

BREA NEWS

www.bnl.gov/bera/activities/bera/

Volume 13 Issue 2

March/April 2013

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

March 12, 2013

April 9, 2013

May 14, 2013

BREA Officers

President

Dave Cox
expatdave@aol.com

Vice President

Ken Mohring
kenwadingriver@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



BREA sponsored a talk on January 29 by retiree and BREA member Eric Forsyth, who recounted his North Atlantic cruise aboard his 42-foot yacht *Fiona*. BREA secretary Louise Hansen joined his crew in the Caribbean. On St. Lucia, where snakes were introduced to discourage runaway slaves, Louise posed with a boa constrictor. *See page 4.*



From the President

by Dave Cox

I am happy to report that arrangements for the tenth annual BREA luncheon are well under way. The date is set for Wednesday, June 5, from noon to 4 p.m. Please take note that this year we will be trying out a new location in deference to our many members who live on the north shore – Lombardi's on the Sound at the Port Jefferson Country Club in Harbor Hills. Full details and reservation forms will be mailed with the next newsletter at the end of April. Our thanks to Ken Mohring for volunteering to organize this event!

As many of you know, BREA sends out information on various items of interest by email to everyone who has an email address listed in the membership database. Unfortunately, several of

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Free Medical Screening for Former BNL Workers

The Worker Health Protection Program (WHPP) of Queens College, City University of New York offers no-cost medical screening to former workers at Brookhaven National Laboratory (BNL) who may be at an increased risk for illness due to working with or around radiation and toxic substances. The main goal of the medical screening is to detect illness at an early stage, when treatment is more likely to be effective.

The program is entirely voluntary, and all personal medical information is kept confidential. WHPP operates independently with funds received from the Department of Energy.

Participants receive examinations by expert independent occupational medicine physicians located in Suffolk County. Medical evaluations are based on potential work exposures to ionizing radiation, asbestos, lead, cadmium, silica, lasers, noise, beryllium and other hazards. Exposures such as these may lead to greater risk for developing certain conditions such as chronic lung disease, certain cancers, beryllium-related lung disease and hearing or vision loss.

Following their examination, participants are provided a results letter with advice on any abnormalities and recommended follow-up care. If a potentially work-related illness is identified, the screening exam results letter may be used to support an Energy Employees Occupational Illness Compensation Program Act claim. For more information about this compensation program, go to: www.dol.gov/owcp/energy.

To date, over 250 former workers have participated in the medical screening program at BNL and over 28,000 workers have participated in the program at thirteen sites nationwide.

Former BNL worker Louis Graziano went through the program in 2011. "My exam with the Worker Health Protection Program was very professional and thorough," he said. "I would definitely recommend this program."

For more information and to schedule appointments, former workers should call toll-

free 1-888-241-1199. The program is described online at: www.worker-health.org

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

- Jonathan Corbin
WHPP Outreach Coordinator
Jonathan.Corbin@qc.cuny.edu

From the President (cont'd from p. 1)

these addresses are out of date. Every time BREA sends a "blast" email, multiple addresses bounce back as undeliverable.

The current list of non-working addresses is given below. If you recognize your old address on this list, Carmen Benkovitz, BREA's membership chair, would very much appreciate it if you would let her know your new address by sending an email to sjbenk@optonline.net. If you no longer have an email address, please let her know by sending snail mail to 12 Sandy Drive, Smithtown, NY 11787.

And, for those of you who haven't renewed your BREA membership for 2013, fill out and send in the form on page 4 of this newsletter, making sure to enter your current email address.

- Dave Cox, expatdave@aol.com

Spot Your Old Email?

Do you recognize your old email address in the list below? If you do, please alert Carmen Benkovitz so she can update BREA's contact info for you. Carmen's email address: sjbenk@optonline.net. Carmen's snail mail: 12 Sandy Drive, Smithtown, NY 11787.

abtzur@yahoo.com
alan-steel@msn.com
amcasper@hotline.com
bculwick@earthlink.net
bibbards@optonline.net
clcsm1991@gmail.com
ejablon@hotmail.com
garber@gmlc-asociates.com

henrytf462@aol.com
jnard@suffolk.lib.ny.us
johnandkittyb@verizon.net
kemsgristmill@optonline.net
nsantiago36@optonline.net
remon@optimum.net
rod@hvc.rr.com

Marty Woodle: Volunteer Extraordinaire

Marty Woodle retired from Brookhaven Lab in November 2001 as Mechanical Engineering Section Head at the National Synchrotron Light Source. Then, after several years as a consultant at the Accelerator Test Facility, he retired again in January of this year. He doesn't see himself retiring any time soon, however, from his work as a volunteer at the Lab's primary and secondary school science competitions.

"When I first started volunteering, it was a lot of fun and it is still a lot of fun," Woodle explained. "The Lab is truly the best place I've ever worked."

Woodle has volunteered at the contests organized by the Office of Educational Programs (OEP) for more than 30 years. It began with his fostering of the Bridge Building Contest, in which high school students build bridges that must meet construction design criteria and then withstand the weights loaded onto them to test their structure. Woodle was the competition's first engineer and originally designed the much-revised software that keeps track of the bridges' performance in the competition.

In the years since, Woodle has volunteered at the Lab's Regional Science Bowls for middle and high school students, where BREA Treasurer Steve Shapiro is also a regular volunteer. Additionally, Woodle helps out at BNL's annual Maglev Contest, the Science Fair for elementary school students, and Summer Sundays, when the public can visit the Lab and participate in science-related activities.



Marty Woodle, above left, with student participants in a Maglev Contest

"Marty is a super volunteer," said Melvyn Morris, an OEP administrator. "He has always given his time to OEP and is always willing to help. He's been responsible for keeping the Bridge Building Contest going. I value his experience and his talent."

Apart from the fun of activities and competition, Woodle said the events pique young people's interest in science. "I think a wide education in science and engineering and math is basically necessary for any society to advance," Woodle said. "New inventions come out all the time and are vital to our economy. The competitions are usually fun for the young people and may start a lifetime interest in these areas."

At a recent Bridge Building Contest, Woodle met a parent who had participated in a contest at BNL decades earlier. "Now, the parent is an engineer and his kids were participating in the same contest," said Woodle. "I felt very good that I had an effect on someone who went into engineering. It's important to help young kids to get educated in a field that's going to support them and provide them with interesting work that's worthwhile."

Most of OEP's school competitions take place by March, and by the time you read this, most of the trophies and medals will have been awarded, with the winners advancing to national stages of competition. But one competition – the Elementary School Science Fair – will be held on May 4, and Woodle wouldn't miss it. "It's really cool," he said, "and it's great to see what some of the kids do."

- Natalie Crnosija and Anita Cohen, afcohen@optonline.net

The Lab's Office of Educational Programs needs volunteers to help with their contests for elementary, middle and high-school students. Contact Cathy Osiecki at (631) 344-3054 or osiecki@bnl.gov.



Starting in July 2011, veteran sailor Eric Forsyth went on a ten-month, 12,500-mile odyssey along the rim of the Atlantic. Forsyth sailed to Canada, Iceland, the Faroe Islands, Scotland, Ireland, Portugal, the Canary Islands, the Cape Verde Islands, Brazil, French Guiana and home to Long Island via the Caribbean and Bermuda. He celebrated his 80th birthday days before journey's end.

- Jane Koropsak, jane@bnl.gov

Save the Date: BREA Luncheon

The 2013 BREA luncheon is scheduled for Wednesday, June 5, from noon to 4 p.m., at Lombardi's on the Sound, Port Jefferson Country Club in Harbor Hills.

Renew Membership in BREA for 2013

The mailing label on your newsletter will show your membership status. If you see the year 2012, you need to renew your membership. Complete the form below to continue receiving the BREA newsletter, now publishing six times a year.

Membership type:

annual (\$10) 5 years (\$40) life (\$95)

Last name: _____

First name: _____ MI: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Check made out to BREA for \$ _____

Mail to: Carmen Benkovitz
 BREA Membership Secretary
 12 Sandy Drive
 Smithtown, NY 11787

Brookhaven Retired Employees Association

BREA c/o BERA

Brookhaven National Laboratory

Bldg. 400

Upton, NY 11973

Phone: (631) 344-2873

E-mail: brea@bnl.gov

Web: www.bnl.gov/bera/activities/brea/

