From the President

by Eena-Mai Franz

Hopefully, everyone is beginning to recover from the long and cold winter. You can lift your spirits by looking forward to seeing old friends and colleagues at the annual BREA Luncheon on June 15 in Bellport. See details on page 2.

Congratulations to Gail Donoghue, who retired from the Lab on April 29, 2011. I note Gail’s departure from the working ranks because she is the first retiring employee to be subscribed to a new email list created for BNL retirees.

Through this list, using her personal email address, Gail will continue receiving email from the Lab, such as Monday Memo and press releases. Eventually, when this system is fully developed, Human Resources hopes to use email to communicate with retirees about benefits and related topics. The Community, Education, Government and Public Affairs folks would also like to keep in touch with retirees because many of us are willing to volunteer at various events. Recently, several BREA members helped out at the high school and middle school science bowls.

Gail (pictured above) retired from her job supervising the Science Learning Center, where over 30,000 youngsters every year have fun with hands-on explorations in science.

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BREA Luncheon

Don’t miss our special yearly event -- the 8th Annual BREA Get-Together Luncheon!

WHEN:       Wednesday, June 15, 2011, 12 noon to 4 p.m.

WHERE:      Bellport Country Club

WHAT:  Hors d’oeuvre, followed by a four-course luncheon (starter, salad, choice of entrées, dessert, coffee or tea, with unlimited beer, wine and soda). All for only $37 per person!

Join us for an afternoon of good fun, good food and good company in the lovely surroundings of the Bellport Country Club. Chat with your old friends and colleagues!

The luncheon is open to every BREA members and his/her spouse or guest. To make reservations, please complete the bottom portion of this invitation and return it with your check in the amount of $37 per person (spouses or guests of BREA members are also $37 each) payable to BREA to the address below as soon as possible, but no later than June 8, 2011. Members who have not yet renewed for 2011 and would like to attend should also complete and return the membership form included in the newsletter. For more information, please contact:

Martine O’Connor, Chair, BREA Get-Together Luncheon Committee
mocfrog@aol.com or (631) 286-9725

Directions: From LIE eastbound, take Exit 65; from LIE westbound, take Exit 66. In both cases, follow the service road to Bellport Ave. and go south (Bellport Ave. becomes Station Rd.). From Sunrise Highway, take Exit 56 to Station Rd. and go south. In Bellport village, turn right on South Country Rd. Bellport Country Club is about ½ mile on the left (631-286-4227).

Name: ______________________________
Street Address: _______________ _______________ _______________
City: ____________________________ State and ZIP: ______________
Telephone: (______)_________ E-mail: __________________________
Spouse / Guest Name _____________________________
Amount enclosed: $______________

Please let us know if you have any special requests (such as assistance with transportation).

BREA
Brookhaven National Laboratory
Building 421
Upton, NY 11973
Advising the Laboratory

Formed in 1998 to advise the Laboratory Director on selected issues, particularly on the environment, safety, and health, the Community Advisory Council (CAC) represents a diverse range of interests and values of individuals and groups who are concerned about or affected by the actions of Brookhaven Lab. It was founded when the Lab’s relations with the surrounding community were severely strained due to environmental issues.

The CAC consists of representatives from 24 local civic, education, activist, environment, employee, science & technology, and health organizations. BREA was a founding member of the CAC, and it has had a representative on that body to this day. The late Graham Campbell was the first BREA representative, and Arnie Peskin is the regular BREA representative today, with Eena-Mai Franz serving as alternate.

In September 2008, the CAC celebrated its 10th anniversary. The U.S. Department of Energy presented members with a Certificate of Appreciation to acknowledge their role in regaining the community’s confidence and trust in the Laboratory, and for their dedication, curiosity, and guidance. Many New York State and local officials also recognized the CAC for their exemplary service to the community.

It is overwhelmingly apparent that the relationship between the Lab and the community has vastly improved in the past dozen years. CAC had no small role in this welcome improvement. And BREA, an organization that has credibility with both the Laboratory and the community, has played a significant role during that time.

The CAC sets its own agenda, brings forth issues important to the community, and works to provide consensus recommendations to Laboratory management. Meetings are held on the second Thursday of each month, beginning at 6:30 p.m. at the Laboratory’s Berkner Hall. CAC meetings are open to the public, and interested community members are encouraged to attend.

In the past, the CAC has spent much time discussing the three reactors, their dismantling, and groundwater and Peconic River cleanup. With environmental issues, the group is freely questioning, also expressing advice, consent or dissent. We do talk about science, asking for updates, accomplishments and plans on such topics as nanotech, NSLS-II, and the overall strategic plan. This helps the CAC gain an appreciation of the Lab’s value.

- Arnie Peskin
arniepeskin@optonline.net

Tour of NSLS-II and Nanocenter on May 18

On Wednesday, May 18, BREA is sponsoring a tour of NSLS-II, the Center for Functional Nanomaterials (CFN, pictured above), and the Research Support Building. Lunch follows. Come see recent physical changes to the Laboratory and get an inside look at NSLS-II, now 50 percent complete. The tour will be limited to 20 individuals. The cost of the lunch is $8. Details are below.

Tour
9:15 a.m. - Meet in conference room of Bldg. 400 (coffee available in lobby) and tour Research Support Building
10:10 a.m. - Drive (carpool if possible) to CFN
11 a.m. - Drive to NSLS-II
Noon - Return to Research Support Building for lunch

Reservations: Retirees and guests invited, space limited, reserve early. Contact Ken Mohring at kenwadingriver@gmail.com or 631 929 6744, or Eena-Mai Franz at sroosild@aol.com.

Lunch: $8; includes heroes, salads, chips, dessert, beverages. Payment (cash or check) collected at lunch.

Entrance to BNL: Please bring photo ID or BNL badge. Allow time for gate entry.
President’s note (cont’d from p. 1)

HR has also subscribed current BREA members to the retiree email list. Now we will automatically get regular news from Brookhaven Lab. This is a project that BREA’s Arnie Peskin and Mona Rowe have had a hand in, working with HR and Tom Schlagel, the Lab’s Chief Information Officer.

Please note another event that we have arranged for BREA members: A tour of new Lab facilities on May 18. You will find details on page 3.

I look forward to seeing everyone at the June luncheon.

- Eena-Mai Franz
  sroosild@aol.com

BERA Activities

BERA offers a variety of activities. Aqua Therapy for Active Seniors, for example, runs through June 22, and classes can be pro-rated. For more information, go to: www.bnl.gov/bera/recreation/fitness.asp

For a list of upcoming BERA events, go to: www.bnl.gov/bera/recreation/events.asp#BBG

Renew BREA Membership

Several members have not yet renewed for 2011. Please check the mailing label on the newsletter. Your membership is paid up until the end of the year shown above your name. If you see the year 2010, you need to renew for 2011. By completing and returning the form below, you will continue to receive future editions of the newsletter.

Consider five-year or lifetime memberships, which are discounted.

Membership type:
[ ] annual ($10)  [ ] 5 years ($40)  [ ] life ($95)

Last name: ____________________________
First name: ____________________________ MI: ______
Street: ________________________________
City: ________ State: ___ Zip(+4): _____ - ___
Phone: _______________ E-mail: ___________
Check made out to BREA for $___

Mail to:
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Brookhaven National Laboratory
Building 421
Upton, NY 11973