In this issue:
President’s Message ................................................................. 2
Luncheon announcement for February 17 ............................... 3
From our November luncheon .................................................. 4
Editor’s note ........................................................................... 7
Letter from Chu and Rosenberg on tsunami relief ..................... 7
BRC membership extended .................................................... 8
Luncheon changes .................................................................. 9
Roger Dwinell ....................................................................... 9
Trip Report: A less-than-perfect trip ....................................... 9
Net corn ............................................................................... 10
Annual dues time ................................................................. 12
Access points ....................................................................... 12
In Memoriam ....................................................................... 13
New Members ..................................................................... 13
Luncheon Reservation Slip .................................................. 13

Luncheon Reservations to Bud Larsh
Please send your luncheon reservations to Bud Larsh at
610 Devonwood, Hercules CA 94547.

>>>> Note that the price is now $20 per person <<<

The EX-Ls Board of Directors and members gratefully acknowledge the
Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory Administration
for their continuing support.
PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE
Gene Binnall

It is with a heavy heart that I take on the job of EX-Ls President with its awesome responsibilities, and all that jazz. I was hoping for a few new clichés from the recent Presidential inauguration (U.S., that is) for this first message. We are going to have a good time this year; at least it looks that way at this point in our space-time continuum.

There is only one new face on the EX-Ls Board so far this year, but several job changes. We welcome Janis Dairiki as the new 2nd Vice President. One of her jobs is to find a nominee for next year’s 2nd VP position. Recommendations are appreciated. John Kadyk has moved on to 1st Vice President and has already put together a list of very interesting topics and speakers for our luncheon programs. And I, as President, have a new gavel.

We are grateful that Eleanor Dahl, our Secretary, and Bud Larsh, our Treasurer, will continue in their Board offices. They do an excellent job and their experience is invaluable. Others who fall in this same category are Dave Stevens who is editor of our Ex-Press newsletter, Dick Baker who is our EX-Ls Webmaster, and the Past Presidents who faithfully attend our Board meetings and serve as our various representatives - Sig Rogers, Bob Fulton, Bob Birge, Per Dahl, Tom Beales, and Ken Mirk. We are still looking for an Activities Chairperson to replace Inge Henle who did a great job for many years. Any volunteers? At this time, Bud Larsh and Tom Beales are covering that job. Bob Birge is our representative for the UC Retirement Center, while Tom Beales and Bob Fulton represent EX-Ls on the Council of UC Retirees Association (CUCRA) that meets twice a year.

We are particularly grateful for the support that we continue to receive from the LBNL Director’s Office. Reid Edwards, LBNL Public Affairs, and Terry Powell, Community Relations, work closely with our group. Terry is especially helpful in working with our 1st VPs to find and select speakers for our luncheons, and she is an important part of our Board meetings.

We have a change in speakers for the February 17th luncheon. Lab Director Steve Chu has been called to a command performance of Lab Directors at the Office of the UC President. We hope that he will be able to be with us at our August luncheon. For February, John Kadyk and Terry Powell have arranged for Carl Haber to speak about his work in resurrecting the audio from very old recordings. Can he recover Thomas Edison’s actual voice from old, frail historical cylindrical recordings? Come to the luncheon and find out.

(Gene’s message is continued on page 4.)
2005 Winter Lunch

Date: Thursday, February 17, 2005

Where: Spenger’s Fresh Fish Grotto
1919 Fourth St.
Berkeley

Time: No-host Bar: 11:30 AM
Lunch Served: 12:00 Noon

Speaker: Carl Haber

Subject: Restoring old audio recordings

Menu: Bay Shrimp Louie Salad (with cup of chowder)
Salmon (with dinner salad)
Flatiron Steak w/ mushroom demi-glaze (with dinner salad)

Cost: $20 per person (PREPAID)  Note new price

Reservations: Please make checks payable to EX-Ls. Send to
Bud Larsh
610 Devonwood
Hercules, CA 94547

Spenger’s management policy makes it absolutely imperative
that they receive reservations by February 13, 2004

(Reservation slip on last page)
President’s Message (cont.)

I also want to remind you of the EX-Ls web site, kept up-to-date thanks to Dick Baker’s efforts. You can go directly to http://www.lbl.gov/ex-l-express/; or from the LBNL home page at http://www.lbl.gov/, open the A-Z index and search either under E for EX-L Ex-Press Newsletter, or under R for Retirement Group – Ex-Ls. You will find a lot of good information there, even forms for membership and luncheons.

One more reminder: As an LBNL retiree, you are eligible for a no-cost membership with the UC Retirement Center. A number of excellent UC benefits are available through this membership. Join on campus at 2 Boalt Hall #7200, or for more information, call their staff at (510) 642-5461.

Maybe there were two more reminders. All EX-L Past Presidents are official voting members of the Board and have an open invitation to attend the meetings. Actually, any EX-L member may attend. We meet at 3:45 PM on the second Thursday of January, April, July, and October in the beautiful LBNL cafeteria. Come early and enjoy our No Host Coffee Bar. If you are not a regular attendee and need Laboratory entry access, please contact Terry Powell at (510) 486-4387.

From our November lunch

Reported by Gene Binnall, incoming EX-Ls President: We had two speakers at our November luncheon: Kris Neely, the Manager of the Energy Employees Compensation Resource Center in Livermore, and Iain Walker of EETD.

Ms Neely gave a summary of benefits under the EEOICPA (Energy Employees Occupational Illness Compensation Program Act) that are available to employees of DOE facilities who have become sick as a result of work-related toxic exposure. Established by Congress, the program is administered jointly by the Departments of Energy (DOE) and Labor (DOL).

There are actually two programs under the EEOICPA. The first provides compensation for certain illnesses caused by exposure to radiation, beryllium, or silica. DOE workers (including contractors and subcontractors) involved in nuclear weapons production and testing programs are covered. Workers (or their survivors) are eligible to receive a lump sum payment of $150,000 and payment of certain medical expenses from the date of the claim. The second program provides benefits to DOE workers for illness related to any toxic exposure in the work environment (e.g., asbestos, mercury, lead, solvents, etc.). Benefits include medical benefits for conditions resulting from the exposure as well as lump sum payments. There have been numerous recent changes to this part of the program, which is still in a state of transition. Contact the Resource Center for the latest information. It is important to keep in mind that a person can apply for compensation under both programs. Filing for one does not preclude you from the other. The Department of Labor is tasked with the detailed administration of both the DOE and DOL programs. Kris is the manager for the Resource Center covering all of the State of California (which still includes Berkeley at this writing)
If you have questions, or would like more details, please contact Kris Neely, or a member of her friendly staff at

Energy Employees Compensation Resource Center
2600 Kitty Hawk Road
Suite 101
Livermore, CA 94551

Phone: (925) 606-6302, or toll free 1-866-606-6302
E-mail: california.center@eh.doe.gov

More information is also available at the following web sites:

www.usdoj.gov/civil/torts/const/reca/eeoicpa.htm
www.dol.gov/esa/regs/compliance/owcp/eeoicpa/PartE/EEOICPAAMENDMENTS-Summary.htm

Our featured speaker in November was Iain Walker, a Staff Scientist in the Environmental Energy Technologies Division (EETD) at LBNL. His topic: “A Sticky Situation: Everything You Want to Know about Duct Tape”. Iain has worked at LBNL for the past ten years, and also works as the Executive Editor of Home Energy magazine. He has a Ph.D. in mechanical engineering from the University of Alberta, Canada, and has been involved in building science research for almost 20 years. His work focuses on ventilation, indoor air quality, and energy use in residential buildings.

To quote from a 1998 LBNL press release by Paul Preuss, “You can keep your trouser cuff out of your bicycle chain with duct tape; if you need a money belt, you can use it to strap your money to your tummy. Some people claim they can cure warts with it. Unfortunately, one of the things you can’t do with duct tape is seal ducts….During World War II, before it was called duct tape, the U.S. military bought quantities of the cloth-backed, rubber-adhesive tape for making emergency repairs on the battlefield. In the movie business it’s called ‘gaffer’s tape’, used for everything from bundling cables to holding sets together.” Duct tape’s WWII predecessor was not designed for permanent installation, but during the housing boom following the War, this strong, flexible, and sticky tape provided such a quick and easy solution for duct assembly that it was universally employed, and thus “duct tape” was born.

We have enough ducts in California alone to go around the world 20 times. You can multiply this by 10 to get the total for the United States. This is a big business, and requires a lot of duct tape to seal the many small duct sections - in fact, duct tape is stuck on something at a rate of about one-and-a-half miles per hour, 24 hours-a-day, 7 days-a-week. Over the last 10 to 15 years folks at LBNL and other research institutions have studied the reliability of this conventional “duct tape” as a duct sealant, and have discovered that in a typical duct environment its time to failure is very short, with the result that about one-sixth of duct air leaks out through poorly
sealed joints. The U.S. combined energy loss from the resulting loss in heating and cooling efficiency is tremendous. Iain points out that there are several solutions to the duct sealing problem, but use of the good-old conventional duct tape with rubber based adhesive is not one of them. There are UL approved tapes that are much better. Some come in a choice of color, some are metal foil with a special acrylic based adhesive, some are clear with a good acrylic based adhesive, and some metal tapes have a super-stick butyl adhesive that is very hard to use, but will stick forever. All are more expensive. There are also mastic sealants that are painted on, and an excellent injected aerosol sealant that was actually developed at LBNL.

Iain went on to discuss the extensive duct sealant-testing program that he and Max Sherman have been involved with at LBNL. They have shown that the rate of failure increases with temperature and furthermore, that cloth-backed, rubber-adhesive, conventional “duct tape” was the only tape that consistently failed as a duct sealant. In other words, this tape can be used to patch the upholstery in a pickup truck, but not to seal ducts. Max Sherman put it well in his copyrighted poem that can be accessed along with other information at the following Internet sites.

A Poem by Max Sherman - in Dr. Seuss style:


http://www.lbl.gov/Science-Articles/Archive/duct-tape-HVAC.html

Aerosol-Based Duct Sealing Technology:

http://www.lbl.gov/Tech-Transfer/success_stories/practical_application/duct_sealing.html

As a Side Note: Door prizes in November were claimed by John Kadyk, Kris Neely, and Ellie Ralph.

Luncheon Attendees:
Maxine Adams          Per & Eleanor Dahl &
Gerald Adamson       guest Iola James
Al Amon               Janis & Ned Dairiki
John Anderson         Dick Diamond
Shirley Ashley        Sibyl Donn
Bill Baker            Andy DuBois
Dick Baker            Reid Edwards
Winnie Baker          Warren & Averil Faust
Tom & Marcia Beales  Jack & Darlene Franck
Bill Benson           Bob Fulton
Gene & Myrna Binnall  Frank Garnier
Dick Burleigh         Bill Gilbert
Janice & John Button-Shafer  Abe & Marjorie Glicksman
Winifred Corniea      Jim Haley
                          Inge Henle
                          Egon Hoyer
                          Roger Hughes
                          Nylan Jeung
                          John & Ann Kadyk
                          Robert & Barbara Kaufmann
                          Bud Larsh
                          John & Barbara Lax
                          Ed Lofgren
                          Ken Lou
                          Dick Mack
                          Bob Miller
                          Ken Mirk
                          Bob Mortiboy
                          Fred Perry
                          Terry Powell
Editor’s Note

Sorry about the late delivery last issue. In an effort to avoid similar problems in the future, we have changed the address page to emphasize the First Class nature of the Ex-Press and to alert the post office that it is Time Critical material. This issue contains your annual dues reminder. We have added a space to include your e-mail address. If you do not want your e-mail address included in the next issue of the directory, please check the appropriate space. We are still searching for an Activities Chairman. If you are interested in this opportunity to serve your fellow retirees, please contact the Board Member of your choice. And as always, articles or ideas for articles are welcome; the deadline for each issue is ten days after the preceding Board meeting (a full year’s schedule is listed on the back page). You can contact me at stevens@LMI.net or david_stevens@comcast.net, at 1107 Amador Ave, Berkeley 94707, or 510-524-2904.

dfs

Letter from Steve Chu and Art Rosenberg on tsunami relief

Many of you may recall that Dr. Ashok Gadgil spoke to the Ex-Ls a few lunches ago, where he described his ultraviolet water purification system. Such a system could be of immeasurable benefit to communities left without potable water by the tsunami. Lab Director Stephen Chu and Art Rosenberg, one of the founders of the Energy and Environment Division (now EETD) and now a member of the California Energy Commission, have sent the following letter to members of the greater Berkeley community:

The Indian Ocean tsunami’s death toll is now more than 160,000. At least 500,000 are seriously injured, and 5 million are homeless and lacking, among many other things, sanitation and safe drinking water. Many of you have expressed a desire to help, so we would like to suggest a unique opportunity that builds on efficient ultraviolet water purification technology developed here at Berkeley.

Berkeley Lab scientist Dr. Ashok Gadgil is the inventor of “UV Waterworks,” a device that can purify drinking water for a refugee camp or a village of 2,000 for about one cent per person per week. Its core is a 40-Watt germicidal lamp suspended above a steel channel of flowing water. The UV light disables viruses and bacteria. For emergency relief use, WaterHealth International (http://www.waterhealth.com/), the company manufacturing the technology, has enhanced this core with raw and clean water tanks, pumps, filters, and electronic controllers.
WHI will ship these devices on a cost recovery basis, for about $10,000 per unit, forgoing their normal profit on the product. This cost includes shipping, installing the device, commissioning it, training the local community to use it, and providing spare parts and maintenance for five years. These units are easy to transport. They can be moved from refugee camps to permanent sites for water systems as community reconstruction progresses.

Through a cooperative effort between WHI and several organizations, including the International Finance Corporation (IFC), philanthropic entities and Global Giving, there exists the ability to leverage a $1 tax-deductible contribution to achieve $4 of direct relief in Sri Lanka and India. (See http://globalgiving.com/871 for Sri Lanka, and http://globalgiving.com/872 for India).

If you are considering making a donation to help the victims of the tsunami, please consider this generous matching contribution to provide disinfected drinking water and a long-term infrastructure to keep that water clean and safe. Your donation will not only help the survivors stay alive, it will provide them with a sustainable supply of safe drinking water for the long term, as they rebuild their lives and communities.

Sincerely,

[signed] Steve Chu // Art Rosenberg


PS [Added in proof]: The 4:1 match comes from a 2:1 match by GlobalGiving.com (GG) multiplied by another 2:1 match by IFC. But GG has exhausted its matching fund, and is approaching corporate donors to replenish it. So temporarily the total match could be down to 2:1. A tax-deductible gift of $10 would still provide safe water for at least 4 people, and soon we hope it will be back to 8. Please contribute promptly.

Berkeley Retirement Center Renewal

The Laboratory has renewed its arrangement with the Berkeley Retirement Center, through June of 2006. Remember that you need a membership card to gain access to the programs and benefits offered by the Center. Cards may be obtained in person, or via telephone or mail to Berkeley Retirement Center, 2 Boalt Hall #7200, Berkeley CA 94720-7200, 510-642-5461, ucbrce@berkeley.edu. For an overview of the Center and its offerings, check their website: http://thecenter.berkeley.edu.
Luncheon Changes

Inflation has hit our quarterly luncheons. Spenger’s has raised its prices to the extent that the Ex-Ls treasury cannot absorb the increase. Therefore, effective in February, the luncheon cost will be **$20 per person**. Tom Beales checked out several other restaurants in the area, and even with this increase, Spenger’s remains the biggest luncheon bargain around.

Also note that the address to which reservations should be sent has changed. It is now

**Bud Larsh**

**610 Devonwood**

**Hercules, CA 94547**

**Roger Dwinell**

Mike Fahmie forwarded the following note to Bud Larsh:

Dearest ‘Roger-Friends’,

Roger passed away late Saturday afternoon after recognizing and greeting his mom who came up from Morgan Hill and brother Ken who had flown down from Oregon as well as the rest of the family. He waited until they were here to say good-by. We, his whole family, surrounded him as he drifted off and at that very moment a great blue heron flew by our front window less than 15 feet from the porch. An unexpected but beautiful farewell.

I want you all to know that it gave him so much pleasure to see photos of you, your families, old events, and read the caring appreciation for all that he was and did at the lab. It is no small thing to be loved and respected by coworkers and associates. That outpouring, thanks to the hard work of Gudrun and Jim, has given me and our family much solace as well….

Again thanks from me and all the family for all your love and support.

Carole Dwinell.

**Trip Report**

**A Less-than-perfect Trip**

**Dave Stevens**

People often write about their perfect trips, so I thought it might be an interesting change to hear about one that wasn’t perfect, and what I learned from it. In outline, it was a small-ship cruise around Baja California, from San Diego on the Pacific to Loreto, about halfway up the peninsula on the Gulf of California side. It sounded like a wonderful trip, and in some ways it was…but it wasn’t perfect. There were several problems, of varying seriousness:
– Severe groundswell for the first 36 hours put many passengers and crew on the virtual sicklist until we anchored after a full day and two nights at sea.
– Leaders were unfamiliar with some of the islands to be explored, and were provided with inadequate maps.
– Several whole and half days were spent steaming “in search of marine life”, with exceedingly sparse results. In a 10-day trip, only four sightings of individual whales, three groups of dolphins, and a half-dozen isolated sea turtles.
– High winds rendered some preferred anchorages unavailable, and hunting for suitable substitutes ate into on-shore time, and required some substitution of on-shore activities.

The problems were balanced by some extent by some good experiences:
+ The first 36 hours aside, the weather was wonderful. For those of us who got up before the sun (not very difficult to do in December), air pollution provided some lovely pastel dawn skies.
+ The crew was invariably cheerful and helpful.
+ We saw the green flash on several occasions (once actually deepening to an intense blue), clearly enough that several of those who doubted its reality were convinced.
+ Some good kayaking, birding, snorkeling, and walking.
+ A nice view of some spectacular meteors at the beginning of the Geminid shower. (The Geminids are not as prolific as the Leonids or Perseids, but—perhaps due to the lack of ambient light—there were several that left trails of stardust across half the sky.)

So why did the trip leave me less than satisfied? The answer, as you might suspect, was a problem not mentioned above: my attitude. The trip did not meet the expectations I placed upon it, so I concentrated overmuch on what I was not seeing instead of what I was. Mother Nature did not write the advertising copy that led to my unrealistic expectations, and She does not owe me a “perfect” trip, but She provided plenty to compensate for what I perceived as a lack, had I only had the wit and flexibility to appreciate it at the time.

**Bar talk and other goodies from the Internet**

Two hydrogen atoms walk into a bar. One says, "I've lost my electron." The other says, "Are you sure?" The first replies, "Yes, I'm positive."

A jumper cable walks into a bar. The bartender says, "I'll serve you, but you'd better not start anything."

Two peanuts walk into a bar, and one was a salted.

A sandwich walks into a bar. The bartender says, "Sorry we don't serve food in here."

A dyslexic man walks into a bra.…

Two termites walk into a bar. One asks, "Is the bar tender here?"

A man walks into a bar with a slab of asphalt under his arm, has a couple of drinks, and as he's about to leave he says "Gimme one for the road."
Two cows standing next to each other in a field, Daisy says to Dolly, "I was artificially inseminated this morning." "I don't believe you," said Dolly. "It's true," exclaimed Daisy, "No bull!"

An invisible man married an invisible woman. The kids were nothing much to look at either.

A man takes his Rottweiler to the vet and says, "My dog's cross-eyed; is there anything you can do for him?" "Well," says the vet, "let's have a look at him." So he picks the dog up and examines his eyes, then checks his teeth. Finally, he says, "I'm going to have to put him down." "What? Because he's cross-eyed?" "No, because he's really heavy."

I went to buy some camouflage trousers the other day but I couldn't find any.

I went to the butcher's the other day and I bet him 50 bucks that he couldn't reach the meat on the top shelf. He said, "No bet. The steaks are too high."

I went to a seafood disco last week... and pulled a mussel.

Jesse Jackson, Jim Bakker and Jimmy Swaggert have written an impressive new book. It's called "Ministers Do More Than Lay People."

A transvestite a guy who likes to eat, drink, and be Mary.

The only time the world beats a path to your door is if you're in the bathroom.

I hate sex in the movies. Tried it once. The seat folded up, the drink spilled and that ice, well, it really chilled the mood.

It used to be only death and taxes were inevitable. Now, of course, there's shipping and handling, too.

My next house will have no kitchen: just vending machines and a large trash can.

A blonde said, "I was worried that my mechanic might try to rip me off. I was relieved when he told me all I needed was turn signal fluid."

My doctor refused to write me a prescription for Viagra. He said it would be like putting a new flagpole on a condemned building.

My neighbor was bitten by a stray rabid dog. I went to see how he was and found him writing frantically on a piece of paper. I told him rabies could be cured and he didn't have to worry about a will. He said "Will? What will? I'm making a list of the people I want to bite!"

As we slide down the banister of life, may the splinters never point the wrong way.

I signed up for an exercise class and was told to wear loose-fitting clothing. If I HAD any loose-fitting clothing, I wouldn't have signed up in the first place!

The worst thing about accidents in the kitchen is eating them.

Stress is when you wake up screaming and then you realize you haven't fallen asleep yet.

My wife says I never listen to her. At least I think that's what she said.
Annual Dues Time

Once again it's time for annual dues: $12 per year. If you have not already done so, please renew by sending the form below to Bud Larsh, 610 Devonwood, Hercules, CA 94547 together with your check for $12 made out to Ex-Ls. All fields except name and address are optional. Thanks.

Name: __________________________________________
Spouse: __________________________________________
Address: __________________________________________
Phone: ____________________ FAX: ____________________
E-mail: __________________________________________
___: Please withhold my e-mail address from the directory.

Your e-mail address will be included in the directory unless you indicate otherwise.

Access Points

Ex-Ls website: www.lbl.gov/ex-l-express/ or LBNL A-Z directory through either E (for Ex-L Ex-Press) or R (for Retirement Group).
Webmaster: Dick Baker, 510-620-0448, robaker@lbl.gov.
Berkeley Retirement Center: 2 Boalt Hall, Berkeley CA 94720-7200, 510-642-5461, ucbrc@berkeley.edu; website: http://thecenter.berkeley.edu.
LBNL Health Services ombudsperson: Loida Bartolome-Mingao, LBNL, MS 937-0600, Berkeley CA 94720; 510-486-697.
Energy Employees Compensation Resource Center: 2600 Kitty Hawk Road, Suite 101, Livermore, CA 94551, 925-606-6302, or toll free 1-866-606-6302, california.center@eh.doe.gov
Ex-Ls president: Gene Binnall, 510-234-8135, epbinnall@lbl.gov.
Ex-Press (newsletter) matters: Dave Stevens, 1107 Amador Ave, Berkeley CA 94707, 510-524-2904, stevens@LMI.net or david_stevens@comcast.net.
In Memoriam
Vaughn Birmingham    Dick Dicely
Roger Dwinell        Patrician Freeman
Marian Golden        Bob Hinckley
William Holley        Vlad Hubal
Bob Meuser

WELCOME
NEW MEMBERS
Rich Arri
Jon Zbasnik

Renewal Time: Dues due

For those of you who have not yet done so, it’s time to do so now. Please send your $12.00 renewal dues for Year 2005 to Bud Larsh, at the address below.

Membership in EX-Ls is open to all past employees of LBL/LBNL. Annual dues are $12 per family, prorated over the year for new members, and are now due for 2004. New members, please include your name, address, and phone number. (See the form on p12.) Also, please include any other information you would like included in the annual membership directory, such as spouse’s name, e-mail address, or fax number. Please send your check payable to EX-Ls to

Bud Larsh, Treasurer
610 Devonwood
Hercules, CA 94547

SEE YOU AT THE FEBRUARY 17 LUNCHEON

To:    Bud
       610 Devonwood
       Hercules, CA 94547

From: ______________________________________

I plan to attend the EX-Ls luncheon    >> $20pp <<              PREPAID

I will bring ___ guest(s). Name(s) of guest(s): ________________________________

Menu Choice(s):    Beef __     Salmon __     Salad __

Please make check payable to EX-Ls                             Total Enclosed: ______
EX-Ls EXPRESS – Winter 2005
Published Quarterly at the end of January, April, July, and October
Editor: Dave Stevens  Deadline for newsletter submittals is 10 days after the preceding Board meeting.

EX-Ls BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Bob Birge: Ken Mirk
Igor Blake: Conway Peterson
Howard Browne: Sig Rogers
Virginia Cherniak: Clay Sealy
Per Dahl

Calendar of Board Meetings & Luncheons
L: February 17, 2005
B: April 14, 2005  L: May 19, 2005
B: July 14, 2005  L: August 18, 2005
B: October 13, 2005  L: November 17, 2005
B: January 12, 2006  L: February 16, 2006

Board meetings take place in the LBNL cafeteria at 3:45 on the dates mentioned; we welcome attendance by interested members.

Ex-Ls Life Members
Esther Colwell Shirley Ashley
Frank Garnier Inge Henle