

THE 40th ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION OF THE CHRISTIAN NUCLEAR FELLOWSHIP

November 6-10, 2016

Caesar's Palace Conference Center, Las Vegas, NV



Photo taken by Vic at Monday's ANS plenary session

The Christian Nuclear Fellowship (CNF) celebrated its fortieth anniversary in conjunction with the 2016 Winter Meeting of the American Nuclear Society in Las Vegas. It was forty years ago this fall - at the ANS Winter Meeting on November 16, 1976 - that a group of Christian nuclear scientists and engineers gathered in the Madison Room at the old Sheraton Park Hotel in Washington, DC, to discuss how to integrate their faith and their profession more effectively, and how to apply Christian principles and Christian ethics in their work in the nuclear energy field.

That meeting in the fall of 1976 turned out to be the founding meeting of what a few months later became the Christian Nuclear Fellowship. Vic Uotinen shared a historic letter at the Las Vegas meeting, the letter he received from the American Nuclear Society in the fall of 1976, responding positively to Vic's request for a room where Christian ANS members could meet for that first meeting. The historic letter was read to those gathered at the CNF gathering in Las Vegas. We are exceedingly thankful to God for his faithfulness during these past 40 years; and thankful also to the ANS for the favor we have been granted by our professional society, which has continued to provide us a meeting room at each national ANS conference since 1976. We look forward to many more years of being able to provide a place where Christians engaged in nuclear science and engineering can meet for fellowship, networking and discussion concerning the intersection of their faith and their professional lives.



Founding Members Acknowledged –

Among the scientists and engineers who attended the CNF's fortieth anniversary celebration in Las Vegas were three who had been present at that very first meeting in Washington, D.C. in the fall of 1976 – Bob Wilson (U. S. Department of Energy), Charley Rombough (CTR-Technologies) and Vic Uotinen (Consultant). These founding members were acknowledged and thanked for their role in forming, shaping and guiding the Christian Nuclear Fellowship over four decades. They are pictured in the photo on the left, flanked by other current members of the CNF Advisory Committee members who were able to attend the Las Vegas conference.

From left to right, Robert Addis (Savannah River National Laboratory), Arnold Lumsdaine (Oak Ridge National Laboratory), Charles Rombough (CTR-Technologies), Vic Uotinen (Areva-retired), Bob Wilson (U. S. Department of Energy), and Carl Mazzola (Chicago

Bridge & Iron Federal Services). A seventh Advisory Committee member present at the meeting, Robert Hayes (North Carolina State University) was, unfortunately, not available for the after-breakfast photo session.

CNF “Power Breakfast” - The CNF capped its 40th anniversary celebration with a prayer breakfast (also known as the *CNF Power Breakfast*) on Wednesday morning. A letter written by Dr. Alan Waltar, Past-President of the ANS, was read at the breakfast meeting. In the letter, which had written specifically for the 40th anniversary events, Alan gave his brief reflections about the CNF’s impact on himself and on the ANS over forty years. (Alan had attended the Monday discussion group, but his schedule did not permit him to attend the Wednesday breakfast.) Our speaker, long-time ANS member and CNF Advisory Committee member, Carl Mazzola, then spoke on the topic, “Reflecting on God’s Faithfulness.” Carl summarized some of the early history that led to the founding of the CNF, reflected on God’s gracious faithfulness over these four decades, and encouraged all of us to continue serving the Lord with enthusiasm, energy and purposefulness within our chosen profession. Carl’s talk is posted on the CNF web site, <http://www.usnuclearenergy.org/cnf/About.htm>.



We thank God indeed for His faithfulness over these past four decades. With His blessing and enablement, the CNF has endeavored to serve faithfully as salt and light within the nuclear science and engineering community. Members of the CNF have been agents of transformation within our professional community as they have acted as “the salt of the earth” by impacting the nuclear science and engineering professional community in ways that have glorified our Lord. May we all continue to look for ways to glorify God within our profession by not hiding our “saltiness” but by letting our Christian faith and our allegiance to Christ be openly known, albeit in a gentle way, in a way that is not abrasive or offensive or “in-your-face.” We believe that as we do this, God will be honored and pleased, and we will also continue to enjoy the favor of our professional society, the American Nuclear Society, for years to come.



Finally, we were glad to welcome five first time guests at the CNF events in Las Vegas. That’s always a delight. It was a very special joy to also have in attendance Dr. Joo Han-gyu, a distinguished professor at the Seoul National University in South Korea. Han is a member of both the Korean Nuclear Society and the Korean Christian Nuclear Fellowship. He learned about the Las Vegas Christian Nuclear Fellowship meeting from his colleague, Dr. Poong Hyun Seong, who had attended the previous CNF breakfast in New Orleans in June of this year. We thank God for this connection with our Christian colleagues in Korea who share the same God-given calling with those of us in the CNF. In the photo on the left are Joo Han-gyu from Korea, Vic Uotinen from the State of Virginia, and Blair Bromley from Canada, all colleagues in the global fraternity of nuclear reactor physicists, and all also brothers in Christ.

The CNF Advisory Committee members are: Alan Waltar, Nolan Hertel, Howard Shaffer, Robert Addis, Arnold Lumsdaine, Carl Mazzola, Robert Wilson, Robert Hayes, Charles Rombough, Andrea Pepper, Jim Hardeman, Bonnie Rumble. Ben Cross, Herbert Massie and Vic Uotinen (Director), all active members of the American Nuclear Society.

Next meeting of the CNF will be in June of 2017 in conjunction with the 2017 Annual ANS Meeting in San Francisco.