



Go Nuke!

A newsletter from the North American Young Generation in Nuclear

Fall 2010

Opportunity is Knocking By Mike Kurzeja, NA-YGN Past President

There are a select few times in my life when I have leapt before I looked. One of those times was when I ran for Vice President of NA-YGN. I wasn't sure exactly what I was getting into. It just felt right. I was not disappointed. The last three years have been well beyond anything I could have imagined. My involvement has been challenging and difficult at times to balance everything. But at the same time, it has been rewarding in incalculable ways. And soon, each of you reading this will have the same opportunity.

The annual elections are coming in early 2011 and the terms start in May 2011 at the Annual Conference. Positions open for election include: Vice President (leading to President), Communications Chair, Public Information Chair, US Affairs Chair and Mexican Affairs Chair. All Executive positions are two year commitments except for the President track, which is a three year commitment.

The Vice President should be a project oriented person, comfortable with Public speaking and leading teams. Responsibilities as VP include Chapter Development, while as President you are the face of NA-YGN. Past President is responsible for sustainability and elections.

The Communications Chair should be organized, meticulous, and task oriented, because he or she is responsible for internal communications including GoNuke!, Membership Announcements, Website content, liaising with the Awards committee, keeping the rest of the Core on task with meeting minutes, and coordinating the Annual Report and Strategic Plan.

While the Communications Chair is focused on internal communication, the Public Information Chair focuses on external communication about nuclear. The PI position oversees the Annual Drawing Contest, Nuke 101, and Clean Energy Insight Blog, as well as Press Releases and Position Papers. This person should be interested in government, policy and excited about informing the public about the advantages of nuclear.

With 79 of NA-YGN's 85 local chapters located in the US, the US Affairs Chair has the rewarding and sometimes crazy job of relaying information from the Core to the US local chapters. The US Affairs chair works with the US Regional Leads to promote local chapter and regional activities, as

well as collect local chapter metrics, and troubleshoot local chapter issues. The US Affairs Chair should be organized, personable, responsive, and a good multi-tasker.

The Mexican Affairs Chair is the voice of Mexico on the Core and is responsible for bringing the message of NA-YGN back to their country.

Being a Core Member is a phenomenal professional development opportunity and a lot of fun, but also a lot of work. You build a real appreciation for the scale, challenges and opportunities facing the nuclear industry, and get to know some amazing people in the process.

Core members are not just engineers, scientists, and managers. Former Core members have been Knowledge Management specialists, Training Officers and Nuclear Operators. All of us in this industry are professionals, and all of us have a role to play in improving it.

Being a leader in NA-YGN is not a shortcut to a promotion, but it will help you develop skills to be ready for the next step. Being part of the Core of NA-YGN does not mean your employer is required to send you to conferences, but it will expose you to a lot of things outside your company. It does not mean your employer will give you extra consideration for assignments, but it will open your eyes to different opportunities that are available. NA-YGN is not a way for you to get a job in the industry, but you will make valuable connections.

Be sure to discuss your interest with your supervisor before making the commitment. They want you to develop, but need to understand what you are doing.

Look out for Membership Announcements or contact me (past-president@na-ygn.org) for more information.

If you aren't ready to run for a Core position, but might be in 2-3 years, get involved on a Committee, then as a Committee lead. Check out the infrastructure on the NA-YGN website, or talk to a Core Member to determine where you would best fit in.

Opportunity is knocking. Will you open the door?

Advocating for Your Nuclear Future: Sarah Leverage

Sarah Leverage is currently serving as the 2010 American Nuclear Society Congressional Fellow, working for Senator Bob Corker (R-TN), who sits on the Energy and Natural Resources Committee. Tennessee has three operating nuclear power plants and the Oak Ridge National Laboratory, so the state has a good cross section of commercial nuclear operations as well as research and development activities. As a Congressional Fellow her role is to provide a reasoned and knowledgeable view of nuclear matters to Congress, and serve as a science and engineering resource for the staff. Day -to-day responsibilities include monitoring energy and environmental related issues as well as reviewing draft legislation, meeting with constituents, and briefing the Senator on energy topics.

An engineer by training, Leverage has held positions in engineering, environmental compliance, health and safety, communications, regulatory affairs, and project management--all extremely relevant and valuable experiences to have working in the nuclear industry. She wanted to do the Congressional Fellowship to better understand the political and policy development process. The nuclear industry is dependent on government policy. Leverage stated, "I felt compelled to share my technical expertise with policy makers to help create informed energy legislation, which I believe should include nuclear. Throughout the Fellowship, I have learned that as nuclear advocates we have a responsibility to provide elected officials clear communications on the benefits of nuclear science and technology. Regardless of your political views, I would encourage young professionals to learn more about the political process and develop themselves as technical resources for their elected officials. It will make you a more informed and well rounded advocate."

Leverage cites excellent mentors, who have helped guide her career path decisions. To-date, Leverage has been relocated six times for job changes. However, being willing and able to relocate has allowed her to accept unique opportunities and obtain a tremendous amount of experience in a relatively short amount of time. At the conclusion of the Congressional Fellowship she will return to GE-Hitachi Nuclear Energy.

The term of the Fellowship is one calendar year, beginning in January. The selected Fellow receives a stipend and is responsible for his or her living expenses in the Washington, DC area. A Call for Applications is issued at the beginning of each year, for the following Fellowship year. Finalists are invited for interviews, which are held during the ANS Annual Meeting in June. If you are interested in learning more about the American Nuclear Society's Congressional Fellowship, please visit <http://www.ans.org/honors/cfellowship/>.

Presenting Your Future: Quinton Jacobs

Quinton Jacobs finds his work with the Fuel Performance and Design Department at AMEC NSS Ltd. so challenging and interesting, that he wants to tell the world about it. This is exactly what he did by presenting on AMEC's Fuel Inspection Process at the 2010 International Youth Nuclear Congress (IYNC) in Cape Town, South Africa. Jacobs has presented a few other times, but his experience of presenting at IYNC was different. While Jacobs was overwhelmed by the idea of presenting at an international conference, he would recommend anyone take the chance to do it. He was intimidated by the process of preparing a technical paper, but quickly found when he got there that the knowledge base in the audience was manageable. Said Jacobs, "At IYNC there are fresh ideas and fresh questions being thrown around and you feel like you are actually in a position to offer change in the industry."

Back in the Toronto office, Jacobs believes that young professionals carry the burden for bridging the gap to the experience. It is up to the young professionals to take on the responsibility of learning by asking a lot of questions and having a mentoring resource. As with every nuclear organization, there has been an influx of new employees to make up for those retiring. Those analyzing the data the new inspectors were gathering revealed a change in trends. By looking at the resources they realized there was a difference in the way the new inspectors performed their jobs in comparison to the retiring inspectors. This caused an issue because they deal with historical data; they had to focus on creating consistency in labeling data in order to avoid false trends.

Rounding out his work life is his position as Principal Steward with the Power Workers Union at AMEC. At AMEC NSS, PWU is a small Union at a large site, but the perspective Jacobs has gained is unlike what he would be exposed to in his job position. He has worked through two negotiations of a collective agreement and sat through Arbitration for his union. Negotiation is a life skill that won't expire.

Impacting India's Nuclear Renaissance: Robert Schmitt – By Raksha Ghulati

Robert Schmitt traced trading routes in the Indian Ocean during college, linking the trade between the early Romans and Greeks to India, with a twist of fate, he now manages Westinghouse's new business venture in India.

When Schmitt was an engineering undergrad at the University of Michigan, he was given the opportunity to work at the university's nuclear reactor with the anthropology department; the reactor was used to carbon date crystal samples to trace trading patterns in the Indian Ocean trade network. His exposure to such a remarkable application of nuclear technology caused him to gravitate towards selecting nuclear engineering as his major. His first job after graduating was in the fusion energy program at Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, followed by Bechtel Bettis Lab where he worked as a core designer on the NASA Jupiter Icy Moons Orbiter project. These experiences encouraged his desire to travel and work on projects with a more global impact.

Schmitt entered the nuclear industry with a vision that nuclear technology is the greenest and most efficient means of solving the world's ever growing energy demands with his prime focus on Southeast Asia and, India, in particular. He believes that changing the energy landscape today is vital to the growth of the Asian economy. Current thought shows that India's GDP growth is being stunted due to the lack of available energy by approximately 2-3% per year. As the program manager of the India Engineering Center, he is responsible to help build engineering capabilities for Westinghouse in the Indian market.

In this engagement, Westinghouse has partnered with Infotech Enterprises to augment its engineering resources as it braces for continued growth in the global nuclear energy business and will lay the foundation for Westinghouse's AP1000 nuclear power plant work in India. India needs on-schedule and on-budget implementation of new nuclear power plant projects to meet the constantly surging electricity demand. Schmitt believes the simplicity in design and modular construction techniques employed in the construction of the Westinghouse AP1000 nuclear power plant will contribute to successful budget and schedule targets.

Although the job is based out of Pittsburgh, PA, Schmitt travels to India regularly. His newly-formed position requires him to spend approximately 15% of his time in-country helping to develop Westinghouse's growing footprint in India. In one of his adventures through Southern India, he experienced how fast the country was growing in population, as well as much needed infrastructure; a bustling modern four-lane highway was being used by hoards of traffic even though the ramps to enter and exit the highway had not completed construction! He realized that an accelerated growth needs a reliable energy supply to sustain itself.

If You Don't Know, Ask: Christina Bandomir

Since starting at Bruce Power almost five years ago, Christina Bandomir, has worked in three very different roles, all of which have been interesting and challenging. She started as a Recruitment and Selection Specialist in Human Resources. After 18 months, she moved to the Training Division where she became the First Line Manager (FLM) for a unit of eight staff, responsible for scheduling training for the site. Currently she is on a one-year rotation with a project focused on implementing Lean and Six Sigma programs.

Challenges arose when she became FLM, Bandomir says, "I felt a bit overwhelmed at first. Supervising staff was different than being an individual contributor – I was suddenly responsible for the safety and well-being of others at work. Luckily, I had a supportive, experienced supervisor. I invested time in reading and learning, which paid off."

Bandomir is a great example that you don't have to have a technical background to have a successful career in nuclear, as she holds a Master's Degree in Psychology. There are so many aspects to nuclear; if you are willing to learn, you will be able to contribute in many different areas. In order to be successful, she believes you need do the following: Be open to opportunity; Be willing to learn and grow; And be humble – if you don't know something, ask!

Political Climate

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Affecting Your Tomorrow By Christine Csizmadia, D.C. Chapter

On November 2, 2010 the United States will host elections for 37 Governors, 37 Senators, all 435 Members of Congress and 6,125 state legislative seats. With quite a few close races and so many new names in the running, this election has the potential to shake things up all over the country. So mark your calendars to Rock the Vote on November 2, 2010!

But really, why bother voting? The leaders you elect today make decisions that affect your tomorrow – your career, your health care, your nation's security, your energy costs, your children's education, your tax dollars and much more. It is important for the young generation to step up to the plate and become engaged in the political system we are inheriting. Elections are not only our civic responsibility but also our opportunity to voice our opinions and make mandates to the leadership we put into office.

I am not registered to vote: You can register to vote a couple of different ways. The first is by filling out the National Mail Voter Registration Form which can be found on the United States Election Assistance Commission website, www.eac.gov. You can also go through your state, each of which has a different registration process but all states have a State Board of Elections with more detailed instructions on their website. All states offer registration services through the Department of Motor Vehicle as well. Registration deadlines vary from state to state so it is best to make sure you are a registered voter ahead of time.

I don't know where to vote: Your voting location is printed on your voter registration card. There are also some helpful websites with election logistical information, such as www.vote411.org and www.rockthevote.com.

Am I supposed to vote in the primary? An election primary is a process by which a political party nominates one candidate for the general election. Primaries are typically either *Closed*, ballots can only be cast from registered party members, or *Open*, all registered voters are allowed to cast a vote. There are further variations on the primary types and every state manages their respective systems. To learn more about your state's primary, visit your State Board of Elections website.

I can't miss work to vote: If you are unable to make it to your polling location during voting hours on election day, sign up to receive an absentee ballot on your State Board of Elections website. This process can take several weeks so plan ahead and allow at least 4-6 weeks to receive and return your ballot.

Who is running for what? Many websites offer partisan candidate information, such as www.democrats.org and www.gop.com, which will provide you with a sample ballot if you are voting along party lines. Websites such as www.c-span.org and www.RealClearPolitics.com can provide non-partisan political information and www.fivethirtyeight.com for the most up to date polling numbers. It is important to cast an informed ballot and more importantly, a positive vote for your community.

Tell your family and friends and don't you forget to Rock the Vote on November 2, 2010!

Getting Out of the Cubicle

By Connor Deehan, UK-YGN

After graduating from University of Alberta in Canada I went to work for Atkins in Bristol, England. Atkins is the largest engineering consultancy firm in the UK and services the nuclear industry in Generation, Defence, Clean Up and New Build. After about a year on one of my projects, not a terribly long time to be on a project, I stopped to reflect. I had spent close to a year, 220 days, 1650 hours creating a finite element model of a graphite brick for one of the Advanced Gas Cooled Reactors. One brick. One brick in a reactor of 10,000; one reactor in a fleet of 15 reactors; one reactor design in a nuclear generation sector of tens of designs; one sector in an industry that spans medicine, defence, generation, and new build sectors; one national industry in a truly global industry. It hit me how narrow my understanding and involvement in *whole* nuclear industry was. It left me feeling fairly insignificant and questioning how I fit in to the big picture. What influence do I have over anything?

Around the same time, a colleague suggested I get involved in the Nuclear Institute Young Generation Network. I was reticent to get involved with people I didn't know and in sectors of the industry, organisations, and projects I was clueless about. I didn't want to seem ignorant and naïve. However, I pushed myself out of my comfort zone and made an effort to find out what the YGN was all about by attending one of the committee meetings. One meeting led to a few, a few meetings led to involvement in some events, involvement in events led to organising events, organising events led to a leadership position in YGN and leadership in YGN lead to representing the UK in South Africa.

It's been a few years since I started on that project and got involved in YGN and I again stop to reflect. I'm now Chartered Mechanical Engineer; my career with Atkins is progressing. I am now

Vice-Chair of the YGN, but what has my YGN journey provided me? Why put in the additional effort, on top of my day job when my career was going so well? Simply, it got me out of the cubicle. It provided experience and opportunities I would not have been able to achieve through my day job.

While in Cape Town at the International Youth Nuclear Congress (IYNC), I presented on the status of YGN in the UK to over 200 International delegates and by default became a published author. I met some amazing people from NA-YGN and around the globe, as well made some very beneficial contacts. Not bad for a boy from Canada.

Through the YGN, I have been able to broaden my knowledge of the nuclear industry and see the issues, politics, projects and opportunities from a much bigger perspective. The YGN focuses on adding value to membership which spans across the industry and by consequence I have developed networks with people outside of my organisation, enabling me to identify new business and collaboration and recruitment opportunities with people from across the industry. However the benefits extend far beyond the individual. We reach out to students, aim to educate the public and we are giving back to the industry. Within the committee, through our succession planning we develop the individuals from the reticent, quite, naïve-feeling rookies that I once was, to be the future leaders of the YGN and perhaps their own organisations.

The YGN has been in existence for 14 years and currently consists of over 1200 members, for whom it promotes communication and activity with the many successful young generation networks worldwide. If you are interested in learning more YGN visit our website at <http://www.ygn.nuclearinst.com>.

Dollars From Uncle Sam: By Samuel Brinton, Kansas State University

As a student, scholarships and loans are the difference between graduation and quitting. The search for these financial beacons of hope becomes a full-time job for some. While the current financial situation emphasizes the desperation of students, nuclear engineers can take hope thanks to the U.S. Department of Energy's Nuclear Engineering University Programs (NEUP). This program is financially supporting the nuclear industry through a variety of means. Through the NEUP, university led research and development is expanded with investment in infrastructure, such as equipment and laboratories related to university research reactors. In FY 2010, 42 projects received approximately \$38 million over three years to advance new nuclear technologies in support of the nation's energy goals. Similarly, the Nuclear Engineering Department of the DOE provided \$13.2 million in grants to 39 U.S. universities and colleges in 27 states for new equipment and instrumentation for research reactors and specialized nuclear energy facilities.

While these investments are significant, the most influential support the NEUP is giving is through scholarships and fellowships. These funds are helping to recruit and train the next generation of nuclear scientists and engineers, which, as any NA-YGN member knows, is of utter importance as we push for nuclear progress. This past year \$5 million in 85 scholarships and 32 fellowships were awarded. This is an increase from the nearly \$3 million awarded the previous year. I was personally honored with \$5,000 scholarships during both of these award cycles and you can be sure these have influenced my career prospects. As I prepare for graduate school, knowing \$50,000 fellowships are available to support my education make the search a little less stressful.

In conclusion, as we worry about the loan guarantees and the carbon taxation plans let us remember that the Department of Energy is still supporting our next generation of nuclear engineers and deserves our gratitude. If we recognize the benefits they are delivering we may smile just a little bit more. I know I do.

Progress Your Career, Not Your Job: By Lee Causey, Progress Energy-Triangle

The word was *anxiety* as I grabbed my leather portfolio and stepped into the boardroom, crossing over from just a resume to an interviewee. Although this was the interviewer's best chance to evaluate me as a future employee, it was also my best chance to see what kind of future I was getting into. After all, I wasn't looking for just a job; I was looking for a career.

Asking other NA-YGN members about their job interviews, I have found employers very commonly ask, "Where do you see yourself in 10 years?" The point of this question isn't to quiz you on your predictions; instead, the interviewer is asking if you are looking for a job or, as I was, a career.

I wasn't looking for a paycheck twice a month – I was looking for a future. This is the fundamental difference between a job and a career. Looking at your next 10 years is a good way to judge your plan for professional progression. Will you finish a Master's degree program and apply it to your work? How about earning your Professional Engineer's license? Do you want to gain more responsibilities in your group, looking for ways to prove you should be considered for a promotion?

Advancing your career is a benefit not just for you, but also for your employer. Proactive employees, who take ownership of their tasks and contribute more than simply what is required, are desirable to employers. In turn, employers help employees progress by offering reimbursement for college classes and society dues, in-house training, career path mapping, bonuses, raises and promotions. In addition, your employers and societies may include leadership opportunities to perform management functions.

It is important to continually look at the future of your career, making sure you are moving, and in the direction you want. Although your company will provide you development opportunities, it is equally important that you proactively build your own career in the nuclear industry. After all, where do you see yourself in 10 years?

Plus One: The ASME Code Committee

By Bobby Ashworth, MPR Associates and Hasan Charkas, Areva-Lynchburg Chapter

At the end of the 2010 Annual NA-YGN Conference, NA-YGN members were presented with the “Plus One” initiative and thereby challenged to find long-term opportunities in professional organizations outside of NA-YGN. The concept of “Plus One” is simple, but because there are numerous professional organizations, NA-YGN members may determine finding the right one is complex. This article provides our perspective of the August 2010 meeting of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME) Boiler and Pressure Vessel Code Committee.

For those unfamiliar with the ASME, the ASME Boiler and Pressure Vessel Code (or “ASME Code”) is only one of the many standards maintained by the ASME. Despite its title, the ASME Code is an international standard and provides rules to design and maintain many of the components used in nuclear power plants (e.g., reactor vessels, vessel internals, valves, steam generators, pump casings, pipes, welds, gaskets, fasteners). Although every nuclear power plant operating in the U.S. is licensed to a *specific* year of the Code, the Code is kept current by the work of various Code Committees. The Code Committees comprise volunteers of engineers, scientists, and nuclear regulators with substantial experience on a given topic. The Code Committees meet regularly to consider requests for interpretations, revisions or clarifications to existing the rules, and to develop new rules based on advances in technology. Hence, many companies benefit by having employees attend and serve on the Code Committees.

In order to vote, formal membership on a Code Committee is required, but, with few exceptions, all meetings are fully open to the public. We attended several of the Committee meetings as spectators and in-return received technical training and valuable experience with how the ASME Code is put together. Per Chakras, “the most valuable part of the event was the chance to interact face-to-face with the decision makers.” We both found that because changes to the code typically take several months (or years) to finalize, involvement by young participants is very beneficial to the industry. Early involvement provides the essential background of how and why certain rules were developed.

In conclusion, NA-YGN members that work with power plant components would benefit by attending Committee meetings. Justification to management for attending is likely easier if (1) the Committee meetings are close-by your chapter and (2) there are already representatives within your company that are Code Committee members. The next ASME Boiler and Pressure Vessel Code Committee meeting will be held in Vancouver, Canada from October 30 to November 5, 2010. We may not make that meeting, but we hope that other NA-YGN members may be able to attend. For other committees check out ASME’s calendar at <http://calendar.asme.org/>.

Developing the Skill of Rejuvenating

By John Van Fossen, Westinghouse, Pittsburgh Chapter

We are in the prime of our life. Our careers are on the upswing and we are developing a name for ourselves with hard work and dedication. But does that mean skipping vacation? Does taking time off shows a lack of ambition? This is of particular concern during economic downturns like we are experiencing now. People feel insecure in their jobs, worry about layoffs and pay cuts. They overwork themselves to compensate for it, trying to prove their worth to the company. Or they fear that everything will fall apart if they leave work. They feel indispensable to the daily operations of the workplace. Believe it or not, your co-workers can survive without you. Your work will still be waiting for you when you return.¹

Our careers are important, but work is the primary cause of stress for most people, so why do we allow it to take priority over mental well being, physical health, and family life? According to stress.org, stress is the number one factor that affects the health of most people. Not having an outlet for stress is not only physically bad for you, but it can be the primary cause for poor job performance, family troubles, and depression. Some symptoms of stress include: memory problems, poor judgment, moodiness, drug abuse, and physical pain.

Vacation can be an expensive solution; jetting off somewhere tropical, lounging on the beach and sipping daiquiris. Like it or not, you need a break. And a break can be as simple as visiting family, sitting on your front porch, and having lemonade. Anything that allows you to take relief from your daily routine and get you mind off your responsibilities is a vacation. Studies have shown that employees returning from a true vacation are more relaxed *and* more productive in the workplace².

When you do go on vacation, make sure it is a true break. How many managers do you know that go on vacation only to be just as active via blackberry? Bringing the office with you doesn't allow you to truly break free from stress. Wireless technology was meant to free us, not tether us. Leave the laptop, blackberry, and cell phone at home. Or if vacationing at home, turn off the technology; even if only for a few hours.

Learning how to rejuvenate is just as important a skill to develop as public speaking, technical writing and effectively communicating. Do your future and your manager a favor: Rejuvenate with a vacation!

¹ <http://www.nytimes.com/2006/08/10/fashion/10vacation.html>

² http://www.hrtools.com/training_performance/a_little_vacation_can_increase_employee_productivity.aspx

Chapter Highlight

Florida Power & Light – Turkey Point

Florida Power & Light’s Turkey Point Nuclear Power Plant Chapter has been very active and enthusiastic in their efforts to get the word out about Nuclear and its potential for the South Florida community. With a surge in membership as diverse as its surrounding communities, the Turkey Point Chapter has doubled its efforts as a local NA-YGN chapter in the areas of: professional development, networking, public information, and community service.

Since its inception in 2007, the chapter has sought to establish itself within the plant and surrounding communities. With strong support from the site VP, dedicated officers, and enthusiastic members, the Chapter has been able to continually represent and enhance the retention of young professionals while promoting the benefits of nuclear science and technology throughout the South Florida Community.



(1st row (l-r) Boris Bazan [Professional Development Chair], Khasan Grace [Events Chair], Jose Vives [Communications Chair], Ricardo Alcrudo [Treasurer] 2nd row (l-r) Mike Kiley [Site VP], Neil Moise [President], Gary Priolo [Community Outreach Chair], Luis Gonzalez [VP]

The National Conference in San Francisco was a vital tool in sparking ideas to gain momentum to bring back to the local chapter.

Chapter officers set an ambitious agenda of at least 2 hours of public information activities, 2 hours of community service, and 1 hour of member professional development per month; they’ve far exceeded it.

Since February, the chapter has compiled over 382 hours of member professional development activities,

over 370 hours of community service, 135 hours of networking/social activities, and 75 hours of public information activities stemming from NRC Open Houses, Elementary thru Post-Secondary presentations, Habitat for Humanity, and Coral Reef restoration trips.

The chapter’s president and fellow officers [see inset] look forward to maintaining the momentum and translating the achievements of the global “Nuke” environment as it relates to current-events and the political landscape to their members, in hopes of becoming contributing members in this new ‘energy renaissance’ in a responsible and sustainable manner.

Regional Reports

Regional Reports

Northeast (Regional Lead Elizabeth Haupin, northeast@na-ygn.org)

The 2010 Northeast Regional Conference was held on August 20th in Worcester, MA. Over 115 young professionals from across the Northeast region attended, which was an excellent turnout and demonstrates the commitment of the nuclear industry to the NA-YGN organization! The presenters included individuals from Westinghouse, Shaw Group, Exelon, Entergy, the NRC, AREVA and Idaho National Labs, to name a few. Technical topics ranged from the design of new nuclear reactors, spent fuel recycling, a virtual tour of AREVA's La Hague fuel reprocessing facility in France and the future of new nuclear power in the United States. Workshops were also held on the technical, regulatory and political issues regarding new nuclear builds and on discussing nuclear science with the general public.

It was the first time that a NA-YGN regional conference had been held at a conference center instead of at nuclear company facilities within the region. The night prior to the conference, a networking social was held at a local Billiard Hall so that all of the conference participants could meet and build networking connections prior to the regional conference. This event was also very well-attended and was spoken highly of by the attendees.

Atlantic (Regional Lead Muhammad Fahmy, atlantic@na-ygn.org)

The chapters of the Atlantic Region aren't taking a break now that their 2010 regional event is in the past. In fact, many of the chapters have some inspiring plans for the upcoming months which other chapters may want to emulate.

The AREVA Lynchburg chapter (in addition to members from AREVA Charlotte, Marlborough, and Fort Worth) advocated the benefits of nuclear power to various Senators and Congressmen on Capitol Hill on September 16-17th. Approximately 25 AREVA NA-YGN members participated in this "AREVA Hill Day."

The Dominion Chapters showed their support at a public hearing of the proposed Unit 3 reactor at North Anna Power Station. The subject of the public hearing was the site's Operation Water Withdrawal Permit being submitted to the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality.

The DC-NAYGN chapter will be co-hosting its 2nd annual Fuel 4 Life 5K race on November 14th in Annapolis, MD. Proceeds from this event benefit the Injured Marine Semper Fi Fund. If you're interested in registering for the event, you can do so at: <http://www.active.com/running/annapolis-md/the-colonel-ripley-memorial-fuel-4-life-race-2010>. If your chapter is interested in sponsoring the event, please contact Adam Borcz at BorcZA@usec.com.

Carolinas (Regional Lead Ryan Boyle, carolinas@na-ygn.org)

The Carolinas region is organizing a winter regional conference to be held in Charlotte this coming January. The last Carolinas regional conference occurred at UNC Charlotte in 2007. NA-YGN members have helped revitalize the local ANS section in Charlotte which now holds well-attended meetings on a monthly basis.

On July 29, the Duke Energy chapter held its annual fleet-wide meeting. The theme this year was "The Future of Used Nuclear Fuel." Steve Kraft, Senior Director for Used Fuel Management at NEI, spoke on the politics

What Have You Been Up To???



IYNC Winning Bid Celebration



IYNC, South Africa



Bruce Chapter Big Bike Ride



Northeast Regional Meeting



Operation: MOMS Cookies Exelon West



Paintball in the Midwest

surrounding used fuel in the United States, covering both the current political situation and how we arrived got to this point. Andrew Sowder, Senior Project Manager at EPRI, spoke about technical alternatives to Yucca Mountain. The afternoon portion of the meeting was spent at a local park with team-building activities in softball, basketball, corn hole and spades. Catawba Nuclear Station won the competition after narrowly beating out the General Office in spades.

Also in July, the GE Hitachi Chapter hosted the Franklin-Covey "FOCUS: Achieving Your Highest Priorities" time management course. Jeff Hren, Services Technical Project Manager, led the course. Students learned a series of time management tools and tips to ensure they are more effective at their jobs. The class focused on using Microsoft Outlook tasks, notes, and calendar features; setting effective and realistic goals; utilizing personal prioritization techniques, and planning effectively.

Southeast (Regional Lead Chris Hearn, southeast@na-ygn.org)

The Southeast region is in the middle of finalizing plans to host the 2010 SE Regional Conference. This conference is scheduled for Nov. 18th & 19th and will be held in New Orleans, LA. The Conference will focus on "New Nuclear" and will include various topics such as Generation III Reactor Design/Construction, New Legislation, and Knowledge Transfer. A site tour and nuclear power debate are also on the preliminary agenda; volunteers are needed to fill in the remaining spots! For more information or to help with planning, contact southeast@na-ygn.org

Midwest (Regional Lead Sean Tanton, midwest@na-ygn.org)

There are lots of great things going on in the Midwest region. Palisades NA-YGN recently had a luncheon with their government office and learned great tips for public speaking about nuclear. Cooper Nuclear Station NA-YGN held their 2010 CNS Safety Fair recently. At the fair, they gathered several names of people interested in joining their chapter. Fort Calhoun is setting up a paintball outing for their members this fall, which is a great way to build relationships and teams in the organization. Several chapters have attended minor league baseball games for social/networking activities. Finally, Exelon-West had their annual meeting on September 10th, which included over 100 people from 7 different sites. Since the last edition of Go Nuke!, the Midwest region has welcomed two new chapters to NA-YGN: DTE Fermi and Zachry Nuclear Engineering.

West (Regional Lead Virginia Cleary, west@na-ygn.org)

The west region is home to two new local chapters: AREVA Richland (Richland, WA), and Mid-Columbia (Richland, WA)! Rebecca Edwards and Jessica Joyner are heading up these two chapters, respectively. See the local chapter leads list for contact information. The AREVA Richland chapter has already hosted a number of different meetings, with one of their recent events drawing over 90 participants. The Diablo Canyon chapter attended the NRC-hosted Seismic Information Workshop on September 8th and 9th in San Luis Obispo, CA.

Canada (Regional Lead Chris Waugh, canada@na-ygn.org)

At press time, the Canadian region was organizing a regional event for Sunday, October 3. NA-YGN members are encouraged to participate in the CIBC Run for the Cure event being organized by the Atomic Energy of Canada Limited (AECL) Mississauga chapter. Our goal is to raise C\$2,500!

The Bruce chapter recently had many of its members sit down on the Big Bike for the Heart and Stroke Foundation. They raised C\$13,000 and had a lot fun. The Bruce chapter also held its annual charity golf tournament on September 18th, with proceeds going to Habitat for Humanity. The AMEC Nuclear Safety Solutions (NSS) chapter also held a charity event for the United Way and raised C\$1,110 when members had their hair cut off. NSS has agreed to match those donations!

EVENTS

October 22

All Drawings are DUE!
12th Annual NA-YGN Drawing Contest
pi@na-ygn.org

October 30 to November 5

ASME Code Committee meeting
Vancouver, Canada
<http://events.asme.org/BCW/home.cfm>

November 2

United States Election Day
www.rockthevote.com

November 3

Local Chapter Leads Call
usa@na-ygn.org

November 20

World Nuclear University Summer Institute
Applications Due
Oxford, England
www.world-nuclear-university.org

November 18-19

Southeast Regional Conference
New Orleans, LA
southeast@na-ygn.org

December 7-8

West Regional Conference
Palo Verde Nuclear Generating Station.
west@na-ygn.org

January 5

Local Chapter Leads Call
usa@na-ygn.org

January 15

Local Chapter EOY Reports Due
usa@na-ygn.org
canada@na-ygn.org



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