

**Publicity:** Press releases were issued for the seminars and it was found that local media were receptive to helping communicate something being offered as a public service. One local television station in Chattanooga even recorded a “live” five-minute spot with two presenters! Chapter members also did some promotion using posters placed in churches, businesses, and schools. We did not utilize paid advertising; however, that may be an appropriate enhancement to increase the turnout at future seminars.

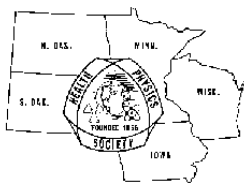
**Scheduling and other impacts:** The inaugural seminar in Oak Ridge was held on a Friday evening, while the follow-up seminar in Chattanooga was held twice on a Saturday to determine the effect of scheduling. However, any effects were unquantifiable due to being masked by weather conditions from both ends of the spectrum. The Oak Ridge seminar was held during severe weather that included tornado warnings and required sheltering in place. Conversely, the Chattanooga effort coincided with one of spring’s first warm-weather, short-sleeve weekends. Conclusion: There will always be conflicts and competing events that will impact attendance. Schedule around the big events as much as possible and learn to live with the impact of that over which you have no control.

The ETCHPS is excited about the feedback received from these seminars and plans to host future events in communities near nuclear facilities. We hope you will join us!

For more information, please contact the director of both events, Henry Lynn, at 865-617-2497, or send an email to [outreach.etchps@hpschapters.org](mailto:outreach.etchps@hpschapters.org).

## North Central Chapter

John A. Bauhs, PhD, CHP



The North Central Chapter of the Health Physics Society (NCCHPS) held its spring 2013 meeting on 19 April on the University of Wisconsin (UW) - Madison campus. The meeting included a technical program, a business meeting, and vendor exhibits. The meeting was run by NCCHPS President Gordon Tannahill. Following is a synopsis of the technical talks.

Micaela Sullivan-Fowler, curator and history-of-health-sciences librarian at Ebling Library on the UW-Madison campus, presented “Fallout - the Mixed Blessing of Radiation and the Public Health.” UW-Madison has a common book-reading program called “Go Big Read,” which highlights one book each year. The book for the 2012-2013 school year was *Radioactive: Marie & Pierre Curie: A Tale of Love and*



*Fallout* by Lauren Redniss. Go Big Read is like a giant book club. Over 5,000 copies of the book were distributed. The book was used campus wide in many science and humanities classes.

In association with the reading program, Sullivan-Fowler developed a radiation history exhibit for the Ebling Library. Her talk was about the exhibit, which contains letters by early researchers and physicians, original journal articles and books, old photos and posters, and old scientific and medical hardware.

Thad A. Heltemes, PhD, gave the talk “SHINE Medical Technologies Domestic Production of  $^{99}\text{Mo}$  Using LEU.” SHINE Medical Technologies is building a facility to produce  $^{99}\text{Mo}$ , which is a precursor to  $^{99\text{m}}\text{Tc}$ , which is used in over 40 million medical-imaging procedures worldwide each year. The imaging procedures are primarily stress tests to detect heart disease and bone scans to determine the stage of cancer progression.  $^{99}\text{Mo}$  will be produced as follows: deuterium ions are accelerated to 300 keV and they then strike tritium atoms in a tritium gas target. 14 MeV neutrons are produced in the D-T fusion reaction. Uranium atoms in a low-enriched uranium sulfate solution capture the

neutrons, causing the uranium atoms to fission, from which  $^{99}\text{Mo}$  constitutes a significant proportion of the fission products. The  $^{99}\text{Mo}$  is separated from the uranium sulfate solution and prepared for distribution. SHINE's process avoids the use of highly enriched uranium.

Gordon Tannahill, MHP, CHP, presented "Mayo Clinic Fluoroscopy Notification Program." A few years ago, Mayo Clinic implemented a requirement that when skin dose from fluoroscopy during a medical procedure exceeds 6 Gy, a formal evaluation must be made regarding the cause of the high dose. This requirement has increased awareness of the physicians to better monitor fluoroscopy dose. Over the past four years, Mayo's cases of high skin dose from fluoroscopy have decreased to about one third the initial number.

Robert McTaggart, PhD, presented the talk "Revitalizing a Teaching Nuclear Lab Facility." He is an associate professor of physics at South Dakota State University in Brookings. He explained the Physics Department's process of upgrading health physics and nuclear engineering lab equipment, along with adding an optional health physics emphasis in the undergraduate physics degree.

## Why Shop at the [HPS Logo Store](#)?

Jack Beck, CHP

As many health physicists know from talking with me at past Health Physics Society (HPS) meetings, my number-one hobby is fishing for striped bass in the Tennessee River. I have been fishing for "stripers" for 19 years and some 50 or so HPS members have traveled to Tennessee to fish with me, including Howard Dickson (and both his sons), Jim Berger, Ken Miller (and his brother Ralph), Rich Vetter, Tim Taulbee (and his dad CB), Brant Ulsh, Linda Hodges (and her husband Harold) and Tanya Bernhardt, just to name a few from the last few years.

In the past 19 years of striper fishing, we have almost always had good results, typically catching 10 to 25 fish in a trip—and up to as many as 78. But this year started off miserably—several trips with only one or two fish and several other trips with no fish and easily the worst luck ever. But last week I wore my "lucky HPS logo hat" (I call it lucky because I won it at the 2011 HPS Annual Meeting at Palm Beach) and we caught 36 fish total—and 21 were stripers like the one in the photo below.



At all of his chapter visits, President-elect Darrell Fisher has been showing a photo of me wearing my HPS logo hat and holding two stripers and has been telling attendees they need to buy a hat to improve their luck at golf, fishing, etc. . . . WOW, does this guy know his stuff or what!!!

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