



Making A Difference...

THE newsletter for occupational health professionals who are making a difference in the workplace lives of our nation's healthcare employees.

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Stacy L. Smirl, MSM, BSN, RN, COEE, COHN-S
Executive President

Message from Executive President



“Despite the forecast, live like it’s spring.” – Lilly Pulitzer

Spring showers bring beautiful rainbows, optimism, and renewal! Many of us celebrate the trees budding and flowers blooming, the smell of freshly cut grass, opening a new package of over-the-counter antihistamines, evenings with more sunlight, graduation gatherings (this year, I hope), etc. And, we can’t forget to celebrate us - the Rock Stars we are – during National Occupational Health Providers month and North American Occupational Safety and Health week!

As I write this message, SevenDays® Ripple has launched! SevenDays® symbolizes “...the interconnected nature of the [water] rings that represents love, wholeness, nurturing, togetherness, and our commitment to increasing *kindness* for ourselves and others.” SevenDays® was founded after three lives were tragically lost due to a hateful act. Like the water ripple, its goals are “to remember those we have lost and, in their memory, to create a wave of positive change for the future.”

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Before, during, and while we learn more and adapt to the current state of COVID-19, we occupational health professionals have created and influenced a tsunami of positive change for our future! Thank you all for continuing to share your expertise, energy, discoveries, and influence with an abundant amount of kindness!

To learn more about SevenDays® Ripple, visit their secure website:
<https://sevendays.org/>.

Remember to smile and laugh,

Stacy
Stacy L. Smirl, MSM, BSN, RN, COEE, COHN-S
AOHP Executive President

Serve AOHP as an Elected Officer!

Please consider volunteering for AOHP by running for an office on the National Executive Board. Share your influence, passion, and expertise to enhance the direction of the Board as it strives to develop professional resources, standards, and relationships with other national specialty and regulatory organizations. Lend your voice to advocate for AOHP members, and for the safety of all healthcare personnel.

At the National Board level, the following positions will be up for election in August 2022 per our bylaws:

- Vice President
- Treasurer
- Region 1 Director
- Region 3 Director
- Region 5 Director

Responsibilities include a one-hour virtual monthly meeting and two retreats per year. One retreat is held during National Conference week, and the other two-hour retreat is a virtual event. There may be follow-up activities which occur via email.

In addition to making a difference and giving back to the organization that has given to you, Board members also are eligible for all-expenses-paid National Conference attendance. These past few years have brought our specialty to the forefront of importance in healthcare institutions, empowering our ability to affect and set the course for occupational health and safety for the next generation of healthcare personnel.

Thank you for considering the above opportunities. The official Call for Nominations will be announced soon. If the time is not right for you, please share and encourage your professional colleagues to seek a National Board position. We have exciting work to do!

WHILE YOU LOOK AFTER OTHERS,
WHO LOOKS AFTER YOU? *We do.*



Thank You to ALL Occupational Health Professionals!

Every year, AOHP dedicates April to recognize the important contributions of occupational health professionals nationally and internationally. Not only do occupational health professionals take responsibility for employee care, but they have a responsibility to advocate for organizational policies that increase understanding of occupational hazards, and for new, safer technologies. AOHP raises awareness of these essential contributions each spring.

We Are Grateful for Your Efforts

Our world has changed, and a new priority in our evolving role as occupational health professionals includes managing this change for the benefit of all healthcare personnel and the patients they serve. In these unprecedented times, we recognize the burden of this heightened level of responsibility for your work.

As we embark on our third year of occupational health under the complexities of COVID-19, AOHP is proud to celebrate the accomplishments of members like you! AOHP members should have received a card from us to thank for your unwavering commitment to the health, safety, and well-being of healthcare personnel, and for the value of your contributions to the ongoing advancement of occupational health practice. We thank you for all the hard work you do!

As you continue to do what you do best - take care of others - know that AOHP cares about you. Please take some time for yourself each day. Proper self-care means we don't just survive; we thrive!

Thank you for making a difference in so many lives!

Awards and Scholarships

Julie Schmid Research Scholarship

The Association of Occupational Health Professionals in Healthcare invites proposals for an original research project on current and/or anticipated issues in hospital or healthcare-related occupational health. The Research Scholarship Award is \$2,000. Proposals from non-members are welcome.

The proposal deadline is July 1. Visit the AOHP website for more information from our [website](#).

Other Awards and Scholarship Offerings:

AOHP proudly offers several additional opportunities for members and non-members alike. Do you or someone you know deserve to be nominated? Do you want to earn a free conference registration to attend the 2022 National Conference?

- [Sandra Bobbitt Continuing Education Scholarship](#) - Provides annual continuing education scholarships to subsidize the educational efforts of members. A complimentary main conference registration and one (1) night lodging at the conference hotel shall be awarded for each scholarship maximum of four (4) scholarships annually. ***Nominations close Jun 1. Nominate someone or apply TODAY!***
- [AOHP Business Recognition Award](#) – Recognizes a business(es) that supports occupational health professionals, and their membership and participation in AOHP. ***Nominations close July 1.***
- [Honorary Membership Award](#) - Recognizes a person(s) who is supportive of AOHP and has made a significant contribution to the field of occupational health in healthcare. ***Nominations close August 15.***
- [Joyce Safian Scholarship Award](#) - A \$500 scholarship to be used for educational purposes. This scholarship recognizes a past or present association officer who best portrays an occupational health professional in healthcare role model. ***Nominations close July 1.***
- [National Award for Extraordinary Member](#) - Recognizes an association member who has demonstrated extraordinary leadership in the field of occupational health in healthcare. ***Nominations close July 1.***
- [Ann Stinson President's Award for Association Excellence](#) - Recognizes a chapter which has demonstrated outstanding performance and enhanced the image of occupational health professionals. ***Nominations close July 1.***

Consider applying for the AOHP awards and scholarships available to you. [Learn more...](#)

Return to Onsite Annual Surveys for NIAHO Accreditation Programs

DNV Healthcare is providing notice to DNV accredited organizations of the return of unannounced onsite National Integrated Accreditation for Healthcare Organizations (NIAHO®) annual surveys in acute care, critical access, and psychiatric hospitals. The practice becomes effective with surveys beginning the week of May 2, 2022.

On January 25, 2022, DNV announced the continuation of remote NIAHO annual surveys through the end of April 2022 as hospitals and communities dealt with the effects of the Omicron variant of COVID-19. Since that announcement, COVID-19 positivity rates, hospitalizations, and community transmission have dropped significantly, making it much safer to return to onsite survey activities.

Starting May 2, 2022, all DNV NIAHO annual/periodic accreditation surveys in hospitals, critical access hospitals, and psychiatric hospitals will be unannounced onsite activities with no advance notice provision. Condition-level follow-up and other return surveys resulting from onsite annual/periodic surveys will also be conducted onsite. All NIAHO full accreditation and re-accreditation surveys will continue to be conducted onsite and unannounced as always. This includes accreditation surveys for new applicant hospitals (Medicare 855), initial DNV deemed accreditation surveys (AO conversion, first-time accreditation, new sub-provider certifications), non-deemed accreditation surveys, investigation of substantial allegations, and any condition-level follow-up surveys or special survey activities related to onsite accreditation surveys.

Hospitals that are still in COVID-19-related distress but expecting survey between May and July 2022 may request postponement based on criteria found in the DNV [January 25 Advisory Notice](#). Revised Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) guidance for accreditation organizations or discontinuation of the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency (PHE) after July 15, 2022, may result in changes to these postponement criteria or other accreditation flexibilities.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC's) new [COVID-19 community levels](#) recommendations do not apply in healthcare settings such as hospitals and nursing homes. Instead, healthcare settings should continue to use [community transmission rates](#) and continue to follow CDC's infection prevention and control recommendations for healthcare settings.

DNV will continue to monitor the status of the PHE, along with local and national conditions, using data provided by CMS and CDC. Hospitals are encouraged to check for updated information on [current emergencies](#), [waivers](#), and [flexibilities](#) resulting from the continued PHE.

Region 4

Michelle Chester, DNP, MSN, BSN, CNOR, RNFA, FNP-BC, Senior Director Occupational Health Services Operations for Northwell Employee Health Services, was appointed as Region 4 Director last fall. Thanks to Marlene Davis, PA-C, who served as both President and Vice President of the Northeast Chapter during the transition after former President Al Carbuto's retirement. The success of AOHP at every level depends on the contributions of active members. Region 4 officers have met and are planning the upcoming chapter calendar and educational sessions for this summer. A current focus is to revive meetings and other activities of the Mid-Atlantic Chapter.

Northeast Chapter

The Northeast Chapter officers met virtually to plan the upcoming yearly schedule. Two educational sessions will be provided, hopefully in person with telecom availability. As always, there are ongoing efforts to recruit new members. I would like to note and acknowledge our newest member, who graciously stepped up to fill our vacant secretary position – Joyce Gee-Esposito. Thanks to Al Carbuto for remaining an invaluable asset in his retirement. In addition, congratulations and best wishes to John Dyer, who remains our treasurer, on his retirement.

Respectfully submitted,
Chapter President, Marlene Davis, PA-C

AOHP Hosts Caring for Healthcare Professionals Podcast

AOHP's Caring for Healthcare Professionals Podcast features subject matter experts in occupational health and safety discussing relevant issues facing occupational health and safety professionals in healthcare. New podcasts on needlestick prevention, personal protective equipment manufacturing and distribution, and respiratory protection are coming every week.

Go to [our website](#) to learn more.

Call for Panelists

Panel discussions for the AOHP Podcast are being organized to share about different hazards, programs, and best practices. If you are interested in participating, please feel free to let us know. The discussions will only cover hazard(s), preventive measures, and best practices; we won't be discussing any specific incidents or employer-specific information.

Please contact Cory Worden at the.wordens01@gmail.com if you'd like to participate on any of the panels.

We hope your workload has eased – may we ask again for your data.

EXPO-S.T.O.P. 2019 & 2020 Survey for Hospitals

This 2-year survey enables Covid impact on BBFE risk to be examined.

All answers are for Calendar year and All responses are confidential.

EXPO-S.T.O.P. is a valued international database. It enables participants to implement evidence-based strategies to prevent exposure incidents and benchmark their **SI** and **MCE** against similar facilities.

Please join us in this great AOHP initiative – *your* initiative, helping our staff work in a safe environment.

Questions? Email ginger.parker@internationalsafetycenter.org or terry@terrygrimond.com

Thank you!

This survey is sponsored by Daniels Health.

[Go to our website to view the questions.](#)

Safe Mobilization of Patients

The American Nurses Association and Hillrom are conducting a survey to learn more about injury history and safe mobilization practice among nurses and other caregivers. These findings will be used to understand how to better support caregivers in mobilizing patients safely.

The survey will take up to 10 minutes. **It is open to all nurses or professional caregivers who have provided direct patient care, including those who are retired or are now in different positions.**

<https://nursingworld.org/SPHMsurvey>



SAFE MOBILIZATION OF PATIENTS

We are conducting a survey to learn more about injury history and practices associated with mobilizing patients among nurses and other professional caregivers.

IN COLLABORATION:  Hillrom.  ANA
AMERICAN NURSES ASSOCIATION

Questions?
Please email us at practice@ana.org

TAKE THE SURVEY!



nursingworld.org/SPHMsurvey

CALL FOR POSTERS
AOHP 2022 NATIONAL CONFERENCE
September 7-10, 2022
Marriott Austin Downtown
Austin, TX



The **AOHP 2022 National Conference** provides occupational health professionals the opportunity to share their experiences, ideas, and research with others. In addition to platform presentations, workshops, networking, and exhibits, conference participants may view posters prepared by their peers.

Posters are an excellent, low-stress venue in which to present your research and innovations. This opportunity to publish a very short article and discuss it with your peers can be an overview of a technical topic, problem, question, research, case study, or success story. Your poster will be viewed throughout the conference, so the main ideas should be clear without explanation.

[Download Poster Submission Form here.](#)

Abstracts are due by April 30.

Contact Annie Wiest at info@aohp.org if you need any further information.

HHS Renews COVID-19 Public Health Emergency

On April 13, 2022, Health and Human Services (HHS) Secretary Xavier Becerra extended the ongoing COVID-19 public health emergency (PHE) for an additional 90 days. The effective date is Saturday, April 16, the date the current PHE was set to expire. The new expiration date for the COVID-19 PHE is Friday, July 15, 2022. By renewing the COVID-19 PHE, millions of Americans will be able to continue receiving free tests, vaccines, and treatments for at least the next three months. The federal government will continue paying for COVID-19 tests, vaccines, and certain treatments for those covered by Medicare and Medicaid, and will require private insurers to cover the full cost of tests and vaccines through PHE funding.

The PHE was initially declared in January 2020 when the coronavirus pandemic began. It has been renewed each quarter since that time.

Information provided by Stephen Burt, BS, MFA
Chair Governance Affairs Committee



Need Help Securing Approval to Attend the 2022 National Conference?

It is never too early to start planning. Join us at the 2022 National Conference – Deep in the Heart of Healthcare. It will feature the most up-to-date information, from basic to advanced, for your practice. This conference offers valuable information for both novice and experienced professionals in many occupational health practice areas.

Visit [our website](#) to download the Articulating Attendance Value Guideline and use the template to help to justify your conference attendance to your supervisor.

AOHP Archived Webinars

With AOHP's archived webinars program, Occupational/Employee Health professionals can access education and information through a user-friendly medium. Customize your educational pathway by choosing the webinars you want to view and earn continuing education credits at your own pace. Select the time and the place that best suits your demanding schedule, and we'll present you with high quality education that addresses issues of importance to you and your teams. The AOHP Archived Webinar program is an immediate solution for your continuing educational needs.

Recent added archived webinars:

WEB041-2022

Live and recorded on February 25, 2022

Celebrating Safety! Selling, Leading, and Promoting Your Safety Culture with Little Time, Money, and People by Cory Worden, PhD, ABD, MS, CSHM, CSP, CHSP, ARM, REM, CESCO

[Learn more...](#)

WEB042-2022

Live and recorded on March 25, 2022

Basic Culture Change: Winning Hearts and Minds for Safety By Cory Worden, PhD, ABD, MS, CSHM, CSP, CHSP, ARM, REM, CESCO

[Learn more...](#)

WEB043-2022

Live and Recorded on April 8, 2022

Long-term COVID and Return to Work Decision Making: Medical and Psychosocial Consideration by Dr. Miranda Kofeldt, Ph.D., Dr. Steve Wiesner, MD and Dr. Rajiv Das, MD

[Learn more...](#)

AOHP Podcasts

We have several new podcast episodes up now at <https://aohp.org/aohp/EDUCATION/Podcast.aspx>, or search 'AOHP' on Apple Podcasts or Spotify.

Episode 28 - Safe Patient Mobility/Handling Panel with Susan Gallagher and Karen Guliano
 Episode 29 - Industrial Hygiene with Doug Rush, CIH, CSP
 Episode 30 - Workplace Violence Prevention Panel with Donna Zankowski and Dave Johnson
 Episode 31 - Ergonomics Panel with Stephanie Johnson and Emmanuel Winful with the ASSP Blacks in Safety Excellence Group
 Episode 32 - Mindfulness with Simone Olivier
 Episode 33 - Effective Education and Training with Kelley Lombardo, MEd
 Episode 34 - Environmental Safety and Personal Wellness with Herbert Bell, MS, CSP, CIH

More coming soon:

Episode 35 - Ergonomics with Rachel Michael, CPE, CSHP
 Episode 36 - Industrial Hygiene with Wes Lashbrook, CIH

OSHA Enforces Injury and Illness Data Submission

The U.S. Department of Labor's Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) is initiating an [enforcement program](#) that identifies employers who fail to submit Form 300A data through the agency's Injury Tracking Application (ITA). Annual electronic submissions are required by establishments with 250 or more employees currently required to keep OSHA injury and illness records, and establishments with 20-249 employees classified in [specific industries](#) with historically high rates of occupational injuries and illnesses.

The [program](#) matches newly opened inspections against a list of potential non-responders to OSHA's collection of Form 300A data through the ITA and reports all matches to the appropriate OSHA area office. If the area office determines that the establishment on the list is the same establishment where the inspection was opened, OSHA will issue citations for failure to submit OSHA Form 300A Summary data. In addition to identifying non-responders at the establishment level, the agency is also reviewing the 2021 submitted data to identify non-responders at a corporate-wide level. This corporate level review is being conducted for the nation's largest employers.

OSHA's Form 300A (Rev. 04/2004)
 Summary of Work-Related Injuries and Illnesses

Number of Cases			
Total number of deaths	Total number of cases with days away from work	Total number of cases with job transfer or restriction	Total number of other recordable cases
0	0	0	0
(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)

Number of Days	
Total number of days away from work	Total number of days of job transfer or restriction
0	0
(e)	(f)

Injury and Illness Types

For more information, please visit OSHA's Injury and Illness Recordkeeping and Reporting Requirements [website](#) and [Trade Release](#).

Employers must post their 2021 Summary of Work-Related Injuries and Illnesses (Form 300A) by April 30.

AOHP Social Media

We have a page on LinkedIn. We need your help to increase our online presence by expanding and enhancing the AOHP professional social networking community! Please follow us at [@AOHP_Org](#) on Twitter, follow our [LinkedIn](#) page, and like us on [Facebook](#). Like, share, comment, and repost our posts.

AOHP Listserv

Do you know AOHP hosts an electronic Discussion Email List Service for its members? This service is a free benefit of your membership in AOHP. The purpose of the AOHP Listserv is to facilitate discussions among AOHP members. By joining, you will be able to connect with your colleagues across the nation via email to share best practices and dialogue about the challenges and successes of working in occupational health in the healthcare setting. This is a great way to solicit the advice of your peers, benefit from their experience, and participate in an ongoing conversation. Subscribe now to communicate with fellow members via email, change your subscription format, and access archived posts. [Click here](#) to learn more.

You Can Be a ROC Star!

AOHP Recruit Our Colleagues (ROC) – A Better and Greater Campaign

(Jul 1, 2021 – Jun 30, 2022)

The 2021 – 2022 Recruit Our Colleagues (ROC) starts Jul 1, 2021 – Jun 30, 2022. ROC is a great way for members to help AOHP grow while earning rewards that can be used toward education and membership. The ROC campaign offers five levels of individual awards, as well as an award for the chapter recruiting the most new members.

For full details of the awards and campaign rules, please visit [our website](#). You can download this [ROC Flyer](#) to share with your colleagues.

Get Ready for Safe + Sound Week!

Mark your calendars! [Safe + Sound Week](#) will take place from **August 15-21, 2022**. Safe + Sound Week is a nationwide event held each August that recognizes the successes of workplace health and safety programs and offers information and ideas on how to keep America's workers safe. Registration for Safe + Sound Week opens in early July. The Save the Date is available to download in both [English](#) and [Spanish](#). We look forward to your participation!

Preventing and Managing Secondary Stress in the Time of COVID-19 In The Wake of The Pandemic, Close to Half of Nurses Are Reporting Symptoms of Depression.

A Free On-Demand Webinar

Secondary stress is that extra level of stress specifically related to the demands of nursing care provided to patients and families in today's health care system. Nurses are no strangers to the threat and reality of secondary stress as a condition of caring for others. The current pandemic, however, has exacerbated and intensified this stress and the burnout that follows.

This on-demand 90-minute webinar is FREE for both ANA members and non-members. All viewers must register. Send group requests to: ANAMembershipWebinars@ana.org

Register to receive 24/7 access to this webinar recording.

REGISTRATION CLOSES ON June 7, 2022, AT 1 PM ET.

A viewing link will be emailed to registrants on or about June 10, 2022.

SPACE IS LIMITED!

Click the button below to register:

[Register Now](#)

AOHP Members – Take Advantage of Your Benefits!

AOHP is the only professional organization that serves the interests and needs of occupational health professionals in the healthcare setting. Improve your practice by consistently using these benefits that our members find most valuable:

- Quarterly AOHP *Journal*
- FREE Live Webinars
- Educational Offerings (AOHP National Conference, webinars)
- Networking (on local, regional, and national levels)
- Legislative Updates
- AOHP Listserv
- Quarterly eNewsletters
- Monthly eBytes
- Beyond Getting Started Resources
- Survey Reports

Access the most important and up-to-date occupational health information and resources, as well as best practices of fellow members. For more information about the benefits of your AOHP membership, [visit our website](#) or email info@aohp.org.