



ASHRAE

Hawaii Chapter

HE EA MAKAMAE

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HISTORICAL COMMITTEE (SY 2010-11)

Chaired by Joseph K. Ting, P.E., P.Eng., CxA

When Society held its 1st meeting in Hawaii, John Arizumi was our Chapter's 16th President in Society Year 1984-85. Provided below is an overview of John's professional career. His influence in the our community has continued to form and shape the HVAC industry in the State of Hawaii.

John L. Arizumi, P.E. – 16th President of Hawaii Chapter November 30, 2010

KAPOLEI: I joined ASHRAE in February 1974 while employed at Giovanni K.L. Chung & Associates. Prior to joining the firm, I worked for 4-1/2 years at Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard, Nuclear Engineering Department, where I met Randy Murayama for a brief period until he got rifted. At that point in time, we were both active ASME members. At one of the ASME meetings, I told him that I was interested to work in the private sector. After he left the Shipyard, he joined Fred Kohloss as consulting mechanical engineer and he referred me to Giovanni Chung, who was already a very active stalwart of ASHRAE along with Boyd Chee, Dick Dearing, John Gesser, Bob Hamilton, Jack Lindsay, and Lester Sen.

It was during the Vietnam War when I graduated from college in January 1969. I was working at the Shipyard under a defense deferment and, at the same time pursuing my graduate degree in mechanical engineering at night school. I received my



Master of Science degree and got married to Janice in June 1971. In August 1972, I received my PE license. It was then that I decided to leave my government job.

As a consulting engineer with Giovanni Chung & Associates, I realized I did not enjoy all the different aspects of mechanical design and wanted to specialize in one

specific field. I chose air conditioning and refrigeration, because it offered the most creativity and flexibility. Thereafter, I joined American Equipment, which was then the Carrier distributor in July 1975. As I was a sales engineer at Carrier at that point in time, Bob Hann & John Weeks were at Trane, Bill Nickels at York, Joe Dolan at McQuay, and Bill Maguire at the Applied Division of Carrier. In September 1975, I made my first trek back to Carrier Corporation in Syracuse, New York, and attended my first sales meeting together with Joe Tanaka, American Equipment president. When I returned, I remember telling Janice that I had found my dream job and Carrier would be my career.

In 1976, Jimmy Chou, UHM professor of mechanical engineering, who was also my graduate school advisor, requested that I should teach an introductory course in air conditioning fundamentals for the UH College of Continuing Education. In order to obtain my graduate degree in mechanical engineering specializing in HVAC, I should teach this 2-credit hour, 10 weeks course. The class, whose students consisted of mechanical and electrical engineers, building engineers, architects, contractors, and real property managers, was supposed to be taught for one year. Nonetheless, the class continued for the next 18 consecutive years and finally ended only in 1993 due to my increased workload and business travels with Carrier.

In 1978, at the coaxing of Giovanni and the rest of the ASHRAE Hawaii board members, I accepted the nomination as a board of governors. I was flattered to find out that they were grooming me for the presidency in the 1984-85 Society Year, when Hawaii was to hold its first ASHRAE Annual

Meeting. By thence, Hawaii Chapter members' participation was at its all-time high. Our monthly meetings at the Flamingo Chuckwagon averaged 50-60 in attendance and had reached over 100 attendees on several occasions. With the help of Society General Chairman Dick Dearing, all his sub-committee chairmen (Sam Fujikawa, John Gesser, George Hamilton, Bob Hann, Ken Hsu, Frank Lum, and Dick McElhiney), many volunteer members and their spouses, we pulled off the biggest and best summer meeting. That year, our own Fred Kohloss became the Society President-elect. This was an exciting time in ASHRAE Hawaii Chapter. Unfortunately, Giovanni Chung had passed away in February and never saw his dream come to fruition.

The following year in 1986, I served as the chairman for Pacific Coast Electrical Association (PCEA) bi-annual conference.

In 1984, just as I started by term as ASHRAE Hawaii president, American Equipment Co. was purchased back by Carrier Corp. and was renamed Carrier Hawaii. It consolidated distribution and the applied division. They made me its general manager. Seven years later in September 1990, together with Robert Pascua and a third partner, who retired 2003, we purchased the Carrier distributorship from Carrier Corp. It is one of my best career decisions in my life.

It's been 20 years since the purchase and 35 years with Carrier. What started as a dream career became a reality. Truly, I was blessed with the most rewarding career with Carrier, ASHRAE Hawaii Chapter, and this great HVAC Industry.