



NUTSEA

NATIONAL UTILITY TRAINING & SAFETY EDUCATION ASSOCIATION
SAFETY • SKILL • SERVICE

October 2017

Dear NUTSEA Members:

It is hard to imagine that I will now be the head of the National Utility Training & Safety Education Association (NUTSEA) as your Chairperson in 2018. I am honored and excited to be serving in this position.

I have personally been involved with NUTSEA since 1991 and have had the honor of meeting Safety Professionals from all across the country. Many of these individuals have become great life-long friends as well as invaluable resources with decades of knowledge and experience in our industry. **And what a ride it has been!**

Just a little NUTSEA history:

- NUTSEA was formally organized in 1946.
- Planning Committee members were officially elected from 1946 to present.
- Prior to 1946 Chairpersons were in an acting capacity.
- Beginning in 1958 they were elected by the Executive Planning Committee.
- Since 1981 a nominating committee has selected the chair and then that individual was voted into office by the members.
- The very first chairperson voted in was Jerry Wampner from Indiana in 1981 with Stan Rucker following in 1982.

Seventy five years of history! Now let's look ahead, we must always strive to look ahead. NUTSEA needs fresh ideas on how to lead this great organization for the next 75 years. NUTSEA needs **YOU!** NUTSEA membership needs **YOU!** We need you to volunteer your time, share your best practices and continue to strive for perfection when it comes to safety.

So, I challenge you to get involved with this organization. It is not easy being a leader, but the benefits that we receive when we lead, outweigh any comfort we achieve by staying in the background. Be a doer! Do what is right not what is easy. Passion is what drives each of us to do what we do. Are you passionate about safety? Apply that passion by forging new ideas, championing and sharing those ideas, all in an effort to sustain and promote the growth of this great group of motivated, energetic **Safety Professionals**.

Glenn Cunningham will be the Chairperson of the nominating committee in 2018. He and his committee need your help. They need leaders! They need **you** to step up and be a leader in this organization. They need a long list of names of those of you wanting to become a part of the

Leadership Committee. Let's make it a challenge for Glen and his committee to choose who they will recommend for a 3 year Director position. Make sure **your name** is on that list!

I would like to take a moment and thank Glenn Cunningham and our Board Members on the 2017 NUTSEA Conference in New Orleans. They did an amazing job organizing and running this conference so that we members could return home reenergized and ready to take on the important task of **work place safety**.

In NUTSEA's Board wrap-up meeting, discussions were held regarding the by-laws. In particular Article III Membership, Section 1 "Active member" and Section 2 "Associate member". At the end of our discussion, the board agreed no changes were needed regarding the original intent of these sections. However, going forward, we will encourage the membership committee to have a clear understanding of the difference between an active member versus an associate member when reviewing new member applications.

James D. Miles once said that "Character is how you treat those who can do nothing for you." With that being said, I challenge each of you to be the best version of yourself. Help anyone you can by sharing your knowledge, determination, passion and time.

In closing, I would like to extend an invitation to the **2018 NUTSEA Conference** hosted by the Bluegrass State of Kentucky! The conference will be held in Louisville, Kentucky at the Marriott Downtown. So mark your calendar for September 16th – 19th, 2018 and plan to attend! Check out NUTSEA.org for more details.

With that let me end by saying thank you. Thank you for your trust in me and this Board. With your help we will continue to make NUTSEA a great networking organization enabling us to do the most important job of all...ensuring **WORK PLACE SAFETY!**

Sincerely,

National Utility Training & Safety
Education Association



Jim Ed Burris
2018 NUTSEA Chairman