

Cover image:

Apple Pickers (mural study) by Nicolai Cikovsky
Smithsonian American Art Museum,
1965.18.88



Program book design:

Chrissy Morgan

Awards Committee :

Peter Dooley and Chrissy Morgan



Annual Awards Luncheon

November 10, 2009

Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Schedule of Events

Introduction, Welcoming Remarks

Presentation of the Alice Hamilton Award to:
Sylvia Kieding

Presentation of the Lorin Kerr Award to:
Kerry Souza

Presentation of the Tony Mazzocchi Award to:
Steve Schrag

Presentation of the International Health and
Safety Award to:
Antonio de Marco Rasteiro

OHS Thespian Collective Street Theater

Sing-along: "This Land Is Your Land"
(This is an OHS section tradition. Please find the
lyrics on the last page and sing along!)

THIS LAND IS YOUR LAND

Words and music by Woody Guthrie

Chorus:

This land is your land, this land is my land
From California, to the New York Island
From the redwood forest, to the gulf stream waters
This land was made for you and me

As I was walking a ribbon of highway
I saw above me an endless skyway
I saw below me a golden valley
This land was made for you and me

Chorus

I've roamed and rambled and I've followed my footsteps
To the sparkling sands of her diamond deserts
And all around me a voice was sounding
This land was made for you and me

(CANADIAN CHORUS)

This land is your land, this land is my land
From Bonavista to Vancouver Island,
From the Arctic Circle to the Great Lake waters,
This land was made for you and me.

As I was walkin' - I saw a sign there
And that sign said - "private property"
But on the other side it didn't say nothin'!
That side was made for you and me!

Chorus

The APHA OHS Section invites you to attend:

“Farmworkers Feed Us All”

A Photography Exhibit

Today, Tuesday Nov 10th

Convention Center Room 202B

In 2007, award winning photojournalist Earl Dotter and documentarian Tennessee Watson embarked on a project to interview and photograph farmworkers working in Maine. It culminated in Farmworkers Feed Us All— an exhibit commemorating farmworkers' lives and working experiences.

The Photo exhibit will be on display ALL DAY on Tuesday, November 10 in Convention Center, Room 202B, and at 4:30 pm, join Earl Dotter and Tennessee Watson as they discuss their efforts with migrant workers to create this powerful exhibit. Joining them will be Mike Rowland, a migrant physician, who used this documentary work to advocate for improved health and safety of migrants and to raise the profile of an invisible and marginalized population.



Thank You

The OHS Section Awards Committee would like to extend our sincere thanks to all who participated in the nominations and elections process to recognize the exceptional work being done in the name of worker health and safety. As always, today's awardees are a small sample of the many professionals and workers whose efforts make a difference for worker health and safety around the globe.

Keep up the courageous work!

The Awards



Alice Hamilton Award

Alice Hamilton (1869 -1970), considered the founder of occupational health in the United States, was a tireless activist and physician who dedicated her life to improving the health and safety of workers. She was committed to science, service, and compassion. This award recognizes the life-long contributions of individuals who have distinguished themselves through a career of hard work and dedication to improve the lives of workers.

Lorin Kerr Award

Lorin Kerr (1909 -1991) was a life-long activist and served for over 40 years as a physician for the United Mine Workers. He was dedicated to improving access to health care for coal miners and other workers and to obtaining compensation for and preventing black lung disease. This award recognizes a younger activist for their sustained and outstanding efforts and dedication to improve the lives of workers.

Tony Mazzocchi Award

Tony Mazzocchi (1926-2002) was the most influential labor leader in the occupational health and safety field in the U.S. Tony played a key role in the legislative struggles of the 1960s and 1970s, including passage of the 1970 Occupational Safety and Health Act. A founder of the Labor Party, he continued organizing support for the party's national health care program up until his death. This award gives recognition to grassroots H&S activists in Local Unions or other local organizations fighting for the H&S rights of workers.

International Health and Safety Award

This award recognizes individuals with outstanding achievement in the field of occupational health and safety outside the United States.



2009 Alice Hamilton Award: **Sylvia Kieding, BA**

Sylvia Kieding has worked courageously for 40 years as a labor, environmental and community activist. Her selfless devotion to the cause is directly responsible for truly monumental contributions to the health and safety of working people. Ms. Kieding's service in occupational and environmental health began in 1968 when she was hired as a Public Information Officer by the Kentucky Air Pollution Control District. In 1973, she began working at the Denver headquarters of the OCAW when the Health and Safety Department was formed and the first nationwide contract language on health and safety was negotiated with the oil industry.

Lifelines, the first labor health and safety newsletter in the country, was started by the OCAW H & S as a tear-out section in the union's newspaper. Utilizing her deep awareness of the injuries and illnesses that workers suffered, Ms. Kieding meticulously edited the newsletter for 25 years. As a result, *Lifelines* became one of the most distinguished and powerful educational newsletters in the US. Ms. Kieding also advised health and safety committees in the oil sector regarding the rights they had negotiated. She worked on a benzene standard and interviewed petrochemical locals to determine if they could meet the proposed OSHA level, something the industry said was impossible to do. An outspoken supporter of workers' reproductive rights, she also fought against discriminatory placement policies that removed women from the job and left men exposed to a reproductive hazard.

Ms. Kieding worked for OCAW VP/Health & Safety Director Tony Mazzocchi from 1977 until 1981. Later appointed H&S Director, she initiated OCAW's Hazardous Waste Training Grant Program and an expanded week-long class for members of H&S committees in the oil sector. In 1996, OCAW joined with Mt. Sinai School of Medicine and CPS Environmental to conduct medical surveillance of thousands of OCAW members in the atomic sector; Ms. Kieding coordinates this excellent program for USW at five sites nationwide.

Lorin Kerr Award

1999: June Fisher
1998: Garrett Brown
1997: Joel Shufro
1996: Linda Rosenstock, Peter Dooley
1995: Pam Tau Lee
1994: Nancy Lessin
1993: Peg Seminario, Debbie Berkowitz

Tony Mazzocchi Award

2008: Carmen Hacht, UFCW Local 222
2007: Tammy Miser, USMWF; Jonathan Rosen
2006: Tony Carr, USW Local Union 998

International Award

2008: Jaime Cota, Mexico
2007: Jagdish Patel, India
2006: Metoda Dodi Fikfak, Slovenia
2005: Fiona Murie, Ireland
2004: Rashida Bee Champa Devi Shukla Bhopal, India
2003: Juliana So, China
2002: Le Van Trung, Vietnam
2001: Orapun Metadilogkul, Thailand
2000: Jim Brophy and Margie Keith, Canada
1999: Fernanda Giannasi, Brazil
1998: Mohamed Jeebhay, South Africa, and Rory O'Neil, England
1997: Ricardo Santos, Puerto Rico
1996: Cathy Walker, Canada
1995: CAFOR (Comite de Apoyo Fronterizo Obrero Regional), Mexico
1994: Rajen Naido South Africa
1993: Antonio Granda, Cuba

Previous OHS Section Awardees

Alice Hamilton Award

2008: David Kotelchuck, City University of NY
2007: Rosemary Sokas, University of Illinois at Chicago SPH
2006: Darryl Alexander, American Federation of Teachers
2005: Frank Mirer, UAW
2004: Chuck Levenstein, David Wegman, UMass/Lowell
2003: Dolores Huerta, United Farm Workers of America
2002: Thomas Mancuso
2001: Earl Dotter
2000: Mary E. Miller
1999: Jim Keogh
1998: Denny Dobbin
1997: Meta Snyder, David Kern
1996: Jim Moran
1995: Michael Silverstein, Barbara Silverstein
1994: Linda Murray
1993: Jamie Cohen



Lorin Kerr Award

2008: Diane Bush; Tony Oppgard
2007: Celeste Monforton, George Washington University SPH
2006: Richard Miller, Government Accountability Project
2005: Marcy Goldstein-Gelb, MassCOSH
2004: Jordan Barab, Chemical Safety Board and Confined Space Blog
2003: Work Safe Coalition
2002: New York Committee for Occupational Safety and Health (NYCOSH)
2001: Jim Ellenberger and Bill Borwegen
2000: Susan Moir



2009 Lorin Kerr Award: Kerry Souza, ScD, MPH

Kerry Souza has brought her strong talents and energy to the OHS section, most recently as co-founder and organizer of the Occupational Health Disparities Institute (OHDI). Kerry also currently serves as OSH Section Secretary, and was a Section Counselor in 2006-2007. Her role in helping the Section achieve high quality services for the membership has been exemplary. She always gives special consideration to developing young talent in the Section by including students and new members in planning events, and providing special accommodations to facilitate the participation of young members.

One of Dr. Souza's most notable contributions to the Section has been starting the OHDI, a special offering at the Annual Meeting that constitutes a vital and significant part of the OHS Section's Scientific Program. OHDI, which began in 2007, organizes presentations regarding disparities in occupational health and safety and has attracted high-level presenters and a diverse public health audience. Dr. Souza expanded her service to the Section in 2009, volunteering as chair of the Program Committee. The program reflects her high standards, a commitment to varied points of view and a quality scientific product for the annual meeting sessions. Her attention to detail and professional style allows us to offer an impressive program for lively discussion and activist organizing.

While working at the Massachusetts Department of Public Health in a NIOSH-funded project, Dr. Souza conducted an innovative program working with community health centers to enhance their ability to recognize and treat work-related injuries and illnesses among low-income, minority and immigrant workers.

Kerry Souza makes a tremendous contribution to occupational health and safety. Her spirit of participation, inclusive nature, and passion for improving workplace conditions for the most vulnerable, reflect the history of the OHS Section and embody a fitting course for a sustainable and vibrant future for OH&S.

2009 Tony Mazzocchi Award:

Steve Schrag



Steve Schrag is one of the country's premier worker trainers, strongly dedicated to using the Small Group Activity Method to train multitudes of worker trainers. His approach is always action oriented, and he is masterful at engaging workers on both their own health and safety issues and larger policy and political goals.

Mr. Schrag started working in Public Citizen Action groups before becoming a production worker and union organizer (including H&S representative). A board member at both ConnectiCOSH and NYCOSH, he is always at the center of political discussions and developing new training programs. Previously the Eastern Region H&S coordinator for SEIU, Mr. Schrag now works with 1199-SEIU in New York where he developed a network of 75 worker trainers. Since 1985 he has conducted workshops, seminars or conferences for over 11,000 workers on workplace violence, indoor air quality, asbestos, "right to know", ergonomics, occupational stress, video display terminals, toluene, bloodborne/airborne pathogens, and legal and contract rights.

Mr. Schrag is currently developing a "green" jobs leadership training to ensure that H&S is included in all aspects of the new green economy. He also recently designed a small group activity training based on Tony Mazzocchi's biography; he uses Mazzocchi's activities to discuss leadership and to elucidate the ties between occupational and environmental health.

Mr. Schrag is also developing the Brass Valley Education and Resource Center for workers modeled on the Highlander Center, which has conducted workshops on Martin Luther King, the labor movement, and the Radium Girls. A delegate to the Western Connecticut Central Labor Council, he initiated and facilitated a child labor history program in area high schools to introduce young people to unions.

Schrag is active in a number of coalitions, including the Coalition for a Safe and Healthy Connecticut, which is developing policy/education initiatives to reduce the use of toxic substances.

2009 International H&S Award:

Antonio de Marco Rasteiro



Now an occupational health and safety activist, Antonio de Marco Rasteiro is a former employee of the Shell Brasil S/A plant in Paulínia, Brazil, where he worked for 21 years. Because of the unsafe working conditions at the plant, he has suffered from a number of occupational illnesses, including blood and ocular hypertension, hearing loss, prostate and lung cancers.

Propelled by the injustices committed against themselves and their peers, Rasteiro and other former workers of Shell/Basf created the Association of Workers Exposed to Chemical Substances (ATESQ), to demand compensation for the numerous cases of cancer and other chronic diseases caused by exposures to a number of pesticides produced in the plant. Together with the Unified Chemical Workers Union, ATESQ struggles in several fronts against the negligence and irresponsibility of these companies, which have denied the contamination of their former workers and left them without any assistance.

In his role as ATESQ Coordinator, Mr. Rasteiro has led the struggle of nearly a thousand former workers for more than five years. Under his leadership, the work of the union and ATESQ has become one of the most important campaigns for the health and safety of workers in Brazil. Mr. Rasteiro and his colleagues have become occupational safety and health advocates locally, nationally and even internationally. They have joined the Brazilian Network for Environmental Justice, collaborated with other environmental struggles in Brazil, and participated in several World Social Forums.

The indefatigable struggle of this union and ATESQ is a good example of what it takes for workers to earn justice and fair compensation for the health and safety damage created by unethical companies exporting hazards from developed to developing countries.