Welcome

We have some very sad news to tell you this month.

Jeff Lewis, a long-time instructor for the UCSD OSHA Training Institute Education Center, passed away February 5, 2016.

Many of you have taken classes from Jeff, particularly those in the Maritime Industries Outreach Program. He was our primary Maritime instructor since the inception of the program at UCSD. He taught the three Maritime classes: 5410, 5400 and 5402 in San Diego, Hawaii and other locations where shipping and dock safety are a concern.

He also taught many other courses including the Construction and General Industry Standards and Trainer classes, Fall Protection, Excavation and Trenching, EM385-1-1, Respiratory Protection and most recently Cranes in Construction.

Jeff was based in Tempe, Arizona, and was 59 years old when he passed. See inside for memories and comments from many of Jeff’s colleagues and friends.

Elsewhere in this issue, we have some interesting information and updates for you.

Harold Gribow, editor
Outreach Program

There is a lot of news to report on the Outreach front. The OSHA Directorate of Training and Education implemented a new mandate to upgrade the security of the all Outreach student and trainer cards. The new credit card style cards are more durable. This card will allow for enhanced security features to decrease the instances of fraud. The new system will also provide card verification through a QR code printed directly on the card. This code, when scanned, directs the user to a website that can verify the authenticity of the card. We are excited that we are in the final stages of programming and hope to launch the upgraded system in early April. When the new cards are available, the price will increase from $5.00 to $8.00 per card. Additionally, the Outreach trainer cards will also upgrade to the new credit card style card. All trainers will receive the new card after attending a trainer update course. It is not necessary to purchase a new trainer card in the interim. Please stay tuned for additional information regarding the new card process.

If your trainer card is due to expire, it is essential that you attend a trainer update prior to that date. Trainers with expired cards will not be authorized to teach outreach classes and receive cards. There is a 90 day grace period allotted for various reasons as outlined in the OSHA Program Requirements.

The grace period only allows for a trainer to attend an update course in lieu of the initial course, if approved by the UC San Diego OTIEC prior to the course. During this time period, a trainer still does not maintain the ability to conduct any courses. There is no exception to this mandate. Plan ahead and schedule a trainer update course in advance. Our classes are listed on the OTIEC website.

For further questions regarding Outreach courses and guidelines, please contact the Outreach Department at 858-534-9283.

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In our January 2015 issue, Jeff Lewis provided this trainer tip to our Outreach instructors.

UC San Diego Trainer Tip Of the Month by Jeff Lewis

One of the more educational experiences is to take a class from another trainer. Last month I had the privilege to take Thom Stefanik’s OSHA 501 and Jeff Beeler’s OSHA 5600 programs.

Thom introduced us to the Napo Videos. The films in the Napo series are produced in computer graphics. They feature characters in the world of work, faced with safety issues. The main character, Napo, and his partners express themselves in wordless language. Culturally, they are “neutral” and therefore anyone can identify with them, whatever their language, country of origin or culture.

A student in the OSHA 5600, John Marden, provided guidance regarding the ability to download YouTube Videos. Specifically, place the letters “ss” in the URL for the video you seek to download. The “ss” is placed {http://www.ssyou-tube.~~~~~~~~}. You will have options as to what type of file you desire, and my experience has been to pick MP4 as it will play well in both Windows and Mac Operating Systems.

OSHA® specifies that videos cannot comprise more than 25% of the time spent in Outreach training, but for those you do use, these can be very helpful in the success of your programs.
National Safety Stand-Down highlights importance of preventing falls in the construction industry

OSHA, the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health and the Center for Construction Research and Training have announced May 2-6, 2016 as the official week for the third annual National Safety Stand-Down. The event is a nationwide effort to remind and educate employers and workers in the construction industry of the serious dangers of falls that remain the leading cause of death in the industry. Employers are encouraged to pause during their workday for topic discussions, demonstrations, and training on how to recognize hazards and prevent falls.

More than four million workers participated in the National Safety Stand-Down in 2014 and 2015. OSHA expects thousands of employers across the nation to join the 2016 event. To guide their efforts, OSHA hosts the official National Safety Stand-Down website with information on conducting a successful stand-down, including the 2016 Stand-Down video.

OSHA announces national safety Step-Up to protect workers at oil and gas exploration sites

OSHA has announced the 2016 Step-Up for Safety in the Upstream Oil and Gas Industry to raise awareness among employers and workers about hazards in oil and gas exploration. During Step-Up events, employers around the country will take time out to conduct site inspections, safety training and other activities. These events will be held mid-February until the end of March.

The Step-Up is part of OSHA’s alliance with the National Service, Transmission, Exploration & Production Safety Network and the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health. Twenty-two regional STEPS Networks will coordinate and promote the events. For more information, read the news release and visit the Step Up for Safety website and watch the video.
OSHA Update Continued

NIOSH Ladder Safety app now includes step ladders

Climbing for work? NIOSH’s award-winning Ladder Safety app, first released in 2013 to provide user-friendly guides and interactive tools for extension ladder selection and safe use, now includes step ladder safety resources and other enhancements based on user input. Download the free app, available in English and for iPhone/iPad or Android. Visit the NIOSH Ladder Safety Mobile Application webpage to learn more.

Who We Are

The UC San Diego OSHA Training Institute Education Center is part of UC San Diego Extension which has served as a premier source of lifelong learning for adults seeking professional and personal growth for nearly five decades. Currently, Extension educates over 22,000 professionals annually in more than 4,600 courses and over 80 certificate programs including the multi-track Professional Certificate in Occupational Safety and Health.

The UC San Diego OTIEC has consistently provided quality, innovative and cutting edge occupational safety and health construction and general industry standards based education and training since 1992 when it was chosen as one of the original four OSHA Training Institute Centers. In addition to the U.S. Department of Labor OTIEC courses, Extension has a long history of providing courses in safety and health management and training, hazardous waste management and emergency
Remembering Jeff Lewis

by Harold Gribow

Dr. Grace Miller, EdD, Director UCSD OTIEC made the following announcement

Dear Colleagues,

It is with deep sadness that we tell you Occupational Safety & Health instructor Jeff Lewis, passed away on Friday, February 5th in Arizona. Jeff was an expert in all industries -- construction, general industry and maritime. Not only was he a talented teacher and mentor, he was an extraordinarily kind individual and a great friend to the UCSD OTIEC team. We will miss him greatly.

In honor of Jeff, the UC San Diego Extension Occupational Health and Safety Department will be setting up a scholarship in his name to support students in our safety programs.

With respect,
Grace

In our first Outreach Trainer Newsletter, January 2014, Jeff introduced himself to our readers. Here is what he wrote:

Jeff Lewis MS, RSP, CSSM, DMT

My name is Jeff Lewis, and after a short but intense career as an international commercial pilot (both fixed-wing and rotary), I spent almost two decades with the U.S. Navy studying Marine Engineering and International Maritime Law and earned many associated credentials including Gas Free Engineer, Chief Engineer (Steam, Motor, & Gas Turbine; Unlimited; Ocean), and Master (Steam, Motor, & Gas Turbine; Unlimited; Ocean); trekking 6 of 7 continents and sailing 6 of the 7 seas. Subsequent to my Naval Career, I have spent almost two decades becoming an authorized instructor and instructor-trainer for many organizations including OSHA, FEMA, several international SCUBA organizations, and a few international first aid and emergency medical institutions; and consulting in safety and emergency management. I have had the privilege of working at the UCSD OTIEC for about seven years now and enjoy learning the various and changing issues in Occupational Safety & Health. As a UCSD OTIEC Instructor and the Course Chair for the Maritime Programs, I invite you to contact me, for any issues, at jglewis@ucsd.edu.

Many other colleagues and friends sent messages to be included in this issue:

“Throughout his adult life, Jeff wanted to make the world a better place whether it was through his 13-year Navy career or his teaching. Jeff had a great respect for our nation and served our country well over land, sea and air. His missions sent him to 6 continents, the oceans around the world and the White House under President George H. W. Bush.”

“Jeff moved to Phoenix after his Navy career where he began a new life in the safety industry. He worked with the Red Cross, organized a management company and developed Southwest Safety Services, a successful Safety and Emergency Management Consulting and Training business. His work with OTI over the past 10 years was very exciting for him. He embraced writing or updating material for classes and relished being in front of the classroom.”

“He supported and listened to the needs of others because he wanted his friends and students to be successful. Listening was his key to meeting those needs.”
Remembering Jeff Lewis

“He was one of those amazing people who was a problem solver and loved to use the phrase “pulled a rabbit out of the hat”. Jeff always had your back. Your safety was important to him whether it involved work or play. Emergency preparedness was an integral part of his life from Boy Scouts to the Navy to everyday living. Who else could build an igloo as a Scout at the age of 11, sleep in it overnight and do a better job than anyone else? In the mid 90’s, the preparedness concept eventually led to “Bug Out Bagz”, a company specializing in preparedness, safety, first aid and back pack packages or “go bags”.”

“Intelligent, an avid reader, an astounding memory and vocabulary that left the rest of us dizzy, and he wanted to pass along all this knowledge. He could talk for hours about any subject.”

“Jeff had a great laugh and enjoyed life with his family of friends and work. He was generous with his time, took great pleasure in giving back and saying “thank you” to those who went out of their way. He was a true gentleman.”

“One of Jeff’s passions was in the ham radio field as a communications expert or enjoying competitions with his friends that contacted people around the world.”

“Over the past 18 years, Jeff developed a love for recreational scuba diving earning an instructor rating. Recently he discovered the thrill of taking pictures and video while diving. His most recent toy was the GoPro camera. If you lost Jeff on a dive, you could usually locate his bubbles and find him in a hole taking a picture of an octopus, drum fish, angelfish, or seahorse.”

“Jeff’s skills, talents, intelligence and friendship had a great impact on so many people. This honorable man will be greatly missed.”

“I was remembering something that really was amazing about Jeff. Each time I walked into his office, or each time I saw him, he uttered these words, “How can I help you today?” He meant those words each and every time. He was so thoughtful and so helpful, always putting others best interest in front of his own. That simply phrase had such an impact on me I am trying to use it more and more.”

“Jeff Lewis was an individual who I proudly consider to be a friend, mentor and dedicated safety professional. The world in which Jeff Lewis worked and lived will have a void that cannot be completely filled because of his passing. Jeff, as a friend and instructor, cannot be replaced. I am honored and humbled that he considered me one of his friends.”

“The students and contemporaries of Jeff Lewis mourn the loss of this outstanding individual. Jeff was passionate about life and brought that same enthusiasm to the safety and training world in which he was immersed. Mr. Lewis was kind, intense, serious, a gentleman and well thought out in his manner and presentation. Everything he did was done with bravado and we lost a very great man far too early. My hope is that Jeff’s life and mission will continue to inspire us to be the best that we can to lead others to do what is right at any cost. I never knew what I did to earn this great man’s respect and loyalty, but I will treasure the memory of his kind comments and am truly honored and inspired by his life, a life that truly made a difference.”

“A fellow veteran who knew him for 40 years and served with Jeff in the Navy called Jeff and himself "Brothers in Arms” and described him as an “officer and a gentleman”. He called Jeff “a gifted writer who loved to teach”. He enjoyed Jeff’s intellect and his laugh.”
Your Trainer Resources

Below is a collection of tools we think you will find very useful. Each issue will include selected resources to help you, our Trainers.

1. Cal/OSHA Consultation E-Tools - Providing effective education and training is one of the most important aspects of creating a safe and healthy work environment. To assist employers and employees, Cal/OSHA Consultation Service recognizes the value of providing information through the Internet and other formats. Included are eTools with Action Kits (consisting of various practical multi-media products such as videos, CDs, publications, or power point presentations).

2. Increase in OSHA Penalties - OSHA fines will increase for the first time in a quarter century, under a provision in the recently signed congressional budget.

3. Safety Videos from SCIF - The California State Compensation Insurance Fund has recently expanded its offerings of on-line safety videos.

4. Ladder Safety Training - From the American Ladder Institute. This free ladder safety training is a tool for the proper selection, care and safe use of all ladders, including stepladders, single and extension ladders, articulated ladders, and mobile ladders. Provided by the American Ladder Institute, this training outlines safe ladder practices in all applications, such as construction/painting, building and custodial services, warehousing, power, manufacturing, chemical and petrochemical, oil and gas, and at home.

5. OSHA Fall Protection Resources - The National Safety Stand-down to Prevent Falls in Construction is May 2-6, 2016. OSHA has created a page of Fall Protection Resources drawn from many sources to encourage employers to provide training to their workers regarding fall hazards.

Looking for a full list? Please click here for PDF with all the current resources listed.