

Notes



Discover Oregon!

52nd Annual HPS Meeting 8-12 July 2007

Marge Slauson
Cascade Chapter HPS

In the fall of 1805, Lewis and Clark's Corps of Discovery journeyed west through the Columbia River Gorge to the Pacific Ocean. The explorers marveled at the "beautiful cascades which fell from a great height over the stupendous rocks." They glimpsed the Cascades' snow-covered peaks, admired the "emence" fir trees, and were kept awake at night by noisy flocks of geese and ducks. At the coast, they remarked on the pounding surf, watched bald eagles, observed California condors and sea otters, and found the remains of a whale.

The scenery, wildlife, and character of the people is much the same today as it was at the end of the famous explorers' trek across the nation. Oregon, pronounced "Ory-

gun" not "Or EE Gone" (a true Oregonian will heartily correct the common mispronunciation!) is the setting for the 52nd Annual Health Physics Society (HPS) Meeting, 8-12 July 2007. Nestled between the Cascade Mountains and the Coastal Range, at the confluence of the Willamette and Columbia Rivers, is Portland. Known for its stunning views of Mount Hood, temperate weather, and abundant outdoor activities, Portland is the largest city in Oregon and second in size to Seattle in the Pacific Northwest. The friendliness and spirit of the people and the beauty of the scenery make Portland a very special place to visit!

The meeting is scheduled at the Oregon Convention Center, adjacent to the downtown area and waterfront. Primary lodging will be at the

DoubleTree Hotel at the Lloyd Center. The hotel is four blocks from the convention center, within walking distance of the Lloyd Center mall in Portland, and strategically situated on the MAX light-rail system, which runs between downtown Portland and the Portland airport.

Portland has something for everyone—outdoor activities, nightlife, family activities, art, museums, and shopping not to mention the most and best microbrew pubs in the country! Portland is within a few-hours drive to the Columbia Gorge, Mount St. Helens or Mount Hood, the Oregon Coast, and Oregon Wine Country, to name just a few.

Come to Oregon and find out what makes the Pacific Northwest and its people so remarkable!

"Oregon is an inspiration. Whether you come to it, or are born to it, you become entranced by our state's beauty, the opportunity she affords, and the independent spirit of her citizens."

Address to Oregon Legislature
Governor Tom McCall, 8 January 1973

Greta Joy Dicus

As this issue of *Health Physics News* went to press the editor learned that Greta Joy Dicus passed away 30 August. A member of the Health Physics Society, she was Director of the Arkansas radiation control program from 1985 to 1993. President Clinton appointed her a Commissioner of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, a position

she held from 1996 to 2003. She also served as Commission Chairman in 1999. In 2001, she was elected to the main Commission of the International Commission on Radiological Protection.

A more complete account of her life will be included in November's *Health Physics News*.

Bruce Busby, CHP
and Marge Slauson, CCHPS Members



Oregon Facts and Fantasies

The Cascade Chapter of the Health Physics Society (CCHPS) is the host chapter for the 52nd Annual HPS meeting, 8-12 July 2007, to be held in Portland, Oregon. Oregon is known for copious amounts of rain, grey skies, forests, and the Portland Trail Blazers. However, what is fact and what is fantasy with what you have heard about Oregon?

Myths: Oregon has more rain than anywhere else does. Oregonians do not tan, they rust. The sun never shines. Oregon is trees, trees, and more trees. The highest rate of mortality is people falling off bicycles and drowning.

Facts: Portland averages 37 inches of rain (less than Atlanta, Baltimore, Houston, or Seattle). Portland averages 2/3 of the days in July without any clouds. Oregon has forested areas, but also 300 miles of Pacific Ocean coastline, deserts, mountains, lakes, and rivers. Almost nobody drowns after falling off his or her bicycle.

Facts on Oregon can be found in many tourism books but, better yet, check out the Cascade Chapter's Web site for the 52nd Annual Meeting (hpschapters.org/cascade/2007hps/index.html). On this Web site, you can find local information and things to do before,



The twin glass towers make the Oregon Convention Center a Portland landmark.

during, or after the meeting. Of course, we will have some information about the meeting too. In addition, soon you can find recommendations by Cascade Chapter members of their favorite things to do in and around Portland.

If you want to know the truth, we actually enjoy the rain! Therefore, in the spirit of the wonder of Oregon, we would like to give you the top 10 unpublished reasons we love it here:

10. Within three hours, be on the coast, on a snow-capped mountain, in a rain forest, and in a desert.
9. Spend hours browsing Powell's bookstore with a cup of hand-roasted coffee.
8. Active volcanoes.
7. Portland's Rose Garden.
6. The best windsurfing in the world.
5. "Sometimes a Great Notion"
4. Gold medal golf courses.
3. Great pinot noir (microbrews for non-wine drinkers).
2. Bald eagles.

And the number one reason to love Oregon:

1. You don't have to pump your own gas!



Majestic Mount Hood, home of year-round skiing, hiking, and mountain biking.

Plant Yourself in Portland

Bill Tuttle and Marjorie Slauson
2007 HPS Meeting LAC Members



World-class gardens: 4
Cultivated weekend: 1
Relaxation brought by nature: priceless

The Local Arrangements Committee would like to invite you to the 2007 Health Physics Society Annual Meeting in Portland, Oregon, 8-12 July. Perhaps what you may not know about the area is that the Pacific



Portland Rose Garden
photo courtesy of Matthew Botos

Northwest is one of the great gardening areas in the world. If a few April showers bring May flowers, what do plentiful Pacific Northwest showers bring to the city of Portland? A gardener's paradise of lush green foliage and waves of blossoms nearly year round!

Owing to mild winters, sunny summers, and a reliable water supply, Portland is home to a collection of some of the most beautiful and diverse public gardens in any American city. Native plants like Oregon Grape (Oregon's state flower), rhododendrons and azaleas, and, of course, roses, are used through the region in landscaping and home gardens. With a mild spring and frost not likely till near Halloween, the garden growing season is long enough for most vegetables, with good crops of tomatoes, cucumbers, corn, and potatoes along with fruit such as apples, pears, and cherries. There is even a hardy kiwi which is easily grown in Oregon.

The streets in most Oregon cities are lined with maples, chestnut, and oak trees. Trees such as cottonwoods, poplars, and aspens are plentiful along the rivers. The Cascade and Coastal range mountains are literally covered with fir trees, elderberries, huckleberries, ferns, and a wide assortment of summer flowers. Perhaps the easiest to recognize plant for the locals is the blackberry, which can take over any open space—providing berries for jams and treats for hiking.

You don't need a passport to discover the world's great garden traditions. All it takes is two days in Portland, Oregon. In and around the City of Roses, you'll find four of the most fascinating and diverse gardens in North America. What are you waiting for?



Portland Rose Garden

Portland is also home to numerous specialty nurseries.

The following Web sites help acquaint visitors with the splendid plants and gardens to be found in Oregon:

- Portland Visitor Association (www.pova.org/visitors/gardens.html)
- Oregon State Government (www.oregon.com/trips/portland_gardens.cfm)
- Hardy Plant Society (www.hardyplantsociety.org/links.htm)

Come for the meeting, but enjoy the gardens!



Notes

Portland, Oregon, and Amber Brew

Rainer Farmer

Beer is proof that God loves us and wants us to be happy.
– Benjamin Franklin

While there is some question as to the authenticity of Ben's musing on beer, there is no doubt that Portland is a paradise for all things beer. Attendees of the 2007 Health Physics Society (HPS) Annual Meeting in Portland, Oregon, 8-12 July, will have the opportunity to explore the variety of breweries, brewpubs, and taprooms found in the Rose City. A pint of ale is the perfect accompaniment as one ponders whether it's the locally grown hops, the clear water, or the creative brewmeisters that make Portland a Mecca for quality beer.

One of the striking features of Portland is the number of craft breweries, companies that emphasize quality and variety in beer over volume and mass-market appeal. In fact Oregon has the largest number of craft breweries per capita of any state in the Union. There are over 60 such breweries in the state, over 25 in the Portland metro area alone! With such a large number of producers, it's not hard to find a beer (and most likely several) to please every palate, from the crisp and refreshing hefeweizen through the hoppy India Pale Ales and winding up with robust stouts.

Oregon brewers consistently win awards in domestic and international competitions, and several of the award-winning Portland breweries offer tours. Widmer Brothers is located a short



(and free!) ride on the MAX light rail line from the Convention Center and Doubletree Hotel, site of the HPS meeting. Widmer is probably best known for its signature American hefeweizen, winner of the Gold Medal at the 2006 Great American Brewers Festival.

Bridgeport Brewing Company, Oregon's oldest craft brewery, is located in northwest Portland. Among the many awards Bridgeport's beers have garnered, its India Pale Ale received the Gold



Medal at the 2005 Brewing Industry International Awards in Munich, Germany. Located in Portland's historic Pearl District, the Bridgeport complex also includes a pub and bakery. With plenty of shopping and restaurants nearby, Bridgeport is definitely an attractive destination.

For the more adventurous, head out to Pacific City (population 900) on the Oregon coast, a 2.5-hour drive from Portland. There you'll find the Pelican Pub and Brewery. Don't let the remote location fool you—Pelican brought home five medals from the Great American Brewer's Fest (three gold and two silver) and was named the Large Brewpub and Large Brewpub Company Brewer of the Year at the festival.

Of course, you don't have to drive far to sample the many beers produced in the region. In fact, you don't have to drive at all, as there are many brewpubs and other outlets pouring the best that Oregon and Washington have to offer that are within walking distance of the MAX light rail line, and many of those are within the free fare zone.

So while enjoying all that this great city has to offer, remember to take the time to relax with one of the delectable beers produced in the region. Like the snow cap on nearby Mt. Hood, the frothy head on the top of your pint will remind you that you're in Portland. ☒

Oregon Wine Country

Lawrence Winans, CCHPS Member

During the 2006 Health Physics Society (HPS) meeting in Providence, members of the Columbia Chapter polled HPS members as they visited our exhibitor booth. While many people were interested in the scenic beauty and history of Oregon, there seemed to be an inordinate amount of interest in the Oregon wines. And, to be honest, Oregon produces many great wines. There was interest in microbrewed beer as well, as is well known!

Oregon has several wine-producing areas. Whether you tour this part of Oregon for the magnificent scenery, to visit

old and new friends, or to enjoy the bounty of our farms and communities, you will discover that some of the finest wineries and vineyards are tucked into the hills of the Willamette Valley. Here is where you



can find Oregon's bottled bounty of its premier grape: Pinot Noir. You will learn that each winery has its own way to bring you something special available only in limited quantities. Other premier wine varieties from Oregon are pinot gris, pinot grigio, merlot, and chardonnay.

In 1984 a tourism booklet boasted 46 wineries in Oregon and Southern Washington. Today there are more than 300, and many are within an hour's drive from Portland. Some have picnic grounds and some

offer wine tours which leave the driving to the professionals while you relax and enjoy sampling the fine varieties and vintages. The red hills of Dundee, Oregon, offer a choice of several excellent wineries,

and there are many more in all directions from Portland, our 2007 host city. Within the Oregon Convention Center itself is a wine-tasting room.

The wineries charge a nominal sampling fee and prices per bottle vary according to the type of wine, the year, and the skill of the wine maker. Some use French oak barrels while others use stainless steel. The quality of Oregon wines can match or beat that of fine wines produced elsewhere in the world. For more on Oregon wineries, wines, and wine country, see <http://www.winesnw.com/>.



Come to the 52nd Annual HPS meeting 8-12 July in Portland, Oregon, and while here discover the wonderful variety of fine Oregon wines. ☒

2008 Midyear Call for Abstracts

Lawrence S. Walker, CHP

The Accelerator Section, in conjunction with the Northern California Chapter of the Health Physics Society (HPS), is pleased to submit a call for abstracts for the 2008 midyear meeting on Radiation-Generating Devices, 27-30 January 2008 in Oakland, California. This call is earlier than normal calls for abstracts; however, in this time of budget shortfalls we want to provide

you with the time to plan for this unique meeting. More than a decade will have passed since the last midyear on this topic! So, it is with great pleasure and anticipation that we announce this upcoming meeting, to whet your appetite and to help you to prepare for this unique event. Much has changed and expanded in this field, and the topics that will be covered at this meeting

cover virtually all aspects of health physics. We urge you not to miss this exclusive opportunity. Plan now to attend. For more information on the 2008 midyear please see the official Web site (<http://hpschapters.org/2008midyear/>). You may also obtain a poster advertising the meeting by contacting the HPS Secretariat (hps@burkinc.com).

Abstracts Due: 31 July 2007 ☒

Notes

Destination Portland: Land of Plenty (Things to Do!)

Lars Winans, CCHPS Member



When you come to Portland you'll find that the old saying in real estate holds true: "Location, location, location." Within no more than an hour's drive this summer, you can climb a mountain or rock wall, roam a beach, golf, fish, snow ski, water ski, wind surf, mountain bike, hike to the top of a magnificent waterfall, or even soak in a geothermal hot springs. Summer brings our longest days, lasting nearly 16 hours, and you might be tempted to try too many of these activities in a single day. A tour of our local volcano, Mount St. Helens, is also a fun way to pass a day in the Northwest. Another attraction is Fort Clatsop near Astoria at the outlet of the great Columbia River where Lewis and Clark wintered in 1805.

You will find that Portlanders are keen on the environment. Many of us commute to work by bicycle or use the two wheelers to stay fit. Portland is a very bike-friendly town. Many outlets rent bicycles for the day or week. Besides walking and biking, getting around town is easy with our MAX light-rail system. In coming to the meeting, the easiest way to get there will be to take advantage of the direct connection between the Portland airport (PDX) and the hotel/Convention Center. We expect many attendees to take advantage of the city transit free-ride zone (called Fareless Square) which includes the Convention Center, downtown

hotels, businesses, sports arenas, theaters, Saturday Market, and fine restaurants and cafés on both sides of our Willamette River.

With so much to do in the summer, you might wonder what we do in the winter when the days are short and wet. Indoor rock walls, gyms, and fitness centers are popular in Portland, and many are within walking distance of the Convention Center. Other indoor "sports" include Powell's Books—one of the largest book stores in North America—vibrant art, theater and music scenes, and of course, movies. There are also three area universities here: Oregon Health and Science University, Portland State University, and University of Portland, along with Portland Community College mini campuses scattered around town, all of which are easily accessible on foot, by car, or by public transportation.

Indoor and outdoor enthusiasts alike take advantage of the huge array of microbreweries which make this city famous; some of the most popular are within stumbling distance of the DoubleTree. The Oregon Museum of Science and Industry with its Omnimax Theater is a nice walk along the Eastbank Esplanade from the Convention Center. The Oregon Zoo can be reached by car or bus and offers varying programs to occupy time on a rainy day. Check out the Cascade Chapter of the Health Physics Society Web site (hpschapters.org/cascade/2007hps/index.html) for more information.

Here you will find a city that is not too big, not too small—it may be new compared to the global scene, but it is fresh, livable, and just right for fans of indoor or outdoor activities. Come and enjoy. ☒



Mount Hood over Portland