

HOTLINE

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

Staff Honored by Fellow Employees

2001 Employee Recognition Awards Given to Fifteen PPPL'ers

In honor of their “professional achievements and personal characteristics,” fifteen PPPL'ers received 2001 Employee Recognition Awards during a special ceremony on January 16. The recipients are Jim Benchoff, Jim Chrzanowski, Dave Cylinder, Manuel Fernandez, Elmer Fredd, Edward Gilsenan, Bob Horner, John Jenner, Margaret Lumia, Chris Minervini, Susan Murphy-LaMarche, Erik Perry, Phyllis Roney, Paul Sichta, and Marianne Tyrrell.

PPPL Director Rob Goldston presented the awards in the Lyman Spitzer Building Lobby. The ceremony was followed by a luncheon held in honor of the recipients in the overlook area to the NSTX Control Room.

Goldston said of the honorees, “These men and women make it a pleasure to travel together on the road to fusion energy.”

The Employee Recognition Program was established six years ago to recognize those PPPL employees who “significantly contributed to a productive and harmonious work environment.” Several employees are recognized each year. Those honored are selected from nominations submitted by other employees. All full-time staff at all levels are eligible for nomination.

The 2001 selection committee included Steve Kemp, John Luckie, Dick Majeski, Ceil O'Brien, Bob Parsells, and Patti Wieser.

Congratulations, honorees! ●



The recipients of the 2001 Employee Recognition Awards are above, along with PPPL Director Rob Goldston and PPPL Deputy Director Rich Hawryluk. From left are Bob Horner, Goldston, John Jenner, Paul Sichta, Marianne Tyrrell, Jim Chryzanowski, Elmer Fredd, Erik Perry, Phyllis Roney, Chris Minervini, Margaret Lumia, Susan Murphy-LaMarche, Dave Cylinder, Manuel Fernandez, Edward Gilsenan, Jim Benchoff, and Hawryluk.

Motorist Courtesy and Pedestrian Safety at PPPL

Please be courteous to your fellow employees and our visitors while driving on site. The maximum speed while entering PPPL's site and throughout the C-site and D-site areas is 15 miles per hour. Remember that people in the crosswalk have the right of way. You must stop when you see pedestrians approaching and crossing the roads. This is



especially important during the winter months, when roadways may be slick and visibility low. There have been complaints from employees about motorists ignoring the traffic signs and driving through the crosswalk at high speed when pedestrians are in the crosswalk. Thank you for your cooperation. ●

Hill Becomes Notary Public and Bryan Settles in as Laboratory's Telecommunications Manager



We're pleased to inform you that PPPL's Sue Hill (above) is now a notary public. Sue, along with Dolores Bergmann, is available to help employees who need documents notarized. Please contact Sue at ext. 2227 or Dolores at ext. 2200 to request this service. Please welcome Bill Bryan (right), PPPL's Telecommunications Manager, who came on board in 2001.



HOTLINE

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Science on Saturday Kicks Off in February

In February, PPPL's annual "Science on Saturday" program begins. Science on Saturday is a series of free lectures geared toward high school students, but open to everyone. In the past, attendees have ranged in age from 8 to 80. The talks are given by scientists and other professionals who are leaders in their fields. Started at PPPL as a grass-roots effort 18 years ago, Science on Saturday attracts about 300 each Saturday. This year's series, which includes six lectures, is organized by PPPL's Ronald Hatcher, Janardhan Manickam, and James Morgan. The lectures begin at 9:30 A.M. and usually last about two hours. There is no fee for the program. Registration is on-site prior to each session. Seating is on a first come, first-served basis. Below is the schedule for the 2002 series:

- February 2** **"The Problem of Longitude and the Beginnings of Classical Mechanics in the 17th Century"**
Professor Michael Mahoney, Department of History, Princeton University
- February 9** **"What Do Studies of the Solid Earth Tell Us about Life on Planets?"**
Professor Charles Langmuir, Arthur D. Storke Memorial Professor
Department of Earth and Environmental Sciences, Columbia University, New York
- February 16** **"Who Wants to be a Scientist? A Game about the Expansion of the Universe"**
Dr. Jean-Marc Perelmuter
Challenger Center for Space Science Education, Alexandria, Virginia
- February 23** **New Jersey Regional Science Bowl® — No Program**
- March 2** **"How the Brain Got Its Folds: Learning About Function by Looking at Structure"**
Dr. Samuel Wang
Department of Molecular Biology, Princeton University
- March 9** **"The Science of Radiowave and Microwave Probing of Ionospheric and Fusion Plasmas"**
Dr. Raffi Nazikian, Princeton Plasma Physics Laboratory
TOUR AFTER LECTURE
- March 16** **"Bioinformatics in the Post-genomic Era"**
Dr. Mona Singh, Department of Computer Sciences, Princeton University

Science Bowl Volunteers Needed

PPPL is celebrating its 10th year as host of the New Jersey Regional Competition of the National Science Bowl®, which will be held at PPPL on Saturday, February 23. In order to make this event a success we need volunteers — internally and externally. If you or someone you know is interested in serving as a judge, timekeeper, moderator, or scorekeeper, or could assist with logistics, please e-mail James Morgan at jmorgan@pppl.gov or call him at ext. 2116.

Let's Party!

On December 21, PPPL held its annual Holiday Party for staff, complete with food, entertainment, and decorations. The photo collages below and on page 5 depict highlights from the event.



At top left and right, staff fill their plates at the carving, seafood, pasta, and salad stations. At bottom left, a “Rob in the Box” creates a festive touch. In the middle, James Morgan stands beneath a larger-than-human-sized balloon candy cane. Morgan developed the “Candyland” theme for the bash. At bottom right (from left), James McFaddin, Verne Clift, Marie Robbins, and Robbins’ daughter, Kelila, enjoy the festivities.

A special thanks goes to the Holiday Party Committee — Susan Murphy-LaMarche, James Morgan, and Patti Wieser.

— Photos and picture collages by Elle Starkman —



At top left, David Gates (left) and Ray Camp participate in the skit, “A PPPL Christmas Carol,” a parody of Dickens’ “A Christmas Carol.” At top right, Gretchen Zimmer (left) portrays the “Rob of Holiday Present” and Camp plays “Ebenezer.” At bottom right, the Rhythm Kings, with PPPL physicist Ed Synakowski on trombone, provide Dixieland jazz. At right, the audience gets a laugh in the MGB Auditorium during the skit.

2001: The Year in Pictures



at Princeton University, died April 16; (4) PPPL held its Fourth America Recycles Day celebration on November 8. Margaret Kevin-King showed recyclable containers while discussing the Lab's progress in recycling; (5) The diamond-wire cutting of the Tokamak Fusion Test Reactor (TFTR) vacuum vessel began in late August. Shown is the set up for a diamond-wire cut, which is the most technically challenging part of the TFTR decommissioning. The commissioning is to be completed in September of 2002; (6) Sixteen high school students from the Trenton area came to PPPL in August to build solar-powered devices and shoot toy rockets through a newly instituted program called Plasma Academy. Participant Patrick Alvarado tested his solar-powered model car outside PPPL's Commons; (7) Motivational speaker Billy Robbins presented "Hooked on Safety," to staff during PPPL's "Achieving Excellence in Safety" program in the MBG Auditorium in October. Robbins (standing) is with PPPL's Sylvester Vinson, who is bound by tape in a wheelchair to illustrate the world of a quadriplegic; (8) In June, the Laboratory honored 21 inventors for Fiscal Year 2000 during the annual Patent Awareness Program Recognition Dinner at Princeton University's Prospect House. Those attending the dinner and receiving awards were, from left, Tobin Munsat, Gail Eaton, John Desandro, Martha Redi, Nathaniel Fisch, Richard Majeski, Samuel Cohen, Charles Gentile, John Schmidt, Gennady Shvets, Robert Woolley, and John Parker.

Highlights at PPPL from 2001 are noted in the picture collage above. Clockwise, beginning at top left: (1) The PPPL Scientific Speakers' Program kicked off in 2001. Researchers from the Lab delivered scientific talks at 11 sites, including colleges, universities, and research institutions. PPPL speakers are (from left) Raffi Nazikian, Janardhan Manickam, Ed Synakowski, Cynthia Phillips, John Schmidt, and Daren Stotler. Not pictured is Ned Sauthoff; (2) Operations continued at the National Spherical Torus Experiment (NSTX). During a maintenance period, an employee adjusted tiles inside the NSTX vacuum vessel; (3) Thomas Stix, a former Associate Director for Academic Affairs at PPPL and a former Director of the Program in Plasma Physics

Szathmary Leads Regiment in Revolutionary Re-enactments in Trenton and Princeton

Photos by Rob Sheneman



At left, Szathmary leads his 60-man company of Pennsylvania troops, including the 3rd Pennsylvania Light Infantry in front, through Trenton on December 29. Above, troops arrive in Mill Hill Park for the Battle of Trenton with Szathmary at far left. At left, a cannon is fired during the re-enactment in Trenton.

At the end of December, PPPL's Carl Szathmary found himself in the middle of 225-year-old battles, complete with cannons, black powder, and commands communicated through drums and raised voices. Szathmary led a 60-man company of the Pennsylvania Light Infantry in re-enactments of one of the Battles of Trenton and of a battle between British and American troops at Princeton Battlefield State Park.

Szathmary's company is part of the Historical Military Impression (HMI), a nonprofit educational organization with more than 100 members. HMI's goal is to portray the life and times of the American men and women who served in the Armed Forces from pre-Revolutionary times to the present. Szathmary is a member of the 3rd Pennsylvania Light Infantry, which is an 18th century Revolutionary War recreated re-enactment unit that is one of several comprising the HMI.

For the Trenton and Princeton re-enactments, Szathmary joined about 1,200 others who donned period clothing to participate. While portraying a captain, Szathmary was transported to the Revolutionary era. In Trenton, he erased all signs of modernity from his mind. The next day, as his company prepared to take on British forces at the Princeton Battlefield, there was virtually nothing from the present to block out. The soldiers assembled at Stony Brook and marched through cornfields

and woods — a ruralness similar to that of two centuries ago — to the rear of the battlefield. "We were the first to attack the British marching from Nassa Hall to the battlefield," recalled Szathmary. He said the Battle of Princeton, a colonial victory that took place on January 3, 1777, came alive for the re-enactment participants. "I felt like I had gone back 200 years in time," said Szathmary, a member of PPPL's Health Physics Group.

Szathmary, a history buff, joined HMI about 12 years ago and presently participates in a few activities each month. "I decided that instead of reading about it, I would do the re-enactments. You really get a feel for what the soldiers went through," he said. Participants keep things as authentic as possible, sleeping in tents, eating food characteristic of the period, using wooden bowls, two-prong forks, and pewter and tin cups, and wearing wool uniforms — even during the summer. Szathmary said he usually isn't bothered by weather conditions, noting adrenaline, excitement, and constant movement fended off the chill of December 29 and 30 during the re-enactments staged those days.

The anniversary of the American Revolution is being celebrated from 2000 to 2007. "I have a lot to look forward to for the next five years," Szathmary said. ●

For more information about HMI and historical re-enactments, go to the HMI web site, www.hmisite.com, or call Carl at ext. 2442.

A Time of Giving

During the holidays, the spirit of generosity filled PPPL employees as they joined together to benefit several charitable efforts, from the United Way and Womanspace to Homefront and the Trenton Area Soup Kitchen to Triad House. Below is a summary of some of those efforts.

DMAC Collection for Triad House

On December 20, PPPL's Andrea Moten and Joe Winston delivered a donation from the PPPL Director's Minority Advisory Committee (DMAC) to Triad House, a group home serving 12 to 18 year olds referred by the Division of Youth and Family Services. DMAC members purchased clothing, journals, stuffed animals, photo albums, disposable cameras, a CD player, and bath products that were requested on a Triad wish list. Triad is supported by LifeTies, Inc., which strives to provide quality community care and services to youth and families in crisis, that are abused, neglected, homeless, HIV infected or chemically dependent.



From left are Triad House Program Director Kim McNear, PPPL Director's Minority Advisory Committee Chair Andrea Moten, and Triad House staff member Christy Schweizer at Triad, where Moten and PPPL's Joe Winston dropped off a donation for the residence.

PPPL Womanspace Collection

In December, Mary Ann Brown delivered the Lab's collection of toys and clothing to Womanspace*. Womanspace Residential manager Peggy Weimer said, "Your donation of toys and clothing aids in our efforts to provide much needed, and often life saving services to battered women and their children.

**Womanspace, Inc. is a nonprofit agency providing an array of services to women in crisis in the Mercer County area.*



From left are PPPL's Sly Vinson, James McFaddin, and Dick Weisel, who helped with the collection and delivery of the food drive contributions to HomeFront and TASK.

PPPL Food Drive for HomeFront and TASK

PPPL'ers added a charitable component to the 2001 PPPL Holiday Party by hosting a Food Drive to benefit HomeFront* and the Trenton Area Soup Kitchen (TASK). More than a dozen bins of canned and boxed goods donated by staff, as well as a flat-bed full of canned food purchased by D-site staff, were divided and delivered to HomeFront and TASK before the holiday break. The donation to HomeFront was given in memory of Jim Sorenson, a machine tech at PPPL who died in late 2000. Sorenson had been very active with HomeFront.

**HomeFront supports the homeless families of Mercer County through nourishing meals, housing assistance, employment location services, tutorial programs, back-to-school clothing drives, and other services.*

PPPL 2001 Campaign for the United Way

Staff donated \$25, 293 to the annual PPPL United Way Campaign, with 30 percent of the Laboratory participating. Said PPPL Campaign Chairperson Mary Ann Brown, "The extraordinary generosity of the Laboratory staff to our United Way Campaign is greatly appreciated — thanks are extended to all employees who made our United Way Campaign such a success!"