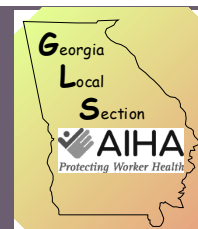


# Georgia Local Section

Quarterly Newsletter

For electronic versions, see the [GLS Web page](#).



## GLS President's Column – July 2009

I'm truly honored to serve as your local section president for 2009-2010! When Peter Kowalski handed over the proverbial gavel at our April meeting, it was without much pomp and circumstance. That's because we'd already been working together as a great team along with the rest of our executive board and other active Georgia Local Section members, so the transition's been pretty smooth. Peter's footsteps will be hard to follow and I greatly value his leadership, guidance, and friendship. A special thank-you goes to Kristen Butler and Wes Barfield; their offers to keep up the good work for a second year are most appreciated. Our "retiring" director, Steve Tochlin, has been a great asset to GLS, as has Cliff Moseley. Stan Salisbury and Vicki Hanrahan Ainslie continue to be wonderful behind-the-scenes resources as Web site administrator and newsletter editor. Thank you all for your continued hard work.

I had the privilege of attending the AIHA Leadership Workshop in late February in Fairfax, VA and enjoyed networking with other local section representatives and volunteer groups. There was a lot of brain-storming and comparing of notes, and I'm pleased to report that hearing of our consistently well-attended, mostly full-day meetings made an impression on folks I talked to, generating responses like, "So it's like you hold PDCs 4 times a year, and for only 20 bucks a pop?!" A number of other local sections hold regular lunch or dinner meetings, and/or semi-annual technical conferences, where they may charge around \$200! We're pretty fortunate to be fiscally solid and be able to provide such a great value to our members and local IH community on a regular basis. In my early career days I was active in the Wisconsin and Chicago Local Sections, and our mostly dinner-speaker meetings

(and of course, libations!) were definitely fun and informative. However, since moving to Atlanta 14 years ago, our successfully robust GLS meetings continue to amaze me. It takes a lot of work to make these happen, and we're fortunate to have many involved and enthusiastic members who collectively make it all work so well.

We should be very proud of some of our accomplishments to date this year. To name a few:

- AIHF - GLS sponsored what may be our first \$1,000 local section scholarship for the American Industrial Hygiene Foundation (AIHF), which solicits applications from industrial hygiene/public health students. We earmarked our donation to University of Georgia's new College of Public Health and Emory's Rollins School of Public Health. We're very proud of Olorunfemi (Femi) Adetona, a PhD student

*(continued on page 6)*

### ABIH CM Points

The American Board of Industrial Hygiene has awarded certification maintenance (CM) points for the Winter (26 Jan 2009) and Spring (27 Apr 2009) Georgia Local Section Meetings.

The approval numbers and CM points are:

January: 09-781 for 1.0 CM

April: 09-2177 for 0.50 CM



*Project Safe Georgia's Safety,  
Health, and Environmental  
Conference  
Oct. 20-22, 2009  
in Savannah  
[www.georgiaconference.org](http://www.georgiaconference.org)*

Georgia Local Section  
American Industrial Hygiene Association  
Newsletter  
July 2009

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

## GLS AIHA's Support of CEFGA a Success

On April 16 – 17, 2009, members of GLS AIHA participated in the Construction Education Foundation of Georgia (CEFGA) CareerExpo at the Georgia International Convention Center (GICC) in conjunction with other members of the Georgia Youth Alliance. The combined efforts of GLS AIHA, Georgia Chapter of ASSE, Georgia Tech Research Institute, OSHA, Brasfield and Gorrie, Safety and Health Resource Association, and over 15 other companies made this year's World of Safety and Health a resounding success. Over the course of the two day event, attendance totaled 6,145 participants. Included among the participants were: 265 student competitors, 4,510 students, 770 education representatives (administrators, teachers and counselors), as well as 865 company volunteers, exhibitors and guests.

Volunteers from AIHA helped not only with planning activities, but they also helped with the conference set-up as CEFGA volunteers. During the event, the over 60 volunteers for the World of Safety and Health provided Expo participants with safety briefings and a variety of other health and safety activities. AIHA sponsored and staffed a booth

that focused on the prevention of noise induced hearing loss in the construction industry by raising awareness through the use of "LeAiA", part of a "Dangerous Decibels" education and research program. "LeAiA" was constructed using a fashion mannequin and a sound level meter wired to a silicon ear, and was loaned to us by Associates in Acoustics (you can read more about "LeAiA" and AIHA at the [Dangerous Decibels Web site](#)). "LeAiA" provided an interactive tool for high school students to test out just how much noise they were exposed to when they were listening to their personal stereo systems and was a big hit among Expo participants.

Donations provided by GLS AIHA helped to support the presentation of the "LeAiA" booth, which also promoted careers in industry hygiene and participation in AIHA, and prizes for winners of the "Passport to Safety and Health" contest. Each student received a "Passport to Safety," and was encouraged to get their passport stamped in each of the "worlds" after completing a health and/or safety exercise related to the industry represented by each world.



*Student learns about hearing loss prevention.*

GLS AIHA awarded two iPod Shuffles to randomly selected students as a part of the "Passport to Safety" exercise. Congratulations to Tevin Sellner of Southwest High School and Mario Moren of West Hall High School who were the winners of the iPod Shuffles. Congratulations also go to Ariel Lawson of Apalachee High School, who won an iPod Touch, after her "Passport" was selected from all the completed passport entries.

You can also catch a glimpse of the CareerExpo shown in the photo below.



*Mario Moran (front right) wins iPod Shuffle in random drawing for the "Passport to Safety and Health" contest.*



*A portion of 183,500 square feet of CEFGA activity.*



## OSHA Offers Tips on Working Safely in Hot Weather

WASHINGTON —Those hot, hazy days of summer are approaching. The heat can be especially harmful for those who work outdoors in direct sunlight or in hot environments, making them susceptible to heat-induced illnesses such as heat stress, heat exhaustion or the more serious heat stroke.

"Working in extreme temperatures is not only uncomfortable, it can be life-threatening," said acting Assistant Secretary of Labor for OSHA Jordan Barab. "As we move into the summer months, it is important for workers and their employers to minimize the chances of heat-induced illnesses, and imperative that they recognize the signs of heat stress and take

proper precautions to reduce the chances of illness or death."

High temperature and humidity, physical exertion and lack of sufficient water intake can lead to heat-related stress. Symptoms of heat exhaustion or heat stroke include confusion, irrational behavior, loss of consciousness, abnormally high body temperature and hot, dry skin.

OSHA advises workers to take preventive measures such as reducing physical exertion and wearing light, loose-fitting clothing. The agency advises employers to provide workers with water and regular rest periods in a cool recovery area.

"Protecting Workers from the Effects of Heat" and "Working Outdoors in Warm

Climates" are OSHA fact sheets that explain heat stress and provide recommendations to protect workers from exposure to ultraviolet radiation. Employers and workers will find more practical tips for guarding against UV radiation in "Protecting Yourself in the Sun," a pocket-sized card addressing various forms of skin cancer. These publications are free and can be downloaded from [OSHA's Publications page](#).



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## Georgia Local Section Web Site Update

The GLS Meeting and Membership Services site hosted by Wild Apricot has now become our official Web site. We have phased out the old site and redirected our domain name to the new site. From now on, when you use the URL [georgiaaiha.org](http://georgiaaiha.org) (or [www.georgiaaiha.org](http://www.georgiaaiha.org)), you will be connected to our new site on the Wild Apricot Membership Management system (you'll also be directed there if you Google "Georgia AIHA"). Our old Web site can still be accessed using the URL [georgiaaiha.dreamhosters.com](http://georgiaaiha.dreamhosters.com). The old site is no longer being updated but will remain available as an archive resource.

Useful content from the old site has been incorporated into the new site. Please take a few minutes to visit the new Web site. With the exception of the Members Section pages, you can view all site content without logging in. Members, login with your email address and password to gain access to the Members Section pages. If you have not yet created a password or don't remember your current password, just click "forgot password" to create a new one.

Be sure to visit the Job Postings page and IH Job Posting Links page. Job posting links include a "Federal Government IH Job Postings" link that will bring

up all job openings for Federal IH positions (0690 series). There are also links to jobs posted by AIHA and ACGIH plus a link to EHS Careers.com. Take a look at the Links page. These links were recently updated when transferred from our old Web site.

If you have suggestions for additional links to this page, please send me an email ([sasalisbury@comcast.net](mailto:sasalisbury@comcast.net)). Meetings and other events, as well as national news such as Aaron Trippler's "Happenings from the Hill," are also posted regularly.

—Stan Salisbury  
Web Site Administrator



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## Your 2009–10 Executive Board

Thank you to the members who are serving in these important positions. Here is your current Executive Board:

**President:** Barb Epstien  
[barb@epstienenv.com](mailto:barb@epstienenv.com)  
770.238.7160

**President-Elect:** Jenny Houlroyd  
[jenny.houlroyd@gtri.gatech.edu](mailto:jenny.houlroyd@gtri.gatech.edu)  
404.407.8089

**Past President:** Peter Kowalski  
[pek2@cdc.gov](mailto:pek2@cdc.gov)  
404.498.0492

**Secretary:** Wes Barfield  
[Thomas.Barfield.ctr@robins.af.mil](mailto:Thomas.Barfield.ctr@robins.af.mil)  
478.926.0558

**Treasurer:** Kristen Butler  
[kristen.butler@gtri.gatech.edu](mailto:kristen.butler@gtri.gatech.edu)  
404.407.6643

**1<sup>st</sup> Year Director:** David T. Matthews  
[david.matthews@shawgrp.com](mailto:david.matthews@shawgrp.com)  
770.667.7787

**2<sup>nd</sup> Year Director:** Cliff Moseley  
[CMoseley@psc.gov](mailto:CMoseley@psc.gov)  
770.498.3449

**Newsletter Editor:** Vicki Ainslie  
[vicki@gatech.edu](mailto:vicki@gatech.edu)  
404-407-6988

## Free Training

### Combustible Dust Training

GTRI is offering free training on combustible dust. Upcoming classes in Raleigh, NC; Orlando and Jacksonville, FL; Columbia, SC with more dates and locations to come!

- Reserve your spot by registering at [combustibledusttraining.org](http://combustibledusttraining.org).

### GTRI Free OSHA Seminars

Georgia Tech offers a series of free seminars twice a year in Atlanta and Savannah as part of its commitment to the long-term safety and health of the workplace.


- Registration is only available online
- Courses are limited to the first 50 registrants

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## U. S. Department of Labor's OSHA Focuses on Combustible Dust Hazards at Georgia Companies

ATLANTA — Over the last 16 months, compliance officers from the U.S. Department of Labor's Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) have made 32 visits to Georgia companies where employees may be exposed to potential combustible dust hazards.

The result has been 311 citations for workplace safety and health violations, with 90 percent categorized as willful, serious, repeat or failure to abate.

The visits are part of the agency's ongoing National Emphasis Program (NEP) to reduce employees' exposure to combustible dust hazards. Nationally, 3,662 violations have been identified during 813 inspections. Housekeeping, hazard communication, personal protective equipment, electrical and general duty clause violations are cited most frequently as a

result of these inspections.

"Any company that has combustible dust, or thinks that they may have combustible dust, needs to intensify housekeeping, review hot work processes, evaluate electrical equipment for possible Class II locations, prohibit smoking or flames in dust laden areas, ensure that relief venting on dust collection systems releases the dust to a safe location, and develop and/or review an emergency action plan," said OSHA Regional Administrator Cindy Coe.

Dust fires and explosions can pose significant dangers in the workplace and can occur when five different factors are present. The five factors are oxygen, an ignition source (heat, an electrical spark or a spark from metal machinery), fuel (dust), dispersion of the dust and confinement of the dust. These five factors are

referred to as the "Dust Explosion Pentagon." If any one of these factors is removed or is missing, an explosion cannot occur.

Industries affected by the emphasis program include: agriculture, chemical, textile, forest products, furniture products, wastewater treatment, metal processing, paper processing, pharmaceutical and metal, paper and plastic recycling.

OSHA develops National Emphasis Programs to focus on major health and safety hazards which are recognized as nationally significant. These programs provide guidance to the OSHA field offices for planning and conducting inspections consistently across the nation. Additional information regarding this initiative is available from the OSHA Regional Office located at 61 Forsyth St. S.W., Atlanta, GA 30303; telephone: 404-562-2300.



## President's Message (continued from page 1)

at UGA-CPH, whose accomplishments impressed AIHF so much that not only did he receive our GLS scholarship for but the Foundation awarded its own additional \$3,000 to Femi as well! We also guided Femi to the right folks at AIHA so that he could submit a poster in time for presentation at AIHce. Pardon me as I wax poetic here, but Peter and I enjoyed meeting Femi at the AIHF reception in Toronto and seeing him receive his award and had the privilege of reading part of his application as well; what a gracious, intelligent young man! He truly will be a tribute to our profession and we look forward to hearing him present on his research at a future GLS meeting. Based on this experience, we hope to make it a tradition and continue supporting students through AIHF.

- Georgia Youth Alliance — Since its inception, Jenny Houlroyd and Michelle Dunham have been tirelessly involved with the Georgia Youth Alliance, which includes representatives

from OSHA, ASSE-GA, GA Dept of Education, and CEEGA. I know GLS' outreach efforts will continue to grow this year under Jenny's leadership as President-elect, to help increase awareness of occupational health concerns among young people as they enter the workplace. Jenny has provided a great update—see page 2.

- GLS Web site — Stan has done a tremendous job of officially launching our new GLS Web site, which includes new format and info as well as vital content from our old site. He explains it all much better than I can ever hope to, so see his latest update on page 4.

Special events this past year included co-sponsoring the ever-popular "Hearing Protection and Conservation" by Elliott Berger of E-A-R / Peltor Brands and audiologist Laurie Wells. The course drew more than 100 attendees representing the audiology, occupational health nursing, and industrial hygiene communities and others. This course included some components from their Professional Development Course (PDC) offered regularly at

AIHce, which is frequently among the top 10 PDCs.

Looking ahead, and speaking of top 10 PDCs, I'm particularly excited to announce that GLS will be hosting Mike Harris' PDC, "Anticipation, Recognition, Evaluation and Control of Welding Health Hazards" for our fall meeting on Monday, October 26, in the GTRI Conference Center Auditorium. Pat Brogan and I were among the 50 or so attendees at his course last fall in Tampa at PCIH; I can tell you there is no wonder that it's been consistently rated among the top 10 for several years now. Mike is also the author of the book, *Welding Health and Safety; a Field Guide for OEHS Professionals* published by AIHA. His real-world expertise, insights, and enthusiasm are extraordinary! And here's one of the best perks for GLS members: In conjunction with AIHce or PCIH you'd normally pay at least \$315 registration fee. While we haven't determined an exact cost yet, I guarantee you that we're able to offer it at a substantial savings compared to that! More detailed info will be sent out soon.

In closing, one sort of informal goal I've set for this coming year is to work toward putting the GLS on the map, and we're well on our way! I will do my best to help make this coming year a productive and enjoyable one for all of us and I look forward to working with our board and all of you. I encourage all members to get more involved—GLS provides a wonderful opportunity to network and learn alongside some terrific colleagues and friends.

Best regards,

—Barb Epstien, MPH, CIH  
President, GLS



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## Agenda for Summer Half-Day Meeting of the GLS, 27 July


Topic	Presenter
MRSA Infection Control Measures and PPE	Don Groce, Technical Product Specialist, Showa Best Glove
Nanotechnology: The Perils of Downsizing	Art Wickman, CIH, Health Sciences Branch Head; GTRI
Nontraditional Environmental Sampling in the Community: Expanding the Industrial Hygienist's Role	James T. Durant, MSPH, CIH, Environmental Health Scientist, ATSDR
Pandemic (H1N1) 2009: Are you prepared for the Fall?	John Halpin, MD, MPH, Medical Epidemiologist and Lisa Delaney, MS, CIH, NIOSH
Auditing Roundtable—an EHS Auditing Resource	Mary Reed, CIH, EHS Auditing Manager, Georgia Pacific Corp.

The Summer meeting will be **Monday, 27 July 2009** from 9:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. (check-in and registration at 8:30 a.m.) at the **Georgia Tech Research Institute Conference Center, 250 14<sup>th</sup> Street NW, Atlanta, GA 30318**. Parking on-site is *free*. Additional information and directions may be found on the [GLS Web site](#) (click on "Events").




# Rentals

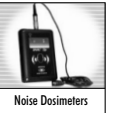
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# National Conversation on Public Health and Chemical Exposures

CDC's National Center for Environmental Health and the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (NCEH/ATSDR) are sponsoring **The National Conversation on Public Health and Chemical Exposures**. This project is a collaborative initiative to identify and prioritize actions for

strengthening the public health approach to chemical exposures. National Center for Environmental Health and the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (NCEH/ATSDR) are accepting nominations for membership in six work groups as part of this effort. Nominations for work group

membership will be accepted until **July 20, 2009**. For more information about the project and the work groups please visit the National Conversation on Public Health and Chemical Exposures [Web site](#).



*From left to right: UGA-CPH Dean, Phil Williams, GLS President, Barb Epstein, AIHF Award Winner, Olorunfemi (Femi) Adetona, and Immediate Past President Peter Kowalski in Toronto during the AIHF reception at the 2009 AIHce.*

## State Board of Workers' Compensation 2009 Annual Educational Conference

*Restore, Re-Invent, Relax!*  
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Information, agenda and online registration can be found at the [SBWC Web site](#).

*ABIH CM Points Available*



## Hearing Conservation Program Improvement

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