

Medaris Heads Plant Engineering

J. Bruce Medaris's long and varied career took a new turn on June 21, when he was named Manager of the Plant Engineering Division (PE).

Medaris's appointment was announced by former PE Manager Mike Bebon, who is now Deputy to the Associate Director for Management and Physical Plant.

"Bruce's management background, broad experience, and in-depth knowledge of BNL and Plant Engineering policies and practices will enable him to provide quality leadership to the Plant Engineering Division," Bebon noted. "I'm confident that Bruce will continue to pursue the excellence in performance and commitment to service that Plant Engineering has been working toward over the last several years."

In fact, these are Medaris's main goals. As he explained, "Plant Engi-

neering is a service organization. The Lab does research. We are here to provide the Lab with the best possible platform from which to perform research. We have no other mission but to keep the Lab well-maintained and able to do its job."

More than 400 people work in PE, sharing one goal: to meet BNL's needs for engineering, design, construction, operation, maintenance and repair of the Lab grounds, physical plant and associated equipment.

"Part of this is being responsive," Medaris continued, "not only in the types of services we provide, but also in how long it takes us to provide them and how well-informed we keep our customers. They are entitled to know what to expect in terms of time and cost."

To communicate this message Lab-wide, Medaris plans to meet shortly

with each department and division head to discuss their needs and problems.

Medaris became Deputy PE Manager two years ago, when Bebon became Manager. "When Mike and I came in," Medaris explained, "we took vital steps in achieving the current organization, and the division is now organized very much the way I want it. It was a pleasure working with Mike because he is a clear thinker with real objectives. We made a good team because we turned the heat up together, and now that a new standard has been established, it is my task to sustain and improve on it."

PE will need lots of heat to deal with the many challenges ahead. For example, said Medaris, "The whole Lab is going to go through a growth period preparing for RHIC, and Plant Engineering will be very much involved in preparing new facilities and activating a whole new segment of the physical plant."

PE has also found itself "in a shifting role over the past two years," Medaris said. "With the increased emphasis on safety and the environment, we are becoming more and more involved with site restoration efforts and the intensifying regulatory procedures to protect the environment." As Chairman of BNL's Environment, Safety & Health Committee, Medaris feels a "special trust" as PE becomes more involved in these issues.



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J. Bruce Medaris

In addition, said Medaris, "We have concentrated over the last couple of years on the refurbishment of the infrastructure of the Lab's physical plant. This year, for example, we put great emphasis on major roofing projects. By continuing to work on the infrastructure now, we'll minimize future expenses and maintenance."

These are challenges that Medaris's background has well-prepared him to meet. After graduating from the U.S. Military Academy at West Point in 1959, with a B.S. in engineering, Medaris entered the U.S. Army, retiring 20 years later as a Lieutenant

(continued on page 2)



Roger Stoutenburgh

Among those whose efforts successfully trimmed radioactive waste at the Alternating Gradient Synchrotron (AGS) are (from left) William Pemberton, Safety & Environmental Protection (S&EP); Rodger Hubbard, AGS; James Durnan, S&EP; Peter Kwaschyn, S&EP; Ralph Brown, AGS; Edward Lessard, AGS; Derek Lowenstein, AGS; Leonard Emma, S&EP; Stephen Musolino, Accelerator Development; Donald Mackenzie, Plant Engineering; and John Strahmann, S&EP.

The AGS Trims Its Waste

A few extra inches around the waste have been a serious consideration at the Alternating Gradient Synchrotron (AGS) over the past few years. And although staff members have not been on a diet, they have successfully trimmed their collective waste — their low-level radioactive waste.

"Radioactive waste disposal costs BNL approximately \$75 a cubic foot at present, and it's due to go up to almost \$100 next fiscal year," explained Leonard Emma, Head of the Hazardous Waste Management Section at the Safety & Environmental Protection Division (S&EP). "After that, the price is expected to rise roughly 30 percent annually. Therefore we need to explore ways to reduce the Lab's total generation of waste."

As a first step, waste bins were examined at the AGS, one of the Lab's largest generators of radioactive waste. "With support from Derek Lowenstein [AGS Chairman], Ed Lessard [AGS Associate Chairman for Safety] and many others within the department, we started the task in March 1990," recalled Peter Kwaschyn, S&EP Manager for Waste Engineering and Operations, who coordinated the project between the AGS and his own division.

"The investigations showed clearly that we should pay more attention to minimization — reducing waste volume," Kwaschyn continued. "Also, segregation was a problem. Noncontaminated trash was being mixed in

with the radioactive waste. We found office furniture, cardboard boxes, rainwater — even a soda can!"

Another, even more serious problem was characterization. Some of the material in the bins came under the State of Washington's definition of "mixed waste." Waste that is mixed is considered to be a chemical as well as a radioactive hazard — to be segregated and stored pending disposal. Since this is extremely expensive, avoiding or minimizing this type of waste is a priority. For example, lead-soldered pipes or lead-painted objects that become radioactive must be disposed of as mixed waste. Therefore, no lead should go into BNL's radioactive waste bins.

Kwaschyn explained that characterization had yet another aspect to consider — getting the identity and exact amount of any radionuclides in the waste. "The new requirements in this area are more demanding — we need more precise measurement techniques and documentation," he said.

With these concerns in mind, AGS and S&EP representatives discussed the best way to reorganize radioactive waste management practices at the AGS. They decided that all waste would have to be put in the bins under the control of designated individuals, who would ensure that characterization and minimization requirements were met and documented.

A weatherproof cover was made, incorporating hinged, locked doors

(continued on page 2)

A Complement to the NSLS

Now on loan to BNL is an x-ray microtomograph designed and built in the Soviet Union. The device can image biological and industrial samples, such as the cross section of the geological core fragment displayed on the computer monitor.

Soviet physicist Edward Weinberg (center), who developed the instrument, was at the Lab recently to demonstrate the device to Keith Jones (left) and Per Spanne, both in the Department of Applied Science. The BNL researchers will use the microtomograph to complement the microtomography work that they now do at the National Synchrotron Light Source.

According to Weinberg, the chief advantages of the Soviet machine are its small size, ease of operation and relatively high-resolution images. Adds Jones, "While it does not approach the resolution of our instrument at the Light Source, there are several features that are very advanced. We anticipate a stimulating interchange as we work with the device."

A third partner in this collaboration is Moltech Corporation, a Long Island company that is working along with Soviet researchers to develop the next generation of microtomographs with enhanced imaging capabilities.



Roger Stoutenburgh

Tours Open Door to Lab and Science

Science is more than formulas and facts. It is exploration and adventure — an exciting world of which Brookhaven National Laboratory has been a major part for more than 44 years. To share this interesting world with others, the Tour Program of the Public Affairs Office will once again offer free summer tours on Sundays starting July 14.

Visitors are welcome to stop by the Lab anytime between the hours of 10 a.m. and 3 p.m. every Sunday from July 14 through August 25. Lab employees and their families and friends are especially encouraged to come and take part in the exploration of the Lab and science.

The tour includes: a multimedia introduction to Brookhaven's research projects and facilities, a bus tour around the site, and a visit to the Exhibit Center/Science Museum.

Housed in the Brookhaven Graphite Research Reactor, the world's first reactor built solely for peacetime research, the museum presents a firsthand view of early nuclear discovery, by following the evolution of scientific research at BNL. The three-story museum also has over 20 hands-on exhibits that take science off the textbook pages and make it touchable and fun.

Children and adults alike will want to play with the Plasmasphere's brightly colored patterns of glowing gas, which dance across its polished glass surface. Microscopes are set up to reveal the secrets of the invisible world, and a Whisper Tube demonstrates the power of sound waves, by allowing children and parents to tell each other secrets from across the room. For those who want to know



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Checking out the Duck Into Kaleidoscope, are Laura Chiampou (in white), Supply & Materiel Division, and Christine Tempel, Photography & Graphic Arts Division. The three-mirrored display is one of several new interactive stations at the Exhibit Center/Science Museum. It provides a visual example of infinity, while also teaching empathy for all those brightly colored-plastic pieces that are forced to live in the cylindrical world of a kaleidoscope tube.

more about static electricity, there is also a small Van de Graaff, which can be quite a shocking and hair-raising experience.

The museum's collection of carnival-style mirrors is expanded this year. This exhibit is a fun way to discover how mirrors can distort reality by bending a little light (this may be a very useful fact for those who swear that their mirrors are always lying).

Also at the museum is the extensive Camp Upton Historical Collection — photos and memorabilia from World Wars I and II that depict what life at the site was like before it became BNL in 1947.

The Cafeteria will be open, as will the Science Shop, which is stocked with science-related toys, BNL souvenirs and other fun items.

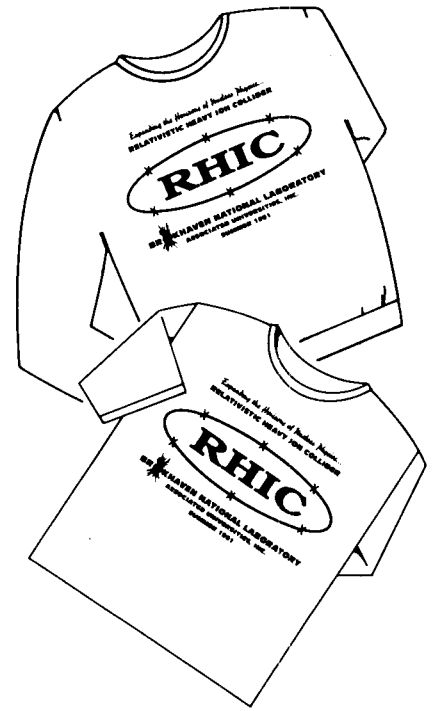
For more information, call Public Affairs, Ext. 2345. — Erik Larson

Summer T-Shirts And Sweatshirts

"Expanding the Horizons of Nuclear Physics" is the theme of this summer's BNL T-shirts and sweatshirts, now on sale to employees, students and visitors. T-shirts are \$7 each, and sweatshirts \$13 each. Prices include tax.

These royal blue shirts sport a white and yellow "burst." Made of 50% cotton and 50% polyester, they are available in unisex adult sizes: small (34-36), medium (38-40), large (42-44), extra large (46-48); and unisex children sizes: small (6-8), medium (10-12) and large (14-16).

Shirts must be ordered by August 16. Each order must be accompanied by cash or money order made payable to "BERA-Shirts 91." No personal checks. Mail orders and payments to T-shirts, c/o Renée Flack, Bldg. 490, or bring to the Brookhaven Center, 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., Monday, Wednesday or Friday. Allow two weeks for delivery.



AGS (cont'd)

and secured to the bin with a locked chain. The keys were given to Ralph Brown, AGS.

Brown explained the new routine. "If someone has radioactive waste, they come to me. First we measure the radiation levels of the materials to be disposed of and weigh them. I log this information and also who generated the waste and the date that it goes into the bin. I see that only appropriate material is deposited, and that it's crunched down to be as compact as possible. When the bin is full, I complete the necessary forms for BNL's Hazardous Waste Management Operation Group and the bin is then delivered to Waste Management."

As a result of this activity, the Lab was awarded a "Noteworthy Prac-

lice" citation by Westinghouse Hanford, the firm operating the Washington burial site. Westinghouse recommended to the U.S. Department of Energy's Chicago Operations Office that other contractors be encouraged to carry out similar practices in their operations.

Concluded Emma, "The new practices at the AGS not only avoid trouble and expense, but also, contribute in an active way to providing proper waste certification. It took effort from a lot of people, but it worked — in fact, the AGS staff effort was superlative.

"We're continuing looking at waste management practices throughout the Lab," added Emma. "And we'll need the same level of cooperation from other generators. With this good start, I'm sure we'll get it."

— Liz Seubert

Medaris (cont'd)

Colonel. His service years included tours in Germany, Vietnam and Korea and the attainment of two more degrees: an M.S. in mechanical engineering from New Mexico State University, in 1965, and a Juris Doctor from the University of Baltimore School of Law, in 1976.

After leaving the military in 1979, Medaris became Director of Manpower Development for Eutectic Corporation for a year, before joining BNL in 1980. In 1981, he was named Manager of PE's Maintenance Management Division, a position he kept until 1986 when he began managing PE's Operations & Maintenance Division. He became Deputy Manager in 1989.

Medaris is a member of the American Institute of Plant Engineers, the Retired Officers' Association and the West Point Society of Long Island, of which he is founder and current president. Though he has never practiced law, he is a member of the Florida Bar and the American Bar Association.

"This is my second career," Medaris explains, "I may practice law in a third career to supplement retirement, but first I've got an important and exciting job to do here!"

In Memoriam

Raymond Abbott, who retired in 1973 as a Technician IV at the Linac, the linear accelerator for the Alternating Gradient Synchrotron (AGS), died on June 22, at the age of 68.

Abbott's more than 19 years at BNL began in May 1954 when he joined the AGS Department as a technician. He was promoted to senior laboratory technician in 1958, to senior technician in 1959 and to his final position in 1967. Throughout his time at the Lab, he was very active in the Photography Club.

He is survived by his wife Rose Abbott, of Pinehurst, N.C.; mother Ila Ingold, of Ashville, N.C.; brother, Donald Abbott, Kensington, Maryland; and sister Frankie Maxwell, Arden, N.C. Donations in Abbott's name may be sent to St. Jude's Research in Tennessee.

Robert Aichroth had worked at BNL for over 21 years when he retired from the AGS Department in 1982 as a principal technician. He died on June 26, at the age of 69.

Aichroth came to work with BNL's Cosmotron in 1961, as an intermediate technician, but was quickly promoted to advanced technician. He became a senior technician in 1962.

In 1966, Aichroth transferred to the AGS Department, where he was named a technician IV in 1967 and principal technician in 1979.

He is survived by his wife Eunice Aichroth, of Islip; and his daughter and son-in-law Sandra and George Zylowski and their three children, of East Patchogue. Donations in Aichroth's name may be sent to the Trinity Lutheran Church, Islip, or the Masonic Meridian Lodge, Islip.

Arrivals & Departures

Arrivals

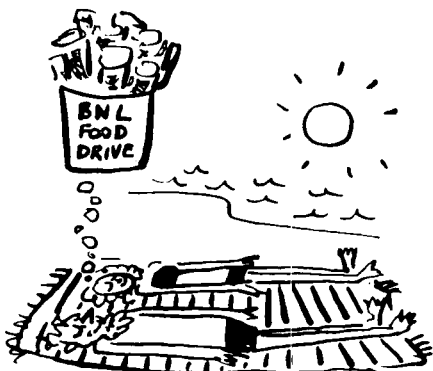
| | |
|----------------------------|--------------|
| Young K. Bae..... | Chemistry |
| Nelson D. Cause..... | Plant Eng. |
| John Chih..... | AGS |
| James A. Eckroth..... | S&EP |
| Susan P. Foster..... | Accel. Dev. |
| Leon E. Goudikian..... | Accel. Dev. |
| Louise A. Heusinkveld..... | Tech. Info. |
| Peter Liwei Lee..... | Biology |
| George J. Mahler..... | Accel. Dev. |
| Michael C. Morrow III..... | Accel. Dev. |
| Donald W. Mott..... | Accel. Dev. |
| Michael P. O'Connor..... | Comp. & Com. |
| Jose A. Rodriguez..... | Chemistry |
| Domenico V. Russo..... | AGS |
| Charles F. Scott..... | Plant Eng. |
| Kenneth A. Sexton..... | Accel. Dev. |
| Loralie A. Smart..... | Accel. Dev. |
| Andre J. Sollowen..... | Accel. Dev. |
| John M. Toner..... | Accel. Dev. |
| Frederick K. Unz..... | Accel. Dev. |

Departures

This list includes all employees who have terminated from the Lab, including retirees:

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| Carolyn F. Albert..... | Physics |
| Robyn R. Bates..... | Biology |
| Rosario Enriquez-Leder..... | AGS |
| Ottillie Figluizzi..... | Medical |
| Michael Iwantschuk..... | AGS |
| Bao Hua Shen..... | AGS |
| Theodorus J.M. Sluyters..... | AGS |
| George S. Smith..... | NSLS |

Food Drive All Next Week



- Are you asleep?
- Of course not. I'm thinking about what I'll bring in for the Food Drive pickup next week.

If you have no time to shop, you can always send a personal check to Carole Kerr, Bldg. 460, who will shop for you and send you a receipt. Also welcome are receipts from King Kullen and Finast, which give rebates.

Inside Info

The Brookhaven Bulletin has won an Award of Achievement in the 1991 Publications and Art Competition of the New York Chapter of the Society for Technical Communications (STC). This is the fourth out of four years that the Bulletin has been entered in the competition and earned an STC award.

Addled Addresses

- Upton, Cony Island, NY
- Upton Space, LI, NY
- B&L

