

CRCPD *Newsbrief*

Conference of Radiation Control Program Directors, Inc.

www.crcpd.org

A Partnership Dedicated to Radiation Protection

February 2024

FROM THE CHAIRPERSON



NATIONAL CONFERENCE AND SERVING CRCPD

The days are getting longer and a little warmer. **Spring is right around the corner and so is our National Conference on Radiation Control in Jacksonville, Florida.** The theme of

this year's conference is "Radiation

Protection: Changing, Adapting, Growing." Annie Caputo, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commissioner is our keynote speaker and Dr. Mahadevappa Mahesh, President-elect of the American Association of Physicists in Medicine (AAPM) will be presenting the Villforth Lecture. The agenda is almost complete, and registration is open! The Radiological Operations Support Specialist (ROSS) Program and AAPM are presenting full day training sessions. If you plan on attending the AAPM session, you will need to sign up for it when you register for the conference. As usual, topical training will be held Monday afternoon. Two special interest meetings will be held Tuesday afternoon. Details are on the conference agenda.

The night out will be held on site and will be a Hawaiian Luau complete with Polynesian dancers and Fire Knife dancers. Don't forget to wear your favorite Hawaiian attire!

NATIONAL CONFERENCE

2024

"The theme of this year's conference is "Radiation Protection: Changing, Adapting, Growing."

Rikki Waller

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FROM THE CHAIRPERSON

(continued)

**NATIONAL CONFERENCE AND
SERVING CRCPD**

Some of you may know the board held a special directors' meeting on January 31, 2024. The purpose of this meeting was to make a small by-law change. The purpose of this change was to allow the nominating committee to submit at least one candidate to the membership instead of two. It was a real struggle to find candidates willing to run for election to the board this year.

Everyone has their reason to run for a board position. Mine was because I have been passionate about radiation safety for over 25 years. The question I have for you is "Why not?" Is it because you aren't ready? Or maybe you don't want to fail. Those were almost my why nots, but I turned that into why not run. Surely, I had nothing to lose by running and a lot to gain by being elected. The best part of being on the board is the other members. They will not let you fail. They are there for you and behind you every step of the way. **All my fellow board members and the CRCPD staff have been exceptional!** I learned a ton from Angela Leek, and I was sad to see her leave the board early due to a change in employment. It was great that Jeff Semancik stepped in to take over as past chair and I learned a ton from him in one board meeting! Pat Mulligan, Tanya Ridgle, Becki Harisis, Lisa Bruedigan and Hillary Haskins have also been so amazing and inspiring to work with! **If I had never said yes, I would never have been able to work closely and gotten to know my fellow board members.**

While the opportunity to run for a board position has passed for this year, please keep my message in mind for next year. **The education and experience I have gained from my past almost two years on the board is something I could never replace.** So, if you are asked to participate in a working group or to run for a board position, ask yourself "Why not?"

I hope to see everyone in Jacksonville

May 20 – 23, 2024!

**CALL FOR
CANDIDATES**

"So, if you are asked to participate in a working group or to run for a board position, ask yourself 'Why not?'"

Rikki Waller

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S
MESSAGE**



NEW TO VIEW AT CRCPD!

CRCPD has recently implemented several new features that we hope will be valuable to our members and others interested in radiation protection issues. We hope you will take a look and provide feedback as we continue to improve our member interactions and services!

New Association Management Software

New Association Management Software (AMS) has been installed that will provide much-needed committee and member interactions. The software provides a member portal with information for members regarding the committees they serve on and an easy way to upload information to be shared with other committee members, such as draft documents, comments, and resource materials. Paying dues, making tax-deductible donations, and registering for events have become more user-friendly as well. The OED staff have worked with the AMS provider to improve member experience on the CRCPD website.

Member Highlight

A new feature that has been added to the *Newsbrief* is the Member Highlight. **Our Committee on Communication and Outreach will be interviewing one of our members for each issue, starting with our current Chairperson in this issue.** It's a great way for us to get to know each other a little better and share career experiences.

**CRCPD
NEW FEATURES**

"We hope you will take a look and provide feedback as we continue to improve our member interactions and services!"

Ruth McBurney

Website Re-design

Along with the new software, the website has been re-designed. We have received several comments that the new website is attractive and easy to navigate. **Most recently, the microsite for the upcoming National Conference on Radiation Control was added.** You will find some photos from last year's meeting, the tentative agenda for training, technical sessions, and social events, individual and exhibitor registration, and links to the hotel room reservation site.

56th National Conference

And speaking of the National Conference, there will be new opportunities to learn and connect at the 56th National Conference on Radiation Control in Jacksonville, Florida. **The theme of this year's conference is "Radiation Protection: Changing, Adapting, Growing."** A great lineup of speakers is scheduled to speak, including radiation experts from the International Atomic Energy Agency, several federal agencies, other professional organizations, and state radiation control programs. **Topics will be presented from the various aspects of radiation protection, including healing arts, radioactive materials, environmental radiation, and homeland security/emergency response.** Both one-day and half-day training sessions will also be available. We hope you will be able to attend, and I hope to see you there.

Meanwhile, have a great Spring!

NATIONAL CONFERENCE

"A great lineup of speakers is scheduled to speak, including radiation experts from the International Atomic Energy Agency, several federal agencies, other professional organizations, and state radiation control programs."

Ruth McBurney

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NCRP ANNUAL MEETING

By David J. Allard, CHP (G50 Liaison)

I'd like to alert the CRCPD membership, **the NCRP annual meeting will be held in Bethesda, MD on March 25-26, 2024.** Given all the national and international concern regarding climate change, and recent declaration from the COP28 meeting confirming the need to increase the use of nuclear power to reduce carbon emissions, the NCRP meeting topic on Advanced & Small Modular Nuclear Power Reactors is very timely. This should be an excellent meeting to hear about the direction of nuclear power plant design, applications, the potential need for more risk-informed regulations, respective emergency response framework, and environmental and occupational radiation protection programs. Current and former officials from the U.S. NRC and U.S. DOE will be featured speakers. For more information on the meeting agenda, location, discounted hotel room rate and registration, please go to the NCRP's website.

I hope to see you there!

LINKS

NCRP - See <https://ncrponline.org/>

At COP28, Countries Launch Declaration to Triple Nuclear Energy Capacity by 2050, Recognizing the Key Role of Nuclear Energy in Reaching Net Zero - See <https://www.energy.gov/articles/cop28-countries-launch-declaration-triple-nuclear-energy-capacity-2050-recognizing-key>

Advanced & Small Modular Nuclear Power Reactors Meeting - https://ncrponline.org/wp-content/themes/ncrp/PDFs/2024/Annual_Meeting_Flyer_2024.pdf

New Remote CT Scanning Guidance Document Available Now!

The H-32 Committee on Computed Tomography (CT) has developed a guidance document for inspecting remote scanning CT. A remote scanning CT is a CT machine where certain parameters can be set by a technologist who is not in the same physical location as the machine. The document can be downloaded at:

Guidance Document for Remote CT Scanning - CRCPD

<https://crcpd.org/document/guidance-document-for-remote-ct-scanning/>

**MEMBER
SPOTLIGHT**

RIKKI WALLER



New to *Newsbrief* is the Member Spotlight, an interview which highlights a CRCPD member who exemplifies what it means to be a radiation protection professional. We hope to learn more about each other through this process. If you'd like to nominate an individual for the Member Spotlight, please email Sandra.Anible@dhs.wisconsin.gov.

Interview conducted by G-73 Committee on Communication and Outreach

RIKKI WALLER

**Director of the Idaho Radiation Control Program
CRCPD Chairperson**

G-73: Why is what you do important?

Rikki: Idaho is a non-licensure state which means anyone can take x-rays of people. I graduated college and became a registered radiologic technologist through American Registry of Radiologic Technologists (ARRT) in 1997. I wholeheartedly believe there must be education requirements to perform imaging exams. We have been able to require some training by adopting the CRCPD's suggested state regulations. By inspecting facilities using x-ray units, we are able to make sure the machines are working and used the way are supposed as well as ensuring the personnel has at least some basic radiation safety training.

G-73: What's the most interesting thing you've ever gotten to do at your job?

Rikki: I've driven to the middle of nowhere and the tops of mountains to perform x-ray inspections and I've performed one in a room that had a badger in a dog crate. The most interesting thing though was attending the 67th Annual Conference at International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) in September. There were over 60 countries in attendance and it was absolutely amazing!

G-73: What are some of the toughest challenges you've faced in your field?

Rikki: Idaho is a very rural state. Before our current bureau chief took over, we drove everywhere. We have x-ray facilities about 22

**MEMBER
SPOTLIGHT**

Role Models

“There are so many brilliant, knowledgeable people involved in the organization, I wouldn’t know where to begin or end.”

Rikki Waller

RIKKI WALLER - continued

miles from the Canadian border. Fortunately, we now fly to get to the cities in northern Idaho. Along with most of the states, finding qualified personnel that are willing to come to work for state employee wages has been challenging.

G-73: Do you have any role models and if so, who are they and why?

Rikki: Most of the role models I have, I have met through my work with CRCPD. There are so many brilliant, knowledgeable people involved in the organization, I wouldn’t know where to begin or end.

G-73: Do you have any tips for new or prospective radiation protection professionals looking to get involved in your line of work?

Rikki: Learn everything you can about the inspection process. I think one of the most important things to learn is how the end user of the x-ray machine is actually using it. This will help you understand why certain tests are performed and how the machine is actually used.

G-73: What is the most valuable lesson you’ve learned from your time in public service?

Rikki: Accountability, responsibility and integrity. As a steward of the taxpayers money, it’s important to be all three.

**MEMBER
SPOTLIGHT**

*Keeping On Doing What
CRCPD Does*

“Without our membership and volunteers we wouldn’t have been able to accomplish all we have so far. “

Rikki Waller

RIKKI WALLER - continued

G-73: Do you have any pets? If so, what kind?

Rikki: I have a 2 year old Belgian Malinois named Handsome Jack.

G-73: If you could accomplish one thing in your career, what would you like it to be?

Rikki: I feel I have accomplished so much in my career. My past year and half on the board has fantastic. I have learned so much and met some great people!

G-73: What types of things would you like to see the CRCPD accomplish in the next 5-10 years?

Rikki: I think CRCPD just needs to keep doing what they do. They have been so good about staying ahead of the new technologies that continue to emerge. As part of that we need to continue to grow our membership. Without our membership and volunteers we wouldn’t have been able to accomplish all we have so far.

IN MEMORIAM **ROBERT “BOB M. HALLISEY**

CRCPD and the world of radiation protection have lost a dear friend and mighty champion.

It is with heavy hearts that we inform you of the passing of Robert “Bob” M. Hallisey, Sr., on January 20, 2024, at his home in New London, New Hampshire. Bob succumbed to myeloid leukemia, the same disease that took his beloved wife, Peg, 10 years earlier.

Bob was born in Cambridge, MA, on November 21, 1936. He attended Boston College and became a “double eagle” (two degrees), and then went on to earn his Master of Public Health degree at UMass Amherst. He became a commissioned officer in the Public Health Service and rose to the rank of Captain before retiring after serving for 20 years.

Bob then became the Director of the Massachusetts Radiation Control Program (MA RCP), a position he held with distinction for 22 years until his retirement in 2003. While heading up the MA RCP, he also taught medical radiological safety at Tufts University.

During his years with the MA RCP, Bob was a vigorous supporter of CRCPD and served on the Board of Directors from 1985-1988, and as its Chairperson from 1999-2000. He encouraged members of his technical staff to attend National Conferences, participate in CRCPD working groups, and run for the Board of Directors; staff absences and travel status

for attending CRCPD activities were supported by Bob because he believed it promoted the uniform advancement of radiological safety standards and practices for his program and other state radiation control programs.

While working for the Commonwealth, Bob lived in Winchester, MA, where he was an active and dedicated member of Winchester’s Glee Club, “Staff & Key,” and St. Mary’s choir.

After retiring he moved to New Hampshire, where he volunteered countless hours at New London Hospital, the New London Historical Society, and by driving people to medical appointments on behalf of the Kearsage Area Council on Aging.



In addition to his wife Peg, he was predeceased by four of his siblings: Jacqueline Grondin, Larry, Barbara Murphy, and John, Jr. “Buddy”. He is survived by three children, Robert, Jr., Barbara, and Chris, their spouses, two much loved grandchildren, John and Megan Hallisey, and by three remaining siblings: Margaret DiRoma, Maureen Frisoli, and William “Bill” Hallisey.

People who knew Bob don’t need to be told how generous, kind, and sociable he was; he was a good man who truly loved people.

His children are planning a celebration of life event to be held in the spring.

**CRCPD WELCOMES
NEW MEMBERS**

ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

Cynthia Farruggio (VA)

Emily Foulker (WI)

Mackenzie Ketelsen (IA)

Christopher Milner (ND)

Christopher Ryker (VA)

Alexi Valtichka (WI)

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Brian Christian (TX)

EMERITUS MEMBER

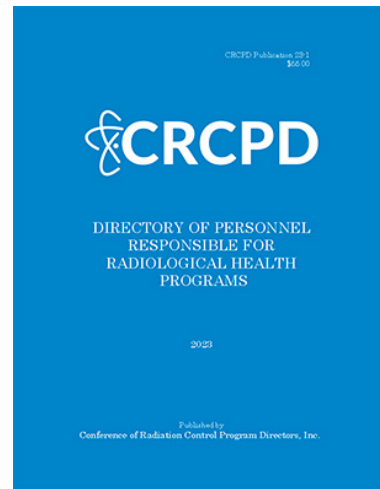
William Chris Moore (TX)

**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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