Health Physics News

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The Official Newsletter of the Health Physics Society

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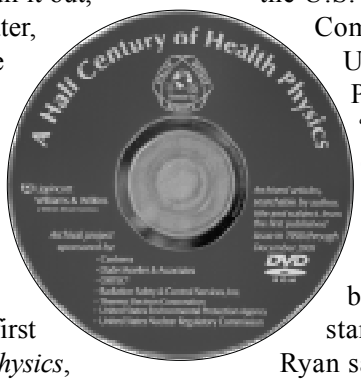
A DVD and a Whole Lot More HPS Special Publications

Mary Walchuk

Have you looked at the DVD that came with your September 2006 *Health Physics* Journal? If so, you know about the wealth of material contained on that thin, silver disk. If not, pull it out, put it in your computer, and get ready to take a tour of 50 years in Health Physics Society (HPS) history—through the eyes of Journal contributors.



The HPS DVD, which contains the first 50 years of *Health Physics*, was produced by the Journal publisher, Lippincott Williams and Wilkins, and Cadmus, the publisher's production group. They also selected the QLU program that runs the archive and "by all comments, this was a good choice," according to Journal Editor-in-Chief Michael T. Ryan.

"*Health Physics* Managing Editor Amy Gudelski and Editorial Assistant Deanna Baker took on the task of assembling a paper copy from which electronic files were made," Ryan added. "They also proofed the files one by one, beta tested the DVD, and conducted the QA/QC on the final version. They did a terrific job!"

The DVD project was sponsored by Ortec, Thermo Electron Corporation, Dade Moeller and Associates, Radiation Safety & Control Services, Inc., Canberra, the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. "The Web sites for each sponsoring organization are linked to 'about this product' on the browse page and at start-up of the DVD," Ryan said. "We are very grateful for the sponsorship of these organizations. With their support, the DVD is provided as a benefit of membership with no additional costs to members."

"Student members who meet the requirements for membership will also get a copy of the DVD for free," Ryan explained. Also approved by the HPS Board was a program giving associate and plenary members who are either returning or new members a copy as part of their paid membership. New members will be mailed a DVD once their applications have been completed and processed at the Secretariat with the help of Heide Rohland.

(continued on page 4)

From the Outgoing President

So Long, and Thanks for All the Fish[1] . . .
and Chicken . . . and . . . Especially the Desserts!

"The HPS doesn't pay you worth a damn, but they feed you well!" This quotation from a president of quite a few years ago comes to mind as I write my last president's message.

It really starts in earnest with the president-elect (PE) term and all those breakfast meetings, working lunches, receptions, the awards banquet, and the night out at the annual meeting. Then you go home and start the PE tour of the chapters. Health Physics Society (HPS) folks out there are invariably gracious and hospitable, and in the USA that means FOOD! Throw in a few more Executive Committee meeting breakfasts, lunches, and dinners and before you know it I've ballooned from the 77 kg (you know I'm an SI advocate) that I was in Vienna, to a peak of 85.5 kg at the end of my PE visits! I know no one forces it down your throat, but I'm of that generation that was taught to always clean your plate. Fortunately, a February and March of calorie counting and some discipline has now brought me down to a more svelte 76 kg. However, I know that going into the Portland annual meeting will be another challenge to my self-discipline!

So, apart from being fed well, what else has happened over my term of office? It's always sobering to look at election promises and to see whether or not they have been fulfilled, so with some trepidation, I pulled up my "Statement of Goals" from my election year. The five bolded items in it were (1) restructuring, (2) international involvement, (3) homeland security, (4) congressional and agency liaison, (5) membership.

I believe that I have fulfilled commitments with regard to at least the first four of the five. Our restructuring is pretty much complete, with a few tricky implementation issues having been worked out during the year. The development of the Radiation Safety Without Borders effort has not been as rapid as I would have liked, not because of any fault of the ad-hoc committee, but because coordination with the International Atomic Energy Agency has had some delays. However, with the international-themed plenary at the annual meeting and our future plans, I think we are on track in this area. Much has happened in the homeland security area as well as in our congressional and agency work, including the appointment of an HPS Homeland Defense Equipment Reuse (HDER) program coordinator and my recent Senate hearing testimony on safety and security of radioactive sources.

The goal that I feel I have done least in is with regard to increasing membership. Certainly the Membership Committee itself has been tasked with a number of issues and I look forward to the results of its deliberations at the annual meeting, but I wanted to do more myself . . . in particular with regard to Conference of Radiation Control Program Directors, Inc. (CRCPD) members. To this end, at its annual meeting in May, I announced a limited-time, first-year half-price offer for CRCPD members to join the HPS.

Aside from the commitments in my Statement of Goals, there are those things that come up during a term that were not thought about, that perhaps compensate for the things that didn't get done. The most significant of these is our efforts in public communications (remember ^{210}Po!) and, in particular, the development and publication of the *Radiation Primer: A Citizen's Guide to Radiation*. If we achieve our objectives with this Web-based document, it could profoundly affect the public perception of radiation and all things radioactive. I have high hopes!

And finally, there is the privilege and joy of writing these presidential messages. I can honestly say that with only one exception, they have flowed "easily" and directly from my heart and mind to the page. I only hope that you have enjoyed reading them as much as I have enjoyed writing them.

So with that, it's "So long, and thanks for all the food!"

Brian Dodd

[1]With apologies to the estate of Douglas Adams.

From the Incoming President

As I write this article, I have only a few chapter visits left as president-elect and I thought that a review of these visits would be appropriate for my first article. Most importantly, I want to thank all of the chapter contacts for arranging for these visits. Once the dust settles, I will have had the opportunity to visit 37 chapters. I hope the approximately 1,300 radiation safety professionals and medical staff who attended the meetings found the information exchange as useful as I did. I was fortunate that I only had one weather-related cancellation and never had to sleep overnight at an airport during my chapter visits. I've mentioned to Health Physics Society (HPS) colleagues on several occasions that this opportunity to represent you as president-elect is one of the most rewarding experiences in my professional career.

My presentation for the HPS chapter visits was titled "Medical Response to Radiation Incidents." The topic grew out of work that I have been involved with in the state of Florida. The "freebies" distributed during each of my visits, that is, a CD of useful medical response information including a draft radiation response plan for hospitals and a laminated poster designed to be used by emergency department staff in the event of a radiological emergency, were well received. In my chapter communications, I had encouraged inviting local hospital emergency department and emergency response staff. I was very pleased to see so many of these important individuals involved in hospital emergency response at the meetings.

As you might expect, the health of the chapters varies significantly. Many of the chapters do not hold routine meetings. Alternatively, I had three visits where 80 or more radiation safety professionals attended. As our society "grays" in the United States, so do our professional societies and local chapters. We need to continue to encourage collaboration with the younger members of our profession. One of my greatest rewards was being able to talk to some of these aspiring health physicists. When I encountered a situation where local chapter support was difficult, I encouraged the students, with the support of the local chapter, to submit a request to the HPS Finance Committee for consideration.

Although certainly not a new concern, we need to continue to encourage radiation safety professionals who attend local meetings to join our national Society and vice versa. I am hopeful that our membership initiative with the Conference of Radiation Control Program Directors, Inc., and future initiatives with other interested groups will eventually result in sustained new membership for our Society. One of the concerns discovered during my visits involved the recycling of chapter members in leadership positions. In several situations, an individual had served as local chapter president for at least three separate terms. In an attempt to try to alleviate this situation and allow others to take on leadership roles, including non-HPS members, I have been encouraging chapters to sponsor the incoming chapter president-elect for a one-year membership in the Society. This not only is a method to reward the amount of work required for this position, but also satisfies the Society Rules, that is, Rule 10.1, which states that the president and president-elect of a chapter shall be members of the national organization.

Although support has been available for several years, many chapters still require assistance in linking their home page with the national HPS Web site to allow for such options as electronic balloting and sending blast faxes. I will be working with the Secretariat to provide online instructions as well as a contact number for chapters requiring additional assistance.

In my opinion, a successful meeting is a combination of technical content and a chance to socialize with friends and colleagues. Many chapters had creative ideas to encourage attendance. I will be asking the Society Support Committee to post these ideas on its section of the HPS Web site. Interesting and successful strategies incorporated by local chapters include:

- Picnic meeting which includes family members.
- Awards meeting – "Health Physicist of the Year" "Technologist of the Year."
- Chapter members participate in local Boy Scout Nuclear Science merit badge activities.
- Christmas vendors meeting with door prizes.

Kevin L. Nelson, CHP

HPS Special Publications

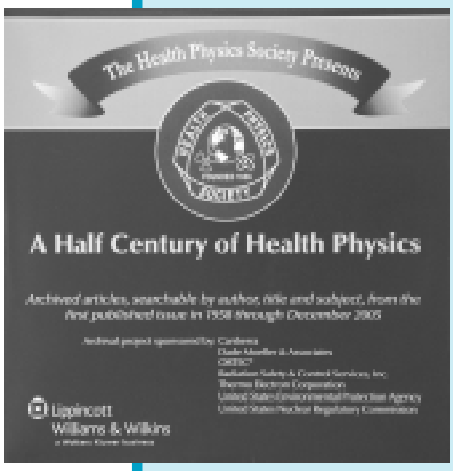
(continued from page 1)

"The response to the DVD has been very positive," according to Ryan. "Many members have sent notes and emails indicating that the DVD contains materials that they could not get easily otherwise." Some additional comments have been: "The DVD is easy to use." "The search features are intuitive and easy to follow." "It is great to have access to the early content that I cannot otherwise access."

"We have also received many good suggestions and will continue to collect feedback and suggestions for improvements on the DVD," Ryan said. "We will also keep up with trends in technology that might influence DVD updates." Ryan said there have only been a couple "blips" with the DVD. If you don't have a DVD player on your computer or have a MAC computer, you won't be able to use it. He suggests that anyone having problems call the Journal editorial office and someone there can help you get it going (843-875-4604).

"At present, all the content going forward from the DVD is available to members on the Web site (www.health-physics.com) so there is no immediate need for an update," Ryan added. "The Journal staff will stay in touch with our publishers and revisit the ideas for updates on a regular basis." For more information on the DVD, see page 18 of the March 2007 issue of *Health Physics News*.

Nonmembers, and HPS members who would like additional copies of the DVD, can order it—and several other HPS publications—simply by following the directions below.



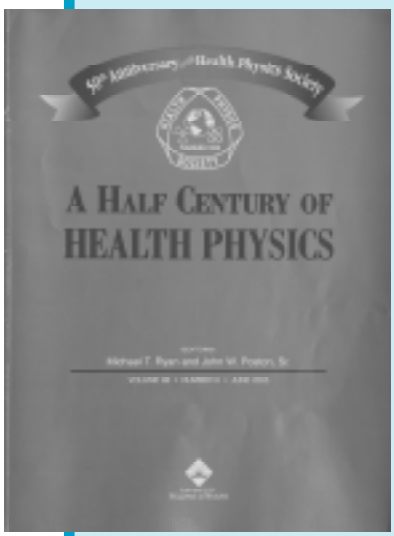
A Half Century of Health Physics DVD

Archived *Health Physics* articles, searchable by author, title, and subject, from the first published issue in 1958 through December 2005.

$550.00 per copy

Available from the *Health Physics* office:
Michael T. Ryan, Editor-in-Chief
402 Corey Blvd.
Summerville, SC 29483-2900
Email: HPEditor@burkinc.com

Also available through the publisher:
1-866-489-0443 or 1-301-223-2300.



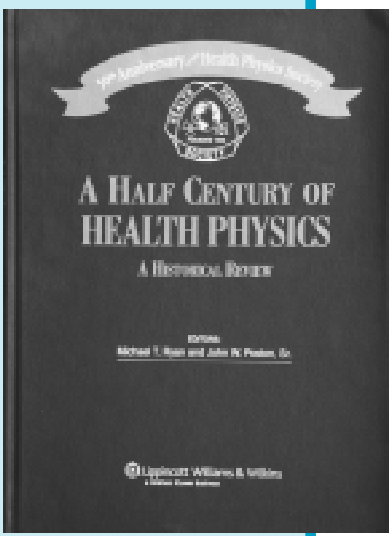
A Half Century of Health Physics Softcover and Hardcover Issues

13 articles, edited by Michael T. Ryan and John W. Poston, Sr., covering a variety of basic topics important to radiological science and health physics. A great teaching tool, this 50th Anniversary issue of *Health Physics* summarizes history, discusses the current state of the subjects, and takes a look ahead.

$29.95 for hardcover copy

A limited supply will be available at the 2007 HPS Annual Meeting in Portland.

Also available through the publisher:
1-866-489-0443 or 1-301-223-2300.

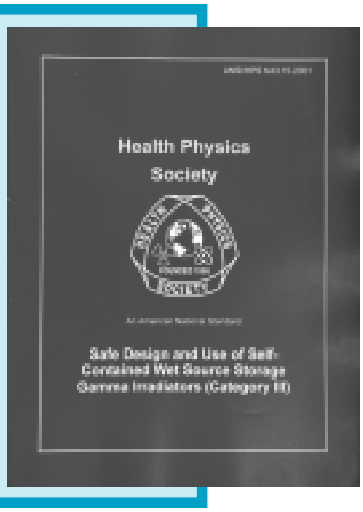


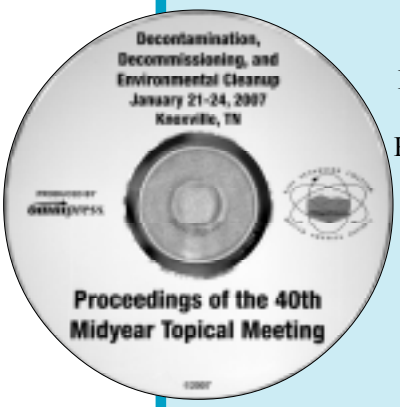
N13 and N43 Standards

N13 Accredited Standards concerned with radiation protection of workers and the public related to the use, testing, and measurement of radiation and N43 Accredited Standards concerned with radiation protection aspects of radiation-producing equipment used in industrial and nonmedical research and development activities (excluding nuclear reactors).

Free for HPS members
$50 per standard for nonmembers

Available by submitting an order form by email or by fax.
Order forms and additional information are available at http://hps.org/hpssc/.





Midyear Meeting Proceedings

Full-length papers submitted by authors whose abstracts have been accepted for presentation at the midyear meeting. Proceedings from recent years are on CD-ROM, allowing for inclusion of PowerPoint presentations submitted by speakers.

$10 for HPS members
$35 for nonmembers

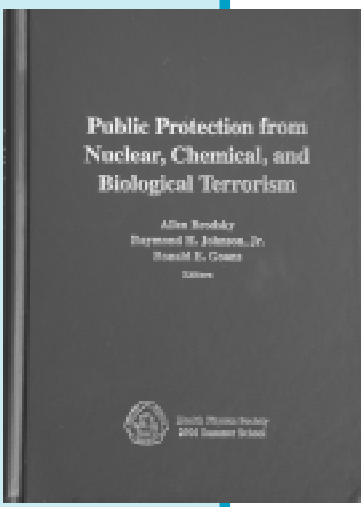
Available at the midyear meeting.
Midyear proceedings from 1997 to the present are available directly from the HPS Secretariat. The order form can be found at http://hps.org/documents/midyearorderform.pdf/.

Professional Development School Textbooks

Book-length publications that include chapters by all or nearly all of the instructors at the HPS Professional Development Schools (previously known as the HPS Summer Schools). An indispensable and extensive source of information for those in attendance at the school and for those unable to attend. An opportunity to gain knowledge on a large number of topics relevant to health physics.

Free for Professional Development School participants
Copies available to others at varied prices

Available from Medical Physics Publishing (www.medicalphysics.org); follow the link "Health Physics Society Texts" found at the left side of the home page.
Some texts are also available from the HPS Secretariat using the order form found at http://hps.org/documents/summerschoolorderform.pdf/.



Thank you to *Health Physics* Editor-in-Chief Mike Ryan, HPS Director of Special Publications John Edwards, and Secretariat Associate Administrator David Drupa for providing the information on these publications.

Inside the Beltway

David Connolly
Washington Representative
Capitol Associates, Inc.

Although sometimes frustrating to the casual spectator in the 21st century, the pace of Congress is still very much based on 18th century views of government. Thus, it moves slowly. Before a bill becomes a law, it usually takes a few sessions of debate for a proposal to make its way through the legislature and over the finish line to become enacted.

You may recall a column about a year ago which decried the congressional reaction to the lobbying scandals by, among other things, significantly increasing the reporting requirements lobbyists must adhere to in both the House and the Senate.

Whereas late last year I was thankful that this deliberate, complicated process prevented the legislation from passing, I now wish it had become law because more extensive and objectionable proposals are on their way to being passed in this Congress.

To recap, on behalf of the Health Physics Society (HPS), I register and report to the appropriate offices in both the House and the Senate twice each year. In this report, I identify myself, my firm, my client, the issues I represent them on with the Congress, and an approximation of the fees earned.

Under the proposed legislation, this reporting requirement will be doubled to four times a year while also including more information on my activities in the report.

Like last year, my problem with this increase in activity is that it does not further the goal of lobby reform; instead, it simply increases the cost of lobbying without benefiting the nation.

Through a change in its underlying operating rules, the House of Representatives now prohibits a Member or staff person from accepting any gift from a lobbyist or an entity that retains a lobbyist, i.e., HPS. (Under the previous rule, a gift of under $50 was acceptable.)

The purpose of this change was to show that Members or their staff would not be influenced in their official capacity by the receipt of gifts. Included in this definition of a gift is the value of a meal such as a box lunch. I believe the practical effect of such a rule does a disservice to the ability of the Congress to make policy.

Before this prohibition, HPS had considered sponsoring a box luncheon for congressional staff in order to introduce them to the new radiation primer that is presently under development. By offering lunch, we would be able to attract a greater number of staff by taking advantage of a time period that normally would be unavailable for issue education: their lunch hour.

Without the lunch hour and due to the extensive demands on their work schedule, we probably will attract fewer staff to our briefing to learn about this new resource on radiation available to them and the citizens in their particular congressional districts.

Although it is highly doubtful that any Member or staff person could be wrongfully influenced on any issue by the gift of a meal, an attempt to make sure that this could never happen has instead limited congressional access to important issues, in this case, radiation. As the old saying goes, "Don't throw the baby out with the bathwater."

Agency News

NRC News

Cynthia G. Jones, PhD
Senior Technical Advisor for Nuclear Security
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Health Physics News *Correspondent*

NRC Approves Final Rule on Expanded Definition of Byproduct Material

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) has approved a final rule expanding the definition of radioactive materials subject to its regulatory authority, implementing provisions of the Energy Policy Act of 2005.

The Commission approved the rule by a 5-0 vote affirmed 14 May. The final rule will be published in the *Federal Register* later this year, after the agency staff incorporates changes to the text directed by the Commission and obtains approval from the Office of Management and Budget for information-collection requirements.

The Energy Policy Act of 2005 expanded the definition of so-called "byproduct material" subject to NRC's authority to include discrete sources of ^{226}Ra, material made radioactive in a particle accelerator, and other radioactive material that the Commission determines could pose a threat to public health and safety or the common defense and security. Previously, these materials were regulated by the states.

Although the legislation made NRC's authority over these new materials effective immediately, the agency issued a waiver allowing states to continue to regulate them while the agency drafted regulations to implement the new requirements. The NRC soon will publish a transition plan for assuming the new authority over these materials. The 34 Agreement States—which regulate byproduct material in their states under agreements with the NRC—will maintain authority over the new materials under their agreements with the NRC.

The draft text of the final rule was posted on the NRC Web site in April (http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/commission/secys/2007/secy2007-0062/2007-0062scy.pdf). The Commission's Staff Requirements Memorandum, which details the edits and revisions directed by the Commission to be incorporated in the rule, is also posted (http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/commission/srm/2007/).

Section News

Environmental and Radon Sections Rise Again!

Environmental/Radon Section Special Session in Portland

Jan Johnson, CHP

The Environmental and Radon Sections will sponsor a special session on Tuesday morning (10 July) at the 2007 Health Physics Society Annual Meeting in Portland 8-12 July.

The special session will focus on solutions to problems and is structured to allow for longer presentations and more time for discussion. A short meeting of the two sections will follow the session. Both sections have been dormant with neither having met for at least the past five years.

Last year the Board of Directors declared the Radon Section inactive. However, a Steering Committee was formed at the Providence meeting consisting of members of the two sections. The committee agreed that the two sections should merge and become active again as we are facing many of the same issues that were the impetus for establishing the sections in the first place.

The committee selected Patricia Lee to take the lead for the Environmental Section and Jan Johnson to spark the Radon Section. An email sent to Radon Section members asking for input on the merger yielded an overwhelmingly positive response. As a result, a formal request was sent to the Board of Directors asking that the Radon Section be merged with the Environmental Section to form an Environmental/Radon Section. The details are yet to be worked out pending Board approval of the merger. Because many members have been faithfully paying dues to one or both of the sections, the merged section would have a substantial "bank balance" that could be put to good use (pizza and beer do not count!).

All Environmental Section and Radon Section members and any other interested folks are encouraged to attend the session and the meeting that follows. If you have any questions, comments, or suggestions, please email Jan (janetj@sopris.net) or Patricia (patricia.lee@srnl.doe.gov).

Chapter News

Lake Mead Chapter

Boy Scout Nuclear Science Merit Badge Taught by HPS Members in Las Vegas, Nevada

Steven Curtis

One of the lesser-known, but toughest, merit badges offered by the Boy Scouts of America is the Nuclear Science merit badge. For about 50 years, this achievement was offered as the Atomic Energy merit badge, but the requirements were slightly changed recently and the badge was renamed to "Nuclear Science." Though it is not one of the 11 merit badges specifically required for the rank of Eagle Scout, it is one eligible for inclusion in the other 10 required for this highest Scout rank.

Boy Scout merit badges are designed to acquaint teenage scouts with skills associated with outdoor activities, hobbies, and their future professions under the tutelage of a knowledgeable adult Boy Scout leader. There are 121 merit badges available to cover a wide range of interest among Boy Scouts. To earn each badge, a Boy Scout must have an adult counselor available to mentor, teach, and guide him through the requirements necessary to earn each badge. If a Scout troop is lacking the qualified counselor, it simply cannot offer the merit badge. This is where the Health Physics Society (HPS) comes in.

The Lake Mead Chapter of the HPS in Las Vegas, Nevada, has taken an interest in this program. I am the president of this chapter, but I am also a committee member of Troop 133, a troop sponsored by the Knights of Columbus of St. Frances de Sales Church. I have been a counselor for the Atomic Energy, and now the Nuclear Science, merit badge for three years. In that time two scouts have earned the badge, and more than 15 are in different stages of completion. There is a great deal of interest in the subject matter and the discussions have drawn attention from some of the adult leaders. It is safe to say that Troop 133 Boy Scouts are some of the most nuclear science-savvy people in the Las Vegas valley.

A major mission of the HPS, as well as its brother organization in the nuclear-related profession, the American Nuclear Society (ANS), is to further the exposure of nuclear science to our next generation. Fulfilling the demand for nuclear scientists will be a major issue in the near future, and a major impetus to achieve this goal is to increase awareness and interest in our profession. From my experience, there is a great thirst for this knowledge and, even though the requirements are pretty stringent, there is a great deal of interest in earning this merit badge among a wide range of Boy Scouts. In fact, the ANS has devised an entire program focused on teaching the skills needed for this merit badge. The ANS program is designed for a team of professionals and college students to assemble a group of 30 to 40 scouts and qualify them for the merit badge in about six hours. We are considering such an endeavor in the near future. This level of instruction is not available in schools, but, thanks to the HPS and ANS partnership, it is being taught in Boy Scout meetings.

The ultimate goal of Boy Scouts is to produce well-rounded young adults with the capability to excel in their adult life and to be contributing citizens to the American way of life. It is gratifying to know that nuclear science is part of this preparation process.

Boy Scouts listening to a nuclear science briefing.

Rio Grande Chapter

Mark Miller, CHP

On 4 May 2007, the Rio Grande Chapter of the Health Physics Society (RGCHPS) held its annual technical meeting at the Hilton Hotel in Santa Fe, New Mexico. Included in the 12 interesting papers was a presentation by Bobby R. Scott, of Lovelace Respiratory Research Institute, who gave a timely first-hand account of the ^{210}Po incident that resulted in the death of the former Russian spy Alexander Litvinenko. And who said that health physics was always more of the same?

Stan Fitch assumed the reins of president of RGCHPS, and discussion at the business meeting reminded members of the fast-approaching 2010 date when RGCHPS will host the annual HPS meeting. (Mark your calendars now!)

Stan Fitch

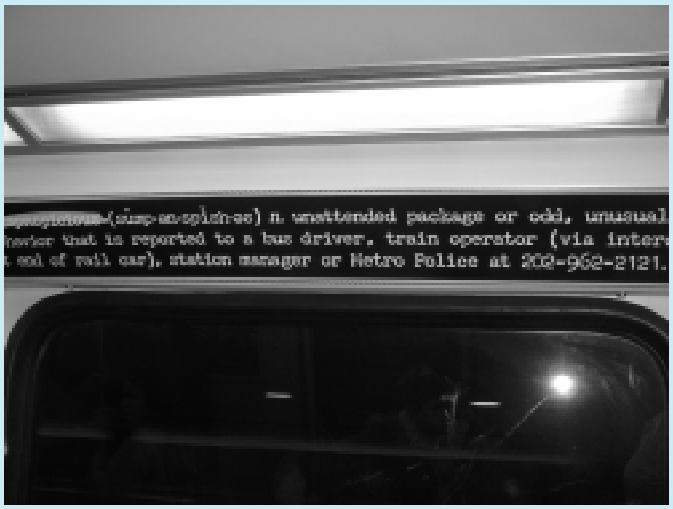
Vendors present (and graciously contributing significantly to the financial accommodations) at the meeting included Ludlum Measurements (Dru Carson), Radiation Safety Associates (Phil Steinmeyer), Thermo Fischer Scientific (Danny Cannon), and ORTEC (Barry Wilson).

Barry Wilson, ORTEC

Dru Carson and Phil Steinmeyer

Danny Cannon demonstrating products to Waylon Mickey

Sumpnspicious



This photo of a sign on the Washington Metro was taken by Jerry Bushberg. If you have trouble figuring out what it means then you better take Homeland Security 100.

Snapper Soup

By Ken Miller

Snapper soup is a gastronomic delight, especially when the bowls of it are liberally sprinkled with sherry just before serving. The best snapper soup is made using the meat of the snapping turtle, *Chelydra serpentina serpentine*. When you see a live snapping turtle, the last thing you think about is eating it! They are ugly, they are vicious when threatened, they are usually covered with mud from the pond bottoms they call home, and they are a throwback to the dinosaur period with their armor-plated carapaces and saw-edged tails. Their powerful beak-like jaws add to their ferocious look and I have often heard, but never experienced, that they can bite through a broom handle. As kids, we hunted them every spring as they were a welcome addition to our food supply.

The process of preparing a snapping turtle for the kettle first involves several dunks into scalding water to remove the outer skin, carapace plates, and toenails. The cleaned shell is usually kept and added to the soup where it dissolves and acts as a thickener for the soup. It is said that President William Howard Taft was so fond of turtle soup that he brought a special chef into the White House to specifically make it for him.

One summer Sunday afternoon, Elmer called me and asked me to come over. When I drove up, I found him and Lizzie sitting on the front porch. Elmer told me that he had a problem. "What's that?" I asked. "There's a big old snapping turtle down there in the pond that we need to get out or it is going to eat all of Lizzie's little ducks." "No kidding!" was my reply. "Yep, me and Lizzie been sitting here watching the baby ducks disappear one at a

time. They will be swimming around and all of a sudden just disappear with nothing left where they were but a few bubbles. That's a big old snapping turtle that does that," he explained. "What do you want me to do about it?" I asked. "Tell Jeff to come over and set out a trotline," Elmer explained. "He can catch him and the guy who owns the restaurant up the road will buy him for $2.00 a pound."

Jeff was my youngest son and he was about 12 years old at the time. He and his friend, Danny, were always looking for some way to get rich quick. So, when I told them what Elmer had proposed, they immediately called the owner of the local restaurant to verify that he would buy the snapper from them for $2.00 a pound. He told them that he would, so they set off for the pond to string their trotline, baited with bluegills.

As luck would have it, when they checked their trotline on Saturday morning, they discovered that they had caught the snapping turtle. Elmer weighed it for them and it tipped the scales at just a hair over 20 pounds. The boys were excited and they came home carrying their catch in a five-gallon bucket that Elmer had loaned them. Since, at the moment, I was tied up with a project, Carole was tapped to serve as chauffeur and drive the boys to the restaurant where they would collect their princely sum.

About 20 minutes after they left, the phone rang. It was Carole calling to tell me that the restaurant owner had reneged on his offer to the boys and instead of the $2.00 per pound, he was now telling them that he would give them, at the most, five dollars for the turtle. He said that when he made the offer, he didn't expect two boys their ages to be able to catch a snapping turtle. Carole asked me what she should do. I told her to bring the boys and the turtle back home and I would buy it from them. "What in the world are you going to do with it?" she asked. "I will make snapper soup," was my reply. "You do not know how to make snapper soup!" she said. "Oh, but I do," I assured her.

I figured that this would be a great opportunity to teach my son and my wife how to make snapper soup. However, as soon as the cleaning process began, Carole decided that there were some errands that required her immediate attention. As soon as we verified that the turtle did not contain eggs, Jeff and Danny lost interest and went off to plot all the wonderful things they were going to do with their newfound wealth. So, I was left on my own to make the soup without having anyone but the dogs to share my recipe with. That 20-pound snapping turtle made about two gallons of snapper soup and it was incredible! We thoroughly enjoyed it with dinner that evening and the next two evenings to follow. We even had enough to freeze and share with everyone who joined us for Thanksgiving dinner that fall. For Christmas, we had roasted duck compliments of Lizzie who cleaned two and sent them over to us in appreciation for saving her little ducklings from almost certain annihilation by that snapping turtle.

HPS Members Contribute to Recently Released ANSI Standard

Health Physics Society (HPS) members Morgan Cox, consultant to the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST), and Alex Boerner, Oak Ridge Institute for Science and Education Health Physics and Training Manager, were cochairs in the development of American National Standards Institute (ANSI) N42.37, "American National Standard for Training Requirements for Homeland Security Purposes Using Radiation Detection Instrumentation for Interdiction and Prevention."

Alex Boerner

The standard, officially issued in April 2007, provides training in basic radiation detection and the proper use of detection instruments in support of homeland security.

The standard was supported by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS), sponsored by the ANSI N42 National Committee on Radiation Instrumentation, and accredited by the American National Standards Institute.

"The intent of our working group's efforts in producing this standard was to focus on radiation training associated with events occurring before, rather than after, a radiological event," said Boerner. "Any time we can better prepare our nation in advance for radiological terrorism events, the greater our ability will be to protect public health and safety."

According to Cox and Boerner, many individuals provided contributions during the standards preparation process. Peter Shebell and Pamela Greenlaw from DHS were primary points of contact and promoted the expedited development of the standard (N42.37 required approximately two years to complete; it often takes several years to develop an ANSI standard). Michael Unterweger, with NIST, coordinated working group meetings at NIST facilities in Gaithersburg, Maryland, and kept a watchful eye on the standard's development as both a working group member and cochair, along with Cox, of the N42 Subcommittee on Homeland Security Instrumentation.

Morgan Cox

Mark Hoover and Joe Ring served as cosecretaries of the working group, which also included Paul Bailey, Warren Bowen, Brooke Buddemeier, John Donnachie, Edward Groeber, Richard Hansen, Jerry Hiatt, Robert Ingram, Cynthia Jones, Richard Kouzes, Joseph McDonald, Thomas O'Connell, Chuan-Fu Wu, James Yusko, and Robert Zimmerman.

"Other individuals, while not formal members of the working group, provided input to the standard as well and their efforts are both acknowledged and appreciated," Boerner commented.

The training described in N42.37 (segmented into three levels) is intended primarily for organizations involved in radiological detection, interdiction, and prevention efforts, including law enforcement, private sector security personnel, the U.S. Postal Service, and private shippers.

Students participating in the training are expected to gain a basic understanding of radiation and radioactivity while learning about mission-specific applications of radiation detection, assessment, and identification and their roles in interdiction and prevention.

The principles of ANSI N42.37 will be used concurrently with several other standards, including ANSI N42.32 through N42.35, which specify radiological detection devices including personal, portable survey meters, portable radionuclide identifiers, and a variety of portal monitors.

The HPS is secretariat to two Accredited Standards Committees (ASCs)—N13 and N43. The two ASCs, along with the HPS Standards Committee (HPSSC) and the HPS Standards Coordinator, constitute the HPS standards organization.

The N13 ASC is concerned with radiation protection of workers and the public related to the use, testing, and measurement of radiation.

The N43 ASC is concerned with radiation protection aspects of radiation-producing equipment used in industrial and nonmedical research and development activities (excluding nuclear reactors).

Although not directly affiliated with the HPS, the ANSI N42 Committee develops standards in the general area of performance specifications for a wide variety of radiation detection and measurement instrumentation.

"There are many opportunities for HPS members to become more active with N42 activities," Cox stated.

Interested HPS members may obtain the recently released standard through the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers at 3 Park Avenue, New York, New York 10016-5997 or at http://standards.ieee.org/.

Further discussion and a presentation of ANSI N42.37 is expected at the 2008 HPS Midyear Meeting in Oakland.

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Radiation Protection: A Memoir of the National Radiological Protection Board

This book has the story of the National Radiological Protection Board (NRPB) as told by Mike O'Riordan, a former member of staff. A public body, the NRPB existed from 1970 until 2005, but the author traces the history of radiation protection in the United Kingdom (U.K.) back through earlier decades. He also places national developments in a broader international context.

Early chapters deal with the efforts to promote legislation for the NRPB after the reactor accident at Windscale, to blend its component parts into a coherent whole, and then to expand its capabilities and establish its credentials. Development was affected by U.K. accession to the European Communities, the creation of the Health and Safety Executive, and the extension of NRPB functions by the government.

The ability of the NRPB to provide sound advice on the protection of people depended on the relevance of its research and the information flowing from its technical services.

Major research themes explored in successive chapters of the book include problems of plutonium, internal dosimetry of radionuclides, radioactive discharges and disease, nuclear accidents and wastes, radon and medical x rays, epidemiology, and molecular biology. An extensive chapter follows on nonionising radiation dealing with, among other matters, the physics and biology of exposure to ultraviolet sources, electricity supplies, and mobile phones.

A later chapter has a description of the many technical services—physical, biological, and advisory—provided by the NRPB to a wide range of customers in the public and private sectors. It includes, as well, topics such as the transport of radioactive materials, exposure to cosmic rays, optimisation of protection, improvements in radiation instruments and methods, and training and education.

This is followed by a chapter on NRPB scientific and technical publications, on communications with the press and public, and on administrative matters. As a quango, the NRPB was exposed to changes in public finances and political agendas: the author examines the impact on the organisation.

The last chapter is about the merger of the NRPB in 2005 with the new Health Protection Agency and the prospects for radiation protection.

Radiation Protection: A Memoir of the National Radiological Protection Board is available from the Health Protection Agency, Chilton, price £30.00, ISBN 978 0 85951 586-3, http://www.hpa.org.uk/radiation/memoir.htm.

2008 Midyear Topical Meeting

Radiation-Generating Devices

27-30 January 2008

Oakland, California

Preliminary Meeting Agenda

The preliminary agenda for the 2008 Health Physics Society (HPS) Midyear Meeting to be held in Oakland, California, 27-30 January 2008, on "Radiation-Generating Devices" is nearly complete. Several world-renowned speakers have agreed to present at the plenary session or act as kick-off speakers for the meeting sessions. We have obtained a full agenda of experts to present the Professional Enrichment Program (PEP) classes and continuing education lectures (CELs). This meeting is your opportunity to learn from and interact with the best in the field of radiation-generating devices.

Plenary Session
Monday, 28 January 2008

- Introductory Remarks, *HPS President Kevin Nelson*
- Political Speaker, *Honorable Ronald Dellums, Mayor of Oakland, invited*
- The History of Accelerator Health Physics, *Ralph Thomas (University of California, Retired)*
- Particle Accelerators in Radiation Therapy: The New Wave, *Nisy Ipe (Consultant in Shielding Design, Dosimetry, and Radiation Protection)*
- Health Physics Needs for Accelerator-Based Homeland Security Cargo-Imaging Systems, *Leslie Braby (Texas A&M University)*
- Research Accelerator Health Physics Advances over the Last Decade and Future Needs, *Sayed Rokni and James Liu (Stanford Linear Accelerator Center)*
- Ion Implant Accelerator Advances Current Hazards and Future Changes, *Michael Current (Frontier Semiconductor)*

PEP Classes

- Neutron Spectroscopy Techniques, *Nolan Hertel (Georgia Tech)*
- Operational Accelerator Health Physics I and II, *L. Scott Walker (LANSCE Accelerator, Los Alamos National Laboratory)*
- The Health Physics of Imaging the Public for Homeland Security, *Frank Cera (NIST)*
- Accelerator Interlock Systems**,** *Kelly Mahoney (Thomas Jefferson Laboratory)*
- Review of Current CT Technology and CT Dosimetry in Modern CT Scanners, *Terry Yoshizumi (Duke University)*
- Oncology Medical Physics, *Zhiheng Wang (Duke University)*
- The Health Physics of PET Radionuclide Production**,** *Roger Moroney (Siemens)*
- The Introduction to the EGS Shielding Code, *Ralph Nelson (Stanford Linear Accelerator Center, Retired)*

CELs

- Environmental Measurements at Radiation-Generating Device Facilities, *Sam Baker (Argonne National Laboratory)*
- Medical Facility Health Physics Measurements, *to be determined*

Meeting Sessions

We expect that the meeting content will mandate that two sessions run concurrently each day. Current preliminary plans are to set up six sessions per day for a total of 18 separate sessions over the three-day meeting period. The preliminary list of sessions includes the following:

- The Health Physics Challenges of New Accelerator Initiatives and Radiation-Generating Devices
- Shielding and Shield Codes
- Operational Health Physics
- Environmental Issues at Radiation-Generating Devices
- Medical Therapy and Imaging
- Homeland Security Human and Cargo Imaging
- Radiation Detection Instrumentation, Selection, and Calibration
- Radiation Spectroscopy
- The Evolution of Health Physics for Radiation-Generating Devices
- Interlocks and Safety Systems
- Dosimetry (Worker, Public, and Equipment)
- Regulatory Legal and Public Concerns
- Industrial Radiation-Generating Machine Health Physics
- The Health Physics of Research Facilities

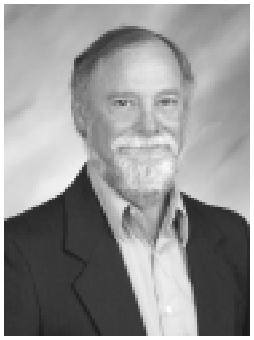
We also expect that there will be at least four additional session topics, depending on the abstracts received. Many of the session chairs are already appointed and introductory speakers have already agreed to present. Please realize that this material is preliminary and subject to change, but the planning process is already fairly mature.

We encourage everyone involved with the health physics aspects of radiation-generating devices to consider submitting an abstract. Abstracts are due 31 July 2007 and can be submitted online at http://hpschapters.org/2008midyear/abstracts/. Further information about the midyear is also available online at http://hpschapters.org/2008midyear/.

Announcements

Sander Perle Appointed President of GDS

Global Dosimetry Solutions, Inc. (GDS), a division of Mirion Technologies, announced the appointment of Sander Perle as president of GDS on 29 May 2007. GDS provides dosimetry, consulting, and system integration services for the nuclear and medical industries.



"Sandy's extensive industry experience makes him ideally suited to extend the strong service legacy of GDS," said Thomas Logan, chairman and CEO of Mirion Technologies. "His promotion is a testament to his professional commitment and dedication to GDS."

Prior to being appointed president, Perle held the position of senior vice president of Technical Operations at GDS. Before joining GDS in 1996, he spent 21 years as a supervisor at Florida Power and Light Company, Corporate Health Physics Department, and four years as a supervisor in the state of Florida radiological health program. Sandy was recently selected to be a fellow of the Health Physics Society and is currently the chair of the Health Physics Society Standards Committee and Health Physics Society representative on ANSI N13, N42, and N43 Committees, member on ANSI N13.11 and N13.32 Working Groups, secretary for the Council on Ionizing Radiation Measurements and Standards (CIRMS), and deputy advisor to the U.S. Nuclear Technical Advisory Group, TC85/SC2. Sandy is also a National Voluntary Laboratory Accreditation Program (NVLAP) Technical Expert, conducting on-site assessments at NVLAP-accredited facilities since 1993.

Sandy holds a bachelor of science degree in chemistry and a master's degree in radiological physics from the University of Miami.

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Title Protection and Professional Recognition Committee

Tom Buhl, CHP, Committee Chair

The Title Protection and Professional Recognition Committee (TP-PR) is the newest of the American Academy of Health Physics (AAHP) eight standing committees and is now in its second year. It was incorporated into the AAHP Bylaws by the AAHP membership during a special election in 2006.

Activities to Date

The current program began in 2003 when the Health Physics Society (HPS), the American Industrial Hygiene Association (AIHA), and the AAHP met to discuss jointly pursuing title protection and professional recognition (TP-PR) for its members. The AIHA had had a TP-PR program for some time and had obtained TP-PR in some 19 states. It was interested in amending that legislation to include two additional categories. In the proposal, the AIHA's already-established Government Affairs Office would reopen existing legislation, or propose new legislation, to include these additional categories. The AAHP and HPS would provide TP-PR text to the AIHA that included categories for certified health physicists (CHPs), health physicists, and registered radiation protection technologists (RRPT) in the modified (or new) legislation.

The results of these meetings were formalized in the December 2004 "Tripartite Agreement" of the three organizations. The AAHP TP-PR Committee has the responsibility for the CHP portion of the program. The Tripartite Agreement had its first success in February 2005 when Georgia officially enacted a law giving health physics title protection and professional recognition.

In 2006 two states were initially approached to reopen legislation. During the early part of the year, however, the American Board of Industrial Hygiene discontinued one of the two additional categories. Legislative efforts slowed while this issue was under consideration and also because 2006 was an "off year" for many legislatures when only state governors could introduce new legislation.

During 2007 the draft legislation was sent to four state legislatures, and to date one has indicated interest in considering the legislation during the next term.

The committee chair wrote to the chair of the Conference of Radiation Control Program Directors (CRCPD) asking that the CRCPD endorse the TP-PR program. After careful consideration, the Conference endorsed the CHP portion of the program. The committee feels that obtaining this endorsement from the state radiation control programs is an important step in eventually obtaining legislative approval for TP-PR and is very appreciative to the CRCPD for its support.

What the Committee Does

The committee primarily deals with the TP-PR program as it relates to CHPs and with the AAHP's responsibilities under the Tripartite Agreement. It supports similar efforts for health physicists and RRPTs for which the HPS has the lead. In summary, the committee maintains and develops draft model legislation on TP-PR, supports local CHPs and health physicists in preparing testimony for legislative hearings, and coordinates our program both with the AIHA Government Affairs Director, who has the overall lead for the program, and with the HPS. A more detailed list of the committee's activities appeared in last August's "CHP Corner."

Committee Members

The other current committee members are Kathleen Dinnel-Jones, Kenny Fleming, Judson Kenoyer, Scott Kirk, and Jay Maisler. The AAHP greatly appreciates all the effort these individuals have provided in supporting the Academy and the TP-PR program, and their willingness to serve on the committee.

The committee also wishes to thank Aaron Trippler, director of the AIHA Government Affairs Office, for his help and support throughout the year.

The display ads, short courses, and placement ads are available in the hard-copy version of *Health Physics News*.

***Health Physics News* Contributions and Deadline**
Almost everything the Managing Editor receives by 20 July will be printed in the September issue.

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Article II, Section 1, of the Bylaws of the Health Physics Society declares: "The Society is a professional organization dedicated to the development, dissemination, and application of both the scientific knowledge of, and the practical means for, radiation safety. The objective of the Society is the protection of people and the environment from unnecessary exposure to radiation. The Society is thus concerned with understanding, evaluating, and controlling the risks from radiation exposure relative to the benefits derived." *Health Physics News* is intended as a medium for the exchange of information between members. *Health Physics News* is published monthly and is distributed to the members of the Society as a benefit of membership. Subscriptions for nonmembers are available. Libraries, institutions, commercial firms, government agencies, and any person not eligible for membership may obtain a subscription. A small inventory of recent back issues is maintained by the Society at the Office of the Executive Secretary to supply copies to new members not yet on the mailing list. Inquiries about back copies and about subscriptions should be directed to the HPS Secretariat.

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If you have a change of address, phone or fax number, or email address you may now make those changes via the Health Physics Society (HPS) Web site (www.hps.org) in the Members Only section. The changes will be made to the Web site database and will also automatically be sent to the HPS Secretariat so that changes will be made on the Society database.

If you do not use the Internet make your changes through the HPS Secretariat.
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If you have any change in your phone number, fax number, or email address, please note it near the label.

Odds and Ends from the Historical Archives

Paul Frame

Gilbert ^{238}U Atomic Energy Lab

The most elaborate Atomic Energy educational set ever produced. Alas, it was only available from 1951 to 1952. The relatively high price for its time ($50.00), and its sophistication, were the explanations that Gilbert gave for the set's short life span. Today, it is so highly prized by collectors that a complete set can go for more than 100 times the original price.

It came with four types of uranium ore, a beta-alpha source, a beta source, a gamma source, a spinthariscope, a cloud chamber with its own short-lived alpha source (^{210}Po), an electroscope, a Geiger counter, the instruction manual, a government booklet (*Prospecting for Uranium*), and a comic book with an introduction by General Groves (*Dagwood Splits the Atom*).

Upcoming Events

52nd Annual Meeting of the HPS
http://hps.org/meetings/meeting7.html
8-12 July 2007
DoubleTree/Convention Center
Portland, Oregon

2007 Professional Development School
http://hps.org/meetings/meeting16.html
13-16 July 2007
Corvallis, Oregon

HPS Midyear Meeting
http://hpschapters.org/2008midyear/
"Radiation-Generating Devices"
27-30 January 2008
Oakland, California

2008 Professional Development School
http://hps.org/meetings/meeting19.html
31 January-2 February 2008
Oakland, California

IRPA 12
http://www.irpa12.org.ar/
19-24 October 2008
Buenos Aires, Argentina

HPS Web Site: http://www.hps.org

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