BREA Meetings

BREA meetings are held on the second Tuesday of every month (except for August), at 1 p.m. in one of the conference rooms in Bldg. 400 (except where noted).

All BREA members are invited to attend and participate.

Meeting Schedule
May 12, 2015
June 9, 2015
July 14, 2015

BREA Officers
President
Ken Mohring
kenwadingriver@gmail.com
Vice President
Liz Seubert
liz.and.ev@gmail.com
Secretary
Louise Hanson
hanson.louise@gmail.com
Treasurer
Steve Shapiro
shapiro@bnl.gov

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Newsletter Editors
Mona S. Rowe
mrowe@bnl.gov
Anita Cohen
afcohen@optonline.net

From the President
by Ken Mohring, kenwadingriver@gmail.com

Welcome to the pre-luncheon issue of BREA News. I am again looking forward to seeing fellow retirees in the relaxed and friendly atmosphere of the Bellport Country Club. We are planning the luncheon to maximize the time that attendees will have to mingle with friends or acquaintances. For those who have not previously attended a luncheon, the country club is centrally located, easy to find, has near-the-door parking and provides a scenic view from the catering area. Please see page 2 for luncheon details and join us on June 10th.

At the May 12 regular monthly BREA meeting, we’ve invited two speakers to talk about after-retirement finances and answer your questions on the topic. One speaker, Mark Israel, Brookhaven’s Director of Internal Audit, has ongoing tax and financial credentials. The other is an independent retirement-plan portfolio evaluator under contract to BSA. Mark has invited this additional resource because of the nature of some of our questions. This is not a forum to receive personal recommendations because everyone’s circumstances are different. But both speakers will offer information that will (continued on page 3)
BREA Luncheon on June 10

**Date:** Wednesday, June 10, 2015  
**Time:** 12 noon to 4 p.m.  
**Place:** Bellport Country Club  
**Meal:** Hors d’oeuvres, salad, choice of beef, chicken or fish entree, dessert, coffee or tea, and soda (wine and beer at cash bar)  
**Price:** $36 per person, must reserve and pay before luncheon

BREA will hold its 12th annual luncheon on Wednesday, June 10, 2015. This get-together for BREA members and guests is being organized by Lillian Kouchinsky, who says the event promises to be fun for everyone.

To make reservations, complete the bottom portion of this invitation and return it with your check in the amount of $36 per person payable to BREA to the address below as soon as possible — but to be postmarked no later than June 1. Members who have not yet renewed for 2015 and would like to attend should also complete and return the membership form on page 4. For more information about the lunch, please contact:

Lillian Kouchinsky  
lkouchin@yahoo.com or (631) 878-9167

Directions: From LIE eastbound, take Exit 65. From LIE westbound, take Exit 66. From either direction, follow the service road to Bellport Ave. and go south (Bellport Avenue becomes Station Road). From Sunrise Highway, take Exit 56 to Station Road and go south. In Bellport village, turn right on South Country Road. Bellport Country Club is on the left about 1/2 mile down the road. The club’s phone number is (631) 286-4227.

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Name ______________________________________________________________
Street Address ________________________________________________________
City _______________________________  State _______  ZIP _________________
Telephone _____________________  Email _________________________________
Spouse/Guest Name ____________________________________________________

For travel assistance, contact Lillian Kouchinsky at lkouchin@yahoo.com or (631) 878-9167.

Amount enclosed: $ ___________

Mail form and check to: BREA c/o BERA  
Brookhaven National Laboratory  
Bldg. 400  
Upton, NY 11973
The main goal of the medical screening is to detect illness at an early stage, when treatment is more likely to be effective. Findings are often helpful in claims under the Energy Employees Occupational Illness Compensation Program. Exams occur at a medical clinic in Suffolk County. Arrangements are made for those who live beyond Suffolk County.

To date, WHPP has screened over 31,000 DOE workers and has provided over 49,000 exams at fourteen DOE sites throughout eight states. Participants are eligible to be re-screened every three years. Re-screening is recommended because occupational illnesses can develop many years after exposure stops.

WHPP is implemented by Queens College with funding from DOE, which recently extended the program for another five years. The 2014 DOE Former Worker Medical Screening Program report is available online at energy.gov.

Brookhaven retiree Victor Cassella is also working with WHPP to let retirees know about the medical screening program. Contact Victor at (631)585-2084 or nonno@optonline.net. Call (888)241-1199 to schedule your exam.

- Jonathan Corbin, Outreach and Clinical Coordinator, Queens College

President’s Message (cont’d from page 1)

assist all of us in our quest to best plan for the future. Please contact me at kenwadingriver@gmail.com or (631)929-6744 with your questions so the speakers can be better prepared and we can maximize the time we have at the meeting. Names of those asking questions will not be revealed.

Some aspect of the healthcare process always seems to require more attention. The Health Reimbursement Account (HRA), used for you to obtain Brookhaven’s contribution to your health care expenses, should be regularly monitored. Whether you are using an automated payment/reimbursement process or an individual monthly payment/reimbursement process, you should maintain records so that you are assured to receive reimbursement for each of the twelve months of the year. Also, reimbursement dates may vary, so verify when the monthly amount from an automatic reimbursement process was credited to your bank account or that you received a check. This will assure that money is not spent before it is received.

In the not-too-distant future, BREA will distribute a survey to determine the good and can-do-better portions of the new healthcare system. It is important that SelectQuote and, ultimately, Brookhaven Lab receive your input. In addition to BREA’s survey you should participate when your providers ask you to take part in “service provided” surveys. These providers are highly regulated, and good or poor service experiences should be reported.

A reminder for veterans: check the VA for prescription drug coverage. That coverage may be a beneficial alternative.

- Ken Mohring, kenwadingriver@gmail.com
Renew BREA Membership

The mailing label on your newsletter will show your membership status. If you see the year 2014, you need to renew your membership. Complete the form below to continue receiving the BREA newsletter. Consider five-year or lifetime memberships, which are discounted.

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

Last name: ___________________
First name: ___________ MI: ____
City: _______________ MI: ___
State: _______ Zip ____________
Phone: ____________________
Email: ________________

Check made out to BREA for $ _____
Mail to:
Carmen Benkovitz
Membership Secretary
12 Sandy Drive
Smithtown, NY 11787

In Memoriam

We deeply regret to inform you of the passing of the following retirees and a then-active employee (*):

- Val Fitch, 91, February 5, 2015
- Robert Gottschalk, 80, January 31, 2015
- Samuel Holbit, 57, March 16, 2015
- Gary Miglionico, 55, October 11, 2014
- Noelwh Netusil, 82, December 27, 2014
- John W. Olness, 85, February 15, 2015
- Grace M. Paquette, 92, March 2, 2015
- Vannett Donald Pfeiffer, 79, February 18, 2015
- Richard B. Setlow, 94, April 6, 2015
- Janet Sillas, 85, February 26, 2015

More information may be found at BREA’s “In Memoriam” website: www.bnl.gov/bera/activities/brea

To post an obituary for a deceased BNL employee or retiree, send name, date of death, any published obituary or a web link, and (optional) a photo to Anita Cohen:
- Email: afcohen@optonline.net
- Snail mail: Use BREA’s return address below.

New Date for Plum Island Tour

Steve Shapiro has rescheduled the Plum Island tour for August 27, 2015. He already has a full roster from the previous notice in BREA News, but he will put you on a waiting list if you are interested in taking the tour. Contact Steve at shapiro@bnl.gov.

Volunteers Needed for Science Camp

The local council of Boy Scouts has organized a Science Day Camp at Baiting Hollow on August 17-21, 2015. Volunteers are needed to help with science activities. Times and dates are flexible. Contact Cliff Locks at (631)338-2114 or clifflocks@yahoo.com. For more information, go here: http://goo.gl/euKWS7.