



THE BILLET STC NEWSLETTER

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OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER of the SOUTH TEXAS CHAPTER of the HEALTH PHYSICS SOCIETY

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Governor Perry Appoints Johnson & Beasley to Texas Board of Licensure for Professional Medical Physicists

David Fogle

Governor Rick Perry has appointed five members to the Texas board of Licensure for Professional Medical Physicists. The board regulates the practice of medical physics in Texas. Among the new appointments, two STC members were selected.

Douglas (Doug) A. Johnson, of College Station, is a Licensed Medical Physicist, Vice President of Product Management for the Patria Group, and a Health Physicist for Foxfire Scientific, Inc. He is a commander in the U.S. Navy Reserve, and a member of the South Texas Chapter and National Health Physics Societies. Doug received a BS degree from the University of Florida and an MS degree in Nuclear Engineering from Texas A&M University. He is appointed for a term to expire February 1, 2013.



Douglas (Doug) A. Johnson



Charles W. Beasley

Charles W. Beasley, of Bellaire, is an assistant professor of Radiology and Nuclear Medicine at the University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston where he is also the Radioactive Materials Radiation Safety Officer at Memorial Hermann Hospital–Texas Medical Center. He is a member of the American Association of Medical Physicists, Society of Nuclear

Medicine, American Public Health Association, and the South Texas Chapter and National Health Physics Society. Beasley received a BS degree from the University of Houston, an MS degree from Texas A&M University, and a doctorate of Environmental and Occupational Health from UT School of Public Health. He is appointed for a term to expire February 1, 2017. 🇺🇸

Social Mixer & Executive Council Meeting

Friday, September 16, 2011

Affiliates Fair & Technical Sessions

Saturday, September 17, 2011

Go to www.stc-hps.org to register online!

For details about the next meeting see page 13 of this issue of **The Billet STC Newsletter** or go online to www.stc-hps.org

★ ★ ★ WELCOME NEW STC MEMBERS, listed on page 3. ★ ★ ★

Jacobi Receives Certificate of Appreciation

John P. Hageman

John Hageman presented a certificate of appreciation to Rick Jacobi for his years of service on the TRAB. The certificate was presented at the February 25, 2011, meeting to the TRAB. Mr. Hageman read the following resolution commending former TRAB Chair and member Rick Jacobi, who recently left the TRAB:

Lawrence R. (Rick) Jacobi, Jr., PE, JD of Austin, Texas has faithfully served this Board since the year 2004, a total of six years. Mr. Jacobi was appointed by Governor Rick Perry in June 2004 and 2009 and represented the industry position during his tenure in a professional and steadfast manner. During his tenure, Mr. Jacobi contributed in numerous ways to the success of the Board as a member of the Financial Assurance Committee, as Chair of the NORM Remediation Work Group, as TRAB Chair from 2009–2010, and through the strength of the advice he provided to state lawmakers, state agencies, businesses and the public. Therefore, be it resolved that: The Texas Radiation Advisory Board salutes Lawrence R. Jacobi, Jr., PE, JD for the distinguished service he has provided to the great State of Texas for six years.

Prior to this presentation Mr. Hageman was elected Chair of the TRAB to replace Rick Jacobi, and Dr. Nora Janjan was elected Vice Chair in place of John Hageman. 



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CHANGING YOUR ADDRESS? CHANGING office?

Home? Phone?

NOTIFY Pete Myers at Pete.Myers6@sbcglobal.net

The South Texas Chapter of the Health Physics Society (STC-HPS) is a professional society that was organized and chartered in 1964. Its objectives are to:

- **Develop scientific knowledge** in the study of radiation
- **Devis**e practical means to **protect people and their environment** from harmful effects of radiation
- **Provide and support meetings to discuss scientific endeavors**
- **Encourage scientific research and education** dedicated to the science of radiation protection
- **Aid in research and education opportunities** in health physics and radiation protection for college and university students

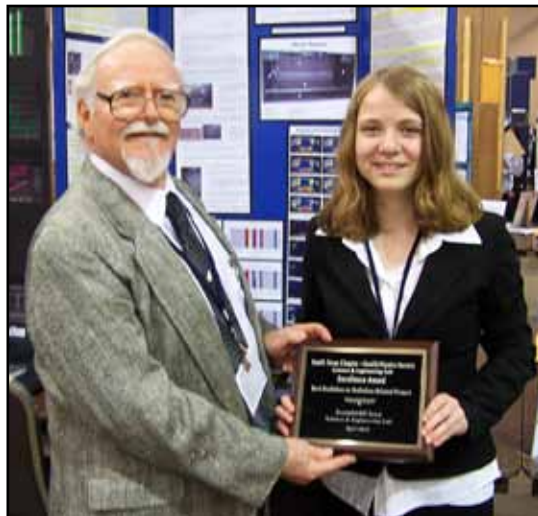
Rachel Hodge Receives STC-HPS Special Award

Frank Iddings


Rachel Hodge was selected to receive the South Texas Chapter's Special Award for the San Antonio Regional Science and Engineering Fair. Rachel competed in the Senior Division of the Fair, and she attends Jasper High School in Plano, Texas.

Rachel's research is a continuation of a project started last year. This year she was able to show that an active radon gas mitigation system is more effective than a passive one.

Rachel's project involved building a model house with an air conditioning system and dividing the house into two chambers. A mixture of dipropylene glycol and distilled water was emitted from a fog generator to represent radon gas levels of 4.0 pCi/L or above. Each mitigation system was tested for 60 seconds and filmed. A



Dr. Frank Iddings presents a plaque to Rachel Hodge for the STC-HPS Special Award for the San Antonio Regional Science and Engineering Fair.

set of criteria based on observations of air circulation patterns as well as a Photoshop-based analysis were applied to each trial. Basement pressurization was proven to be the most effective active radon gas mitigation system. 

The
SOUTH TEXAS
CHAPTER
of the
HEALTH PHYSICS
SOCIETY, INC.
welcomes our
NEW
MEMBERS



Emily Beisert
*Clear Lake
High School
Student*

Govind Girash
*Canyon Vista
Middle School
Student*

Chase Wilder
*Texas State
Technical College
Student*



We wish them well
in all their
endeavors and especially
hope that their
association with the
South Texas Chapter will
be long and mutually
rewarding!

NIRdS Tour Methodist Research Institute


Danette Fennesy

The Houston based "NIRdS" (News in Radiation Safety) group held a spring meeting on May 10, 2011 at the new Methodist Hospital Research Institute.

The meeting was hosted by Warren Snell, the Radiation Safety Officer (RSO) of the facility. Numerous physicists, RSOs and

Affiliates from across the Texas Medical Center were in attendance.

The meeting opened with a brief discussion about the recent Radiation Control Rules that are now available for review and comment. Following that topic, Warren introduced various members of the Cyclo-

tron staff and presented an informative PowerPoint on the new center. An open Q&A session arose and then the group adjourned for a tour of the facility which was educational and enjoyable to all NIRdS. The topic and location of the fall meeting is pending. 

Former STC-HPS Board Member and Affiliate, Ralph Heyer, Passes

Mike Fontenot, Linda Morris, and David Fogle

Ralph S. Heyer, 52, passed away Feb. 10, 2011, at his residence in Campbell, Texas. Ralph was born October 27, 1958, in Karlsruhe, Germany, to Gudrun and Fredy Heyer. He married Norma J. Valentine on May 27, 1985, in Arlington. Ralph was a Health Physicist whose career spanned service to the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Texas Department of Health, and Thermo Fisher Scientific of Sugar Land, Texas. Regarding his federal experience, Ralph would often tell about his first assignment to Three Mile Island Nuclear Power Plant, the location of a core meltdown in 1979, as a new employee with the NRC. Ralph began his employment with Thermo Fisher in October of 1994. His most recent role was Radiation Safety instructor and Regulatory Specialist.

Ralph was a man of character and principle—a man who experienced a true conversion in life and attempted to live a life of example. He was charitable to strangers, to his friends, and to his profession. He embraced the role of manager in its fullest sense by not only attempting to follow his manager's directions, but to encourage and support his employees to think of what they wanted in life and work, and how to achieve these goals. Although he was at the Texas Department of Health, Bureau of Radiation Control (BRC) for only a short time, Ralph saw to it that each of his employees had benefited through promotions, raises

or bonuses—an achievement unparalleled by other managers at the BRC at the time, or since. Ralph had an indelible spirit punctuated by his keen wit and sense of humor that was always well placed and helped to lighten many occasions. Many of his co-workers fondly remember Ralph's unforgettable impersonations, especially the John Belushi-esque Samurai License Reviewer takeoff.

Ralph was a Wright State Alumni member. He held BS degrees in Science and Physics, received numerous federal and state awards for radiation safety, and published two books on radiation control. He had written numerous publications and training manuals for radiation safety. He was a long-standing member of the national Health Physics Society (HPS) and South Texas Chapter (STC) of the HPS for whom he once served as Board Member and Affiliate member representing Thermo Fisher Scientific (a.k.a. Thermo MeasureTech, TN Technologies, Inc.).

A one-word description of Ralph is "unselfish." Always concerned about his fellow man, and an experienced Health Physicist, Ralph once sent a letter to Mike Rowe, star of the television series *Dirty Jobs*. Evidently, an episode featured the cleaning of oil field equipment. Ralph responded to seeing this with:

"I recently watched an episode that aired regarding the cleaning of frac tanks used in oil and gas extraction. As a radiation physi-

cist I am concerned about inhalation pathways. When oil and gas is extracted, often scale is left on pipe or other tubular goods that contain naturally occurring radioactive material. When cleaned through high pressure wash and staying wet, it is contained, but when left dry, airborne particulates such as radium-226 are generated and because it is an alpha emitter is very hazardous inside the body. Please be careful and minimize your inhalation when in confined spaces. I enjoy your shows, but I would be very concerned with your health and well being, use appropriate face mask and respirators!"

Ralph was recognized for his tireless efforts in supporting the activities of the Conference of Radiation Control Program Directors, Inc. (CRCPD), by being named a recipient of the Board of Directors Award for Meritorious Service in the Field of Radiation Protection in May 2008. Because of Ralph's diverse background, including federal, state and industry service, his input was always sought out and he willingly provided help to the working groups and ultimately state programs. He has gone "above and



Ralph with CRCPD Award



Ralph in the fileroom

beyond" in his service to CRCPD and all the states by continuing his invaluable assistance while going through several career changes. Mr. Heyer has served the CRCPD with distinction.

Aside from the CRCPD involvement, Ralph also served on the Advisory Committee for the Environmental Health & Safety/Radiation Protection Tech-

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Update: February 2012 STC-HPS Midyear Meeting


Ken Krieger

The February 2012 Health Physics Society Midyear Meeting will be held in Dallas and will cover topics related to waste disposal.

As many of you may know, the North Texas Chapter has been disbanded and, as a result, there is no immediate Chapter available to help with the arrangements for the meeting. I

spoke with the STC-HPS program committee chairman and volunteered to help. Anyone interested in assisting with the planning can contact me at kvkrieger@netzero.net.

There are many ways to assist, including finding speakers, making local arrangements, coming up with ideas for a night out, list of restaurants, etc.


Also we were thinking of making a T-shirt to sell for the meeting—something designed to encompass both the South and West Texas Chapters of the HPS, since both will be participating in the meeting—something like “The Biggest + The Newest = The Best,” for example. If you have any ideas, please send them along! 

Ralph Heyer *continued from page 4*

nology for over fifteen years. In his relationship with Texas State Technical College (TSTC), he also provided training to TSTC students on x-ray fluorescence device safety. Just a few years ago, Ralph began offering to help support travel expenses to HPS-STC meetings for students at TSTC. He would provide funds towards hotel rooms and registration fees. At those meetings, Ralph was always there offering good advice to students.

A man of many interests, Ralph was a big movie buff, as evidenced with his many impersonations. He also enjoyed collecting garden gnomes and fancied himself a sushi expert. He loved teaching radiation safety and was a man of strong Christian faith. Ralph will be missed by the many Chapter friends and colleagues whose lives were touched and made better by his gracious and giving soul.

Surviving are his wife; his father; a son, Richard W. Valentine of Lake Dallas; a grandson, R.J. Valentine; and a granddaughter, Toria Alexis Valentine. Ralph was preceded in death by his mother.

Per his wishes, Ralph was laid to rest on February 16, 2011, at a small private family service, in Brigham Cemetery in Campbell. Please send expressions of sympathy to Norma Heyer, Campbell, Texas. 


The Source Recovery & Threat Reduction (SCATR) Program

Russ Meyer and John P. Hageman

The Source Recovery and Threat Reduction (SCATR) program will be able to work with the Texas-Vermont Compact (TV) waste disposal facility to assist licensees with the commercial disposal of unwanted radioactive sealed sources and liquid vials they may have on hand, pending full authorization for Waste Control Specialists LLC (WCS) to accept waste at the TV facility. Licensees outside of the TV states will be allowed to “import” their low-level radioactive waste (LLRW)—within limits—to the TV facility. WCS has projected that the TV facility will be able to receive waste at the end of this year or early next.

Assistance from SCATR excludes radium-226 pipe scale and diffuse forms of waste, since these can be disposed at the Clive, Utah facility. Radium-226 sources will also be collected under SCATR, since they have a disposal route at the US Ecology disposal site on the Hanford Reservation. The SCATR program can assist some licensees by providing a lower cost of disposal through an economy of scale (source consolidation from several licensees) and financial assistance, if necessary.

The SCATR program requests that any persons wishing to participate, and who have not yet registered their unwanted sources with the Department of Energy (DOE) Offsite Recovery Project (OSRP), fill out a registration form for their unwanted sources. All unwanted sources are to be registered on the OSRP Web page and database. After registering your sources, the DOE will sort the sources into those for the SCATR program and those for the OSRP program. The form may be found at the following Web page <http://osrp.lanl.gov/SCATRTemplate.xls>.

If you want more information, please call Russ Meyer, CHP, at 512-761-3822. 

SOUTH TEXAS CHAPTER of the HEALTH PHYSICS SOCIETY, INC.

Minutes of the Executive Council Meeting

April 15, 2011

Jennifer Watson, Recorder

Persons in Attendance

Executive Council (EC) Members:

Stan Bravenec Past-President
 Karen Blanchard ... President
 Jennifer Watson President-Elect/
 Programs Chair
 John White EC Member
 Sam Daniel EC Member
 John Salsman EC Member
 Pete Myers Treasurer/
 Admissions Co-Chair/
 Publications Co-Chair

Committee Chairpersons:

William Pate Affiliates Chair
 Karen Myers Admissions Co-Chair/
 Publications Co-Chair
 Linda Morris Student Assistance
 Chair
 Susan Jablonski Legislations Chair

Chapter Members & Guests:

Ken Krieger STC Member & Guest
 Marc Goldsmith STC Member & Guest
 Ed Bailey STC Member & Guest
 David Fogle STC Member & Guest
 Natalie Fogle STC Member & Guest
 Nathaniel Fogle STC Member & Guest

Agenda Item	Discussion	Action
Call to Order 5:50 p.m.	Quorum established	N/A
Agenda Approval	Move to approve as written Motion: Stan Bravenec Second: John Salsman	<i>Committee Vote:</i> Approved
January 2011 STC-HPS Executive Meeting	Motion to approve the minutes from the January meeting Motion: Stan Bravenec Second: John Salsman	<i>Committee Vote:</i> Approved
President's Report	<p>Karen Blanchard stated that this has been an exciting year for the Chapter and it has been an honor and privilege for her to serve as President. She thanked the EC members for all of their hard work on behalf of our members to keep our Chapter setting the standards for others to reference. She highlighted the following items:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The chapter successfully hosted/co-sponsored the Texas Radiation Regulatory Conference in September 2010 and we look forward to another opportunity to make it even better in 2012. • An ad-hoc committee has researched investment opportunities and strategies and has proposed an investment management policy for the Chapter. The Executive Council will be hearing and voting on their proposals. • The committee and the current EC has put a lot of thought and planning into sound fiscal management of the Chapter's assets. They are to be commended for these efforts. • We have gone fully electronic with membership applications, meeting registrations, voting, etc. • We have established and published a privacy policy. • We have continued support for students through education grants and awards. • These are just a few of the highlights! What a Chapter! Thank you all for your support! 	
	The South Texas Chapter received official announcement that Ken Krieger has been appointed to the Texas Radiation Advisory Board. Congratulations to him as he will fill the industry representative position on that board.	

Agenda Item	Discussion	Action
<p>President's Report <i>continued</i></p>	<p>Since the last meeting, Ron Scheele was appointed to the Nominations Committee Chair position. Thanks to Ron and the committee for their work on our current Executive Council elections. The election results are as follows: President-Elect: Janet Gutierrez Treasurer-Elect: Edgar Bailey Board Member (11-14): William Pate</p> <p>Congratulations to our new officers and thank you to all that were on the Ballot! We encourage members to run for the STC-HPS Executive Council as it is a rewarding experience.</p>	
	<p>Al Evans advised that after many years of service as Science Teacher Workshop (STW) Committee chair that he would like to "pass the torch" and step down. We recognize Al and give many thanks for his willingness to step up and take on the organization of our workshops and for his hard work and dedication not only to the STWs but also to the Chapter in general.</p>	
	<p>Al Evans has been invited to present at the National HPS Meeting in Florida in June on his experience with Science Teacher Workshops. Again, congratulations and thanks for representing the Chapter and what we do.</p>	
	<p>At our last meeting, Ken Krieger volunteered to make the necessary contacts during the HPS Midyear Meeting to see if our Chapter's assistance was needed, or could be used, at the upcoming meeting to be held in Dallas. Mr. Krieger did make the contact and will present his information to the EC.</p>	
	<p>Ken Krieger announced that the HPS Midyear Meeting is going to be in Dallas in February 2012. Currently there is no North Texas Chapter and Ken talked to the program committee chairman for National HPS and offered his assistance with the meeting also. The topic is going to be on waste disposal and the West Texas Chapter is going to assist with the meeting. He announced that anyone in the chapter that would like to assist can contact him and he will coordinate the STC-HPS involvement in the meeting. At this time, the chapter will need a list of names of people that would be willing to present on the topic of waste or waste disposal. Ken Krieger presented the idea of the chapter working with the West Texas Chapter to create a T-shirt to sell at the meeting. The proceeds would be split between the two chapters. The idea is going to be presented to the students as a competition for the creation of the T-shirt design. The cost determination and final design approval will occur at the next EC meeting.</p>	
	<p>The Chapter has sent a nomination letter on behalf of Richard Ratliff for HPS Fellow. The chapter also responded to the request from the Central Rocky Mountain Chapter for information regarding how we conduct Student Presentations (judging, awards, etc).</p>	
<p>President-Elect Report/Program Committee Report</p>	<p>The Nuclear Power Meeting was a great success thanks to Dr. John Poston who provided us with an excellent list of distinguished speakers to talk about the upcoming future of nuclear power. We had a net loss of around \$800 but it was less than the \$1,000 budgeted. The reason for the loss was probably based on the lunches for the speakers.</p>	<p><i>Results:</i> Unanimous Approval Vote by EC</p>

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Agenda Item	Discussion	Action
President-Elect Report/Program Committee Report <i>continued</i>	We have approximately 64 individuals registered for the Student Presentation/Annual Meeting with 13 presentations by students. We will need judges for the presentations and awards will be presented for top presentations during the final portion of the meeting. Please volunteer if you can judge the student presentations.	
	The next meeting will be held on September 16–17, 2011, in San Antonio, TX and will feature the Affiliate presentations. Jennifer Watson will be assisting the new President-Elect in finalizing the location and helping with local arrangements.	
	Jennifer Watson completed the South Texas Chapter Poll and sent the survey link to the Chapter regarding the membership dues, meeting registration fees, meeting topics, and email versus postal mail. The preliminary results are as follows: Dues: \$10–150 with an average of \$20–25 per person Registration Fees: \$10–150 with an average of \$50–65 per meeting Topics: Medical, lasers, nuclear power, Japan, and environmental Email versus Paper: 25 versus 2 As soon as the poll closes, Jennifer will compile the results and email it to the chapter. The EC commended the survey for the shortness of the questions and number of questions.	
Past-President's Report	Stan Bravenec was contacted by a member of the South Texas Trauma Regional Advisory Council (STRAC) in San Antonio with questions regarding the STC's Radiological Event Preparedness Registry (REPR). There is still funding support available from the STRAC to continue with the project and there is a renewed interest in the project with the current events in Japan. Dr. Meltz is interested in helping with the project. Stan Bravenec will contact Dr. Meltz and discuss rejuvenating the project. The REPR project has not been active since 2008. The REPR project was intended to be a civilian version of the Military's Nuclear Accident Response Capability Listing (NARCL). After discussions, the STRAC has the money for the project and we could possibly propose to the CDC or National HPS. Dr. Meltz mentioned in conversations that there will need to be a lot more cyber security than previously applied to this project. John White concurred that this will be a big deal and necessary in the future.	
Secretary's Report	The UT Health Science Center at San Antonio will host the CHP exam on June 28 (8 a.m. to approximately 6 p.m.), however we are in need of a proctor. If anyone would like to proctor the exam please let Amanda Sullivan know as soon as possible so that the appropriate paperwork could be submitted to National HPS by April 25, 2011. Suggestions were given by the EC: Wayne Wiatrowski, Bob Cherry, Mike Charlton, MARP Inc. personnel, etc.	
Treasurer's Report	The January 2011 meeting resulted in a loss of \$816.22 based on speaker lunch expenses and meeting room expenses. The Student Presentation meeting should result in a profit for the South Texas Chapter due to the low cost of food and meeting room charges. The STC-HPS balance as of April 15, 2011, is \$140,008.95.	<i>Committee Vote:</i> Approval of the STC-HPS Treasury Report

REGISTER and PAY for conferences ONLINE at www.stc-hps.org. It's simple...and secure!

Agenda Item	Discussion	Action
Treasurer's Report <i>continued</i>	The Ad-hoc committee comprised of Ken Krieger, Karen Blanchard, Pete Myers, John Salsman, Sam Daniel and Ed Bailey presented the proposed investment plan for the STC-HPS. Based on the existing financial structure and status, the budget has a current \$1,500 deficit from the expenditures and less income/donations. The proposal is to leave \$20,000 in the operating fund, leave \$5,000 in the Scholarship money market account, and leave \$2,500 in the money market account for the Science Teacher Workshops. This would allow the chapter to have \$79,225 to purchase Six 2-5 star mutual funds for \$58,525 and a \$10,000 premium municipal bond. This should result in \$3,504 per year additional and will offset the deficit in the budget and allow for future scholarship, workshops, etc. The Ad-Hoc committee did meet with a short-term financial advisor from Edward Jones and has agreed that the STC-HPS should purchase the investments. Motion: To proceed with the investment with Pete Myers in charge of the process. Motion: Jennifer Watson Second: Stan Bravenec	<i>Committee Vote:</i> Approval of the <i>Ad-hoc</i> Committee proposal for investment
	Pete Myers has created a draft financial management/investment policy for the EC. He thanked Ed Bailey for the American Academy of Health Physics (AAHP) policy and shared the policy with the financial advisors and it was tweaked to fit the South Texas Chapter. The EC is going to review and comment at the next meeting. John White requested that the vote occur at the next meeting to allow the EC to review and revisit the policy as this was just presented today.	<i>Action Item:</i> EC will review the draft investment policy
Membership Report	Current STC membership is at 226 members for 2011 with last year's total at 250 members. Voted on new members. Motion to accept members. Motion: John White Second: Sam Daniel	
WELCOME NEW STC MEMBERS!	New Members: Emily Beisert – Clear Lake HS Chase Wilder – TSTC Govind Girash – Canyon Vista MS	<i>Committee Vote:</i> Approval of new STC members. Congratulations!
Web Master's Report	None at this time.	
Legislative Committee's Report	None at this time.	
Affiliate Committee's Report	All of the unpaid Affiliates were emailed on March 8, 2011 and have since received confirmation that many of the unpaid affiliates for 2011 have since paid their dues. In the coming weeks, William Pate will verify the status of the remaining unpaid Affiliates, send out additional emails, and if necessary, update the Affiliate listing on the Web site. It was agreed that John Hageman keeps the Affiliates on the Web site for one year beyond their last dues payment. The unpaid Affiliates will be removed from the Web site in 2012.	<i>Action Item:</i> Follow up with unpaid Affiliates for dues payments for 2011
Nominations Committee's Report	No report at this time as the election results and nominations to the HPS were announced in the President's report.	

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MEMBER and AFFILIATE APPLICATIONS are now ONLINE at www.stc-hps.org.

Agenda Item	Discussion	Action
Publications Committee's Report	Coordinated publication in <i>Health Physics News</i> (Vol 39, No 11, April 2011): South Texas Chapter Winter Meeting: Future of Nuclear Power (Krieger, Watson, & Charlton)	
	Coordinated publication in <i>The Billet</i> (Vol 32, No 1, March 17, 2011) of: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Governor Perry Appoints Bob Emery to the Texas Radiation Advisory Board 2. Department of State Health Services (DSHS) First Quarter 2011 Program Report to the Texas Radiation Advisory Board 3. News Releases and Regulatory Issue Summaries from the US Nuclear Regulatory Commission (USNRC) 	
	Coordinated publication on the STC-HPS Web site of: Texas Commission on Environmental Quality Program Report to the Texas Radiation Advisory Board First Quarter 2011 Meeting (see www.stc-hps.org/pdf/trab0211.pdf)	
	Coordinated blast e-mails to STC Members: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 03/02/2011: To: Waste Generators, Stakeholders, and Interested Members of the Public; Re: March 10th TCEQ Public Meeting on Compact Waste Disposal Rates. This meeting went very well and the forum was well controlled. There were numerous comments at this meeting as a result of the email. 2. 03/29/2011: To: STC Membership; Re: Urgent Need – Health Physicist to Work with CDC 3. 03/26/2011: To: STC Membership; Re: DSHS Ready to Respond in the Event of Nuclear Emergency in Texas 	
<i>The Billet</i>	Future Meeting Dates: Annual STC Breakfast to National HPS Meeting June 28, 2011 at 7:30 a.m. The Affiliate Fair will be held in San Antonio, TX on September 16–17, 2011. The deadline for <i>The Billet</i> is July 1, 2011.	
Science Teacher Workshop (STW)	A workshop is scheduled for May 7, 2011, at the Jefferson Middle School in San Antonio. The date was chosen by School Science Coordinator Kathleen Kraus, after consulting with the STW chairman, who later discovered that he could not participate on that date. Al Evans, Chair of the STW Committee, is grateful to Karen Blanchard for volunteering to fill in for him as well as to Ken Krieger, Brian Bittner, and Sam Daniel for previously signing up for this workshop.	
	It is about time to take another look at our Geiger Counter inventory. At the same time, the EC should consider what we should do when we run out of these giveaways. Ken Krieger noted that he still had at least 15 in his inventory and would have the TSTC students work on making the instruments operational.	

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South Texas Chapter's Web Site Privacy Policy

The Privacy Policy may be viewed in its entirety at the following link:

www.stc-hps.org/pdf/privacy.pdf

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Agenda Item	Discussion	Action
STW <i>continued</i>	<p>We should also ask our contact at Ludlum for another batch of batteries, to be delivered at our upcoming Associates Fair. (These would be a major cost item to buy, and also quite expensive to have shipped). Between Ken Krieger and Karen Blanchard, there are about 50 batteries available. We will contact George Espinoza to see what is available through Ludlum for batteries.</p>	
	<p>Al Evans has accepted an invitation to give a paper at the HPS national meeting on our experiences with our Science Teacher Workshop program.</p>	
Student Assistance Committee	<p>Science Fairs – The South Texas Chapter participated in two regional science and engineering fairs and the ExxonMobil Texas Science and Engineering Fair.</p> <p>The winners are:</p> <p>Austin Energy Regional Science Festival (Feb. 23–26, 2011):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Govind Girash, Grade 7, Canyon Vista Middle School, “Raid of the Radon – Radiation Invasion.” <i>*Govind Girash will be attending the Student Meeting tomorrow.</i> • Tobin Niblett, Grade 7, Canyon Ridge Middle School, “How Does the Amount of Radiation Affect Seed Growth?” <p>Science and Engineering Fair of Houston (Apr. 7–9, 2011):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Senior Division 1st Place – Emily K. Beisert, Clear Lake High School, “Does Potassium Content Explain Granite’s Radioactivity?” • Ninth Grade Division 1st Place – Tiffany Loggins, Academy for Science & Health Professions, Conroe, “X-Ray Radiation Effects on Painted Lady Butterflies.” • Junior Division 1st Place – Miriam Matney, Westbrook Intermediate, “Containing Antimatter.” <p>ExxonMobil Texas Science and Engineering Fair (Apr. 1–3, 2011):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rachel Hodge, Jasper High School, Plano, “A Comparison of the Efficiencies of Active Radon Gas Mitigation Systems.” <p>The regional award winners were given a 7x9 in. plaque, a <i>Chart of the Nuclides</i>, and a one year complimentary student membership to the STC-HPS. The Texas winner received an 8x10 in. plaque, a \$50 check, and the student membership. Please note that Emily and Govind both took advantage of our student membership offer, and their applications will be approved April 15, 2011. Also, Govind and a parent will attend the conference on April 16, 2011, for a short period. It is recommended that we acknowledge the student and let him briefly describe his project.</p>	

continued on page 12

As a courtesy to our membership, the STC-HPS offers a list of the Health Physics-related positions available in South Texas on our Web site.

> www.stc-hps.org/hpjob.htm

Agenda Item	Discussion	Action
Student Assistance Committee <i>continued</i>	<p>Thanks must be extended to our judges:</p> <p>Houston: Stan Bravanec, Janet Gutierrez, and Sam Daniel Austin: David Fogle and Susan Jablonski ExxonMobil: Frank Iddings</p> <p>Stan also wrote a terrific article about the Houston Fair. It will be submitted to <i>The Billet</i>. Frank has a photo of his winner, so that will be incorporated into the overall science fair article that will be written. Miriam Matney will be nominated for the national HPS Science Fair Award.</p>	
	<p>Education Grants for Associate Degree and Graduate Degree Students – The applications are available in <i>The Billet</i>. The deadline for the applications is May 27, 2011. Applicants must be members in good standing of the STC. The grant is for \$1,000 per award. The Neff-Poston award will be made in the fall to an undergraduate Radiological Health Engineering student at Texas A&M University. This award is approximately \$1,250. This award is based on funds and will be announced at the meeting tomorrow.</p>	
	<p>Student Paper Presentation – Student presentations will be given tomorrow. As usual, there will be 3 levels of competition: Associate, Undergraduate, and Graduate. Two awards will be given at each level (1st – \$250, 2nd – \$100). The judges have been chosen as William Pate, Sam Daniel, and John Salsman. Based on the fact that there are 7 graduate students, 5 associate students, and 1 bachelor student, the EC chose to split the 2nd place award for the bachelor category and give \$50 for a 3rd place in the associate and graduate category.</p>	
	<p>Miscellaneous – The RPT program has completed a Gap Analysis for the Nuclear Energy Institute which is implementing the Institute of Nuclear Power Operations (INPO) Uniform Curriculum for Associate Degrees. This is the first step towards being able to certify that graduates have specified technical skills. A 3.0 or higher will get a certificate.</p>	<p><i>Action Item:</i> Publish in <i>The Billet</i>. Forms will appear on the STC Web site.</p>
Nominations Committee	Need to recruit new chair for Nominations Committee.	
Information for National Liaison	Edgar Bailey will be presenting the Chapter Report for the South Texas Chapter and reminded the EC to electronically submit the report prior to the National Meeting.	
Other Business?	John White announced that he is moving from UT Southwestern to the VA Healthcare System in May 2011. He is excited about his new adventures but plans on still being involved in the South Texas Chapter and the North Texas education and response group.	
Adjournment	7:37 p.m. Motion: Jennifer Watson Second: Stan Bravanec	

SAVE TIME & MONEY Get your issue of *The Billet STC Newsletter* the E-WAY
 UPDATE your contact information on the STC-HPS Web site.

SOUTH TEXAS CHAPTER *of the* HEALTH PHYSICS SOCIETY, INC.

Executive Council Meeting, Affiliates Fair & Technical Sessions

September 16–17, 2011 ★ San Antonio, Texas

Executive Council Meeting

Friday, September 16, 2011 ★ 5:30 to 7:00 p.m.

Affiliates Fair & Technical Sessions

Armin Ansari, National HPS President-Elect

Saturday, September 17, 2011 ★ 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

*CEUs
Awarded
for LMPs,
MRTs*

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Want to know the latest on the advancements in radiation instrumentation and products that our Affiliates can provide? We have some exciting talks planned for Saturday. In the afternoon, Armin Ansari, Ph.D, CHP,

... Armin Ansari, Ph.D, CHP, the National HPS President-Elect will provide a presentation of his choice.

the National HPS President-Elect will provide a presentation of his choice. We have a happy hour planned where members can network and get to know each other with discounted drinks from 5–8 p.m. in the hotel bar on Friday, September 16, 2011. The **meeting agenda** will be posted on the STC Web site **www.stc-hps.org** as we get closer to the


Register online for the Affiliates Fair & Technical Sessions at www.stc-hps.org

meeting date. The **registration form** is available online at **www.stc-hps.org**.

The lunch on Saturday, September 17, 2011, will take place from 11:30–12:30 p.m. The lunch buffet consists of:

- Fiesta Salad with Iceberg, Jicama, Cheddar Cheese & Avocado
- Chile con Queso and Hot Salsa with Tortilla Chips
- Baked Cheese Enchiladas with Guajillo Pasilla sauce
- Spanish Rice with Peppers, Carrots, and Peas
- Beer Marinated Chicken Fajitas with Pico de Gallo, Cheddar Cheese, Sour Cream & Tortillas
- Sweet Nachos with Chocolate Sauce
- Peanut Butter Fondue
- Strawberry Coulis, Coffee, and Iced Tea.

A block of 20 rooms has been reserved for Friday Night at the La Quinta Inn & Suites San Antonio Convention Center, on the Riverwalk, San Antonio, TX.

For reservations, phone: **866-527-1498**, or **210-222-9181**. The nightly rate is \$99, plus tax, for single, double, triple, and quad occupancy rooms with a reservation deadline of **September 1, 2011**. The reservations are under **reservation code STC-HPS**. The address of the La Quinta Inn & Suites is 303 Blum Street, San Antonio, TX 78205. The hotel is located in the heart of downtown; the La Quinta Inn & Suites San Antonio Convention Center is in the middle of all that San Antonio has to offer: the picturesque Riverwalk and historic Alamo, Market Square, the Henry B. Gonzalez Convention Center, SeaWorld, Six Flags Fiesta Texas, San Antonio Zoo and Botanical Gardens. You will find several restaurants nearby and plenty of shopping at Rivercenter Mall, North Star Mall, and San Marcos Outlet stores. 

Hotel registration deadline is **September 1, 2011**

STC Meeting pre-registration deadline is September 2, 2011

Go to www.stc-hps.org for meeting agenda, information, and registration details.

SOUTH TEXAS CHAPTER *of the* HEALTH PHYSICS SOCIETY, INC.

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The Affiliates of the South Texas Chapter (STC) are listed below. Our Affiliates help support our Chapter functions, and we should support them. They contribute substantially to the STC, and each should be thanked by our considering their products or services first. Also, tell them we sent you.

Affiliates: Please review your listing below and email any corrections to patew@uthscsa.edu

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<p>ALMAC Environmental Services Alan McArthur 809 Balmoral Ct. Friendswood, TX 77546 WEB: www.almaces.com E: almac@almaces.com T: 281-648-2088</p>	<p>Alpha Neutronics, Inc. Andrew Pitts 11534 Trickey Road Houston, TX 77067 WEB: www.alphaneutronics.com E: admin@alphaneutronics.com T: 281-872-0075</p>	<p>Ameriphysics, LLC Tom Hansen 11634 Turkey Creek Road Knoxville, TN 37934 WEB: www.ameriphysics.com E: tom@ameriphysics.com T: 865-228-1997 (Tom) T: 865-654-9200 (Office) F: 865-531-0092</p>
<p>ARDT Eddie Selig Post Office Box 26586 Austin, TX 78755-0586 WEB: www.ardt.org E: eselig@ardt.org T: 512-391-0400 F: 512-391-0602</p>	<p>Atomic Energy Industrial Laboratories (AEIL) of the Southwest, Inc. Steven H. Allen 9261 Kirby Drive Houston, TX 77054-2514 WEB: www.aeil.com E: shallen@aeil.com T: 877-866-AEIL (toll-free) T: 713-790-9719 F: 713-790-0542</p>	<p>Bionomics, Inc. John McCormick Post Office Box 817 Kingston, TN 37763 WEB: www.bionomics-inc.com E: bionomicsjohn@comcast.net T: 865-220-8501 F: 865-220-8532</p>
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Check www.stc-hps.org for a color copy of *The Billet STC Newsletter*.

FUTURE *Meetings & Deadlines*

Date	Location	Topic	Newsletter Deadline
September 16–17, 2011	San Antonio, TX	Affiliates Fair & Technical Sessions	NA
February 5–8, 2012	Dallas, TX	National HPS 2012 Midyear	NA
April 2012 (TBD)	College Station, TX	STC Student Presentations & Annual Business Meeting	February 1, 2012
July 22–26, 2012	Sacramento, CA	National HPS 57th Annual Meeting	NA
September 2012 (TBD)	Austin, TX	Texas Regulatory Conference	July 1, 2012
January 27–30, 2013	Scottsdale, AZ	National HPS 2013 Midyear Topical-TBD	NA
July 7–12, 2013	Madison, WI	National HPS 58th Annual Meeting	NA

Go ONLINE to www.stc-hps.org for
MEMBER and AFFILIATE APPLICATIONS, to REGISTER and PAY for conferences,
and for additional MEETING INFORMATION.