

From the Commissioner

It is hard to believe that it is time to start planning for Christmas festivities. By now each of you has received an email invitation to my annual Christmas Open House scheduled for December 10 from 2 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. in the Labor Building. I look forward to seeing you there. For those of you who are unable to attend, I hope to see you at other regional office Christmas gatherings throughout the department before we ring in the New Year.

It has become a tradition to conclude the department-wide Toys for Tots drive at my annual Christmas Open House. Lee Peacock, the Toys for Tots coordinator for the department, will be present to help me present the toys to the U.S. Marine Corps (USMC) Reserve.

For those of you who are new to the department, the Toys for Tots drive was first implemented in the Charlotte regional office in 1999 by Lee who at the time was a sergeant in the USMC Reserve. Lee worked with his colleagues, many of them veterans, in the network of four (now five) Department of Labor OSH regional offices to collect toys for the annual USMC Reserve Toys for Tots program.

In December 2001, shortly after beginning my first term as labor commissioner, I visited the Charlotte Office and was struck by the excitement and commitment from staff members for participating in the Toys for Tots Drive. Before I left that day, Lee and I discussed expanding the drive to include the entire department.

The drive eventually expanded to include other state agencies. One of the very first partners to join us was the Labor Section of the Attorney General's Office led by Victoria Voight. Victoria and her staff were so successful in their efforts that in subsequent years, the entire Department of Justice and the State Auditor's Office became toy partners as well. More recently, Gov. McCrory's office joined two years ago, and this year, we are happy that the Lt. Governor's Office has become a toy partner with us.

Sixteen years after Lee implemented his plan and 13 years after Lee and I made this a department-wide effort, the N.C. Department of Labor Toys for Tots toy drive has collected a grand total of 9,724 individual toys, including 160 bicycles and tricycles and collected \$4,577.75 in monetary donations for the USMC Reserve Toys for Tots program.

It is comforting to know that our combined efforts have brought toys and joy to many needy families throughout North Carolina over the years. I look forward to continuing our tradition in 2015 and seeing all the toys on display in the Labor Building, knowing they will, once again, provide smiles to many more children Christmas morning.



Employee News

- Our condolences to the family and friends of Frank Trogden, who died Nov. 28. Frank was one of the first CSHOs in the OSH Division, joining the department June 1, 1975. He retired March 31, 1993.

New Hires

- Joseph Taylor, SCO I, OSH, Raleigh
- James Dempsey, HCO I, OSH, Winston-Salem
- Beth Henley, accounting tech II, Budget, Raleigh
- Jessie McBride, administrative assistant II, EDB, Raleigh
- Deneen Clarke, investigator, Wage and Hour, Charlotte

Job Changes

- Neesia Hill, from HCO II to OSH compliance supervisor, OSH, Raleigh
- Nelson Edwards, from industrial hygiene consultant to consultant supervisor, Consultative Services, Charlotte

Separations

- Paulette Hernandez, statistical research assistant II, Research and Information Technology, Raleigh
- Mike Smith, SCO I, OSH, Charlotte
- Kenneth Caviness, industrial hygiene consultant, Consultative Services, Charlotte

State Employees Combined Campaign

Together We Made A Difference!

BY JOHN LUCKADO, 2015 NCDOL SECC DEPARTMENT EXECUTIVE

Many thanks to all of you who contributed to this year's State Employees Combined Campaign (SECC)! I would like to take this opportunity to thank the following campaign coordinators: Standards and Inspections, Charity Locklear; OSH-ORB, Jackie Stump; OSH-East Compliance, Karen Kelly; and OSH-West Compliance and other OSH employees in Charlotte, Winston-Salem and Asheville, Jackie Spangler.

In 2015 for the combined campaign, the generosity of Department of Labor employees and retirees resulted in total contributions of \$9,551. As I have mentioned in my earlier newsletters, your continued support of the SECC helps to ensure North Carolina charitable services are available to individuals and families in need.

All DOL pledged contributors were entered in a drawing for one of four \$25 gift cards at Harris Teeter. Winners have been notified, and congratulations to all four!

Thank you for your generous support of the State Employees Combined Campaign!



Upcoming Birthdays

12-1 Jackie Haley	12-10 Ron Henegar	12-17 Taylor Cambron
12-1 Dorca Araujo-Batista	12-11 Frank Clements	12-17 Sarah Beth Koonce
12-1 Rick Barnes	12-12 Christopher Sholar	12-17 John Kirkland
12-2 Altagracia Guzman	12-13 Eursula Joyner	12-18 Cristina Almonte-Martinez
12-2 Victoria Parks	12-13 DaQuan Holland	12-20 Wanda Smitherman
12-3 Janie Judd	12-14 Neal O'Briant	12-21 Cherie Berry
12-4 Beth Henley	12-14 Jeff Wilson	12-23 Lee McKinney
12-6 Phil Hooper	12-14 Brian Peterson	12-26 Dean Lassiter
12-6 LaMont Smith	12-14 Donell Sanders	12-28 Don Kinney
12-7 Ana Gomez	12-16 Donald Kidd	12-28 Courtney Martin
12-8 Jackie Spangler	12-16 Ulysses Slade	12-31 Dawn Jarman

Employee Recognition Banquet Planning Committee Bake Sale

The Employee Recognition Banquet Planning Committee will hold a bake sale on Wednesday, Dec. 16, from 9 a.m. until noon. There will be baked goods for sale in both the Labor Building (1st floor Human Resources conference room) and the Old Revenue Building (3rd floor OSH conference room). Proceeds from this bake sale will help fund the 2016 Employee Recognition Banquet, which will be held in September. If you would like to donate a baked good to the sale please email Stacey.Thompson@labor.nc.gov or Sarah.Koonce@labor.nc.gov in the Labor Building, and Allison.Jay@labor.nc.gov or Adriana.Jordan@labor.nc.gov in the Old Revenue Building.

OSH Annual Training

BY CORY DUNPHY, ETTA

In November we were pleased to welcome back the OSH Annual Training event. It was an opportunity to gather with co-workers from across the state, to reconnect with old friends, and to meet our new co-workers as well. This year we were able to provide instructors from a variety of industries and North Carolina agencies to support our continuing education efforts. Topics included Electrical Hazards, Combustible Dust, Logging and Arboriculture, Welding and Cutting, Scaffolding Safety, Grain Bin Safety, and Respirator Safety, among others. We even had a session on Microsoft Access 365 for some of our administrative staff!

Thank you to all who played a role in making this event a success, and thank you to those who took the time to provide feedback on the evaluation surveys. We value your comments and will use the information to improve future course offerings. Speaking of next year's event, it will be held at the McKimmon Center in Raleigh on Sept. 12-14, and will wrap up with the 2016 Employee Recognition Banquet. Please mark your calendars now and make plans to join us. We look forward to seeing all of you next September!

What's New @ Your Library

BY NICK VINCELLI, LIBRARIAN

New Print Titles

- *Bulletin* (Fall 2015). National Board of Boiler and Pressure Vessel Inspections, 2015.
- *Hand Protection Selection Criteria* (ANSI/ISEA 105-2011). ISEA, 2011.
- *OSHA Construction Industry Standards ...* (Sept. 2015). NCDOL/OSH, 2015.

New DVDs

- *Confined Space Entry—General Industry and Construction* (DVD 765e). 25 minutes; 2015; Aurora Pictures.
- *Confined Space for Construction* (DVD 763s—Spanish). 27 minutes; 2015; Marcom.

Online FYIs

- *Acute Occupational Pesticide-Related Illness and Injury—United States, 2007–2010*
<http://tinyurl.com/o7namb8>
- *Compliance Assistance for Agriculture Workers*
<https://blog.dol.gov/2015/10/29/dol-in-action-20/#Agriculture>
- *Crowd Management Safety Guidelines for Retailers—Crowd Control*
<http://tinyurl.com/m2upqz9>
- *Employees Who Work in Moderately Cold Work Conditions May Face Health and Safety Problems*
<http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/updates/upd-11-04-15b.html>

- *Employer Reported Workplace Injuries and Illnesses—2014*
<http://www.bls.gov/news.release/pdf/osh.pdf>
- *Engulfment Prevention Alert* (NGFA)
<http://www.ngfa.org/wp-content/uploads/Engulfment-Prevention-E-alert-2.pdf>
- *James Bond Exposed ... To 50 Years of Occupational Hazards*
<http://blogs.cdc.gov/niosh-science-blog/2015/11/04/james-bond/>
- *Lung Health—A Workers' Issue*
<https://blog.dol.gov/2015/11/12/lung-health/>
- *NIOSH Research Rounds* (Volume 1, Issue 4, October 2015)
<http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/Research-Rounds/ResRoundsV1N4.html#c>
- *Protecting Agricultural Workers From Tractor Hazards*
<https://www.osha.gov/Publications/OSHA3835.pdf>
- *Safety Matters: A Safety and Health Training for Young Workers*
<http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/topics/safetymatters/default.html>
- *Seasonal Flu*
<https://www.osha.gov/dts/guidance/flu/index.html>

