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An Update on U.S. WIN Activities

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## Nuclear Science Week Captured

U.S. WIN Chapters from across the United States partnered with their communities to "Get to Know Nuclear" as part Nuclear Science Week 2015. Nuclear Science Week is a national, broadly observed week-long celebration to focus local, regional and national interest on all aspects of nuclear science. ✨



AREVA Charlotte teams up with the girls from Project Scientist for a taste of nuclear.



North Carolina State University hosted several activities including this sticker and t-shirt promotion booth.

Heather Matteson and Shilo Terek of the Diablo Canyon Chapter conduct a balloon fission experiment at the Santa Maria Valley Discovery Museum.



The Duke Chapter held a wide range of activities at five different sites beginning with a "kick-off" at a high school football game, family fun nights, a social media blitz, and viewings of Pandora's Promise to STEM groups at elementary, middle and high schools.



The Savannah River Chapter showcases "The Sweetness of Nuclear" at a STEM event held in conjunction with Nuclear Science Week.

## Lynchburg Chapter Hosts Nuclear Science Week Event

Submitted by: **Peggy Hobbs**, Director, Corporate Internal Communications, WIN AREVA Chapter President, AREVA Lynchburg, Region II

The AREVA chapter in Lynchburg, Va. observed Nuclear Science Week on Tuesday, Oct. 20, by hosting an event at Amazement Square, a local children's museum. Children ranging in age from six to 13 participated in activities and experiments involving chemical reactions, electricity and flight.

"One of the goals of U.S. WIN's outreach program is to provide children with activities associated with STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math)," said Tina Hansen, chair of the chapter's Public Outreach committee. "These activities provide fun and creative ways to learn about science and help reinforce the role science plays in our everyday lives."

AREVA's chapter has hosted other STEM outreach events, including a STEM Power Day for Girl Scouts. Members participate in a variety of activities including public outreach to share information about nuclear energy technologies. ✨



## Lunchtime Engineering Challenge

Submitted By: **Jessica Tatarczuk**, Westinghouse Electric Company - Windsor, Region I

Included in their weeklong celebration for Nuclear Science Week, the Westinghouse Windsor chapter of U.S. WIN organized a lunchtime engineering challenge. Employees in the office created teams of four and, without knowing what they would be asked to do, accepted the challenge. With team names like, "Outta'Sync," "98 Degrees Un-Rankine," and "Right Direction," how could it not be fun? Each team was given building supplies consisting of: two boxes of graham crackers, one tube of crackers, one jar of peanut butter, one jar of marshmallow fluff, two knives, and a plate. Teams were given 20 minutes to engineer the lightest house (defined as four walls, three stories, and a flat roof) that would support a 200g weight. After 20 minutes of building, teams took turns placing their structure on a scale. The structure was weighed and then the 200 grams were placed on the flat roof and had to sustain for one minute. The structure that had the lightest weight that could support the 200g was the winner. Fun was had by all and there was no shortage of creativity; members and spectators witnessed teams placing structures in freezers, filing down graham crackers, and reinforcing their structures with gussets. Winners proudly received trophies and eternal Nuclear Science Week 2015 bragging rights. ✨



## Southern Nuclear Company Chapter Hits the Road to Meet Nuclear's Future

Submitted by: Michelle Johnson Tims, Communications Coordinator, Southern Nuclear, Region II



*Cynthia Werneke, Southern Nuclear chapter member and shift support supervisor for Vogtle 3 and 4 construction, traveled to the University of Florida during Nuclear Science Week to meet with nuclear engineering students and discuss the future of the industry.*

On Oct. 21, Southern Nuclear's Corporate Chapter hosted a lunch and learn featuring Cynthia Werneke, shift support supervisor for Vogtle 3 and 4 construction, for nuclear engineering students at the University of Florida in observance of Nuclear Science Week (NSW).

Werneke took the time to travel to the university to educate the students on the benefits of clean, safe, affordable and reliable nuclear energy and raise awareness of the contributions, innovations and opportunities in nuclear science. She also offered a glimpse of Vogtle 3 and 4 construction and allowed them to ask questions about the historic project.

"I enjoyed meeting with the students and talking to them about the nuclear industry," said Werneke. "They were bright and engaged, and meeting such talented prospective engineers raises my excitement about the future of nuclear energy. We need to continue our efforts as WIN members to promote our business and raise awareness of our benefits."

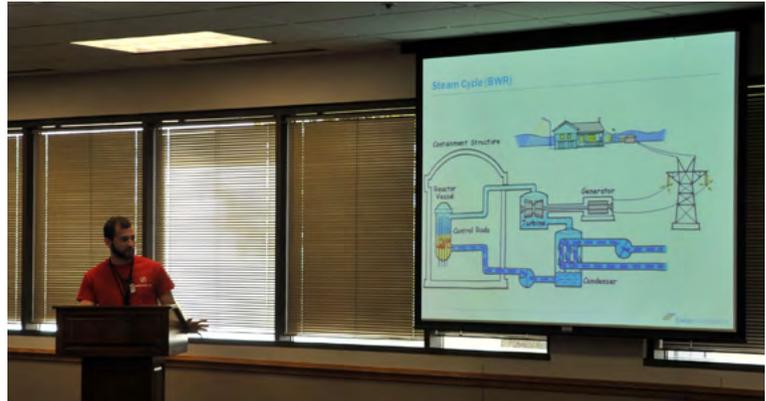
Southern Nuclear hosted many other events during NSW in the communities of Plants Farley, Hatch and Vogtle for secondary and higher education students and provided unique opportunities to learn about nuclear science from industry professionals.

Visit Southern Nuclear's website to learn more about the company. ✨

# LaSalle Station Nuclear 101 – Community Outreach

Written by: **Elizabeth Scott**, Exelon Generation's LaSalle County Generating Station, Region III

On Friday, October 30, the U.S. WIN chapter at LaSalle County Generating Station in Illinois hosted a program called Nuclear 101. Twelve teachers from local high schools and middle schools were invited to the station. The purpose of Nuclear 101 is to bring teachers on-site and teach them about the day-to-day operations, safety features, and principles of nuclear science used in the nuclear industry. The goal for Nuclear 101 is to prepare and inform the teachers how to educate their students on nuclear science principles and applications. Members, with help from NAYGN members, gave a presentation on fission, nuclear power plants, radiation, and nuclear history. In addition to the presentation, the teachers were given a plant and control room simulator tour; safety and nuclear principles were reinforced. Throughout the day, they were highly engaged and asked very pertinent and important questions.



An important part of the Nuclear 101 program is to demonstrate interactive activities and games for the teachers to use in their classrooms to teach nuclear science. Activities presented during Nuclear 101 covered topics such as isotope half-life, perception of risk, and environmental radiation versus radiation in nuclear power plants. Along with these activities, the new and emerging technology of the Polaris H3D camera was discussed, which demonstrates the nuclear industry's innovating way of thinking. Overall, the U.S. WIN members were very impressed with the interaction and questions that the teachers offered; not only were they curious about nuclear power themselves, but they truly wanted to know how to extend this information into their classrooms. This is the third year LaSalle Station has supported this event. The LaSalle WIN Chapter intends to support this program annually to promote community outreach and facilitate the teacher's knowledge so they can pass accurate information on to their students. ✨

## Two Events in One Day

Written by: **Jill Donaldson**, Engineer, Bechtel Marine Propulsion Corporation, Region I

The Bettis Chapter of U.S. Women in Nuclear decided to celebrate Nuclear Science Week 2015 with two outreach events in one day. On Friday, October 23, members and additional volunteers from the Bettis Laboratory visited North Allegheny Intermediate School, in Pittsburgh, PA, and later visited Girl Scouts in the Holy Angels Parish Hall in Hays, PA. The Bettis outreach model is a six unit plan with modules for radioactive decay (with M&M half-life charts), commercial nuclear power (with Girl Scouts "doing the work" in the secondary), reactor components (candy nuclear reactors), natural radiation (calculating your dose), occupational exposure (ALARA with Cheetos contamination) and nuclear medical applications (passing around rapid prototype examples and CAT scans). The modular nature of the program allows Bettis members to involve lots of new volunteers with each outreach event. Each volunteer leads one module.

Twelve Bettis Laboratory personnel were involved in the two events on October 23, and for six people it was their first outreach event with U.S. WIN.

The participants enjoyed learning about the concepts of nuclear power (with candy and Cheetos). The North Allegheny program ended with a career panel. The 24 high school students asked questions about college preparation for engineering and the work for different types of engineers. ✨



## Peach Bottom STEM Sisters Discovery Dinner

Written by: **Michelle Martelli**, System Engineer, Exelon's Peach Bottom Atomic Power, Region I

The Peach Bottom Chapter participated in an inaugural Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) dinner event at the North Museum in Lancaster, PA on October 19. This initiative targeted girls interested in studying nuclear energy and sustainability, medical science and technology. This evening of discovery was for professional women in the field, and undergraduates from local universities and young girls grades 6-12. Exelon sponsored two female scientists and a professional to the event. The evening included a tour of the newly renovated and reinvented Museum.

Exelon supports the North Museum Science and Engineering Fair (NMSEF), an annual event held at Franklin and Marshall College. The NMSEF event is scheduled for March 2016. The organizers of the event are recruiting science fair judges. It is a full day event. Announcements for science fair participants will follow early in 2016.

The picture is of Michelle Martelli, Peach Bottom WIN Site Lead (Engineering) and the young girl with her Emily Hobbs, daughter (Senior) of a Peach Bottom Employee who attended this event. The other picture is of Michelle Martelli at her table with the STEM sisters and the other STEM professionals. ✨



## Peach Bottom Chapter Concludes Third Annual Professional Development Book Club Series

Written by: **Michelle Martelli**, System Engineer, Exelon's Peach Bottom Atomic Power, Region I

In August, the Peach Bottom Chapter concluded their third annual professional development book club Series with an off-site team building event. Approximately 20 percent of the Peach Bottom members participated in the book club, which featured "The Success Principles: How to Get from Where You Are to Where You Want to Be," by Jack Canfield.

Each month, a professional development session was held, facilitated by a member. The sessions helped participants grow personally and professionally through interactive sessions. Each of these sessions tied in key principles from the book such as transforming yourself for success, building your success team, and creating successful relationships. Additional development opportunities are provided to members who want to focus on their presentation and public speaking skills.



The team building session continued building on the themes explored through the book and focused on "Success Starts Here." The importance of being able to communicate upwards in a short and distinct manner was covered as members learned the art of the elevator speech and worked on those skills in a relaxing, team environment. ✨

# Palacios High School Tours South Texas Project

Submitted by: **Catherine Gann**, Manager, Employee Concerns, South Texas Project, Region IV

In October, a group of Palacios High School (PHS) POWER SET students visited STP to tour the plant and learn about potential careers in the nuclear industry.

The STP Chapter began mentoring students from Palacios High School in 2008. The Chapter later teamed up with student members of POWER SET -- Powerful Opportunities for Women Eager and Ready for Science, Engineering, and Technology, which started at Palacios High School.

The purpose of POWER SET is to target female local high school students who show significant interest and aptitude in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM). It also encourages female students to explore professional opportunities in nuclear and STEM-related fields.



The mentoring program brings high school students together with professionals in an environment of support and empowerment. Mentors counsel and assist students in the process of preparing for educational and professional programs and opportunities. Currently, there are 17 professional women from the STP Chapter actively mentoring 28 POWER SET students.

The tour began with the group visiting the control room simulator where Stan Mason, SRO Licensed Operator, talked about the importance of following operating procedures to keep the plant safely working and to maintain a safe work environment.

Later, NRC Senior Resident Fred Sanchez and NRC Resident Nick Hernandez, spoke to the group about career opportunities with the federal agency. Sanchez also emphasized the importance and dangers of social media.

"Social media is a key player in the job search process today. Potential employers may research your social media accounts prior to an interview," said Sanchez. "Be cautious of what you post."

Finally, a driving tour of the reservoir was provided to the group along with chapter mentors. The mentors and tour guides who helped to make this event a success were Kathy Vandaalen, Joanna DeLeon, Stephanie Rodgers, Michelle Smith, Cathy Gann, Sheila Davis and Wendy Brost.

The organization is deeply aware of the critical need for a more diverse workforce in the areas of STEM, not only in Matagorda County but nationwide. It is making a positive influence in our local community to promote the increase of technically competent women to enter the nuclear workforce. ✨

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# Bechtel Forms New Chapter in Reston, Virginia

Submitted by: **Tammy Chang**, Control Systems Engineer, Bechtel Reston, Region III

When Bechtel reorganized and started relocating a majority of its workforce from Frederick, Maryland to its new location in Reston, Virginia, some of its professional organizations, including the Bechtel Frederick chapter of U.S. WIN, were put on hold. This is when some former Bechtel Frederick chapter Steering Committee members took the initiative and solicited fellow employees also relocating from the Frederick office to carry on the mission of U.S. WIN by forming a new Bechtel Reston Chapter. Over the summer, regular brainstorming meetings were held, which attracted both women and men to start the chapter and plan future events. Bechtel Reston members also co-sponsored a successful Speed Networking event in which employees of various backgrounds and experiences met and talked on a one-on-one basis. In September, Becky Carr and Tammy Chang had a teleconference with U.S. WIN's Carol Berrigan, who advised the standard practice and participation of local

chapters, and the Bechtel Reston Chapter was officially established.

The newly formed Bechtel Reston Chapter held a kick-off meeting in October, in which the chapter's Executive Sponsor, Greg Ashley, gave an informative presentation on nuclear power. A copy of "The Girls of Atomic City" by Denise Kiernan was the raffle prize of the meeting and will sure come in handy for an upcoming Book Discussion event planned for January 2016. Flyers highlighting the Roles and Responsibilities of Steering Committee members were distributed at the kick-off meeting. Attendees were encouraged to submit their intent to run. A Steering Committee candidate Meet and Greet Potluck was held in November to help members get to know the candidates prior to casting their votes. The Chapter looks forward to forming the new Chapter Steering Committee and participating in all the exciting events to come. ✨

## Byron Chapter “Turns the Plant Pink”

Submitted by: **Alyssa Barnett**, Exelon’s Byron Nuclear, Region III

In September, the Byron Chapter launched a Turn the Plant Pink Day event to promote education related to nuclear technologies including cancer research and treatment. In addition to creating an awareness of the role nuclear technology plays not only in the generation of power, but in many facets of our lives and medical needs. As part of the event, members sold pink wristbands, pink outage shirts, and pink cookies and ice cream, to raise awareness of nuclear technology.

More than \$5,000 was raised and donated to two local organizations:

- **KB Foundation:** The fund has been established to help those in our community burdened by a medical crisis. Funds go directly to the families.
- **Serenity House:** Serenity House serves hundreds of men and women each year in our extended residential, outpatient, intensive outpatient, DUI services and recovery home programs. These programs also provide a holistic approach that focuses on integrating men and women back into their surroundings as self-sufficient, productive members of their communities while improving the quality of life for their families. ✨



## Professional Development (PD) Corner: Events and Future Opportunities

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

### Past Events

The PD Committee hosted the “Radiation Safety Fundamentals: Knowledge and Communication Workshop” at the 2015 U.S. WIN National Conference in Austin, Texas on July 15, 2015. More than thirty members attended in the workshop. Continuing Education Credits were provided to all participants who completed the workshop. The PD Committee and workshop attendees agree that the workshop was extremely successful. The committee would like to thank the presenters, Jeffery Foster, Senior Evaluator/Radiological Protection, INPO, Cheryl Olson, Plant Manager, LaCrosse Boiling Water Reactor, and David Ropeik, Risk Communication Consultants, for their insights.

### Upcoming PD Events

Beginning in mid-November, the PD Committee will host a three part webinar series devoted to decision making starting. The objective of the webinar series is to expose members to the importance of trusting who you are, of maintaining and listening to your internal

dialogue, and of pursuing your best self. The webinar series will be hosted by Linda Lindquist-Bishop, Courageous Thinking. During the first webinar, which focused on “Perspective,” Linda explained the value of knowing who you and shared ways to gain a better perspective. Be on the lookout for future emails with the registration link from U.S. WIN.

### PD Committee Favorites Reminder

Still looking for a way to stay up to date with current events related to the nuclear industry as well as learning fundamentals of good management and leadership? The members of the PD Committee suggest subscribing to NEI SmartBrief. SmartBrief is an online publisher of business news and information. SmartBrief filters thousands of sources daily and delivers the news and information most relevant to your selected industry via email.

Subscription is free. Sign up using the link below:

[Sign up by clicking here.](#) ✨

## Three Mile Island Hosts Community Night

Written by: **Carolyn Flory-MaGatz**, Administrative Coordinator, TMI WIN Co-Chair, U.S. WIN Communications Committee Member, Three Mile Island Exelon Corporation, Region I

With turbines and generators, water and control rods and a radioactive core that generates heat as its atoms split nuclear power moves forward. Models of plant design, experts in the various systems and information explaining nuclear power was presented to the power plant geeks and other guests in attendance at Three Mile Island's (TMI), Community Information Night on Thursday in September at the nuclear plant's training center.

It was an evening of events for local Middletown and other surrounding communities as visitors started their night off with their first stop at the Welcome table. Opportunities to sign up for a bus tour around TMI Nuclear Power Station or a tour of the Control Room Simulator awaited them. As they moved onto the rooms of various displays, they received an environmental bag to collect all the nice give aways and literature to help educate them about Three Mile Island.

Numerous displays were presented that consisted of how electricity is created in a Clean, Safe, and Reliable manner, Worker Safety, Fuel assembly, Plant Process computer, Equipment reliability, Security enhancements and Miles (Multiple Integrated Laser Engagement System) equipment, Fire Protection Program for work and home, Environmental monitoring, Emergency Preparedness, Artifacts from the south end of TMI, Radiation Protection, Outage projects, Engineering, Nuclear Fission, Nuclear Careers, Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Bureau of Rad Protection, TMI Chapter of U.S. Women in Nuclear and North American Young Generation in Nuclear (NAYGN).

The TMI Chapter displayed a large photo board with bios of members and their nuclear careers. U.S. WIN literature and Employee Resource Groups (ERG's) brochures were made plentiful for visitors to take. The ERG brochure provides information on Exelon's commitment to Diversity and Inclusion (D&I). Co-Chairs of the TMI Chapter, NAYGN, Diversity Council and several TMI Exelon leadership members make up the organization of the Diversity & Inclusion Council.

The TMI Chapter chose the DIY "How to Make a Candy Reactor" for an activity for the visitors (mainly children), to enjoy. The activity was a candy based simulation of the core of a nuclear reactor.



- First you cut straws (fuel rods) into thirds and stick them into mini marshmallows.
- Then fill the straws (fuel rods) with nerds (fuel pellets)
- Place the straws filled with nerds (fuel rods) in a cup (RX vessel)
- Pour Sprite (moderator) in your cup (reactor vessel) & Reaction begins
- Insert Twizzlers (control rods) into the cup (RX vessel) to slow the Reaction

Other WIN members volunteered as Bus tour guides, badging (by making simulated badges for the children), dress out in PC's (Protected Clothing), and tour guides for the Control Room Simulator.

The night ended with 420 visitors that included employee's families. Approximately half of the attendees had the experience of seeing the power station from a bus tour and the other half experienced the simulator demonstrations.

Before the visitors exited, they completed feedback forms. Review of the feedback forms provided a lot of positive feedback on their experience of what they learned of nuclear power and how they feel more at ease with better understanding of how nuclear power works and benefits our society environmentally. ✨

**U.S. WIN is Social, Join Us**

Social Media Statistics

**Facebook Likes –1,709**

**Twitter Followers – 4,394**

**LinkedIn - 1,574**

## WHAT IS U.S. WOMEN IN NUCLEAR?

- U.S. Women in Nuclear (U.S. WIN) is the premier network of over 7,300 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 or by email to **CommComm@winus.org**. If you'd like to join the Twitter Team, please contact **Kara Lukehart** at **kara.lukehart@aecom.com** for more information.

## 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.