

U.S. Women in Nuclear

A Quarterly Update on U.S. WIN Activities

An Executive Perspective

by Angie Howard

Vice President, Office of the President

Nuclear Energy Institute



Hello, U. S. WIN members! I am honored to be a part of the first U. S. WIN newsletter—part of a newly updated U. S. WIN Web site. I hope you are pleased with these new products, and I encourage you to contribute regularly to both. They are your resources and will improve over time from your input and use.

I hope you are as excited about the nuclear industry as I am. Real plans are in the works for new nuclear plants in the United States and throughout the world. We need new nuclear plants because of the growing demand for new baseload electricity generation.

Nuclear energy can provide that power safely and economically, and without emitting greenhouse gases into our atmosphere.

Furthermore, new nuclear units contribute to a diverse and secure energy mix for our country. It is an exciting time to be in the industry.

This also is a time in which WIN members can play an even greater role in advancing the industry. The looming shortage of professional and skilled workers provides further professional development opportunities for women (and men) in the industry. As new plants advance, the public will have questions about operation of the new designs, as well as ongoing questions about radiation and public health and safety. I urge WIN members to be even more actively engaged in communicating with your neighbors about nuclear issues. You have the expertise and the credibility, so go for it!

NEI is proud to sponsor U. S. WIN, and we are pleased to be your partner as WIN continues to grow and enjoys success on many fronts. Your team at NEI—Carol, Jennifer, Richiey, Renuka and me—welcomes your input. Please contact Carol or me with your thoughts and ideas. See you in Pittsburgh in July!

D.C. WIN Gets Insider's View of National Energy Policy



Andrew Lundquist, a principal with Lundquist, Nethercutt and Griles, was the featured speaker at D.C. Women in Nuclear's first-quarter meeting Feb. 2. Lundquist led the cabinet-level committee that developed the Bush administration's national energy policy. He shared his perspective on the current status of nuclear power in the context of national policy with an enthusiastic audience of about 35 D.C. WIN members at Morgan, Lewis & Bockius' Washington offices. Despite an unprecedented level of support in the administration, Congress and the Department of Energy, Lundquist expressed slight disappointment that new nuclear plant construction has not proceeded more quickly.

The audience posed several interesting questions, including one about how WIN members can effectively communicate their support of nuclear power to the White House. Mr. Lundquist responded that, more than writing letters directly to the White House, the most effective way to support nuclear power is to place op-ed pieces in major newspapers.

Unlike most WIN chapters, D.C. WIN is composed of individuals from several organizations in the D.C. metropolitan area, instead of a single company. Members have diverse backgrounds in engineering, law and communications, among other fields, and they work in both the public and private sectors.

Photo courtesy of Lundquist Nethercutt & Griles LLC

Region I News

Region I Women in Nuclear Conference

On Dec. 5 and 6, 2005, 80 women and men attended the Region I Women in Nuclear conference in Philadelphia, sponsored by PSEG/Exelon. The theme of the conference was "Our Changing Nuclear Environment." Attendees participated in plenary sessions such as "Executive Presence: Behaving and Performing as a Leader" and "Spent Fuel Issues—Transport, Storage and Reprocessing." Breakout sessions included "Career Planning in a Changing Environment" and "Communications—Handling Difficult Questions and Critical Infrastructure Emergency Communications." As always, much networking took place. Region I looks forward to the next conference, to be held Dec. 4–5, 2006, in Scranton, Pa.

Region II News

WIN Oak Ridge Establishes Science Club for Local Youth

Oak Ridge, Tenn., chapter of Women in Nuclear and the Oak Ridge/Knoxville section of the American Nuclear Society (ANS) have started a Science Club at a local primary school (grades K–2) to encourage interest in science. This science club is an aggressive effort to apply a fun, challenging, hands-on approach to learning science and engineering skills at an early age. Using funds provided by the local ANS chapter, volunteers from WIN are designing a series of take-home lessons and experiments related to a wide range of topics, such as optics, geology, biology and physical science. Each month, the club participants receive a detailed handout and all the materials necessary to perform a set of experiments. The volunteers' efforts include developing lessons, testing experiments, providing supplies and preparing individual kits for the children.

The Science Club is a pilot project, and ANS and WIN hope to bring the program to other schools in the next year. Response to this club thus far has been overwhelmingly positive, with more than 33 percent of the subject school's population participating. Students are required to register and pay a membership fee to offset supply costs.

Club participants recently received a basic experiment kit for each child that included a box of school supplies and a binder.

Farley WIN Happenings

Lt. Ashley Forehand from the Houston County Sheriff's Department spoke to the Farley WIN group at its January meeting. He discussed personal safety, provided valuable tips on how to react when under attack and explained why it is important to keep personal schedules private, and valuables hidden.

Mr. Ray Little, a certified licensed professional counselor, will be the guest speaker at Farley WIN's March 3 meeting. Little will discuss conflict management and resolution. Bentina Terry of Southern Nuclear Operating Co. will be the guest speaker at the August meeting. She will speak on servant leadership.

Ms. Cheri Collins, supply chain general manager, will be the guest speaker at Farley WIN's June 9 meeting. Collins will discuss supply chain and interfacing with the plant.

Farley WIN is pleased to welcome four new members:

- ♦ Amanda Pugh
- ♦ Jennifer Hall
- ♦ Lauren Hall
- ♦ Tam Do

Region III News

DTE Energy's Fermi 2 Nuclear Plant Sponsors Student Science Program

Fermi 2's Women in Nuclear group held fundraisers last year to send local elementary school students to a Dec. 13 environmental science program called Earthworks. Young scientists from Sodt Elementary School interacted with live animals, performed experiments and devised game plans to respond to unexpected natural disasters. The WIN group received DTE Energy's Walter J. McCarthy team volunteerism award for its efforts.

Sodt Elementary is Fermi's partner in education through DTE Energy.

DTE Energy's Fermi 2 Hosts STRONG Career Day



Photo courtesy of DTE Energy

The Women in Nuclear group from DTE Energy's Fermi 2 nuclear plant hosted a career day on Nov. 30, 2005, for a local high school's gender equity program. The program, "Science, Technology and Related Occupations NEED Girls" (STRONG), included speeches by female Fermi professionals about their science- and math-related, nontraditional careers. Other women-led activities included a tour of DTE Energy's coal-fired power plant, a "career" scavenger hunt, a Myers-Briggs personality assessment and hands-on demonstrations. The principal of the high school presented the WIN group with a certificate of appreciation.

Region IV News

IWIN Forms Alongside Women's History Month



A new WIN chapter is forming at the Idaho National Laboratory. The Idaho Women in Nuclear (IWIN) chapter will be launched in March, alongside other Women's History Month activities. Many of the charter members have been involved in WIN at various levels and are excited to have the support of the leadership management team for the new chapter.

Back Row - Shelly Havlovick, Linda Lewis, Karen Moore, Cheryl O'Brien, Susan Hensley, Nancy Stewart
Front Row - Marie Sovereign, Frances Marshall, Cal Ozaki

Photo courtesy of Jeffrey Olsen

Chapter Status

- ♦ Actively developing a Region IV chapter by contacting current and potential future representatives at various sites within the region.
- ♦ Coordinating efforts with NEI to update and maintain the U.S. WIN Web site with Region IV information.
- ♦ Developing a registered independent Region IV Web site sponsored and funded by the South Texas Project WIN chapter, to include:
 - presentations and other forms of resource sharing
 - networking tools
 - community outreach programs
 - direct links to the various Region IV sites.
- ♦ Establishing a Region IV logo, mission statement and by-laws.
- ♦ Updating and maintaining a points-of-contact list for Region IV sites.

South Texas Project is leading the effort to develop the Region IV chapter. Contact Connie McKee (361.972.8154 or clmckee@stpegs.com) or Vivian Wagon (361.972.8948 or vtwagon@stpegs.com) to ensure your site is represented.

“Region IV News” captures WIN chapter news as well as site status activities. Continue to provide information through your Region IV contacts.

Callaway: Currently reforming its local WIN chapter at this time.

Comanche Peak: This chapter is enjoying active membership, with 88 members and many ongoing activities. Comanche Peak has supported a local retirement home by sponsoring a fishing trip as a community outreach activity and by providing stuffed stockings in December for residents of two local nursing homes. During 2005, Comanche Peak hosted members of South Texas Project WIN for a networking and benchmarking visit, which provided a great opportunity for South Texas Project WIN members to visit their sister Texas plant site. On Jan. 23, Comanche Peak hosted Dr. Richard F. Wright of Westinghouse Electric Co., who presented information about the AP1000 reactor.

South Texas Project: This chapter is in its third year of active organization, with the recent turnover of three Executive Board members and a membership of 56 people. Recent activities include maintaining an internal STPNOC WIN Web site, establishing a local merchant discount program for all STPNOC employees, actively participating in community outreach programs, hosting speakers (LeadStarä leadership presentation, medical professionals, teleconferences, etc.), organizing networking trips to other Region IV sites, showcasing site personnel and historical figures—including personal biographies during National Women’s History month in 2005—and finalizing the details for the STPNOC WIN scholarship program, to be awarded in support of the 2005-06 academic year.

Yucca Mountain: The Yucca Mountain Project site is enjoying active representation. Presentations and a Yucca Mountain CD are available to use as resource sharing tools through points of contact.

Profiles

Meet Renuka Manivannan, the Woman Behind the New and Improved U.S. WIN website



Renuka Manivannan
Web Developer, Nuclear Energy Institute

Renuka Manivannan is the lead Web developer for the Nuclear Energy Institute and U.S. Women in Nuclear. She received a Bachelor of Engineering degree from the University of Madras, India. She is married and has one daughter. She currently lives in Silver Spring, Md.

Renuka accepted the Web developer position at NEI in June 2005 and quickly became an indispensable member of the Web development team. When asked what she liked best about her job, she quickly replied that she enjoys being part of such a supportive team where her innovative “outside of the box” thinking, creativity and input are encouraged and valued.

Renuka has enjoyed bringing her vision and special touch to the new U.S. Women in Nuclear Web site, which she has revamped so that the finished product is unrecognizable from the former site.

Working with U.S. WIN is especially satisfying for Renuka, as she has a passion for woman’s interests and organizations. She credits this interest to growing up in a largely patriarchal society. As a student, Renuka worked as an advocate and counselor for women. In this role, she acted as a third-party moderator between parents and students to help resolve emotional conflicts and lend a friendly ear and shoulder to cry on. Renuka sees U.S. WIN as a step further in her journey to find her own unique voice while helping other women to do the same.

Richiey Hayes, U.S. WIN Newsletter Coordinator



Richiey Hayes
Senior Administrative Assistant and
U.S. WIN Newsletter Coordinator,
Nuclear Energy Institute

Richiey Hayes is senior administrative assistant to Vice President, Angie Howard at the Nuclear Energy Institute, as well as the newsletter coordinator for the U.S. Women in Nuclear Web site. She is a graduate of the University of Maryland College Park, where she earned a degree in behavioral and social sciences.

Richiey has been a member of U.S. Women in Nuclear for a little more than a year and quickly became involved in her local chapter

When the position of U.S. WIN newsletter coordinator was offered to her, Richiey jumped at the chance to become even more involved and to revisit her passion for publishing—she served as editor of her high school’s literary magazine and as a yearbook staffer, and she created and coordinated a monthly newsletter for her church’s youth group.

When asked what she enjoys most about the job, Richiey was hesitant to admit aloud—for fear of jinxing herself—that she secretly enjoys the fast-paced nature of her job. The frantic rush to meet publication deadlines while putting together a valuable and interesting product gives her an adrenaline rush that thrills and terrifies her.

Richiey’s work with U.S. WIN satisfies her creative drive and provides a useful tool to the members of the organization. But Richiey is quick to recognize that the newsletter has not been the result of her hard work alone; rather, it is a collaboration of many people putting in tremendous effort to bring this vision to fruition. Richiey appreciates the opportunity to be a small part of a great undertaking.

Member Highlight

Wanda Redd, Managing Sponsor, South Texas Project Nuclear Operating Co. Women in Nuclear Chapter, and National Nominee for the 2006 Women in History Award

Wanda Redd Manager, Records Management

Wanda Redd began her career with Houston Light and Power in 1980 as a stenographer in planning and controls at the Energy Development Center in Houston. This marked the beginning of what has evolved into a very satisfying, yet challenging, career in the nuclear industry at South Texas Project (STP). Wanda initially worked in the fossil fuels side of the utility business and then in 1988 moved to the nuclear side. She has worked in both the corporate offices and on construction sites, both at Limestone Project and at STP.

Now, as manager of records management system and administration, Wanda's experience and influence have positioned her department to be viable and competitive in the deregulated market and still maintain a high level of service to the STP customer base. Taking full advantage of technology, implementing solid process improvements and having a dedicated staff has enabled Wanda to set high standards for her department. She does not rely on yesterday's successes; rather, she seeks to improve daily.

Wanda accepted the challenge of forming the Women in Nuclear chapter at STP and currently serves as the chapter's managing sponsor.

Wanda has two daughters, Angie and Amy, and two grandchildren, Ashley and Logan. They are a central part of her life. With the love and support of her many family members and friends—especially friends and teammates at STP—she looks at life with optimism and has a strong Christian faith that allows her to meet life's challenges head on.