

Summer 2015



THE Radon Reporter

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AARST-NRPP

The National Radon Proficiency Program (NRPP) is recognized as the nation's leading certification program for radon professionals, with over 2,500 certified professionals qualified in measurement, mitigation and as radon laboratories.

Administered by AARST (American Association of Radon Scientists and Technologists), professionals engage in a process of continuing education, professional development and quality assurance protocols. All members are expected to operate in accordance with ethical practices based on national standards as well as adhering to local rules and regulations. Through the work of an advisory board and technical committees, the AARST-NRPP is involved in a process of continued quality and technical improvement and is working on new credentials which reflect state of the art approaches to radon services in the home, large buildings and schools.

NRPP staff and certified professionals are committed to excellence and professional compliance to national standards. This raises the professional profile of all radon professionals and ensures that radon measurement and mitigation in the home and workplace are properly addressed.

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AARST, the American Association of Radon Scientists & Technologists, is a nonprofit, professional organization dedicated to the highest standard of excellence and ethical performance of radon measurement, mitigation, and transfer of information for the benefit of members, consumers, and the public at large. AARST's leadership is democratically elected by the members.

AARST represents your voice as we meet the wide range of challenges facing radon professionals and the community. Your membership and participation provides you a voice in the changes to come, and allows you to gain updated information, discover new techniques, learn about new problems before they occur, and hone your professional skills.

AARST has several local chapters where you can meet other radon professionals and state and federal officials who work with the radon industry.

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RADON REPORT CARD:

What Grade Would You Give Us in 2015?

By Shawn G. Price, President

How would you grade the success of the radon world in 2015? What criteria would you use to determine our grade? One might look at the number of systems installed, number of tests conducted, or maybe overall profits. Another person might look at the percentages of homes with elevated radon to look for a reduction, while someone else will look at lung cancer rates for non-smokers. So depending on your perspective we might get an "A" or maybe an "F".

AARST membership is at an all-time high and we are focused on all of these things. Our ultimate mission is to prevent radon-induced lung cancer, but we cannot get there without strong businesses, new technological advancements, sustainable radon systems, necessary policy changes to further our industry's growth, putting a stop to allowing newly constructed buildings to contain elevated radon concentrations and more people like you!

We are getting much better at realizing that partnering with others is more effective than going it alone.

I was fortunate enough to attend eight regional or state radon stakeholder meetings this year and the news in all areas was very positive. Work is up with more testing and mitigation being a consistent finding. However, I heard continuing frustrations over profits, underbidding by new competition and the lack of that big lawsuit or news story that brings radon into mainstream conversations. Real estate transactions drive most of the business in many areas; however, the continuing frustration that quick and cheap rules in the decision-making process continues to linger. I saw improved communications and working relationships between competitors and with their state radon program staff and we are getting much better at realizing that partnering with others is more effective than going it alone. However we still have much room for improvement in many areas.

In 2016 I hope to see even more success. I think we will see a couple new ANSI-AARST standards, to complement the seven already published. I hope to see the hard work of our policy initiatives show more State and Federal programs utilizing testing and mitigation services of our certified professionals. I hope to see more banks and lenders adding radon into the real estate requirements. I hope to see building codes changed so we can finally stop the bleeding in order to make a dent in the percentage of homes with elevated radon concentrations. I hope to see operation, maintenance, and monitoring (OM&M) and service plans become a routine part of a

Come to the International Radon Symposium, attend your regional radon meetings, join or start an AARST Chapter, and continue to be a leader!

mitigation company's arsenal. I hope to see continued interest on Capitol Hill regarding how we can grow a stronger radon program to prevent radon-induced lung cancer and the billions of dollars spent on the medical costs and loss of productivity associated with the lung cancer diagnosis.

If you hope to see many of the same things, please get involved. We need grass root efforts, we need increased membership, we need additional funding, we need more testers and mitigators, especially in underserved markets, but most importantly, we need you! We need you to continue spreading the word in your community, we need you to bring in new members, we need more committee volunteers for standards, we need you to contact your elected officials, and to do this we need you to be a successful and profitable business. Come to the International Radon Symposium, attend your regional radon meetings, join or start an AARST Chapter, and continue to be a leader! I hope to see you all at a radon meeting very soon. Thank you for your time, dedication and membership. For that, you get an A+ from me!



AARST Calls for New, Effective National Policies On Radon

By Peter Hendrick, AARST Executive Director



Peter Hendrick

The AARST Board of Directors recently released a new policy statement calling on the federal government to take serious and effective steps in addressing a very real health risk that causes on average a death every 25 minutes in the United States.

According to Shawn Price, AARST President, "The goals of the 1988 Indoor Radon Abatement Act have not been achieved. The few policies implemented by the U.S. EPA to date have failed

to significantly address that silent deadly killer. Because voluntary efforts are insufficient alone to arrest this enormous health risk, we are calling for specific steps in our policy statement."

Those steps are:

1. Congress must direct EPA to issue regulations (a) requiring radon testing or notification for all home sales and (b) requiring that such radon testing be conducted by certified professionals adhering to standards recognized by the American National Standards Institute.
2. EPA must adopt a health-based action level no higher than 100 Bq/m³ (2.7 pCi/L), which is the radon reference level adopted by the World Health Organization in 2009.
3. HUD must require that all federally-assisted and insured housing units be mitigated if they tested higher than the EPA's action level.
4. OSHA must update and clarify its regulatory standard for offices and other workplaces to be consistent with the EPA's action level.

The Board's foundation position was very clear in the statement's call for these new federal policies, stating, *"We must protect the public from lung cancer caused by indoor radon. Protracted radon exposure increases the risk of all types of lung cancer."*

"Real people die daily from this radioactive gas," said AARST Board Member and retired school teacher Gloria Linnertz, who lost her husband to lung cancer almost a decade ago. "Congress instructed both EPA and HUD in the late 1980's to take definitive steps to address this risk, and they have not completed the assigned tasks."

Neither Gloria nor her husband, Joe, knew about radon until their oncologist told them about it during Joe's diagnosis. A radon test revealed they had been living with

over four times the EPA action level of this demon for 18 years and didn't know it.

"There is not even a basic requirement to test a new or existing home at time of sale or occupancy for this radioactivity," stated Gloria. "EPA has simply never used its full authority for this mission."

"It is disappointing," continued Linnertz, "to say the least, that they have never reported back to Congress requesting the proper resources to accomplish the assigned task."

HUD has taken limited action in addressing only a small part of the insured and assisted-housing inventory.

The AARST Board statement also called for local and state governments to enact requirements for new and rental homes, including:

1. State and local building codes must incorporate an ANSI-approved Radon-Resistant New Construction standard or the International Residential Code's Appendix F to require that homes, schools, and other regularly occupied buildings in high radon-prone areas be built to substantially prevent radon entry.
2. State and local laws must require that a rental property be mitigated if tested higher than EPA's action level.

"Real people die daily from this radioactive gas. Congress instructed both EPA and HUD in the late 1980's to take definitive steps to address this risk, and they have not completed the assigned tasks."

Gloria Linnertz

Both Price and Linnertz have fought EPA's proposed cuts to funding state radon programs (State Indoor Radon Grants) and Congress has listened and kept the funding level for the last four budgets. However, both believe more must be done.

"We need HUD Secretary Castro and EPA Administrator McCarthy to issue rules requiring testing for home sales and occupancy," said Price.

"The mandates and authority for safe housing for these two agencies are very clear to those of us who are affected," added Linnertz.

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"My husband, living only six weeks after diagnosis, died before the house was tested, and he, like many others, never knew that radioactive radon was present in the home in high levels. Our government leaders are ignoring these deaths and sweeping them under the carpet. Do these agencies really care enough to make a difference in the lives of our citizens by being accountable and taking life-saving actions or are they just pretending to care? Real preventative action as described in this document will save lives."

Linnertz was instrumental in getting Illinois to pass the Radon Awareness Act in 2007 which greatly increased the risk reduction in that state. She noted that HUD's FHA advice doesn't even come close to the progressive notifications in Minnesota and Illinois.

A full copy of the policy statement may be found by contacting Jane Malone, National Policy Director: JMalone@aarst.org

Radon is One of The Top 10 Cancer Causing Toxicants in The United States

Cancer Type	Estimated U.S. Deaths / Year
1. Lung	161,840
2. Colon	49,960
3. Breast	40,930
4. Pancreatic	34,290
5. Prostrate	28,660
6. Leukemia	21,710
7. Lung - Radon-induced	21,000
8. Non-Hodgkin Lymphoma	19,160
9. Liver	18,410
10. Ovarian	15,520

Source: 2008 President's Cancer Panel Radon Report



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AARST & NRPP NEWS

AARST Membership Updates

AARST membership, at 880 strong, continues to surge as radon professionals recognize the importance of presenting a united front to national policy-makers and agencies.

Members are also tapping into the exclusive resources, information and tools that help them become more successful in their businesses and increase awareness of radon's harmful effects. Please feel free to contact Jan Orr, AARST Membership Coordinator (jorr@nrpp.info), for questions about your membership and benefits.

NRPP Certification Updates

As of August, the National Radon Proficiency Program has a total of

2,674 certified Pros. This number includes certifications for Measurement, Mitigation and Laboratories. It also includes 36 Advanced Certifications in MultiFamily Measurement, MultiFamily Mitigation, and RRNC.

ANSI-AARST Available in PDF Format

ANSI-AARST Standards are now available online at the ANSI eStandards Store, located at <http://webstore.ansi.org/>. Prefer a print version instead? Go to the AARST Bookstore, at <http://aarst.org/bookstore.shtml>, and place your order today.

Policy: NCLS Conference Update

By Gloria Linnertz,
AARST Board Member

On August 3-6, during the National Conference of State Legislators (NCSL), the Radon Leaders Saving



Pictured from left to right, Patrick Daniels (IMEA), Gloria Linnertz (CRRR), Bruce Snead (KSU)

Lives booth served as the platform for radon leaders from around the U.S. to share with state legislators the need for radon risk initiatives designed to save more lives. Our communication centered on radon risk disclosure and awareness, professional licensure/certification, and radon reduction features in new construction (RRNC), as we distributed copies of AARST's new document on state radon policies and existing legislation that is making a difference with proactive policies. For the last eight or nine years, Radon Leaders Saving Lives



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participated in the NCSL conference with the Radon Leaders Saving Lives booth, thanks to EPA, AARST, and CRCPD. This year we noticed an increased interest and desire from the legislators to seek information and get involved in our mission. Follow-up letters and radon test kits, along with our desire to stay connected, are being sent to all those legislators who visited with us. Our thanks to our booth staff this year: Pat Daniels, Illinois Radon Program; Bruce Snead, National Radon Programs; Peter Hendrick, AARST Executive Director; Jane Malone, AARST Policy Director; Susie Shimek, EPA; and Phil Rivas, Fantech.

Please join us as and make a difference by educating your legislators on proactive policies, already in effect in some states, that can help save lives, such as: the Radon Awareness Act, testing of daycare facilities, school testing, RRNC, and licensure/certification for radon professionals. For more information on radon statutes and

assistance in tracking down legislation that is needed in your state, visit <http://www.ncsl.org/research/environment-and-natural-resources/radon.aspx>.

Putting laws in place to protect our citizens is paramount so I hope you will join our team of Radon Leaders Saving Lives.

Other Matters In Washington

AARST is partnering with other stakeholders on a new National Radon Action Plan and AARST Executive Director Peter Hendrick and National Policy Director Jane Malone will be in Washington, D.C. on September 11, 2015 to take part in finalizing this plan, which is designed to increase radon mitigation rates. The goal: to have five million mitigations completed by the end of 2020.

The American Lung Association is leading the effort, which includes a

number of non-governmental agencies and a group of federal agencies (EPA, HUD, USDA, Interior, CDC, HHS and others). We expect an announcement in late September on this voluntary plan and will keep you informed of any developments in the Fall issue of the Radon Reporter.



AARST's goal in this process is to establish its support of and partnership with the housing sector, including builders, banks and real estate professionals. The radon profession has proven its value in the housing sale process by demonstrating the implementation of radon risk reduction measures in an efficient and professional manner during the home building and sale process. We need to promote this as the new paradigm in the marketplace. Why? Because it's true and already happening!

Stakeholder and Chapter Meeting Updates

Region 1 Radon Stakeholders Meeting

June 15-16, 2015 - MA

New this year, NEAARST shaped their annual meeting into a stakeholder meeting, with approximately 60 NEAASRT members in attendance. A primary objective of the event was to get the science back into radon meetings. To that end, Dr. Bill Field presented his radon "Primer," and the EPA's Phil Jalbert, who has been tracking risk reduction data for over two decades, cited the number of estimated lives saved through installed radon mitigation systems in the United States during 2013. A spirited discussion ensued concerning the effectiveness of regulatory vs. voluntary federal environmental programs; the U.S. radon program is voluntary, even though the US Congress passed a law in 1988 granting the EPA rule making powers.

“The speakers were great as well as the topics covered”.

Region 3 Radon Stakeholders Meeting

June 1-2, 2015 - Baltimore, MD

Approximately 70 people representing Maryland, Virginia, and Pennsylvania learned about HUD multifamily radon testing and real estate radon testing the first day. The second day highlights included a presentation on radon health effects, QA for radon professionals, and a discussion of the recent findings of extremely high radon levels in Pennsylvania.

Region 4 Radon Stakeholders Meeting - Co-hosted with North Carolina DHHS

March 9-10, 2015 - Asheville, NC

This Stakeholder meeting, hosted by MAHEC, focused on introducing the real estate and medical communities to radon and its effects and was co-hosted by NC Radon, NC Department of Health and Human Services, CanSAR, and the EPA. A wide range of speakers covered topics such as CDC updates, the North Carolina Cancer Control Plan, the

North Carolina Radon Program, overviews of RRNC, radon in home inspections and radon information for healthcare professionals.

Region 5 Radon Stakeholders Meeting

March 27-28, 2015 - Indianapolis, IN

This region Stakeholder meeting included a real estate discussion with the focus on the impact of building codes and was presented by Kerry Kidwell, real estate professional and radon advocate. There was discussion on how mitigation standards and protocols benefit home builders and real estate professionals. CanSAR founder Barb Sorgatz shared her story. Both MWAARST and OARP Chapters had a presence at the meeting.

“Adding the law aspect really opened my eyes. What a great way to sell the cause with cancer survivor stories”.

MWAARST Conference

April 24-25, 2015 - Chicago

With a theme of "Saving Lives with Radon Reduction: Come, Share and Learn" and hosted by IEMA and MWAARST, 56 attendees were treated to informative presentations from presenters including IEMA staff and Dr. Tracey Smith with the SIU School of Medicine. AARST and MWAARST updates and a presentation of winning videos and posters rounded out the day's events. At the annual MWAARST dinner meeting, the following officers were presented: Eric Lewandowski, President; Amy Murphy, Secretary; Kirsten Smith, Treasurer; and John DeRosa, Vice-President of Programs. The Saturday continuing education program was "Science of the Atom: Radiation, Radioactivity, and Radon." Mini-Grants were awarded to: Calvin Murphy, for AARST Foundation, Gloria Linnertz for CRRR, and Rebecca Booker for fire and safety programs including radon. APRC was given \$5000.

Michigan Stakeholders Meeting

June 18, 2015 - Lansing MI

Radon professionals and local health department representatives comprised the majority of the attendees at the Michigan meeting, the first of its kind in the state. Shawn Price presented on AARST-NRPP activities and also talked about QA for radon professionals. Josh Kerber discussed the successes of the Minnesota radon program, emphasizing government and industry partnerships and how that has been the recipe for success in Minnesota. Mr. Kerber also talked about mitigation challenges and

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how proper testing and diagnostics are key to successful mitigation in homes. Michigan's success for future meetings looks promising.

Region 7 Radon Stakeholders Meeting

Mar 2-3, 2015 - Kansas City, Missouri

With 140 people registered, this was the 4th largest Region 7 meeting yet. The meeting kicked off as Sandra Walker shared the tragic story of her son's courageous battle with lung cancer and the void his death has left in their lives. Sandra's presentation was followed by yet another case of a healthy and fit non-smoker who was diagnosed at a young age with lung cancer. Shawn Price and Matt Koch teamed with Bruce Snead to talk about real-world challenges on HUD multifamily testing and mitigation that spurred some good dialog with the audience. Two gentlemen from the HUD field office in Kansas City also spoke and were glad to hear that incomplete radon reports are being rejected during FHA review.

Heartland Chapter Conference

March 2, 2015 - Kansas City, Missouri

The chapter hosted the training for this regional meeting, as well as the breaks. President Gary Boesker presented a PowerPoint presentation, "Spot the Not", on identifying faulty mitigations. The Chapter meeting was conducted directly after the stakeholder meeting, where elections for chapter officers were held, with a chapter social wrapping up the event. The chapter will again host the Spouses Event during the 2015 Annual Radon Symposium in Minnesota. Iowa Chapter members also have been participating in the RRNC legislation proceedings in that state.

Region 8 Colorado

April 2-3, 2015 - Denver, CO

This year's Region 8 meeting was hosted by the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment and was organized by AARST member and State Radon Program Manager, Chrystine Kelley. CDPHE focused their efforts on cross-training local radon health advocates, and radon measurement and mitigation professionals. The goal of the meeting was to introduce the two groups and encourage them to work together in public outreach by understanding each other's role and function. The Rocky Mountain Chapter worked in tandem with Chrystine this past year on producing a PSA (which aired January through March), featuring lung cancer survivor Johanna Carpine. Johanna attended the meeting and Tammy Linton of RMC-AARST presented her with a plaque in gratitude.

Approximately 100 professionals, including contractors and SIRG recipients, attended the meeting, enjoying a

"Lots of resources were made available on all subjects".

program that incorporated both science and technology. Next year's meeting will be held in Utah.

Rocky Mountain Chapter

April 2, 2015

This new chapter is 13 members strong and recruiting new members every day. They hosted a Meet and Greet after the first day of the Region 8 sessions.

Region 9 Radon Stakeholders Meeting

February 23-24, 2015 - Sacramento, CA

This was the first Region 9 stakeholder meeting held and introduced radon and its geologic prevalence in the region. Topics discussed included the radon basis health guide, radon programs and cancer control plans, radon-resistant new construction, vapor intrusion, marketing tools for professionals available from EPA and emerging issues. Opportunities for Q&A and open discussions helped attain the goal of creating Radon Action Plans.

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This article is dedicated to the many AARST volunteers who have created consensus American National Standards for radon. These leaders include such names as Jack Hughes, Trudy Smith, Bill Angell, Dave Kapturowski, Bill Brodhead, Phil Jenkins and many more who have given of their time and talent freely. Their volunteer work has been done under the auspices of the Technology Transfer Act of 1996 and a Presidential Executive order mandating that federal agencies are required, under normal non-emergency settings, to recognize consensus standards over government-issued standards.

How Volunteers Shaped an Industry

By Nicole Chazaud, AARST Communications Director

“Congratulations, you’re creating an industry!”

These words were spoken with much sincerity at the end of a conference call in 2007, to Gary Hodgden by Mary McKeil, then EPA’s Standards Executive and the agency’s and federal representative to the American National Standards Institute (ANSI).

Part of McKeil’s role at EPA was to assist the agency in meeting obligations to use voluntary consensus standards in regulatory and procurement activities. As part of her role, Mary represented EPA in the US national standards body (the American National Standards Institute, which is the official member of international standards setting organizations).

For Gary Hodgden and Peter Hendrick, these were welcome words to hear, since managers from EPA’s Indoor Environments Division were on the call. The two AARST representatives had just briefed EPA on the status of the AARST accreditation application the association had submitted to ANSI to become an accredited ANSI Standards Developer.

A Rocky Beginning

Drum roll and flashback to the beginning of 2001, when AARST, the nation’s radon professional association, was at its organizational low ebb.

At that time, there was no clear mandate to write standards, no funds to be found, and less than 300 members supporting the organization. This stood in stark contrast to an organizational high of several thousand members at the beginning of the 1990s (Note: today, AARST counts over 3,000 members and companies).

In June of 2001, Peter Hendrick had just been hired as a consulting Executive Director and immediately walked into an ongoing Board argument about the role the association should play and the direction it should take regarding the concept of ongoing Standard development.

The argument was loud and confusing to the new E.D., with some members wanting to grow membership first and then work on standards. Others wanted to start yet another credentialing organization while a vocal minority was presenting its case for standards first. Hendrick, with two decades in solid waste management and recycling management behind him, found the argument intense and the stakes extremely high. He knew that the association was financially broke, but he also saw that Board members were dedicated to creating a high



national standards of practice. He was intrigued as he knew passion could not only move an audience but build an organization.

“Some said AARST has no business writing standards,” Hendrick recalled. “While I saw a group of highly dedicated and creative professionals, I also didn’t know who was who in the industry, and it was very easy to overlook the quiet members in the room.”

“Some members sincerely thought we needed to raise funds first, claiming it would cost millions of dollars to write national standards, which was certainly true of old models and pre-web based conferencing technologies.”

Some also argued that EPA would forbid an industry to write standards.

Bill Angell, a long time radon educator, researcher and WHO Radon Team member remembers that the start was rocky.

“When Tedra Hudson, then AARST President, asked me to join the proposed standards development process, my response was it was a crazy idea given all that was involved. My response was based upon my experience with ASTM E6 Performance of Building Constructions.”

Radon’s Obi-Wan Taps Into a Work Force

It was difficult for Hendrick to sort out the facts from the emotion of the argument, but given that EPA was already stepping back from certification and technology at the time, it seemed that a small professional industry should assume a central role in creating sustainable standards in the marketplace.

In the midst of this argument was Gary Hodgden, then-Secretary of AARST. Gary is often soft-spoken, the quiet man in the room. But Hendrick recalled Gary was, and remains to this day, a man with a passion and a vision. Hendrick believes he is the Obi-Wan of radon.

“We need to do this,” Hendrick recalled Hodgden stating quietly to the others. “And we can do this,” he told Hendrick. “We can do it quickly and efficiently by using email, the Internet and conference calls. We don’t need millions of dollars.”



RRNC Standards Committee

Acknowledgements

Deep appreciation is both expressed and deserved for years of contributions in time and wisdom provided by the following consensus body members and staff:

ASSIST TEAM

Assistance Team:

Gary Hodgden with appreciation extended to all Assistance Team members over the years to include: Mert Oktem, Beth Anne Purvis, Kelsey Wallace, Meghan Walker, Diana Degan, Sarah Consaga, Tara Fortier, Nanci Hemberger, Joanne Brodsky and Tricia Wallich

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Phillip H. Jenkins
James Burkhart

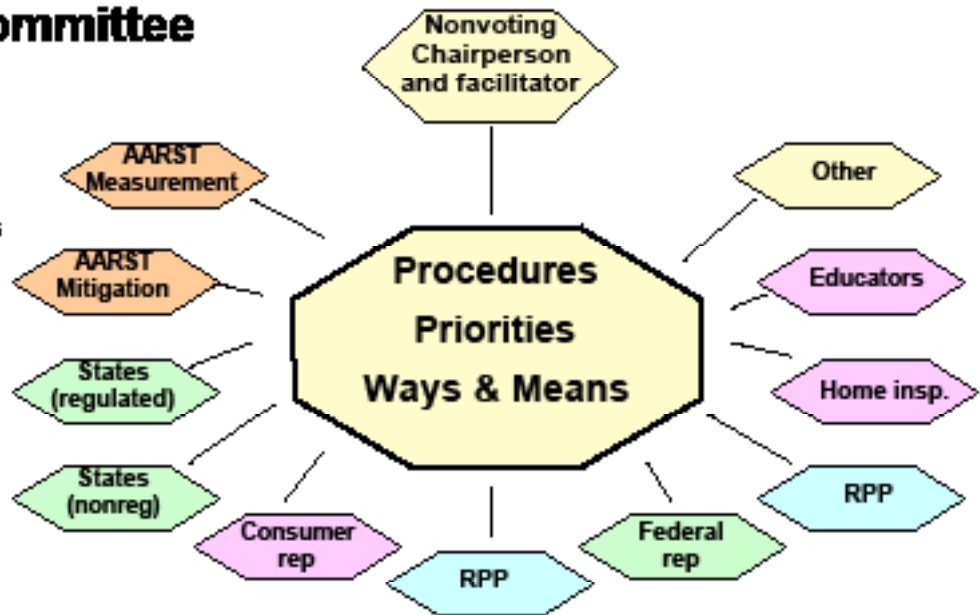
Committee Composition

AARST National Radon Standards

Stakeholders Committee

(Primary Stakeholders)

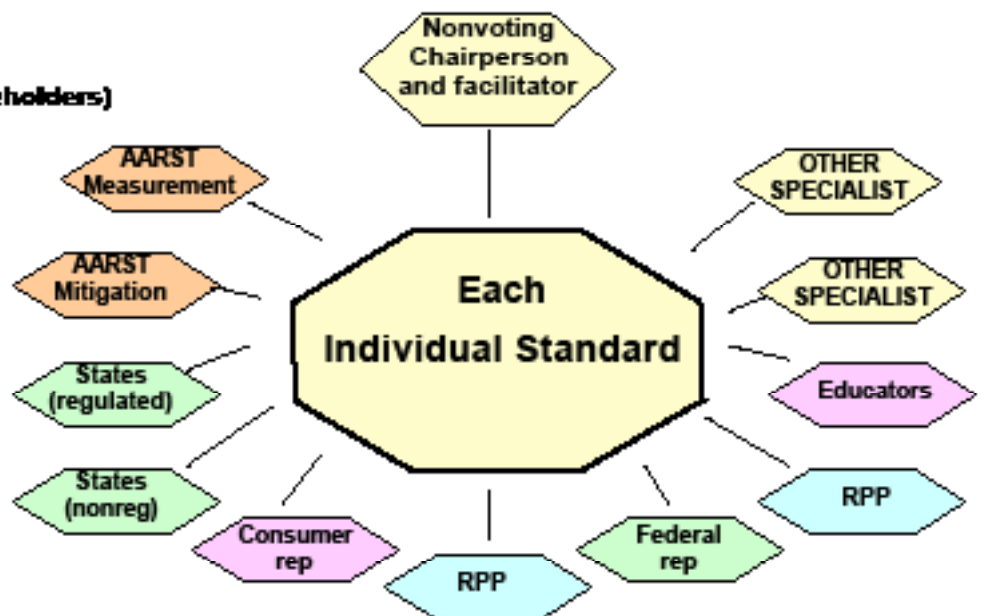
- 1) States (Regulated)
- 2) States (Unregulated)
- 3) Training Center/Educators
- 4) Radon Certifying Entity
- 5) Radon Certifying Entity
- 6) AARST (Measurement)
- 7) AARST (Mitigation)
- 8) EPA or other federal
- 9) Consumer Rep
- 10) Home Inspectors
- 11) _____



Subcommittees

(Primary and Secondary Stakeholders)

- 1) Specialists as needed
- 2) Specialist
- 3) States (Regulated)
- 4) States (Unregulated)
- 5) Training Center/Educators
- 6) Radon Certifying Entity
- 7) Radon Certifying Entity
- 8) AARST (Measurement)
- 9) AARST (Mitigation)
- 10) EPA or other federal
- 11) Consumer Rep



What was impressive, according to Hendrick, was this small businessman, who was a hardworking mitigator by day from the heartland of Kansas, would come to each AARST Board meeting with researched flow charts, sample processes and bylaws, and other known requirements from the American Standards Institute. Gary was well respected by everyone in the room, from other mitigators to Ph.D.s. But, *when* he actually did this extra work, Hendrick could not figure out.



“Gary has contributed selflessly, first to rescue AARST and then to spearhead the Radon Standards Initiative.”

John Mallon

“People listened to Gary because he was passionate, because he was thorough, and because he was explaining an eloquent process that ANSI had previously approved for other U.S. standards organizations. This process included all stakeholders in a proven, fast-track consortium of leaders and experts.”



The standards development mechanism would go on to include scientists, including leading health physicists, (Drs. Ghahremani, Jenkins and Burkhart), housing and education specialists, (Professor Bill Angell, Jack Hughes and Trudy Smith) and experts from regulated and non-regulated states.

“We can’t do this work without a fair process that includes the states.” That was Gary’s mantra.

The consortium stakeholder method was a brilliant consensus template to adopt, as it was a proven international model that ANSI had used and promoted as a consensus methodology.

“I didn’t understand it at the time,” Hendrick admitted, “but I bought into it wholeheartedly and so did the AARST Board. We had no funds available but we had Gary’s passion in 2001 to start.”

Gary says of the transition during this time, “I knew a consortium had to be completely separate from the association, it had to be independent, have its

RMS-MF 2014 **Radon Mitigation Standards for Multifamily Buildings**

John Mallon
Bill Angell
Patrick Daniels
David Wilson
Shawn Price
Russell Riggs
Dave Jacobs
Thomas Hatton
Tony Davenport
David Grammer
Bruce Thomas
Nate Burden
Jani Palmer
Warren Friedman
Hilary Atkin
Joshua Miller
Eileen Lowery
Jane Malone
Chris B. Trent

MALB 2014 **Protocol for Conducting Measurements of Radon and Radon Decay Products Inin Schools and Large Buildings**

Darioush Ghahremani PHD
Trudy Smith
Bill Angell
Mike Brennan
Josh Kerber
Denise Bleiler
Shawn Price
Jani Palmer
Tim Pittman
Charlie Lamb
Nate Burden
Banks Garrison
Dan Gallagher
Rick Stieff
Michael LaFontaine



“I think it is Gary’s lifelong dedication to the small details that has made him a major force in radon standards development.”

Carolyn Allen

own bylaws and a leader not related to AARST by holding other AARST leadership roles. It was clear I needed to resign my seat on the Board as Secretary in order to do this. I knew I could do this, I had committee experiences prior to my time in AARST, and knew with my strengths as a detail-oriented person I would be able to do this. I was excited to do this.”

The first step was to get AARST accredited by ANSI. This process took several years.

Former AARST Vice President and current board member John Mallon remembers the time, as well.

“Gary has contributed selflessly, first to rescue AARST and then to spearhead the Radon Standards Initiative. I was one, who early on, said standards development was too extensive a process for AARST to undertake, but Gary certainly proved me wrong. I’ve been honored to be asked to chair a committee and be a member of another. There is no doubt,” Mallon said, “that without him the AARST/ANSI Standards would not exist. One of the rewards of my time with AARST is to have Gary as a colleague and a friend.”

AARST Board Member and Health Physicist Phil Jenkins wholeheartedly believes that Gary’s role was vital.

“Gary has put in many hours, and in some cases, traveled to meetings, with no compensation, first to accomplish ANSI accreditation, then to get standards committees working and finishing documents, and then to act as liaison to ANSI to get the standards finalized. Another person of note,” said Jenkins, “is Trudy Smith, a dedicated professional radon trainer, who chaired at least one, probably more, standards committees and saw them to conclusion.”

“Finally,” said Jenkins, “there is volunteer Melinda Ronca-Battista. Only with Melinda acting as co-chair of the Device Committee were we able to finalize the initial edition of the new AARST-ANSI radon device standard. Now, she has started working on the QA standard.”

Overcoming Resistance

Even though the ball for AARST’s standards organization

started rolling in 2001, resistance continued to come from other quarters in 2002 and 2003, including some previous managers within EPA who did not believe that AARST had a legitimate role in writing standards. They made that clear to Hendrick. However, both the Board and Gary read the national laws carefully and found that properly promulgated consensus standards, as defined by the Technology Transfer Act, were standards that the federal government was required to recognize unless it was a national emergency.

Gary began by presenting the consortium model to the entire radon community, public and private sectors at the national radon meetings. From 2001 through 2005, it was an ongoing process of community education and recruitment and, finally, the wall cracked when EPA said it would recognize AARST standards, but only if they were ANSI-accredited. And so Gary, volunteering all of his time and effort with no compensation, led the effort of stakeholder education and process education even as he was leading the internal AARST effort to achieve accreditation from the American National Standards Institute. This was not an easy process. Some thought it would fail. It succeeded.

Gary became and remains the Chair of the AARST Consortium for National Radon Standards Executive Committee, managing volunteers and their committees.

AARST Vice President David Kapturowski sums up Gary’s accomplishments for the radon industry, “Without Gary’s tireless efforts, calm patient manner, respectful treatment of diverse opinions, deep technical understanding of the subject matter and dogged persistence, not a single AARST/ANSI radon standard would exist. The fact that we have seven accepted AARST/ANSI standards and four more in the works is truly Herculean.”

Bill Angell agrees. “Today, I am still amazed at what has been accomplished, in large part, due to Gary’s quiet, thorough guidance of the various work groups, on which





“Without Gary’s tireless efforts, calm patient manner, respectful treatment of diverse opinions, deep technical understanding of the subject matter and dogged persistence, not a single AARST/ANSI radon standard would exist.”

Dave Kapturowski

I have served on many. Frankly, I do not believe Gary ever takes time away from AARST/ANSI Standards development; if he sleeps at all, it is in a truly unconventional manner.”

“Gary is the real rock star of radon standards!” Kapturowski states emphatically.

What’s This About Being a Rock Star?

It was during those early years that Hendrick learned of Gary’s early professional background in music, not physics as he had surmised. The Executive Director was intrigued.

Here was a well-respected mitigator, radon educator and volunteer, working throughout many nights until dawn, laboring without pay to manage a fledgling standards process that would perform at a level with international standards organizations. Now Hendrick, who has three musician sons, realized where that late night work ethic came from.

Gary’s involvement in such divergent industries came naturally to him. “I grew up in a family whose parents owned an apartment house and was regularly called on to help fix things. A little later on, my brother opened a home inspection company, so I was involved in that for many years. It was home inspection and work on my family’s business that kept me fed when I was struggling as a musician. You can say I have had a foot in each industry for a very long time.”

Gary had been playing music since he was a kid, starting as so many youngsters did with a garage band. He and his brother formed a band called The Chesmann Squares (1964 to 1973), probably the most popular local group ever to originate in the Kansas City area. In 2005 The Chesmen Squares were inducted into the Kansas City Music Hall of Fame.

Gary’s music career reached its pinnacle when he became a member and songwriter of the rock band, Shooting Star. Performing world-wide, the band enjoyed a major Midwest following, and eventually Shooting Star enjoyed a much larger notoriety. In 2009, Shooting Star was also inducted into the Kansas City Music Hall of Fame. After over a decade of touring, more than five albums



“Today, I am still amazed at what has been accomplished, in large part, due to Gary’s quiet, thorough guidance of the various work groups.”

Bill Angell

RMS-LB 2014

Radon Mitigation Standards for Schools and Large Buildings

Gary Hodgden

Bill Angell

Matt Shields

David Wilson

Jani Palmer

David Grammer

John Mallon

Charlie Lamb

Nate Burden

Steve Tucker

Thomas Hatton

Dave Hill

Joshua Miller

MAH 2014

Protocol for Conducting Measurements of Radon and Radon Decay Products in Homes

Shawn Price

Harry Grafton

Chrys Kelley

Steve Melia

Mark Versch

Bob Lewis

Kyle Hoylman

Jani Palmer

Steve Gladstone

Kurt Salomon

Ralph Quin

Martin Smith

Doug Kladder

Russell Riggs

Rick Horne

Dave Kapturowski

Rick Stieff

Jim Burkhardt

Phil Jenkins

N42.51 MS-PC

Performance Specifications for Instrumentation Systems Designed to Measure Radon Gas in Air

Dr Phil Jenkins

Melinda Ronca-Battista

Jim Burkhart

Trudy Smith

Shawn Price

Jani Palmer

Martin Smith

David Wilson

Leo Moorman

Rick Straub

Dave Kapturowski

James T. Voss

CCAH 2013

Reducing Radon in New Construction of One & Two Family Dwellings and Townhouses

Dave Kapturowski

Bill Angell

Jack Hughes (decd.)

Josh Miller

Matt Shields

Patrick Daniels

Shawn Price

Phil Jalbert

David Wilson

Kurt Salomon

John Cundiff

Dan West

Tom Thies

Julie Somis

Tom Getchman, Sr.

Dave Hill

Kevin Stewart

Jane Malone

Andrew E Harris



“Gary has put in many hours, first to accomplish ANSI accreditation, then to get standards committees working and finishing documents, and then to act as liaison to ANSI to get the standards finalized.”

Phil Jenkins

and working towards the big deal, Gary left the industry and a legacy of over 200 songs recorded by more than 20 artists in the rock world to pursue other interests.

AARST Past-President Carolyn Allen says, “I think it is Gary’s lifelong dedication to the small details that has made him a major force in radon standards development.”

Gary confirms that assessment, saying, “I was the go-to guy for almost all the bands I was in. If the band needed something, someone, something fixed, someone was missing – anything, I was it. I did that for years. I had a knack for the details. I guess that is why I like working on standards.”

Indeed, Gary’s high personal standards and his work ethic are paying off for an entire industry that is now growing into new markets, thanks to new American National Standards for large buildings, schools and multi-family buildings.

And this year, ANSI completed its first audit of the organizations that Gary built, with Hendrick in attendance. “They examine and review every corner, and thanks to Gary, our organization passed the audit. We came away with a deeper understanding of the consensus process in addition to some recommendations from ANSI on how to continue to improve the system.”

EPA also recognized the AARST-ANSI Standards achievements this year when AARST announced the release of three new consensus standards.

“These new standards,” said Mike Flynn, EPA Director of the Office of Air and Radiation, “will help ensure the American public is protected from radon exposure using the most up-to-date techniques, technology and practices. EPA is proud



to invest in and participate in the development of these AARST/ANSI radon standards.”

EPA does not fund AARST directly but has provided critical administrative support to the effort.

“AARST standards,” AARST President Shawn Price says, “are now recognized around the world and have helped to make AARST a leader in consensus radon standards. First and foremost, we owe to all of the volunteers and committee chairs a great deal of thanks. But, we especially, need to thank Gary Hodgden, who has taken the entire profession into the 21st century. “



“These new standards, will help ensure the American public is protected from radon exposure using the most up-to-date techniques, technology and practices. EPA is proud to invest in and participate in the development of these AARST/ANSI radon standards.”

Mike Flynn

AARST RELEASES RADON DEVICE STANDARD ANSI/AARST MS-PC-201



In July, the AARST National Radon Standards Consortium published the very first American National Standard defining radon devices, MS-PC-2015 “Performance Specifications for Instrumentation Systems Designed to Measure Radon Gas in Air.” This standard specifies minimum performance criteria and testing procedures for instruments and/or systems designed to quantify the concentration of ^{222}Rn gas in air. This standard had been under consideration for decades, and due to the diligent work and leadership of AARST Board Member Phillip Jenkins, and Melinda Ronca-Battista (Northern Arizona University), has finally been completed and fills an important void in radon standards. PDF-licensed copies are available for download at the ANSI online bookstore: <http://webstore.ansi.org/> by searching under AARST as the publisher.

CCAH 2013

Reducing Radon in New Construction of One & Two Family Dwellings and Townhouses

(continued)

Steve Tucker

Gregg Gress

Matt Koch

Jacques Sirvain

Tim Pitman

ASD-RMS 2006

Active Soil Depressurization Radon Mitigation Standards

Bill Brodhead

Jack Hughes

Matt Shields

Conrad Weiffenbach

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Award Recipients Celebrated

2015 AARST Real Estate Leadership Healthy Housing Award

This past Spring and Summer, two AARST Chapters celebrated their nominees for the 2015 Real Estate Health Housing Award.

New to AARST, the award is recognition of professionals in the real estate field who lead by informing and educating their clients and their staff on Radon Awareness, thus helping to reduce radon exposure in the home. Two of this year's nominees were celebrated in award ceremonies at Chapter Meetings and Real Estate regional meetings. From the pool of regional recipients AARST National will recognize one person at the national level. Criteria for the selection of the National recipient was developed by committee members Tracy Capuano and Ruth Ann Lipic based on research for such levels of award.

Midwest AARST Chapter

Kerry Kidwell

Nominated by RuthAnn Lipic



Mr. Kidwell was presented his award in Indianapolis Indiana on March 27, 2015 at the Regional Stakeholders meeting.

Mr Kidwell has been actively working with radon awareness since 1986, attending the first EPA Train the Trainer. Noteworthy is that he chaired the task force for Residential Real Property Disclosure Act in Illinois that included radon. On a local community and personal level, Kerry has been an active member/volunteer of the McLean County Radon Task Force for 15 plus years. He attends the meetings and planning sessions offering suggestions to improve our programs and website. In addition, he has never refused an opportunity to volunteer at the annual Home Show and the EXPO for Sustainable Living at IL Wesleyan University.

Mr Kidwell is friendly, well-known, liked and a real estate leader par excellence in McLean County, the State of Illinois, and nationwide. We have been privileged to have his professionalism, friendliness and helpfulness since the start of the McLean County Radon Task Force. He has received numerous awards for his extensive devotion to radon education in the real estate profession and this is the opportunity for the radon industry to acknowledge all he has done.

OARP (Ohio) Chapter

Steve Brown

Nominated by Brenden Getzinger



Pictured from left to right, Tracy Capuano, Steve Brown, Irongate Realtors Broker and Agent and immediate past President of the NAR, (was presented the award at the quarterly meeting for his firm at the Dayton Area Board of Realtors on Wednesday, July 22nd.) and Brenden Gitzinger, OARP member and owner of The Environmental Doctor of Dayton, OH. Brendan was the OARP member who nominated Steve Brown for the award.

Steve and the team at Irongate have created and maintained a special heading for radon testing and mitigation in their Preferred Provider Directory. This heading contains area businesses that are properly qualified to conduct measurement and mitigation services in the area. The directory is distributed to all of Irongate's Agents and Steve Brown has always encouraged them to use the Directory for making professional recommendations. We consider Irongate to be one of the most proactive brokerages in the region when it comes to radon awareness and making the recommendation to address radon to its clients during real estate transactions. It is Steve Brown and his partner Greg Gillen's leadership that make this a reality. Therefore, Steve Brown and the team at Irongate Realtors deserve this award from AARST for radon awareness.

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“It is a way to make your voice heard about the need to test every home, to get rid of radon.” – Ruth Ann Lipic, President, MidWest AARST Chapter

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“Most cancers,” writes Daniel J. Hunter of the Harvard School of Public Health in a recent *Boston Globe* article, “are theoretically preventable.” In the case of radon-induced lung cancer, it isn’t just theory. **Radon-induced lung cancer is preventable.** Reducing the radon levels a person is exposed to will significantly reduce potential damage to lung cells caused by inhaled radioactive decay particles.

With more than 224,000 new lung cancer diagnoses in the U.S. in 2014 (10% or more due to radon exposure) it is inevitable that we, as family members, friends, and radon professionals, are in the unfortunate position of seeing someone suffer through this terrible disease. The treatments alone are heart wrenching, and the prognosis is grim: The 5-year survival rate is less than 17%. Help us prevent the preventable. Become a contributor to the ARPC-100 advertising fund.

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By hitting our goal, we continue to work tirelessly behind the scenes, in hallways and in countless meetings, advocating the position that a policy change must occur and **MUST** be supported by all branches of government. This change Will save more lives - be a part of it!

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It is with sincere thanks and congratulations we announce the following companies and individuals who have stepped up and asked to be part of the story. With \$36,000 more to raise there is room for more heroes! Won't you contribute today?

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↕ **\$63,889.97**

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