

Speaker Biographies



Adele L. Abrams, Esq., CMSP Adele L. Abrams is an attorney and Certified Mine Safety Professional who is president of the Law Office of Adele L. Abrams P.C., a multi-attorney firm with offices in Beltsville, MD, Denver, CO, and Charleston, WV. The firm represents employers in OSHA and MSHA litigation nationwide, and Adele and her colleagues also provide employment and safety law consultation, audits, industrial hygiene assistance, and training services. Adele is a member of multiple federal and state courts, including the United States Supreme Court. She is a graduate of the George Washington University's National Law Center (JD degree), and earned her B.S. in Journalism from the University of Maryland, College Park. She has been an ASSP SPY award recipient at the practice specialty, chapter, and regional level multiple times. Adele is also an active member of the National Safety Council, where she was awarded the Distinguished Service to Safety Award (DSSA) in 2017.



Chris Allen Chris Allen is a Sales Coordinator with Belt Conveyor Guarding, an organization that specializes in customized design and manufacture of safety guarding solutions for rotating equipment and belt conveyors. Chris has extensive expertise directly related to workplace safety, equipment guarding, project management, and safety guarding risk assessments. She regularly represents Belt Conveyor Guarding at trade shows and seminars throughout North America and directly assists companies in preventing workplace injuries.

Speaker Biographies



Kevin Averette, Application Specialist and Technical Resources Leader at Air Power Inc.... Bio pending



Amanda S. Azman Dr. Amanda Azman is a research audiologist with the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health. Her work, within the Pittsburgh Mining Division Workplace Health Branch, is currently focused on evaluating and improving existing hearing conservation programs in mining. She has worked directly with miners, mine management, and manufacturers of mining equipment, on various noise issues as well as strategies for decreasing worker occupational noise exposure and subsequent hearing loss. She also manages the NIOSH hearing loss prevention mobile audiometric test trailer. The trailer is driven to various mines and customer outreach events to provide free hearing tests, general hearing loss prevention information, and guidance on selection and use of hearing protectors. Dr. Azman has worked for NIOSH since 2007, enjoying hearing loss prevention research and especially working with miners at their jobsites.

Speaker Biographies



SUSAN BARGE Susan began her law enforcement career in 1998, serving three years with the Key West Police Department in the patrol division and presently serves as State Trooper with the Florida Highway Patrol. She is a Senior Traffic Homicide Investigator and a Drug Recognition Expert (DRE) currently assigned to the Florida Highway Patrol Academy. Susan is also the Assistant DRE Coordinator for the Breath Testing Courses, Agency Inspector Courses, SPST and ARIDE Courses. She is an instructor for the DUI Basic Recruit Curriculum and DUI Standardized Field Sobriety Tests at the Florida Highway Patrol Academy in Havana Florida. She is an adjunct instructor for Broward College teaching the Advanced Traffic Homicide Courses and DUI Courses. She is also adjunct instructor for the Florida Public Safety Institute and the College of Central Florida Criminal Justice Institute teaching the DUI and DRE courses. She has also taught numerous county and municipalities in DUI/DRE and Crash Investigations. She is a member of the Impaired Driving Education and Victim Services, the Florida Impaired Driving Coalition and the Institute for Behavior and Health Drugged Driving Committee. She has conducted DUI presentations for the Florida Medical Examiners Association, the Society of Forensic Toxicology and the DUI Adjudication Lab for County and Circuit Court Judges and training on the Intoxilyzer 8000 for the Appellate Court Judges. She has also been a guest speaker at the Criminology and Law Honors Society at the University of Florida and University of North Florida. She has given Expert Witness Testimony to the Horizontal and vertical Gaze Nystagmus. Susan Barge has done numerous demonstrations to high school students and college students on impairment and the effects it causes from Driving Under the Influence.



Ed Barnett Ed Barnett is a Mining Professional with over 30 years' experience in Surface Coal Mining and Limestone rock mining. He has held numerous positions to include; Electrician, Electrical Supervisor, Maintenance Supervisor, Maintenance Manager, Facilities Manager, along with Safety Supervisor. Ed is a certified MSHA Instructor, Certified Surface

Speaker Biographies

Forman, Electrical Instructor both Surface and Underground. Ed's current position as Training Manager for North American Coal allows him to travel to all locations and present Safety and Leadership classes. Currently Ed lives with his wife, of almost 40 years in Frisco Tx, and visits his daughters in California and North Dakota, along with two grandchildren.



Jeremy Bethancourt Jeremy is Program Director of ACTA Safety and Safety Director at LeBlanc Building Co, LLC. The mission of ACTA Safety is to provide, in collaboration with our many partners, worksite safety and health safety oversight, training, and education. Among some of the reasons ACTA Safety was created was to fill a recognized industry void for quality fall protection expertise and training in the light commercial and residential building industries. Through worker safety education & training our Nations workers can be assured of a safe work place free from recognized hazards likely to cause serious injury. Jeremy's specialties include: Safety in Commercial /Residential Construction, Construction Safety, Fall Protection Innovation, Industrial Hygiene, Safety Management Systems, Principles of Occupational Safety & Health, Effective Safety Training Methods, OSHA Partnership and Cooperative Programs, Wood Frame Structural Evaluation & Testing for the use of Fall Protection Systems Temporary Workers, Women in Construction, Health Issues in Construction, Work Place Safety Culture and Safety Climate, Societal Interaction with Changing Environment, Management of Change, Multi Employer worksite interaction.

Speaker Biographies

No picture

Jeff Choate Jeff Choate is a Project Engineer with Pine Bluff Sand & Gravel Co. and has worked with them in the mining and construction industries for the last 5 years. He has a degree in Civil and Construction Engineering from the University of Arkansas, Little Rock and is currently licensed as an FAA Part 107 Remote Pilot. Projects Jeff has worked on involve inventory management, mine planning, pit development, and site preparation and layout.

No picture

Tony Cinkovich Tony is currently employed by Pine Bluff Sand and Gravel and has been employed in the mining industry for nearly 30 years, primarily at limestone quarry operations. He has a degree in Electronics Technology from Southern Illinois University as well as being an MSHA Qualified Electrician. Throughout Tony's career, he has had held a variety of positions including District Electrician, Maintenance Manager, District Engineer, and Sr. Project Manager (current). Tony's responsibilities include or have included electrical/automation management, plant and mobile equipment maintenance, inventory management, mine planning, and project management.

Speaker Biographies



Eric Dusenbery Eric Dusenbery (B.A. Cinema & Photography, Southern Illinois University) is a photographer, an award-winning journalist and the author/photographer of two books. He utilizes the power of the still photograph, and frequently uses the traditions of the large-format film camera for editorial assignments, documentary, creative place-making [exhibits and workshops] and commissioned projects. His work has appeared in numerous national publications and exhibits, and he is the recipient of several national awards. Eric is also passionate about using unconventional thinking, curiosity and photography to tell stories about a variety of social and cultural issues. Eric speaks on the power of curiosity and inspires audiences to find new ways to connect and stand out. Whether maneuvering among the rafters in a historic clock tower or crouched in a cooler on a shrimp boat, Eric's photographic escapades and stories make us eager to begin living a life of curiosity.



Manley Feinberg Manley is recognized as an award winning international keynote speaker and business leader, author, published outdoor adventure photographer and professional musician. He served two terms as the President of the National Speakers Association, St. Louis chapter. Leveraging more than twenty years of business, professional speaking and adventure experience, he helps professionals breakthrough mindsets to step up and reach their next summit. As a result of his work, people have more focus, courage, commitment and momentum. In fact he wrote a book titled, *Reaching Your Next Summit! 9 Vertical Lessons to Lead with More Impact*. During Manley's eleven years with Build-A-Bear Workshop, his leadership direction helped take the revolutionary retail concept from 40 stores to over 400 worldwide, realizing revenue growth from 55 million to over 474 million, and a successful IPO on the NYSE. He built an award winning reputation for implementing business solutions and support that produced measurable results every day. Manley's leadership influence contributed to a workplace culture that landed Build-A-Bear on the FORTUNE 100 Best Companies to Work For® List four years in a row. Through custom developed programs and support ranging from 60 minutes to 12 months, he will leave you with many actionable techniques, frameworks, and insights. Most importantly, he can engage your organization in a way that sustains true results that last well beyond the presentation, and ultimately affect long term change. Manley's inspirational keynotes are brought to life through his national geographic photography and riveting stories

Speaker Biographies

culminating from a lifetime of adventure through 25 countries, to over 400 outdoor destinations. Manley vividly shares compelling lessons from his adventure and leadership experiences in a way that allows you to relate to your mountains.



David Goldsmith, MSPH, PhD Dr. Goldsmith is an expert on environmental health, with a particular interest in fracking, silica, silicosis and cancer risks; respiratory illnesses and exposure to paints and welding fumes; and the chronic health effects, including cancer, associated with pesticide exposure. Other areas of expertise include the legal aspects of occupational and environmental health research, and chronic illness and agriculture. Dr. Goldsmith has also worked with Native American communities on the issue of the health risks of repatriating sacred artifacts that have been treated with pesticides and other chemical preservatives. Dr. Goldsmith has organized three international symposia on silica, silicosis and cancer, and other chronic diseases. He was a consultant to the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) as it revised the U.S. national silica dust standard, and in 2014 testified at hearings focusing on the impacts of OSHA's new silica regulation. He has been a consultant to the Washington DC Departments of Health and Environmental. From 2009 to 2011 Dr. Goldsmith was detailed to the Veterans Administration via an Intergovernmental Personnel Act (IPA) Exchange. In 2014 Dr. Goldsmith was Fulbright Visiting Research Chair in Science, Technology, Engineering or Math, Department of Community Health Sciences, University of Manitoba, Faculty of Medicine, Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada.

Speaker Biographies



Angelica Grindle, Ph.D., President, Quality Safety Edge

Angelica C. Grindle, Ph.D. is President of Quality Safety Edge. Dr. Grindle has successfully designed, implemented, and evaluated behavioral and process improvement systems in a wide variety of organizational settings. As a Ph.D. level behavior analyst, Dr. Grindle specializes in the application of behavioral science technology to improving workplace safety and other key organizational objectives. She focuses on ensuring strategic initiatives align with key processes, are customized to work with unique organizational needs, and are supported by key stakeholders. Dr. Grindle has numerous publications and is a contributor to the book *The Values-Based Safety Process: Improving Your Safety Culture with Behavior-Based Safety* by Terry McSween, founder of QSE. Angelica is a coordinator for the Behavioral Safety Now conference.



Emily Haas , Ph.D. Dr. Haas is a Senior Research Behavioral Scientist on the Human Factors Branch at the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) Pittsburgh Mining Research Division (PMRD) located in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. Dr. Haas studies issues related to risk assessment and health and safety management in the mining industry. Leading research efforts with mine workers and management across mines of various commodities, she has helped facilitate safer work behaviors and reduce barriers to sustaining those behaviors by helping to measure and improve aspects of safety climate in the industry. Her research also studies risk by way of integrating work practices around mine technologies including proximity detection systems, Helmet-CAM assessment technology, and continuous personal dust monitors. Dr. Haas has more than 50 papers published in public health, occupational safety, and mining journals. Emily has a PhD in Health Communication from Purdue University, Indiana, and an MA/BA from the University of Dayton, Ohio.

Speaker Biographies



Sarah Haydon Sarah Haydon was born and raised in Kentucky and currently lives in Lexington KY. She has 3 grown children with one precious grandson. She was a PE teacher for 17 years. Her passion lies in making a positive difference in people's lives. She started her business, Health Connection, LLC in 2004. It is a Woman Owned, DBE Certified Company that has prided it's growth and achievement by focusing on team work, building close relationships with the companies we serve, and ensuring that all individuals we train have the knowledge and tools to create the safest work environment possible



Mike Hourigan Mike Hourigan is a refreshingly unique keynote speaker, change management speaker and author who empowers the country's top companies to navigate constant change with real-world wisdom. A veteran leadership consultant and productivity expert, Mike is consistently sought after and hired by the top companies in the U.S., including McDonald's, Harley-Davidson, Disney, GE, Marriott, ExxonMobil and Kaiser Permanente. Decades of corporate experience have allowed Mike to develop a completely fresh approach to team building, sales management, and customer service training. With a style that engages listeners in a way that's meaningful to them and their company culture, Mike rarely gives his audiences a moment between laughs. A former member of the management teams of Cargill Inc. and Olympus Corporation, Mike has offered over 1,200 audiences-and-counting the benefit of his real-world corporate experience. A seasoned author and co-author, his books include *Riding the Waves without Getting Wet: A Journey to Leadership* and *Motivational Selling*. As one of the top keynote speakers in the United States, Mike has developed a comprehensive roster of speeches that address the key issues that affect companies most. From the growing need for soft skills training and interpersonal communications, to the subtle nuances of conducting business in a global

Speaker Biographies

economy, Mike Hourigan continues to lead the industry in dynamic presentations that direct executives and entire companies toward real, lasting change.



ROBERT IFFT, District Captain, Florida Highway Patrol, Robert Ifft is a 23 veteran of the Florida Highway Patrol, currently serving as the District Captain in the Panama City District in Troop A with the Florida Highway Patrol. He has served as a road Trooper, Traffic Homicide Investigator and Field Sergeant. He has served in a management capacity within the Bureau of Investigations, The Policy and Accreditation unit, The Training Academy, and Field Operations. He currently serves as the District Commander for Bay, Gulf, Calhoun, Washington, Jackson and Holmes County. He has a Bachelor of the Arts degree in Criminal Justice from the University of West Florida. He is a graduate of the Florida Department of Law Enforcement Senior Leadership Program and a graduate of the Leadership Development Institute within the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles. He holds instructor certifications in General Instructor Techniques, First Aid, Firearms, Taser, and DUI instructor.

Speaker Biographies



Ed Jarmin Ed Jarmin has been in the industrial construction field for the last 29 years. Ed has served in many roles during his career and is currently one of the Vice Presidents at Liberty Industrial Group. Liberty Industrial is a company that has taken the steps to introduce innovation to their safety program. Ed has attended many courses at Villanova University and holds a master's certificate in Project Management as well as being a PMP through the Project Management Institute. Ed Jarmin is a licensed contractor in 8 states throughout the Southeast.



Karen Johnston Karen L. Johnston is a Member of Jackson Kelly PLLC, resident in the Denver office. She handles all aspects of the defense of safety and health cases involving both MSHA-regulated and OSHA-regulated facilities as part of the firm's nationwide workplace safety and health practice group. She counsels mine operators and general industry employers with respect to prevention and avoidance of liability under the Occupational Safety and Health Act and the Federal Mine Safety and Health Act, as well as the Safe Explosives Act. She also handles all aspects of the defense of enforcement actions arising under those statutes, including both administrative and civil litigation. She conducts seminars and training sessions on enforcement and discrimination topics under various state and federal safety and health statutes.

Speaker Biographies



Margo Lopez Margo Lopez is the Co-Leader of the Mine Safety and Health Practice and Managing Shareholder of the Washington, D.C. office of Ogletree Deakins. For over 20 years, she has been representing companies nationwide in all segments of the mining industry in cases contesting citations under the Federal Mine Safety and Health Act and has argued precedential mine safety cases before U.S. Courts of Appeals. She helps mining companies navigate complex accident investigations, special investigations and safety discrimination cases. She also advises companies concerning regulatory compliance and provides training on safety and health law. Margo Lopez is a frequent speaker and author on mine safety and health topics. She is a co-author of the Occupational Safety and Health Law Handbook and co-writes a monthly column for Pit & Quarry magazine. Margaret S. Lopez, Ogletree Deakins, 1909 K Street, N.W. Suite 1000, Washington, D.C., 20006, 202-263-0244, Margaret.Lopez@ogletree.com



Jason McKinney Jason McKinney is the Southeastern Regional Account Manager for SafeRack Loading Technologies. Jason has over 20 years of experience in commercial and industrial project management. He studied electrical engineering and construction management. Jason has been with SafeRack for 8 years beginning as Production Supervisor and now a Regional Account Manager for the SE. Prior to SafeRack, Jason was a contractor that managed the installation of safety guardrails on commercial projects ranging from 15M to 250M across North America. Jason resides in Cropwell, AL with his wife Mary Page and their two children Sophia and Bryant. An avid outdoorsman, he spends most of his free time somewhere on, around, or near the lake with family and friends.

Speaker Biographies



Bryan Moore Bryan Moore is a graduate of North Carolina State University where he received a B.S. in Agronomy. He began his career in State government with the NC DOT and the NC DENR in the environmental field before moving into safety and health with the NC DOL, Mine and Quarry Bureau for 3 years. He then joined Vulcan Materials as a Safety & Health Representative. Bryan is currently the Safety and Health Manager for Vulcan's Mideast Division in North Carolina and has been with Vulcan for 18 years. His position concentrates on all aspects of employee safety and health which includes MSHA compliance, training and industrial hygiene. Bryan also serves as committee chair for the NC Aggregates Association safety committee.



Jason Nutzman Jason M. Nutzman is a Partner and member of the Labor & Employment Department and Workplace Safety Practice Group. Jason represents both coal and metal/non-metal clients before the Federal Mine Safety and Health Review Commission in accident investigations, special investigations, and discrimination investigations conducted by the Department of Labor with respect to the Mine Safety and Health Act.

Speaker Biographies



Sam Pierce Prior to joining MSHA, Sam spent 28 years in the mining industry in limestone quarrying, sand and gravel operations and mineral processing of iron ore and coal slag. He began his mining career as a laborer, following in the footsteps of his grandfather, and worked his way up to management level positions. Sam began his career with MSHA in 2001 as an inspector later holding key management positions for the District including Special Investigator, Supervisor for Special Investigations, and Staff Assistant to the District Manager. In 2011 he was promoted to the position of Assistant District Manager. As District Manager, the Birmingham District has enforcement authority over 1000 plus mine operations. To accomplish this task Sam directs over 80 MSHA employees including a staff of inspectors, supervisors, specialists, litigation representatives, and assistants



Mark Savit A member of Husch Blackwell's Energy & Natural Resources group, Mark counsels clients in government investigations and regulatory matters and litigates improper enforcement actions and whistleblower cases. He has extensive experience in mining and oil and gas; health, safety and environmental law; industrial disaster response; and regulatory and legislative services. Mark began his career at the U.S. Department of the Interior, where he headed the special investigation unit of the Mining Enforcement and Safety Administration.

Speaker Biographies



Nick Scala Nick Scala is a Partner at Conn Maciel Carey LLP and Chair of the firm’s national MSHA • Workplace Safety Practice Group, where he defends mine operators and contractors in the full range of litigation against MSHA, from informal and formal contest of citations/orders to hearings before the Federal Mine Safety and Health Review Commission. Nick also conducts on-site incident, agent liability, or discrimination investigation management for clients. He advises clients in developing corporate safety and health policies in the construction and mining industries and administering third party safety and health audits. Prior to practicing law, Nick worked as a miner and construction laborer, and he is Certified Mine Safety Professional.



Joe Shoemaker Joe brings a wide range of experience in the mining/manufacturing industry as a result of his extensive background with Komatsu America Corporation. He began his career as an Application Engineer and subsequently worked his way up in the Komatsu organization holding positions of increasing responsibility within Product Marketing, Global Accounts, and Parts. Joe is currently Sr. Product Manager for the Large Mining Truck Division. He holds a BS degree in Mining Engineering from the Colorado School of Mines.

Speaker Biographies



Patricia Silvey Patricia W. Silvey is the Deputy Assistant Secretary for Operations, Mine Safety and Health Administration. She was appointed to the position in December 2010. Previously, Mrs. Silvey served as the Director of Standards, Regulations and Variances for MSHA. Before that, Mrs. Silvey served as the Deputy Administrator for Metal and Nonmetal Mine Safety and Health, and on an Intergovernmental Personnel Act assignment to the National Safety Council. In October 1998, she held the position of Director, Office of Administration and Management. In July 1983, she was appointed to the Senior Executive Service as Director of Standards. In early 1978, she played an integral role in the transition of MSHA from the Department of the Interior to the Department of Labor and the establishment of the Office of Standards. Mrs. Silvey earned her B.S. degree from Tuskegee Institute; M.A. degree from the University of Alabama; and J.D. degree from Georgetown University Law Center. She is a member of the District of Columbia Bar. Mrs. Silvey is married to Donald K. Silvey and they have three sons.



Walter Simpson Walter Simpson is the Manager of Safety, Training, and Professional Development for The North American Coal Corporation in their corporate office in Dallas, TX. With a solid background in organizational leadership, Walter has focused his career the development and training of safety initiatives. He is skilled in design and implementation of: 1) Human Resources policy and procedures; 2) behavioral safety initiatives; 3) site specific and company-wide leadership development; and 4) effective communications. He received his undergraduate degree from Troy University in Alabama and his Master's in Psychology from Walden University in Minnesota. He holds certifications from the Society for Human Resources Management and the International Society of Mine Safety Professionals.

Speaker Biographies



J. B. Smith J.B. was continuously elected sheriff of Smith County Texas from 1976 to 2012 making him one of the longest serving sheriffs in Texas history. He was elected by his peers to serve as President of the Sheriffs Association of Texas 2002-2003. He managed a department of 350 personnel and over 1000 prisoners. He is a graduate of The University of Texas at Tyler with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Criminal Justice. He is also a graduate of the National FBI Academy. As sheriff for over 3 decades he was responsible for the investigation of 146 murder cases, hundreds of sexual assaults, child molestations, aggravated assaults and countless burglaries and thefts. When you add numerous family violence cases involving children it can cause depression in the strongest of men including him. To compensate for the everyday trauma the sheriff started looking for positive things that produced humor. That attitude adjustment evolved over 20 years into a "Laughter is Lawful" program that has been presented hundreds of times from New York to L.A. As a Vietnam veteran and sought after humorous speaker the sheriff was contracted in 2011 by the Dept. of Defense to be the keynote speaker for Navy Seals returning from war zones. This expanded into programs for Marine Special Forces as well. These programs spanned four years and is one of the highlights of his speaking career. He has authored two true crime books. "The Christmas Day Murders: and "The Unholy Ghost Murders". Murder cases taken from the many he was responsible for working. Along with his books he has received two Emmy's for his TV production on Texas Heritage. As a licensed Texas auctioneer he holds numerous auctions for various non-profit organizations. His motto "Blessed are they that laugh at themselves for they shall never cease to be amused."



Albert Tien, PhD Albert J. Tien, PhD – President (2 year term Nov. 2017-19) – Workplace Health Without Borders - US

Speaker Biographies

After completing his doctoral studies in microbial physiology of pollutant degrading communities at the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology in Zurich, Albert completed his post-doctoral training in environmental biotechnology for the Oakridge Institute for Science and Engineering and later worked in Poland as a project coordinator for the US Dept. of Energy (DOE) and the Polish Institute for Industrial Ecology (IETU) Environmental Technology Transfer Program (JCCES). He worked as a Senior Scientist for Environmental Biotechnology at the Savannah River Technology Center developing remediation technologies for mixed hazardous wastes within the DOE complex and has been active promoting industrial ecology and developing business risk management strategies and tools while working for Holcim Ltd in Switzerland. There he established corporate wide risk-based exposure guidelines for the safe use of alternative fuels and raw materials in the manufacture of cementitious materials and has worked with industry, unions and regulatory agencies to build awareness and protect worker health from mineral dusts and fibers. He worked as VP for Sustainable Development with Essroc, Italcementi Group to promote EHS, improve stakeholder relations and regulatory compliance. He has also served as an EHS and Sustainability specialist for the World Business Council for Sustainable Development Cement Sustainability Initiative (WBCSD CSI), European Cement Association (Cembureau), Portland Cement Association (PCA) and has served as the Chair of the Medical Advisory Committee in Calabar, Nigeria. He chaired the Scientific Information Exchange Forum (SIEF) for Portland Cement Flue Dust in compliance with the European Union's Registration, Evaluation, Assessment of Chemicals (REACH) legislation and supervised toxicological assessment studies. He is currently a sustainable development consultant and serves as a township zoning commissioner as well as president of WHWB-US



Erik Therwanger Erik is the founder of Think GREAT and draws from his experiences as a U.S. Marine, executive business leader, sales professional, and entrepreneur to help organizations achieve new levels of success. He uniquely combines leadership development, team building, sales training, and goal-setting into strategies and techniques that empower employees, sales teams, leaders, and business owners to exceed expectations. His presentations have been requested from businesses such as US Bank, Sam's Club, Hubbard Broadcasting, Thomson Reuters, U.S. Foods, LeJeune Steel, Morrie's Automotive, branches of the armed services ranging from the Air National Guard to the U.S. Marine Corps, and charity organizations like The American

Speaker Biographies

Cancer Society. Known for his dynamic TEDx Talk "Millennials are NOT Your Leadership Challenge", he addresses the perceived challenges of the generation gaps. You can watch his video here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YXvbFIXJo90>. Erik is the author of *The Think GREAT Collection* and shares the successful, proven concepts in his six books to give individuals and organizations the competitive edge needed for achieving new levels of success. As a speaker and coach, Erik's interactive and entertaining style empowers audiences to connect and relate as he shows them how to open new doors to success in their personal and professional lives. More than just a presenter, with a lasting message of inspiration, he also empowers audiences as he describes his life-changing experience of being his wife's caregiver, during her four bouts with cancer and cardiac arrest.



Terry L. Tyson Terry Tyson has been an award-winning safety professional for over 35 years, all within the mining and construction materials industries. He has also been a respected and published mentalist for almost just as long. In addition to being a sought after speaker at industry conferences throughout the country, his corporate and private party mentalism entertainment engagements have taken him across the world on cruise ships, cafes and clubs. By combining his expertise and experience in the safety field with his understanding and insights as to how people think his presentations, training and workshops take on special significance, attendee participation and a uniqueness rarely found. Terry is the proud recipient of the NSSGA's James Christie Safety Professional of the Year award, a published author, poet and photographer, an avid hiker and climber and will be teaching this fall at the Academy of Magic in London, England. When it comes to his mentalism-mind reading skills, Terry says, "Be careful of what you're thinking, you never know who's listening!" Terry Tyson represents Insight Services and Presentations, providing safety-based training and workshops, keynote addresses and consulting services. When he's not doing that, he can perform magic and read your mind. Email: terry@ttysoninsight.com; www.ttysoninsight.com; (619)743-5755

Speaker Biographies



Cheyenne Wohlford Cheyenne is the CEO of CCS Group LLC, a nationwide concrete storage structure maintenance and repair company. Upon his education from the ACI - American Concrete Institute in Structural repair for concrete using various methods, Cheyenne applied his knowledge towards repairing concrete storage structures in various industries. In 2009, he founded CCS Group to extend his expertise to the field as well as provide the industry with a professional, safe, and technologically advanced contractor option. CCS Group repairs facilities for a variety of organizations all over the United States as well as international conglomerates.

Cheyenne is a member of the American Shotcrete Association (ASA), the American Concrete Institute (ACI) and many other industry-related organizations.



Arthur Wolfson Arthur Wolfson is an attorney in the Pittsburgh office of Fisher & Phillips LLP, practicing in the Workplace Safety and Catastrophe Management Practice Group. He represents mining and industrial clients in regulatory compliance involving MSHA, OSHA and other federal and state agencies. Mr. Wolfson defends operators before administrative tribunals such as the Federal Mine Safety and Health Review Commission, Occupational Safety and Health Review Commission and Circuit Courts of Appeal. He also counsels clients through accident investigations. As a former teacher, a substantial portion of Mr. Wolfson's practice involves compliance counseling and training to help clients better understand their legal requirements. Mr. Wolfson earned his undergraduate degree at the College of William & Mary and his law degree at the University of Pittsburgh School of Law. Prior to entering private practice, Mr. Wolfson worked for the United States Department of Labor.

Speaker Biographies



Joe Ysasi Joe Ysasi is the Strategic Market Manager at HexArmor with nearly 15 years of global mining experience that includes travels in the U.S., Canada, Australia, Latin America, Europe, Far East, Middle East, and Russia. His passion is helping find solutions to keep people safe and striving to solve the most challenging hazards that face the industry. Joe speaks several languages and is a Qualified Safety Sales Professional (QSSP) & OSHA 30 certified. He has received his B.B.A. from Grand Valley State University, and M.B.A from the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa. Joe currently lives in Michigan with his wife and four children.



David G. Zatezalo President Donald J. Trump nominated David G. Zatezalo to be the 9th Assistant Secretary for Mine Safety and Health. He was sworn in on November 30, 2017. Assistant Secretary Zatezalo is a native of West Virginia and has spent a lifetime working in mining. He began his career as a union miner and since then has held positions at a number of companies as shift foreman, engineering superintendent, mine manager, vice president of operations and chief executive officer. Assistant Secretary Zatezalo has worked in mining all across the U.S. and internationally in Australia. Assistant Secretary Zatezalo has a degree in mining engineering from West Virginia University and is a registered professional engineer in Ohio and West Virginia. He also has an MBA from Ohio University. He is the past chairman of the Kentucky Coal Association and the Ohio Coal Association. He's also been a member of the Mine Rescue Veterans of the Pittsburgh District.

Speaker Biographies