

Hanford Reach

July 21, 2003

Hanford Site Employee News



DRESSED FOR WORK: Hanford Patrol K-9 member “Nuke” is equipped and ready for a mission with his handler, Hanford Patrolman Robert Maier. Nuke is a two-and-a-half-year-old male yellow Labrador retriever that has been with Hanford Patrol since May 2002. He was trained in Pennsylvania to detect explosives.

State, DOE agree on proposed TPA changes

The Department of Energy Office of River Protection and the Washington State Department of Ecology have reached an agreement on several changes to dates specified in the Tri-Party Agreement for constructing, testing and operating Hanford's Waste Treatment Plant.

One proposed TPA change would mean that the date when the parties would determine how to treat the bulk of Hanford's tank waste would be a decade sooner. Other changes would modify the testing, or commissioning, phase of the project and the milestone dates for completing key construction activities.

"The Waste Treatment Plant is the cornerstone of our tank waste cleanup at Hanford," said Roy Schepens, ORP manager. "These changes to the TPA keep us on the path to meet the critical milestone dates for starting operations in 2011, and completing tank-waste treatment by the original TPA date of 2028. A third critical date, for completing the treatment of 10 percent of the waste by 2018, also does not change under this agreement."

The agreement requires ORP to report by January 2005 on waste-treatment technologies that may be used in combination with the WTP for treating the low-activity waste. That report is to include information on the technical, financial and contractual aspects of the so-called "supplemental treatment," as well as a proposed schedule for implementing it.

ORP and tank-farm contractor CH2M HILL Hanford Group are evaluating bulk vitrification, steam reforming and containerized cast stone for supplemental treatment ("Three supplemental treatment methods in the running," *Hanford Reach*, June 16). Each of the technologies has been used successfully in other applications but has not yet been fully evaluated with Hanford tank waste.

After DOE submits its report on treatment strategies, it will negotiate a final treatment baseline with Ecology, incorporating the combination of the WTP and supplemental treatment to complete the tank-waste cleanup mission by 2028.

"This milestone greatly accelerates our process for determining how DOE will complete the treatment of Hanford's tank waste by the TPA milestone date," said Schepens. "The original date for providing a proposal on treating the remainder of Hanford's tank waste was 2014. By submitting the supplemental technologies report in 2005, and agreeing to a baseline in 2006, we've advanced our decision-making by nearly a decade."

The updated strategy will employ a multifaceted waste-treatment approach using a single WTP with two high-capacity high-level waste melters, two high-capacity low-activity waste melters, and supplemental treatment technologies to treat the remaining low-activity tank waste.

"Adding the second melter now rather than later increases the likelihood that all high-level tank waste can be treated by 2028, which is a high priority for the state," said Tom Fitzsimmons, the state's director of Ecology. "The proposed changes also will let us know sooner which alternative treatment technologies might work — and if they don't work, we vitrify."

The proposed changes to the TPA also modify interim construction milestones and incorporate a change in the testing, or commissioning, phase. A public comment period on the proposal will begin July 28 and close Sept. 10. ■

Sen. Harry Reid visits HAMMER

At the request of U.S. Senator Maria Cantwell of Washington state, Nevada Senator Harry Reid toured the Fluor Hanford-managed Volpentest HAMMER Training and Education Center and the Hanford Patrol Training Academy on July 1. Sen. Reid is the Senate minority whip and a ranking minority member of the Energy and Water Appropriations Subcommittee.

The tour showcased HAMMER and PTA's capabilities in homeland-security training. During his tour, Reid learned of the facilities' hands-on training props and programs specifically designed for emergency responders and law-enforcement personnel.

The senator also observed the Hanford Fire Department and the Hanford Patrol in training sessions, and spoke with firefighters and Patrol personnel about their training experiences at the facilities. According to one of the senator's staffers, Reid was impressed with HAMMER and the Patrol Training Academy, and views them as valuable training assets for the federal government. ■



Volpentest HAMMER and Hanford Training director Karen McGinnis strides beside Sen. Harry Reid of Nevada (center), joined by Reid's staff members and Hanford officials, to begin a walking tour of the HAMMER main campus. Behind McGinnis is community leader Sam Volpentest, for whom the facility is named. At right, Patrol Training Academy sharpshooter Steve Voigt reviews PTA firearms with Reid and prepares the senator to fire an M-4 rifle.



Good security begins by remembering your security badge

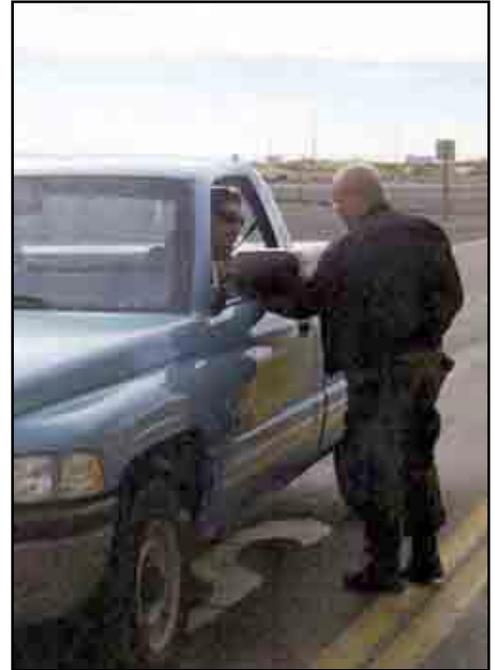
Your security badge is one of our most visible and critical lines of defense in keeping Hanford safe and secure. Everyone who works at Hanford is issued a security badge to facilitate entry to general and specific areas, identify level of security clearance and indicate employment associated with the Department of Energy.

Reporting to work without a security badge affects many people, including supervisors, managers and co-workers, and affects many areas, such as production and safety. Some employees have shown complacency about the need to bring a badge to work. Security has noticed an increased trend toward vehicle passengers without badges attempting to enter the Hanford Site through one of the barricades.

Under the current security condition, only the driver of a vehicle is required to show a security badge when entering the site through one of the three barricades; therefore, good security and common sense dictate that the passengers and the driver ensure that everyone is properly badged before starting the journey to the Hanford Site. Drivers, do not wait until your vehicle is approaching the barricade or until everyone arrives at his or her work place north of the barricades to check that all passengers in your vehicle have badges.

Although each individual is responsible for bringing his or her badge to work, the driver of the vehicle is also responsible for ensuring passengers are properly badged. In fact, entering the barricades without a security badge will result in the issuance of a Security Incident Notice to the passenger and the driver. The employee without a badge is escorted off site and not allowed to re-enter until a proper badge can be presented. A recurrence could result in the issuance of a more serious Security Infraction Report.

All employees at Hanford want to keep the site safe and secure. Please do your part as an employee, a vehicle driver and a passenger to ensure that you and those with you are properly badged before entering the site through a barricade. ■



Do the driver and passengers have their badges?

Anecdotes sought from employees involved with tank SY-101



Stewart

The impact of tank SY-101, the famous “burping” tank, on Hanford history and culture prompted Pacific Northwest National Laboratory staff scientist Chuck Stewart to take temporary leave to write a book about the tank. Some of the tank’s history has been recorded in reports and documents; but the best part is in the memories of the operators, engineers, scientists, reviewers and managers who actually struggled with it.

Those who participated in any aspect of SY-101 are invited to send recollections and anecdotes to Stewart via e-mail at charles.stewart@pnl.gov or via plant mail at K7-15. All contributions are welcome. Including a short biographical sketch with your submission will help put your story in the right context.

Tank SY-101 was the highest-priority safety issue in the entire Department of Energy complex from 1990 until 1993, when a mixer pump began stirring the waste to prevent burps. But the mixer pump inflated the frothy floating crust layer, raising the waste level alarmingly. This second emergency was defused in April 2000 by diluting the waste with 525,000 gallons of water. This action also stopped the burps. Tank SY-101 returned to service in September 2001 and received its first waste as an “active” tank in November 2002.

Stewart led the PNNL data-interpretation task for SY-101 mixer- pump operation from 1993 through 1996, and PNNL’s technical support of the level-rise remediation project from 1998 through 2001. Stewart was also actively involved in resolving the flammable gas safety issue, interpreting data for C-106 sluicing, planning single-shell tank retrieval by saltcake dissolution, and performing peer reviews of the Double-Shell Tank Life Extension Program. ■

Students create multilingual Web site on birds

Last May, 13 Kennewick High School students who are enrolled in a multilingual media class spent a day visiting the Hanford Reach National Monument/Saddle Mountain National Wildlife Refuge, observing and photographing birds as part of the Hands on the Land educational program. The end result of the program was a student-produced Web site in three languages that provides information on birds of the Hanford Reach.



Kennewick High School students enrolled in a multilingual media class recently toured the Hanford Reach National Monument to help them gather information to prepare a Web page on birds of the Hanford Reach. The information on the Web page is available in English, Spanish and Bosnian.

The goal of the Hands on the Land program is to provide a national network of field classrooms to enhance learning of kindergarten through 12th-grade students.

Partners in Resource Education, a collaboration of five federal agencies, a non-profit foundation, schools and other private-sector partners, sponsor Hands on the Land.

During the school year, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service biological technician Jennifer Meisel, using taxidermy specimens and other resources, instructed the students on bird life. The field trip culminated the in-class instruction and was conducted by Meisel and wildlife biologist Heidi Newsome.

This is the second year of collaboration between the Kennewick High multilingual media class and the Hands on the Land program. This year, the students used the photos and recordings they made during the field trip and the information they learned in class to produce a Web site on “Birds of the Hanford Reach” at <http://www.handsontheland.org/classroom/11/intro.htm>.

“This great Web site is unique — it is the only one of its kind in three different languages,” said Meidel.

The Web site information is available in English, Spanish and Bosnian with two animations in English and Russian.

The students in the multilingual media class must communicate in at least two languages fluently, and every media product they create must be in at least two languages.

Students designed, drew, wrote and translated the Web-site content. Meisel and Newsome provided the class with a species list and provided input to ensure that the final product was accurate and easy to use.

Last year’s project was a Web site entitled “Mammals of the Hanford Reach,” and is at <http://www.handsontheland.org/classroom/04/intro.html>.

The two projects have benefited both parties — the students and the Monument. Students have the opportunity to be outside and learn about wildlife, the shrub-steppe ecosystem and the history of the Hanford Site. The students take that experience and information and use the technology available to them at Kennewick High School to develop a Web site for a client. The Monument receives the Web site that is linked to the Monument’s own Web site at <http://hanfordreach.fws.gov> and is accessible for public use. ■

Fluor helps area children through 'global service project'

The Fluor Corporation has launched its second annual global service project, named "Building Futures." As part of the campaign, local employees have started collecting school supplies.

"Fluor employees around the globe are eager to support education through the Building Futures program," said Bob Fluor, vice president of Corporate and Public Affairs. "Once again, they are putting their time and energy into projects that will directly benefit underprivileged children in the communities in which we do business."

The majority of the 25 participating offices will be collecting school supplies, stuffing them into 3,650 Fluor-donated backpacks and distributing them to identified children. Other offices are participating by collecting books for donation to school libraries and restoring portions of older school buildings.

During last year's inaugural global community involvement campaign, employees donated more than \$51,000 worth of school supplies and 1,564 hours of their time. The supplies were stuffed into some 3,000 backpacks donated by Fluor and delivered to students in time for their first day of school.

This year, Fluor Hanford and Fluor Federal Services staff members will team up to fill 675 backpacks. This goal can easily be reached with the participation of every employee. Just purchase a few supplies and drop them off at any of the designated locations

The collection, begun last week, will last until July 31. Fluor volunteers will then pick up, gather, sort and pack the supplies.

Suggested items are the following: crayons, number-two pencils, erasers, folders with pockets, glue sticks, pencil boxes, scissors (Friskars are preferred), notebooks, red pens or pencils, 6-inch English/metric rulers, loose-leaf paper and colored pencils or markers.

Collection boxes have been placed at 1200 Jadwin, 2420 and 2425 Stevens Center, 1979 Snyder, the Federal Building, the Port of Benton Manufacturing Mall, MO-269, MO-662, 2754-W, MO-279, PFP, WRAP, 2727-E, MO-414, MO-272, 2750 Building, 3763 Building, 3790 Building MO928, MO48, MOO54, MO-500, MO-401, MO-402, 105-KE, 105-KW, MO-293, M-1717, the 400 Area Badge House, 4713-B and the HAMMER training center. ■



Three members of the Boys and Girls Clubs of Benton and Franklin Counties beam after receiving Fluor-donated backpacks filled with school supplies in last year's global service project. This year's campaign to collect donated school supplies is on now through July 31.

All threats, even those made in jest, are taken seriously

After having traveled by air for over 12 hours the previous day, a man in a large, mid-western city approached a security checkpoint at the airport to begin his trip back home. As he was standing in a slow-moving line for the security processing, he commented to the person behind him, "The hassles of traveling by air today are enough to make a person want to blow up an airplane. If I had a bomb I'd use it."

Recently, at a manufacturing plant, an employee who was having a particularly perplexing day commented to a co-worker, "This place is enough to make you want to do what that guy in Mississippi did...blow away a few people."

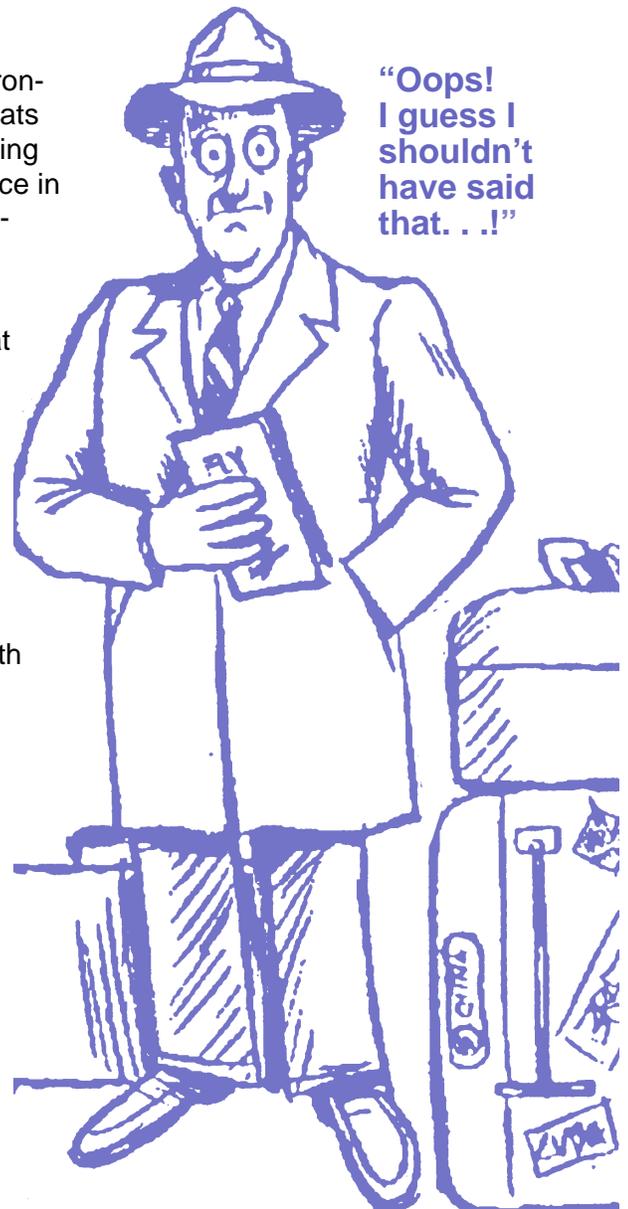
Any of us who has ever flown knows the traveler made a big mistake, but many may not realize that the plant worker chose an equally poor circumstance to say what he said. In both instances, the people who made those remarks said they were "just kidding." However, they got to prove how good their "sense of humor" was only after being interviewed by security agencies and causing much turmoil for themselves and others.

Making threatening statements is never funny. In today's environment, the frequency of people actually following through on threats means that we must take seriously all comments made concerning violence. If a person chooses to use unfunny jokes about violence in the workplace, then that person must be prepared for the consequences.

Here at Hanford, the following events may occur when a threat is made — even if the speaker was "just kidding":

- Management and the Department of Energy's Richland Operations Office will be notified.
- An investigation will be opened.
- Management and security personnel will interview the person.
- Disciplinary action may be taken — up to and including dismissal — and a referral to the Hanford Environmental Health Foundation for a fitness-for-duty evaluation.

All threats, even those made in jest, are taken seriously. So please think before you speak. (See Security Ed Challenge.) ■



Hanford XP Migration Project update

What's new in Outlook 2002

A powerful communication and scheduling tool, Microsoft Outlook version 2002 offers new and enhanced functionality to improve your efficiency and make it easier to collaborate with colleagues. Some of the new features of Outlook 2002 are described below.

Color appointments — You can color individual and recurring appointments with one of 10 predefined colors. Each color has an associated label, so you can organize your appointments according to the labels. You can also set up automatic formatting that colors all appointments that meet the same condition. For example, you could use red to color any meeting that is organized by your manager.

Dismiss All button — If multiple reminders occur at the same time, Outlook 2002 combines them into one dialog box. This reduces clutter, especially when starting Outlook after the reminder time for several items has passed. You can dismiss reminders individually, or all at once with the “Dismiss All” button.

Automatically completes e-mail addresses — As you type an e-mail address into the “To,” “Cc” or “Bcc” boxes of a message, Outlook 2002 offers a list of addresses that match what you’ve typed so far. That way you can choose from the list instead of continuing to type. To use this feature, you must have previously sent messages to the address.

Friendly names display — Contacts now include a “Display As” field for e-mail names. When you compose a message, the name you type in the Display As box appears in the To field instead of the actual e-mail address.

AutoCorrect — Outlook 2002 automatically detects and corrects typos, misspelled words and incorrect capitalizations, even when you’re not using Word as your e-mail editor.

Preview pane enhancements — In the preview pane, you can now open attachments, follow a hyperlink, respond to meeting requests and display properties of an e-mail address.

Remove extra line breaks — Sometimes plain text messages that travel over the Internet acquire extra line breaks that make the message difficult to read. Outlook 2002 automatically removes the extra line breaks so it is easier to read the message.

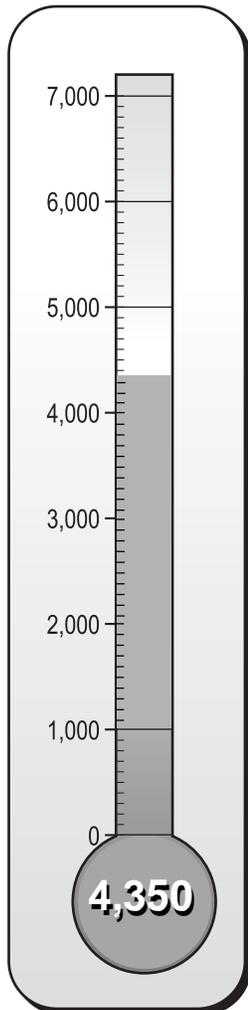
AutoArchive properties set for all folders at once — Folders automatically use the default or global AutoArchive settings so you don’t have to specify settings for each folder individually. If the global settings change, they automatically apply to any folder using the default settings. You can still customize the settings for individual folders, and if you’re upgrading from a previous version, Outlook 2002 preserves your existing settings.

Mailbox Cleanup — This feature helps you manage the size of your mailbox to improve the overall performance of Outlook 2002. You can view the total size of your mailbox and of individual folders within it, and you can find items that are larger than a certain size or older than a certain date. You can archive these items from within “Mailbox Cleanup.” You can also view the size of your “Deleted Items” folder and empty it from within Mailbox Cleanup.

Continued on page 10.

Hanford XP Migration Project update, cont.

HLAN computers currently running Windows XP



Send/Receive groups — You can easily create groups to send and receive for different combinations of accounts and folders. These groups were previously referred to as “Quick Synchronization Groups.”

One location for offline-related settings — The settings for sending and receiving, and offline synchronization settings, are integrated into the same dialog box.

Counter proposals for alternate meeting times — If allowed by the meeting organizer, invitees can counter-propose an alternate meeting time.

Group schedules — View the schedules of multiple people or resources on a single calendar. The calendar contains a detailed graph of when each user is free or busy and also shows details of his or her appointments (except for those marked private). When you rest the mouse pointer over an appointment, the details of that appointment are visible.

Public Folder favorites in Favorites folder — If you use Microsoft Exchange, you can now add Public Folder favorites to your Favorites folders along with your Internet Explorer and other Web favorites.

Added virus protection — To protect against viruses that might be contained in HTML messages you receive, scripts won’t run and ActiveX controls will be deactivated regardless of your security zone setting. By default, the Outlook security zone is set to Restricted Site.

XP Project Home Page

<http://www.rl.gov/xp>

XP Application Testing Matrix

<http://www.rl.gov/xp>
under the “APP Testing” tab

XP Project Mailbox

^Windows XP Project

Beryllium-affected Hanford nurse shares her story

Shannon Bowser, *Fluor Hanford*

In more than 20 years of nursing, Mary Sams never worked in beryllium operations or handled tools that were made with beryllium, yet today she has beryllium sensitization. She shares this medical condition with employees whose occupations vary from carpentry to secretarial work.

Like many beryllium-affected employees, it is difficult to pinpoint where Sams' exposure occurred because, as a nurse, she has responded to emergency calls in many of the older buildings at Hanford. It is now known that some of these buildings have a history with beryllium.

Sams also worked unknowingly for several years in what has now been designated as a beryllium-condemned building. Although she can never be sure, she suspects she was exposed when workers tried to fix a problem with the fire lines in her building's attic. "We could see the dust fall from the ceiling when tiles above us were moved," said Sams. "The work that was done likely disturbed beryllium dust that had settled in the building from previous beryllium operations."

In solid form, beryllium is not harmful, but exposure to the substance can occur when it is inhaled in the form of dust particles. The particles are so small that they can travel deep into a person's lungs.

Some individuals exposed to beryllium develop a hypersensitivity to the substance, called beryllium sensitization. Unlike the effects of most toxic substances, with beryllium there is no relationship between the level of exposure and the potential for becoming sensitized. "Some people can be exposed to large amounts of beryllium dust for long periods of time and will never be affected by it," said Sams. "Others can walk in a building infrequently and breathe in a small amount of beryllium dust particles and will become sensitized. Genetics may determine who is highly susceptible — the problem is that there's really no way of knowing who has what genes."

After years of working in the now beryllium-condemned building, one of Sams' co-workers saw that it was included on a list



Mary Sams, a nurse and a beryllium case-management specialist at the Hanford Environmental Health Foundation, checks the blood pressure, pulse rate and oxygen saturation of a patient. Sams has beryllium sensitization, a medical condition she shares with employees whose occupations vary from carpentry to secretarial work.

For many workers, it could be an occupational hazard

Only 10 percent of Hanford employees have been tested for beryllium sensitization, yet employees in many occupations at the site have developed beryllium sensitization or chronic beryllium disease. These occupations include the following:

- Secretary/clerk
- Security/fire/medical personnel
- Engineer
- Electrician
- Pipefitter
- Carpenter
- Ironworker
- Manager/supervisor
- Millwright
- Driver
- Nuclear process operator
- Nuclear chemical operator
- Health physics technician

Continued on page 12.

Beryllium-affected Hanford nurse shares her story, cont.

of facilities where beryllium had been used or stored at Hanford. Her co-worker encouraged her to get tested for sensitivity, but Sams was hesitant because she'd never knowingly worked with beryllium and was unaware of her building's history. After her co-worker persisted, Sams agreed. She was shocked when she found out she had tested positive for sensitization: "I would have never thought that I was exposed to beryllium — let alone was affected by it. No one told me that I was working in a building that had beryllium in it."

Sams is now the beryllium case-management specialist at the Hanford Environmental Health Foundation, where she helps others who may have been exposed to beryllium. As a nurse, she urges anyone who worked with beryllium, or who thinks he or she could have been in a building where beryllium was used, to get tested. "You just don't know until you get tested," Sams said. "There aren't any signs or symptoms of sensitization. Even the blood test is not foolproof. That's why a complete work history and physical exam are needed to determine your risk of being affected by beryllium."

Testing for sensitization is important because the condition can develop into chronic beryllium disease, a sometimes-fatal disabling lung disease. When detected early, CBD may be treated, though not cured. There are medications available that can often alleviate symptoms of CBD, so an early diagnosis is important for a person's well-being.

"Early detection can maintain your wellness so you can improve your quality of life," said Sams. "There's no way to stop the disease, but knowing can allow you to cope with the symptoms better. By monitoring your condition on a regular basis, doctors can see the process and delay the progression with treatment."

Sams urges those who have been exposed but have tested negative to "maintain testing, because sensitization isn't something that happens right away. We test individuals enrolled in the beryllium program who are not beryllium-assigned workers every three years," she said.

Even if you personally have not been exposed to beryllium, you may know someone who has been. Many long-time Hanford employees have unknowingly been in the older buildings at the site that are now known to have a beryllium history. As in Sams' case, most individuals who get tested have been encouraged by friends or co-workers. "One-on-one communication is the most effective way to encourage others to get tested and to spread awareness of this problem," she said.

For questions or additional information about testing and exposure to beryllium, contact Mary Sams at 376-6000, or Terry Cherney, chairman of the Beryllium Awareness Group, at 376-6006 or via e-mail to [HEHF Beryllium](mailto:HEHF@hanford.gov). Retirees should contact the Former Hanford Worker's Medical Monitoring Program at (800) 419-9691. The Hanford Web site for information on beryllium and testing is at www.hanford.gov/safety/beryllium. ■

FH manager and USCG Auxiliary member advocates water and boating safety

After car accidents, drowning is the second most frequent cause of accidental death for youth 14 years and under, and is the number-one killer of children under the age of four. Every year, hundreds of children drown at home, victims of accidents in swimming pools and bathtubs.

In summer and at the beginning of fishing and boating seasons, public service announcements remind us to exercise caution and wear lifejackets around our state's waterways to prevent drowning.

Year-round, Fluor Hanford's John Umbarger, manager of Fluor Hanford's Community Programs and member of the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary Flotilla 85, personally takes this message to Hanford workers and community members as the public affairs representative for both the USCG Aids to Navigation Team (ANT) Kennewick station on Clover Island and USCG Auxiliary Flotilla 85.

Umbarger presents his tips on avoiding drowning in the many safety presentations he gives to Hanford workers, local service and community groups. Umbarger is also a regular teacher for the eight-hour boating safety course taught to local boaters.

Here are some of the measures to avoid drowning that Umbarger presents:

- At home, never ever leave a very young child unsupervised in a pool or tub, not even for a minute to run to another area or to answer the phone.
- Learn to swim and use approved swimming areas protected by lifeguards. Never dive into small backyard above-ground pools. Too many spinal injuries happen, leaving the victim either dead or handicapped for life.
- Always try to swim or boat with a buddy. Remember the old Boy Scout "buddy system"? It works.
- Never mix alcohol with swimming or boating. When an accident occurs, you will need all of your abilities unimpaired by the alcohol to save your life and the lives of your family members or friends.
- Always wear your life jacket when you are boating. Put life jackets on children before getting to the dock. A life jacket is impossible to put on once you are in the water, assuming you can even find it in time. The cold water of Washington lakes and rivers makes this doubly important because hypothermia quickly saps both your strength and ability to hold on to anything floating.
- Have your boat inspected by the USCG Auxiliary for free.
- Take a boating safety class such as the one taught by the USCG Auxiliary.

Are you interested in serving our community and our country? Umbarger recommends you consider joining the Auxiliary, an integral arm of the USCG in its homeland-defense role. The Auxiliary's 35,000 volunteers nationally perform all USCG functions, missions and duties except law enforcement and military operations. The Auxiliary was chartered by Congress in 1939 and calls itself America's Volunteer Lifesavers. The Auxiliary provides almost \$1 billion in service each year to the government and public at a fraction of that cost.

Contact Umbarger at 372-1551 for more information on the USGS Auxiliary, its services, classes and opportunities for community involvement. ■



During a recent employee safety meeting, Bill Ritter and Manny DeLeon of Fluor Hanford participated in an exercise conducted by John Umbarger demonstrating the need to have and wear the appropriately-sized life jacket while boating. Ritter, who is wearing a child's life jacket, may not have survived a real-life boating accident. Umbarger urges everyone to wear an appropriately-sized life jacket at all times while boating.

Hanford crews continue moving FFTF fuel

Fluor Hanford cleanup crews are continuing to move nuclear fuel out of the Fast Flux Test Facility as deactivating the reactor continues.

“This is another important step in our work for the Department of Energy to deactivate FFTF,” said Bruce Klos, FFTF acting project director for Fluor Hanford. “We’ve loaded 147 of the reactor’s 375 fuel assemblies into dry storage casks and moved the casks to a safe storage location outside the facility. Our workforce is highly skilled, and the fuel movement is running smoothly.”

Crews use specialized lifts to move the highly radioactive fuel out of a storage vessel near the reactor vessel, and they work behind thick panes of shielded glass to wash the fuel assemblies and place them into canisters. Seven fuel assemblies are loaded into each canister. The canisters are then loaded into dry storage casks that meet strict requirements for safe storage and transportation of fuel outside the facility.

The crews have loaded and removed three casks of reactor fuel from FFTF since deactivation work resumed in April. During an earlier fuel-removal campaign in the mid-1990s, crews removed 18 casks of fuel from the reactor and placed them on a storage pad outside the facility. Removing the rest of the fuel from the reactor will be finished in early 2006.

Fluor Hanford will soon begin moving the fuel casks several miles to two existing facilities in the center of Hanford to store the casks until a national disposal location is determined.

After the fuel has been removed, crews will drain the remaining 210,000 gallons of liquid sodium from the reactor’s cooling loops and storage tanks into a sodium storage facility next to the reactor. Approximately 50,000 gallons of liquid sodium were removed from secondary cooling loops in April.

“We have a green light to continue with this deactivation work over the next several years,” said Beth Bilson, DOE-Richland’s assistant manager for the River Corridor. “Next will come the decommissioning phase, which is essentially putting the reactor into its final end state. We’ve committed to analyzing the alternatives in an environmental impact statement, and there will be a full public-involvement process so we can hear from the surrounding communities on what FFTF’s end state should be. For example, should we entomb it below ground? Should we remove it entirely? Those are examples of the types of alternatives we need to analyze and hear from the public on.” ■



Workers at the Fast Flux Test Facility are moving the reactor fuel to safe storage.

Bomb Threat Card helps you provide critical information for emergency and security personnel



The Hanford Bomb Threat Card (form number BD-9100-201)* is a useful tool that prompts you on what questions to ask and what critical information is needed by emergency and security personnel.

Take the Security Ed Challenge: Of the list provided below, which one is *not* a recommended action to take if a bomb threat is received?

- A. Take down the appropriate information and do not hang up the phone (this may help with the follow-up investigation)
- B. If possible, use another phone to call 9-1-1* or the building emergency director or building warden
- C. If an alarm is sounded to evacuate the building, take the time to call your family so they will not worry
- D. As you evacuate, take a look around and if you see a suspicious object, report your observation to emergency personnel or your building emergency director or building warden

Do you know the answer? Send an e-mail message with the action you *should not* take if a bomb threat is made (indicate "Ed's Bomb Threat Notification" in the subject line) to C. E. (Chet) Braswell, or clip this article, circle the correct answer, add your name and Hanford identification number, and send your response to Security Education at L4-09. Prizes will be awarded to randomly drawn correct entries. The names of prizewinners and the correct answer will appear in a future *Hanford Reach* article.

If you would like more copies of the Bomb Threat Card, contact Mary Brown or Chet Braswell. CH2M HILL Hanford Group employees can contact Jeff McNeill.

***Note:** The Pacific Northwest National Laboratory Bomb Threat Card directs PNNL personnel to call the single point of contact at 375-2400 and the building emergency director.

Submitted By _____ Hanford ID No. _____

Mailstop _____



Regular Features



Classes

Skills Lab offers July brush-up classes

A few spots are left in the Skills Lab brush-up session for grammar and spelling skills. The following classes will be offered 7:30-11:30 a.m. in room 31 of the Volpentest HAMMER Training and Education Center Administration Building on Horn Rapids Road:

- **“Goof-Proofing your Grammar”** will be offered Tuesday, July 22. In this class you will learn to fix the most frequent grammatical goofs: pronoun problems; mangled modifiers; easily confused words; proper use of who/whom, lie/lay, bring/take, who/which/that; pronoun-antecedent agreement; subject-verb agreement; and parallel phrasing.
- **“Successful Spelling”** will be offered Thursday, July 24. In this class you will review common spelling demons and learn to spell them correctly, and you will master the “Terrible Ten” — the 10 most-often misspelled words — and clarify commonly confused words. You will also learn crucial key rules for spelling more than 4,000 words correctly and get memory tricks to help you remember what you learn.

There is no charge for either of the classes, but seats are filling rapidly, so reserve space now by calling Kathy Dechter at 376-3250.

Personal Protection Safety Measures July 29-30

The Northwest Public Power Association is presenting “Personal Protection Safety Measures,” a two-day class at the Volpentest HAMMER Training and Education Center July 29-30. This course will cover the physiology of electrical shock and treatment; the Occupational Safety and Health Administration’s mandated electrical requirements; the role and use of NFPA 70E; and over-600-volt applications. The cost is \$1,145. To register, contact Wendy Carlson at (360) 254-0109 or visit www.nwppa.org.

Counterintelligence seminars offered by PNNL

On July 29-31, the Department of Energy Nonproliferation and National Security Institute Counterintelligence Training Academy, in conjunction with the DOE Richland Counterintelligence Office and the Pacific Northwest National Laboratory Counterintelligence Office, will present five training events. These seminars are available to all employees. Space is limited and

reservations will be made on a first-come-first-served basis. Full seminar descriptions can be viewed at <http://www.pnl.gov/ci/training.stm>. Make your reservation by contacting Cheryl Barthuly at 372-6014 or at Cheryl.Barthuly@pnl.gov no later than July 23.

- **Counterintelligence Awareness for DOE (CNA-100)** — July 29-30; 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m.; NSB, Snoqualmie Room. This seminar provides current awareness-level information on the foreign intelligence threat and the crime of espionage.
- **A Classified Briefing on the Terrorist Threat** — July 31, 9-11 a.m.; RTL, Hanford Room. This seminar will be a classified briefing at the Secret Level that will include both national and local-area relevant threat information. An “L” or higher clearance is required to attend.
- **Food and Agricultural Security: Threats, Vulnerabilities and Consequences** — July 31, noon-1:30 p.m., Battelle Auditorium. The U.S. agricultural and food supply system is vulnerable to industrial sabotage and terrorist attacks. Aimed at the nation’s food supply system, these attacks could have significant health, economic, psychological and political consequences that could be more devastating than attacks on the human population.
- **The Foreign Intelligence Threat Seminar, the Cyber Version (CNA-150)** — July 31; 1-4:30 p.m.; NSB, Snoqualmie Room A. This seminar stresses the proactive integration and use of information-security and intrusion-detection capabilities to deter, detect, prevent or neutralize technical attacks and intelligence-gathering activities.
- **Economic Espionage: Protecting Intellectual Property Seminar (CNA-152)** — July 31; 1-4:30 p.m.; NSB, Snoqualmie Room B. This seminar provides a dynamic, highly participatory learning experience designed to provide an overview of intellectual property threats, vulnerabilities, the risks associated with scientific interaction (collaboration) and the measures each of us can take to protect our trade secrets.

Training sessions for P-Card holders scheduled

The Fluor Hanford Supply Chain Management organization is sponsoring some hands-on training for new P-Card holders who need to learn how to use the

Classes continued on next page.

Regular Features



Classes, cont.

eStore Marketplace Web ordering method for materials. This training is also being provided to veteran users as refresher training. The training sessions will be held twice daily on Aug. 5, 6 and 7, 7-8:30 a.m. and 3-4:30 p.m. in room 121 at 2430 Stevens. Please send an e-mail message to ^eStore Support to reserve a spot in one of the training sessions, or for more information. All P-Card holders are welcome to attend.

Instruction on revised DOE 435.1 at HAMMER

The Resource Training Institute will present "DOE 435.1 Radioactive Waste Management Training," sponsored by CH2M HILL Hanford Group, on Aug. 11-13 at the Volpentest HAMMER Training and Education Center. The course provides detailed instruction on the requirements of the revised DOE O 435.1, the manual and implementation guide; outlines key changes; introduces compliance strategies; and provides opportunities for participants to apply the key requirements through student exercises. The course includes a final comprehensive exam. The cost is \$725. Participants will receive 2.4 continuing education units for completion of this course. For more information and to register, visit the Web site at <http://www.rtii.org>. ♦



Calendar

Fluor and HEHF present seminar on managing stress

Poor stress management can affect our families, friendships and professional abilities. People who do not handle stress well can develop physical and emotional problems. Fluor Hanford Safety and Hanford Environmental Health Foundation's Behavioral Health Services will present a seminar, "Stress," to teach you a number of ways you can take control of your stress so it does not affect you adversely. You may fulfill your safety-meeting requirement by attending "Stress," which will be presented at the following locations on the Hanford Site:

- July 21, 2-3 p.m., MO-278, 200W
- July 24, 2-3 p.m., room 153, 2420 Stevens Center
- July 28, 2-3 p.m., room 142, Federal Building
- Aug. 4, 2-3 p.m., Bijou Room, 2101-M, 200E.

For more information call Carol Powe of Fluor Hanford

at 376-8886 or MaRene Luckey of HEHF at 376-4418.

Demonstration of Chinese Language Interface

The Chinese Language Interface is now available in *Cambridge Scientific Abstracts*, and you can access it from your desktop. Bilingual staff members of the Hanford Technical Library will demonstrate how to find information on toxicology, water science, government-sponsored research and other topics from multiple *Cambridge Scientific Abstract* databases on July 24 from noon to 1 p.m. in the Wenatchee Room of ETB on the Pacific Northwest National Laboratory campus. Contact Yung Harbison at 372-7453 or at yung.harbison@pnl.gov for more information.

Blood drawing at Federal Building on Aug. 7

The American Red Cross will hold a blood drawing at the Federal Building on Thursday, Aug. 7, from 11 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Note that these are new hours for the blood drawing. Registration will take place in the lobby, with the drawing in the bloodmobile in the parking lot north of the building. To schedule an appointment, call the Red Cross at (800) 787-9691.

CREHST offers camps for 5th-through-8th-graders

The Columbia River Exhibition of History, Science and Technology will hold summer camps during the week of July 28-Aug. 1 for students entering fifth and sixth grades, and during the week of Aug. 4-8 for students entering seventh and eighth grades. The theme for the summer camps will be the Lewis and Clark Corps of Discovery and will include scientific activities, crafts and artistic projects surrounding the following topics: ancestry of dogs, study of raptors, mapping and exploration skills, the nature of sound and Native American culture. The camp fee is \$40 for CREHST member families and \$55 for non-member families. For more information and to register, call CREHST at 943-9000. Participation is limited to 20 students per session. The camp will be held in Richland's Howard Amon Park near the museum.

Safety and Health Conference takes place Oct. 3

"Emerging Issues in Safety and Health" is the title of the third Safety and Health Conference to be held Oct. 3, 8 a.m.-5 p.m. at the Volpentest HAMMER Training and Education Center. The topics will

Calendar continued on next page.

Regular Features



Calendar, cont.

emphasize the safety challenges presented by emerging issues such as the aging workforce, regulatory shifts, funding restrictions and emergency planning in today's troubled world. The Lower Columbia Basin Chapter of the American Society of Safety Engineers, the Tri-City Education Committee of the Pacific Northwest Section of the American Industrial Hygiene Association and the Northwest Chapter of the System Safety Society are sponsoring the conference. If paid before Sept. 1, the conference fee is \$100 (\$85 for speakers, \$35 for students). After Sept. 1, the fee is \$125 (\$100 for speakers, \$45 for students). The fee includes lunch and refreshments. Attendees will receive 0.7 continuing education credits or 1 CIH Certification Maintenance Point. Eight speakers, a nationally known keynote speaker and a HAMMER tour are planned. For more information, contact John Cavanaugh at 373-9625 or at john_e_jr_cavanaugh@rl.gov, or John Hinckley at 371-4408 or at jhinckle@bechtel.com. ♦

UW-funded program seeks volunteer mentors

The Epic Partners Mentoring Program, a United Way-funded program, is seeking volunteers for its mentoring service for Tri-Cities children — a one-on-one program similar to Big Brothers and Big Sisters. Mentors must be at least 18 years old, self-confident, dependable and good role models for kids. They are asked to commit to at least one visit per week with a young partner. For more information, contact Christine Clem at 528-7102 or send e-mail to epicpar1@aol.com.



Vanpools

Vanpool ads are run for two weeks. Ads must be resubmitted to run in subsequent issues of the *Hanford Reach*. The deadline for submission is Thursday, 10 days prior to publication.

Day and Zimmermann Protection Technology Hanford reminds employees to wear their badges while on site and be prepared to show them when passing through a barricade. Vehicle drivers are responsible for ensuring their passengers are badged prior to leaving their point of embarkation. A vehicle driver who transports an unbadged person through a barricade and the unbadged person will be issued Security Incident Notices and the unbadged person will be escorted off site. Re-entry is not allowed until a proper badge is obtained.

KENNEWICK

Rider needed for vanpool to 200W. Picks up at Shopko and drops off at T Plant, WRAP and 200W tank farms. Call **Debbie** at 372-2698. 7/14

RICHLAND

Carpool from Albertson's on Gage Boulevard to 200E. Drops off at 2727E and 2704-HV. 8x9s, shared driving. Contact **Kevin** at 373-4175 for details. 7/21

Vanpool Express to 200E (2750-E local area) needs several riders, 8x9s. Monthly rate as low as \$35. Leaves former Hanford bus lot (across from 2440 Stevens) at 6:25 a.m. and drops off at 2750-E local area. Contact **Dave Hedengren** at 373-5094. 7/14 ♦



Kudos

Local ACHMM members win awards

Four members of the Eastern Washington Chapter of the Academy of Certified Hazardous Materials Managers are among 30 members the ACHMM National Headquarters honored with the Champion of Excellence Award. Current chapter president **Terry Winward** and former chapter presidents **Rampur Viswanath**, **Roni Swan** and **Bruce Vesper** are being honored. Vesper is also the single national recipient of the Special Achievements for the ACHMM Award. The

Kudos continued on next page.

Regular Features



Kudos, cont.

awards will be presented at the ACHMM National Conference, Sept. 14-17 in Dallas, Texas. Membership in the Eastern Washington Chapter of the ACHMM is open to all professionals in the eastern Washington area. The chapter holds 10 meetings per year and annual membership dues are \$25. Contact Terry Winward at 376-5223 for more information.

ERC announces employee performance awards

The Environmental Restoration Contractor team recognizes employee contributions and successes that are linked to job-performance excellence and the continuous-improvement objectives of the ERC. Awards associated with the various recognition levels include certificates, cash or cash-value awards and mementos.

There are four levels of awards:

The Gold Award, presented to individuals or teams whose accomplishments have an impact on ERC or are applicable to other Department of Energy sites

The Silver Award, presented to individuals or teams whose efforts have an impact at the project or function level

The Bronze Award, presented to individuals or teams whose efforts improve work-group activities or processes

The On The Spot Award, recognizing performance within the immediate workscope.

Winners listed are for the period April through June 2003.

Gold Individual Awards

Benjamin Moyers
Jess Hinman

Silver Individual Awards

Donna Yasek
Joan Woolard
Carla Hetzer

Bronze Individual Awards

Homer Boothe
Daniel Bigby

Gold Team Awards

The following employees were members of the winning team:

Scott Curry
Michael Dillon
Barry Headley
John Owens

Silver Team Awards

The following employees were members of the two winning teams:

Jason Foley	Mike Dillon
Erik Lau	Barry Headley
Benjamin Moyers	Donald Hodgson
Paula Rosenberger	Timothy McKinney
Joel Arana	Jeffrey Pappin
Marilyn Dickenson	Timothy Snider

Bronze Team Awards

The following employees were members of the winning team:

Matthew Buechler	Todd Nelson
John Crigler	Keith Shea
Brenda Kenton	Mark Zieske

On the Spot Awards

Seventy-two employees were recognized.