

Hotline

The Princeton University Plasma Physics Laboratory is a United States Department of Energy Facility

“Hot” Times at PPPL Picnic

Considering the Lab’s high-temperature achievements during recent experiments, the weather for the PPPL Picnic on July 15 should have been no surprise. As one PPPL employee commented, “We’re into record temperatures here.”

While the temperature in the Princeton area soared to 101 degrees, nearly 350 employees, retirees, family members, and friends braved the heat and humidity to gather at the PPPL Grounds for a barbecue, music, conversation, water balloon tosses, egg throws, pony rides, dunking, and a few ad libbed activities.

So, how did everyone cool off?

“The big hit was the fire truck spraying everyone,” said PPPL’er Scott Linton, whose wife and three children accompanied him to the picnic.

Shortly after 1 p.m., Support Services Department Head John DeLooper requested Security and Emergency Preparedness workers to

bring a fire truck to the grounds and provide a water spray.

Once the truck was there, more effort was needed to bring clean water to the vehicle since the only hydrant on the grounds provided canal water.

“The crew stretched another hose from a potable hydrant on C-Site to feed the water to the truck,” said DeLooper. “Stretching the supply line from the hydrant was the toughest part of the job because the line had to be hand carried the entire distance in the extreme heat.”

Showering Fire Engine

But what a welcome the showering fire engine received from the picnickers. Within seconds, a crowd had gathered underneath. Security Captain Ron Ciralo, who, along with others, operated the fire truck hose, said, “We’re pumping out about 250 gallons of water.”

DeLooper noted that besides cooling off those at the PPPL bash, the fire department also had to respond to a fire alarm at D-Site. And after the picnic, the crew had to pick up the hose and restore it on the engine in order to be ready for an emergency.



Youngsters cool off in the wading pool.

Other cooling measures included the dunk tank, where potential dunkees lined up with hopes of multiple dunkings.

One participant commented to Office of Human Resources and Administration Head Steve Iverson, who was about to climb aboard the dunking seat, “You’ve got to go into the dunk tank. This is fun.”

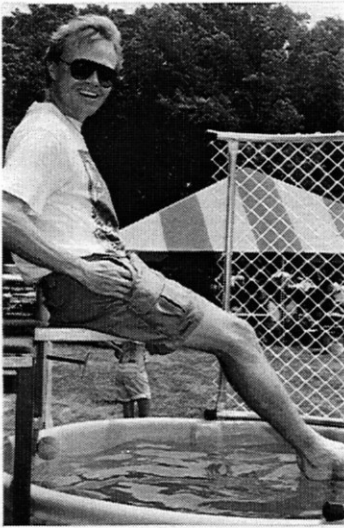
Many of the picnickers sought shelter under the tents, limiting their activities to a little conversation and dining.

“It’s wonderful,” said Mary Ann Brown, who sat with her husband, Martin, under the shade of a brightly colored tent.

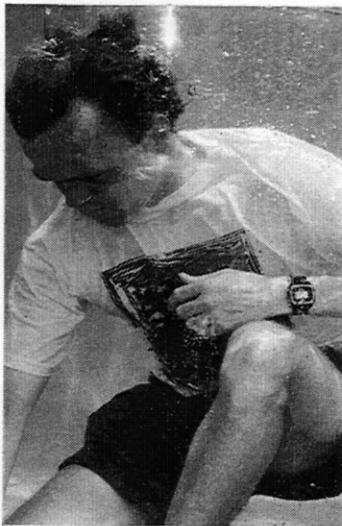


Picnickers get respite from the spray of a fire engine hose.

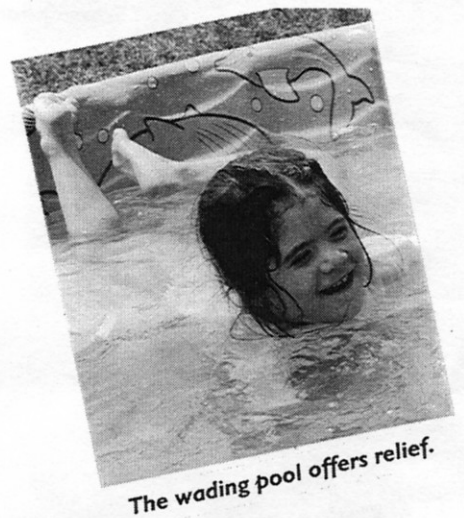
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Sally Connell serves corn under the shade of an umbrella.



Charlene Totaro enjoys an ear of corn.



The wading pool offers relief.



J.W. Anderson gets dunked.



Matthew Sheneman rides a pony.



Youngster throws "dunking" ball.



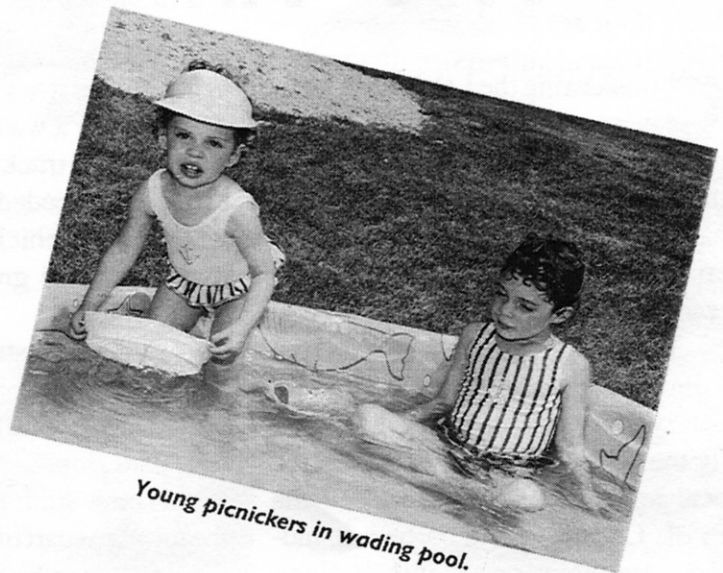
Picnickers take a dip in "pool."



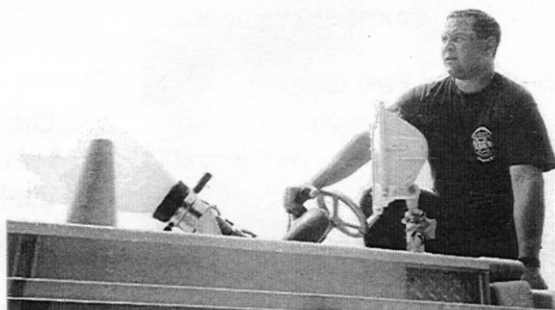
Fire engine gives showering relief.



Time to boogie on the dance floor.



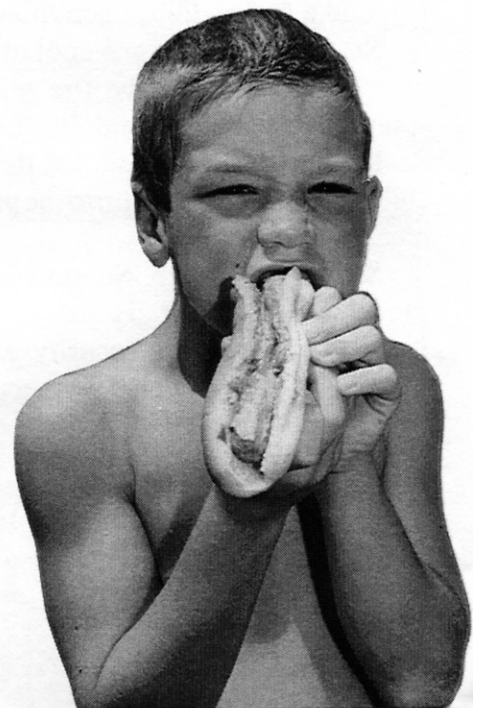
Young picnickers in wading pool.



Ron Ciraolo operates the water atop a fire engine.



Group lines up for water balloon toss.



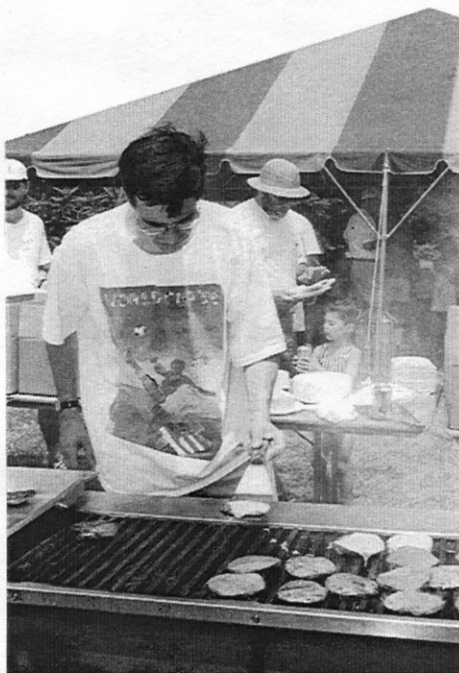
Hot dogs are a hit with one youngster.



John Schmidt hands out Sno-Kones.



Paul de Vastey gets ready to eat a hot dog.



Rush Holt at the grill.

Picnic

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Nearby was Zhurin Boris Leonidovich (the father-in-law of Leonid Zakharov), who is visiting from Moscow. While he spoke little English, he was able to convey his enjoyment through smiles.

Across from the tent, dedicated volunteers manned the grills in the hot sun or served refreshments from covered stands. Some took shelter from the sweltering heat under umbrellas and straw hats.

There were plenty of cooling, as well as entertaining activities for the wee ones, such as a wading pool and pony rides. The latter was a hit with 3-year-old Matthew Shenneman, who grinned atop a pony as he returned from a short excursion.

But the most popular attraction for youngsters — and eventually adults, too — was the intermittent waterfall from the fire engine. By wrap-up time, a host of adults had joined the children in taking respite under the “shower.”

Organizer Angelo Candelori said everyone enjoyed themselves despite the heat and humidity.

“Thanks to the efforts of all the hardworking volunteers, and particularly the Facilities and Environmental Management crew headed by Jerry Hart, it turned out to be one of the most successful and enjoyable picnics in a long time” he said. ●

HOTLINE

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