

BREA NEWS

<https://bera.bnl.gov/brea/>

Volume 24, Issue 2

March/April 2024

BREA Meetings

BREA meets on the second Tuesday of every month (except for August), at 1 p.m. in the Eastern Time Zone. All BREA members are invited.

BREA meetings are held via Zoom. Some meetings will be hybrid so that retirees living on Long Island can attend in person. Contact any officer for help to join a meeting.

Meeting Schedule

March 12, 2024

April 9, 2024

May 14, 2024

BREA Officers

President

Arnold Moodenbaugh
moodenba@optonline.net

Vice President

Andrew Feldman
andrew_j_feldman@outlook.com

Secretary

Laura Miller
lj96miller@outlook.com

Treasurer

Louise Hanson
hanson.louise@gmail.com

* * *

Newsletter Editor

Mona S. Rowe
msrowe.hi@gmail.com



Adam Merone (left) is the new head of BERA. At the start of BNL's Zombie Walk for Healthfest last October, Merone was joined by BERA board member Danielle Pontieri, Protocol Office. See article on Merone, page 3.
– Photo by Jessica Rotkiewicz

From the President

by Arnie Moodenbaugh, moodenba@optonline.net

To fellow BREA Members,

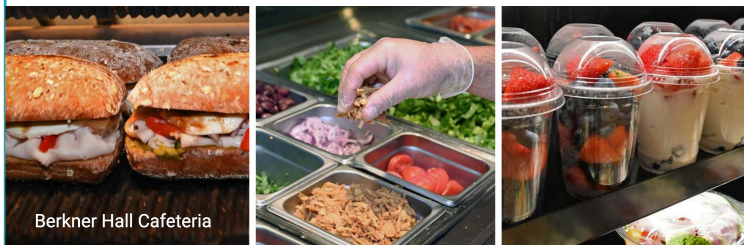
Spring is around the corner. This newsletter includes an introduction to Adam Merone, BERA's new coordinator. Adam was instrumental in getting our January hybrid Zoom meeting at BNL up and running (see below). Also in this issue, you'll find answers to recent questions from retirees. One Q&A, inspired by a publication of a classic STAR detector image, provides context to RHIC's role in explaining the early universe.

In January, BREA held our first post-Covid in-person meeting at Brookhaven Lab, with Zoom participation by remote members. We introduced the new VP Andrew Feldman and Treasurer Louise Hanson. Laura Miller continues as secretary, as do I as president. There are some issues with communication from the meeting room to the Zoom audience. We'll try to address these to make some improvements. Future in-person / Zoom meetings will be scheduled every few months, depending on BNL personnel and facility availability. Local members might be interested in meeting at BNL Berkner for lunch, too. The lunchtime menu, including sandwiches and salad, is online at

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Q & As

Several questions from retirees have surfaced in the last few months. Since they were of general interest to retirees, the Q&As are published here.



The Artisan by Rollin'Ghost is open in the Berkner Hall cafeteria, weekdays from 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. You'll find hot paninis, freshly made sandwiches, salads, grab-and-go snacks and beverages.

– Susan Eng Wong, BREA member since 2016, retired 2023 from Information Technology Division

Question from Andrew Feldman: An article in the December 2023 Astronomy Magazine carried a photo [right] that shows interactions captured in the STAR detector, with credits to BNL. Great photo! Can we put this in the BREA newsletter?

A: In response to Andrew's comment about the article in Astronomy Magazine, I too thought this would be a nice article to highlight/repost on the BNL website, but decided it's probably not worth it because the image from the STAR detector at RHIC and the caption are the only parts that reference BNL.

The article itself begins its description of the evolution of the universe at one second after the Big Bang. This indeed sounds very close to the beginning, but it actually skips over the part of the early universe that RHIC collisions recreate and explore, which is at about one-millionth of second after the Big Bang. At that point, there were not yet any atoms to collide. Rather, at that millionth-of-a second mark, the entire universe consisted of quarks and gluons (before they cooled and coalesced to form the protons and neutrons that eventually formed the atomic nuclei). I wish the story had noted that part!!

– Karen McNulty Walsh, Media & Communications Office

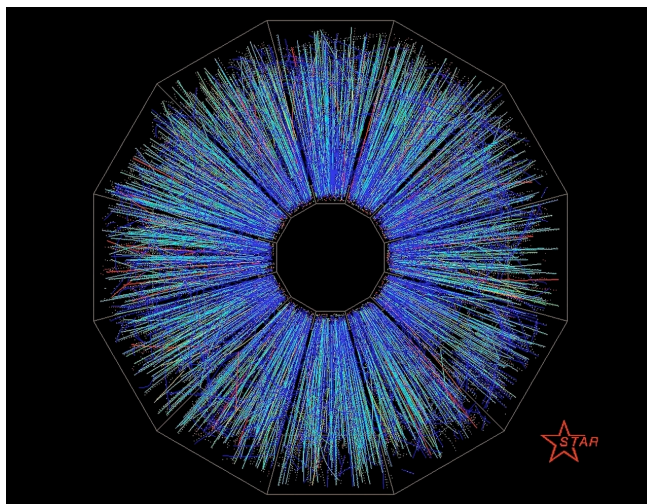
Question from Louise Hanson: Is RHIC to be closed down before the EIC is completed/brought on line?

A. The current plan is that RHIC will shut down in the summer of 2025 (following the completion of Run 25 and the end of RHIC's science mission). Construction will then begin on the electron ring, detector, and other EIC components. EIC operations are scheduled to start in the early 2030s.

We will need "all hands on deck" to construct and install components of the EIC, and we expect to need to hire many temporary workers to assist us during construction. After the construction project is completed, our staff count will go down, but this will primarily affect the temporary staff. We also anticipate that many current staff will retire or change workplaces over the next 10 years, which will be another element to manage to ensure we maintain a good balance between staff needed and staff available.

– Ferdinand Willeke, Electron Ion Collider

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Meet Adam Merone

Last Call: Join BERA on Broadway for Suff's

BERA Presents: Chocolate & Wine Tasting!

Ahoy there! Swim Programs & Aquafit – Register Today!

Recognize these activities? Meet Adam Merone, the new Christine Carter and the one now responsible for emailing the BERA announcements that show up in your inbox. In September 2023, Merone took over the job of supervising BERA, the Quality of Life Office and all recreational activities at Brookhaven Lab.



*Adam Merone
– Photo by Kevin Coughlin*

Merone joined BNL in 2022 as the exercise physiologist for the Fire Rescue Group and various Facilities and Operations trade shops to help staff prepare better for the workday and prevent injuries. He also assisted in the Occupational Medical Clinic (OMC) by performing examinations and making presentations at Wellness Week during the year.

Said Merone, “I’m thrilled to be able to keep building the connections I’ve formed and continue the legacy Christine started. I hope to expand and increase participation with recreation, fitness, and community events to help bring the Lab closer together.”

Before coming to the Lab, Merone owned a fitness gym for 10 years, where he trained athletes, executed fitness programs, arranged fitness-related charity events, and directed a sports summer recreation camp for children. He also served as an assistant strength and conditioning coach for the NY Yankees and NY Islanders.

– Mona S. Rowe, msrowe.hi@gmail.com

Q & As (continued)



This Week



**Career Fair on Saturday,
March 16 • 9 a.m. – noon**

- Engineers
- Technicians
- CAD designers
- Tradespeople
- Professionals in IT, business operations, and other fields

Brookhaven Lab offers rewarding careers, competitive salaries, comprehensive benefits, and professional development. [More...](#)



**Brookhaven Lab Physicist Receives
Prestigious Vernon Cosslett Medal**

Yimei Zhu honored by the International Federation of Societies for Microscopy for his sustained contributions to the field of electron microscopy [More...](#)



Newsclips

*This Potential Cancer Treatment
Requires Modern Alchemy*
—Scientific American

*Heavy fermions appear in a layered
intermetallic crystal*
—Physics World

Discussion at BREA meetings: Where can we find out about BNL in the news and how do we get Brookhaven This Week?

A: You can read about Brookhaven Lab in Scientific American, Physics World, National Geographic, Yahoo News, Newsday, and other media outlets by subscribing to the Lab's weekly email newsletter.

Brookhaven This Week contains news releases, feature articles, public event listings and newsclips that highlight or mention Brookhaven Lab. It publishes on Fridays.

In nearly every issue of Brookhaven This Week, you can find the “Newsclips” section in the column on the right, usually below upcoming events.

If you haven’t already subscribed to Brookhaven This Week, you can sign up for free. Go online to this address:

<https://www.bnl.gov/newsroom/thisweek/>

You can also keep in touch with Brookhaven on Facebook, Instagram, LinkedIn, and X, formerly Twitter.

– Joe Gettler, Editor, Brookhaven This Week

Renew BREA Membership

Membership expires on December 31 of every year no matter when you paid your dues (which are requested by January 31 of the following year). To stay on BREA’s mailing list, complete the form below and mail it to me along with your payment. Include your email address so BREA can send you timely information.

If you have questions or if your contact info has changed, email me at hellobylin@yahoo.com.

PLEASE PRINT

Last name: _____ First name: _____ MI: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Membership type:
 annual (\$10) 5 years (\$40) Life (\$95)

Date: _____ Check amount: _____

MAKE YOUR CHECK OUT TO BREA

- I want to receive BREA News by mail via the U.S. Post Office.
- I want to receive BREA News by email only. Do not mail it to me via the U.S. Post Office.

Mail form and check (made out to BREA) to:
 Beth Lin, BREA Membership Chair
 81 Westchester Drive
 Rocky Point, NY 11778

– Beth Lin, Membership Chair
hellobylin@yahoo.com

In Memoriam

We deeply regret to inform you of the passing of the following retirees.

- Anthony Baltz, 81, December 21, 2023
- John Brodowski, 84, November 1, 2023
- Joseph Hendrie, 98, December 26, 2023
- James Higgins, 77, January 9, 2024

More information may be found at BREA’s website: <https://bera.bnl.gov/brea/>. To post an obituary for a deceased BNL employee or retiree, email information to msrowe.hi@gmail.com or mail it to BREA (see panel below for address).

President’s Message (cont’d from page 1)

<https://www.bnl.gov/events/files/rollinghostartisan-updated-menu.pdf>. Half sandwiches with soup or salad are an option. You could also brown-bag your lunch.

Our February meeting included a short discussion by local coordinator Laura Buscemi-Robles and Queens College’s Tiffany Martin about the Worker Health Protection Program (www.worker-health.org), which offers DOE and contractor ex-employees a free comprehensive medical exam to identify work-related illnesses. Compensation may be available for affected individuals through the unaffiliated Energy Employees Illness Compensation Program. Call 1-888-241-1199 or email info@worker-health.org. The local coordinator's phone is 1-631-807-0457.

Our March meeting is via Zoom on Tuesday, March 12, 2024, at 1 p.m. EST. As usual, the invitation and agenda will be emailed the first week of the month.
 – Arnie Moodenbaugh, moodenba@optonline.net

Brookhaven Retired Employees Association

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