

# CNTA Begins a New Millennium



Welcome to the new (nuclear) Millennium! CNTA has been busy setting up shop, and helping with our SRS 50th Anniversary celebrations. Our goals for this year include: increasing our membership, including local businesses as well as more family memberships; creating a national alliance of pro-nuclear organizations; reorganizing the CNTA Speakers' Bureau; and celebrating the 50th Anniversary of the Savannah River Site. As always, we are providing factual and educational information to the media, public and government officials on nuclear technology and the benefits. In the future, we will publish quarterly newsletters, so be looking for us!

## CNTA Opens New Office

As most of you are aware, CNTA has been busy this year setting up it's new office in Aiken at 920 Houndslake Drive. It is staffed by J. Malvyn (Mal) McKibben, Executive Director, and Tina L. Frazier, Administrative Assistant. Some of you know Mal from SRS, where he worked for 45 years before taking this position. He was recently elected Fellow of the American Nuclear Society. We have worked hard to set up the office and get things rolling more efficiently. Come by and visit, we would love to see you.



CNTA office sign at 920 Houndslake Drive in Aiken

## Up and Atom

So far this year we have had four very successful Up and Atom breakfasts:

March 9, Emory Collins, ORNL—Radioisotopes Production and Use

April 19, Jim Lake, ANS President—The 4th Generation of Nuclear Power

May 11, Ambrose Schwallie, President, WGS—Who We Are and Where We Are Going

August 8, Denny Erickson, LANL—The Los Alamos Grand Cerro Fire: Lessons learned for SRS

The average attendance has been over one hundred. We are aware that the serving lines have moved slower than we would like and the audio/visual equipment needs to be improved. We are working to improve those and other deficiencies to make the breakfasts even more enjoyable.

It is likely that we will have at least one more Up and Atom Breakfast this year and we hope to have six next year. If you have ideas for speakers, subjects, or any ideas on how to improve these breakfasts, please let us know. We welcome your suggestions.

## Visit Us On the Web!

Our new website, located at [www.c-n-t-a.com](http://www.c-n-t-a.com) and still under construction, is being updated regularly. If you have any comments or suggestions, please contact us at 649-3456 or 800-299-CNTA or e-mail to [CNTA@mindspring.com](mailto:CNTA@mindspring.com).

## Truth Squad

There is a mountain of misinformation about SRS and nuclear energy, and the mountain keeps getting higher. Vice Chairman, Bill Reinig, has suggested a "truth squad". All members who come across incorrect or misleading information about SRS or nuclear energy, could respond to it or inform the CNTA office. CNTA will then look into correcting this information.



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### Special points of interest:

- CNTA has joined the Aiken Chamber of Commerce.
- 2000 Teller Lecture to be held November 28, 2000. Dr. Harold Agnew will be the featured speaker.
- A 50th Banquet will be held in conjunction with the Teller Lecture.
- Check out the 50th Anniversary events on the website at [www.srs50th.com](http://www.srs50th.com)

CNTA

AWARE!



# Chambers of Commerce Trip to Washington, D.C.

CNTA was represented by Mal McKibben on a 2-day trip to Washington, D.C., along with nearly 50 community leaders from around the CSRA. This is an annual event arranged by the Chambers of Commerce of Augusta, North Augusta and Aiken, representing five CSRA counties.

Meetings were held with our representatives, senators, DOE senior managers, the Corps of Engineers and the Secretary of the Army. Presentations were made to each of them about current concerns and issues. For SRS the presentation included several needs:

- Ensure adequate funding to support plutonium disposition missions, stabilization of other legacy nuclear materials and off-site spent fuel and waste.
- Stockpile stewardship, including future pit manufacturing capability.
- Environmental initiatives, including site cleanup disposition path for high-level waste.
- At site visitor's center
- An accelerator to produce medical radioisotopes, serve as a backup for tritium production, and do international research on neutronics and radiation effects.

We also told them of our 50th Anniversary celebration.

With David Michaels, DOE Under-Secretary of Energy for Environment and Health, we questioned the approach that would be used to select persons to be compensated for radiation injury.

## Issues

CNTA has been involved in several key issues over the past year. Three of these are mentioned briefly below.

### Plutonium Disposition

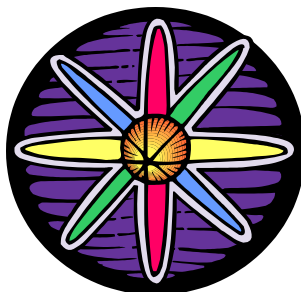
CNTA was a very active participant leading up to the selection of SRS as the site for all three projects for disposition of surplus weapons plutonium—Pit Disassembly and Conversion, Plutonium Immobilization and Mixed Oxide (MOX) Fuel Fabrication. Since that selection, we have continued to be active in assuring the public and public officials of their expected safety of operations. We have also provided testimony at DOE and NRC hearings.

### Yucca Mountain

CNTA and the Savannah River Section of the American Nuclear Society gave joint testimony at a public hearing in Atlanta on the viability of Yucca Mountain for disposal/storage of high-level wastes and spent nuclear fuel.

### DOE Initiative to Compensate Injured Workers

DOE recently announced an initiative to financially compensate workers or their surviving families who had been physically injured or killed because of excessive on-the-job exposure to excessive radiation doses or hazardous chemicals.



CNTA fully supports compensating injured workers, but we expressed concern to DOE and our legislators that the wording of the DOE announcement suggested that they may be planning to compensate workers who receive radiation doses within DOE guidelines. We feel strongly that this would not be technically justified and would create a very bad precedent. This issue is not settled. The Senate passed the bill (but strangely excluded injuries from chemical exposures), but the House has not passed it.

## CNTA Speakers' Bureau

We are re-starting a Speakers Bureau to present talks on a variety of subjects to public groups. Tom Parkinson is chairing the committee to make this happen. Other members of this committee are: Mike Hosang, USC-Aiken; Mel Buckner, SRTC; Ben Cross, SRS Planning; and Mal McKibben. It is our intention to present these talks at schools, civic groups, church groups, technical societies, environmental groups, etc.

In the first meeting of this committee a preliminary list of talks were agreed on as follows:

- Economic Impact of SRS on the CSRA
- The Real Risks of Transporting Nuclear Materials
- Long-Range Options for Managing Spent Nuclear Fuel and Wastes
- Why Dispose of Surplus Plutonium with Mixed Oxide (MOX) Fuel?
- Use of Radioisotopes in Nuclear Medicine

- The History and Future of SRS
- The Case for Nuclear Power
- Plans for Environmental Cleanup at SRS
- Putting Radiation Risks in Perspective
- What's Happening with Food Irradiation?

We are planning a vigorous promotion effort to identify and contact candidate organizations and we will create new, attractive brochures. If you would like to volunteer to speak, or have ideas for making the program more effective, please give us a call.

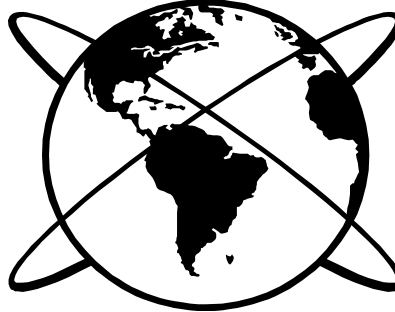
# Center for International Trade and Security

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CNTA sponsored a meeting July 24th with the Center for International Trade and Security (CITS), a non-proliferation “think tank” at the University of Georgia in Athens. Our group included Mal McKibben, Mel Buckner (Savannah River Technology Center), Jerry O’Leary (SRS Safeguards and Security Technology), Dave Ziggelman (SRS Nuclear Cities Initiative), Ratib Karam [Director, Education, Research and Development Association (ERDA) (Georgia)], and Joe Spencer [Director, South Carolina Universities Research and Education Foundation (SCUREF)].

Gary Bertsch, Director of CITS, led the eleven member CITS group, which included staff members and several graduate students.

The purpose of the meeting was to get acquainted with the activities of each group and to explore the possibilities of future collaborations.



Two broad areas of potential collaboration were identified, with several specific projects in each broad area. These areas were: (1) national and international education programs on nuclear energy, export control, and control of proliferation of weapons of mass destruction; (2) technical support of US Government-related projects in the former Soviet Union. A new initiative created by former Senator Sam Nunn and funded by Ted Turner will likely involve CITS and will function in both of the broad areas above.

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## Forming A National Alliance

CNTA is the largest grass-roots organization in the U.S. that supports beneficial applications of nuclear technologies. Similar, but much smaller groups exist at nearly all DOE sites. We are now urging these pro-nuclear groups to broaden their scope, and to join us in creating a national alliance of such groups.

Mal McKibben has met with two of these groups—”Coalition 21” in Idaho Falls and “Center for Reactor Information” in Argonne, Illinois. The Board of Directors of the American Nuclear Society and the Eagle Alliance have offered their support for this effort.

*The anti-nuclear groups have magnified their voices by forming alliances. We can, too!*

We are planning a meeting in early 2001 to create a national alliance.

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## Richard Rhodes: An Environmentalist Supports Nuclear Power



Richard Rhodes was our Teller Lecturer in 1998. He won a Pulitzer Prize for “The Making of the Atomic Bomb”, and he also wrote “Dark Sun”, documenting the making of the hydrogen bomb.

Mr. Rhodes is a strong “environmentalist” who has become a very effective advocate for nuclear power, food irradiation and nuclear medicine. He coauthored an article, “The Need for Nuclear Power”, in the January/February issue of *Foreign Affairs*. It is one of the most persuasive articles we have seen on the need for nuclear power. If you would like a copy of this article, you can find it on our website, [www.c-n-t-a.com](http://www.c-n-t-a.com), under “Articles” or, just give us a call.



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## Membership

Presently, our membership includes 919 families and 2,183 family members. We are still actively recruiting members. We urge all CNTA members to help us. Ask your coworkers and friends if they are members. If they are not, but indicate interest, give us their names and addresses and we will send them information and a signup brochure.

Susan Cathey has chaired the committee to recruit members from SRS, and she has gotten excellent cooperation from WSRC management. This campaign is going well.

We have also had campaigns to recruit members from among SRP/SRS retirees, with good results.

We have plans to conduct a membership drive at Plant Vogtle in the near future. If you can help with that, let us know.

We will soon be implementing an old idea to create "business memberships". We will solicit memberships from businesses throughout the CSRA, focusing on businesses that most directly benefit from SRS activities and



employees. As always, we are looking for volunteers to help with this.

Currently, memberships are calendar

year, but we do understand that those members who signed up late in the year would not reap all the benefits as those who signed up in January. Therefore, beginning in the year 2001, we will keep track of what month our members sign up so that memberships will run for twelve months. In 2002, we will begin sending out reminders on a monthly basis.

## Notice by E-Mail

Soon we will be conducting a test of our e-mail system. We have set up a group of all our members who have provided us with their e-mail addresses and will send out a "test" e-mail. We would appreciate it if you would respond by simply clicking on the reply button. This is being done so that in the future, all notices such as Up and Atom, can be sent via e-mail. This will greatly reduce our postage expense and we appreciate



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# 50th Anniversary Banquet And 9th Annual Teller Lecture



Dr. Harold Agnew  
Nuclear Pioneer

Plan to join us Tuesday, November 28, 2000 for a Gala Banquet and the 9th Annual Teller Lecture. This event will culminate our yearlong celebration of the Savannah River Site's 50th Anniversary. It will include a reception, fireworks display, dinner, and a talk by Dr. Harold Agnew, a world-renowned nuclear pioneer. Tickets will be available in late September at the ORA at SRS, the CNTA Office, and area Chambers of Commerce. Tickets are \$35.

# "I DON'T LIVE THERE ANYMORE" TO OPEN STATE TOUR AT USCA ETHERREDGE CENTER DURING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF SRS

The acclaimed musical "I Don't Live There Anymore", by Lawrence Holofcener and Gerard Kenny, opens Friday, September 8 at 7:30 p.m. at the University of South Carolina Aiken's Etherredge Center. Performances will also be held Saturday, September 9 at 7:30 p.m. and Sunday, September 10 at 2:30 p.m. Tickets, \$18 for Adults and \$5 for students, are available from the Etherredge Center Box Office, (803) 641-3305. Group discounts (15 or more) are \$15 per person.

The "I Don't Live There Anymore" productions are a featured event of the 50th Anniversary of the Savannah River Site. Following the Etherredge Center opening, the musical will tour throughout South Carolina: York's McCelvey Center, September 15-16 at 7:30 p.m.; Charleston's Sottile Theatre, September 22 at 7:30 p.m.; Beaufort's USCB Performing Arts Center, September 23 at 8:00 p.m.; Pendleton Playhouse on September 30 at 7:30 p.m.; and the Sumter Opera House, October 7,13-14, 20-21 at 7:30 p.m. and October 8 at 2:30 p.m.

Premiered during Charleston's 1993 Spoleto Festival, 'I Don't Live There Anymore' was called the "runaway hit of the Festival" and played to standing ovations. The musical is based upon an incident in American history so insignificant as to pass unnoticed by historians. And yet it conceivably altered the course of our history, even that of the world, in helping to prevent World War III, when the Government selected 300 square miles in SC to build the H-bomb and in the process destroyed 3 communities, including an 80 year-old town. But "I Don't Live There Anymore" is not about bombs or the eradication of a town: it's about love...young love required, old love uncovered and the sacrificial love of people for people.

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## **50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee Sponsors Public Tours of SRS**

The SRS 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee will continue its yearlong celebration with public tours of the Savannah River Site on Saturday, September 9 and September 23. Three 90-minute driving tours will be conducted each Saturday from the site's Badge Office, building 703-46A, at 8 a.m., 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. No walking will be required. Tours are open to people age 16 and older. Reserve your seat now by calling (803) 725-8873.

You will be asked to provide your name, home address and social security number for badging purposes.

# SRS Celebrates 50 Years of Excellence

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In 1998 CNTA organized the community-based 50th Anniversary Committee and invited John Granaghan to be its Chairman. Through the successful efforts of this Committee, many events are being held throughout 2000 to commemorate this historic event. The kickoff was in February with a press conference held at the Aiken County Museum which featured a traveling exhibit of memorabilia from the early construction of SRS. These included copies of official letters, local newspaper articles, pictures, and artifacts from the construction days.

The press conference was followed by the presentation of the SRS Trophy at the Aiken Trials in March. Jim Gaver was kind enough to allow SRS to present what is usually known as the Gaver Trophy at this event.

An essay contest was conducted in the local middle schools. The winners were: Chris Allen, 7th Grade, Wardlaw Academy (1st Place); Sarah Stone, 6th Grade, Wardlaw Academy (2nd Place); and Amy Rhoden, 8th Grade, Westminster Preparatory (3rd Place).

The highlight of the spring events was the Technical Symposium celebrating 50 years of excellence in science and engineering held on May 17th at the Etheredge Center, USC-Aiken. The Technical Symposium Committee was chaired by Bill Reinig, Fred Springer handled the editing and publishing of the papers, and Kent Rosenberger and Steve Epperson were in charge of logistics and providing the hard work behind the scenes. The Symposium was a great success with over 360 people in attendance. We will soon have titles and authors of these papers on

our website. Call us if you would like copies of papers.

Gary Wein of the Savannah River Ecology Lab started a series of Eco-



Dr. Fred Davison, CNTA Chairman, and Walt Joseph, 50th Anniversary Board of Directors' member, at the Technical Symposium

tours in May with a tour of the Carolina Bays. This was followed by tours in June of Upper Three Runs, and in July, Coal: Problems and Solutions. SREL will conduct more tours throughout the year. Watch the website at [www.srs50th.com](http://www.srs50th.com) for more information.

Madame Curie made a brief visit to Aiken with the international exhibit, "The Legacy of Marie Curie: 100 Years of Science Innovation". The exhibit was on display at the Aiken Center for the Arts from June 8th to July 14th and was the feature for the gallery dedication to Westinghouse Savannah River Company Partnership. If you missed the exhibit, you can see it when it returns to the Charleston Museum in January of 2001 or the SC State Museum in Columbia in March of 2002.

On July 24th, Fort Discovery opened a new exhibit in honor of the 50th Anniversary of SRS. The exhibit has two parts, a 3-D laser show entitled "The Illuminated Brain" as well as displays celebrating achievements by SRS. This exhibit will run through September 15th and "The Illuminated Brain" will run through October 15th. It is well worth the trip to Augusta to see this.

Upcoming events include the musical "I Don't Live There Anymore", premiering on September 8, 9 and 10 at USCA Etheredge Center and continuing to travel around South Carolina. This musical play portrays the displacement of the towns for SRS and the patriotic sacrifice of these people. For more information, visit [www.idlta.com](http://www.idlta.com).

The US Forest Service at SRS is planting a commemorative grove of trees, with a monument. Gary Sick is leading the event for USFS.

SRS Family/Retiree Days will be held on September 16th and 17th, and Public Tours of SRS on September 9th and 23rd.

There will be a reunion/luncheon for former residents of Ellenton, Myers Mill and Dunbarton on November 28th at noon at USCA.

The 50th Anniversary Banquet/Teller Lecture will be held on the evening of November 28th. It will begin with a reception, followed by a fireworks display, then the banquet and Teller Lecture. The Teller Lecture will be presented by Dr. Harold Agnew, a pioneer developer of the first atomic bomb and a former Director of the Los Alamos National Laboratory.

For more information on any of these events, please call our office.

Mark your calendars, we look forward to seeing you at these events.

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# 50th Anniversary Sponsors

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# 50th Anniversary Committee

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