



OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH

Monthly Newsletter August 2003

◆ **NASA Occupational Health Conference:** Thanks to all of you who attended the San Diego Occupational Health Conference. It was a tremendous success! We are already busy planning next year's annual OH meeting that will be held in Williamsburg, Virginia from June 21-25 at the Hospitality House.

<http://www.williamsburghospouse.com/>



◆ **AAOHN News:** The revised AAOHN Competencies for Occupational and Environmental Health Nursing was accepted and approved by the Board of Directors in May 2003. The July 2003 issue of the AAOHN Journal Vol. 51, number 7, includes this document. The AAOHN has developed nine categories of competency with three levels of achievement (competent, proficient and expert) within each category.

◆ **Upcoming ViTS:** 1) Frank Rutkowski from the Mayo Clinic Health Management Resources will be presenting on 9/15/2003 at our *NASA Health Promotion and Wellness Team ViTS*. 2) *Emerging Trends in Occupational Health* will be presented by Annette Haag on the 9/22/03 Nursing ViTS. The latest edition of the manual and accompanying CDs on the COHN Preparation Course should be shipped to our office by mid September. As soon as they are received, we will send each center their copy. 3) During the September 12th EH ViTS there will be presentations by representatives of *Chemwatch* and *Micromedix Tomes*. Both are online paid subscription hazardous substance information sources and both are accessible to any NASA center employee courtesy of OCHMO.

<http://ohp.ksc.nasa.gov/resources/index.html>

◆ **Final 2003 Dallas AIHCE Electronic Proceedings:** Frequently there are presentations from the conference that you would like to have once you return to your office. AIHA makes many of these presentations available <http://www.aiha.org/aihce03/handouts.htm>. Information posted here has been provided to AIHA by session presenters. Additional listings will be included as materials and release forms are received from speakers.

◆ **Diet and Breast Cancer:** According to the WHO, more than 1.2 million people will be diagnosed with breast cancer this year, 40,000 will die this year. The study of more than 90,000 women aged 26 to 46 was taken from the Nurses' Health Study. That data was analyzed by tracking the women's health over the eight years of the study. 714 women developed invasive breast cancer. The study provides yet another incentive for women to shun fatty foods and consume fresh fruits, vegetables and whole grains. The study was unique because it included women who had not reached menopause indicating that factors early in a woman's life may be important.

◆ **ABIH/CIH News:** For anyone planning on taking the CIH exam after 2003 the ABIH website is currently indicating that ABIH is planning to offer examinations by computer at various locations beginning in 2004. Exams are NOT planned for the 2004 AIHCE in Atlanta.

◆ **NASA EH Professional News:** NASA Glenn Research Center Environmental Health Manager *Mike Blotzer*, CIH, has recently been elected to serve as Member-at-Large to the Board of Directors of the American Conference of Governmental Industrial Hygienists (ACGIH). This is a great honor for Mike and we congratulate him on this appointment. Mike is also known throughout the professional IH community as being an expert with computer use in the Industrial Hygiene field. He is author of the book *Internet User's Guide for Safety and Health Professional*.

◆ **OH EAP Educational Resource:** A four hour video of *Critical Incident Stress Management* training is available by contacting Stephanie Odom, at 321-867-9185.

◆ **EAP Employee Recognition:** *Jackie Reese*, Employee Assistance Director at JSC, received a Silver Snoopy Award on August 21st for her outstanding work at Johnson Space Center during 2002. The Silver Snoopy was presented by astronaut Terry W. Virts, Jr.

◆ **OH NASA Center Evaluation Calendar:**

- Wallops Flight Facility – September 9-11

◆ **Upcoming Occupational Health ViTS:**

- Health Physics ViTS – September 5th, 1:30-2:30 EST
- EH ViTS – September 12th, 2:00-3:00 EST
- Health Promotion ViTS – September 15, 3:30-5:00 EST
- Nursing ViTS – September 22, 3:00-5:00 EST

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