

For distinguished lifetime achievement and/or service to the UW-Madison

## Distinguished Alumni Awards 2001

### Honored with Distinguished Alumni Awards at the Spring Banquet 2001:

#### Ned A. Ostenso

BS 1952; MS 1953; PhD 1962

*...for distinguished research in polar geophysics, dedicated service to oceanographers through Federal programs he directed, and outstanding service to the Department of Geology and Geophysics.*

#### Robert M. Sneider

PhD 1962

*...for scholarly contributions to understanding the geological controls on oil and gas productivity, for excellence in hydrocarbon exploration and entrepreneurship, and for extraordinary teaching accomplishments in the continuing education of petroleum professionals.*

#### Ray E. Wilcox

PhB 1933; PhM 1937; PhD 1941

*...for distinguished scholarly contributions in mineralogy, petrology and volcanology, for service to the scientific community, and for international cooperation in science.*



photo: Ostenso family

Ned Ostenso

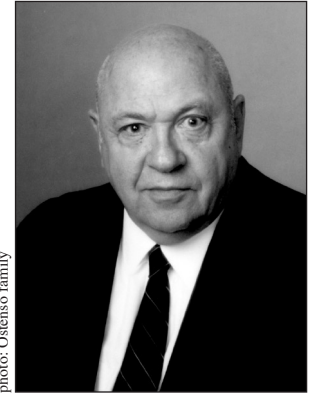


photo: Robert M. Sneider

Robert M. Sneider



Mary Marks Wilcox (BA 1942) and Ray Wilcox, 1998.  
Photo by John Fournelle.

## Alumni News and Letters

### Richard Alley (PhD 1987)

was the recipient of the 2001 Phi Beta Book Award in Science. The announcement was made at the annual Book Awards dinner during the Phi Bet Kappa Society's 225th anniversary celebration in Williamsburg, VA.

### Burt Amundson (BS 1949; MS 1951)

I received my copy of *The Outcrop*, which I thoroughly enjoyed. I am saddened that so little material on my classmates appears in the issue. Understandable in view

of 50 years back to 1951 I guess.

I have compared the faculty/graduate students class with the 2000 equivalent (backside of *The Outcrop*.) Quite a contrast. Among the 46 individuals in the 1950 faculty and graduate class, in neat rows, there were 26 with suits and jackets. The 2000 equivalent photo shows 80 individuals in a random array and no ties or jackets. What do you make of that?

I enjoy keeping in touch with UW Geology. Keep those issues of *Outcrop* coming!

### **Jody Bourgeois (PhD 1980)**

Adventures in Kamchatka: The Pacific and Bering Sea coasts of the Kamchatka Peninsula offer a unique opportunity to study in detail the nature and history of a subduction zone on a millennial time scale, subdivided into a century time scale. Moreover, this area is perhaps the best locality in the world for the study of tsunami deposits, particularly over time. Our primary approach is to examine tsunami deposits and associated sedimentary facies to elucidate the history and late Quaternary pre-history of tectonic activity associated with the Kamchatka-Kuril subduction zone and its terminus into the Bering Sea. Because Kamchatka's volcanic arc is very active and upwind of the eastern coast, tephra (volcanic ash layers) are abundantly preserved in coastal zone stratigraphy; therefore correlation and age dating of tsunami deposits are eminently feasible. Moreover, shoreline history is recorded in many accretionary shorelines and rapidly uplifted coastal terraces, which also can be dated and correlated using tephrostratigraphy. This area has experienced little occupation or human alteration, so that deposits are well preserved and rarely disturbed, except by periglacial processes.

Last year on Kamchatka we were madly preparing for New Year 2001. New Year is the biggest holiday in Russia, at least as far as celebrations go. December 25 had been a work day (Russian Orthodox Christmas is two weeks later), so I was anxious to catch the holiday spirit that arrived in the following week, as folks prepared for the New Year, in many of the same ways we prepare for Christmas—trees, gifts, food—the bazaars were filled with shoppers, despite the subzero temperatures (of course, zero Celsius is only 32 Fahrenheit, so it wasn't that bad).

We had a New Year's party at my colleague Tanya's flat, with salads, mushrooms, meats and not a little champagne and vodka. We watched the New Year arrive on television (and we were in the first time zone of the planet), at which time we went outside and lit flares, watching as the city erupted in fireworks. That was just the beginning of our celebration. We walked through the cold and snow over the hill to join Tanya's friends, and together headed down to the center of town, where an all-night celebration was in progress in a large open square under Lenin. Snow sculptures had been built, ice slides and skating rinks set up for children, a large lighted tree at the center, and a stage under Lenin, where live music played till 4 A.M. Kiosks around the square sold shashlik and plov cooked over fires, and of course champagne and vodka. We lit more flares for the occasion, finally heading home by bus around 5 A.M.

After a winter of work on our data, punctuated by

wonderful cross-country skiing through birch forests under the volcanoes, and after I made a brief visit back to the U.S., Kamchatka summer field started with a warm-up backpack with Sasha, heading for Nalichevo National Park and hot springs, but never getting there due to snow in the mountains, still. Then our summer field was in the south of Kamchatka, where I learned what true bushwacking comprises. And where the bears are.

Not yet having destroyed myself on this strenuous field trip, I gladly and madly joined a group of five under-30s on a recreational trip afterwards, finally making it to the hot springs at Nalichevo. We circled Koryaksky volcano and returned via the pass between it and Avachinsky. About 100 kms. Some day I'm going to have to slow down, but my half-century mark seems only to have empowered me (excepting the short-term memory thing...).

I returned to Seattle on 23 September 2001, having been on a final field expedition for the prior two weeks (but with a radio providing Russian-language news translated to me by my friends). September 11 was a different event for me than for most Americans. My comprehension of the event and its aftermath has come slowly, and is another whole essay. I hope and pray for continued transformation to greater peace and understanding from this tragic event.

Now I'm back in the teaching saddle, and for many reasons having a better time than in a long time. It certainly helps that I have received a substantial NSF grant to continue our work in the Russian Far East, and that my promotion to full professor seems to be proceeding smoothly (and finally).

Happy New Year—S'Novim Godom, Love and peace, Jody B.

### **Alec Bray (MS 1985)**

and family are living in Sarawak, Borneo, Malaysia where he is with Shell exploring for oil and gas.

### **Marcia Bjornerud (PhD 1987),**

department chair at Lawrence University, spent a sabbatical year in Norway. Last summer the Department of Geology moved into a new building.

### **Jim McCaslin Brown (PhD 1968)**

is a faculty member in the Department of Environmental Sciences, Alaska Pacific University, Anchorage AK.

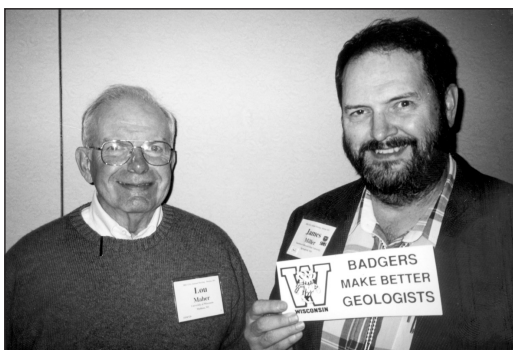
### **Margie Chan (PhD 1982)**

Winter Olympics in Salt Lake City—2+ hrs. of helicopter hovering (chop chop chop noise) by our house last night as they went through the opening ceremonies

dress rehearsal. We could see some of the firework flashes. They say people have to plan on 3 hrs. from the park & ride lots to going through security to even get through the gates (was avg. 1 hr. just to get through security!) for the ceremonies. The Olympic torch is supposed to pass on the street near our house (about 50 yd. from our front steps) both tonight at 5 PM and also tomorrow night just before it goes to the stadium. We will try to bundle up to see it tonight. So tomorrow we hunker down (univ. is closed) & stay cozy in our home with hot chocolate as we watch on TV & occasional look out the window toward the stadium (about 1/3 mile away). There are last minute tickets for sale in the newspaper—could get the reg. \$800@ opening ceremonies tickets for \$600-700@, but John says he'd still rather spend \$2500+ going somewhere fun for a week instead of spending 6 hrs. in the cold. I agreed! Next week we take off for Death Valley!

**James C. Dawson (PhD 1967)**

sent the photos below taken at the alumni reception at GSA 2001, Boston. Jim is a Distinguished Service Professor at SUNY-Plattsburgh.



*Left to right: Louis J. Maher, UW–Madison, and James F. Miller (MA 1968; PhD 1971), of Southwest Missouri State University. Photo by Jim Dawson.*



*Left to right: Stanley C. Fagerlin (BS 1969; MS 1971), of SMSU, Jim Miller, and Jim Dawson. Photo by Lou Maher.*

**Eric W. Frodeson (MS 1971)**

is now Senior Staff Explorationist-International with Texas Star Oil & Gas Co., Houston.

**John Guilbert (MS 1954; PhD 1962),**

received the Daniel Jackling Award from the American Institute of Mining Engineering (AIME). The citation reads “For stellar lifelong service to the mining community, for elucidation of porphyry copper deposit geology, for exemplary teaching of exploration geology, for development of Bajo de la Alumbrera, and for his lecture ‘Linkages among Hydrothermal Ore Deposit Types.’” He has also been a recipient of the SEG Penrose Gold Medal and is a former SEG International Exchange Lecturer. He is senior author of *The Geology of Ore Deposits*. He is a former student of E.N. Cameron and long-time member (now emeritus) of the faculty at the University of Arizona.

**Fred Klinger (MA 1952; PhD 1960)**

Thanks for the copy of *The Outcrop* for 2000. I’ve enjoyed reading it, as it’s full of interesting stuff and takes me back to my “old days” as well as what’s ahead. I particularly enjoyed Robert Dott’s historical



*Bob and Nancy Dott. Photo by Jim Dawson.*



*Dr. and Mrs. James F. Davis (MS 1956; PhD 1965). Jim is the California State Geologist. Photo by Jim Dawson.*



pieces on W.H. Twenhofel and Stan Tyler, also the recollections of Bob Gates, and articles by various staff members on what they've found from their research. It shows how UW's Department of Geology is as accomplished and on the "cutting edge" in 2001, as it was when I first experienced it in 1949. To me, that's no small accomplishment, in an age when so many things seem to be changing and not all of them for the better, and it sure is encouraging. In fact, if I could have the chance "to do it all over again," I would head for Madison tomorrow.

**Harmon D. Maher (PhD 1984),**

at the University of Nebraska-Omaha, continues his research in Svalbard. Last summer he awoke to find the shadow of a polar bear on the side of his tent. They chased the bear off before it ate anyone.

**Dave Malone (PhD 1994)**

is now department chairman at Illinois State University, Normal.

**Michael D. Max (BS 1964)**

is now Chief Executive Officer of Marine Desalination Systems, L.L.C., 1120 Connecticut Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20036. He still finds time to do some science, having been editor of a special volume on Natural Gas Hydrate in Oceanic and Permafrost Environments (2000, Kluwer Press). He also has authored an interesting paper suggesting that the dissociation of methane hydrate from subpermafrost aquifers might have given rise to the outflow channels on Mars. One could always expect the unexpected from Mike Max.

**Reed H. Meek (MS 1983)**

has moved from Yates Petroleum Co., Artesia, NM, to the position of Senior Geologist with Marathon Oil Co. in Midland, TX.

**Jean Morrison (PhD 1988)**

won the 2002 USC Associates Award for Excellence in Teaching for "...her teaching philosophy, and her exceptional track record as a leader both in her contributions to departmental curriculum development and in the enhancement in the quality of undergraduate experience..." and for "...her interdisciplinary work, her innovative syllabi, and the great array of courses that she has taught both in and outside of her department. Her interactions with students extend well beyond the classroom, and comments from her students indicate that she has enriched their learning experience in a very unique way.... 'She serves as an important role model

for students who too frequently see only men succeeding in science.'"

The award is the highest that USC gives and the competition involves 3000 faculty.

Jean has been asked to be the director of the Women in Science and Engineering Program (WISE) at USC where she will oversee the expenditures of the \$20 million gift and be the point person for all WISE activities. Jean will also be a panelist on the Tectonics panel (of the division of Earth Sciences at NSF) for the next three years.

**Jay Nania (BS 1984; MS 1987)**

This has been a very eventful year for our family. As many of you know we lost our house and pretty much everything in it during the "Great Houston Flood of 2001." We want to thank all of you who helped during that trying period; we could not have done it without the help of our families and so many friends. We are now in the process of rebuilding our home and hope to be in it by next Christmas. I see "building" as a strong theme for 2002! ON WISCONSIN!

**Jamie Robertson (MS 1972; PhD 1975)**

After a year of retirement from ARCO, Jamie started his own petroleum company in July (called Rannoch Petroleum LLC after the ancestral Scottish home of the Robertson clan). He has been doing both some oil industry consulting and assorted volunteer activities for the geoscience professional societies and university earth science departments. He was a founding member this summer of a Fort Worth chapter of the Society of Independent Professional Earth Scientists (SIPES).

**Bill Sauk (former visiting faculty, 1988-90)**

Enjoy getting those annual updates—keep it up. I have finally gotten off the annual contract (soft money track) and onto regular faculty status—with tenure—again at WMU. Fall semester of 2000 I spent five months at the University of Brazilia as a visiting professor. In 2001 I made three other trips to Brazil.

**Robert Sneider (PhD 1956)**

(one of the department's Distinguished Alumni Award recipients for 2001) received AAPG's highest honor at its annual convention in June, the Sidney Powers Medal. After his BS at Rutgers and an army tour in Korea, Sneider came here for graduate work (his former mentor at Rutgers, an earlier UW alum, John Prucha, suggested Wisconsin). After a very successful career with Shell, he embarked to form his own company, and has continued to make history. Another UW alum (Engineering), Gus Archie, had a profound effect upon

Sneider's career while with Shell. In May 2001, the AAPG *Explorer* carried a long article about Bob's distinguished career, first with Shell Development Co. and since 1974 as an independent petroleum operator. Under the side bar title, "The Sneider Focus," the article presents Bob's professional vision, which makes good reading for any geologist.

#### **Jeff Spatz (MS 1983)**

continues with British Petroleum in geology and management in Aberdeen, Scotland and London.

#### **Dave Stephenson**

formerly a professor in our department and now in private consulting, was named interim Executive Direc-

tor of GSA. Dave stepped in after Sara Foland resigned and was in the leadership role until Jan. 2002 when a permanent director took over.

#### **Ray Thomasson (PhD 1959)**

writes, "Just a quick thank you for a great *Outcrop*. I especially enjoyed the article about Stan Tyler...When I'm back for the board meeting I will tell you a Tyler-Thomasson story that should not be published. Keep up the great work."

#### **Chunmiao Zheng (PhD 1988)**

was recently promoted to full professor at the University of Alabama.

### **Death Notices**

**Francis Doan Hole (PhD 1944)**, died in Madison, WI, Jan. 15, 2002 at age 88. He graduated from Earlham College, Richmond, IN in 1933, majoring in geology and biology. He pursued graduate work at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, where he earned a PhD in geology and soil science in 1943, interspersed with two periods of teaching geology at his alma mater, Earlham College. In June 1941 he married Agnes Calvert, a former Earlham classmate.

As a conscientious objector during World War II, he performed two years of civilian public service at the U.S. Department of Agriculture facilities at Coshocton, OH, Big Flats, NY, and Gatlinburg, TN. In July 1946 he joined the University of Wisconsin faculty as an assistant professor, initially with the Geological and Natural History Survey. Over the years his responsibilities grew to include teaching and research with the Department of Soil Science, and later his teaching of the geography of Wisconsin course in the Department of Geography.

Hole became one of UW-Madison's most popular teachers, and a sought-after guest lecturer. He used his violin, soil auger and suitcase full of puppets to great effect as he performed soil songs, soil poems and puppet plays about the earth beneath our feet.

"Soil is the hidden, secret friend, which is the root domain of lively darkness and silence," He once wrote. "My goal in promoting popularization of the soil resource is not so much to attract young people to careers in soil science as to give all children and their parents and grandparents a chance to enjoy the soils of their native landscape."

He published widely and cowrote a standard textbook, *Soil Genesis and Classification*. He received the university's distinguished teaching award in 1974.

He began a campaign in 1983 to get lawmakers

to name Antigo silt loam the Wisconsin state soil. Ridiculed in the media, with a group of sixth-graders initially his only backers, Hole ultimately found common ground with lawmakers and prevailed.

**Jack E. Morris**, an alumnus of our department, died at Woodland Lake, Alabama, on February 19, 2001. He was 84. Chief geologist for Jim Walter Corporation and its predecessor companies for almost 40 years, he also was superintendent of the company's iron ore mines in Russellville from 1966 until they were closed in 1975. In retirement he did consulting geology across the eastern states. Morris was a co-founder, in 1963, of the Alabama Geologic Society, which established professional credentials for those in the field. For 31 years he held membership in the American Institute of Professional Geologists and the American Institute of Mining and Metallurgical Engineers.

**Paul E. Schenk (MS 1961; PhD 1963)** died in April, 2000, after a four-year battle with ALS (Lou Gehrig's Disease). He remained intellectually active in spite of his illness and had submitted the first of three final manuscripts to *Carbonates and Evaporites*, just days before he died. He taught at Dalhousie University in Nova Scotia for many years.

**Daniel Stoughton Turner (BS 1940; MS 1942; PhD 1948)**, 84, of Littleton, CO, a college professor, died Dec. 21, 2001, in Littleton. He received undergraduate and doctorate degrees from the University of Wisconsin-Madison. In 1944 he married Ruth Laatsch, who preceded him in death. He was a lieutenant in the Navy and was awarded a Bronze Star. He was an assistant professor of geology at the University of Wyoming and a member of the Geological Society of America.