



**Trinity Section
American Nuclear Society**

P. O. Box 5367, Albuquerque, NM 87185
<http://local.ans.org/trinity/>

**Rio Grande Chapter
Health Physics Society**

New Mexico
<http://hpschapters.org/riogrande/>



JOINT DINNER MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT

“Radioisotope Heat Sources for Space Missions”

Speaker: Dr. John H. Matonic, Actinide Analytical Chemistry, LANL

Abstract: *Radioisotope thermoelectric generators (RTGs) have been used by the United States to provide electrical power for spacecraft since 1961. All of the RTGs that have been launched by the United States have used heat sources fueled with the Plutonium-238 isotope. Los Alamos National Laboratory is responsible for fabricating heat sources for current and future space missions. The Plutonium oxide is purified by aqueous processing, fabricated into pressed pellets, encapsulated into precious metal cladding material, then nondestructively and destructively tested.*

Biography: *Dr. John Matonic has worked at Los Alamos National Laboratory for 15 years involving work associated with the Plutonium 238 program. He has been involved with the missions to provide Plutonium 238 fuel sources for the NASA missions to Pluto and several rovers to Mars including the latest rover Curiosity. His education is in chemistry, getting degrees from Michigan State University and a Ph.D. in Inorganic Chemistry from Texas A&M University. He feels privileged to be involved with the work he does at Los Alamos to support the NASA mission and it is a good fit, as he is an avid space enthusiast.*

Place: **Courtyard by Marriott, Santa Fe**

3347 Cerrillos Road, Santa Fe, NM (505-473-2800)

Directions: From Albuquerque, take I-25 North approximately 55 miles to Exit 278 (Cerrillos Road). Hotel is located 3 miles on the left-hand side of Cerrillos Road at Richards Avenue.

Date: **February 8, 2013**

Time: **6:00** Social Hour with Cash Bar

7:00 Buffet Dinner (Coq au vin and maple/pecan crusted tilapia)

7:45 Speaker

Cost: *\$30 per person, $\frac{1}{2}$ price for students and children*

We strongly encourage you to sign up and pay for this event using our PayPal payment account.

Visit the “Calendar” page of our web site (<http://local.ans.org/trinity/calendar.html>) and select the appropriate payment button. You may use your own credit card and do NOT need to have a PayPal account to make the payment.

RSVP: If you do not use PayPal payment, please RSVP no later than Feb 4th to:

Markku Koskelo: mkoskelo@aquilagroup.com (505-338-8083) or

CJ Solomon: clell.solomon@gmail.com (505-665-5720).

RSVP must be received by 4 Feb in order to give final numbers to the caterers. While we strongly encourage everyone to use online payment to sign up and prepay, an RSVP is a commitment to attend/pay at the door. We cannot afford “no shows” after the final count is given to the caterers, as the Section is partially subsidizing the cost of this event. If you cancel after 4 Feb, you will still be responsible for paying.