

HOTLINE

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

Spreading the Word on Fusion

Photo by Elle Starkman



Community outreach takes many forms. At PPPL, staff connect with the public by, for example, guiding tours at the Laboratory; making presentations at professional, educational, and informal meetings; serving as judges at science fairs; giving science demonstra-

tions to school children, and participating in community exhibits and fairs. This issue highlights some of the ways PPPL'ers recently spread the message about fusion. Above, students try out the plasma ball during Pollution Prevention Awareness Day. ●

Students Flock to PPPL's Pollution Prevention Day

Poster Awards, Science Demos, and Take Our Children to Work Day Activities Draw Crowd

The day was a smash! On April 22, nearly 300 students, teachers, and children of PPPL staff came to the Lab for this year's Pollution Prevention Awareness activities and Take Our Children to Work Day.

The day featured poster contest displays and awards, science demonstrations, talks, and — for the offspring of staff here for Take Our Children to Work Day — hands-on experience in various areas of the Lab.

Said Pollution Prevention Awareness Day organizers Margaret King and Tom McGeachen, "The children's enthusiasm toward the scientific demonstrations and displays brightened up the Lab and made the event exciting and educational. The outreach endeavor on pollution prevention has become a tradition at PPPL that began three years ago and has grown every year. Our goal is to get our children interested in the future of the environment, clean energy sources, and reducing pollution."

The youngsters, many of whom had submitted entries to PPPL's Earth Day Poster Contest, were treated to a demonstration about electricity by Matt Kriebel of the Franklin Institute in Philadelphia and to a talk by PPPL's Erik Perry and Masayuki Ono about how the National Spherical Torus Experiment was constructed. In addition, winners of the poster contest received prizes donated by local merchants and institutions. Caitlin Movsch won first place in the poster contest, Todd Pagurek garnered second, and Bryan Cummings won third. Caitlin and Bryan are students at Orchard Hill Elementary School in Montgomery and Todd is a student at Corpus Christi School in Willingboro. The Lab's Environmental Restoration and Waste Management group sponsored the contest in which fourth, fifth, and sixth-graders from nine area schools submitted more than 700 entries.

The Director's Advisory Committee on Women (DACW) supported the day, offering goody bags to all of the youngsters and organizing afternoon sessions for about 30 children of staff who came for Take Our Children to Work Day. These sessions included water testing, photography and web design, computer aided design and



DACW Chairperson Molly Tompkins hands out "goody" bags to the young visitors during Take Our Children to Work Day at the Lab.

drafting, emergency services, and video conferencing. Staff children also participated in the Pollution Prevention activities in the morning. DACW Chairperson Molly Tompkins said, "It took a lot of planning and hard work on the part of the DACW, but we were rewarded many times over by the children's response to the programs and by the enthusiasm of the parents. The "career demonstrators" — Virginia Finley, Bob Lamb, Carol Phillips, Elle Starkman, Carl Scimeca, and Jerry Siegel — deserve credit for putting on such effective programs. They really made an impression on the children!" ●

Many thanks to the following supporters of Pollution Prevention Awareness Day: Barnes & Noble Booksellers, Borders Books and Music, Circle Line Cruise, COMP-USA, Dial Electronics, Express Navigation, FMC Corporation, the Liberty Science Center, Ripley's Believe It or Not Museum, Robert J. Novins Planetarium, Sam's Club, Wal-Mart, and PPPL's Director's Advisory Committee on Women, Director's Office, and Science Education Program.

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Clockwise from middle left, at Pollution Prevention Awareness Day, PPPL's Erik Perry discusses the construction of NSTX in the MBG Auditorium; first place poster contest winner Caitlin Movsch, a student at Orchard Hill Elementary School, poses with her winning entry; Matt Kriebel of the Franklin Institute demonstrates electricity to the youngsters; and students discover turbulence while blowing bubbles with the flowing bubble apparatus as PPPL's Diane Carroll (toward rear) watches. On April 17, PPPL participated in another Earth Day activity outside the Laboratory by operating a tabletop display at the Mercer County Improvement Authority Earth Day celebration at Quakerbridge Mall. Margaret King (left) discusses the Laboratory's pollution prevention activities with a visitor.

Photos by Elle Starkman



Photo by Carol Phillips

PPPL's booth at Communiiversity in Princeton on April 24 drew hundreds of people of all ages. Above, from left (behind the table), are Hutch Neilson, Steve and Annette Iverson, and Tony DeMeo. During PPPL's annual Blood Drive, Joe Winston, at right, donates blood. At bottom left, John DeLooper (left) discusses fusion with a visitor at the Fourth Annual Renewable Energy Exhibition in Washington, D.C., on April 21, which drew an estimated 3,000 people. At bottom right, Ray Camp (right) and Victor Garzotto present a cryogenics demonstration to students at Bear Tavern School in Hopewell on March 19.



Photo by Elie Starkman

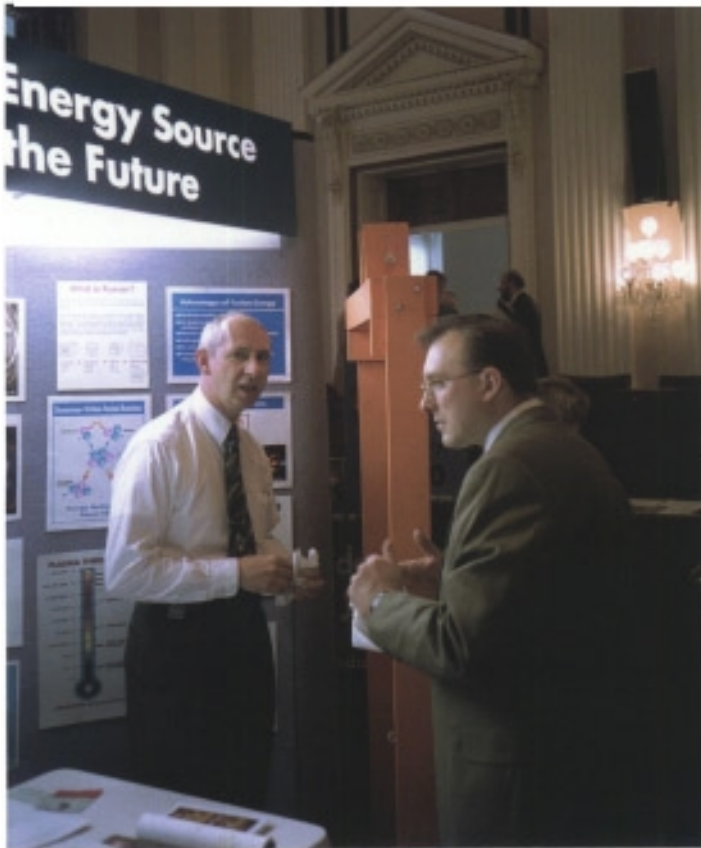


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