PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE

Happy New Year! I hope everybody had a safe and happy holidays. First off, I would like to thank all our general and board members for all your help and support this past year. We could not have been as successful without all of your help. Within a short time, you will be seeing the 2018 ballot coming out with elections for board members as well as a vote for some changes on the bylaws. Please take the time to vote on the changes which include lengthening terms (two years) of board members such as the treasurer and secretary. I look forward to seeing everybody at the Past Presidents meeting. The Business meeting and Student Night will also follow. We’ve also been in discussion to try to add a couple other meetings added to this year’s agenda. If you have any suggestions or questions, please give me a call at 586-615-9687. Have a great and successful 2018.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

MIHS Election of Board and Officers
February 2018
Visit the MIHS website for Details

Michigan Industrial Ventilation Conference
East Lansing, Michigan
February 12-17, 2018
Vent Conference

Comprehensive Industrial Hygiene Review
Ann Arbor, Michigan
March 12-16, 2018
and
September 24-28, 2018
U of M MIHS Comp Review

MIHS Past President’s Breakfast
Vista Tech, Livonia, MI
February 27, 2018
Visit the MIHS website for Details

MIHS Student Night
Courthouse Grille
Plymouth, MI
March 29, 2018
Visit the MIHS website for Details

Michigan Safety Conference
Lansing, Michigan
April 17-18, 2018
MI Safety Conference

AIHce 2018
May 21-23, 2018
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
AIHce 2018
EMMANUEL ZERVOUDAKIS RECEIVES AIHF SCHOLARSHIP ENDOWED BY MIHS

Earlier this year, the American Industrial Hygiene Foundation (AIHF) Scholarship Selection Committee selected Emmanuel N. Zervoudakis from University of Michigan to be the recipient of the scholarship endowed by MIHS.

During the 2017 AIHce, the AIHF recognized all of the AIHF scholarship recipients at two events. One was the AIHF Donor and Scholarship Recipient Reception at FareStart on Sunday, June 4th. The second recognition was onstage on June 7th during the Mark of Excellence Break Event.

AIHA received a “thank you” note from Mr. Zervoudakis, and forwarded that note on to MIHS earlier this year. We are pleased to forward that note on to all of our members (right).
MIHS WANTS YOU!

This Winter, as always, MIHS members will be electing four board members, President-Elect, Treasurer, and Secretary. Each Full and Associate member of MIHS has voting rights, AND the right to run for elected office. Should you decide to run, you will not be grilled on your foreign trade position or party affiliation. All you need to have is a willingness to participate. These are volunteer positions, and all Board Members and Officers must be members of AIHA, and all who serve as Board members or Officers are eligible for ABIH Maintenance Points.

If you’ve ever considered running for one of the MIHS Board or Office positions, but you’re not sure you have the time, you need not worry. The Board meets in person a couple of times per year, and meets “virtually” via teleconference a few other times per year. Outside of meetings, the time commitment varies, but is typically a few hours per month.

If you are considering running, but have never held an MIHS office, your best bet would be to run for Board, and see how you like it. The term is 2 years, and you will be asked to attend meetings and chair one of our committees. If you have previously participated on the Board, we would love to hear from you.

In addition to elected positions, there are numerous ways to participate in MIHS including:

- Contribute an article to the Newsletter.
- Volunteer to review articles for our annual Best Paper award which is given to the authors of the best paper from the previous year’s Journal of Occupational and Environmental Health.
- Present a topic at our Fall Mini Conference
- Staff the MIHS booth for an hour at the annual Michigan Safety Conference (which is in Novi this year).
- Spread the word about the benefits of MIHS membership to colleagues.
- Arrange for MIHS members to take a tour of your facility.
- Volunteer to sit in as a proctor during either the Fall or Spring U of M/MIHS Comprehensive Review course in Ann Arbor.
- Offer suggestions to improve MIHS

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MIHS FALL MINI CONFERENCE A SUCCESS

The 2017 MIHS Fall Mini-Conference was held October 5th at the MSU-Management Education Center in Troy. We were very pleased to welcome AIHA CEO Larry Sloan as our first speaker of the day. The other speakers included (1) Bart Pickelman, who provided a MIOSHA update, (2) Eric Allen and Eric Zaban from MIOSHA, who provided information on exposures to radio frequency, (3) Dr. John Snawder of NIOSH, who spoke about the state of the science with direct-reading instrument sensor technology, and (4) Giuseppe Lacaria of Ford, who spoke about the emerging technology of additive manufacturing (or 3D printing). There was no vendor display area this year, due to space constraints, but we expect to have vendors again next year.
The Comprehensive Industrial Hygiene Review course cosponsored between MIHS and the University of Michigan has been held twice annually (Spring and Fall) for decades. The most recent course was held the week of September 25, and was well-attended.

This 4.5-day course provides an intensive, high-level review of a wide range of industrial hygiene topics by more than a dozen experts. The course has gained the reputation of being one of the premier programs for individuals who are preparing to take the ABIH certification exam or looking to broaden or refresh their IH knowledge base.

This course is designed for Industrial Hygienists, EHS Coordinators, Facility Engineers, Safety Managers, Environmental Engineers, Occupational Health Nurses and anyone interested in enhancing their knowledge and understanding of the fundamentals and concepts of Industrial Hygiene. Attendees must have a basic knowledge of mathematics and chemistry. The next course will be held March 12-16, 2018, in Ann Arbor. If you, or someone you know is preparing for the ABIH certification exam, you should consider attending.
MIHS CONtributes to PUERTO RICO RELIEF

This fall, Hurricane Maria devastated the island of Puerto Rico. Despite the official relief efforts from the United States government, much of the island remains in conditions ranging from poor to desperate. It is estimated that at least 30% of the island is still without power.

Late last year, Dr. Sergio Caporali, Ph.D., CSP, CIH, Professor and Coordinator of the Industrial Hygiene program at the University of Puerto Rico, sent out an urgent appeal to the industrial hygiene community through a letter to AIHA and Workplace Health Without Borders-US. His letter urged the IH community to help Puerto Rico by sending items such as personal protective equipment to the Graduate School of Public Health where faculty and students were spending much of their spare time in disaster assessment and recovery. These recovery efforts required hard hats, protective gloves, safety glasses, and related PPE to protect those doing this vital work.

MIHS is proud to report that Sergio’s plea was answered immediately by our local section. Aaron Jacob, Vice-President of Premier Safety, of Chesterfield Township, Michigan was quick to reply to Sergio’s request by donating – not just boxes of needed supplies – but a whole pallet full of necessary equipment. The supplies were on their way to Puerto Rico within days of Sergio’s request. Although there was an unfortunate delay in shipment, the badly needed supplies eventually arrived at the University of Puerto Rico on December 11, 2017. In the words of Sergio, “We have already taken some of the PPE to a very poor community in the town of Canovanas, where very heavy damage occurred. We will continue to take the PPE to other communities when classes start back on January 8th, and I will send pictures of those communities visited and PPE that is handed to them.”

This crisis is not over. Additional financial support and addition supplies for this effort will be needed for some months. Andrea Guytingco, the current President of the University of Michigan Industrial Hygiene Student Association (UMIHSA), has also announced that their student section has raised money to help in this effort and has been in touch with Dr. Caporali.

If you would like to help. Please contact either Aaron Jacob, or Bert Schiller (WHWB-US).

[Footnote: Dr., Caporali has been in our area numerous times. First, by attending the CIH Review class in Ann Arbor a few years ago and later by enrolling in U-M’s Visiting Partner’s Program. His efforts in disaster relief and recovery are a great example to all of us.]
TALES FROM THE FRONT: WHAT IS AN IH? (ACTS I AND II)

Industrial Hygiene is a hard sell. Right from the time of trying to explain who and what you are, to the time of explaining what the profession is, it is enough to consider getting into selling snow to an Eskimo.

Here is how a typical party conversation probably goes.....

Act I:

Background – several individuals mill around in a party room swilling alcohol and making small talk. The Industrial Hygienist (IH) – though not yet recognized – is conspicuous with his wide grin, horn-rimmed glasses, suspenders - the nerdy look of an intellectual. He is completely ignored by everyone. Along come a successful executive looking couple, one in tuxedo and the other equally formally dressed and accidentally bump into our IH.

The Man (reading the name tag): Hello Mr. IH lovely evening.....

Mr. IH: Yes...yes...lovely evening. It’s all the smoking that bothers me. The PEL for cyclopentohptane has recently changed to 0.3 ppm. I wonder that we all do not wear half-face respirator here. In fact, with a PF of 50 I might even recommend a FF respirator with OV and HEPA combination cartridge.

(The couple look a bit bemused and ready to bolt – but are held by sheer societal pressures)

The Lady: uh! Yes....I suppose so...(then looks a bit challenged to continue the conversation)

Mr. IH: Yes...yes...we all fought the PEL with OSHA....just because ACIHG changed the TWA, there is no reason for AIHA, DOL and the rest to agree with them.....

The Man: That is very interesting. What do you do for a living?

Mr. IH: (rather smugly) I am a certified industrial hygienist. It is a very tough process to become one, you know....first I have to be an IHIT and only then do I qualify for CIH.

The Lady: Oh - I know one hygienist. My neighbor’s third cousin two times removed is a hygienist too. (Her looks imply that the cousin is nowhere close to Mr. IH in the weirdness department)

Mr. IH: (all excited). Where does the cousin work? Is she active in AIHCE committees? Is she a CIH? What school did she graduate from?

The Lady: Oh...she works with Dr. Simonack – he has a dental office in BoonDocks, Iowa.

Mr. IH: (disappointment writ on his face) - We are industrial hygienists, not dental hygienists.

Mr. Man: How is that different?

Mr. IH: (rather furious). We don't look into peoples’ teeth. We are in the business of AREC in industrial places.

Mr. Man: (completely confused with all the acronyms). Ahh...now I see it. You do in industries what a dental hygienist does to people’s teeth.....

Mr. IH: (response cannot be printed on this publication)

Exit Mr. Man and The Lady – in precipitous haste and Mr. IH with detectable wrath.

Act II

IH office at ACME Shop. Mr. IH is on the phone talking to someone......we can hear only one side of the conversation......

Mr. IH: Yes...yes...that is what I am looking for.....so...I start in three weeks.....good, I’ll be ready......no...no...don’t have much sales experience, but I catch on fast, really, how hard can sales be? ......yes...yes...I know all about ski’s........so what if there is no snow in Middle East......why a change in career so late in life?......because I’ve about had it with people not understanding what I do.........

Ravi Vangipuram

COMMUNITY OUTREACH

MIHS Board member Chinonye Akunne visited Detroit’s University Prep Middle School in early 2017, to talk about industrial hygiene to four different groups of students. Chinonye found the experience to be rewarding and was pleased to report that the students were engaged and eager to learn about IH.

If a community outreach opportunity to promote IH comes your way (such as Career Day at school), and you would like to participate, but are not certain what to do, give Chinonye a call.

www.mihsweb.org
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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 Member.

Trimedia Environmental & Engineering

If your firm would like to become an Organizational Member, contact MIHS Secretary, Lynn Totsky.

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