



Safety & Training CONFERENCE

JUN 23-24
Milwaukee, WI

Connect. Discover. Learn.

Transform your company's safety culture

with key learnings at SGA Natural Gas

Association's Safety & Training Conference.

This is how



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2025 Sponsors	02
Welcome Letter	04
Planning Committee	05
Meeting Floor Plan	06
Agenda	07
Safety Note	08
Keynote Speaker	09
Session Descriptions	10
Networking Event	12
Meritorious Action Honorees	14

DEAR SAFETY LEADERS,

Welcome to **Milwaukee** — a city built on grit, innovation, and community — where we gather to advance the most critical mission of all: protecting people. This year's Safety & Training Conference represents more than sessions and networking; it's a collective commitment to elevating safety as both a value and a verb.

We're thrilled to host **Lauren Gilliland**, Senior Vice President of Gas at Xcel Energy, as our keynote speaker. Lauren's leadership in operational excellence and safety culture will set the tone for actionable insights you can bring back to your teams. Alongside her, **industry-leading speakers** will share cutting-edge strategies — from hazard mitigation to human performance — that empower us to transform risks into resilience.

“Every conversation here has the power to save lives.”

HIGHLIGHTS TO FUEL YOUR EXPERIENCE

Brewers vs. Pirates | Premium Suite Night

Network with peers at American Family Field while enjoying Milwaukee's legendary hospitality (and maybe a home run or two!).

Your Role in This Movement

Every conversation here has the power to save lives. Whether you're sharing a near-miss story or discovering a new tool, you're strengthening the safety fabric of our industry.

Incident Experience Survey

During this conference, we'll unveil the results of our 2024 Incident Experience Survey, along with a comprehensive playbook sharing actionable insights and best practices to drive safety performance across our industry.

GRATITUDE & GROUNDWORK

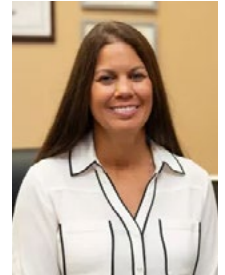
None of this would be possible without the dedication of our **committee members and SGA team**, who've worked tirelessly to craft this experience. Now, it's your turn: Lean into every session, challenge assumptions, and connect with purpose.

“Safety isn't static — it's a relentless pursuit.”

Safety isn't static — it's a relentless pursuit. Together, let's return home with renewed energy to protect what matters most: our people, our communities, and our future.

See you in Milwaukee!

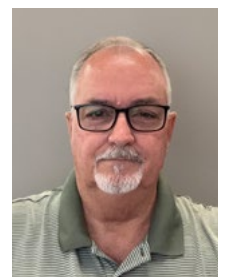
BRANDY SILVIO
BOARDWALK PIPELINES
Chair, Employee Health and Safety Committee



BOB PRICE
SOUTHERN STAR CENTRAL PIPELINE
Co-Chair, Learning and Development Committee



JEFF BUTTRAM
CENTERPOINT ENERGY
Co-Chair, Learning and Development Committee



P.S. Download the SGA app for real-time updates, and don't forget your glove—you never know when a foul ball might come your way!

THIS CONFERENCE WAS SHAPED BY THE EXPERTISE
AND VOLUNTEER LEADERSHIP OF THE PROFESSIONALS
BELOW—THANK YOU FOR YOUR SERVICE

*Employee Health
& Safety*

Adrian Barnett
Duke Energy Corporation

Bob Tawney
Hope Gas

Brandy Silvio
Boardwalk Pipelines

Christopher Stuart
Duke Energy Corporation

Chuck Tyson
Allan Edwards

**Colby A. Child, Jr.,
M.A.A., ASP**
R. Christopher Goodwin
& Associates

Curtis Lee Biondich
TRC Companies

Dave Durgin
City of Orangeburg, SC

Frederick Heslip
Enbridge

Heather Burks
WhiteWater Midstream

James Owens
Atmos Energy,
Mid-Texas Division

Jordan Akagi
Enstor Gas

Joshua Coffman
Hope Gas

Karl Leger
RegSafe

Keith Ash
City of Tallahassee
Natural Gas Utility

Kevin Parker
InfraSource

Kristi Evans
Williams Companies

Kristin Cox
BGE, an Exelon Company

Les Wooten
Atmos Energy,
West Texas Division

Mark Haptonstall
Arkansas Oklahoma
Gas Corporation

Michael Donahue
Enbridge Gas

Pamela Kerr
Enbridge

Robert Mayfield
Spire

Sam Alhmad
PrepWell

Samuel Holliday
Southern Star Central
Gas Pipeline

Trevor Rice
Enstor Gas

Vince Parra
Williams Companies

Vincent Dodson
Liberty Utilities

*Learning &
Development*

Aaron Jones
Enbridge

Adam Compton
Allen Roy
CenterPoint Energy

Amy Livingston
Kinder Morgan

Bob Price
Southern Star Central
Gas Pipeline

Candace Byington
ONE Gas

Dallas Johnson
Summit Utilities

Ein Huie
Mosaic

Gerald Alex
Xcel Energy

James Owens
Atmos Energy,
Mid-Texas Division

Jason Garland
EGW Utility Solutions

Jason Quackenbush
Xcel Energy

Jeff Gorman
Southern Star Central
Gas Pipeline

Jeffrey Wayne Buttram
CenterPoint Energy

Jeffrey Wayne Simms
Mountaineer Gas Company

Joy Christina Service
Spire Alabama

Juanita Parker
Williams Companies

Kadmiel Beauvais
City of Tallahassee
Natural Gas Utility

Kevin Dunn
Washington Gas

Kevin Murphy
LG&E and KU Energy

Matthew Waller
Atmos Energy,
Mid-Texas Division

Nasr Alkadi
Southern Star Central
Gas Pipeline

Ray Brown
Pipeline Equipment

Rusty Hughes
Spire Alabama

Sam Rizzico
Mosaic

Samantha Howard
Southern Star Central
Gas Pipeline

Scott Crider
Southern Company Gas

Shawn Frederick
Boardwalk Pipelines

Stephen Mayfield
City of Tallahassee
Natural Gas Utility

Tiffany Land
Atmos Energy Corporation

Todd Cash
Enstor Gas

Tom Mumford
Travis Jordan Gillette
CenterPoint Energy

Victoria Ferro
CenterPoint Energy

Vince Parra
Williams Companies

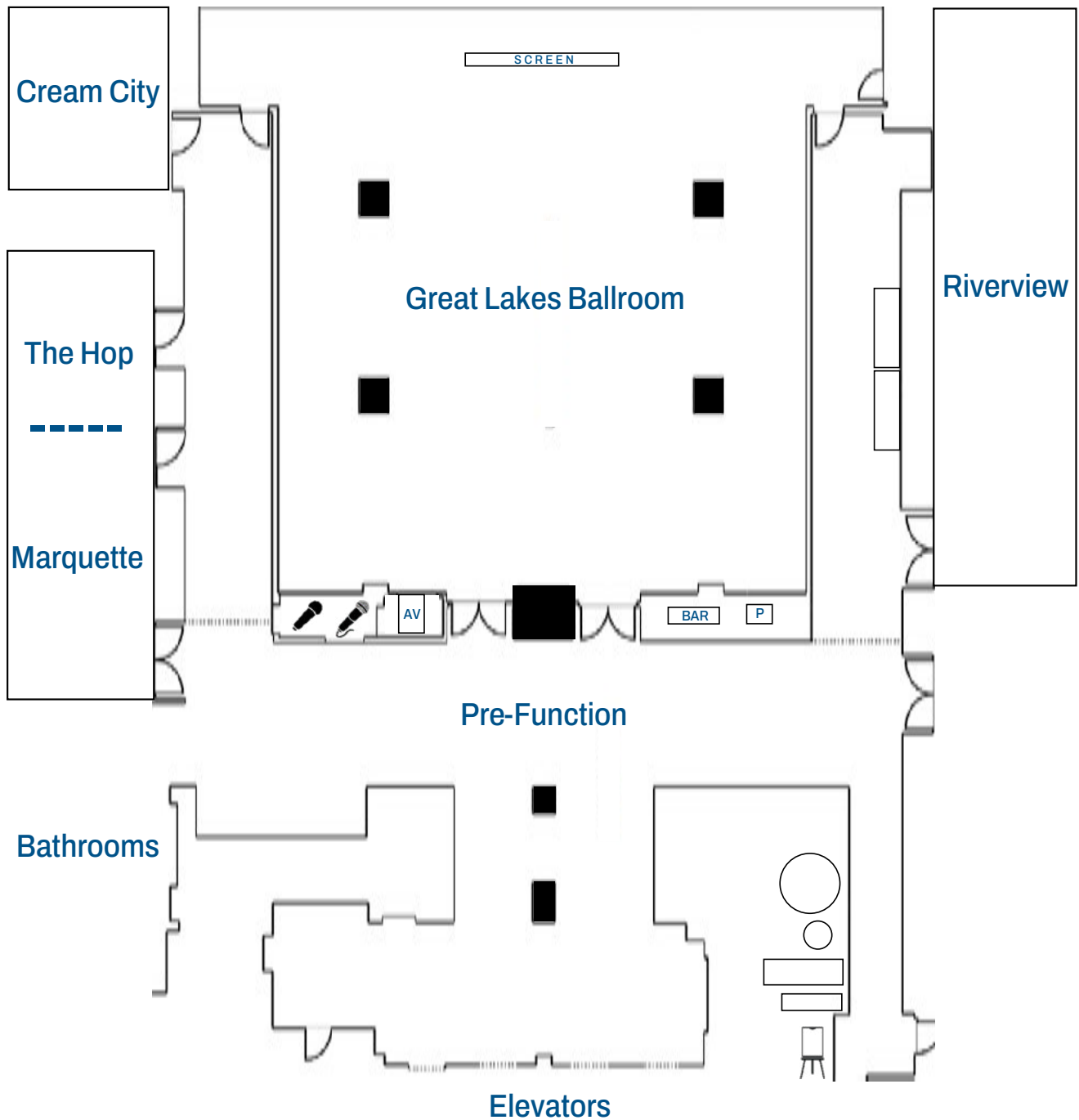
Wallace McGaughey, Jr.
ENTRUST Solutions Group

William Murphy
BHE GT&S

Yolanda Santiago White
Gas Authority

FLOORPLAN

DRURY PLAZA HOTEL MILWAUKEE DOWNTOWN SECOND FLOOR



AGENDA

JUN 23 MONDAY

SESSION	TIME	TRACK	LOCATION
Registration/ Information Desk Open and Badge Pick-up	11:00 AM 5:00 PM		Pre-Function Area
High Energy Hazards and Controls — <i>Paul Hurysz</i>	1:30 PM 2:30 PM	Safety	Riverview
Frontline Leadership: Communicating with Impact — <i>Dana Spaulding</i>	1:30 PM 2:30 PM	Learning & Development	Cream City Conference
Networking Break	2:30 PM 3:00 PM		Pre-Function Area
Frontline Leadership: What Really Drives Workforce Engagement — <i>Wesley Marsh</i>	3:00 PM 4:00 PM	Learning & Development	Cream City Conference
Networking Break	4:00 PM 4:30 PM		Pre-Function Area
Brewers vs. Pirates at American Family Field Premium Suite Experience. <i>Add-on ticket required.</i>	5:00 PM 8:00 PM		American Family Field

JUN 24 TUESDAY

SESSION	TIME	TRACK	LOCATION
Registration/ Information Desk Open	8:00 AM 5:00 PM		Pre-Function Area
Breakfast provided by Drury to Hotel guests	8:00 AM 9:00 AM		
Serious Injury & Fatality Update — <i>Marguerite Porsch</i>	9:15 AM 10:15 AM	Safety	Riverview
Building a Culture of Safety at Your Company — <i>James Owens</i>	9:15 AM 10:15 AM	Learning & Development	Cream City Conference
Digital Twins and Safety — <i>Jean Dahm</i>	10:30 AM 11:30 AM	Safety	Riverview
Knowledge Transfer — <i>Dana Spaulding</i>	10:30 AM 11:30 AM	Learning & Development	Cream City Conference
Keynote Luncheon — <i>Lauren Gilliland,</i> SGA Awards Meritorious Action Ceremony	11:45 AM 1:45 PM		Great Lakes Ballroom
Hydrogen Safety — <i>SENSIT</i>	2:00 PM 3:00 PM	Learning & Development	Riverview
Dispatch Plus & Operator Qualification Integrity — <i>Travis Gillette</i>	2:00 PM 3:00 PM	Learning & Development	Cream City Conference
Networking Break	3:00 PM 3:15 PM		Pre-Function Area
Doing Safety Differently: A Transformation to HOP — <i>Paul Hurysz</i>	3:15 PM 4:30 PM	Safety	Riverview
How to be a Supervisor: Navigating Operator Qualification with Confidence — <i>Wesley Marsh</i>	3:15 PM 4:30 PM	Learning & Development	Cream City Conference

Safety
 Learning & Development

SAFETY NOTE

Help your SGA team serve you better! We require that you wear your badge while in session and at all the special events.

- » **Are there safety hazards in your meeting room?** Please bring it to the attention of SGA staff.
- » Restrooms are available on the level.
- » Help prevent slips, trips, and falls by being mindful of your backpacks, laptops, cords, etc.
- » Write any personal medical conditions on the back of your name badge to help the emergency responders know how best to care for you — just in case.
- » If you see something, say something!
- » Dial 911 for all emergencies.

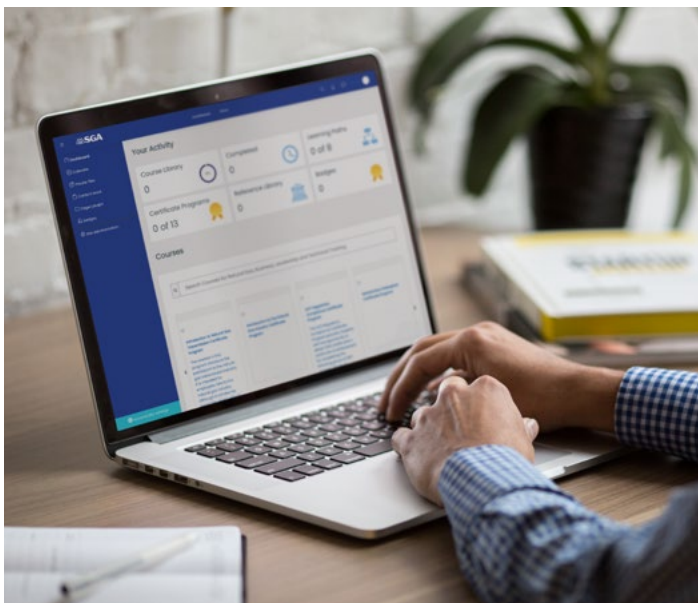
BEFORE EACH SESSION STARTS:

- » Take a moment to note the locations of the exits.
- » Note the nearest Automated External Defibrillator (AED) location.

- » Identify who is certified CPR and AED.
- » Choose two people who are designated 911 callers.
- » Pick someone as a buddy — who you will look for at the safe assembly area.

IF AN EMERGENCY OCCURS ON-PROPERTY DURING THE CONFERENCE:

- » Remain calm.
- » Contact the hotel on a house phone by dialing 0. If you cannot find a house phone call 911.
- » Report the location of the emergency.
- » Calmly explain the nature of the emergency.
- » Give your name, location and then give a phone number at your location if available.
- » Wait for direction from security or police.
- » Please allow operator to hang up first.
- » If safe, wait for emergency personnel to arrive, direct them to the emergency, and only give assistance if requested by emergency personnel.
- » The hotel will report the emergency to the on-site Meeting Planner.



DISCOVER 81 NEW WAYS TO ADVANCE YOUR CAREER!

We've expanded SGA Campus to bring you **\$1.5 million in trusted, high-value training** to help natural gas professionals stay ahead. You now have access to:

- » **81 new on-demand training modules** for immediate, flexible learning.
- » **8 certificate programs** designed to upskill operators, technicians, and leaders.
- » **Mobile-friendly, on-demand access** anytime, anywhere.

Whether you're looking to master gas measurement, applied physics, or essential electronics, SGA Campus provides the tools you need to excel in your role and drive success for your team.

Don't have Campus? Interested companies can email us at learn@SGANaturalGas.org for details on a Campus subscription.

SouthernGas.org/gta-training

Lauren Gilliland is Senior Vice President, Gas at Xcel Energy. She is responsible for all aspects of the business unit including engineering, operations and maintenance of the local gas distribution and transmission systems, system reliability, emergency response, damage prevention, geospatial, public safety, gas plants, gas storage fields, compliance, and customer satisfaction over geographically dispersed territories in seven states, encompassing more than 2.1 million natural gas customers.

Gilliland previously served as regional vice president, Gas at Xcel Energy, responsible for all aspects of the company's current distribution systems for Colorado. Gilliland earned both a master's degree in organizational leadership with emphasis in disaster preparedness and fire executive leadership, and a bachelor's degree in business management from Grand Canyon University. Lauren is a graduate of SGA's Accredited Natural Gas Executive program.

Gilliland serves on the SGA Natural Gas Association Executive Committee and American Gas Association Managing Committee and is a board member for the American Red Cross. In her spare time, she enjoys traveling with her husband Jason, daughter Kennedy and giant schnauzer Onyx.



KEYNOTE ADDRESS:

Beyond Hard Hats: The Human Side of Safety

LAUREN GILLILAND

TUESDAY, JUNE 24 | 11:45 AM

True safety goes beyond protocols and PPE and it starts with people. This keynote explores the critical connection between mental health, psychological safety, and overall well-being in building a truly safe workplace. We'll challenge traditional notions of safety to create cultures where people feel seen, supported, and strong both inside and out.

SESSION DESCRIPTIONS

JUN 23 | MONDAY

Safety

High Energy Hazards and Controls

Speaker: Paul Hurysz, Davey Resource Group

Recognizing what matters: high-energy hazard identification using the energy wheel.

There are a few fundamental truths most safety professionals and operations managers in the utility industry can agree on. First, hazard recognition is critical to the safety of every crew and employee activity. Simply put: if a hazard isn't identified, it can't be prioritized, mitigated, or controlled.

Second, despite decades of efforts to improve work practices across the industry, serious injuries and fatalities (SIFs) have remained stubbornly unchanged. This stagnation has prompted researchers and industry leaders to explore new approaches, particularly in construction and maintenance environments where risks are highest.

One of the most promising tools to emerge is the Energy Wheel, also known in some circles as the STKY Wheel (Stuff That Can Kill You). This visual framework helps crews better identify high-energy hazards before work begins—those same hazards often overlooked in routine briefings and safety observations.

This short course will:

- » Explore why high-energy hazards often go unrecognized
- » Introduce the Energy Wheel tool, based on the research of Dr. Matthew Hallowell and his team
- » Provide practical steps for using it with your maintenance and construction crews

- » Offer real-world insight into how this tool can be integrated quickly into job briefings and safety processes

Whether you're leading a crew or shaping your organization's safety culture, this session offers a simple yet powerful tool to strengthen hazard ID and help prevent serious injuries.

Learning & Development Front-Line Leadership: Communicating with Impact.

Speaker: Dana Spaulding, Hope Gas

How well are your messages landing with your team?

In this session, Dana Spaulding will explore the critical role of communication in front-line leadership. Learn proven strategies for delivering clear, consistent, and effective messages that build trust, reduce confusion, and drive performance. Whether you're giving direction, sharing feedback, or navigating tough conversations, clear communication is your most powerful leadership tool.

Learning & Development Front-Line Leadership: What Really Drives Workforce Engagement.

Speaker: Wesley Marsh, Hope Gas

Do you truly understand what motivates your team?

In this session, Wesley Marsh explores data-driven insights into employee engagement. What actually inspires people to perform at their best, and what leaders can do to foster that motivation. You'll walk away with practical strategies to build stronger connections, boost morale, and lead a front-line workforce that's not just compliant, but committed.

JUN 24 | TUESDAY

Safety

Serious Injury & Fatality Update

Speaker: Marguerite Porsch, Centerpoint Energy

Traditional safety approaches have been built on Heinrich's safety triangle, but is this theory true? Even Heinrich himself tried to walk back this idea in the 1959 edition of his book. With the continued fatality experience in the United States, it certainly seems there is a piece of the puzzle missing in our fatality prevention efforts. Should we be looking back in time to try to solve the problems of the future? Is it time to embrace a newer ideas in order to move safety forward? This presentation describes a serious injury and fatality (SIF) based approach to safety being embraced by many utilities and reviews CenterPoint Energy's READY model for SIF prevention.

Learning & Development Building a Culture of Safety at Your Company Because Safety Isn't a Program — It's a Way of Life.

Speaker: James Owens, Atmos Energy

This session dives into the strategies and mindsets needed to embed safety into every level of your organization. Learn from industry leaders who have moved safety from a checklist to a core value. Discover how to shift behaviors, reinforce expectations, and build a safety culture that sticks—even when no one's watching.

Safety**Digital Twins and Safety**

Speaker: Jean Dahm, Vital Tech Services

Discover how digital twin technology deployment is revolutionizing workplace safety by creating virtual replicas of physical environments, equipment databases, and processes. In this session, Jean Dahm will demonstrate how real-time data simulations have been used to predict hazards, optimize safety protocols, and prevent incidents before they occur. Learn how industries are leveraging digital twins for proactive risk assessment, quality management, emergency response planning, and worker training in immersive, risk-free environments. Whether you're in manufacturing, construction, or operations, this session will provide actionable insights into integrating this cutting-edge technology into your safety strategy.

Learning & Development**Knowledge Transfer: Capturing Wisdom Before It Walks Out the Door**

Speaker: Dana Spaulding, Hope Gas

How do you preserve decades of expertise before your most experienced employees retire?

In this session, we explore practical strategies for capturing institutional knowledge from senior team members and turning it into a lasting asset. Learn how to structure effective knowledge transfer efforts and how mentorship programs can bridge generations, strengthen culture, and build future-ready teams.

Learning & Development**Hydrogen Safety**

Speaker: SENSIT

This session we will discuss the importance of safety on the impact of hydrogen on gas detection equipment as well as the importance of safety on the leak detection processes.

Learning & Development**Dispatch Plus & Operator Qualification Integrity**

Speaker: Travis Gillette, CenterPoint Energy

Innovative software, an added layer to operator qualification compliance.

Dispatch + Overview

- » Workforce Hub
- » Optimizer / Rebalancer
- » Dispatch Solution
- » Routing Solution

OQ Compliance

- » Individual vs Crew Work
- » Core Group of OQs
- » Layering Controls
- » Limiting Override Authority
- » Skill Standardization

Dispatch Plus Utilization**Safety****Doing Safety Differently: A Transformation to HOP**

Speaker: Paul Hurysz, Davey Resource Group

After decades of using the same approaches to safety—and seeing the same plateaued results—it's time for a shift.

In this thought-provoking session, Paul Hurysz invites attendees to rethink traditional safety philosophies and explore a new, more human-centered approach. He'll guide you through what it means to create a psychologically safe environment for real change, and how to visualize the maturity path of your safety culture whether your programs are externally driven, internally built, or both.

This session isn't about checking boxes. It's about challenging assumptions, thinking differently, and unlocking better safety performance.

Learning & Development**How to Be a Supervisor: Navigating Operator Qualification with Confidence**

Speaker: Wesley Marsh, Hope Gas

Supervising employees subject to Operator Qualification (OQ) requirements comes with critical responsibilities—and a steep learning curve.

In this session, Wesley Marsh will break down the key expectations, regulatory responsibilities, and best practices for supervisors overseeing OQ-covered tasks. Whether you're new to the role or refining your approach, you'll leave with a clearer understanding of how to support compliance, safety, and employee performance in the field.



BREWERS vs. PIRATES

AT AMERICAN FAMILY FIELD,
PREMIUM SUITE EXPERIENCE

We're bringing the energy of the ballpark to Safety & Training Conference!

Still deciding on your evening plans? Join us tonight in the Premium Party Suite at American Family Field as the Brewers take on the Pirates. If you haven't signed up yet, check with SGA staff at the registration desk—space is still available!

Add this event to your registration for \$50.

NETWORKING EVENT



THIS IS YOUR OPPORTUNITY TO:

- » Mingle with industry peers and network in a relaxed setting
- » Enjoy exclusive access to a Premium Party Suite within the American Family Field
- » Enjoy a fully stocked bar and elevated ballpark fare
- » Witness the thrilling action unfold on the field as the Milwaukee Brewers battle the Pittsburgh Pirates

If you didn't add the Brewers game to your registration, you can still purchase a ticket at the registration desk while supplies last. This premium suite experience includes food, drinks, and great company—don't miss out!

Attendees will need to arrange their own transportation to the ballpark and arrive by 5:00 PM to meet at a designated location. The stadium is 4.4 miles from the hotel—a 7-minute Uber ride or a 30-minute bus ride. Full instructions will be provided when you pick up your badge. For questions, contact Cindy Anderson at 469-426-7009.



MERITORIOUS ACTION HONOREES

SGA's Meritorious Action Recognition celebrates individuals who have displayed courageous actions to save or attempt to save lives. SGA salutes those individuals who have displayed heroic action or quick thinking to save the lives of others. Read the epic stories of heroism of this year's honorees.

JASON WHEELER

Atmos Energy

After Hurricane Helene devastated the Florida Gulf Coast, Jason Wheeler used his personal time to travel over 900 miles to help impacted communities. He led resource collection efforts, assisted in clearing over 100 homes, and provided compassionate support to those who had lost everything.

DONNIE PIERSON

Atmos Energy

Donnie Pierson recognized the early signs of a heart attack in a colleague and took immediate action, ensuring prompt medical care. His quick thinking and CPR training helped save his teammate's life.

KLAY ALLDAY & BRUCE CAMP

Boardwalk Pipelines

Klay and Bruce prevented a potential tragedy by stopping an oncoming train from colliding with a car stuck on the tracks. Their vigilance, teamwork, and fast communication averted disaster near hazardous materials and safeguarded lives.

STEVEN BRIOLO, NICHOLAS COUVILLON, JOSHUA GREENE & CHARLES MARTIN

Energy Transfer

When a teammate suffered a medical emergency offshore, this team performed CPR for nearly 20 minutes and coordinated emergency air transport. Their life-saving response and ongoing care helped ensure a full recovery.

JOSE LEAL-HUERTA & VALENTIN QUINTERO

Miller Pipeline

In a chaotic scene outside a sandwich shop, Valentin broke up a violent altercation while Jose used CPR training and quick action to stop life-threatening bleeding from a stab wound. Their intervention saved the shop owner's life.

JORDAN KIDD

Miller Pipeline

While driving through a tunnel, Jordan spotted a crash victim lying in the roadway. He stopped traffic, provided critical first aid, and stayed until emergency responders arrived, choosing to act when others might have passed by.

BRIAN HATLEY, TROY TURNER JR. & DILLON WILCOX

PolyPipe

During a flash flood at their facility, PolyPipe employees acted decisively to rescue stranded coworkers and neighboring employees. Their quick response and selflessness saved lives and exemplified leadership under pressure.

NICK YOUNG, JAMES PAUL & BRANDON HAMBY

Southeast Connections

After a hurricane knocked out power to a man on life support, this crew used their generator to stabilize him and cleared nearly three miles of debris to enable ambulance access, ultimately saving his life.

BRETT STEWART

TC Energy

After witnessing a car flip into a creek, Brett Stewart entered the icy water to rescue the trapped driver. His actions saved her life as the vehicle quickly filled with water.

Read their full stories.

[awards.southerngas.org/
meritorious-action25](https://awards.southerngas.org/meritorious-action25)

Celebrate the SGA Awards winners during OpsCon.

awards.southerngas.org/finalists25



MEWBOURNE COLLEGE OF EARTH AND ENERGY
RONNIE K. IRANI
CENTER FOR ENERGY SOLUTIONS
The UNIVERSITY of OKLAHOMA



ACCREDITED NATURAL GAS EXECUTIVE PROGRAM

The Accredited Natural Gas Executive (ANGE) program is designed to develop future leaders in the natural gas industry. Participants will gain new strategies and insights to navigate the changing energy landscape.

The program offers a mix of lectures, discussions, and self-reflection exercises to help participants sharpen their global vision of the industry, and become thought leaders in their organizations. Each participant is assigned a seasoned mentor to provide personalized guidance and support. Completing ANGE is seen as a significant career achievement and demonstrates an organization's commitment to developing its future leaders.

The third cohort is now enrolling to start in mid 2026.



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THANK YOU TO ANGE SCHOLARSHIP UNDERWRITERS FOR SUPPORTING THE NEXT GENERATION OF LEADERS.

ALL-ACCESS PASS

All-Access is SGA's newest and most equitable pricing model to keep the natural gas industry trained and future-ready. It reinforces our core mission to advance the natural gas industry and individuals by linking people, ideas, and information.

The value of the All-Access Program is already proven. We continue to add new subscribing companies each month as the popularity of this offering grows. Thanks to this model, we've offered more classes than ever on a larger variety of topics. More members are attending and stay current on natural gas trends, training, regulations, etc. If you are not an All-Access member yet and want more information, please contact Alesia Black at ABlack@SGANaturalGas.org

The positive reviews keep on coming.

"This was a very good investment. All the classes that I have taken have been excellent!"

"This has benefited me significantly! This is one of the only avenues to develop in the natural gas/utility areas."

"Greatly appreciate the opportunity to broaden my knowledge and learn from other industry professionals."



Gas Rocks!

Back by popular demand — Our OpsCon Signature Social, Gas Rocks! returns Thursday night at the Belmont with live music! You'll want to be there.

Live SGA Awards Luncheon

Be in the room live when the 2025 SGA Award winners are announced and celebrated!



Pipeline Pairings

Intentional conversations fueling connection and innovation across the supply chain. New in 2025, Pipeline Pairings are 15-minute, scheduled conversations between operators and suppliers, designed to go beyond booth talk. These are curated, meaningful exchanges that foster insight, innovation and industry collaboration. Details & registration link above with Exhibitor information!



WE WOULD LOVE YOUR ADVICE.

Your input is key to helping us build a better conference experience.

REQUEST PDH.

You learned a lot, now get credit for it. Follow this link to request Professional Development Hours for the sessions you attended.



SGANaturalGas.org