

Volume 45 Issue 3

Editor: Carl Czajkowski

COMPANIONS NIGHT Wednesday, December 10, 2003

WHERE..... Weeping Willow Restaurant, Farmingdale, NY

A Farrier - Horse Cobbler and Dentist

(or, All you ever wanted to know about horse shoeing but never dared to ask)

Dr. Angelika Drees

Collider-Accelerator Department, Brookhaven National Laboratory

Social hour ... 6:00 pm Dinner ... 7:00 pm Meeting ... 8:00 pm. Members ... \$22 Guests ... \$25 ASM 25 years ... \$20 Students ... \$12 (Note: new and recently transferred-in members free!)

Reservations - call John Coyle (631-589-6666, ext. 2619)

DIRECTIONS TO THE WEEPING WILLOW CAFÉ (via the LIE)

Take the Long Island Expressway to Exit 49 and go south on Route 110. About 2 miles south of the Expressway, turn left onto Smith Street - the intersection has a stoplight, there is a Hess gas station on the left side of the highway and an entrance to the SUNY Farmingdale campus on the right. The restaurant is at 25 Smith Street, on your left just past the gas station. Their phone number is (631) 293-0059.



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THE TOPIC

Few people can claim to have expertise in both physics and blacksmithing but our speaker has acquired both these skills. Fortunately for those of us who are physicsly-challenged, Dr. Drees will focus her talk on horse shoes and nails, not electron-positron collisions and dipole fields. Nor, for that matter, will she expound upon the microstructural changes that take place when iron cools in air while simultaneously being cold-worked into the shape of a horseshoe. On the contrary, our speaker will address the subject of why horses need shoes at all - after all, they were around for quite a while without ever needing them. After she has convinced you that it is better that they wear shoes, she will address how those shoes are made. Perhaps more importantly, she will discuss how they are attached to the horse while making it hold still. You can bet that most of them don't like it, particularly while it's being done. In the long run, though, most of them appreciate having new shoes once the 'procedure' is over. In addition to illustrating her talk with photographs, Dr. Drees will bring a set of shoes and some nails to pass around. Of course, if there is enough demand beforehand, she might bring a horse too.

OUR SPEAKER

Dr. Angelika Drees is a Physicist in the Collider-Accelerator Department at the Brookhaven National Laboratory (BNL). Her interest in science can be traced back at least to the time when, as a teenager growing up in Germany, she wanted to be an astronaut. Later, realizing the scarcity of openings for women astronauts, she decided to become a scientist who could accompany the astronauts. Although the Challenger disaster caused her to rethink this possibility, she was by then hooked on science and entered the University of Wuppertal (BUGH) intent on majoring in high-energy physics. She subsequently received her Masters degree in physics in 1992 and went to work at CERN, the European Organization for Nuclear Research. A PhD followed in 1997, after which she joined the Relativistic Heavy Ion Collider (RHIC) project at BNL. Currently, Dr. Drees works as a commissioner at RHIC, investigating ways of making the collider more efficient.

So how does blacksmithing fit into this curriculum vitae? It turns out that, at one point while Anjelika was attending college, she was a volunteer counselor in a community project at a horse farm to help disadvantaged children. While there, a blacksmith taught her the trade and she later went on to work in a smithy to support herself during the last four years in college. In other words, a little like her North American counterparts, she spent hours toiling over hot coals, except that, instead of flipping burgers, she was hammering out hot iron. She enjoyed it so much that she had a hard time deciding whether to be a blacksmith or a physicist.



CHANGES, CHANGES

. At a recent Executive Committee meeting, Henry White announced that, due to pressure of other commitments, he was reluctantly resigning from the post of Chapter Chair. Carl Czajkowski volunteered to serve for as Interim Chair for the remainder of the year, in order to ensure orderly continuation of the Chapter's planned activities. The offer was accepted by the Executive Committee. Carl will continue to supervise the Metallagram production and distribution. Henry will remain active in the Chapter, concentrating his energies on putting together a proposed Materials Camp to be held on Long Island, possibly in 2005, and on liaising with the Metro New York-New Jersey Chapter. Among other changes, Joe Kane was appointed to a vacancy on the Executive Committee and will assume the position of Awards Chairman. In this position, he will be responsible for identifying Chapter members who are considered potential candidates for nomination for Society awards and for coordinating the preparation of such nominations. Anyone with suggestions for potential candidates should contact Joe at (631) 265-3422.

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