



## Vision for 2009

By: Tom Hamilton, CPP, CPC – Chairman-elect



First, I would like to thank the outgoing Chapter officers for their contributions to the Houston Chapter. Chapter leadership roles are volunteer positions that require commitment and dedication. The other elected Chapter Officers and I are looking forward to 2009 and the new challenges that lie ahead. We intend to work hard to earn the confidence you have placed in us. To that end, the incoming Executive Committee held a planning meeting on Monday, December 22<sup>nd</sup> so that we could begin planning for next year. We established a number of goals for the coming year.

The number one goal for the coming year will be to increase the value to being a member of the Houston ASIS Chapter. We will be looking ways to give back to our membership, i.e. increased focus on educational programs and seminars, improved speaker presentations, programs to reward attendance to Chapter luncheon meetings, etc.

In keeping with the Chapter’s focus on security education and enlightenment, we are planning a great speaker program for next year. We will also look into the possibility of getting our meetings approved by the State of Texas TCPS for CEU credits as well as other credits that may be available to us.

The Houston Chapter has long been recognized for our outstanding certification review program. We look forward to continuing that tradition. We will be relying on our CPP leadership within the Chapter to organize and conduct this valuable review seminar.

I have reached out to a number of Chapter members to get them involved in Chapter leadership by either being a Com-

mittee Chair or a member of an active committee. We will hold an Executive Committee meeting on a quarterly basis to review Committee activity and make major Chapter decisions. I am committed to communicating with the Chapter on all major issues.

Our first priority will be to select a site and date for the Chapter’s Annual Golf Tournament. We may be facing difficult financial times ahead. As a result, we will look closely at all financial aspects and ways to add value to our tournament. Our focus will be fun for all and yes, we still hope to raise funds for the Chapter’s Charity efforts.

Lastly, over three years ago, the Chapter’s Executive Committee voted unanimously to change the name of the Law Enforcement Appreciation Committee to the Public Safety Liaison & Benevolence Committee to afford us the opportunity to recognize all persons who work to make our community and businesses a safer place. That means

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Firefighters, both private and proprietary security officers, EMS personnel, DEA, DPS, etc. To date, we have done nothing in that regard, in 2009 that will change.

Again, thank you for your support and I look forward to serving you next year.

## In The Spotlight

By: Tom Hamilton, CPP – Editor



This issue we are pleased to feature an educator, scholar and a brand new author in our Chapter, Mr. Will Prince.

A Native Texan, Will Prince began his security career as a security officer in Dallas in 1977 and has since held jobs in both the public and private sectors. He has also been a college educator,

first as a full-time member of the criminal justice faculty at Fairmont State University in West Virginia and recently as an adjunct instructor at Wharton County Junior College (WCJC). Will holds both B.S. and M.S. degrees in criminal justice and has been a Certified Protection Pro-

fessional since 1996. Presently he is the Director of Security for the Houston Regional Operations Center of Camden Property Trust. Will is married to Sharon, head of the English Department at WCJC, and they have fraternal twin daughters, Lauren and Justine, who are in third grade this year.

Even before he married an English professor, Will enjoyed writing and took great pride in his skills. For years people told him, “Will, you write so well; you should write a book.” His typical response was, “Yeah, I write well, but I write to inform—not to entertain.” It became something of a mantra to him. In October 2007, someone again suggested that Will should write a book, and he repeated his standard response. However, on his way home from work that day, he thought to himself, “Why not give it a shot?” When he arrived at home, he walked inside and straight to the computer, sat down, and cranked out the first chapter of a novel.

For the next several months, Will wrote whenever he could find the time, often staying up late after his family had gone to sleep. Despite the rigors of his work schedule and family activities, Will was able to crank out a chapter

“Spotlight” continued on page 3.



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here or a few paragraphs there, and before he knew it, the novel had begun to take shape. Will read in a number of sources that a first novel should ideally be between 80,000 and 100,000 words, and writers generally agree that achieving the minimum is not nearly as difficult as not exceeding the upper limit. Although that was hard to believe at first, Will soon found that it was indeed true, especially for someone who is naturally prone to being verbose. Will’s college students often joke that he has a knack for making a short story long!

Will is a bit of an anomaly among writers in that he does not work from an outline and has no preconceived notions of what he wants to say. One can imagine what his wife thinks of that, but we have it on good authority that he never even uses an agenda for meetings. Will simply does not like feeling constrained, preferring to go wherever the words lead, and each day of writing is truly new and exciting. As a result, Will’s story ultimately did not turn out the way he might have guessed when he first began writing it. Even so, after 96,000 words and change, he was proud of the end result.

*The Legend of Sasquatch* (ISBN: 0-7414-4844-0) is available from a number of online sites and can also be ordered by its ISBN from virtually any brick-and-mortar bookstore that does not stock it. Bear in mind that the story has nothing whatsoever to do with Bigfoot and is intended for mature readers only. It is a character study, albeit one filled with quite a lot of action, which follows its protagonist through several years of his late adolescence as his life and world view are just beginning to take shape. As is often the case, a series of missteps—compounded by some bad luck—leads to unfortunate results.

Will reports that sales have been slow but steady, but more importantly to him, the reviews thus far have been uniformly positive. He harbors no illusions of replacing Russell Banks or John Irving in the canon of great American writers. Likewise, he presently has no plans to give up his day job, but if some people enjoy the results of his hobby, he will consider the effort successful. No matter what, Will intends to keep writing—and yes, he has already begun the second novel. (Visit [www.thelegendofsasquatch.com](http://www.thelegendofsasquatch.com) if you are interested in more information.)

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## New Committees Formed

By: Tom Hamilton, CPP, CPC – Chairman-elect

To assist in the Chapter's growth and service to our membership, I have appointed several new committees and one new Chapter post.

With the world's largest medical center located here in Houston, to better serve the security needs of that aspect of our Chapter, the former Corporate Security Roundtable has been renamed to **The Healthcare Security Roundtable**. I'm pleased to announce that **Ralph Burdett**, Administrative Director, Department of Public Safety, Harris County Hospital District, has agreed to Chair this Committee.

Another new committee, the **Awards Committee** was formed to develop the criteria and select recipients of Chapter scholarship awards. **Steve Brack**, CPP, will chair this committee. As we move forward, this committee will play an important role in the Chapter's charitable contribution awards.

As the world leader in the space programs, it seems only fitting that we have a committee to serve the needs of this valuable sector of our Chapter's membership. Therefore,

I have appointed the **Space Center Security Committee** and appointed **Deed Vest**, with USA to Chair this committee.

We have long needed an individual to serve as the Chapter's liaison to member families in need during times of critical illness or loss. I am equally pleased to announce that **John "Butch" Roberson**, Baylor College of Medicine has accepted the post of **Chapter Chaplain**. In addition to his other responsibilities, Butch will also lead our invocation at our monthly meetings.

Please join me in welcoming these members to our Chapter leadership team.

### Allan J Cross Award

Jason Angell has been selected by the ASIS Houston Chapter to receive the Allan J Cross Award. Our best wishes for your success in completing the CPP certification program.



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## TPSB Liaison ~ Happy New Year for 2009!

By: John Kahn, CPP – Committee Chairman

On behalf of the *ASIS Chapter 12 – Region 6* and as the newly appointed **TPSB Liaison for ASIS Chapter 12 - Houston**, Happy New Year 2009 to all of our members, and non-members!

As we start the new year, the core value for *TPSB Liaison ~ Chapter 12 – Region 6* will be to offer insights and perspectives to **Texas Private Security Bureau**, as it begins its work session for the year.

When you have questions concerning State of Texas *licensing* for the provision of various security duties-task-functions, may I recommend the simplicity of going online at: <http://www.txdps.state.tx.us/psb/>. You can get there via our ASIS Chapter 12 website: <http://www.asishouston.org/> The TPSB website offers immediate access to the essential details to answer any licensing queries. Moreover, the website offers access in various areas such as: (a.) license packages, (b.) license details & applications, (c.) statutes & rules, (d.) specific eligibility overviews, (e.) access to PSB Forms & Fees, (f.) PSB Fines & Fees Tables, PSB Field Investigations Offices – locations & phone numbers, PSB News, and much more.

An overall goal for *TPSB Liaison for ASIS Chapter 12 - Houston* will be to report & to disseminate important information regarding: (a.) security issues, (b.) conditions, and (c.) events within the security industry facing our members in Fiscal 2009. Another goal sub-set will be to identify security matters facing our diverse membership of security professionals, or non-members alike. I'll be looking at (a.) standards & guidelines; (b.) legislative matters; (c.) striving to educate our membership; and finally (d.) offering opportunities where our members or non-members can retrieve additional information promptly.

Again, *TPSB Liaison* stewardship will strive to be informative; and to be a substantive, educative value for all of the membership of *ASIS Chapter 12 – Region 6*. As always, if you have a specific question, or need to identify a specific *TPSB resource*, if I can assist, let me know: John H. Kahn, TLPI, TLSC, CPP: Email: [jkahn@arrowgrp.com](mailto:jkahn@arrowgrp.com).



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# Placement Committee Report: Tips For Landing That Security Management Position

By: Mike Mason, CPP - Committee Chair



Hiring managers, who are looking to hire a security manager, want to hire a candidate who can do the job and connect with others in the workplace. Beyond considering the skills, knowledge and experience that the candidate possesses, the interviewer is trying to determine if he/she can connect to the company's mission, its people and its customers. It is essential to quickly establish chemistry between yourself and the interviewer, but it can be a daunting task considering the brief amount of time candidates have with the interviewer who is a complete stranger. These are tips for quickly establishing and maintaining the chemistry:

- Discuss your passion for security management with emphasis on a win-win relationship.
- Remember it is impossible to connect with others if you do not listen to them. They will inevitably communicate important information to you verbally and non-verbally. You should take brief notes and take time to formulate your response to the interviewer's concerns and questions.
- Point to benefits of employing you by engaging the interviewer.
- Gain an understanding of how the interviewer receives information (i.e. auditory, visual, tactile, etc.).

During the interview stage, the candidate will be judged on three dimensions: chemistry, competency, and compensation. Making efforts to emphasize these points throughout the interview will go a long way toward impressing the interviewer and positioning yourself ahead of other candidates.

Next thing you must know is that every question an interviewer asks is an opportunity to sell himself or herself as the most outstanding candidate for the security management position. Here are the 10 standard questions used during most interviews and recommended responses:

## What makes you special and why should we hire you?

Tip: Prepare several selling points about yourself. Give a

quick "elevator speech" that overviews your experience and achievements.

**What are your greatest strengths?** Tip: Sell yourself because if you don't promote your strengths, nobody else will. Prepare six or seven responses and be "confidently humble."

**What are your greatest weaknesses?** Tip: Present your weakness as a positive light. Don't emphasize your downfalls.

**Why are you interested in working here?** Tip: Keep your answer simple and to the point. Stay away from such responses as, "Many of my friends have worked here." This response isn't very impressive.

**Why should we hire you?** Tip: Make a powerful statement about the value you'll bring to their organization. Toot your own horn, but be wary of sounding arrogant.

**Where do you see yourself five years from now?** Tip: Be aware that they might not want to hire someone who will be around for only a year or two. Feel free to say that you have one goal at the moment: to be the very best employee for that particular job.

## What are some of your hobbies?

Tip: Emphasize any activities that may relate to the job. Help the interviewer learn more about you and perceive you as a person. Therefore, don't just answer questions, respond to them.

**Would you be willing to pursue an extra certificate or credential?** Tip: Tell the interviewer how important professional growth is to you. Understand that the person who will impress is the one willing to do the extra work.

## What were you hoping we'd ask today, but didn't?

Tip: Consider this a "show and tell" opportunity. Use materials from your portfolio to convince them how valuable you'll be to their organization.

**Do you have any questions for us?** Tip: List five or six questions on an index card. Ask at least one question, even if all of your prepared questions have been answered. Never say, "No, you've answered all of my questions."

## Please Update Your Membership Information

### Editorial

The Chapter constantly receives requests that contact information is incorrect. Our information on our members comes directly from the database at ASIS International.

Therefore, if that information is incorrect, the member must go on the ASIS web site and make the necessary changes. To do this go to [asisonline.org/membership](http://asisonline.org/membership), then click on "Maintain your membership," then click the drop down box that says "Update your membership information." Here you will find the place to make any and all corrections to your personal and business information.

In addition to errors due to job changes, etc. we find that many members fail to list other sources of contact, i.e. home phone, fax numbers, etc. etc.

Please help the Chapter be of benefit to you. Update your information now.

## In Memory of Kevin Bordelon



It is with great sadness that we report the passing of a Chapter member. Kevin Bordelon, age 31 and his wife Christie age 30 were killed December 26, 2008 by an accused drunk driver in an early morning accident in the 7800 block of State Highway 6 just after midnight when they were hit by a driver who ran a red light.

Kevin was born in New Orleans on June 24, 1977 and graduated from St. Thomas Episcopal School and attended Louisiana Tech at Ruston, LA and the University of Houston where he met Christie. They were married on May 17, 2001. Christie was born in Houston on March 8, 1978 and was a graduate of Tanglewood Academy. She attended the University of St. Thomas and the University of Houston.

Employed by the Semen's Corporation, Kevin was known by his colleagues as a person with a great personality who cared about his clients and a passion for his work. Kevin was an asset to the security community. Kevin and his wife Christie will be missed by all.



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## Make 2009 the Year You Get (Re) Involved with ASIS

By: George Quin, CPP, ISP – ASIS Region 6 RVP

Congratulations on being a member of one of the oldest and largest chapters in ASIS International! The Houston Chapter has a well-earned reputation of award-winning excellence at ASIS Headquarters. Some of your previous chapter officers have even been selected for regional and national leadership positions. I know your new Houston Executive Board, led by Chapter Chair Tom Hamilton, has been developing plans for ensuring 2009 serves as a milestone year for helping discerning chapter members improve themselves professionally.

Stephen Covey popularized the self-help admonishment — “*Sharpen the Saw.*” Certainly the various roles assumed by both corporate and government security managers in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century have become increasingly complex, requiring the continual updating of highly diverse security skill sets in order to remain proficient in this field. Your Houston Executive Board is committed to providing you with multiple opportunities to enhance your professional knowledge and personal career development during the months ahead.

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But it remains up to YOU to sharpen your saw.

It isn't enough anymore to just sit back and read the monthly issue of *ASIS Security Management* when it hits your mail box. It is time to pop your head up and recognize that gale force winds of economic change are now blowing across the American employment landscape. You can chose to either ride these winds or get left behind in the dust. Consider for a moment that US Department of Labor statistics indicate the Boomer Generation will have worked an average of nine different jobs covering three different career tracks before reaching retirement age. In short, lifetime employment with a single organization is rapidly vanishing. “Riding the wind” as a security professional means deliberately choosing to get (re) involved with ASIS: attending monthly chapter meetings; committing to finally studying for the CPP/PSP/PCI certification program you've been procrastinating about, deciding to broaden your professional horizon by signing-up for a live or virtual security training seminar, and volunteering to serve on a chapter committee. Why? Because you should know there is simply no career substitute for active participation in your chapter.

Quite frankly, if you are seeking some employment insight, just ask anyone from Generation X what their opinion is about the prospects of real job security. I'll bet a pitcher of your favorite beer that the most common word coming out of their mouths is “*Networking*”. (You might remember it was “*Plastic*” for the Boomer Generation ...) And they aren't just referring to the Web, although some may mistakenly believe that's what is really meant. So let's be very clear on this — while computers are invaluable data search engines — they are not the primary vehicle for job security these days. Webster's New World Dictionary defines network as “*a group, system, etc. of interconnected or cooperating individuals.*” Networking involves participating in such groups to achieve a desirable end result such as personal career growth.

Your ASIS Chapter in Houston offers the very best opportunity of these groups. To help validate that observation, here's an apt twist on an old adage I came across a few years ago:

*“It isn't just what you know, and it isn't just who you know. It's actually who you know, who knows you, and what you do for a living.”*

“Involved” Continued on page 9.

“Involved” continued from page 8.

People connecting with other people in both professional and social settings are what really drives America’s high tech global-spanning economic engine. This is known as the power of networking. It can work equally well for you, but only if you decide to let it. I’m not promoting a bestseller for networking. But I have come across some common sense tips I do think are worth sharing:

— **Be willing to ask for help.**

If you don’t ask for help, you probably won’t get it due to the simple fact that telepathy is a rare among most people. You must be able to articulate what you are interested in if others are to help you find it.

— **Reach out to everyone to create your own network.**

You should include your colleagues, classmates, teachers, neighbors, friends and family. You are searching out various information subject matter experts.

— **But you are not asking them for a job.** That tends to make people feel awkward and embarrassed when they can’t deliver one to you.

— **Be a resource person and offer to help.**

Remember it’s a two-way street. Networking is first and foremost a people business. Your network doesn’t exist only for your benefit. You should be willing to offer your help to others.

— **Don’t use your network just for job hunting.** Networking contacts can help with more than job leads. Seek to connect with people of like interests for the purpose of uncovering opportunities and the sharing of best practices. If you only get in touch when you are looking for work, your network may disappear because no one wants to take your call. So call to just exchange ideas.

— **Get connected.**

Establish public profiles through ASIS and other on-line venues dedicated to helping you network with like-minded professionals. However, be very cautious with posting the personal details of your life. Make no mistake about it; identity theft via the Internet is very real.

— **Seek out quality contacts.**

Some see networking as a competitive sport and brag about how many contacts they have. Knowing just a few people willing to share their advice with you is more valuable than a hundred acquaintances.

— **Remember to say thank you.**

Besides simply being good manners, it is one more way to repay a kindness. Always acknowledge those who helped you along your path, regardless of how large or small their actual role was.

— **Look for “joy” in your work life.** We invest much of our lives at work. Yet time is one thing work can’t buy more of. So discover your true passion and seek out a way to fulfill it. By doing what you love, the money will follow. Don’t wait for a major event like an ASIS Annual Seminar to begin building your own network. Resolve to start talking to those around you today in your chapter. The opening questions are certainly easy enough. “*What do you like best about what you do?*” “*What got you started?*”

I hope many of you do decide to make 2009 the year you sharpened your own saw. Your chapter can help provide you the means to that end. The actress Helen Hayes often proclaimed, “*If I rest, I rust.*” As security professionals, we simply can not afford the luxury of being rusty.

I wish everyone in the Houston Chapter a safe and prosperous 2009.



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# Treasurer's Year End Report 2008

By: Bob Cascino, CPP – Chapter Treasurer



As I sit and write this last newsletter as the Houston Chapter Treasurer, I reflect on the trust the membership and executive committees placed in me since assuming the position eight years ago. At the time I never realized it would be a run of this duration or the personal satisfaction I have derived from serving the chapter in this capacity.

In assuming the position I wanted to make a difference in how we managed our finances to insure we had a stable chapter financially. The general membership and the executive committees supported the efforts through considering and advancing ideas to enhance revenue, cause initiatives to support themselves and provide for enhanced services to the chapter. Each goal was achieved through tireless efforts of committee members and the executive committee to broaden communication efforts and certainly through the general membership for accepting those changes necessary to make us a financially healthy chapter.

In reviewing our current position we find the new treasurer, Chris Dempster, will inherit a balance sheet that is solid, a chapter membership that is supportive in sponsoring the website, newsletter, chapter dues and luncheons, not to mention our golf tournament and annual seminar.

You, the general membership of the chapter, and the executive committees I have worked with over the past 8 years have made this labor a source of pride for us all. I would be remiss if I didn't publicly thank my area coordinator, Sheree Poe, for providing me and the chapter technical support; she is truly a "PRO" at what she does.

I am proud to announce our current balance sheet shows we have \$12,984.33, including our savings account, proceeds from the annual seminar and other revenue. There are some open invoices against this balance but our chapter is doing fine financially, as the amounts due are for usual expenses and paid support services.

I look forward to continuing with other committees, supporting the new executive committee and assisting the chapter with initiatives.

Thanks to the entire chapter and each member for allow-

ing me the opportunity to have been of service. I wish each of you a grand holiday season and a happy and prosperous new year.

With warmest regards,  
Bob Cascino

## ASIS International Houston Chapter 2009 Officers

Tom Hamilton, CPP, Chairman, Mike Mallon, Vice-Chairman, Chris Dempster, Treasurer, Ann Marie Acree, Secretary - For Committees see page 13 or "Officers & Committees" section of our website at [www.asishouston.org](http://www.asishouston.org).



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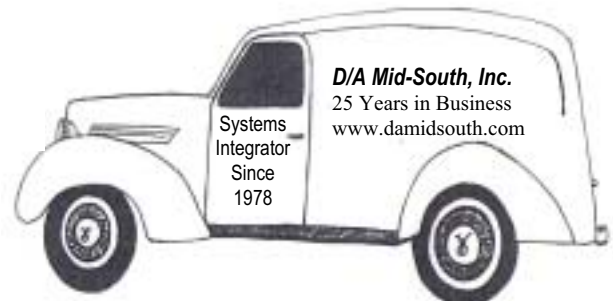
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## Golf Tournament Date Moved to Later in The Year

By: Tom Hamilton, CPP, CPC – Chairman-elect

The in-coming Executive Committee voted to move back the Annual Golf Tournament to either late September or early October. It is believed that this move will enable the Golf Committee to have more time to plan for a larger event, locate a larger venue to accommodate more players and faster playing time for the tournament. We want this year's event to provide camaraderie, friendly competition and be a truly fun tournament for our Chapter members, vendors and guests.

As usual, our goal is to raise funds for the Chapter's annual charity contributions as well as Chapter operational expenses. We expect to have a final date and location announcement very soon.

Seeking a new position? See the chapter website or contact Mike Mason, CPP, Placement Chairman.

## Chapter Membership Goals for 2009

By: Greg Autry, CPP – Membership Committee Chairman 2009

As we greet the New Year, we would also like to greet new members into the ASIS Houston chapter. We are over 7 years past 9-11 and the need for security professionals to network and learn from peers has never been greater. I would like to challenge each member of our chapter to bring in one new security professional into ASIS and the Houston chapter this year. If you manage a commercial property, invite your neighboring building security director. If you are a security equipment provider, encourage your customers to join. If you are a security officer services provider, invite your clients' security professional or encourage your project managers to become members.

We current members are aware of the benefits our membership provides. From discounts on monthly meetings and seminars to networking and placement opportunities, the \$25 yearly dues are an invaluable investment. We can all be part of the membership committee by encouraging other security professionals to join this dynamic and critical organization. The more diverse our membership, the greater our resources become.



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## Speaker's Corner

By: Greg H. Walker, CPP, ARM - Chapter Vice  
Chairperson 2008



In October, the speaker was Mike Matte, Vice President and General Manager, Kratos Defense & Security Solutions, who spoke on Marathon Leadership comparing leadership to running a marathon. Kratos stepped up to the tee box as our Platinum

Sponsor in the 2008 ASIS Houston Chapter Gulf Tournament in a year when a number of our traditional and valued sponsors were unable to do so due to the economy.

During the October luncheon the Chapter also presented the Golf Tournament proceed scholarship checks to University of Houston Downtown (for Criminal Justice and Security Management), South Texas College of Law (for those desiring to become state or federal prosecutors), and Sam Houston State University (for Criminal Justice and Security Management).

In November, the Chapter did not have a traditional luncheon speaker as we held the Annual Houston Chapter

Officer elections, which was combined with the Houston Chapter Annual Seminar. Greg H. Walker, Esq., CPP, ARM, spoke on Ethics, Larry Shimek of the TPSB spoke on Laws, Rules & Regulations, and Paul Brown, CEO of CyberEvidence, Inc., along with his crew, did an excellent live investigative presentation on Computer Forensics.

There was not a luncheon in December as the Annual Christmas & Holiday party was held.

## Membership Committee Report

By: Steve Greis, Committee Chairman 2008

The Houston Chapter of ASIS International would like to welcome the following new members for the 4th Quarter of 2008:

|                   |                  |
|-------------------|------------------|
| Kenneth Carter    | Beth Pelz        |
| Edward Cavazos    | Paulette Purdy   |
| Gerald Dotson     | Sunil Rampersaud |
| Bobbie Echard     | Steven Roberts   |
| Garry Evans       | Steve Sands      |
| Felix Gutierrez   | Elhadji Sarr     |
| Robert Karl       | Raymond Steere   |
| Brannon Morrison  | Tracy Volking    |
| James O'Flahertyl | Anthony Ybarra   |
| Darryl Otto       |                  |

Your membership includes access to valuable services provided by the chapter, such as job postings/recruiting, social networking, on-line access to the Protection of Assets Manual, and discounts at monthly meetings and training seminars. Houston Chapter Membership is only \$25 per year. Fees from chapter membership help support our charitable programs, educational funding, social events and more. For more information about becoming a chapter member, please contact Steve Greis at (281)313-6155, or [sgreis@1sst.com](mailto:sgreis@1sst.com).

## Visit Other Chapters

Editorial

If you're like most of us, you tend to travel at least occasionally. If you happen to be in a Texas city where another Chapter is located, why not pay them a visit. At the Region 6 website ([www.asisregion6.org](http://www.asisregion6.org)) you will find a list of all the Chapters in Texas along with the names of the Chapter Chairman and their e-mail addresses. Click on "Chapters" at the top of the home page.



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James Hosel

## Web Site Committee Report

By: Roger Piper, CPP - Committee Chair

The Houston Chapter of ASIS has established a website that has set a standard of excellence that I will strive to maintain as the new Chair of the Website Committee. I have been a member of ASIS and this Chapter since 2002 and have previously worked with the Newsletter Committee and the CPP/Education Committee. I have also been active as a member of the Information Assets Protection (IAP) Council since 2004. The Houston Chapter website has been a valuable resource for me personally over the years as I hope it has been for our community. Its links to other resource sites, ease of access to ASIS information, TPSB news, and security information in general have made it easy to see why it has garnered both acclaim and awards. Of course, the easy registration for chapter luncheons, including profiles of the speakers, generates opportunities to visit the site on a monthly basis to see what's new. Its ease of navigation is a credit to our own Bruce Rodriguez who also has been responsible for maintaining it in a quality fashion.

Maintaining the site as a quality resource for everyone is my commitment and one of the first challenges to this goal is the renewal of past sponsorships and the addition of new sponsors. While 2009 is shaping up to be a year of economic adjustments for many organizations, we believe the Houston Chapter website provides great value for its sponsors. I encourage individuals and organizations to write me and share their experiences. I would also appreciate hearing about any changes or additions you may have for the site. Please send me an e-mail letting me know of ways we can make the site more vital to the end user. I will be reaching out to past sponsors, but I encourage current and interested sponsors to contact me at your earliest opportunity to lock in space for the New Year. I look forward to hearing from you and serving as your Website Committee Chair in 2009. If you would like information regarding Web site sponsorship, please email me at [rpiper@secure-sols.com](mailto:rpiper@secure-sols.com).

Houston Chapter members get free access to the CPP and PSP study materials on our website [www.asishouston.org](http://www.asishouston.org).

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### *"The Sentry"*

Is published quarterly and mailed out in hard copy to all ASIS International members assigned to the Houston Chapter. Once mailed it is then posted on the Chapter website. If you have questions or wish to make an editorial contribution, please contact the newsletter editor by email at [tomh@hamiltoncsi.com](mailto:tomh@hamiltoncsi.com) or call (281) 398-7774.

Newsletter Editor, **Tom Hamilton, CPP**

Layout and Design, **Bruce Rodriguez, MCSE**

### Chapter Officers and Committee Chairs –2009

|                          |                        |
|--------------------------|------------------------|
| Chairman                 | Tom Hamilton, CPP      |
| Vice Chairperson         | Mike Mallon            |
| Secretary                | Ann Marie Acree        |
| Treasurer                | Chris Dempster         |
| ASIS Foundation          | Randy Simpson, CPP     |
| Awards Committee         | Steve Brack, CPP       |
| Social Committee         | Steven Greis           |
| Certifications Co-Chair  | David Cribbs, CPP, PSP |
| CPP Review               | David Cribbs, CPP, PSP |
| PSP Review               | David Cribbs, CPP, PSP |
| Program Committee        | Tim Manning            |
| Healthcare Round Table   | Ralph Burdett          |
| Golf Tournament Co-Chair | Darin Dillon, CPP      |
| Golf Tournament Co-Chair | Chris Dempster         |
| Chapter Chaplain         | Butch Roberson         |
| Public Safety Liaison    | Mike Mallon            |
| Legislative Affairs      | Mike Crocker, CPP, CSC |
| Membership Committee     | Greg Autry, CPP        |
| Newsletter Committee     | Tom Hamilton, CPP      |
| Nominations              | Richard Hill           |
| Placement Committee      | Mike Mason, CPP        |
| Private Security Rep.    | John Kahn, CPP         |
| Space Center Security    | Deed Vest              |
| TPSB                     | John Kahn, CPP         |
| Web Site Committee       | Roger Piper, CPP       |
| Training and Seminars    | Randy Simpson, CPP     |

## Assist the Officer Program

By: Tony Lapaglia - CPP

Assist the Officer is a 501(c) 3 non profit organization providing short-term, immediate need financial assistance for peace officers in the Greater Houston area critically injured in the line of duty. Originally founded by Houston Police Officers, Assist the Officer offers benefits to all qualifying peace officers in Harris, Montgomery, Brazoria, Ft Bend and Chambers counties making up the Greater Houston area.

There are several benefit packages for officers who are killed in the line of duty - most people are aware of the 100 Club but there are no benefits for those who survive the incident, sometimes becoming medically disabled to continue working as a peace officer. Assist the Officer provides financial assistance to officers **critically injured** in the line of duty according to workman's compensation guidelines (injury must keep officer off work for 31 days or more, must be under the care of a physician, and cannot perform their normal job duties).

It is an unexpected financial burden when an officer is hurt in the line of duty. Usually, most don't have accessible money for their family to live on while in the hospital. The expense to park in the Medical Center, pay for coffee and other drinks, food and snacks while keeping up with daily and monthly expenses can be horrific especially when the officer hurt is the sole provider. Officers must then wait for workman's compensation to kick in where all the while expenses are piling up. These officers are not only missing their paychecks but any over time they normally work to help make ends meet. Workman's compensation does not cover the overtime pay and when the officers return back to work, they must pay back what they have received.

Worry over money can cause problems in the marriage and family unit and slows down the healing process preventing these officers from returning back to their work to serve and protect our community.

Once a year and depending on available funding, Assist the Officer also offers scholarships to qualifying seniors of those injured officers and to officers who have had to retire from the force due to their medical disability and must now be retrained to re-enter the work force.

Assist the Officer accepts individual donations as well as

corporate contributions and personal bequeathing. A company can consider matching payroll deduct program. Any company who commits to an annual contribution of at least \$10,000 or more will be given an Honorary Advisory Board position for one year and will offer company volunteer opportunities. Assist the Officer organizes several fund raising events on an annual basis including a Benefit Golf Tournament (next one slated for May 18th at Sweetwater Golf and Country Club), Benefit Shooting Tournament for both civilians and officer slated for April at the Memorial Oaks Shooting Club.

For more information, check out their website at [www.assisttheofficer.com](http://www.assisttheofficer.com) or contact the Executive Director at 832-971-9547 or email at [rose.m.pena@mac.com](mailto:rose.m.pena@mac.com)

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## **Public Safety Liaison & Benevolence Committee Report**

By: Greg H. Walker, CPP, ARM - Committee Chair 2008

In October, the Chapter's Officer of the Month award went to HPD Sergeant Whitman Liu who, on the 1<sup>st</sup> day of June 2008, responded to the 9400 block of Bellaire, where a woman had been viciously assaulted through the heinous use of a deadly weapon. As a result of the attack the victim lost her right eye, sustained fractured facial bones, multiple lacerations to the face, abdomen, left hand, and left shoulder, multiple puncture wounds, and damage to the right shoulder. The victim was transported to Ben Taub Hospital in critical condition. The victim spoke only Chinese and Sergeant Liu volunteered to go the hospital to translate and continue the investigation.

Upon arriving at the hospital Sergeant Liu located a witness and immediately began to obtain critical information needed for the investigation. The witness stated that victim was on her way to her apartment when she heard her name being called from outside. The witness saw the victim on the ground with a bloodied face and the suspect, identified as the victim's former boyfriend, standing next to her with an open bladed knife in his hand. She and her husband confronted and attempted to disarm the suspect but were unsuccessful. Sergeant Liu continued the investigation, obtaining a warrant for the suspect's arrest and searched different locations where the suspect might be hiding but was unable to locate him.

As the victim became well enough to speak, Sergeant Liu returned to the hospital and gathered additional information to help with his investigation. Sergeant Liu is a patrol supervisor but has taken a lead role in the investigation and continues to work on his days off and outside his regularly scheduled hours. He has become the primary individual the victim has confided in and whom she trusts. He has also fostered new positive relationships with the Asian community and the Houston Police Department.

In November, HPD Officer Manuel Ramirez was the Chapter's receipt of the Officer of the Month award. On July 14, 2008, Ramirez responded to a general broadcast regarding multiple suspects involved in several aggravated robberies. The officer checked the immediate area with negative results, and then took the initiative to go back to the original scene to speak with the complainant and gather more information on the suspects. As he checked the surrounding area, he observed a male matching the suspect's

description at a bus stop. Officer Ramirez reacted quickly and ordered the suspect to show his hands. He then observed a second suspect sitting at the bus stop bench counting money. Officer Ramirez saw the barrel of a gun underneath the suspect's thigh and immediately drew his weapon and ordered them to the ground. Officer Ramirez arrested and secured the suspects and took them back to the complainant where they were positively identified.

Upon further investigation, it was learned that two additional complainants had been victimized. One of the complainants advised that he was robbed at gunpoint and injured when the suspects struck him in the head with the pistol. The other complainant advised that when he confronted the two suspects when he saw them attempting to steal his bike one suspect pulled out a knife and the other suspect displayed a pistol. Officer Ramirez' investigation yielded marijuana possessed by one of the suspects, both the pistol and knife used in the crimes, and all the money stolen. His initiative and strong police instincts resulted in the arrest of two extremely dangerous individuals that have no regard for human life. Due to his heroic efforts, the citizens of this community will be safe from two dangerous criminals.

In December the Chapter's Annual Christmas Party was held and there was not an Officer of the Month Award.

## **Chapter to Purchase Wireless Microphone System**

Editorial

In reviewing our meeting costs as well as ways to enhance speaker programs, the incoming Executive Committee made the decision for the Chapter to purchase a wireless lapel microphone, two wireless microphones (to be placed in the audience) and our own mixer unit. This new system will allow our speakers to move around the room as desired without losing audio presence and allow everyone to fully hear the presentation. Additionally, by having wireless microphones positioned in the audience, audience participation, Committee reports, etc. will be heard with ease.

The cost of this new system will pay for itself by eliminating the monthly rental costs at our meetings as well as our various seminars and review programs were needed.

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