



An Update on U.S. WIN Activities

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Diablo Canyon Chapter Member Heather Tarango Appointed to Central Coast STEM Board

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

In December, the Central Coast Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (CCSTEM) Collaborative announced the 2014-2016 Governing Board members. One of the newly elected board members, who also serves on the board for the Diablo Canyon Chapter of U.S. WIN, is Heather Tarango. Heather has worked for PG&E's Diablo Canyon Power Plant for more than eight years and holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Nuclear Engineering from Missouri's University of Science and Technology.

"CCSTEM and the Endeavour Institute have allowed me an opportunity to interact with both teachers and students. I have been an advocate for STEM seeing the need to get children especially girls interested at an early age," said Heather.

CCSTEM is the seventh regional alliance within the California STEM Learning Network, focused on advancing a set of statewide initiatives that scale high quality STEM teaching and learning across regions and throughout the state. ✂

Windsor Chapter Hosts Trivia for Children's Benefit Event

Submitted by: **Sherilyn Tkacz**, Community Service Chair, Westinghouse – Windsor, Region III

On a Saturday in October, the Windsor, CT chapter sponsored a trivia night to raise money for *Covenant to Care for Children* and expose the community to the local U.S. WIN chapter. *Covenant to Care for Children* provides direct assistance to Connecticut's children who are neglected, abused, and/or impoverished. Their programs include delivering staples and fresh food to families, as well as collecting and delivering donations of emergency and



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Duke Energy Central Chapter Selected as "Most Reactive" During Nuclear Science Week (NSW)

The Duke Energy Central Chapter has been selected by the U.S. WIN NSW Committee as the winner of the NSW contest. As the winner, the chapter has can claim free U.S. WIN Wear merchandise to sport at their next outreach event.

U.S. WIN would like to thank all the chapters who helped promote nuclear science during NSW. Remember, NSW 2015 begins Oct. 19.

non-emergency goods to foster safe and nurturing home environments for children. First Church of Windsor generously donated the event space, allowing the chapter to raise money for the charity and serve as a platform to share who U.S. WIN is.

Decorations, baked goods, and the game itself were hand-made. Group donations and solicitations of local businesses generated a dozen gift baskets and door prizes. A web-based registration page was created to allow participants to easily sign up for the event. The chapter president, Jessica Tatarczuk, emceed the evening to great

success. One hundred guests formed nearly a dozen teams. Teams answered 60 questions in multiple categories.

At the end of the night, more than 100 people had been educated on nuclear and the Windsor chapter handed *Covenant to Care for Children* more than \$1,500 that will directly benefit Connecticut's children. This collaborative event showed that hard work and teamwork are a powerful combination. The chapter is already looking forward to next year. ✨

Cook Nuclear Plant Supports Village Adventist Elementary School Technology Program

Submitted by: **Irene Weaver**, Training Instructor, Indiana/Michigan Power Company's D.C. Cook Station, Region III

Mr. Aaron Koleda, Village Adventist Elementary School Technology Director, has a vision for computer science education. His passion is evident as he works with students to generate excitement and motivation to learn science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM subjects). Mr. Koleda recently set up an Adopt-A-Classroom website to reach out to the community for support of Computer Science Education Week, which was held Dec. 8-12. His dream was to participate in the national effort for students to learn basic programming skills.

Cook Nuclear Plant employees, and U.S. WIN members, Danielle Burgoyne and Irene Weaver, were searching for a community outreach program, and came across Mr. Koleda's website. Danielle and Irene had been selling candy at the plant to raise funds to promote STEM when they discovered the site. Following discussions with Mr. Koleda, the two opted to present "Sphero Robots," which are programmable balls created by Orbotix, to local students. "Their response was amazing as they cheered and shouted," said Irene.

Mr. Koleda used these robots to teach programming to students grades K-8 during Computer Science Education Week. The event spans across 150 countries, millions of people and students, some who will try out computer programming for the first time.

In addition to their presentation, Danielle and Irene announced that Cook Nuclear purchased a 3D printer for the technology program. Wendy Baldwin, Principal at Village Adventist Elementary School, offered her thanks and praise to Danielle, Irene, the Cook Chapter of U.S. WIN and the Cook Nuclear facility. ✨



2015 WINning Edge Publication Schedule

Look for future editions of The WINning Edge targeted for these dates:

- **May 1**
- **Aug. 31 (Conference edition!)**
- **Nov. 30 (Nuclear Science Week articles!)**

Remember to submit your stories to commcomm@winus.org on or before the 15th of the month prior to publication.

Three Mile Island (TMI) Chapter Presented Introduction to Nuclear Power to 500 High School Students

Submitted by: **Tammy Hanlon**, TSenior Chemist, Exelon Generation Company's Three Mile Island Facility, Region I

The TMI Chapter of U.S. WIN teamed up with members of the TMI Diversity Council to provide eight presentations on nuclear power, the TMI facility and nuclear chemistry to more than 500 Cumberland Valley High School students and teachers in January. The presentation was associated with the completion of curriculum surrounding energy and nuclear power last December. The presentation and question and answer period gave the students a better understanding of all the systems involved in producing energy at a nuclear power plant.

An Introduction to Nuclear Power and Chemistry was presented by Toren Hall, a Program Engineer and Tammy Hanlon, an Instrument Chemist, to all science classes each class period. The presentation covered several aspects of nuclear power including the fission process, how fuel pellets are manufactured, the difference between boiling water reactors (BWR) and pressurized water reactors (PWR) and their main systems, TMI facts and PWR reactor coolant chemistry. A model of a Uranium 235 nucleus was utilized for the fission demonstration.

The Cumberland Valley students and teachers were engaged and asked several questions during and after each presentation. Some of the main questions asked were:

1. What happened to TMI Unit 2?
2. Why can't TMI Unit 2 be cleaned up and used again?
3. Could the reactor blow up?
4. What happens in 2034 when TMI's current license expires?

Overall, the students found the presentation interesting and enjoyed learning about how nuclear power plants work and the history of TMI. Teachers also reported enjoying the presentation and requested a tour of the facility. ✨



Region II Workshop at Watts Bar Nuclear Power Station

Submitted by: **Juliann Edwards**, Chair, Charlotte CB&I Chapter, Region II

In January the Charlotte CB&I Chapter sent three representatives to attend the Region II Workshop held at Tennessee Valley Authority's (TVA) Watts Bar Nuclear Power Station. The workshop, which was hosted by TVA, resulted in more than 50 women and men coming together to gain professional development and networking opportunities from others region members such as Oak Ridge National Lab, Aecom, Duke Energy and others. TVA had nine speakers present on topics such as flex modifications, challenges of new construction and creating realistic and ambition career goals.

Senior management from TVA invested their time and energy into this event. Attendees reported feeling "fortunate" to hear from Site Vice President, Mike Skaggs and Plant Manager of Watts Bar 2, Sean Conners. ✨



WIN members Left to Right Tiffani Teachey and Crystal Murphy

Peach Bottom Chapter Learns About the Beginning of U.S. WIN

Submitted by: **Michelle Martelli**, Exelon Nuclear's Peach Bottom Atomic Power Station, Region I

In February, Peach Bottom Atomic Power Station's chapter held their first monthly meeting with a focus on "Women in Nuclear: From the beginning." Keynote speakers Roberta "Robbie" Kankus, the first woman to hold a Senior Reactor Operator's license while working at Peach Bottom Atomic Power Station in 1976 and U.S. WIN founding member, along with Dawn Birmingham, Peach Bottom Atomic Power Station's Outage Scheduler, gave a presentation on "The Evolution of Women in Science and Engineering." The presentation included a brief history of the important scientific and technical role women have played throughout the industry's history and how U.S. WIN was first formed. Roberta discussed the networking experience from the first WIN-Global annual meeting she attended in Washington, DC May 1999. Dawn included first-hand stories of the way it was when she started at Peach Bottom Atomic Power Station in Radiation Protection in the 1982.



Photo: Roberta Kankus, the first woman to hold a Senior Reactor Operator's license, gives a presentation about "The Evolution of Women in Science and Engineering" at Peach Bottom Atomic Power Station.

This "Lunch and Learn" session was a great introduction to March, which happens to be Women's History Month with a theme of "Weaving the Stories of Women's Lives." The Peach Bottom Chapter enjoyed hearing about how U.S. WIN began and listening to stories about what the industry was like and how far women have come and how much more there is yet to do. ✨

U.S. WIN is Social

Written by: **Kara Lukehart**, Administrative Assistant, AECOM and Social Media Lead, U.S. WIN Communications Committee



Following the 2013 National Conference, U.S. WIN kicked off a new social media campaign on Twitter. Since that time, we have doubled our followers and have grown from 1,500 to more than 3,200. We now have a consistent presence, including original messages, interesting re-tweets, and frequent lunch quizzes. Fun fact: 63 percent of our followers are men. We'd love to better serve our members, so please follow @WomenInNuclear to keep up with us and let us know what you want. Your interactions will go a long way to spread the good news about nuclear.



U.S. WIN has a group on LinkedIn! Our group is perfect for sharing news and subject matter that "speaks to you" and that you want others to see and respond.

- 1) Join the group! Visit LinkedIn and search for "U.S. Women in Nuclear"
- 2) Participate!



Is Facebook more your thing? Check out U.S. WIN on Facebook for articles, videos and U.S. WIN milestones! Join more than 1,000 of your fellow WINners on this platform.

We welcome your suggestions and comments either by direct message or by email to CommComm@winus.org. Have a passion for Social Media? Contact CommComm@winus.org to see how you can help. ✨

Professional Development (PD) Corner: PD's Past, Present and Future

Submitted by: **Amanda E. Card**, Chemical Engineer at MPR Associates, Inc. and PD Committee Member

The PD Committee is pleased to launch the first in a series of PD Corner articles that will highlight the PD Committee's past, present, and future.

Look for future PD Corner articles that will feature a new professional development opportunity you can implement in your chapter.

PAST

The PD Committee hosted the U.S. WIN Fall Professional Development Webinar, "Strategic Approach to Goal Setting" on November 5, 2014. The presenters included Kelly Robinson, Manager of Training at Entergy, and Karen McConlogue, Senior Instructor at Entergy. Kelly and Karen hit on a number of important aspects regarding strategic goal setting. The importance of emotional intelligence in managing our goals and the value of developing SMART goals that stick were emphasized. Specific talking points included:

- The five categories in emotional intelligence are: Self-Perception, Self-Expression, Interpersonal, Decision Making, and Stress Management. Presenters explained that knowing yourself, accepting yourself, and devoting yourself to improvement and happiness will help you to successfully complete your goals.
- SMART goals are Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Relevant, and Time-Bound. Presenters explained that writing down goals, developing a habitual daily routine, and avoiding "dream squashers" will also help you to achieve strategic goals.

Thank you again to Kelly and Karen for their participation and words of wisdom. Webinar material is available on the U.S. WIN website.

PRESENT

The PD Committee is happy to report that the PD Library on the U.S. WIN website is continuously being updated and revised as new information is received. The PD Committee has made significant progress in the last quarter. More than 40 event descriptions have been submitted and posted to the site.

The continued success of the PD Library relies on the participation of all U.S. WIN members. The more information available on the website the better. Sharing PD event titles and contact information is helpful. However, providing detailed PD event descriptions, lessons learned, and event materials (e.g., presentations, handouts, website links) adds significantly more value.

The best way to ensure that successful PD events are documented and shared is to follow the PD Library Guidelines and complete the PD Library Event Template. Both documents are located on the U.S. WIN website, <http://www.winus.org/Member-Resources/Publication-Materials/>.

In other news, the PD Committee would like to thank former chair Susan Miller and welcome our new chair Peggy Lucky and our new co-chair Julie Atento.

FUTURE (COMING SOON)

The PD Committee is in the process of planning the U.S. WIN Spring Professional Development Webinar and the PD Event at the 2015 U.S. WIN National Conference in Austin, TX. Be on the lookout for webinar invitations to be sent via email in the upcoming quarter and be sure to mark the conference on your calendars, July 13-15. ✨

Girl Scouts Get to Know Nuclear and U.S. WIN

Submitted by: **Susan Korn**, Director of Strategic Projects for Exelon Generation, Region III

For the second year in a row, the Cantera Chapter hosted local Girl Scout troops for a day of learning. The difference this year is that for the first time, we were able to offer the inaugural "Girl Scouts Get to Know Nuclear" badge which was developed by the American Nuclear Society. More than 30, fourth and fifth grade Girl Scouts and their troop leaders attended this half day event where they learned about such concepts as the basics of nuclear science, the parts of an atom, half-life, fission vs. fusion, radiation and radioactivity, and nuclear technology.

The badge activities were interactive and hands-on. The girls learned about fission reactions by using balloons and starting a chain reaction. Dressing up in radiation protection suits, gloves, boots, safety glasses and hard hats was a lot of fun for the girls as they tried to get all of the gear on without falling over. Colored marshmallows were used to represent the parts of an atom and learn about atomic weights and mass. The girls learned that radioactivity was all around them and calculated their annual dose, observed a cloud chamber, and used Geiger counters to test common radioactive materials which are found in household objects. Silvia Morse-Henton, with the Emergency Preparedness Group, gave the group a tour of the Cantera Emergency Operations Facility (EOF). At the end of the day,

the girls went home with activity books ("The Atoms Facility" and "Gabby Green") and fun memories of the event.

Most importantly, the girls learned about the different types of careers that are available in the nuclear field and were able to talk to and ask questions of the Exelon Chapter volunteers. "Watching the volunteers share their passion for nuclear science with the Girl Scouts was amazing, they made a very positive impact and it was great to see the girls get excited about what they were learning and all of the questions they asked," said Jennifer Gould, Exelon Senior Environmental Specialist and Girl Scout Troop Leader.

The Girl Scout organization focuses on developing young women as leaders and encourages involvement in STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math) activities. At the event, the girls were able to interact with chapter members and volunteers from engineering, fuels, operations, accounting, environmental, project management, emergency preparedness and licensing. The girls had a lot of fun with the day's activities, but more important was seeing that women can be leaders in a variety of fields in the nuclear power industry. ✨



Photo: Girl Scouts learned about the different careers available in nuclear by dressing up in radiation protection clothing.



Photo: Using balloons, the troop learns about reactor criticality.

Nominations for the Patricia Bryant Leadership (PBLA) Award Due March 17

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

Named after Patricia Bryant, a founder of the Women in Nuclear Global and U.S. WIN organizations, this award recognizes U.S. WIN members who have made significant contributions and demonstrated leadership in the three core values of U.S. WIN. These values are:

- To support an environment in nuclear energy and nuclear technologies in which both women and men are able to succeed.
- To provide a network through which the women in these fields can further their professional development.
- To provide an organized association through which the public is informed about nuclear energy and nuclear technologies.

The deadline to honor your favorite U.S. WIN member and submit a nomination is March 17. Visit www.winus.org for more information or to download the nomination form. ✨

INPO Chapter Second Annual Women in Leadership Conference a Success

Written by: **Caitlin Murphy**, Chair, INPO Chapter Activities and Community Outreach Committee and Sue Freeman, Chair, INPO Chapter Communications Committee, Region II

The INPO Chapter hosted 100 women and men at its second annual Women in Leadership Conference in January at the Marietta Conference Center. The conference supported the INPO charter elements of becoming the industry model, exemplifying leadership skills, and creating a culture of unity. This year's theme, One INPO, was bolstered by various speakers discussing current topics in leadership, diversity and change management as well as a networking opportunity over lunch.

INPO's Chief Executive Officer Bob Willard welcomed everyone, and started the day sharing his experience and perspective on the positive impact of women leaders during his military career. Afterward, INPO panel members shared their experiences of the impact of sponsorship and mentorship to their careers.

Authentic leadership was discussed by Alison Collop, INPO's new director of Information Technology.

Participants took a brief questionnaire designed to measure authentic their leadership by assessing four components of the process: self-awareness, internalized moral perspective, balanced processing, and relational transparency. Collop led participants through self-exploration of owning personal experiences (thoughts, emotions, or beliefs, "the real me inside"), and acting in accord with those qualities.

Gail Evans, former executive vice president at CNN and author of "Play Like a Man, Win Like a Woman," spoke to attendees about gender dynamics and the importance of focusing on the critical mass in diversifying the workplace. Explaining that women tend to seek out their own path versus the advancement of the whole, Evans encouraged the audience to celebrate everyone's success because like it or not, we are all intrinsically connected.

Practical tips from Evans included engaging with speakers and leaning forward to ask questions and introduce yourself; changing how women describe themselves from assumed characteristics to desired leadership traits (i.e., from hardworking to strategic); and broadening our networks.

Another highlight of the conference was a discussion about diversity from former Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of Exelon Corporation, John Rowe. He reminded attendees that the importance of diversity has to be the outcome it produces, and in viewing our own opportunities and challenges, we must also seek to understand and appreciate the roadblocks and unmet expectations of those around us. Rowe's advice for attendees was to be proactive in seeking education and training, to be authentic in your behaviors and leadership, and to be aggressive in pursuing opportunities for advancement.



Photo: INPO Women in Leadership Conference.

Rowe added that being aggressive can take on many forms with an anecdote from his own career where he strategically educated himself on the board members, as well as their businesses, who would ultimately be choosing the new chief executive officer of Central Maine Power Company. His efforts to arrive in an unknown city ahead of time, drive to each person's place home or place of business, and relay that proactivity and information to the board helped propel him forward into an extensive and distinguished career in our industry.

Bonnie Bryant, currently on loan to INPO from NextEra Energy Seabrook station as a senior evaluator in plant operations, rounded out the day with a presentation on Change Management. She shared helpful insights from her experience in the industry as well as concepts from "Our Iceberg is Melting" by John Kotter, emphasizing the importance of assumptions in the change process and that acceptance of change does not always mean agreement.

Lisa Brattin, vice president of talent and culture and chapter executive sponsor at INPO, closed the very successful conference by encouraging all members to take the next steps acting on the self-improvements they identified during the conference, including seeking sponsorship and mentorship as needed. INPO is looking forward to the third annual Women in Leadership Conference in 2016. ✨

WHAT IS U.S. WOMEN IN NUCLEAR?

- U.S. Women in Nuclear (U.S. WIN) is the premier network of over 7,000 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 more than 25,000 members in 107 countries.

**For more information
visit us at winus.org**

SUBMIT YOUR STORY TODAY

We want to know what your U.S. Women in Nuclear (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.