

FROM THE CHAIRPERSON



CLOSING 2023 AND LOOKING FORWARD TO 2024

As 2023 comes to a close, I want to send warm wishes for a happy holiday season and a prosperous 2024. I can't believe this year is over already! With the first six months as chairperson under my belt, I can't help but be amazed at all the CRCPD does. **As an organization dedicated to radiation protection, it's so important to keep up on the changing and new technologies. We couldn't do this without our members!**

There are so many volunteers that donate much of their time to our organization. **Thank you to all of you for all you do!** If you haven't joined a working group or task force, there is a form on our website: <https://www.crcpd.org/general/custom.asp?page=wgform> With all of our various working group, I am certain you will find something that interests you!

At the November 28, 2023, board meeting we discussed the CRCPD Strategic Plan Goals and Objectives. Most of the goals remained the same. Due to several initiatives emerging and in progress, we determined four goals to concentrate our efforts on.

CLOSING 2023

"I want to send warm wishes for a happy holiday season and a prosperous 2024."

Rikki Waller

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FROM THE CHAIRPERSON

(continued)

CLOSING 2023 AND LOOKING FORWARD TO 2024

Community Needs

In order to produce radiation protection solutions that meet community needs, we are working to determine the community's needs. One way we are doing this is by reaching out to new program directors to introduce them to CRCPD. **Recently, we contacted 15 new director members. During the conversation, I explained the structure and purpose of the CRCPD and its Board of Directors.** I have also offered them advice and mentorship from our more seasoned members. One state has accepted the offer of mentorship, and the process has already started.

Electronic-Based Information

As part of our goal to assist with improving tools, we are working to increase the availability of electronic-based information. **We are excited to introduce the membership to a brand-new website in the very near future!**

Active Energized Membership

A very important goal to the board is to promote an active, energized membership. By promoting opportunities for participating in committee activities, we can engage members that were previously on the sidelines. I was one of these sideline participants until I got involve the H-7 Committee on Diagnostic X-Ray. **With so many emerging technologies, it seems we are frequently adding new working groups giving the membership more opportunities to participate in something that interests them.** Our working groups and task forces are the core of what CRCPD does.

ACTIVE ENERGIZED MEMBERSHIP

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Rikki Waller

FROM THE CHAIRPERSON

(continued)

CLOSING 2023 AND LOOKING FORWARD TO 2024

Training Opportunities

Another aspect of this is to provide training opportunities for CRCPD members. **While we have several training options at our annual conference, I feel there is a need for much more.** When talking with the program directors recently, the one issue the majority shared is the need for more training for employees, especially for new hires.

Sound Fiscal and Organizational Management

Assuring the sound fiscal and organizational management of CRCPD is very high on the board's priorities. Maintaining a sound fiscal plan is crucial to continue the very important work of CRCPD.

56th National Conference on Radiation Control

As Chairperson, I get to help with the program planning for the conference in Jacksonville, Florida May 20 – 24, 2024. By help, I mean listen and learn while Pat Mulligan and Ruth McBurney do their magic! I have planned other conferences in the past and it was never as easy as this has been. We are working on an interesting, engaging program, so start planning to attend.

As we look forward to 2024, I hope we continue to learn, share, and grow together. We have some exciting times ahead of us. The small modular nuclear reactor industry is growing by leaps and bounds. Fusion energy is just around the corner. While these technologies present challenges, they also present much needed solutions. These are challenges we can face together. Thank you to each and everyone of you for your dedication to radiation safety. **Your knowledge, expertise and passion are appreciated!**

LOOKING FORWARD TO 2024

“As we look forward to 2024, I hope we continue to learn, share, and grow together. We have some exciting times ahead of us.”

Wishing you all the best for a happy and healthy 2024!

Rikki Waller

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S
MESSAGE**



A FEW CHANGES, LOTS OF OPPORTUNITIES!

Over the next few months, you will see a few changes at CRCPD. **First, starting in early January, we are pleased to announce that Mike Snee, former**

CRCPD Chairperson and Board Member from the State of Ohio, will be joining our staff as a part-time Technical Assistant.

Mike will be working with Russ Meyer on the disused sources programs, both the Source Collection and Threat Reduction (SCATR) Program and the Orphan Source Program. He will also be providing technical assistance to the users of the Department of Transportation's two Special Permits issued to CRCPD. We welcome Mike to our team! In addition, Andy Tompkins, who had been an employee of CRCPD, will be available as a consultant on an as-needed basis to assist with difficult source disposition issues.

Another change we are looking forward to in early 2024 is a change in association management software. The new capabilities, including file sharing for committees, will provide technology to manage events and information for our membership and working groups. Our team at the OED has been working hard with the new software company to ensure a smooth transition soon.

New Opportunities

Scholarship Fund Donations: The CRCPD Board of Directors formed a Scholarship Fund in February 2011 to honor the memory of dedicated members and staff who have passed away and to encourage their ideals in the study and professionalism of radiation protection, or to honor a living radiation control leader. The scholarship fund, which may be used to fund travel and

**ASSOCIATION
MANAGEMENT
SOFTWARE
CHANGES**

"The new capabilities, including file sharing for committees, will provide technology to manage events and information for our membership and working groups."

Ruth McBurney

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S
MESSAGE** *(continued)*

**A FEW CHANGES,
LOTS OF OPPORTUNITIES!**

registration fees for the CRCPD National Conference for Associate Members who otherwise would not have been able to attend, has been in effect since that time but has not been promoted or funded to the extent that it could be used.

This year, due to input from our Committee on Communications and Outreach, we are expanding our potential use of the fund to invite a few students in college health physics programs interested in regulatory health physics to attend our national conference. To provide this opportunity to our members and/or students, we need to build our Scholarship Fund. As a 501(c)(3) charitable organization, any donations are tax-deductible. So, if you are looking to make any end-of-year donations this year, here is a great opportunity to give. For more information about the fund, how to make donations, and how to provide nominations for recipients of the travel grants the funds will be used for, see the article in this issue of the *Newsbrief*.

Volunteering

Another way you can help CRCPD is to volunteer for a working group. **There are several in need of new members now, in the areas of TENORM, medical and veterinary use of x-rays and radioactive material, regulation development, environmental issues, and emergency response.** If you have expertise and interest in any of these others, please consider volunteering to serve. You will be helping not only your own state/local radiation control program, but also all programs, in providing guidance that can be used by all.

SCHOLARSHIP FUND DONATIONS

“As a 501(c)(3) charitable organization, any donations are tax-deductible. So, if you are looking to make any end-of-year donations this year, here is a great opportunity to give.”

Ruth McBurney

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S
MESSAGE** *(continued)*

**A FEW CHANGES,
LOTS OF OPPORTUNITIES!**

Career-Enhancer Opportunity

Another great career-enhancer opportunity will be provided this May at the 56th National Conference on Radiation Control in Jacksonville, Florida. The Program Committee has put together a great lineup of speakers, and several training sessions will be provided in conjunction with the Conference in the areas of radiation in the healing arts, emergency preparedness, RadResponder, and fusion reactor technology. I hope you will make plans to attend.

Looking Forward to 2024

This has been a busy year for all of us, and we look forward to an equally active year in the radiation protection field in 2024.

As we close out 2023, I want to wish all of you a happy holiday season and a great new year to come!

**NATIONAL
CONFERENCE
ON RADIATION
CONTROL
MAY 2024
JACKSONVILLE,
FLORIDA**

“The Program Committee has put together a great lineup of speakers, and several training sessions will be provided in conjunction with the Conference in the areas of radiation in the healing arts, emergency preparedness, RadResponder, and fusion reactor technology.”

Ruth McBurney

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CRCPD SCHOLARSHIP FUND UPDATED AND TRAVEL GRANT NOMINATIONS AVAILABLE

CRCPD SCHOLARSHIP FUND

The Board of Directors of the Conference of Radiation Control Program Directors formed a CRCPD Scholarship Fund in February 2011 to honor the memory of dedicated members and staff who have passed away and to encourage their ideals in the study and professionalism of radiation protection, or to honor a living radiation control leader.

An online fillable form is being provided for making a donation at <https://www.crcpd.org/page/donations>.

The Board of Directors of the Conference of Radiation Control Program Directors formed a CRCPD Scholarship Fund in February 2011 to honor the memory of dedicated members and staff who have passed away and to encourage their ideals in the study and professionalism of radiation protection, or to honor a living radiation control leader.

Since its inception, a few modest donations have been made to the fund, but haven't been sufficient to award the funds toward travel and registrations for radiation control conferences and other training events until this year.

This year, the G-73 Committee recommended that CRCPD take steps to provide outreach and opportunities for students in health physics programs to become more aware of CRCPD and the work of federal, state, and local regulation programs. **They suggested that we pilot a program to invite students in academic health physics programs to attend the National Conference on Radiation Control.** This would make it possible for

CRCPD SCHOLARSHIP FUND - *continued*

students of radiation physics to connect with a wide range of radiation professionals, allowing them to make more informed decisions about their careers.

By combining the two concepts—use of donated funds for members to attend conferences and other training and for travel grants for students in health physics programs to attend the annual conference—CRCPD is able to provide an opportunity for donors to give to a cause that will benefit the current and future workforce of state and local radiation control programs.

Contributions to the Scholarship Fund

Contributions to the Scholarship Fund are tax-deductible and may be designated in memory or honor of an individual. Contributions may also be presented without such designation. This [Scholarship Fund Donation Form](#) is provided for making a donations. This form can also be accessed on the CRCPD website at www.crcpd.org. Also, for a limited time—until February 1, 2024—an anonymous donor has agreed to match donations for up to a total of \$5,000.

Use of the Scholarship Fund and Nomination Procedures

Depending on the availability of funds, CRCPD will award travel grants for up to five CRCPD Associate Members or students enrolled in health physics programs each year to attend the National Conference on Radiation Control and associated training. Scholarships will also be made available to attend radiation control training for newer employees. A form has been developed for nominating an Associate Member or a student in a health physics program. **The nomination forms will be sent out soon, along with criteria for prioritization of recipients (e.g., those making an oral or poster presentation or new employees in need of training being offered).** The nominations will be evaluated, and recipients notified well in advance of the National Conference in order to make travel arrangements and get necessary approvals from their agencies or academic program. The [Travel Grant Nomination Form](#) can also be accessed on the CRCPD website at www.crcpd.org.

For further information on the program, please contact Ruth McBurney at rmcburney@crcpd.org or Mendy Cremeans at mcremeans@crcpd.org.

**HISTORICAL
HIGHLIGHT**

Damascus Arkansas

Titan II

Missile Explosion

September 19, 1980

Bernie Bevill

Ruth McBurney, CHP



Ruth and Bernie, working for the Arkansas Department of Health at that time, monitored victims for contamination. Arkansas teams monitored environment surrounding the site. Coordination was provided by the Arkansas State Emergency Operations Center.

CRCPD BRIEFS NEST

Contributed by William Irwin, ScD, CHP

Vermont Department of Health

DOE NNSA NEST Reserve Corp

On August 31, 2023 CRCPD Executive Director Ruth McBurney and Arkansas Radiation Control Chief Bernie Bevill presented their first-hand accounts of the Damascus Arkansas Titan II missile explosion to the Nuclear Emergency Support Team (NEST) Reserve Corps. The NEST is the collection of resources in the Department of Energy (DOE) National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA) that includes the Federal Radiological Monitoring and Assessment Center (FRMAC), Consequence Management Response Team (CMRT), Radiation Assistance Program (RAP), the National Atmospheric Release Advisory Center (NARAC) and other programs. The NEST Reserve Corps is being formed to be deployable for long-term, geographically wide-spread, or complex incidents when the full-time NEST staff need augmentation.

Ruth and Bernie worked for the Arkansas Department of Health back on September 19, 1980 and were among the first responders for the State. They showed images of the scene including the ones below.



**HISTORICAL
HIGHLIGHT**

Damascus Arkansas

Titan II

Missile Explosion

Consequences

The accident killed one person and critically injured another who were in the missile silo trying to make repairs to a rocket fuel leak.

Twenty more people were hurt and 1,400 people were evacuated from the area.

CRCPD BRIEFS NEST - continued

Consequences and Actions

Ruth and Bernie described the consequences of the explosion which killed one person and critically injured another who were in the missile silo trying to make repairs to a rocket fuel leak. Twenty more people were hurt and 1,400 people were evacuated from the area. Ruth and Bernie were sent to the hospital where casualties were monitored for contamination. The monitoring required alpha detectors. Fortunately, no alpha radiation was found on the injured personnel. Other teams from Arkansas monitored the environment around the Titan II Missile Site.

Ruth and Bernie also described the coordination function provided by the Arkansas State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC). This information was especially important to the federal employees and contractors in the audience. Of particular interest to those from the NEST was the interaction of State and local personnel with the DOE which sent a RAP Team as their first responders. While interactions with the DOE were without significant challenges, interactions with the Department of Defense were. After the accident, the deficiencies were identified and the Air Force worked with the State to improve overall interactions as described in a Memorandum of Understanding. In addition, detailed emergency plans were developed and exercised by the Air Force and State of Arkansas.

**HISTORICAL
HIGHLIGHT**

Damascus Arkansas

Titan II

Missile Explosion

CRCPD BRIEFS NEST - continued

Resulting Outcomes

After the accident, the deficiencies were identified and the Air Force worked with the State to improve overall interactions as described in a Memorandum of Understanding.

In addition, detailed emergency plans were developed and exercised by the Air Force and State of Arkansas.

NEST Reserve Corp

Ruth and Bernie's presentation was the culmination of a week of training and exercises for the NEST Reserve Corp. Their presentation was perfect because we spent the days before their presentation discussing all the many things NEST Reserve Corp staff would do with state and locals in response to a catastrophic incident. It became clearer as the week went by how important additional, well-trained and prepared staff are when response and recovery take weeks, months or years, and when work covers numerous jurisdictions and is extremely complex.

The Reserve Corp may be of interest to some of you reading this article. If you are retired or you can take time off from your regular work for training to become qualified in various Reserve Corp positions and for possible deployments, please send me a resume and cover letter describing your interests and skills, knowledge and training at william.irwin@vermont.gov. You would be employed as a contractor to the DOE.

Photo Credits

Figures from Titan II Missile Incident: State Radiation Control Reminiscences by Bernard Beville, a presentation given on 31 August 2023.

Photograph of Ruth McBurney, CHP, and Bernie Beville, by William Irwin, ScD, CHP

**CRCPD WELCOMES
NEW MEMBERS**

ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

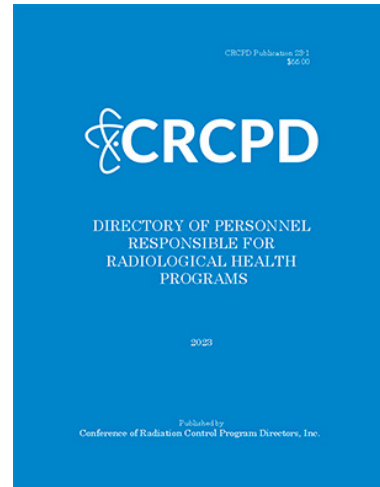
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**TO APPLY FOR
MEMBERSHIP IN
CRCPD,
SEE THE
ONLINE APPLICATION!**

[Apply Here.](#)

DIRECTORY INFORMATION

The Directory of Personnel Responsible for Radiological Health Programs is available online for members and our federal partners and is updated regularly. Visit [CRCPD](#).



CALL FOR NEWS

CRCPD is interested in what you are doing and would like to share your knowledge and experiences with other CRCPD members through a feature article in the *Newsbrief*.

If you would like to submit an article, please contact Ruth McBurney (rmcburney@crcpd.org) suggesting a topic you'd like to present.

The *Newsbrief* is published six times a year, in even numbered months. Deadline for submission is the 15th of the month of publication.

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