



# Malama O Pa!

## Take care, lest you be hurt!

A S S E H a w a i i C h a p t e r N e w s l e t t e r

### Your Elected Chapter Officers

#### President

Neil Yamamoto, CSP, CPCU

#### President-Elect

Craig Shoji, CHST

#### Past President

Joanna K. T. Clark, CHST,  
BSBM

#### Treasurer

Mary Silva, CSP, BSChE

#### Secretary

Howard Hendricks, CSP

## Pac-Rim 2010 Planning Underway

By Les Onaka

Mark your calendars! The contract has been signed. We will be headed back to the spacious Hawaii Convention Center for the 2010 Governor's Pacific Rim Health and Safety Conference. This conference promises to be extra-special.

Scheduled for May 5-7, we plan to offer not only informative general and breakout sessions, but also very special attendees. If everything works out, three ASSE past-presidents [**Michael Thompson** (who, by the way, is a member of the Hawaii Chapter), **Skipper Kendrick** and

**Mark Hansen**, may join us. They hope to be here to attend, present and share with us their very special safety insights and stories. We also may be having a special "Meet the Past-Presidents" session for members to get up-close and chat with them.

Conference Co-Chairs **Mary Silva, Craig Shoji** and their committee had a tough time deciding on the venue for this one. Especially confounding were changes in the economy, HIOSH and its activities and complex cost-benefit items the different venues had to offer.

With this decision made, our

subcommittees kicked into high gear. Speakers co-chairs **Howard Hendricks** and **Mary Browne** and their subcommittee have identified most of the 64 breakout session presenters. *See Pac Rim 2010 subcommittees on page 4*



Mary Silva, Pac Rim 2010 Co-Chairperson

## A Note from Neil...

By Neil Yamamoto, Chapter President

Welcome to ASSE Hawaii's first newsletter of the 2009-2010 year. Your executive board has already outlined an exciting year for you, including more technical meetings, facility tours, social events and joint technical meetings with related organizations,

but please remember, if you have any ideas or suggestions for meeting topics or activities, please let us know.

First, I'd like to formally introduce this year's elected and appointed executive committee members. They are:

President – Neil Yamamoto

President-elect – Craig Shoji

Secretary – Howard Hendricks

Treasurer – Mary Silva

Past President – Joanna Clark

Delegate - Vacant



Neil Yamamoto and Mayor Mufi Hannemann (see story on page 2)

# ASSE — HAWAII CHAPTER MAKES HAWAII NAOSH WEEK HISTORY

BY LES ONAKA

OK, I admit that I had only been to Honolulu Hale to look at decorated Christmas trees. So the e-mail from **Allan Yokoyama** triggered my curiosity. I had never been to a mayoral declaration signing before. I knew what NAOSH week was because I dreamed of going to Washington, D.C. one year to become a part of it. I mailed my kids posters in a week before Valentine’s Day each year so they can be displayed during NAOSH

week. So I went to the signing.

As we walked into Mayor Mufi Hannemann’s office, **Fred Nakamura** turned to me and said, “Here we go to make history.” Being a fairly recent member of the ASSE Hawaii Chapter, it suddenly dawned on me that this—the Mayor, or any Hawaii Mayor for that matter declaring NAOSH week—had never happened before. I figured Fred should know since he has been

an ASSE member forever. Well, for a long time anyway.

As we sat in Mayor Hannemann’s office listening to him reading the declaration, I felt a deep appreciation for the safety professionals, not only in that room but also worldwide, who work diligently to keep their co-workers out of harm’s way.

Thank you, Allan Yokoyama, for making history possible.

“Here we go to make history”

-Fred Nakamura as he walked into Mayor Hannemann’s office



Back row from left: Joachin Diaz, Howard Hendricks, John Ramos, Mayor Mufi Hannemann, Dan Vasilash, Mark Behrens, Neil Yamamoto. Front row from left: Romel Delfino, Jim Newberry, Joanna Clark, Mary Silva, Craig Shoji, Fred Nakamura and Les Onaka.

**From the Editor:**

Mahalo to Neil Yamamoto and the ASSE-Hawaii Executive Board for the vote of confidence in appointing me editor of your newsletter. We hope you will like the

new format and content of this newsletter. We are always looking for ways to improve so please let us know your thoughts on this. While we get together on the third Thursday of each month to

talk story, some of the important stuff does not get said. One thing I would like to mention is that our Chapter Star may not have happened without Neil Yamamoto—he gathered the

information and put together an impressive chapter report that wowed the judges. Mahalo, Neil for all you do for the Chapter.

Les Onaka, CSP



# ASSE Awards Hawaii Chapter Star

By Neil Yamamoto

At the American Society of Safety Engineer's annual professional development conference, *Safety 2009*, held in San Antonio, Texas, the Hawaii Chapter and two of its members (see article below) were recognized for their accomplishments.

The Hawaii Chapter was recognized as the **Small Chapter of the Year** (200 members or less) for 2007 – 2008. This category consists of approximately 60% of the 152 ASSE chapters across the globe. Some of the criteria that Chapters were evaluated on include services provided to

its members, member contribution to the profession at the local, state, national and international levels and contributions to ASSE's mission of protecting people, property and the environment.

The recognition points out that safety professionals in the Hawaii Chapter go beyond their jobs to optimize employee health and safety. In the past year our membership has grown past 200, making us a mid-sized chapter.



ASSE Senior VP, Darryl Hill, presenting the Small Chapter of the Year Award. (l to r: Darryl Hill, Jim Newberry, Craig Shoji, Neil Yamamoto, Mary Silva and Barbara Goto).

## Isle ASSE Members Recognized

By Neil Yamamoto

Also in San Antonio in June, Hawaii chapter webmaster and past president, **Mr. Jim Newberry**, was recognized by ASSE's Risk Management and Insurance Practice Specialty (RM/I) as its Safety Professional of the Year (SPY). The RM/I - SPY award recognizes achievement in the area of risk management and insurance and pays tribute to the awardees' outstanding accomplishments in these areas.

Mr. Newberry is an active professional member of ASSE and currently serves as Assistant Administrator for the RM/I Practice Specialty. For the past two years, he served as the Publications Editor for RM/I and he has held numerous positions in the Hawaii Chapter, including past president, webmaster and treasurer and he has chaired numerous committees. Jim is Assistant Vice President and Risk control Manager for Island Insurance Company.

Mr. **Allan Yokoyama** was also recognized as one of three North American Occupational Safety and Health Week (NAOSH) Champions

for his contribution in promoting NAOSH Week 2009. Mr. Yokoyama arranged to have each of the four county mayors and the Governor Lingle to sign proclamations declaring May 3 – 9, 2009 as North American Occupational Safety and Health Week in their respective counties and state. Signing ceremonies were held with Maui County Mayor, Charmaine Tavares, and with Mufi Hanneman, Mayor of the City and County of Honolulu. Allan arranged for news coverage during NAOSH Week activities in Washington DC where the proclamations were on display and he also arranged press releases for local media outlets.

In addition to the proclamations, Allan coordinated with the Pacific Resource Partnership (PRP) and the AFL-CIO to separately, to issue joint press releases with ASSE for the 2009 Workers' Memorial Day.

Allan is also an active member of ASSE and is a past chapter president and vice-president and he has chaired

numerous committees. Allan is Safety Director for Albert C. Kobayashi, Inc.

Congratulations to Jim, Allan and ALL members of the Hawaii Chapter for your commitment in making Hawaii a safer and healthier place. Let's continue our momentum as we still have much work to do.

Allan arranged for news coverage during NAOSH Week activities in Washington DC

Jim Newberry...the past two years, he served as the Publications Editor for RM/I



ASSE Vice President – Council on Practices and Standards, George Pearson, presenting Jim Newberry with the RM/I Safety Professional of the Year



Mary Silva accepting the NAOSH Champion Award for Allan Yokoyama from ASSE Society President, Warren Brown.





## ASSE Hawaii Chapter

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Protecting People, Property, and the  
Environment since 1911

Stay up to date with chapter activities and  
other news items related to our profession  
by visiting the chapter website at . . .

[www.assehawaii.org](http://www.assehawaii.org)

Write to the webmaster at ASSE Hawaii

[he's got a B.S. in Safety] [jnewberry@islandinsurance.com](mailto:jnewberry@islandinsurance.com)

- Got safety news? Let me know and I'll post it.
- Got safety ideas? Let me know I'll post it.
- Got safety training? Let me know I'll post it.

Web motto: Working in partnership with industry and  
government for a safer tomorrow!

### Pac Rim 2010 Subcommittees and Other Planners

Conference co-chair: Craig Shoji

Programs co-chairs: Tracey Law-  
son and Neil Yamamoto

Speakers co-chairs: Mary Browne  
and Howard Hendricks

Exhibitors chair: Joanna Clark

HIOSH Representative: Jennifer  
Shishido

Awards co-chairs: Joaquin Diaz  
and Les Onaka

Moderators co-chairs: Warren  
Ando and Jason Iwamasa

Sponsorship chair: Jimmy Zane

Facilities chair: Fred Nakamura

Webmaster: Jim Newberry

UH Conference Center: Yvonne  
Yamashita

Student Section Liaison: John  
Ramos

*Neil—continued from page 1*

Newsletter Chair – Les Onaka

Membership Chair – John  
Ramos

Webmaster – Jim Newberry

Member-at-Large – Mark  
Behrens

Student Section President –  
Marie Aldover

Thank you to all committee  
members for your dedication to  
helping make our chapter a key  
player in creating a safer and  
healthier Hawaii.

You, our members, are the  
lifeline of the chapter and I en-  
courage all of you to come out  
and get active by showing up at  
meetings and events, volun-  
teering for committees and  
running for office. You'd be  
surprised to see what ASSE  
has to offer, but you must take  
the first step and GET ACTIVE!

I look forward to serving you as  
chapter President this year.

Sincerely,

Neil Yamamoto

P.S. Be sure to keep your con-  
tact information updated with  
ASSE so you can be kept  
abreast of the latest chapter  
happenings.

### Member News

Congratulations to **Walter  
Chun, Kenneth Grote** and  
**William Sode** who celebrate  
their 25th anniversary as ASSE  
members for this year.

Welcome to the Board. **Mark  
Behrens**, At-Large Board  
Member, and **Les Onaka**,  
Newsletter Editor, became the  
newest ASSE-Hawaii board  
members in July. The At-Large  
Board Member serves as the  
member advocate on the  
Board of Directors.

### Mark Your Calendars

**February 14-20, 2010 ASSE  
Seminarfest in Las Vegas,  
Nevada**

**March 11-12, 2010: ASSE  
Symposium on "Delivering  
Safety Results in Changing  
Times" in Scottsdale, Ari-  
zona.**

**May 5-7, 2010: ASSE and  
HIOSH present the 2010  
Governor's Pacific Rim  
Health and Safety Confer-  
ence at the Hawaii Conven-  
tion Center.**

