

The NEWSLETTER

A publication of the North Carolina Chapter

Health Physics Society

Summer 2001

Radiation Safety Without Borders - Request for expressions of interest

Many of you have probably seen the article "Radiation Safety Without Borders" in the May 2001 issue of The Health Physics Society's Newsletter. George Anastas, the president elect of the HPS, is trying to initiate a program in which HPS members and chapters would work with the International Atomic Energy Agency by being partners with certain countries in which the radiation protection infrastructure is being developed. Several HPS chapters have shown an interest in this undertaking. Dr. Philip Hamrick has agreed to serve as a contact to see if there is enough interest for the North Carolina Chapter to indicate its interest in participating in the project. If you have any interest in participating in this project, please contact Dr. Hamrick at 919-541-4235 (work until July 1) or 919-362-8204 (home) or email p-c.hamrick@juno.com. If there is enough interest, Dr. Hamrick will compile a list of those interested and act as a contact with the national organization. If there is not enough interest for participation as a Chapter, there may be an opportunity to work as an individual or with another chapter. As the program is developed it will probably offer the opportunity to travel to other countries and to be involved in some basic health physics as consultant, teacher, etc. The idea seems to be that some funding would be made available to perhaps cover the cost of travel, but these details have not been worked out. This could be an exciting opportunity to use our knowledge of health physics. Please respond if you have any interest.

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Spring Meeting (at the beach) Review!

Bradford Taylor, President-Elect and Program-Chair

On March 29 and 30, 2001 about 45 folks made it to downtown Wilmington for the annual Spring Meeting of the NCHPS entitled "Health Physics by the Sea!" Michael T. Ryan, Ph.D., CHP, editor-in-chief of *Health Physics* opened the Thursday afternoon session with his presentation, "*Studies at the Russian Nuclear Weapons Facilities*". Dr. Ryan shared his unique experiences as part of the DOE Science Review Group whose task is to review the ongoing research in health effects at the former weapons complex at Mayak, part of the former Soviet Union.

Dale Dusenbury, CHP with the NC Division of Radiation Protection, then presented "*Radon in Water in North Carolina: Field Results and Potential Regulatory Impact*". Carmine M. Plott, Ph.D., CHP, UNC-CH Research Associate Professor and Forsyth Medical Center RSO spoke on "*Health Physics Concerns for Intravascular Brachytherapy*". Carmine has been active in the North Carolina Chapter of the HPS, and is currently on the HPS Board of Directors. Mark Brueckner and Greg Egan, both of Duke University Radiation Safety, capped of Thursday's session with an interesting talk on "*Radiation Safety Considerations for the Radioactive Autopsy*".

The following vendors sponsored a candle-lit evening social:

- 123 Web St. Multimedia (Mark Janas)

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- Amersham Pharmacia Biotech (*Stacy Kuba*)
- Canberra Instruments (*Keith Doran*)
- ICN Dosimetry (*Victoria Potuck and Lance Dunn*)
- Packard Instrument Company (*Kristen Westmeyer*)
- PerkinElmer / ORTEC Products (*Eric Daggett*)
- RSO, Inc. (*Dan Caulk*)
- William B. Johnson & Associates, Inc. (*Dick Landfried*).

Friday morning's session began with an address by Michael A. Boyd, leader of the Federal Guidance Team within the Division of Radiation Protection at the EPA's Office of Radiation and Indoor Air. He spoke on "*EPA's Radiation Risk Assessment Methodology*", giving us an overview and recent updates. Michael is currently EPA Newsletter Correspondent for the Health Physics Society's Newsletter.

Again, Dr. Ryan addressed our chapter and spoke as a committee member of the NCRP and gave us an overview of the "*The NCRP Strategic Plan: The Council's Role in the 21st Century*". Dr. Ryan is Chair of this Ad Hoc committee. The session continued with a presentation by Vaclav "Vashek" Vylet, Ph.D. of Duke University Radiation Safety. Vashek spoke on "*The Old and the New in Accelerator Radiation Safety*".

Friday's final presenter was Allen Mabry, CHP of Global Nuclear Fuels. He gave our chapter an introduction to Global Nuclear Fuels and spoke on the "*Radiological Safety Practices of Fuel Fabrication Operations*". His talk was a preparation for the nine individuals who were fortunate enough to take part in the site visit of Global Nuclear Fuels later that afternoon.

What started out as a quite damp Thursday, had certainly changed by Friday afternoon, and eight of those that weren't part of the fuel facility site visit enjoyed a beautiful afternoon by taking part in the NCHPS Golf Tournament at the Wilmington City Golf Course!

High vendor turnout and support was again crucial to the success of the Wilmington Meeting – so thanks again to 123 Web St. Multimedia, Amersham, Canberra, ICN Dosimetry, Packard, PerkinElmer / ORTEC, RSO, Inc., and William B. Johnson & Associates for your support!

If you missed out on this gathering, please plan on attending our next meeting! Keep your eyes open for details, and subscribe to the NCHPS listserv in order to stay up-to-date. Visit www.nchps.org and click on "Contact NCHPS" for instructions.



Michael T. Ryan addressing our Chapter Friday Morning



Michael A. Boyd, speaking on EPA's Risk Assessment Methodology

