

From the Commissioner

Occasionally I receive letters from the public about the good service they have received from a Labor employee. I recently received a letter that I'd like to share with you that praised the work of Irene Diaz-Clark, an investigator with the Employment Discrimination Bureau.

The complaint came from a worker who was wrongfully terminated after sustaining permanent injuries on the job. The following excerpt from the letter shows how our work makes a difference in people's lives and reflects the overall integrity of the work that we do to help citizens throughout the state.

The employer offered \$2,000 to settle. Irene wanted \$14,000. We settled on \$11,000. It was Irene's tenacity which got me these much needed funds. ... Irene has a quiet confidence and power. The former employer didn't stand a chance. Irene Diaz-Clark is very dedicated and loves her job. ... Working with Irene is something I won't forget. I am very glad I met her.

While on the subject of good works, Connie Deuser has done an admirable job as steering committee chair of the Employee Safety and Health Committee. Connie has served as chair since 2011 and has been a most diligent leader making sure that unit committees stay up to date, that policies are current and well written, and that all concerns for the safety of our employees at all DOL offices across the state are met. Please join me in thanking Connie for her service and welcoming William Gerringer, who will take over the chairmanship in April.

Finally, you will find a comprehensive list of our most recent service and superlative award recipients beginning on page 5 of this newsletter. I hope you will take a minute to review the list. As many of you old-timers will recall, the service and superlative awards used to be announced at the annual employee appreciation banquet.

For the sake of the newcomers to Labor who may not know why we stopped convening, it was budget constraints in 2009 that forced us to cancel the banquets, and it is budget cuts that continue to prevent us from gathering together collectively to celebrate individual achievements.

While we no longer convene annually to recognize our achievements, the significance of each award is no less important. Since starting the Employee Appreciation Program in 2009, it has been my goal to present each award in person and more importantly to take that opportunity to thank each recipient for his or her exemplary service to the state. Aside from a few illnesses and scheduling conflicts, I have been able to accomplish my goal and doing so has been my pleasure.

Keep up the great work.



Employee News

- ♣ Congratulations to Jennifer Haigwood, Governmental Affairs, for being appointed by Gov. McCrory to the North Carolina Human Trafficking Commission.
- ♣ Our condolences to Brian Peterson, Budget, on the death of his father, Gene Auston Peterson, Feb. 14.

New Hires

- ♣ Sarah Beth Koonce, special assistant for governmental and constituent affairs, Commissioner's Office, Raleigh.
- ♣ Karissa Sluss, paralegal I, Legal Affairs, Raleigh.
- ♣ Curtis Hobson, safety compliance officer I, OSH, Charlotte.
- ♣ Carl Hunter, education and training specialist, ETTA, Raleigh.

Job Changes

- ♣ Shirley Curtis, from processing assistant V to administrative assistant I, Consultative Services, Raleigh.
- ♣ Todd McNoldy, from statistical research assistant II to statistical research assistant III, Research and Information Technology, Raleigh.

Separation

- ♣ Bobby Davis, safety standards office, ETTA, Raleigh.

Revamped State Service Awards

The State Service Awards program has been totally revamped and rebranded for 2014. The Excellence in Service awards program will replace the existing service awards program for state government employees. The Excellence in Service awards program will continue to recognize employees who have achieved five-year incremental milestones in their state government careers, and will also recognize new employees who have completed the two-year probationary period since August 21, 2013. Employees who are eligible for a service award in 2014 beginning at the five year award level will choose from a new selection of gifts, most of which are made in the United States, and many of which are made right here in North Carolina by local artists, artisans and by Correction Enterprises. Two-year award recipients will be recognized with a congratulatory note and an Excellence in Service lapel pin presented by their division management quarterly.

This will not change Commissioner Berry's annual Employee Appreciation Program. She will continue to personally present the five-year incremental service awards each year as well as the department's superlative awards. You may visit Correction Enterprises' webpage for a preview of the gifts that will be available for those reaching a career milestone in 2014: <https://www.correctionenterprises.com/products/awards/employee.php>.

State Employees Combined Campaign

I would like to say a big thanks for everyone that gave to this year's combined campaign. In spite of today's economic challenges, we still had good year. I am proud to be a part and work with of a group of colleagues who went the extra mile and gave to help others in need. NCDOL employees contributions totaled \$9,613.00 in this year's campaign. A great big thanks to all who contributed.

Mike Daniels

Combined Campaign Coordinator for NCDOL

Upcoming Birthdays

3-1 Angela Alford	3-13 Jack Given	3-21 Jesus Mendoza
3-4 Deidre Duncan	3-15 Sybil Bray	3-23 Carrie Boring
3-5 Lauren Norton	3-16 Jeanine Alston	3-23 Dafang Zhao
3-7 Tyrome Davis	3-16 Doris Kester	3-23 Herman Parker
3-9 Jeff Barnhill	3-17 Jason Holtz	3-25 Darrell Dye
3-9 Pam Short	3-18 Dannette Christman	3-27 Shirley Curtis
3-9 Hardy Faust	3-19 Darius Chisholm	3-28 Sam Atassi
3-11 David Bullock	3-20 Andy Sterlen	3-30 Art Britt
3-11 Lee Peacock	3-21 Felicia Hoover	3-30 Nancy Hall-Davis
3-13 Pete Calhoun	3-21 Robert Martin	3-31 Steve Hardin

ProLogger Workshops

The N.C. Forestry Association's ProLogger program was established in 1995 to counter the hazardous conditions encountered by loggers in the state. That year 13 loggers died on the job. Since then compliance officers and safety consultants from the department have been directly involved with the program. That involvement continues for 2014.

But before a logger can put the ProLogger sticker on his hardhat, he must complete three days of classroom and field activities. ProLogger pulls in experts from an assortment of agencies including the N.C. Division of Forest Resources, Forestry Mutual Insurance Co., N.C. Department of Agriculture, N.C. Highway Patrol, and N.C. Department of Labor. These groups provide instructors that present information to the loggers over a three-day period.

ProLogger classes have been scheduled as follows:

April 2-4	Craven County Center	New Bern
June 11-13	Piedmont—TBD	TBD
Oct. 8-10	McDowell Community College	Marion

You need permission from your supervisor to attend ProLogger. Registration is now available on the One Stop Shop at http://10.21.81.244:8080/etta_class_regist/internal/. Contact Leighton Dowdle in Asheville (828-299-8232 or leighton.dowdle@labor.nc.gov) for details if you're interested in attending.



Above: ProLoggers from across the state, along with eight NCDOL employees, pose for graduation photos after completing ProLogger base programs in Winston-Salem and Williamston in 2013.

ASH Celebrates Gold Star Growers

On Wednesday, Feb. 5, 2014, the Agricultural Safety and Health Bureau held the 20th Annual Gold Star Grower luncheon in the Gov. James G. Martin Building at the State Fairgrounds. This event was established to recognize those who exceed the standards for migrant housing. The Gold Star recipients have voluntarily improved their farm-worker housing by adding air conditioning, additional refrigerators, bathroom showers, and otherwise modernized the dwellings. The bureau has held the luncheon in recent years in conjunction with the Southern Farm Show at the fairgrounds so that attendees can make the most of the visit to Raleigh.

Dr. Richard Linton gave the keynote address. He is dean of the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences (CALS) at N.C. State University. Dr. Linton discussed the challenges facing modern agriculture, including increasing the efficiency of water use; reducing the environmental footprint of agriculture; growing food in a changing climate; and producing safe and nutritious food. N.C. State created the Center for Plant Breeding and Applied Plant Genomics to focus plant breeding efforts at N.C. State. With more than 35 core faculty actively developing new cultivars, N.C. State has more plant breeders than any other U.S. university. The Research and Extension programs in the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences continue to help farmers boost production of mainstay crops such as corn.

“As we look to the future, the availability and quality of water may be the single most important factor in determining whether we can feed a growing global population,” Dr. Linton said.

NCSU scientists in biological and agricultural engineering, agricultural and resource economics, horticultural science and soil science departments work closely with Extension agents across the state to develop and deliver national-award-winning water-quality solutions for agriculture, for industry, for government, and for individual consumers.

The bureau recognized three growers for awards. Ronald Stainback of Stainback Farms in Vance County received the award for Best Maintained Housing. The bureau recognized Steve Thomas of Lee County with the award for Best New Housing. Lee Wicker of the N.C. Growers Association accepted the award on his behalf.

The annual Hudler Safety Training Award was presented to Cline Church Nursery by Regina Cullen and Dale Hudler. Cline Church’s children, Alex Church and Amber Scott, received the award on behalf of their father. The Church family hosted Christmas tree training on their farm for their farmworkers and those from neighboring farms.



Cline Church Nursery received the annual Hudler Safety Training Award at the Gold Star Grower Luncheon on Feb. 5. From left to right, Violet Scott, Amber Scott, Alex Church, Dale Hudler and Labor Commissioner Cherie Berry.

What's New @ Your Library

BY NICK VINCELLI, LIBRARIAN

Revised Standards List

♣ http://10.21.81.244:8080/etta_one_stop/listingDetails.cfm?&catid=16&subcatid=201

The standards list has been updated and can be accessed from OSH One Stop Shop (Library Resources page).

New Titles

♣ *Below-the-Hook Lifting Devices ...* (ASME B30.20-2013). ASME, 2013.

♣ *OSHA Construction Industry Standards Requiring Programs, Inspections, Procedures, Records and/or Training* (NCDOL Industry Guide #48). NCDOL/OSH, 2013.

- ♣ *Pipeline Transportation Systems for Liquid Hydrocarbons and Other Liquids* (ASME B31.4-2002). ASME, 2002.
Donated by Jack Given, Boiler Safety.
- ♣ *Workplace Violence Prevention Guidelines and Program for Health Care, Long Term Care and Social Services Workers* (NCDOL Industry Guide #51). NCDOL/OSH, 2013.

Online FYIs

- ♣ *Operating Hazards of Baler Discharge-Door Locks*
<https://www.osha.gov/dts/shib/shib081313.html>
- ♣ *Preventing Falls Through the Design of Roof Parapets*
<http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/docs/2014-108/pdfs/2014-108.pdf>
- ♣ *Protecting Workers From Cold Stress*
<https://www.osha.gov/Publications/OSHA3156.pdf>
- ♣ *Virginia Department of Labor and Industry Public Service Announcements*
http://www.doli.virginia.gov/media_room/public%20service_2013.html
- ♣ *Worker Safety in Hospitals*
<https://www.osha.gov/dsg/hospitals/>

Reminder: Special Vacation Leave Expires June 30

The 40 hours of special vacation leave awarded to eligible state employees on July 1, 2013, has to be used during the 2013-2014 fiscal year. If the special leave is not used by June 30, 2014, it will be lost. Use of Special Leave (Code 9712) should be decided on with the initial leave request to the supervisor. Human Resources cannot go back and make retroactive adjustments to leave already used.

2013 Employee Appreciation Program Award Recipients

Five Years of Service

Derek Bailey
Boiler and Pressure Vessel Deputy Inspector
Boiler Safety

Carl Burton
Mine Safety and Health Consultant
Mine and Quarry

Selenia Genao
Administrative Assistant I
Wage and Hour

Granville Hayes
Elevator and Amusement Device Inspector
Elevator and Amusement Device

Darline Johnson
Processing Assistant III
Human Resources

Marlene Markey
OSH Safety Compliance Officer I
Compliance West

Tony McKnight
Apprenticeship and Training Consultant
Apprenticeship

Chris McManaman
Accounting Technician
Budget and Management

Todd McNoldy
Statistical Research Assistant II
Research and Information Technology

Jesse Mendoza
OSH Education and Training Specialist
Education, Training and Technical Assistance

Shari Phelps
Wage and Hour Investigator II
Wage and Hour

Antwan Pippen
Apprenticeship and Training Consultant
Apprenticeship

10 Years of Service

Virginia Cagle
OSH Safety Compliance Officer II
Compliance West

Darius Chisholm
OSH Safety Consultant
Consultative Services

Tena Clark
Office Assistant IV
Compliance West

Jeff Cole
Elevator and Amusement Device Inspector
Elevator and Amusement Device

Andrew Gunto
Boiler and Pressure Vessel Deputy Inspector
Boiler Safety

Gerald Johnston
OSH Safety Compliance Officer I
Compliance West

Wanda Lagoe
Bureau Chief
Education, Training and Technical Assistance

Dolores Quesenberry
Director
Communications

Tom Savage
OSH Safety Standards Officer
Education, Training and Technical Assistance

Gregory Sims
Boiler and Pressure Vessel Deputy Inspector
Boiler Safety

Phillip Sykes
OSH Agricultural Safety Officer
Agricultural Safety and Health

15 Years of Service

Dawn Beasley
Administrative Assistant I
Wage and Hour

Blair Byrd
OSH Health Consultant
Consultative Services

Laverne Case
Boiler and Pressure Vessel Deputy Inspector
Boiler Safety

Tom Chambers
Bureau Chief
Elevator and Amusement Device

Gregory Davis
Boiler and Pressure Vessel Inspector Supervisor
Boiler Safety

Kenny Garner
Elevator and Amusement Device Inspector
Elevator and Amusement Device

William Gerringer
Bureau Chief
Mine and Quarry

Angela Hamilton
Administrative Assistant I
Administration

Kisha Holmes
Deputy Administrator of Wage and Hour
Wage and Hour

Mark Luniewski
OSH Health Consultant
Consultative Services

Henry Moore
Elevator and Amusement Device Inspector
Elevator and Amusement Device

Lauren Norton
Agricultural Safety Officer II
Agricultural Safety and Health

Lee Peacock
OSH Safety Compliance Supervisor
Compliance West

Tommy Petty
Assistant Bureau Chief
Elevator and Amusement Device

Mildred Rivera
Statistical Research Assistant II
Planning, Statistics and Information Management

20 Years of Service

Bennet Allen
OSH Safety Compliance Officer II
Compliance East

Art Britt
Chief of Staff
Commissioner's Office

Kathy Canady
Executive Assistant I
Administration

Kathryn Castellloes
Bureau Chief
Apprenticeship

Julie Chang
*Business and Technical Applications Analyst
Research and Information Technology*

Judy Durham
*Office Assistant IV
Compliance East*

Ron Ellis
*Industrial Hygienist Consultant/Star Program
Education, Training and Technical Assistance*

Ben Harris
*OSH Safety Compliance Supervisor
Compliance West*

Betty Herbster
*Apprenticeship Specialist
Apprenticeship*

Howard Laurie
*OSH Safety Compliance Officer II
Compliance East*

Ella Moultrie
*OSH Safety Compliance Officer II
Compliance West*

Keith Murphy
*OSH Health Consultant
Consultative Services*

Thomas O'Connell
*OSH Safety Compliance Supervisor
Compliance East*

Lula Powell
*Apprenticeship and Training Consultant
Apprenticeship*

Peggy Remé
*OSH Safety Compliance Officer I
Compliance West*

LaMont Smith
*Recognition Program Manager
Education, Training and Technical Assistance*

Trenda Smith
*Processing Assistant IV
Agricultural Safety and Health*

Beverly Stone
*OSH Safety Compliance Officer II
Compliance West*

Paul Sullivan
*OSH Safety Compliance Supervisor
Compliance West*

Howard Walters
*OSH Safety and Health Consultant Supervisor
Consultative Services*

Jeff Wilson
*Graphic Artist/Illustrator
Publications*

25 Years of Service

Ed Geddie
*Standards Industrial Hygienist
Education, Training and Technical Assistance*

Susan Haritos
*Standards Industrial Hygienist
Education, Training and Technical Assistance*

Amy Jaeger
*Purchasing Officer
Budget and Management*

Dean Lassiter
*OSH Safety Compliance Officer II
Compliance West*

Neal O'Briant
*Information and Communications Specialist
Communications*

Carol Wells
*Processing Assistant IV
Education, Training and Technical Assistance*

Evelyn Zoldak
*IDA Program Manager
Research and Information Technology*

30 Years of Service

Jack Brinson
*Director
Budget and Management*

Terri Burns
*Technology Support Analyst
Research and Information Technology*

Doug Lucas
*Elevator and Amusement Device Inspector Supervisor
Elevator and Amusement Device*

LuJuana Patterson
Administrative Assistant I
Administration

Anne Weaver
Bureau Chief
Planning, Statistics and Information Management

35 Years of Service

Marcia Page
Administrative Assistant I
Mine and Quarry

Field Employees of the Year

Altagracia Guzman
OSH Safety Compliance Officer I
Compliance East
OSH Field Employee of the Year, East

Leonard Mangum
Carolina Star Consultant
Education, Training and Technical Assistance
OSH Field Employee of the Year, West

Jeff Cole
Elevator and Amusement Device Inspector
Elevator and Amusement Device
Standards and Inspections
Field Employee of the Year, East

David Sosebee
Elevator and Amusement Device Inspector
Elevator and Amusement Device
Standards and Inspections
Field Employee of the Year, West

Commissioner's Award for Excellence in Service

Adrienne McLean
Accounts Receivable Supervisor
Budget Management
Administration

Paul Sullivan
OSH Safety Compliance Supervisor
Compliance West
Occupational Safety and Health

Chanel Brown
Statistical Research Assistant I
Planning, Statistics and Information Management
Occupational Safety and Health

Cliff Dautrich
Assistant Bureau Chief
Boiler Safety
Standards and Inspections

Dawn Beasley
Administrative Assistant I
Wage and Hour
Standards and Inspections

2013 Employee of the Year

Bill Best
OSH Safety Compliance Officer II
Compliance West

*Bill Best receives the 2013 Employee of the Year
certificate from Labor Commissioner Cherie Berry.*

