

The Joy of Discovery: Sagdeev Encourages Balancing Traditional and Modern Science

by Ellen Webster

Roald Sagdeev says that interaction between science and government can cause conflict, but there seems to be little or no antagonism when the combination is science and friendship.

Invited to be the first speaker in the Robert A. Ellis Jr. Memorial Lecture on Science and Society, Sagdeev, of the Institute of Space Science in Moscow and the University of Maryland, and long-time friend of Bob Ellis, spoke to a standing-room-only audience on Wednesday, May 30 in the MBG auditorium.

Sagdeev and Bob Ellis first met in 1958 at the Atoms for Peace Conference in Geneva. From that time until Dr. Ellis' death in December of 1989, the two remained friends.

Their families knew one another as well. Bob Ellis, III, a Mechanical Engineer in the Engineering Analysis Division, said that both families had children of roughly the same age and met in 1969 when the two scientists were working together at the Institute of Nuclear Physics in Novosibirsk in the Soviet Union.

In his lecture, "Is the Golden Age of Science Over?," Sagdeev proudly traced to Peter-the-Great the support his government has given science. He said, however, that that dependency — primarily visible in the influence governments in both the

Soviet Union and the United States have over budgets and management — concerns him. "The very notion that physicists are trying to impress the government with the scale of their machines is playing

distance that exists between these two groups. He further appealed to them to help instill in young people the idea that "science is beautiful . . . to be believed and accepted."

Sagdeev told a story about one Soviet scientist, a brilliant man with a bewildering idiosyncrasy: He insisted on conducting his own research, even though the procedures could easily have been delegated to assistants. When asked about this, the scientist responded, "If I would ask someone else [to do the work], they would steal the joy of discovery which I would like to keep for myself." That answer, according

to Sagdeev, was a lucid observation about the essence of science.

And those present at the lecture seemed to agree. It might also have been the backbone for a friendship that was formed some 30 years ago between two international scientists, Roald Sagdeev and Robert Ellis. ▲



Photo: John Peoples

The Ellis family with R. Sagdeev: Robert Ellis, III, Dr. Roald Sagdeev, Mrs. Victoria Ellis, Julia Ellis and Walter Ellis.

a very negative role in modern science," he said.

And continuing in this bigger-isn't-better theme he said, "We are losing our traditional values approach to scientific activity with over-sophistication . . . with super-machines on which we are more and more dependent." He emphasized the need to strike a balance between superscience and more basic, traditional science.

Sagdeev also cautioned those present to be aware of the gap that is widening between researchers and eager young scientists coming through university systems. He encouraged the audience to recognize their own ability to help reduce the

INSIDE!

Employee Picnic Photos!

The Do-It-Yourself Employee Picnic: Team Spirit Saved the Day

by Carol Phillips

It could have been a disaster. It could have been a gripe session. But, in fact, it was a successful picnic where everyone — employees, their families and guests, and children — pitched in and turned a potentially bad situation into a good time for all.

What greeted picnic goers as they arrived was far from what was anticipated. Very little was ready. No carnival-like midway with games for kids and adults, no Moonwalk, no sno cone, cotton candy, or soda booths. Only disarray — scattered piles of unopened bags, stacks of boxes, and unassembled game equipment. A disaster in the making.

Jerry Hart and Ed Gilseman, who had arrived at 7:00 a.m. to supervise setup ac-



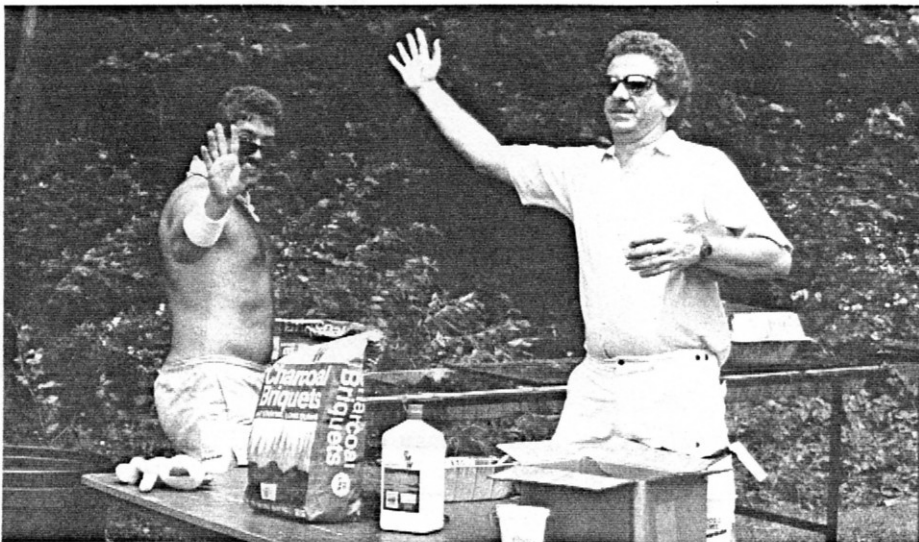
First you have to set it up . . . Employees pitch in to get the party rolling.

have to do it themselves — nothing new. He explained that volunteers were needed

first volunteers, but later teenagers and other children were helping too. Helpers at Ball Bingo — nine-year old Scott and seven-year old Becca Holcombe — were so conscientious their parents had to remind them to eat, and I had to keep urging them to try the games themselves.

PPPLers from all staffs and departments did the cooking — George and Dori Barnes, Paul Funk, Greg Tompkins, Sally Connell, Scott Larson, Tip Brolin, Paul LaMarche, Mike Williams, to name a few — and others serving — Charlene Onofri, Mel Gensamer, JoAnne and Mike Bianco, JoAnn and Peter Pallandino. Steve Iverson assumed the role of “go for,” making sure there was always plenty of food available

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photos — see following pages



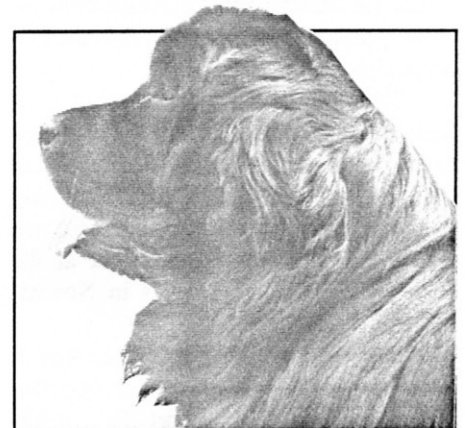
Ed Weisenberger and Jim Hirsch — taking a break from grilling?

tivities had found, much to their surprise, that they were the setup team and their only help was Ed's children. Sue Murphy and her team of teenagers arrived next. They quickly started organizing the game equipment and prizes. Initial setup of the games were in progress as the first picnic goers began to arrive.

Rick Cargill, a member of the PPPL Social Committee, explained to everyone that local teenagers who were scheduled to help set up and serve had not shown up. If there was to be a picnic, PPPLers would

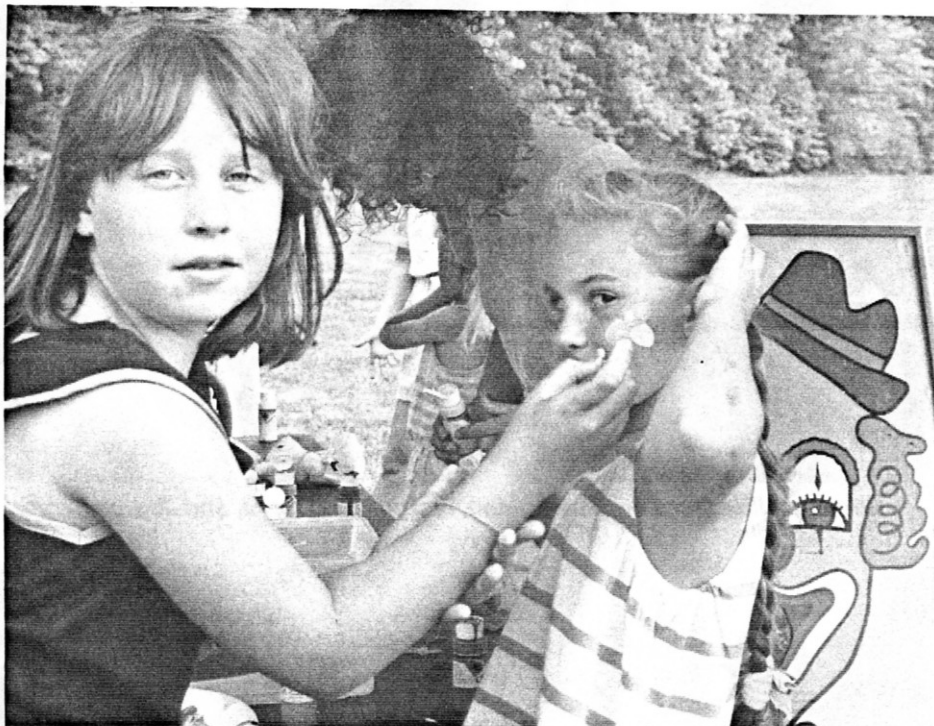
to set up games and run them. Cooks and servers were needed too. At first, the number of volunteers was small, but it grew steadily. I heard, “I’ll get my family settled and then I’ll be by to help. I’ll relieve you in a while, as soon as I get something to eat.”

Gradually, the games appeared, and as the volunteers got into the swing of being carnival barkers you heard shouts of “... and we have another winner here.” Soon the cotton candy, sno cone, and soda booths were operational. Adults were the



Moose came along with Molly and Greg Tompkins.

PPPL Employee Picnic Scrapbook



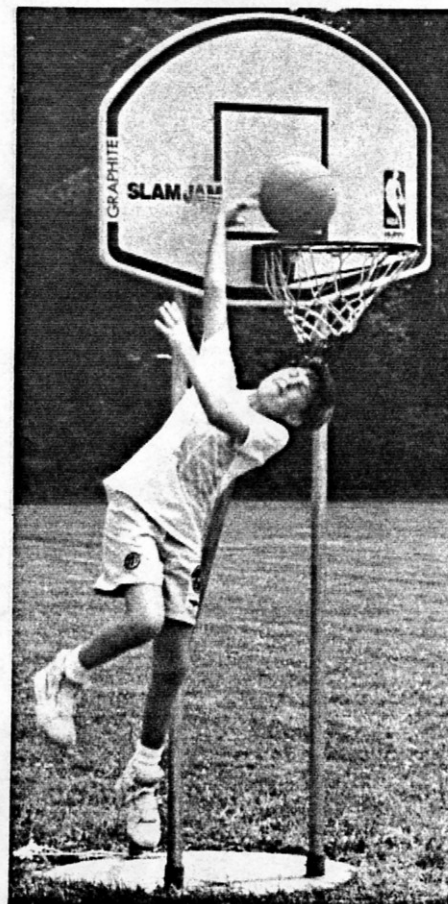
Heidi Fuchs, nine-year-old daughter of Rosemarie Fuchs, helps with face painting.



A party for all ages.



Hulbert Hsuan, Willie Lee, and Morrell Chance.



Slam dunk!

PPPL Employee Picnic Scrapbook



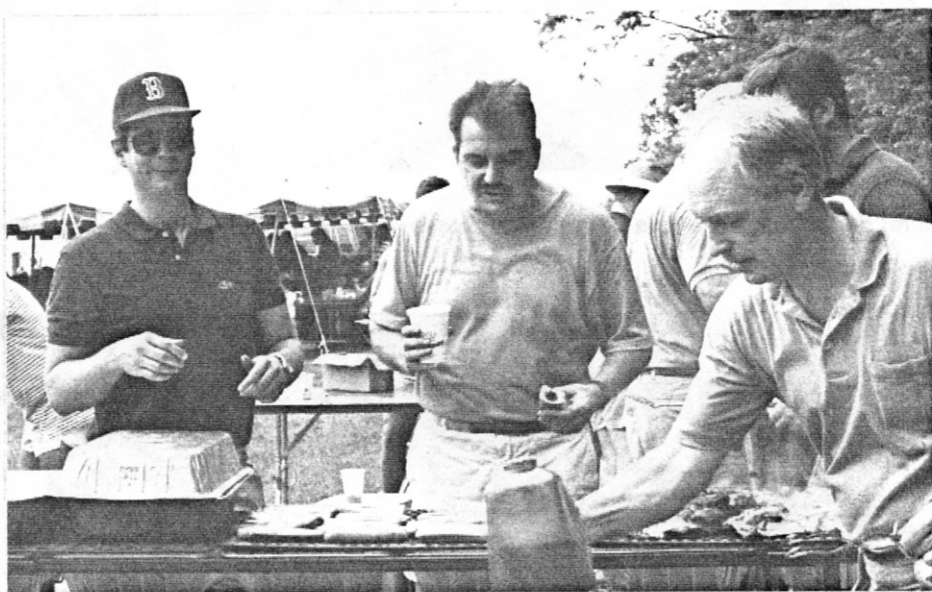
Cotton candy & painted faces.



Plenty of space to run . . .



Some familiar faces — Jose Aquino, Jerry (Rock) Boyd, and Jo Lumberger.



Paul LaMarche, Paul Funk, and PPPL Acting Director, Tip Brolin.



Lynn Shapiro, recent bride of Dick Yager, managing the children's games.

PPPL Employee Picnic Scrapbook



Smiles!



Janet Roberts and her son Michael.



Workers of all ages helped out.



Norton Bretz & Dori Barnes



Volunteering at the cotton candy machine.

PPPL Employee Picnic Scrapbook



Sue Williams, wife of Mike Williams, designing original faces.



Prizes!



And bigger prizes!



Talents were revealed. One-handed burger flips by Paul Funk, Pete Palladino and Jim Totaro.

continued from page 2

for cooking. Shoichi and Ellie Yoshikawa worked the soda booth for a while, Jerry Hart manned the Coors wagon, and Gary Kater and daughter Stephanie made delicious sno cones.

Sue Williams and Rosemarie Fuchs' nine-year old daughter, Heidi, used their artistic talents to paint faces. Balloons, unicorns, flamingos, flowers, butterflies, and Batman were among their specialties.

When it came time to clean up, people didn't slink away leaving it for others. They "policed" their areas, making sure things were in order before they left. "Everyone pitched in and helped. It was really wonderful. The teamwork, the spirit of cooperation, I've never seen anything like it," said Iverson.

Giggles and shouts of laughter from the Moonwalk, adults smiling and talking, kids turning cartwheels and chasing and racing. Of course there was dismay at the turn of events, but the recurring theme

A Special Thanks

Thank-you to all the behind-the-scene picnic workers. To: Ginny Zelenak, for designing this year's tickets; Teri Daynorowicz and Dan Klinger for printing tickets; Mary-Ann Brown, Rick Cargill, Sue Murphy, Jeanne Salerno and Jim Taylor for their expert salesmanship; Jack Thompson for obtaining the beer permit in record time; and Arlene White for handling all purchasing details.

— Bobbie Forcier
Personnel

heard was that the picnic was reminiscent of long ago, when PPPLers hosted and worked their picnics.

PPPL's 1990 picnic was not exactly as planned or anticipated, but it was a good day nevertheless — PPPLers again working together to make it happen. ▲

HOTLINE

Editor: Carol Phillips
Writer & Layout: Ellen Webster
Photography: John Peoples
Reproduction: Teri Daynorowicz
Dan Klinger

Our best ideas for **HOTLINE** come from you. If you have a story idea, call Carol Phillips at ext. 2754.

Correction

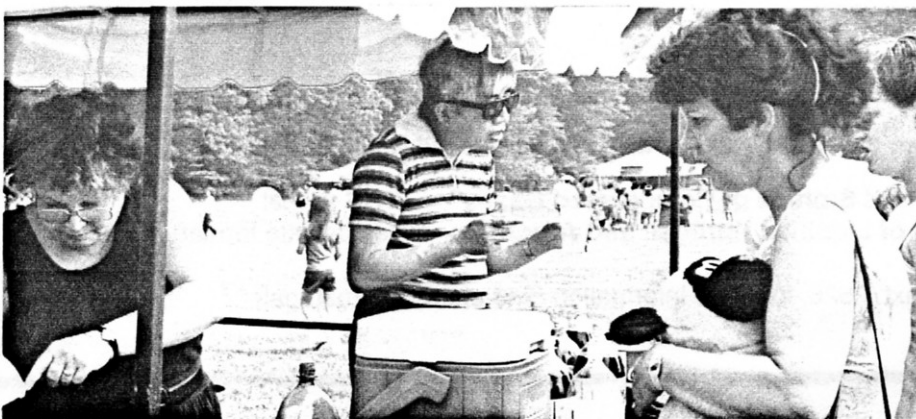
In the last issue of **HOTLINE**, Larry Sutton's name was mistakenly spelled Sutter.

Picnic Photos

Picnic photos were taken by Carol Phillips and Teri Daynorowicz.



Andrew Lawson, son of Dolores and Matt Lawson — just bouncing along.



The soda booth was competently manned by Dr. and Mrs. Yoshikawa.



For Sale

AIR CONDITIONER — Sleeve-type. 8,000 btu. Nearly new. Fits Fedders, Sears, and Whirlpool sleeves. Price is negotiable. Call Don Greene, ext. 3717.



Up higher dad, I can't see a thing!

Safety Courses

The Safety Office has scheduled the following safety training courses for June

| Course | Date/Time/Location |
|---------------|---------------------------|
|---------------|---------------------------|

| | |
|--------------------------------|--|
| Basic Electrical Safety | 14 June, 9:00 a.m. MBG Auditorium |
|--------------------------------|--|

This course reviews the effects of electricity on the human body, energy sources, conversion and modification equipment, energy storage devices, energy uses, conductors, protective procedures, wiring methods, devices and tools, and emergency procedures. It is required for all employees working in the electrical field.

| | |
|---------------------|--|
| CPR Training | 13 June, 8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. LOB Commons |
|---------------------|--|

The Center for Emergency Medical Training will conduct this class in the life-saving technique of Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation. Recertification is required every year.

| | |
|---------------------|--|
| Basic Safety | 19 June, 9:00-10:00 a.m. MBG Auditorium |
|---------------------|--|

This one-hour class is required every two years. This class includes information on general safety items as well as environmental and radiation information and the New Jersey Right-to-Know Law.

| | |
|---|--|
| Proper Use of Fire Extinguishers | 20 June, 9:00-10:00 a.m. Safety Office Conference Room D-Site |
|---|--|

Personnel will be instructed in the different types and uses of fire extinguishers and will receive guidance as to when to fight a fire and when not to, as well as hands-on experience in the use of extinguishers.

Employees must obtain permission from their immediate supervisor to attend these classes. Supervisors should call Sue Hill at ext. 2526 to enroll their employees.

The Safety Office has two new safety-related audiovisual aids available for check out.

"Safe Handling and Storage of Compressed Gases" — VHS format
"Safe Handling of Liquefied Nitrogen and Argon" — slide/cassette format

Call Sue Hill, ext. 2526, for more information or to check out materials.