

The CHP Corner, May 2021

For CHPs, aspiring CHPs, and anyone else on the bell curve.



The American Academy of Health Physics

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CHP IN THE SPOTLIGHT: JOHN CRAPO

Dan Sowers, CHP Corner Editor

We can all sleep easy at night knowing a true expert supervises the collective radiological consequence management assets with the Nuclear Emergency Support Team (NEST) – the Aerial Measuring System, the National Atmospheric Release Advisory Center, and the Radiation Emergency Assistance Center/Training Site. This month, we feature John Crapo as our May 2021 CHP in the Spotlight!

Growing up in suburban Maryland, he travelled the country and the world for over 26 years during his active-duty Navy time as both an enlisted submariner and commissioned radiation health officer. Returning close to home, he honed his skills in nuclear security and chemical, biological, radiological, and nuclear event response in the Washington, DC area with both the Oak Ridge Institute for Science and Education and Cubic Global Defense, Inc prior to his current assignment with the NEST.

Through John's public health service, he pursued certification because it "communicates a commitment to life-long learning." When it comes to preparing for the ABHP examinations, John stresses time management is critical. To this end, he reminds soon to be exam takers under the pressure of the clock: "perfection is the enemy of good enough." Show the graders you know what you are talking about, but do not spend so much time answering a single question it detracts from the rest of your answers. Active in the Baltimore-Washington Chapter of the Health Physics Society, he contributes to the development of the next generation of certified health physicists by continuing to host and promote their certification review course.

In addition to the math and physics expertise associated with a knowledgeable CHP, John stresses the importance of "soft" skills. He forwards a

reminder that "the smartest, most technically astute health physicist will be limited if s/he does not have good people skills, the ability to work in a team environment, and, as time passes, work effectively as a manager." Let us also remember those people you work with today will be part of a network that can serve you well, especially in the age of instant communications and LinkedIn, if those present-day interactions are positive.

Following the sage advice and the important work he is doing to keep us all safe, here's a toast to John Crapo, our May 2021 CHP in the Spotlight!

FROM THE PRESIDENT-ELECT: CALL FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST TO SERVE ON AAHP COMMITTEES

Gus Potter, AAHP President-elect

If you didn't know already, you can give back to your profession by serving on an AAHP committee! The committee listing may be found at: www.aahp-abhp.org/index.php/organization/committees (though note the Finance Committee membership is predetermined). I will need to replace quite a number of committee members beginning in January 2022. **I am especially interested in our newer CHPs**, since we really need new viewpoints on how best to serve our membership.

Please take a look at the duties and responsibilities of the committees. If you are logged in as a member, you can read the details about how each of the committees are operated here: www.aahp-abhp.org/members-only/operations-documents. If you have an interest in serving, or have specific or general questions, please let me know directly by emailing me at gus.potter@aahp-abhp.org. If you are volunteering, please give me a "top 3 list" due to the limited number of positions available.