PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE

In 2004, I decided to run for the MIHS Board, as one of five candidates vying for four Board positions. I came in fifth place. But, a year later, one of the elected Board members moved out of state, and was no longer going to be a member of MIHS, so I became a Board member (because I was the next leading vote-getter, and .....well.....the only other vote-getter on that ballot). I have been elected to the Board every two years since, mostly because there were just enough candidates to fill the open positions. Serving on the MIHS Board has been fun, but last year I decided it was time to get serious and make a run at the Presidency!

This grueling unopposed presidential campaign starts with volunteering to be put on the ballot as President-Elect, and then if (a) somebody votes for you, and (b) there are no rogue write-in candidates that receive more votes, you win! You also have to be an MIHS member in good standing, and a member of AIHA.

We have two brand new Board members this year—Scott Chandler and Matt Repka. Lynn Totsky is President-Elect, and Aaron Jacob is Past President. Brad Burcz and Adam Calisti were elected Secretary and Treasurer, respectively (both were Board members last term). Rounding out the Board are Chinonye Akunne, Eric Allen, Jim D’Arcy, Bill Kilgore, Matt Macomber, and Tony Smykla.

In addition to the usual stuff that has to be done each year (planning for the Fall Mini-Conference, finding volunteers to select the prestigious MIHS Best Paper award winner, finding volunteers to proctor the U of M Comprehensive review courses in the spring and fall, finding volunteers to run for office next winter, planning and executing the Student Night and Past President’s Breakfast, etc.), there are a couple things I would like to see done this year.

**Thing One** is to put MIHS’s cash reserves to work. We break even or make a couple thousand dollars each year, but we would like to endow more scholarships and keep our dues low, etc.. We have close to $100,000 sitting in a bank account accruing almost no interest. Over the last few years, the Board has considered investment options, and this year, I would like to make that a priority, to ensure the future financial health of MIHS.

**Thing Two** is to get more of the membership engaged in the organization. As noted above “finding volunteers to....” is a recurring theme. We struggle each year to come up with ways to get more people involved. One thing we are doing this year is setting a tentative schedule of Board meetings for the entire year, so our members can potentially plan to attend regular Board meetings. Attending a Board meeting is a good way to dip a toe in the water to see if there is something you might want to get involved with. Beginning in May, the tentative Board meeting schedule will be the 2nd Wednesday of every month, from 6:00 to 7:30 pm. Some meetings will be in-person, and some will be strictly conference calls, but all will be available via conference call (WebEx), and all members are welcome to attend. The schedule and call-in information will be posted on the Events calendar on the MIHS website.

It is truly an honor to be President of MIHS, and I’m looking forward to this year. Thank you for your support of MIHS. If you have any questions, feel free to contact me or any of the other Executive Committee members.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

**AllHce 2018**
May 21-23, 2018
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
[AllHce 2018](#)

**Summer 2018**
Technical Forum on a topic and date to be determined
[mihsweb](#)

**OSHA Safe + Sound Week**
August 13-19, 2018
[safeandsoundweek/](#)

**3M E-A-R Hearing Loss Prevention Seminar**
September 12, 2018
Embassy Suites, Livonia, MI
[3M Seminars](#)

**Comprehensive Industrial Hygiene Review**
Ann Arbor, Michigan
September 24-28, 2018
[MIHS Comp Review](#)

**International Occupational Hygiene Assn. (IOHA)**
International Scientific Conference
September 24-26, 2018
Washington, DC
[IOHA](#)

**Warren Cook Discussional**
Ann Arbor, Michigan
November 8 and 9, 2018
[Warren Cook](#)
PAST PRESIDENT’S BREAKFAST 2018

The Past Presidents’ Breakfast was held at the Vista Tech Center, Schoolcraft College on February 27, 2018. Dr. Jeffrey Hess, Corporate Medical Director at General Motors presented Radiofrequency Energy, Understanding the Science and Being Able to Address Employee Concern. The presentation was followed by the annual business meeting, which included an additional surprise—the presentation of a Golden Impinger Award to Jim D’Arcy (see article on Page 4). Due to scheduling conflicts, not all of our past presidents could be present for the same photo opportunity, so that is why there are two pictures of past presidents gathered below.

After the annual meeting, the newly elected officers and board members began their terms of office.
MIHS STUDENT NIGHT A SUCCESS!

On March 29, 2018, the Michigan Industrial Hygiene Society (MIHS) held its annual Student Awards night at the Court House Grille in Plymouth, Michigan. This year’s honor for the best University of Michigan student was presented to Mr. Anthony Oliveri. As with last year’s program, U of M students made brief presentations on the past summer’s internships. Mr. Oliveri talked briefly about his experience at MiFACE, and Ms. Andrea Guytingco talked about her experience in Thailand participating in an environmental health research project coordinated with other universities. MIHS Board Member Tony Smykla and MIHS Treasurer Adam Calisti provided the benefit of their experiences as fairly recent graduates (do’s/don’ts/what I wish someone had told me).

In addition, it was announced that Ms. Abilene Emerson will be receiving the MIHS Merit Scholarship offered through the American Industrial Hygiene Foundation. The formal presentations to all scholarship recipients will be made at the AIHce. Student Night is an annual MIHS rite of Spring. Please plan to join us next year.
JIM D’ARCY RECEIVES GOLDEN IMPINGER AWARD

At this year’s MIHS Annual Business Meeting, MIHS Past President and current MIHS Board member Jim D’Arcy was recognized for his dedicated service to the field of industrial hygiene. Jim received MIHS’s Golden Impinger Award, which is MIHS’s highest award of recognition of its membership. The facsimile hardware (which included an actual working impinger) that Jim received at the meeting will serve as a placeholder until one of the real Golden Impinger award trophies can be unburied. MIHS commissioned several Golden Impinger awards to be built several years ago. Each award is a brass “impinger” on a wooden base, and the awards are all safely stored away. Perhaps a little too safely stored! On the eve of the annual business meeting, it was discovered that the box containing the Golden Impinger awards had been moved, and was temporarily inaccessible. Aaron Jacob managed to pull together the award plaque that was presented to Jim.

Jim’s award was presented by long-term GM colleague and MIHS Past President, Bill Kilgore.

The criteria for consideration for a Golden Impinger are rigorous. For example the candidate must have:

• worked full time as an industrial hygienist for 20 or more years;
• made consistent and significant contribution as an industrial hygiene leader, teacher, researcher, mentor, or innovator;
• contributed to improving and increasing the visibility of industrial hygiene in Michigan and elsewhere;
• demonstrated leadership and cooperation in the professional and non-professional communities
• been recognized and respected by his/her peers and related professional organizations, and not previously received an MIHS Golden Impinger

On behalf of the MIHS membership our sincere thanks and congratulations to Jim for his dedicated service and advancement of industrial hygiene practice in Michigan.

TREASURY REPORT

MIHS President Aaron Jacob delivered the annual treasury report for the period January 2017 to January 2018 at the Annual MIHS Business Meeting held on February 27, 2018, at Schoolcraft College’s Vista Tech Center following the Past-President’s Breakfast presentation.

Income 2017 .......................................................... $8,795.00
Expenses 2017 ......................................................... $8,666.98
Total Income .......................................................... $129.01

Cash Reserves
Savings Account ...................................................... $65,567.24
CD ........................................................................... $33,443.32
Total Reserves .......................................................... $99,010.56
Dr. Jeffrey Hess, GM Corporate Medical Director made a presentation concerning radiofrequency energy at our 2018 MIHS Past President’s Meeting on February 27, 2018.

Dr. Hess’ talk provided participants with a primer on the electromagnetic radiation (EMR) spectrum addressing both the non-ionizing and ionizing EMR sub-spectrums, what EMR looks like as an energy wave form and the key properties of frequency and wavelength that are used to characterize EMR.

His talk then focused on the non-ionizing, radiofrequency portion (RF) of the EMR spectrum. Dr. Hess lead the participants through an interesting word association exercise that demonstrated why he prefers to use the term “RF Energy” when communicating with employees about RF sources, potential exposures and exposure controls. Of particular note, this portion of the talk included an animated slide that clearly illustrated how RF exposure can affect atoms and molecules by adding “heat” energy (think microwaves).

The remainder of Dr. Hess’ talk centered on how to review and validate scientific research and internet articles on a variety of topics from saccharin to RF Energy associated with cell phone use. To that end, he provided and reviewed a handout outlining several media source validation tips that he has found useful when developing risk communications for employees.
Officers

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Term: 2018-2020

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.

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

For questions or comments on the newsletter please contact Andy Crause at apcrause@aol.com