

From the Commissioner

We will begin the month of February with the Agricultural Safety and Health Bureau's 22nd Annual Gold Star Grower's Luncheon scheduled for Wednesday, Feb. 3, at the N.C. State Fairgrounds in Raleigh.

Regina Cullen developed the Gold Star Grower Program in 1992 to recognize growers in our state whose housing for migrant workers exceeds the requirements of the Migrant Housing Act. More than two decades later, the program has never been stronger.

It is always a pleasure for me to attend the luncheon and help Regina and her staff recognize the growers in North Carolina who have achieved Gold Star status. On Wednesday, we will recognize 285 growers who met the requirements of the program in 2015. One benefit for the growers who qualify for the program by being 100 percent in compliance two consecutive years is that they are able to self-inspect their migrant housing the following year. When the growers are eligible to self-inspect, it frees up our staff to focus our efforts on the housing that needs more attention.

We should all take a little pride in knowing that this program ensures those who hand-picked much of the produce we buy at produce stands and grocery stores across our state had respectable living quarters to return to at the end of the workday. This is yet another example of how the work we do touches the lives of workers and citizens each day in North Carolina.

Keep up the great work!



Employee News

♥ Forrest Wilson (son of Publications employee Jeff Wilson) will perform in the Raleigh Little Theatre production of *Sweeney Todd*, Feb. 12–28.

Job Change

♥ Randall Raborn, from elevator inspector to elevator inspection supervisor, Elevator and Amusement Device, Western Area A

New Hires

- ♥ Crystal Moss, administrative statistical assistant V, Research & IT, Raleigh
- ♥ Francisco Rodriquez, agricultural safety officer I, ASH, Raleigh
- ♥ Anthony Pacitti, elevator inspector, Elevator and Amusement Device, Western Area A
- ♥ Kevin Higham, health compliance officer I, OSH, Raleigh
- ♥ Joe Harrill, safety compliance officer I, OSH, Winston-Salem
- ♥ Christopher Monaco, elevator inspector, Elevator and Amusement Device, Western Area A

Separations

- ♥ Bruce Subrt, Safety compliance officer I, OSH, Charlotte
- ♥ Richard Cagan, safety compliance officer I, OSH, Charlotte

Puckett Award 2015

BY REGINA CULLEN, ASH BUREAU CHIEF

Larry Watts received the Puckett Award at the Agricultural Safety and Health Bureau's staff meeting on Jan. 21. In 2008, ASH established the annual Everett Puckett award in memory of a former ASH employee, who died unexpectedly at the age of 41. During his 10 years working for ASH, Everett conducted the majority of the agricultural related fatality inspections; was a much requested speaker at various agricultural related meetings; and was a very well regarded, thoughtful member of the ASH team.

So what's the Puckett Award really mean? It means that if you earn it, you've gone above and beyond. Without complaining, on your own initiative, that you've made an effort to bring this bureau to a higher standard. It may be in compliance, or during preoccupancy, or here in the office, or in the field doing training; but that's it, you're working at it. Making it better, moving us forward. And if you can do that in your personal life as well, as he did, you'll be a role model for us all. It's 2016 and guess what? I still miss Everett.

Larry by the numbers:

- ♥ Performed 314 preoccupancy inspections in 2015
- ♥ Drove—safely and uncomplainingly—14,644 miles—from March to November
- ♥ Helped train 326 farmworkers—and received compliments from unexpected sources
- ♥ Served on safety committee for 2015



Larry Watts speaks to farmers about forklift safety at one of the Agricultural Safety and Health Bureau's on-farm safety training days.

Upcoming Birthdays

2-4 Kevin O'Barr	2-13 Jack Brinson	2-19 Candice Fagnani
2-6 Mark Hutchens	2-13 Ellen Allbritton	2-20 Terry Carroll
2-8 Patrick O'Brien	2-15 Yvonne Hamilton-Thomas	2-22 Fleda Anderson
2-9 Russell DeShield	2-15 Deborah Samad	2-22 Steve Able
2-10 Kaye Thibodeaux	2-15 Jackie Tanner	2-22 Tom O'Connell
2-10 Granville Hayes	2-16 Rose Gray	2-24 Abby Newton
2-10 Selenia Genao	2-16 Peggy Remé	2-24 Eric Smith
2-11 Mark Taylor	2-16 Mark Allen	2-25 Derek Bailey
2-11 Angela Hamilton	2-17 Steve Burris	2-29 Jessica McBride
2-12 Blanca Acevedo	2-17 James Washington	
2-13 Tom Chambers	2-19 Allen McNeely	

What's New @ Your Library

BY NICK VINCELLI, LIBRARIAN

Updated Standards List

♥ http://10.35.133.11/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 Print Titles

♥ *ASME Boiler Pressure & Vessel Codes* (2013). ASME, 2013. *Donated by Cliff Dautrich.*

♥ *Associate Safety Professional Exam Study Workbook* (3rd edition). Span International, 2015.

♥ *NFPA Journal* (January/February 2016). NFPA, 2016.

♥ *National Fire Alarm and Signaling Code Handbook* (NFPA 72-2016). NFPA, 2015.

♥ *Organization and Deployment of Fire Prevention Inspection and Code Enforcement...* (NFPA 1730-2016). NFPA, 2015.

Online FYIs

♥ *2016 State of Safety: Changing Demographics* (*Safety+ Health Magazine*—January 2016 issue)

<http://www.safetyandhealthmagazine.com/articles/13397-state-of-safety-changing-demographics>

♥ *Behind the Wheel at Work*

<http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/topics/ncmvs/newsletter/default.html>

♥ *Faces of NIOSH Research* (NIOSH YouTube channel)

<http://tinyurl.com/obfojx8>

♥ *Halting Hypothermia*

<https://newsinhealth.nih.gov/issue/dec2015/feature2>

♥ *NIOSH Research Rounds* (December 2015)

<http://content.govdelivery.com/accounts/USCDC/bulletins/12c5127>

♥ *OSHA's Safety and Health Program Management Guidelines*

<https://www.osha.gov/shpmguidelines/index.html>

♥ *Preventing Farm Vehicle Backover Incidents*

<https://www.osha.gov/Publications/OSHA3840.pdf>

♥ *Protecting Your Hearing at Work* (podcast)

<http://www2c.cdc.gov/podcasts/player.asp?f=8639043>

♥ *Working in a Winter Wonderland: Four Things to Know in the Snow*

<http://blog.dol.gov/2016/01/20/working-in-a-winter-wonderland-4-things-to-know-in-the-snow/>

♥ *Workplace Active Shooter Awareness and Safety*

<http://www.drc-group.com/project/jitt-activeshooter-office.html>

♥ *Worker Safety in Hospitals*

<https://www.osha.gov/dsg/hospitals/>