



HOTLINE

PRINCETON PLASMA PHYSICS LABORATORY

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FTS System

Marjorie Barnett, manager of Telecommunications, aims to teach a simple equation to all laboratory employees: PPL plus FTS equals lower telephone bills.

Marge is assisted by chief operator Helen Pesce and office assistant Mal Pulaski. Before coming to the laboratory in March, Marge worked in the main campus Telecommunications Department for 14 years.

The department itself is responsible for the ordering, processing and billing for all telephones within the laboratory -- approximately 1400 units at present. The department also serves as laboratory liaison to the telephone company, coordinating installation of new units and repairs for old ones.

Marge reports that approximately one-third of PPL's telephone bills consist of toll call charges. She contends that those charges could be significantly reduced by laboratory-wide use of the Federal Telecommunications System (FTS).

"If people would regard using FTS as a personal challenge," Marge believes, "they could cut their phone bills in half. You can call everywhere in the country by FTS, and there's nothing about the system to be afraid of!"

The laboratory is charged a specific sum for the use of the FTS lines, which provide economical long-distance telephone capability. Using the system is often as easy as dialing a one-digit access code, or contacting the FTS operator for assistance.

"There seems to be some kind of mystique about the system," Marge feels. "The majority of laboratory employees don't realize how easy FTS is to use. Consequently, they think it's too big for them to cope with. But if they're interested enough to make a personal effort to use FTS,

they'll see an immediate reduction in their phone bills. It's just a matter of becoming accustomed to using the system and thinking in terms of it."

In an effort to rectify the situation, Marge will be presenting a program on the use of the telephone system to the Secretarial and Office Support Staff in the fall. She also recommends that employees look over their FTS National Telephone Directories, and refer any questions on use of the system to the Telecommunications Department.

"If you're not comfortable with the system", Marge added, "then you tend not to use it, and that means you're not using your telephone to its full capacity. The Telecommunications Department is here and ready to help you, with any questions on any aspect of phone use."

In fact, help -- and smaller phone bills thanks to FTS -- are just a phone call away.

ERC Election Process

Not to be outdone by the recent national conventions, the Employee Representatives Committee (ERC) is preparing for a nominating 'convention' of its own.

Nomination forms have been sent to laboratory employees, and are due back to the committee by September 5. Nominees will then be contacted to ascertain whether each is willing and able to serve on the committee.

Those accepting nomination will be featured in a special election issue of the Hotline prior to the Sept. 16 election. Polls will be located at C-Site and in Sayre Hall.

Anyone who has not received a nomination form or who would like further information on the ERC may contact election subcommittee members Sally Connell (ext. 2689), Phil Thompson (ext. 2226), Millie Willerton (ext. 3303) or Bill Walker (ext. 3028).

Construction Site Visitors

Construction sites are off limits to most PPL personnel. Too many laboratory employees are sightseeing in new buildings and hazardous areas.

Some PPL employees have been authorized to go on site to perform bona fide work and inspections. These people should check in at the Giffels trailer prior to their visit. If employees have work to do, tests to perform, or need to open or close switches, they should specifically identify these tasks to Giffels.

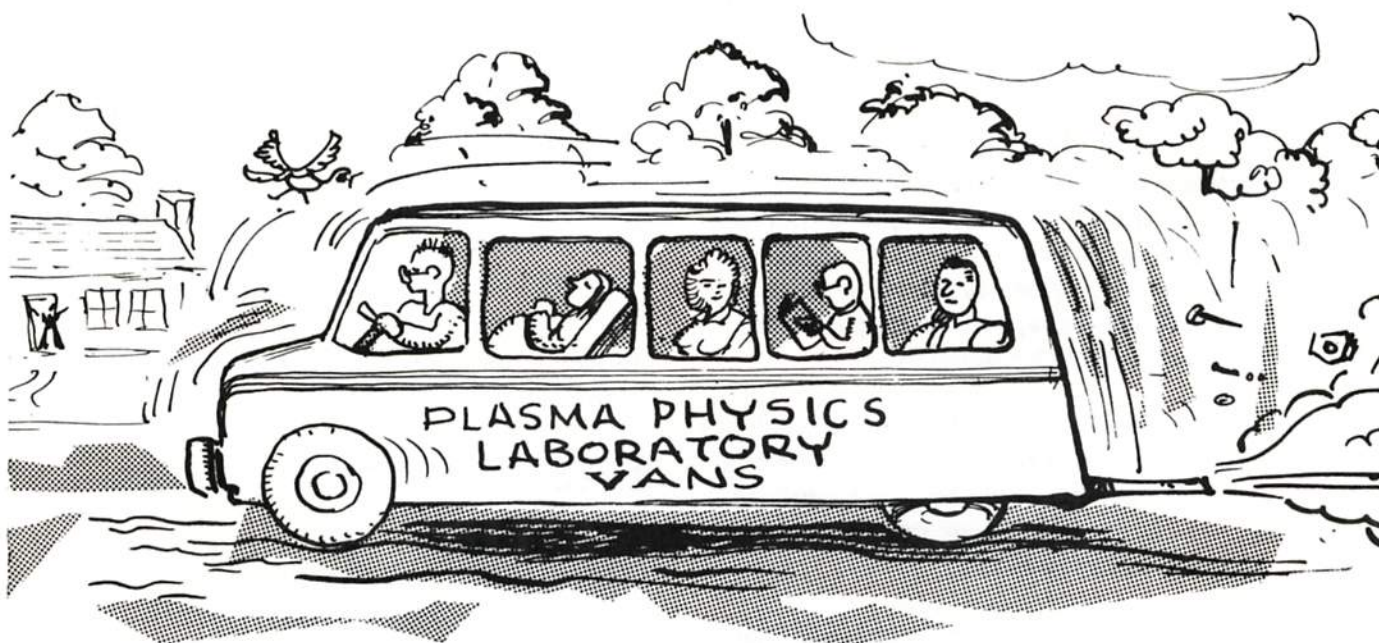
Any person who must go on site outside of working hours should check in at the Security Office prior to entering the site.

Volleyball

Anyone interested in participating in an intramural volleyball program, please call Dave Maruso at ext. 3068.

Library Relocation

For the next five months, the PPL Library will be relocated to the conference room on the first floor of the LOB building. The library offices are located next to Photo Lab at C-Site.



Van Pooling

Several vans made their maiden voyages Monday as the laboratory began a van pooling program, sponsored by the Employee Representatives Committee and DOE.

Approximately 175 people responded to the van pooling survey conducted earlier this year. Van pools have formed in the Levittown, Burlington-Mount Holly and Bricktown areas, with several vans on the road Monday. Additional routes to various destinations are currently being planned.

Van passengers are picked up at a central staging area by the van driver, who takes the vehicle home

daily. All passengers are required to pay a monthly van pool fee, while the driver rides free. However, the driver must keep ridership and payment records on the van pool, maintain the van and bring it in for periodic maintenance and service checks.

Additional van pooling surveys will be conducted in the near future. For further information on the program, contact Len Thomas at Personnel, B-Site, ext. 2052.

The PPL Hotline is issued by the Princeton University Plasma Physics Laboratory, a research facility supported by the U.S. Department of Energy. Correspondence should be directed to PPL Communications Office, Aero Lab, James Forrestal Campus, ext. 2750.
