

BREA NEWS

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

Volume 25, Issue 1

January/February 2025

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

January 14, 2025

February 11, 2025

March 11, 2025

BREA Officers

President

Arnold Moodenbaugh
moodenba@optonline.net

Vice President

Andrew Feldman
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Secretary

Laura Miller
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Mona S. Rowe
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Read about the new support building on Brookhaven Lab's campus. Turn to pages 2-3.



From the President

by Arnie Moodenbaugh, moodenba@optonline.net

Happy New Year. I hope you had a good holiday season.

This newsletter features an article on the new Science User and Support Center. The SUSC is the initial development in Discovery Park, which had been proposed before I retired in 2014. The concept for Discovery Park as it is today evolved throughout 2015, with input from the Department of Energy, especially from DOE's Brookhaven site office.

Discovery Park encompasses about 60 acres of federal property *outside* the front-gate security portal. Visitors to Brookhaven Lab are now traversing a roundabout that will have an exit to SUSC and the rest of the park. In other words, access to Discovery Park will *not* require going through security. You can see initial developments on a satellite view (Google Maps, for example). DOE and BSA are working on a plan to permit further building in the area by collaborators, developers and entrepreneurs that could complement BNL's mission.

I would like to get feedback on your experiences with SelectQuote and other aspects of the BNL retiree health benefit program. You can email me with questions, complaints about service, or praise for good experiences.
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New Building on Campus



At a groundbreaking ceremony on October 26, 2022, (from left) Joe Diehl, Caroline Polanish, Robert Gordon, Geri Richmond, Doon Gibbs, Chris Ogeka, Tom Daniels, Peggy Caradonna, Andrea Clemente, and Gary Olson commemorate the start of construction for the Science and User Support Center on behalf of the U.S. Department of Energy and Brookhaven National Laboratory.

– Jessica Rotkiewicz

Brookhaven National Laboratory

The Science and User Support Center (SUSC) is the first building to rise on BNL’s Discovery Park. Construction began in the fall of 2022, and, says Project Director Peggy Caradonna, “We are now in the commissioning phase. Expected completion is around February 2025.”

The three-story, 75,000-square-foot facility will serve as a welcome center for the Lab. The SUSC will also offer conference and collaboration areas for scientists, as well as office space for support staff.

Brookhaven Lab attracts scientists from across the country and around the world by offering expertise and

access to large user facilities with unique capabilities. In fiscal year 2023, the Laboratory hosted more than 6,300 visiting scientists and facility users. BNL expects the number of guests researchers to increase in the coming years, particularly as capabilities expand at the National Synchrotron Light Source II and with the design and construction of the future Electron-Ion Collider.

When complete, the SUSC is where those guests will arrive. The SUSC will also help improve the guests’ experiences of visiting Brookhaven because the Laboratory will consolidate a number of services into a central, modern building close to the site entrance.

According to Caradonna, the new building will house Stakeholder Relations; Planning, Performance & Quality Management; the Guest, Visitor and User Center; Guest Services; the Badging Office; and various divisions within Facilities & Operations.

“We’ve been working to reduce our footprint,” said Caradonna. “That means thinking strategically to relocate staff out of inadequate, WWI- and II-era facilities into better space, which then enables

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Front entrance of SUSC; photo taken July 2023

– Kevin Coughlin/Brookhaven National Laboratory

demolition.” Approximately 225 staff will be relocated to the SUSC.

The new support center will also feature reconfigurable conference space, designed in response to requests from facility-user communities to create opportunities for scientists to collaborate.

The SUSC project is funded by the Department of Energy’s Office of Science. DOE approved a total cost of \$86.2 million for the project. Plainview-based E.W. Howell is the project's general contractor.

– Joe Gettler, jgettler@bnl.gov

SUSC interior renderings: (top to bottom) main lobby; badging, housing and GUV Center; conference assembly area



Quick Trip to Grand Canyon

Short on time? Last fall, from October 12-15, 2024, BREA member Don Sievers did the Grand Canyon in three days.

I arrived at the Phoenix Airport on Saturday, the 12th, rented a truck and drove 175 miles north to Williams, Arizona. I returned to Phoenix on Tuesday, the 15th.



The town of Williams as your base will please anyone. Established in 1881, it’s a gateway to the Grand Canyon and a major historical site with a lot of western flair. Through town, the speed limit is 15 mph.



Plan your trip a month in advance. You can do an inexpensive day trip for \$70 to the southern rim of the Grand Canyon and back. Or you can book a three-day package at \$492

per person, which includes a stay at the Grand Canyon Railway & Hotel, breakfast and dinner at the famous Fred Harvey restaurant, and train ride to and from the Grand Canyon. I stayed at a local motel for \$125 per night and paid the \$70 train ride.

– Don Sievers, sievers@email.com



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 information has changed, send me an email at bettyelder81@gmail.com.

PLEASE PRINT

Last name: _____ First name: _____ MI: _____

Street: _____ City: _____ Zip+4: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Membership type:

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

Dues cover year(s) _____

Date: _____ Check amount: _____

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Mail form and check to:

Betty Elder, Membership Chair
215 River Drive
Moriches, NY 11955

– Betty Elder, Membership Chair
bettyelder81@gmail.com

In Memoriam

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

Edward G. Gallagher, 77, October 18, 2024
Barbara Ann Simpson, 77, October 24, 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)

DOE funds the Worker Health Protection Program (WHPP), which is offering expanded coverage in their health evaluations. W.L. Hailoo, MD, an occupational medicine physician associated with WHPP, intends to discuss the program at BREA’s January meeting. Look for confirmation and details in the emailed January meeting announcement and agenda.

WHPP is available to virtually all BNL retirees. There is no charge for the evaluation, and there is a possibility of compensation if conditions related to work exposures are detected.

Our upcoming Zoom meetings in 2025 are January 14, February 11, and March 11, Tuesdays at 1 p.m. Eastern Time. Details are in the monthly email notice. If you do not receive email meeting notices or have questions, contact me by email or phone to get details on how to participate. My contact info: moodenba@gmail.com and (631)288-5309.

– Arnie Moodenbaugh, moodenba@optonline.net

Brookhaven Retired Employees Association

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