

From the Commissioner

We learned this fall that North Carolina's injury and illness rate for private industry tied last year's all-time record low of 3.1 cases per 100 full-time workers. I am proud of the fact that North Carolina has experienced a 41.5 percent drop (5.3 to 3.1) in the rate over the past 10 years. We should all take a little pride in this statistic because it shows a steady improvement in workplace safety and health that is reflective of the department's overall mission.

Two other important stats to note is that North Carolina tied for the fourth lowest workplace injury and illness rate in the country, trailing only Louisiana, New York and Texas, which all had a rate of 2.7. And North Carolina is one of 13 states with a rate statistically less than the national average of 3.5.

In January, there will be another organizational change that I would like to briefly mention. The Library will be moved from Communications to OSH under ETTA. The Library is closely tied to OSH initiatives as they relate to technical assistance and workplace safety and health. The move will enhance the department's overall mission to educate and train employers and employees statewide. Nick Vincelli and Nancy Parker will continue to offer assistance to all bureaus and divisions as they always have, and I know that their excellent customer service will be an asset to ETTA.

Frank Seiber will retire on Dec. 31. I'd like to thank Frank for his service to the department and for the leadership role he undertook over the past five-plus years as director of the Information Technology Division. Please join me in wishing Frank all the best as he wraps up his career and begins enjoying a more leisurely lifestyle.

Finally, I'd like to mention a visit I made to Mars Hill College while in that area recently. The visit was prompted by the Halloween costume of Caroline Twiggs, a field coordinator at the college. Caroline decided she was going to dress up as the Elevator Lady. A colleague snapped a photo and sent it to our office with a message stating that they hoped we had a good sense of humor. After my visit there, I think they know the answer to that question. I wanted to share the photo with all of you.



Labor Commissioner Cherie Berry enjoys a ride on an elevator with the other Elevator Lady, Caroline Twiggs of Mars Hill College.

Cherie

Employee News

- Congratulations to Boiler Safety inspector trainee Danny Harrell on the passing of his National Board commission exam. Danny took the exam on Oct. 31, 2011, and came away with an excellent score. Danny will be inspecting in the northeastern part of our state.
- Congratulations to Harold Wagner, Elevator and Amusement Device, for being elected the Firefighter of the Year for 2011 in the Caldwell Fire Department.

- Congratulations to Evelyn Zoldak's grandson, David Bennett Holland, who graduated from the Navy and Marine Corps Intelligence Training Center in Virginia Beach on Sept. 30. He graduated as an 0231 intelligence specialist and is assigned to Camp Lejeune. Evelyn works in Research and Policy.
- Our condolences to Rex Edwards, Publications, on the death of his sister, Shirley Rawles, Nov. 10.

New Hires

- Deborah Samad, safety compliance officer I, OSH, Raleigh.
- Jackie Haley, accounting clerk V, Budget and Management, Raleigh.
- Scott Justice, health compliance officer I, OSH, Raleigh.

Separations

- Jonathan Borntrager, health education specialist, ETTA, Raleigh.
- Cara Pennline, health compliance officer I, OSH, Charlotte.
- Becky Warr, safety compliance officer I, OSH, Charlotte.

THANK YOU

This year, NCDOL employees generously contributed \$15,143 to the State Employees Combined Campaign. The total dollar amount includes the funds raised by Nicole Brown and me during the "Over the Edge" fundraising events for Special Olympics North Carolina in October. Many thanks to everyone for your support of the many charitable organizations across our state. Together, we are making a difference!

Tina Morris-Anderson
NCDOL SECC Coordinator

Together
we
make the
difference

Upcoming Birthdays

12-1	Jackie Haley	12-10	Ron Henegar	12-18	Pat Freeman
12-1	Keith Murphy	12-11	Frankie Clements	12-18	Gene Powell
12-1	Rick Barnes	12-12	John Koneski	12-20	Wanda Smitherman
12-2	Altagracia Guzman	12-13	Eursula Joyner	12-21	Cherie Berry
12-2	Don Anderson	12-14	Donell Sanders	12-21	Misty Branch
12-3	Susan Harper	12-14	Jeff Wilson	12-23	Lee McKinney
12-3	Brian Walls	12-14	Neal O'Briant	12-24	Justin Adams
12-3	Janie Judd	12-14	Brian Peterson	12-26	Terry Conrad
12-4	Michael Morrow	12-15	Terry Kramer	12-26	Dean Lassiter
12-4	Nancy Lipscomb	12-16	Donald Kidd	12-30	Sonya Baylor
12-6	Phil Hooper	12-16	Ulysses Slade	12-30	Doug Radford
12-6	Lamont Smith	12-17	Taylor Cambron	12-31	Dawn Jarman
12-8	Jackie Spangler	12-17	Melinda Jenkins		
12-9	Alvis Chatmon	12-17	John Kirkland		

ProLogger Program

“I’ve just witnessed one of the true strengths of the ProLogger Program—the collaboration, cooperation and genuine communication—demonstrated by the DOL folks as they focused on keeping the logger workforce informed, up-to-date and safe,” commented one of the instructors awaiting his turn to speak on Day 1 of the recent ProLogger course at McDowell Community College.

The ProLogger Program was started back in 1995 in response to a spike in the number of fatalities in the woods among loggers in North Carolina. In that year, 13 North Carolina loggers died on the job. On a brighter and somewhat historical note, the 2011 Logging and Arboriculture SEP year had no recordable logging fatalities, according to Leighton Dowdle, team leader for the SEP.

For 2012, ProLogger classes will be held at four different locations across the state. Contact CSHO Leighton Dowdle in Asheville for details if you’re interested in attending. The 2012 dates/locations are as follows:

- April 11-13, Southeastern Community College, Whiteville
- May 2-4, Northeastern North Carolina/TBD
- June 6-8, Forsyth Technical Community College, Winston-Salem
- Oct. 10-12, McDowell Community College, Marion



Twenty-eight ProLoggers and eight NCDOL employees gather for a ‘graduation photo’ after completing the three-day program held Oct. 26-28 at McDowell Community College in Marion.

What’s New @ Your Library

BY NICK VINCELLI, LIBRARIAN

Revised Library Intranet Page

- <http://intra2.dol.state.nc.us/Intranet/Library/Library.htm>

This page has been updated to reflect the updated standards list.

New Titles

- *Guard, Safety, Tire Inflation* (A-A-58048C—2004). Department of Defense, 2004.
- *A Guide to Emergency Action Planning* (2011 edition). NCDOL/OSH, 2011.
- *A Guide to Occupational Exposure to Isocyanates* (2011 edition). NCDOL/OSH, 2011.
- *National Electrical Code* (2011 edition). NFPA, 2011.
- *National Electrical Code Handbook* (2011 edition). NFPA, 2011.
- *Ugly’s Electrical References*. Jones & Bartlett, 2011.

New DVDs

- *Confined Space Entry: Plan and Prepare* (DVD 712—English/Spanish/Portuguese). Dupont; 21 min.; 2010.
- *Driven to Distraction II* (DVD 713—English/Spanish/Portuguese). Dupont; 20 min.; 2010.

Online FYIs

- *Compliance Policy for Manufacture, Storage, Sale, Handling, Use and Display of Pyrotechnics*
http://www.osha.gov/OshDoc/Directive_pdf/CPL_02-01-053.pdf
- *Don't Let Silica Dust You* (YouTube video produced by AOEC Occupational Health Internship Program (OHIP).)
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xj7apE-zbjs&source=govdelivery>
- *Enforcement Procedures for Investigating or Inspecting Workplace Violence Incidents*
http://www.osha.gov/OshDoc/Directive_pdf/CPL_02-01-052.pdf
- *Hanging Staging (Marine)*
http://www.osha.gov/SLTC/etools/shipyard/standard/scaffold/hanging_staging/index.html
- *Incorrectly Refurbished Circuit Breakers*
http://www.osha.gov/SLTC/electrical/hazard_alert.html
- *Prevention Videos ... Construction Hazards* (OSHA videos)
<http://www.osha.gov/dts/vtools/construction.html>
- *Small Entity Compliance Guide for the Respiratory Protection Standard*
<http://www.osha.gov/Publications/3384small-entity-for-respiratory-protection-standard-rev.pdf>
- *TOXNET* (National Library of Medicine “databases on toxicology, hazardous chemicals, environmental health, and toxic releases.”)
<http://toxnet.nlm.nih.gov/>
- *Whistleblowers Investigations Manual*
http://www.osha.gov/OshDoc/Directive_pdf/CPL_02-03-003.pdf



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