



Janet Sprickman – A True Pioneer

Calling her a pioneer is not giving enough credit to Janet H. Sprickman. In February of 2006, Janet was recognized as a member of ASSE for 50 years. Janet was the first woman to serve as President of the American Society of Safety Engineers (ASSE) National Capital Chapter (1971-1972) and was very involved in National ASSE and The Board of Certified Safety Professionals (BCSP). Her professional career includes many highlights, at a time when women were rarely given high level responsibilities. Janet graduated from Mundelein College in Chicago in 1947 and immediately went to work for the Red Cross, as many women did around that time. She obtained a master's degree in safety education from New York University.

In the early 1950's, a high-level Army officer became aware of Janet's capabilities and she was "recruited" by the US Army to address ski injuries to our troops in Europe. While there, she helped establish the first "Ski Patrol". She was promoted and became the first woman, civilian, Safety Director for the US Army Security Agency. In the mid 1960's Janet worked for the National Safety Council where she developed one of the first nation-wide school safety programs, a significant accomplishment at that time. In the late 1960's, she worked for the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration and helped develop one of the first EMT training courses.

In the early 1970's, she obtained her CSP designation and became one of the first woman to hold a management position in the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) Directorate of Compliance Programs. She was responsible for developing initial OSHA compliance regulations and the first inter-agency safety programs. She retired in 1989. Born on May 31, 1925, Janet passed away at the age of 82 on September 3, 2007, and was named to the ASSE Top 100 Women in Safety History

To say she was a pioneer in our field is huge understatement.



Chapter President, Mike McCullion, gives Janet Sprickman her 50 Year Award in 2006.