



Early Days of Wine and Cheese

Expenses
The experimental Theoretical Seminar

Sept 29/72	Bread & cheese (Paschos, pd.)	6.72	
	2 gals. CK Mondavi Burgundy (E., pd.)	9.43	
Oct 12/72	Bread & cheese for Oct 4/72 (E., pd.)	3.00	
Oct 13/72	4 gals. Mondavi Burgundy (E. pd.)	17.07	
Oct 20/72	Bread	0.43	
Oct 27/72	Bread & cheese	2.74	
Nov 3/72	Bread & cheese	2.73	
Nov 6/72	Bread & cheese	3.42	
Nov 15/72	8 gals. CK Mondavi Burgundy	34.65	
Dec 1/72	1/2 gal. wine - for personal use		- 2.20
Dec 1/72	Bread & cheese (3 wks) (pd. to MBE)	4.93	
Jan 5/73	1 gal. wine - personal use		- 4.40
Feb 26/73	4 gals. wine + bread (pd. to MBE)	18.92	
March 27/73	4 gals. wine + bread & cheese (pd. MBE)	24.52	
	Food (pd. MBE)	3.96	

The first page of J. D. Jackson's expense ledger illustrates the success of the seminar as well as meticulous record keeping.

Twenty years ago, on September 29, 1972, CK Mondavi Burgundy flowed for the first time at NAL, thanks to the initiative of the Theory Group, in particular, Marty Einhorn. These were early days at the National Accelerator Laboratory. The 1972 Rochester Conference, held in Chicago and Batavia, had passed more or less successfully into history two weeks earlier. The buffalo roast and the bunting that camouflaged the raw concrete in the half-finished auditorium had done their work. The accelerator was running, sort of; results from the 30-inch bubble chamber and the internal target at $C\bar{O}$ had been reported at the conference. The High-Rise and the Meson and Proton areas were nearing completion and particle beams were being coaxed away from the Main Ring. The Village was still headquarters.

That year the Theory Group, comprising Henry Abarbanel, Marty Einhorn, Steve Ellis, David Gordon, Mannie Paschos, and Tony Sanda, was "led" by its second outside acting head. This core was augmented by numerous visitors, some for brief stays and others for longer periods (for example, Myron Bander, Bill Frazer, and Chris Quigg for three months that fall, John and Mary Bell and Miguel Virasoro for a month). Housed in the right "wing" of the Director's Complex in the Village, these theorists led a simple but satisfying life, collaborating on the burning issues of hadron and neutrino physics at 200-400 GeV. Visits and seminars by Bjorken, Feynman, and Low, among others, helped to provide the stimulating atmosphere of an established lab.

Bob Wilson and his troops in the field were straining to complete the experimental areas and to raise the energy and intensity of the machine. The early experiments struggled to be ready for whatever the machine would produce. Typically, work on the accelerator proceeded during the week; late on Friday beam to the experiments was begun for the weekend. With luck, there would be some hours of running.

The contrast of the theorists "doing their thing" while the machine builders and experimenters heroically did the necessary spurred Einhorn to propose a weekly seminar to help provide some sense of common purpose and intellectual food for the whole community. To avoid conflict with urgent meetings of one sort or another, 4 p.m. on Friday afternoon was chosen. Obviously there had to be a "come-on" to draw people back to the West Conference Room of the Director's Complex at the end of each stressful week. Wine and cheese were the answer. The acting group leader and Marty cut a deal. Marty would do the shopping; the acting group leader would pay. All we needed was a name. We struck on "The experimental Theoretical Seminar," with a small *e* on experimental because it was just that.

The West Conference Room was a modest-sized room that held 30–40 people, undoubtedly the whole ground floor of somebody's former residence. Veterans remember large wooden tables surrounded by government-surplus chairs, a portable screen for use with the overhead and slide projectors, and green chalk boards on the walls. I recall that the wine (in paper cups), Wisconsin cheddar, and bread lasted about 15 minutes at the beginning. Then the bar was closed and the talk began.

My 1972–73 Pocket Diary for Physicists shows that Jim Sanford gave the first talk, on September 29, 1972, to about 40 people. My informal expense ledger for that date shows \$6.72 for bread and cheese (M. Paschos pd.) and \$9.43 for 2 gals. CK Mondavi Burgundy (MBE pd.) A diary entry for October 12 reads, "MBE owes me 93 cents (change on the wine) ✓" The item reflects my punctiliousness and Scottish blood; the tick mark demonstrates my successful tenacity!

In the first nine months there were 31 talks, over half on experiments, with theory and accelerator topics for the rest. (Paul Reardon gave "A Description of the Energy-Doubler Project" on February 2, 1973.) Clearly, we had gotten off to a vigorous start. Einhorn recalls an occasion when Bob Wilson came in a bit late. The wine and cheese were gone and there was not an empty chair. Bob turned over a trash can and sat down. Typical of Bob, and typical of the seminar, too. People did come. The room was normally packed to overflowing. One of my notations on the attendance had the addition, "2/3 ELG, 5/6 Jimmy W," indicating that even the bureaucrats came when they could. The wine gently loosened the tongues of otherwise inhibited questioners, and even of speakers. A story from Chris Quigg, perhaps enlarged by repeated tellings, is of Jimmy Walker coming in, helping himself to some wine, and departing, just as Henry Frisch was about to begin his talk. Henry remarked that Jimmy had been his senior thesis advisor at Harvard and he had met him there only once, for a similar period of 15 seconds. (As they say in the *Congressional Record* [laughter ensued].) More seriously, Einhorn comments, "It was an important civilizing physics event in the days before the High-Rise. It also provided a focus for communication at a time when people were all spread out and busy with their own affairs; I recall hearing Don Edwards inform us all on beam dynamics in the accelerator."

A momentous pocket diary entry reads, "December 14 - 2:45 a.m., 400 GeV/c, 10¹¹ ppp!" Nothing to do with "Wine & Cheese," but indicative of the exciting times in late 1972.

While I recall vaguely the wine and the talks that year, my most vivid memory is of my encounter with Priscilla Duffield over the wine. Priscilla, a tall, imposing, no-nonsense woman, was Bob Wilson's administrative "muscle." I don't know what her official title was but she was the major-domo, the "enforcer," the person who ran the Director's Office for Bob Wilson and Ned Goldwasser, protecting them from trouble and annoyance. If you had a problem about facilities or administration, you talked to Priscilla. One day, a month or so after the seminar's debut, word about the Friday afternoon goings-on reached Priscilla. She stormed into my office, looking for my scalp. "What do you think you're doing, serving wine at that seminar? Don't you know it's illegal to spend government money on such things?" I said that I wasn't spending government money on the wine. She said, "Well, who is paying for it?" I said, "I am." And she said, "Oh." It was the one time I saw Priscilla just a little bit penitent.

"The experimental Theoretical Seminar" began as an experiment to fill a need. Right from the beginning it flourished. By June 1973 it was held regularly in the Village Curia and its name was changed to "The Joint Experimental-Theoretical Seminar." Its chief creator, Marty Einhorn, told me recently, "I also recall continually having to increase our allotment of cheese and wine to the point where the expense broke your budget and the Lab [actually URA] took the seminar over."

Now, 20 years on, the Friday Wine and Cheese seminar still lives, with that new, now old, title not far from the original. A heretical thought:

Is it now time to start a new tradition? — J.D. Jackson

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September 27, 1972

The experimental Theoretical Seminar

Speaker: J. Sanford *~ 40 people present*
National Accelerator Laboratory
Title: "Experimental Plans at NAL" *~ 14 theorists*
Date: Friday, September 29, 1972 *~ 26 experts*
Time: 4:00 p.m.
Location: West Conference Room

Cheese and Wine
* * * * *

On Friday afternoons, this year, there will be a new seminar for experimentalists and theorists. The format will be that of an informal discussion, and the subjects will be experimental work of current interest and theoretical topics of a phenomenological nature. Experimentalists will be encouraged to discuss proposals, work in progress, and preliminary results. * We hope this will become a weekly gathering where experimentalists and theorists meet. To encourage a convivial atmosphere, wine and cheese will be provided.

This will replace last year's Friday noontime seminar. Note the new time!

* Anyone wishing to speak, please contact M. Einhorn, ext. 749.

Announcement of the first seminar, held September 27, 1972, with notations of attendance.

 national accelerator laboratory

PLEASE POST

June 8, 1973

WEEKLY CALENDAR
Week of June 11 - June 15

MONDAY		
4:00	All Experimenters Meeting	Curia
WEDNESDAY		
4:00	Physics Colloquium Professor S. Chandrasekhar, University of Chicago "Black Holes" (Coffee will be served at 3:30)	Curia
FRIDAY		
4:00	The experimental Theoretical Seminar R. Lundy, NAL "The Experimental Program in the Meson Lab"	Curia

*Name changed to the
"Joint Experimental-Theoretical Seminar"
in June/73.
No longer J.D.'s!*

The All Experimenters Meeting and the Physics Colloquium continue to be important entries on the Laboratory's weekly calendar.