

PO Box 14663 Grand Forks, ND 58208-4663 www.nosha.net ◆ info@nosha.net

# NOSIA News

**July 2014** 

#### **General Membership Meeting**

There will be NO General Membership Meeting in July due to the Annual NOSHA Picnic.

Our next GM Meeting will be Wednesday, August 20th.

#### **Utilizing Toolbox Talks**

We all know that regular communication is essential to a successful safety program, but coming up with discussion topics and training material can be challenging. Toolbox Talks are an easy way for foremen and supervisors to supplement the safety training efforts of their company or organization, and to keep safety front and center in their workers' minds. These short pre-written safety meetings are designed to heighten employee awareness of workplace hazards and OSHA regulations. They are not intended to take the place of formal OSHA safety training for workers, but to supplement it.

Here are a few tips to keep in mind when conducting a toolbox talk for your workers:

- Read the toolbox talk to yourself a couple of times before you
  hold the actual meeting with workers. That way you will be
  more familiar with the content to be covered and therefore
  less apt to stumble while reading to the group.
- Try to hold the toolbox talk in an area that is free of noise and other distractions. If the workers cannot hear you talking, or are distracted by other activities in the area, they won't be focusing on your talk.
- Speak clearly and directly. Mumbling or reading too fast makes it difficult for the workers to understand you. Just take a deep breath, and then speak clearly and at a natural pace.
- Use a prop when possible to help you keep the workers attention. If you are giving a toolbox talk on setting up a portable step ladder, have one set up nearby so you can point out things as you read the toolbox talk. To really drive home a point, have an unlabeled container you found on the jobsite available when giving a toolbox talk on OSHA's hazard communication standards about labeling requirements.
- Always give workers an opportunity to ask questions at the end of the toolbox talk. Don't make snide remarks to employees who do ask a question, as this will discouraging others from asking questions later.
- Always document your toolbox talks. Even if certain OSHA standards do not require documentation of safety training, it can't hurt to have the information about the topic, the trainer, the date, and names of the workers on file.

Last but not least, practice what you preach. Nothing makes a trainer lose credibility faster than to have a worker see them doing something that violates the safety precautions that were covered in a previous toolbox talk. Always set a good example.

## Announcements 2014 NOSHA Member Appreciation Picnic

Date: Wednesday July 16th Time: 6 pm to 8 pm Location: Riverside Park Pavilion

RSVP to info@nosha.net by Monday July 14th with your number of attendees and food choice (steak, chicken or hot dog).

More details on Page 2

4th ND Conference
on Injury Prevention
and Control
"Sharing Risk and
Protective Factors"

Radisson Hotel, Bismarck October 1-2 2014

Hosted by the ND Department of Health. Brochure and Registration Available online at www.ndhealth.gov/injury/trainings.htm

Register by September 24

**Member of the Month** 





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## 2014 NOSHA Member Appreciation



NOSHA will hold its annual Member Appreciation Picnic on Wednesday, July 16th from 6-8 pm.

We invite you to bring your family or co-workers to the Riverside Park Pavilion for a good meal and a chance to mingle with your fellow NOSHA members in a casual environment.

NOSHA will be offering complimentary steak, chicken and hot dogs (courtesy of grill master Joe Strang). We will also provide free soda and water as well as frozen treats from the *Brain Freeze* ice cream truck. Adults can feel free to BYOB.

Door prizes will be awarded as well as goodies for the kids.

Come for the food, stay for the socializing.

RSVP to info@nosha.net by Monday July 14th with your number of attendees and food choice (steak, chicken or hot dog).

Hope to see you all on July 16th!

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#### **BOARD MEETING**

Board members meet the first Thursday of the month – 6:00-8:00 pm

**NEXT MEETING** August 7th

#### **2014 BOARD MEMBERS**

**Dan Mankie** (President)

Cirrus Aircraft

**Eric Pearson** (Vice-President) CHS (Cenex Transportation)

**Callie Wagner** (Treasurer) *Minnkota Power Cooperative* 

**Cindy Holweger** (Secretary)

Development Homes

Joe Strang

Valley Dairy Car Wash

Carol Gierszewski

Gierszewski Enterprises

Lyle Ross

Vigen Construction

Dave Opp

Opp Construction

Sally Miskavige

Opp Construction

Tony Vigness

#### **COMMITTEES**

#### **Communication Committee**

(Tony Vigness)

Visit us at www.nosha.net for the latest updates and announcements!

#### **Education Committee**

(Lyle Ross, Tony Vigness)

#### **Upcoming GM Meeting Presentations**

July: 2014 NOSHA Membership Appreciation
Picnic, Riverside Park Pavilion—No GM Meeting
August: Lyle Ross, Vigen Construction
"Accident Investigation"

#### **Membership Committee**

(Dave Opp, Eric Pearson)

#### **NOSHA News Editor**

(Tony Vigness)

## NOSHA

is a non-profit organization formed to provide area

safety professionals a direct way of sharing safety concerns, goals, and ideas to promote workplace safety.