

# Chemistry’s Alfred Wolf, Pioneer of PET, Dies at Age 75

Alfred Wolf, the father of an important field at the junction of medicine and chemistry, died, following a lengthy illness, on December 17, 1998, at John T. Mather Hospital in Port Jefferson. He was 75 years old.

Wolf, a senior chemist in the Chemistry Department, had made pioneering contributions over nearly 50 years in the field of organic radiochemistry. His discoveries were instrumental to the development of positron emission tomography (PET), a tool now used worldwide to diagnose disease and to study the function of the brain and other organs.

“Al’s work laid the foundation for many of the nuclear medicine and medical imaging procedures performed in the world today, which help save thousands of lives each year and expand our knowledge of our brains and our bodies,” said Wolf’s colleague, BNL Senior Chemist Joanna Fowler. “Though he worked mainly with short-lived elements, his impact on humankind will last forever.”

Wolf’s career contributions mainly centered around the synthesis of molecules that have found a wide variety of uses, from diagnosing disease to tracking the movement of air in the atmosphere. They have also helped in the study of basic chemical processes.

In 1976, Wolf, Fowler and their colleagues developed a form of sugar — called 18F-fluorodeoxyglucose —

that is now used in hospitals worldwide to make images of brain function and to diagnose cancer and heart disease using PET scanning.

**A Founding Father**

Alfred Wolf was born in New York City on February 13, 1923. He began his career as a physical organic chemist at BNL in 1951, after receiving bachelor’s and master’s degrees in chemistry from Columbia University. He was awarded his doctorate in chemistry from Columbia in 1952.

Wolf’s education had been interrupted by World War II, when he spent 1943-1945 in the Army working on the Manhattan Project in Los Alamos, New Mexico. He joined the Lab only four years after its establishment as a multidisciplinary institution dedicated to research into peaceful uses of the atom.

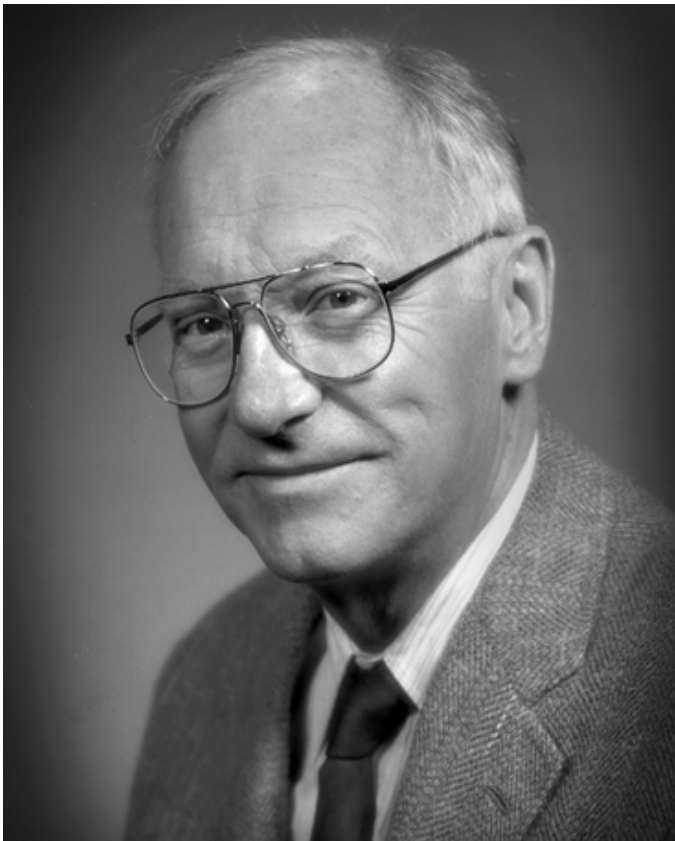
His early studies involved research on the chemical fate of carbon atoms using: the Brookhaven Graphite Research Reactor, a 60-inch cyclotron and the Cosmotron, one of BNL’s first accelerators. His investigations of the factors controlling the chemistry of “hot,” or radioactive, atoms such as carbon-11 provided the knowledge required to control the chemistry occurring in accelerator targets.

By the mid-1960s, his fundamental studies had laid the groundwork for the synthesis of small, radiolabeled compounds in pure form for organic

synthesis and basic chemistry studies. This grew into a new interest in developing radiotracers labeled with short-lived positron-emitting isotopes such as carbon-11 so that the tracer method could be used to visualize biochemical processes in living systems.

Said Fowler, “Al approached and solved problems in this area with his typical rigorous style, measuring important characteristics of the hot atoms and developing the targets that came to be used in the cyclotron to produce the large quantities of carbon-11- and fluorine-18-labeled precursors.”

She continued, “He also developed the methods that we now use routinely to make the radiotracers used in PET imaging. Indeed, most of the cyclotron-PET centers around the world have one or more individuals



who, to their great advantage, spent part of their careers at Brookhaven working with Al Wolf.”

A member of the National Academy of Sciences, Wolf was given the American Chemical Society’s Nuclear

(continued on page 2)

## DAT Develops Treatment Process For the Safe Disposal of Mercury



**Senior Research Engineer Paul Kalb and his team within the Department of Advanced Technology (DAT) have developed a new process for treating liquid mercury as well as mercury-contaminated wastes, which may include radioactive material. Mercury is a toxic element. It is soluble in water, volatile in air and chemically active.**

**The conventional process for treating mercury-contaminated soil creates a secondary waste problem. In contrast, Brookhaven’s process generates virtually no waste because it chemically bonds to a sulfur-polymer cement.**

**As a result, mercury does not leach into the soil. Kalb also noted that his process meets both current performance criteria and more stringent standards that will be established by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.**

**The Brookhaven team recently demonstrated the process on actual radioactive-and-mercury-contaminated soils to a group of industry and government officials. Here, two of the DAT team members, Larry Milian (left) and Jay Adams (right), prepare to discharge the mercury cement from the mixer during the demonstration. Plans are being made to transfer this technology to the private sector.**

**This work was sponsored by DOE’s Office of Science & Technology Mixed Waste Focus Area (DOE EM-50) and the BNL Office of Environmental Restoration (DOE EM-40).**

## Results of External Survey Show How LI Views BNL

Last August, through the findings of the BNL Employee Survey, we saw how we viewed ourselves (see Brookhaven Bulletin, August 21, 1998).

Now comes the view from the other side of the looking glass — the results of a BNL-commissioned External Survey, which shows how we are viewed by 766 other Long Islanders.

The nutshell good news is that most of the respondents see the Lab as important to Long Island’s economy and as maintaining operations or, possibly, expanding in the coming years.

A majority of respondents, though, said that they lack information about the Lab, particularly about its environmental cleanup program.

However, the 30 percent of those surveyed who had visited or knew someone from the Lab are generally more informed and positive about BNL than are the other 70 percent.

Said Laboratory Director John Marburger, “The implications of this survey are that, although Long Islanders see BNL as a vital part of their economic future, they simply do not know enough about us.

“Therefore,” he continued, “we need to focus on ways to communicate our passion for discovery, our commitment to national needs, and our determination to protect the environment and the health of our employees and the public as we pursue our science.”

**Gather Objective Data**

As Marge Lynch, Assistant Laboratory Director for Community Involvement, Government & Public Affairs, explained, “Undertaking an external survey was necessary because BNL needs objective data on which it can base its efforts to improve commu-

nications and build relationships with its neighbors.”

The survey was planned, Lynch said, to define community perceptions, gauge attitudes towards environmental issues, measure public confidence in BNL, name the perceived benefits and drawbacks of the Lab, identify current and preferred sources of information, and determine likely receptiveness to BNL initiatives.

Dudley Research (DR), a subsidiary of Jackson, Jackson & Wagner (JJ&W), which is a national public relations and management consulting firm headquartered in Exeter, New Hampshire, was selected to conduct the survey by an External Survey Steering Committee chaired by Lynch and composed of a cross-section of Lab employees and the U.S. Department of Energy Brookhaven Group.

To design the survey, in addition to using input from the steering committee, DR and JJ&W interviewed one on one 24 individuals who had been identified as some of the opinion leaders in the community.

Then, between last September 29 and October 17, DR conducted the random telephone survey of 766 people — 382 on the east end of Long Island, and 384 within a 15-mile radius of the Lab.

The typical telephone-survey respondent was chosen to match the typical Long Island resident according to 1990 census data, which are the most recent statistically accurate data on Long Island demographics.

Therefore, 55 percent of the phone respondents are female, between the ages of 45-54, who have lived on Long Island for more than ten years. They are high school graduates, employed,

(continued on page 2)



External Survey (cont'd.)

with no children at home, and they had a household income of \$41,000-\$70,000 per year.

Results: Little Difference

The survey results, which have a margin of error of plus or minus 3 percent, show that the difference in responses between those living close to the Lab versus on the East End is usually statistically insignificant.

The executive summary reports that the Lab is seen first as an asset to the economy, since, of the 97 percent of the respondents who were aware of the Lab, 81 percent see it as bringing some economic benefit locally.

Of the 43 percent who see the Lab as "somewhat important" to the economy, 43 percent live within the 15 mile radius and 42 percent are East Enders. However, of the 38 percent who consider it "very important" to the economy, 45 percent live close, while 30 percent live in the East End.

BNL is perceived by 67 percent as maintaining or expanding operations in the next ten years, while only 17 percent see it closing down or reducing operations. A higher percentage, 77 percent, of those who have both been to the Lab and know someone who works there see it as maintaining or expanding.

Sufficient information about BNL's work and cleanup effort is lacking, according to about two-thirds of the respondents. News media are the main information source cited, but they are not trusted.

As their source of information, 81 percent of respondents mention newspapers and 30 percent television, meaning mainly *Newsday* and Channel 12. Yet only 33 percent trust newspaper information, and only 14 percent trust television.

Face-to-face communication, generally with employees of the Lab, provides information for 16 percent of respondents. This 16 percent is more likely to believe what they hear, as 23 percent overall say they trust this source, which is 7 percent more than is getting information in this way.

Respondents want more information about the Lab, which they see as contributing to Long Island's environmental problems. In fact, 41 percent mentioned "groundwater pollution" and 22 percent say "leak," when asked what they know about BNL.

However, 39 percent cite "general scientific research" as "the most important thing" BNL does. Interestingly, 49 percent of this 39 percent is made up of respondents who both know someone who works at the Lab and have visited the Lab.

A closer examination of the roughly 30 percent of respondents who had visited the Lab, or knew someone who worked there, or both, shows that they have somewhat more knowledge of what the Lab does than respondents taken overall. They are also slightly more aware of the science done than the environmental problems.

For example, of the 14 percent who are aware of the Lab's outreach programs, 20 percent know an employee, 24 percent have visited the Lab, and another 29 percent come under both categories.

Also, in answer to "What do you know about BNL?", 32 percent overall replied "research and testing," and of these, 41 percent, 42 percent and 44 percent respectively know someone at BNL, have visited, or have done both.

To the same question, 41 percent overall know about "water or underground pollution." This 41 percent contain 38, 40 and 41 percent of those, respectively, who know someone, have visited, or both.

"While the differences in these numbers are small, it appears that those

Healthfest '98 — Five Days of Health, Fitness & Safety



Roger Stoutenburgh

Healthfest '98, BNL's sixth annual celebration of personal health, fitness and safety, again drew a healthy crowd of employees to all its offerings, inside and out.

Stretching from October 12 to 21, Healthfest '98 began on Monday, October 12, with 100 employees stretching before the Employee Fitness Walk, in which 275 walkers paced themselves over the 2-mile course.

The two-day Health, Fitness & Safety Fair in Berkner Hall drew 40 exhibitors — more than in previous years — and approximately 500 fairgoers over Thursday and Friday.

During the fair, 20 employees participated in the Thursday lunchtime workshop on stress management & relaxation techniques, while another 15 took part in the Reiki healing circle held on Friday during lunch.

Meanwhile, some 165 BNLers had their blood pressure checked, 56 had their hearing tested, 56 had their vision tested, 50 had their body composition analyzed, 48 attended the foot screening, and 30 took part in the message-therapy demonstration.

Thirty-eight fair-attendees won door prizes which had been donated by: American Floral at Calverton, The

Athlete's Foot, Atlantis Health Network, Bob's Canoe Rental, Bob's Stores, the Brookhaven Employees Recreation Association, CIGNA Healthcare, Fidelity Investments Tax-Exempt Services, Health Insurance Plan of Greater New York, KayBee Toys, Lombardi's Restaurant, the Marriott Hotel, Power Food, Price Costco, Radisson Hotel Islandia, Ramada East End, Ramada Inn, Ridge Deli, Sam's Club, Three Village Inn, TIAA-CREF, The Vanguard Group, U.S. Healthcare, Vytra Healthcare, Weight Watchers; and Robert Bernard, M.D., and Robert Salmonson, D.D.S.

That Friday as well, 25 players took part in the tennis skills workshop.

Then, on Tuesday, October 21, some 88 runners competed to complete the 5-kilometer Employee Fitness Run around site.

The run was won by Emmanuel Onillon, Alternating Gradient Synchrotron Department, in a time of 17:19.7.

The fastest woman was Diane Hatton, Chemistry Department, with a time of 22:57.6 (see results, below).

"Thanks to all the volunteers who made Healthfest happen," says Mary Wood, BNL's Heath Promotion Specialist in the Occupational Medicine

Clinic (OMC), who was the main organizer of Healthfest and chaired the Healthfest '98 planning committee.

That committee was co-chaired by Richard Machnowski of the Instrumentation Division.

The committee included: Marsha Belford, Media & Communications Office; Patti Bender, Plant Engineering (PE) Division; Sharol Busby, Safeguards & Security Division (S&SD); Joe Carbonaro, Department of Advanced Technology; M. Kay Dellimore, Human Resources (HR) Division; Denise DiMeglio, HR; Renée Flack, Office of Educational Programs; Diane Hatton, Chemistry Department; Claudia Hatton, PE; Fred Horn, ES&H Services Division; Christine Ronick, Administrative Support Division; Jack Russell, Division of Contracts & Procurement; Camille Saville, OMC; John Schill, Instrumentation Division; Jennifer Schretzmayer, Chemistry; Ed Sperry, Relativistic Heavy Ion Collider Project; and Michael Timm, S&SD.

Overseeing the planning committee is the Healthfest executive committee: Bryce Breitenstein, OMC Manager, and Robert D'Angio, HR Manager.

— Marsha Belford

Results of the 5K Employee Fitness Run

name	time						
Emmanuel Onillon	17:19.7	Tom Butcher	22:21.2	Leif Ahrens	24:25.5	John Mollica	28:28.2
Donald MacKay	17:48.8	Matt Wingate	22:34.6	Joe Dvorak	24:29.9	Margareta Rehak	28:30.0
Paul Geiger	18:35.8	Tom Clifford	22:37.1	Michael Anerella	24:46.1	Greg Stawsky	28:41.0
Don Shea	19:06.2	Tim Powers	22:41.4	Michael Seidman	24:49.6	Zdravko Zojceski	28:52.9
Mike Brennan	19:26.1	John Millener	22:45.6	Jeffrey Coderre	25:07.5	Kurt Vetter	29:00.9
John Escallier	19:47.8	Peter Cameron	22:56.5	Jim Anselmini	25:16.4	Robert Olsen	29:29.7
Markus Schulz	20:14.2	Diane Hatton	22:57.6	Raymond Duffield	25:18.0	Fran Loeb	29:47.9
Omar Gould	20:29.9	Alice Cialella	23:05.0	Tony Tanza	25:27.5	Swapna Mukherji	29:59.2
Michael DePhillips	20:30.6	Karen Johnson	23:23.2	Augie Hoffmann	25:35.7	Bruce Murray	30:00.1
Mel Cowgill	20:45.4	Roger Davis	23:24.6	John Adessi	25:38.5	Vinny LoDestro	30:07.2
John Bohenek	21:02.4	Ed Gallagher	23:30.3	Sheryl Carey	25:40.1	Joe Devoe	30:18.9
Wayne Rambo	21:05.3	Jay Adams	23:34.8	Richard Wall	25:59.5	Herman Graham	30:29.6
Al Della Penna	21:05.6	Peter Kohut	23:38.2	Mark Opisso	26:10.0	John Brennan	30:29.9
Neil Wade	21:13.3	Wei Min Zhou	23:44.6	Richard Wagener	26:13.0	Alexandra Lopez	30:59.9
Joe Nasta	21:38.1	Tonica Valla	23:49.7	Doug Zigrosser	26:16.9	Kathleen Tuohy	32:12.7
James Alessi	21:50.2	Ben Ocko	23:50.4	Patricia Rogers	26:36.3	Peggy Micca	32:35.5
Thomas Friessnegg	21:55.4	Alan Rosenberg	23:58.7	Peter Palamidis	26:47.9	Hih-Perng Hu	32:56.0
Tomas Jirsak	21:56.0	Barry Karlin	24:04.1	Robert Sikora	26:55.1	John Schill	33:16.2
Chris Homes	22:02.0	Seth Nemesure	24:08.6	John Toner	27:00.1	Beth Yu Lin	33:35.8
Vincent Racaniello	22:02.5	John Andrews	24:09.6	James Rose	27:06.2	Loralie Smart	34:15.0
Victor Usack	22:09.1	David Pate	24:20.5	Craig Diaz	27:10.2	David Alburger	38:31.3
		Mow Lin	24:22.1	Bill Gunther	28:10.9		

who are more familiar with the Lab tend to think first of BNL as a source of science rather than pollution," said Marburger. "We need to redouble our efforts to get to know our neighbors better and to encourage them to know us. Mutual understanding is the key to a productive partnership for the future."

— Liz Seubert

Note: A copy of the External Survey data is available to read at the Research Library, Bldg. 477.

Al Wolf (cont'd.)

Chemistry Award in 1971. He earned the Society of Nuclear Medicine's Aebersold Award in 1981 and its Hevesy Nuclear Medicine Pioneer Award in 1991. Wolf had also received BNL's highest scientific honor, the Distinguished Research & Development Award, in 1991.

In 1996, he was honored by the Institute for Clinical PET with its Dis-

tinguished Scientist Award. And, in 1997, he was recognized by the International Isotope Society with the Melvin Calvin Award. The American Chemical Society's 1998 meeting featured a symposium in his honor. Wolf had published over 325 papers and, with others, held several patents for radiotracers and chemical techniques.

Alfred Wolf is survived by his son, Roger Wolf of Santa Monica, CA, and two granddaughters. — Kara Villamil

## Fall USB Courses To Be Taught on Site

*The following courses offered by the State University of New York at Stony Brook (USB) may be held on site this fall if there is enough interest. Therefore, if you are interested in enrolling, then contact Marilyn Pandorf, Ext. 52251 or pandorf@bnl.gov, by February 1.*

**CEI 544. The Mystery of Matter: From Quarks to the Cosmos** - (undergraduate) Will explore the history and current status of the human understanding of the universe, from quarks and leptons to stars and galaxies. Will examine the early history of the universe, and the techniques used in physics to investigate particles and forces. This course is suitable for non-science students. Professor Michael Marx, USB.

**EST 582. Systems Approach to Human-Machine Interactions** - (graduate) Will apply feedback, stability and other concepts to understand, manage, and improve performance of systems involving human-operated equipment. This approach has implications for ecology, energy generation and use, nuclear power-plant operations, space-station use, and Long Island. Professor Sheldon Reaven, USB.

**EST 595. Risk Assessment & Management** - (graduate) Will develop tools for assessing and managing health and environmental risks, including hazard identification; exposure, impact and comparative-risk assessment, regulatory compliance issues, risk perception and communication. This approach is the basis for work with government agencies, business and industry, and environmental consulting firms. Professor Sam Morris, BNL.

**EST 596. Simulation Models in Environmental & Waste Management** - Will use computer models to assess environmental impact, manage waste disposal, and evaluate remediation and pollution-prevention options. Models to be studied include simulation, Monte Carlo, and numerical approximations to differential equations. Although experience with a computer language is helpful, students need not be experienced programmers. Professor Ed Kaplan, BNL.

## Cardio Kickbox Classes

Back by popular demand, cardio kickbox classes will be again offered on site, from noon to 1 p.m. on the following Mondays and Thursdays: January 11, 14, 21, 25, and 28; and February 1, 4, 8, 11, 18, 22, and 25.

Cardio kickboxing is a cardiovascular-fitness activity involving non-contact martial-arts kicking, boxers' punching drills, stretching and strengthening exercises, and self-defense moves. Practicing cardio kickboxing improves stamina, builds strength and increases flexibility.

Each class is \$5 per participant, payable monthly. To register, contact Health Promotion Specialist Mary Wood, Ext. 5923 or wood2@bnl.gov.

## Bowling

### Red and Green League - 12/22/98

R. Mulderig Sr. 237/217/205/659 scratch series, J. Griffin 237/212/208/657 scratch, R. Larsen 279/218/638 scratch, M. Meier 256/237/642 scratch, R. Mulderig Jr. 246/215/650 scratch, K. Asselta 249/202/636 scratch, O. Mirjah 236/213/624 scratch, E. Meier 224/214, E. Larsen 220/204, G. Mack 212/202, K. Koebel 221, N. Besemer 213, E. Sperry III 209, M. Grau 206, T. Sullivan 206, J. Sullivan 200, D. Schiappa 200.

### Purple and White League - 12/30/98

M. Guacci 255/245/218/718 scratch series, Don King 220/202/183/605 scratch, J. Johnson 227/192, M. Meier 225/200/601 scratch, E. Mamay 213/201, L. Simes 208/201, G. Mehl 258, P. Wynkoop 212, N. Besemer 203, E. Sperry IV 200, T. Blydenburgh 185/179, G. VanSickle 199, J. Zebuda 194, Donna King 188, C. Holmstrom 188, C. Neuberger 183, K. Conkling 174, J. Holmstrom 173, T. Mehl 172.

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## Computer Training

*The Computing & Communications Division (CCD) is offering the following software classes. To register, submit a training request form to Pam Mansfield in Bldg. 515. For more information, e-mail Mansfield at pam@bnl.gov.*

### Microsoft Certification

In February, CCD will offer classes leading up to Microsoft engineering certification. Pick up an information packet in Room M2-62, Bldg. 515, and submit a completed training form by January 12.

### January & February Computer Training

This is the last call for the following training classes:

date	course
1/11-14	Architectural Desktop
1/25-28	Architectural Desktop
1/19	Excel - beginner
1/20-21	Access - beginner
1/26	PowerPoint - beginner
1/27	Word - beginner
1/28	Power Word*
1/29	Excel - Intermediate
2/2	PowerPoint - Intermediate
2/5	Outlook

*\* This is a new class designed specifically for those intermediate and advanced users who will be moving to Microsoft Word. The training fee is \$81.50.*

## ANS Meeting 1/12

At the next meeting of the Long Island Chapter of the American Nuclear Society (LIANS), Carl Czajkowski of BNL's Department of Advanced Technology will discuss failure analysis of materials used in nuclear reactor components.

The meeting will take place on Tuesday, January 12, at Collins & Main Restaurant in Sayville. Appetizers will be served at 6 p.m., followed by dinner at 6:45 p.m. and the talk at 8 p.m.

The cost is \$28 per person for LIANS members, and \$29 for others. Make reservations by Monday, January 11, by calling Ken White, Ext. 4423.

## Arrivals & Departures

Arrivals	
Michael H. Gaffney .....	Saf. & Health Serv.
John D. Hynan .....	Plant Eng.
Andreas Lehrach .....	AGS
Chris G. Luoni .....	Plant Eng.
Marlon L. McAvoy .....	Saf. & Health Serv.
Said F. Mughabghab .....	Advanced Tech.
Renata B. Rogoz .....	Medical
Edward V. Sullivan .....	RHIC
Michael S. Stangel .....	Financial Serv.
Yujun Yin .....	Applied Science
Departures	
Gry Mine Berg .....	Applied Science
Kenneth A. Erickson .....	Applied Science
James D. Flanagan .....	Info. Tech.
Edward Harmer .....	Central Shops
Marie H. Hobson .....	Applied Science
Charles M. Johnson .....	Plant Eng.
Philip J. Kennelly .....	Central Shops
Kathryn J. Lancaster .....	Advanced Tech.
Michael S. Manna .....	RHIC
Bernard Manowitz .....	Applied Science
Andrew J. Marr .....	Chemistry
Steven Nappi .....	Reactor
Walter R. Richters Jr. ....	AGS
Walter M. Spiers Jr. ....	Plant Eng.
Peter B. Sutherland .....	Info. Serv.
William C. Thomlinson .....	NSLS

## Equipment Demo

On Monday, January 11, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., in Berkner Hall, CTP Wireless will discuss the AT&T wireless services corporate cellular rate it offers BNLeers.

The service includes airtime rates of 24 cents per minute and 40 minutes of airtime for a monthly charge of \$19.99 each month. Unlimited off-peak time is available for an extra \$4.99. Three free digital phones will be displayed. Those who sign up will receive free digital features such as caller ID and voice mail. For more information, call 585-2900.

## Defensive Driving

The training group of the Safety & Health Services Division will offer a six-hour defensive driving course on Saturday, February 20, from 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., in Berkner Hall, Rooms B & C.

Completing the course entitles participants to a 10 percent discount on vehicle collision and liability insurance for three years, and to have up to four points deducted from their driving records if they were incurred during the 18 months before the completed course.

To register, call Scott Zambelli, 249-3000, Ext. 5877 (*not* the on-site Ext. 5877).

### Healthline Lecture

## Money Does Matter

"Money Matters: Providing Financial Protection for You and Your Family" will be discussed by BNL's Director of Internal Audit, Frank Federmann, at the next Healthline lecture at noon on Tuesday, January 12.

Federmann will explain how to apply sound money-management techniques to achieve personal financial goals. Among the personal-finance topics that he will discuss are: investing under today's market conditions, highlights of the new tax law, a comparison of IRA types, education credits and deductions, and pension and insurance issues.

Franklin Federmann, CPA, is a member of the Institute of Internal Auditors, Institute of Management Accountants, and the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants. In addition to being a certified public accountant in New York State, he is a certified internal auditor and fraud examiner. Federmann also serves on the faculty of the Foundation for Accounting Education.

Register by Tuesday, January 12, for this lecture, which is sponsored by the Health Promotion Program (HPP), by returning the completed bottom portion of the Healthline flyer recently sent to all employees to Health Promotion Specialist Mary Wood, Bldg. 490. For more information about HPP, call Ext. 4567.

## Coming Up

**Senior Physicist Laurence Littenberg, Physics Department, will talk about rare kaon decay discovery at the 342nd Brookhaven Lecture, on Wednesday, January 27, at 4 p.m. in Berkner Hall. All are invited.**

## Medical Plan Notes

*For more information on the following and claim forms, contact Muriel Pfeiffer in the Benefits Office of the Human Resources Division, Ext. 2877.*

### CIGNA PPO Cards

Identification cards for medical services have been mailed to employees and their dependents who are enrolled in the new CIGNA Preferred Provider Organization (PPO) medical plan, which became effective on January 1.

PPO identification cards were also mailed to retirees, participants on long-term disability (LTD) and their dependents who are in the CIGNA program but who are *not* eligible for Medicare.

If you are in one of these categories but have not received a CIGNA PPO identification card, then call the Benefits Office.

Retirees, LTD participants and their dependents who are in the CIGNA program but who *are* eligible for Medicare will *not* receive new identification cards, since they are still covered under the pre-1992 CIGNA indemnity plan.

Those in the CIGNA Healthcare for Seniors Health Maintenance Organization (HMO) or any other HMO will also *not* receive new medical-services identification cards, unless they are newly enrolled in these programs as of January 1.

### CIGNA Address Changes

Those enrolled in CIGNA plans or reimbursement accounts should make note of the following changes to CIGNA office locations:

- CIGNA Indemnity Plan  
P.O. Box 962  
Bristol CT 06010  
(800) 462-7486
- CIGNA Reimbursement Accounts  
P.O. Box 976  
Bristol CT 06010  
(800) 242-2269
- CIGNA PPO Plan  
P.O. Box 2005  
Farmington CT 06010  
(800) 462-7486

### Children Graduated?

If you have a dependent child who has been graduated from high school or college and who is not continuing school full time, then this is a reminder to change your medical and dental coverage. This may not only decrease premiums that you pay toward this coverage, but, if it is done within 30 days of graduation, then it may also allow your child to purchase the benefits under continuation of benefits (COBRA) coverage.

### Women's Breast Cancer Rights

With the beginning of 1999, federal law requires group health plans to provide coverage for the following services to an individual receiving plan benefits in connection with a mastectomy:

- reconstruction of the breast on which the mastectomy has been performed
- surgery and reconstruction of the other breast to produce a symmetrical appearance, and
- prostheses and physical complications for all stages of a mastectomy, including lymphedema, which is swelling associated with the removal of lymph nodes.

The group health plan must determine the manner of coverage in consultation with the attending physician and patient. Coverage for breast reconstruction and related services are subject to deductibles and coinsurance amounts that are consistent with those that apply to other benefits under the plan.

## Call for Nominations for Goldhaber Prize

Brookhaven Women in Science (BWIS) is now accepting nominations for the Gertrude S. Goldhaber Prize, which honors the late Gertrude Scharff-Goldhaber, the renowned nuclear physicist who, in 1950, became the first woman Ph.D. appointed to BNL's staff.

The winner of the \$1,000 award will be a female graduate student in physics, who will be recognized for her substantial promise and accomplishment. She will be expected to give a seminar on her work at the award ceremony in the spring.

To be eligible, she must be an enrolled physics graduate student who is a candidate for a doctoral degree, but not to be graduated with that degree before spring 1999. She must either be enrolled at the State University of New York at Stony Brook (USB) or performing her thesis research at BNL.

BNL staff members and the faculty of the USB Physics Department may nominate candidates by the February 19 deadline. For more information or to make a contribution to the prize fund, contact BWIS Goldhaber Prize, P.O. Box 183, Upton, NY 11973-5000, or call Pam Mansfield, Ext. 7286.



## NYC Train Trips

*This is the only time that the 1999 schedule of discounted trips to New York City (NYC) via the Long Island Railroad (LIRR) will be published in the Bulletin, so clip and save the information below:*

Diane Weid will run NYC train trips on these Wednesdays: Jan. 6, 20; Feb. 17; Mar. 3, 31; Apr. 7, 21; May 5, 19; Jun. 2, 16, 30; Jul. 7, 21; Aug. 4, 18; Sept. 1, 15, 29; Oct. 6, 20; Nov. 3, 17; and Dec. 1, 8, 15, 22, 29. The trips leave from the Patchogue LIRR station at 7:56 a.m.; the return trip is at each individual's convenience. The round-trip cost is \$8 per person, if a minimum of 30 people sign up.

For reservations, send a check payable to Diane Weid to 645 Old Medford Avenue, Patchogue, NY 11772-1122. Checks must be received by the Tuesday before a trip. Include your phone number and the trip date. For more information, call Weid at 475-2394.

## BERA Bus Trips

*Purchase your tickets for the following bus trips at the BERA Sales Office, Berkner Hall, Tuesday-Friday, 9 a.m.-1:30 p.m. For more information, call Andrea Dehler, Ext. 3347.*

### Ski Camelback

Join BERA's one-day ski trip to Camelback Mountain ski resort, Pennsylvania, on Wednesday, January 20. The \$45-per-person charge includes round-trip bus fare and lift tickets. A new skier package now available also includes equipment and half of a lesson at \$55 per person.

The bus will leave from BNL tennis courts at 5 a.m., with a pickup at LIE Exit 63 at 5:15 a.m., if necessary, and it will return to BNL at about 9 p.m.

Paid reservations are being taken until Tuesday, January 12.

### Nascar 500

Attention car-lovers: BERA is sponsoring a one-day trip to the Pocono 500 Nascar Race on Father's Day, Sunday, June 20. The cost is \$99 per person, which includes transportation on a fully equipped bus and admission to the grandstand.

The bus will leave the Brookhaven Center at 4 a.m. As usual, there will be free rolls and donuts on board; bring your own juice and coffee. The race begins at 1 p.m. and ends around 5:30 p.m., so the return will be around midnight.



### Placement Notices

The Lab's placement policy is to select the best-qualified candidate for an available position. Candidates are considered in the following order: (1) present employees within the department/division and/or appropriate bargaining unit, with preference for those within the immediate work group; (2) present employees within the Laboratory; and (3) outside applicants. In keeping with the Affirmative Action Plan, selections are made without regard to age, race, color, religion, national origin, sex, disability or veteran status. Each week, the Human Resources Division lists new placement notices, first, so employees may request consideration for themselves, and, second, for open recruitment. Because of the priority policy stated above, each listing does not necessarily represent an opportunity for all people. Except when operational needs require otherwise, positions will be open for one week after publication. For more information, contact the Employment Manager, Ext. 2882: call the JOBLINE, Ext. 7744 (344-7744), for a complete list of all job

openings; use a TDD system to access job information by calling (516) 344-6018; or access current job openings on the World Wide Web at <http://www.bnl.gov/JOBS/jobs.html>.

**OPEN RECRUITMENT** - Opportunities for Lab employees and outside candidates.

MK7814. POSTDOCTORAL RESEARCH ASSOCIATE - To join a program in structure-function relationships of desaturase enzymes. Will focus on understanding the specificity of lipid modification enzymes with the goal of reengineering them for desired properties. Project is intended to yield information on mechanisms of specificity at the biochemical level and has applications in plant biotechnology and metabolic engineering. Requires a Ph.D. in molecular biology or biochemistry, with knowledge of lipid biochemistry desirable. Under the direction of J. Shanklin, Biology Department.

MK7833. SCIENTIST - With strong experimental background and excellent communication skills. Will be responsible for managing the operation and development of the NSLS spectroscopy program, and participate in the development of the experimental program on the NSLS-operated beam lines X-18 and X-19. Should have a Ph.D. and demonstrated capability for collaborating on cross-disciplinary independent research program. Under the direction of E. Johnson, National Synchrotron Light Source Department.

NS7787. COMPUTER ANALYST/SCIENTIST POSITION- Requires advanced degree in physics, computer science, or a related field, and knowledge of mathematical libraries, especially CERNLIB, and mathematical and scientific applications. Requires the ability to work with a group of computing professionals and be knowledgeable about the current state of computing. Experience administering Linux is desirable, as is experience with the following services and programs: Apache WWW server, FTP, CGI programming, sendmail, and ListProcessor. Programming experience in FORTRAN, C, C++, Perl and Java are also desirable. Responsibilities include system administration on UNIX servers, primarily with the Solaris operating system. Information Technology Division

NS7483. SYSTEMS SPECIALIST POSITION - Requires a degree in an appropriate field and demonstrated expertise in desktop publishing, text editing, imaging, SGML, and HTML. Experience handling scientific and technical full-text documents and metadata is also required. Web Server Administration and CGI using tools such as C, C++, JAVA and Perl is necessary. Familiarity with TeX, LaTeX, and DSSSL is desired. Familiarity with Oracle and Basis Plus database tools, and SUN Solaris and Microsoft NT operating systems is also desirable. Will support electronic document handling, including the design of computer-based systems that include authoring, distribution and retrieval functions. Information Services Division

DD7057. TECHNICAL POSITION - Requires an AAS degree with an emphasis on engineering or physical sciences or equivalent experience; AAS in health physics is preferred. Several years of health physics or industrial hygiene technician experience is also required. Shift work and the ability to obtain and maintain a DOE security clearance required. Safety & Health Services Division.

DD7834. TECHNICAL POSITION - Requires a B.S. in electronic technology or equivalent, with a thorough understanding of analog and digital circuitry, power electronics and rf techniques. Also requires the ability to use various types of test equipment and to work from schematics, rough sketches and verbal instructions, as well as experience in prototyping circuits, chassis construction and the safe handling of bench and hand tools. National Synchrotron Light Source Department.

DD7815. BIOLOGY ASSOCIATE POSITION - (term appointment) Requires a bachelor's degree in biology or biochemistry, and demonstrated technical competence. Experience in protein purification, enzyme assays, lipid analysis, molecular cloning, DNA sequencing, site-specific mutagenesis, and protein-expression techniques highly desirable. Must be able to work semi-independently and solve problems in a creative fashion. Biology Department.