

# NCCHPS

The Newsletter of the Northern California Chapter of the Health Physics Society  
March 2009



## **Our March NCCHPS Meeting**

**Thursday, March 19, 2009**  
**Pasta's Trattoria, Pleasanton**

**6 pm-Social Hour**  
**7 pm-Dinner**  
**8 pm-Presentation**



### **Presentation Topic:**

#### **Will They Ever Learn? The Public Education Game**

We as health physicists have much at stake in the public education arena. In spite of our efforts, the public has been slow to warm to the use of radiation and radioactive material, except perhaps for some medical applications. Recently we are beginning to see a trend toward greater acceptance of nuclear power, driven largely by the exorbitant cost of oil. Now may be the time to strike with the maximum use of available resources to educate the public about radiation risks. The specter of terrorist attacks using radiological or nuclear weapons resulted in a great dissemination of knowledge about radiation to emergency response personnel around the country. The further prospects of a nuclear power renaissance should produce a thirst for additional knowledge by many other stakeholders.

The Health Physics Society is well-postured to deliver credible, scientifically accurate information that the public seeks. We have made great strides in improving our responsiveness to educational gaps/needs through several current initiatives such as the Radiation Primer. Your voluntary participation at both the national and the chapter levels will make a huge difference in just how successful we will be over the next few years.

### **About the Speaker:**

H. W. Dickson, MS, CHP, CIH, CSP

Recently retired from EG&G Technical Services, Inc., Howard Dickson received his MS in physics from the University of Tennessee in 1967. He spent the first part of his career in Oak Ridge, working first at Oak Ridge Associated Universities, then at Oak Ridge Nat Lab in both research and operational health physics, and finally with Bechtel Construction where he became Vice President (VP) of Health Services. His next duty station was with EG&G/RECo at the Nevada Test Site where he was Deputy General Manager and Sr. VP. After a brief stint at Livermore Nat Lab, Howard completed his career as VP with EG&G supporting their homeland security business line. He and his wife Rita live in Tampa and currently enjoy spending quality time with their 4 children and 2 grandsons.

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## STIMULUS PACKAGE FOR THE MOYER FUND PROVIDED BY THE SIERRA NEVADA CHAPTER - by Charles Schmidt



Sierra-Nevada Chapter Members (left to right) Linda Kroger, Jennifer Granger, Past President Jim Case, and President Elect Marcia Hartman.

The Sierra Nevada Chapter, HPS, has made a generous donation of \$1000 to us for the Moyer fellowship. Marcia Hartman, that chapter's president-elect, writes:

“The Sierra Nevada Chapter enjoys a warm and collegial relationship with the Northern California Chapter which includes the sponsorship of the J. Newell Stannard Lecture Series every spring. Our chapter has a keen interest to support the education of our future health physicists. It seemed an excellent avenue for making good use of money saved from annual meetings and membership fees. We are happy to contribute to the Burton J. Moyer Memorial Fellowship.”

This financial support is particularly appreciated at this time, given the investment status [i.e. decrease] of the fellowship endowment. We do have sufficient cash assets to fulfill our annual obligation of \$4000 to the fellowship for several years. Additional donations, however small, from our own chapter members will help ensure that the fellowship continues far into the future.

*The Sierra-Nevada Chapter also hosts the annual Stannard Lecture Series on March 20. Learn more about the upcoming Stannard Lectures in this issue.*

*To find out more about the Sierra-Nevada Chapter, visit their website:*

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

# NCCHPS



## *President's Message*

We have created this NCCHPS family and during these difficult times let's remember one thing: not everybody is as lucky as we are. Let's extend our arms and support not only to our chapter members but also to our technical community. A few of our colleagues are struggling to survive. Either they lost their jobs, family members, financial crises, etc...

Let's help them. Let's find a way to communicate their needs back to the members. This is really important. Doing something no matter how small would be very rewarding for all of us. Let's remind ourselves of the purpose of our chapter's existence in first place. We are there for each other, you'd better believe that.

As we progress into this new chapter year and going forward with the new Chapter officers to be elected in the spring of 2009, my goal is to create more outreach opportunities. As we move forward, I encourage each of you to provide your thoughts on where we have been, and how far we should go in growing our Chapter. Society growth is very important — not just for the organization to continue as it is, but for the chapter members, educators and students as well.

In this new chapter year we have a lot to do together. It is a great pleasure for me to work as your chapter president.

*Steven N. Bakhtiar, Ph.D.*  
*NCCHPS President*

# NCCCHPS



**Seventeenth Annual J. Newell Stannard Lecture Series**  
**Courtyard by Marriot Hotel, Sacramento**  
**March 20, 2009**

Dear Members and Friends of the Northern California Chapter of the Health Physics Society,

Once again, the Sierra Nevada and Northern California Chapters of the Health Physics Society are joining forces to hold the Seventeenth Annual J. Newell Stannard Lecture Series. We will be holding the meeting at the Courtyard by Marriott in Sacramento, CA on Friday, March 20, 2009.

Similar to the way we organized recent meetings, after the vendor sponsored lunch, we are scheduling a block of time to allow the attendees to view the vendor displays and discuss products with them. We will also be holding the Sponsor Raffle at the end of the day. You must be present to win!

We hope you can join us this year for what we believe will be a very stimulating day of informative talks. If you would like to attend, we need your completed registration form and check by March 6. Instructions for mailing in the registration form are on the form. Forms are available at the Sierra Nevada Chapter website:

<http://hpschapters.org/snv/meetings.php3>

Thank you and I look forward to seeing you in March.

Linda Kroger, Sierra-Nevada Chapter, HPS



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## 2009 NCCHPS Meeting Dates:

March 19, 2009  
Pasta's Trattoria,  
Pleasanton

March 20, 2009  
J. Newell Stannard  
Lectures with Sierra-  
Nevada Chapter, HPS  
Courtyard by Marriot,  
Sacramento

May 21, 2009  
Affiliate's Night

Direct input for our next  
newsletter to:

Warren TenBrook  
tenbrook1@lnl.gov  
925-423-1470

NCCHPS  
c/o Warren TenBrook  
Lawrence Livermore  
National Laboratory  
P.O. Box 808, L-628  
Livermore, CA 94550

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

## Upcoming NCCHPS Meetings!

**Thursday, March 19, 2009**  
**Pasta's Trattoria**  
405 Main Street Pleasanton, CA 94566  
Phone: (925) 417-2222

Parking is available behind the restaurant.

**Deadline: Please register by March 14, 2009 online.**

### **Dinner Selections:**

Mista Salad: Mixed Greens

### Entrées:

Butternut Squash Ravioli: Mushrooms, spinach, walnuts in  
a light cream sauce

Chicken Parmesan: Breaded chicken, melted mozzarella,  
tomato basil sauce over angel hair pasta

Lobster Ravioli with Prawns: Sun dried tomatoes, mush-  
rooms, snow peas, basil in a sherry cream sauce

Dessert - Zabaglione House made Italian custard, fresh ber-  
ries, whipped cream

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NCCHPS members - \$30 (\$35 at the door)

Members' spouses - \$35

Students - \$10

Non-NCCHPS members - \$45

**Register for dinner ONLINE at**

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

**Only online registrations will be accepted. Contact  
Jesse Hendricks ONLY if you encounter problems  
with online registration: [jhendricks@berkeley.edu](mailto:jhendricks@berkeley.edu)**

## 2008-2009 NCCHPS Board Members:

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Steven N. Bakhtiar, Ph.D.  
Phone (925) 876-8921  
[Steven.Bakhtiar@inl.gov](mailto:Steven.Bakhtiar@inl.gov)

**President-Elect**  
Dawn Banghart, CHP  
Phone: (650) 725-1407  
[dawnb@stanford.edu](mailto:dawnb@stanford.edu)

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RRPT  
Phone: (831) 459-3911  
[johnppas@ucsc.edu](mailto:johnppas@ucsc.edu)

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[lach@gene.com](mailto:lach@gene.com)

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[jhendricks@berkeley.edu](mailto:jhendricks@berkeley.edu)

**Member at Large**  
Ed W. Bradley, CHP  
Phone: (925) 422-7357  
[bradley25@lnl.gov](mailto:bradley25@lnl.gov)

**Member at Large**  
Melissa C. Mannion  
Phone: (510) 235-2633 Ext.  
264  
[mmannion@eberlineser-  
vices.com](mailto:mmannion@eberlineser-<br/>vices.com)