Bob Wilson, Founding Director of FermiLab

Bob Wilson died on January 16 at the age of 85. Known as a physicist with a strong sense of art and nature, Wilson designed FermiLab for its striking architecture, and retained its open prairies. He is often remembered for a remark during a Congressional hearing in 1969. When asked by Senator John Pastore (RI) about the value of basic science in the national defense, Wilson replied, “It has nothing to do with defending our country, except to make it worth defending.”

www.fnal.gov/pub/wilson/wilson.html

TODTW? Or…

Take Our Children To Work Day,
or...Take Our Daughters/Sons To Work Day,
or...Take Our Daughters And No More Than 10% Of Sons To Work Day,
or...Take Our Daughters And Equitable Number of Boys to Work Day,
or...Change the day since allowing boys changes the concept,
or...Maybe we should not observe the concept at all!
Or… is being politically correct causing some problems here?
A recent email barrage was created when a call went out for volunteers to help the Human Resources Department with the planning of the above event, which is scheduled to occur on Thursday, April 27, 2000.

Meet Susan Hoerger

SLAC's new Manager of Employee Relations and Training will introduce herself, describe how Employee Relations & Training fits into the Human Resources Department, give an overview of the services her office provides, take questions, and solicit suggestions on how the Employee Relations & Training function can better help employees, supervisors, and managers support the mission of the laboratory. The meeting is open to all and takes place on Tuesday, January 25, 2000, from 12 Noon - 1:00 PM in the Panofsky Auditorium.

From Burl Skaggs

“The service number Ext. 8901 is up and running. As of today we have processed and dispatched 347 requests for service,” says Skaggs. But the new name for the merged Plant Engineering and Facilities is still a secret. “I will be contacting the people who submitted ideas and announcing their award in the next few days.” Regarding keys, send approved request cards to Faye at MS 22 a couple of days ahead to avoid some of the wait. Contact the service desk at Ext. 8901 for lock problems. “We’re aware of the inconvenience of the present arrangement and we’re working toward a more suitable system,” says Skaggs.

Superheating
A phenomenon called superheating can occur when a liquid is heated above its boiling point without sufficient starting (or "nucleation") points on which to begin boiling, according to Joe Kenny, one of our safety officers. When nucleation points such as instant coffee, sugar, a tea bag, a spoon, or a coffee stirrer are added to the superheated water, it boils suddenly. The rapid boiling can spray hot liquid well outside the container. “To protect yourself from burns, add tea bags (without staples) or instant coffee to the water before using the microwave,” says Kenny. “It helps eliminate superheating.” Paper cups may reduce the probability of superheating also, because they have rough surfaces.

**It's A Gryfyn Thing**

SLAC’s Superheated Book Club will discuss the Harry Potter book about the sorcerer's stone, and Kazugo Onaga will show her best kimono. (You can see the obvious relationship.) Slip away from the Burt Fest and meet in the Blue Room on Friday, January 21 at noon. Brooms and magic capes encouraged.

**Progress Report**

In the December Interaction Point, Director Jonathan Dorfan mentioned several projects of lab-wide interest. So far, a list of names is being generated for the Task Force on Communications; discussions have been held about how to handle space and office planning; and legal counsel is working out the nitty-gritty details about how to organize a Friends of SLAC non-profit group. There will be more news on each of these subjects as soon as details are worked out.

**FleaMarket**

You can post your classified ad using the SLAC FleaMarket Submission form. You can get to the current ads from the Announcements section on the SLAC Home Page. These pages can be viewed from computers within the SLAC domain.

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