

BREA NEWS

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

Volume 25, Issue 6

November/December 2025

BREA Meetings

BREA meetings are held on the second Tuesday of every month (except for August), at 1 p.m. All BREA members are invited to attend and participate.

With the BNL site still closed to retirees, Zoom meetings via video link have become routine. Contact any officer for help to join a meeting.

Meeting Schedule

November 11, 2025

December 9, 2025

January 13, 2026

BREA Officers

President

Arnold Moodenbaugh
moodenba@optonline.net

Vice President

Andrew Feldman
andrew_j_feldman@outlook.com

Secretary

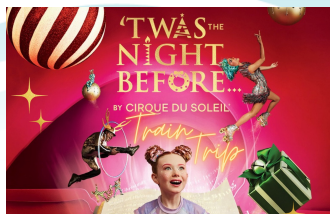
Laura Miller
lj96miller@outlook.com

Treasurer

Louise Hanson
hanson.louise@gmail.com

Newsletter Editor

Mona S. Rowe
msrowe.hi@gmail.com



Looking for a fun holiday event in NYC? See the article on BERA for details, p. 3.

From the President

by Arnie Moodenbaugh, moodenba@optonline.net

To fellow BREA Members,

The government shutdown has so far had limited impact at BNL. As during previous shutdowns, BNL has in-hand funds to operate for a limited time. And BERA, as well as BREA, will continue to function.

Page 3 of the newsletter contains an article on BERA. BERA coordinator Adam Merone is promoting activities, including BREA's, that are available to retirees as well as staff. Our organization has experienced a drop in memberships in recent years. Adam is helping us in a recruitment effort, including a recent promotion for BERA in his regular letter to all BNL staff.

Members are strongly urged to VOTE for officers in the biennial election, either by endorsing the current lineup or write-in for another candidate. The ballot and instructions are on page 2 of this newsletter.

BREA will meet via Zoom on Tuesday, November 11, 2025, at 1 p.m. EST. We expect to have the agenda distributed as usual. If you do not receive the agenda, the Zoom login will be identical to that of our October meeting. For further info, contact me at (631)288-5309 or moodenba@optonline.net.

Open enrollment for retirees covered by Medicare for 2026 started on October 15 and will end December 7, 2025. (Retirees under the age of 65 who use the BNL health plans have open enrollment through BNL from November 10 to 21, 2025.) If you are enrolled in Medicare Part B, you and your spouse MUST use SelectQuote (SQ) to purchase or change B Supplement (Medigap) or Advantage plans in order to obtain the \$180 monthly stipend from BSA. SelectQuote's phone number is (866) 479-8317, then choose option 1. When you contact SQ, state that you are a retiree from BNL. If you have problems dealing with

(continued on page 4)

BREA Officers Nominated for 2026-2027

Candidates for BREA officers for January 2026 through December 2027 are listed. Write-in candidates are accepted, in accordance with BREA's bylaws. If a candidate receives a positive vote on a majority of the ballots returned, he/she is elected. If any candidate does not get a majority vote, the office will be left vacant until another election. The ballot includes space for write-in candidates. Please vote by checking the appropriate boxes, then sign and mail your ballot to Membership Chair Betty Elder (snail-mail address below). If you prefer, take a photo of your ballot and email it to Elder (email address below). **Vote by December 15, 2025.**

Arnold Moodenbaugh for President (for reelection 2026-27)

Arnie is the current BREA president. Arnie would like BREA to continue Zoom meetings that have benefitted remote members and, at the same time, he would also like to restart in-person meetings at BNL and resume additional activities. Arnie worked at BNL for 36 years, primarily doing materials science and solid state research. Later in his BNL career, he served as Technical Equipment Coordinator for the Center for Functional Nanomaterials construction project and Materials Science Department Safety Coordinator, retiring in 2014.

Andrew Feldman for Vice President (for reelection 2026-27)

Highlights of Andrew Feldman's tenure at Brookhaven Lab (1980-2001) include his work as lead contracts specialist for the ISABELLE project and later the RHIC Project Procurement Office. Andy handled major solicitations for the acquisition of key scientific hardware for RHIC. He also served on the Department of Energy's task force to rewrite sections of the Federal Acquisition Regulation, which governs procurement in the U.S. After retiring as a Senior Contracts Administrator, he continued working in the same capacity for Telephonics Corporation in Farmingdale and for AAR Aircraft Component Services, Garden City. Andy now lives in Florida. He still stays busy as a Lt. Colonel in the US Air Force, as the National Spectrum Manager for Air Combat Command at Tyndall AFB, Florida.

Laura Miller for Secretary (reelection for 2026-27)

Laura started her career at General Electric's Research & Development Division in Santa Clara, California, when she was just a youngster. She gradually headed east after that, moving next to GE's Midwest Fuel Recovery Plant in Morris, Illinois, and then down to South Carolina for a stint with a fiberglass coating company. Returning to her career, she also returned to Illinois, working at Argonne in several divisions: the Chemistry Division, the Intense Pulsed Neutron Source and finally the Advanced Photon Source. She spent 16 years at BNL with both the NSLS and NSLS-II before retiring in 2016. Laura joined BREA almost immediately. She feels that all retirees could benefit from membership in BREA, which provides interesting and useful information as well as social contact.

Louise Hanson for Treasurer (for reelection 2026-27)

Louise joined BNL's Department of Applied Science in 1977 as a chemist. She was a founding member of BWIS and served in many positions in that organization, including overseeing the funds for the Renata Chasman and Gertrude Goldhaber awards. After her retirement in 2002, Louise became an active member of BREA and served as secretary for six years. In more recent years, she has continued her BREA participation via the Zoom meetings. She feels that BREA plays a vital and necessary role in fostering communication between BNL's management and BNL's retirees. She has played a key role in BREA's requirements to report financial information to BNL/BERA.

Ballot for BREA Officers

President

☐ Arnie Moodenbaugh

Vice President

☐ Andrew Feldman

Secretary

☐ Laura Miller

Treasurer

☐ Louise Hanson

☐ _____

☐ _____

☐ _____

☐ _____

Please vote and mail your ballot to:

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

If you prefer, email your vote to Elder: bettyelder81@gmail.com

Name (print) _____ Signature _____ Date _____

Enhancing Life and Work Experience at BNL

BERA, the Brookhaven Employees' Recreation Association, is focused on enhancing the life and work experience for the BNL community. Retirees are very much a part of that community and are welcome to participate in BERA activities.



– David Rahner
Brookhaven National Laboratory

The recent Healthfest in October offered health, safety and wellness events almost every workday of the month, at either lunch time or after 5 p.m. Healthfest has become an annual tradition. This year, retirees could have cycled seven miles around the site, joined a yoga session and played in a pickleball tournament. Pickleball is a fast-growing sport, especially for seniors!

Looking ahead, retirees are also invited to sign up for BERA events during the upcoming holiday season. “We have a

NYC train trip being coordinated for December 7th to see “Twas a Night Before Christmas” by Cirque du Soleil,” said Adam Merone, BERA/Quality of Life Supervisor. “We will also have a paint night in December, as well as salsa and hustle classes offered in November.”

Retirees can use BNL recreational facilities as well, including the swimming pool, weight room, gym and tennis courts. Merone knows one retiree who is at the pool daily and sometimes frequents the yoga classes.

“The sense of community is a large part of why people participate in BERA,” said Merone. He added, “Quality of life is a great measure of people’s happiness. Everyone’s happiness comes from different sources. It is our job to check as many of those boxes off as possible to bring happiness and an environment where people prefer to spend at least one-third of their life.”

If you’re looking for souvenirs of BNL, check out the BERA store in Berkner Hall. You can also shop online at www.bnl.gov/bera/bera-store.php.

According to Merone, revenue from the store supports BERA, which also receives a small amount of funding from Brookhaven Science Associates. To make up the balance of his payroll, about 80 percent, BERA raises money in other ways, such as the camps for kids, swim lessons, and the pool and gym memberships.

Scan Or Click To Register

SUNDAY, DEC. 7TH

8:30AM*Train leaving Ronkonkoma together for the 11 AM show at Madison Square Garden. Return on your own and do as you please after the show

LIMITED SEATS

PURCHASE BY 12/02 OR WHILE SUPPLIES LAST

\$96 EACH

SECTION 202 SEATS

PURCHASE ONLINE OR AT THE BERA STORE (EXT. 3347) MON.-FRI., 11AM-2:00PM *All Sales Final

*This is the anticipated time for the train into the city. The schedule for December has not been released, so the time may need to be adjusted.

– Mona S. Rowe, msrowe.hi@gmail.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: _____

MAKE 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 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.

Yreana-Renee Flack, 81, September 15, 2025

Raven Bryan McKenzie-Wilson, 93, 10/6/2025

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)

SelectQuote, contact BNL's Benefits Office at www.benefits@bnl.gov. You may also get in touch with Melissa Schuchman, (631)344-2877 or schuchman@bnl.gov. Note that those receiving BNL benefits through Navia will receive a letter detailing various reimbursement situations. You may have to contact Navia at (866)897-1996 to start or maintain regular payments.

Remember: Page 2 of this newsletter has your ballot for the biennial election of officers. All current officers are up for re-election. Please participate by voting. Andy Feldman is up for vice president, Laura Miller for secretary, Louise Hanson for treasurer, and I for president. You can read short biographies on each of us. I would like to acknowledge and thank other members who have agreed to continue in their appointed positions: Mona Rowe as newsletter editor, Betty Elder as membership chair, and Mark Israel as BREA's Community Advisory Council representative.

– Arnie Moodenbaugh, moodenba@optonline.net

Brookhaven Retired Employees Association

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Upton, NY 11973

Phone: (631) 344-5090

Email: BREA@bnl.gov

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

