



# THE *BILLET* STC NEWSLETTER

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER of the SOUTH TEXAS CHAPTER of the HEALTH PHYSICS SOCIETY

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## The STC-HPS Fall Conference and Affiliates Fair

The Fall Conference and Affiliates Fair of the STC-HPS will be held September 12–13, 2017, outside Bastrop, TX.



## Photos from the STC-HPS Meeting, April 2017, Student Presentation Meeting, Waco, Texas

The State of Texas Chapter (STC) of the HPS will be hosting a Student Presentation meeting featuring research by students at our local colleges and universities.



## Meeting photo from Raleigh, NC, August 2017

Several members of the State of Texas Chapter of the Health Physics Society attended the 62nd Annual Meeting of the HPS in Raleigh, NC.



## Hot Cell Safety Training in China

John Hageman, Principal Scientist and the Radiation Safety Officer of Southwest Research Institute (SwRI), in San Antonio, Texas, participated in an international training event in China.

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## STC-HPS Fall Conference on Emergency Response and Affiliates Fair!

**T**he Fall Conference and Affiliates Fair of the State of Texas Chapter of the Health Physics Society will be held on Tuesday and Wednesday, September 12–13, 2017, at the beautiful Hyatt Regency Lost Pines Resort and Spa outside of Bastrop, TX (15 miles east of downtown Austin). A block of rooms will be available for the nights of the 11th and 12th for the State reimbursement rate of \$141. We will be featuring speakers focusing on Emergency Response. Mark your calendars; this is a meeting you won't want to miss!

The Meeting is for a full day on Tuesday, September 12, and a half-day on Wednesday, September 13.

Hyatt Regency Lost Pines Resort and Spa, a four-star hotel  
Address: 575 Hyatt Lost Pines Rd, Cedar Creek, TX 78612  
Phone: (512) 308-1234





# Photos from the STC-HPS Meeting, April 2017, Student Presentation Meeting, Waco, Texas

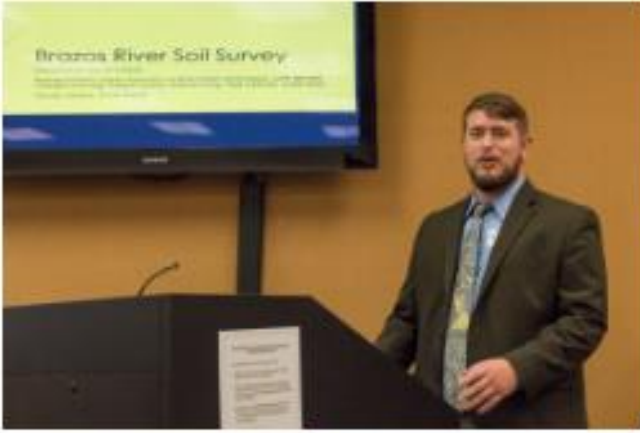
[View these photos with captions.](#)

















## STC-HPS Meeting photo from Raleigh, NC

**S**everal members of the State of Texas Chapter of the Health Physics Society attended the 62nd Annual Meeting of the HPS in Raleigh, NC, in July.



Back Row, L-R: Tyler Cantrell, Christopher Pagan, Matthew Amen, John Hageman, Ken Krieger, John Salsman

Middle Row, L-R: Ed Bailey, Ruth McBurney, Leigh Ing, Elizabeth Tindle, Linda Morris, Elaine Marshall, Gamaliel Torres

Front Row, L-R: Janet Gutierrez and Sandra Jimenez



# Hot Cell Safety Training in China

By: John P. Hageman

**J**ohn Hageman, Principal Scientist and the Radiation Safety Officer of Southwest Research Institute (SwRI), in San Antonio, Texas, participated in an international training event in China. The one-week training course was sponsored by the International Atomic Energy Agency. Mr. Hageman provided several training segments on operational safety for a Mobile Hot Cell. The Mobile Hot Cell is used to handle and prepare unused highly-radioactive sealed sources for disposal or enhanced/secure storage. The Hot Cell is designed to be assembled in various locations by filling the steel-shell shielding walls with sand, 2 meters thick, from the local community.

The training was conducted at the China Institute for Radiation Protection (CIRP) for 13 new Mobile Hot Cell operators from Malaysia. The participants in the training course were given several hours of classroom lectures and hands-on experience using the manipulators of the CIRP's Mobile Hot Cell.



The back two rows show the Malaysian Students and CIRP's Hot Cell operators. In the front row (L-R) are: Hongxiang An, CIRP; Yu Liang, CIRP; John Hageman, SwRI; Mohamed Al-Mughrabi, IAEA; Xueqi Chang, CIRP President; and Gert Liebenberg, IAEA

STC – Executive Council Meeting – Waco, TX  
April 21, 2017

**1) Persons in Attendance:**

Amanda Sullivan  
Susanne Savely  
Jennifer Cerecero  
Sandra Jimenez  
Billie Harvey  
William Pate  
Ed Bailey  
John Hrvojic  
Janet Gutierrez  
Tracy Tipping  
Linda Morris  
John Hageman  
Jay Poston

**2) Meeting Convened**

Quorum established and meeting officially convened at 5:36 pm.

**3) Approval of Minutes**

Minutes of September 22, 2016 meeting distributed and reviewed by group. Motion to approve made by Suzanne Savely; Second by Jennifer Cerecero. Minutes were approved.

**4) Reports Made**

**President – Susanne Savely (Past-President at of Apr 21, 2017)**

**Nomination Letters**

Nomination letters were submitted on behalf of the STC for the following:

- Texas Radiation Advisory Board (TRAB) Nominations
  - William Pate
  - Jay Poston
  
- HPS Nominations
  - William Pate
  - Ali Simpkins
  - William Gordon
  - Ed Bailey
  - Ken Kreiger - Fellow

**Elections were concluded and as of Apr 21<sup>st</sup> the following positions are now held by the people listed:**

- Latha Vasudevan, President-elect
- Jay Poston, Treasurer-elect
- Janet Gutierrez, Board Member
- **Name Change from STC-HPS to State of Texas Chapter-HPS**

<b>Bylaw Changes</b>	
Abstention	2
Approve	35
Disapprove	1

Name change carried. Charter needs to be resubmitted to the National Group to institute the name change. Jennifer Cerecero will resubmit.

**President-Elect /Program Committee – Amanda Sullivan (President as of Apr 21, 2017)**

**2016 Technical Meeting and Affiliates’ Fair – Clear Lake, TX**

- 80 attendees
- Projected loss of ~\$1200, actual loss of \$1415.54)
- Meeting feedback – positive, good location, good food (although switch up the breakfast), good presentations, liked the two day format and meeting during the week.
- Expensive location

**2017 Student Presentation Meeting**

- 43 Attendees registered, expect final number to be 45-50.
- Meeting cost \$1246.50
- Expected gain of \$123.50

**Admissions/Membership Committee Report - Amanda Sullivan, Membership Chair**

**Summary**

	Category	2017	Comments	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012	2011
1	Honorary Lifetime Memberships	1	Hageman	1	1	2	2	2	2
2	Individual Memberships	103		111	116	130	241	200	208
3	Student Memberships	8		62	10	11	22	22	25
4	Science Fair Winners	3		2	0	2	0	4	
	Sub-Total	115		176	127	143	167	222	239
5	Affiliate Memberships	10		23	22	22	18	24	23
	Total	125		199	149	165	185	246	262

(Numbers of 2016 Members, above, includes New Members listed below)

## New Members

Gamil	Azmy	Student
Hemmati	Mina	UH - Downtown
Everett	Samantha	
Torres	Aaron	UH-Downtown
Turner	Derrell	UH-Downtown
Sorrells	Samantha	UT Southwestern
King	William	Ludlum Measurements
Hrvojic	John	
Stewart	Farrar	TDSHS
Price	Emily	Student
Yue	David	Science Fair Winner
Supan	Samantha	Science Fair Winner
Reese	Neimietz	Science Fair Winner

## Secretary – Billie Harvey

Nothing to report

## Treasurer – Jennifer Cerecero

**Petty Cash Fund:** \$ 85.00

### **Bank Accounts:**

Bank Account	Previous Balance	Interest Received	Current Balance
Science Teacher (0279)	\$ 3988.69 (September 12, 2016)	\$ 1.14	\$ 3989.83 (April 11, 2017)
Student Scholarship (5456)	\$ 5116.54 (September 19, 2016)	\$ 1.46	\$ 5118.00 (April 14, 2017)

Bank Account	Previous Balance	Net	Current Balance
Operating Account (1166)	\$35544.32 (September 16, 2016)	\$4021.74	\$39566.06 (April 19, 2017)

Deposits into Operating Account:

PayPal	Treasurer Deposits	Credit Card Refunds	Total
\$7049.34	\$865.00	\$109.68	\$8024.02

Payments from Operating Account:

EXPENSE	AMOUNT
Website Fees	\$89.16
Student Scholarships	\$3000.00
Billet Fee	\$500.00
Art Hall Awards	\$128.08
Constant Contact	\$156.24
FedEx Office	\$128.80
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$4002.28</b>

**Summary of Meetings:**

	Number Attending/ Registered to Attend	Amount Received	Meeting Cost	Difference
HPS Annual Meeting Breakfast 7/2013	14 (including 3 students)	\$250.00	\$246.43	\$3.57
Houston Meeting 9/2013	78 (including 16 students, Science Fair winner & parents)	\$2745.00	\$ 2,363.22	\$381.78
San Antonio Meeting 1/2014	55 (including 3 students)	\$4,190.00	\$ 4,573.50	( \$ 383.50)
College Station Meeting 3/2014	67 attendees	\$1900.00	\$ 930.13	\$969.87
Breakfast Meeting	11 attendees	\$192.76	\$192.76	\$0
Regulatory Conference	384 attendees	\$61046.53	\$38376.59	\$22669.94
Sugarland Meeting	60 attendees	\$2385.00	\$1820.75	\$564.25
Breakfast Meeting	12 attendees	-	-	-
Waco Meeting	49 attendees	\$1145.00	\$737.49	\$407.51
San Antonio Meeting 9/2015	60 attendees	\$4533.89	\$5093.31	(\$ 559.42)
College Station Meeting 4/2016	52 attendees	\$1115.00	\$2544.28	(\$1429.28)

Clear Lake Meeting 9/2016	80 attendees	\$8603.58	\$10019.12	(\$1415.54)
Waco Meeting 4/2017	41 attendees	TBD	TBD	TBD

**Pending Deposits: \$1353.27 (PayPal)**

**Annuities:**

Annuity	Previous Values	Current Values
Lincoln (699, 700, & 701)	\$ 30541.56 09/20/2016	\$ 30922.39 04/19/2017
Edward Jones	\$112987.92 04/13/2016	\$12034.88 04/19/2017
Total Values	\$143529.48 09/20/2016	\$150957.27 04/19/2017

**Affiliate Committee Report**

1. Affiliate Renewals
  - a. ARDT
  - b. Berkeley Nucleonics Corporation
  - c. Bionomics
  - d. F&J Specialty
  - e. FOBI Medical
  - f. Landauer
  - g. NSSI
  - h. Owens Scientific
  - i. Suntrac Services
2. Sending out reminder due notifications again in May
3. Will start working with Pres-Elect on planning Sept meeting with Affiliates

**Student Assistance Committee Report – Linda Morris, Committee Chair**

1. **Science Fairs** – The South Texas Chapter participated in two regional science and engineering fairs and the Texas Science and Engineering Fair. The winners are:

Austin Energy Regional Science Festival (Feb. 15-18, 2017): Meghana Karimiseetty and Reese Niemietz, Cedar Ridge High School, “The Effect of Anthocyanin in Sweet Potatoes on the Movement of *C. elegans* Exposed to Ultra Violet Light.” Reese followed up by submitting his complimentary membership application to the STC.

Science and Engineering Fair of Houston (Feb. 24-25, 2017):

Junior 1<sup>st</sup>: Samantha Supan\*, 8<sup>th</sup> Grade, Space Center Intermediate, “Is My Kitty Litter Radioactive?”  
 Junior 2<sup>nd</sup>: Sanjay Annamalai, 7<sup>th</sup> Grade, League City Intermediate, “Cell Phone Radiation.”

\*Note: Samantha elected to join the STC as student member.

Texas Science and Engineering Fair (March 31-April 1, 2017):

Winner: David Yue, Jasper High School, Plano, TX, "Dose Reduction for CT."

The regional award winners were given a 7" X 9" plaque, a *Chart of the Nuclides*, and a one year complimentary student membership to the STC-HPS. The Texas winner received an 8" X 10" plaque, a \$50 check, and the student membership.

**Thanks must be extended to our judges. They had *hundreds* of projects to sort through to find the ones related to radiation. Our gratitude is extended to:**

**Houston: Janet Gutierrez, Stan Bravenec, and Gamaliel Torres**

**Austin: Linda Morris**

**Texas State Fair: Cpt. Kent Fisher, US Army**

2. **Education Grants for Associate Degree and Graduate Degree Students** – The applications are available in the *Billet*. The deadline for the applications is the end of May. Applicants must be members in good standing of the STC. The grant is for \$1000 per award. The Neff-Poston award will be made in the fall to an undergraduate Radiological Health Engineering student at Texas A&M University. This award is approximately \$1250.
3. **Student Paper Presentation** – Student presentations will be given tomorrow. As usual, there will be three levels of competition: Associate, Undergraduate, and Graduate. Two awards will be given at each level (1<sup>st</sup> - \$250, 2<sup>nd</sup> - \$100) unless the Executive Council decides otherwise.
4. **Student Travel Grants** – Assist students desiring to attend the national HPS meeting in North Carolina this summer. Students receiving national travel grants will be notified soon. The HPS covers lodging, registration, and is giving about \$350 to each student to cover cost of transportation. Please consider awarding a student additional funds to make up the difference between actual expenses and the awards. Forms are available to be passed out tomorrow. (The Executive Council approved the requested additional funds Apr 21, 2017)

**Legislative Committee Report – Bobby Janecka**

**Legislation under consideration by Texas Legislature**

SB 1330 by Seliger, Relating to funding for the operations of the Texas Low-Level Radioactive Waste Disposal Compact Commission.

Addresses funding for the Texas LLRW Compact Commission by correctly depositing fees collected to fund the Compact Commission into the appropriate revenue account.

Approved by Senate Committee, awaiting consideration by full Senate and House.

SB 1667 by Seliger (companion HB 3946 by Landgraf), Relating to the nature, funding, and functions of the Texas Low-Level Radioactive Waste Compact Commission.

Affirms the autonomy and authority of the Compact Commission as an independent entity, and limiting the oversight of the Texas Comptroller in disbursing funds appropriated from the state.

Approved by Senate Committee, awaiting consideration by full Senate and House.



HB 2662 by Landgraf (companion SB 1137 by Seliger), Relating to the Texas Low-Level Radioactive Waste Disposal Compact waste disposal facility.

Replaces the existing annual and total limits on non-party waste allowed to be disposed at WCS with a reserved disposal capacity for Texas and Vermont generators of 4 million cubic feet and 3 million curies (of which, Vermont is entitled to 20 percent).

Requires WCS to halt disposal of imports if the amount of waste disposed reached 80 percent of the currently built disposal cell or if a Texas or Vermont nuclear power generator executes a contract for decommissioning, until WCS either constructs an additional 1 million cubic feet of airspace to the disposal cell or deposits financial assurance with the state to construct that expansion.

Repeals volume reduction requirements for imported waste and certain statutory language that is now unnecessary, since it refers to requirements prior to opening the compact waste disposal facility.

Approved by House Committee, awaiting by consideration by full House and Senate.

HB 3977 by Frullo, Relating to continuing education requirements for a laser hair removal certificate or license.

Requires DSHS to establish rules setting CE requirements for licensed individuals.

Not yet heard by House Committee.

### **State Agency Rulemakings**

No current draft or proposed rulemakings by DSHS.

One TCEQ rulemaking petition by the Texas Mining and Reclamation Association, Uranium Committee, has been approved but will not proceed with stakeholder discussion until after the conclusion of the Legislative Session (in late May/June).

### **Federal Agency Rulemakings**

In January, EPA introduced a new proposed rulemaking for 40 CFR Part 192, regarding Health and Environmental Protection Standards for Uranium and Thorium Mill Tailings. Comments are due July 18, 2017.

EPA will host a public teleconference to solicit input on specific air and radiation actions that could be repealed, replaced, or modified to make them less burdensome on April 24, 2017 (this Monday!) from 10:00am to 1:00pm CDT.

The NRC has four rulemaking matters currently open for public comment regarding:

The NUHOMS EOS spent fuel storage case;

Regulatory improvements for power reactors transitioning to decommissioning (comments close June 13, 2017);

Non-power production or utilization facility license renewal (comments close June 13, 2017); and

Emergency preparedness requirements for small modular reactors (comments close June 27, 2017).

Three rulemakings that could establish new requirements are anticipated to be complete this fiscal year:

LLRW disposal rules update (Parts 20 and 61) have a current final rule publication date expected for June 15, 2017.

Medical use of byproduct material rules (Part 35) have a current final rule publication date expected for June 19, 2017.

Performance-based emergency core cooling system acceptance criteria rules (Part 50) have a current final rule publication date expected for June 30, 2017.

## **Miscellaneous Items**

On April 18, 2017, WCS sent a letter to the NRC requesting that they temporarily suspend activity related to their application for a license to store spent nuclear fuel.

The trial in federal court in Delaware to consider the proposed acquisition of WCS by EnergySolutions will commence on April 24, 2017 and is expected to conclude by May 5, 2017.

On April 5, 2017, Holtec International submitted an application to the NRC for a license to store spent nuclear fuel at a proposed site in southeastern New Mexico.

## **Science Teachers Workshop Report - Ken Krieger, Science Teacher Workshop Coordinator**

Do not know if everyone knows that I took the STC-STW to a new level. I asked and was given permission to use the STC-STW material as the basis for the STW that was requested by The Waste Management Symposium in Phoenix. ANS used to provide this but they were not able to do this anymore, so HPS national was asked to fill in and I knew we had a good workshop so volunteered to hold this workshop for HPS. I modified our materials to better fit their needs. And it was a very good success, and they are asking HPS to come back next year.

I am also trying to set up a workshop in OK sometime during the summer or Aug. if anyone want to help with this workshop please let me know.

I am trying to set up another workshop in the Houston Area. This one should be in the fall some time. Again if anyone wants to assist with this one, please let me know.

## **Public Relations Committee Report - Janet M Gutiérrez**

- Billet Article Ideas
  - Student Science Fairs
  - Waco Meeting – New officers announced
  - STP Name change - if approved by Member Vote (Name change has been approved)
  - Scout Fair
- HPS Newsletter Article Ideas
  - September 2016 Topical Meeting & Affiliate's Fair in Clear Lake, Texas
  - Student Science Fair
  - Waco Meeting
  - STP Name change-if approved by Member Vote (Name change has been approved)
  - Scout Fair
- Scout Fair, Sam Houston Area Council, Minute Maid Park, May 6, 2017
  - Volunteers, STC HPS logo items, radiation detector show and tell
- Endowed Fellowship Idea (On hold until Sept 2017 meeting)

**Future STC-HPS Meetings and Deadlines for *The Billet* – John Hageman, Editor of *The Billet***

<b><u>Date</u></b>	<b><u>Location</u></b>	<b><u>Topic</u></b>	<b><u>Deadline</u> for <i>The Billet</i></b>
<b>April 21-22, 2017 Fri. and Saturday</b>	<b>Waco, TX</b>	STC Student Presentations & Annual Business Meeting	NA
<b>July 9-13, 2017</b>	<b>Raleigh, NC</b>	62 <sup>nd</sup> Annual HPS Meeting	NA
<b>July 11 or 12, 2017</b>	<b>Raleigh, NC</b>	<b>STC Breakfast or Happy Hour meeting</b>	NA
<b>Sept. __, 2017</b>	<b>TBD (Bastrop, Temple)</b>	<b>Joint STC and North TX Meeting Affiliates' Fair and Technical Meeting</b>	<b>July __, 2017</b>
February 4-7, 2018	Denver Marriot City Center	51 <sup>st</sup> Midyear HPS Meeting	NA
<b>April __, 2018</b>	<b>College Station or somewhere in North Texas?</b>	STC Student Presentations & Annual Business Meeting	<b>Feb. __2018</b>
<b>July 15-19, 2018</b>	<b>Cleveland, OH</b>	63 <sup>rd</sup> Annual HPS Meeting	NA

## 5. New Business

### Proposed 2017 Budget

#### ESTIMATED INCOME:

**\$ 12,000** Dues, Donations, Account Interest, & Investment Income

#### PROJECTED EXPENSES:

**\$ 12,500 TOTAL including:**

**\$ 7,050** Student Assistance

\$ 3,000- Three \$ 1,000 Educational Grants (include Undergraduates)

\$ 2,500 – Student Travel Grants (Increase of \$500)

\$ 1,050 – Three \$ 250 & three \$ 100 Research Paper Awards

\$ 500 – Science Fair Awards

**\$ 1,000** Billet Preparation and Editing

**\$ 1,500** Programs/Meetings\*

**\$ 1,400** Science Teacher Workshops

**\$ 1,550** Administrative Expenses

\$ 750 – Bank, Post Office, Credit Card, and PayPal Charges

\$ 250 – Internet Host Fees

\$ 300 – Constant Contact Fees

\$ 150 – Plaques and Awards

\$ 100 – Miscellaneous

\* This is estimated cost exceeding monies received from registration fees.

### STC Name Change & Paperwork

Taxes – Annual taxes filed on time

Electronic Paperwork Transition – Propose to scan documents online to Google-docs. There are currently 11 boxes of old records in storage. Goo

### Planning for:

- STC Breakfast or Happy Hour in Raleigh, NC – Took place Tuesday, July 11
- STC September Affiliates Fair, and
- Student presentation meeting in College Station Apr 2018

## 6. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn: Jay Poston

Second: Billie Harvey

Meeting adjourned.