

## NUCLEAR LEGACY

We welcome ANS members who have careered in the community to submit their own Nuclear Legacy stories, so that the personal history of nuclear power can be captured. For information on submitting your stories, contact [nunews@ans.org](mailto:nunews@ans.org).

### Arnold Fritsch: ANS member since 1957

It was a summer day in 1956 in Berkeley, Calif., when I, a freshly minted Ph.D., left Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory to travel to Pittsburgh, Pa., to join Westinghouse's Commercial Atomic Power (CAPA) program. We were going to develop a large homogeneous power reactor—the future of energy. A year later, my efforts were diverted to lead what may have been one of the first nuclear safeguards equipment development programs funded by the Atomic Energy Commission.

After a year of development activity, the AEC approached me about joining their ranks in the Division of International Affairs to address the growing nuclear safeguards concerns. I participated in what was likely the first inspection program of the international enriched uranium fuels provided under the U.S. Bilateral Agreements for Peaceful Nuclear Cooperation.

With the election of John F. Kennedy in 1960, my world abruptly changed. My

mentor of a few years past, Glenn T. Seaborg, was appointed chair of the AEC. During his acquaintance tours, our paths crossed, and I was promptly moved into his office as the technical assistant. After a few years, I became his executive assistant, and held that position until my departure in 1969. What an exciting decade that was: the first fleet of nuclear power reactors, the Limited Test Ban Treaty, the Geneva Conferences, the first real dialogues with the Soviet Union, and nuclear power sources for the U.S. space program, to name just a few. Other highlights of this era include the first visit by the United States to the Soviet nuclear power facilities; a return visit by the Soviets to U.S. facilities, during which time President Kennedy was assassinated; AEC commissioner Leland Haworth's report *Civilian Nuclear Power—A Report to the President, 1962*; and the privatization of nuclear fuel ownership.



Fritsch in 1969 . . .



. . . and today.

*Continued*

  
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