

BREA News



Volume 5, Issue 1

January 21, 2005

BREA Business Meetings

The BREA executive board meets monthly at noon in building 475, room 107. All BREA members are invited to attend. We would like your participation in our meetings.

Business Meeting Schedule

- Wednesday, March 16
- Tuesday, April 12
- Wednesday, May 11
- Tuesday, June 14

BREA Officers

President:
Joyce Tichler
Vice President:
Lew Jacobson
Treasurer:
Barney McAlary
Secretary:
Alyce Daly
Membership Chairman:
Dave Cox
Newsletter Editor:
Graham Campbell

HEALTH CARE BENEFITS MEETING

Human Resources will hold a meeting to discuss health care benefits for BNL retirees at Berkner Hall on Tuesday, February 15th at 1:30. A snow date for the meeting is Thursday, February 17th at the same place and time.

Topics to be covered at the meeting include coordination of benefits with Cigna and Medicare, out of network benefits, deductibles,

the mail order drug program, change from PPO to OAP (this is only a change in networks, not in benefits), and dual coverage processing.

Human Resources will provide copies of the Cigna OAP provider directories and copies of the medical benefits summaries and drug claim forms.

There will be time at the meeting for general

questions about retiree benefits.

All are invited to attend. BREA will try to coordinate rides if anyone needs to be driven to the meeting. Should you be willing to provide a ride or need a ride, please send email to brea-l@lists.bnl.gov or telephone Joyce Tichler at 631-563-0989.

“Investment Strategies During Retirement”

Frank Federman, a BREA member will speak on “Investment Strategies During Retirement” at Berkner Hall at BNL on Friday, April 8th at 11 AM. All are welcome to attend.

Frank notes that “Retirement for many

people marks the end of a journey; I

will discuss the financial journey beyond the point of retirement. This discussion will focus on the retiree’s new goals and the choices available to enable their realization.”

Frank is a BNL retiree and a Registered Financial Advisor.

The Early Days

Graham Campbell

This is a continuation of my reminiscences about the turmoil in which BREA was formed. There were two main threads during this period, the resolicitation of the contract to manage the lab, and the dismay of the public (in particular the strong Long Island anti-nuclear activists) over operation of the HFBR. The contract resolicitation was the primary concern of retirees because of the possibility of major changes to our benefits resulting from a change in management. However this was something with a defined procedure and an eventual resolution. The second thread was much longer lasting and eventually even threatened the existence of the Lab.

DOE formed a Source Selection Advisory Board to write the RFP for the new contract to manage the laboratory. The BREA organizational meeting on June 26, 1997 was in Berkner Hall. It featured a presentation from the SSAB about the draft RFP. As an organization with almost 400 members (at that time) we were able to make suggestions about the contents of the RFP with regard to retiree benefits. These suggestions were incorporated in the final document. We were also invited to make a presentation about our concerns to the potential responders to the RFP.

This process then led to the se-

lection of BSA in November 1997. During this period, and here my memory about the timing is fuzzy, there was the desire by the activists to have an external oversight committee. There was a meeting about creating a formal advisory committee. It turned out that there are extensive government regulations covering formal advisory committees. These were not appealing to either the Lab or the people desiring such a committee. There were various groups that wanted to organize such a committee and I attended several meetings. I was even thrown out of one such meeting of some of the more extreme anti-nuclear activists because of my association with BNL. But there was one ad-hoc group that desired to be inclusive with all parts of the community represented. We pressed ahead, trying to come to a common understanding of the membership and charter of such a group. I obtained a copy of a document called the Suffolk Sourcebook, which listed almost all of the organizations in Suffolk. We developed a list of categories (civic associations, senior citizen groups, environmental groups, etc.) and a desire to have representatives of each on this committee. At some point we came to the attention of the laboratory and as the only broad based proposal achieved their

backing. A mailing was sent to the groups from the Sourcebook asking if they were interested in joining. The Brookhaven Executive Roundtable agreed to act as a sponsor of this group. Thus the Community Advisory Council was born. It acts as advisory to the director of the laboratory and thus is not a formal government advisory committee.

During this same period, BREA was defining its organization. A Steering Committee, consisting of Jerry Barancik, Graham Campbell (acting Chair), Alyce Daly, John Denes, Lew Jacobson, Susan Jason, Barney McA-lary, Joe Meyer, Stu Rideout and Stan Seltzer, started to create the organization. A major early debate was whether or not to organize under the BERA (*n.b.* not BREA) umbrella. Eventually it was decided to do so, and a Constitutions and By-Laws drafted. From here on the early history is documented in the newsletters on the BREA Web site. The early Steering Committee all contributed strongly to BREA and deserves a round of thanks. But I would like to specially recognize the efforts of Stu Rideout, who not only was a stalwart in the early days, but was a great source of support to me personally.

CAC Happenings

With the cleanup of the mercury contamination of the Peconic River essentially complete, and the stand of the CAC on the alternatives for the BGRR cleanup decided, the main topic of discussion has been Groundwater cleanup. Although the groundwater cleanup procedures were defined some time ago and a "Record of Decision" (ROD) filed, there were some things that were left to be determined by a pilot project. In addition, the scope of contamination of the Magothy aquifer was better defined and additional cleanup was clearly required. All this lead to the proposal to modify the ROD by a process called "Explanation of Significant Differences" (don't ask me to justify the terminology – it is all part of defined procedures under

CERCLA).

There are two areas of change. One is the handling of the Strontium 90 plumes where the original proposal was shown to be exorbitantly expensive during the pilot project. A different pumping strategy is proposed along with a stretch-out of the time to completion. This takes advantage of the fact that the Strontium 90 moves very slowly through the ground and has moderate half-life.

The second change concerns the volatile organic compound (VOC) plumes that have migrated off-site and were also found to have contaminated the deeper Magothy aquifer. It is proposed to install some additional extraction wells that would pump and treat the con-

taminated water. These wells will operate for about 10 years and then monitoring would continue for an indefinite period to insure that drinking water standards are being met.

At the next meeting (Jan. 13, 2005) the CAC will attempt to reach a consensus on this proposal.

Graham Campbell is the BREA representative to the CAC and Arnie Peskin is the alternate representative. If you have any comments on these issues please contact one of them (gc@bnl.gov or peskin@bnl.gov) Or come to a meeting if you are on Long Island. The meetings are at 6:30PM on the second Thursday of each month in Berkner Hall. Meetings are open to the public and you are encouraged to come.

Web Links

The World Wide Web has become a very important source of information. We would like to

note some sites that you might find worthwhile to examine.

- Our very own site. A wealth of information maintained by Paul Michael. Check here for other links that we will not duplicate, especially for lab contacts, policies and forms.
<http://www.brea.bnl.gov>
- A Medicare information site—they offer a free newsletter "Dear Marci"
<http://www.medicarerights.org>

Please Contribute

We want to publish more notes like the one Glenn Price sent in. So please let us know about things that are happening in your life, so

that we may pass the word to other retirees. Just remember the limitations of the newsletter and keep them reasonably short and concise. However, we will edit them to fit available space.

From the President

Happy New Year! We've had a good response to our request for annual dues of \$10. In order to make it clear whether or not you've paid your dues, we have added the year of your current membership to your address label of this newsletter. Unless the year 2005 appears on your label, you have NOT paid your dues for this year and this will be the last newsletter we will mail to you. We are again attaching a copy of the dues form to this newsletter

We have two events coming up that we feel will be of great interest to our membership. The first is a meeting that Human Resources will have February 15th at 1:30 PM at Berkner Hall to discuss health care benefits for retirees and answer questions you may have. We know that many of you are concerned with these benefits and met with Hu-

man Resources to indicate some of your concerns. We were pleased that Human Resources scheduled this meeting with all retirees. On April 8th at 11AM in Berkner Hall, Frank Federman, a BREA member will discuss investment strategies for retirees. We hope to see many of you BREA members who live locally at these meetings. Should anyone need a ride to these meetings or be willing to offer a ride to another BREA meeting, please contact me at tichler@bnl.gov.

We are also planning a BREA barbeque at BNL for sometime in June. Sonja Santos is chairing the committee that is planning this event. Should you be willing to help with these preparations, please contact Sonja at santos@bnl.gov.

We try to keep our web site, www.brea.bnl.gov up-to-date so

please check it if you have access to the Internet. Also subscribe to the listserve [brea-l](mailto:brea-l@lists.bnl.gov) by sending email from the computer on which you wish to receive messages to brea-l@lists.bnl.gov with the word subscribe in the subject line. You will note on the calendar in this newsletter the dates of our monthly business meetings; all are welcome to attend. We also put notices of our meetings in the Brookhaven Bulletin.

We are always happy to hear from you about your concerns; BREA is here to represent your interests.

BREA Statement of Financial Condition December 31, 2004

Assets:	
Cash in Bank:	
Certificate of deposit	\$3848
Savings Account	3312
Checking Account	802
Total Assets	7962

BREA MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

If you are not already paid up for 2005, please renew your membership. Complete the form below and return it with your check for \$10 payable to BREA, Bldg 475C, Brookhaven National Lab., Upton NY11973. (To determine if you are already paid up, check the mailing label. If 2005 appears above the name, you are paid up.) This will ensure that you will remain part of the BREA community and will continue to receive newsletters and announcements of special events. Also, if you run into any of your old BNL friends or colleagues, please let them know about BREA. Additional membership forms and information can be obtained from the BREA website (www.brea.bnl.gov) or by calling Joyce Tichler (631-563-0989) or Dave Cox (631-286-9725).

-----Detach here-----

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL FORM

Type of membership (check one):

Regular (BNL retirees, spouses of deceased retirees, employees on long-term disability)

Associate (all other members of the BNL community)

Retirement date: _____

Last name: _____ First name: _____ MI _____

Street address: _____

Town: _____ State _____ ZIP (+4) _____ - _____

Phone: _____ Fax: _____ E-mail: _____

Membership dues (check one):

Check for \$10 enclosed (make out to BREA)

Paid \$10 dues 5/27/04 or after

Check for \$20 enclosed (two retirees at same address receiving the newsletter)

Return to BREA, Bldg 475C, Brookhaven National Lab., Upton NY11973

BREA

Bldg 475C
Upton, NY 11973-5000
Phone: 631-344-2707

Mailing Address Line 1
Mailing Address Line 2
Mailing Address Line 3
Mailing Address Line 4
Mailing Address Line 5



BNL Retired Employees Association

*On the Web at
www.brea.bnl.gov*

News of Glenn Price

In October 2004 the University of Kentucky, College of Arts and Sciences inducted BREA member Glen Price into its Hall of Fame.

The Hall of Fame was established to recognize the significant contributions to society by its alumni and to inspire the scholarship students in the Arts and Science College by their example. Recipients have included Nobel Laureates in Science and History, and distinguished alumni in Mathematics, Chemistry, Physics, Graphic Arts, and Literature.

Glen attended the University's Training School for Teachers, and graduated from The University of Kentucky in 1946 with Distinc-

tion and honors in Physics.

Serving in the army from 1942 to 1946 he was assigned to the Los Alamos Scientific Laboratory, and participated in the Alamogordo atomic bomb test. The experience and contacts during this period directed his interest towards the peaceful uses of atomic energy. Graduate study at the University of Illinois provided experience in high-energy electron accelerators, and lead to a PhD in physics

At BNL he was a pioneer in nuclear reactor physics, conducting numerous tests to provide data necessary for the design of light water reactors. Westinghouse

Corporation used this information in the design of reactors for the generation of electric power. During the latter half of his BNL appointment Glenn initiated and led the Lab's educational programs

After retiring from BNL in 1985, Glenn accepted an appointment with the International Atomic Energy Agency, IAEA, in Vienna, Austria. There he directed a training program for engineers from less-developed countries to qualify them for assignments as inspectors in the agency. After 2 ½ years in Vienna, Glenn and his wife, Charlotte returned to Weare, NH.