









#### September 2014 Newsletter

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For more information, go to <u>georgiaaiha.org</u>	

# A Letter from the President Our Collective Journey, by Stephen Ndiritu

I am excited and honored to serve as President of our local section. I wish to thank the outgoing Board and our past president, Mr. John Moore, for their dedication and service to the organization. The new Board looks forward to building on the success of our predecessors in moving the organization forward. Our success not only depends on the efforts of the Board, but on the collective efforts of our members. Therefore, we encourage you, as members, to get involved and remain engaged in our activities including, attending professional development meetings, participating in eLearning on our website, serving throughout the various committees and volunteering at our events.

In the upcoming term, the Board will pursue a number of initiatives which we believe will add value for our members, and raise the profile of our organization. We have already implemented some of these initiatives including, creating a social media footprint for the organization by establishing twitter and Facebook accounts. This will provide the GLS with critical channels to connect with members and peer organizations, and broadcast our organization to a global audience. We encourage you to visit our Twitter and Facebook accounts.

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#### **Notice about Dues Collection for Non-AIHA Members**

The following comes from AIHA National office:

Effective October 1, 2014, AIHA will no longer be able to collect dues for local section members who are not members of AIHA. This change is a result of a required upgrade to our association management software. We regret that we will no longer be able to offer this service, but the cost for the customization that would allow us to continue to collect dues for non-members is prohibitively expensive.

Please note that we will continue to collect local section dues for those local section members who are also members of national AIHA. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me or Vicky Yobp, <a href="wyobp@aiha.org">wyobp@aiha.org</a>.

Thanks, Thursa L. Pecoraro, MS Program Manager, AIHA

Please note: We encourage all GLS members, including National AIHA members, to renew online through our *GLS website*. Just login and follow the instructions on the front page of the Members Section to view your User Profile. If you forgot your login password just click the "Forgot password" link and follow the prompts. You can renew your membership and pay your GLS dues directly from your User Profile.

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# Upcoming Events Mark your calendar!

**Joint GLS/AIHA Meeting** September 10<sup>th</sup>, Savannah, GA

Georgia Health and Safety
Conference
October 8-10<sup>th</sup>, Savannah, GA

GLS Fall Meeting
Georgia Power Customer Center,
McDonough, GA, October 15<sup>th</sup>

**GLS IH Workshop** January 11-12<sup>th</sup>, Atlanta GA

For information and to register, go to www.georgiaaiha.org

#### Members in the Spotlight

AIHA's Student and Early Career Professionals (SECP) committee presents the Golden Seed Award to individuals who have made significant contributions to industrial hygiene that go beyond their job responsibilities. Areas include contributions to student development, mentoring and early career guidance. This year's recipient was Mr. John Moore, III, (then a) Senior Industrial Hygienist at Georgia Power. Congratulations John!



#### Useful Links - Have You Used Them Lately? by Stan Salisbury

Websites have undergone significant change through the years and sometimes your search results may not find the resource you used a few months back. Now you wonder if that favorite resource is still available. Websites, especially corporate or government sites, are often reorganized. They may look great with wonderful formats and images, but they can be hard to navigate at times. Perhaps you found just what you needed, but failed to bookmark it for future reference.

Our Georgia Local Section "Links" page has a bunch of these "diamonds in the rough." I recommend you click through them all and see if you find something you didn't know was available. Many of these links connect directly with pages most likely to be of interest to an IH or other OSH professional. There are eight different page links to OSHA's website: examples include the new OSHA Annotated PELs, OSHA Sampling and Analytical Methods, and the OSHA Chemical Database. The NIOSH Analytical Methods page has a direct link. The EPA Hazardous Chemical Information link will bring up the EPA databases and tools page.

All the links were recently verified. Perhaps you know of other links we could add. If you do, just email me at <a href="mailto:sasalisbury@cox.net">sasalisbury@cox.net</a>. Also, let me know if you find any broken links or links that don't bring up the information you expected. Don't just rely on search engines; take advantage of these useful links.

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#### **Executive Committee**

President: <u>Stephen Ndiritu</u>

President-Elect: Stacy Savage

Treasurer: **Don Metcalf** 

Secretary: <u>Della Ridley</u>

Past President: John Moore

#### **Board of Directors**

First Year Director: Molly Schaefer

Second Year Director: Harry Jones

Newsletter Editor: Kristen Butler

Website Administrator: Stan Salisbury

#### "Like" Us and "Follow" Us

We are proud to announce GLS official presence on social media - <u>Facebook</u> and <u>Twitter</u>. This offers us alternative channels for communicating our activities and programs. We invite you to join us by "Liking" the GLS <u>Facebook page</u> and 'following' us on <u>Twitter</u>, as we explore this medium of communication. If you are not on social media, don't worry, we will continue using our traditional modes of communication – emails.

## Our Collective Journey, by Stephen Ndiritu

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We will also increase opportunities for our members to meet and network by including several networking events on our activity schedule. These events will provide an informal setting for members to meet, share information, and network outside of our formal professional development sessions. Be on the look-out for announcements in the coming months and plan your participation.

Last year, we had a very successful two-day PDC. We will seek to build on this by converting the event into a two-day content-rich Industrial Hygiene workshop with a mix of PDC, case-studies round table, practical technical presentations, and vendor exhibitions. We are excited about the prospects of such an event, and believe it will add tremendous value to our members and other participants. An initial Call for Participation has already been made, and additional information will be communicated as the planning gets underway. In the meantime, we encourage all our members to think of ways you may participate in the various workshops as a presenter, volunteer, sponsor, exhibitor or participant.

As we set sail, I once again invite all our members to contribute toward enhancing our collective journey and taking our organization to the next level. I look forward to serving with you.

Thank you, Kihumba Ndiritu

#### Letter of Thanks from Anna Adetona, Scholarship Recipient

Dear AIHA's Georgia Local Section,

I am writing to kindly thank you for your \$2000 Scholarship. I was excited and extremely honored to learn that I was selected as the recipient of your scholarship.

I am a second year doctoral student in the Interdisciplinary Toxicology Program at the University of Georgia under the direction of Dr. Luke P. Naeher. My research work has focused on the effects of occupational woodsmoke exposure among wildland firefighters working at prescribed forest fire burns in South Eastern United States.

I sincerely thank you again for your scholarship award, but even more for your commitment to support young professionals in the field of industrial hygiene. After my doctoral studies, I hope to use my professional training in the field of industrial hygiene to either consult and/or conduct academic research related to workers' health and safety. My long-term goal is to use my professional skills gained through my work and research experiences to alleviate harsh working conditions. This scholarship award will contribute towards the development of skills needed for my choice of career.

Your scholarship award has inspired me to help others and give back to the community. I hope in the near future to be able to help students achieve their goals just as you have invested in me. Sincerely,

Anna M. Adetona

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