

# Iowa Division of Labor

## Iowa Workforce Development

Richard V. Running, Director

Thomas J. Vilsack, Governor

David Neil, Commissioner

### *Message from Labor Commissioner Dave Neil.....*

OSHA Enforcement inspectors had great training opportunities this past quarter. Individuals with the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees (AFSCME) from Washington DC, John Bonnaage a health and safety specialist and Denise Bland-Bowles an industrial hygienist, traveled to Des Moines to share their knowledge of blood borne pathogens and mold with IOSH field staff in late February. Steve Theis and Paul Linn of L. E. Myers, the worlds largest power transmission contractor company, came to Des Moines for a ½ day seminar to share with IOSHA inspectors the hazards and intricacies of their business. We thank these individuals for sharing their vast knowledge on these issues.

Saturday, February 25, Deputy Labor Commissioner Steve Slater, IOSHA Consultant Margaret Meade, Administrative Assistant Marilee Mitchell and I attended Peterson Contractors, Inc. (PCI) of Reinbeck employee safety meeting at Hawkeye Community College in Waterloo. We recognized their achievement of 1,250,000 hours worked without a lost time accident. PCI also received an award from Master Builders of Iowa (MBI) for their safety program. This recognition was earned through a competitive MBI competition that was judged by Iowa OSHA and MBI personnel.

The State of Iowa Government and Private Industry OSHA recordable cases stand at 6.4 per 100 workers per year, working 2,000 hours. The national average is 6.2 and that coupled with 26 OSHA recordable deaths in 2005 makes the case that we must do more to make Iowa's workplaces safer. We intend to address these issues with more consultation programs where we are invited into a workplace and more inspections by the enforcement division of IOSHA with an emphasis on industries that have high accident rates.

### **NAARSO Training**

During the last week of January, the Amusement Ride Inspectors attended the 19<sup>th</sup> Annual NAARSO training seminar. Nearly 300 industry members attended the event. Iowa was represented by Jim Borwey, Bob Lilland, Fred Madison, Marvin Whitlock, Dean East, Jim Baedke and Matt Mitchell.

This year's seminar included an intense study review as preparation for the certification examination later in the week. Hands on training topics included ride identification, NDT methodology, Roller Coaster ride dynamics, and Inflatable inspection techniques. This seminar provides a chance for Iowa's inspectors to share information with inspectors throughout the country.

The week's highlight allowed seminar participants to engage in a mock accident investigation. This incident scenario depicted a log ride found in many parks across the country. Typical staging for this type of scenario involves elements of documented real life incidents. The attendees are assigned to 12 different groups for a day long ride inspection tour of a local amusement park where the accident scenario is set up. Each group is challenged to discover the root cause of the scenario and make a presentation with supporting documentation and witness statements. The event is thoroughly developed with instructors providing drama to reenact the scenario.

Prior to the onset of the safety seminar a meeting of state chiefs was held. At that meeting Jim Borwey was elected 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President of CARES, (Council for Amusement and Recreation Equipment Safety). This organization is made up of the chief amusement ride inspector of each member state and province and is striving to develop a national registry of amusement rides. This will aid in the identification of problem rides traveling from state to state. It is also proposed to have a nationwide clearing house for accident reporting and a means to share data base information.



*Iowa's Amusement Ride Inspectors*

### **IOSH Consultations & Inspections**

Over the past quarter, 62 companies in 21 Iowa counties received voluntary consultation visits. Additionally, 154 Iowa companies received IOSH inspections this quarter. Inspections took place in the following:

Altoona (4)	Glidden (1)	Ottumwa (2)
Ames (7)	Grinnell (2)	Pella (1)
Ankeny (2)	Guthrie Center (1)	Pleasant Hill (7)
Atlantic (1)	Harlan (1)	Postville (3)
Avoca (1)	Hospers (1)	Red Oak (1)
Bettendorf (2)	Indianola (1)	Riverdale (1)
Britt (1)	Iowa City (1)	Riverside (2)
Cedar Falls (2)	Jewell (1)	Sergeant Bluff (3)
Cedar Rapids (4)	Keokuk (2)	Sheldon (1)
Centerville (1)	Keosauqua (1)	Shenandoah (1)
Clarinda (1)	Lakota (1)	Sioux City (3)
Clear Lake (1)	LeMars (7)	Spencer (2)
Clinton (2)	Manchester (1)	Spirit Lake (4)
Council Bluffs (4)	Marion (1)	Swea City (1)
Davenport (3)	Mason City (1)	Traer (1)
Decorah (1)	Mitchellville (2)	Waterloo (2)
Des Moines (17)	Muscatine (4)	Wayland (1)
Denison (4)	Newton (5)	Weaver (1)
Dubuque (4)	North Liberty (10)	Webster City (1)
Fort Madison (1)	Oskaloosa (2)	West Des Moines (4)
Glenwood (1)		

### **Workers' Memorial Day**

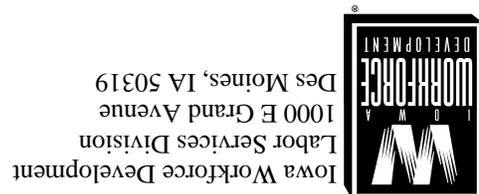
The Iowa Occupational Safety & Health Administration (IOSHA) and the South Central Iowa Federation of Labor, AFL-CIO, will be honoring individuals who lost their lives in Iowa's workplaces in 2005 at a special Workers' Memorial Day ceremony that will be held on Friday, April 28.



*Prior Workers' Memorial Day*

The ceremony will be held on the east lawn of the Iowa Workforce Development Building located at 1000 East Grand Avenue in Des Moines at approximately 11 a.m.

This is a day to reflect on the lives that were lost and to renew our commitment to safe and healthful workplaces for all of Iowa's working men and women.



**Second Injury Fund Collection Totals \$973,000**

The Labor Commissioner is responsible for collecting payments due to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Injury Fund per the Workers' Compensation statute. These funds are collected from workers' compensation cases where a worker dies while at their workplace.

A cross agency team has been working diligently to collect many of the extremely overdue monies to the program. Since May 1, 2005 the team has collected \$973,000 for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Injury Fund. The backlog of cases is at a manageable level and three extremely delinquent cases were turned over to the Attorney General's Office for collection.

Perseverance, hard work, research, organization and a "can" do team attitude from Rosalind Darenbourg, Cheri Downey and Marilee Mitchell produced these astonishing results. Many thanks to these individuals for their efforts.

**Contractor Registration: IT'S THE LAW**

The Contractor Registration Program lies within the Division of Labor Services. This program took on a proactive approach to educate construction contractors about the law. Educational efforts included developing a program brochure and poster, revising forms and the inclusion of the brochure and all new forms on our web site. Additionally, we have begun to update the contractor database.

Contractor Registration brochures were distributed throughout the state to: City Clerks, Chambers of Commerce, Hardware Stores/Lumberyards, Independent Insurance Agents and major building associations. Another large mailing of the brochure and application forms was sent to unregistered contractors. We also distributed brochures at several trade shows in the Des Moines area.

Our educational outreach this past quarter, resulted in 1,300+ new registrations, with more arriving daily.

**Iowa Workforce Development extends our condolences to the families of...**

- Larry George, 64, caught in the rotating driveshaft of a truck while performing maintenance in Altoona
- David Racobs, 53, struck by debris after a boiler return pump exploded in Sergeant Bluff
- Annamarie Rittman, 46, struck by a pickup truck while walking into work in Altoona
- Edward King, 43, fell while loading a rail car in Glidden
- Dennis Creighton, 46, crushed when the truck he was working on rolled backwards in Grimes

**Iowa's Voluntary Protection Program (VPP)**

Congratulations to our Newest VPP STAR Sites:

- PETROCHEM INSULATION, INC. - Resident Contractor
- MONSANTO – Muscatine, VPP STAR Site

**VPP TEAM NEWS...**

TURBINE FUEL TECHNOLOGIES' Research & Development Lab in West Des Moines held their special celebration February 15 at the Community Center in West Des Moines. Worldport, an instrumental group that plays "World View Music" (music styles and rhythms from around the world with jazz form and improvisation), provided the music.

Questions about our VPP Program may be directed to Shashi Patel (515-281-6369) or Sue Sirna (515-281-0202) by emailing patel.shashi@dol.gov, or sirna.sue@dol.gov.

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[www.iowaworkforce.org](http://www.iowaworkforce.org)  
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