

# American Board Of Health Physics

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## ANNUAL NEWSLETTER OF THE AMERICAN BOARD OF HEALTH PHYSICS

APRIL 1983

Dear Colleague:

The American Board of Health Physics has just completed its 24th year of operation. There are 790 individuals holding comprehensive certification in health physics with the addition of 45 candidates certified during the past year. Also, there are 26 individuals certified in power reactor health physics, a specialty certification program begun in 1979. During the past year, the Board has taken the initiative to promote the organization of Certified Health Physicists into a body which will give individual CHP's an opportunity to interact better with the Board and influence its policy. In addition, the Board has contracted with Society and Association Services Corporation (SASC) for Executive Secretary services beginning January 1983.

This newsletter provides a summary of Board activities during the past year, which should be of interest to all Certified Health Physicists. The specific items discussed in the newsletter are as follows:

- 1) Executive Secretary
- 2) Re-certification information
- 3) Changes in examination procedures and qualifications
- 4) Results of 1982 written and oral exams
- 5) Organization of Certified Health Physicists
- 6) Board and Panel appointments
- 7) Request for volunteers for the Panels of Examiners and Continuing Education Panel
- 8) Fee changes
- 9) American Board of Industrial Hygiene certification
- 10) Revision of By-laws
- 11) Expression of appreciation to Tony Greenhouse

Respectfully submitted,

Kenneth R. Kase, Secretary/Treasurer

## 1: Executive Secretary

Two years ago when Mike Terpilak retired from the Board, the Board contracted with him for Executive Secretary services. This was the first time the American Board had utilized the services of an Executive Secretary, and over the past two years Mike, and Beth Taschner, have performed an extremely important function in bringing some order to Board operations and records. The Board's functions have increased in the past years because of the initiation of the re-certification program and the necessity of certifying continuing education courses. In addition, there has been a significant increase in the number of persons applying for exams, which has entailed more work on the part of the Board and its Executive Secretary. As the members of the Board became more aware of the services which were needed and the services which an Executive Secretary could supply, it became clear that the greatest need was for administrative and business management services. Consequently, as of 1 January 1983, the Executive Secretary services for the American Board of Health Physics will be provided by the Society and Association Services Corporation in Bethesda, MD. Future correspondence should be addressed to:

American Board of Health Physics  
Richard J. Burk, Jr., Executive Secretary  
4720 Montgomery Lane  
Bethesda, MD 20814  
301/654-3080

The Board gives its sincere appreciation to both Mike Terpilak and Beth Taschner for the services they have rendered in this period of transition. We look forward to a continuing association with Mike because of his many years of activity in Board affairs and the expertise which he can bring to the Board, as needed, concerning the technical and administrative procedures of the certification process. He has been retained by SASC as a technical consultant to provide assistance on ABHP activities.

The functions of the Executive Secretary's office will be to process the certification applications, coordinate the testing procedure, communicate results to the applicants, process applications for re-certification, maintain files on each Certified Health Physicist, process course applications for continuing education, and maintain an index of approved courses. In addition, the office will respond to requests for information from Certified Health Physicists and potential applicants and provide general financial and business management services. Any technical questions regarding the certification examination process should be referred to a Board member.

## 2: Re-certification information

To remain on the list of active Certified Health Physicists, all those individuals who received their certification prior to 1979 should by now have completed and submitted an application for re-certification. The deadline for submission of an application for those certified in the year 1979 is 31 December 1983. All re-certification applications should be sent to the Executive Secretary.

Those individuals who received their certification prior to 1979 and have not applied for re-certification will be placed on an inactive roster. Active status can be regained by completing and submitting the appropriate application form for re-certification. Only active Certified Health Physicists will be listed in the Health Physics Society handbook as of October 1983.

The Continuing Education Panel approved 90 applications for credit in 1981 and by June of this year had received 59 new applications. The Board agreed that graduate-level courses in Health Physics, or related areas in which applicants are examined by the Board, and given by accredited universities, may be approved for continuing education credit on the basis of 2 credits per quarter hour of university credit. Application for these credits must be accompanied by appropriate documentation and should be submitted with the application for recertification.

### 3: Changes in examination procedure and qualifications

At the June Board meeting, a revised policy was adopted governing the procedure for applying for, and being admitted to, the certification exam. The revised policy is as follows:

- 1) Complete applications (including all letters of recommendation, other supporting documents and required fees) must be received (or postmarked) by the Executive Secretary no later than 15 January of the year the applicant expects to take the examination. Late or incomplete applications will be held for the following year's examination.
- 2) Candidates will be notified by 1 March of their approval and asked to select the location at which they will write the exam. If no location is selected, the candidate will be assigned to the annual meeting location of the Health Physics Society.
- 3) Each candidate will be sent an admission card, specifying the location at which he or she should appear for the exam, by certified mail, at least 45 days prior to the exam. A signed return receipt must be received by the Executive Secretary's office to validate the admission card. Each proctor will be sent a list of the approved candidates who have returned signed agreements to appear for the exam at their location. Only persons on the proctor's list will be admitted to the exam.
- 4) No changes will be allowed.

In addition, the Board has adopted the following policy concerning requirements for eligibility for certification:

- 1) A Bachelor's degree in a physical science or engineering, or life science with a minor in physical science, from an accredited college or university.
- 2) Six years of responsible professional-level post-baccalaureate experience in health physics, of which three years shall be in applied health physics. A Master of Science degree in Health Physics or a closely related area of study may, at the discretion of the Board, be substituted for one year of the required experience; a Ph.D. may be substituted for two years. Technician-level experience will in no case be acceptable as meeting the experience requirements.
- 3) Successfully sitting for the prescribed examinations of the Board.
- 4) These requirements shall not be retroactive and shall not apply to applications received prior to 15 January 1984.

#### 4: Results of the 1982 written and oral examination

##### a. Comprehensive certification written exam

Of the 179 candidates who took Part I of the exam, 103 (58%) passed. Of the 61 candidates completing Parts I and II of the examination, 36 (59%) passed, 10 failed, and 15 will be offered the option of taking an oral exam or repeating Part I and/or Part II as appropriate.

##### b. Power reactor specialty exam

Of the 20 candidates taking this exam, 9 (45%) passed, 4 failed, and 7 will be offered the option of an oral examination or retaking the exam.

In addition, two candidates were granted certification with the exam requirement waived, and one candidate who had previously passed Part II, passed Part I this year and was granted certification.

##### c. Oral examinations

21 candidates appeared for the oral examination at the annual meeting in Las Vegas. Of these candidates, 9 received comprehensive certification in Health Physics.

##### a. List of health physicists receiving comprehensive certification in 1982:

John P. Albers	Lester K. Aldrich, II
John F. Alexander	James H. Barker
David G. Blair	Richard Burklin
Leslie W. Cole	J. Donald Cossairt
Edward R. Cumming	Robert T. Devine
Kenneth P. Ferlic	Stephen M. Garry
Glenn P. Glasgow	Ira L. Haas
Robert E. Halliburton	William A. Homyk
Hong-Nian J. Jow	Terry A. Johnson
Lewis Jolly, Jr.	Brian A. Kelly
John D. Kinneman	James M. Langsted
Larry W. Lockett	Paul J. Magno
Larry R. McKay	Robert L. Metzger
Robert L. Morris	Scott P. Murray
Wilbur L. Nees	Ronald L. Nimitz
Nicholas M. Panzarino	Wu-Hung Peng
Robert P. Powers	G. Gregory Pyle
Bernard R. Quinn	Eugene M. Rollins
Dwight M. Ross	Michael T. Ryan
John F. Schmitt	David R. Simpson
Dale L. Swindle	Michael G. Trent
Edward A. Tupin	Michael W. White
Robert C. Yoder	

##### e. List of health physicists receiving certification in the power reactor specialty in 1982:

William H. Barley, Jr.	Joseph L. Beer
L. A. Blue	William T. Cash
Joseph L. Danek	Richard W. Dubiel
Steven Masciulli	Joseph E. Massey
Michael J. Russell	John A. Serabian
John R. Wray	

## 5: Organization of Certified Health Physicists

At the Health Physics Society meeting in Las Vegas, the American Board of Health Physics conducted an information session for all Certified Health Physicists in attendance. At that session, the Board's activities as well as its financial condition were discussed in great detail. As a result of that meeting, a Steering Committee was organized to develop a proposal for an organization of Certified Health Physicists. Jack Selby, of Battelle Northwest Laboratories, was chosen to chair this committee.

At the present time, this committee is working on a proposed organizational structure, a statement of purpose and proposed by-laws and methods of operation for such an organization. A draft of this proposal is expected to be available prior to the 1983 Health Physics Society meeting in Baltimore. When available, it will be sent to all Certified Health Physicists for their information and reactions.

## 6: Board and panel appointments

### a. Board appointments

Jerry Everett was nominated by the Health Physics Society Board of Directors and appointed to the Board for a full term beginning in January 1983.

The following officers have been elected for 1983:

Neil Gaeta, Chairman  
Lester Slaback, Vice-Chairman  
Kenneth Kase, Secretary/Treasurer

### b. Panel appointments

Comprehensive Certification Examination Panel:

The following individuals have accepted four-year appointments to the Panel: John Kaufman, Dale Denham, John Arras.

The Panel officers for the coming year will be:

Leroy F. Booth, Chairman  
Carl Distenfeld, Vice-Chairman

Power Reactor Examination Panel: The following individuals have accepted four-year appointments to the Panel: Dennis Quinn, Gerald Troup. Officers appointed for the panel beginning January 1983 are:

John Mann, Chairman  
John Kelly, Vice-Chairman

Continuing Education Panel: Bernie Shleien has accepted appointment as Chairman for 1983.

The Board is very appreciative of the work of outgoing Panel members, and especially of the services of the retiring chairpersons, Jerry Everett, Bill Allen and Jean St. Germain.

## 7: Request for volunteers for Panel of Examiners and Continuing Education Panel

Any Certified Health Physicist who is interested in serving on a Panel of Examiners or the Continuing Education Panel are encouraged to contact any member of the Board or the respective panel chairman. The function of the Comprehensive Examination Panel is to revise and update Part I of the Exam and generate and grade Part II of the Comprehensive Exam. Occasionally, Panel members also serve on the oral examination panels. The Power Reactor Examination Panel prepares and grades Part II of the Power Reactor Exam. The function of the Continuing Education Panel is to review courses submitted for continuing education requirements and assign appropriate continuing education credit.

## 8: Fee changes

To meet the continually increasing expenses associated with administering the certification exams, the continuing education program and the re-certification of health physicists, the Board decided that certain increases needed to be made in the fees charged for these examinations and for the re-certification program. Consequently, as of 15 January 1983, the fee for the Certification Exam will be \$150.00 for each part. In addition, the same fee, \$150.00, will be charged for certification in the power reactor specialty, whether or not an examination is required. The \$40.00 fee for the certificate plaque will be eliminated starting in 1984.

As of 1 January 1983, an annual \$25.00 fee will be instituted for maintenance of certification (\$100.00 total over a 4 year recertification cycle). The present \$20.00 re-certification fee will be eliminated. To remain an active Certified Health Physicist, an individual will be required to meet the re-certification requirements and pay the total \$100.00 maintenance fee.

## 9: American Board of Industrial Hygiene certification

The American Board of Industrial Hygiene has adopted a policy to grant certification in their radiologic safety specialty to any Certified Health Physicist who passes Part I of the ABIH certification. This policy will apply only to those health physicists holding comprehensive certification and who are active on the CHP role.

## 10: By-law revision

The Board is in the process of revising its by-laws and a draft revision has been sent to the Health Physics Society Board of Directors for review and comment. This revision is intended to make the American Board of Health Physics more independent from the Health Physics Society and more responsive to Certified Health Physicists.

## 11: Expression of appreciation to Tony Greenhouse

The Board expresses its sincere appreciation to Tony Greenhouse for his 5 years of service on the Board. Tony has served as Chairman of the Board for the past two years.

SECRETARIAT NOTES

- As noted in the Newsletter, *applications for examinations* must be received by 15 January (page 3). This is a change from previous years, and we ask that you pass this information on to colleagues who may be expecting to take the examination in 1984.
- As of 1 January 1983, an *annual \$25 fee* has been instituted for maintenance of certification (page 6). The invoices will be issued shortly.
- At the HPS Las Vegas Annual Meeting, a Special Workshop was held on whether an *American Academy of Health Physics* should be established. A session will also be held at the HPS Meeting in Baltimore, and CHP's are urged to attend.
- CHP's are reminded that there is a *re-certification process*. Those certified in the year 1979 must submit a re-certification application by 31 December 1983. Those certified prior to 1979, who have not applied for re-certification, will be placed on the inactive roster.
- The ABHP will sponsor an *exhibit booth* at the HPS Annual Meeting in Baltimore. If you would like to volunteer some time to man the booth, contact the Secretariat.

HAVE YOU MOVED OR HAD A CHANGE IN YOUR TELEPHONE NUMBER?  
PLEASE HELP US KEEP OUR RECORDS UP-TO-DATE.

## CHANGE OF ADDRESS/CORRECTION OF INFORMATION FORM

We request that you examine the mailing label on this newsletter and send us any changes or corrections which we should record. YOUR COOPERATION IN HELPING US MAINTAIN AS CURRENT A MAILING LIST AS POSSIBLE WOULD BE GREATLY APPRECIATED. Return this form to: ABHP, 4720 Montgomery Lane, Suite 506, Bethesda, MD 20814. Thank you.

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

Affix mailing label here:

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City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

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SHOULD ANY OF THE FOLLOWING FROM THE FIRST LINE OF YOUR MAILING LABEL BE CHANGED?

YEAR OF CERTIFICATION: \_\_\_\_\_  
(two digit number)

FOR YOUR INFORMATION: IF THERE IS A 12/85, 12/86, etc. NUMBER ON THE FIRST LINE OF YOUR LABEL, IT INDICATES THE DEADLINE FOR YOUR RE-CERTIFICATION.

MEMBER TYPE: \_\_\_\_\_  
C=comprehensive I=inactive  
P=power reactor E=emeritus  
D=dual