

BROOKHAVEN BULLETIN

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BROOKHAVEN NATIONAL LABORATORY





50th-Anniversary Celebration's International Festival A Festive Celebration of BNL Employees' Diversity

In a Berkner Hall packed with over 600 mingling employees and their families who marveled over the displays, demonstrations and performances, BNL's International Festival celebrated the diversity of the Lab's population — and put everyone in a very festive mood just in time for Thanksgiving.

An event of the Lab's 50th-anniversary celebration, the International Festival was held on November 20, as a forum in which employees could display the wealth and admire the treasures of the cultural traditions, ethnic backgrounds and countries of origin represented at BNL. Countries in all the continents of the world were represented — except Antarctica!

"We were thrilled to see the enthusiastic response from Lab employees and their families to the entire evening's events," says Lorraine Merdon, Manager of BNL's Diversity Office, who headed the organizing committee. "People left the festival with a new perspective and renewed respect for the coworkers and their cultural origins. The event brought out the best in everyone."

The evening began with hor d'oeuvres and refreshments enjoyed to the traditional

country tunes played by Swinging Moose, as people circulated in Berkner's lobby, taking in the 15 displays of artifacts and art from countries including New Zealand and Romania, and regions including the Caribbean and Eastern Europe. In addition, many participated in the six demonstrations of such arts as Japanese origami and Indian hand painting.

The educating and enlightening entertainment then moved into Berkner's auditorium, where 15 performances were offered during a two-part production. Master of ceremonies Jeffrey Taylor, Diversity Office, introduced such acts from the Lab and the surrounding community, as, respectively, singer Nicole Trent, Plant Engineering Division, and the Hunt School of Irish Dancing, Islip. After the show, all enjoyed dessert and coffee to the melodious sounds of the Victory Steel Orchestra.

In addition to Merdon and Taylor, the festivities involved an organizing committee which included: Terry Buck, Kara DeCastro, Nancy Hoey, Fran Ligon, Noreen Michelson, Sol Rosario, Eva Rothman and Nedy Santiago. Thanks were also given to Rothman and Santiago for designing the evening's program cover. — Photos by Roger Stoutenburgh



Volunteers Needed

Healthy women and men between 21 and 45 years of age are needed to volunteer for a study aimed at developing a basic tool to measure muscle mass and metabolism.

Volunteers will be compensated \$150 for their time. For more information, call Joan Kavanaugh, Ext. 5440.

Cashier's Hours

The cashier's office will be closed on Wednesday through Friday, December 24-26, and Wednesday, December 31, as well as Thursday, January 1. The IPAP system will not be available on those days.

Get a Free Flu Shot!

The Occupational Medicine Clinic is offering free flu shots to all BNL employees. To find out more about the advantages of getting a flu shot or to make an appointment for one, call Ext. 3670.

Arrivals & Departures

Arrivals	
Richard D. Belkin	RHIC
Valeri Faine	Physics
Baorui Ren	Medical

Departures	
Michael A. Arpino	RHIC
Raymond H. Gimi	Chemistry
James Milne	NSLS
Yi Zhao	Physics

Pool Schedule

The new, three-month schedule at the swimming pool will begin on Friday, January 2, 1998, and will end on Monday, March 31. Therefore, pool-goes may purchase tickets at the pool during its open hours:

Open Hours		
• Monday through Friday		
11 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.	employees only	
1:30 - 2 p.m.	speed swimming/training	
5 - 8:30 p.m.	employees, families, guests*	
• Saturday & Sunday		
1 - 5 p.m.	employees, families, guests*	

*The pool is closed on all Lab holidays.

Fee Schedule		
• Daily Admissions		
employee/family member	\$2.00	
guest	\$3.00	
• Season Tickets (fees not prorated)		
individual	\$42.00	
family	\$53.00	

*Guest ruling: One guest per employee is permitted without prior arrangement. Advance arrangements for additional guests, up to five per employee at one time, must be made at the Recreation Office, Human Resources Division, Bldg. 185. Guests must be accompanied by the sponsoring employee.

Computer Training

The Computing & Communications Division will offer the following courses in January, 1998.

To register, send a training request form and an ILR for the appropriate training fee to Pam Mansfield, Bldg. 515.

date	course	fee
1/9	beg. EXCEL	\$161
1/15-16	beg. Access	\$322
1/22	int. PowerPoint	\$161
1/27-29	Visual Basic prog.	\$590

The following classes are scheduled for February 1998: intermediate Access, intermediate EXCEL, beginner Word and intermediate Word.

In Stormy Weather

Listen to:

Station	Area	AM	FM
WALK	Patchogue	1370	97.5
WBAB	Babylon	1440	102.3
WBLI	Patchogue		106.1
WBZL	Suffolk/Nassau		103.1
WCTO/Smithtown		74	94.3
WGSM			
WHFM	Southampton		95.3
WHLI/Hempstead		1100	98.3
WKJY			
WLIM	Patchogue	1580	
WVNG	Sag Harbor	1600	92.0
WRCN	Riverhead	1570	103.9
WRIV	Riverhead	1390	

Or call: 344-INFO* *Dial the letter O, not zero!

Stocking Stuffers

Science Toys

Today, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. in Berkner Hall auditorium, purchase science toys and gadgets for holiday gift-giving, during the annual science shop sales sponsored by the Museum Programs of the Public Affairs Office. Shop early, as supplies are limited.

Toy Drive Ends Today

Bring a new toy or gift for needy children, infants through teenagers, to the BERA Sales Office, Berkner Hall, 9 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., today, the last day of BNL's 14th year of participation in the Town of Brookhaven's annual Toy Drive.

Souvenir Paperweights

Buy your hand-cut and fire-polished memento of BNL's 50th-anniversary time-capsule ceremony — a triangular German crystal paperweight designed and created by the Lab's scientific glassblower Barry Laffer — for \$10 each at the BERA Sales Office, Berkner Hall, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. weekdays.

Benefits Update

The Benefits Office of the Human Resources Division informs employees of the following changes. For more information, call Joyce Wund, Ext. 7516.

Retirement Options Increase

Upon retirement and attaining the age of 55 or older, BNL employees may now take up to 100 percent of the total amount of their AUI Retirement Plan accumulations in cash — that is, they no longer must purchase a retirement annuity from TIAA-CREF.

Previously, only up to 25 percent of retirement accumulations could be withdrawn as cash, and the remainder had to be used to obtain a TIAA-CREF retirement annuity, which provides employees with lifetime retirement income and/or death benefits.

The change came about as a result of an agreement between Associated Universities, Inc. (AUI), and the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE), so is reflected in AUI's contract with DOE.

IRS Increases SRA Contribution

Effective January 1, 1998, the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) has increased the maximum amount per calendar year that tax-payers can voluntarily shelter in supplemental retirement accounts (SRAs) from \$9,500 to \$10,000.

While the maximum amount has increased, the percentages that eligible BNL employees may annually allocate have not been affected by this IRS change.

For example, an eligible BNL employee with two years of Lab service may annually allocate up to 20 percent of their base salaries or \$10,000, whichever is less, to be deposited in a tax-deferred SRA custodial account with TIAA-CREF, Fidelity or Vanguard, or any other qualified 403(b)(7) mutual fund.

Berkner Cafeteria Holiday Luncheon

featuring the BNL Choral Group
singing Holiday Carols

Friday, December 19

- Prime Rib
- Yorkshire Pudding
- Mashed Potatoes
- Vegetable Medley
- Holiday Dessert
- Fountain Beverage

\$6.95



Reserve Santa Claus, Elf!

If you want Santa Claus (Lieutenant Chuck LaSalla) and his Elf (Firefighter Frank Palmeri Jr.) to come dashing through the snow in their sleigh (Fire Engine #2) at a special time during their rounds of the site on the morning of Wednesday, December 24, then call the North Pole, Ext. 2351, to make your reservation for some time between 9:30 p.m. and noon. For Santa to visit your workplace, you'll have to have been nice, not naughty — and he'll check his list twice to make sure.

Holiday Notes

For the Christmas holiday, the Lab will be closed after 12:30 p.m. on Wednesday, December 24, and all day Thursday and Friday, December 25 & 26. For New Year's Day, the Lab will be closed on Thursday, January 1. As a result, the following schedules will be in effect:

- **Brookhaven Bulletin** — There will be no Bulletin next week; the next issue will be published on January 2. The classified ad deadline for that issue is noon on Monday, December 22. The deadline for club notices and other submittals is noon on December 23.
- **Credit Union** — The Teachers Federal Credit Union will be open until 1 p.m. on December 24, closed on December 25 and open on December 26. It will close at 1 p.m. on December 31 and remain closed through January 1. The automatic teller machine in Berkner Hall will be open throughout the holidays.
- **Food Services** — The **Cafeteria** will offer service until 1 p.m. on December 24 and will be closed Christmas and New Year's Days. The **Brookhaven Center Club** will be closed December 24-27. The Center Club will be open only 5-9 p.m. on December 31, but it will be closed on January 1.
- **Gym & Pool** — The swimming pool and gymnasium will be closed from after lunch-time hours on December 24, and remain closed through Sunday, December 28. They will be open until 1:30 p.m. on December 31, then closed through January 1. Regular hours will resume on January 2, which also starts a new pool-pass season (see page 2).
- **Recreation Building** — The Recreation Building in the apartment area will be closed December 24, through January 5, except for scheduled parties.
- **Research Library** — The library will be closed after noon on December 24, through December 28, and all day January 1.
- **Safety Glasses & Shoes** — The Safety Glasses Shop will be closed December 24, but will be open on December 31. The Safety Shoe Shop will be closed December 24 through January 1.
- **U.S. Post Office** — The window of the Upton branch of the U.S. Postal Service will be open until 3 p.m. on December 24, and until noon on December 26. The branch will be closed Christmas and New Year's Days.

BROOKHAVEN BULLETIN

Published weekly by the Public Affairs Office for the employees of BROOKHAVEN NATIONAL LABORATORY

ANITA COHEN, Editor
MARSHA BELFORD, Assistant Editor

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From 50 to the Future

1997: BNL's 50th-Anniversary Year in Review

In the future, when most of us think back to 1997, two events are likely to dominate our memories of BNL's 50th-anniversary year: This year was dominated by the tritium leak from the spent-fuel pool of the High Flux Beam Reactor and by the termination of the contract between Associated Universities, Inc., and the U.S. Department of Energy to operate BNL.

During the year, we worked hard together to solve the problems associated with the tritium leak, and we watched and waited anxiously as the contractor-selection process unfolded. We were all concerned for our futures, as well as for the future of this great institution. There were many tough days and many sleepless nights.

But 1997 saw many other events happen at the Laboratory as well. It was another year of world-class science and technology, and of excellence by those who work in support of our scientists. It was a year when we came together as never before, forgot our differences and let our voices be heard.

We made great strides in the environmental cleanup program and reached out increasingly to our neighbors on Long Island. We improved operations, developed exciting new technologies and opened new facilities to serve our programs in the future. And we celebrated 50 years of achievements and contributions with family, friends and our community.

The success of the Laboratory depends upon the dedication, support and creative energy of each and everyone of us. This year, you have accomplished many achievements that were key to making the 50th-anniversary year a very good year, despite all the overwhelming obstacles. So we personally thank you — our coworkers, colleagues and friends — for all the hard work and dedication that you have displayed throughout the year.

We look forward to a continuing legacy of world-class science, a new excellence in environmental stewardship, safety performance and operations, and the renewed support and trust of our community as we move on together from 50 to the future!

Peter Bond
Interim Director

Mike Bebon
Interim Deputy Director

This message is taken from the narration delivered by Bond and Bebon during a year-in-review slide show presented during last Tuesday's 50th-anniversary time-capsule ceremony, which will be featured in a future issue of the Brookhaven Bulletin. The slide show, along with the ceremony, may be viewed with a Real Audio Player on the Web at www.wbnl.bnl.gov.

Seniors' Holiday Meal Starts in BNL Kitchen



Fresh ham, sweet potatoes and all the fixings — that's this year's special holiday menu that American Red Cross (ARC) staff and volunteers will prepare in a BNL kitchen for 650 senior citizens in Brookhaven Town. Following tradition, the meals will then be delivered to seniors at six centers and frozen for the homebound, in time for Christmas. The Lab has donated the use of a fully equipped industrial kitchen to the ARC since 1985. So, not only for the holidays, but also each weekday all year round meals are freshly prepared in the kitchen at the back of Bldg. 490 by: (from left) Sharon Seruggs, ARC; George Laeczo, volunteer; Julio Caldiero, Suffolk County Senior Employment Program; and ARC staffers Debra DiVita, Joseph Siciliano, John Mathis, Nancy Garcia, Kitchen Supervisor Joan Kalivas and Novella Ferguson.

Volleyball

Standings as of December 12

League I		League III	
Bikers & Spikers	27-3	Silver Bullets	18-3
Rude Dogs	17-10	Group Sets	15-3
Set to Kill	16-14	Just 4 Fun	16-8
Scared Hitless	11-16	Upton Ups	10-11
ReTurners	1-29	Six Samurai	5-13
League II		Open League	
Spiked Jello	22-5	Just In Time	5-16
Safe Sets	20-7	NWO	3-18
Monday Nite Live	19-8		
Jao-About-That	18-9	Spikers	21-12
Undecided	13-14	Shank, Carry & Throw	19-14
Fossils	7-20	Death Volley	16-17
Nuts & Bolts	7-20	Pass, Set & Crush	13-17
Setups	2-25	Far Side	12-21

Season's Greetings
and
Happy & Safe
Holidays
to
You and Yours!

Cover Credits

The all-employee 50th-anniversary commemorative cover photograph — shot on Monday, December 15, from 100 feet off the ground on the catwalk surrounding the water tower next to Police Headquarters, Bldg. 50 — could never have been taken without the work of the following people:

PHOTOGRAPHY: Roger Stoutenburgh and Michael Herbert assisted by Joe Rubino of the Photography & Graphic Arts Group, Information Services Division.

FORMATION OUTLINE: Mel Bonanno, Darren Harris and Jeff Tabacco of the Roads & Masonry Group, Plant Engineering Division.

TRAFFIC & CROWD SAFETY: Lenny Butera, Tom Gilbert, Brian Buckheit, Rich Rossetti, Mike Timm, Jim Hensch, Mark Opisso and Victor Pineiro of the Police Group, Safeguards & Security Division.

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS: Mike Carroll, and Bob Safranek, Gary Schaum, Tim Devine, John Foley, Jim Forkin, Bill Rabatin and Bill Strelecki of the Red Shift, Fire/Rescue Group, Safety & Environmental Protection Division.

ALL-EMPLOYEE NOTICES: Anita Cohen, Public Affairs Office; Renée Flack, 50th-Anniversary Celebration Coordinator; and Cathy Lombardo of Telecom Services, Computing & Communications Division.

FORMATION ASSISTANTS: Cathy Lombardo, Jeanne D'Ascoli, Charles Gardener, Joanne Greaves, Mary Lynn Heinrich, Louie Nevis, Ron Ondrovic, Mona Rowe, Jack Russell, Richie Scheidet, Liz Seubert, Tom Trojanowski and Kara Villamil.

ORGANIZER: Marsha Belford, Public Affairs Office.

Way to Go, BNL — United Way Goal Met!

At press time, exactly \$95,547 had been pledged by BNLers during this year's United Way fund — or more than \$5,000 over the 1997 campaign's goal of \$90,000.

"It's a good feeling to know that many BNLers have put the needs of neighbors high on their holiday list," said Ann Emrick, who is the Lab's United Way campaign chair.

In addition to thanking all the Lab employees who have supported the campaign, Emrick saluted the department and division captains for all the work that they had done to make this campaign a success. She had special thanks for Associated Universities, Inc.; the Suffolk County Police Association; Local 8-431 of the Oil, Chemical & Atomic Workers International Union; and Local 2230 of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, which had donated prizes for the campaign's pledge-card drawings.

Emrick also congratulated the prizewinners: Rosalie Piccione, who won the grand prize of an overnight theater trip to New York City; and the respective winners of \$100, \$50 and \$25 American Express gift certificates: Dave Kirby, Guy Mastrion, Veljko Radeka, Mona Rowe and Pat Yalden; Robert Bari, Mindy Markstaller, Charles Murray, Louis Snyder, Jeffrey Stuart and Doug Warren; and Pamela Cuifo and Peter Wochner.

Dinners at local restaurants were won by Mary Faith-Healey, Wing Louie, Hong Ma, Alan Stevens and Maria Yanez. While Ove Dyling had scored with the New York Jets' autographed football, Dave Comstock sailed away with the inflatable raft.

The campaign's financial coordinator Liz Mogavero, Bldg. 510A, is still accepting pledges. Can BNL hit the \$100,000 mark? Here's hoping!

Ads left out of this issue due to lack of space need not be resubmitted to appear in the next issue.