

NCCHPS

Northern California Chapter-Health Physics Society

Celebrating Our 50th Year of Service to the Health Physics Profession

September 2010



The NCCHPS September 2010 Chapter Meeting

Thursday, September 16, 2010 - Francesco's Restaurant, Oakland

6 pm - Social Hour

7 pm - Dinner

8 pm - Presentation



Decontamination and Decommissioning of the Rocky Flats Environmental Technology Site

Abstract: The presentation will focus on the health physics aspects of the decommissioning of the site. The discussion will include innovative strategies that were employed, review success stories, and walk through some of the less publicized problems that were encountered.

About the Speaker: *Phil Worley is currently the LLNL Radiological Control Manager. Phil received his bachelor's degree in Engineering in 1982 from Georgia Institute of Technology and his master's degree in Environmental Policy and Management in 1996 from the University of Denver. Phil began his professional career at the Charleston Naval Shipyard where he served as a nuclear engineer and the Radiological Operations Manager. Phil moved to Rocky Flats in 1993 and served there as the Radiological Operations Manager and the Radiological Engineering Manager. He has also worked in commercial power where he headed up the decontamination and decommissioning of the Allied General Nuclear Services facility in Barnwell, SC. He worked as the Radiological Operations Manager for Bechtel Nevada at the Nevada Test Site prior to transferring to Livermore.*

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NCCHPS President's Column

Dear NCCHPS members,

This promises to be a very exciting year for our Chapter. Did you know that 50 years ago, in June of 1961, the Health Physics Society officially granted the Charter status to the Northern California Chapter?

To commemorate, the NCCHPS board is planning a special meeting on March 17th, 2011, when the president-elect of the HPS will come to visit our Chapter. We will invite all the former board members and hope that they could attend this special meeting. It will be a great opportunity to reminisce and enjoy the "fruits of their labor". Thanks to their willingness to serve and to continue to be involved, our Chapter is healthy and vibrant. We continue to be one of the most active Chapters in the country. With more than 200 members, 5 meetings per year, a steady contribution to the Burton Moyer Scholarship fund, a consistent and reliable newsletter and email distribution network, as well as several initiatives such as the Science Teacher Workshop and Las Positas college scholarship, we strive to continue the mission established by our Chapter "founders".

The commemorative meeting will be held on the Sunset Hornblower that will leave from Berkeley. This will be a night to remember. So, mark your calendar!

This year, we will start two new initiatives – one, to attract new HPs and the other, to expand our affiliate membership to include employers of HPs. To attract HPs, we plan to reach out to students at high schools, community colleges and universities. We will use what the HPS and others have already created and some tools of our own to "advertise" our profession. We will plan for a workshop where the students can listen, ask questions and get to know HPs of varying responsibilities and levels and types of experiences. Our hope is for some of these students to leave the workshop with a better understanding of what health physics is and how it can be a very stimulating and rewarding profession. In order to accomplish this goal, we will need the help of your time and/or expertise. If you could help us with this initiative, please contact me at qle@lbl.gov or (510) 486-7862.

We will also need new funding to help with the expenses we will incur from our outreach activities. Some employers of HPs were willing to help but were not able to justify participation. I think we need to help them with that. If you could contact your HR/Hiring managers at your workplace and are willing to help us convince them to become the Chapter's affiliate, please also contact me.

As I alluded to above, the success of our Chapter is a direct result of our members' willingness to volunteer their time and effort. Please help me keep that trend going and make sure we'll celebrate our 100th anniversary!

**Sincerely,
Quang Le**

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MOYER FELLOWSHIP UPDATE

This will be a very short update. The most important item is the article we received from Nicole Martinez who is this year's Burton J. Moyer fellow. I believe she is deserving of this award because of her several past accomplishments and her potential for significant contributions to the profession of health physics. Take a moment to read her note, which is included in this newsletter.



Of course the chapter's continued sponsorship of student support requires that we have the financial assets to do so. Our total investment account has been hovering in the 70K\$ to 75K\$ range for some time while we take out \$4000 per year for the fellowship. Some retirement planners consider a 5% per year draw rate as a maximum prudent withdrawal plan. So.....we still encourage our chapter members to make tax-deductible contributions to the Moyer fund. Large donations are nice, but many small donations are probably even better since that shows that our members support the goal of this fellowship being a perpetual assist to deserving students. Or maybe our investments will soar in value in the near future - but I wouldn't bet on that.

I plan to provide a more detailed report on our financial status and history in the next newsletter. Meanwhile if anyone would like to offer their investment advice, comments or expertise, contact myself or the other Moyer Committee members, Bill Vermeere and Radoslav Radev.

Charles Schmitdt

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MEET NICOLE MARTINEZ, OUR 2010 BURTON J. MOYER FELLOWSHIP AWARDEE

Born in Tennessee, Nicole grew up in Groves, Texas and graduated from Port-Neches Groves High School. She is a National Merit Scholar, and attended Texas A&M University for her undergraduate degree. Nicole graduated Summa Cum Laude in December 2004 with a B.S. degree in Applied Mathematical Sciences.

Upon graduation, she was commissioned in the United States Navy and became an instructor at Navy Nuclear Power Training Command in Goose Creek, South Carolina. She trained over 350 students in the fundamentals of the design, operation, and maintenance of naval nuclear propulsion plants. Specifically, Nicole taught Heat Transfer and Fluid Flow as well as Reactor Plant Technology. While at NNPTC, she was certified as a Master Training Specialist. Her second assignment in the navy was as a Radiation Health Officer, and she was stationed at Naval Medical Center in Portsmouth, Virginia where she served as the Assistant Radiation Safety Officer and Radiation Safety Division Officer. Nicole is the recipient of the Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal, the National Defense Service Medal, and the Global War on Terrorism Medal.

After her time in the Navy, Nicole took a job with General Physics Corporation in Montrose, Colorado. As a Performance Engineer, her responsibilities included assisting power plants in designing and implementing plant performance improvement programs using GP technologies and practices. After a year working for GP, Nicole decided to go back to school and is currently a Master's Candidate in Health Physics at Colorado State University in Fort Collins, Colorado. Nicole's current research is through CSU Veterinary Teaching Hospital's Animal Cancer Center. She is working on determining the organ dose to canine patients undergoing FDG-18 PET scans.

In her spare time, Nicole enjoys sports, movies, music, and spending time with friends. She lives in Fort Collins with her two dogs, Peekaboo and Emmitt.



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The 44th Annual Midyear Meeting of the Health Physics Society

6 February - 9 February 2011, Charleston, SC

Join us in Charleston 6-9 February 2011 for the 44th Health Physics Society Midyear meeting, Radiation Measurements! It has been a few years since this topic has been the focus of a Health Physics Society meeting, but with the development of new technologies, products, and methods it is a very timely topic. In this day of reducing dose to the worker/technician, agencies requiring lower MDA's/MDC's and the public requesting more data, instrument and measurement advances have never been more important. Plan to attend, or better yet, present your latest work whether it be from a university, hospital, vendor or a plant/site that has developed a novel way to measure or report radiation data.

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NCCHPS Meetings 2010-2011

September 16, 2010

November 18, 2010

January 20, 2011

March 17, 2011

May 19, 2011

Visit NCCHPS on the Web:

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

Direct input for our next
newsletter to:

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Livermore, CA 94550

The Next NCCHPS Meeting!

September 16, 2010
Francesco's
8520 Pardee Drive at Hegenberger Road
Oakland CA 94621
Telephone: (510) 569-0653
<http://www.francescosrestaurant.com/>

Free parking available at Francesco's

Cost:

NCCHPS members	\$30 (\$35 @ door)
NCCHPS member's Spouses	\$35
Students	\$10
Non-members	\$40

Deadline: Please register by September 13, 2010!

Menu:

Salad: Caesar

Dinner Entree Selections:

- Breast of Chicken Parmegiana
- Fresh Fillet of Salmon
- Vegetable Manicotti

Dessert:

-Vanilla Ice Cream

<http://hpschapters.org/ncchps/dinner.php3>

Only online registrations will be accepted. Contact
Eric Packard ONLY if you encounter problems with
online registration: eric.d.packard@nasa.gov

2010-2011 NCCHPS Board Members:

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