



Conference of Radiation Control Program Directors, Inc.

NEWSBRIEF

www.crcpd.org

A Partnership Dedicated to Radiation Protection

October 2011

Message from Chairperson Alice Rogers, PE



During the last week of September, Adela Salame-Alfie, Ruth McBurney, Earl Fordham, and I went to Washington, D.C., to visit with some of our federal partners. This was a great opportunity to discuss the good work of the CRCPD as well as some on-going concerns of states.

I'll briefly describe our conversations with each agency below.

Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)

The CRCPD representatives were introduced to Andrew Miller, new director of FEMA's Technical Hazards Division. Mr. Miller replaces James Kish, who has moved to another position in the agency.

We discussed the Fukushima incident, and the need for a national framework for handling international incidents. FEMA said (and other agencies we visited also mentioned) that the National Security Staff at the White House had asked federal agencies involved in the Fukushima incident for a list of three things that worked and three that didn't. We also mentioned that the exercise schedule for U.S. power plants needs some additional emphasis on the recovery phase of an incident.

FEMA said that their revisions to NUREG 0654, Supplement 4, will be released this fall, concurrent with NRC's rule changes. FEMA will be holding workshops on implementation of the Supplement 4 revisions after the release. FEMA has postponed revising NUREG-0654 for the time being.

Inside

Greeting from Executive Director	4
Gilbert W. Beebe Symposium	6
National Radiation Protection Professionals Week.....	6
CRCPD Seeks Proposals.....	7
Call for Papers for 2012 National Radon Training Conference.....	8
Working Group Activities	
G-64 Report on Annual Meeting of JC Liaisons	8
Environmental Nuclear Council Reports.....	9
General Council & Liaisons Reports	12
Healing Arts Council Reports	15
Mr. Fusion Builds Nuclear Reactor in His Garage!	17
Directory Changes.....	18
New Members and Retirements	19
Contact Information on Board Members.....	20

We discussed the National Alliance for Radiation Readiness (NARR).

Department of Energy, Global Threat Reduction Initiative (DOE)

CRCPD has worked closely with DOE to gather and dispose of disused sources of radiation.

We discussed the need to extend or renew the current cooperative →

Chairperson's Message

[Continued]

agreement and associated federal budget issues regarding the Offsite Source Recovery Program.

Regarding the expiration of the authorization for DOT 20WB containers that were used to transport sources to disposal sites, DOE said that it is working with Southwest Labs to test one type of replacement container, and that JL Shepherd is working on getting another type authorized.

Food and Drug Administration (FDA)

FDA reported that there is only a 0.05% Level 1 non-compliance rate for MQSA facilities now (by comparison, in FY 2010 it was 0.8%, in FY 2009 it was 1.2%, and 1.5% in FY 2008). They said that they've begun working on updating the Field Inspection Support System (FISS). Improvements to it should include a desktop version so that a report can be completed and saved when there's no internet connection and then uploaded later. Another planned improvement is the ability for a supervisor to review a report before it's uploaded. FDA said that 81% of all the mammography machines in the U.S. now are digital. Consequently, they expect to phase out requirements to do sensi's and densi's, and will also phase out inspection kit calibration services.

FDA also said they've had a few incidents involving unlabelled hand-held dental x-ray devices that were bought by dentists from foreign vendors on the Internet. These devices have not gone through the FDA prescription device review process and some have significant backscatter issues.

Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)

EPA said that they have drafted rules and a preamble for revised radon emissions standards for uranium mill tailings.

They'll be doing an Advanced Notice of Proposed Rulemaking on the Nuclear Fuel Cycle regulations (40 CFR 190), which were promulgated in 1977. Items from the current rule that they'll be considering revising include the dose limits, standards for radioisotopes that remain after processing, ground water protection, and effects of long-term fuel on-site storage.

Regarding uranium in-situ leach facilities (40 CFR 192), they have begun reviewing the existing rule for areas for revision. Some of these areas include ground water restoration of the mined areas. →

Chairperson's Message

[Continued]

The next recertification of the authorization for the Waste Isolation Pilot Project (WIPP) site in New Mexico is scheduled for 2014. DOE is proposing reconfiguring some of the cavern and adding two new panels. DOE is also proposing doing some testing to determine if the site would be suitable for receiving some of DOE's high-level and GTCC-like waste for disposal.

EPA has drafted a Fukushima After Action Report. Some of the items they noted for improvement include revising the RadNet support system to do a better job of analyzing data, and educating the data and sample collectors nationwide. Improving federal-federal and federal-state communications, and addressing federal disconnects (for instance, cargo screening) were also discussed.

EPA said that the new Protective Action Guidance document is well on its way to being finalized. They expect to publish a Federal Register Notice soon.

MARSSIM Revision 2 will be coming out soon.

EPA's Medical X-ray Guidance document is on its way to the Office of Management and Budget for concurrence, and should be finalized shortly after that review is complete.

The new EPA Radiogenic Cancer Risk Models and Projections for the U.S. Population, otherwise known as the "Blue Book," is available on the EPA website.

Regarding radon, EPA has launched a Federal Radon Action Plan to align various federal housing efforts with radon reduction efforts. The federal government has a lot of programs to aid housing (for instance Housing and Urban Development, DOE Weatherization, mortgage funding), but few of those programs require radon testing and subsequent necessary mitigation.

EPA said that the proposed FY 2012 budget for its indoor air quality program is about the same as its FY 2011 budget.

Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC)

We met individually with Chairman Jaczko, Commissioners Magwood, Ostendorff, and Svinicki, as well as with Deputy Executive Director Weber. We discussed Adequacy and Compatibility, Impacts of new NRC requirements on state programs, NRC training for Agreement State personnel, radioactive waste disposal, changes in emergency response at nuclear power plants after Fukushima, the need for a response framework for →

Chairperson's Message

[Continued]

international incidents, and DOT 20W shipping containers. Each was very supportive of State radiation control programs and they were very receptive to hearing our concerns. All of the NRC-ers thanked us for comments on rules and policies in the past and urged us to continue doing so.

I would be remiss if I didn't point out that National Radiation Protection Professionals Week is coming up November 6-12, 2011. The weeklong event to honor radiation protection professionals is set in November to celebrate the discovery of x-rays by Wilhelm Conrad Roentgen on November 8, 1895.

As radiation protection professionals we provide leadership in protecting the public from the hazards of radiation. Please take some time to celebrate National Radiation Protection Professionals Week with your staffs.



Greetings from Your Executive Director



Ruth E. McBurney, CHP

Looking for a Few Good People

Most members of CRCPD and readers of the *Newsbrief* are radiation professionals involved in service to others. From that group, like one branch of the military, CRCPD is looking for a few (or more) good men and women, not only to be a part of the organization but also to take advantage of the benefits and opportunities to serve. Specifically, we're looking for folks to:

Join CRCPD—The benefits of membership in CRCPD, including the interchange of experience, fostering of uniformity in state regulations, and sharing of information and assistance on new technologies and regulatory issues, can best be obtained when there is support and input of its individual members. Membership dues have not increased in several years, and CRCPD membership still remains a great value.

- Here's how you can help: Encourage new professional staff and colleagues to become members. Not only are there categories of membership for personnel in state and local radiation control programs but also those who work in other radiation professions and folks interested in radiation protection.
- The CRCPD Board of Directors is currently looking into ways to provide more incentives to attract new members. We seek your input on this effort to expand the organization and involve more people in its mission. →

Executive Director Greetings *[Continued]*

Volunteer for committees and become engaged—Several working groups and liaisons to other professional organizations currently have vacancies, and new committees and task forces are being developed. Some of these include working groups charged with overseeing the development of a cadre of radiation response volunteers to assist state and local radiation control programs and response agencies for radiological incidents; new liaisons to the American Society for Radiation Oncology (ASTRO) and other professional organizations; state representatives to working groups of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission. When a vacancy occurs, CRCPD sends broadcast e-mails for volunteers. If you are not currently on one of the many working groups of CRCPD, consider volunteering in an area of your expertise and interest.

Develop a Radiation Response Volunteer Corps in your jurisdiction under a CRCPD sub-grant (see article about this opportunity elsewhere in this edition of the *Newsbrief*).

Check out the new Qualified Medical Physicist Registry on the CRCPD website. As noted on the site, the Medical Physicist Registry has been established as a central location to confirm the qualifications of board certified medical physicists. This registry provides independent verification to state radiation control program staff and employers of written documentation presented with applications for employment or to the radiation control program upon application for a radioactive material license or machine license or registration.

Present papers at the next National Conference on Radiation Control—The call for papers for the 2012 National Conference on Radiation Control has been extended until **November 15, 2011**. If your state or local radiation control program has dealt with a unique licensing, registration, inspection, investigation, or emergency response situation, or has developed procedures that could be shared with other states, please consider presenting a paper at next year's conference, which will be held on May 6-10, 2012, in Orlando, Florida. Also, nominations for the Villforth Lecturer have also been extended until November 15, 2011. More information on this honorary lectureship is provided on the CRCPD website.

Pat yourselves on the back and celebrate the profession and accomplishments of radiation protection during Radiation Protection Professionals Week, November 6-12, 2011!



Gilbert W. Beebe Symposium

Tracking Radiation Exposure from Medical Diagnostic Procedures

In the fall of each year, the Nuclear and Radiation Studies Board sponsors the Annual Gilbert W. Beebe Symposium, named in honor of the distinguished National Cancer Institute scientist who passed away in 2003. The Beebe Symposium is intended to focus on important issues related to radiation risk assessment.

This year's workshop will examine the feasibility and implications of tracking radiation doses to the U.S. population from medical diagnostic procedures. The "why," "what," and "how" to track exposures will be discussed. The symposium is open to the public.

December 8, 2011 – December 9, 2011

The National Academies
Keck Center, Room 100
500 Fifth Street NW
Washington, DC

For questions or to RSVP for the event, please call 202-334-3066 or by email at NRSB@nas.edu. Seating is limited.

<http://dels.nas.edu/Upcoming-Event/Beebe-Symposium-Tracking-Radiation-Exposure-from/AUTO-4-51-42-X>



National Radiation Protection Professionals Week

On October 3, 2011, CRCPD announced the celebration of this year's National Radiation Protection Professionals Week. The weeklong event to honor radiation protection professionals is set in November to celebrate the discovery of x-rays by Wilhelm Conrad Roentgen on November 8, 1895. Both the CRCPD board of directors and the Health Physics Society board of directors have passed resolutions to proclaim the week of **November 6-12, 2011**, as National Radiation Protection Professionals Week.

Radiation protection professionals provide leadership in protecting the public from the hazards of radiation. These dedicated individuals work diligently to ensure that radiation and radioactive materials are used safely and beneficially in thousands of different ways.

According to Alice Rogers, chairperson of the CRCPD board of directors, "Radiation protection professionals are a vital safety net; they help to make sure that medical uses of radiation are →

National Radiation Protection Professionals Week

[Continued]

safe, that industrial uses and products are safe, and that our homes and our country are safe. Their selfless professionalism ensures that people are able to safely enjoy the tremendous benefits of the uses of radiation in our society.”



CRCPD Seeks Proposals

CRCPD to Seek Proposals for Radiation Response Volunteer Corps Development

CRCPD has entered into a cooperative agreement with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to recruit, train, and manage a cadre of volunteer radiation professionals and to promote a volunteer registry of those individuals for use in radiation emergencies within the states, primarily for population monitoring and shelter needs. In order to carry out the project, CRCPD anticipates the award of at least 10 sub-awards each year of the project, not to exceed \$25,000 each, depending on the availability of funds and the quality and number of proposals received.

CRCPD will soon be inviting proposals from state radiation control programs, health department preparedness programs, and local non-government organizations partnering with radiation control and public health programs to incorporate volunteer radiation professionals into existing health volunteer response programs. Funding assistance will be provided through sub-awards for radiological response volunteer corps initiatives and may be used for outreach to and solicitation and credentialing of radiation professionals in the state, development of communication systems, and provision of training.

A few state radiation control programs and state agencies have been able to incorporate volunteer programs into their emergency response plans and the Incident Command Structure. Although volunteer programs have been initiated in several states and New York City, volunteer registries for radiation professionals is still a new concept in most states and jurisdictions. Most state and local radiation control programs are not aware of volunteer registry programs such as the Medical Reserve Corps (MRC) and how that infrastructure can assist them in radiation emergency planning. Likewise, most MRC leaders are not aware of the role their units can play in helping their communities respond in a radiation emergency.

With minimal training on roles, responsibilities, and procedures associated with addressing population monitoring and public →

Radiation Response Volunteer Corps

[Continued]

shelter needs, the addition of these knowledgeable radiation specialists to volunteer registries will strengthen local and state capacity to respond at the local levels where state and federal resources may not be sufficient to meet the needs of large populations throughout many communities.

Incorporation of these trained radiation volunteers into existing volunteer programs and emergency response plans will require outreach to raise awareness among radiation control programs, the radiation professional community, public health planners, and MRC leaders and recruitment efforts at the state and local level; collaboration among the agencies and volunteer programs for planning, training and exercising.



Call for Papers

2012 National Radon Training Conference

You are invited to present a paper at the 22nd National Radon Training Conference that will be held in Las Vegas, Nevada, October 14-17, 2012. If you are interested in presenting a paper, please submit your abstract to Sue Smith <ssmith@crcpd.org> at the OED no later than **December 15, 2011**, for consideration by the E-25 Committee on Radon. The E-25 Committee will be meeting in early January 2012 to begin planning the 22nd National Radon Training Conference.

Acceptance of a submitted paper does not imply that CRCPD will pay the travel expenses of the speaker to give the paper.



CRCPD Working Group Activities



Report on the JC Annual Meeting of Liaisons

By Ray Dielman (FL), G-64 Liaison to the Joint Commission (JC)

The JC annual meeting of liaisons to the JC from up to 300 health care related organizations, i.e., ACR, AAPM, CRCPD, AHA, ASNP, ACP, ACS, etc., was held in Chicago, Illinois, July 19-20, 2011. I attended this meeting as CRCPD's liaison to the JC.

The JC mission is to focus on health care organizations achieving high reliability and a culture of safety. This year a senior vice president announced to the audience from the podium "radiation safety is our new discovery and a full member of the safety culture." He thanked CRCPD for repeatedly advising JC of potential and latent medical radiation risks, radiation safety →

CRCPD Working Group Activities *[Continued]*

Report on the JC Annual Meeting of Liaisons *[Continued]*

needs and remediation. The New York Times articles and related events contributed to the JC discovery, in my opinion.

I spent many hours with enthusiastic senior leaders of JC discussing radiation safety information, partnering, collaboration and training opportunities and there are plans to follow up electronically.

I anticipate an assertive role by JC in radiation safety questions during their hospital and imaging surveys. It should be noted that the imaging surveyors are vetted in medical imaging while the hospital surveyors are not. Therefore, state programs may receive a higher volume of calls concerning radiation related rule interpretations. Please contact this liaison—raydielman@verizon.net—in that event for assistance.

CRCPD continues to be recognized as a radiation medicine and safety resource to the JC.

JC is one of three CMS (Medicare) organizations authorized to accredit outpatient imaging facilities as required by the MIPPA law. All outpatient imaging facilities must be accredited on or before January 1, 2012. CRCPD contributed to the development of the JC accrediting criteria and the JC surveyor guide.

All three accrediting groups meet the requirements of the law but their approaches are dissimilar. ACR is primarily machine oriented, ICANL is function oriented, and JC adopted their systems model used in over 5000 accredited hospitals nationwide.

Finally, I anticipate new activities in the JC/CRCPD relationship in the short and long term.



COUNCIL REPORTS

February 1, 2011 – July 31, 2011

Environmental Nuclear Council

Earl Fordham, CHP, Chairperson

ENC-EI – Environmental Nuclear Council – Emerging Issues

Michael Brennan (WA), Chairperson

- ENC-EI developed three items of importance for board consideration: →

CRCPD Working
Group Activities/
Environmental
Nuclear Council
Reports

[Continued]

ENC-EI – Environmental Nuclear Council – Emerging Issues

[Continued]

- Spent nuclear fuel options criteria initially from CRCPD then states;
- Possible establishment of a working group to evaluate small modular reactors and innovative designs; and
- Requested that CRCPD lead the United States in moving to SI units in radiological matters.

E-5 Committee on Radioactive Waste Management

Jennifer Opila (CO), Chairperson

- No activities were reported during this period.

E-23 Committee on Resource Recovery and Radioactivity

Designated inactive.

E-24 Committee on Decontamination and Decommissioning

Dwight Shearer (PA), Chairperson

- No activities were reported during this period.

E-25 Committee on Radon

William Bell (MA), Chairperson

- Presented a Special Interest Meeting entitled “Success and Future Planning for Building Technical Capacity Project” at the 43rd National Conference on Radiation Control, May 2011.
- The E-25 committee made preliminary plans for a day long, hands-on, pre-meeting training in conjunction with the 21st National Radon Training Conference.
- The blind testing project continues through contract and EPA laboratory in Las Vegas, Nevada.
- Round 2 measurements completed.
- The E-25 committee submitted comments on an ICRP document.
- The E-25 committee met on July 27-28, 2011, in Orlando, Florida, to finalize the agenda for the 21st National Radon Training Conference. ⇨

CRCPD Working
Group Activities/
Environmental
Nuclear Council
Reports

[Continued]

E-34 Committee on Unwanted Radioactive Materials

James Yusko, CHP (PA), Chairperson

- The E-34 committee continues to work closely with OED technical staff and NNSA to identify prudent uses of SCATR and Orphan Source funds to dispose of or securely store unwanted radioactive materials.
- E-34 former chair exhibited and attended AAPM annual meeting to discuss Orphan Source and SCATR efforts.
- E-34 committee held a Special Interest Meeting entitled “Disused and Orphan Sources: Gaps and Solutions” at the 43rd National Conference on Radiation Control in Austin, Texas.
- E-34 chair and OED staff participated in two conference calls to discuss the special interest meeting that was held at the 43rd National Conference on Radiation Control in Austin, TX.
- E-34 chair reviewed two NRC technical guidance documents on waste disposal.

E-35 Coordinator – Multi-Agency Radiation Survey and Site Investigation Manual (MARSSIM)

Jenny Goodman (NJ), Coordinator

- E-35 coordinator provided comments to the federal MARSSIM working group on revisions to MARSSIM.

E-37 Committee on Naval Nuclear Propulsion

Robert Greger, CHP (CA), Chairperson

- E-37 finalized a board position on the Navy’s Areas of Planning Attention. The CRCPD board position was posted to the CRCPD website.

E-39 Coordinator – Multi-Agency Radiological Laboratory Analytical Protocols (MARLAP)

John Volpe (KY), Coordinator

- No activities reported during this period.

E-40 Liaison – Institute of Scrap Recycling Industries, Inc. (ISRI)

James Yusko, CHP (TX), Liaison

- E-40 liaison participated in a conference call regarding DOE Special Permits (SP-10656 and SP-11046).

CRCPD Working
Group Activities/
Environmental
Nuclear Council
Reports *[Continued]*

E-41 Task Force on Radioactivity in Building Materials

Robert Lewis (PA), Chairperson

- E-41 drafted a white paper for state radiation staff/radon contacts to use as guidance on granite countertops or other building materials containing radon.

General Council and Liaisons

Terry Frazee (WA), Chairperson

G-2 Committee on Ionizing Measurements

Robert Lommler (IL), Chairperson

- The Illinois laboratory remains unaccredited because of equipment problems and loss of personnel.
- The G-2 committee assisted the South Carolina laboratory with checklists and other guidance to assist in accreditation.
- The South Carolina and Michigan laboratories are conducting a NIST MQA x-ray test in August and September 2011.
- The Illinois lab agreed to provide a gamma lab intercomparison for all three laboratories as soon as it can solve problems with an ion chamber at NIST for calibration.

G-34 Committee on Industrial Radiography

Bridget Stephens (TX), Chairperson

- No activities were reported during this period.

G-36 Liaison – Health Physics Society/American Academy of Health Physics

Earl Fordham (WA), Liaison

- G-36 liaison attended the Health Physics Society annual meeting in West Palm Beach, Florida, in June 2011, including attendance at the American Academy of Health Physics executive committee meeting.
 - At the Health Physics Society annual meeting, G-36 liaison presented the state's response to the Fukushima disaster.
 - G-36 and OED staff exhibited at the Health Physics Society annual meeting.
 - G-36 communicated via email with the Health Physics Society's new Intersociety Relations Committee chair.
-

CRCPD Working Group
Activities/General
Council and Liaison
Reports *[Continued]*

G-50 Liaison – National Council on Radiation Protection (NCRP)

David Allard, CHP (PA), Liaison

- No report received.

G-53 Committee on Public Information for Radiation Protection

Margie Wanchick (OH), Chairperson

- No activities were reported during this period.

G-55 Training Committee

Cindy Becker (FL), Chairperson

- No report received.

G-58 Task Force for the Criteria for an Adequate Radiation Control Program

Roland Fletcher (MD), Chairperson

- G-58's charge was modified to extend the due date for a final draft of the updated 99-2 document to July 1, 2012.

G-62 Committee/Liaison – American Society of Radiologic Technologists (ASRT)/American Registry of Radiologic Technologists (ARRT)

Al Orlandi (NJ), Chairperson/Liaison

- G-62 chair/liasion continues to monitor the CARE Bills and the activities of the ASRT, ARRT, and the Alliance for Quality Medical Imaging and Radiation Therapy.
- G-62 chair/liasion participated in Alliance meeting conference calls on February 10, March 23, and May 9, 2011. The MIPPA exclusion will be removed from the CARE Bill that will need to be re-introduced into the 112th Congress.
- G-62 chair/liasion provided assistance to Delaware, Florida, and Massachusetts relating to licensure/qualifications of x-ray equipment operators and physicists.
- Suggested changes to the MIPPA exclusion in the House CARE Bill were made and a Senate version of the CARE Bill without the MIPPA exclusion was introduced.
- G-62 chair/liasion continues to monitor the MIPPA exclusion of "advanced diagnostic medical imaging services" in the CARE Bill; Implementation of MIPPA's Final Rule; and ACR, IAC, and JC as they implement their MIPPA qualification for operators and physicists.

CRCPD Working Group
Activities/General
Council and Liaison
Reports *[Continued]*

G-63 Liaison – American Association of Physicists in Medicine (AAPM) and American College of Medical Physics (ACMP)

Debbie Gilley (FL), Liaison

- G-63 liaison attended the ACMP annual meeting in April 2011.
- G-63 liaison attended the AAPM annual meeting in July 2011.
- G-63 liaison participated in two conference calls concerning the medical physicist licensure law.
- AAPM continues to provide web access to their technical information to CRCPD director members.

G-64 Liaison – Joint Commission (JC)

Ray Dielman (FL), Liaison

- The G-64 liaison monitored many related publications of and frequent communication with the Joint Commission with a view toward sharing/discussing common interest and concerns.
- The G-64 liaison provided comments to JC request to review statements about patient radiation safety in radiation therapy and diagnostic imaging.
- The G-64 liaison provided assistance to the JC in understanding and interpreting state and federal regulations encountered by JC surveyors.
- The G-64 liaison attended the Joint Commission Liaison network meeting in Chicago, Illinois, July 2011.
- The G-64 liaison continued interaction with JC directors on radiation safety topics.

G-65 Liaison – American College of Radiology (ACR)

Jennifer Elee (LA), Liaison

- The G-65 liaison continues reviewing the ACR Journal for articles and information that would be beneficial to CRCPD members. The G-65 liaison passes relevant information to the appropriate healing arts committees.
- The G-65 liaison continues to keep up with ACR's position on proposed legislation.
- The G-65 liaison met with ACR liaison in May 2011 in Washington, D.C.
- The G-65 liaison made a presentation on CRCPD's medical events activities at the ACR annual meeting in May. →

CRCPD Working Group
Activities/General
Council and Liaisons
Reports *[Continued]*

G-65 Liaison – American College of Radiology (ACR) *[Continued]*

- The G-65 liaison communicates via email and phone with ACR liaison monthly.

G-66 Liaison – Society of Nuclear Medicine (SNM) and Society of Nuclear Medicine Technologists Section (SNMSTS)

James Yusko (PA), Liaison

- No activities reported during this period.

G-67 Liaison – American Society for Radiation Oncology (ASTRO)

Adela Salame-Alfie, Ph.D. (NY) Liaison

- No report received.

G-68 Liaison – American Board of Radiology (ABR)

Jennifer Elee (LA), Liaison

- No activities reported during this period.

G-69 Liaison – Association of State Drinking Water Administrators and the American Water Works Association (ASDWA/AWWA)

Designated inactive

G-70 Liaison – Association of State and Territorial Solid Waste Management Officials (ASTSWMO)

Alice Rogers (TX), Liaison

- No report received.

Healing Arts Council

Mary Ann Spohrer (IL), Chairperson

H-4 Committee on Nationwide Evaluation of X-Ray Trends (NEXT)

Karen Farris (MA), Chairperson

- H-4 chairperson provided a presentation on NEXT activities at the 43rd National Conference on Radiation Control in Austin, Texas in May 2011.

H-7 Committee on Quality Assurance in Diagnostic X-Ray

William Balke (WI), Chairperson

- No activities reported during this period.

**CRCPD Working Group
Activities/Council
Reports** *[Continued]*

H-11 Committee on Mammography

Shanna Farish (AZ), Chairperson

- H-11 is planning to conduct a two day mammography training seminar that will be held in conjunction with the 44th National Conference on Radiation Control in Orlando, Florida.
- A questionnaire was emailed to states regarding the number of inspectors that expect to attend the two day mammography training that will be held in Orlando.
- Florida mammography personnel have agreed to assist with the training.

H-25 Task Force for IMRT

James Pate (LA), Chairperson

- No report received.

H-32 Committee for Computed Tomography

Lisa Bruedigian (TX), Chairperson

- H-32 conducted CT Inspection training in conjunction with the 43rd National Conference on Radiation Control in Austin, Texas, May 2011.
- An inspection checklist was distributed for peer review.
- H-32 is in the final stage of editing the CT white paper.
- H-32 is currently working on a statement for CT Lung Screening.

H-38 Committee on Radiation Medical Events

Jennifer Elee (LA), Chairperson

- H-38 held several conference calls between February and July 2011.
 - H-38 chairperson provided presentations at the ACR and CRCPD Annual meetings on activities of the working group.
 - H-38 chair has interacted with FDA, AAPM, ACR, and ASTRO regarding issues related to the development of a national database for radiation medical events.
 - Completed reporting forms for both diagnostic and therapy events.
 - Pilot testing has begun of the reporting forms and database entry for medical events reporting from state agencies. →
-

CRCPD Working Group
Activities/Healing
Arts Council Reports
[Continued]

H-39 Task Force on CT Brain Perfusion Exposure Survey

Carole Chafin (LA Co./CA), Chairperson

- Final collection of data from state programs regarding perfusion studies on CT units. In total, 28 state programs responded with 223 facilities participating with 306 CT scanners.
- H-39 met May 11 – 12, 2011, in Austin, Texas, to compile the survey results, put together a PowerPoint presentation and complete the poster.

H-40 Task Force for Inspection Protocol for Radiation Machine Based Therapy Treatments

William Dundulis (RI), Chairperson

- No report received.
The Homeland Security/Emergency Response and Suggested State Regulations Council reports will be in the next issue of the Newsbrief.



**Mr. Fusion
Builds Nuclear
Reactor in His
Garage!**

By Mike Odlaug and Mike
Brennan, WA Department of
Health

Wouldn't you like to have this run in your local media? At least one Seattle TV station (KOMO) has created a story about the device that is called, among other things, the "Farnsworth/Hirsch fusor." While meant to inspire student interest in science as a career, it also raised public concerns. This gave us an opportunity to investigate this interesting device—and begin repeating our new mantra – "NO, it's not a nuclear reactor."

The device we saw was indeed in a garage and was a very sophisticated home-made apparatus powered by a spherical electrical grid of roughly 20 keV in an evacuated bell jar surrounded by massive shielding, radiation instruments, and other equipment. Deuterium gas is fed into the jar to try to create fusion and neutrons. It apparently works, but also gives off some x-rays incidental to it.

We know of two in Washington state—one was an award-winning science fair project by a high school student. The other one, the one we saw, is supported by a large computer software company and intended to teach nuclear physics and inspire interest in science as a career. A good description of the device can be found in *The Bell Jar*, Vol.6, No. 3 and 4, Summer/Autumn 1997, →

Mr. Fusion Builds Nuclear Reactor

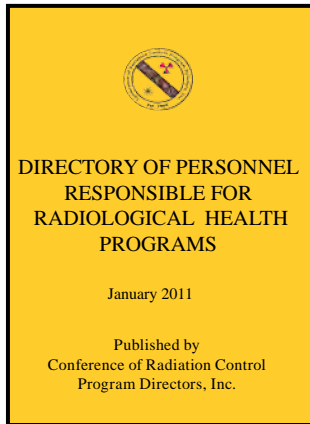
[Continued]

copyright 1997 Stephen P Hansen. Also there is a website for followers of this hobby, www.fusor.net, where you can also become familiar with it.

While the device we saw is well shielded, well run, and completely safe, we don't know about any of the others that are purported to be out there. Our concerns have been over the radiation safety of these devices but other issues could be even more important for users. These include implosion due to the high vacuum, and especially electrical hazards due to the relatively high voltage required. Ones built without proper supervision and attention to safety could be a hazard. [Could there be one in your state?](#)



Directory Changes



Page 10 - **CALIFORNIA**
 Remove Vacant and insert Gonzalo Perez, Acting Branch Chief, phone number 916/440-0793, email <gonzalo.perez@cdph.ca.gov> fax: 916/341-7224;
 Lauren Labbe—insert title Senior Health Physicist and remove Off-duty number;
 Ira Schneider—insert title Senior Health Physicist and remove Off-duty number;
 Ronald Rogus—insert title Senior Health Physicist;
 Remove Victor Anderson and insert Vacant;
 Donald Oesterle—insert new fax number: 916/341-7196.

Page 11 - **CALIFORNIA**
 Phillip Scott—insert title Senior Health Physicist and remove Off-duty number;
 Stephen Hsu—remove Off-duty number;
 Julie Miller—insert new fax number: 916/341-7151 and remove Off-duty number;
 Lisa Russell—remove Off-duty number.

Page 12 - **CALIFORNIA**
 Remove Vacant and insert Marilyn Cantrell, Senior Health Physicist, phone number: 916/449-5524 and e-mail <marilyn.cantrell@cdph.ca.gov>.

Directory Changes

[Continued]

- Page 13 - **CALIFORNIA, LOS ANGELES COUNTY**
 Insert new website:
 <http://www.publichealth.lacounty.gov/eh/EP/rad_health/index.htm>;
 Remove Kathleen Kaufman and insert Jeff Day,
 Acting Director, <e-mail:< jsday@ph.lacounty.gov>>;
 Insert Vacant for Jeffrey Day;
 Carole Chafin—insert Principal Radiation Protection
 Specialist and insert new email <carole.chafin@cdph.
 ca.gov>.

- Page 30 - IA—Remove Jacob Crawford and insert vacant.

- Page 31 - IA—Remove Nancy Farrington and insert vacant;
 Amanda Tostlebe—remove Tostlebe and insert Moore,
 change e-mail <amanda.moore@idph.iowa.gov>.

- Page 51 - NV—Insert delivery address: 675 Fairview Drive,
 Suite 218, Carson City, NV 89701;
 Karen Beckley—insert new address: 727 Fairview
 Drive, Suite E, Carson City, NV 89701.



**New Members/
Retirements**

Associate Members

- Melinda Davis (AR)
- Paul Huggins (NC)
- David Wood (TX)

Recent Retirements

- Victor Anderson (CA)
August 2011
- Devane Clarke (TX)
September 2011



CRCPD Board of Directors

Board position	Name	State	Work Phone	E-mail address
Chairperson.....	Alice Rogers, PE.....	Texas	512/834-6629	<alice.rogers@dshs.state.tx.us>
Chair-Elect	Earl Fordham, CHP	Washington	509/946-0234	<earl.fordham@doh.wa.gov>
Past Chairperson	Adela Salame-Alfie, Ph.D. ...	New York.....	518/402-7501	<asa01@health.state.ny.us>
Treasurer.....	Terry Frazee.....	Washington	360/236-3210	<terry.frazee@doh.wa.gov>
Member-at-Large	David Allard, CHP	Pennsylvania	717/787-2480	<djallard@pa.gov>
Member-at-Large	Frieda Fisher-Tyler, CIH.....	Delaware.....	302/744-4546	<frieda.fisher-tyler@state.de.us>
Member-at-Large	Mary Ann Spohrer.....	Illinois.....	217/785-9916	<maryann.spohrer@illinois.gov>

The Newsbrief is published in February, April, June, August, October, and December by the Office of Executive Director, Conference of Radiation Control Program Directors, Inc., 1030 Burlington Lane, Suite 4B, Frankfort, KY 40601. Telephone: 502/227-4543; fax: 502/227-7862; Web site: <www.crcpd.org>.

The Newsbrief is written to address the needs of all radiation control program personnel. Readers are encouraged to contribute newsworthy or informative items for the Newsbrief, with neither charges nor stipends for the items that are selected. News of state radiation control programs is especially sought.

Articles should be sent to CRCPD, Attn: Lin Carigan, 1030 Burlington Lane, Suite 4B, Frankfort, KY 40601 (fax: 502/227-7862; email: <lcarigan@crcpd.org>). The deadline for contributions is the 15th of the month before an issue is to be published.

The opinions and statements by contributors to this publication, or attachments hereto, are not necessarily the opinions or positions of CRCPD. The mention of commercial firms, services, or products in the Newsbrief is not to be construed as either an actual or implied endorsement of such firms, services, or products by CRCPD.

This publication is supported in part by a Cooperative Agreement (No. FD-000005) administered by the Food and Drug Administration.