

THE BILLET

Health Physics Society ♦ South Texas Chapter ♦ Radiation Safety Specialists

Two Students Awarded Chapter Prizes at Austin Energy Regional Science Festival and Tyler Harrison Shines at State-Wide Science Fair

David Fogle

On February 22, 2008, within the confines of the massive Palmer Events Center in Austin, South Texas Chapter (STC) Legislative Committee Chair, Susan Jablonski, and, STC Nominating Committee Chair, David Fogle, examined what they believe were the majority of the approximately 2,400 science projects from 188 schools representing 23 central Texas school districts. "... and don't forget about the home schooled!" said Fogle, commenting on the noticed inclusion of those students from other-than school districts.

Of all the many projects examined, there appeared to be no projects involving ionizing radiation. Therefore, your science fair judges decided to award nonionizing radiation projects, thereby encouraging students to continue their studies and introducing them to the world of the Health Physics Society. Students winning the STC award receive a copy of *The Chart of the Nuclides* book, a customized embossed plaque, and most importantly, a congratulatory letter penned by Student Assistance Committee Chair Linda Morris with an applica-

tion for student membership in the STC at no cost for the first year.

Therefore, after a long day of examining some really exceptional projects, interviewing and cajoling students, at odds about nominees, Susan and David finally came to agreement on this year's awardees. In the Junior Division, composed of projects from 6th through 8th grade students, the winner was Avinash Thangirala, an 8th grader at Canyon Vista Middle School in Austin. Avinash's project was titled, "Are Cell Phones Giving Us a Headache." In the



Avinash Thangirala and STC Past-President Fogle



Tyler Harrison

Continued on page 15.

New TRAB Members Named, One you might have heard of...

David Fogle with contributions from Melissa Hageman



In late May, the Governor's Office of Appointments announced that five new members had been named to the Texas Radiation Advisory Board (TRAB). The new members are Bill Campbell of Fort Worth, Southwestern Associates (representing the Insurance field), Jay Murphy of Houston, Shell Pipeline Co., LLC (representing the Petroleum Well Service field), Mark Silberman, MD of Austin, Clinical Pathology Associates (representing the Pathology field), Melanie Marshall, DDS of Burseson, Alsbury Dental (representing the Dentistry field), and our own

John Hageman, CHP of San Antonio, Southwest Research Institute® (representing the Health Physics field).

TRAB members are the state's advisors on all radiation issues. The board holds meetings to review the rules and guides and programs of the agencies that regulate radiation. Board members participate in hearings by providing expert testimony. They make recommendations about various issues and provide them to the agencies, the legislature, and the Governor. Board members also visit facilities in Texas to review pertinent radiation issues. The Legislature created TRAB in 1961. The Governor appoints members who are

Continued on page 6.

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Executive Director McBurney Named Distinguished Alumna

Ruth McBurney, the Executive Director for the Conference of Radiation Control Program Directors, Inc. (CRCPD), was recently honored by Henderson State University in Arkadelphia, Arkansas, as a Distinguished Alumna at the university's May 2008 commencement activities. The award was selected by the Alumni Association and



was presented by the President of the university. Ms. McBurney spoke at a luncheon given for the Distinguished Alumni and invited guests on May 9, 2008, and later that day at the commencement services for the School of Arts and Sciences. Distinguished Alumni were presented a medal and a plaque commemorating the event.

Ms. McBurney received her Bachelor of Science degree from Henderson State in 1970 and a Master of Science degree in radiation sciences from the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences in 1973. She is married to Mack McBurney, who was a professor of biology at Henderson State for 15 years. ♦

Copied with permission from the CRCPD Newsbrief, www.crcpd.org

Ralph S. Heyer
Receives the
**Board of Directors
Award for
Meritorious Service**
in the
**Field of Radiation
Protection**

Ralph Heyer was recognized for his tireless efforts in supporting the activities of the Conference of Radiation Control Program Directors, Inc. (CRCPD). Because of Mr. Heyer's diverse background including federal, state, and industry service, his input is always sought out and very helpful to the working groups and ultimately state programs. He has gone 'above and beyond' in his service to CRCPD and all the states by continuing his invaluable assistance to the CRCPD while going through several career changes. Mr. Heyer has served CRCPD with distinction. ♦

Richard A. Ratliff
Awarded the
Gerald S. Parker Award of Merit



Richard Ratliff, Radiation Control Program Director and CRCPD Chairperson, 2003-4, with Cindy Cardwell, Standards Director and Past CRCPD Chairperson.

Richard A. Ratliff was recognized for his significant contributions in the field of radiation protection and for his exemplary service to the mission of the Conference of Radiation Control Program Directors (CRCPD). Mr. Ratliff served on the CRCPD Board of Directors from 2002–2005 and as Chairperson from 2003–2004. Through his active participation and leadership on the Board and on working groups, he has made significant contributions to the efforts of CRCPD, including creating an effective benchmarking tool for radiation control programs and assisting other states to improve radiation safety in this country.

As the director of Texas' large comprehensive radiation control program, Mr. Ratliff provided an atmosphere that encouraged active staff participation in CRCPD activities. His enthusiasm for their involvement not only strengthened the state's program but also resulted in major contributions to radiation protection in the United States. ♦

2009 HPS Midyear Meeting

January 31–February 3, 2009

San Antonio, Texas

IMPORTANT NOTE: *Because of the availability of hotels and convention facilities, the meeting will start one day earlier than usual (e.g., PEP sessions will be held on Saturday, January 31, 2009).*

This is the second in a series of articles about the upcoming HPS 2009 Midyear Meeting being held in San Antonio, Texas, January 31–February 3, 2009. See the September issue of *Health Physics News* for the first article.

At the time this article is being written (mid-August 2008), the HPS Homeland Security Committee (HSC) is in the process of organizing the Plenary Session. In keeping with the meeting's theme, "Recent Advances in Planning and Response to Radiation Emergencies," the HSC is considering the following topic areas for presentations by speakers of national renown:

- ◆ Detection
- ◆ Population Monitoring
- ◆ First Responder/First Receiver Training
- ◆ Coordination Among Local/State/Federal Responders
- ◆ Public Information and News Media
- ◆ Decontamination and Restoration

In addition to the Plenary Session, several special sessions are scheduled (71 solid abstracts have been submitted, so there will be an excellent body of technical papers presented).

- ◆ One special session, entitled "Radiological Emergency Planning and Public Health," is being jointly organized by Ruth McBurney, Conference of Radiation Control Program Directors, and Charles Miller, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. This session will focus on coordinated efforts in communication training, population monitoring, and other public health issues involved with planning for a radiological incident or emergency.
- ◆ Another special session, spearheaded by John Crapo, is sponsored by the Office of Emergency Response, National Nuclear Security Administration, U.S. Department of Energy. The goal of this session is to describe the current capabilities available for support to other federal, state, tribal, and local emergency managers in response to a nuclear or radiological incident and recent advances developed to improve these capabilities.

- ◆ Carson Riland is organizing a four-hour special session sponsored by National Security Technologies (NSTEC). The title of this session is "Nevada Test Site Contributions to Radiological Emergency Response and Homeland Security."
- ◆ There are also very robust special sessions being planned for:
 - Advances in Instrumentation
 - Integration of Agencies and Resources
 - Medical Response by Hospitals and Emergency Medical Systems
 - Training and Guidance in Response to a Radiological Attack

Please plan to join us for an exchange of exceptionally important information at the meeting. Go to www.hps.org/meetings for information about meeting registration and hotel reservations, and to learn more about San Antonio, go to www.stc-hps.org/pdf/HPS_Midyear2009.pdf.

In addition to the important information presented during the meeting, you and your family can plan on pleasant weather (mid-60s) and plenty of family fun, San Antonio style. Subsequent articles will provide information about many of the activities available in this delightful, family-friendly city. ◆



Photos courtesy of San Antonio Convention & Visitors Bureau

In Memoriam

Kenneth Anthony Hardy, age 70, born in Quantico, Virginia, passed away on Sunday, June 8, 2008.



Ken's service in the U.S. Air Force brought him to San Antonio where he found Mary Jane, and they were married on July 26, 1964. Ken had a notable career as a radiation physicist at Brooks Air Force Base in the Aerospace Division, where he developed his specialty in radiation dosimetry. His work as Chief Physicist at Brooks gave him the opportunity to collaborate with NASA and create detection instruments used on several space missions.

Ken received his BS from the University of San Francisco and his MS from St. Mary's University. He was an active member of Holy Spirit Catholic Church and a devoted member of the Knights of Columbus. Ken found delight in traveling with his wife, working with the Boy Scouts, gardening, nature, and animals. We all found Ken a joy to be around at our STC meetings, and he will be deeply missed. Ken left behind Mary Jane, his wife of 43 years; three children, Dianne (married to Corri Planck), Kristy (married to Gary Voelkel) and Kenneth Jr.; and four grandchildren, Emily Jane, Mark, Raquel, and Kristina. He is also survived by his brothers J.C. Hardy, Edward Guillory, and James Guillory and numerous cousins. ♦

Treasury Transfers from Aggie to Longhorn

David Fogle

Not that we don't trust our previous and long-time Treasurer, Colonel Pete Myers, but let's face it, we are transferring the accumulated wealth of the South Texas Chapter of the Health Physics Society (STC) to a virtual unknown commodity. Besides being an acknowledged and dreaded T-Sip, new STC Treasurer, David Fogle, freely admits to having zero experience as a Treasurer. "Let's see here now," starts Fogle, "I've been Past-President, President, and President-Elect from 1998-2001, Secretary from 1994-1997, Board Member from 1991-1994 and Chairperson for Nominating, Membership, and Publications at various times since

1989. Nope, (I have) never been Treasurer."

On a balmy night in May, Colonel Myers and his lovely, financially minded and gifted bride Karen accepted an invitation for dinner at the Jablonski-Fogle residence.

Good natured at heart, the Myers were tested that night by the rigors of a sit-down dinner with a 1 year old and a 4 year old at the table (see duck-n-cover) followed by many attempts, totaling 1.25 hours, at imparting a modicum of financial knowledge



Karen and Pete Myers being pleasant while trying to explain how the Treasury works to an attentive David Fogle

and understanding to the new Treasurer (see exercise in futility). By evening's end, the Myers were spent and the new Treasurer was rumored to have said, "You mean I don't get one of those calculators with the card-swiper thingy on it?" ♦

New TRAB Members Named *continued from page 1.*

then confirmed by the Senate. Members serve for 3 to 6 years.

John's acceptance of this position on TRAB culminates the nomination process started by your STC Nominating Committee. In April, the STC nominated Past Presidents Ken Krieger and John Hageman for the TRAB. Keith Ingram, Appointments Manager at the Governor's Office, happily accepted our nominations and duly noted their eminent qualifications.

We at the STC-HPS know how great a guy John is and how hard he works for our Chapter. So, here are some things that you might not know about your editor of *The Billet*.

John is a great husband and father and enjoys time with his family. He likes doing projects with his daughters, Angela and Sarah, and has taught them some manly skills like fixing stuff. He also tutors them in science and math when they need help with their school work, and the whole family enjoys movie night whenever possible. Sci-Fi is his favorite movie genre but he gives in when the women insist on chick-flicks. He has been

married to his adoring wife Melissa for 25 years, and she thinks he is the best husband on the planet! He has a great sense of humor and is an enthusiastic but terrible singer. He loves coffee, but refuses Starbucks and the like, he only drinks it plain and black. Free-cell and crossword puzzles occupy his free moments.

John is the consummate fix-it man and can repair anything. His mother-in-law says that he can even fix a broken rock! He also does many maintenance and remodeling projects around the house. Some of his skills include: tile work, carpentry, painting, fence building, plumbing, and landscaping. He is the muscle behind Melissa's garden and a huge help in maintaining it. He also helps neighbors with occasional projects around their homes.

John believes in teaching the next generation of scientists. He speaks in schools and at career days about science and has a great presentation on radiation that includes many bells and whistles. After his talks, most of the students leave saying they want to be a scientist like Mr. Hageman! He also judges several

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Minutes of the Executive Council Meeting of the South Texas Chapter of the Health Physics Society, Inc.

Spring Meeting & Student Paper Presentation, Waco, Texas

April 4, 2008

Stan Bravenec, Secretary

Persons in Attendance:

Executive Council (EC) Members:

Martin MeltzPresident
Jay Poston.....President-Elect
Stan BravenecSecretary
Pete Myers.....Treasurer/
Membership
Albert Evans.....EC Member
Karen Blanchard.....EC Member

Committee Chairpersons:

John Hageman..... *The Billet* Editor
John Salsman.....Local Arrangements
Co-Chair
Linda Morris.....Student Assistance
Chair

Chapter Members and Guests:

John White.....STC Member and
President North
Texas Chapter
Karen Myers.....Member
Melissa HagemanGuest
Jim Lewis.....Member
Janet McCrary-
Gutierrez.....Member

Agenda Item	Discussion	Action
Call to Order 5:11 p.m.	Quorum Established and Pledge of Allegiance.	N/A
Agenda Approval	Additions made to agenda.	<i>Committee Vote:</i> Approved
January 2008 STC-HPS Minutes Approval	Committee proposal to adopt new format the January minutes are printed in. Motion: Pete Myers Second: Jay Poston	<i>Committee Vote:</i> Approved
President's Report	President Meltz thanked all of the Board members for their strong and continuing work with the Chapter.	
	President Meltz encouraged the stimulation of professional membership, the furthering of student membership, and the continued attention to affiliate membership. This should be emphasized with attention to our October meeting and the National HPS Midyear 2009 meeting in San Antonio.	
Treasurer's Report	Pete Myers presented a comprehensive financial summary of 2007. The increase in total assets was largely due to the very successful Texas Radiation Regulatory Conference held in conjunction with the Texas Department of State Health Services and the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality. The STC relationship with these two Texas Agencies is important and mutually beneficial; we should continue to support these agencies when appropriate and possible.	<i>Committee Vote:</i> Approved
	Pete Myers presented the chapter budget for 2008. The Treasurer recommended having a minimum of \$15,000 in the operating fund. Motion to accept 2008 budget: Karen Blanchard Second: Stan Bravenec	<i>Committee Vote:</i> Approved

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Minutes continued from page 7.

Agenda Item	Discussion	Action
Treasurer's Report <i>cont.</i>	The Treasurer will look into an interest-bearing financial instrument and funding options for a \$25,000 student scholarship and a \$10,000 Science Teacher Workshop fund.	<i>Action Item:</i> Treasurer will research funding options and report at next STC meeting.
	The Chapter is occasionally losing money at Chapter meetings. Registration fees should cover meeting expenses without fees being too high to discourage participation. A conservative approach should be taken during planning.	FYI for Program Committee Chair.
	The Science Teacher Workshop spent more money than collected this year due to an increase in activity by the STW Committee and the STW fund being a low interest-bearing account fund.	Previous action item to look at interest-bearing instruments.
Secretary's Report	173 ballots were sent out for the STC election.	N/A
	Election Results: President Elect: Stan Bravenec Secretary: Jennifer Watson Executive Board Member: John White	The Committee thanks all of the STC members who ran for office.
	STC Members Stan Bravenec, David Engelbretson, and Eddie Giles judged the Houston Science and Engineering Fair on April 14, 2008. Awards were given for the first place winners of the Junior, Ninth Grade, and Senior categories.	The Committee thanks the judges for their contribution.
Admissions (Membership) Committee	Current STC membership is at 185 members.	
	Jim Lewis turned the membership records over to Pete Myers, the new Membership Chair.	Thanks to Jim for the outstanding work and to Pete for his new position as the Membership Chair!
WELCOME NEW STC MEMBERS!	New Members: Gesin, Heather – Ludlum Measurements, Inc. Huckabee, Bill – Ludlum Measurements, Inc. Kinnison, W. Wayne, PhD – TAMU Kingsville Miller, Mike – Ludlum Measurements, Inc. O'Neil, John – Chase Environmental Group Stefanova, Elena, PhD – Texas Southern University Tyll, Dennis – UTHSC-SA Wang, Xudong, MS – UTHSC-SA Williams, Mark T. – Brooke Army Medical Center Winters, Scott J., RSO – Chase Environmental Group Motion to approve new members: Jay Poston Second: Karen Blanchard	<i>Committee Vote:</i> Approval of new STC members. Congratulations!
	Membership Recruitment: Use records from Texas Regulatory Conference for recruiting new members. Advertise for the October STC-HPS & National Midyear meeting with an STC recruiting brochure and invitation letter. Motion to approve: Karen Blanchard Second: Jay Poston	<i>Committee Vote:</i> Approved <i>Action Item:</i> John Salsman will produce 1,500 letters.

Agenda Item	Discussion	Action
Program Committee	There were fewer students this year than in previous years for the student papers. School schedules of major events should be taken into consideration for the Spring 2009 meeting.	N/A
	The October 2008 meeting will be the Affiliates meeting. Activities will be finalized for the 2009 Midyear meeting. The hotel reserved is the same hotel as the midyear meeting. The brochure for the midyear meeting was presented.	<i>Committee Vote:</i> Midyear Meeting brochure approved.
Legislative Committee	No Report	N/A
Affiliates Committee	The number of Affiliates is on the increase. The October meeting is the Affiliates meeting, and we look to have an increased number for the meeting. There are 10 Affiliate members with current dues. Andrew will report on the number of Affiliates before the publication of <i>The Billet</i> .	<i>Action Item:</i> The Affiliates Chair will report on the current number of Affiliates to be published in <i>The Billet</i> .
Task Force for Nuclear Training Endeavors	Ownership of the Radiological Event Preparedness Registry (REPR) has transferred to the South Texas Trauma Regional Advisory Council (STRAC). UTHSC-SA Department of Computing Resources donated programmer time to accomplish the task.	The Committee thanks the UTHSC-SA Computing Resources Department for their generous donation.
Publications Committee	The brochure prepared by Ali Simpkins was presented. Modifications were suggested. The revised brochure will be reviewed outside of the meeting to be able to distribute the brochure at the October 2008 STC meeting.	<i>Action Item:</i> John Hageman will present the suggested changes to Ali Simpkins for modification. The brochure should be ready for publication by August 1, 2008.
The Billet - Editor Committee	HPS Chapters on the National HPS web site have access to Paypal and electronic voting. The STC will look into the procedures for electronic voting, payments, and a potential change in the STC bylaws to accommodate such.	<i>Action Item:</i> John Hageman will lead the project and report the options at the October 2008 STC meeting.
Nominations Committee	The Nominations Chair reported that the Slate of STC Officers and Board Member are the following: President-Elect – Chuck Flynn, Stan Bravenec Secretary – Jennifer Watson, David Hearnberger Board Member – John White, Sam Daniel	
	On January 31, 2008, the STC Nominations Committee forwarded a letter of nomination to President Meltz to sign and send to HPS. STC nominated John Hageman for the position of HPS Treasurer.	
	The Nominating Committee submitted Susan Jablonski for the Elda E. Anderson Award from HPS national.	
	Ken Krieger has been nominated to serve in the Health Physicist position on the Texas Radiation Advisory Board.	

Minutes continued from page 9.

Agenda Item	Discussion	Action
Science Teacher Workshop Committee	March 2, 2008: Al Evans and Jim Sharp attended a Mini CAST regional convention of the Science Teachers Association of Texas in Orange, TX. The display table was well attended, but only 2 people signed up and took the 1-1/2-hour lecture.	N/A
	March 8, 2008: Al Evans picked up 20 operable and calibrated Geiger counters that Carl Kee revitalized for the STC at KI4U, Inc. Al dropped off 20 additional inoperable Geiger counters at KI4U. Carl also gave us a boxful of dosimeters and chargers and a CDV-720 Ionization Chamber. These should be a useful addition to our course material. Carl now has the bulk of our inoperable supply of Geiger counters. There are currently a sufficient number of calibrated meters to conduct one more full class.	The STC-HPS Executive Committee extends their appreciation to Carl Kee at KI4U for the revitalization and calibration of the meters!
	March 9, 2008: A workshop was presented at a joint meeting in Corpus Christi of the Texas chapters of the American Physical Society and the American Association of Physics Teachers. The teaching team consisted of Al Evans, Frank Iddings, Steve Cima, and Susan Jablonski. Fifteen people registered for and took the class, and three walk-ins audited. The reaction of the class was very appreciative. The class was limited by schedule to 5 hours, including lunch, which the STC provided. Geiger Counters were discussed and issued.	Job well done!
	Al Evans will investigate STW funding opportunities from the National HPS and the South Texas Project and Comanche peak.	<i>Action Item:</i> Al Evans will check into funding possibilities.
Student Assistance Committee	Motion to increase STC education grant scholarship amount from \$750 to \$1000. Motion: Pete Myers Second: Karen Blanchard	<i>Committee Vote:</i> Approved
	There is still confusion on the fee charges for the Student Assistant Grant at Texas A&M University. John Salsman will meet with Dr. Vierot, the Chair of the Nuclear Engineering Department to correct the grant situation.	<i>Action Item:</i> John Salsman to talk to Dr. Vierot
Recognitions	Houston Science & Engineering Fair Winners: Junior Category: Alyse Cicio Project Title: How Safe is Your Microwave Ninth Grade Category: Michael Hoffmann Project Title: Flea from EMR Senior Category: Alexandria Proctor Project Title: Ionizing Radiation's Effect on Telomeres in Arabidopsis Thaliana: 3rd Year Study	The South Texas Chapter congratulates the outstanding work by the new potential Health Physicists! The winners are awarded a one-year STC membership and a copy of <i>The Chart of the Nuclides</i> .
Adjournment	8:20 p.m.	

New TRAB Members Named continued from page 6.

science fairs every year in local schools and gives presentations to Boy Scouts and other groups.

John is a devoted Christian and now walks the walk. He teaches Sunday School and has taught several Bible studies.

He quietly shares his faith and teaches by example to all who know him. He consistently strives to do the right thing in all that he does and gives his very best in his professional, spiritual and family life. ♦

South Texas Chapter of the Health Physics Society, Inc.
Affiliates Fair &
STC Local Arrangements Committee Meeting
for the 2009 HPS Midyear Symposium

October 24–25, 2008

San Antonio, Texas

Hotel Registration Deadline — October 3, 2008 ♦ STC Meeting Preregistration Deadline — October 17, 2008

The 2008 Affiliates Fair and South Texas Chapter (STC) Local Arrangements Committee Meeting for the 2009 Health Physics Society (HPS) Midyear Symposium will feature presentations from our STC-HPS Affiliates. Our guest speaker, Steve Sugarman, will be the Health Physics Project Manager at the Radiological Emergency Assistance Center/Training Site (REAC/TS) in Oak Ridge, Tennessee. He will be giving a presentation entitled “Internal Dose Magnitude Estimation using ALI Comparisons.” This will be a great warm-up for our disaster response theme for the Midyear Meeting!

STC-HPS Affiliates will offer updates about new products and services they provide. During the breaks (with refreshments), members and Affiliates will have a chance to learn more about each other in the Affiliates Exhibit area in the La Quinta Inn & Suites Fiesta Ballroom D-F. As usual, Affiliates will be giving out tickets to individuals visiting their booths

for a prize drawing that will be held at the end of the meeting.

The lunch buffet (worth coming for by itself) will be the usual “mouth watering” South Texas fare:

◆

Sliced & Whole Fresh Fruit Tray
Ensalada Verde with Pumpkin Seeds & Jicama
Beef & Chicken Fajitas Mixed Grill
Cheese Enchiladas
Pork Tamales
Pico de Gallo, Homemade Salsa, Guacamole, Cheddar Cheese, Chopped Tomatoes, Lettuce
Hot Flour Tortillas, Whipped Butter
Charro Beans
Spanish Rice
Bunuelos with Sliced Strawberries & Whipped Cream
Crisp Sugared Churros with Kahlua Cream
Agua de Limon
Freshly Brewed Regular & Decaffeinated Coffee

◆

This will be more than just a meeting honoring our Affiliates; this will be the last Local Arrangements Committee meeting before the National HPS Midyear Meeting hosted by the STC on January 31 through February 3! An added bonus is that the La Quinta Inn and Suites is just a short two minutes to the famous San Antonio Riverwalk and great Tex-Mex cuisine, margaritas, and great atmosphere! There will also be an unforgettable sneak peak at the location for the HPS Midyear Meeting Night Out. This will be an exciting and action-packed meeting! This one is a MUST ATTEND! ◆

Executive Council Meeting Friday
October 24, 2008, 5:00–7:00 p.m.
La Quinta Inn & Suites
San Antonio Convention Center
Crockett West Meeting Room

We hope to see y'all
in San Antonio
on October 24-25, 2008!

4.5 CEUs Awarded for LMPs & MRTs

Your Chapter is getting stronger through ... the contributions of your Affiliate Members!!!

**South Texas Chapter of the Health Physics Society, Inc.
Agenda for the Affiliates Fair &
STC Local Arrangements Committee Meeting
for the 2009 HPS Midyear Symposium**

October 24–25, 2008

*La Quinta Inn & Suites San Antonio Convention Center
303 Blum ♦ San Antonio, TX 78205 ♦ 210-222-9181*

Friday, October 24, 2008

5:00–7:00 p.m. **Executive Council Meeting**, La Quinta Inn & Suites, Crockett West Meeting Room

Saturday, October 25, 2008

8:00–8:30 a.m. **Registration**, La Quinta Inn & Suites, 1st Floor Hallway

8:00–8:30 a.m. **Vendor Exhibits, Coffee & Danish**, Fiesta Ballroom D-F

8:30–8:40 a.m. **Welcoming Remarks and Introductions**, Fiesta Ballroom A-B
Jay Poston, STC-HPS President

8:40–10:00 a.m. **Vendor Presentations**, Fiesta Ballroom A-B

10:00–10:30 a.m. **Break— Professional Networking and Refreshments**, Vendor Exhibit Area,
Fiesta Ballroom D-F

10:30–11:30 a.m. **Vendor Presentations**, Fiesta Ballroom A-B

11:30–12:30 p.m. **Lunch**, Fiesta Ballroom C

12:30–1:45 p.m. **Guest Speaker Presentation**, Steve Sugarman, REAC/TS
Topic: “Internal Dose Magnitude Estimation Using ALI Comparisons”

2:00–3:00 p.m. **Vendor Presentations**, Fiesta Ballroom A-B

3:00–3:30 p.m. **Break and Professional Networking and Refreshments**, Vendor Exhibit Area,
Fiesta Ballroom D-F

3:30–4:30 p.m. **Planning for 2009 San Antonio Midyear Local Arrangements Committee’s Activities
and Business Meeting**, Mike Charlton, John Salsman, and Jay Poston,
Fiesta Ballroom A-B

4:30 p.m. **Drawings and Presentation of Door Prizes**, Jay Poston, STC-HPS President,
Fiesta Ballroom A-B

5:00 p.m. **Adjourn**

Meeting Registration

Please submit a Meeting Registration form for each member or guest attending the meeting and mail to the address below.

Affiliates Fair & STC Local Arrangements Committee Meeting

October 24–25, 2008

San Antonio, Texas

Preregistration

La Quinta Inn & Suites San Antonio Convention Center

Hotel Registration Deadline — October 3, 2008 ♦ STC Meeting Preregistration Deadline — October 17, 2008

Attendee's Name _____

Attendee's Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Attendee's Email Address _____

Attendee's Company Name _____

- STC Member preregistration fee (technical sessions and lunch) - \$50
- STC Member preregistration fee (technical sessions ONLY) - \$25
- Non-STC Member preregistration fee (technical sessions and lunch) - \$65*
- Non-STC Member preregistration fee (technical sessions ONLY) - \$35*
- Non-STC Member (e.g., spouse/guest) preregistration fee (lunch ONLY) - \$41*
- Students (technical sessions and lunch) - \$10
- Registration (after October 17, 2008, or onsite if space or lunch is available) - ADD \$10 to the above fees.
If contemplating onsite purchase of meals, meeting space and meals cannot be guaranteed on the day of the meeting.
- Need a receipt for this meeting
- Need CEU certificate

Mail this preregistration with your check (made payable to the STC-HPS) to arrive before October 17, 2008, to:

STC-HPS Treasurer
David Fogle
Post Office Box 201723
Austin, TX 78720-1723
T: 512-834-6688 x2203

OR...To pay by credit card (Visa®/MasterCard®/AmericanExpress®/Discover®), transmit your credit card number, expiration date, and authorized payment to the STC-HPS Treasurer, before October 17, 2008, choosing one of the following methods:

- Include it on the Meeting Preregistration form
- Email it to David.Fogle@dshs.state.tx.us
- Telephone it to David Fogle at 512-834-6688 x2203

Number _____ Expiration Date _____

Signature _____

Preregistration will close October 17, 2008. If you will not be able to attend the meeting, please call and cancel your reservation **PRIOR TO OCTOBER 17, 2008**. Any reservations **not cancelled by October 17, 2008**, will be regarded as confirmed reservations and funds will be collected for the meeting. Refunds will be honored only for cancellations made before October 17, 2008. Registration fees collected after October 17, 2008, or at the door, if available, will be \$10 extra.

*Nonmembers may select the option of applying for South Texas Chapter-Health Physics Society membership at the meeting and enjoy privileges of membership at future Chapter events.

Accommodations

La Quinta Inn & Suites San Antonio Convention Center

303 Blum ♦ San Antonio, TX 78205 ♦ 210-222-9181 ♦ www.lq.com/lq/properties/propertyProfile.do?ident=LQ501&propld=501

(Easy 2-Minute Access to the Famous San Antonio Riverwalk!)

Hotel Attractions

Located in the heart of downtown, the La Quinta Inn & Suites San Antonio Convention Center is in the middle of all that San Antonio offers: picturesque Riverwalk and historic Alamo, Market Square, the Henry B. Gonzalez Convention Center, Sea World, Six Flags Fiesta Texas, San Antonio Zoo and Botanical Gardens. You will find abundant eateries nearby, and plenty of shopping at Rivercenter and North Star Mall, and the San Marcos Outlet stores.

All rooms are equipped with luxurious pillow top mattresses, free high-speed internet access, microwave, refrigerator, iron & ironing board, coffee maker, oversized work desk, and many more amenities.

Reservation Cut-Off Date

A guest room block of 60 rooms will be held for October 24 and 25, 2008 until **October 3, 2008** or until such time as the block has been filled under the name: South Texas Chapter Health Physics Society. The cost is \$149 per night, or the Government rate if available. Any rooms that are not reserved by the cut-off date shall be released by the hotel for rental to the general public. Additional rooms for the group may be reserved on a space and rate availability basis. The established group guest room rate will not be available after the cut-off date. Check in: anytime after 3 p.m. Check out: by 12 Noon.

Map to La Quinta Inn & Suites San Antonio Convention Center

Directions

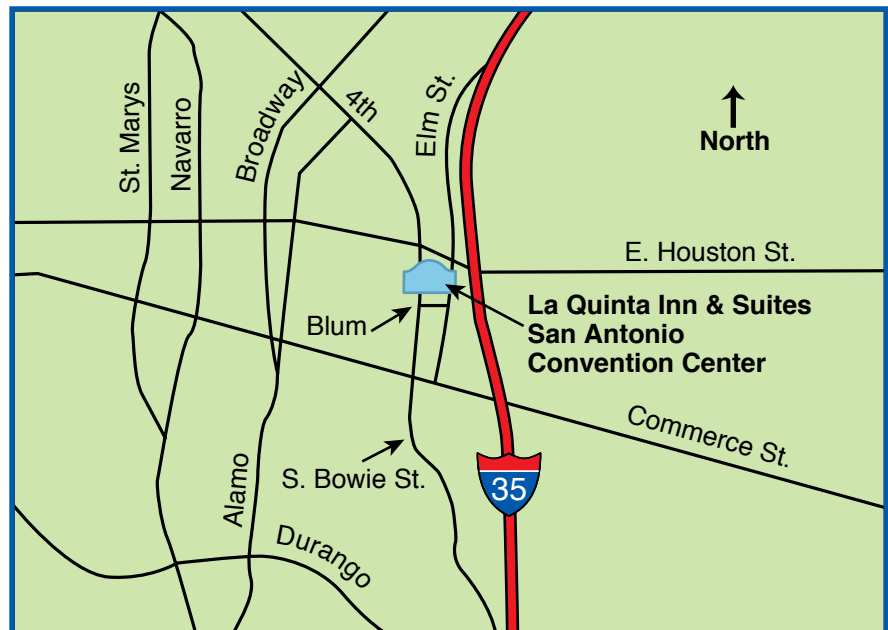
From Austin:

Take I-35 South toward San Antonio. Take Exit 158B toward Corpus Christi to merge onto I-37 South. Take the Exit 141A (Commerce Street) toward downtown San Antonio. Take a slight right onto East Commerce Street. Turn right onto Elm Street. Turn left onto Blum Street. Hotel is at 303 Blum Street.

From Houston:

Take I-10 West toward San Antonio. Merge onto I-410 North via Exit 581. Take Exit 31 (San Antonio/Binz-Engelmann Road) to merge onto I-35 South. From I-35 South, take Exit 158B toward Corpus Christi to merge onto I-37 South. From I-37 South, take Exit 141A (Commerce Street)

toward downtown San Antonio. Take a slight right onto East Commerce Street. Turn right onto Elm Street. Turn left onto Blum Street. Hotel is at 303 Blum Street.



Parking

Free parking is not available. Self parking at \$16 per day or valet parking is available for a nominal fee of \$20 per day (hotel guests). A parking charge of \$8.00 for the Chapter meeting non-hotel guests will apply.

Science Teacher Workshop Program Activities

Volunteer Needed to Store Meters

Al Evans

Since October 2007, three full-day workshops have been conducted: two at American Association of Physics Teachers (AAPT-APS) meetings in College Station (7 students) and Corpus Christi (15 students) and one at the CAST-7 Convention of the Science Teachers' Association of Texas in Austin in November. Thanks are due to Karen Blanchard, Charles Allen, Doug Johnson, Steve Cima, Frank Iddings, Susan Jablonski, Sam Daniel, Jim Sharp, and John Poston as presenters. In addition, an exhibit booth was run for two days at the CAST-7 Convention, and Al Evans and Jim Sharp manned an exhibit table and gave a 1-1/2-hour presentation at a Mini-CAST meeting in Orange, TX.

The response from attendees at the two CAST meetings was disappointing. There have been no requests for workshops from the many hundreds of booth visitors at either event or from the advertisement in the *Texas Science Teacher*. Discussion with some school administrators has led the Workshop Coordinator to believe that some kind of official accreditation by the State would help. Contact with officials of the Texas Education Agency (TEA) has led to submission of an application to be approved as a Continuing Professional Education (CPE) provider. Discussion with TEA officials indicates that we can expect approval shortly.

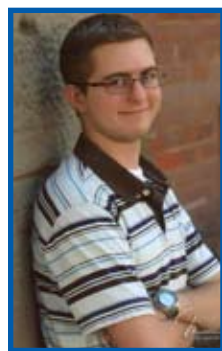
Care, maintenance, and storage of the "CDV-700" Geiger counters, which we give to Workshop participants, have been a continuing problem. We are grateful to Carl Kee and the KI4U organization for their at-cost service of repair and calibration of the instruments. However, we are now in a position of having instruments scattered among several sites as a result of lost people and storage areas. We need to set up a tracking system to better account for the instruments. A volunteer to take on this task would be most appreciated.

For photos from the HPS STW in Corpus Christi, go to www.stc-hps.org/photos.htm ♦

Dear Mrs. Morris

I was first interested in radiation when my dad sent me an email about a lady who rode her bike through Chernobyl. I found the story intriguing, but I found the instrument that she used to measure the radiation levels more interesting. I hadn't heard of a Geiger counter before, so I did some quick research on radiation and saw where I could buy one. I finally convinced my dad to let me buy one, and since then my interest has grown.

The next year, I did a science project on radioactive lantern mantles and made it to the State Science Fair, where I was first acquainted with the Health Physics Society (HPS). I went to my first meeting that August, and Mrs. Linda Morris and Mr. Roy Craft along, with many of the South Texas Chapter (STC) members, were there. I was really excited about meeting people who actually worked in a field that I was interested in. It was then that I decided I wanted to go into the nuclear sciences.



The following year, I did a project on radiation hormesis in bean plants and had a lot of help from Mrs. Morris and a hospital that irradiated the seeds for me. Then the next year, I did a project on fallout absorption values from a nuclear detonation. I received a lot of help from Mr. Craft who became my radiation safety officer and arranged a temporary x-ray license for my project. Canberra also let me use an advance multichannel analyzer for the project.

I'm very grateful for my family, especially my parents, who have allowed me to pursue my interests in radiation. My grandparents and brother also have been very supportive, and my grandpa, who used to work for Southwestern Bell Company, gave me important advice on how to be safe when working with dangerous materials.

I'm currently studying radiological health engineering at Texas A&M University. I'm hoping to eventually get a Ph.D. and to work on radiopharmaceuticals or at a nuclear power plant. The biggest influence on my decision to study health physics has been the HPS. I've enjoyed all the STC meetings that I've gone to. My family and I are very grateful for the friendliness of everyone we've met at the meetings. After working with Mr. Craft, I decided that I would rather be a health physicist than a nuclear engineer. Mr. Craft along with Mrs. Morris and everyone else in the STC-HPS have strongly encouraged me to become a health physicist. I hope to be able to help the HPS in the future, especially because of the impact its members have had on my life so far.

Thanks, Philip Pierce

Science Fair *continued from page 1.*

Senior Division, composed of projects from 9th through 12th grade students, the winner was Tyler Harrison, a junior at Vista Ridge High School of Cedar Park. Tyler's project was titled, "Design of a Commercial Solar Exposure Monitor."

During the second week of April, Tyler's project was displayed at the ExxonMobil State Science and Engineering Fair in San Antonio. Harrison garnered a U.S. Navy award and a UT-Arlington Scholarship award during the statewide event. The STC

was honored to host Tyler and his parents at the Annual Meeting in Waco. Hopefully, they had a good time during their introduction to the STC, and members had an opportunity to meet and talk with Tyler and his parents. ♦

SOUTH TEXAS CHAPTER - HEALTH PHYSICS SOCIETY—2008 AFFILIATE ROSTER

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: admin@alphaneutronics.com*)

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Advanced Measurement Technology, Inc. (Ortec)

Barry Wilson
7820 Enchanted Hills Blvd
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NOTIFY **Stan Bravenec** AT:

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*Each time you
read your
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think of your
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Texas State Technical College

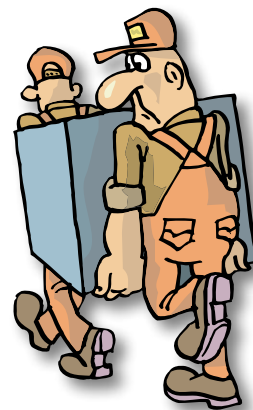
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NOTIFY **Pete Myers** AT:

Pete.Myers6@sbcglobal.net

South Texas Chapter - Health Physics Society Member Renewal/Application

Form Available Online at www.stc-hps.org

Please print – This information is used for mailing labels and directory listing.

Name _____ Title _____
(First Middle or Initial-Optional Last) (PhD, MS, CHP, NRRPT, etc.)

RENEWALS: Check and update your CONTACT information in the STC online directory at www.hpschapters.org/stc/login.php3. Then submit this form with just your name, payment, and other choices below and sign here

(New applying members, please complete the entire form)

Business Name _____ Dept. or Apt.# _____
(Dept. for Bus./Apt.# for home address)

Provide business name and check if address given is ___ Bus. or ___ Home

Street _____ City _____

State _____ Zip _____ Omit address from Directory

Phone _____ Type ___ Bus. ___ Home ___ Mobile ___ Omit from Directory

Fax _____ Type ___ Bus. ___ Home ___ Omit from Directory

Email _____ Omit from Directory

Alternate Email _____ Not for Directory, only to be used by STC if primary email fails

- Yes, I am a National HPS member.
- Yes, I am a Certified Health Physicist.
- Yes, I am a Registered Radiation Protection Technologist.
- Other _____

I only want *The Billet* electronically
THIS INFORMATION CAN BE UPDATED ONLINE

Please check the STC-HPS committee(s) on which you would like to actively serve.

- Nominating
- Meeting Program
- Admissions (Membership)
- Publications
- Legislation
- Public Relations
- Affiliate
- Other/Ad Hoc
- Student Assistance
- Science Teacher Workshop

Enclosed is my check # _____ made payable to the STC-HPS for the following:

STC-HPS dues for the year:

Regular membership:	\$10/yr × _____ Years	= \$ _____	
Student membership:	\$ 5/yr × _____ Years	= \$ _____	
Student Scholarship Fund Donation (tax deductible)		= \$ _____	
Science Teachers Workshop Donation (tax deductible)		= \$ _____	
Total Enclosed		= \$ _____	

Please mail this form with your check or money order to:

Pete Myers
STC-HPS
Post Office Box 201723
Austin, TX 78720-1723

To pay by credit card (Visa®/MasterCard®/AmericanExpress®/Discover®), transmit your credit card number, expiration date, and authorized payment to the STC-HPS Treasurer, choosing one of the following methods:

- Include it on the Member Renewal/Application form
- Email it to Pete.Myers6@sbcglobal.net
- Telephone it to Pete Myers at 512-301-1182

Number _____ Expiration Date _____

Signature _____

South Texas Chapter - Health Physics Society Affiliate Renewal/Application

Forms Available Online

Affiliate Contact Person (One Free Individual Membership):

Please print – This information is used for mailing labels and directory listing, and will appear in The Billet and on the chapter web site at www.stc-hps.org

Company Name _____

Contact _____

Mailing Address _____

Street Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Work _____ Fax _____

Email _____

Company Web Site _____

Alternate Contact Person (Optional):

Company Name _____

Contact _____

Mailing Address _____

Street Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Work _____ Fax _____

Email _____

Affiliate Annual Membership Dues \$150.00

Chapter President Jay Poston extends a personal invitation to you to become (or remain) a chapter affiliate member and participate in the Annual Affiliates Fair as well as all activities of the chapter throughout the year.

Affiliate membership includes an advertisement in the STC-HPS Membership Directory, exhibit space at the Affiliates Fair, one individual chapter membership, a company web site link from the STC-HPS web site, and a listing on the Affiliate Membership Roster printed in all issues of *The Billet* (an STC-HPS quarterly newsletter).

Make check payable to STC-HPS or transmit credit card information David Fogle, Treasurer.

Mail completed form and payment to:

David Fogle
STC-HPS
Post Office Box 201723
Austin, TX 78720-1723
E: David.Fogle@dshs.state.tx.us
T: 512-834-6688 x2203
F: 512-834-6690

Direct any Affiliate-related questions, comments,
or address corrections to:

Andrew Pitts
STC-HPS Affiliates Committee Chair
Alpha Neutronics, Inc.
11534 Trickey Road
Houston, TX 77067-3406
E: admin@alphaneutronics.com
T: 281-872-0075



Health Physics Society
South Texas Chapter
P.O. Drawer 28510
San Antonio, TX 78228-0510
ATTN: John Hageman
STCEditor@swri.org

Check www.stc-hps.org for a color copy of *The Billet*.

Future Meetings & Deadlines

Date	Location	Topic	Deadline for <i>The Billet</i>
October 24–25, 2008	San Antonio, TX	Affiliates Fair & STC Local Arrangements Committee Meeting for the 2009 HPS Midyear Symposium	August 21, 2008
January 31–February 3, 2009	San Antonio, TX	HPS Midyear Symposium	NA
July 12–16, 2009	Minneapolis, MN	National HPS 54th Annual Meeting	NA

Krysie Tack and Laura Strban, both in the Radiological Sciences Ph.D. Program at the UT Health Science Center at San Antonio, are given an Award for their presentations at the April 5, 2008, STC-HPS meeting in Waco. Michael A. Charlton, presented the checks for \$100 each.



*Our student programs
... are funded by our
Affiliates!!!*