



## From the Chair

By: Tom Hamilton, CPP, – Chapter Chairman



We're off to a great start for 2009! Our meeting attendance is up over last year, we're close to breaking a record for Chapter membership and the Executive Committee is hard at work planning for a great year in all categories. One of the most rewarding experiences for me has been the commitment from our Committee Chairs in stepping up to the plate and getting involved.

Thus far, we have accomplished a lot and have more things planned. We have speakers booked into August, the Chapter Seminar is scheduled and the Golf Tournament date is set. I want to thank everyone who participated in the Membership Survey. We had a record number of responses and your input was very helpful in guiding the Executive Committee in addressing one major issue; our meeting location.

As stated in the Survey, the Renaissance Hotel has increased their prices to the Chapter to a level that results in a loss for each of our meetings. The majority of the responses from the Membership Survey suggested that we find another venue for our monthly meetings. Richard Hill, Ralph Burdett and I have been scouring the city for just the right location. Our search has centered on a good location, ample free parking and professional meeting room facilities, flexibility in attendance numbers and a reasonably priced menu selection of quality meals for our members. The Executive Board has determined that we will be meeting at the HESS Club starting May 20. See notice on page 3.

The Chapter web site was awarded Web Site of The Year again for 2008, the newsletter won Honorable Mention for 2008 and we were recognized for our Chapter's growth in 2008 adding 47 new members to our Chapter. We can all

be proud of these recognitions for the Houston Chapter.

The Golf Committee is hard at work planning another great tournament for us this year. Darin Dillon, Bob Cascino, Paul Rux, Chris Dempster and Tony Lapaglia are hard at work to make this year's tournament another huge success for our Chapter. They could use more help. We are looking for items for the "goodie bags," Silent and Live Auction items and door prizes. So, if you or your company has items you could donate, we would be most grateful. Be on the look out for upcoming announcements regarding this event.

We are also planning a first ever Chapter Family outing in the fall. Steve Gries our Social Events Chairman is working on this event. In closing, I want to thank the Chapter members for your support and your input. We are listening and are appreciative of your suggestions, ideas and comments. If I can be of service to you in any way, please contact me at [tomh@hamiltoncsi.com](mailto:tomh@hamiltoncsi.com).

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## Off-Site Meeting Announced!

By: Tom Hamilton, CPP, – Chapter Chairman

We are pleased to announce that our October meeting will be held at Space Center Houston. Through the efforts of Pam Duncan, Security and Safety Manager, we are in for a real treat.

In addition to our regular monthly meeting, Pam has arranged for us to have a free tour of Space Center Houston! When we get a little closer, we will post this on our Chapter web site. Here's the catch. We expect a large crowd but we will be limited in the number of people who can take the tour. The tour will be optional so we will have a double sign up, one for the luncheon meeting and one for the tour.

Due to the number of Chapter events taking place in October, we have opted to move the meeting date forward one week to the 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday in October.

I realize that this will be a bit of a haul for some of our members, but the Executive Committee and I felt that if we scheduled the meeting far enough in advance, those of you who wanted to take advantage of this wonderful opportunity could plan accordingly. We look forward to a great meeting and a fun day. Thanks again, Pam!

## Golf Committee Report

By: Darin Dillon, CPP - Chris Dempster - Paul Rux - Bob Cascino, CPP – Golf Committee Co-Chairs



We have a date and a place for play! We searched the city for the ideal golf course and once again selected Willow Creek Golf Club. Soliciting proposals from 15 clubs in the Houston area, the committee met to review all proposals and unanimously decided based on all elements, that Willow Creek best suits our organization's needs. So, mark your calendars for Monday October 19, 2009 for a 9:00 AM Shotgun Start.

The course will accommodate 144 players, so be on the lookout for the Registration Document that will be mailed within the coming months. Many of us have played Willow Creek in years past and can validate that this is a really nice setting for our Annual Golf Outing. We are arranging for good food, great prizes and may even toss in a few surprises. Registering for the event is quite simple.

Note that this is our **19<sup>th</sup> annual golf outing**. We are seeking sponsors for this year's tournament. We ask that you

"Golf" continued on page 3.



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"Golf" Continued from page 2

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Our goal is to fill the course with friends and associates for fun and fellowship that contribute to a worthy cause. The proceeds from this event provide funding for scholarships to Criminal Justice students, our newest charity, Assist the Officer and supporting other Houston Chapter programs.

We are not only seeking golfers for participation and play, we also need volunteers, door prizes, silent auction items, live auction items and prize donations of any type. Please help pass the word about this upcoming event. We look forward to having your participation and hope you come out to join us!

**The Chapter Has a New Meeting Location  
Effective Wednesday - May 20<sup>th</sup>!**

After several months of diligent search, we have found a new home! The Executive Committee reviewed the results of the Membership Survey and immediately set about finding a new venue for our monthly Chapter meetings. We narrowed the selection down to five possible venues and then after a personal visit by the Executive Committee that included a tour of the facility and lunch, the decision was finalized.

We are pleased to announce that the Houston Chapter will begin meeting at our new location on Wednesday May 20<sup>th</sup>.

**Place: The H.E.S.S Club**  
**Address: 5430 Westheimer (near the Galleria)**

The H.E.S.S Club (not affiliated with Hess Oil) offers free parking and a great meeting venue. To find a map of how to get there, visit their web site at [www.hessclub.com](http://www.hessclub.com).



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## Oil Gas and Chemicals Committee

By: Jay Helms, Committee Chair

Today's growing need for security is posing unique and exciting challenges for the corporate security professional within the oil, gas and chemicals industry. The formation of the Department of Homeland Security and the Presidential Directives issued regarding critical infrastructures and anti-terrorism has brought security design basis and security design philosophy to forefront of global engineering projects. No longer is security simply guard tours and daily activity reports, it is rapidly becoming a complicated and sophisticated discipline with engineering design functions. This poses unique challenges for the security professional; as the protection of people, property, and profitability does not follow the same empirical lines of traditional engineering. People are mobile and their motivations are based highly upon emotion, making them very unpredictable. Assets are often mobile or spread throughout a large geographic area, making the design and integration of systems complicated.

The standardization of a security design basis and philosophy will provide for the growth of the design function and the workflow process within the industry. One of the goals of the 2009 ASIS Houston Chapter Oil, Gas, and Chemicals committee will be to provide the framework

for the standardization of these aspects of engineering design and contribute to the formalization of *security engineering* as a recognized discipline for engineering design projects within the petro-chemical industry.

There is a wealth of knowledge and diversity within the chapter that has shown an interest in membership within the committee, this depth will be beneficial to achieving the goals of 2009.

### Coming Soon!

#### Study Resource to be Established!

In our continuing effort to provide value to our members, the Chapter Executive Committee voted to establish a resource center for members who are studying for their Certification exams or doing research for a security project. We will house these research resources at a central location for Chapter members to use.

Working with ASIS International and University of Houston Downtown, John Kahn, Richard Hill, Matt Silcox and David Cribbs, will develop a list of books and research materials needed. Based on their recommendations, the Chapter will purchase books and materials, including a new set of *Protection of Assets* manuals. We will announce the details when the resource center is open.



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## Certifications Committee Report

By: David Cribbs,, CPP, PSP – Committee Chair

The ASIS International Houston Chapter has always boasted one of the best CPP study programs in the country, and last year, we added PSP training to the curriculum. This year, we certainly will continue to encourage our chapter members to seek professional certification, and to assist them in this worthwhile endeavor in any way possible.

As this year's Certifications Chair, I'm pleased to announce additional opportunities for certification hopefuls to engage in interactive review with their peers. The chapter will once again host CPP and PSP reviews at no charge to chapter members, at a site centrally located to the membership.

A comprehensive CPP review covering all eight domains will begin Tuesday evening, June 9, and continue for the next three Tuesday evenings (6/16, 6/23 and 6/30). CPP study sessions will run from 6 pm to 9 pm, and will cover two domains per evening.

A similar PSP review covering all three domains will begin Tuesday evening, August 4, and continue for the next two Tuesday evenings (8/11 and 8/18). PSP study sessions will run from 6 pm to 8 pm, and will cover one domain per evening.

Both training sessions will take place at the MD Anderson South Campus Research Building (SCRB) located at 7555 Fannin. This has proven an excellent, with comfortable meeting space, presentation accommodations, easy access and free parking in the garage behind the building.

Attendees are encouraged to bring laptops, if desired, as the study material can be accessed and downloaded from the chapter website prior to the study sessions. Access to these materials is restricted, and interested members can e-mail me at [dpc@usa-spaceops.com](mailto:dpc@usa-spaceops.com) for access instructions. Paper copies of the review material will be provided at the sessions, and recommended study materials will be available for checkout as well.

Chapter members interested in either or both of these sessions, or needing more information, should e-mail David. Certified chapter members who are interesting in instructing a domain for CEU credit should contact David as well.

A special thanks to Dom Verini, CPP, and MD Anderson for once again generously offering accommodations for the 2009 certifications study program.

## Free Registrations for ASIS Houston Members!

The Houston Chapter is giving away two (2) free registrations for the

### ASIS International 55<sup>th</sup> Annual Seminar and Exhibition September 21-24 Anaheim, CA

In addition to these two registrations, the Houston Chapter in association with the

### University of Houston Downtown College of Public Service

we are also giving away two (2) free registrations for the

### Master of Security Management For Executives Annual Conference May 27—28, 2009

For all the details of how to win go to the Houston Chapter web site at [www.asishouston.org](http://www.asishouston.org). Drawings will be made at the May Chapter meeting.



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# TPSB Liaison ~ Quarterly Board Meeting Briefing

By: John Kahn, CPP – Committee Chairman

The *Texas Private Security Bureau's* Board of Directors meets quarterly or four times in a fiscal year. Board Members are appointed to serve on the TPSB Board. Their terms of service are offset to keep a consistency on the Board. The current *Texas Private Security Board* members are:

- Chairman - John Chism
- Vice Chairman -Howard H. Johnsen
- Secretary - Mark Smith, Secretary
- Board Members - Charles Crenshaw, Doris Davis-Washington, Stella Caldera, Harold Warren

## The support staff members are:

- Ren Earl Bowie, Captain:  
Manager, Private Security Bureau
- Steve Moninger, Senior Staff Attorney:  
DPS - Regulatory Licensing Service
- Jim Morgan, Lieutenant – Investigations:  
Private Security Bureau
- Reginald Andrews, Program Supervisor II:  
TPSB Licensing
- David Wise, Private Security Board Attorney:  
DPS- Regulatory Licensing Service

The *TPSB Quarterly Board Meetings* are comprised of Agenda items and Licensees who need to approach the *TPSB Board* requesting decisions regarding licensing matters, and pending legislative matters & dispositions directly impacting licensees doing business as part of the security industry in Texas.

Each quarterly session has *Meeting Minutes* that are edited and/or revised between the current quarterly session and the next quarterly meeting. These minutes offer a historical record of the current functioning *TPSB Board*. In future Newsletters, we'll cull some of the important security industry matters affecting us! If more information is desired, please go to: <http://www.txdps.state.tx.us/psb/>. In the future, likely by 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter 2009, *quarterly session minutes* will be posted on the TPSB Website. Here are six (6) – actual Agenda Items & minutes collected from the 4th Quarter – October 2008 TPSB Board Session:

## Agenda Item III: Status report on pending proposed rules.

Secretary Smith wants the language for manager qualifi-

cations changed. There was no second to Secretary Smith's motion. Item III was tabled pending further discussion by the Rules Committee.

## Agenda Item IV: Discussion regarding Rule 35.34, relating to employers' 72 hour notification of an employee arrest.

Captain Bowie stated that there had been discussion as to the enforcement of this Rule. He stated that the literal interpretation of the rule should be left up to a more discretionary issue, meaning that as long as a manager or supervisor makes a good faith effort to get as much information and submit that to the Bureau, then he has satisfied the rule. He went on to say that all twenty seven trooper investigators of the Bureau were brought in for training in mid-October and this was one of the issues that was addressed. Captain Bowie replied that the Trooper Investigators had already been instructed to operate under the revised version while pending approval.

## Agenda Item V: Discussion and possible action regarding Rule 35.201, relating to employee records for companies with records destroyed and/or damaged by Hurricane Ike and other verifiable disasters.

Chairman Chism stated that it had come to the attention of the Board that some companies were having difficulty reestablishing their company and employee files after Hurricane Ike. He had discussed this matter with Captain Bowie and asked that the Bureau give assistance to any companies in need of help recovering any documentation that may have been lost or damaged.

## Agenda Item VIII: Discussion and possible action regarding proposed Rule 35.321, relating to types of entities required to be licensed as investigations companies under Occupations Code 1702.104.

Steve Moninger stated that the Board had two proposals before them. The first, proposed at the July 23, 2008 Board meeting as well as a second proposal to consider. Chairman Chism stated that due to the fact that the Board was currently involved in a lawsuit relating to this issue, the Board would go into Executive Session to discuss the matter. During Executive Session the Board discussed proposed Rule 35.321 and decided not to discuss this issue further and to table the issue until a further date.

## Agenda Item XIV: Discussion and possible action re-

“TPSB” Continued on page 7.

“TPSB” continued from page 6.

**Regarding Class B misdemeanors not listed in the current rule.**

Steve Moninger stated some problems have arisen with the application of Rule 35.42. He said there are some Class B misdemeanors not listed in the rule, that are Bs because they were only attempted. He proposed the following resolution:

For purposes of interpreting and implementing Rule 35.42:

- (a) Any unlisted offense that is substantially similar in elements to a listed offense is disqualifying in the same manner as the corresponding listed offense;
- (b) Any Class B misdemeanor offense that was an “attempted” Class A offense is disqualifying;
- (c) Any offense that is classified as a Class B misdemeanor as a result of a reduction from a Class A misdemeanor is disqualifying, subject to the discretion of the Bureau Manager.

He also stated that regarding subsection (c), it may be necessary to have discretion on the part of the manager.

Chairman Chism understood the need for this new language. He is currently involved with case where a police officer filed on for felony family violence, but he pled guilty to a Class C misdemeanor. He stated that it is common to see with plea bargains. On a motion made by Secretary Smith and seconded by Board member Crenshaw, the Board voted unanimously to approve the resolution to Rule 35.42.

**Agenda Item XV: Report from Private Security Bureau.**

Lieutenant Morgan, from the Bureau’s Investigations section, stated that for the period of 8/1/08 to 10/26/08 the Bureau investigated 1,129 violations. He said that there were 12 cases opened for operating with an expired license, 246 cases opened for operating with a suspended license, 88 cases opened for operating without a license and 51 criminal cases presented to prosecutors.

According to Lieutenant Morgan, the Bureau continues to be proactively and reactively working with members associations within the industry. He gave his appreciation to the trooper investigators as well as the support staff that assists them on a daily basis.

Vice-Chairman Johnsen asked how many cases came from outside sources. Captain Bowie said it is possible to have the system breakdown by sources. Vice-Chairman Johnsen was interested to know how many of the 88 cases were from outside, such as from other police agencies.

Chairman Chism was aware of both Houston and Dallas task forces working with the trooper investigators. Vice-Chairman Johnsen was happy for the assistance but was curious as to what percentage came from other sources. Lieutenant Morgan stated that he would be happy to report that information, but he did not have access to that information at that time.

Reginald Andrews from the Bureau’s Licensing section to the Board stated that for the period of 7/22/08-10/28/08 the Bureau received 140 original company applications, 1,377 renewal company applications, 10,200 original individual applications, and 8,550 renewal individual applications. He went on to say that for the same time period the Licensing section issued 190 original company licenses, issued 1,414 company renewal licenses, issued 11,585 original individual licenses, issued 8,461 individual renewal licenses, and processed 6,345 employee information updates. He further stated that records indicate there are 5,043 active company licenses, 194 active school licenses, and 115,371 active individual registrants.



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## Placement Committee

By: Mike Mason, CPP - Committee Chairman



### Do Certification Programs Give You The Edge?

Did you ever wonder what the abbreviations like “CPP,” “CEM,” “CISSP,” and “CFE” after a person’s name mean? Are they just for show or are they important to potential employers when they are seeking candidates for security management positions? Do certifications really signify achievement? Based on input from professional recruiters, hiring managers, and human resource professionals, certifications can separate you from the great numbers of people competing for (security) management positions in today’s business climate. How can this be? Security management degree graduates are not that plentiful. For this reason security management related certifications can promote a candidate with a general or business management degree past those contenders with the same degree and no security related certifications. As the hiring authority reviews that pile (in paper or electronic form) of resumes, their eyes will be drawn to those top candidates who will eventually land an inter-

view. In this regard security related certifications that appear on your resume clearly communicate your commitment to the security management profession to the hiring authority by demonstrating your knowledge of it.

As I have emphasized in previous articles, your resume **MUST BE CUSTOMIZED** to fit the job requirements for the position advertised in order for you to obtain an interview. This demonstrates your written communication skills in the form of your resume and will make the difference as to whether or not it ends up in the “round file” or is forwarded to the hiring authority for consideration. If you are successful, the next phase in the hiring process is where you demonstrate your verbal communication skills during the interview. Everything in the interview matters—how you look, your manners, what you say, and how you say it. Your emphasis must conform to the theme of “how you will bring value to the table and your ability to fit into the culture of the organization. Mastering the interview is paramount so you must practice the “art” of being interviewed. The value to you comes in the confidence you will gain as you become accustomed to the interview process. Some professional organizations like the International Association of Chief of Police for example have offered a course to its members entitled “*How To Compete for a Chief of Police Job.*” This thirty-two hour course went into great detail of how to prepare for and participate in an interview as well as the intensive assessment center process. Details range from wearing the right shoes to proper responses to the typical interview questions. The success rate for the participants was considerably high as a result of this training.

In summary the level of employment that you can achieve is directly proportional to the amount of time and effort that you are willing to devote to preparing for it. Pursuing professional security related certifications is a good use of your valuable time that results in providing you with the competitive edge in this tight job market. Good luck!!!!

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### Call For Feature Articles

Please contact The Sentry @ [tomh@hamiltoncsi.com](mailto:tomh@hamiltoncsi.com). We welcome contributions from our membership.

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## Around the Region 6

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

“If you read the news, you know ...” There is a lot of wisdom in that well-known phrase. I recently read an article in *Time* magazine that decried the pending demise of the newspaper and the loss of news journalism. Even in a high tech world of countless web blogs, actual news must still be identified and reported upon by a journalist before it can be commented upon by the pundits. In my last column, I observed “*It isn’t enough anymore to just sit back and read the monthly issue of ASIS Security Management when it hits your mail box.*” I hope everyone read that sentence in the context it was meant to be read. In a period of profound change affecting our country and the world, you need to stay abreast of security-related events and information through professional associations like ASIS International.

In practical terms, this means making time in our increasingly busy day for professional reading in our chosen fields. Such reading is an essential element of enlightened leadership by security supervisors and managers. While video clips may provide bite-size bits of information, in-depth knowledge and true comprehension of a subject best comes from reading about it. The venue is a matter of personal choice. Some prefer PC monitor screens or hand-held electronic reading devices like a Kindle. While others prefer the feel, smell and look of a printed page. Regardless of your chosen venue, you need to set aside some time during your breakfast, lunch break or at the end of your workday to read and stay informed. *ASIS Security Management* and *ASIS Dynamics* are certainly good places to start and are available in both print and media formats. *ASIS Online* offers a wide range of security articles to peruse. There are plenty of other industry trade publications dedicated to various aspects of the security profession. You just have to decide to make the time and find your ideal reading spot. So read on ...

### Region 6

For those contemplating earning their CPP, PSP or PCI certification this year, ASIS International is hosting intensive study seminars in all three certification areas on 3 – 4 April at the Intercontinental Hotel in Addison, Texas. Information is available at: [www.asisonline.org/store/calendar.xml#03](http://www.asisonline.org/store/calendar.xml#03). There is an updated list of security employment opportunities in Region 6 located on the Placements web page of the Region 6 web site at [www.asisregion6.org/](http://www.asisregion6.org/). The Region 6 ELT recently learned we would be losing ARVP/Regional Communications Di-

“Region” Continued on page 10.

## TAKE WEISER’S CHALLENGE

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“Region” continued from page 9.

rector Henry Camacho due to his pending relocation to the Northeast. Henry laid the groundwork for our current communications program and his talents will be sorely missed. We wish him the very best. Those interested in being considered for this ARVP position should contact RVP George Quin through the Region 6 web site.

### El Paso – Juarez Chapter

This Texas chapter is unique as the only bi-national chapter in ASIS International. While a small chapter, they are steadily growing under the leadership of Chapter Chair Lorenzo Sosa. They were recognized in the 2008 ASIS Reach Out competition for having net gained 17 members, qualifying for a \$250 cash prize and one year subscription to POA online. I had the opportunity to meet in late February with their chapter officers. I also attended a chapter luncheon in the El Paso Club with its truly spectacular view of the cityscape and Mexican border. The chapter is currently planning for a golf tournament and their annual scholarship program.

### Texas Panhandle Chapter

Chartered in 2006, TPC is our newest and smallest regional chapter. Most of this chapter’s members, including their Chairman Randy Fraser, work at the Pantex plant in Amarillo. Pantex is a DOE contractor firm specializing in maintaining our nation’s nuclear weapons stockpile.

### Houston

Houston remains the award-winning pacesetter for Region 6. With a net gain of 47 members in 2008, I wasn’t surprised to congratulate Chairman Tom Hamilton on this chapter being ranked as the 6th largest in the world. “*Keeping the saw sharpened*” is always on the chapter agenda with its annual training seminar for June 3<sup>rd</sup>, along with the CPP and PSP chapter certification study programs scheduled for June and August, respectively. A chapter gathering at the Houston Space Center is also being planned.

### North Texas

Led by Mike Finnegan in his second year as Chapter Chairman, this chapter is hosted by Texas Instruments at its Dallas campus. In early February, I met with chapter officers and attended a chapter luncheon whose speaker provided a fascinating security view behind the scenes at American Airlines. On May 15<sup>th</sup>, this chapter will host its 45<sup>th</sup> Annual Law Enforcement Appreciation Night (LEAN) at the Eddie Dean Ranch in downtown Dallas. LEAN is oldest and largest chapter-hosted event of its type in ASIS Inter-

national. Several hundred law enforcement agents and officers are feted each year with free food, drink and door prizes underwritten by corporate and private sponsors.

### San Antonio

This chapter has hosted BATNET (Business Against Theft) with the San Antonio Police Department for the past 13 years. Under the leadership of Dave Hook, the San Antonio Chapter has already conducted a PSP certification study program and selected its chapter scholarship recipient. They will be hosting their 19<sup>th</sup> Annual Law Enforcement Appreciation Luncheon on May 14<sup>th</sup> at the Oak Hills Country Club with 100% of the proceeds going to charity.

### Austin

The Austin chapter is holding their monthly meetings this year at the Texas Land and Cattle Restaurant. Chapter Chair Mark Bennett has put together a solid agenda for the year. The chapter has already hosted a PSP certification study program and recently held their Spring Social. They also helped sponsor the 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Texas Regional Infrastructure Security Conference (TRISC) at AT&T Conference Center in Austin. Their 19<sup>th</sup> Annual Golf Class is planned for May 14<sup>th</sup> at the Falconhead Golf Club.

### Texas Gulf Coast

Located in Corpus Christi, this chapter is led by Horacio Ortiz. Both ARVP and RVP are planning to visit during their April 8<sup>th</sup> luncheon meeting at the Golden Corral on South Padre Island.

## Was Anyone Listening?



After listening to President Obama’s Inauguration Speech calling on Americans to take responsibility for their actions, this is the mess left behind by those who attended. The clean up resulted in 1,350 workers removing more than 100 tons of garbage to be hauled away. What was the cost to the taxpayers for cleaning up the Washington Mall? The cost of clean up is estimated to be **21 million dollars!**

## Treasurer's Report March 2009

By: Chris Dempster – Chapter Treasurer

The treasurer's position of any organization can be a very difficult position, particularly with one the size of our chapter. I must admit that I was a bit apprehensive and became more so each day as people were telling me what a problem this job was going to be. However, in December both Bob Casino and Sheree Poe invited my assistant Christice Porter and myself into their office and spent an afternoon going over the intricacies of the information and how things are handled. This meeting made the transition process much smoother and gave us an insight that made the transition much easier than it could have been. I will always be grateful to Bob and Sheree for that tutelage and their continued assistance; when I have a question they bend over backwards to answer the question as quickly as possible. I truly thank you both.

Currently we have 786 members on the roster as members assigned to the Houston Chapter from National and of that number 322 are members of the Houston Chapter with 2 life members bringing our total membership to 324. By comparison this time last year we had 275 local members. With some new procedures we've put into place, I am able to quickly determine who is not a paid member and e-mail a membership invoice or request that they respond telling me that they wish not to join. To date we have 61 members who have indicated that they wish not to join. Therefore, there are 412 people who will continue to receive invoices for the next few months until they either tell me they are not interested, or they join. While I do not want to pressure anyone into joining, I want everyone who wants to join to have the opportunity. If you have no interest in joining the local chapter and have not already done so, simply e-mail me at [chris@isscsecurity.com](mailto:chris@isscsecurity.com) and let me know and you will not hear from me again this year regarding membership.

On the financial side of things, at the end of the February reporting period we have **\$9,893.56** in the bank, down significantly from December. This is in part due to the purchase of wireless microphones and mixer for use during our meetings. The good news is that we will recover this cost in time, as we will no longer need to rent these items from the venue each month. The second and larger reason for our **\$3,090.77** reduction is the loss we suffered due to the poorly attended Christmas Social where there was a large minimum number of attendees were guaranteed. We did not meet the guarantee and had to cover the difference.



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# Membership Committee Report

By: Greg Autry, CPP – Committee Chairman

We continue to have a good showing on the paid membership side (322) and through newly ASIS International assigned members (12). If you have not paid your Houston chapter dues for the year please send in those payments now. The benefits of membership are numerous and as a reminder I have listed some of them here.

Certification review courses are free and open to all members. We continue to be a leader first time certifications due in large part to our review classes. Additionally, the chapter maintains a certification library with many of the publications that are used to make up the tests. Again this service is open to all Houston chapter members. We hold security management seminars and provide our members with state required training to aid them in maintaining their licensing requirements.

Each month through our luncheons, we provide our members with the opportunity to network with other security professionals gaining insight from all areas of the security field. Members receive a \$5 discount off the regular price of the luncheon meal. That discount alone is worth the

\$25 a year even if you only attend five luncheons throughout the year.

I encourage everyone to personally invite ASIS International members that are not currently part of our chapter to join us.

## Speaker's Corner

By: Ann Marie Acree - Chapter Secretary

As most of our membership know, the ASIS Houston Chapter is off to a roaring start for 2009 with enthusiasm, dedication and outstanding speakers. Over the first quarter we have had three great speakers. If you haven't had the opportunity to attend any of the first three luncheons, allow me the opportunity to recap our last three outstanding speakers, the companies or organizations they represent and the topic of their presentations.

### JANUARY

Speaker: **Deed Vest**, Director of Security, Technology Projects and Export Control

Company: United Space Alliance

Topic: *Global Trade, International Export Control*

### FEBRUARY

Speaker: **Sheriff Adrian Garcia**,

Organization: Houston Sheriffs' Department

Topic: *Opportunities for Houston*

### MARCH

Speaker: **Howard Belfor**, Regional VP, ADT Integrated Services, Physical Security Council Chairman – ASIS International

Company: ADT Advanced Integration

Topic: *Innovation or Confusion? How will high tech industries impact electronic security systems*



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## Web Site Committee Report

By: Roger Piper, CPP - Web Site Committee Chair

Our year began with a drive to obtain critical sponsorships for our award winning website. We wish to thank our legacy sponsors who decided to extend their relationship and support to the Houston Chapter. A very grateful and special thanks to the new sponsors joining our team this year. We welcome them and extend an invitation to all ASIS Houston Chapter members to visit the "Sponsors" page of the site and click on the various sponsor's links in order to get to know them better. Each provides key services to the security community and their support to the web site and this Chapter reflects both their strong commitment and benevolent generosity.

We also extend our appreciation for the past support provided by those sponsors who did not renew this year. We look forward to their continued "support in spirit". As a reminder, funding raised through the sponsorships goes to directly support the maintenance and operation of the website. Any funding achieved beyond this amount is re-directed to support the Chapter education, scholarship, and benevolence work, as approved by the Chapter Board.

A website policy was developed and, after a 30 day comment period, it has now been posted to the site as a permanent feature. The policy includes information about our sponsorships and how the site manages information. Even though the comment period has expired, we always welcome member's views and will consider any suggestions or comments that would either help clarify or improve the policy and/or the site. You may send any suggestion/comments to us at [asis@asishouston.org](mailto:asis@asishouston.org).

Another and, perhaps, more useful feature added to the website may be found on the "Home Page" under the luncheon information. We felt it might be helpful to the membership's planning and scheduling needs if we included a list of all of our tentatively scheduled luncheon speakers. Many of us are not able to make as many of the luncheons as we would like due to conflicts in schedules, etc. With the new link, you may be able to set aside that future date to guarantee your opportunity to hear a speaker of special interest to you or your organization. This may also help you put together an invite list of special guests. If you have not been to a luncheon lately, please check out the list and add us to your schedule. We believe you will enjoy the experience.

### *"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
Chapter Chaplain	Butch Roberson
Certifications Co-Chair	David Cribbs, CPP, PSP
Certifications Co-Chair	Randy Simpson, CPP
CPP Review	David Cribbs, CPP, PSP
PSP Review	David Cribbs, CPP, PSP
Healthcare Security	Ralph Burdett
Golf Tournament Co-Chair	Darin Dillon, CPP
Golf Tournament Co-Chair	Chris Dempster
Golf Tournament Co-Chair	Bob Cascino, CPP
Golf Tournament Co-Chair	Paul Rux
Legislative Affairs	Mike Crocker, CPP, CSC
Membership Committee	Greg Autry, CPP
Newsletter Editor	Tom Hamilton, CPP
Nominations	Richard Hill
Oil, Gas, and Chemical	Donald Helms, CIPS, CVI
Placement Committee	Mike Mason, CFE, CPP
Private Security Rep.	John Kahn, CPP
Program Committee	Tim Manning
Public Safety Liaison	Mike Mallon
Social Committee	Steven Greis
Space Center Security	Deed Vest
TPSB	John Kahn, CPP
Training and Seminars	Randy Simpson, CPP
Web Site Committee	Roger Piper, CPP

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

## *In Memory of Matt Binder*

By: Tom Hamilton, CPP, – Chapter Chairman

We were saddened by the passing of one of our members; Matt Binder.

Matt graduated from Stephen F. Austin College in 1981. He began his security career with Compaq Computer. Later, he joined Neiman Marcus in their security department.

Seeking to broaden his security career, he became a Private Investigator. His success garnered him a position with Tele-Check. While at Tele-Check, Matt was instrumental in creating their security department.

After departing Tele-Check, Matt joined the Security Department of Amazon.com where he worked until accepting his last position with Amegy Bank.

Ever mindful of serving his community, Matt volunteered his time with the Fort Bend County Sheriff's Department. He also served on the Fraud Task Force for Secret Service. Although he loved to play golf, Matt's true loves were his wife Karen of fourteen years, and his ten-year-old daughter Hayley Marie.

Matt was as active in the Houston Chapter as his time would allow. Matt Binder was a credit to the security community and will most certainly be missed. Our thoughts and prayers are with his family.

## **Public Safety and Benevolence Committee**

By: Mike Mallon - Committee Chairman



The Public Safety and Benevolence Committee for 2009 is consistently seeking honorees for our professional of the month award from venues that were historically under-represented in previous awards. Letters to the heads of all of the public safety agencies in the Houston Metropolitan area were distributed in January and again in

March. I am pleased to announce that we are beginning to receive nominations from those previously under-represented agencies, including the Deer Park Police Department, Precinct 5 Constables Office and the Atascocita Vol-

“Public Safety” Continued on page 15.



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“Public Safety” continued from page 14.

unteer Fire Department. I feel confident that this trend will continue.

To start off our year, January’s Public Safety Honoree† was Volunteer Firefighter and Harris County Correctional Officer Ryan Patrick. Ryan, a recent employee of Harris County Sheriffs Department has been a volunteer firefighter with the Cy-Fair Volunteer Fire Department for almost three years. He has responded to more than 75 medical calls for assistance, multiple structure, grass and vehicle fires. He is a dedicated volunteer who also participates in public service programs sponsored by the fire department. In his short tenure as a corrections officer he has managed to obtain the respect of the deputies assigned to jail duties, earning the nickname “*blood in, blood out*” for his willingness to jump into any situation where the deputies required physical assistance with disorderly and violent inmates. This rather lengthy resume takes on special prominence when you consider that Ryan was barely 19 years old at the time of his award.

In March, we honored four deputies from the Harris County Sheriffs Department for their courageous involvement in evacuating residents of a Harris County apartment complex during a fire. On Sunday, February 22, 2009, Deputy G. Soto, Deputy T. Pasket, Deputy M. Stephenson and Deputy O. Cisneros were dispatched to the Sedona Pointe apartment complex located at 311 Highland Cross, in response to a possible arson/fire. Dispatch advised the #3 building was on fire and there were people trapped inside with some attempting to jump from their balconies. Upon arrival, Deputy Soto observed building #3 was on fire with most of the side fully engulfed in flames and he could hear people screaming for help.

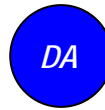
Deputies Cisneros and Pasket arrived and with Deputy Soto, they proceeded toward the direction where they heard screams for help. Deputy Soto forced his way through a locked security gate by kicking it open allowing the residents trapped inside to flee to the parking lot.

The deputies then started door-to-door evacuations of Building #3 and surrounding buildings. The fire quickly engulfed Building #3 and began to spread to adjacent buildings. Glass was shattering outward from the heat and burning debris was falling into the breezeway. Smoke filled the area making it hard for them to breathe and their visibility was severely limited. They were proceeding down the small sidewalk when an explosion occurred. The explosion scattered glass, roof debris and hot embers into the

air. A hot ember landed on Deputy Soto’s head singeing his hair and nearly catching it on fire before Deputy Pasket could extinguish it with his hands.

All residents were relocated to the north side of the complex where Deputy Stephenson had established a staging area for Emergency Medical Services to treat the victims as they arrived.

Deputies Soto, Cisneros, Pasket and Stephenson exemplify the professionalism and commitment to serve the community that is expected of Sheriff’s Office personnel. They acted selflessly without consideration of the imminent threat to their personal safety while executing their duties in hazardous conditions and no doubt saving the lives of a number of residents.



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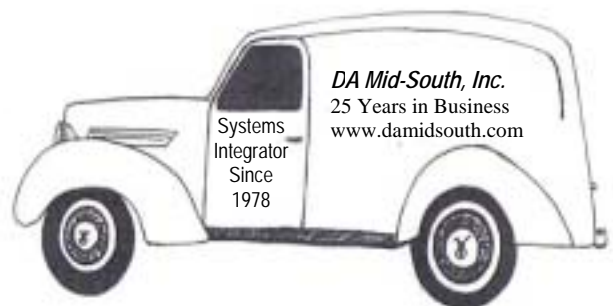
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