On The Level - September 2020

Upcoming Events & Deadlines

- **Membership Renewal**
  Now

- **Take Our Membership Survey**

- **Shop With VPPPA’s Amazon Smile Account**

Upcoming SGE Trainings

Safety & Health News Round-Up

- **Cranes and derricks in railroad roadway work:** OSHA clarifies final rule; lists exemptions *(Safety+Health)*

- **Only 20% of Consumers Have Confidence Their Food is Safe** *(EHS Today)*

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- **Announcing VPPPA N.O.W.**
- **National Preparedness Month**
- **National Safety Stand-Down to Prevent Falls**
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- **Region IV VPPPA Conference**
- **Congratulations to Our Winners**
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Announcing the VPPPA N.O.W. Facebook Group

Are you a woman in safety, a VPPPA member, or looking to network with industry peers? Consider joining the VPPPA N.O.W. (Network of Women) **Facebook group**! VPPPA N.O.W. is a safe space to come together as women and encourage, network and empower.

The VPPPA N.O.W. group offers:

- Networking
- Mentorship
- Education
- Empowerment
- Advocacy
Please join us to post questions regarding a variety of topics, including: safety, health, PPE, HR issues, job recommendations, sexual harassment, and more.

Join VPPPA N.O.W.

September is National Preparedness Month

Have you been taking part in National Preparedness Month? Whether that means signing up for alerts on your phone, making an emergency plan with your family, or talking to your kids about disasters, there are a ton of ways to get involved.

National Preparedness Month is recognized each September to promote family and community disaster planning now and throughout the year. As our nation continues to respond to COVID-19, there is no better time to be involved than this September.

If you are looking for resources, check out the 2019 Autumn issue of the Leader magazine - featuring seven articles about emergency planning before, during and after storms.

You can find more National Preparedness Month resources from FEMA, here. Additionally, you can find hurricane season preparedness resources, here.

National Safety Stand-Down to Prevent Falls in Construction Resources

Tomorrow will wrap up the 2020 National Safety Stand-Down to Prevent Falls in Construction. If you, or your site, participated in any way please let us know! We would love to share your accomplishments with the rest of the VPPPA community. Feel free to email communications@vpppa.org with any information.

You can find more information about the 2020 Safety Stand-Down on OSHA's website, here. The Summer 2020 issue of the Leader magazine also featured the article, "Make the Most of Your Investment in Fall Protection PPE." You can read this relevant article, here.
OSHA to Host Whistleblower Stakeholder Meeting

OSHA recently announced a public meeting to solicit comments and suggestions from stakeholders on issues facing the agency in the administration of the whistleblower laws it enforces. The public meeting will be held on October 13, 2020, from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., ET via telephone. Persons interested in attending the meeting must register by October 6, 2020. In addition, comments relating to the "Scope of Meeting" section of this document must be submitted in written or electronic form by October 6, 2020.

Register for the Region IV Virtual Safety & Health Excellence Conference

Due to these unique times, Region IV VPPPA has moved its 2020 Safety & Health Excellence Conference to a virtual event - set for October 20-22, 2020. There will be 21 sessions plus exhibitor product showcases.

All sessions will be live for the virtual event but as an attendee, all sessions will be recorded and available for playback for 60-days following the event which will allow you to see all sessions.

Don't miss out on earning your CEUs and training opportunities this year due to COVID-19. Use this opportunity to attend the 2020 Safety & Health Excellence Virtual Conference to get your CEUs and the training to continue to enhance your programs. There will also be an exhibitor directory that will highlight exhibitor products and services which will allow you to email, chat and make appointments, etc. with any exhibitor you may need products and services from.

Congratulations to Our Awards & Scholarships Winners

Congratulations to VPPPA's 2020 scholarships and awards winners!
June Brothers Scholarship Winner:
- Karsyn Suhadolnik, Kennewick, WA

Sergeant Safety Scholarship Winner:
- Lindsey Wooley, Kennewick, WA

Stephen Brown Scholarship Winner:
- MacKenna Kalin, Lincoln, NE

William "Sully" Sullivan Scholarship Winner:
- Kristen Denney, Carrollton, GA

VPP Innovation Award Winners:
- General Electric Healthcare - Electric Avenue, GE Healthcare, West Milwaukee, WI
- Oak Ridge Environmental Management Cleanup Project, Case Management Approach, UCOR, an Amentum-led partnership with Jacobs, Oak Ridge, TN

VPP Outreach Award Winners:
- Marsha E. Bevins (Individual Award), Portsmouth Mission Alliance, LLC, Piketon, OH
- Chevron Phillips Chemical - Cedar Bayou Plant (Company Award), Chevron Phillips Chemical, Baytown, TX

VPPPA Safety & Health Outreach Award Winner:
- Michael Horton (Individual Award), Portsmouth Mission Alliance, LLC, Piketon, OH
- Portsmouth Mission Alliance, LLC (Company Award), Portsmouth Mission Alliance, LLC, Piketon, OH

Behavioral Health Q&A Column - September 2020

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. You can read the column for September, here.

This month's article discusses self care, loneliness during the pandemic and more.

To submit your own question (your information will not be shared), fill out this form.

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
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 September Member of the Month is Kurt Erdmann! You can read about Kurt, here.

Congratulations, Kurt!

Thank you to our Star level sponsors!

Stay Connected

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