



## 9. ANNIVERSARIES

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### V.G. SIMKIN

A lot of veterans work in JINR. And that's good! Continuity in science is the most important condition for its successful development. At a meeting held on February 3, 2009 in FLNP and dedicated to the 70th anniversary of birth of Valery G. Simkin, he was called a legend of the Condensed Matter Physics Department. During the past 5 years nothing has changed – V.G.Simkin continues years after his graduation from Kharkov State University, V.G.Simkin started to work in LNP, and since that time the Laboratory has become his home, where he knows everyone and everyone knows him. Over more than 20 years he worked in several experimental groups solving various challenging engineering problems. First he was involved in the development of magnetic quantum sensors, then of a very unusual method of correlation analysis of neutron scattering suggested by Hungarian physicists.

In the early 1990s V.G.Simkin was elected to the position of a researcher and started to work in the neutron diffraction group, where he has become one of the key figures in the construction of the world's first neutron high-resolution Fourier diffractometer (HRFD) at a pulsed neutron source. Owing to his efforts HRFD has long become an exemplary spectrometer and is a “must-see” place for excursions visiting IBR-2 during numerous conferences and schools. And no matter who the visitors are – eminent scientists or students – a great deal of sincere respect and admiration for this engineering marvel and people who created it, is guaranteed. At the above-mentioned jubilee party it was suggested to include a new paragraph in the duty instructions for all instrument-responsible scientists obliging them every three months to visit HRFD and adopt new developments and improvements made by V.G.Simkin.

V.G.Simkin is a repeated prize winner of JINR and FLNP scientific research competitions. He was awarded the honorary badge "Veteran of Nuclear Power Engineering and Industry." His never-failing friendliness, correctness in everything he does, his genuine desire to help, broad interests, and, above all, adherence to principles were the very qualities that allowed him to be elected as a chairman of comrades' court of the Laboratory (now-vanished but once important public authority body) for 15 years in a row. He spares no efforts to preserve the memory of the deceased colleagues.

He played a major role in the appearance of an alley in JINR named after Yu.M.Ostanevich, as well as in publishing collections of reminiscences about Yu.M.Ostanevich and D.A.Korneev.