget or "app" you have discovered that might be of interest to others

Pretty much anything industrial hygiene-related, we would love to hear about it.. Send your article to:

[andrew.crause@us.bureauveritas.com](mailto:andrew.crause@us.bureauveritas.com).



## Officers and Executive Board

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### MIHS Organizational Members

Each year the activities of the MIHS have been supported by our Organizational Members. The MIHS appreciates the support and generosity of our Organizational Members.

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### Board Members



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