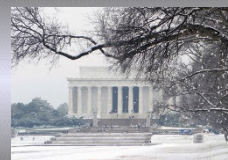




# The Washington DC Chapter of the International System Safety Society



## Chapter Newsletter July -Dec 2016

**WDC Chapter Website:** Stay up to date on the latest news and happenings! Log in to the Washington DC Chapter's Website online at:  
<http://washingtonchapter.net/>

**Online Calendar:** Download events to your calendar, share events, send reminders, get maps, weather and locations...  
[Click Here](#)

### President's Corner:



Greetings to all of our Chapter Members and their families! It has been a busy season for the WDC Chapter Officers and members.

Our Scholarships and Education Officer Mr. Edward W. Kratovil officially retired after a very distinguished career. The WDC Chapter awarded two scholarships to outstanding students at the University of Southern Maryland at a beautiful ceremony.

Our Past-Treasurer Mr. Emil Paul Denk attended the 34<sup>th</sup> Annual International System Safety Conference in Orlando, Florida in August 2016. Mr. Doug Bower presented an educational tutorial and Ms. Mary Ellen Caro won the Professional Development Award at the 34<sup>th</sup> ISSC. See below for more on each of our events...

~~~~~ Be Happy & Stay Safe!...Donne DiFiglia, WDC President ~~~~~

### In Memoriam:



We are all saddened by the loss of one of our Fellow members, Mr. John Leipper.

John served as a US Navy Civil Servant in System Safety for almost 30 years with home station in San Diego area, but traveled all over supporting his calling in system safety.

John was a long-time member of the International System Safety Society (ISSS) and led many technical sessions, roundtables and tutorials at annual conferences and was the Conference Chair in 2005 in San Diego.

He retired a few years ago, but remained semi-active as a consultant and advisor. John retired from the US Naval Reserve as a Master Chief Avionics Technician (E-9) and served on active duty in the late 1960s and early 1970s in F-8 Crusader squadrons aboard aircraft carriers as an aviation fire control specialist (AQ).

John was a character with his "raspy voice" ...imitating a pirate...his trademark signal. He was present in any system safety meeting and always ready to debate. He was married and had a grown son who is an information systems engineer. John was also a leader in the Boy Scouts and served as an Eagle Project Coach for BSA Troup 777. He will be missed by the members of the ISSS, the Washington DC Chapter and all who knew him well.

"Fair Winds and Following Seas, John..."





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### Notable Meetings & Events

#### WDC All Member Chapter Meeting: Thurs 13 Oct 2016



- **Where:** SAIC Dahlgren, VA Conf. Room 1A/B
- **Speaker:** Mr. Robert E. Smith, CSP
- **Topic:** *"Becoming a Certified Safety Professional"*
- **Website:** <http://washingtonchapter.net>
- **Abstract:** Are you a safety professional and looking to add a safety certification to your resume? Are you interested to hear about the Board of Certified Safety Professionals (BSCP) and the Certified Safety Professional (CSP) process? This presentation will provide an overview of the reasons safety professionals become certified, will summarize the advantages that come with the CSP designation, and will discuss the certification process.

#### WDC All Member Chapter Meeting: Thurs 18 August 2016



- **Where:** SAIC Dahlgren, VA Conf. Room 1A/B
- **Speaker:** Mr. Michael Demmick/NOSSA and Ms. Peggy Rogers/SSSTRP Chair
- **Topic:** *"Enhancing Readiness through System Safety Engineering"*
- **Abstract:** Integrating System Safety into Forward Deployed Theater Operations. Combat System Safety Engineers (CSSE) Engineering:

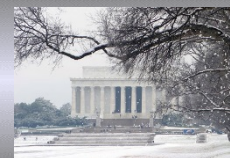


- 1) Addresses an existing safety gap in the operations / sustainment phase. Execution includes monitoring performance of mitigations, and in-theater mishap trends;
- 2) Validates incoming systems safety risk assessments;
- 3) Provides liaison to Program Office[s];
- 4) Conducts mishap data collection & analysis.





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**34<sup>th</sup> ISSC Conference Highlights:**

The 34th International System Safety Conference (ISSC) was held August 8-12, 2016 at the Renaissance Hotel at Sea World in Orlando, Florida and was attended by several accomplished members of our chapter.



**Mr. Emil Paul Denk attended the Executive sessions and presented the 2015-2016 Yearly Report.**

- Mr. Emil "Paul" Denk is a Senior Safety Analyst for the Systems Engineering & Information Solutions Strategic Business Unit of AECOM's Management Services Group. He has been a member of the International System Safety Society since 2012. Mr. Denk has been recognized by the WDC Officers for outstanding service as the Treasurer of the WDC from 2014-2016.



**Mr. Doug Bower presented an interesting and timely Tutorial, "MIL-STD-882E Applies to All Your Software - Not Just the Code You Write".**

- The class covered the following topics and more:
  - Functional Hazard Analysis, Software Criticality/Level of Rigor, Conducting and documenting the results of Software Safety Analysis and Testing, Operating Systems and other Non-Developmental Software, and Assessing remaining safety risk attributed to system software.

**34<sup>th</sup> ISSC Professional Development Award Winner: Ms. Mary Ellen Caro**

Ms. Caro has had a long and exemplary career in the Department of Navy and private industry spanning over 30 years in weapons and explosives safety. In her current capacity as the Vice Chair of the Navy's Weapon Systems Explosives Safety Review Board (WSESRB), her contributions to the professional practice of system safety is evidenced in the long and successful record of the Navy in fielding weapons and ordnance that are safe and suitable for our use.

Ms. Caro's mark as a leader and manager of a team (known in some DoD circles as the "A- Team") of highly skilled and knowledgeable system safety professionals is one that is unequaled within the Department of Defense. Ms. Caro's knowledge and contributions are not solely limited to the Department of the Navy, but are recognized within the private sector and valued by those throughout the Department of Defense as well as our International (North Atlantic Treaty Organization) partners.





# **The Washington DC Chapter of the International System Safety Society**



## **Chapter Newsletter – Page 4 July -Dec 2016**

### **Scholarship Event:**

On 21 October 2016, the WDC Chapter presented Scholarships to two outstanding students and aspiring Safety Engineers, Mr. Scott Teed and Mr. Michael Bell from the LaPlata Campus of the College of Southern Maryland. WDC President Donne DiFiglia and Vice-President Michael Ramsburg participated in the event that was attended by over 300 students, their sponsors, families and friends. Mr. Scott and Mr. Teed each received \$1250.00 and a complementary one-year Student Membership to the WDC Chapter.



**Scott Teed**

**Michael Bell**

### **Chapter Officers:**

|                                          |                    |                            |
|------------------------------------------|--------------------|----------------------------|
| <b>President</b>                         | Donne DiFiglia     | difigliad@saic.com         |
| <b>Vice-President</b>                    | Michael Ramsburg   | ramsburg2@verizon.net      |
| <b>Treasurer</b>                         | Lisa K. Hill       | lisa.k.hill@aecom.com      |
| <b>Secretary</b>                         | Amber D. Shampine  | amber.d.shampine@saic.com  |
| <b>Membership Chair</b>                  | John Burchett      | john.burchett@navy.mil     |
| <b>Webmaster</b>                         | Donne DiFiglia     | difigliad@saic.com         |
| <b>Education &amp; Scholarship Chair</b> | Edward W. Kratovil | edward.w.kratovil@saic.com |
| <b>Special Projects Officer</b>          | Sean Peters        | sean.peters@aecom.com      |