A Message From The President By Bill Byrum

It’s hard to believe but we’ve already completed our fall meeting and starting to look forward to the spring meeting next year. Our chapter is lucky to have a good membership base and support by our affiliate members (our vendors) to enable us to keep moving forward with our meetings and activities.

Speaking of the fall meeting, it was in a great location and it was well attended. Hats Off to David Howell and especially Bob Emery for a great program. We were able to hear about some topics that affect us but that we don’t often place enough emphasis on. If you do not routinely attend the meetings, I urge to consider them in the future. We have strived to obtain good speakers and select topics that will benefit you in your profession as a Health Physicist. Not to forget, we have been fortunate to obtain approval from the AAHP for more than the normal amount of Continuing Education Credits because of the quality and strength of our meeting programs.

I attended the Annual HPS meeting in Salt Lake City this year. While there, Laura Pring, David Howell and I attended a chapter leadership training session. The information presented covered a wide range of topics from meeting structure to all of the support that is available from the national society. It was informative and gave me a much better understanding of the links between the national society and the chapters. Laura and I also represented the chapter at the Chapter Council meeting chaired by the HPS President Ed Maher. During the Chapter Council meeting our chapter was recognized as being a good model for others to follow with respect to membership, meeting programs, and meeting attendance. The chapter was well represented at the Annual Awards banquet held on Tuesday evening. During the awards program, Laura accepted on behalf of Betty Watson the Honor Roll Award, presented to recognize posthumously Dr. James Watson for his accomplishments and contributions to the profession.

I look forward to this year and urge all of you to get involved with the chapter activities. We need each and every member to be willing to contribute keep our chapter strong and keep us progressing.

NCHPS Spring Meeting, Chapel Hill, NC
March 3rd and 4th 2011
Save the dates!
Dr. James E. Watson Honored by Health Physics Society

Dr. James E. Watson, Jr., was selected as one of the initial selections to the Honor Roll of the Health Physics Society. This award is intended to recognize deceased members of the Society who made significant contributions to the field of health physics, but were not otherwise honored by the Society during their lifetimes.

The announcement of this honor took place at the annual Awards Banquet on Tuesday evening, June 29, 2010, in the Salt Palace Convention Center ballroom, during the HPS annual meeting in Salt Lake City. Laura Pring accepted the award on behalf of Dr. Betty Watson.
The fall meeting of the North Carolina Chapter was held September 9th and 10th in Asheville, North Carolina. The meeting was well attended with a good number of personnel from the Research Triangle Park, Charlotte and our state regulatory agency, North Carolina Radiation Protection Section. The meeting was preceded on Thursday morning with a two-hour PEP session on basics of risk management and insurance and a two-hour PEP session on basics of fire and life safety; both were conducted by Robert (Bob) Emery from the University of Texas Health Science Center in Houston. Bob’s sessions were well-received and sparked interest among the attendees regarding other aspects of their work environments.

Prior to the beginning of the Thursday afternoon program, a moment of silence was held for Robert (Robbie) Griffin Prevette Jr. Robbie died in a motorcycle accident in Greensboro on September 4th. He was a former Senior Medical Physicist (ProPhysics Innovations), Owner and Senior Physicist (Raytek, Inc.), Radiation Safety Officer (AKZO Pharma), Associate Radiation Safety Officer (UNC), Radiological Technologist (UNC Hospital) and attained Undergraduate and Master’s degrees from UNC. Robbie leaves behind three sons: Gray (fiancée Stefani LaHaie), Marty and Sam; Robbie’s wife Sylvia Leigh Cottrell preceded him in death.

The afternoon program began with Bob Emery presenting material on security for radiation safety professionals as well as the basics of biological and chemical safety. At the close of Bob's presentations, an Executive Council meeting was held.

The Thursday evening meal featured a presentation by health physicist and author Dr. Armin Ansari from the Center for Disease Control and Prevention in Atlanta, Georgia. Dr. Ansari’s topic was “Public Health Response to Radiation Emergencies: Population Monitoring and How Radiation Volunteers Can Help.” Dr. Ansari spoke for about an hour and gave an excellent overview on the country’s efforts to mitigate the effects of a radiological incident. As a bonus, past, current (and hopefully future) TOREV members (Team of Radiological Emergency Volunteers) received an autographed copy of Dr. Ansari’s recently released book “Radiation Threats and Your Safety.” A special attendee was also at the dinner talk: Dr. Kenneth Wheeler, professor emeritus at Wake Forest University Health Sciences, who served as Dr. Ansari’s faculty research advisor in the mid-1980s.

Friday’s session began with a presentation by Bob Emery on measuring and displaying radiation protection metrics that matter to management; Bob’s enthusiasm and sense of humor during this presentation was evident by crowd response: laughter, interest and several questions. The next presentation was by Lee Cox from the North Carolina Radiation Protection Section: updates on the new 10 CFR 37 and regulatory changes at the state. Lee’s slides and Q&A session proved valuable to the many licensees, registrants and consultants in the audience. The final presentation by Chris Martel of Brigham and Women’s Hospital in Boston addressed tracking and follow-up of fluoroscopic patient doses at a large urban hospital. This talk was beneficial to me professionally as I have been tasked with determining patient doses from rotational fluoroscopy for an upcoming study. The data and information presented will prove valuable.

Twelve exhibitors supported the meeting with booths and provided door prizes, trinkets, and helpful information regarding their products to the attendees.

Current plans are to hold the spring 2011 meeting at the Friday Center in Chapel Hill on March 3rd and 4th; an invitation will be extended to Kathryn Pryor (President-Elect of the Health Physics Society) of Pacific Northwest National Laboratory.
Remember Dale Dusenbury -- By Felix Fong

When Susan Pope called me in Los Angeles with the news that Dale had passed away, it was an unbelievable and tremendous shock. It had only been about three months since I last saw him at my retirement party. Dale had been such a great friend and great colleague to me for so many years. Dale, I will miss you so very, very much....Dale, I need your input on our Cold-Fusion discussion and I need us to continue our argument about the new model of dose projection....

It seems like just yesterday that Dale joined the RPS as a Technician in our Environmental Radiation Surveillance Program, right after he received his Bachelor of Science degree from the Physics Department at NCSU in 1984. Starting from the very beginning of his career with the NCRPS, he liked the public service oriented mission of our program, and he loved the technical challenges of the job. He always worked diligently, consistently studying through all available sources and channels. Because of his wholehearted devotion to the job and his pleasant personality, he easily gained the respect and admiration from all kinds of people working with him, including people from the nuclear utility company, Federal, State and local Government, as well as ordinary citizens all over the State. Dale had worked for the NCRPS continually for 26 years. He never tried to leave NCRPS. Indisputably, he had become one of the most experienced and knowledgeable professionals in the field of Environmental Radiation Surveillance and Radiological Emergency Planning in our State. The State has lost a great and truly dedicated worker.

Dale was a trustworthy, hardworking and loyal employee: He always accepted any assignment without complaint. He would complete the job in a very short period of time. Most of time, he would attach a report of the assignment with details of his research. He worked hard regardless of how difficult or how dirty the job was. He could go into the mud to get sewage samples; he would walk through thick bushes to collect a TLD badge on the utility pole. He stayed working in the lab area for days and months in order to test some operational procedures of some nuclear instrument. The Ra-226 system we have had in the State Radiation Laboratory now was a product mostly contributed to by Dale’s research. He had generated a tremendous number of instructional slides for presentation use in the fields of radiological emergency sampling, counting room equipment calibration, radiological dose projection and many special topics for radon gas presentation to the public. During his employment with the RPS in the early 1990’s, he enrolled in the Radiological Hygiene program at UNC-Chapel Hill with Dr. James Watson, heading to Chapel Hill for course work and research after working for a period of 3 or 4 years. Eventually, Dale earned his Master Degree from UNC. A few years later, he was certified to be a health physicist by the National Health Physics Society. With all these qualifications, he still never tried to leave the NCRPS or move to a job with a higher paying salary. Dale was really a loyal employee to the State!

Dale was a nice Southern Gentleman: He always treated people with such politeness. He loved to help people regardless if you were his coworkers, colleague or just an ordinary citizen. He never said “No” to your request. He would wholeheartedly try to look for solution to your request.

Dale was a perfect family person with the highest moral character: He was a very religious person. He never drank or smoked. He always felt proud of his family. He told me a lot of good things about his wife, Kim, and his four children. He told me that he was really appreciated what Kim did for the family. He wanted to set a high standard of his family. He always treated people with such politeness. He loved to help people regardless if you were his coworkers, colleague or just an ordinary citizen. He never said “No” to your request. He would wholeheartedly try to look for solution to your request.

Dale was a new-knowledge seeker: Dale never quit trying to acquire new technology and scientific knowledge. He always wanted to improve himself by being a multi-faceted scholar. His span of interests was very wide—not only limited to scientific knowledge, but also to the political and social sciences as well. Dr. Wayne Dyer was one of his inspirational mentors and I remember his thoughtful recommendation to me to read Dr. Dyer’s book, especially about the intelligent designer of the creator of the Universe. I much enjoy and remember our discussion on theoretical physics topics such as the uncertainty principle, cold fusion, black holes... etc.

Dale was a quiet but humorous person: Dale didn’t talk too much in our group. He didn’t say too many jokes either, but when he talked, most of what he came up was funny and humorous. He loved to write poems. He would write amusing poems to any employee who was leaving or retiring from our program. He knew how to engage people. He always asked me about the history of China. He told me that the China trip including Hong Kong and Xian he made in the 1990’s was the most memorable trip he had ever made. He said he loved Chinese culture, especially Chinese food.

We lost a great friend, a great mentor, and a great scientist. Dale, you are still living in our heart, forever. We will always remember you.

---

Executive Council 2010-2011

President- Bill Byrum
704-875-5811  
wbbyrum@duke-energy.com

President-elect- David Howell
336-716-1202 
dhowell@wfubmc.edu

Secretary- J. Marion Eddy III
800-835-3615 
marion@prophysics.com

Treasurer- Todd Becker
919-515-2895 (W) 
Todd_becker@ncsu.edu

Council person- Jonathan Moore
919-962-5713 (W)  
jdmoore@ehs.unc.edu

Council person- Eric Roberts
704-537-8503 
ericrobe@bellsouth.net

Council person- Lance Loucks
704-875-4674 (W) 
LELoucks@duke-energy.com

Committees

Program– President Elect
Public Info/ Education– TBA
Nominating– Past President
Newsletter Editor- Wendy Woehr
919-668-3155 (W)  
wendy.woehr@duke.edu

Membership– John McLamb
919-541-4235 (W) 
mclamb@niehs.nih.gov

Public Issues– David Lee
919-791-4203 (W) 
David.lee@ncdenr.gov

TOREY– Gerald Wicks
919-515-4601 
wicks@ncsu.edu

Student Paper- Amy Orders
919-515-5208 
Amy_orders@ncsu.edu

Adjunct Members/Appointees

Science Teacher Workshop- Dale Dusenbury, Jr
919-571-4141 
Dale.duesenbury@ncdenr.gov

Survey Meter Custodian– Jonathan Moore
919-962-5713 (W) 
jdmoore@ehs.unc.edu

HPS/Chapter Liaison-Terry Yoshizumi
919-668-3188 (W) 
yoshiz@mc.duke.edu

Historian- Marion Eaddy III
800-835-3615 
marion@prophysics.com
Bernard Daly “Dale” Dusenbury, Jr. died September 14, 2010 at his home in Raleigh, North Carolina. Dale was a long standing member of the North Carolina Chapter of the Health Physics Society for over 20 years. He was a very active Chapter member; serving on the Science Teacher Workshop, Team of Radiological Emergency Volunteers (TOREV) and Public Information/Education Committees, in addition to providing numerous presentations for Chapter meetings. Dale was also a member of the National Health Physics Society for over 17 years.

Dale was a graduate of both North Carolina State University and the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Dale worked for the North Carolina Radiation Protection Section in various roles over his 26 year tenure. His expertise included Environmental Surveillance, Radon Monitoring and Emergency Preparedness. Within the Section, he was a Branch Manager and most recently an Environmental Program Consultant.

Dale loved the intricate details of his work. He was ever mindful of how things should proceed and very thorough in assuring that things were carried out as they should be. His attention to detail and commitment as a public servant provided a valuable service to the State of North Carolina.

Dale was a devout Christian, husband and father, who loved to sing hymns, reference scripture, and share his thoughts about life’s joys, twists, and turns to those around him. He was an active member and Deacon of Calvary Presbyterian Church in Raleigh.

Dale is survived by his wife of 18 years, Kimberly J. Dusenbury; sons, James and Aaron; daughters, Courtney and Anna; brothers, Julian D. Dusenbury II and his wife, Bonnie of Laurel, MD; and Rhett Dusenbury and his wife, Cristin of Mooresville, NC; uncle, Richard Dusenbury and his wife, Susan of Florence, SC; aunts, Martha Dusenbury of Columbia, SC; and Hazelbelle White of Rocky Mount; and numerous cousins.
Science Teacher Workshop by Roger Sit

The North Carolina Science Teachers Association will be holding its 41st annual Professional Development Institute on November 11 and 12th in the Joseph S. Khoury Convention Center in Greensboro, NC. The NCHPS will again share booth space with the NC State College of Engineering and the NCSU Department of Nuclear Engineering in the exhibition area. Thanks to Dale Dusenbury who had already laid the groundwork for this relationship this year prior to his unfortunate passing. NCHPS will give away radiation detectors and the “Understanding Radiation Resource Kits” during the first day of the conference. UNC Chapel Hill now stores all the supply of radiation survey meters and “Understanding Radiation Resource Kits.” Thanks to Bill Fitzgerald and John McLamb who had stored these supplies at the NIEHS until this past summer when it was transferred to UNC-CH. Thanks to Jonathan Moore who is now the official Survey Meter Custodian for the NCHPS.

The “Our Nuclear World” workshop which is annually given in conjunction with Lisa Marshall of the NCSU Department of Nuclear Engineering has also been accepted by the conference to be presented; but; at the writing of this article, the presentation date and time has not yet been scheduled. If you are interested in manning the booth for NCHPS or giving the workshop, please contact me at rsit@unc.edu. I can tell you from experience that teachers love getting free survey meters and the resource kits. This year, the survey meters will not be part of goody bags given out as part of a drawing. They will be given out at the booth, as the meters are plentiful.

TOREV Update by Gerry Wicks

The Team of Radiological Emergency Volunteers (TOREV) serves to assist and augment the State of NC Radiation Protection Section in response to radiological emergencies. TOREV was re-initiated as part of the NCHPS in early 2010. Recently, many TOREV members served as observers in various positions in the State Emergency Response Team center in Raleigh and in the field near Southport for the Brunswick nuclear power plant exercise conducted on 31 Aug 2010. Participation of TOREV in future exercises is being planned.

If you would like to join TOREV, more information and an on-line membership application is available at www.nchps.org under the link “Come be a Part of TOREV!” Please contact Gerry Wicks at wicks@ncsu.edu or 919-515-4601 for more information and questions. Your participation as a volunteer will be appreciated!

Student Paper Competitions

1) High school students enrolled in Earth Science, Chemistry, Physics or Environmental Sciences class. Original answers to the question, “What is ionizing radiation?” should be 300 words or less; original entries will not be returned to the student or teacher; illegible entries will be disqualified (types entries are recommended); Citations/references required

2) Undergraduate, graduate, and post-doctorate students who are currently enrolled in an accredited institution of higher education and performing research. The competition is an oral presentation on any subject applicable to the field of health physics, radiological health or bio-radiological health. The student may report on completed original research or works in progress.

How To Enter:
Submit an essay (HS Students) or abstract of the paper or project:
- NC HPS Student Essay Competition
- C/O Amy Orders
- NC State University
- 2620 Wolf Village Way CB 8007
- Raleigh, NC 27695-8007
- OR email in a Word document, PowerPoint or PDF file to amy_orders@ncsu.edu

For more details, check out our website: http://hpschapters.org/northcarolina/index.php3
Welcome New NCHPS Members!!!

Rathnayaka Gunasingha
Cyndi Martinec
If you wish to contribute to the Chapter newsletter, please contact Wendy Woehr at 919-668-3155 or wendy.woehr@duke.edu

http://hpschapters.org/northcarolina/newsletter.php3

The newsletter is a publication of the North Carolina Chapter of the Health Physics Society