Greetings, everyone!

It doesn’t seem possible that a whole year has gone by since I wrote about the last BREA annual luncheon and warmly thanked Lillian Kouchinsky for her tireless work in organizing the event. Now it’s 2017, not 2016, but the June 7 luncheon was just as successful, Lillian just as superb an organizer, and our enjoyment just as great. One BREA member struck unusual enjoyment – how often does a person win three times in just two raffles in one afternoon? And the results were absolutely NOT fixed! One raffle prize (won by someone else, to my relief as picker of the tickets) was donated by BREA’s Eric Forsyth: a signed copy of his latest book on his 55 years of sailing the world’s oceans.

In addition to eating, drinking, and relaxing with old friends, we became better acquainted with our keynote speaker, David Manning, Director of BNL’s Stakeholder and Community Relations Office. David joined the Lab in January 2015 from an energy background, including service as the Deputy Minister of Energy for Alberta, Canada, a spell heading public affairs for Keyspan/National Grid, and serving as the U.S. representative for (continued on page 3)
BREA Luncheon
June 7, 2017
photos by Joseph Rubino
President’s Message (continued from page 1)

the Premier of Alberta. His talk focussed on recent Lab research highlights and the role of retirees in spreading news of these scientific successes in the community. A summary follows below.

Now the luncheon is over, and we head for full summer. As you all know, BNL is celebrating its 70th year of great science and discovery, some of which will be on display for this year’s Summer Sunday visitors. Summer Sundays kick off on July 16 with Family Fun Day, including a “History” station and site bus tours with commentaries on past and present glories. Come on site yourselves to experience this day, and bring the children. You may even give extra support by volunteering to tell people about some Lab history (all information will be provided to you, no worries!). Check the box on page 4 to see if you can help. For more on Summer Sundays, go to https://www.bnl.gov/stakeholder/summerSundays.php.

Other events could lure you to the Lab this summer. On August 2, you can attend a Pianofest noon recital with brilliant performers, many destined for the world’s concert halls. At the BERA website https://www.bnl.gov/BERA/ you’ll find news of events, sports, and trips. In short, forget the knee-high clover on your lawn (good for bees) and jungle weeds strangling your tomatoes (find a farm stand) and enjoy life to the fullest. All the best!

– Liz Seubert, liz.and.ev@gmail.com

Highlights of BREA Luncheon Talk by David Manning

Director of Stakeholder and Community Relations Office, BNL

In his talk, David Manning recognized the important role played by the community in supporting BNL and its research. Given that everyone in the room had a long history with the Lab, he said, this group in particular could assist in getting BNL’s science better known. He shared the challenge of talking about science so that neighbors can understand the incredible discoveries going on. “It’s also hard to explain that fundamental science will give us surprising discoveries as we pursue research,” he said. “But the conclusions can be game changers, and the technologies we encounter along the way can be significant.”

The remarkable research around the Lab that Manning touched on included a breakthrough detector for the Large Synoptic Survey Telescope, an enormous apparatus to be located in Chile to survey the cosmos as never before; work for NASA; and studies of radioisotopes, all hosted at the Relativistic Heavy Ion Collider. Manning explained that the Lab is a major producer of strontium 82, a radioisotope used for medical diagnostics, and lately is moving to produce actinium 225 as a promising new cancer treatment. At the National Synchrotron Light Source II, the State of New York has joined with the Lab to build a new high energy beamline for research into batteries; and the New York State Senate, led by Senator Ken LaValle, has just committed to funding a new Cryo EM, a strategic tool for understanding and treating disease. Then at BNL’s Center for Functional Nanomaterials (CFN), scientists are working at the incredibly small nano level to create hydrophobic silicone surfaces and invisible glass, which may be used in future solar panels or smart phones. And Manning had recently met scientists from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology who work with BNL staff at the CFN on the next generation LED bulb.

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Renew BREA Membership

Membership expires on December 31 of every year no matter when you paid your dues (which are requested by January 31 of the following year). To stay on BREA's mailing list, complete the form below and mail it to me along with your payment. Include your email address so BREA can send you timely information.

If you have questions or if your contact information has changed, send me an email at hellobylin@yahoo.com.

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Beth Lin, BREA Membership Chair
81 Westchester Drive
Rocky Point, NY 11778

– Beth Lin, Membership Chair, hellobylin@yahoo.com

In Memoriam

We deeply regret to inform you of the passing of the following retiree:

John R. Connelly, 88, May 11, 2017

More information may be found at BREA's website: www.bnl.gov/bera/activities/brea

To post an obituary for a deceased BNL employee or retiree, send information by email to msrowe.hi@gmail.com or by snail mail to BREA’s address in the panel below.

Manning talk (continued from page 3)

Manning shared plans to develop a new office building with conference facilities, a dorm-type hotel for visiting researchers, and possibly, with private funding, an educational learning center. He warned that the budget process, which is late this year, may have unfavorable results for science, but that it is hoped that Congress will make adjustments to ensure a brighter picture.

In conclusion, “There is so much going on at BNL to be proud of, and a great story to tell,” Manning said. “And what better partners to share in that effort, than BNL retirees!” – LS

Volunteer for July 16 Summer Sunday

To celebrate BNL’s 70th anniversary, the Lab’s Summer Sunday program on July 16, 2017, will have a special emphasis on history. BREA members are encouraged to volunteer. All materials will be provided, and each volunteer will get a free polo shirt. Contact Summer Sunday coordinator Kahille Dorsinvil at (631)344-5197 or Dorsinvil@bnl.gov for details.

Brookhaven Retired Employees Association

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