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A Partnership Dedicated to Radiation Protection

June 2021

# Message from Chairperson Angela Leek, CHP

As we emerge from the pandemic and begin to resume normal activities in both our personal and professional lives, I reflect on the amazing accomplishments of so many within our radiation control programs to maintain effective radiation protection oversight throughout all stages of the pandemic. Many of you, myself included, were asked to support the pandemic activities in addition to our radiation program roles. Our practiced network of communication through CRCPD proved to be a valuable asset to leverage one another for information and support to balance throughout the stages of the pandemic. **Thank you to everyone across our state and federal partnerships for your efforts to continue our important initiatives and maintain our strong community during this past year.** 



The pandemic also forced us all to embrace a new virtual world which introduced challenges, but also increased the effectiveness of our communications. CRCPD has had a completely virtual year of meetings, including our annual meeting in May 2021. Many thanks to the Office of the Executive Director (OED), the program planning committee, and Burk and Associates,

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# Message from Chairperson (continued)

### **Annual Meeting**

"While the virtual meeting was a great success, it cannot replace the value of networking in person, so we are glad to have our 2022 annual meeting scheduled for Tucson, AZ next May."

#### Angela Leek

### **Opportunity to Use Lessons Learned**

Inc., for delivering a very successful annual meeting. We had nearly 500 participants! While the virtual meeting was a great success, it cannot replace the value of networking in person, so we are glad to have our 2022 annual meeting scheduled for Tucson, AZ next May. Stay tuned for more information.

As we look forward past the pandemic, we will have an opportunity to take the lessons we have learned and rethink our methods of conducting business and communications. CRCPD has formed a committee to review the CRCPD's online presence and find ways to modernize and better connect with our membership virtually. This will include a review of our website, content sharing options for committee work, and our use of social media to share important messages. We look forward to the committee's report and recommendations, but please let us know if you have thoughts or ideas.

The health physics community continues to be cognizant of the impending retirements for a large percentage of our expertise base. The CRCPD, in partnership with our Federal partners, will be focusing efforts on knowledge management to ensure that key information is retained and training is provided to continue the momentum on important initiatives. Additionally, we will be forming a committee to look at ways we can formalize networks to foster developmental opportunities and resource matching across state and federal radiation programs. We hope this work will provide added opportunities to train new staff, as well as clearer pathways for sharing of staff if we find our programs without adequate resources due to staffing changes.

Finally, a special thanks to all of the Board members and OED staff. **Thank you to our outgoing Board members - Jeff Semancik, Karen Farris, and Mary Ann Spohrer - for their dedication over their three year terms.** We also welcome Pat Mulligan – Chair-elect and Tanya Ridgle – Member at Large. Specifically, I want to applaud Kim Steves for her leadership and OED for their flexibility and efforts throughout the challenges of the pandemic and a very successful year of virtual activities.

I am looking forward to this upcoming year as Chair for this great organization! Please let me or any other board member know if you have thoughts or ideas on ways we can continue to strengthen and grow our efforts in radiation protection.

#### CRCPD NEWSBRIEF

### June 2021

# Greetings from Your Executive Director



Ruth E. McBurney, CHP

### **Awards Recipients**

**"For working** groups and individuals that were able to continue to carry out their charges and CRCPD activities, even during the pandemic... their volunteer work for **CRCPD** was even more appreciated."

**Ruth McBurney** 

### Happy Summer!

Thanks to all of you that attended our first virtual National Conference on Radiation Control in May. After months of planning and the involvement of our virtual platform contractor, federal partners, members of the Radiation Protection Advisory Committee, and speakers from the radiation control programs as well as other agencies and organizations, we were able to provide a conference and training full of great content relative to radiation protection.

Because of the virtual nature of the conference, many more people were able to participate. **We had a record attendance of 499 registrants for the National Conference and 192 registrants for Mammography Training.** As a result, we have been able to introduce all the great initiatives in which CRCPD is involved to more state, local, and territorial radiation control personnel. As we had hoped, this is creating more interest in participation on CRCPD working groups and activities.

Congratulations to those receiving awards this year. For working groups and individuals that were able to continue to carry out their charges and CRCPD activities, even during the pandemic and being pulled away from normal duties in their programs to deal with pandemic response, their volunteer work for CRCPD was even more appreciated.

**The conference year has gotten off to a great start.** We were able to participate in the virtual Annual Meeting of Senior Representatives in Formal Relations with the International Council on Radiation Protection (ICRP) in early June. Angela Leek, our Chairperson, provided input on behalf of CRCPD on how we can provide data and input into the ICRP's System of Radiological Protection. We were also able to participate in the annual meeting of the Society of Nuclear Medicine and Molecular Imaging, and plan to participate and exhibit at annual meetings this summer of both the Health Physics Society and the American Association of Physicists in Medicine.

Hopefully, as we come out of the pandemic, we will be able to have more in-person meetings and conferences, and to network properly. We are planning a Radon Training Event in Rockville, Maryland in October, visits with our federal partners this fall and winter, and of course, next year's National Conference in Tucson, May 16-19, 2022. Mark your calendars!

Best wishes for a Happy Independence Day, July 4!

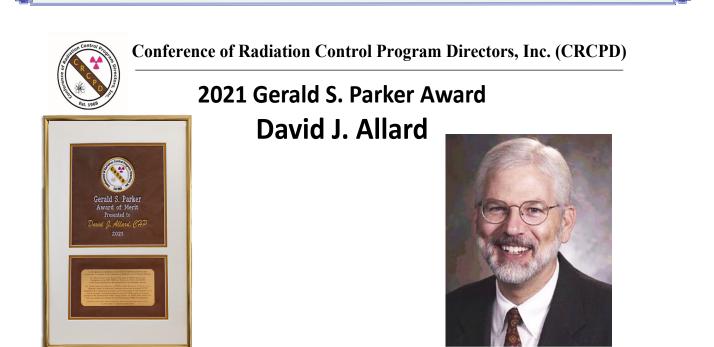
### June 20<u>21</u>

#### CRCPD NEWSBRIEF

### **CRCPD** Awards

# Gerald. S. Parker Award of Merit

To recognize CRCPD members who have made significant contributions, individually or as a group, in assisting the states and/or the public in achieving a better understanding of, and protection from, radiation exposure.



A Partnership Dedicated to Radiation Protection

The 2021 Gerald S. Parker Award is awarded to Dave Allard, for his significant contribution in the field of radiation protection, and in particular, to the goals of the Conference of Radiation Control Program Directors.

Mr. Allard served on the Board of Directors of CRCPD and was the Chairperson in the 2017-2018 year. Both as an officer and member of the Board, David served the organization in an exemplary manner.

Mr. Allard's major contributions to CRCPD include his service as liaison to the National Council on Radiation Protection and service on several CRCPD committees. He is recognized nationally and internationally for his expertise in the area of naturally occurring radioactive material (NORM), serves on working groups for the International Atomic Energy Agency on NORM issues, and served both as a speaker and planner for the International NORM IX Symposium.

Without reservation, David Allard has been and continues to be a leader in the field of radiation protection.

### **CRCPD** Awards

### James W. Miller Award

To recognize hard working CRCPD members within the radiation control programs who are performing the day-to-day tasks.

**Conference of Radiation Control Program Directors, Inc. (CRCPD)** 2021 James W. Miller Award **Regina Kissinger** JAMES W. MILLER AWARD Presented to Regina Kissinger Kimberly Steves

A Partnership Dedicated to Radiation Protection

Regina Kissinger is hereby recognized for her leadership and exceptional service to CRCPD through her contributions to radiation protection in mammography and for her service to the North Carolina Radiation Control Program. Ms. Kissinger has been an x-ray inspector with North Carolina Radiation Protection since 2004, performing both routine x-ray and MQSA inspections, and recently transitioned to the statewide technical consultant and to a supervisory role in Radiology Compliance.

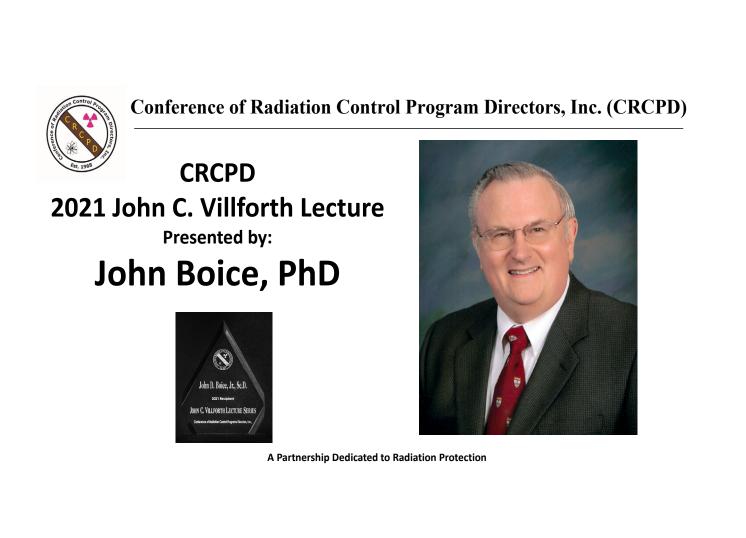
As the Chairperson of CRCPD's H-11 Committee on Mammography, Regina has demonstrated leadership and commitment spending a considerable number of hours planning for mammography trainings, and actively assisting in evaluating current training and software programs for MQSA inspectors. Her support to the Mammography Committee began as a member in 2016 before becoming the Chairperson in 2018. Regina is also currently a member of the H-48 Committee on Radiation Therapy. She provides support as an Advisor to H-56 Task Force on Optimizing Radiation Safety in Use of Hand-Held Radiographic Devices and serves on other committees including SSR Part A, SSR Part D and SSR Part J.

Ms. Kissinger's leadership and service to CRCPD have been exemplary and will assist state programs in their mammography inspection programs. For her efforts, Regina Kissinger is recognized as this year's recipient of the James W. Miller Award.



# John C. Villforth Lecture Series

This lecture series was created to honor Mr. Villforth's support of state radiation control agencies as a working partner with the Food and Drug Administration/Center for Devices and Radiological Health in the protection of the American people from unnecessary exposure to electronic product radiation, radioactive materials, and protection of the environment from radioactive contamination, as well as his strong support of the CRCPD in its early years of development.



### **CRCPD** Awards

### **Meritorious Service Award**

To recognize CRCPD members and persons who have assisted the CRCPD states, and/or public in achieving a better understanding of, and protection from, radiation exposure.





Earl Fordham (WA) is presented the Board of Directors Meritorious Service Award for significant contributions over the years to the Board as Chairperson and Member at Large and working groups on which he has served and to the overall mission of CRCPD. Earl has represented CRCPD in an excellent manner as liaison to the Health Physics Society and the American Academy of Health Physics. Currently, Earl is also Chair of the E-5 working group on Radioactive Waste Management. Under his leadership, E-5 submitted extensive technical comments on the NRC's Draft Regulatory Basis for the Disposal of Greater Than Class C and Transuranic Waste and to NRC's proposed interpretative rule on Transfer of Very Low-Level Waste to Exempt Persons for Disposal.

During Earl's extensive career, he also acted as the Washington state liaison to many organizations. Earl's dedication and contribution to the field of radiation protection has aided in enhancing and building not only a stronger WA State program, but also organizations including CRPCD, Low-Level Waste Forum, and the Health Physics Society.

# **Public Servant Award**

To recognize a federal, state or local government official (other than a state or local radiation control program director) who has made significant contributions in support of state radiation control programs an/or the public in achieving a better understanding of, and protection from, radiation exposure. The award also is given in memory of those public servants who contributed in an outstanding way to the support of state radiation control programs and the protection of people and their environment.



A Partnership Dedicated to Radiation Protection

For her many contributions to radiation protection and support of state radiation control programs including providing excellent technical guidance in cooperative projects between the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention with CRCPD and serving as an excellent liaison from CDC to the CRCPD Board of Directors. Adela's continuing dedication and successful support of the mission of CRCPD as well as her championing of state programs demonstrates her exemplary leadership and commitment to assuring high standards of quality in radiation protection in the United States. 10

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# **CRCPD** Awards

# **Outstanding Achievement Award**

To recognize CRCPD members who have assisted the states and/or public in achieving a better understanding of, and protection from, radiation exposure over a short period of time.

	Board of Directors Award for Outstanding Achievement				
In the Field	of Radiation Protection				
is awarded to the					
E-25	Committee on Radon				
Chrystine Kelley (CO), Chairperson	Eleanor Divver (UT), Member				
Josh Kerber (MN), Member	CONCTO Brandy Toft (NTAA), Consultant				
Allison Sullivan (CT), Member	Kirsten Hesla (EPA), Federal Resource				
Brian Giancola (NJ), Member Denise Bleiler (PA), Member	Advisors				
The E-25 Committee on Radon is recognized for the nationwide COVID-19 public health emerg	or the committee's innovative approach to its charges throughout ency.				
diverted to other efforts involving substantial for the issuance of 11 mini-grants to partnerin line on-demand course that was provided in lie the process for submissions to state radon pos putstanding webinars for state radon program cancelled due to COVID. The webinars, which	ngs were no longer possible due to the pandemic. Funding was volunteer work by the Committee. E-25 evaluated 28 applications g local organizations in radon reduction efforts; identified an on- eu of Building Technical Capacity training; brought consistency to ster and video contests; and planned and implemented six is in lieu of the 2020 Fall National Radon Conference, which was will continue through August 2021, have been extremely well to 1000 attendees for just the first two webinars.				

The E-25 Committee on Radon is recognized for the committee's innovative approach to its charges throughout the nationwide COVID-19 public health emergency.

# **CRCPD** Awards

# **Outstanding Achievement Award**

To recognize CRCPD members who have assisted the states and/or public in achieving a better understanding of, and protection from, radiation exposure over a short period of time.



**June 2021** 

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#### CRCPD NEWSBRIEF

### **CRCPD** Awards

# **Outstanding Achievement Award**

To recognize CRCPD members who have assisted the states and/or public in achieving a better understanding of, and protection from, radiation exposure over a short period of time.



The H-11 Committee on Mammography is presented the Board of Directors Award for Outstanding Achievement for the extraordinary efforts in Mammography Quality Standards Act (MQSA) continuing education.



**Conference of Radiation Control Program Directors, Inc. (CRCPD)** 

# THANK YOU TO OUR RPAC PARTNERS





Improving Health Through Medical Physics

A Partnership Dedicated to Radiation Protection

Sincere thanks and appreciation goes to Our Radiation Protection Advisory Council Partners--

American College of Radiology (ACR) American Association of Physicists in Medicine (AAPM) American Society for Radiation Oncology (ASTRO)

- for generous financial assistance
- the provision of expert resources to CRCPD working groups, and
- providing of training and conference speakers.

CRCPD values our partnerships with ACR, AAPM, and ASTRO as we seek to promote continued radiation protection for the nation – during these challenging times and beyond.

EPA and Partners Make Progress on the National Radon Action Plan, Saving Nearly 2,000 Lives Yearly from Radon-Induced Lung Cancer

WASHINGTON (May 20, 2021) - Today, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and its partners announced that they are making strides towards reducing the risks of radon, preventing nearly 2,000 radoncaused cancer deaths every year, in a new report "Reflections on the National Radon Action Plan's (NRAP) Progress, 2015-2020." The NRAP was launched in 2015 as a publicprivate partnership among 14 organizations representing the Federal government, industry and non-profit sectors, and spearheaded by EPA and the American Lung Association in collaboration with 12 other federal and national organizations with a shared goal of preventing thousands of deaths every year from radon-induced lung cancer.

"In carrying out the National Radon Action Plan, EPA and its partners have made critical contributions to preventing nearly 2 000 lung cancer deaths every year," said Joseph Goffman, EPA's Acting Assistant Administrator for the Office of Air and Radiation. "EPA's ongoing role in this strong national partnership will undoubtably continue to drive radon action in the future."

"The NRAP partnership is a great example of how progress in achieving the common goal of reducing radon exposure can be accelerated through a joint public/private effort. We at HUD look forward to our continued participation in this critically important public health effort," said Matt Ammon, Director of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's (HUD's) Office of Lead Hazard Control and Healthy Homes.

"CDC is proud to be a partner in this nationwide effort to promote radon awareness, testing and mitigation, including radon outreach activities in cancer control programs," said Patrick Breysse, PhD, CIH, Director of the National Center for Environmental Health at CDC and the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry. "We have been able to increase the reach of radon awareness and reduction activities to a wider community."

When first established, NRAP partners set a bold goal to mitigate 5 million highradon homes and save 3,200 lives annually by 2020. While this goal was not reached, by improving building codes, developing private, consensus-based radon standards of practice, advancing radon action through state government cancer plans, and addressing radon in real estate transactions, the NRAP is significantly reducing preventable radon-induced lung cancer.

For example, new requirements to test for and fix high radon through the Federal Housing Authority's (FHA) multifamily mortgage insurance programs—changes the NRAP team has supported at every step made a particularly important contribution to reducing radon-induced lung cancer deaths.

### EPA and Partners Make Progress on the National Radon Action Plan, Saving Nearly 2,000 Lives Yearly from Radon-Induced Lung Cancer - continued

These accomplishments, which build on the previous successes of the Federal Radon Action Plan carried out from 2010-2015, have led to protections from radon in approximately 100,000 multi-family homes annually, among other federal actions. The NRAP successfully broadened the scope and reach of the Federal Radon Action Plan by including the health, scientific and technical expertise of national private sector partners.

Moving forward, the multisector NRAP team is focused on developing the next version of the NRAP, while maintaining momentum and increasing impacts. Industry, nonprofit and public agencies aim to achieve this by broadening the scope of work, continuing to build a stronger national partnership, and incorporating radon requirements into housing finance policy and building codes to achieve greater impact by 2025.

Radon is a radioactive gas that can seep up from the soil into homes, schools and other buildings. Since radon is invisible and odorless, dangerous levels can exist indoors without occupants knowing. Testing is the only way to determine the indoor radon level in a building. Exposure to radon causes an estimated 21,000 lung cancer deaths annually in the United States. Fortunately, straightforward measures effective in reducing radon indoors are available, and when used properly can prevent radoninduced lung cancer and save lives. Find more information on radon and the National Radon Action Plan at

https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epaand-partners-make-progress-national-radonaction-plan-saving-nearly-2000-lives

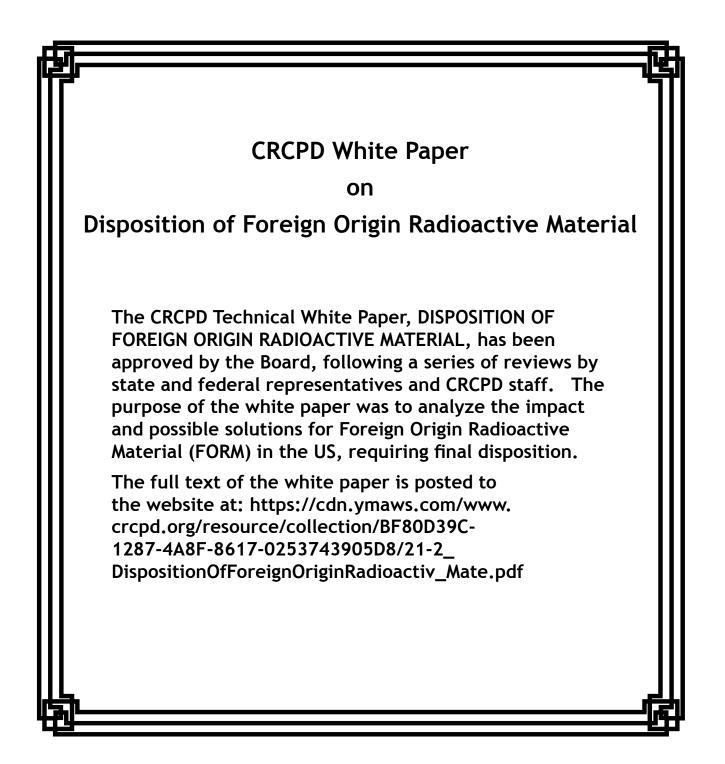
Source:

NRAP Progress Report press release reproduced with permission from US Environmental Protection Agency.

Contact Information:

EPA Press Office (press@epa.gov)

### **CRCPD** White Paper



### National Radon Training Event: Save the Date!

National Radon Training Event The National Radon Training Event will be held on October 11-13, 2021, at the Bethesda North Marriott Hotel & Conference Center, 5701 Marinelli Road, Rockville, MD.

The event will be co-located with the 2021 International Radon and Vapor Intrusion Symposium. Building Technical Capacity training is being planned for October 10, 2021, one day before the beginning of the Training Event.

Registration will be open mid to late July. An email notice will be sent out and will be posted on the front page of our website. Also, a hotel reservation link and phone number will be made available very soon, as well as other information. IAEA to host Young Professionals Essay Contest in Preparation for the International Conference

**IAEA Essay Contest** 

Do you know some students in health physics or involved as young professionals in radiation safety?

The International Atomic Energy Agency is hosting an essay competition for a chance to be a youth panelist at the International Conference on a Decade of Progress after Fukushima-Daiichi: Building on the Lessons Learned to Further Strengthen Nuclear Safety, to be held at their headquarters in Vienna, Austria, from November 8 -12, 2021.

More information on the competition, topics for essays, and how to apply can be found at the following link:

https://www.iaea.org/newscenter/news/attentionyoung-professionals-nuclear-safety-essaycompetition-now-open

Please pass along this opportunity to those who are eligible.

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#### **CRC SimPLER**

#### By Lauren Finklea - CDC Radiation Studies Section

**CRC SimPLER** 

CDC developed the Community Reception Center (CRC) Simulation Program for Leveraging and Evaluating Resources (CRC SimPLER) program to help radiation emergency planners understand their current capacity, potential bottlenecks, and additional resource needs when planning for population monitoring

during response to a radiation emergency. The program focuses on typical or anticipated activities that are needed to conduct population monitoring, which include but are not limited to providing contamination screening, decontamination, registration, and mental health counseling. The program helps planners assess their current population monitoring capacity and plan for potential needs in a way that is simple to understand, quick to interpret, and can be taken or presented to decision makers if/when they need to ask for additional resources. This software can also be used as a training tool for locations that are beginning to develop their population monitoring plans and those who have not yet conducted CRC full-scale exercises. CRC SimPLER was developed using modelling software and incorporates actual timing data collected from CRC exercises across the country.

CRC SimPLER is openly available (https://ephtracking.cdc.gov/Applications/ simPler/home ) and free to use. CRC SimPLER has been user tested and demonstrated during webinars and other venues including most recently the CRCPD Annual Meeting. Through this process we have learned that there is a large variation in the number of questions asked when registering impacted populations following emergencies. There is also a need for better understanding the impact that electronic versus paper data collection forms have on processing time at a CRC. We postulate that processing capacity is dependent on the number of questions being asked and method of data capture (paper vs electronic). We are looking for examples of data collection/registration forms that are being used by localities exercising CRCs, Shelters, Points of Dispensing, etc. to better model these options into our program.

If you would like to help us in this effort please send example forms to SIMPLER@cdc.gov . You may submit multiple forms if you have several versions of your forms. For electronic data collection tools, please send us a pdf or a viewable link to the questionnaire.

Thanks so much for helping us move this project forward.

#### CRCPD NEWSBRIEF

#### June 2021

#### IN MEMORIAM

### Francis Joseph Bradley January 15, 1926 – May 29, 2021



Francis Joseph Bradley passed peacefully in his sleep at home on May 29, 2021. He was the sole remaining original Founder of the Health Physics Society. It was Frank who germinated the need for a forum where early health physicists could gather to exchange information about the burgeoning discipline taking shape post-WW II. He was the last man standing from his US Army Air Corps B-29 crew. He was the patriarch of the Bradley family – the last of his generation.

Frank was born and raised in Corona Queens NY to Irish immigrant parents. After military service in WW II, he returned and earned a BS degree in Electrical Engineering at Manhattan College. In 1949 he sat for an AEC Fellowship exam to enter the

Radiological Physics program at Oak Ridge National Lab. It was there he first met Herman Cember, who became his classmate and lifelong friend. Frank was the lone surviving health physicist from Elda Anderson's Oak Ridge class of 1949-1950.

He later earned a master's degree from University of Pittsburgh. He went on to the position of Radiation Safety Officer at Ohio State University where he established the university's health physics program for all academic and medical institutions on campus. While working at Ohio State, Frank earned his doctorate in physics and chemistry. The first HPS meeting, Ohio State University Health Physics Conference, was launched in cooperation with U.S. Atomic Energy Commission.

Frank was hired in 1961 by International Atomic Energy Agency to carry out a UN Atoms for Peace mission in Turkey. He accomplished a similar mission for a reactor in Taiwan, and his final UN mission was in Albania in 1994 where he was sent to evaluate the national radiation safety program.

He held a three-year teaching position at University of Pittsburgh Graduate School for Public Health. He then returned to industry for a stint at Isotopes, Inc., which sent him to Amchitka in the Aleutian Islands to collect environmental measurements from an underground nuclear detonation.

Frank landed his longest held position in the mid-1960s at New York State Department of Labor as Principal Radiophysicist. Throughout his several decades with NYS, he continued to write technical articles for HPS Journal and was very active in the Health Physics Society. Dr. Bradley was a charter member of the Conference of Radiation Control Directors in 1968. He retired from NYS DOL in 1992 but kept engaged by teaching laser safety classes and attending HPS annual meetings.

The list of scientific papers authored by F. J. Bradley is lengthy. Beyond science, he had great interest in WWII and authored several books on war in the Pacific theatre. He also wrote two volumes on the history of his 330th Bomb Group.

F. J. Bradley will be sorely missed by many for a long time. His legacy lives on.



**Director Members Director Members:** Becki Harisis (NE) Jalynn Knudsen (UT)

### **Associate Members** Pat Howe (SD) Tina M. Suominen

**Affiliate Member** James T. Dobbins III (NC) Gary Pickard (CA) Robert J. Staton (FL)

**International Member** Ahmed Zeyad Hendi (Qatar)

The Directory of Personnel Responsible for Radiological Health **Programs** is available online for members and our federal partners and is updated regularly. Visit www.crcpd. org

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# **Call for News**

**Call for News** 

Would you like to share some information about your work, or some project or issue that you're involved in?

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.

We welcome your news and photographs, too, if you'd like to share.

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# **CRCPD Board of Directors**

Chairperson	Angela Leek	lowa	.515/281-3478	angela.leek@idph.iowa.gov
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Member at Large	.Tanya Ridgle	LA County, CA	213/351-7385	tanya.ridgle@cdph.ca.gov

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Healing Arts Council	Lisa Bruedigan (TX) 512/834-6629 lisa.bruedigan@dshs.texas.gov		
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The Newsbrief is published in February, April, June, August, October, and December by the Office of Executive Director, Conference of Radiation Control Program Directors, Inc., 112 East Main Street, Suite 1, Frankfort, KY 40601. Telephone: 502/227-4543, fax: 502/227-7862; Web site: <www.crcpd.org>.

The Newsbrief is written to address the needs of all radiation control program personnel. Readers are encouraged to contribute newsworthy or informative items for the Newsbrief, with neither charges nor stipends for the items that are selected. News of state radiation control programs is especially sought. Articles should be sent to CRCPD, Attn: Mendy Cremeans, 112 East Main Street, Suite 1, Frankfort, KY 40601 (fax: 502/227-7862; email: mcremeans@crcpd.org. The deadline for contributions is the 15th of the month before an issue is to be published.

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This publication is supported in part by a Cooperative Agreement (No. FD-5U18FD00-4840) administered by the Food and Drug Administration.