

Vol. 11

Issue 1

January 7, 2015

NRC Reporter

Protecting people and the environment

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- [40th Anniversary Word Find](#)
- [LEGACY Honored](#)
- [It's Time to Meet...](#)



* * *

Hello? Does your office have any news to share?

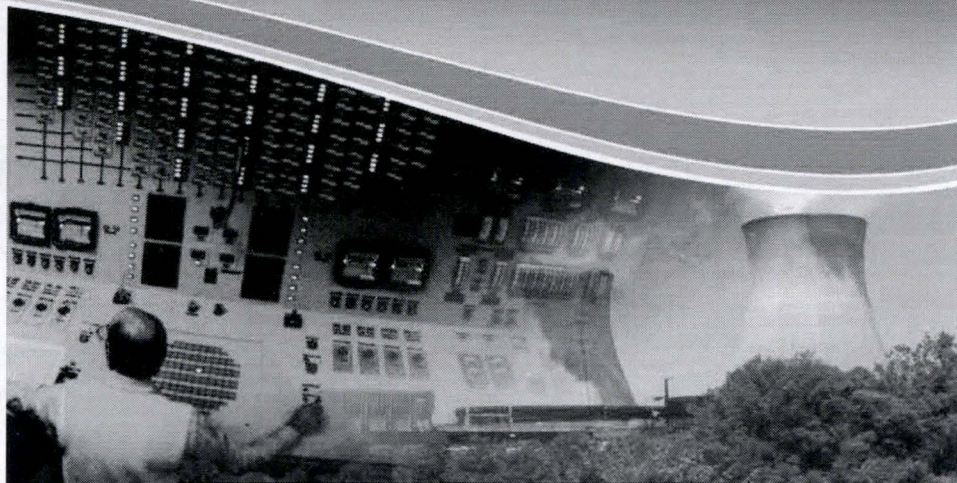
There are many sources of information in our daily lives. To make the Reporter relevant to you, please help by telling us about interesting people and events around the agency. Contact the editor with your story ideas.

Editor: Karin Francis

Layout: Stephanie West

[Reporter Archive](#)

[Reporter Calendar](#)



2014 in Review



The accomplishments made by the NRC in 2014 are numerous. Just take a look at all of our documents, publications, press releases, Facebook, and blog posts, to find them.

Thanks, everyone for all that you did last year.

(b)(6)

This week, we are rewinding not too far back to September 8-26, 2014. NRC HQ employees participated in the [North Bethesda Walk & Ride event](#). The annual event encourages all employees in the North Bethesda, MD area to incorporate walking into their commute either by walking to work or considering commuting alternatives, such as transit. For the 2014 event, NRC staff was given special recognition, placing #1 (again) in the number of teams participating. NRR's High Steppers (see photo) won the 3rd place prize for the most number of steps recorded by a team.



Agency-wide FOIA Seminar

OIS and OGC will co-host a FOIA learning seminar for the agency on January 20, offering valuable insights and knowledge in complying with the FOIA (b)(4) exemptions relating to trade secrets, confidential commercial and financial information, and handling proprietary information. The seminar will be broadcast via VTC to Church Street, the Technical Training Center and to the regional offices. The speakers are: Bobak (Bobby) Talebian, Office of Information Policy, U.S. Department of Justice, and James Adler, Legal Counsel, Legislation and Special Projects Division, OGC.

The seminar is scheduled from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. at the 3WFN Conference Room (3WFN 1-C03 and 3WFN 1-C05). It will also be video recorded and made available via iLearn as an online seminar for all NRC staff. A bridge line will also be available (888-793-9711, passcode

(b)(6)

NRC Facebook Page Milestone



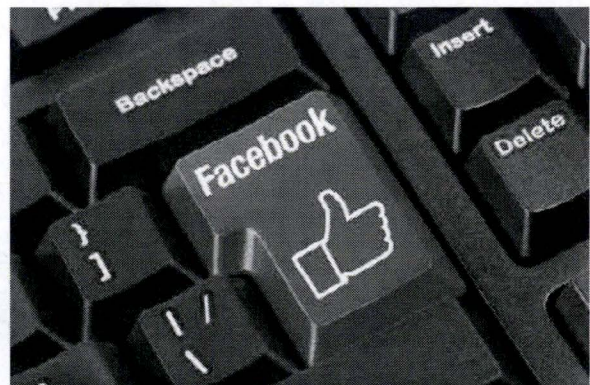
With your help, and after just five months, the NRC Facebook page has more than 1,100 likes.

Facebook posts, which include links to blog posts and videos, NRC news and information, and Throwback Thursday posts featuring historical photos are frequently liked and shared as well.

It is encouraging that efforts to enhance openness and transparency using social media platforms like Facebook seem to be appreciated. Facebook offers opportunities to showcase content posted on other NRC social media platforms as well.

In the new year, the NRC Facebook page will continue to include the content users find most engaging. As employees of the NRC, you have unique insights into the work of the agency, which could translate into interesting Facebook posts. You can email ideas to:

Stephanie.west@nrc.gov



NRC 40TH ANNIVERSARY WORDFIND

F Z C O O P E R A T I O N V R A H S R P O E P
 O S H S G Y N E I W K B V D L U C M E O P X R
 P B A R O N J M T G E E S N E C I L K E S O O
 E U I E S N O I G E R V C U L O B T N G M R E
 N Q R P R H N E D M T D O C L T O M Y H E U L
 N J M H I O R G A N I Z A T I O N I L C A O C
 E O A E R X C F H D S E F N G R C S D O B S N
 S P N V T R O K S R U N O V S G N S B M F T G
 S U O S E U L A V C Q P R E A C T O R M A E M
 E J L G T I S N I I A F T E L F X N P E R N H
 O A N H A F P D N R L X Y S G B E K E M M D C
 V C E S N B P T I P I L Y D J U M S N O B O E
 H K E L D T E B C Z H C E C Q R L F C R X R C
 U S G R E G R J K H M K A G L N E A N A P F N
 A O C L R M W L I V B E R N C S D E T T K F E
 R N O I S S I M M O C U S A N K L T L I U T L
 W P T A T X F R D Q B T M D R I C M N O O R L
 E Y I M A C F A R L A N E E S E V I C N M N E
 D J R K K O P L J N W C G I P O R E S X A R C
 C O M M I T M E N T J A M S M T U J R S E V X
 I P E R O S T F R B G T E N K G L E M S N R E
 N O S S I M M O C Y G R E N E C I M O T A V T
 A N E J G Y V A L O S D O A R P N I N Z U R C
 C R S A F O S E R V I C E X C O M U H P P O Y

NRC

Forty Years

Commission

Rockville

Anders

Jackson

Macfarlane

Svinicki

Ostendorff

Baran

Burns

Regulation

White Flint

Reactor

Mission

Licensee

Regions

Organization

Anniversary

Atomic Energy Commission

Chairman

Commemoration

Values

Integrity

Service

Openness

Commitment

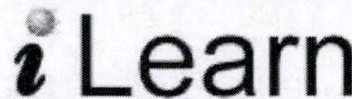
Cooperation

Excellence

Respect

CERCLA Seminar Available Online

Newly available "Fundamentals of Superfund for NRC (H-116)" has recently gone live in iLearn. This is a 7-hour video recording of a previously provided class hosted by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) for NRC staff. See Seminar ID_152145 in iLearn; ID_152145. This seminar provides an overview of the purpose, legal framework, and implementation of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA) or Superfund, and the National Oil and Hazardous Substances Pollution Contingency Plan.



This is an excellent learning opportunity if you need to better understand the CERCLA process due to the NRC's Decommissioning Memorandum of Understanding with the EPA, or if you work with other NRC-licensed sites with an EPA role. If you have questions please send an email to TrainingSupport.Resource@nrc.gov.

LEGACY Honored for Giving Back to DC Area Youth

(b)(6)

Several NRC employees are members of the Legion of Educated Gentlemen Advancing and Challenging Youth, Inc. (LEGACY). *BEST Kids, Inc.* honored LEGACY members with the "Best Friend Award" recently during an art exhibition and fundraiser benefitting mentoring programs for Washington, D.C. area foster children, held at the United States Navy Heritage Center.

LEGACY, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) certified non-profit organization that strives to academically and politically empower youth by engaging in active and voluntary mentorship, tutoring and service. By promoting early scholarship in math and sciences, as well as the arts, LEGACY, Inc. also seeks to expand the academic horizons of the communities it serves, and cultivate successive volunteer membership.

LEGACY has a long-standing relationship with *BEST Kids*, regularly participating as *BEST Kids* program mentors. In May 2014, LEGACY hosted and facilitated a day-long *Best Kids* peer group session at the Boys and Girls Club of America in Washington, DC. The session consisted of an interactive health and fitness discussion focused on the importance of living an active and healthy lifestyle. Additionally, the youth enjoyed several break-out group athletic activities, focusing on physical and mental endurance.

Spoken Word Poetry Contest

The Advisory Committee for African Americans (ACAA) would like to invite all NRC staff to attend, support, and vote at its first Spoken Word Poetry Contest on Wednesday, January 14 in the Two White Flint North auditorium from 12:00- 1:00 p.m.

Spoken word poetry is a poetry event where poets, lyricists, and wordsmiths can express themselves to a wider audience. Spoken word poetry can be used as an instrument through which you can explore, express, and better understand your culture, society, and YOU! So, grab a pen and paper and write down your thoughts based on life, history, and culture.

YOU the NRC staff, along with the judges, will vote for the winner of the Spoken Word Contest.

The criteria for the contest are: creativity— use of the words: life, history, and culture (You can use one, two, or all three of the words.); and stage presence

There will be ballots located on each chair for NRC staff to vote for the spoken word poetry contest winner. All ballots will be entered in a random drawing for (1) gift card.

Light refreshments will be served!

The winner of the Spoken Word Poetry Contest and the gift card winner will be announced at the ACAA Open House on Thursday, Jan. 29 at noon in the TWFN exhibit area. A prize will be presented to the Spoken Word Poetry winner. If your name is drawn for the gift card, you must be present to win.



It's Time to Meet: Anne Frost

Title: Legislative Specialist

Office: OGC

What I really do: Help keep management informed of legislation that may affect the agency, compile legislative histories, serve as the SharePoint Administrator, and (b)(6)

Time w/NRC: Since June 17, 2013.

Previous employers: NIH for 23 years - started June 17, 1990.

Biggest Challenge (b)(6)

Birthplace (b)(6)

Favorite restaurant: (b)(6)

Favorite vacation spot: (b)(6)

Favorite sport (b)(6)

Favorite music (b)(6)

Favorite book (b)(6)

Is there some aspect of your life you think NRC staff would be surprised to know about? (b)(6)

Favorite TV show (b)(6)

Pet peeves (b)(6)

When I'm not working I like to: (b)(6)

Celebrity I most resemble (b)(6)

Most important influence in my life (b)(6)

Person in history I would most like to meet (b)(6)

If I could do it all over: (b)(6)

If I won the lottery: (b)(6)

Kind of car I would most like to drive (b)(6)

Keys to success: (b)(6)

If you could do one thing to make the NRC better: (b)(6)

Any other item you would like to include: (b)(6)

The solution to last week's anagram, *Air as wet cat video*, is Radioactive Waste.

This week's anagram is: *align use of, refer to lead doc*

This new anagram alludes to its answer. The solution is often referred to at the NRC by its acronym. Big surprise, right? Good luck "cracking" this one.

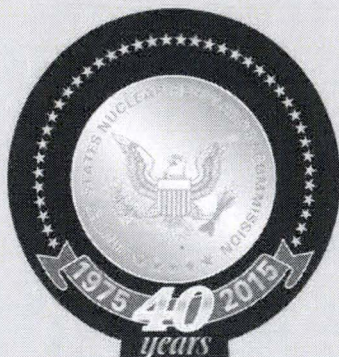


NRC Reporter

Protecting people and the environment

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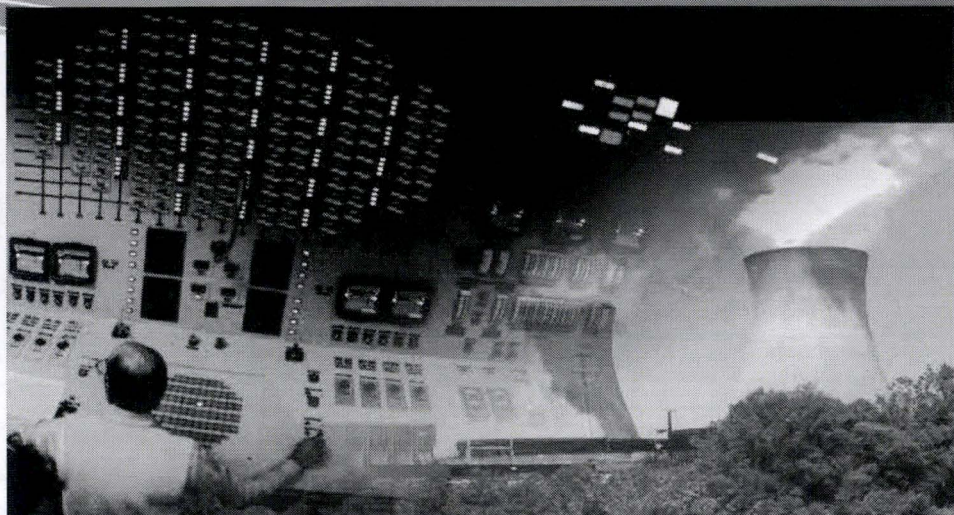
There are many sources of information in our daily lives. To make the Reporter relevant to you, please help by telling us about interesting people and events around the agency. Contact the [editor](#) with your story ideas.

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NRC Celebrates 40 Years of Safety and Service

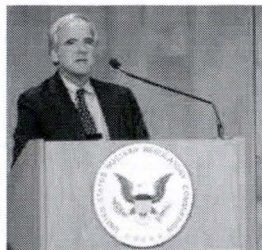
By Karin Francis

On January 19, 1975, the NRC began operations. Forty years later, "our mission is as important today as it was when first founded," said Mark Satorius, Executive Director of Operations in his welcoming remarks to staff at the agency-wide event celebration.

The 40th anniversary fête held last Thursday, January 8, 2015, was broadcast to various locations at headquarters and the regions. Stephen Burns, who became the agency's 16th Chairman on January



1, is the second General Counsel to become Chairman. Chairman Burns gave an overview describing notable historical events from 1975 to the present. He also talked about what it was like at the beginning, when the agency was spread out in numerous locations: a building at Seventeenth and H Streets in Washington, DC, 4-5 buildings in Bethesda, one building in Silver Spring, MD, and five regional offices. The fifth region was in Walnut Creek, CA, which merged with Region IV in Texas. He also described agency document creation in the late 1970s and 1980s, when there were no desktop computers, or the internet. Back then, documents were typed on typewriters, and edits and changes involved a cut and paste method, where the text was physically cut and pasted together with tape and then photocopied to hide the corrections made.



Chairman Burns described that the NRC now is the sum of 35 Commissioners, 16 Chairmen, 9 EDOs, 8 General Counsels, 4 CFOs, 9 Directors of Nuclear Reactor Regulation, and 3 Secretaries (SECY). "We also honor those that have been here since the beginning."

Next, the NRC staff saw the premiere of the NRC's latest historical video: "Moments in History: Establishing an Independent Regulator." (*Continued on p. 3*)

(b)(6)



(b)(6)

(OIS), with former employee are pictured accompanying the chorus during the NRC's 18th Annual Awards Ceremony. This picture appeared in Vol. 11, issue 10 of the May 1995 Special Edition of the News, Reviews and Comments. This was the first awards ceremony held at One White Flint headquarters and the first to be held outdoors.



Job Shadowing Opportunity

The agency's 8th annual IT Job Shadow Day will be held at Headquarters on Thursday, February 19. Approximately 30 students from Gaithersburg and Wootton High Schools' Academies of Information Technology will "shadow" various NRC IT staff who volunteer to show them what their work entails on a day-to-day basis. This is where you come in – OIS seeks agency IT and IM professionals who would like to share their expertise. IT Job Shadow Day 2014 saw great demand for staff engaged in cyber security and in web design, and we anticipate this same demand this year. No matter what your area of expertise, we will find student matches for you. Both experienced and first time hosts are welcome.

IT Job Shadow Day



Moving It Forward: The Next Generation of Federal IT and IM Professionals

Hosts will be invited to an information session [sufficiently in advance of the event] to learn about your role and responsibilities for the day. Your commitment to the students is four hours, and you are invited to participate in the entire day's events, including tours of the Operations and Data Centers, and the pizza lunch time information session. This is a wonderful opportunity to give back to the community and contribute to the education of our youth. IT and IM professionals interested in serving as a host can **complete an interest form, and return it to Cecilia Rajnic no later than January 31, 2015.**

In the Washington, D.C. area, the IT Job Shadow Day is sponsored by the Federal Chief Information Officer's Council, in partnership with the Association for Federal Information Resources Management Services, and Junior Achievement. Approximately 40 agencies and 500 students participate. The students get to observe firsthand how the skills learned in school directly relate to the workplace.

The Office of Information Services (OIS) takes the lead for hosting the event, which is designed to introduce students to career opportunities in Information Technology (IT). In the past year we introduced more career opportunities in Information Management (IM), as well. OIS is fortunate to partner with the Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation, the Office of Nuclear Security and Incident Response, and the Office of the Chief Human Capital Officer for the IT Job Shadow Day. The NRC is well regarded amongst our counterparts for hosting a spectacular event, and we look forward to another successful event this year.

In case of inclement weather on February 19; the alternate date is February 26.



Save the Date

Event: The annual NRC Spring Golf Outing

When: Monday, May 11, 2015

Where: Maryland National Golf Course, 8836 Hollow Road, Middletown, MD

Details and registration information to be announced in March



40 Years, Cont.



After the video, NRC historian: Thomas Wellock shown left holding the microphone, conducted "A Conversation with Former Chairman Marcus Rowden" Dick Cavett-style. Chairman Rowden was the second Chairman of the NRC, and the first General Counsel to serve as Chairman. Marcus Rowden was the General Counsel for the Atomic Energy Commission (AEC), the predecessor agency to the NRC. Mr. Rowden explained that the shift from "atomic" to "nuclear" for the NRC was to differentiate it from the AEC. Also the word nuclear was used in the Energy Reorganization Act of 1974, which was a more accurate description encompassing all the aspects of regulation. Further, the word "atomic" had a negative connotation as opposed to "nuclear." He also talked about the most significant domestic and international events during his tenure as Commissioner/Chairman in 1975-1977. Ever the optimist, Mr. Rowden remarked that he would also like to be invited to the 50th anniversary celebration.

Commissioners Ostendorff and Baran made brief remarks and the entire Commission formed a receiving line to honor the NRC Charter Employees. The names of the charter employees

were called out and each of them were recognized individually through the receiving line before going on stage to be photographed.

Cake, courtesy of the EWRA was served at the end of the ceremony. There were several vanilla and chocolate cakes at various locations for all to savor.

"Snow Stick" Celebrities at the NRC

NRC couple, Julie Crutchley and Rick Hasselberg won the NBC4 television channel's "Pat Collins Snow Stick Challenge," on January 7. When it snows, NBC4 television reporter Pat Collins features a segment, known as the "Snow Stick" challenge. DC metro area residents "compete" by measuring the snowfall in inches and submitting pictures of themselves donning their "best" snow hats. A panel of NBC4 reporters then chooses the winner(s) from the entries. Pat Collins (pictured at left in the upper right photo) met Julie and Rick outside the White Flint Metro Station at HQ, presented the "Snow Stick," and conducted a quick interview which was shown on the local news that night and on the morning of January 8. See link: <http://www.nbcwashington.com/video/#!/news/local/Snow-Stick-Challenge-Winner-Revealed/287853781>

(b)(6)

The winning hats were a Christmas gift from her best friend. According to Julie: "It was my idea. I was

(b)(6)

scrolling through my Facebook page, and saw the story on the NBC4 feed. It was an impulsive move on my part; I remembered I had taken a picture of us wearing the hats soon after we got them, and I just found the picture and uploaded it to NBC's Twitter page. I told Rick about it after the fact, and seriously did NOT expect to win." She sent the picture to Pat via Twitter with the hashtag #BestSnowHat. The "Snow Stick" is on display right at their front door, so they can measure the next snowfall. "Maybe we'll send another picture to Pat Collins showing that the Snow Stick is in use!"

(b)(6)

Julie is a member of the Allegation and Enforcement Team, serving NRR, NRO, and NSIR. Rick is a Senior Emergency Response Coordinator in NSIR. Rick and Julie met in 1991, when they both worked in the same branch, (the Emergency Preparedness Branch in the Division of Radiation Safety and Safeguards in NRR, long defunct).

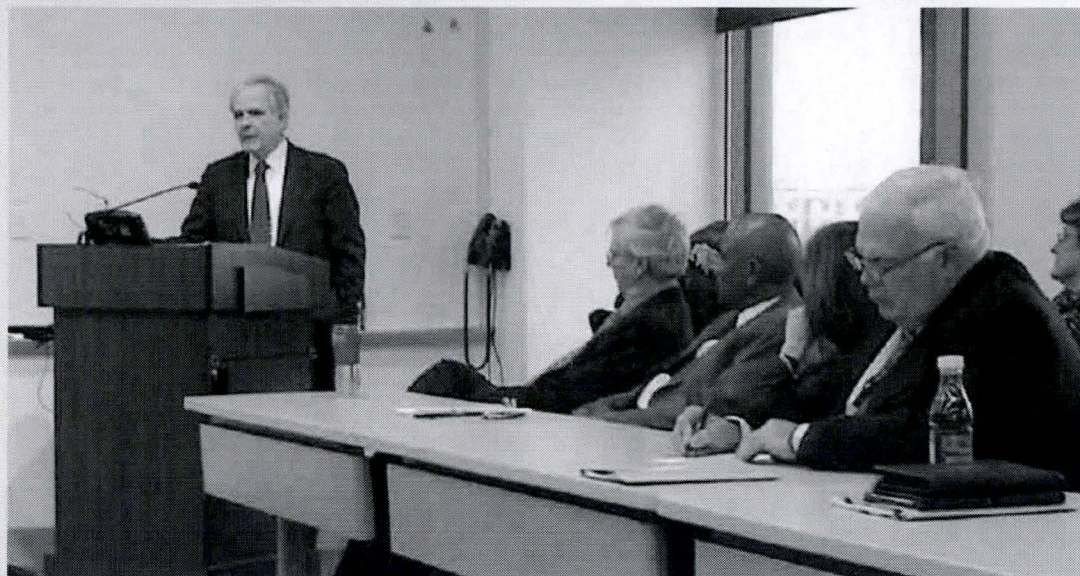
(b)(6)



Thank You!

Thank you to everyone who contributed to the Operation Needy food drive this year. Through your generosity, 30 boxes of food was collected and delivered to the Damascus Lions Club on December 17, where many families benefit from donations like those collected through Operation Needy.

Senior Management Meets on Project AIM



The agency senior leadership met at the Professional Development Center at headquarters for a second round review of the draft analysis and recommendations of Project Aim 2020. The objectives of the January 7 meeting were to review the current analysis and align on strategies. The meeting was productive and made significant progress due to active participation by the senior leaders, beginning with presentations by the new NRC Chairman Stephen Burns, along with EDO Mark Satorius, and CFO Maureen Wiley.

Chairman Burns addressing his first NRC Senior Leadership Meeting as NRC Chairman, Jan. 7, 2015

The previous meeting on the first round review occurred in November and was followed by a Commission meeting during the week before Thanksgiving.

Following the Chairman's presentation and discussion, the senior leaders and the Project Aim 2020 team:

- Explored the need for changing the agency to enhance efficiency and maintain effectiveness in accomplishing our mission
- Analyzed the historical, current, and projected financial environment
- Discussed what the agency might look like in 2020
- Aligned on key strategies for improving the agency

The team will use the discussions and comments to refine the report and recommendations for the Commission. The staff plans to provide the report to the Commission by the end of the month. As part of the report preparation, the staff is also planning presentations and discussions of the recommendations with the National Treasury Employees Union and employees.



January is National Get Organized Month. The [National Association of Professional Organizers \(NAPO\)](#) created National Get Organized Month in 2005, to educate the public on the benefits of being organized, and the value of hiring a professional organizer if daunted by such tasks. This month also marks the 10th anniversary of National Get Organized Month.



It's Time to Meet: The Learning Transformation Team (LTT)

Office/Location: OCHCO/HRTD <http://fusion.nrc.gov/ochco/team/training/learningtransform/default.aspx>

Title: Learning Transformation Initiative (LTI)

What we do: The LTI mission is to partner with offices to create a learning environment that offers employees innovative, real-time, and collaborative learning and development opportunities; and enables employees to acquire and apply competencies to sustain a high performing workforce.

What we really do: Find cost-effective and innovative ways to provide staff with the learning and development support they need, when they need it.

Time w/NRC: 8 months

Previous employers: Team is comprised of individuals who have worked in various offices around the agency with diverse backgrounds and experiences.

Biggest challenge: Shift the mindset from "training" to "learning and development." Conventional training, like in-classroom, has evolved due to advances in technology, social learning, and how adults learn. The concept of learning and development enables learning and personal development from anytime, anywhere.

Birthplace: [Learning Transformation Concept Paper](#) by: Jody Hudson, Deputy Chief Human Capital Officer

Favorite Restaurant: (b)(6)

Favorite sports: (b)(6)

Favorite vacation spot: (b)(6)

Favorite song: (b)(6)

Favorite TV show: (b)(6)

Favorite book: (b)(6)

Is there some aspect of our life you think NRC staff would be surprised to know about? There are a number of different aspects that fall under the umbrella of the LTI mission; Mentoring and Knowledge Management play a large part in our success.

The kind of car we would like to drive: (b)(6)

Most important influence in our life: (b)(6)

Keys to success: (b)(6)

The person we would most like to meet: Everyone at NRC – If you are interested in learning more about what we do, contact us!

Any other item you would like to include: Check out our video to learn more about our team and how transforming learning and development will benefit you and the agency. <http://r2.nrc.gov/videoarchive/ViewVideo.cfm?vlink=790>

The solution to last week's anagram, *align use of, refer to lead doc*, is Code of Federal Regulations. William "Bill" Baines, OCHCO, contacted our editor with the solution.

This week's anagram is: *A core lit-up near towns*

Reporter staff did not actually come up with this anagram, but we'll save giving credit until next week. If you would like to generate an NRC-related anagram for inclusion in a future issue, contact [Karin Francis](#).



Vol. 11

Issue 3

January 21, 2015

NRC Reporter

Protecting people and the environment

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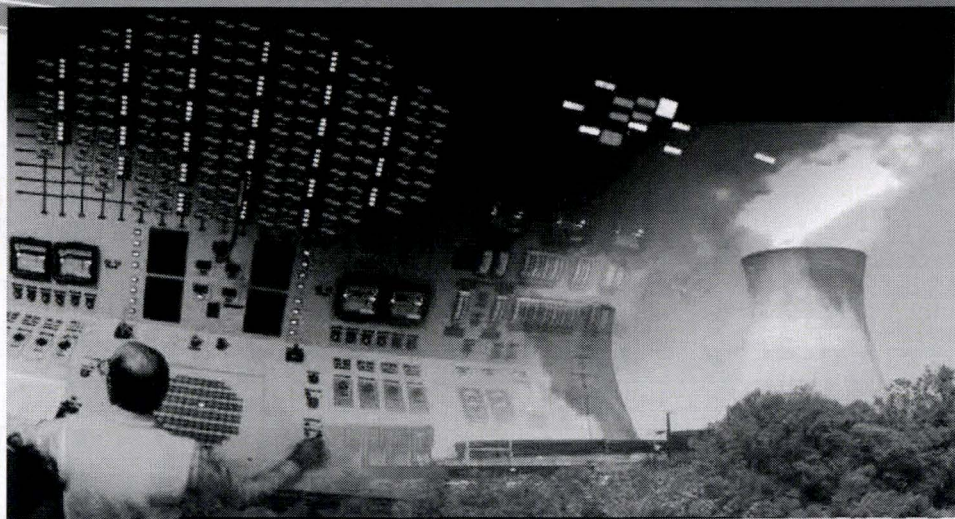
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Editor: Karin Francis

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Third-Time Fulbright Program Specialist Grantee

(b)(6)

Mike Dusaniwskyj, an economist in NRR, was selected to participate in the Fulbright Specialist Program for the third time by the State Department's Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs. Next month, Mike will begin a 30-day assignment as a lecturer in macro-economics at the Technical University of Kosice in Slovakia. His emphasis will be on the American experience, including general American regulatory theory. The Technical University of Kosice with over 12,000 students, has academic roots dating all the way back to 1657. It has dedicated departmental faculty teaching Economics, Civil Engineering, Electrical Engineering, Mechanical Engineering, Process Control, Informatics, Geo-technology, Metallurgy, Mining, Manufacturing Technologies, Ecology, Arts, and Aeronautics.

The Fulbright Specialist Program awards grants to qualified U.S. professionals and faculty in select disciplines for short-term collaborative two-to six week projects at eligible post-secondary academic institutions in over 140 countries worldwide. The short-term length of the grants gives the Specialists greater flexibility to pursue projects that work best with their current professional or academic commitments. All of the project requests are submitted by non-U.S. academic institutions.

This is a distinguished honor both for Mike and the NRC.

U.S. Scholars
and professionals
apply to join
the Fulbright
Specialist Roster

CIES matches
U.S. candidates
on the Roster
with approved
projects

Non-U.S.
institutions
abroad submit
Fulbright
Specialist project
requests

*CIES -The Council for International Exchange of Scholars

(b)(6)

These songbirds were known as the Jackson 5. Well, not *that* Jackson 5, but instead an NRC rendition gathered to serenade former Chairman, Shirley Jackson at her farewell event. This photo appeared in the August 1999 issue of the NR&C. Pictured left to right

(b)(6)

Maybe the remaining members could be convinced to do an encore performance.



International Travel Tip - Global Entry Program

Carlotta Coates, OIP



Are you a frequent international traveler? Are you tired of waiting in long lines to get through both Passport Control and Customs when returning to the United States? If the answer is yes to either question, you may want to consider a program offered by U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) called the Global Entry Program. The Global Entry Program allows expedited clearance for pre-approved, low-risk travelers upon re-entry to the United States. Though intended for frequent international travelers, there is no minimum number of trips necessary to qualify for the program. Participants re-enter the United States by using automated kiosks located at select airports.

The CBP's Global Entry website provides all of the details (please see: <http://www.cbp.gov/global-entry/how-to-apply>). You'll need to fill out an online application and pay an application fee of \$100. CBP will review your application and determine your eligibility for participating in

Global Entry. Federal employees holding security clearances are typically considered and accepted quickly. After acceptance, you'll need to visit a Global Entry processing center. Take any passports you typically use (for example, both your official and personal passports) with you! CBP will fingerprint you (electronically), show you a video on how to use Global Entry, and then enter all of your passport information into the Global Entry system. After that, you're in! Global Entry membership is valid for five years. You can also manage your Global Entry account online, i.e. change/update passport information. Another benefit is that acceptance by CBP into the Global Entry program can also qualify participants for expedited security screening through the Transportation Security Administration's Pre-Check program.

Note: Any costs associated with applying for this program are not reimbursable.

KIDS AT WORK

The NRC will celebrate "Bring Your Child to Work" (BYCW) on April 23, 2015 from 8:30 a.m. – 12:00 noon. The national theme is "#MPOWER Knowledge+Choice=Strength" (EMPOWER). The Office of the Chief Human Capital Officer (OCHCO) invites you and your children (ages 6-18) to take part in the BYCW event. The opening session will take place in the TWFN Auditorium from 8:30 – 10:00 a.m.; afterward, the children will rotate through three office tours. For planning purposes, OCHCO requests an email with the number of children you are bringing, and their ages.

We welcome your suggestions for interactive activities that the children can participate in during the opening session. You may email Peggy Etheridge at peggy.etheridge@nrc.gov with your input. More details on the BYCW event will be featured in a future issue of the NRC Reporter. In addition, a Yellow Announcement and Network announcement are forthcoming.

Adding Your Picture to SharePoint and Microsoft Office Applications

By OIS/SDD

(b)(2)

OCFO/NRO Organize Office Clean-up Day

(b)(6)

On January 15, 2015, staff from the Office of the Chief Financial Officer (OCFO) and the Office of New Reactors (NRO) Division of Safety Systems and Risk Assessment (DSRA) collaborated to clean up their shared floor space on the 9th floor of the Two White Flint North building. Staff from both offices had the opportunity to socialize and get to know each other while enjoying a pizza luncheon hosted by their respective management teams. The Chief Financial Officer, Maureen Wylie, and DSRA Division Director, John Monninger, gave remarks on how the offices can work together to support the agency's mission. An *NRO/OCFO Acronym Challenge* was co-hosted by NRO/DSRA Reactor Systems, Nuclear Performance, and Code Review Branch Chief Joe Donoghue, and OCFO Division of the Controller, Accounts Receivable Branch Chief Dave D'Abate. Staff was entertained trying to decipher some commonly used acronyms used by each office.

OCFO and NRO staff mingle while enjoying pizza during the January 15 clean-up day.



ERRATA: The 40th Anniversary Word Find published originally in the January 7 issue contained typographical errors. See if you can solve the corrected version, below.

NRC 40th Anniversary Word Find

A	F	Z	C	O	O	P	E	R	A	T	I	O	N	V	R	A	H	S	R	P	O	E	P
P	O	S	H	S	G	Y	N	E	I	W	K	B	V	D	L	U	C	M	E	O	P	X	R
R	P	B	A	R	A	N	J	M	T	G	E	E	S	N	E	C	I	L	K	E	S	O	O
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E	O	A	N	H	A	F	P	D	N	r	L	X	Y	S	G	B	E	K	E	M	M	D	C
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N	A	O	C	L	R	M	W	L	I	V	B	E	R	N	C	S	D	E	T	T	K	F	E
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M	E	Y	I	M	A	C	F	A	R	L	A	N	E	E	S	E	V	I	C	N	M	N	E
R	D	J	R	K	K	O	P	L	J	N	W	C	G	I	P	O	R	E	S	X	A	R	C
V	C	O	M	M	I	T	M	E	N	T	J	A	M	S	M	T	U	J	R	S	E	V	X
T	I	P	E	R	O	S	T	F	R	B	G	T	E	N	K	G	L	E	M	S	N	R	E
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NRC

Forty Years

Commission

Rockville

Anders

Jackson

Macfarlane

Svinicki

Ostendorff

Baran

Burns

Regulation

White Flint

Reactor

Mission

Licensee

Regions

Organization

Anniversary

Atomic Energy Commission

Chairman

Commemoration

Values

Integrity

Service

Openness

Commitment

Cooperation

Excellence

Respect

The solution to last week's anagram, *A core lit-up near towns*, is *Nuclear Power Station*. This anagram is courtesy of the website Anagram Genius (Mick Tully, 2005).

This week's anagram is: *A science offer for two*

This anagram was submitted by an employee whose name will be revealed next week. The anagram does not offer a clue to its solution. So, here's the hint: This novel crew contains a chain of dedicated people.



NRC Reporter

Protecting people and the environment

Inside this issue:

- [FEVS](#)
- [Radiation Safety](#)
- [PBS Documentary](#)
- [iLearn Training](#)
- [WF Parking Shuffle](#)
- [It's Time to Meet...](#)



* * *

Hello? Does your office have any news to share?

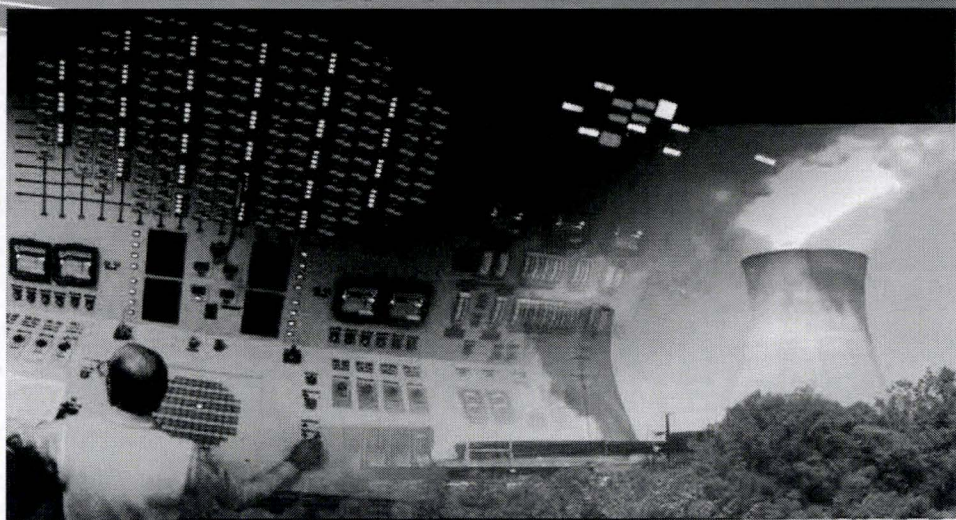
There are many sources of information in our daily lives. To make the Reporter relevant to you, please help by telling us about interesting people and events around the agency. Contact the [editor](#) with your story ideas.

Editor: Karin Francis

Layout: Stephanie West

[Reporter Archive](#)

[Reporter Calendar](#)



Ready to Launch - Behavior Matters Phase II

by Lance Rakovan

BEHAVIOR matters

Unless you are in one of a short list of offices, it may have been a while since you've heard about the [Behavior Matters campaign](#).

For those of you that need a reminder, the Behavior Mat-

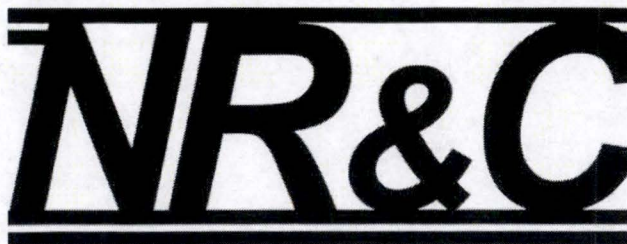
ters campaign seeks to develop a shared awareness and understanding of the behaviors that support the NRC values, as well as those that detract from the NRC Values. During the first phase of the campaign in 2013, 30 Behavior Matters cafés were conducted with staff and management from across the agency. Approximately 19% of NRC staff and management participated in a café. Phase I of Behavior Matters identified shared challenges and ideas of how the NRC values should translate into action. The café results indicate that NRC is strong in handling complexity, but we struggle with basic interactions. The overwhelming majority of behaviors identified in the cafés involve basic civility, courtesy, and active listening. The general themes expressed repeatedly during the cafés have been summarized in the ["Behaviors That Matter" hand-out](#).

Acting upon the results of the cafés, as well as Bill Borchardt's original direction and Mark Satorius' continued support, the Behavior Matters Team has been busy creating, piloting, and refining a series of Behavior Matters workshops during 2014. Over the course of the year, workshops were conducted with several offices, including NRO, Region III, OCHCO, and OEDO. The workshops focus on self-awareness, situational awareness, self-regulation, and providing and receiving feedback, all with a focus on helping NRC staff work more effectively together as we go about accomplishing our mission.

The Behavior Matters Team is currently finalizing a Phase II full launch plan that will be implemented in 2015. The Team will coordinate with office management to schedule an appropriate number of workshops, as well as agree upon an appropriate time for the workshops. Open enrollment workshops will be offered as well. Phase II is expected to go through 2015 and possibly into 2016.

If you have any questions about the Behavior Matters campaign, give me a call, 301-415-2589, or send me an e-mail, lance.rakovan@nrc.gov.

(b)(6)



Tom Hanks, Sandra Bullock, Tim Allen, and Helen Hunt, winners of 1999 People's Choice awards, were not the only winners that year. Marissa Bailey, NMSS was the recipient of a Meritorious Service award that year as well.

We found this image in the NR & C, July 1999 issue on page 17.



Continuous Improvement Actions

by Jason Lising, OCHCO



The 2014 Federal Employee Viewpoint Survey (FEVS) found the NRC continuing to score high marks as benchmarked against other agencies. As in previous years, the NRC's overall percent positive responses to the battery of survey questions were markedly above the government average with improvements in some areas such as talent management and job satisfaction, and declines in other areas such as leadership and knowledge management. The 2014 FEVS Agency Management Report and the Annual Employee Survey are available online.

So what do we do with this information? The FEVS provides good insights into the agency's organizational climate and gives us a chance to find out where we can improve ourselves. As in previous years, each office and region is reviewing its specific FEVS results to evaluate and update its current Action Plan for Continuous Improvement. The Office of the Executive Director for Operations (OEDO) has asked offices/regions to update their specific action plans by February 27, 2015. Employees can review these action plans and identify who is their FEVS Point of Contact (POC) by visiting the Survey and Continuous Improvement Action Plans SharePoint Site.

In addition to the office/region level plans, a team comprised of representatives from the Office of Small Business and Civil Rights, National Treasury Employees' Union (NTEU), the Office of Enforcement, the Office of the Chief Human Capital Officer (OCHCO), and the OEDO analyzed the agencywide FEVS results and provided enhancements to the existing agency Action Plan for Continuous Improvement. All NRC employees are encouraged to visit the Survey and Continuous Improvement Action Plans SharePoint Site to learn more about their office/region specific action plans as well as the updated agencywide plan. For additional information on the 2014 FEVS survey results or the agency's Continuous Improvement Action Plans, please contact Jason Lising at Jason.Lising@nrc.gov, (301) 287-0569.

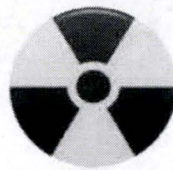
NRC. Powered by You.

White Flint Complex Parking Shuffle

(b)(2)

NRC'S Radiation Safety Program by Hector Rodriguez-Luccioni, Ph.D., NMSS

A major part of NRC's mission is to protect the people and environment from unnecessary exposure to radiation, including NRC employees. It is the policy of the NRC to maintain occupational radiation doses as low as reasonably achievable (ALARA). Each of the following offices: Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards (NMSS), Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation (NRR), Office of New Reactors (NRO), Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research (RES), Office of the Chief Human Capital Officer (OCHCO), and Office of Nuclear Security and Incident Response (NSIR), as well as the regional offices, has a radiation safety officer (RSO) and an alternate radiation safety officer (ARSO).



RADIATION SAFETY

The responsibility of the RSO/ARSO is to establish an agencywide radiation safety program to protect NRC employees from ionizing radiation hazards associated with activities conducted by the NRC. The radiation safety program is based on the policy and guidance of MD 10.131, "Protection of NRC Employees Against Ionizing Radiation." MD 10.131 provides standards to protect NRC employees from radiation hazards during licensing, inspection, enforcement, and other regulatory activities.

As part of its radiation safety program, the NRC offers training commensurate with the duties of its employees, such as the Site Access training (H-100). NRC training provides employees with an understanding of radiation protection standards and guidance, such as an understanding of ALARA practices, radiation monitoring, how to use and wear dosimeters, radiation surveys, and proper use of survey meters. Also, as part of the program, the NRC makes available to the staff personnel dosimetry and survey meters. Dosimeters are provided upon request by each regional office and to HQ employees. An employee that is visiting a licensed facility and needs a dosimeter should contact his/her RSO or ARSO to obtain information on receiving a dosimeter. Calibrated survey meters are available for official use from each regional office and from NMSS, for example for inspection purposes. NRC employees are required to follow the licensee's radiation protection program for safety while at licensed facilities.

Licensees and NRC inspectors have avoided exposure to dangerous amounts of radiation due to good practices developed through the radiation safety program. For example, in early 2014, two NRC inspectors performed an unannounced inspection at a materials licensee in Alaska. The inspectors entered an area that had no boundaries or any visible high radiation area signs; however, the survey meter indicated they were in a high radiation area. Both inspectors walked out of the area immediately, thus avoiding a high dose exposure.

If you have any questions regarding radiation safety, please contact Hector Rodriguez-Luccioni or your office's designated RSO or ARSO.

New iLearn Courses Available



Presentation (Communications) courses are now offered to you at our Professional Development Center. There are two courses: Basic Presentation Training and Advanced Presentation Training.

Basic Presentation Training, a 3-day workshop (iLearn Course ID_123144) has replaced the Briefing Techniques course (#776). The goals of this course are to establish a baseline of presentation skills and experience for each participant and to then work with each participant to enhance

knowledge and significantly improve individual presentation skills. The Human Resources Training Department (HRTD) is confident employees will find the Basic Presentation Training course informative and beneficial because the new course addresses the specific skills NRC employees need when delivering presentations to internal NRC audiences as well as external audiences, such as stakeholders at NRC Public Meetings. This course is designed for basic and intermediate level presentation needs. The next class is: February 17-19, 2015.

Advanced Presentation Training (iLearn Course ID_123145, is a 2-day course for those who have at least several years of experience giving presentations. This course teaches advanced techniques in audience analysis, presentation organization, and visual aids at a higher level, and how to respond effectively to difficult questions in highly emotional environments. This class is not intended for the beginner presenter or for someone that has just taken the Basic Presentation course itself. Each experienced participant adds value to the class and the instructors will use this shared experience by the students to enhance the learning environment. The next class is February 9-10, 2015.

Employees interested in attending *either* course should access iLearn to find upcoming session dates, and to enroll in the classes. Contact Brian.Doan@nrc.gov for additional information about the new courses. Contact TrainingSupport.Resource@nrc.gov for assistance with iLearn issues.

BIG Presents Special Viewings of PBS Documentary in February**AFRICAN AMERICAN**
★ HISTORY MONTH ★

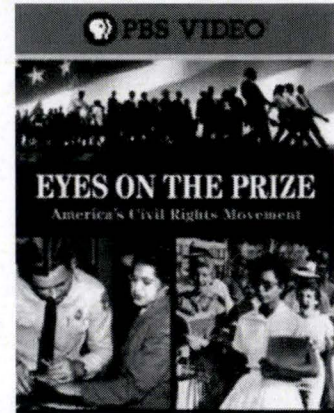
Eyes on the Prize, an American television series and 14-hour documentary about the Civil Rights Movement in the United States is comprised of archival footage and interviews with participants and opponents of the movement. Created and executive-

produced by Henry Hampton at Blackside, Inc., it originally aired on the PBS network. The title of the series is derived from the folk song "Keep Your Eyes on the Prize," featured in each episode as the opening theme music.

The NRC Chapter of Blacks In Government (BIG) will play two of the videos from this series on Thursday, February 12 and Wednesday, February 25, from noon to 1:00 p.m. in the TWFN Exhibit Area as part of our African American History Month festivities. If you have any questions, feel free to contact (b)(6)

(b)(6)

via e-mail or call him at (b)(6)

**NEPA Learning Opportunities**

The National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA) requires Federal agencies to account for environmental effects in the planning and execution of their actions. Two learning opportunities in the next several months offer interested staff the chance to learn more about NEPA and how NRC implements NEPA. On February 19, 2015, the inaugural offering of "NEPA for the Uninitiated" (ILearn ID_149145) will be given in the Headquarters PDC. This one-hour class will provide attendees with the who, what, when, where, why, and how of NEPA at the NRC.

On April 16, 2015, "Environmental Review Overview for Materials Licensing Actions" (ILearn ID_798) will also be given in the Headquarters PDC and available via VTC. This class provides a more in-depth discussion of NEPA at NRC, giving participants (1) the regulatory requirements for environmental reviews; (2) the basic concepts of an environmental review; and (3) the types of environmental review documents that NRC prepares. The course focuses on materials licensing actions. Contact: TrainingSupport.Resource@nrc.gov for registration information.

Parking Shuffle Cont.

(b)(2)

It's Time to Meet Roger Andoh, FOIA Officer

Office/Location: FOIA, Privacy, and Information Collection Branch; T-5F08

Title: FOIA Officer

What I really do: Lead the FOIA Team.

Time w/NRC: (b)(6)

Previous employers: DHS

Biggest challenge: (b)(6)

Birthplace: (b)(6)

Favorite Restaurant: (b)(6)

Favorite sports: (b)(6)

Favorite vacation spot: (b)(6)

Favorite music: (b)(6)

Favorite TV show: (b)(6)

Favorite book: (b)(6)

Is there some aspect of your life you think NRC staff would be surprised to know about? (b)(6)

When I'm not working: (b)(6)

The person in history I would most like to meet: (b)(6)

The kind of car I would like to drive: (b)(6)

Most important influence in my life: (b)(6)

If I won the lottery: (b)(6)

Keys to success: (b)(6)

If you could do one thing to make the NRC better: (b)(6)



The solution to last week's anagram, *A science offer for two*, is Office of New Reactors. This anagram was courtesy of Richard Scheirer in NRO.

This week's anagram is: *sugars of martini fade on*

What do sugars and martinis have to do with the NRC, you ask? Nothing. So, here's the hint: we must act as sentinels over this.



NRC Reporter

Protecting people and the environment

Inside this issue:

- [ACAA Dinner](#)
- [Memphis' Retirement Party](#)
- [Rewind Wednesday](#)
- [PDC Courses](#)
- [NRO All Hands](#)
- [It's Time to Meet...](#)



* * *

Hello? Does your office have any news to share?

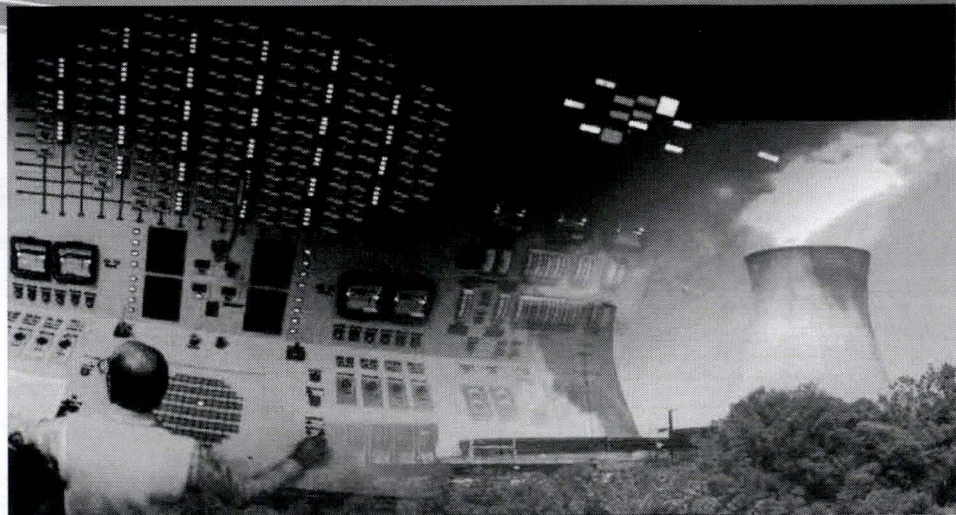
There are many sources of information in our daily lives. To make the Reporter relevant to you, please help by telling us about interesting people and events around the agency. Contact the editor with your story ideas.

Editor: Karin Francis

Layout: Stephanie West

[Reporter Archive](#)

[Reporter Calendar](#)



NRO Staffer Receives Mansfield Fellowship

Mahmoud (MJ) Jardaneh of NRO was selected as the first NRC staffer and one of 10 Federal employees for the one-year Mansfield Fellowship Program. The Fellowship is named after the former U.S. ambassador to Japan, U.S. Senate majority leader, and U.S. congressman from Montana, Mike Mansfield. The program was established by Congress in 1994 to build a corps of Federal government employees with proficiency in the Japanese language and practical, firsthand knowledge about Japan and its government. Through their placements, Mansfield Fellows develop networks of contacts in Japan and an understanding of the political, economic, and strategic dimensions of the U.S.-Japan relationship.

(b)(6)

Mahmoud will begin the program with a seven-week immersion-homestay program in Ishikawa Prefecture. Following the homestay, Mahmoud's placement plan will allow him to spend the remaining ten months working in several Japanese organizations, including the Japan Nuclear Regulatory Authority, the Japanese Diet (congress), local Prefecture governments, and the Japan Nuclear Safety Institute. Through these placements, Mahmoud will have the opportunity to work side-by-side with Japanese counterparts on issues related to public involvement in the regulatory process, nuclear regulation, and post-Fukushima actions. Mahmoud's placement will allow him to gain an in-depth understanding of Japan's government and policymaking process, better understand the technical and cultural aspects of the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear power plant accident, and to use that knowledge to better inform nuclear safety decisions in the United States.

The selection process was very competitive and included a rigorous paper application process. An NRC senior management panel reviewed all of the applications and nominated Mahmoud to apply for the Fellowship. After reviewing his application and proposal, the Fellowship Program invited him for an interview with a binational selection committee. Mr. Jardaneh was one of only sixteen applicants across the entire Federal government selected for in-person interview. He also participated in a group interview where the applicants were placed into two groups that had to solve a problem and deliver a presentation describing their solution.

Congratulations to MJ on this achievement!

ACAA Hosts Annual Dinner for African American History Month

The Advisory Committee for African Americans (ACAA) cordially invites you to celebrate National African American History Month by attending its annual dinner on Thu., Feb. 19, 6 - 8 p.m., in the TWFN Auditorium (social hour from 5 - 6 p.m.). The theme for this year's celebration is **"A Century of Black Life, History, and Culture."** There will be a full buffet dinner. Come and enjoy networking and socializing with NRC managers, co-workers, and friends during this special occasion. Chairman Burns will give opening remarks.

Keynote Speaker: Lieutenant General Ronald L. Bailey, U.S. Marine Corps

Entertainment: (b)(6)

Cost: \$26 per person (\$10 per child 12 and under)

MENU

BBQ Chicken, BBQ Pork, Hickory Smoked Ribs, Veggie Patties * Collard Greens, Macaroni & Cheese, Pasta Salad * Cornbread * Assortment of Desserts * Pink Lemonade, Sweet and Unsweetened Tea

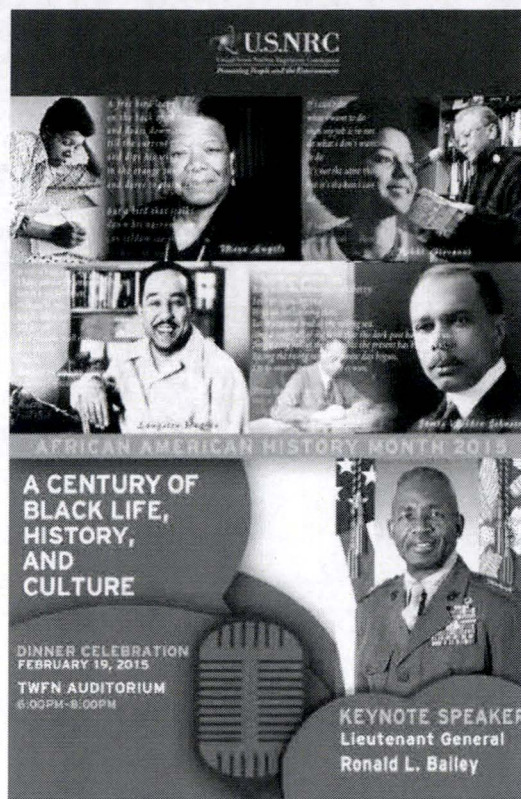
****All meats are gluten-free****

Please RSVP and provide payment to one of the following ACAA contacts **no later than Feb. 12** (if you would like to attend and need a little more time - let (b)(6) know). Call/email her and she will bring the tickets to you. Payment may be made by cash or check (all checks are made payable to (b)(6)).

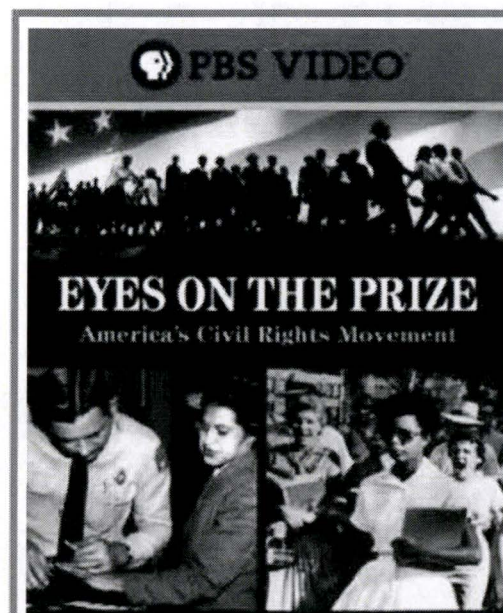
ACAA Contacts:

(b)(6)

(b)(6)



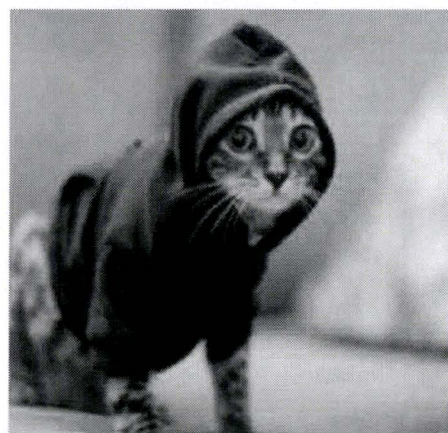
We have an amazing dinner planned for you, your family, and friends - everyone is welcome.



Remember to attend the presentation of portions of the PBS Video: *Eyes on the Prize*, an American television series and 14-hour documentary about the Civil Rights Movement in the United States.

NRC Chapter of Blacks In Government (BIG) will show two of the videos from this series on Thu., Feb. 12 and Wed, Feb. 25, from noon to 1:00 p.m. in the TWFN Exhibit Area as part of our African American History Month festivities. If you have any questions, feel free to contact (b)(6).

(b)(6)



Do what this little cutie is doing, stay bundled up out there, it's cold!

REWIND Wednesday

(b)(6)

Did we know that 007 works for the NRC? Wait a minute, that's not James Bond, it's Sheron, Brian Sheron, Director of the Office of Research. At the time of this photo from the Dec. 1986 issue of the NR&C, Brian was speaking at an international computer codes conference.

A
N
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The solution to last week's anagram, *sugars of martini fade on*, is Safeguards Information. This anagram was quickly solved by Sandra Gabriel, NMSS.

This week's anagram is: *team gleaned known gem*

No hints on this one.

Don't forget to register for RIC 2015!



EWRA Sponsored Mug Giveaway

As part of its 40th Anniversary celebration, the NRC Employees Welfare and Recreation Association is giving NRC Federal employees a commemorative insulated mug w/lid featuring the NRC Seal.

Headquarters employees may pick their item up at either the TWFN building or 3WFN building during the following dates and times:

- Thu., Feb. 5, 1:30 – 3:30 p.m., TWFN Exhibit Area
- Wed., Feb. 11, 9:30 – 11:30 a.m., 3WFN-1D09
- Thu., Feb. 12, 9:00 – 11:00 a.m., TWFN Exhibit Area

Please be sure to bring your NRC I.D. to the pickup location. Mugs for employees at Church Street, the regional offices, and the Technical Training Center have been mailed. Regional offices will distribute the mugs to the resident inspectors. Headquarters staff who can't pick up their mugs during one of the times listed above should e-mail (b)(6) after Feb. 12, 2015, to make arrangements for pick up.



Farewell to Memphis

Memphis (b)(6) well-admired service dog, retired on Dec. 31, 2014. Memphis is just over 10 years old and in good health. Understandably, he has slowed down a bit, and Indy (his successor) was ready to work full-time. Memphis still lives with (b)(6) and they are transitioning from a service dog team to a therapy dog team. They will visit hospitals and participate in a reading program. The program helps children who have difficulty reading by having them read to a dog. Studies have shown that children who participate in these programs can improve their reading level by up to two grade levels. (b)(6) gradually transitioned Memphis to retirement starting in Oct. 2014, and he is beginning to adjust to his new routine. (b)(6) knows that Memphis will benefit from his new role as a therapy dog, because he will continue to be in contact with people and share his love with them.

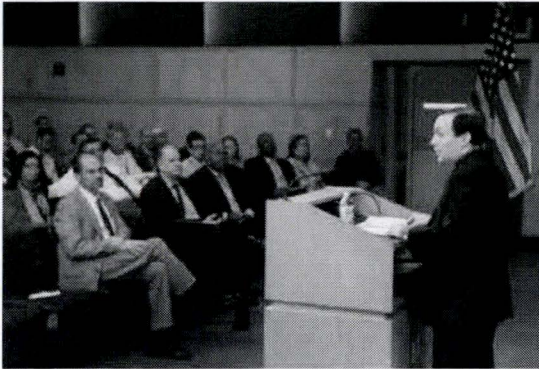
Memphis' retirement party is on Wed., Feb. 11 from 11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. in OWFN-14B06 East. Please stop by for some "treats" (for people) and to wish him well. The best part is that during the party, Memphis will be officially "off-duty" and able to interact with visitors.

You are invited to celebrate Memphis' retirement
Wednesday, February 11
11:30 am – 12:30 pm
OWFN-14B06 east



Treats (for people) and light refreshments served
Contact: (b)(6) @nrc.gov for more information

NRO All Hands Meeting with Commissioner Baran



Commissioner Jeff Baran gives remarks to NRO.

On Jan. 26, NRO held an All Hands meeting in the auditorium. The meeting featured remarks by Commissioner Baran and Glenn Tracy, the presentation of Vision of Success Awards, an overview of the NRC Strategic Plan by Gary Holahan, a presentation on NRO Training by David Curtis, and an overview of FEVS results for NRO presented by Debby Johnson and Ilka Berrios. The winners of the Vision of Success Awards are: Cliff Munson (NRO), Jon Ake (RES), Theresa Clark (NRO), and Jake Zimmerman (NRR).

By clicking on the FEVS link above, you can see all the details related to NRO's 2014 FEVS results: the trends, the improvements resulting from the inclusive environment, and the next steps. Some of the next steps: the NRO action plan will focus on communication and inclusiveness, discussion of best practices with Region I, and supervisory best practices will be shared with the NRO divisions. Future focus opportunities for each division were identified.

UPCOMING PDC COURSES: The PDC can meet many of your learning and development requirements. There are still seats available in many upcoming training classes. If you are interested in any of these offerings, please log into iLearn and register. If you need assistance, please call the PDC at (301) 287-0556.

Start Date	End Date	Item ID	Add'l Off.	Sch. Off. Description
02/09/15	02/10/15	ID_123145		Advanced Presentation Course
02/10/15	02/13/15	507		SAPHIRE Basics (P-201)
02/17/15	02/19/15	ID_123144		Basic Presentation Training
02/18/15	02/18/15	ID_3021	1	Facilitator Workshop
02/18/15	02/18/15	865		Introduction to Emergency Preparedness Course (H-107)
02/18/15	02/18/15	ID_162144		International Travel (iTravel) Training ONLY for Approvers
02/18/15	02/18/15	ID_47144	1	Spending Plan System (SPS) Class
02/19/15	02/19/15	ID_149145		NEPA for the Uninitiated
02/19/15	02/19/15	ID_1081		NRC Correspondence Management: SECY Papers
02/19/15	02/19/15	ID_27144		COR Conversations
02/23/15	02/25/15	ID_9147		E-Gov Travel Services 2 (ETS2)-Federal Agency Travel Administrator and Federal Limited A - 1-Primary
02/24/15	02/27/15	508		Advanced SAPHIRE (P-202)
02/25/15	02/26/15	468		Site Access Training (H-100)
02/25/15	02/25/15	ID_135148		COR Workshop: Validation of Fee-Billable Contract & Agreement Costs
02/25/15	02/25/15	ID_154144		EPM: Resource Planning and Scheduling
03/02/15	03/06/15	516		Westinghouse Systems Overview (R-104P)
03/02/15	03/06/15	ID_159145		FAR BootCamp
03/03/15	03/06/15	ID_1122		System Administrator Information Technology Cyber Security Role-Based Course
03/04/15	03/04/15	ID_3461		Basic Contracting Officer's Representative Course
03/04/15	03/04/15	812		EEO and Diversity Refresher Training for Managers and Supervisors
03/05/15	03/06/15	ID_142145		Federal HR: Becoming a Strategic Business Partner
03/05/15	03/05/15	982		Risk-Informed Regulation for Technical Staff (P-101)
03/09/15	03/09/15	948		Assessing the Adequacy of Models for Risk-Informed Decisions (P-109)
03/09/15	03/13/15	ID_3484		Advanced Contracting Officer's Representative Course
03/09/15	03/13/15	ID_3482		Intermediate Contracting Officer's Representative Course
03/10/15	03/12/15	ID_156144		E-Gov Travel Services 2 (ETS2) COGNOS Report Authoring Training
03/10/15	03/11/15	ID_24143		NRC Cyber Systems
03/10/15	03/13/15	509		Human Reliability Assessment (HRA) Course (P-203)
03/16/15	03/17/15	ID_1061		Pre-Retirement Planning: CSRS Only
03/16/15	03/20/15	1075		Principles of Nuclear Engineering
03/17/15	03/17/15	ID_5024		ETS2 Federal Traveler/Arranger Training
03/17/15	03/20/15	ID_107144		EPRI HRA Calculator Training
03/17/15	03/20/15	510		External Events (P-204)

It's Time To Meet Brian Sentz

Office/Location: The Office of Investigations

Title: Sr. Program Analyst

What I really do:

(b)(6)

Time w/NRC:

(b)(6)

Previous employers:

(b)(6)

Biggest challenge:

(b)(6)

(b)(6)

Birthplace:

(b)(6)

Favorite Restaurant:

(b)(6)

Favorite sports:

(b)(6)

Favorite vacation spot:

(b)(6)

Favorite music:

(b)(6)

Favorite TV show:

(b)(6)

Favorite book:

(b)(6)

Is there some aspect of your life you think NRC staff would be surprised to know about?

(b)(6)

(b)(6)

When I'm not working, I:

(b)(6)

The person in history I would most like to meet:

(b)(6)

The kind of car I would like to drive:

(b)(6)

Most important influence in my life:

(b)(6)

If I won the lottery:

(b)(6)

Keys to success:

(b)(6)

If you could do one thing to make the NRC better:

(b)(6)

Any other item you would like to include:

(b)(6)

(b)(6)

Vol. 11

Issue 6

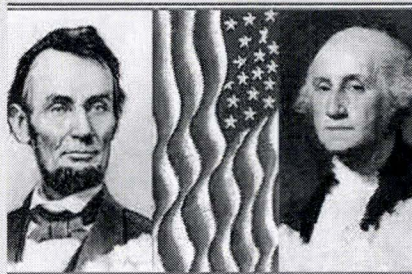
February 11, 2015

NRC Reporter

Protecting people and the environment

Inside this issue:

- [FEVS POC Meeting](#)
- [ELS Seminar Cont.](#)
- [Rewind Wednesday](#)
- [International Travel Tips](#)
- [Kiss the Pig for CFC](#)
- [It's Time to Meet...](#)



* * *

Hello? Does your office have any news to share?

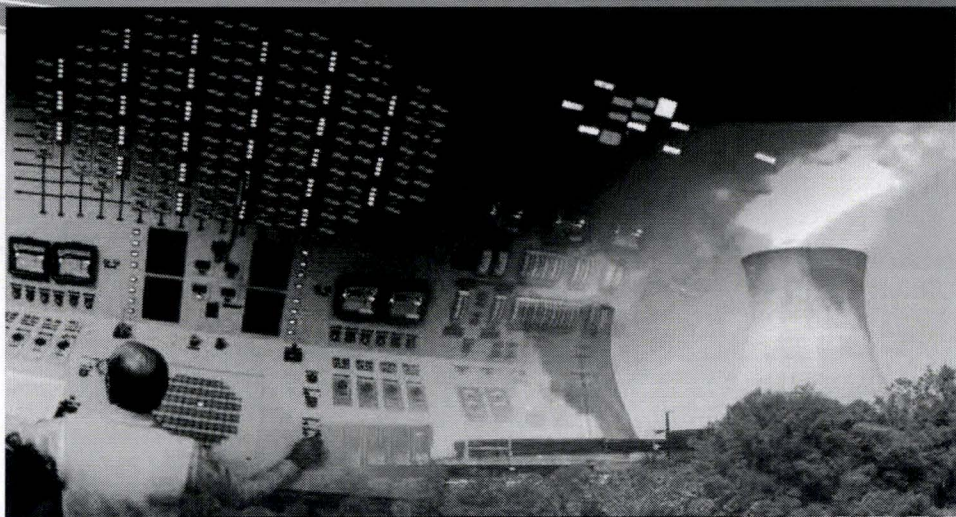
There are many sources of information in our daily lives. To make the Reporter relevant to you, please help by telling us about interesting people and events around the agency. Contact the editor with your story ideas.

Editor: Karin Francis

Layout: Stephanie West

[Reporter Archive](#)

[Reporter Calendar](#)



Systems Thinking for Strategic Decision Making **Recent ELS Seminar Overview by Karin Francis**



J. Gerald Suárez, Ph.D., Professor of the Practice in Systems Thinking & Design; Fellow, Center for Leadership, Innovation, and Change, Robert H. Smith School of Business, University of Maryland was the speaker at the ELS (Executive Leadership Seminar) on Feb. 3 in the Commission Hearing Room. Recognizing that it is often said, that somebody needs to do something, Suarez exhorted, "Then lead from where you are. Say, what are we going to do?" This is especially important when the issues are universal. "Leadership influences the future and the one we create with our actions."

Professor Suárez energetically gave an interactive seminar accompanied with slides and interactive exercises titled "Systems Thinking for Strategic Decision Making: Creating a Culture of Collaboration and Full Engagement." Open the [link to his slide presentation](#) for

details. His objective was to "revitalize the leader in you." The process involves radical collaboration and creative confidence, using the method of Systems thinking.

Dr. Suárez regaled the audience with an amusing tale of how he met Professor W. Edwards Deming, the father of the third wave of the industrial revolution. Suarez and his friend worked for the Navy in Systems Management in San Diego, CA one summer while they were graduate students. They were on their way to a party and asked to be included in a photo with a respected guest, who turned out to be Professor Deming. Dr. Suárez also did his Ph.D. thesis on Deming's work. According to Professor Deming, innovation requires knowledge, creativity requires knowledge, so "there is no substitute for knowledge." Among the notable accomplishments for setting standards for government and industry, Professor Deming also launched the Total Quality Management movement.

According to Professor Suárez, "When we admit what we don't know is when learning takes place." The audience was introduced to one the founders of general systems theory, Ludwig von Bertalanffy, an Austrian-born biologist. Systems theory applies to all fields of knowledge, and it reoriented scientific thinking.

Dr. Suárez also gave practical advice on strategic thinking; one should do an inventory of their day to see if they are in the future, past, or present. (Continued on Page 3)

NRC FEVS POCs Meet

Agency FEVS (Federal Employee Viewpoint Survey) POCs met to discuss the development of the NRC agency action plan related to the 2014-2015 Federal Employee Viewpoint Survey (FEVS) results on Feb. 5. Jason Lising, a Senior Organizational Development Specialist (OCHCO/HRTD) organized and facilitated the meeting. He noted that for the first time, the 2014 FEVS results included information from the Division and Branch levels if at least 10 employees responded to the survey. This level of granularity will make it easier for offices to create specific action plans at these levels.

The focus of the agency action plan for 2015 is on Employee Engagement. The 2014 NRC employees' scores related to Employee Engagement are a combination of questions from the Leaders Lead, Supervisors, and Intrinsic Work Experiences categories.

During the meeting, there was an open forum discussion on the Leaders Lead category, which includes the employees' perceptions of leadership's integrity as well as leadership behavior such as communication and workforce motivation.

Questions related to the Leaders Lead category:

- #53 In my organization, senior leaders generate high levels of motivation and commitment in the workforce.
- #54 My organization's senior leaders maintain high standards of honesty and integrity.
- #56 Managers communicate the goals and priorities of the organization.
- #60 Overall, how good a job do you feel is being done by the manager directly above your immediate supervisor?
- #61 I have a high level of respect for my organization's senior leaders.

It is expected that:

- By improving the Leaders Lead scores, the Employee Engagement Scores will improve
- Actions proposed will also continue to build on the themes of previous action plans: Performance Management, Employee Development, Valuing Human Differences, and Environment for Raising Concerns
- The agency-wide actions will help bring about a more positive agency environment from which Offices/Regions can build upon when developing their specific action plans

For more information about the FEVS results and plans for action, open the [Survey and Continuous Action Planning Sharepoint Site link](#).

NRC. Powered by You.

Celebrating Marv's Retirement


At his retirement celebration on Feb. 2, Marvin Itzkowitz, Associate General Counsel for Hearings, Enforcement and Administration, Office of the General Counsel, was presented with a retirement plaque by Chairman Burns. Mr. Itzkowitz retired with more than 37 years of Federal service with the NRC.

AFRICAN AMERICAN HISTORY MONTH 2015

**A CENTURY OF
BLACK LIFE,
HISTORY,
AND
CULTURE**

**DINNER CELEBRATION
FEBRUARY 19, 2015
TWFN AUDITORIUM
6:00PM-8:00PM**

**KEYNOTE SPEAKER
Lieutenant General
Ronald L. Bailey**



REWIND Wednesday

Computer Services. IBM/IBM PC clone, Atari ST, or Commodore systems repaired at reasonable rates. Will also "build" computer systems to your specifications. (cont)

Typing in my home in Gaithersburg. Reasonable rates and quick turnaround. Have PC with Windows, Word Perfect 5.0 and 5.1.

From the February 1994 edition of the NR&C, we bring you a couple of advertisements from the Swapper's Corner. In this same issue, there were at least four other ads for at-home typing services.

Wow, Atari ST, Commodore, and Word Perfect, seems like only yesterday these were cutting edge technologies.

A
N
A
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M

The solution to last week's anagram, *team gleaned known gem*, is Knowledge Management This anagram was solved by Irene Wu, NMSS.

This week's anagram is: *a better pet canary rhythm*

The Medical Radiation Safety Team monitors safety of this.

Originator of this week's anagram to be announced next week.

Executive Leadership Seminar Cont.

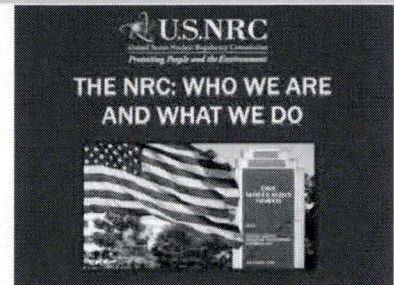
In so doing, the present always prevails. Recognizing that the future becomes the present is not knowledge. "We cannot prepare for the future if bracing for an impact. Figure out what matters most. Is this linked to strategic goals? Then you can take care of the future before you have to."

The interactive exercises included looking at the slide containing this text: OPPORTUNITYISNOWHERE; drawing circles into recognizable objects in three minutes; an awareness exercise involving physical changes, and group exercises involving changing the thinking from 'yes, but' to 'yes, and.'

J. Gerald Suárez, Ph.D., is also the author of *Leader of One, Shaping Your Future through Imagination and Design*, published in June 2014 by CreateSpace independent Publishing Platform. Managers and leaders were in attendance this ELS in person at the Commission Hearing Room and also via GoToMeeting.

Presentation Available in Various Formats

Do you know about the "Who We Are, What We Do" presentation on the Office of Public Affairs' internal website page? It's a tool created by OPA to aid in explaining the overall mission of the NRC. So, don't start from scratch if you need to make a presentation discussing what we do. You can use the whole presentation or just a few of the slides. In addition to the PowerPoint format on OPA's internal webpage, the presentation can be found in video format on the NRC YouTube Channel, and can be viewed and downloaded as a pdf on the external website. The PowerPoint version has some animations and transitions to help make it more visually interesting. But if you don't want all the bells and whistles, you can run the slideshow without them. If you have any questions about the presentation, or how to turn off the animations, contact Stephanie.west@nrc.gov.



Region IV's Diversity Advisory Committee and Federal Woman's Program Advisory Committee celebrated National Wear Red Day on Thursday, Feb. 6.

(b)(6)

Tips on International Travel – What's in a Gesture? Plenty!

by Carlotta Coates, OIP

Body language is culture-specific, and learning that language will contribute breadth and depth to your experience as a traveler. Like spoken language, there are variations from region to region within countries, like dialects. But beware of misunderstanding the dialect. Depending on where you are in the world, certain gestures can either mean you're making a new friend or landing yourself in hot water.

It is a good idea when preparing for travel to brush up on local hand gestures and other movements in order to avoid a misunderstanding. You might think you're flashing the peace sign to your foreign colleagues, while they might take your gesture rather differently.

Evolutionary anthropologists tell us that gesture is much older than speech.

When early humans had something to say, they said it with their hands. Many of these gestures are still in use today, for better or worse. Frequent travelers make liberal use of charades, pointing and miming their needs or desires. When you need to communicate and you don't have the luxury of a shared language, body language is invaluable. A skilled traveler can hail a taxi, buy food in a market, and get directions from a stranger through hand and facial motions alone.

As the language of hand signals continues to grow and change, and with new gestures entering the vocabulary all the time, hand gestures point to where we've been and where we're going.

Cultural faux pas will happen – they are inevitable. Most can be forgiven as the transgressions of enthusiastic albeit naïve travelers. Arm yourself against those awkward moments. Check out this [good resource](#) for understanding the variety of meanings for hand gestures around the world.



Region I Supports CFC by Kissing a Pig

(b)(6)

To raise money for the Combined Federal Campaign, Region I held a "Kiss a Pig" contest. The manager earning the most money "won" the honor of kissing Macey Mae, a local pot belly pig. Over the course of the contest, (b)(6) pledged to kiss the pig regardless of the outcome – if the contest garnered more than \$1,000. CFC Coordinator (b)(6) pledged the same, as did the two CFC executives.

When all of the money had been counted, more than \$1,200 had been raised for the CFC and (b)(6) was the Region's choice to plant one on Macey Mae.

(b)(6)

It's Time To Meet Christine Lipa

Office/Location: Region III's Division of Reactor Safety

Title: Branch Chief

What I really do: Lead engineering inspectors in ensuring the nuclear power plants are operating safely – every day.

Time w/NRC: (b)(6)

Previous employers: Portsmouth Naval Shipyard in New Hampshire

Birthplace: (b)(6)

Favorite Restaurants: (b)(6)

Favorite sports:

(b)(6)

Favorite vacation spot:

(b)(6)

Favorite TV shows: (b)(6)

Favorite books:

(b)(6)

When I'm not working,

(b)(6)

The person in history I would most like to meet:

(b)(6)

The kind of car I would like to drive:

(b)(6)

Most important influence in my life: (b)(6)

If I won the lottery:

(b)(6)

Keys to success:

(b)(6)

If you could do one thing to make the NRC better: The NRC is a great place to work and I see fantastic teamwork every day! I would encourage those around me to keep up the good work.

(b)(6)

Don't forget to register for RIC 2015!



U.S. NRC
United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Protecting People and the Environment

RIC 2015 March 10-12

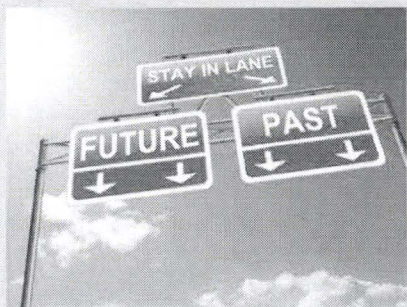
**27TH ANNUAL
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NRC Reporter

Protecting people and the environment

Inside this issue:

- [Learning](#)
- [Microsoft Lync](#)
- [Anagram](#)
- [Expert Locator](#)
- [It's Time to Meet...](#)



* * *

Hello? Does your office have any news to share?

There are many sources of information in our daily lives. To make the Reporter relevant to you, please help by telling us about interesting people and events around the agency. Contact the editor with your story ideas.

Editor: Karin Francis

Layout: Stephanie West

[Reporter Archive](#)

[Reporter Calendar](#)



Memphis' Admirers Get a Treat

by Stephanie West

(b)(6)

It was the day we all waited for, Memphis' retirement party on Feb. 11. We could finally act on our collective affection for Memphis (b)(6) faithful service dog. We all knew he was friendly, but he was always so serious and focused on his mission, it was hard to get a read on him. Not this day though, this day he was what we all thought and hoped for, a loveable and approachable pooch who loved his treats. At least two people commented at the party that they don't attend these events for humans, but they couldn't resist taking advantage of this chance to wish Memphis well. I may make up some

bumper stickers that say, "I got kisses from Memphis."

(b)(6)

told us that she was happy to be able to give her colleagues this opportunity to enjoy Memphis, as she had not been able to do the same with Jelly Bean, Memphis' predecessor. She expressed her appreciation to everyone, and thanked those who came bearing treats and toys for Memphis.

It seems a working dog never really stops working, even upon retirement (b)(6) told us Memphis helps out with training Indy, her newest addition. For example, he will go and put his paw on an item that she wants to demonstrate for Indy what (b)(6) needs (b)(6) said that Memphis once stuffed himself into the kennel to show Indy it was okay.

(b)(6)

It was a great party, full of smiles, cooing, petting, and treats. Memphis has been a welcome part of the NRC crew for many years, and he will be missed. We know, though, he will do well in his new role as a therapy dog helping children who have difficulties reading.

So good luck to Memphis, who

(b)(6)

we already knew was a consummate professional, but now know is also just a regular dog who loves to be loved. *(More photos on page 4)*

Onsite Management Training Available

Tactical to Strategic Training for Branch Chiefs and Managers

Under NRC's enterprise-wide course delivery contract with Management Concepts, the Office of the Chief Human Capital Officer, Human Resources Training and Development (OCHO/HRTD) has arranged to deliver an onsite offering of the vendor's 2-day class course entitled *From Tactical to Strategic Planning*. This class is open for registration to branch chiefs and above, and is described below. Interested management-level staff is encouraged to take advantage of this training opportunity. Contact Basia.Sall@nrc.gov about leadership training. Contact Dennise.Orlando@nrc.gov for information regarding the course.

Course Title: From Tactical to Strategic Thinking (ID_143144)

Date and Location: Mar. 30-31 at the PDC

Description: Leaders are expected to be able to elevate their thinking from a tactical or operational perspective to a more strategic perspective, allowing them to see "the bigger picture." This 2-day classroom course is designed to help branch chiefs, managers, and executives move beyond day-to-day, reactionary thinking to a more long-term and future-focused perspective. Through exercises and facilitated discussion you will define operational, tactical, and strategic thinking; explore methods for attaining a strategic perspective and making strategic decisions; and identify strategic leverage points and barriers to strategic thinking.

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Readying for Retirement

Are You Ready for Retirement? Are you mid-way through your career? Or are you within 5 years of retirement? If you fall into one of the latter two categories, NRC provides classroom training and learning resources in iLearn on Federal pre-retirement benefits. You are encouraged to take advantage of the many retirement planning learning resources available in iLearn. (See list below.) Contact Dennise.Orlando@nrc.gov for additional information.



Classroom Training at PDC in 2015

Preretirement Planning: CSRS Only (ID_1061). Mar. 16-17; Jul. 13-14; Nov. 4-5

Preretirement Planning: FERS Only (ID_1062). Mar. 18-20; Jun. 15-16; Jul. 28-29; Sep. 14-15; Nov. 2-3

Mid-Career Planning Retirement Planning (#225) Apr. 1-2; Jul. 15-16; Oct. 13-14; Nov. 30-Dec 1

Online Courses in iLearn:

Pre-retirement Planning for FERS (online course # fgov_01_a14_lc_enus)

Pre-retirement Planning for FERS (online course # Course fgov_01_a27_lc_enus)

Books 24/7 in iLearn (including, but not limited to the following):

Getting Started in a Financially Secure Retirement by Henry K. Hebel

Enjoy Retirement: 52 Brilliant Ideas for Loving Life After Retirement (2nd ed.) by Janet Butwell

The Real Retirement: Why You Could Be Better Off Than You Think, And How to Make That Happen by Fred Vettese and Bill Morneau

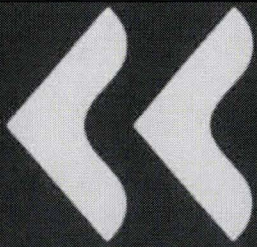
Superannuation: Planning Your Retirement for Dummies, by Trish Power

Decreasing Number of CSRS Retirement Planning Classes

The Office of Chief Human Capital Officer, Human Resources and Training (OCHCO/HRTD) would like employees to know that beginning in calendar year 2015, fewer CSRS retirement classes will be scheduled, whereas additional sessions of FERS and midcareer pre-retirement classes will be offered. The reason for these changes is due to the changing demographics of the agency. For example, 3 Pre-retirement Planning: CSRS Only (ID_1061) classes are scheduled between now and Dec 31st, whereas 5 sessions of both mid-career planning and FERS pre-retirement planning are available for registration in 2015.

Employees who fall under the CSRS retirement benefits plan are encouraged to note the limited number of offerings and register for one of the available CSRS retirement planning sessions in iLearn. HRTD will monitor the need for additional FERS and mid-career retirement planning classes and may offer additional sessions in calendar years 2015 and 2016 as determined by funding availability, employee interest, and agencywide training needs. Contact Dennise.Orlando@nrc.gov for additional information.

Powered by You.



REWIND Wednesday

(b)(6)

This photo was recently uncovered by Jan (b)(6) at the TTC in Chattanooga who is retiring soon. The picture is from an event for a Leadership Potential Program class from 11-12 years ago. Also pictured are (b)(6)

(b)(6)

(b)(2)

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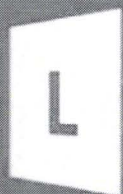
M

The solution to last week's anagram, *a better pet canary rhythm*, is brachytherapy treatment. This anagram was created by Sandy Gabriel in NMSS.

This week's anagram is: *give me NRC mandate site*. The hint is "These guide us in everyday operations at the NRC."

Tell us if you have an anagram you would like to feature in an upcoming edition of the *Reporter*.

"Lync"ing the NRC



Lync 2013

Tracking Down NRC Experts

Want Help? Need an Expert?

Something that may not be well known around the agency is that the team at the Technical Training Center (TTC) has over 1100 years of nuclear industry and regulatory experience. In fact, many of those individuals have over 30 years of experience. TTC also has several staff that are full inspector qualified in most inspection areas and many more have basic inspector qualifications.



NRC's Knowledge Management Program

To help facilitate knowledge sharing and support staff with questions pertaining to a specific reactor design or vendor, or other areas of expertise, TTC created an online expert locator.

- If you need help answering a question about General Electric, Westinghouse, Combustion Engineering, and Babcock and Wilcox, and AP1000 reactor vendor designs or operations;
- If you have questions on Agreement State training, radiation protection, fuel cycle technology, security and safeguards, and regulatory skills;
- If you need a backfill for resident staff, shorthanded on a team inspection;

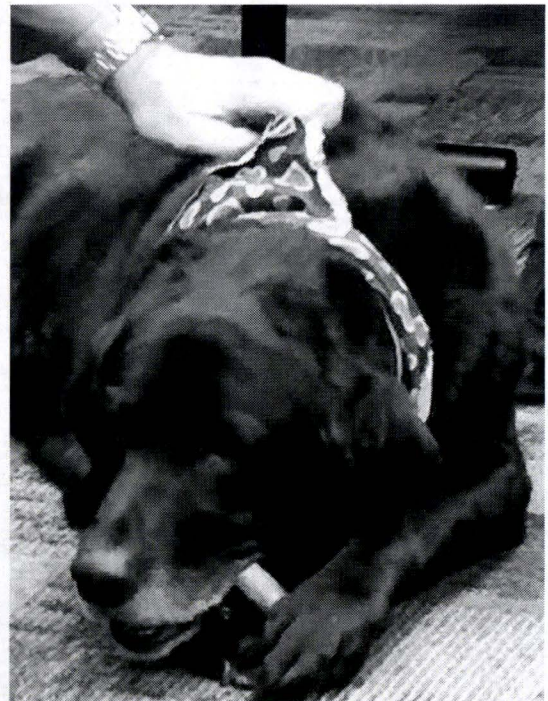
TTC management and staff may be able to help.

Check out and search the EXPERTTC at "[EXperience, PErformance, Resources @ TTC](#)". If you are unable to find what you are looking for, or interested in learning about whether or not the TTC staff can support you in these areas, please contact any branch chief at the TTC.

Powered by You.

More Pictures from Memphis' Farewell

(b)(6)



It's Time To Meet Bob Orlikowski

Office/Location: Region III, Division of Nuclear Material Safety

Title: Branch Chief of Materials Control, ISFSI, and Decommissioning

What I really do: Give my inspectors the resources they need to do their job while filtering out the things that distract them from doing their jobs

Time w/NRC: (b)(6)

Previous employers: (b)(6)

Biggest challenge: (b)(6)

Birthplace: (b)(6)

Favorite Restaurant: (b)(6)

Favorite sports: (b)(6)

Favorite vacation spot: (b)(6)

Favorite music: (b)(6)

Favorite TV show: (b)(6)

Favorite book: (b)(6)

Is there some aspect of your life you think NRC staff would be surprised to know about?

(b)(6)

When I'm not working: (b)(6)

The person in history I would most like to meet: (b)(6)

The kind of car vehicle I would like to drive: (b)(6)


Most important influence in my life: (b)(6)

If I won the lottery: (b)(6)

Keys to success: (b)(6)

If you could do one thing to make the NRC better:

(b)(6)

 **RIC 2015** March 10-12
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**Registration
for RIC 2015
Closes Feb. 24**

Vol. 11

Issue 8

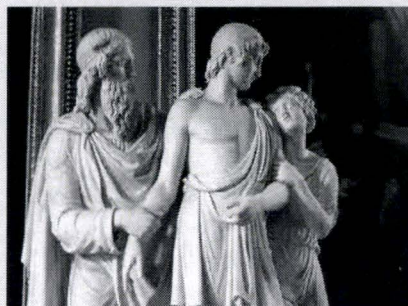
February 25, 2015

NRC Reporter

Protecting people and the environment

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- [2015 RIC Volunteers](#)
- [African American History Month](#)
- [It's Time to Meet...](#)



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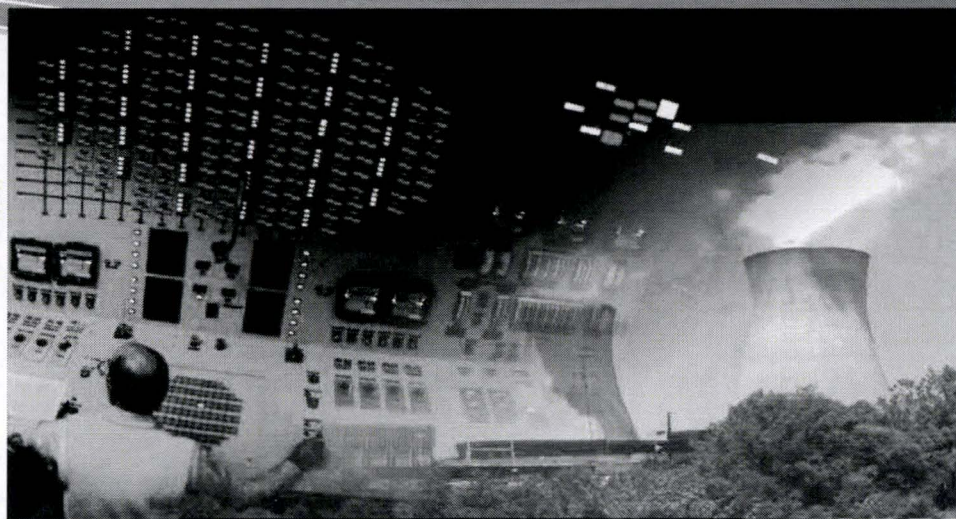
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Editor: Karin Francis

Layout: Stephanie West

[Reporter Archive](#)

[Reporter Calendar](#)



Carbon Monoxide Hazards by Naeem Iqbal (NRR)

Cold temperatures have led to increased incidents of exposure to carbon monoxide; some have even caused fatalities. On February 19, 2015, nine family members were hospitalized after carbon monoxide inhalation in Chestnut Ridge, New York. A faulty heating system is being blamed for that incident. On February 22, 2014, a leaking water heater flue pipe at a New York restaurant triggered a carbon monoxide leak that killed the restaurant manager. Twenty-seven other people, including restaurant employees, four ambulance personnel, and three police officers were also impacted by the fumes. Malfunctioning of the leaky pipe had created a buildup of carbon monoxide and fumes in the basement that circulated through the building via the ventilation systems. The restaurant did not have a carbon monoxide detector.

Carbon monoxide is a toxic gas. It is colorless, odorless, tasteless, and initially non-irritating and very difficult for people to detect. Under ordinary circumstances it is less dense and lighter than air. Carbon monoxide is a product of incomplete combustion of fuels such as natural or liquid propane gas and any other material containing carbon such as gasoline, kerosene, oil, coal, or wood. These materials can produce large amounts of carbon monoxide when there is insufficient oxygen available for combustion. Any fuel-burning appliance, including stoves, fireplaces, and water heaters, can be a source of carbon monoxide if there is improper ventilation.

Carbon monoxide detectors which are designed to protect against high concentrations of carbon monoxide are required to sound an alarm when concentrations are greater than 100 parts per million. Carbon monoxide detectors can be placed near the ceiling or floor as carbon monoxide is very close to the same density as air. One carbon monoxide detector in a home or building is not enough. Carbon monoxide detectors should be installed in a central location outside each separate sleeping area and on every level of the home, even in the basement.

The following link provides information on carbon monoxide hazard and tips to avoid exposures. [ADAMS Accession No. ML14063A185.](#)

DANGER
CARBON MONOXIDE

NRC Toastmasters Club Held Spring Speech Contests by (b)(6)

(b)(6)

(b)(6) (OCHCO) won the International Speech Contest and (b)(6) (NSIR) won the Evaluation Contest at the NRC Toastmasters Club Spring Contests held on Feb. 19. These two contestants will move on to compete at the next level, at the Area 65 Toastmasters Contest on Friday, Mar. 13.

(b)(6) spoke about her experience with the realization that it was time for (b)(6) to have that "talk" with their (b)(6) years old. She made this conclusion when (b)(6) wanted to go shopping for Valentine's Day candy and flowers for a very "special girl" at school. She spoke about this delicate subject very honestly, but tactfully, giving tips on how to start and conduct the conversation. Based upon her recent experience, she sprinkled her speech with actual dialogue which caused the audience to chuckle. (b)(6) speech was well-received by both the new parents in the audience, as well as others who have already dealt with this subject.

For the evaluation contest, (b)(6) evaluated the test speaker's speech. During an evaluation contest, the evaluator gives a speech evaluation in the form of a speech. As with a speech, his evaluation had an opening, the body, and conclusion. The test speaker, (b)(6) (OCHCO) and Area 65 Governor, gave a speech recalling (b)(6) carefully pointed out specifics on the good aspects of the speech and also gave examples of what would have made the speech even better.

All are invited to cheer for the NRC Club contestants on Mar. 13 at the Area 65 Toastmasters contest at 5:30 p.m. in the Wisconsin Room of the Bethesda Community Center, 4805 Edgemoor Lane, Bethesda, MD, across the street from the Bethesda Metro. Public parking garages are also nearby. Area 65 is comprised of five Toastmasters clubs: NRC Toastmasters, Executive Club (one of the NIH clubs), Twinbrook Toastmasters, PMA (Property Management Association) Toastmasters, and Berlin Ramos Toastmasters (a CPA firm's corporate club).

(b)(6)

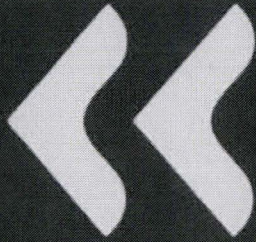
4th Flash Mentoring Event 3/5/15

The fourth Flash Mentoring Event is Thursday, Mar. 5, 2015, from 10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. in the TWFN auditorium. If you would like to meet with several agency leaders and potential mentors, this is your opportunity. Each mentoring session is five minutes, and you can meet with at least 8 or 9 mentors during the first hour. The last half hour is an open period for additional mentoring or appointment setting. It is recommended that you make the most of your time by being prepared with questions to ask each mentor. Mentees should register in iLearn: Seminar ID_65143, Scheduled Offering 378202. Mentors can contact Karin Francis, Mentoring Program Manager at Karin.Francis@nrc.gov or call (301) 287-0575.



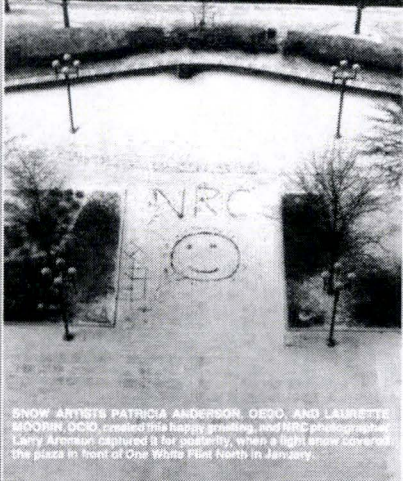
Flash Mentoring Event

Your Career.
Mentoring
Powered by You.



REWIND Wednesday

Having a Happy Day at HQ



SNOW ARTISTS PATRICIA ANDERSON, DEBO, AND LAURETTE MOONIN, DCO, created this happy greeting, and NRC photographer Larry Aronson captured it for posterity, when a light snow covered the plaza in front of One White Flint North in January.

Back in Feb. 2001, employees of the NRC had some fun with the snow that was lightly covering the plaza. Taken from the p. 2 of Feb. 2001 issue of the NR&C.

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The solution to last week's anagram, *give me NRC mandate site*, Management Directives.

This week's anagram is: *a plea emerges, try compassion*. A service available to all NRC staff.

Tell us if you have an anagram you would like to feature in an upcoming edition of the Reporter.

National Engineers Week

This week is National Engineers Week, also known as EWeek. The NRC celebrates its engineers February 22nd – 28th during National Engineers Week. EWeek was founded in 1951 by the National Society of Professional Engineers (formerly The National Engineers Week Foundation). It celebrates the

positive contributions engineers make to society and is a catalyst for outreach across the country for children and adults. National Engineers Week is part of many corporate and government cultures and is celebrated on every U.S. engineering college and university campus.

DiscoverE, is a formal coalition of more than 100 professional societies, major corporations, and government agencies. DiscoverE is dedicated to ensuring a diverse and well-educated future engineering workforce by increasing understanding and interest in engineering and technology careers among young students from kindergarten through high school.

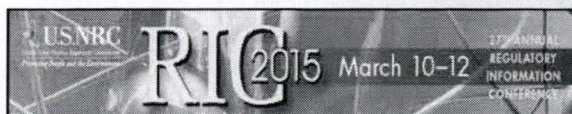
DISCOVER
ENGINEERS WEEK

FEBRUARY 22-28, 2015

Volunteers for the 2015 RIC



The call was made, and they answered. The 2015 Regulatory Information Conference (RIC) volunteers will offer their expertise in customer service to all RIC attendees during this year's conference March 10-12. They will work hard as room monitors, registration desk assistants, greeters, Operations Center tour assistants, information desk assistants, and luggage room monitors.



These folks are an important part of the team that helps make the RIC a success each year. So thank you for volunteering your time and skills to this year's conference.

Q & A with Joanne Savoy

In case you missed it on the NRC blog, take a moment to read this Q&A on Joanne Savoy in recognition of African American History Month (Published on the NRC blog Feb. 9, 2015).

Joanne Savoy works in the NRC's Office of International Programs as a licensing assistant for the Exports Controls and Nonproliferation Branch. She has also been the chair of the agency's Advisory Committee for African Americans (ACAA) for the past three years.

What is the ACAA?

The ACAA is one of eight Equal Employment Opportunity Advisory Committees here at the NRC. It reports to the Office of Small Business and Civil Rights and its goal is to assist in identifying issues that may impact African American employees. We also make recommendations to address those issues.

Why does diversity matter in the NRC workplace?

Diversity matters because everyone is able to bring different points of view to the table. Many of us come from different backgrounds, and we are able to take what we have experienced — and learned in our own diversified cultures — to add value to our everyday work life. Diversity at the NRC means a new way of thinking, and a new way for all of us to interact with each other and learn from each other.

How does diversity in the workforce help the NRC meet its mission?

There are many studies that prove that when workers are ethnically and racially diverse, are educated in different parts of the country, represent multiple generations, and come from various socio-economic backgrounds they collaborate and contribute in a way that makes an organization more successful and productive in accomplishing its mission.

The NRC permanent staff is made up of:

- 15% African Americans
- 10% Asians
- 6% Hispanics
- 1% Native Americans
- 67% White

We come from all parts of the country; we have been educated in many different colleges and universities, and in many different disciplines (both technical and non-technical). We represent every generation across every age group. We practice many different religions and beliefs and nearly 1% of our work force is employees with disabilities. This is the diversity that makes the NRC great.

Why is Black History Month important?

Black History Month is important because it is a time to reflect on how far we have come. Black History Month is a time for EVERYONE to celebrate ALL who have fought for African American rights and freedom. Judge Alan Rosenthal, a member of the NRC's ASLPB, was the keynote speaker at the agency's African American History month dinner in 2013. I was surprised to learn the agency had someone who played a vital role in the historic *Brown vs Board of Education of Topeka, Kansas*. I remember thinking how amazing it was to have met this man who had fought so hard for someone like me, so I would have the opportunities that I have today. I will never forget that moment. It made me realize how the NRC has heroes like Judge Rosenthal, who fought the fight for equal rights.

What should people make a point to do/think/reflect on during Black History Month?

We should make a point to volunteer and give back to our communities. There are people and children who need us to guide them and help them make their lives better. I also think we should continue to educate not only ourselves but our children about our history. There are so many great movies like *Selma*, *Roots*, *12 Years A Slave*, *Glory*, *The Butler*, *Malcom X*, *Road to Memphis*, *American Black Journal* and so many more that can help the education process. We should be watching these movies and talking to our children, family and friends about what Black History Month means to us.

I am who I am because of the people — black and white — who have fought the fight for equal rights. Because of them, a woman like me is able to work here at the NRC and to have the freedom to do whatever I want. It is up to me and you to give back and continue the legacy and remember we have come a long way, but there is always more that we can do to continue with our legacy.

(b)(6)

It's Time To Meet Indy

Name: Indiana (Indy) or AKC Deep Run's Treasure

Office/Location: EDO/AO/CPM

Title: Mobility Assistance Dog

What I really do: Provide assistance by retrieving almost anything, carrying items, helping to take off coats, pull the hose around the backyard to water the plants, etc. Anytime I can use my basic skills of retrieving, holding, and tugging.

Time w/NRC: Technically, I work for (b)(6) I started working part time at the NRC in October 2014, and full-time in January.

Previous employers: None, just (b)(6)

Biggest challenge: Learning what it really means to be an assistance dog. Assistance dogs need to be able to perform their skills in any situation calmly and professionally. I am young, so sometimes it is difficult to stay focused. It helps if people do their best to ignore me, so I will not be tempted to visit and can focus on my work.

Birthplace: Deep Run Kennel, Goldvein, VA

Favorite restaurant: Any restaurant is good, especially when I can find food on the floor

Favorite sport: Rally (American Kennel Club obedience course competition)

Favorite vacation spot: The beach

Favorite music: Rock and Pop

Favorite TV show: Any show with a dog

Favorite book: "The Other End of the Leash," by Patricia McConnell

Pet Peeves: Dogs who are aggressive towards me.

When I'm not working, I ... Sleeping or playing with Memphis or anyone

Celebrity I most resemble: Memphis

The canine in history I would most like to meet: Fala, Franklin D. Roosevelt's dog, although not technically an assistance dog, he accompanied the President everywhere.

The kind of car I would like to drive: Any car with a window


Most important influence in my life: Memphis who has taught me how to be an assistance dog.

If I could do one thing over: Avoid the wasp that stung me in the face and required me to have surgery.

If I won the lottery: Money is not important to me, I will leave that up to (b)(6)

Keys to success: Taking advantage of every opportunity to learn new skills and abilities, as well as continuously improve.





U.S. NRC
United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Protecting People and the Environment

RIC

2015

March 10-12

27TH ANNUAL
REGULATORY
INFORMATION
CONFERENCE

Vol. 11

Issue 9

March 4, 2015

NRC Reporter

Protecting people and the environment

Inside this issue:

- [Records Mgmt. Training](#)
- [New KM Website!](#)
- [ACAA Dinner](#)
- [High School Career Day](#)
- [It's Time to Meet...](#)

Note from the Editor:

This is the last weekly issue of the *NRC Reporter*. Going forward, the *NRC Reporter* will be published monthly, on the first Wednesday of the month. This means that the next issue of the *Reporter* will be published on April 1.

In order to continue having an informative employee newsletter, I encourage you to continue submitting articles, photos, etc. Thank you for your support.

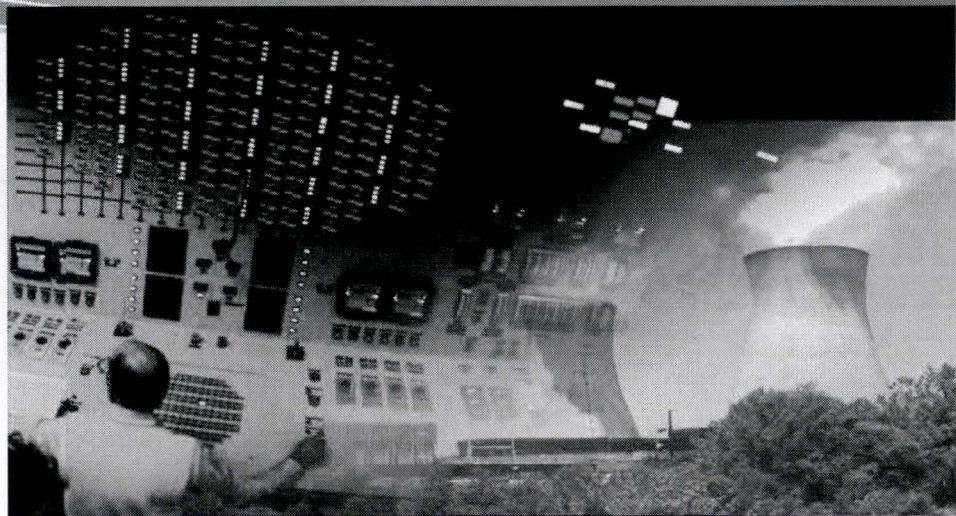
-Karin Francis

Editor: [Karin Francis](#)

Layout: [Stephanie West](#)

[Reporter Archive](#)

[Reporter Calendar](#)



SUNSHINE WEEK by Stuart Reiter (OIS)



Sunshine Week is coming Mar. 15-21. Before we all get too excited, Sunshine Week is part of a national initiative to promote discussion on the importance of open government and freedom of information. This year marks the initiative's 10th anniversary. It's organized by the [American Society of News Editors](#) (ASNE). The key funder has been the [John S. and](#)

[James L. Knight Foundation](#), with significant support provided by the ASNE Foundation.

Though created by journalists, Sunshine Week is about the public's right to know what its government is doing and why, and to give them access to information that makes their lives better and their communities stronger. Those taking part include news media, civic groups, libraries, non-profits, schools, and others interested in the public's right to know.

In Jan. 2009, the President instructed OMB to issue an Open Government Directive. To comply with the directive, each agency was required to develop and publish an Open Government Plan (updated every two years) describing how it will improve transparency and integrate public participation and collaboration into its activities. NRC's most recent plan can be found [here](#).

OPA will have a poster at the RIC on "Sharing Information with the Public through Social Media." The emphasis this year is to promote the 2014 launch of Facebook and expand the "Like Us" campaign. OPA also worked with an SES Team premiering a video that kicks off the "NRC & Your Community" campaign and branding. We also hope to make items mobile friendly in the next version of InfoDigest (2015-2016).

**Open government
is good government**

Web-based Records Management Training

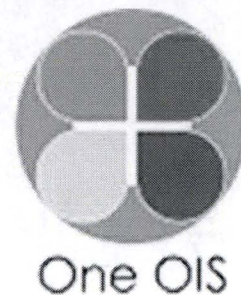
The Information and Records Management (IRM) Program is designed to provide complete and accurate agency information by developing policies, procedures, guidance, and tools for the capture, use, storage, and disposition of information. The vision of the IRM Program, as documented in the IRM Plan, is embedded in the NRC's Information Technology/Information Management (IT/IM) Strategic Plan for fiscal years 2012-2016. The IRM Plan will strengthen the NRC's IRM program through a series of projects that, over the next several years, will enable the NRC to better manage its information through investments, enterprise architecture, and ownership of IRM projects outside traditional roles and responsibilities.

The Outreach and Training Project is one of the projects included in the IRM Program. The objective of the Outreach and Training Project is to develop and conduct appropriate and necessary recordkeeping training for staff and contractors, from high level officials to administrative support, about recordkeeping responsibilities. The online training course primarily focuses on records management responsibilities in law and recordkeeping responsibility policies.

The newly developed NRC Records Management Training (Web-Based) course explains to staff and contractors:

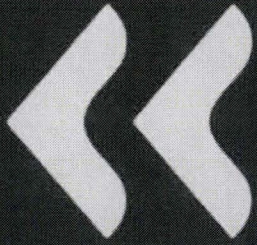
- The benefits of good Records Management and the risks of poor Records Management
- The definition of Records, Non-Records, Personal Papers, and Working Files
- How records should be managed throughout their lifecycle
- The recordkeeping responsibilities of each NRC manager, employee, and contractor
- The role of the National Archives and Records Administration in overseeing the management of all government records
- Where they can locate assistance with fulfilling their recordkeeping obligations

Along with the online training course, job aids and other reference materials are available for staff on the IT/IM Policy Branch's Records Management website. The training course has been available in iLearn (Course ID_151144) since Dec. 31, 2014, as required in Presidential Directive OMB M-12-18. As OIS continues to work on the various projects of the IRM Program and improve the management of the NRC's information, staff will provide updates in the NRC Reporter. So, stay tuned; more information will be coming soon.



NEW Look for the Knowledge Management Website!

(b)(2)



REWIND Wednesday

(b)(6)

Thanks to (b)(6) in the TTC for providing this image of (b)(6) from a Leadership Potential Program dinner in the 2003-2004 time frame.

Please let us know if you have any throw-back images you would like to include in an upcoming issue of the Reporter.

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The solution to last week's anagram, **a plea emerges, try compassion**, is Employee Assistance Program. Thank you to Elizabeth Smioldo in OIP for solving the puzzle.

This week's anagram is: **made to offer confirmation**. Preserves the people's right to know.

Tell us if you have an anagram you would like to feature in an upcoming edition of the Reporter.

ACAA DINNER by (b)(6) (OIP)

The Advisory Committee for African Americans (ACAA) hosted its annual African American History Month dinner on Feb. 19 in the TWFN auditorium. The dinner was attended and supported by Chairman Burns, Mark Sartorius (EDO), Michael Weber (DEDMRT), and Darren Ash (DEDCM). This year's theme was "A Century of Black Life, History, and Culture."

This year's keynote speaker was Lieutenant General Ronald L. Bailey of the United States Marine Corps. Lieutenant General Bailey serves as the Deputy Commandant, Plans, Policies, and Operations at the Pentagon. His address focused on the word "Culture" in tribute to the dinner theme. He spoke about cultivating unity, being transparent and responsive, and the importance of mentoring and educating our youth. The event also featured two amazing performances from Kimberly Gaskins (RES) and Twana Ellis (ASLBP). They moved the audience with their powerful songs.

The Keynote speaker was presented with an ACAA badge, an NRC coin, and a Certificate of Appreciation. (b)(6) was presented with a Certificate of Appreciation for her song performance at the dinner. (b)(6) received the Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO) award for her ongoing support of ACAA activities. ACAA, along with the NRC Chapter of Blacks In Government (BIG), honored (b)(6) SBCR, with the "Breaking Barriers Award." This award was presented to (b)(6) for his hard work and dedication to diversity at the NRC and outside of the Agency.

ACAA thanks NRC management, staff, and everyone that attended the dinner. All of the support made this year's dinner an outstanding event.

(b)(6)

Region III Celebrates EWeek by Julio Lara

On Feb. 24, Region III staff enjoyed its 10th Annual "Pizza and Pocket Protector Luncheon" to celebrate National Engineers Week.

This luncheon is always a favorite, providing an opportunity for camaraderie, and is one of the premier engineering events in the Region. It provides an opportunity for employees to show their enthusiasm for the work, the traditions, and the innovations brought forth by this profession.

Traditionally, this Region III event features recognition of Region III's registered Professional Engineers (6), an engineering math problem competition, a slide rule competition, and many laughs. This year's program also included a discussion of Professional Engineer licensure requirements and an informative discussion of how a vehicle's Tire Pressure Monitoring System works and how it impacts individual road safety.

The slide rule is a mechanical analog "computer," consisting of logarithmic scales that can be moved in relation to each other in order to do basic mathematical calculations. This year, 11 employees participated in the slide rule competition using a traditional slide rule, a circular slide rule, and a smartphone slide rule "app." The winners of the engineering math problem (b)(6) and slide rule competition (b)(6) were awarded gift certificates.

Two math problems in the math competition are given below. Can you solve them?

Water flows in a 5 cm diameter pipe at a velocity of 0.75 m/s. The mass flow rate of the water in the pipe is:

- a. 353 kg/min
- b. 75 kg/min
- c. 37.5 kg/min
- d. 1.47 kg/min
- e. 88.4 kg/min

An 18 wheeler has a mass of 28,000 kilograms when fully loaded. The truck goes from 0 to 90 kilometers per hour in 120 seconds. What is the force on the 18 wheeler due to acceleration?

- a. 1.08 kN
- b. 15.82 kN
- c. 10.71 kN
- d. 5.83 kN

Answers will appear in next month's issue.

Richard Montgomery High School Career Day

(b)(6) (NRR) joined over 100 other volunteers from the area in Richard Montgomery High School's first Career Day on Feb. 27. (b)(6) spoke about his experiences and career opportunities at the NRC to five different classes of IB Physics and IB Math and manned a table at the career fair. The students were very engaged and asked great questions about internships, engineering careers, Fukushima, gas cooled reactors, and nuclear waste.

It's Time To Meet Rhex Edwards

Office/Location: Region III, Division of Nuclear Materials
Safety

Title: Reactor Inspector

What I really do: Verify the safe storage of spent nuclear
fuel and the safe decommissioning of power reactors

Time w/NRC: 5 years

Previous employers: U.S. Navy

Biggest challenge:

(b)(6)

Birthplace:

(b)(6)

Favorite Restaurant:

(b)(6)

Favorite sports:

(b)(6)

Favorite vacation spot:

(b)(6)

Favorite music:

(b)(6)

Favorite TV show:

(b)(6)

Favorite book:

(b)(6)

When I'm not working, I ...

(b)(6)

The person in history I would most like to meet:

(b)(6)

The kind of car I would like to drive:

(b)(6)

Most important influence in my life:

(b)(6)

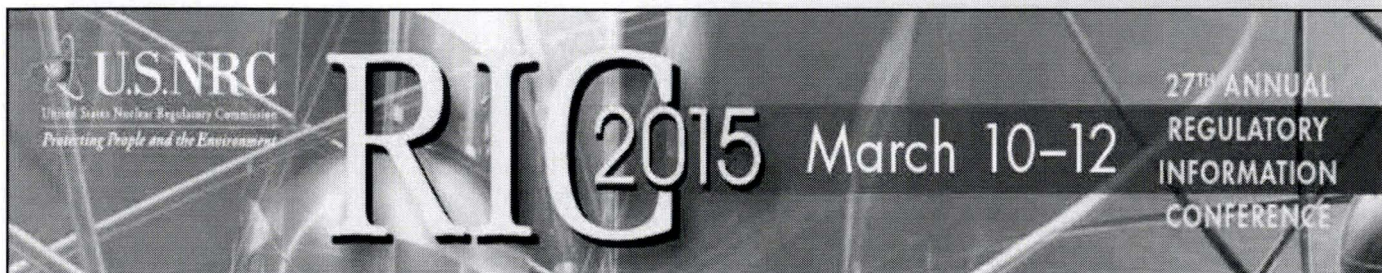
If I won the lottery:

(b)(6)

Keys to success:

(b)(6)

(b)(6)



Vol. 11

Issue 10

April 1, 2015

NRC Reporter

Protecting people and the environment

Inside this issue:

- [RIMM](#)
- [Behavior Matters](#)
- [Mentoring](#)
- [Tribal Training](#)
- [University Symposium](#)
- [Plain Writing](#)
- [Bring Your Child to Work](#)
- [Toastmasters](#)
- [PDC Classes](#)

REPORTER SUBMISSION INFO. FROM THE EDITOR

The *NRC Reporter* will be published monthly, on the first Wednesday of the month. The next issue of the *Reporter* will be published on May 6. The deadline for submissions is May 4.

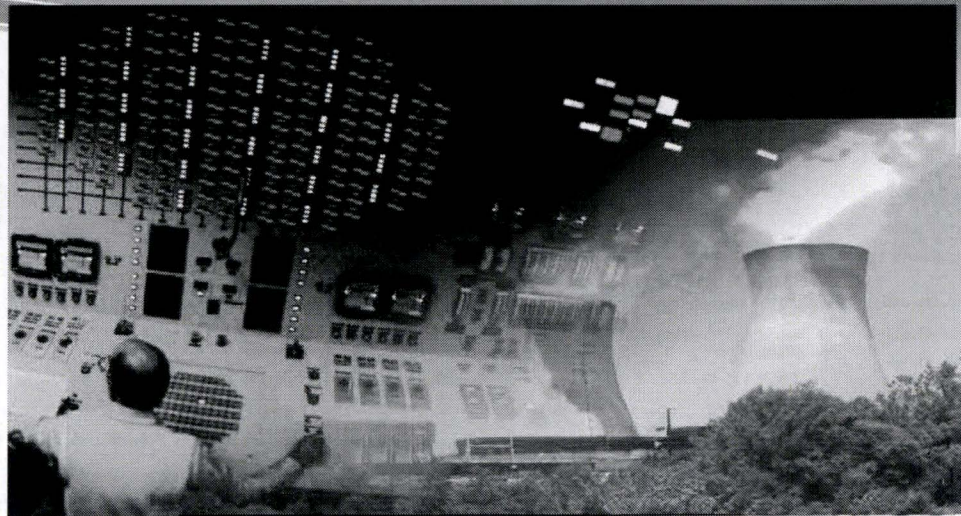
In order to continue having an informative employee newsletter, I encourage you to submit articles, photos, etc. to the NRC Reporter inbox via email to: NRCReporter.Resource@nrc.gov

Editor: [Karin Francis](#)

Layout: [Stephanie West](#)

[Reporter Archive](#)

[Reporter Calendar](#)



Fulbright Senior Specialist Lectures In Slovakia

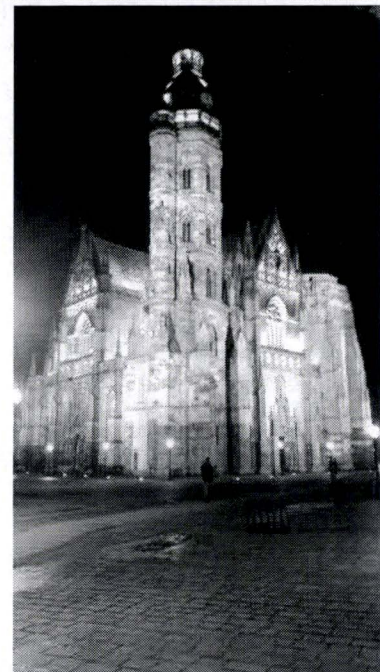
By Michael Dusaniwskyj (NRR)

I was thrilled and honored that this was my third Fulbright under its Senior Specialist Program, and the second time I would lecture at two universities: the Technical University of Kosice, as well as the University Pavla Jozefa Safarika of Kosice. Starting with my 14 hour flight to Eastern Europe on January 31, 2015, I would spend the next five weeks in Kosice, Slovakia.

The city of Kosice is in eastern Slovakia; an old city by European standards, it was first chartered in the 1200's. Something unique to Kosice is the central section called "Stare Misto" or "old city" which still retains much of the original architecture character despite many renovations through the centuries. It has many shops, restaurants, and cafes. The old city has a theater that has been in continuous use from the 1700's and the oldest continuous restaurant dating back to the 1500's. The old city has the most eastern Roman Catholic Cathedral in Europe. Circling the old city are buildings that reflect the Soviet history of the city.

On my first Monday there, I met with the Dean of Students at the Technical University to make formal introductions and present my credentials. A similar meeting would be made later at the University Pavla Jozefa Safarika. Despite lecturing at two universities, I stayed in the Technical University guest house, located in the largest dormitory of the university. Although it was not luxurious, it was clean, comfortable, and secure with a private bathroom. Despite the weather hovering around the freezing point, the room was also very warm and dry.

I always made it a point to arrive early for a scheduled lecture. My average day started with a lecture at 9:00 AM in one of the large amphitheater classrooms, easily accommodating 200 students. Most of the students I encountered were third year undergraduates. (Continued on p. 7)



St Elizabeth's Roman Catholic Cathedral in Slovakia

April is Records and Information Management Month

For those who live in the DC area, the month of April means increasing temperatures, rain showers, and the annual blooming of the cherry blossom trees around the Tidal Basin. Aside from having showers that bring May flowers, April is known for one other event – April is Records and Information Management Month (RIMM)! In honor and celebration of RIMM, we have elected to focus on cleaning up our e-mail inboxes this year.

Here's a quick quiz to see if you need to "Take the E-Trash Out of Your Inbox":

- Are you in e-mail jail and can't send or receive emails?
- Do you have trouble locating e-mails that you received because nothing is organized?
- Do you have personal e-mails intermingled with your work e-mails?
- Do you have any e-mails that belong in a case file in ADAMS but haven't gotten around to putting them in ADAMS?

If the answer to any of these questions is "Yes!" then you are a prime candidate to organize and trim your e-mail inbox and manage your e-mail efficiently. The next question that probably comes to mind is, "There are so many e-mails – *where do I start?*" A few quick wins when cleaning out your e-mail inbox:

- Delete bulletins and mass emails sent to NRC Employee Distributions, such as e-mails from HRMS, IT, eTravel, ADAMS, Facilities, Union or NRC Announcements that have short-term value. (**Helpful Hint: Sort e-mails by the "From" column to find and delete multiple e-mails sent to a specific user, rather than scrolling down to find individual e-mails.**)
- Delete e-mails from co-workers that have short-term value, such as invitations to a lunch & learn seminar, a discussion regarding if it would be better to meet at 2 or 2:30 p.m. for the meeting last Thursday, or an e-mail from your branch's administrative assistant to fill in your timesheet in HRMS.
- Delete personal e-mails from your spouse ("Honey, can you pick up some milk on your way home?"), March Madness/Super Bowl/World Series Bracket Competition, Weather Alerts, or WMATA Alerts.
- Create folders similar to those in your P: Drive to organize applicable e-mails by project, making it easier to find all of your project-related communications in one place.
- Add e-mails that are related to a case or docket file into ADAMS for proper preservation as part of the official file.
- Create folders for professional organizations of which you are a member to keep the e-mails from external organizations in one place for easy retrieval and maintained separately from your NRC e-mails.
- Delete e-mails from your "Sent" folder that have short-term value, such as RSVPs to meetings that occurred in the past and "Thank you" e-mails that don't contain any other information.
- After you've deleted all of these e-mails that you no longer need, remember to empty your Deleted Items folder! (**Helpful Hint: Setting up your Outlook to automatically empty your Deleted Items when exiting Outlook removes the extra step of manually emptying the Deleted Items folder.**)

If you want to know more about your recordkeeping responsibilities, we encourage you to check out the NRC Records Management Training in iLearn (Course ID_151144). If you have any questions, the IT/IM Policy Branch is always available to assist you and can be contacted at ITIMPolicy.Resource@nrc.gov.



Volunteers Sought for Upcoming Walk MS 2015 Event



(b)(6) (NRO) is seeking colleagues to join her in the upcoming Washington, D.C. five-kilometer **Walk MS 2015 event**, which will be held at the Yards Park (located at 3rd and 4th Streets, SE and Water Street, SE), the district's new waterfront destination, on Saturday, April 25, starting at 9 a.m. Registration opens at 7 a.m.

"No matter the location across the country, Walk MS connects people living with multiple sclerosis and those who want to help them," notes (b)(6). The National MS Society says that more than 2.3 million people are living with the disease worldwide. Walk MS began in 1988 and has raised more than \$870 million to support life-changing programs and cutting-edge research. Multiple sclerosis is an unpredictable, often disabling disease of the central nervous system that disrupts the flow of information within the brain, and between the brain and body.

"A friend of ours suffers from MS and a group of folks who want to walk in his honor and help him organized a team called 'Team Tom's Troopers.' I'm hoping that some of my colleagues can volunteer to walk and also donate, if possible. But simply walking together would be great in helping highlight and fight this debilitating disease," she adds.

Please contact (b)(6) for more information.

Answers to Actions

As part of the 2014 Agency Action Plan this year, OCHCO and OEDO are coordinating an agency forum to share best practices. A panel representing high-performing and most-improved organizations based on the 2014 Federal Employee Viewpoint Survey (FEVS) engagement scores will present action plans and lead a discussion on how they have improved employee engagement, built trust, and practice good communication within their organizations. This event is scheduled for Tues., Apr. 21 from 10:00 - 11:30 a.m. in the TWFN Auditorium. Mark your calendars for an enlightening event as we share our strengths.

answers
to actions

How Your FEVS Feedback
is Making a Difference
April 21, 10:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.
TWF Auditorium

Your Opinions
Count
NRC Powered by You

Behavior Matters Phase II Workshops

by Lance Rakovan (OEDO)

BEHAVIOR matters

A question we (the Behavior Matters Team) frequently get when talking with folks about the campaign is "Why should I go to a workshop"?

We understand that everyone at the agency is busy and asking you to spend three and a half hours doing anything is a lot to ask. We remind folks, however, that the main purpose of the

Phase II workshops is to help improve workplace interactions at all levels of the agency. That strengthening your knowledge and skills involving self-awareness, situational awareness, self-regulation, and providing and receiving feedback can be a big first step towards improving our workplace environment.

Some feedback we've received from past attendees includes:

- The time went very quickly which was a pleasant surprise. It was very organized and effective.
- Very useful course that will impact how I deal with situations in the future.
- The entire agency needs to experience this class.
- Instructor did a wonderful job! Skipped (avoided) a lot of touchy-feely fluff and that's appreciated.
- Practicing giving feedback is something everyone does not do enough of. Appreciate the opportunity to do this.
- Thanks for giving us lots of think about and new ways to approach issues.
- I can't wait for Phase III!

In addition, Glenn Tracy, Director, Office of New Reactors, had this to say:

"The NRO Team enthusiastically embraced the opportunity to participate as a pilot office in the Behavior Matters Phase II Workshops, helping to shape this innovative agency initiative.

We recognize that fostering a more open and collaborative work environment strengthens our efforts to fulfill our important safety mission consistent with NRC's values and NRO's Vision of Success.

By focusing on the need to enhance our individual skills when collaborating with our colleagues across the entire agency, the workshops served as a pathway to establishing a shared understanding of the behaviors expected from ALL of us, as the NRC moves forward."

You can get additional information about the workshops by reading the "[What to Expect](#)" one-pager.

We have workshops scheduled with several offices and are working to get others on the calendar. Your participation and support of the Behavior Matters campaign is critical to improving how we interact with each other and thus our ability to accomplish the NRC's mission. We hope you will sign up for a workshop when you have the opportunity.

If you have any questions about the Behavior Matters initiative, contact [Lance Rakovan](#) at 301-415-2589.

(b)(6)

During Engineer's Week, there were some math problems to solve. As promised, here are the answers to those problems:

Water flows in a 5 cm diameter pipe at a velocity of 0.75 m/s. The mass flow rate of the water in the pipe is: **88.4 kg/min**

An 18 wheeler has a mass of 28,000 kilograms when fully loaded. The truck goes from 0 to 90 kilometers per hour in 120 seconds. What is the force on the 18 wheeler due to acceleration? **5.83 kN**

Career Counseling and NRC Mentoring



Your Career.
Mentoring
Powered by You.

HRTD offers two programs that support professional development and career planning: the NRC Career Counseling Program and NRC Mentoring Program. The point of contact for these programs is Karin Francis.

The NRC Career Counseling Program empowers employees to examine their career decisions and develop future career strategies with a career counselor in a confidential setting. Available to employees are: the Myers-Briggs Type Indicator (MBTI) assessment, career assessment, guidance with developing goals, guidance with NRC position applications, resume review/application review and feedback, interview coaching, career decision-making activities, and career transition counseling.

The Mentoring Program provides NRC employees an opportunity to discuss their career goals and aspirations with experienced NRC employees who volunteer to serve as mentors, giving career advice on a one-to-one basis. Contact [Karin Francis](#) or look for the Mentoring Program on the Training webpage on the NRC intranet.

For an opportunity to meet several potential mentors at one setting, employees may want to attend the next **Flash Mentoring Event on Thursday, April 16 from 1:00 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. in the TWFN auditorium.** The last half hour from 2:00 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. is an open period, so that people can talk longer with a mentor, or talk with mentors they did not get to meet previously. If you are interested in serving as a mentor for Flash Mentoring, please email or call [Karin Francis](#), the Mentoring Program Manager, telephone number (301) 287-0575.

Flash Mentoring is based upon the "speed dating" model, and provides employees with quick mentoring sessions with several potential mentors all in one setting. The mentors sit at assigned tables and the mentees (employees) move to a different table after five minute increments. So far, the NRC has held three "sold out" Flash Mentoring events. These events were beneficial for both the mentors and the mentees. The mentors were able to share their knowledge, and the mentees appreciated having face time with agency leaders. Some even established mentoring partnerships. Mentoring is one of the elements of Developing Others, which is just one out four competencies listed in OPM's Executive Core Qualification #2 Leading People. ECQ 2 Leading People is comprised of four competencies: Conflict Management, Leveraging Diversity, Developing Others, and Team Building.

The mentees are to register in iLearn to participate in the Flash Mentoring event: Seminar ID_65143, Scheduled Offering Number 394204.

Spring Golf Outing

2015 EWRA SPRING GOLF OUTING

LOCATION: Maryland National Golf Club, Middletown, MD

DATE: Monday, May 11th, 2015

TIME: 8:30 a.m. SHOTGUN start, PLEASE Arrive By 8:00 a.m.

FORMAT: Four-Person Scramble (We have plenty of opportunities for groups of less than four to be matched up. Newcomers welcome!)

COST: \$85 - Includes golf, range balls, use of practice facilities, GPS in the cart, water and soda during play, buffet lunch after play, and prizes!

PRIZES: In addition to prizes for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place teams, longest drive, and closest to the pin, a drawing for door prizes will be conducted during the buffet lunch for players who did not win performance-related prizes.

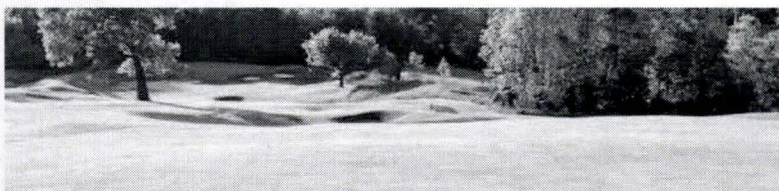
DEADLINE: May 4, 2015 - Due to the large number of golfers at the previous outings, registration will be first come, first served, and may need to be cut off once maximum numbers are reached. Refunds can only be guaranteed if requested before the deadline - refunds requested after the deadline will be granted if feasible.

CONTACT: (b)(6)

DETAILS: Make checks out to EWRA, or cash; Specify any preference for partners; Mail entries to Nathan - M/S O-7E1 or hand deliver to O-7D22

Course Info - <http://www.marylandnational.com/>

Maryland National Golf Club
8836 Hollow Road
Middletown, MD 21769



NRC's Tribal Training

NMSS's Federal State and Tribal Liaison Branch has initiated an exciting pilot program providing Tribes with NRC sponsored educational training.

"What is radiation and what is contamination?" "What are the effects of radiation exposure?" "What is uranium recovery?" "What is the NRC and what do they do?" These were some of the questions that were answered during NRC's free 2-day seminars on radiation basics, uranium recovery, and NRC's regulations pertaining to the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA).



Since September of 2014, NRC's Tribal liaison team comprised of Branch Chief Paul Michalak and Project Managers Patricia McGrady-Finneran, James Firth, Sandra Talley, Michelle Ryan, Kevin O'Sullivan and Stuart Easson, coupled with NRC specialty instructors Henry Lynn, Bill Von Till and Nate Goodman, and Tribal instructors Don DuBay, Bill Swaney, Jill Hammock and Mansel Nelson, have been conducting training sessions at

Tribal colleges. The training was developed in response to requests for information made at past NRC public meetings. The goal was to provide information on issues that may have direct effects on Tribal health and safety.

The NRC Tribal liaison team committed to five Tribal training sessions conducted over a six month period at Salish Kootenai College, MT, Wind River Tribal College, WY, Dine Tribal College, AZ, United Tribal Technical College, ND, and the Navajo Technical College, NM. The training sessions were comprised of Tribal college students, Tribal professionals (e.g. environmental and cultural), special interest representatives (including the National Congress of American Indians Deputy Director Robert Holden), Federal partners, and members of the public.

Students were provided with course training booklets, NRC promotional materials, and certificates of course completion. The feedback from the students was positive and insightful, offering many useful takeaways for staff. In addition to the course materials, NRC staff was able to exhibit its draft "Tribal Policy Statement" and revised "Tribal Protocol Manual" for comment. The experience proved to be a valuable learning adventure for both the Tribal students as well as their NRC partners.

Contracting Officer's Representative (COR) Town Hall Meeting

By Jill Daly (ADM)

On March 24, NRC CORs attended a "Town Hall" meeting in person, via VTC, or via Webinar. The meeting was hosted by the Office of Administration's (ADM) Acquisition Management Division (AMD) and was designed to provide CORs with information to help them perform their COR duties. James Corbett, Director of AMD, started off the meeting by outlining the topics of the day and also talked about the new COR Process Standardization Initiative (CPSI) which will be kicking off in early April.

CPSI is co-sponsored by AMD and the Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation (NRR). Recognizing the need for clear and consistent guidance for staff engaged in the NRC's acquisition and financial management processes, the main objective of this initiative is to standardize acquisition and financial management related office activities across the NRC, particularly as they relate to CORs. Each of the large technical offices will be represented on an integrated project team that will holistically look at potentially outdated processes and activities with an emphasis on reflecting the current, constrained environment and achieving the goals executing our mission in a more effective, efficient, and agile manner.

Romana Moy, Chief of the Business Advisory Center (BAC) discussed communication and outreach opportunities available to the CORs, specifically the COR Conversations that occur each month. Interested CORs can check the schedule and sign up in iLearn (Course ID_27144). Romana also provided an updated on templates that are now being refined by the BAC, and introduced the acquisition process maps available on [NEAT](#).

Brandon Cherry, BAC, walked the audience through a "how to" on the use of the quick look up feature in NEAT. CORs can use the quick lookups on NEAT's main screen to obtain a quick status on an advance procurement plan (APP) submission or requisition. Meg Gold, Team Leader of the Data and Reporting Team, discussed the Office Requisition Status Snapshot report, referred to as the "Report of the Month" in the March 2015 [COR Scoop](#). (Continued on p. 9)

NRC Hosts University Symposium

by Alicia Mullins (OIS)

On Thursday, February 26, 2015, the Agency hosted the 2015 NRC University Symposium for Gallaudet University (GU) undergraduates in the fields of science, technology and math. This event was coordinated and organized by (b)(6) (OIS) to expose the GU students to the agency. Eleven students ranging from sophomores to graduate students were given tours of the Data Center by Kenneth Dunbar (OIS), and of the Operations Center by Bernard Stapleton (NSIR) and Annette Stang (NSIR). The students enjoyed both tours and gave positive feedback stating that these tours should be continued with future undergraduates who visit NRC.

After the tours students had an opportunity to listen as Scott Krepel (NRR) and William Gardner (NRR) discussed their jobs, rotations, the NSPDP, and how nuclear power is

generated by a power plant. Students asked interesting questions and engaged in in-depth conversations with the presenters. Mark Maxin (OGC) spoke to the students about the agency's role in ensuring employees have reasonable accommodations to perform their job. Commissioner Ostendorff welcomed the students to NRC, and stressed to them how valuable their skills in the STEM fields could be to our agency. He encouraged them to apply for positions at NRC and looks forward to seeing them in the future.

As a closeout to the program (b)(6) presented the students with certificates of participation. One student was so impressed with NRC that she has already submitted a resume in the hopes of permanent employment at NRC.

Many thanks to all who participated in making this event happen on short notice, especially given the challenging weather.

Calling all artisans / crafters/ makers of fun and interesting things!

The Board of Directors of the NRC Child Development Center is actively planning "Art for a Bright Start," a silent art auction to benefit the Board's tuition assistance program. The Board is soliciting donations of original pieces of artwork or handicraft for the auction. Some ideas include: paintings, photography, jewelry, fiber arts, quilts, woodworking, etc. The sky is the limit! If you would like to donate a piece of artwork or handicraft, or if you would like to discuss your idea for a piece to donate, please contact (b)(6). Donations are tax deductible.

About the NRC Child Development Center

Operated by the Georgetown Hill Early School, NRC's child care facility is located on the P-1 level of the Two White Flint North building. Nearly 100 children, ranging in age from six weeks old to six years old, spend their weekdays at the center. The curriculum balances play and work, develops basic readiness skills, and assists the children to challenge and test themselves and experience the joys of learning. The center is accredited by the Maryland State Department of Education and by the National Association for the Education of Young Children. Enrollment is open to all children – not just those of NRC employees (although forty percent of the children are from NRC families).

The NRC Child Development Center, Inc. serves as an independent liaison between the NRC and Georgetown Hill. Its Board of Directors is made up entirely of volunteers. One of the missions of the Board is to provide need-based tuition assistance for children in attendance at the child development center at NRC headquarters.

Quality child care is very important, but it is also very expensive. In Montgomery County, on average, child care for children ages infant through preschool costs more than full-time tuition at Montgomery College and more than in-state tuition at the University of Maryland. But unlike college, families don't have eighteen years to save for child care! All children who attend the child development center at the NRC are eligible to apply for tuition assistance – whether or not they are children of NRC employees. Tuition assistance is not something that is available at many child care facilities in the area and is one reason that the child development center at the NRC is so special. To date, more than 200 scholarships have been awarded.

Tuition Assistance fundraisers happen year round. The Board hosts bake sales, raffles, and other fun activities, like "Art for a Bright Start". Thank you for your continued and enthusiastic support of our activities!

Fulbright Senior Specialist Cont.

I have found that Eastern European students are very polite and attentive, but are not as challenging to the professor's lectures as American students. One time I arrived late only to discover that the students would stand at attention upon my entering the classroom. (I liked that so much I never arrived early for all my remaining lectures.) The Technical University of Kosice has bestowed to me the honorary title of Adjunct Professor.

The central subject I presented to the class was Nuclear Economics. It was my intention to provide facts about nuclear power that sometimes showed contradictions

between the economics, engineering,

and environmental factors. I challenged the students to resolve these contradictions to their own satisfaction. Sometimes this would generate conversations, and these subsequent conversations would lead to questions about the American experience, politics, and the regulatory processes of the NRC.

During my stay, I had a private social meeting with the American Ambassador to Slovakia, Ambassador Theodore Sedgwick, and I made a trip to Kyiv, Ukraine on NRC business to meet with select members of the State Nuclear Regulatory Inspectorate of Ukraine. The two universities have asked that I return, and I plan to do so in late September, 2016.



University building



Old City, Kosice, Slovakia

Encouraging Plain Writing

by Roger Rihm (OEDO)

Plain language can save us time and money and benefit both readers and writers. Readers can understand written materials more quickly and writers can minimize the amount of additional explanation they need to provide. The *Plain Writing Act of 2010* requires federal agencies to write "clear government communication that the public can understand and use." [The Federal government's plain language web site](#) includes training resources, tips and tools, examples of plain writing, and much more!

Here at the NRC, you also have access to many plain writing-related courses offered through iLearn, including:

Two-Day Instructor-Led

Writing in Plain Language – Course ID_802

Technical Writing – Course ID 1002

On-Line Courses

Business Writing: How to Write Clearly and Concisely – Course comm_19_a02_bs_enus

Business Grammar: The Mechanics of Writing – Course comm_20_a03_be_enus

The Plain Writing Act – Course fgov_01_a30_lc_enus

Plain Language – Course ID 3281

Business Grammar: Sentence Construction – Course comm_20_a05_bs_enus

Communicating Across Cultures – Course comm_26_a02_bs_enus

The Art of Global Communication – Course COMM0022

Writing in plain language isn't easy, but it pays off in positive results. Make it a goal for this year to become a better writer through the greater use of plain language!

The most valuable of all talents is that of never using two words when one will do.
Thomas Jefferson

Use the smallest word that does the job.
E.B. White

2015 Bring Your Child to Work Day

The Office of the Chief Human Capital Officer will sponsor *Bring Your Children to Work Day* at headquarters on Thursday, April 23, 2015. **This year's theme is Empower: "Knowledge+Choice=Strength."** Employees at headquarters and offsite locations are encouraged to bring their children to the Opening Ceremony in the TWFN auditorium at 8:30 a.m. Following the conclusion of the Opening Ceremony, there will be tours of the NRC Operations Center and the ASLBP Court Room. The NRC Jeopardy Game will be available in the auditorium. The tours and Jeopardy game are expected to conclude around 12 p.m. Children will accompany their parents for all events and for the rest of the day.

Parents are responsible for providing lunch for their children. The NRC Cafeteria will offer lunch specials for children. Please view the [Yellow Announcement](#).

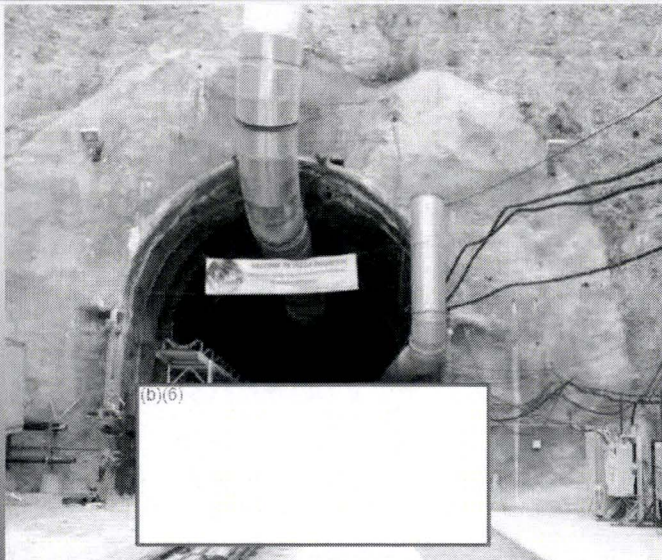
Volunteers are needed to assist with the Opening Ceremony activity and to serve as escorts for the groups going on the tours. If interested in volunteering, please email peggy.etheridge@nrc.gov by April 1, 2015.

This year parents are requested to register children for the event and that deadline is also Apr 1. This information is needed for the Opening Ceremony Activity.

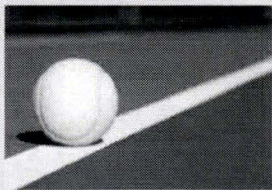
(b)(6)

Back in the day, NMSS took semi-annual Yucca Mountain field trips in the spring and in the fall. This picture is from the June 2009 field trip, which was the next to the last field trip they took.

Please let us know if you have any images you would like to share for Rewind Wednesday.



(b)(6)



Attention Tennis Players: There's still time to sign up for the NRC Headquarters tennis team for government-wide league play that is both fun and competitive. The team is looking for experienced players. Last year we had a great season in the B division.

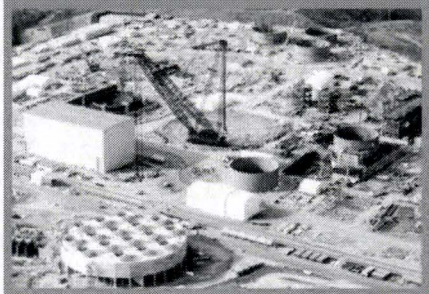
Weekly league play will begin at the end of April and will continue until late July. The team plays once a week, with five doubles teams playing each match. Matches begin at 6p.m., and the winners are determined by a two-out-of-three set format.

Players are seeded and paired according to their ability. The team plays its matches at the Washington Tennis Center, located at 16th and Kennedy Streets, NW, Washington, DC. The tennis center is only about 20 minutes by car from Headquarters, and there is ample free parking.

Last year, the cost of the league participation was \$13 per match per player, which includes tennis balls.

Because of the variety of travel and other work-related and personal commitments of team members, 20 or more players are needed to ensure the availability of 10 players for each match. For more information, please email [\(b\)\(6\)](#)

2014-2015 New Reactor Program



The Office of New Reactors has published its latest annual review of the new reactor program. Click [here](#) for NUREG/BR-0476.

NRC Toastmasters Club Members Cheer for Their Contestants

NRC Toastmasters club members cheered for their members who competed at the recent Area 65 contest in Bethesda, MD. Friday the thirteenth (of March) was a lucky day for Jonah Pezeshki (NSIR) who the Evaluation Contest. For this contest, there is a test speaker who gives a five to seven minute speech, which is evaluated by the contestants in a two to three minute evaluation which is judged by a panel of judges. The test speaker, Dr. Assegid Habtewold, spoke about "mitigating culture shock." After his speech, the Sergeant at Arms escorted all of the evaluation contestants out of the room to a different location. The contestants have five minutes to write notes for their evaluation. All of the notes are collected, and one by one the contestants are given their notes when they are brought back into the room to compete. To avoid an unfair advantage, the contestants cannot hear an evaluation before their turn to compete. Once they have competed by giving their evaluation, then they can stay in the room to hear the other evaluations.

(b)(6)

(b)(6) (OCHCO) was our NRC's club's contestant for the International Speech Contest. (b)(6) spoke about the experiences (b)(6) had that led to having the "birds and bees" talk with their (b)(6). (b)(6) She broached this difficult subject with grace, tact, and humor.

(b)(6)

She received cheers from the audience; however, a member of the PMA Club won the contest.

For both of these contests, the speakers must speak within their respective time limits or they will be disqualified. The winners of the area contests go on to compete at the division level. Winners from the division level go on to compete at the district level. The district's International Speech Contest winner goes on to compete at the Toastmasters International Speech Contest during the Toastmasters International annual convention in August.

(b)(6) (NSIR) also competed at the Division F contest on March 28 at USP in Rockville. (b)(6) has repeatedly given outstanding evaluations and is already the NRC Club champion and the Area 65 champion evaluator. For a relatively new Toastmaster with only six months experience, it is rare to reach the division level. At the Division F Evaluation contest, he had formidable competition; a past District Governor and a Select Distinguished Area Governor. The past District Governor won the Division F contest but for our club, (b)(6) rocks.

(COR) Town Hall Meeting Cont.

Gary Robinson, Office of the Chief Financial Officer (OCFO), described the process that CORs will use to approve payments on Interagency Agreements (IAAs) through the Intra-governmental Payment and Collection (IPAC) process, and shared sample reports that the CORs will receive to approve the IPAC. Gary also announced upcoming workshops on Validation of Fee Billable Contract & Agreement Costs. CORs managing fee billable contracts are encouraged to sign up for these sessions in iLearn (Course ID #135148).

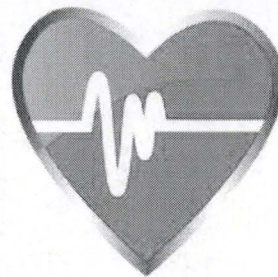
The handouts from the COR Town Hall can be found on NEAT. Please mark your calendar for the next COR Town Hall on June 17, 2015 at 1:30 in the Auditorium. We look forward to seeing you there!

(b)(6)

Region III Wears Red in Remembrance

(b)(6)

The No. 1 killer of women is heart disease. National Wear Red Day was created by the American Heart Association and the National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute in 2003 to bring awareness of this fact, so that women will take preventative steps to incorporate healthy behavior, diet, and exercise changes into their lives. Many still believe that heart disease affects more men than women. Typically, National Wear Red Day is celebrated on the first Friday of in February. Region III celebrated it on February 19.



The PDC can meet many of your training requirements – be they technical or leadership/management courses. There are still seats available in many upcoming training classes (see list below). If you are interested in any of these offerings, please log into iLearn (<https://ilearnnrc.plateau.com/plateau/user/login.jsp>) and register. If you need assistance please call the PDC at (301) 287-0556.

Start Date	End Date	Item ID	Add'l Off.	Sch. Off. Description
04/06/15	04/10/15	ID_3484		Advanced Contracting Officer's Representative Course
04/06/15	04/10/15	ID_3482		Intermediate Contracting Officer's Representative Course
04/07/15	04/09/15	ID_9147		E-Gov Travel Services 2 (ETS2)-Federal Agency Travel Administrator and Federal Limited A - 1-Primary
04/07/15	04/10/15	ID_143		Cyber Security for the Information Systems Security Officer (ISSO)
04/07/15	04/07/15	ID_12143	5	E-Gov Travel Services 2 (ETS2)- Federal Traveler/Arranger Live Webcast
04/08/15	04/08/15	ID_157145		E-Gov Travel System (ETS2) Federal Voucher Examiner & Auditor Live Webcast
04/09/15	04/09/15	ID_12144	4	E-Gov Travel Services 2 (ETS2)- Federal Approver Training Live Webcast
04/10/15	04/10/15	ID_167144	1	FAIMIS Credit Card Training
04/13/15	04/13/15	ID_5026	4	E-Gov Travel Service 2 (ETS2)- Federal Approver Training
04/14/15	04/17/15	513		Risk Assessment in Event Evaluation (P-302)
04/14/15	04/15/15	468		Site Access Training (H-100)
04/14/15	04/15/15	ID_1181		Monitoring Grants and Cooperative Agreements for Federal Personnel
04/14/15	04/17/15	ID_1122		System Administrator Information Technology Cyber Security Role-Based Course
04/15/15	04/15/15	ID_5024	2	ETS2 Federal Traveler/Arranger Training
04/16/15	04/16/15	798		Environmental Review Overview for Materials Licensing Actions
04/16/15	04/16/15	ID_85143		Flash Mentoring Event
04/20/15	04/22/15	ID_164144		Grants Administration for Federal Program Personnel
04/20/15	04/20/15	ID_135145		Service Contract Act Workshop
04/21/15	04/23/15	511		Accident Progression Analysis (P-300)
04/21/15	04/23/15	ID_156144		E-Gov Travel Services 2 (ETS2) COGNOS Report Authoring Training
04/21/15	04/22/15	ID_2941		NRC Punctuation and Proofreading
04/22/15	04/22/15	ID_169146	1	Business Intelligence (BI) Training
04/23/15	04/23/15	ID_27144		COR Conversations
04/23/15	04/23/15	ID_5143		NSPDP Monthly Meetings
04/27/15	05/01/15	1061		Environmental Risk Assessment (H-420)
04/27/15	04/28/15	ID_37143		Rulemaking at the NRC
04/28/15	04/29/15	2077		NRC Correspondence Management
04/28/15	04/28/15	ID_135148		COR Workshop: Validation of Fee-Billable Contract & Agreement Costs
04/29/15	04/29/15	ID_68146		Advanced Rulemaking at the NRC
04/29/15	04/29/15	ID_16143		E-Gov Travel Services 2 (ETS2)- Auditorium Overview Demonstration
04/30/15	04/30/15	ID_68145		Specific Topics in Rulemaking
04/30/15	04/30/15	ID_4221		Cyber Security for the Functional Manager

Vol. 11

Issue 11

May 6, 2015

NRC Reporter

Protecting people and the environment

Inside this issue:

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- [Microsoft 2013](#)
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- [Science Fair](#)
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REPORTER SUBMISSION INFO. FROM THE EDITOR

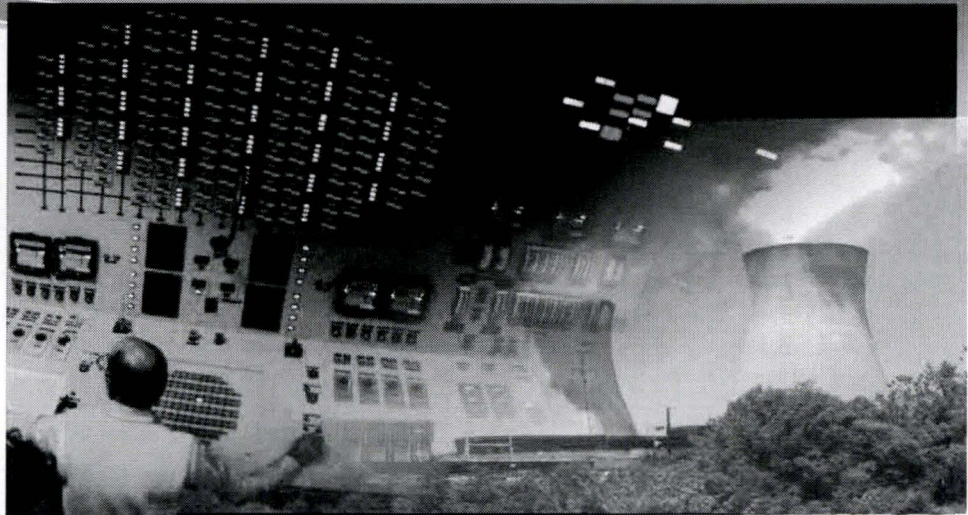
The NRC Reporter will be published monthly, on the first Wednesday of the month. The next issue of the Reporter will be published on June 3. **The deadline for submissions is May 22.**

In order to continue having an informative employee newsletter, I encourage you to submit articles, photos, etc. to the NRC Reporter inbox via email to: NRCReporter.Resource@nrc.gov

Editor: [Karin Francis](#)

Layout: [Stephanie West](#)

[Reporter Archive](#)



The New and Improved Intranet is Coming!

(b)(2)

Coming Soon: Release of the FY 2016 External Training Data Call

What's New with the FY 2016 External Training Data Call?

The Office of the Chief Human Capital Officer (OCHCO), Human Resources Training and Development (HRTD) will release the first external training data call in May 2015. OCHCO will reach out to staff to identify fiscal year 2016

(FY16) external training (SF-182) requirements for centralized offices

(excluding non-centralized offices such as ASLBP, the Commission, OGC, OI, and the regions). Similar to last year, supervisors will be asked to prioritize their staff's external training requests based on both relevance to the agency need and mission, as well as the impact of not receiving the training (e.g., succession planning). External training requests will be funded based on both their priority rating and the availability of funds.

The first improvement to the data call process is that there will be two data calls. To effectively plan for external training needs and to allow flexibility for changing priorities, another external training data call will be released in the beginning of FY16. OCHCO expects that releasing a second data call later in the year will give staff a better idea of what training is being offered by the vendor and will allow them to choose the training that best meets their needs. It should also significantly reduce the submittal of emerging training requests.

First Data Call: Begins during the week of May 11, 2015; submit external training requests occurring in Q1 and Q2 of FY16

Second Data Call: Begins on or about November 2015; submit external training requests occurring in Q3 and Q4 of FY16

Another improvement implemented in this year's data call is a new "Skills" category on the data call request form. Staff can identify the skills or competencies they would like to improve with the requested external training. OCHCO will analyze this data to get a better understanding of the critical skills or competency gaps in the agency.

The Employee's Role in the FY 2016 External Training Data Call

Use the following checklist to help you identify and plan your skill development:

- Work with your supervisor to identify your developmental needs. An Individual Development Plan (IDP) is a critical tool to define your training needs with your supervisor.
- External training should only be considered when the training needs cannot be met internally. To select the best-value training option, staff and supervisors should first assess whether internal training is available. Consider some of the development activities available to you at the NRC: [Instructor-led courses at the PDC and TTC](#) — [Online courses through the iLearn catalog](#) — [Books24x7](#) — [Leaders' Academy](#)

For more activities, go to the [NRC's Training Page](#).

Formal training is not the only developmental strategy. Research shows that adults learn best from job-related experiences and interactions with others. You can use a variety of developmental activities from the [70:20:10 model](#) to accelerate your progress. The NRC embraces this learning approach and offers many developmental opportunities to support it: [NRC Mentoring Program](#) — [Career Counseling Program](#) — Rotations and details — On-the-job training — Job shadowing — Lunch-and-Learns/Brown Bags — Working groups

- If you find that the NRC does not offer the required training internally (in the classroom or online), work with your supervisor to determine whether an external training request is appropriate. Be mindful of the following when deciding if external training should be considered:
- **Best Value** - External training courses should be evaluated and selected based on a combination of the following factors to ensure the best value: training cost, schedule availability, and geographic location. This applies to college courses and learning institutions as well, as they are typically not the lowest-cost option. For additional guidance on this topic, please see [External Training FAQs: University/College Courses](#).
- **Enterprise-wide contracts** - Consider enterprise-wide contracts, as they are best value for the government. They enable cost savings and process efficiencies.
- **Conferences** - Confirm that the conference is considered training by referencing [Title 5 of the Code of Federal Regulations § 410.404](#).
- **Travel** - Associated travel with an external training course will be funded from an office's travel budget (OCHCO does not track office travel budgets). The FY16 external training data call does collect travel costs that will be shared with the Office of the Chief Financial Officer (OCFO).

For additional information, including external training formulation data call job aids and FAQs, please visit the [External Training SharePoint](#) site or send an e-mail to TrainingSupport.Resource@nrc.gov.

FY 2016 **External Training**
Data Call

Your Career.
Powered by You.

Celebrating Public Service Recognition Week



Celebrated since 1985, Public Service Recognition Week (PSRW) is a nationwide public education campaign honoring the men and women who serve our nation as federal, state, county, and local government employees, ensuring that our government is the best in the world. Each year, the President and Congress designate the first full week of May as PSRW and activities are held nationwide in celebration of public employees who put service above self. The theme for this year is "Government Works" and will be held during the week of May 3 – 9. You can also share your message of appreciation to government employees through social media by joining the Partnership For Public Service [Thunderclap](#) and [White Board](#) campaigns. #PSRW

EWRA and OCHCO served ice cream treats on The Green on May 6th thanking employees for their service.

Below are the festivities in Washington, D.C. for this year's celebration.

Monday, May 4th was Public Servant Day at Nationals ballpark with discounted tickets for government employees and credits for food and beverages purchased in the stadium. There was also a special tribute to the public servants in attendance.

Saturday, May 9: DC United celebrates PSRW: Federal, state and local government employees are eligible to purchase discounted tickets for sideline seats, regularly \$35, for just \$21 each, plus customary service fees.

Please click the link for [DC United game tickets](#) and enter your information for the special offer code for ticket purchase.

Sunday, May 10: Public Service 5k Walk/Run: Cap off PSRW 2015 by joining the third annual Public Service 5K on Sunday, May 10 at Anacostia Park. Government employees, their families and friends, and area running enthusiasts will participate and show their support and appreciation for our country's dedicated public servants.

Proceeds benefit the [Federal Employee Education and Assistance Fund \(FEEA\)](#), a non-profit organization devoted to helping civilian federal and postal employees through scholarships and emergency assistance. To register for this event, please click the provided link <http://publicservicerecognitionweek.org/events/5k.shtml>.

NRC & Your Community Campaign

Are you going to visit a classroom of kids? Are you coordinating a recruiting trip to a college? Are you speaking to a local civic organization? We have a new tool for you to use! The NRC launched a new communications campaign branded "NRC & Your Community" which comes with a polished new video for use in a variety of settings, including public meetings, education and recruiting.

The NRC is responsible for licensing and regulating civilian use of radioactive materials in the United States. Congress realized the societal benefits of radioactive materials and gave the NRC responsibility to regulate their safe use. Historically, the NRC has been focused on explaining to the public how it regulates these materials. What it has not done as well is communicating about its dedicated and competent staff, the actions it takes in response to public input, and the societal benefits of its work.

As part of the NRC's Senior Executive Service Candidate Development Program, a team of the agency's future leaders recognized the need to improve communications in these areas and concluded that the areas are all related to the NRC's continuing presence in communities throughout the United States. The team reviewed feedback from public meetings, interviewed a wide range of stakeholders, and conducted both internal and external focus groups and determined that what was missing from existing communications about the NRC was the people aspect... who the NRC is (including ways in which employees demonstrate their dedication); where it resides (NRC employees live in communities throughout the United States including those close to nuclear power plants); and how society benefits from effective and safe regulation of radioactive materials (such as through the availability of sterile food and medical supplies, exit signs that operate without external power, and carbon free electricity). The goal was to humanize the NRC and demonstrate how folks benefit from having the NRC around. *(Continued on next page)*



Expanded New Fitness Center

by Sarah Linerooth Hoenig (OCHCO)

(b)(2)

NRC & Your Community Cont.

The team, with assistance from the Office of Public Affairs and the agency's audio-visual staff, developed a communication campaign called "NRC & Your Community" and developed a short video to kick-off the campaign and proactively communicate about these areas. The video was created for use in a variety of settings, including public meetings, school classrooms, and recruitment fairs. It promotes the NRC and educates the viewer on the role we play in society.

The "NRC & Your Community" video is now live on the NRC's YouTube channel. Presentation materials, including DVDs, flyers, posters and book marks, are now available through Distribution.Resource@nrc.gov. Each region now has copies of the materials available from your public affairs officers. The video has already been well received during presentations at public meetings in headquarters and the regions. This is the start of broader communication of these messages in other forums throughout the NRC. Check it out here: <https://youtu.be/DWyzt7CnYfg>.

Powered by Your Success Story**By Gwynne Skaggs Ryan**

(b)(6)

Everyone has a moment when the clouds part and doves fly as the sun beams down and suddenly, the career path we walk becomes clear. For me, this moment came as a new NSDP graduate and qualified reactor inspector in RIV's Division of Reactor Safety. I was perfectly positioned to provide long term Resident Inspector support to the River Bend Station in Baton Rouge, LA. This experience was pivotal to my career and I decided the Resident Inspector career path was the one for me. When I broke the news to my DRS Branch Chief, he was exceptionally supportive, and actively sought opportunities for me to develop inspection techniques, to gain perspective from experienced inspectors, and to increase my confidence in implementing the ROP and representing the NRC onsite.

About the same time, OCHCO HRTD offered career counseling through a contractor. This was absolutely perfect timing because my resume had not been updated since I applied for a position

in the NRC's Co-Op program several years ago. I worked with the career counselor to clearly define my career goals, personal strengths, areas for improvement, and my ability to effectively communicate my experience both in writing and verbally. Under the counselor's guidance, I developed a strong Resident Inspector application package, gained interview experience by working with Senior Inspectors in the region, and gained confidence by consistently seeking interview feedback. Now that I was ready to apply, all I needed was a Resident Inspector position posting.

Resident Inspector solicitations tend to come in waves, and a wave was coming; but not all the solicitations were from my region. After much discussion with both my Branch Chief and mentor, we agreed I should apply for solicitations outside RIV, always circling back to the statement "One team – One mission." Undeterred, despite not being selected after submitting multiple applications, all the hard work that began with intense career counseling and many weeks of Resident Inspector support, was rewarded when I was selected as the next Resident Inspector at North Anna Power Station in Mineral, VA last summer.

Thank you Thomas Farnholtz, my Branch Chief, and (b)(6) my career counselor, for helping build the path from where I was to where I wanted to be.

**Your Career
Powered by You.**

NRC Shows OMB Why the Resident Inspector Program Is Vital**by James Coyle (OCFO)**

Any NRC employee knows that the resident inspectors are the front line for ensuring the safe and secure operation of nuclear power reactors. To demonstrate this to a key stakeholder, the Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation (NRR), the Office of the Chief Financial Officer, and Region I hosted a group of staff from the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) to tour the Three Mile Island nuclear power plant on March 27th. Included in this group was NRC's OMB examiner, who reviews the agency's budget requests. Upon arriving at the plant, TMI resident inspectors Dave Werkheiser and Justin Heinly, along with Deputy Region I Regional Administrator, Dave Lew, and Scott Morris, Director of the Division of Inspection and Regional Support within NRR, provided an informative briefing on how nuclear power reactors operate and the rigorous inspections that take place to ensure their safe operation. After the briefing, the group donned hard hats and safety glasses, and proceeded to enter the protected area of TMI Unit 1. The tour included the major pieces of equipment used to safely generate electricity through nuclear power. The group was shown the control room of Unit 1 where the control and monitoring of reactor operations takes place.

(b)(6)

After touring the Unit 1 side of the plant, the group entered the Unit 2 area where the March 28, 1979, accident occurred. The Unit 2 side was eerily silent and deserted compared to the operating side of the plant and Unit 2 had the same operator present that had been there the day of the accident. The Unit 2 control room, where monitoring of the reactor area continues to this day, was also very quiet as contrasted with what was going on there the day of the accident.

Upon traveling back to Headquarters, the agency's OMB examiner commented on how beneficial the visit had been to his understanding of NRC's operating reactor licensing and inspection program. He believed that he received a much better understanding of how NRC ensures safe nuclear reactor operation.

Onondaga Nation visits NRC



NRC staff participated in a 90 minute seminar by Onondaga Nation Tribal Council members Tadodaho Sidney Hill and Jake Edwards on April 7. The Tadodaho title represents the spiritual leader of the Onondaga people. The Onondaga Nation encompasses approximately 7,300 acres located south of Syracuse near Nedrow, New York, with Interstate Highway 81 going right through the Onondaga resident territory.

Mr. Hill spoke about the history of the Onondaga within the Haudenosaunee (Iroquois) Confederacy of Indian Nations, including the Mohawk, Oneida, Tuscarora, Onondaga, Cayuga, and Seneca Nations. He mentioned the agreements among the Nations that preceded by about 400 years the first contact with Dutch, French, and English explorers in that area.

To illustrate the political precepts of the Haudenosaunee, Mr. Hill and his colleague brought several replica wampum belts, and discussed the meaning of each. For the Hiawatha wampum belt, which is a national belt of the Haudenosaunee, he discussed how governing concepts represented in the belt were shared with the early settlers.

Mr. Edwards displayed a replica of the George Washington wampum belt, signifying the agreements in the 1794 Canandaigua Treaty represented by thirteen figures holding hands connected to two figures and a house. The 13 figures represent the 13 States of the newly formed United States of America, and the two figures and the house symbolize the Haudenosaunee.

Mr. Edwards also displayed a replica of the two row wampum Belt representing an agreement between the Haudenosaunee and Dutch settlers and how the two were to treat each other and live together. Each of their ways would be shown in the purple rows running the length of a wampum belt. "In one row is a ship with our White Brothers' ways; in the other a canoe with our ways. Each will travel down the river of life side by side. Neither will attempt to steer the other's vessel." Mr. Edwards discussed that the Dutch recorded the Two Row Wampum agreement on paper with three silver chains that could be polished when there were disagreements and renewed when new agreements were reached. The Haudenosaunee and the Dutch agreed to call this the Silver Covenant Chain of Friendship, and to this day the Haudenosaunee use the Covenant Chain in planned meetings with the President of the United States.

The seminar was co-sponsored by NMSS Tribal Liaison staff and the OIP Executive Leadership series. The seminar was an example of keeping an open channel of communication which is part of the Openness Principle in NRC's Principles of Good Regulation.

NRC Staff Run in the Pike's Peek Race

On April 26th, almost two dozen NRC employees participated in Pike's Peek, one of the premiere racing events in the National Capital Area. Almost 3,000 runners in total participated in the 10 kilometer (6.2 mile) race down Rockville Pike, to the finish line on Marinelli Road right between NRC's buildings in the White Flint Complex. New for this year was the introduction of formal team competition, and NRC's two teams placed 1st and 2nd among the government teams; NRC finished 6th and 10th among all teams.

"I'm very impressed with how well represented NRC was at the race, and hopefully next year we can fill out three or four teams and sweep the podium!" said

(b)(6)

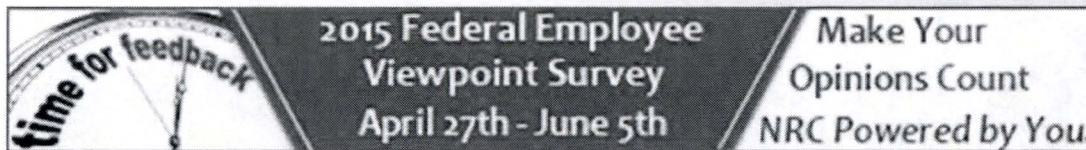
Want some more race results? They don't want to provide a link because then you'd know how old they are. But you could probably just as (b)(6) (NRR). She has them memorized.

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How will you Answer Question 41 on FEVS?

Last year 57.5% of NRC staff had a positive answer to Question 41 - *I believe the results of this survey will be used to make my agency a better place to work*. An additional 22.2% of NRC respondents said they weren't sure. Are you one of the 22%? Perhaps you haven't reviewed your [Office or Region Action plan](#) to learn more about the actions being taken to improve. Maybe you're not sure the actions are the right actions. But what are you doing about it? Do you know that every Office and Region has a [FEVS Point of Contact](#)? Have you shared your ideas or concerns, or offered to participate on efforts to improve? While the [agency action plan](#) is designed to address higher level issues and develop broad actions on an agency-wide basis, Offices and Regions are implementing over 50 discrete actions to improve their specific organizations.

On April 21, the agency hosted a FEVS Answers to Actions panel where representatives from Region I, NRO, and OGC shared what they are doing to continue to maintain or improve their employee engagement scores. If you didn't attend you missed a very engaging and open dialogue with individuals working hard to make their organizations better. The session was recorded and will be available for viewing soon. Staff and management should take time to review for best practices that could work in their organizations. Making the NRC a great place to work starts in your own organizations. If you have ideas, don't wait for someone to ask. Be proactive – talk to your leadership and/or your FEVS POC to learn more and share your ideas and offer your help to implement. How you will answer Question 41?



Leadership at all Levels Competency Model — Part I of a series

HRTD Supports Leadership at Every Level

"At NRC, we encourage leadership development at all levels. This is of increasing importance due to our dynamic and increasingly complex operating environment, which demands greater capacity for all employees to self-manage and self-lead."

—Mark Satorius, Executive Director of Operations

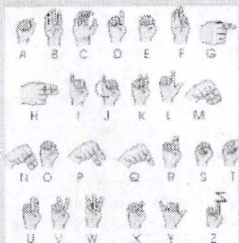
Every employee supports the NRC mission through their skills and knowledge. By serving as a subject matter expert within your area of expertise you demonstrate leadership by providing talent and guidance to the projects you direct, the teams you support or lead, and the colleagues you assist on a daily basis.

To facilitate your ability to provide leadership at every level, you need to continually expand your leadership and professional skills as well as your technical and subject matter expertise. The Office of the Chief Human Capital Officer, Human Resources and Training (OCHCO/HRTD) has developed the NRC Leadership at All Levels Competency Model as a "road map" to help staff acquire these needed competencies. The model incorporates the Office of Personnel Management's (OPM) leadership competencies and identifies the skills associated with three levels of staff achievement: personal effectiveness, influential leader, and aspiring leader. Contact Denise.Orlando@nrc.gov. Stay tuned for the next two articles in this series.



*Competency defined as a cluster of skills, knowledge, behaviors

Sign Language Class at the PDC



American Sign Language (ASL) Course Begins May 21, 2015, at the PDC

The Office of the Chief Human Capital Officer is pleased to announce that registration is now open for *Communicating Naturally - A Basic Course in American Sign Language (ID 3301)*. The ASL course is open to all NRC employees who wish to learn, refresh or review their ASL knowledge. It is especially helpful for supervisors and colleagues of deaf or hard-of-hearing employees, or for individuals wishing to develop a cross-cultural awareness of the deaf community.

The course is a series of ten, 1.5-hour sessions from 11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. The first session is May 21 and the final session is August 20, 2015. All classes will be held at the Professional Development Center on the 2nd floor of 3WFN. Since the sessions occur during lunchtime, participants are encouraged to bring their lunch to class.

Note: When you enroll in the first session of the class, you will automatically be enrolled in all 10 sessions. However, the e-mail confirmation you receive from iLearn will NOT list all of the session dates, so please note the dates listed below when you register and add these dates and locations to your Outlook calendar.

Dates: May 21, May 28, June 30, July 9, 15, 23, 30, and August 6, 13, 20, 2015

Access iLearn to enroll: ([ID 3301](#))

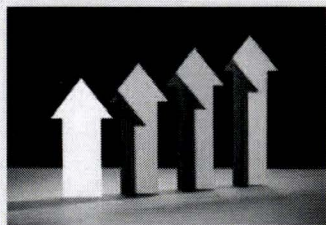
A Successful Flash Mentoring Event

NRC employees enjoyed one-on-one face time with Mark Satorius (EDO), Vonna Ordaz (SBCR), Patricia Holahan (OE), Jody Hudson (OCHCO), MaryJane Ross-Lee (NRR), Melanie Galloway (OEDO), Houman Rasouli (OEDO), Kathryn Brock (RES), and others at the flash mentoring event held on April 16 in the TWFN auditorium. Mr. Satorius mentored several employees during multiple five-minute mentoring sessions after giving opening remarks. Mentees were able to meet at least nine or ten mentors during the event, thereby increasing their opportunities to find and establish a mentoring partnership.

By participating at all four of the NRC flash mentoring events, one mentee said that she has met and formed relationships with several mentors, obtaining guidance on different aspects of her career. Another mentee commented that he appreciated the feedback on ways to improve his skills. "Hopefully, I can pick your brain in the future for advice on being successful and navigating common career challenges," he wrote in a follow-up email to his mentor.

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Defining Performance Management



What comes to mind when you hear the words "performance management"? Do you think of appraisals and mid/end-of-year discussions with your supervisor? Well, similar to employees receiving evaluations, the concept of performance management also applies at the organizational level. To be successful, organizations must continuously evaluate how they are doing in using the resources they have to meet their goals and objectives. This applies at the highest level of the organization (e.g., agencywide at the NRC) as well as at lower levels of the organization (e.g., office/business line level at the NRC). In fact, this focus is so important that Federal agencies have been required by law to improve their performance management practices (the [Government Performance and Results Modernization Act of 2010](#)). As an independent agency, NRC

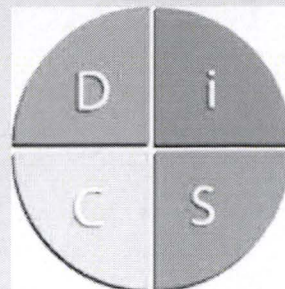
has been exempt from some of the requirements under this law; nonetheless we have implemented many activities that support the intent of those requirements because we recognize their intrinsic value.

Over the next several issues, to help increase awareness, we will cover a range of topics on how organizational performance management is done at the NRC, including: Who the agency's Performance Improvement Office (PIO) is and what this role entails; where to find business lines' Performance Plans and what they contain; where performance results are located; how the agency's Quarterly Performance Review process works; and how performance indicators can be used to help achieve desired outcomes

In the meantime, we encourage you to take a look around the agency's [Performance Management SharePoint site](#) for more information.

ADM/SBCR DiSC Training and OPM's New IQ by Anthony Barnes (SBCR) and May Ma (ADM)

The leadership team (team leaders and above) in the Office of Administration (ADM) attended an in-person mandatory management workshop on April 16. The workshop was co-sponsored by the ADM Front Office and the Office of Small Business and Civil Rights (SBCR). Anthony (Tony) Barnes, SBCR Program Manager for Affirmative Employment and Diversity Management, facilitated the DiSC® assessment with ADM managers. Afterwards, he presented the Office of Personnel Management's (OPM) new Inclusion Quotient (IQ) and discussed interpretations and lessons learned of the IQ scores from NRC's 2014 Federal Employment Viewpoint Survey (FEVS).



For the first half of the 90 minutes workshop, Tony introduced the DiSC® assessment tool. DiSC® stands for four major work style patterns of dominance, influence, steadiness, and conscientiousness. DiSC® can be utilized to assist managers in understanding the dominant behaviors of themselves and others, as well as provide insight and a better appreciation with respect to each work style to foster an environment that ensures their success.

During the assessment, ADM Managers were asked to complete a questionnaire that produced a detailed report about their personality and behavior as demonstrated by the four work style patterns of Dominance, Influence, Steadiness, and Conscientiousness. The DiSC® profile provides a detailed description for each behavior and a suggested action plan for the profiled person to more effectively work with others and best utilize his/her strengths. It was interesting to note that ADM's managers are well represented in each of the four work style pattern categories.

Dominance: Person places emphasis on accomplishing results, the bottom line, and confidence

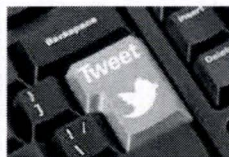
Influence: Person places emphasis on influencing or persuading others, openness, and relationships

Steadiness: Person places emphasis on cooperation, sincerity, and dependability

Conscientiousness: Person places emphasis on quality and accuracy, expertise, and competency

During the second part of the workshop, Tony discussed OPM's new IQ (inclusion quotient). In FY 2013, OPM attempted to numerically measure the inclusiveness of an agency based on the positive responses to 20 specific questions on the FEVS, which were compartmentalized into five inclusive habits: fair, open, cooperative, supportive, and empowered. Tony charted NRC corporate offices' results between FY 2010 to FY 2014 using OPM's five inclusive habits. He discussed ADM's peaks and valleys and associated them with major drivers behind the FEVS data. The workshop presented meaningful tools and data. It ended with an open-ended contemplations and questions session. The result – ADM's leadership team was provided with another useful tool to understand human behaviors that if implemented properly, can improve management practices, employee engagement, and diversity, and enhance performance.

For scheduling workshops on the DiSC® assessment tool and the OPM New IQ, please contact Anthony Barnes of SBCR at 301-415-1185.



Social Media for Outreach and Recruitment

OCHCO's Outreach and Recruitment Branch is moving into social media to help in recruiting efforts so there are new ways to hear about careers and career-related information at the NRC. You will be able to find out about the latest vacancy announcements open to the public and employment information by just following us on Twitter or LinkedIn.

You can sign up to receive NRC's career tweets by registering for twitter or logging into your [Twitter](#) account. In the search field type NRC-gov_jobs. Select @NRCgov_jobs then simply click the "Follow" button underneath.

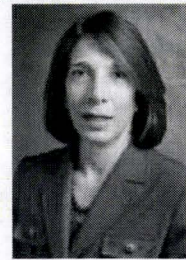
We also launched a careers page on LinkedIn where we share information on jobs and interesting factoids as well as information on why the NRC is a great place to work and seen as an employer of choice. Log into your [LinkedIn](#) account and in the search field type U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission and join the over 10,000 people following our careers page.

Contact: Kimberly.English@nrc.gov

What's Happening!

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Miriam Cohen, the director of OCHCO was part of a panel of government HR executives interviewed by Federal News Radio for a program that ran on May 1st. The program was on the challenges of maintaining a federal workforce in the face of retirements. Read the Federal News Radio article or listen to the interview [here](#).



The Office of the Chief Financial Officer cordially invites you to attend their Open House scheduled for June 10, 2015, from 1:30 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. on the 9th floor of TWFN. Come meet the people and learn about the important work OCFO does in support of the NRC's mission.

We will have refreshments, demonstrations, games, etc.

Do not miss out on all of the fun.



3rd Annual Diversity Bowl

Now let the competition begin! Each of the teams below is playing for fun, knowledge, team spirit and most importantly BRAGGING RIGHTS!!!



Come out and cheer on your favorite team during 3rd Annual NRC's Diversity Bowl! The team members are your friends and colleagues and they need your support. Your participation will determine which team will win NRC's 3rd Annual Diversity Bowl Spirit Award.

The Diversity Bowl Spirit Award will be awarded to the team that meets the following criteria: 1) creativity, 2) team spirit, and 3) and has the most support from their peers! Our esteemed judges will help decide which team has the most spirit. Save the dates to join in on the fun and help your favorite teams win in the semifinals and the championship game. All teams are listed below.

Semifinals: May 27, 12 -1:30 p.m., TWFN Auditorium

Championship Game: Diversity Day, June 4, 12 – 1:30 p.m., TWFN Auditorium

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U.S. ARMY 240TH BIRTHDAY



JUNE 11TH, 2015
TIME: 1:30-2:00
TWFN EXHIBIT AREA

KEYNOTE SPEAKER:
CHAIRMAN BURNS



There's more to MS Office than Outlook, Word, and Excel...

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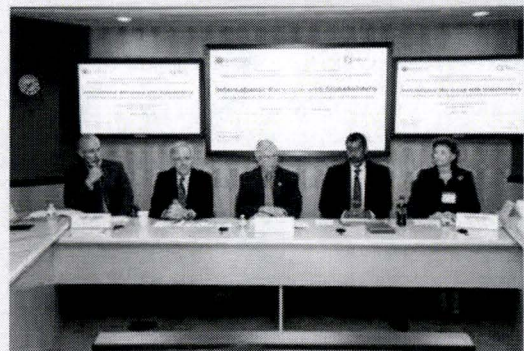
NRC Hosts International Communications Workshop

You may have noticed several international visitors among us a few weeks ago. The Office of Public Affairs at the NRC, in collaboration with the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission, hosted an international meeting and workshop focused on public communication of nuclear regulatory organizations.

The working group spent a day and a half collaborating on reports and discussing communication challenges and opportunities. The annual meeting is normally held in Paris where the host organization, the Nuclear Energy Agency (NEA) within the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) is based.

The workshop brought together communication experts from nuclear regulatory organizations and stakeholders to stimulate discussion on media and stakeholder perceptions, needs, and expectations.

(Continued on next page)



(L-R) Roger Hannah, RII, Chairman Burns, Eliot Brenner, OPA, William Magwood, OECD/NEA, Ann Bisconti, Bisonti Research

Senior Executive Service Class of 2015

by Tamra Thompson (OCHCO)

(b)(6)

On March 26, 2015, the SESCDP Class of 2015 held its completion ceremony. Candidates spent 18 months honing their leadership skills through testing, training, rotations, team projects, individual projects, monthly leadership seminars, and multi-agency training, as per 5 CFR §412.30.

Prior to the completion ceremony, on the morning of March 26, 2015, candidates presented the results of their team projects to the Senior Executive Service. Their projects were the culmination of 18 months of research, planning, coordinating, benchmarking, and filming. Each team worked with an Executive Resources Board (ERB) Senior Advisor*. Projects included:

- The *Leadership at All Levels* team worked with the OCHCO/HRTD Leadership PM to build a SharePoint site to provide a one-stop shop where supervisors and employees can locate tailored training to fit development goals. It offers information for beginners, people with intermediate leadership expertise, and advanced leaders. The SharePoint site can be found here: [Leadership at all Levels SharePoint Site](#).
- *Succession Planning for First Line Supervisors* benchmarked other agencies and private industry. They used the best practices identified in their research to develop NRC-focused processes and recommendations.
- *NRC and Your Community* developed a video in conjunction with OPA which focuses on the people and the everyday dedication and commitment of the NRC employees as part of the community, protecting families and the environment while helping enhance society. The video link can be found here: <http://www.nrc.gov/about-nrc/nrc-and-community.html>
- The *Leadership Philosophy* team consulted with key stakeholders and

conducted seminars throughout the agency to develop a draft leadership philosophy statement, which at its core is how the NRC exercises our values.

- The *Enhancing Agility* team, pre-Project AIM, covered an extensive literature survey, benchmarking agencies and private industry to produce recommendations and strategies for a leaner, more agile NRC.

The SESCDP team presentations can be found here: [SESCDP 2015 Team Presentations](#).

*Special thanks to Mark Satorius, Miriam Cohen, and Cindy Pederson, who served as senior advisors to the teams.

International Workshop Cont.

The morning session of the workshop included exchanges between journalists and experts in communication. The afternoon session focused on discussions with various stakeholders, including government officials, activist group leaders, and industry representatives.

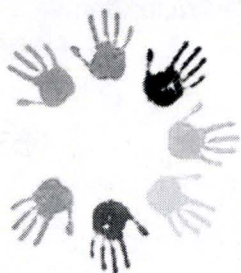
Chairman Burns opened up the workshop noting the importance of working with the international community. He told the group that because nuclear issues have no borders, regulators must communicate with stakeholders and listen to the concerns of the publics we serve.

Former NRC Commissioner, William Magwood, now the Director General of the OECD/NEA, emphasized that regulators must develop better ways to communicate technical material with the public and must strive to establish and maintain public confidence.

Representatives of the media, industry, activist groups, and government agencies attended the workshop including, those from the *New York Times*, Canada's the *Globe and Mail*, Nuclear Energy Institute, Greenpeace, and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

Eliot Brenner, the Chairman of the Working Group on Public Communication discussing what the group accomplished at this year's meeting and workshop said, "We completed work on a white paper on communication strategy, and took on a new task of examining best practices in public meetings. But perhaps most importantly, we built on personal and professional relationships that will serve all group members well in both crisis and non-crisis situations."

Child Development Center: Art for a Bright Start



Mark your calendars! The Board of Directors for the NRC Child Development Center is actively planning "Art for a Bright Start" a silent art auction to benefit the Board's tuition assistance program. The auction will be held on Wednesday, May 20th in the TWFN Exhibit Area. Bidding will take place between 11:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m., with a preview time beginning at 9:00 a.m. All of the items to be auctioned are original pieces of artwork or handicraft.

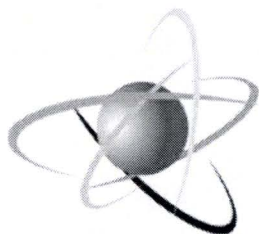
Donations of artwork and handicraft will be accepted until May 8th - please contact (b)(6) if you are interested in donating. Donations are tax deductible.

The Board will also be hosting a **Bake Sale** on May 20th in the TWFN Exhibit Area. Treats will be available beginning at 8:00 am. There will be sweet, savory, and allergy-friendly treats.

About the NRC Child Development Center

The NRC has an on-campus child care center at Headquarters. Operated by the Georgetown Hill Early School, NRC's child care facility is located on the P-1 level of the Two White Flint North building. Nearly 100 children, ranging in age from six weeks old to six years old, spend their weekdays at the center. The curriculum balances play and work, develops basic readiness skills, and assists the children to challenge and test themselves. The children experience the joys of learning. The center is accredited by the Maryland State Department of Education and by the National Association for the Education of Young Children. Enrollment is open to all children - not just those of NRC employees (although forty percent of the children are from NRC families). *(Continued on p. 15)*

2015 Montgomery County Science Fair



Several NRC staff participated in the Montgomery County Science Fair held at the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) at the White Oak campus in Silver Spring, MD on Saturday, March 14. The NRC staff served as judges and reviewed a wide range of projects from information technology, biology, behavioral and social sciences, chemistry, computer science and mathematics, engineering, and physics. Staff interviewed middle school and high school students about

the their projects. This year the following students and projects received awards:

Middle school:

1st place: (b)(6) North Bethesda Middle School (*Effect of Solar Mass Loss on the Orbital Stability of Lagrangian Points L1, L2, L4 and L5 in Sun-Earth Systems*).

2nd place: (b)(6) Argyle Middle School (*Shielding RFID Cards From No-Contact Pickpocketing*).

3rd place: (b)(6) Parkland Middle School (*Elasticity vs. Temperature*).

Honorable Mention: (b)(6) Takoma Park Middle School (*A Bioinformatics Approach to Ebola*).

High School:

1st place: (b)(6) Poolesville High School, Mathematical Modeling and Brain Activations Characterize Differences in Human Pattern Recognition under Conditions of Ambiguous Feedback.

2nd place: (b)(6) Clarksburg High School, An Innovative Refrigeration Systems for Vaccine Transportation to Remote Locations.

3rd place: (b)(6) Poolesville High School, Benchmarking of Conventional, Probabilistic, and Number-Theoretic Primality Tests.

Special thanks to science fair volunteer (b)(6)

(b)(6)

"It's Graduation Time"**DARR (b)(6)
Graduates from Marine Officer Candidate School**

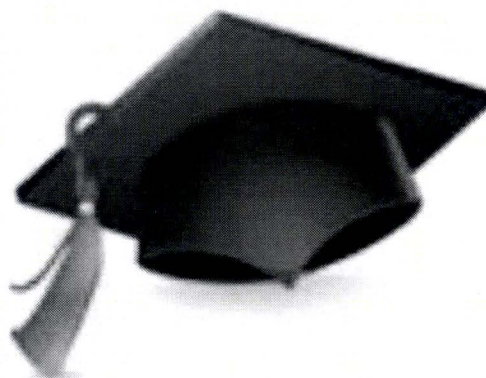
(b)(6) recently graduated from Marine Officer Candidate School and was commissioned as an officer in a ceremony at the Quantico Marine Base in Virginia. (b)(6) graduated from the University of Virginia Business School in (b)(6) and subsequently worked in the financial sector in Boston. He has decided to pursue a goal of service to the country by flying aircraft in the Marines and is attending The Basic School at Quantico for the next seven months. Congratulations to the (b)(6) family!

(b)(6)

(b)(6) ADM, graduated from the FY 2014-2015 AAGEN (Asian American Government Executives Network) SES Program. Both of (b)(6)

(b)(6) attended her graduation ceremony. She is very grateful and indebted for all the support she received from her supervisors, from many of her SES managers, mentors, colleagues, and her friends in the NRC.

(b)(6)



(b)(6)

If you have any special graduations coming up this season, send a photo and caption to NRCReporter.Resource@nrc.gov, and we will publish them in a future issue.

Child Development Center (Cont.)

The NRC Child Development Center, Inc. serves as an independent liaison between the NRC and Georgetown Hill. Its Board of Directors is made up entirely of volunteers. One of the missions of the Board is to provide need-based tuition assistance for children in attendance at the child development center at NRC headquarters.

Quality child care is very important, but it is also very expensive. In Montgomery County, on average, child care for children ages infant through preschool costs more than full-time tuition at Montgomery College and more than in-state tuition at the University of Maryland. But unlike college, families don't have eighteen years to save for child care! All children who attend the child development center at the NRC are eligible to apply for tuition assistance – whether or not they are children of NRC employees. Tuition assistance is not something that is available at many child care facilities in the area and is one more reason that the child development center at the NRC is so special. To date, more than 200 scholarships have been awarded.

Tuition Assistance fundraisers happen year round. The Board hosts bake sales, raffles, and other fun activities, like "Art for a Bright Start." Thank you for your continued and enthusiastic support of our activities!

Upcoming PDC Courses

The PDC can meet many of your training requirements – be they technical or leadership/management courses. There are still seats available in many upcoming training classes (see list below). If you are interested in any of these offerings, please log into iLearn (<https://ilearnnrc.plateau.com/plateau/user/login.jsp>) and register. If you need assistance please call the PDC at (301) 287-0556.

Start Date	End Date	Item ID	Add'l Off.	Sch. Off. Description
05/11/15	05/12/15	ID_167145		RASCAL Training
05/11/15	05/11/15	ID_16143		E-Gov Travel Services 2 (ETS2)- Auditorium Overview Demonstration
05/11/15	05/11/15	ID_5026	10	E-Gov Travel Service 2 (ETS2)- Federal Approver Training
05/12/15	05/12/15	ID_5024	9	ETS2 Federal Traveler/Arranger Training
05/12/15	05/12/15	ID_47143	1	NRO Change Management Process
05/14/15	05/14/15	ID_47144		Spending Plan System (SPS) Class
05/18/15	05/20/15	ID_123144		Basic Presentation Training
05/18/15	05/22/15	ID_163144		Cost and Price Analysis
05/19/15	05/19/15	ID_46143		Introduction to Derivative Classification
05/21/15	05/21/15	ID_27144		COR Conversations
05/22/15	05/22/15	ID_167144	3	FAIMIS Credit Card Training
05/26/15	05/26/15	ID_1081		NRC Correspondence Management: SECY Papers
05/27/15	05/28/15	468	1	Site Access Training (H-100)
05/28/15	05/28/15	ID_3301		Communicating Naturally - A Basic Course in American Sign Language
06/01/15	06/05/15	516		Westinghouse Systems Overview (R-104P)
06/01/15	06/01/15	ID_3701		Supervisory Drug Education & Testing Program Requirements: Part 1-Drug Free Workplace for Supervisors
06/01/15	06/01/15	ID_3961		Supervisory Drug Education & Testing Program Requirements Pt 2-Managing Employees in Troubling Times
06/02/15	06/04/15	ID_156144		E-Gov Travel Services 2 (ETS2) COGNOS Report Authoring Training
06/03/15	06/04/15	ID_164146		Cost Principles for Federal Grants
06/03/15	06/03/15	812		EEO and Diversity Refresher Training for Managers and Supervisors
06/03/15	06/04/15	1121		Recruitment, Behavioral Interviewing, and Selection
06/04/15	06/04/15	ID_135148		COR Workshop: Validation of Fee-Billable Contract & Agreement Costs
06/10/15	06/11/15	ID_51146		Effective Communication for NRC Inspectors (Breakout Room)
06/11/15	06/11/15	ID_153144		Severe Accident Progression - Direct Containment Heating
06/11/15	06/11/15	ID_122144	1	Verification of ITAAC Closure, Evaluation, and Status (VOICES) Training