

Baltimore-Washington Chapter Report for HPS Society Year 2015-2016

General Information

Official Year: June - May

Mailing Address:

BWCHPS
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Gaithersburg, MD 20885-4211
mmille1@gmail.com

Dues Information:

Full Member: \$25.00
Associate: n/a
Student: \$10.00
Emeritus: \$0.00
Life: n/a
Affiliate: \$250.00
Chapter Funds as of 1 May: Over \$10,000

Charter Date: 18 November 1958

Science Teacher Workshop? no

Collaboration with other societies? yes

Collaborations: National Capital Chapter of the Alliance of Hazardous Materials Professionals

Website: <http://bwchps.wildapricot.org>

Chapter Leadership & Officers

President: Tanya Palmateer-Oxenberg

President-elect: Stephen Luke

Secretary: Matthew Mille

Treasurer: Brian Livingston

Past President: Wesley Wu

Affiliates Director: Katharine McLellan

Membership Director: Jim Lewis

Newsletter Editor: Ray Johnson

Education Chair: John Crapo

Webmaster: Matthew Mille

Director Liaison: Tracy Ikenberry

Chapter Incorporation & Exempt Status

Applied for Incorporation? yes

Incorporation granted: yes

Incorporation state: Maryland

Applied for an Employer Identification Number? yes

Applied to IRS for Tax Exemption? yes

IRS tax exemption granted? yes

Type of IRS tax exemption: 501-C-3

Tax Exemption application done by: self

Insurance? no

Willing to share IRS paperwork? yes

Chapter Membership & Certifications

HPS Members: 101

non-Members: 20

Total: 121

ABHP Certified: 50

NRRPT Certified: 11

Meetings/Activities: Meetings/Activities (Aug-15 to Jul-16)

Aug '15 Meeting Topic: EXCOM Meeting

Type: Executive Council

Attendance: 4

Sep '15 Meeting Topic: Advances in Radiation Detection Materials

Type: Technical

Speaker: Mark Wrobel, DHS/DNDO Transformational and Applied Research

Attendance: 14

Oct '15 Meeting Topic: Supporting the New Radiological Operation Support Specialist (ROSS) position

Type: Technical

Speaker: Dan Blumenthal, DOE/NNSA Consequence Management Program

Attendance: 30

Nov '15 Meeting Topic: NRC License for Depleted Uranium in Davy Crockett Cartridge, 20 mm Spotting M101

Type: Technical

Speaker: Bob Cherry, HPS President Elect

Attendance: 26

Dec '15 Meeting Topic: EXCOM Meeting

Type: Executive Council

Attendance: 6

Jan '16 Meeting Topic: Radiation Protection Guidance for the Lens of the Eye

Type: Technical

Speaker: John Boice, President NCRP

Attendance: 28

Feb '16 Meeting Topic: The Other A-Team: The Advisory Team for the Environment, Food, and Health

Type: Technical

Speaker: Capt. Michael Noska, USPHS, Food and Drug Administration

Attendance: 15

Mar '16 Meeting Topic: Army Public Health Center (Prov) Screening Program for Depleted Uranium Bioassay

Type: Technical

Speaker: Gerald Faló / Craig Jones / Brian Livingston of Army Public Health Center

Attendance: 40

Apr '16 Meeting Topic: Radiation Protection and Regulatory Activities for Technologically Enhanced Naturally-Occurring Radioactive Material

Type: Technical

Speaker: Ruth McBurney, Executive Director of Conference of Radiation Control Program Directors (CRCPD)

Attendance: 34

May '16 Meeting Topic: 2016 Annual Meeting

Type: Annual

Speaker: Program with 8 technical speakers and vendor exhibits

Attendance: 55

Comments

Other 2015-2016 Meetings:

June 6, 2015 – EXCOM Officer Transition Party (social)

July 22, 2015 – EXCOM Meeting, 7 attendees

August 19, 2015 – EXCOM Meeting (teleconference), 4 attendees

September 22, 2015 – EXCOM Meeting, 6 attendees

October 27, 2015 – EXCOM Meeting, 7 attendees

December 3, 2015 – EXCOM Meeting, 6 attendees

January 26, 2016 – EXCOM Meeting (teleconference), 6 attendees

February 23, 2016 – EXCOM Meeting (teleconference), 6 attendees

March 29, 2016 – EXCOM Meeting, 6 attendees

April 19, 2016 – EXCOM Meeting, 7 attendees

May 31, 2016 – EXCOM Meeting (teleconference), 8 attendees

Annual Meeting Program

(1) "MRT Methodologies for Medical Image Reconstruction", Alireza Haghghat, Virginia Tech

(2) "A Maryland Perspective on the National Materials Program", Alan Jacobson, Maryland Department of the Environment

(3) "Radiological and Nuclear Research Efforts Supporting National Security in the Academic Community", Richard Vojtech, Domestic Nuclear Detection Office

(4) "LNT: Overview and Update", Jerome Puskin, Environmental Protection Agency

(5) "Five Tools for Effective Responses to Workers, the Public, and the Media", Ray Johnson, Radiation Safety Counseling Institute

(6) "The RadResponder Network: Overview and Update", Sean Crawford, Federal Emergency Management

Agency
(7) "Environmental History, Environmental Protection, and the EPA", John Edwards, Environmental Protection Agency
(8) "A Review of Selective Internal Radiation Therapy using Y-90 Microspheres", Matthew Mille, National Cancer Institute/NIH

The Executive Committee met approximately once a month to discuss business and plan chapter meetings. This year our chapter hosted 7 Technical Dinner meetings and our Annual Meeting in May. The dinner meetings were held at a local restaurant and consisted of a social hour, three-course meal, and 30-40 minute scientific talk. We try to hold the dinner meetings in different geographical areas so as to encourage participation by professionals throughout the region. This year we held 5 meetings in Rockville/Bethesda, MD (where the majority of our members live/work), 1 in Columbia, MD (to engage our members who live/work closer to Baltimore), and 2 in Fairfax County, VA.

The membership statistics supplied in this report refer to plenary, emeritus, affiliate, and student members who are up-to-date with their membership dues. I obtained the HPS membership and certification statistics by cross-referencing our roster with the HPS Directory. Our chapter has a contact list of about 232 individuals who we consider "active" and to whom we regularly send meeting and other announcements. Only 121 (or ~50%) of these individuals paid membership dues for the 2015-2016 chapter year. We have a number of individuals who have not paid their chapter dues, but still periodically attend our meetings. We try to encourage membership by charging different meeting registration fees for members and non-members. Typical pricing for dinner meetings was \$30 members, \$35 non-members, and \$10 students.

A short newsletter was distributed to our contact list on a monthly schedule. We found this to be a very helpful way to publicize meetings, summarize previous meetings, and communicate other news. In total, we issued 8 newsletters (Aug '15, Nov '15, Dec '15, Jan '16, Feb '16, Mar '16, Apr '16, May '16).

This past year we greatly improved and regularly maintained our chapter website. We use the Wild Apricot membership service which offers user-friendly tools for maintaining our membership roster and for handling financial transactions online. Meeting announcements were regularly posted online and members could pay their registration fees and membership dues through the website. After our meetings the speaker slides were uploaded to a special "members only" area of our website. A newsletter archive was also added to our website which contains chapter newsletters dating back to 1958. The newsletter archive has several gaps, but we are actively soliciting old newsletters from our members so that we can create as complete a collection as possible.

We are putting together 3 radiation survey meter demonstration kits which we plan to use for educational instruction, workshops, and public outreach in the coming year. Two survey meters were donated by Atlantic Nuclear Inc. and one was purchased. In addition to the survey meters, these kits will contain items such as Vaseline glass, fiestaware, smoke detectors, etc.

Our CHP Certification Review Course was canceled this year. The course was very successful last year, but we were unable to garner enough interest this year to push forward. This is probably because so many people took the course last year. We will try again next year.

Chapter elections were held in May for the positions of president-elect, treasurer, and membership director. All positions were uncontested. An election survey was conducted online using SurveyMonkey.com. There were a total of 58 responses to survey (i.e. about 50% of eligible voters participated). We have two new members joining our Executive Committee: Edward Tupin as President-Elect and Jeancarlo Torres as Treasurer. Our newly elected membership director recently accepted a job outside the region and so will resign his position. The committee will look to appoint a new membership director this summer.

There are several things we hope to improve upon in the coming year. We hope our First Responders group will meet more often in the coming year. The Executive Committee has also discussed building stronger connections with other organizations such as the local chapter of the American Nuclear Society. Next year

we hope to hold some joint meetings with them.

This Chapter report was created on 10 June 2016 by Matthew Mille.