

Members Elect New Board Chair at Annual Meeting

At this year's NHCOSH annual meeting, Louise Anne Hannan was elected the first women Chair of NH COSH's Executive Board. Louise is the Health Officer Liaison for the NH Department of Health and Human Services. It was through this position as Health Officer Liaison that Louise and NH COSH began a long working relationship. She was instrumental in helping us set up day-long workshops on Emergency Response and All Hazards Awareness Training for the NH Health Officers Association. Louise's commitment and dedication to public health and safety in our state has been exceptional she is always going the extra mile. Louise leaves the position as COSH board treasurer to assume the position of Board Chair. We expect that NH COSH will continue to grow and evolve through the fine leadership of our very active Board and our very active Executive Director, Brian Mitchell.

Another new face joined the NH COSH Executive Board, Karla R. Armenti, ScD. Karla is the principal investigator for the Occupational Health Surveillance Program Bureau which is a part of the Public Health Statistics and Informatics Division of the Public Health Service. Karla is the principal force behind the recent grant awarded by the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health's to fund the development of a fundamental occupational health surveillance program which our state does not have. NH COSH will be working with Karla in the pilot projects to assist with expansion of and data analysis of a survey on workplace safety and worker rights given to "English as a Second Language" students and tutors in adult education. NH COSH will also assist in gathering information



Karla Armenti, Dennis Martino, and Louise Hannan.

and providing follow-up information in response to a wide range of student and teacher questions. Karla brings a lot of energy and vision to the board. We are looking forward to a long productive relationship with her.

At this year's annual members' dinner meeting three individuals were recognized of their faithful service in supporting the workers of New Hampshire. First was Paula Martel, President of ASCME Local #2715, who represents the staff of the Hillsborough County Nursing Home. She received the seventh Ed Eagan Award for Safety and Health Advocacy in the Workplace. Paula has been repeatedly brought to the attention of NH COSH for her outstanding representation for the employees of the nursing home. Many employees have had to endure very difficult and serious health emergencies while still working to protect and care for the residents of the nursing home.

The second was an Excellence Award, which was presented to Attorney Terrence J. Daley for his

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outstanding commitment and service especially to the immigrant community. Attorney Daley is known for actively advocating for workers rights and going the “extra mile” for workers. Attorney Daley was nominated and brought to the attention of the COSH board by members of the Workers’ Rights Network and NH Alliance for Immigrants and Refugees.

An Achievement Award was presented to Karla R. Armenti, ScD. for her continued oversight of occupational health surveillance in New Hampshire. In this area of data collection New Hampshire has lagged behind. We are hoping that through Karla’s work New Hampshire will have a much better understanding about the impact a person’s occupation has on their lifelong health and wellbeing. Karla also serves on the Advisory Board for the New England Consortium.

The guest speaker was George Kilens from the Concord OSHA office who updated everyone on the current mandates from Secretary of Labor, Hilda L. Solis. OSHA is moving forward in its efforts to increase fines and inspections to curb not just the death rates but also the accident and injury rates on the job. Repeat offenders will not find the same leniency that first time offenders receive. There will be new incentives to get employers to invest in the safety and health of their employees including increased penalties, increased fines for history of serious, willful violations, increase in gravity-based penalties for serious citations.

These new initiatives will continue to work for



Paula Martel receives the Ed Eagan Award.



Attorney Terrance Daley receives Excellence Award.

the safety and health of New Hampshire’s greatest resource her residents. Thank you Paula, Terrance, Karla, and George for continuing to advocate for New Hampshire’s workers.

Membership Drive 2010-11 Underway

The Executive Board and Staff of NH COSH would like to thank the following individuals and organizations for their ongoing support of NH COSH:

- Arnold Z. Alpert
- John V. Amrol
- Gregory Andruschkevich
- Karla Armenti
- Dexter Arnold
- Alfred Bouchard
- Janyce Bouchard
- Robert Burns
- Jessica Clark
- Brother Paul Crawford
- Charles P. Desrocher
- Mike Fitts
- Ron Geoffroy
- Stephen H. Gorin
- Kerry Guptill
- Louise Anne Merchant Hannan
- Dennis Kalob
- Janice Kelble
- George Kilens
- Gail Kinney
- Paul Morse
- Pat Long
- Steve O’Connor

David Paquette
 Jonathan R. Paul
 J. I. C. Pendlebury
 Carol M. Rodrigues
 Joan Roelofs
 Rick Rothwell
 Karl "Ned" Sittler
 Craig Slatin
 William Smith
 William A. Stetson
 Audrey V. Sylvester
 Deborah F. Tasker
 JoAnn Zylak
 AFT-NH
 Durham Professional Firefighters Association
 IBEW Local 1837
 IBEW Local 2320
 Iron Workers Local #7
 Lebanon Permanent Firefighters
 Nashua Teachers Union #1044
 NH AFL-CIO
 Nobis Engineering, Inc.
 OSHA Training Institute Education Center
 Plumbing & Pipe Fitting Local #131
 Professional Firefighters of New Hampshire
 Select Benefits Plus of NE
 Service Employees International Union #560
 State Employees Association of NH, SEIU Local 1984

Your faithful support provides us with the ability to be actively advocating for workers rights and safe working conditions for all New Hampshire workers. Thank you.

Worker Rights Network Trains at the Latin American Center

In November, the partners of the Manchester Worker Rights Network presented a three-day workshop at the Latin American Center. Each evening the workshops started with a meal, which was followed by presentations on workplace safety and health from the various partners. Topics included: a review of the agencies and organizations that work with individuals to help protect their rights at work, recognizing health and safety hazards on the job, workplace injury, workers' compensation, discrimination, and communicating effectively with the boss. Ken O'Shaughnessey from the NH Department of Labor's Wage and Hour Division,

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You Can Join NH COSH Today

Organizational Membership:

\$ 60	1-100 members
\$135	101-500 members
\$250	501-2000 members
\$375	2001 members or more

Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Contact Person: _____

Telephone: _____

Health & Safety Contact: _____

Telephone: _____

E-Mail Address _____

FAX Number: _____

Individual Contribution: \$10.00.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Home Phone: _____

E-mail Address: _____

Mail form and check payable to:

NH COSH

**161 Londonderry Turnpike
 Hooksett, NH 03106-1938**

***NH COSH is a 501(c)(3) organization under the U.S. Tax Code. Contributions to NH COSH are tax deductible to the fullest extent allowed.*

NH COSH EXECUTIVE BOARD AND STAFF

OFFICERS: *Chair:* Louise Anne Hannan, SEIU 1984; *Vice Chair:* Alfred P. Bouchard, Working America, NAMI; *Secretary:* Steve O'Connor, IBEW 2320; *Treasurer:* Dennis Martino, AFM 374
AT-LARGE BOARD MEMBERS: Eva Castillo, Working America; David C. May, Working America; Karla R. Armenti, ScD.
NH AFL-CIO: Mark MacKenzie, President; Bill Demotta, IBEW 1837; Elizabeth Skidmore, Carpenters Local 118
NH COSH STAFF: *Director:* Brian Mitchell; *Program Coordinator:* Sandra V. Chabot; *TNEC Adjunct Trainer:* Mike Fitts; *Adult Education Trainer:* Judith Elliott
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 TNEC/UMass Lowell This work is partially supported under NIEHS grant number: 2 U45 ES006172-19, OSHA, NH Department of Education, Endowment for Health.



Need Specialized Training Onsite?

The New England Consortium (TNEC) at the University of Massachusetts/Lowell provides specialized training through a grant from the National Institute of Environmental Health and Safety (NIEHS). TNEC is a New England regional partnership between the UMass/Lowell and the OSHA Susan B. Harwood training awardees: Western MassCOSH, MassCOSH, RICOSH, CTCOSH, and NH COSH. TNEC is also collaborates with the OSHA New England Training Institute Education Center at Keene State, New Hampshire.

Check the TNEC website www.uml.edu/tnec for more information about Hazardous Waste, Emergency Response, Emergency Preparedness, OSHA Construction, Industrial Ammonia, and refresher training dates and times. *Specialized onsite contract course can be specifically designed for any facility.*

TNEC; UMass/Lowell; 1 University Avenue, Lowell MA 01854; 978-934-3257 • tnec@uml.edu.

NH COSH Looking for Safety & Health Contract Language

Brian Mitchell, NH COSH's director, is collecting union safety and health contract language for a resource data bank through NH COSH. The information bank would be made available as a resource for all New Hampshire union locals struggling with negotiations. NH COSH is also receiving input from sister COSH groups across the nation in this endeavor and is looking to eventually have the resources on our website. For more information on this project contact Brian at 603-232-4406.

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presented wage and hour information covering: pay for hours worked, overtime, deductions, and other benefits. Attorney Terrence Daley spoke on Workers' Compensation, What is it? Who Qualifies? How do I get it?

On the third evening there was a pot-luck supper where everyone including students brought in food to share. It was a great time to get to know the individuals, to hear their stories, and to share some food before finishing up with a presentation on strategies for communicating effectively with one's boss.

The Workers' Rights Network is a coalition of non-governmental, non-profit advocacy organizations, which have been meeting, planning and developing its outreach in the immigrant communities over the last three years. Their mission is to protect and improve the working conditions for all New Hampshire workers through education, advocacy, and organizing for workers rights. The Workers' Rights Network currently focuses its training and advocacy work in the greater Manchester area. The network's partners are: the American Friends Service Committee, Carpenters Local #118, Granite State Organizing Project, Neighbor Works® Greater Manchester, New American Africans, New Hampshire AFL-CIO, New Hampshire Alliance for Immigrants and Refugees, and New Hampshire Coalition for Occupational Safety & Health.

*Season's Greetings and a Safe and Healthy
New Year from the staff and Executive Board of
NH COSH.*