

the Bulletin

BROOKHAVEN
NATIONAL LABORATORY

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October 14, 2005

RIKEN President Noyori Visits Brookhaven Science Facilities

Laboratory Director Praveen Chaudhari and staff from the RIKEN BNL Research Center (RBRC) were among those who welcomed Nobel Laureate Ryoji Noyori on his visit to the Lab on September 27. Noyori, who is President of RIKEN — Japan's Institute of Physical and Chemical Research — visited RBRC and had lively discussions with the many young staff physicists as well as touring several RIKEN-funded facilities and other Lab research centers. The RIKEN President and his wife, Hiroko Noyori, were escorted on their visit by Nicholas Samios, RBRC Director.

Noyori was the recipient of a shared Nobel Prize in Chemistry in 2001 for his work on chirally catalyzed hydrogenation reactions, related to chiral molecules, which occur in the right-handed and left-handed forms. Since 2000, Noyori has been the Director of the Research Center for Materials Science at Nogoya University in Japan.

The visit started at PHENIX, one of the four detectors at BNL's Relativistic Heavy Ion Collider. Noyori met with Hideto En'yo of RIKEN, Associate Director of RBRC and head of the experimental group; William Zajc, Columbia University; and Edward O'Brien, Physics Department. They presented an overview of the PHENIX collaboration and the hardware of the detector, both recipients of major Japanese contributions. This afforded the opportunity for young RBRC experimentalists to describe their activities to Noyori, as well as engage in a dialogue on their experiences at RBRC.

The RIKEN President also toured the Positron Emission Tomography (PET) research facility, part of BNL's Center for Translational Neuroimaging. At PET, he met with Stephen Dewey, Chemistry Department, who described research activities at the Lab involving the study of the brain and various addictions, drug, alcohol, and obesity.

Noyori then visited the National Synchrotron Light Source (NSLS), a national user research facility operating two electron



Roger Stoutenburgh 00021005

Above: In front of the PHENIX detector at BNL's Relativistic Heavy Ion Collider are: (front row, starting second from left) William Zajc, Columbia University; Nicholas Samios, RBRC/BNL; Hiroko Noyori and Ryoji Noyori, RIKEN; Praveen Chaudhari, BNL; and Chiharu Shimoyamada, RIKEN; with others who met the RIKEN President during his BNL visit.



Roger Stoutenburgh 00011005

Above: At the RIKEN BNL Research Center (RBRC) QCDOC supercomputer are: (front, from left) Larry McLerran, BNL/RBRC; Nicholas Samios, RBRC/BNL; Hiroko Noyori and Ryoji Noyori, RIKEN, Japan; and Hideto En'yo, RBRC/RIKEN; with others welcoming the RIKEN President on his visit to BNL.

Right: Praveen Chaudhari, BNL Director, with Ryoji Noyori, RIKEN President



Roger Stoutenburgh 00221005

storage rings: an x-ray ring and a vacuum ultraviolet ring, which provide intense light spanning the electromagnetic spectrum from the infrared through x-rays. Each year, 2,300-plus scientists from universities, industries and government labs perform research at the NSLS. Noyori was escorted by Chi-Chang Kao of the NSLS Department, who briefed the distinguished visitor on the research conducted at NSLS as well as the mode of individual participation at this facility.

The recently dedicated RBRC supercomputer known as QCDOC, for quantum chromodynamics on a chip, was the next highlight of the tour. There, BNL guest scientists Robert Mawhinney of Columbia and Shigemi Ohta of KEK, Japan, and RBRC, described to the visitors the activities and status of QCDOC. The \$5-million supercomputer has 10 teraflops of peak computing power and is capable of performing 10 trillion arithmetic calculations per second. The

computer, which took three years to design and build, is used for physics research for 90 percent of its operating time. It is installed in the RBRC physics research center formed by RIKEN and BNL in 1997.

Noyori concluded his visit by meeting the young theorists of RBRC. Larry McLerran of Physics, who heads the RBRC theory group, led a discussion in which

the physicists briefly described their research programs and commented on experiences at RBRC.

Samios and the RBRC physicists were impressed with Noyori's strong interest in RBRC activities and gratified to hear that the RIKEN president had enjoyed interacting with such an enthusiastic and highly motivated group of individuals.

— Kay Cordtz

408th Brookhaven Lecture, 10/19

New Concept for Cooling Ion Beams at RHIC

The successful operation of BNL's Relativistic Heavy Ion Collider (RHIC), the world's newest, biggest particle accelerator for nuclear physics, is already providing information on one of the world's oldest questions: how matter was formed at the dawn of the universe. But still more discoveries can be made, and upgrades of RHIC are being planned to make this possible.

For example, RHIC operates by accelerating two beams of bare ions — atoms stripped of their electrons — in opposite directions around two rings and colliding them together at different points. The collision data are collected by four detectors and analyzed by scientists to make breakthrough discoveries. However, the ions in the beams

heat up by interacting with each other, reducing the rate of the collisions. To be able to cool the ion beams is essential before RHIC can be upgraded.

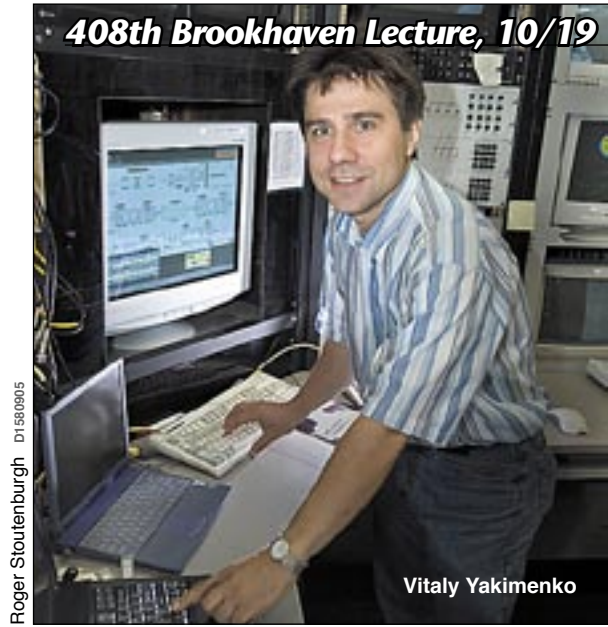
At BNL's Accelerator Test Facility (ATF), two ways to cool ion beams are being examined: one that uses electrons and one totally new concept that involves a technique called optical stochastic cooling.

To find out about the exciting new proposal, all are invited to the 408th Brookhaven Lecture, on "Optical Stochastic Cooling at RHIC," to be given by Vitaly Yakimenko of the Physics Department, who, with his colleagues, is working to resolve the cooling problem. The lecture will be held at 4 p.m. on Wednesday, Octo-

ber 19, in Berkner Hall, where Yakimenko will be introduced by Physics Chair Sally Dawson.

Yakimenko, Director of the ATF since 2004, is leading research there on advanced acceleration techniques of laser and particle beam interactions, some of which he will also discuss during the lecture. He had graduated from Novosibirsk State University in 1990 and received his Ph.D. from the Budker Institute for Nuclear Physics in Novosibirsk, Russia, in 1996. He joined BNL at the ATF in 1996 and was named a physicist in 2002.

Refreshments will be offered before and after the talk. To join the lecturer for dinner off site afterwards, call Sabrina Parrish, Ext. 4901. — Liz Seubert



Vitaly Yakimenko

Roger Stoutenburgh 01580905

CALENDAR

OF LABORATORY EVENTS

- The BERA Sales Office is located in Berkner Hall and is open weekdays from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. For more information on BERA events, contact Andrea Dehler, Ext. 3347, or Christine Carter, Ext. 2873.
- Additional information for Hospitality Committee events may be found at the Lollipop House and the laundry in the apartment area.
- The Recreation Building (Rec. Hall) is located in the apartment area.
- Contact names are provided for most events for more information.
- Calendar events flagged with an asterisk (*) have an accompanying story in this week's Bulletin.

— EACH WEEK —

Weekdays: Free English for Speakers Of Other Languages Classes

Beginner, Intermediate, and Advanced classes. Various times. All are welcome. Learn English, make friends. See www.bnl.gov/esol/schedule.html for schedule. Jen Lynch, Ext. 4894.

Mondays & Thursdays: Kickboxing

\$5 per class. Noon-1 p.m. in the gym. Registration is required. Christine Carter, Ext. 5090.

Mon., Wed., & Fri.: Tai Chi

Noon-1 p.m., Brookhaven Center North Rm. Adam Rusek, Ext. 5830, rusek@bnl.gov.

Tues. & Thurs: Aerobics

5:15-6:30 p.m., Rec. Hall. 10 classes for \$40, or \$5 per class, pay as you go. Pat Flood, Ext. 7866.

Tues. & Thurs: Aqua Aerobics

5:15-6:15 p.m. \$20 to attend once a week, \$40 to attend twice a week. For more information, call Ext. 2873.

Tues. & Thurs: Jazzercise

Noon-1 p.m., Rec. Hall. Preregistration is required. Newcomers can get a free try-out. Christine, Ext. 5090.

Tue., Thu. & Fri: Upton Nursery School

8:30 a.m.-noon, Rec. Hall, 2- and 3-day programs available. Kati, 821-4131.

Tuesdays: Welcome Coffee

10-11:30 a.m., Rec. Hall. First Tuesday of every month is special for Lab newcomers and leaving guests. Meet in the gazebo in the apartment area. Lisa Yang, 979-3937.

Tuesdays: BNL Music Club

Noon, North Room, Brookhaven Center. Come hear live music. Joe Vignola, Ext. 3846.

Tuesdays: Jiu Jitsu Club

6:30-7:30 p.m. in the gym. All levels, ages 6 and above. \$10 per class. Tom, Ext. 4556.

Tuesdays: Toastmasters

1st and 3rd Tuesday of each month, 5:30 p.m., Bldg. 463, room 160. Guests, visitors always welcome. www.bnl.gov/bera/activities/toastmasters/default.htm.

Tues., Wed. & Thurs: Rec Hall Activities

5:30-9:30 p.m. General activities, large-screen TV, ping pong, chess, games, and socializing. Christine Carter, Ext. 5090.

Wednesdays: On-Site Play Group

10 a.m.-noon. Rec. Hall. An infant/toddler drop-in event. Parents meet while children play. Meet in the apartment area playgroup. Fang Dong, 871-5362.

Wednesdays: Weight Watchers

Noon-1 p.m. Michael Thorn, Ext. 8612.

Wednesdays: Yoga

Noon-1 p.m., Brookhaven Center. Free. Ila Campbell, Ext. 2206, ila@bnl.gov.

Wednesdays: Ballroom Dance Class

\$30/person/6-week series. Brookhaven Center, North Ballroom. Beginner merengue at 6 p.m., advanced foxtrot at 7 p.m. Instructor Giny Rae. Call John Millener, Ext. 3853; or Madeline Windsor, Ext. 5069.

Thursdays: Reiki Healing Class

Noon-1 p.m., Bldg. 211 Conference Rm. Nicole Bernholz, Ext. 2027.

Fridays: Family Swim Night

5-8 p.m. at the BNL Pool. \$5 per family.

Fridays: BNL Social & Cultural Club

6-9 p.m., North Ballroom, Brookhaven Ctr., dance lessons, 9-11:30 p.m. general dancing. Rudy Alforque, Ext. 4733, rudy@bnl.gov.

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Medical Plan Changes For 2006

Several changes will be made to BNL's employee medical plans, effective January 1, 2006. These changes are necessary because costs associated with BNL's medical and dental plans continue to rise — between FY00 and FY06, BNL's costs will have risen by 61 percent, from a total of \$25,529,000 to \$41,140,000 (est.). The increases exceed annual BNL budget increases and continue despite the cost-saving measures implemented over the same time frame.

Earlier this year, BNL Director Praveen Chaudhari appointed a committee to review the Lab's plans and see if further cost-saving measures could be implemented. After considering employee input and rejecting several more extreme options, the committee decided on the following changes:

- Co-payments for in-network, primary care physicians will increase from \$15 to \$20 per visit for CIGNA and Vytra. Aetna and HIP will adopt similar co-pay arrangements.
- CIGNA and Vytra co-payments for in-network specialists will be \$30 per visit. Aetna and HIP are also considering similar co-payments.
- Prescription drug co-payments will increase from their current levels to \$10 for generic, \$25 for brand-name formulary, and \$40 for non-formulary. At the present time, those co-pays for the CIGNA plan are \$5/\$15/\$30.
- Dual coverage for husbands and wives employed by the Laboratory will be eliminated.
- Under the CIGNA medical plan for participants not eligible for Medicare, when an individual has two medical plans and the BNL plan is secondary, benefits will be coordinated so that the total benefits paid by all plans are not more than 100 percent of the total of all allowable expenses. Please note that this means that the deductible will apply for out-of-network expenses incurred during the calendar year.
- In all cases where individuals have coverage under more than one plan, the CIGNA medical plan will not reimburse individuals for more than their normal liability in the absence of other insurance.
- BNL will implement a "vacation-buy" plan, similar to the plan that is available to employees at Sandia National Laboratories. This plan will enable employees to "buy" additional vacation days each year, and the cost of buying those days will be spread over the next year.

More information on plan details is being distributed through interoffice mail. This year's open enrollment period runs from next Monday, October 17 through November 10.

For more information, contact the Benefits Office at Ext. 2877 or 5126. In addition, HR will host a lunchtime brown-bag session on benefits the week of October 24 to answer questions and address concerns.

Free Prostate Cancer Screening, 11/10

Howard Adler, Assistant Professor of Clinical Urology and Director of Stony Brook University Hospital's Prostate Care Program will conduct free prostate cancer screening, which includes a PSA blood test and a digital rectal examination, on Thursday, November 10, from 2 to 4 p.m. in the Occupational Medicine Clinic, Bldg. 490. Pre-registration is required. To register, call 1-800-862-2215. For more information, contact Michael Thorn, Ext. 8612, or mthorn@bnl.gov.

Cut Medical, Day-Care Costs With Flexible Spending Accounts

BNL offers comprehensive health plans, but not all expenses are covered in full, such as eyeglasses, physical exams, deductibles, coinsurance, and expenses above reasonable and customary limits. And, although on-site child care is available at the Lab, the cost of child care, as well as elder care, can quickly add up.

Employees can reduce these costs by opening Health Care and Dependent Day Care Reimbursement Accounts. Through salary reduction,

these accounts set aside before-tax dollars to pay for out-of-pocket-health and dependent day care expenses. Actual costs are lower because of the tax savings.

Enrollment in these accounts for 2006 begins on October 17 and continues through November 10. Employees who work at least 20 hours a week may set aside from \$300 to \$3,500 in the Health Care Account and/or \$300 to \$5,000 in the Dependent Day Care Account. Employees

Physics Fun Day in Hawaii

You might think physicists headed to Hawaii for a meeting would spend the Saturday before sessions checking out the surf or a nearby volcano. But a dedicated group attending a joint meeting of the nuclear physics divisions of the American Physical Society (APS) and the Physical Society of Japan in Maui spent Saturday, September 17, at the Queen Ka'ahumanu Shopping Center — selling physics.

It was not a hard sell. Nearly one thousand families participated in "Physics Fun Day" activities sponsored by the APS's division of nuclear physics — part of its celebration of the World Year of Physics. Middle- and high-school students competed in a "Physics Olympics" — building electromagnets and paper bridges, and testing the load capacity of boats — while younger children, adults, and teachers participated in a variety of other science activities and visited booths set up by BNL and other research institutions.

"It was great seeing eminent scientists and little kids discovering the mysteries of magnetism together," said Elaine Lowenstein of BNL's Community, Education, Government & Public Affairs directorate, who organized the Lab's participation in the events. Also on hand representing BNL and helping out with the activities were: Derek Lowenstein, Chair of the Collider-Accelerator Department, and the Physics Department's Tim Hallman, Ramiro Debbe, and Bill Christie.

"It worked out fine because that mall is the center of social and family life for most people on Maui, and we had help from a terrific organization in Maui, the Women in Technology project of the Maui Economic Board," said Peggy McMahan, the overall event organizer, who is a physicist at Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory.

Following the mall activities, more than 150 people attended a public lecture given by Case Western Reserve University physicist Lawrence Krauss on "Einstein's Biggest Blunder," held at the nearby Maui Arts & Cultural Center. — Karen McNulty Walsh



At the World Year of Physics table in the Queen Ka'ahumanu Shopping Center in Maui, Hawaii, are: (from left) Elaine Lowenstein, Community, Education, Government & Public Affairs; Ramiro Debbe, Physics Department; Derek Lowenstein, Collider-Accelerator Department; and Tim Hallman, Physics.

Menopause Presentation, 11/15

Doris Weisman of Stony Brook University's School of Medicine and School of Nursing will talk on menopause on Tuesday, November 15, noon-1 p.m., Berkner Hall, Room B. Preregistration is required to attend this talk. Check your mailbox for registration forms. For more information, contact Michael Thorn, Ext. 8612.

who want to sign up for 2006 must enroll, even if they are currently enrolled for 2005.

Enroll Online or With a Form

If you have a password for and access to PeopleSoft, then you may enroll online by logging into PeopleSoft and clicking the following links: Employee Self Service, Benefits, Open Enrollment, and Flexible Spending Accounts. Enrollment forms will also be available

in the Benefits Office, Bldg. 185. Return completed forms to the Benefits Office, Bldg. 185, by Thursday, November 10, for coverage effective January 1, 2006.

For answers to questions, contact the Benefits Office, Ext. 2877 or Ext. 5126.

To assist in estimating expenses and potential tax-savings, an FSA withholding worksheet is on line at www.bnl.gov/hr/Benefits/linkable_files/FSA_Withholding_calculator_djd.xls.

Medical, Dental Enrollment Open Until November 10

During open enrollment, described below, employees, retirees, and participants receiving long-term disability benefits who want to change their medical and/or dental coverages must contact the Benefits Office, Bldg. 185, Ext. 2877, Ext. 5126, or (800) 353-5321 by Thursday, November 10.

Medical, Dental Open Enrollment

Until November 10, eligible employees working 20 or more hours per week may make changes to their medical and dental coverages: employees may join a medical and/or dental program, change from one program to another, add or drop coverage for family members, or drop coverage entirely. Also until November 10, retirees and participants on long-term disability or COBRA may make changes to their medical and/or dental coverage.

Coverage changes made during the open-enrollment period will become effective January 1, 2006. Changes can only be made during the annual open-enrollment period or when what is called a qualifying event occurs. Qualifying events include: the birth or adoption of a child; marriage, divorce or legal separation; loss of dependent status; or a spouse's gain or loss of employment. Qualifying events allow employees to make certain changes to their coverage if they notify the BSA Benefits Office within a limited period of time from the date of the event. Employees who do not want to change their coverage at this time do not have to do anything for their coverage to continue.

Medical Choices: PPO vs. HMOs

BSA offers both preferred provider organizations (PPOs) and health-maintenance organizations (HMOs) for medical insurance through CIGNA, Vytra, Aetna, and HIP. Employees who enroll in any of these plans must pay a contribution toward the cost of coverage.

In a PPO program, health care is provided through a network of physicians and health-care facilities, but provisions are made so that participants can obtain such care from providers who are not in that network. For care provided within the network, there are no claim forms to submit. For care received outside the network, claim forms must be submitted to receive partial reimbursement.

In an HMO, participants receive medical services from physicians and at health-care facilities within the HMO's provider network. There are no claim forms to submit, and many services are covered, including physician visits, well-baby care, surgery, x-rays, hospitalization, diagnostic tests, and prescription drugs. Some HMOs require a co-payment at the time services are rendered.

Dental Choices

Three dental insurance plans are available to eligible employees: the CIGNA PPO Dental Plan, the CIGNA Dental Health Plan (DMO), and the Dental Assistance Plan administered by Eastern Benefit Systems. Employees who enroll in one of these plans must pay a contribution toward the cost of coverage.

Under the CIGNA PPO Dental Plan, services are provided through a network of dentists, but provisions are made so participants can obtain care from dentists who are not in the network. For in-network care, there are no claim forms to submit. For out-of-network care, claim forms must be submitted.

Under the CIGNA Dental Health Plan (DMO), no deductibles, no maximum benefits, and no claim forms need be submitted. Dental services are provided through a network of participating dentists. Many preventive and basic services are covered in full. Reimbursement for restorative and orthodontic services is based on a fee schedule.

Under the Dental Assistance Plan administered by Eastern Benefit Systems, employees may choose any dentist, and reimbursement for preventive, diagnostic, basic, and major dental services is based on a fee schedule. Orthodontia for dependent children is covered at 50 percent of a reasonable and customary charge. Claim forms must be submitted.

Literature on the plans is available, including comparison sheets and lists of participating physicians, dentists, and health-care facilities, at the Benefits Office, Bldg. 185.

Healthfest 2005

Health, Fitness & Safety

BNL's Month-Long Celebration Of Health, Fitness, Safety

During this year's Healthfest, BNLeers are encouraged to take responsibility for personal health, fitness, and safety. All are welcome to take part in Healthfest raffles, health screenings, safety demonstrations, fitness events, and the "Health, Fitness & Safety Fair." See <https://www.bnl.gov/hr/healthfestreg> or contact Healthfest 2005 Co-chairs Denise DiMeglio, Ext. 2881; or Michael Thorn, Ext. 8612.

— Next Week's Healthfest Events —

Health, Fitness & Safety Fair

Tuesday, 10/18 • 11 a.m. – 2 p.m. • Berkner Hall, Bldg. 488.

Displays, information, drinking water taste testing, home water sample testing, free raffles, and much more.

Mountain Bike Ride

Wednesday, 10/19 • Noon - 1 p.m. • Starts at Softball Field Gazebo

Fitness Run

Friday, 10/21 • 12:05 - 1 p.m.

5-kilometer (3.1) mile run around the site, starting at Biology, Bldg. 463. The run counts as the first half of the Healthfest Biathlon. Participants will receive a 2005 Healthfest T-shirt, while supplies last.

October is Hispanic Heritage Month Celebrate With Latin Dance, Tonight, 10/14

Tonight, on October 14, from 7 p.m. to midnight at the Brookhaven Center, celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month by joining in Latin Dance, to be held at the Brookhaven Center. The evening will start with free dance instruction from 7 to 7:45 p.m., and continue with general dancing to music by DJ Alex. At 9 p.m., guest dancers will perform salsa, merengue, and tango. Tickets cost \$12 if purchased in advance at the BERA Sales Office and \$15 at the door and include a cold buffet, dessert, coffee, and a cash bar. This event, which is sponsored by the BERA Hispanic Heritage Club and the BERA Social & Cultural Club with support from the BNL Diversity Office, is open to the public. Visitors to the Lab age 16 and over must carry a photo I.D.

Recital

BSA Noon Recital, 10/19 Cello-Guitar Duo

Internationally known Guitarist Agustin Maruri (left) and cellist Michael Jones will perform a concert of music rich in the Spanish tradition, at noon on Wednesday, October 19, in Berkner Hall.

Sponsored by Brookhaven Science Associates, the company that manages BNL, the concert is free and open to the public.



All visitors to the Lab age 16 and older must bring a photo ID.

Former Astronaut 'Doc' Graveline Talk on Space Radiation Effects, 11/1

Duane "Doc" Graveline, a former astronaut who received international recognition for his research on the effects of zero gravity on the human body, will speak about some of the medical effects of space flight at BNL on Tuesday, November 1, at 1:30 p.m. The public talk, entitled "Retinal Flashes and Return to the Moon," will be held in the Medical Department's conference room.

Selected in 1965 as one of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration's (NASA) six scientist astronauts, Graveline is also known for his work as a medical analyst of the Soviet bioastronautics program. He is a former U.S. Army and Air Force flight surgeon and has practiced as a family doctor. In his talk, Graveline will outline what is currently understood about "retinal flashes," bursts of light thought to be caused by space radiation that have been experienced by astronauts in space.

Because today's astronauts are spending more time in space, NASA is working with BNL and other institutions to learn about the possible risks to human beings exposed to space radiation. To study the radiobiological effects using beams that simulate the cosmic rays found in space, a new, \$34-million NASA Space Radiation Laboratory has been established at BNL.

Visitors to the Lab ages 16 and over must bring a photo ID.

Center Club Fall Specials

The following specials are being served at the Center Club, Bldg. 30, for \$5.99. The Center Club is open from 4:30-10 p.m., Monday through Friday.

- Monday Center Club Burger Platter
- Tuesday Shrimp Fry Platter
- Wednesday Pasta Night (penne with a choice of three sauces)
- Thursday Philly Cheese Steak Sandwich or Grilled Ruben
- Friday 1 Dozen Wings (hot or mild) or Chicken Finger Platter

Help Others by Volunteer Work At Agencies Supported by the United Way

BNL's fund drive for the United Way has its official kickoff date set for November 2. However, due to the past overwhelming success of the campaign's "Volunteer Days Program," this year's Chair, Doon Gibbs, and Co-chair Mary Campbell, with the help of Volunteer Days Program Coordinator, Maria Beckman, are starting the volunteer program on October 15, to run through December 31. In this program, with supervisory approval, an employee is allowed a one-time request of an hour's work-time to perform volunteer work. A minimum of two volunteer hours is necessary, one work hour, and one from the employee's own time. Thereafter, employees may volunteer as many hours as they wish, but on their own time. For every hour volunteered, BSA will donate \$20 to the Long Island United Way, with a ceiling of \$10,000.

Last year, a total of 160 employees, retirees, and family members participated in the Volunteer Days Program, which was organized by Beth Blevins. These volunteers spent over 1,000 hours at agencies such as L.I. Cares, Literacy Suffolk, LI Council of Churches, American Red Cross Meals on Wheels, LI Blood Services, American Diabetes Association, Island Harvest, Big Brothers/Big Sisters, National Alliance for Autism Research, Salvation Army, The Ministries, Habitat for Humanity, Thee Island Inne, local Fire Departments/Ambulance Companies, Mather Hospital, Majestic Garden Soup Kitchen, Interfaith Nutrition Network, and Response of Suffolk County. Activities also included collecting and donating toys, clothing, food, and personal hygiene items that were donated to several local agencies.

Says Beckman, "Those who volunteer know that the personal reward for volunteering and helping others in the surrounding communities goes far beyond the \$20 per hour which is donated to the United Way of Long Island."

For more information on volunteer opportunities, call Beckman, Ext. 5483.

Submit Pollution Prevention Proposals Now Through 12/16

Do you have an idea that will reduce waste, conserve natural resources or energy, and save money? If so, then submit your idea to the BNL Pollution Prevention (P2) Council, which started accepting proposals last week.

Each year, the council seeks ideas and proposals that will reduce waste, improve recycling or resource conservation, and save money.

Last year, 21 P2 proposals were submitted, of which 12 were funded. "All of the proposals were great, and definitely all worthy of funding. This made the selection process very difficult," said Peter Pohlot, BNL's P2 Coordinator. Examples from last year's funded proposals include the Collider-Accelerator Department's aerosol can disposal system, which safely punctures aerosol cans and captures any remaining contents, thereby rendering a hazardous waste into a recyclable component, and Biology's Photon Counting Spectrofluorometer, which replaces radioactive assays and avoids the annual generation of eight gallons of mixed waste.

As in the past, BSA will fund the P2 Program for FY06. If you have an idea for P2 funding, contact your environmental compliance representative or your department/division P2 council member (see <https://sbms.bnl.gov/ld/ld16/ld16d391.htm>) or visit the P2 web site, www.bnl.gov/esd/pollutionpreve/.

The 2006 schedule for P2 proposals is as follows:

- Proposals are due by December 16, 2005
- P2 proposal presentations will occur during the first week of January 2006
- P2 Council members will evaluate and rank the proposals by January 14, 2006
- The highest ranking P2 proposal authors will be notified that they will be funded by January 21, 2006 (note: as many P2 proposals will be funded as the BSA-allocated P2 funding allows)
- P2 accounts will be established and the proposal authors will have until August 30, 2006 to purchase and implement their P2 strategies.

For more information, contact Peter Pohlot, Ext. 5660 or pohlot@bnl.gov.

Halloween Costumes Wanted

The BNL Quality of Life/BERA/Recreation Office is collecting Halloween costumes that are clean/gently used for underprivileged children in the local area. Please drop off your costumes to Christine Carter or Joanne Rula, Bldg. 179B.

Arrivals & Departures

— Arrivals —

Dmitriy Polyanskiy Chemistry
Sugadev Ragumani Biology

— Departures —

Kara De Castro NNS
Alex Smith Biology
Rakefet Tsabari Medical
Peter Van Gemmeren Physics

One-on-One Retirement Counseling, 10/21&26

A TIAA-CREF consultant will visit BNL on Friday, October 21, and Wednesday, October 26, to answer employees' questions about your financial matters.

The consultant will help you:

- Understand the importance of protecting your assets against inflation
- Find the right allocation mix for you
- Learn about TIAA-CREF retirement income flexibility
- Compare lifetime income vs. cash withdrawal options.

For an appointment, call Kathy Murphy, 866-842-2053, Ext. 4625. (Not the on-site Ext. 4625.)

CALENDAR (continued)

Friday, 10/14

*Latin Dance

7 p.m.-midnight. Brookhaven Center. Celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month at the Latin Dance. See notice below, left.

— WEEK OF 10/17 —

Tuesday, 10/19

*Health, Fitness & Safety Fair

11 a.m.-2 p.m. Berkner Hall. See notice at left.

Wednesday, 10/19

*BSA Cello-Guitar Recital

Noon, Berkner Hall. Cellist Michael Jones and guitarist Agustin Maruri. This concert is free and open to the public. Bring your lunch and come and go as you please.

*Mountain Bike Ride

Noon-1 p.m. Starts at softball field gazebo. Register at <https://www.bnl.gov/hr/healthfestreg>. See notice at left.

*408th Brookhaven Lecture

4 p.m. Berkner Hall. Vitaly Yakimenko will talk on "Optical Stochastic Cooling at RHIC," and other research at BNL's Advanced Test Facility. All are welcome. See story on page 1. Visitors to the Lab of 16 and older must carry a photo I.D.

Thursday, 10/20

PTL Vacuum Demo

10 a.m.-2 p.m., Berkner Hall. Representatives from PTL Vacuum will present BNLeers with discounts on their products and services. For more information, contact Bill Branagan, 800-622-4098.

Friday, 10/21

*5-km Fitness Run

12:05-1 p.m. Starts at Biology, Bldg. 463. See notice at left.

Saturday, 10/22

*BERA Trip to Hudson Valley

9 a.m. Start from BNL for a day at Bear Mountain State Park in the Hudson Valley. Oktoberfest, Apple Festival. Luxury coach fare, \$10. Buy at BERA Sales Office. See page 4.

— WEEK OF 10/24 —

Monday, 10/24

Healthfest 400-yard Swim

11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Swimming pool, Bldg. 478. Participants must be 18 or older. To register, complete the form at <https://www.bnl.gov/hr/healthfestreg/>.

IBEW Meeting

6 p.m. Centereach Knights of Columbus Hall, 41 Horseblock Rd., Centereach. A meeting for shift workers will be held at 3 p.m. in the Union Office. The agenda includes regular business, committee reports, and the president's report.

Wednesday, 10/26

Healthfest 800-yard Biathlon Swim

11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. – at the pool, Bldg. 478. You must be 18 or older to participate. Register at <https://www.bnl.gov/hr/healthfestreg/>.

— WEEK OF 10/31 —

Tuesday, 11/1

*Talk on Space Radiation

1:30 p.m. Conference Room, Bldg. 490. Former astronaut Duane "Doc" Graveline talks on space radiation effects. See notice at left.

Note: This calendar is updated continuously and will appear in the Bulletin whenever space permits. Submissions must be received by the preceding Friday at noon to appear in the following week's Bulletin. Enter information for each event in the order listed above (date, event name, description, and cost) and send it to bulletin@bnl.gov. Write "Bulletin Calendar" in the subject line.

