

2008

Citizens for Nuclear Technology Awareness

# CNTAaware



## TELLER LECTURER TO CONDUCT BOOK-SIGNING AT ROSE HILL

By Clint Wolfe

Citizens for Nuclear Technology Awareness has announced that Gwyneth Cravens author of “The Power to Save the World: The Truth about Nuclear Energy” will sign copies of her book at a reception at Rose Hill Estate in Aiken on November 11, at 6:00 p.m.. Ms Cravens is the 17th guest lecturer in CNTA’s distinguished Teller Lecture series. This year’s lecture will be held on November 12 at the Doubletree Hotel in Augusta.

Eight years in the writing, the book is fundamentally about prejudice based on wrong information. Initially opposed to nuclear power, and with some experience writing science articles, she happened to express her negative views during a chance conversation with Dr. D. Richard (“Rip”) Anderson, a skeptically-minded chemist, oceanographer, and expert on risk assessment and nuclear environmental health and safety. Anderson is also an environmental activist who turned an old airstrip into a wildlife sanctuary in Albuquerque. Their shared concern about catastrophic global warming and his assertion that we need to expand all practical forms of clean energy generation led Ms. Cravens to take a fresh look at nuclear power generation, the only large-scale way to avoid producing greenhouse gases and the most environmentally friendly of all forms of base-load electricity production. Anderson took her to see for herself how nuclear power worked. They traced the path of uranium from start to finish, visiting mines as well as experimental reactor laboratories, fortress-like power plants, and remote waste sites normally off-limits to the public. She interviewed numerous scientists from many disciplines ranging from reactor physics to microbiology to epidemiology to radiation protection. The resulting book, an eloquent, convincing argument for nuclear power as a safe energy source and an essential deterrent to global warning, has been broadly praised since publication. *The Wall Street Journal’s* review declares “*Power to Save the World* is a picaresque, flat-out love song to the bad boy of the great American energy debate—as good a book as we’re likely to get on a subject mired in political incorrectness, general unfathomability and essentially limitless gut fears.”

Aside from her latest book, Ms. Cravens has also published five novels. She has contributed articles and op-eds on science and other topics to *Harper’s Magazine*, *The New York Times* and *The Washington Post*. Her fiction and nonfiction have appeared in *The New Yorker*, where she worked as an editor, and in *Harper’s Magazine*, where she was an associate editor. She grew up in New Mexico and now lives on eastern Long Island.

**The book-signing event on November 11 will be from 6:00 to 7:00 p.m. Cost includes light hors d’ouvers, cash bar and an autographed copy of “The Power to Save the World: The Truth About Nuclear Energy”. The cost is \$20.00 per person, book included. If you already have her book, bring it along and get it signed, cost is only \$10.00. Call the CNTA offices at 803-649-3456 to make your reservations.**

**Deadline to reserve is November 7th. See you there!**

# Up and Atom Breakfasts



CNTA hosted our May Up & Atom Breakfast with guest speaker George Fletcher, Executive Director of South Carolina Council on Competitiveness. Mr. Fletcher's presentation on how the "cluster concept" applies to the nuclear renaissance. The promise of a nuclear renaissance and how our respective organizations can reinforce the other's efforts.

Eighty plus members and guests enjoyed Mr. Fletcher's presentation.

Mr. Fletcher was named the first Executive Director of the SC Council in June 2005. Prior to that, he was President of Fletcher Group, Inc. a group of environmental engineering and management companies headquartered in Greenville, SC.



Dr. Samit Bhattacharyya, Director of the Savannah River National Laboratory, SRNS was our guest speaker on June 17 at Newberry Hall. Dr. Bhattacharyya's presentation titled "Status of the Transition and the Vision for SRNL" was enjoyed by 120 attendees.

Dr. Bhattacharyya's technical credentials include a 29-year career at the Argonne National Laboratory (ANL), where he rose to the position of senior nuclear engineer. He has achieved international recognition for his technical work in advanced nuclear power systems for terrestrial and space applications, and he has been published widely and participated in national and international conferences.



Associate Professor and Nuclear Pharmacist, James Corley from the Medical College of Georgia was our guest speaker on July 22. His presentation "Medical Isotopes". One of the often discussed roles for a new mission at or near the SRS would be the production of nuclear isotopes by a reactor or accelerator. Mr. Corley's presentation showed us how radiopharmaceuticals are used, production, and problems with supply and future directions.

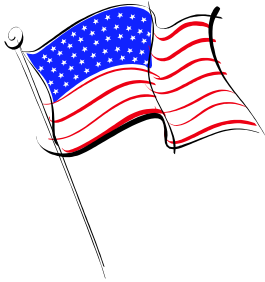


On August 19, 2008 CNTA and Savannah River Nuclear Solutions, LLC (SRNS) hosted a dinner with Chuck Munns, (Retired Vice Admiral, U.S. Navy) President and CEO of SRNS. The dinner was held at Newberry Hall with over 160 people attending.

Prior to joining SRNS, Mr. Munns served for 34 years in the U.S. Navy's most high-profile and challenging positions, attaining the rank of vice admiral. His most recent Navy position was commander of the U.S. Submarine Force, which included all U.S. submarines worldwide, had a \$12 billion annual budget and employed more than 21,000 people.

It was a relaxing and enjoyable evening. CNTA hopes to have at least one dinner, in lieu, of breakfast each year.

## CHECK OUT OUR NEW FLAG!



Next time you're driving by the CNTA offices, during business hours, check-out our new American Flag, courtesy of long-time CNTA member.

Mr. John Pullen stopped in the office one day and remarked that we should have a flag on our front porch! He said, "I'll buy you one and even put the hardware up for it." A few weeks passed before John stopped in with a drill in one hand and a new flag in the other. Before long he had our beautiful new flag waving in the South Carolina breeze! John has been a Benefactor member for a very long time. We appreciate your loyalty and continue support. **THANK YOU JOHN, WE APPRECIATE OUR NEW FLAG!**

## SRNL PICKED TO LEAD HYDROGEN TEAM

The Savannah River National Laboratory has been selected to lead a team for the Department of Energy as its new Hydrogen Storage Engineering Center of Excellence (HSECE).

HSECE is a virtual center made up of 10 partners at various locations around the country and is expected to run for approximately five years. The center supports the Advanced Energy Initiative to reduce dependence on foreign energy sources by changing the way we power our cars, homes and businesses.

The center will address the significant engineering challenges associated with developing low-pressure, materials-based hydrogen storage systems that will enable fuel cell vehicles to meet customer expectations for driving range, performance and cost. These projects will be incorporated into the DOE's National Hydrogen Storage Project, which currently focuses on hydrogen storage materials development.

Dr. Sam Bhattacharyya, director of SRNL, said that the laboratory's selection to lead the Center of Excellence is testament to SRNL's long-standing expertise in hydrogen storage engineering projects.

"The knowledge and pragmatic creativity of SRNL's hydrogen research staff, combined with the unique skills of our partners in this center, will help bring about the day when we have hydrogen-fueled cars that can travel as far and perform as well as today's vehicles and reduce or eliminate the need for imported gasoline," said Bhattacharyya.

Article courtesy of Aiken Standard

## CNTA Membership Soars in 2008!

By Dawn Haygood

Members are the soul of any successful public interest organization and a growing membership is probably the most visible indication of a group's influence and success in achieving its mission. Members not only provide financial support, but new ideas and civic energy as well. Attracting new members and keeping existing members involved and satisfied is key to an organization's success. CNTA has much to be proud of in 2008. Individual membership has soared to more than 460 individual members (a twenty percent increase from last year), and this is above and beyond our corporate and business memberships. Members are actively engaged in CNTA activities, from forming new committees (Education), to carrying out the important work of existing committees, attending Up & Atom Breakfasts and other events, writing letters and editorials, and providing factual and objective information on nuclear subjects to a host of audiences. CNTA members are highly involved and motivated to further the use of nuclear technologies and improve public knowledge on the real benefits and comparative risks of nuclear activities. CNTA members are also working diligently to bring new missions to the Savannah River Site and the Central Savannah River Area.

So far this year has seen much change, transition and uncertainty, in our nation, economy and local industry. It's refreshing to see the growth and positive changes at CNTA.

### INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS-CORPORATE/ BUSINESS SPONSORS TO DATE:

Benefactors—114

Patrons—29

Sustaining-318

Students-4

Corporate Sponsors—20

Bronze Business/Business Sponsors-17

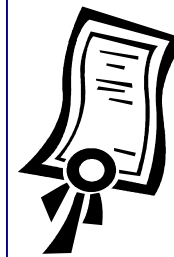
### **CNTA MISSION: TO PROVIDE EDUCATION AND INFORMATION ON:**

- **ENERGY SOURCES**
- **MEDICAL APPLICATIONS OF RADIATION**
- **INDUSTRIAL APPLICATIONS INCLUDING FOOD IRRADIATION**
- **NUCLEAR PRODUCTION PROCESSES**
- **NATIONAL SECURITY**



**CNTA HIGH SCHOOL ESSAY CONTEST**  
**By Bill Wabbersen**

Information will soon be sent to area high schools in Georgia and South Carolina for our 3rd annual \$1000 Scholarship High School Essay Contest for 2009. This contest also awards the winner's school \$500. Sponsors for this award are CNTA, Mr. & Mrs. Tom Varallo and Parsons. Our goal is to have a minimum of three or more awards each year. If you are interested in sponsoring this worth-while cause, please get in touch with the CNTA office. The purpose of the CNTA Essay Contest is to promote a better understanding of nuclear technology among high school students. It also provides an incentive for the development of communication skills that are vital to those entering the workforce and American business.



The 2008 contest had three topics the students could pick from. We plan on having a minimum of three topics for the 2009 contest also.

If you have a High School student you know would like to participant you can call the CNTA office for information at [cnta@bellsouth.net](mailto:cnta@bellsouth.net) or contact Bill Wabbersen, Contest Chair at [bwabb2002@yahoo.com](mailto:bwabb2002@yahoo.com)

*Read (separate insert) the two other high school essay winners. Isaac Guffey and Bryce Cartledge are both students at Evans High School. All the high school winners & their parents have been invited to the Teller Lecture/Banquet.*

**Recent Associated Press Article**

**JUDGE RULES AGAINST ENVIRONMENTALISTS ON SC PLANTS**

Posted: Sep 23, 2008 06:31 PM EDT

GREENVILLE, SC (AP) - Federal regulatory judges have rejected a request from an environmental group that objects to Duke Energy's plan for two nuclear reactors in northern South Carolina.

The Greenville News reported Tuesday that Atomic Safety and Licensing Board judges ruled against 11 objections of an environmental group about the reactors planned near Gaffney.

The Blue Ridge Environmental Defense League questioned the impact of the plants on water supplies, global warming and other issues.

The judges said the group failed to submit appropriate issues to be considered.

Blue Ridge Environmental Defense League science director Louis Zeller says the group is considering appealing to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

Duke Energy spokeswoman Rita Sipe says the Charlotte, NC company is pleased with the decision.

**SRS HERITAGE FOUNDATION PARTICIPATES IN ATOMIC CITY FESTIVAL**

**The** Heritage Foundation joined the Atomic City Festival in New Ellenton on October 11th. The Foundation helped recruit SRS participation from the SR Archaeological Research Program, the Ecology Lab, the US Forest Service and the Hydrogen Lab. Volunteers from the Foundation and New South Associates scanned documents, recorded oral and video interviews and collected artifacts. The day was very successful despite rainy weather that reduced attendance.

By Walt Joseph, Executive Director

## NEW CNTA COMMITTEE FORMED

By Susan Cathey

CNTA has recently formed an Education Committee. It's current membership includes: Wade Miller, John Pullen, Dean Sackett, Gary Senn, Barbara Smoak, Bill Wabbersen, Clint Wolfe, Susan Wood, Karen Bonavita and Susan Cathey, Committee Chair. The committee has set the following Objectives and Goals

### **CNTA Education Objective:**

To educate more young people about energy issues, particularly with respect to nuclear technologies, with the ultimate goal of enabling more career choices and creating positive attitudes toward nuclear power.

### **CNTA Education Goal:**

By next summer (late July/early August) set up an interactive teachers' workshop day on science pertaining to nuclear power. This should be offered to the entire district. A curriculum should be developed. We could also offer an "in-service" day. A portion of this could also then be used as a seminar at the (SC)<sup>2</sup> conference in November 09.

Actions are being taken to meet these goals and make our mission known throughout the area. Several additional contacts have been made and will continue to be made prior to the Workshop in July – August 2009. We are asking CNTA members to volunteer to be a mentor for Future Cities – Call the office for more information. John Pullen has volunteered to go to Aiken County Schools and deliver copies of both the Nuclide Chart and a copy of "Power to Save the World: The Truth About Nuclear Energy", by Gwyneth Cravens our Teller Lecturer this year. We will continue throughout the year to look for outreach opportunities with our schools so we can bring a greater level of understanding of nuclear benefits and opportunities to our students.



## Savannah River Nuclear Solutions Begins

### Tenure at Savannah River Site

By Dean Sackett

Savannah River Nuclear Solutions, LLC (SRNS) has taken the place of Washington Savannah River Company (WSRC) as the operations contractor at SRS. WSRC retains the function of managing and performing Liquid Waste activities at the site while DOE completes the competitive bid process for that portion of site responsibilities.

Continued on next column.....

Savannah River Nuclear Solutions, LLC is a team led by Fluor Daniel which along with Northrop Grumman, and Honeywell comprise the first tier of the team. Lockheed Martin and Nuclear Fuel Services are the Nuclear Solutions Team's major sub-contractors.

The work breakdown structure among the Team's contractors is as follows:

**Fluor Daniel:** Senior Partner, Waste Clean Up, and Project Management.

**Northrop Grumman (Newport News Shipbuilding and Drydock Co.):** Nuclear Operations, Design, Construction, Fueling, and Refueling,

**Honeywell:** National Nuclear Security (Tritium) Operations.

**Lockheed Martin (Sandia Laboratory):** Savannah River National Laboratory Operations which includes growing this function and creating additional jobs not only for the laboratory but in the surrounding area.

**Nuclear Fuel Services:** Material processing.

The Team's accomplishments and current activities at other locations include completion of cleanup at the DOE Fernald Site, production of 85% of DOE's nuclear weapons components, managing and operating Sandia National Laboratories, and operating Newport News Shipbuilding and Drydock Company.

Charles L. Munns is the CEO of Nuclear Solutions, LLC is the President and CEO. He is a retired Vice Admiral in the U.S. Navy, having completed a 34 year career in that organization. As a submarine officer he operated nuclear submarines, served as Commander U.S. Submarine Force (responsible for operating all U.S. submarines world wide), and led large Department of Defense acquisition programs. In those and other positions of great responsibility he was directly involved in preserving our nation's security, operating our nuclear submarine reactors, and safeguarding our nuclear weapons. Chuck Munns is a graduate of the U.S. Naval Academy with a Bachelor of Science in Physics. He also holds a Master of Science degree in Computer Science from the University of Colorado.

SRNS is currently a member and sponsor of CNTA. We look forward to establishing the same constructive and synergistic relationship with the Savannah River Nuclear Solutions Team as we enjoy with WSRC.

## It is your Speakers Bureau!

By Steve Sheetz

It is that time of year when the Speakers Bureau goes begging. The good news is what we need won't cost you a dime! We need contacts with your favorite club or professional organization to find opportunities to speak to the community. Word of mouth and personal references are time and again our best source of speaking engagements. Please offer our services to your program chairperson.

We just finished up-dating the SRS Overview talk reflecting the recent change to SRNS as the lead contractor. The talk was well received on its maiden voyage to the Aiken Chapter of the AARP. Thanks to a lot of good questions and discussion, a 30 minute presentation ran for close to an hour. To quote a satisfied customer, "We kept you a long time talking which shows how interested the audience was and how interesting your talk was." We can offer this talk or one of many other nuclear related topics to your group.

Just give us a call.

**It is your Speakers Bureau – Use It!**

Photos from Steve's recent SRS Overview Presentation to the Aiken Chapter of AARP. The group of 70+ AARP members found the talk very enlightening.



## **Scholarship Committee**

By Dr. Susan Wood

The CNTA Scholarship Committee has the responsibility to review applications for the Robert Maher Memorial Scholarship Award and select the winner. Committee members are Dr. Tom Hallman, Dr. Susan Winsor, Walt Joseph, Keith Wood and Chair, Dr. Susan Wood.

This year we were excited to receive seven excellent applications from students at South Carolina State University, Georgia Institute of Technology and the University of South Carolina (USC). Applicants must be in their Junior or Senior year and be majoring in a nuclear or nuclear technology related field.

The winner is Andrew Petrarca who was in his Junior year in Mechanical Engineering at USC. Andrew has a 3.969 GPA and numerous Dean's List and President's Honor Roll credits. He worked as a summer intern at Westinghouse Electric Company in 2007 and had a summer co-op position at V.C. Summer Nuclear Station in 2008. He is currently working with Dr. Travis Knight on research to describe the thermohydraulic behavior of helium-cooled gas reactors. Upon completion of his undergraduate studies he plans to obtain a Masters in Nuclear Engineering and work in the commercial nuclear field.

Andrew will receive his award at the Teller Lecture on November 12, 2008. We congratulate him on his accomplishments and wish him luck with his career path.


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## **USC Professor Wins the**

### **Distinguished Scientist Award for 2008**

CNTA is pleased to announce that the winner of the 2008 Fred C. Davidson Distinguished Scientist Award is Dr. Frank T. Avignone III, Carolina Endowed Professor of Physics and Astronomy at the University of South Carolina (USC) in Columbia. He will be honored at the upcoming 17th Annual Edward Teller Banquet/Lecture that will be held on November 12, 2008 at the Doubletree Hotel and Convention Center.



***DID YOU  
KNOW.....***in 1978,  
during the energy crisis,  
approximately 50 bicycles  
were purchased for inter-  
building bicycle traffic in A-  
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