

HEALTH PHYSICS SOCIETY

Florida Chapter

Newsletter



Volume 12, Issue 1

September 2011

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<http://hpschapters.org/florida/>

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

(George Snyder)

It was a pleasure to see so many Chapter members volunteering and having a good time at the 56th Annual Meeting of the Health Physics Society in Palm Beach this summer. The people in charge of the meeting stated that this was one of the smoothest run meetings in a long time due to the hard work of the event chairman and volunteers. I want to thank Jason Timm and CarolAnn Inbornone for all of their hard work over the past year as co-chairs of the Local Arrangements Committee.



Hopefully we will get even more volunteers for the next annual or mid-year meeting held in Florida

If you are wondering what you can do to help support your Chapter, help us increase the membership. We need new members. If you know of anybody eligible to join the Chapter please tell them of the advantages

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

(continued from page 1)

of joining and attending the Chapter meetings. If they are personally or professionally interested in personal and environmental radiation protection in particular and minimizing risk from radiation exposure relative to the derived benefits in general, they share the interests of the nearly 5,000 members of the National Health Physics Society, a respected international professional organization. Participation in the Society activities and interaction with its membership provides opportunities for a well-developed and highly productive career as a health physicist. Membership applications are available at www.hpschapters.org/florida

I cannot emphasize enough how critical your support is to maintaining the success of our chapter. I certainly look forward to seeing everyone in Gainesville in October!

STUDENT SCIENCE FAIR AWARD

The Chapter is soliciting nominations for the Professor Emmett Bolch Science Fair award. This award will be awarded annually to the best science fair entry(s) at the school, County or State level, dealing with subjects involving ionizing/non-ionizing radiation. The winner will receive \$200 and a trip to a meeting of the Chapter to receive the award. Also his/her school will receive \$200 for their science class. The winning entry will be forwarded to the National Health Physics Society for entry into the HPS Student Science Award. The winner of this award receives \$500. If you know of any student who qualifies for this award please have them submit their entry as described in the attached announcement. Also, if you know if any science teacher please send them a copy of the attached announcement. For additional information contact Dr. David Hintenlang or Dr. Wesley Bolch at (352) 392-1401.

UPCOMING FALL MEETING

October 13 – 14, 2011

Hilton University of Florida
Conference Center
1714 SW 34th Street
Gainesville, FL 32607
PH: (352) 371-3600



Mark your calendars and begin to make plans to attend the 2011 Fall Meeting of the Florida Chapter of the Health Physics Society. Member participation is the key to making our Chapter meetings successful. This meeting will be held jointly with the Florida Chapter of the AAPM. Your registration includes the night out on Thursday, continental breakfast, lunch and breaks on Friday. We have a full agenda of exciting topics including a talk by Dr. Armin Ansari, CHP President-elect of the Health Physics Society who will be visiting the chapter. Check the Chapter website for the complete agenda. A golf tournament will be held Thursday morning with a trophy presented to the winner. If you are interested in playing email George Snyder gsnyder@ehs.ufl.edu. A block of rooms have been reserved at the Hilton at a special group rate of \$129 per night plus tax. Make reservations by September 12th to secure the group rate.

NEWS FROM THE STATE BUREAU OF RADIATION CONTROL



Radiation Response Volunteer Corps

The State of Florida has established a Radiation Response Volunteer Corps (RRVC) as a partnership with its Medical Reserve Corps (MRC). The RRVC members are radiation professionals located all over Florida, many of whom have received medical management training and population monitoring training. In the event of a large scale radiological event in the State of Florida, such as the explosion of a “dirty” bomb containing radioactive material, the RRVC would be mobilized to assist with population monitoring. If a nuclear detonation occurs anywhere in the country, Florida is likely to receive thousands of displaced population who will need monitoring and housing in public shelters. The RRVC would assist with population monitoring at public shelters or community reception centers (CRC) all across Florida as part of the Medical Reserve Corps (MRC). For additional information on the MRC and to volunteer as a member of the RRVC go to floridamrc.com.



CDC Funds RRVC Courses

The bureau has been provided CDC grant funding to provide four 8-Hr courses for Medical Reserve Corps (MRC) units that would like basic training for the Radiation Response Volunteer Corp (RRVC). We also have funding to support eight four hour refresher courses for MRC units that have previously had the eight hour RRVC courses. Over 400 MRC members have been trained to support the state in conducting population monitoring of the public after a radiological event.

Population Monitoring Exercise

The Community Reception Center (CRC) population monitoring exercise conducted in Orlando was a success. Twenty-two bureau staff participated in the first large scale exercise incorporating the CRC concepts in the United States. The drill involved many agencies and 90 volunteers as well as reps from the CDC. Great job to all involved!



NRC Audit Results Are In.

BRC completed the Integrated Materials Performance Evaluation Program (IMPEP) NRC audit in February and the final report was released in July. Congratulations to the bureau for successfully meeting the compatibility requirements. The next audit will be in 2015.

Farewell

With mixed emotions we say farewell to a longtime Chapter member, Debbie Gilley. Debbie will be working with the IAEA in Vienna, Austria. Good luck on your new adventure Debbie. We will miss your enthusiastic volunteer spirit and hard work

UPDATE FROM THE SPACE CENTER



Mars Science Lab (MSL) is the next big National Aeronautics and Space Administration mission to the red planet. The MSL is scheduled to launch from Cape Canaveral Air Force Station atop an Atlas V 541 with a Centaur second stage between November 25 and December 18, 2011



and make a precise landing on Mars at Gale Crater between August 6 and August 20, 2012. The MSL mission is a planetary mission designed to conduct Mars habitability investigations. The MSL mission employs a rover that will conduct in-situ testing and gather imaging, spectroscopy, composition data, and other measurements about selected Martian soils, rocks, and the atmosphere.



Major Radiological Source

For health physicists at NASA, MSL represents a Major Radiological Source launch because of the radio-active material aboard. The main power source is a multi-mission radioisotope thermo-electric generator (MMRTG) containing a significant quantity of Pu-238, approximately 4.8 kg in ceramic plutonium dioxide.

Presidential Approval

Required for launches of spacecraft with radioactive sources containing total quantities greater than 1,000 x the A2 value listed in Table I of the IAEA Safety Series No. 6, "Regulations for the Safe Transport of Radioactive Materials."

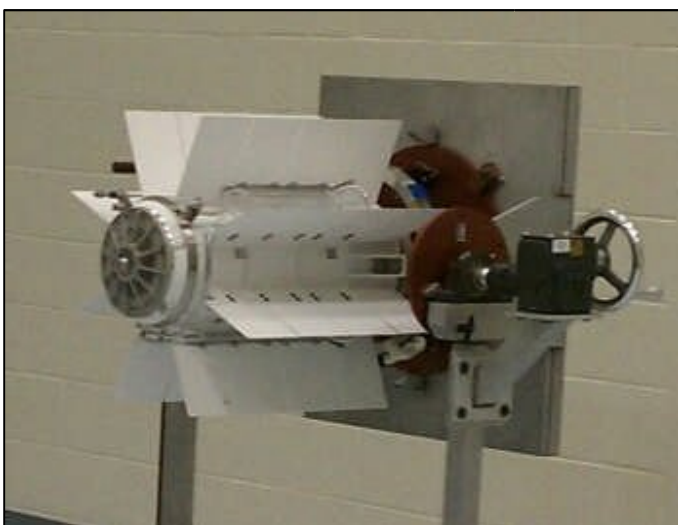
Trivia

Did you know that Pu-238 was the first isotope of plutonium to be discovered. It was synthesized by Glenn Seaborg and associates in 1941 by bombarding U-238 with deuterons.

Contingency Planning

Even with a 96.7% probability for a successful launch, Randy Scott, the Radiation Protection Officer for NASA at the Kennedy Space Center, has for the past few years leading up to this launch, has been leading efforts to develop plans and training personnel for responding to an accident which could release radioactive materials. On launch day Randy will be joined with representatives from DOE, EPA, FEMA, USAF, and state and local governments, and others in the onsite Radiological Control Center while specialized teams and environmental continuous air monitors are predeployed to respond to anomalous conditions if needed.

(Continued on page 5).



UPDATE FROM THE SPACE CENTER

(Continued from page 4)

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2



3



4



5

Plutonium-238	
General	
Name, symbol	Plutonium-238, ²³⁸ Pu
Neutrons	144
Protons	94
Nuclide data	
Half-life	87.7 years
Parent isotopes	²⁴² Cm (α) ²³⁸ Np (β ⁻) ²³⁸ Am (β ⁺)
Decay products	²³⁴ U
Isotope mass	238.049553 u
Spin	0
Decay mode	Decay energy
Alpha decay	5.593 MeV

Captions:

- 1- Front view of Mars rover, Curiosity, in the Payload Hazardous Servicing Facility at KSC.
- 2- KSC Radiological Control Center monitoring consoles.
- 3- Health Physics Specialist supporting testing of Class 4 laser.
- 4- Environmental Continuous Air Monitor and data uplink.
- 5- Radiological characteristics of Pu-238.



News from the University of Florida
Society of Health and Medical Physics Students (SHMPS)
(Kati Doxsee)



New Chapter Officers:

The following individuals will be serving as Society Officers for the 2011 –2012 academic year:

President:	Kati Doxsee	Treasurer:	David Borrego
Vice-President:	Bonnie Chan		

Annual Science Teacher Workshop

SHMPS is working to host another Science Teacher Workshop in November. The daylong event will allow department students and faculty to educate grade-school teachers about nuclear engineering and its applications in industry and medicine. The workshop will include talks on topics ranging from beneficial uses of radiation to common myths and misconceptions regarding nuclear power and radiation. SHMPS will supply teachers with multiple lesson plans, materials and ideas to take back to their schools to help disseminate the truth about nuclear and radiological sciences to their students.

Relay For Life

SHMPS started a new tradition this past Spring by raising nearly \$1,200 for the American Cancer Society Relay for Life. This exciting new event was a chance to celebrate the lives of people who have battled cancer, remember loved ones lost, and fight back against the disease. At Relay, the SHMPS team camped out at the local Sante Fe Community College and took turns walking or running around the track while also participating in the several activities hosted by the teams at the event. The overnight fundraiser lasted for 16 hours. SHMPS is looking forward to their involvement in Relay for Life next Spring with hopes of exceeding the amount raised last year.

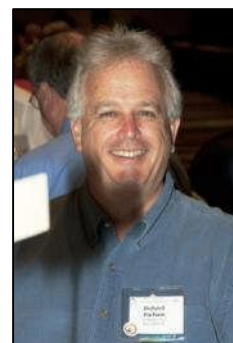
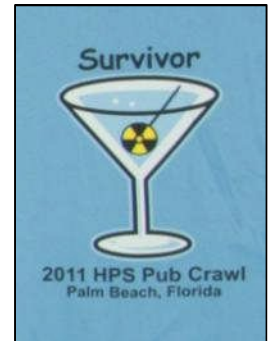
Engineering Fair

The Engineering & Science Fair at the University of Florida, held in February, was an annual event where SHMPS and the American Nuclear Society (ANS) collaborated in an attempt to attract students to careers in nuclear engineering and health/medical physics. The exhibition boasted a turnout of over 1,000 elementary, middle and high school students and also had attendance from adults and college students within the community. SHMPS and ANS created a showcase that entailed several aspects of radiological sciences including measuring radioactive materials using Geiger counters and anthropomorphic phantoms built by medical physics students at UF.

Community Service and Outreach Activities

SHMPS has continued their annual support of disadvantaged families in the greater Gainesville area with events such as the Bread of the Mighty Food Bank food drive, Road to Recovery volunteer program and dinners at the Hope Lodge. The Bread of the Mighty Food Bank food drive was done for Thanksgiving last fall where SHMPS members collected 200 pounds of food to donate to families in need. Road to Recovery is organized by the American Cancer Society and helps to provide transportation to and from medical centers for cancer patients who are unable to travel independently. SHMPS members also volunteered at the Gainesville Hope Lodge where they cooked dinner for cancer patients who have traveled from out of town for treatments.

Photos from the 56th Annual Meeting of the Health Physics Society



In Appreciation

Thank you very much to HPS official photographer, Casper Sun, PhD, CHP for graciously allowing the Chapter to include his photographs in our newsletter.

AFFILIATE SUPPORT

The cost of coordinating meeting space and night-out venues are contained to manageable levels due in large part to the support of our affiliates that either attend and/or provide significant financial support. The Chapter gratefully appreciates the support of the following affiliates:

Canberra Industries	David Gebbie	dgebbie@canberra.com
Canberra Industries	Tammy Pattison	tpattison@canberra.com
Perma-Fix of Florida	Tristan Timm	ttimm@perma-fix.com
DEQ Technical Sales, LLC	Ray McPhillips	ray@deqtech.com
DEQ Technical Sales, LLC	Mike Shepherd	mike@deqtech.com
Premier Sales Associates, Inc.	Allen Barber	psai@bellsouth.net
F&J Specialty Products, Inc.	Frank Gavila	fandj@fjspecialty.com
Global Dosimetry Solutions	Terry Moore	tmoore@dosimetry.com
Global Dosimetry Solutions	Sandy Perle	sperle@dosimetry.com
ICx Radiation, Inc.	Rob Zaremski	rzaremski@agentase.com
Landauer	Tony Piscitello	tpiscitello@landauerinc.com
MHF Logistical Solutions, Inc.	Erik Vogeley	erik_vogeley@mhfls.com
Philotechnics, Ltd.	Thomas Klett	toklett@philotechnics.com
Protean Instrument Corp	Joe Bradley	jbradley@proteaninstrument.com
Protean Instrument Corp	Darrell Scoggins	jsonewald@proteaninstrument.com
Pulcir, Inc.	Scott Eddlemon	info@pulcir.com
Pulcir, Inc.	Ted Satterfield	ted@pulcir.com
Unfors Instruments, Inc.	Scott Spencer	scott.spencer@unfors.com
Chase Environmental	Dave Culp	dculp@chaseenv.com



Professor Emmett Bolch Science Fair Award

The Florida Chapter Health Physics Society is soliciting nominations for the Professor Emmett Bolch Science Fair award. This award will be awarded annually to the best science fair entry(s) at the school, Country or State level, dealing with subjects involving ionizing/non-ionizing radiation. The winner will receive \$200 and a trip to a meeting of the Chapter to receive the award. Also his/her school will receive \$200 for their science class. The winning entry will be forwarded to the National Health Physics Society for entry into the HPS Student Science Award. The winner of this award receives \$500.

The Health Physics Society is a scientific and professional organization whose members specialize in occupational and environmental radiation safety. The primary purpose of the Society is to support its members in the practice of their profession. The Society also promotes public information preparation and dissemination, education and training opportunities, and scientific information exchange through conferences. The Florida Chapter also conducts Science Teacher Workshops to disseminate information on how to make the subject of ionizing radiation fun for students in primary and secondary education. For further information on the Science Teacher Workshop please contact Dr. David Hintenlang or Dr. Wesley Bolch in the Nuclear Engineering Department at the University of Florida (352) 392-1401.

Professor W. Emmett Bolch was a long-time Director of the Health Physics Graduate Program at the University of Florida. He directed a variety of research programs in radiological health including grants and contracts with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the Florida Institute of Phosphate Research, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, and a 20-year contract with Florida Power Corporation for environmental surveillance of the Crystal River Nuclear Power Plant. Dr. Bolch graduated some 300+ students with MS and/or PhD degrees. He was a recipient of two departmental and one college Teacher-of-the-Year awards, was a registered Professional Engineer in the state of Florida, and in 2002 was named Fellow of the National Health Physics Society. He is fondly remembered by both colleagues and alumni alike for his deep love for the profession of health physics and the time and energy he invested in working with and teaching his graduate students.

The award winner will be selected by a panel of Nuclear Engineering Department professors at the University of Florida. The nominating package should include a letter from his/her teacher listing the student's age, grade and any awards received for the project, a detailed description of the project and a picture of the project if possible. The package should be mailed to the Florida Chapter, Health Physics Society, P. O. Box 358534, Gainesville, Florida 32635-8534.

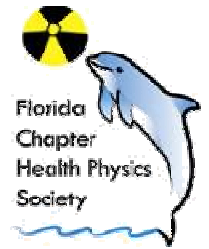
If you need additional information please contact Dr. D. Hintenlang, Ph.D. or Dr. W. Bolch Ph.D. at (352) 392-1401.

The Chapter Remembers

PETER G. F. BAILEY Age 62, of Wellington, FL passed away on May 29, 2011 at JFK Medical Center after a courageous battle with brain cancer. He was born in New York City, moving as a young child to Orlando. Peter was a graduate of local schools and attained his Bachelor's Degree from the University of Central Florida. He is a health physicist with FP & L. Peter was an active member of the Florida Land Cruisers Association, and he also was an avid tinkerer. Everyone who came into contact with him or whom he knew was greatly touched by him. He is survived by his two sons: Brian Bailey of Orlando, FL, Derek (Natalie) Bailey of Tampa, FL; two grandsons, Declan and Ashton; his sister Debbie (Carl) Zimmerman; his former wife Brenda, and friend Irena Girishina, and his cruiser buddies.



FCHPS Registration: Fall 2011



Name: _____

Title: _____

Company: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Tel: _____

E-mail: _____

The 2011 fall meeting of the Florida Chapter of the Health Physics Society will be held on Friday, October 14th, at the [Hilton University of Florida Conference Center](#) in Gainesville. The conference will be held in conjunction with the Florida Chapter of the American Association of Physicists in Medicine, and vendors have been invited to participate. A full day of talks is planned for Friday. Join your fellow FCHPS/FAAPM members for food and drinks at the Thursday night reception at the hotel starting at 6:00 PM. The reception is included with your registration.

This registration form with payment should be received prior to October 1st to receive the early registration discount. Please circle the correct category, enter the amount paid and include a check made payable to FCHPS. If paying via PayPal, send your fees to the following chapter address: floridahps@gmail.com

Amount paid: \$ _____

Send form and check to:

FCHPS, PO Box 358534
Gainesville, FL 32635-8534

Current Members

\$120.00 received prior to October 1st *\$130.00 received after October 1st *

Non-Members

\$130.00 received prior to October 1st *\$140.00 received after October 1st *

Spouse Night-out

\$35.00

Annual Dues

\$10.00

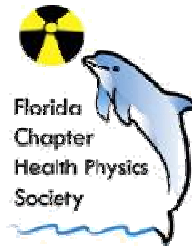
Sponsors

\$250 per table*

Playing Golf

Yes / No

***Fees include Thursday night-out social event, breakfast and lunch on Friday, along with drinks and snacks during breaks**



Thanks to all those who contributed to this newsletter,
especially George Snyder, Mike Phillips, Kati Doxee, and Joe Devlin.