



FLORIDA LOCAL SECTION OF AIHA FALL 2016 NEWSLETTER

Fellow Local Section AIHA members,

Following the high water benchmark set by Mark Mitchell, we are pleased to publish our local section newsletter for 2016.

There is a lot going on with the local section. We made another \$25,000 contribution to the AIHA Foundation, had a successful conference in St. Augustine, have elected some new officers, refreshed our website, added member profiles (starting with the local section Board) and made a number of other changes. Most importantly, we have asked you for feedback on how we are doing and the number and location of our conferences and professional development courses. Let me summarize the results of the survey that was just completed.

The Florida Local Section Questionnaire: We had 55 responses to our questionnaire which is not as many as we would have liked, but pretty good for a survey response rate (about 30%).

- Everyone that answered had attended at least one local section conference. About 20% skipped the question so it is possible that means they have not attended any. About 60% have attended 3 or more conferences in the last 3 years.
- For those not attending, time constraints was the major reason with cost being secondary.
- 70% of the respondents wanted two conferences per year with just 30% wanting one conference per year.
- The question was restated, "Should the Florida local AIHA section hold just one conference per year"? [yes- this was a trick question to determine the validity of the previous responses]. The answer was essentially the same. Approximately 67% said no while approximately 32% said yes. Clearly, the majority of those responding want two conferences per year.
- The majority of respondents (80%) want the conferences to be geographically rotated rather than held in a central location.
- 70% of the respondents want us to try to organize some local meetings (1 or 2 per year).
- If there were only one conference per year, the respondents were essentially split between holding it in the spring or fall.
- Most respondents want just one day of PDCs (approximately 78%)
- Most respondents want Tampa as the western location (63% for Tampa and 39% for Orlando)
- About 40% of the respondents have been a local section member less than 5 years, while

about 60% have been a member for more than 5 years (almost 25% have been a member for 20+ years).

- Most of our respondents are national AIHA members (about 77%).
- About 60% of the respondents use the local conferences to earn certification maintenance points.

The complete results of the survey questionnaire will be posted on our website to include the comments sections.

We have listen to our members and are pleased to announce the next conference will be held at the Hutchinson Island Marriot Resort (www.marriottthutchinsonisland.com) from September 21-23, 2016. The spring meeting will be held in the March or April timeframe in the Tampa area.

Got a question or comment, send me a note. mansdorf@tiac.net

From the messy desk of Mark Mitchell – Immediate Past President:

The roles of the Presidency continue to follow me as I assumed Byron Nelson's "old" job of Past President. Byron did a great job and I would like to offer up a sincere thank you on behalf of the FLLS for all of the hard work that he put in over the years of his presidency. Not a lot of people were aware of how much time Byron dedicated to his roles and responsibilities. We continue to use Byron as our "Secret Weapon" when nobody else seems to have the answers to our questions. He gets a lot of: Hey Byron, how did we do _____(fill in the blanks)_____.

We will be looking for a few good women and men come next election cycle so please give some thought to giving some of your time and talents to this great organization of ours. Without our own help, we are nothing. With everyone pitching in, we are one of four (4) Local AIHA Sections that have donated \$50,000 or more to AIHF. Need I say more? Please send me an email if you are interested in running for an office for next year. For sure we will need candidates for President Elect. Thanks! Mark



Michelle McIntyre, President-Elect

Based on the results of our member survey, we are very excited to announce that our spring meeting will be on the Gulf Coast in the Tampa area. For those of us living on the western side of Florida, this will be a welcome change. I will be working with Zack and the University of South Florida (Dr. Hana Osman, Dr. Tom Bernard and Catherine Batista Da Silva) to find the best venue for the meeting. Zack and I would very much welcome your suggestions for excellent home grown speakers for the general meeting (which is also our annual meeting where I will take over as President). We are hoping for a great turn out for this west coast meeting. Pencil in the month of March, 2017 for the meeting date.

Kari Reno, Secretary

Thank you to everyone that renewed their Florida AIHA memberships for 2016! As of today, we currently have approximately 250 members, which includes local officers, students, and vendors. As a reminder, the renewal period for membership is October 1st through December 31st. When you renew during this period, your membership runs through December 31st of the following year. If you sign up October 1st, you receive three free months of membership. This is a great time to save money while still enjoying the benefits of membership. Remember, you can renew your membership while renewing your national AIHA chapter membership, or by accessing your member profile using the Florida local AIHA chapter website, which is hosted by Wild Apricot. The website address is <http://flaiha.wildapricot.org>.

Leslie Welch, Treasurer

The local section is financially healthy due to several successful conferences and good stewardship by the previous Boards. As you should know, we have tried to support the AIHA Foundation and our Florida Scholarship fund with any excess monies and have made two significant contributions (one last year) so far. We do need to maintain at least one year's reserve in our accounts in case we must cancel or are unable to hold a conference but still must pay the expenses (such as an extreme weather event).

Our current situation is:

BOA Checking Account Balance	33,844.67
Paypal Available Balance	3,542.59
Cash Rewards credit card	283.31
Fixed Term CD	2004.20
Credit Card Outstanding Balance Due	(700.00)
Checks pending deposit	500.00

Yuan Wang, Professional Relations

I would like to remind all our members to keep our vendors' support in mind when the time comes for equipment purchasing and replacement. Thank you for supporting vendors' that support us. If you have vendors that you would like us to contact / invite them to our future conference, please forward the information to me. If you have any suggestions for improvements in vendor recruitment, please let me know.

Mabely Wise, Professional Development Director

Our next PDC will be held at our conference at Hutchinson Island. It is titled, "Using the Business Case for Prevention through Design (PtD) Interventions" and will be offered on Thursday, September 22nd, 2016

This PDC will provide participants the foundation to develop the value proposition around the financial and non-financial benefits for proposed or existing IH and EHS programs and projects. Participants will learn to use the AIHA® Value Strategy and the Prevention through Design standard as the framework and the Excel-based tools as the instrument to develop the financial and non-financial side of a sound business case in Industrial Hygiene. To learn more about this PDC please look under the Upcoming Events tab on the Local Section's Website.

Michael Henderson, Communications

I thought that I would take this opportunity to remind you of the opportunities that you have to receive and share information among our section. Here are a few of the opportunities...

If you are sponsoring an event, or made aware of an event or meeting that benefits the members of our chapter, please forward the information to us. We can post the information on the website for the other members to view.

Is your company looking to hire someone new? Don't forget to forward the job information, along with the opening and closing dates of the posting, to us to post on the website. If you are looking for a job, be sure to check out the same area of our website for potential jobs!

We are looking for new pictures for the website. If you have any pictures from the national conference this year, or any other pictures of you representing our section, then please don't hesitate to send them to us. Everyone enjoys hearing stories from the conference but remember...a picture is worth a thousand words! So look through your phone and send us some conference pictures!

I hope that you are enjoying leaning about your board and local members through the monthly member profiles. One of the fun things about Florida is the wide variety of people moving into the state, along with their experiences from all over the world. We want to learn more about our members, so please consider sending us a member profile of yourself. The profile can address your professional experience, accomplishments, and your hobbies or things that you are passionate about. Don't forget to send along a picture of you doing something that you love!

We made several changes to the website over the past year but we are always looking for ways to improve it. Please forward any suggestions to me at mhenderson@hetiservices.com.



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2016 - 2017 OFFICERS

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Be sure to visit our local section website for all the latest news: <http://flaiha.wildapricot.org/>