

# Avalanche

The official newsletter of the  
*Cascade Chapter* of the Health Physics Society

**Fall 2007 Issue**

## President's Corner

It was a great meeting in Portland this past summer. According to HPS national, this was one of the most successful annual meetings in recent memory with 1435 individuals attending the meeting. I would like to extend my thanks to everyone involved in putting this together and extend a special thanks to both Jennifer Johnson and Janet Franco for being the co-chairs of the Local Arrangements Committee.

It's not over for Portland just yet. TOPOFF 4, a national disaster preparedness drill, will be conducted in Portland, OR, Phoenix and Guam from October 15 – 19, 2007. The Portland site will be drilling a dirty bomb event with actual receipt of victims at area hospitals along with performing assessment and decontamination. The radiation protection staff for the State of Oregon will act as the primary consultants regarding the radiological aspects of this drill. I have received a request from the State of Oregon regarding the possibility of utilizing the expertise of the members of the HPS local chapter. This is to provide assistance to volunteer aid agencies (e.g. Red Cross) with radiological monitoring and in minimizing contamination in their operations centers. I have indicated to the State of Oregon that providing this type of assistance is something that the HPS can and would do. This is of course on a volunteer basis. I just wanted to get the word out. There are currently no specific plans to "call up" HPS members to man Red Cross posts for this drill, but this is something the State of Oregon has discussed as a possibility in a real event. CCHPS will be inviting the State of Oregon to speak at our upcoming winter meeting to talk about the drill.

Finally, you may have notice the emphasis on waste at this meeting. A number of us in Washington have had radiologically contaminated waste returned to our facilities in the past few months. This is always a subject of interest to the membership especially with Barnwell shutting down, the recent CRCPD program for disposal of unwanted sources and of course the ever rising cost of waste disposal. We have three speakers who will be able to address some of these questions and provide some guidance for this issue.

Thanks again to everyone for pulling together for such a great annual meeting and I'm looking forward to getting back to the normal routine again.

## CCHPS Dues for 2008

We are now accepting payments for 2008 dues. The cost is still just \$15. Benefits of membership include lowered cost of meetings, professional contacts, the *Avalanche* newsletter, and association with really great people. Dues can be paid at the next meeting, or sent to the Secretary. In order to keep the CCHPS membership database up to date, please fill out an application and submit it with your payment.

Just as a reminder, we now have group membership available for large organizations. The cost is \$45 per year, which covers 5 people. Each person gets a subscription to the *Avalanche* and two free meetings (lunch is not included). For more information regarding group membership, please contact the chapter secretary.

## 2008 Elections

The offices open for the 2008 election are Secretary and President-Elect. The Nominating Committee will be announced at the fall chapter meeting, and the ballot will be sent out sometime in the spring. If you are interested in running for one of these offices, you can talk to a member of the nominating committee, or you can contact the chapter secretary, who will forward your information to the committee.

## Meeting Ideas

Do you have a project or topic that you would like to present at one of our meetings? Do you know someone who does? We are always looking for people to talk about health physics or radiation protection topics. If you or someone you know would be willing to speak at one of our meetings, please contact the chapter secretary.

As a thank you for presenting, the chapter will pay for your lunch, and of course you will not have to pay the meeting cost either.

## 2007 CCHPS Fall Meeting

The 2007 CCHPS Fall meeting will be held **Friday November 9<sup>th</sup>, 2007** at the Red Lion Hotel in Olympia, WA. The cost of the meeting is \$10 for members and \$15 for non-members. Lunch is \$20, but lunch and the meeting is only \$25 for members and \$30 for non-members. Please RSVP with the chapter secretary by **October 24<sup>th</sup>, 2007**.

### Agenda

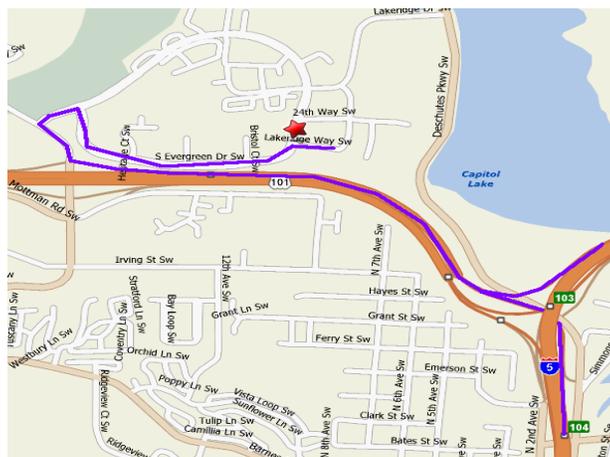
- 9:30 Registration
- 9:30 Executive Committee meeting
- 10:15 Chapter Business Meeting
  - Treasurers report
  - New business
  - Old Business
- 11:00 Presentation – Vicky Dix (State of Washington DOH) – *“Medical Waste Processing & Transportation Issues; A Dialogue of Where We Are and What Works”*
- 12:00 Lunch
- 1:00 Presentation – Louie Cueva (Thomas Gray and Associates, Inc.) – *“Radioactive Waste - the Future, Options, Consolidations and Closures”*
- 2:00 Presentation – Joseph Skovron (Northwest Radiation Services, Inc.) – *“Local Happenings - Biowaste and radioactive contamination”*

### Directions to the meeting:

From I-5 (both North and South):

- Take exit #104, US Highway 101.
- Take first exit, Crosby Blvd/Cooper Point Road.
- Off the exit turn right on Cooper Point Road.
- Take immediate right onto Evergreen Park Drive.
- Turn right on South Evergreen Drive SW
- Turn right on Lakeridge Way (adjacent to Morris Business Park sign)
- Continue straight to the hotel entrance.

[Click here for a map](#)



### Parking

Parking at the hotel is free.

### Food

A continental breakfast provided by Global Dosimetry Solutions will be provided in the morning during the registration period. Come early and enjoy coffee, juice and goodies.

The lunch menu is listed below. If you wish to order the vegetarian option, you can do that on the registration form. If you do not want to eat the lunch please indicate that on your registration form as well.

- **Salad:** *House salad*
- **Entrée:** *Tillamook Cheddar Chive Chicken - Chicken breast crusted with aged Tillamook cheddar cheese, roasted and served with chive butter cream sauce. Served with seasonal vegetables.*
- **Vegetarian Option:** *Stuffed Portobello Mushroom - stuffed with roasted vegetables, rice and Israeli couscous topped with marinara sauce.*
- **Dessert:** *New York cheesecake with berry sauce and whipped cream*
- **Beverages:** *Fresh brewed coffee, decaf and hot or iced Tazo tea*

### Registration

Please send your registration form to the chapter secretary before October 24<sup>th</sup>. If you would like to pay your 2008 dues at the same time, please indicate that on the form.

### Cascade Chapter Officers:

President:	John Gough
President-Elect:	Marge Slauson
Secretary:	Philip Campbell
Treasurer:	Mike Zittle
Member-at-Large:	William Tuttle

### Secretary Contact Info:

Mailing Address:  
Philip Campbell, ARSO  
Environmental Health and Safety  
Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center  
1100 Fairview Avenue North, J3-200  
PO Box 19024  
Seattle, WA 98109

Email Address:  
pcampbel@fhcrc.org

Phone:  
(206) 667-4044