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 Director 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the article about Stan Tyler…When I’m back for the board meeting I will tell you a Tyler-Thomasson story that should not be published.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.

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.