



IN THIS ISSUE ▼

- Nuclear Science Week Sparks Chain Reaction
- U.S. Women in Nuclear Name Recipient of 2017 National Award of Nuclear Science and History
- Submit Your Nomination for the 2017 Patricia Bryant Leadership Award (PBLA)
- Chapters Partner Up for Booth at Nuclear Science Week “Big Event”
- Three Mile Island Chapter’s Nuclear Science Week Event
- Nuclear Outreach in the Nation’s Capital
- Nine Mile Point Chapter Inaugural Nuclear Science Week Event a Success
- Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) Chapter Teaches Principles of Nuclear Energy
- V.C. Summer Units 2 and 3 Highlights Nuclear Science Week at Annual Golf Tournament
- Maria Korsnick Named Nuclear Energy Institute President and CEO
- Bridging the Acres between Byron and Quad Cities Stations
- Savannah River Site’s “Nuke Cancer 1 Cell at a Time” T-Shirt Wins Big at Local Miracle Mile Walk
- Region I Workshop - Innovate, Educate and Motivate
- TVA Conference Helps Build Winning Teams
- Register Now for the 2017 Region II Conference
- Southern Nuclear’s Chapter Talks Innovation, Networks with UAB’s Society of Women Engineers
- Nine Mile Point Chapter Completes First Professional Development Book Club Novel
- Networking to Support Parents in the Nuclear Industry
- Three Mile Island Hosts Community Night
- Professional Development (PD) Corner
- Share What Works!

An Update on U.S. WIN Activities

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Nuclear Science Week Sparks Chain Reaction

Written by: **Shilo Terek**, Employee Concerns Program, Pacific Gas and Electric Company’s Diablo Canyon Power Plant, Region IV



U.S. WIN Chapters from across the United States prepped, planned and pronounced their support for nuclear science and technologies as part of Nuclear Science Week 2016. Nuclear Science Week is a national, broadly observed week-long celebration to focus local, regional and national interest on all aspects of nuclear science. The celebration takes place each year in the third week of October, and each day of Nuclear Science Week provides for learning about the contributions, innovations and opportunities that can be found by exploring nuclear science. U.S. WIN applauds the dozens of chapters that provided opportunities for hundreds of individuals to learn more about nuclear. Read on to learn some of their stories. ✨

U.S. Women in Nuclear Name Recipient of 2017 National Award of Nuclear Science and History

Submitted by: **Jennifer Hayden**, Director of Public Relations and Marketing, National Museum of Nuclear Science and History

U.S. Women in Nuclear has been named the recipient organization of the 2017 National Award of Nuclear Science and History – an award presented annually by the National Museum of Nuclear Science and History to a prominent person or entity who has had an impact on nuclear issues. The award will be presented at the 20th Annual Einstein Gala on Saturday, March 18, 2017, in Albuquerque, New Mexico.

This prestigious award celebrates the wide scope of achievement and commitment to furthering scientific endeavor made by individuals or organizations in areas of military leadership, medical technology, public policy and government, energy sciences, education and space exploration.

The organization was chosen as the 20th recipient of the award by the Award and Selection Sub-Committee for its many contributions to the nuclear field. “This premier network of women and men truly make a difference in the nuclear industry with their engaged passion for nuclear science, and it is because of this steadfast dedication, U.S. Women in Nuclear was chosen as the 2017 recipient of the National Award of Nuclear Science and History,” said a representative of the committee.

The National Museum of Nuclear Science and History - the only congressionally chartered museum in the nuclear field - is a Smithsonian Affiliate that is located in Albuquerque, NM. This nationally accredited museum stands as America’s resource for nuclear science and history, established in 1969 as an intriguing place to learn the story of the Atomic Age, from early conception to today’s peaceful uses of nuclear technology. It is a place to learn, to think, to imagine and to draw your own conclusions.

The upcoming 2017 gala will be an event to remember, hosting intricate science experiments performed by museum junior volunteers, a unique silent auction, dinner among some of the most brilliant minds in science, local entertainment throughout the evening as well as the opportunity to honor U.S. WIN with the 20th National Award of Nuclear Science and History.

For more information on the Einstein Gala or sponsorship opportunities, please contact **Jessica Tonjes**, Director of Development, at **505-245-2137, extension 110**, or jtonjes@nuclearmuseum.org ✉

Submit Your Nomination for the 2017 Patricia Bryant Leadership Award (PBLA)

Submitted by: **Victoria Dennis**, Online Work Control Manager, Tennessee Valley Authority, Region II

Nominations are being accepted now through Dec. 31 for the 2017 Patricia Bryant Leadership Award. The PBLA nomination timeframe has changed for the 2017 award to allow more time to coordinate travel for the award recipients. Nominations can be submitted electronically using the nomination form found on the U.S. WIN website. See the nomination form and FAQ sheet for details. Contact the Awards Committee (awards@winus.org) with any questions regarding the PBLA process.

Chapters Partner Up for Booth at Nuclear Science Week “Big Event”

Submitted by: **Julie Atento**, Fuels and Services, GE Hitachi Nuclear Energy, Region II

In support of the Nuclear Science Week’s “Big Event,” the GE Hitachi and Duke Energy – Brunswick chapters partnered together to make an impact for nuclear during the three-day event reaching more than 600 community and industry participants. The GE Hitachi chapter was responsible for the Technology Expo at the “The Big Event,” and the two groups co-hosted a U.S. WIN booth. The overall Big Event was hosted by the Wilmington Area Local Section of the American Nuclear Society and local chapters of the North American Young Generation in Nuclear in Wilmington, NC at University of North Carolina – Wilmington. A key focus of the Big Event was “showcasing how current and future nuclear technologies are harnessed for the benefit of humanity,” said Derek Bass, Wilmington Big Event 2016 Chair. The three-day event included exhibits, demonstrations, student and teacher workshops and panel discussions on various topics. The GE Hitachi Chapter took the lead for coordinating the Technology Expo for the Big Event, which hosted an industry fair full of industry and government booths. U.S. WIN was well represented at the expo with a massive booth that spanned both sides of the expo and included learning and fun. Members shared the truth about Nuclear Energy by utilizing the U.S. WIN outreach toolkit. Also, included a carbon emissions demonstration, nuclear lollipop tree and the hit of the expo – Nuclear Energy Corn Hole. The game is designed to create fission by taking a neutron (bean bag) and slamming into the atom (corn hole), the neutron splits the atom apart and nuclear fission results. ✨



U.S. WIN booth



Carbon emission activity showcases five glass pitchers fill with “carbon” represented by black beans (nuclear is the lowest of course)



U.S. WIN promotional items



Nuclear Fission Corn Hole Activity

1. Take a neutron (bean bag).
2. Travel fast and slam into the atom (corn hole).
3. Neutron splits atom apart aka fission process (bag in hole).
4. Bag in hole = 1 nuclear lollipop.



Tootsie Roll Energy Activity

Tootsie Roll = 1 Fuel Pellet



More than 600 community members, students and industry peers reached during the Big Event.

Three Mile Island Chapter's Nuclear Science Week Event

Written by: **Patty Handy**, Radiation Protection Analyst, Three Mile Island, Exelon Generation, Region I

Thirty-one Middletown Area High School students, grades 9 through 12, and two educators attended the first ever, Nuclear Science Week event at the Three Mile Island (TMI) Training Center in Middletown, PA.

"The Power of Green Energy" presentation reviewed different types of green energy available (hydro, wind, solar and nuclear) and the energy sources used with an overview of how nuclear power plants work from fission to transmission. It showed a general description of the major plant systems and components; separation of radioactive and non-radioactive water; redundant safety systems and the differences of how a pressurized water reactor (PWR) and boiling water reactor (BWR) work. The students learned why nuclear is green energy, how it helps lessen fossil fuel use and reduces air pollution by being a zero carbon emitter.

"Fun with fission" delved deeper into the fission process. Volunteers described the basics of fission, including the properties of an atom, and the role it plays in producing heat when split. A 3D animated video along with a demonstration of a homemade atom using a nerf gun and Styrofoam balls was shown to help provide a visual look at the fission process for better understanding. Pictures and discussion on uranium starting from where it comes from to how it gets into nuclear fuel pellets was also part of the presentation.

After everyone enjoyed a healthy lunch, Keri Blymire, Human Resource Generalist, did a presentation on education pathways into energy careers, internships and employment opportunities in the industry. The students learned that Exelon's culture is built on innovation and personal development and building the future of the energy industry with an emphasis on social and environmental responsibility.

Kaitlyn Wagner described how she knew in high school she wanted to be an Environmental Scientist, and is now employed as a TMI Associate Environmental Chemist. As she excelled at field hockey in high school, she saw this pathway as an opportunity for a scholarship to college. During her college years while pursuing her Environmental Science/Water Science degree, she took the opportunity during the summers to take environmental work, such as an Environmental Specialist position for Exelon and worked at the corporate level supporting three of Exelon's nuclear sites.

An enthusiastic and interactive presentation on Industrial Safety was presented by TMI Site Industrial Safety Specialist Scott Weichler also known as "Safety Scott." He shared his career journey of safety jobs he held prior to TMI including outside work activities, being a volunteer firefighter and softball coach for his teenage daughter, and his learnings from each path. Scott did an interactive exercise with the students on finding the stay time of a worker using a Wet Bulb Globe Temperature (WBGT) device. He explained what goes into this determination and why it's important to personal health and safety of a worker.

The students and educators participated in a tour of the TMI Unit 1 Control Room Simulator, which included a review of training requirements needed to become a nuclear control room operator. As an interactive activity, two students from each session were selected and provided instruction to safely shutdown the reactor after a nuclear plant trip, allowing them to push buttons, see lights, and hear bells to experience what it's actually like if an event were to happen.



Denise Ingoe, Exelon Fleet Assessor and Region I Coordinator



Keri networks with Adam Shaffer and Trent Baker, Middletown High School Educators

The last event of the day was a bus tour of the north and south owner controlled area of TMI. The tour was provided by Jon Grove, TMI Employee Concern Representative and Natural Resource Committee Lead and Kaitlyn Wagner, TMI Associate Environmental Chemist. The bus tour allowed a closer view of the reactor building and natural draft cooling towers. Detailed information was provided including historical existence of remnants of an old farm circa 1850 that is registered with the Pennsylvania Historical Society, as well as facts of the many species of animals including deer, osprey, bluebirds, peregrine falcons and the bald eagle that live on TMI. The Pennsylvania Game Commission believes this to be the closest "big three" birds of prey nest anywhere in the state. The students and educators learned how and why the TMI Natural Resource Committee members spend time improving living conditions for the animals (such as installing bat houses and bluebird houses) to help improve the environment.

As a take away, the students and educators were given a recyclable TMI bag which included a TMI fact sheet; presentation copies, a simulated fuel pellet provided by NEI and a candy bar printed with "TMI Women in Nuclear," Go Green, Go Clean, Go Nuclear.

The students left with an increased knowledge of not only how nuclear power works but also it's safe, run by highly qualified and dedicated employees who live in the local community and good for the environment as a zero carbon free emitter. 🌱



John Tesmer, TMI Simulator Coordinator and Shaun Batts, Sr. Operations Instructor give an overview of the simulator while explaining their role in safe operation of a nuclear power plant.



Patty Handy, Nuclear Science Event Lead.

Nuclear Outreach in the Nation's Capital

Submitted by: **Savannah Fitzwater**, Engineer, U.S. Department of Energy – National Nuclear Security Administration, DC Chapter of U.S. WIN, Region I



Member Dr. Staci Brown and Jamie Williams (not pictured, NA-YGN) demonstrate half-life and radioactive decay to students using Skittles.

In support of Nuclear Science Week, the DC Chapter of U.S. WIN partnered with the DC chapters of the American Nuclear Society (ANS) and the North American Young Generation in Nuclear (NA-YGN) to bring a "street fair" event to Robert E. Lee High School in Springfield, VA for 16 students (9th-12th grades).

After an overview presentation to help familiarize students with the diversity of energy production in the U.S., facts on their closest nuclear energy station, and fission, they broke into small groups to rotate through three booths. The first booth focused on the different types of nuclear reactors; how we use nuclear technology for medical treatments, electricity generation, and industrial applications; and a demonstration of how electricity is produced from a steam turbine using a small windmill kit and a fan.

The second booth focused on half-life and radioactive decay. Students used Skittles to visualize how radioactive elements decrease over time,

Continued...

and how the randomness of this decay can vary. For example, if students started with 20 Skittles, only 6 might be lost on the first decay, leaving 14 Skittles behind. On the second decay, 8 Skittles might be lost.



Member Rita Patel and Tom Hanlon (ANS) demonstrate fundamentals of radiation and contamination with a Geiger-Mueller detector and Cheetos.

The third booth focused on radioactive decay and contamination. Students saw how a radiation detector can identify radioactive materials, such as antique Fiestaware, and discussed what type of shielding can be used for different particles to support ALARA principles. The student were also very excited to test different ways to minimize their Cheeto “contamination” using cups, and to see how different types of radioactive material (simulated with different color Cheetos) could leave behind different “contamination” in the same area.

Volunteers also discussed potential careers in the nuclear industry and described their unique career paths with the students in small groups as part of the “Street Fair” booths. This allowed students to ask more in-depth questions, without fear of embarrassment in front of their peers.

Overall, this experience was extremely rewarding for the volunteers, who are looking forward to similar future outreach events! ✨

Nine Mile Point Chapter Inaugural Nuclear Science Week Event a Success

Submitted by: **Price Collins**, Mechanical/Structural Design Engineer, Nine Mile Point, Exelon Generation Region I

In October, Nine Mile Point Nuclear Station participated in their first Nuclear Science Week. An outreach event was held at the Oswego County, NY Pathways in Technology Early College High School (P-TECH). P-TECH is a 5-year program where students earn their high school diploma and an Associate's Degree in Applied Science from a local community college. Students who complete the program will typically further their education in Mechanical or Electrical Engineering.

The two-hour presentation covered a variety of nuclear science topics including: power plant operations, safety and security, medical applications, and space exploration. A hands-on event was also conducted using M&M'S® for a

“Half-Life” Counting experiment to illustrate the randomness of radioactive decay. Chapter networking chair Price Collins, Joe Prosachik (Sr. Engineer), Alyx Wszolek (Reactor Engineer), Holly Apa (Sr. Procurement Specialist), and Jim Vaughn (Sr. Manager Systems Engineering) conducted the event. Materials were provided to the students on myths of nuclear energy, an NRC brief on dry cask storage, and even a calculate your annual dose worksheet to show how little dose members of the public receive from nuclear power plants. Discussions have already taken place to further educate the P-TECH students in 2017 with a site and simulator tour. ✨



Price Collins discusses the fission process during the P-TECH Nuclear Science Week event.

Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) Chapter Teaches Principles of Nuclear Energy

Submitted by: **Kendra Ware**, Program Manager of Procedures and Specifications, Tennessee Valley Authority, Region II

Caption: Member Ashley Floyd conducts PH testing experiments at the Chattanooga Discovery Museum.

Learning about nuclear energy was an eye-opening experience for approximately 675 students and parents during recent back-to-back Nuclear Science and National Chemistry Weeks, thanks to volunteers from the TVA Chapter of U.S. WIN.

Recognizing Nuclear Science Week, chapter volunteers visited Clifton Hills Elementary School in Chattanooga to conduct hands-on science experiments with students. The students are part of Girls, Inc.'s Tech Know Girls program, which helps empower fourth and fifth graders who are interested in math and science.



Member Ashley Floyd conducts PH testing experiments at the Chattanooga Discovery Museum.

On Saturday, Oct. 22, members celebrated the start of National Chemistry Week by staffing several education stations at the Chattanooga Discovery Museum.

"These events helped us dispel some common myths about nuclear power, and gave members of our community the opportunity to conduct interesting, eye-opening experiments," said Chapter Vice Chair Kendra Ware. "We brought Geiger counters and household items to show that radioactivity exists naturally in the world around us, and many of the adults were quite surprised."

Young people at the museum enjoyed testing the PH of many common items, including food and household cleaners, after donning protective eye wear. Members used the experiment as an opportunity to provide safety lessons, stressing the importance of wearing proper personal protection equipment.

Another popular demonstration was the use of dominoes and a ruler to show the principles of a chain reaction and how control rods are used to control the reaction in nuclear power plants.

At Clifton Hills Elementary, students enjoyed a special surprise when chapter members brought in a ball-shaped piñata filled with smaller balls of varying sizes. The piñata activity demonstrated how neutrons cause uranium atom to produce additional atoms.

"The piñata was one of the girls' favorite activities," Ware said. ❀

V.C. Summer Units 2 and 3 Highlights Nuclear Science Week at Annual Golf Tournament

Submitted by: **Wendy Hurd**, Human Resources Generalist, V. C. Summer Units 2 and 3, Region II

V.C. Summer's chapter of U.S. WIN held the sixth annual golf tournament supporting the Children's Miracle Network and the Palmetto Children's hospital in Columbia, South Carolina on Friday, Oct. 21, 2016 at the Cobblestone Park Golf Club in Blythewood, South Carolina.

The event brought in 148 golfers from the project, including vendors and subcontractors. The chapter leveraged the event to highlight Nuclear Science Week and encouraged golfers pose for pictures while holding up fun nuclear energy facts. The theme for the tournament was "Go for the Green. Support Nuclear Energy."

The event was a success for V.C. Summer, the chapter and the Children's Miracle Network, which was presented with a \$52,800 donation. ✨



Maria Korsnick Named Nuclear Energy Institute President and CEO

Submitted by: **Jennifer Maloney**, Senior External Communications Specialist, Nuclear Energy Institute, Region I

On Oct. 4, the Nuclear Energy Institute's (NEI) executive committee elected Maria Korsnick to succeed Marvin Fertel as president and chief executive officer upon his upcoming retirement after nine years leading the industry's policy organization. Fertel will retire Dec. 31.

"I am looking forward to helping the nuclear industry get the recognition it deserves. Nuclear should be valued as critical infrastructure for our country. It brings us excellent jobs, fuel diversity and clean air—doesn't get better than that!" Korsnick said. "In my view, nuclear is the unsung hero."



Korsnick has been a member of U.S. Women in Nuclear since 2004. She has spoken at the national conference and mentored Catherine Homyk, an intern from Cornell University who subsequently was hired at Calvert Cliffs.

"Maria is highly regarded for her strong leadership skills and exceptional technical expertise. She will drive the organization's effectiveness in a challenging and exciting time. Nuclear energy has a vital role to play in our nation's energy future as a reliable producer of carbon-free electricity to improve human health and raise living standards around the globe," Don Brandt, NEI's chairman of the board and the chairman, president and CEO of Pinnacle West Capital Corp., said.

Korsnick—a 30-year industry veteran—has since May 2015 ably served as NEI's chief operating officer while a loaned executive from Exelon Generation and Constellation Energy Nuclear Group. In that position, she guides NEI's day-to-day operations and represents the industry before the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, the Obama administration, Congress, state lawmakers, international nuclear professionals, think tanks and policymakers. ✨

Bridging the Acres between Byron and Quad Cities Stations

Submitted by: **LuEllen Lee**, Senior Financial Analyst, Quad Cities, Exelon Generation, Region III

On Friday, September 9, the Exelon Quad Cities chapter hosted “Bridging the Acres Between Byron and Quad Cities Stations,” a professional development, networking, and team building day with the Exelon Byron chapter. The Myers Briggs Personality Assessment given and discussion of the results was one of the Professional Development sessions, presented by Exelon Management Development Specialist, Loretta Thirtyacre. A session on preparing a resume and interview skills, as well as the “do’s and don’ts,” was presented by Heather Daniels, Exelon HR Generalist.



Women from Exelon Quad Cities and Exelon Byron Stations enjoyed a Professional Development and Networking Day.

An outside vendor offered some great team building opportunities, titled “Friday Night in the Emergency Room,” which tied in the professional development and team working day together. The event was attended by 41 women whom shared lots of laughter and networking between the two sites. ✨

Savannah River Site’s “Nuke Cancer 1 Cell at a Time” T-Shirt Wins Big at Local Miracle Mile Walk

Submitted by: **Lindsey MonBarren**, Communications Chair, SRS-WIN Supervisory Board, Corporate Communications, Savannah River Nuclear Solutions, LLC, Region II

Members of the Savannah River Site chapter laced up their tennis shoes, threw on their contest-winning t-shirts and hit the road during the annual Miracle Mile Walk hosted by University Hospital. Each year, teams of walkers are encouraged to design their own shirts and to submit them to the t-shirt contest. There were 15 entries this year. The winning design, printed on pink shirts, said “Nuke Cancer 1 Cell at a Time.”

“It was great to be a part of this experience and humbling to win the t-shirt design,” said Shanteka Glover, chapter outreach chair. “Not only were we giving back to the community, we were helping to educate others that nuclear medicine plays a big part in medical imaging. This includes a type of follow-up mammogram if an abnormality is seen during an annual mammogram. Nuclear is important and we are excited to help spread that word to our community.”

“This was the 16th annual Miracle Mile Walk, and we are always glad to have organizations like the Savannah River Site show up to support our cause,” said Bryn Towner, Development Officer and Event Coordinator, University Health Care Foundation. “All the proceeds from the walk go to benefit the University Hospital Breast Health Center and the Mobile Mammography Unit. Because of the generosity of our community, we make sure that no woman ever gets turned away from screening or treatment because of their inability to pay.”

Twenty-five chapter members joined the more than 15,000 people who participated in the walk. The event raised more than \$300,000 for University Hospital patients. ✨



Region I Workshop - Innovate, Educate and Motivate

Submitted by: **Jules Fiorita**, Records Management and Document Control Technical Clerk, R.E. Ginna, Exelon Generation, Region I

In August, Ginna Nuclear Power Plant hosted the Region 1 Workshop. About 75 members attended from Exelon, Entergy, Westinghouse, RPI, and American Crane. The event kicked off with an informative tour of Ginna. Following the tour, a welcome reception featuring a 1920s speakeasy theme created a great networking opportunity for professionals with diverse roles in nuclear.

The following day, Ginna Site Vice President Joe Pacher kicked off the workshop with a warm welcome and an overview of the Nuclear Industry. NEI's Maria Korsnick spoke on the Nuclear Promise. Exelon's Joan Knight spoke about Innovation and Elisabet Rodriquez Dennehy keyed in on personal career development. Before lunch each table competed in a group activity in which a tower had to be created with materials given to them. Each group had to work together and make quick unified decisions as the timed activity changed directions and instructions throughout the competition.

Those attending the workshop brought along business clothing, shoes and accessories to donate to Dress for Success, a local non-profit that helps disadvantaged women obtain professional mentoring, guidance and clothing for their career path. Ginna was able to deliver two car loads full of donations due to the generosity of all the chapters. ✨



TVA Conference Helps Build Winning Teams

Submitted by: **Wendy Hurd**, Human Resources Generalist, V. C. Summer Units 2 and 3, Region II

The year is 2035 and a terrible virus has decimated the population. It is up to a small team of women in nuclear professionals to find the vaccine. Another group has to follow clues to carry out an uncle's mysterious last will, while a third group has to break out of a maximum security prison. The groups have only one hour to achieve their missions.

These challenging teambuilding exercises marked the beginning of the TVA Chapter's Annual Conference held last week at various Chattanooga venues. This year's conference theme was "Building a WINning Team," and the group activity at Chattanooga's Escape Experience set the tone. "The Escape Experience required us to collectively use all of our TVA values and competencies, particularly Driving for Results, Leveraging Diversity of ideas, Adaptability, Effective Communication, Leadership Courage and Vision, Innovation and Strategic Execution," said Chapter



Chapter members gearing up to find the vaccine that will save the world. Pictured from left to right Victoria Dennis, Beth Wetzel, Cassandra Jackson, Jill Hegland and Todd Hegland.

Chair Victoria Dennis. "It was the perfect start to a conference designed to strengthen team building skills as we support TVA nuclear's mission of achieving top industry performance."

Vice President Corporate Engineering Steve Douglas opened the speaking portion of the conference with a discussion on the importance of proactive support of the U.S. WIN organization, because the organization continues to make strides in bringing more talent and diversity to the nuclear industry.

Guest speakers included Corporate Controller and Financial Business Partner Jennifer Bryant, who provided tips and guidance on presentation and communications skills and Financial Operations and Performance Program Manager Lyndsay Sneckenberger, who led breakout sessions for developing effective listening skills. Dr. Elaine Swafford, director, Chattanooga Girls Leadership Academy, who is leading a highly effective school turnaround process for Tennessee's first all-girls public charter STEM school, provided an inspiring discussion of the impact of effective change management. The conference ended with a public outreach panel discussion from representatives of Chambliss Center for Children, Girls, Inc. and Ronald McDonald House of Chattanooga.

"With the many outstanding speakers we had, and the highly effective teambuilding exercise we conducted, this year's conference was one of the best ever," said Vice Chair Kendra Ware. ✨



Member Janice Cruz networking with Vice President of Nuclear Engineering, Steve Douglas, before the conference started.



Members Kendra Ware and Tonya Taylor working on their listening skills.

Register Now for the 2017 Region II Conference

The Region II Conference, "Making History," will be held Feb. 7-9 at the Chattanooga Marriott Downtown. The event, hosted by Tennessee Valley Authority, will kick off with a networking event on Feb. 7 and continue on Feb. 8 with a full day of seminars. The event will end with a Mardi Gras themed river cruise aboard the historic Southern Bell with dinner and dancing. The conference will wrap up with three tour options on Feb. 9; Watts Bar Unit 2 plant tour, Central Monitoring tour, or Unconscious Bias Workshop at the Marriott.

Visit the U.S. WIN website at www.winus.org to register. If you have any questions, please contact Kendra Ware at ksware@tva.gov or call **423-751-6869**.

Southern Nuclear's Chapter Talks Innovation, Networks with UAB's Society of Women Engineers

Submitted by: **Katie Sheibley**, Engineer, Nuclear Development Environmental Affairs, Southern Nuclear, Region II

Innovation is a major part of Southern Nuclear's culture, and it's changing the way they do business. Joyce Solomon, Innovation and Technology project manager, recently spoke to members of the Southern Nuclear Chapter of U.S. WIN about the compelling ways Southern Nuclear is facilitating innovation and new technologies across the fleet to reduce cost, improve safety, maize operations and establish knowledge-sharing related with other industry leaders.

"It's nothing but joy learning about new technologies," says Solomon, who has served on the Innovation and Technology team since its establishment one year ago.



Solomon shared some of the newest innovation achievements by Southern Nuclear, which include the use of unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV) technology, or drones, to conduct structural inspections, and using robotics to measure dose rates and conduct thermal imaging. She also shared the work the Innovation and Technology team is doing to investigate use cases for technology like wearable augmented reality devices to carry out work activities in the plants and support knowledge retention across the fleet.

Solomon emphasized the importance of all employees engaging in innovation and technology-driven activities in order for the organization to achieve Southern Nuclear's mission of providing clean, safe, reliable and affordable energy for years to come.

After Solomon's presentation, chapter members had the opportunity to meet and network with two members of the University of Alabama's at Birmingham's (AUB) chapter of Society for Women Engineers (SWE), Emma Lathan, chapter president, and Helga Alexander, faculty advisor. U.S. WIN's relationship with AUB SWE is part of the organization's efforts to provide opportunities for women in nuclear to develop their capabilities and expand their careers. ✨

Nine Mile Point Chapter Completes First Professional Development Book Club Novel

Submitted by: **Barbara Waloven**, Administrative Specialist Secretary, Chemistry, Nine Mile Point, Exelon Generation, Region I

In May 2016, the Nine Mile Point Chapter began organizing their first professional development book club. The focus of selected books is on strong historical women and personal development. Approximately 5-6 weeks is allowed to complete each reading selection and there is one or two discussion meetings per book.

The first two books were preselected but future readings will be recommended and voted on by active club members. The first book was "The Girls of Atomic City: The Untold Story of the Women Who Helped Win World War," by Denise Kieman. The second book was "Lean In: Women, Work, and the Will to Lead" by Sheryl Sandberg.

The book club discussion meeting for "The Girls of Atomic City" helped participants grow personally and professionally through interactive dialogues. It tied in key ideas from the book with key principles of the site and the nuclear industry as a whole. The relaxed atmosphere allowed everyone to freely express their thoughts.

Additional development opportunities will be provided to members who want to focus on their presentation, public speaking, and writing skills by leading a future book club discussion and/or writing a short site communication article. If they suggest a book that is voted to be read, they have first option to lead the discussion(s) and provide communication write-up. ✨

Networking to Support Parents in the Nuclear Industry

Written by: **Christine DeSantis**, Engineer 3, Three Mile Island, Exelon Generation, Region I

While perusing Facebook one day, Christine DeSantis came across an article about a “Mother Baby Friendly Workplace” at Diablo Canyon. The article was written by a group called Mother’s for Nuclear. This spawned a discussion with new moms, moms-to-be, and experienced moms at Three Mile Island on what we could do to improve the mother’s rooms on site. At the next chapter meeting, Work Week Manager Karyn Ford suggested expanding the group to dads as well, which is how Parents in Nuclear (PIN) was started at Three Mile Island.

The mission is to be a networking group to support parents working in the nuclear industry in order to create an inclusive work environment that supports and retains working parents. We will support public awareness and outreach efforts and be a forum for a variety of parental related topics such as balancing work and family life, car seat safety, first aid/CPR, managing an outage schedule, and any other topics parents want to bring to the table.

Although PIN is just starting, the first few meetings have been attended by both moms and dads, and is holding meetings monthly. The plant manager, Tom Haaf has volunteered to be the group sponsor.

PIN has been successful, and with the support of the TMI chapter of U.S. Women in Nuclear, has offered a session of required SOER 10-2 training at a later start time to accommodate working parents who have to handle daycare drop-off or school drop-off before coming into training. The session was widely attended with positive feedback. Additionally, upgrades to our Mother’s Rooms are in progress and much appreciated by the moms using them. ✿



A recently upgraded mothers room at TMI.

**Save
the
Date**

**2017 U.S. WIN National
Conference
Hilton San Francisco
July 23-26**

Three Mile Island Hosts Community Night

Submitted by: **Dawne Veet**, Administrative Coordinator, Three Mile Island, Exelon Corporation, Region I

“Greetings and welcome to Three Mile Island’s (TMI) annual Community Night,” says Dawne Veet. “In the early 1980’s, the nuclear power industry made some changes to their processes and procedures, can anyone tell me why?” A community member answers with 1979 accident, which was the correct answer.

“Does anyone know what some of those changes were? You’re in the building that represents some of the most noticeable changes, the training center and the control room simulator. How many of you have continuing education hours to do for your job and how many hours are required per year? Well our nuclear reactor operators complete somewhere between 160 and 200 hours each year, with almost half of that time in the simulator practicing manipulations.” And so begins one of the many tours of the control room simulator on community night.

Forty plus employees hosted more than 400 community members and media for several hours of shared information, refreshments, bus tours and time in the simulator. The main hub of activity is the largest classroom which was setup to allow people to spend time talking to the NRC, Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency (PEMA), reactor engineers, chemistry, human resources, radiological protection, operations, and security.

The TMI Chapter sponsored a wheel of prizes, that featured sunglasses, activity books, and other prizes awarded to those that correctly answered five questions on green energy and nuclear power (clues were scattered around the room). TMI’s Fire Chief and staff coached people as they practiced the correct techniques for putting out a small fire using our simulation equipment. Security made picture badges for kids and parents to take along. Radiation detecting instruments were explained and demonstrated using objects such as Fiesta Ware from early twentieth century whose glaze contained uranium oxide.

The bus tours were provided by volunteers from the TMI Natural Resource and U.S. WIN Chapter. As the TMI Communications Directors says, “TMI community night is fun and educational, all at the same time.” ✨



Tracy Arnold, TMI Chapter Co-Chair and Mary Root, Business Ops Analyst, host the TMI Chapter table.

Professional Development (PD) Corner

Submitted by: **Aimee M. Abernathy**, SPHR, SHRM-SCP, HRIS Analyst IV, Human Resources Technology, AREVA Inc., Region II

Did you miss the U.S. WIN Professional Development 2016 Webinar series? You can still catch them in the professional development library on the U.S. WIN website. The three part webinar series entitled, “Thinking Courageously: Developing Leaders to Successfully Navigate Change,” was presented by Linda Lindquist, Bishop of Courageous Thinking Inc. and Rising Tide Leadership Institute. Topics included:

- Perspective: How seeking clarity builds trust-based environments, where conflict is the access to improvement;
- Internal Dialogue – Friend or Foe? What & how we think affects... Everything!; and
- Pursuing our Best Selves: The Holy Grail of Leadership and Our Greatest Gift to the World

The presentations and/or taped sessions are available under “Events in a Box” in the professional development library on the U.S. WIN website. You are encouraged to review them alone or with your chapter.

Don’t forget to provide your professional development contact to the professional development subcommittee by emailing ProfDvmt@winus.org to make sure your chapter receives the most up to date information on U.S. WIN professional development opportunities.” ✨

Share What Works!

Written by: **Jill Donaldson**, Engineer and WIN Outreach Chair, Bettis Laboratory - BMPC, Region I

The outreach library will continue to undergo changes to improve the look and the usefulness. U.S. WIN wants you to have the tools to fulfill your Nuclear Promise. In order to do that, we need content and suggestions. If you have materials that have been successful at your chapter, please share them. Submittals might include:

- PowerPoint presentations shared with students about your facility, STEM careers or nuclear science;
- Handouts developed to inform your community (even if this is specific to your facility, it could be a good template for others to use);
- An activity that you used at a booth, teaching STEM content;
- A homeschool unit that was successful in teaching nuclear concepts;
- A presentation that you attended (pursue that presenter and ask to share it!); or
- A meeting plan that you used for a successful community meeting.

We need to share our resources to become more effective nuclear advocates. Please help!

Meanwhile, check out the great professional development library and let us know what aspects should be carried to the new outreach library model. Just log in on winus.org and use the Member Resources tab to visit the professional development library and the outreach library.

Submitting is easy, simply email CommComm@winus.org. You will receive a one page release form in the reply acknowledgment. Fill it out and send it back – and that's it! You've done something to help others use your successful tools!

And remember, membership in U.S. Women in Nuclear is free. If you don't have an account you can sign up at www.winus.org/Join-Us! Encourage your friends and co-workers to join and become nuclear advocates with you. ✨

U.S. WIN is Social, Join Us

Social Media Statistics



Facebook Likes –2,576



Twitter Followers – 5,410



LinkedIn - 1,576



WHAT IS U.S. WOMEN IN NUCLEAR?

- U.S. Women in Nuclear (U.S. WIN) is the premier network of nearly 8,000 women and men who work in nuclear– and radiation–related fields around the country.
- U.S. WIN members participate in networking, professional development and outreach activities through local chapters, regional organizations, and the national organization. Local chapters are organized based on company, university/college, or geographic region.
- In addition, U.S. WIN is an affiliate of the Women in Nuclear Global organization (WiN-Global). The WiN-Global organization is made up of thousands of members in more than 100 countries.

Follow U.S. WIN On Twitter!

Follow **@WomenInNuclear** to keep up with U.S. WIN happenings.

We welcome your suggestions and comments by direct message on Twitter.

SUBMIT YOUR STORY TODAY

We want to know what your U.S. WIN Chapter is doing to support an environment in nuclear energy and technologies, provide a network for professional development or provide public education opportunities. This is how you can contribute:

1. COMPOSE YOUR STORY.

Brag about a great event you put on recently, tell us about something important happening at your facility, or highlight a personal achievement of a member of your chapter. You can type it in a word processor document, or even just put it in the body of an email. Make sure to include your name, plant and company, region, daytime phone number and email address.

2. ADD PHOTOS.

They say a picture is worth a thousand words so be sure to add a photo! Photos make your story pop and add that personal touch. Make sure that you follow the guidelines – get permission from everyone in the photo before you submit it. You can find a copy of the release form at the U.S. WIN website..

3. SUBMIT YOUR STORY.

Email your story and photos to **CommComm@winus.org**.

For a complete set of submission guidelines, go to **www.winus.org**, click on Member Resources, select Publication Materials, then U.S. WIN Newsletter Submission Guidelines.