



THE SECURITY BEACON

DECEMBER 2019

BOSTON CHAPTER OF ASIS INTERNATIONAL

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Axe-throwing champion Ryan Curran (center) showed his competitive spirit at the recent ASIS Boston Women in Security/Young Professionals joint event at Urban Axes in Somerville.

WOULD YOU LIKE TO THROW AN AXE?!!

Submitted by Andrew Graham

They say, "great minds think alike," and this was certainly the case when ASIS Boston's Women in Security (WiS) Co-Chairs Jenn Goba and Shannon Roddy approached Young Professionals (YP) Co-Chairs Stephen Bertoni and I about hosting a joint event.

After some back and forth, we all agreed on the type of event we wanted to hold and it involved throwing axes. This may sound like some Viking pastime or something from the Highland games, but it is the one of biggest new trends in Boston.

On Wednesday, October 9, about 25 attendees turned out for the event at Urban Axes in Union Square, Somerville. The rustic venue offered an impressive beer and wine list along with a selection of soft drinks and a variety of pizza from a local restaurant. Our group had three private axe-throwing lanes, each with two separate targets, as well as three fantastic coaches who turned us all into axe-throwing pros.

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CHAIRPERSON'S MESSAGE

SIGN UP TODAY TO TAKE PART IN HOLIDAY NETWORKING SOCIAL, VOLUNTEER DAY PROGRAM AND JANUARY CHAPTER MEETING



I want to start off by wishing all of you and your families a very happy and healthy holiday season. It is a time of year that brings joy and celebration. During

the season, let us keep a place in our hearts for those serving in the military and law enforcement who keep us safe every day of the year as well as for those who are less fortunate.

2020 Chapter Officer Elections

The 2020 Boston Chapter Officer elections were held between October 30 and November 13. The online election was facilitated by our vendor, Simply Voting; 175 Chapter members submitted ballots.

The results of the 2020 Chapter Officer elections are:

- Steve Bertoni, Chair
- Paul Baratta, Vice Chair
- Nick Biagioni, Treasurer
- Kelsey Carnell, Secretary

I would like to congratulate Steve, Paul, Nick, and Kelsey and wish them the best in 2020. I also would like to thank Shannon Roddy for coordinating the 2020 Chapter Officer elections. Shannon worked with our vendor, pulled together the candidate bios, produced the ballot, and drafted the nominating and voting communication to members.

October Chapter Meeting hosts MIT Police Chief John DiFava



Over 70 ASIS Boston members were treated to a presentation by Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) Chief of Police John DiFava

at the October 24 Chapter meeting. During the session held at the Partners HealthCare headquarters in Assembly Row, Chief DiFava discussed the challenges of protecting this world-renowned institution, which has an open campus and is in the middle of a vibrant major city.

Chief DiFava shared his successes as well as some of the difficulties he has faced during his 18 years at MIT, including the devastating impact of the shooting of MIT Officer Sean Collier in April 2013. His presentation helped members understand the scope and complexity of the institution's security program and provided a window into daily life at MIT.

Career Transition Seminar

Registrants from 14 different local police departments and six state and federal agencies came together on October 9 to attend the Boston Chapter's Career Transition Seminar for Law Enforcement, Military, and Public Agency Staff. The guests heard from speakers Bonnie Michelman, Executive Director of Police, Security and Outside Services at Massachusetts General Hospital (MGH); Craig McQuate, Head of Security at Takeda Pharmaceuticals International; and Dan Coleman, Investigative and Intelligence Manager for MGH Police, Security and Outside Services. Touching on an array of subjects, the speakers addressed such items as professionalism in private security; industry requirements; recent industry trends; industries which have security-related job opportunities; job areas in the security profession; critical factors for success; change management;

the reality of the private security environment; and willingness and ability to change.

The feedback from the participants was extremely positive. Many felt this seminar helped them clarify their goals and objectives and focus on the opportunities that best match their skills and experience.



Volunteer Day is coming

ASIS Boston members will help bring comfort and joy to Boston-area families experiencing homelessness and poverty at our 2019 Volunteer Day at "Christmas in the City (CITC)"

Founded in 1989 by Jake and Sparky Kennedy, CITC is a 100% volunteer, non-profit organization. Each year, it hosts a party for the homeless children of Boston. In 2017, more than 4,000 children attended the party and received gifts.

ASIS Boston Volunteer Chair Shannon Roddy is working with "Christmas in the City" organizers to create volunteer opportunities for our Chapter members. About 2,000 volunteers are needed for the upcoming CITC holiday party.

Please stay tuned for details on how you can help make the holidays a little brighter for youngsters experiencing the effects of homelessness and poverty this season.

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New dates for CPP, PCI, PSP Review Class

The CPP, PCI, PSP review class that was originally slated for November 4 – 7, 2019, has been rescheduled. The new date will be March 9 – 12, 2020.

Ring in the Holidays at Chapter's Holiday Networking Social

Please join your ASIS Boston colleagues and friends on Monday, December 16, for our annual Holiday Networking Social. There will be no speaker that evening, but there will be ample opportunities to relax, enjoy drinks and appetizers, and catch up with other ASIS Boston members.

The event will be held at the 2Twenty2 Friend Street Restaurant and Bar, 222 Friend Street, Boston. The restaurant is conveniently located just a three-minute walk from the TD Garden.

January Meeting

The first meeting of 2020 will be held on Thursday, January 16, 2020, at [Maggiano's Little Italy](#) restaurant in Park Square, Boston. The cocktail reception will start at 5:00 pm. Information about our guest speaker will soon follow.

I hope to see you at these upcoming events. Have a great holiday season!

Joe Crowley, CPP

Boston Chapter Chairperson

SHANNON RODDY, CPP RECEIVES 2019 GOODMAN AWARD

Submitted by Joe Crowley, CPP



ASIS Boston Chapter Chair Joe Crowley, CPP, (r) and Association of Residential Security Directors (ARSD) Board member Mike Weintraub (l) presented the 2019 Sheldon E. Goodman, CPP Award to ASIS Boston member Shannon Roddy in October.

On October 24, 2019, ASIS Boston had the privilege of bestowing the 2019 Sheldon E. Goodman, CPP Award on long-time ASIS Boston member and volunteer Shannon Roddy.

Named in memory of a security professional who exemplified what an ASIS Boston member should be, the Sheldon E. Goodman, CPP, award is presented each year to an ASIS Boston member who has contributed to the Chapter in one or more ways. A lifelong member of the Boston ASIS Chapter, Sheldon also was active in the [Association of Residential Security Directors \(ARSD\)](#), leading both organizations to want to recognize his valuable contributions.

Shannon, who has held numerous leadership positions, including Chapter Chair, was chosen for the 2019 award in recognition of her dedicated service to the Boston Chapter Board over the past 10 years, including her service as:

- 2011 Placement Chair
- 2012 Placement Chair and Volunteer Chair
- 2013 Placement Chair and Volunteer Chair
- 2014 Chapter Secretary and Expo Committee member
- 2015 Chapter Vice Chair and Expo Committee member
- 2016 Chapter Chair and Expo Committee member
- 2017 Program Chair, Women in Security Chair, Volunteer Chair, Nominations Chair, Expo Committee member, Golf Tournament volunteer
- 2018 Program Chair, Women in Security Chair, Volunteer Chair, Nominations Chair, and Expo Committee member
- 2019 Women in Security Chair, Volunteer Chair, Nominations Chair

Through her outreach to members, creative problem-solving, and work ethic, Shannon has embodied the spirit and commitment of the late Sheldon E. Goodman. In recognition of her continued enthusiasm for all things related to ASIS Boston, our Chapter would like to thank her for her years of volunteer service.

DECEMBER

16

Holiday Networking Social

2Twenty2 Friend Street Restaurant
and Bar
222 Friend Street, Boston

22

Volunteer Day at “Christmas in the City”

Boston Convention & Exhibition
Center, Boston, MA

JANUARY

16

ASIS Boston Dinner Meeting

Maggiano's Little Italy
4 Columbus Avenue, Boston

MARCH

9 - 12

CPP, PSP, PCI Certification Review Course

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COLLABORATION, CONT'D PG 1

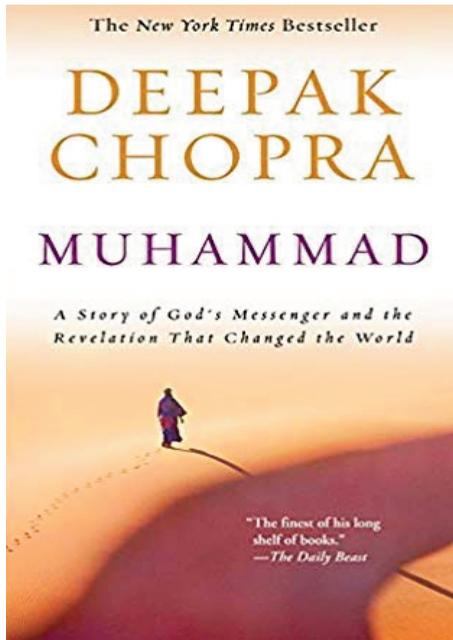
Once every participant had a chance to learn the basics from our coaches, it was tournament time and our competitive spirits really came out! After a hard fought and close competition, we finally had our axe-throwing champion: Ryan Curran. No one walked away empty handed though, as we all got cool Urban Axes co-zies and the expertise of how to properly throw an axe (still not sure when this will come in handy). Lastly, the night's action was all captured on our

[Instagram page](#). I would encourage everyone to follow this page along with our other social media platforms, which can be found on the [ASIS Boston website](#).

This was a great collaboration between WiS and YP and after positive feedback from attendees, we are hoping to host another event next year at Urban Axes.

SEND US YOUR NEWS!

Share your knowledge of the security industry by writing for *The Security Beacon*. Email articles and photos to:
richard_zupan@bradycorp.com



ASIS BOOK REVIEW

MUHAMMAD: A STORY OF GOD'S MESSENGER AND THE REVELATION THAT CHANGED THE WORLD

By Deepak Chopra

Reviewed by Mark H. Beaudry, PhD, CPP

Best-selling author Deepak Chopra's biographical novel about the prophet Muhammed is good storytelling and, more importantly, helps the reader better understand the complexities and contradictions surrounding Islam. For the individual that does not have some basic introduction into the life and times of Muhammad or is unfamiliar with the history of Islam, it is likely that a significant portion of this novel may be somewhat underappreciated. But for well-versed modern readers, the book will prove to be historically accurate and relevant. Chopra offers a fascinating perspective from the viewpoint of a person who has spent decades immersed in spiritual and religious studies.

Chopra's book outlines a very good base about Muhammad's life and the rise of Islam. The evolution of Islam and the violence portrayed were integral to Arabic life at that time. In fact, Muhammad participated in many caravan attacks and struggled to project his message of peace,

acceptance and submission in the 7th century. Chopra describes Muhammad as a simple merchant who married a rich widow and routinely traveled in caravans as part of his trade. This text provides an excellent history lesson while reflecting on the current relationship between Islam and the rest of the world.

Muhammad was a man like any other, not a transcendent human. The angel Gabriel chose him as a medium to deliver Allah's message and the reader clearly sees how Muhammad was forced into the role of reluctant prophet as well as military commander, master politician and sometimes, brutal judge, in order to ensure the survival of Allah's message. Chopra creates an accurate rendering of 4th/5th century Mecca, and the culture of the Arab peoples of that time. Reading this work will give the reader some appreciation for the history of the Middle East leading up to the fact that Muhammad was controversial in the 8th century and his teachings remain controversial now.

The afterword is an especially good addition to the body of the book. It summarizes the positive message that Muhammad offered through the structure of Islam as an alternative to the disorder, isolation and easily roused hostility that appears to have been the usual state before his lifetime.

Each chapter offers a different voice of those who knew him through his journey. The confusion, pain and struggle that Muhammad had to go through during his prophethood is very human. After all he was a man among men. It is a very effective way of conveying the prophet's life and his belief system and is absolutely enthralling. Vivid descriptions of many aspects of life in the desert provide fascinating reading, as do the depth and breadth of characters selected to share their view of how it came to be that an ordinary man could have such far-reaching impact on the world for centuries to come.

Mark H. Beaudry, PhD, CPP, is a frequent contributor to The Security Beacon on the subjects of research, security studies education and other topics.

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