PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE

Happy New Year to all!

Hopefully, you all had a chance to enjoy yourselves, but now it’s back to business. Here at MIHS, we have a couple of things brewing. Thing 1 is that election season is upon us, so now is the time to declare your candidacy. Past President Aaron Jacob is tasked with identifying a slate of candidates for Secretary, Treasurer, President-Elect, and four open Board positions. If you are interested, or think you might be, take a look at the article on Page 2, and then give Aaron a call. It certainly doesn’t hurt to ask a few questions, and just because you put your name in the hat does not mean you can’t pull your name out of the hat if you are having second thoughts. Current AIHA President, Cynthia Ostrowski is an MIHS member and a Past President of MIHS, and just look where she is now! Could she have become AIHA President without the MIHS officer experience? We’ll never know.

Thing 2 that is happening is that we are making arrangements to put MIHS’s savings to work for us for the long term. In December, The Board met with Jerry Mangona of Edward Jones to discuss investment strategy. Based on our risk tolerance (very low), and the fact that our Officers and Executive Board are constantly changing, Mr. Mangona has proposed a couple options for our consideration that should meet our needs. He has worked with church groups, alumni associates, Boy Scout troops, etc., which are all non-profit entities (like ours) that undergo continuous leadership change (like we do).

MIHS continues to bring in a few thousand dollars more than we spend each year, and hopefully that will continue. The reality is that our membership is on a decline, so a day may come when dues revenue and mini conference attendance fees (typically, our two biggest sources of revenue) are not enough to break even. We can always “raise our prices”, but we would really prefer to position the organization to be able to keep our membership dues and conference fees at the current rates. A sound investment strategy should put us in good shape for the future.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

MIHS Election
January 2019
mihsweb.org

60th Annual Michigan Industrial Ventilation Conference
East Lansing, Michigan
February 10 through 15, 2019
Ventilation Conference

Comprehensive Industrial Hygiene Review
Ann Arbor, Michigan
March 11 through 15, 2019
U of M MIHS Comp Review

MIHS Past President’s Breakfast and Annual Business Meeting
Location and Dates to be announced (March/April 2019)
mihsweb.org

Michigan Safety Conference
Grand Rapids, Michigan
April 16 and 17, 2019
MI Safety

AIHce 2019
May 20-22, 2019
Minneapolis, Minnesota
AIHce

www.mihsweb.org
ELECTION SEASON IS RIGHT AROUND THE CORNER

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 Grand Rapids 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
IN MEMORIAM: WILLIAM H. KREBS, 1938-2018

The industrial hygiene profession mourns the passing of one of our past Presidents and storied leaders. Dr. William H. Krebs, Ph.D., CIH, FAIHA, passed away Monday, October 1, 2018. Dr. Krebs leaves behind his loving wife Renee Ann Krebs, his children Bill (Colleen) Krebs, Sedda (Greg) Wuller, stepson Thomas A. D’Alleva, grandson Rye Wuller and brother Dr. Charles (Sally) Krebs, Ph.D, and a large group of devoted friends.

Bill’s career began more than 50 years ago when he received his master’s degree in Industrial Health from the University of Michigan under the watchful eye of Professor Warren Cook, AIHA’s 2nd President and world renowned industrial hygiene pioneer. After a short time as an industrial hygienist at Lumberman’s Mutual Causality Co, Bill, as his friends and close colleagues called him, returned to Michigan to earn his PhD. also in Industrial Health. Bill was undoubtedly inspired to pursue his industrial hygiene career by his late father William T. Krebs, MD, who among other Michigan notable occupational health professionals, was instrumental in the formation of the Michigan Industrial Hygiene Society in 1937.

Bill was an active U of M alumnus and loyal donor. He served on the Dean’s Advisory Board at the School of Public Health. He was also a strong supporter of Michigan Public Health students, establishing both the William H. Krebs Fund providing monetary support for students pursuing industrial hygiene and driving force in establishing the Warren A. Cook Award for doctoral students in Industrial Hygiene. Bill’s institutional devotion is surpassed only by his personal mentoring of countless individuals. To Bill, it didn’t matter if you were just starting your career, were a seasoned professional, or whether or not the topic was as important as a job change or something less critical, Bill was always there to give valuable advice.

In 1970, Bill started a twenty-three year career with General Motors Corporation as a field industrial hygienist who quickly became GM’s subject matter expert for all asbestos related issues. In 1977, he was promoted to a director-level to establish GM’s Toxic Materials Control Activity and in 1990 Bill returned to direct the Industrial Hygiene Activity until he retired in 1993. After retiring, Bill remained professionally active founding two health science companies; one that allowed him to continue providing expert witness testimony in asbestos litigation cases and the other providing information used to maintain GM’s Mortality Registry.

His contributions to the profession were many having served on the AIHA Board of Directors and as AIHA President in 1988. During his year as AIHA President, Bill presided over deliberations regarding the AIHA organization and management structure including the decision to move to a new headquarters, to hire an association professional as AIHA’s executive director, to evaluate merger options with the ACGIH and to lead the year-long celebration of AIHA’s 50th anniversary.

Bill’s leadership was equally visionary and ambitious in developing the international affairs of the Association, serving as AIHA’s delegate in the formation of the International Occupational Hygiene Association (IOHA) and as AIHA’s spokesman at prestigious international events such as the British Occupational Hygiene Society (BOHS) and Italian (AIDII) Association’s annual meetings. Remarkable as his service was to AIHA and IOHA, Bill’s impact and devotion to local sections was equally notable, serving as President of MIHS and twice as President of the Yuma Pacific Southwest (YPSW) Section of the AIHA.

Bill left an enduring mark on the industrial hygiene profession through his benevolent leadership, mentoring professionals in all stages of their careers, and contributions to our body of knowledge. He was the consummate industrial hygiene professional and always the first-class gentleman. When he entered a meeting or gathering the entire room became a much brighter place. For those of us who had the honor and pleasure to work with Bill, we have lost a true friend.

This article was authored by Frank Renshaw with acknowledgements to Bill Kilgore, Bob Lieckfield, and Del Malzahn (reprinted with permission from AIHA)
MIHS FALL MINI CONFERENCE 2018 A SUCCESS

The 2018 MIHS Fall Mini-Conference was held October 2nd at the MSU-Management Education Center in Troy. We were very pleased to welcome AIHA President (and MIHS member) Cindy Ostrowski as our first speaker of the day. Our special guest speaker was Dr. Cheri Marcham, of Embry-Riddle University, who spoke to us about the hazards of electronic cigarettes. MIOSHA Director Bart Pickelman provided a MIOSHA update, Tom Martin of Ramboll presented an informative look at the occupational hazards of the developing cannabis industry, and also talked about developing a global health and safety program. The formal program ended with Dr. Catherine Macomber’s ethics presentation. After a one-year hiatus, we were pleased to provide a vendor display area again year, and are proud to have Maxxam Laboratories, SKC, MSA, and Premier Safety display their wares. Each of these four vendors is now an Organizational Member of MIHS.

MIHS President Elect Lynn Totsky with (clockwise from left): Cathy Macomber Cindy Ostrowski, Cheri Marcham, Bart Pickelman, and Tom Martin
April 16-17, 2019
DeVos Place, Grand Rapids, MI

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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.

DTE Energy
MSA
SKC
Premier Safety
Maxxam Laboratories

If your firm would like to become an Organizational Member, contact MIHS Secretary, Brad Burcz

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Term: 2018-2020

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

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