



# American Nuclear Society – Eastern Washington Section

2019 Local Section Best Meetings and Programs

# Tri-Cities Washington: Overview

- ▶ Pasco, Kennewick, and Richland (i.e., Tri-Cities) Washington, and surrounding areas is home to thousands of scientists, engineers, research and technical staff
- ▶ Hanford Site
  - ▶ Beginning in 1943, the 586-square miles site was used to produce plutonium for the bomb that brought an end to World War II. Production was increased in 1947 to meet the challenges of the “Cold War” and continued until 1987 when the last reactor ceased operation.
  - ▶ Waste Treatment and Immobilization Plant (WTP)
- ▶ Department of Energy, Richland Operations Office
- ▶ Pacific Northwest National Laboratory (PNNL)
- ▶ Columbia Generating Nuclear Station
- ▶ Washington State University Tri-Cities, and Columbia Basin College
- ▶ Laser Interferometer Gravitational-Wave Observatory (LIGO)
- ▶ Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) active in local schools

# Lessons-Learned

- ▶ Identify resources, strengths of the local region and interests of existing, new, and potential members
  - ▶ What are people in the area interested in....?
- ▶ Be flexible in identifying days/time/location to have board meetings and schedule presentations
  - ▶ Consider your audience (working full-time, retired, etc..)
- ▶ Make events a fun and comfortable environment to meet others, and maybe make new friends
  - ▶ Having food/snacks/drinks (including adult-drinks) is always a great way to make folks welcome
  - ▶ Hospitality is important, help new members feel welcome (they will *want* to come back)
- ▶ Be realistic with frequency of meetings and setting goals, meeting too often, organizing too many events may be too much to handle for members
  - ▶ Local section activities should not feel like work, should be fun and an engaging atmosphere to learn and meet new people

# Activity Examples

- ▶ Organize a variety of activities: presentations on technical topics, tours of local factories/plants, and social events (BBQ's, trivia contest, wine & cheese, etc...)
  - ▶ ANS-EWS hosts events with other technical societies, increases participation, great networking, and helps with sharing costs
- ▶ Support academic activities in the local community (includes volunteering)
  - ▶ Science Technology Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) programs in local schools
  - ▶ Mid-Columbia Science Fair
  - ▶ Seattle Friends of Fission
  - ▶ Scout merit badges
- ▶ Host and support conferences
  - ▶ Low Dose Radiance Conference, 2018, Pasco, WA
  - ▶ Nuclear and Emerging Technologies for Space (NETS), 2019, PNNL, Richland, WA
  - ▶ Nuclear Reactor Thermal Hydraulics (NURETH) Conference, 2019, Portland, OR