



Community News

A QOL/ESOL BNL Residential Community Initiative

January 2002

Community Spotlight: Samantha Lin

by Jennifer Lynch

The Community News “shines the light” on a BNL individual so that others can get a glimpse of who our BNL community members are.

Glimpse of Samantha:

Hobbies:

Favorite food:

Nationality:



I first met Neiza Maria Hernandez Cordero (who goes by Neiza Hernandez) in the waiting room of the Human Resources department on January 22, 2001. I remember this because it was my first day of employment. It was Neiza’s “first day” too, though she had been here before. As a member of the Global Exchange Education Program, Neiza had come here initially in the summer of 2001. She was invited back again to work, so it was the first day of her second visit to the Lab. She had already gone through the General Employee Training, but was doing it a second time. It was nice to have the company of someone who could tell me what to expect. I was struck by her warmth, friendliness and enthusiasm for her work in the Environmental Services Department.

Since this year’s big snowstorm, Neiza, from Puerto Rico, knows what snow is really like. Her first winter here in 2001 was so mild that she thought people must have been exaggerating about the winter weather. Surprisingly, she seems to enjoy the snow. According to Neiza, “The biggest difference between my country and here is the weather. In Puerto Rico, all year is hot and humid. When I came here in January of 2002, I was very impressed. I made two snowmen. One was almost as tall as me!”

Neiza enjoys her work in the Environmental Science Department “with the Tracer Technology Center measuring perfluorocarbon tracers from atmospheric pollutants using GC-ECD.” During her days off, she travels to Manhattan to go sightseeing and experience the fast-paced city life. She’s traveled to Illinois, California, and Florida and loves to walk around Manhattan, to “visit downtown, or Chinatown, go to Central Park and read a book.” On life in the U.S. she says that she “enjoys the diversity of cultures you can see and how you can travel to different states by car” but she doesn’t like “to pay taxes.”

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by Khalim Harris

I was working in Greenwich Village about 3 years ago as a .com developer. I became really close with 2 of the other developers there -Aadi, who is Indian; and Larry, who is Chinese. We went to lunch together one day at Wendy's. As you can imagine, the lines at lunchtime in the Village were quite long. So we decided to get on 3 different lines to try and get our food all at the same time. Anyway, as the three of us got to the front we didn't talk much at all. So when Aadi got his food first, I (a black guy) tapped Larry on the shoulder and said, (loud enough for people behind us to hear me) "Hey mistuh, Could you pass me some of that guys fries?" pointing at Aadi.

Larry, obviously following my lead, looked me up and down a few times and said "SURE!" Reached over and grabbed four or five fries and handed them to me. Basically, folks all around us backed up like there was about to be a rumble - not imagining that an African-American guy, a Chinese guy, and an Indian guy would hang out like that.

In a few seconds most people realized we were together. But by the time we got our food people still cleared the way for us to get by... just in case.

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

If it's not too late, perhaps in your *New Year's Resolutions ... I'll Exercise* item you can mention the Aerobic Dance club. We meet Tuesday & Thursday in the Rec Hall (317) at 5:15. First class is free. For info they can contact me at 7235 or Pat Flood at 7886.

It's \$4.00 / class or \$35 for a set of 10 classes.

Also, the name is Aerobic Fitness Club

Pat is also holding classes on Wednesdays at 5:15, same place - a beginner exercise class for people who want to do SOMETHING but are not sure how to begin and may be intimidated by the aerobic dancing or going to a gym. She's an excellent, knowledgeable instructor, and attendees will definitely come away feeling better blah, blah ...

Same price (can probably mix and match)

BERA

(BROOKHAVEN EMPLOYEES RECREATION ASSOCIATION)

INVITES YOU TO

GET INVOLVED! GET FIT!

BERA ACTIVITIES ARE OPEN TO ALL EMPLOYEES, VISITORS & GUESTS!

FULFILL YOUR NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTIONS FOR 2003!

- BNL SWIMMING POOL-DAILY, WEEKLY, MONTHLY PASSES + AQUA AEROBICS TWICE WEEKLY-CALL EXTENSION 5090 OR 3496
- BNL WEIGHT & BODY BUILDING CLUB MEMBERSHIPS (\$25 PER YEAR) -CALL EXTENSION 2495.
- HAVE A PLACE TO KEEP YOUR WALKING/RUNNING GEAR! LOCKER RENTALS FOR MEN & WOMEN AVAILABLE IN OUR GYM. CALL BERA SALES OFFICE AT EXTENSION 3347.
- 35 + ACTIVITIES & CLUBS TO JOIN. SEE WEB PAGE FOR COMPLETE LISTING (UNDER STAFF SERVICES) OR COME TO BLDG. 179B TO PICK UP A BROCHURE!
- FACILITY TOURS ARE AVAILABLE! PLEASE CALL EXTENSION 5090
- PAR COURSE FITNESS TRAIL OPEN! LOCATED BEHIND THE BNL FIRE HOUSE.

**E n g l i s h f o r S p e a k e r s o f
O t h e r L a n g u a g e s
(E S O L)**



CAPTION ON CATHY WALKER

INFORMATIVE LINKS

OFFSITE EVENTS AND INFO:

BUS TRIPS TO VARIOUS EVENTS: <http://www.sunrisecoach.com/>

ESOL:

ONSITE EVENTS/INFO:

BNL COMMUNITY
EVENTS/ACTIVITIES
CALENDAR

BERA Recreation:

March 30~ Bus Trip to Manhattan's Museum of Natural History and Rose Hall. Please check the *Community News* for more information in the future.

Ongoing:

~Open Chess Night at the Recreation Hall on Wednesdays from 6:00-9:00 p.m. Bring an opponent or meet new players!

~BNL on site shuttle service. Call 2714 to go anywhere on site!

~Shopping Shuttle to Southport Shopping Center in Shirley on Wednesday evenings & Saturday mornings. Call 2714 for shuttle stops on site.

~Family Swim Nights on Fridays at the pool. 5:30-8:30 \$5.00 per family.

Hospitality:

Email mdelabey@optonline.net for information on upcoming Hospitality events. (See page 5 for more information.)

Ongoing: Hospitality "Coffee Meetings." 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. in the Recreation Building. Make friends and chat with others.

English for Speakers of Other Languages:

Ongoing: Classes daily at 9:30 a.m. and Tuesday and Thursday evening at 7:00 p.m.

For more events go to *The Bulletin's* Web page at:
<http://www.bnl.gov/bnlweb/pubaf/bulletin.html>
and click on "Weekly Calendar."

BNL Employees: USE YOUR BSA ACCOUNT (with approval) to purchase items in the BERA Store for meetings, holidays, staff appreciation/thank you gifts, etc...

Answers to Brain Teasers on page 2:

Please Contact Us!

The *Community News* is a monthly publication produced by *ESOL* and the *Quality of Life* Office. Suggestions and submissions are welcome.

**Please send letters and ideas to: lynch@bnl.gov
or by interoffice mail to: Jennifer Lynch, 179B.**