

ON THE LEVEL

◊ BALANCING INDUSTRY & ASSOCIATION NEWS ◊

On The Level - March 2020



VPPPA Members Receive a
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Upcoming Events & Deadlines

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Safety & Health News Round-Up

[COVID-19 pandemic: Tips to remain sane and safe during social distancing](#)
(Safety+Health)

[FDA Warns Purell Following "Misleading Effectiveness" Claims](#)
(EHS Today)



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Announcing the Monthly Behavioral Health Q&A Column

Today we are introducing our first **Behavioral Health Q&A Column!** VPPPA has partnered with experts at MindWise Innovations to present a monthly Q&A article addressing questions that members might be hesitant to ask about. These columns will address your questions about mental health, substance abuse, brain injuries, family issues and more. Stay tuned for future articles and to find out how to submit your own questions to the experts. We will be posting a new column on the third Thursday of each month.

A few of this week's questions include:

- Why am I hearing about fighting stigma in the workplace?
- How can I help a friend or co-worker who is depressed?
- Like everyone else, I'm worried about how **COVID19** will affect my family, my finances, and so much else. How can I manage my stress?



[Read the first column - click here!](#)

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Free COVID-19 Resources

We know COVID-19 is at the top of everyone's mind these days. We hope all of our members are staying safe and healthy during this time, and aim to provide useful resources when we can. VPPPA members, [VPP Store](#), have provided this free "prevent the spread" poster that you can download, [here](#). *Thanks VPP Store!*

In addition, the Centers for Disease Control presented a webinar yesterday: Answering 20 Questions about COVID-19. You can watch the video, as well as stay updated, by following the CDC Emergency Preparedness & Response [Facebook page](#).

[Click here to watch the webinar video.](#)

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Join the VPPPA National Board of Directors

Want to get more involved in VPPPA and help shape the future of the association? Consider joining the VPPPA National Board of Directors.

This year there are several open positions, including:

- Chairperson
- Treasurer
- Director from a Site without a Collective Bargaining Agent
- Director from a VPP Contractor/Construction Site
- Director-at-Large (three positions available)

Each position has a term of two years, beginning at the end of the 2020 Safety+ Symposium and terminating at the 2022 Safety+ Symposium.

To read election requirements, duties of a board member, election protocols and find the nominations forms, [click here](#).

Submission Deadline: May 29, 2020
Eligible candidates will be notified by June 9, 2020.

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VPPPA Job Board Posts for March

VPPPA has posted eight job openings at member companies so far this month. You can check out all of the listings below:

[Pacific Scientific Energetic Materials Company - 2 openings](#)

[Southwest Generation - 5 openings](#)

[Southwest Generation - 1 opening](#)

Have a job opening at your site? Email the job description and an application link to communications@vpppa.org. We can share your job opening on our website and social media pages. We love helping VPPPA members find new opportunities at other sites that are passionate about safety!

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Apply For VPPPA Awards & Scholarships

VPPPA's scholarships and awards are a great way to get involved in the association. Every year, VPPPA is proud to bestow three annual awards to member sites and individuals who go above and beyond in their efforts to improve safety and health for the workforce. VPPPA also provides four scholarships to VPPPA employees and their children who are pursuing degrees in the safety, health and environmental fields.

[Click here](#) to learn more about the VPPPA Annual Awards and Scholarships. The deadline for submissions is **May 29, 2020**. Awards and Scholarships are given out at VPPPA's annual Safety+ Symposium, August 25-27, 2020, in Orlando, Florida.

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Safe-in-Sound Award Call for Nominations

Are you, or someone you know, passionate about preserving workers' hearing? Do you understand how important hearing is to workers and their families and how devastating it can be to lose your hearing? If you understand how important hearing is and are making extra efforts to prevent hearing loss, you might be eligible for the Safe-in-Sound Award. Established in 2008 by NIOSH and now co-sponsored by the National Hearing Conservation Association (NHCA) and the Council on Accreditation of Hearing Conservationists (CAOHC), this award is given each year to companies and individuals that have demonstrated excellence in hearing loss prevention.

Two awards are given: one for excellence and one for innovation. For the excellence award, the judges look at: What have you done to control noise levels in your workplace? Have you considered noise levels in purchasing equipment or tools (buy quiet programs)? Do you regularly check noise levels in your workplace? Provide effective hearing protection where needed individually tailored to the workers needs? Provide annual hearing tests for workers? Train all workers effectively on noise both on and off the job? Are you controlling exposures to the minimum requirements (OSHA standards) or going beyond the minimum to the levels recommended by NIOSH? Are you evaluating your program and improving it each year where deficiencies are found? The judges are looking for a comprehensive approach that goes above and beyond. For the excellence award, the judges are looking for important contributions that will have a significant impact on hearing loss prevention.

If you, or someone you know, has that passion and has made such contributions, you can nominate them by **June 7, 2020** or you can nominate yourself by **July 15, 2020**.

[Click here to apply!](#)

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Association Announcements

Write for a VPPPA Publication

Have you checked out the [VPPPA Blog?](#) Send us an article regarding any safety or health topic, and we will consider adding it to our blog schedule.

If you would like to write for a VPPPA publication, or know of someone who is interested, please email communications@vpppa.org. We look forward to hearing from you!

Membership News

If you have any news or pictures from your site that you would like to share (an award, a VPP approval, a member who went above and beyond, etc.), please send it to communications@vpppa.org. We would love to add your updates to the next On The

Level newsletter or post it on our social media pages.

Member of the Month

Make sure you visit the [Member of the Month](#) section on our website? If you would like to nominate someone as the VPPPA Member of the Month, please fill out our [nominations form](#) and email it to membership@vpppa.org.

The March Member of the Month is Nate Brook. You can read about Nate, [here](#).

Congratulations, Nate!



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Thank you to our Star level sponsors!



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