

**PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**  
**SESHA JOURNAL**  
**SPRING 2009**



As I write this message, I have recently returned from a very productive SESH BOD meeting followed by a great vacation in Cabo San Lucas Mexico where I caught and released my first 150 pound striped Marlin (also known as a billfish). Unfortunately one of the three Marlins that our boat caught got tangled in the line and did not survive when it was reeled in. It was also disheartening to learn that numbers of the billfish have declined rapidly due to growing numbers of longline fleets and general lack of regulations.

Like the billfish, SESH membership has been on a decline but unlike the Marlin we have more control of our destiny. The future of our organization is really up to all of you.

Our continued resilience, especially in these hard economic times, never ceases to amaze me. Despite the declining economy and all of the news of our companies' shutting down factories and reducing the workforce, various members of our association have stepped in to continue to make this association a viable one. I think we sometimes forget that we are an association of volunteers and our continued success is dependent on a strong dedicated membership.

Our association is very fortunate to have a talented and dedicated board, committees and chapters who continue to volunteer countless hours and energy to make us a success. At the recent board meeting we focused much of our effort and discussions on how we can make this year's symposium a success even though we know that many of our travel and training budgets are non-existent.

Our strategy this year is to try and make the symposium as economically feasible as possible for our members while trying to maintain the organization. With the help of our esteemed partner, Burk and Associates, Inc., who has offered to provide SESH pro bono assistance to weather this storm, we have been able to reduce the conference registration fees significantly and to offer various incentives to our corporate partners and exhibitors. We intend to market the conference heavily with local associations and affiliations both inside and outside of the SESH network. In comparing other national conferences and hotel rates, SESH has the lowest fees and CHMM, CIH and CSP's can satisfy their certification maintenance points requirements for a fraction of the cost.

In addition, some of our SESHAs Fellows have offered assistance to recruit corporate sponsors and exhibitors and our Local Chapters continue to forge ahead with great mini-conferences and meetings. Also, this year we collaborated with SEMI and ISMI to deliver some very informative webinars and have continued that trend for the symposium.

The symposium planning team has put together a terrific program comprised of the following:

- Professional Development Courses including Bootcamp; LEED; Sustainability; Silane, Dichlorosilane and Trichlorosilane Safety; and Exhaust Management
- Keynote Speakers from IC Insights, US EPA, National Photovoltaics Environmental Research Center, and Intel
- An information packed 2 and half day program with over 35 technical presentations

Looking back as I pass my half way point of my term as president, it really has been a remarkable and challenging year with more challenges to come. It has really been an honor and a great experience for me both personally and professionally to help lead such an important and supportive association.

I hope that you will choose SESHAs 2009 as your source for professional development this year and enjoy connecting with fellow professionals in beautiful Scottsdale Arizona.

In closing I will leave you with a quote that I believe can also describe associations

**"Bad companies are destroyed by crisis. Good companies survive them. Great companies are improved by them."**

— *Andy Grove, Intel*