Graham Campbell 1936-2009

From The President
by Arnie Peskin

On Tuesday, June 16, the Brookhaven Retired Employees Association lost a very special member. Graham Campbell died suddenly on that day of a stroke. He is sorely missed.

Perhaps many of you know him best as editor of this Newsletter, which was one of the many tasks he assumed on behalf of BREA. His other major contribution in recent years has been serving as the BREA delegate on the Laboratory’s Community Advisory Council (CAC). In fact, Graham was a founding member of BREA and the CAC and a past BREA president. This kind of volunteerism was quite typical of the man.

Before our respective retirements, I had the privilege of working alongside Graham in the Information Technology Division and its prior incarnation, the Applied Mathematics Department. Graham served the Laboratory with distinction as a scientist and manager. His pioneering work in computing contributed to one of the most profound technical innovations of our time, computer networking. His influence was even farther felt within the Brookhaven community as he unselfishly contributed wisdom, leadership, and encouragement to his colleagues. In remembrances, many have remarked on Graham’s quiet nature and gentlemanly bearing, which is all true. But I have also seen him passionate and intense when the issue before him demanded it. As BREA President, I relied on him for help and guidance regularly. We had a friendship spanning some forty years, which I look back upon with tremendous gratitude.

For all these reasons and more, I will miss him very much. A fitting tribute would be the continuing success of BREA to which he was so strongly committed. I ask you all to help me follow through.
Almost 90 BREA members gathered for the much-anticipated annual luncheon on June 4. For this year’s event, we returned to the lovely setting of the Bellport Country Club, where everyone enjoyed a delicious meal and spent a wonderful afternoon meeting old acquaintances, renewing friendships and sharing fond memories. We were honored to have as guest speakers the Deputy Director for Science and Technology at the laboratory, Doon Gibbs, and the newly-appointed Director of Human Resources, Tony Bowman, who introduced himself and expressed his enthusiasm at joining Brookhaven. Tony had previously met with BREA members at a recent monthly meeting, and we look forward to working with him in the future. Doon brought us up to date with recent developments at the Laboratory, including the NSLS-II project, the Nanotechnology Center and future plans for RHIC, which will ensure that the Laboratory will stay at the frontiers of research for many years to come. We were also pleased to see several of our other invited guests—from public relations, BERA and photography.

Last but not least was the drawing for the various raffles, big and small. The main items were the traditional “basket of goodies”, won by Mona Rowe, who shared the contents with her table companions, and then the 50/50, won by Sue Foster, who generously donated the prize to the RETT Syndrome Foundation in recognition of her niece. Arnie Peskin and the rest of the BREA Board wish to thank everyone who attended the luncheon for making the day such a memorable one, and especially Flo O’Brien and the other members of the organizing committee for all their hard work. Looking ahead, we ask you to keep the first week of June, 2010 free. If you no longer live on Long Island, but have plans to visit next year, perhaps you can arrange your trip at that time so that you can join us at the next luncheon!
North Fork Tour

BREA has arranged with Long Island Lighthouse Safaris for a one-day tour package around the North Fork on Thursday, September 10, 2009, departing from Berkner Hall at 9 am. Our guide will be Dr. Gayle Haines, who heads an organization specializing in lighthouse history and culture (www.lighthousesafaris.com).

The day will start with a visit to the Horton Point Lighthouse in Southold to see the original house and kitchen used by the lightkeepers, and artifacts and exhibits from the old whaling days. For those in an energetic mood, it will be possible to climb to the top and enjoy a panoramic view of Long Island Sound. Then we will take a quick glimpse of the Long Beach Bar Lighthouse, followed by a stop in the historic village of Greenport. Lunch is not included in the tour, but there will be plenty of time to wander around and enjoy lunch on own.

After lunch, we will finish the day with a tour and tasting at the Martha Clara vineyards in Riverhead, returning to the Lab around 5 pm.

This should be a great day out and we urge you not to miss it! However, seats are limited and you should sign up by completing the registration form below as soon as possible, but no later than July 31. The cost per person is $49, and checks should be made payable to LI Lighthouse Safaris, Inc., and mailed to Dr. Gayle Haines, LI Lighthouse Safaris, Inc., 4636 Captree Island, Captree Island, NY 11702.

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SeniorNet

At the next BREA monthly meeting we will be hearing from one of the coordinators of the Huntington Chapter of SeniorNet, which is an all-volunteer organization dedicated to the education of seniors with regard to computers and the information age. Of particular interest to BREA is the fact that the Huntington Chapter has just announced the opening of an annex at 1490 Wm. Floyd Parkway in East Yaphank (just a couple of miles south of the Laboratory entrance), and will be holding an Open House on July 10 from 9-12.

SeniorNet Learning Centers represent a potentially useful resource for many BREA members, since they are located throughout the United States and claim to offer a low-cost, friendly introduction to using computers. The basic curriculum is comprised of courses on computer fundamentals, introduction to computers, word processing, exploring Windows, Internet and Email. In addition, they offer a variety of online education courses, ranging from languages, personal enrichment, and cyber-security (www.ed2go.com/seniornet).

We look forward to hearing more at our next meeting, and we will be providing a detailed account in the next newsletter. In the meantime interested members might like to check out the national SeniorNet website at www.seniornet.org, and the location of their nearest center.
Please take a moment to check if you have renewed your membership for 2009. The expiration date is displayed on the top right-hand side of the address label above. If the date is 2008, then this will be your last chance to renew and continue to receive the newsletter and be notified of BREA events such as the annual luncheon, special trips, and lunchtime lectures. In this case, please complete the membership renewal form on the right and mail to the return address shown above along with your check. This would be a good time to consider the option of joining for a five-year period or for life, and avoid these annual reminders.

Also, if you have recently moved or changed your e-mail address, please note any changes on the renewal form and mail as above.

Last Chance to Renew!