Alumni News

Alumni news arriving after Feb. 15, 2003 will be published in next year's Outcrop.

Hanners, Albert, PhB 1940, MA 1941

On retiring in 1981, I turned interest to plants and animals. In 2002, I was awarded an honorary fellowship in the Washington State Native Plant Society. I am still quite active at 86. I have a wife, four children, and two grandchildren. A rare degree, yes, I got a degree in philosophy but, I never had a course in it!

Prucha, John, PhD 1945, PhM 1946, MA 1948, PhD 1950

I retired from Syracuse University in 1990 as Professor of Geology, Emeritus. I served SU as geology department chairman, 1963-70; dean of Arts and Sciences, 1970-72; Vila Chancellor for Academic Affairs, 1972-85. I am currently writing a book on the joys and vicissitudes of 40 years of geology fieldwork. Mary and I have 10 children, three of whom are professional geologists and one teaches earth science in high school. Mary took geology from Lewis Cline in 1948 and graduated from the UW that year with a degree in science education.

Bryson, Reid, Geology faculty 1946-48

I am still researching past climates, and modeling past climates on a PC. I am just finishing a study comparing this method with advanced mainframe models, which work as well or better. I am teaching a seminar on Climate Change first semester 2002—first course in 17 years!

Ketner, Donna, BA 1947; Ketner, Keith, BA 1947, MA 1952, PhD 1968

Keith is a Geologist Emeritus after 47 years with USGS.

Beebe, Lewis, MS 1949

I retired after 36 years with Conoco Inc. I was recently an examination “invigilator” for drilling personal in training for the International Wall Control Forum (IWCF) of Aberdeen Scotland.

Parks, James M., MS 1949 PhD 1951

Retired. I have completed the long-awaited manuscript of the biography of Professor Lowell Laudon, and am now looking for a publisher or literary agent. I'm collecting numerous rejections for Another Bushel Basket Locality. The agents say he was not famous enough to make the book a commercial success. The Wisconsin University Press replied (twice) that they no longer publish such biographies. Three other university presses have said much the same. I am looking into various ways of self-publishing as a last resort. My next writing project may be of some interest: the impact of oil company exploration research labs on the science of geology. The working title is: Oil Search and Research. I am contacting over one hundred former researchers from 20+ companies from the “Golden Age” (1947-1980), for information and anecdotes. I want to tell some of “the story behind the story”, the interesting and sometimes amusing details that are not told in the usual scientific publication of research results. One of the biggest impacts was on academia nearly fifty university and college professors of geology got their start by working a few years for an oil company lab (as did I). After their oil company lab “post-doctorate” experiences, they made significant advances in “soft rock” fields such as stratigraphy, sedimentary petrography, clay mineralogy, paleoecology, palynology, and organic geochemistry. If you fit this category and I haven’t contacted you yet, please contact me. (jpax@worldnet.att.net)

Claus, Richard J., BS 1951, MS 1954

My placer diamond and gold dredge-mining operation in the country of Guyana folded in December 2001 due to withdrawal of the European financiers following 9/11. The 140’ dredge-processing plant sits idle on the river and the door to venture capital for 3rd world mining projects is closed for now!

Tank, Ron, BS 1951, MS 1955

I am retired and conducting research on the history of the geology program at Lawrence University.

Winters, Leonard, BS 1951


Eckelberg, D.J., BS 1952

I am an independent petroleum geologist.

Klinger, F.L., MA 1952, PhD 1960

I finally, for the first time, visited Yellowstone, Grand Tetons, Craters of the Moon, Hells Canyon area, Eastern Washington, Butte, Yosemite, and Devil’s Tower. I have not seen so many interesting rocks in a long time. I returned through the Mesabi Range and re-lived the past. A banner year!

Charlotte and Len Winters (center) joined Dave Mickelson on a Geomorphology field trip along Lake Michigan bluffs, Nov. 2002. Also pictured, left to right, are Andreas Bauder (post doc), Michelle Custer (undergrad), rear, Amanda Moore, (geography grad student), and, right, Lucia Zilocchi, a grad student from Italy. (photo by Dave Mickelson)
Murray, Raymond C., MS 1952, PhD 1955

My chapter on forensic geology was published in The Forensic Science Handbook, Richard Saferstein, ed. A “popular” book on forensic geology is in the mill with Mountain Press and should be out next year. Mountain Press are the folks who do the “Roadside Geology” series. There is now a doctoral program in forensic geology at the University of London and they will hold an international conference in March 2003 on the subject at the Geological Society of London. I have been asked to give the keynote address. The subject continues to be interesting; we now have a society, The American Society of Forensic Geologists. Having fun with lots of talks, cases, travel, hunting and fishing and membership on law enforcement related boards. My wife, Maureen Fleming is Professor of Management at the University of Montana. Both children studied geology and we assume the grandchildren will also. (rcm@selway.umt.edu)

Weihaupt, John (Jack), BS 1952, MS 1953, MS 1971

I am a research and teaching professor, Astrogeology-Geophysics, Oceanography, and Polar Studies (University of Colorado, Denver).

Brown, L. Frank, MS 1953, PhD 1955

Emeritus professor UT-Austin; Still in research and mentoring; still presenting papers and publishing: Sequence stratigraphy of Oligocene rocks, Texas gulf coast—systems tracts and chronostratigraphy; Neogene sequences, offshore Mexican Gulf coast three-dimensional seismic and wireline logs. Model for growth-faulted sub basins, presented: GC-SEPM. Since you don’t list “stratigraphy” on the “brick list” does the department offer a course in stratigraphy anymore? Bob Dott and Lloyd Pray should protest! (Ed: Yes, we do! It’s taught by Charlie Byers.)

Digert, Frederick, BS 1953, MS 1955

I am engaged in ongoing stratigraphic, structural, and geophysical studies in the Taramugal Basin of Northern Chile. I have spent the last 20 years conducting petroleum exploration activities in various countries around the world, including Indonesia, Europe, Pakistan, Argentina, Chile, and New Zealand. A paper covering the geology of W. Chile will be presented at the 2003 AAPG meeting in Salt Lake City. I am active in local EMS activities, including fighting wild land fires in the West. One son works for BP petroleum in Alaska; one son has a PhD in Civil Engineering and works in California. My wife and I both enjoy exploring the wonderful geology of the mountain west.

Goffman, Jackson, BS 1956

I am retired (Goffman McCormick and Urban, Inc., Laguna Hills, CA).

Mayer, Vic, BS 1956

I accepted an early retirement incentive from the Ohio State University in 1995. At the time I held professorships in the College of Education, Department of Geological Sciences and the School of Natural Resources. Since my retirement I have conducted research in international science curriculum at the Hyogo University of Teacher Education in Japan (the year following the Great Hanshin Earthquake) and also during a Fulbright senior research grant in 1998 at Shizuoka University and at the Educational Research Division of Monbusho in Japan. In 2000 I taught graduate courses in science education at the Korea National University of Education. As a partial result of these experiences, Kluwer Academic Publishers published Global Science Literacy early in 2002—a book that I designed and edited with contributions of authors from six countries. After graduation from the UW in 1956, I spent a short time in the Army, followed by study for and receipt of master’s degree in geology from the University of Colorado. I then taught for several years in junior and senior high schools near Denver and Boulder. In 1966 I received the PhD in science education from the University of Colorado. Before accepting a joint appointment in the Department of Geology and School of Education at Ohio State, I taught for two years at the State University College at Oneonta, New York. My wife, Mary Jo, and I have two children, Greg and Maribeth, and one granddaughter, Mekaela. In addition to professional travel, Mary Jo and I do quite a bit of other travel on cruises (where I often present earth systems lectures), Elderhostels, and winters in Hawaii.

Woldenberg, Mike, BA 1956, MS 1957

Daughter Nina is a freshman at the UW and will major in a science.

Koepcke, F. Kris, BS 1957, JD 1964

I ended my law career as Ex. V.P. and General Counsel at Star Banc Corporation (now US Bancorp) and have been consulting since 1995 in the industrial litigation and mediation areas. I’m about 3/4 retired and enjoy the life in South Florida. My bride is a champion golfer so I’ve got to live with that. I do some golfing and more fishing when I find the time. We enjoy coming back to Wisconsin in the summer months. (fkkoepcke@hotmail.com)

LaBerge, Sally, BS 1957, MS 1961

I worked at Jersey Production Research Lab, Tulsa, OK. for three years, was a Fulbright scholar in Australia, taught Geology at UW-Oshkosh for 12 years, and at UW-Fox Valley, Menasha WI, for two years, and am now retired. I married Gene LaBerge and have three daughters and two grandchildren. I enjoy many activities: travel, hiking, stained glasswork, gardening, and still go on geology field trips.

LaBerge, Gene, BS 1958, MS 1959, PhD 1963

I continue to work for the USGS (since 1983) on the Precambrian of the Lake Superior region. Two professional papers are in preparation (with W.F. Cannon, J.S. Klasner and K.J. Schultz). I am preparing field guidebooks on Wisconsin magmatic terranes, Menomonee Iron district and Iron River-Crystal Falls district, for ILSG meeting in Iron Mountain MI. My daughter Rene is pursuing a PhD degree in volcanology at Monash University, in Melbourne, Australia. I continue to pursue my hobby of collecting fine mineral specimens.

Michelson, James, BS 1958, MS 1960

I have been retired since 1987, in Panama City, FL., Stuart, FL, and Hazelhurst, WI. Main activities are sports fishing, skiing and snowmobiling.

Shea, Jim, BS 1958, MS 1960; Jo Ann Zischka Shea, BS 1960

Jim retired in 2000 after 33 years at UW-Parkside and 26 years as editor of the Journal of Geoscience Education. Jo Ann continues to teach all subjects and all grade levels at the Racine County Jail. They would enjoy hearing from old friends at jshea6@wi.rr.com.
Tyler, John H., BS 1958
After 26 years at San Francisco State University, I retired in 1992. I’m glad to see the new Outcrop is in the planning. I’m eager to check out my former classmates and instructors. (placido@batnet.com)

Thomasson, M. Ray, PhD 1959
Has assumed the presidency of the American Geological Institute for 2003. Ray has been very active in professional affairs, having recently served as President of the American Association of Petroleum Geologists. He also has been a member of the department’s Board of Visitors and received our Distinguished Alumnus Award in 1999. He is President of Thomasson Partner Associates of Denver.

Dederich, Gerard, BS 1961
I hiked the Grand Canyon as part of geology studies and plan to do it again in May 2003. I plan to fly the Atlantic Ocean in my ultralite.

Hart, Orville, MS 1961, PhD 1963
I retired from Chevron Exploration and Development in 1990 after 15 years. Published: Geology of the Eastern part of the winding stair range, LeFlore County, Oklahoma Geological Survey, Bulletin 103, 1963. I am enjoying retirement in the wooded gold country of California. I am a student of Dr. L.M. Cline in stratigraphy, MS and PhD in fieldwork of the Ouachita Mountains of southeast Oklahoma.

Widmier, John Michael (Mike), PhD 1962
I retired from Exxon Corp before the merger with Mobil. My wife Alice and I have three children, Allison, Lisa, and Scott, and five grandchildren. (jmwidmier@worldnet.att.net)

Heivilin, Fred, BS 1963
I finished three years on the Board of Directors, Society of Mining Engineers. I have two granddaughters and one grandson.

Brooks, Elwood R., PhD 1964
I finally gave up teaching a year ago, after over 35 years at California State University, Hayward, but have not given up research, and am currently a Research Associate at University of California, Davis. I’m trying to finish up several projects in Baja California and the northern Sierra Nevada. We now have two retirement homes, one here in Sierra City, CA, the other (for the winter months) in Oro Valley, AZ. (woody@cwo.com)

Gerlach, Terry, BS 1964, MS 1967
Memorable professional highlights for 2002 include updating my degassing model for Kilauea Volcano (Sept. 2002 issue of JGR-Solid Earth) and giving an invited lecture on arc volcanic gases at the Carnegie Institute’s Living Planet centennial symposium. Hiking 40 miles on the Ice Age Trail at the peak of Wisconsin’s autumn color stands out as a top 2002 personal experience. (tgerlach@pacifier.com)

Alsobrook, Frank, MS 1965
My interests and activities are focused on the commercial development of industrial mineral resources worldwide, so their emphasis is on creating wealth by virtue of new mines and new mineral products. My assignments involve mineral prospect evaluations, mineral property and operations valuation, market analysis, mineral processing technologies, transportation logistics, acquisitions and divestitures. During 22 years with several major mineral producing companies, I rose through the ranks to become VP/General Manager of Operations for my last employer. My consulting firm was incorporated in April 1987. Our work is focused on specialty (vs. commodity) industrial minerals because 1) they are largely overlooked or given perfunctory coverage in various government agency reports, 2) there are relatively few other consultancies who concentrate their efforts on this sector, 3) it is a stable industry that is immune from the wild swings in base and precious metal and crude oil prices, and 4) it is marketing (vs. production volume) driven and in some market segments is highly technology driven, both of which appeal to us. (f.alsobrook@alsobrookminerals.com)

Yeend, Warren, PhD 1965
I subscribe to the philosophy that in arid Mediterranean climates like ours (California), every drop of water that reaches one’s property would ideally be captured and not lost as runoff down a storm drain. Septic tanks contribute to this goal by capturing water that comes to the house through pipes and distributing it via the drain field. Sadly, they are becoming rare at a time when they should be revived. Having turned down an expensive offer from the city to hook up to a sewer, getting our tank pumped out after 8+ years was a significant event. My water conservation efforts also include maintaining a thick mulch cover and a few French drains. Hiking, bookbinding, and gardening continue to occupy much of my time. The week long trips this year included: Yosemite Valley with my senior hiking group; Eastern Utah Canyonlands with a hiking Elderhostel; and Santa Barbara County Coastwalk.

Frey, Frederick A., coursework 1966-67
I continue to be a faculty member in the Department of Earth and Planetary Sciences at MIT where we have several graduate students from Wisconsin. In July, 2002 I finished my term as President of Volcanology, Geochemistry and Petrology Section of AGU. Current research interests include the Hawaiian Scientific Drilling Project and study of the oceanic Large Igneous Province formed by the Kerguelen Plateau and Broken Ridge (see 2002 July, Journal of Petrology). I enjoyed the update December letter from Clark. My degree (PhD 1967) is actually from Chemistry but I took several classes in the Geology and Geophysics department which opened my horizon to Geochemistry which became my profession. Apparently your department has been willing to consider me as an “honorary” alum and I appreciate that since I retain an attachment to the university and both the Chemistry and Geology/Geophysics Departments. (fafrey@mit.edu)

Wayne, William, visiting professor of Geomorphology-fall 1966
Though I’m retired (Geoscience, University of Nebraska, Lincoln), I’m still an active geologist. A paper I submitted was accepted for presentation at the VII International Conference in Zurich Switzerland, in June 2003. Naomi and I are still pretty healthy; I’m playing in the Lincoln Community Concert Band and the Lincoln Aging Services band (flute); also, I’m singing with the Lincoln Senior chorus. Both senior organizations perform at retirement homes weekly. Naomi’s very busy sewing (mostly quilts) for a church group.
Fagerlin, Stanley, BS 1969, MS 1971

After 25 years of teaching at Southwest Missouri State University I retired at the end of the fall semester of 2002. I am moving back to Wisconsin and will be building a house in the woods next summer.

Villwock, James A., BS 1970

I am a sales engineer for Heat and Control, Inc., of Hayward CA and Galesburg IL, a manufacturer of food processing and packaging equipment, with a home office in Neosho WI. My wife Holly and I have married sons Jon and Ryan and granddaughters Veronica and Rylee. Gardening is an obsession. I have fond memories of studies with Lowell Laudon, Lewis Cline and Dave Clark. I hope to do some fossil hunting in retirement. Please advise how I might do that. (jimv@nconnect.net)

Morgan, William A., BS 1975, MS 1977

I am serving a two-year term as Secretary-Treasurer of SEPM (Society for Sedimentary Geology). I am also a recipient of this year’s American Association of Petroleum Geologists’ Robert H. Dott Sr. Memorial Award, for the publication Petroleum Provinces of the Twenty-first Century, an honor I am especially gratified to receive, having enjoyably served as Bob Dott Jr.’s teaching assistant sometime in the twentieth century. (w.a.morgan@conocophillips.com)

Tritchler, William K., BS 1975

I am employed as a Principal Information Systems Engineer and serve as the Assistant Chief Engineer at the U. S. Marine Corps Systems Command at Quantico, VA. I retired from the U.S. Marine Corps as a Lieutenant Colonel in 1997 after >22 years of active duty and have worked for the MITRE Corporation, a federally funded research and development center (FFRDC) since that time. Spent Christmas in Milwaukee with my family. There has been more snow here in Virginia this winter than has fallen in Madison. (wktritch@mitre.org)

Whitman, Rick, BS 1975, MS 1977

I really appreciate the Outcrop. I'm no longer a practicing professional geologist but I'm still an avid fan of the science and science in general. I love reading about GeoBadgers and their work. I haven’t made my living in Geology since CONOCO closed their Casper office in 1994. Since then I’ve retrained and taught both traditional and Montessori elementary classes. I’ve recently made a shift in focus and am now teaching adults in the Montana Women's Prison and in night school. I really enjoy my current career and its associated rewards. That's not to say I didn't enjoy my 17 years with CONOCO. I had some real adventures and met many wonderful people. My only regret is that I have fallen out of contact with most of my former colleagues and classmates. Montana is great. My daughters have to dodge antelope (and antelope dung) to practice on their soccer fields. I have had to dodge moose on the highway during early morning drives to work. (w.a.morgan@conocophillips.com)

Hersberg, Edward, MS 1977

I am Executive Vice President-Manufacturing for Network Elements, Inc. (www.nei.com). Our website lists what our company does with recent awards for products. I have a daughter and son in college and a daughter in 2nd grade (it's a long story.) Jill and I celebrated our 25th anniversary in 2002. I appreciate receiving the Outcrop. I keep a special place in my heart for geophysics.

Huang, Kung, MS Geophysics, 1977

I work as Physical Scientist in the U.S. Department of the Interior, Minerals Management Service, Resource Evaluation Division. (Kung.Huang@mms.gov)

Rohloff, Scott, BS 1977

Petroleum—it's not just for breakfast anymore.

Driese, Steven G., MS 1979, PhD 1982

My research in recent years has taken a decidedly Quaternary turn, with trips to Costa Rica and Kenya this past year. I am involved in inter-disciplinary research with geographers and ecologists on the University of Tennessee campus, as well as with faculty from Rutgers, Saskatchewan, Hong Kong, Cornell, and Kenya. Soils are a fascinating archive of paleo-climate information, which I am only beginning to appreciate. My wife continues to teach 8th-grade U.S. history as a second career. My two stepsons are both enrolled at UT. Nather is two courses shy of graduating with a BA in philosophy and Trevor is a junior majoring in geology. Mary Catherine is a 5th grade student and shows an interest in science (though not in rocks).

Simpkins, William, MS 1979, PhD 1989

I entered my 14th year as an associate professor teaching hydrogeology at Iowa State University this year. I started the year making front page news for a study I did on the impact of large hog confinement on water resources in Iowa. I was chair of the 1300-member Hydrogeology Division of GSA in 2002 and was elected a Fellow of GSA in 2002. I received a “Master Teacher Award” from the Iowa State University College of Liberal Arts and Sciences for “off-campus” learning experiences. The award was primarily for my Field Methods in Hydrogeology course, which is modeled after the same course taught now by Jean Bahr at UW. I just received a Team Award from the College of Agriculture at Iowa State for my work with the Agroecology Issue Team of the Leopold Center for Sustainable Agriculture. The team is composed of 12 members that are working on re-establishing riparian buffers along streams in Iowa. The award is quite unique since I am not even in the College of Agriculture. I enjoyed seeing and having dinner with many of Dave Mickelson’s former students at the GSA in Denver. I also enjoyed presenting my first groundwater modeling talk there under the watchful eye of Mary Anderson, Jean Bahr, and Ken Bradbury and their present and former students. I presented in the symposium on analytic element modeling, which was co-chaired by one of my late-80's classmates and former Mary Anderson student, Randy Hunt of USGS. I was also happy to provide Mary with a new graduate student, Chris Lowy, this past fall. (bsimp@iastate.edu)
Vodak, Dale, BS 1979

In March ‘03 I will be celebrating 15 years working for the State of Texas, doing geologically related environmental work. I have been the regional emergency response coordinator and was recently selected as part of a state wide emergency response strike team. The team will deploy statewide to natural disasters, terrorist attacks or industrial accidents. I am involved in training and equipping of emergency responders. This Christmas my youngest son Zachary was wed and will be living in the Tyler area with his bride, Sherri. This last year I traveled to Arizona to share the holidays with a former UW graduate and close friend Nyal Niemuth (BS Geology, 1977). A great time and several good geologic field trips were conducted.

Anderson, Glenn, BS 1980

I continue to work on cleanup of contaminated soil and groundwater sites. (chessman5@netzero.net)

Bourgeois, Joanne (Jody), PhD 1980

I was promoted to Professor at the Department of Earth and Space Sciences, University of Washington, Seattle.

Handley, Bruce, BS 1980, MS 1983

( Geoclub Elucidator, ’81-82) I am still pursuing a career in environmental consulting and now work for Conestoga-Rovers and Associates, Inc. as a project manager. Although mostly involved in regulatory compliance issues, I still dabble in the oil and gas business, being the consultant-of-favor for two saltwater disposal companies. The environmental field has been rewarding over the past several years with several interesting projects accomplished. As a Safety Officer for the response effort, I participated in the cleanup of the Desaguadero River oil spill in southwestern Bolivia. I am active at the Troop and Council level for the Boy Scouts of America and was awarded the 2002 Sam Houston Area Council Conservation Award. My wife Jeannine Perrot, also a geologist, recently began work as a Senior G&G Consultant for Landmark Graphics after a 16-year run with Phillips Petroleum and son Eric, now 12, is on the road to Eagle. (bhandley@craworld.com)

Carson, Tom, BS 1981

I continue to keep “weight on bit” in my new career as a general dentist at Chapel Hill, NC.

Konopka, Edith Hoffman, MS 1981, PhD 1999

I started working at the NJ Office of Geographic Information Systems in Nov. 2001. I’ve been enjoying the job, and the great spring bird watching (the office is along the Delaware river, and surrounded by locust trees).

Chan, Marjorie, PhD 1982

Dr. Chan became chairperson of the Department of Geology and Geophysics of the University of Utah in the summer of 2002.

Derflinger, (Bickford), Barb, MS 1983

I am a hydrogeologist at Wisconsin DNR, Bureau of Waste Management. This entitles me to work almost exclusively on medical waste and to volunteer to sample deer heads. Go figure. Wanted: Chair sized mafic rocks to turn former landfill in our backyard into a Japanese garden. Call (608)267-3548 to leave message about rock sources.

Erdmann, Kathy, BS 1983; Stoll Rick, BS 1983

I married Rick Stoll (geology graduate 1983). We have two children, Danielle 14, and Robert, 12. Both Rick and I are employed as hydrogeologists with the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources. We reside in Green Bay but are partial to much of the U.P. especially the Marquette-Munising area and spend as much time there as possible. We have discovered some of the most wonderful sand beaches along many of the Great Lakes over the years. (kathy.erdmann@dnr.state.wi.us)

Hartman, Mary, BS 1983

I coordinate the annual report for groundwater monitoring on the U.S. Department of Energy’s Hanford Site in southeastern Washington. The report weighs in at eight pounds, but you can see it on the internet at <http://groundwater.pnl.gov/reports/gwrep01/start.htm>. Personal news: To see what I’m up to as a performing songwriter, see the Humphrey and Hartman website at <http://users.owt.com/humphrey/huha>. (mary.hartman@pnl.gov)

LaFave, John, BS 1983

John is an Associate Hydrogeologist with the Montana Bureau of Mines and Geology in Butte. (jlafave@mttech.edu)

Nania, Jay, BS 1984, MS 1987

Eighteen months after losing our home in the “Great Houston Flood of 2001” we are finally back in a new house, higher this time….I guess I should have paid more attention in geomorphology….Our family of five has escaped the confines of the two bedroom apartment and begun to establish roots in the new place. It has a very Madison/FLW-look to it, complete with a Calymene Celebra Trilobite fossil embedded in the fireplace stone. The state fossil was a gift from Klaus Westphal, and is one of my kids’ favorite elements. When not working on the builder’s punch list, or trying to raise money for the other building project, I continue in my role as Asset Manager at BP, looking after joint interest properties in the deepwater Gulf of Mexico. If you are ever in Houston, give me a call! (naniajc@bp.com)

DeZoeten, Rudi, BS 1985

I returned from Asia in 2001 to work in the deep water Gulf of Mexico, moving from east to west. This is the first time I’m working in a USA basin since leaving Madison so many years ago. Life back in the states is busy, expensive, and you have to do everything yourself. At the moment, following the kids through their sporting adventures is our family life.

Germain, Steve, BS 1985

My first year as part owner of Aspect Consulting LLC (2002) was a great one. The family, including Hannah (9) and Emily (6), remain healthy and relatively happy.

Process, Todd, BS 1985

Hello Wisconsin!! I live in the mining state of Nevada. Beginning in 1989, I was working as a geochemist for an assay laboratory helping other geologists look for gold and silver to develop mines. As exploration curtailed over the past five years, I changed course in June of 2000 when I was offered a good job with the State of Nevada as a reclamation specialist. I review operating mine plans and components to insure that the reclamation procedures are bonded properly to protect the interests of the state on both private and public lands (BLM).
My education at UW has rewarded me in more ways than I ever imagined. Bob Gates was correct in telling us to learn our chemistry to better our understanding of Geology. Ugh! was the sound from our collective mouths. I am married with a five year daughter Amanda and new ten-month-old twins (!!), boy and a girl, Austin and Grace. We own two acres of property on the very eastern slope of the Sierra Nevada mountain range 5700 ft. with spectacular views across Nevada and California. My life is a dream come true in many ways. I recognize how my early struggles at UW acquiring a good education pay off in the long run and I hope to instill the same in my children. (tprocess@ndep.nv.gov)

**Pruett, Bob, BS 1985**

Bob is Minerals Technology Manager for IMERYS Pigment and Additives based in Sandersville, Georgia. He is on the editorial board for *Applied Clay Science* and he is the Secretary-Treasurer for the Industrial Minerals Division of SME. He resides with his family in Milledgeville, Georgia. (bobpruett@alltel.net)

**Stoertz (Wilder), Mary, MS 1985, PhD 1989**

I am continuing work as Faculty Director of the Appalachian Watershed Research Group at Ohio University. We are the research arm for many active watershed groups in SE Ohio, focusing mainly on damages from coal mining (streams pH=3-4). Collaborations with state and federal agencies are stronger every year; more faculty participating in multidisciplinary research efforts. We’re seeing more clean water. Come visit! We renovated our house this year, and are still reeling from the disarray and writing hundreds of checks to carpenters, plumbers, electrician, tillers, painters…. Of note, we raised our kitchen counters six inches above normal to accommodate ourselves and soon-to-be towering teenagers. And we put in a sauna. Come visit!

**Atere, Shashank, MS 1990, 1993**

I continue to teach Earth Science and Environmental Science along with Physics and Math courses at Robert Morris College, Chicago, IL. My wife Seema and children Meghena and Ashutosh accompanied me to India twice in 2002. The first time was to dispense my father’s ashes in the holy river of Ganges, the second time, in Dec. 2002, for a more festive occasion, a wedding. The kids enjoyed the five-day Hindu wedding ceremonies.

**Soicher, Alan, BS 1992**

I now work as watershed restoration coordinator for the Nooksack Indian Tribe near Bellingham, Washington, and am licensed with the state as a Geologist and Hydrogeologist. In 2002 I married a wonderful woman from Oklahoma named Stephanie, and she gave birth to our first child, Isaiah. I was appointed to a public member seat on the state Forest Practices Board, an independent state agency that establishes rules to protect public resources while maintaining a viable timber industry in Washington. (alan@nas.com)

**Navarre, Jon F., BS 1993**

My wife (of nearly nine years) and I are busy with work, travel, and church activities. (jnavarre@powerbond.com)

**Phillipson, Sandin E., BS 1993**

In 1999, I finished my PhD in Geology with the Colorado School of Mines. In 2000, I joined the Mine Safety and Health Administration, where I work as a geologist with the Roof Control Division of Technical Support out of Pittsburgh. I have a paper on the control of coal bed decollement on roof falls in Late Paleozoic coal basins of North America coming out in the International Journal of Coal Geology. I’ve also been promoting the implementation of geologic hazard mapping and greater appreciation of geology in mining at SME (Phoenix & Cincinnati) and GSA (Denver—enjoyed seeing Phil Brown and Charlie Byers!). I currently have a project going to use petrography to relate textures/mineralogy/grain size to rock mechanics properties, in order to better understand stress-related mine instability. (sedward@ix.netcom.com)

**Jewell, Robert, BS 1994**

I started a new position in January of 2000, as Quality Control Manager for the Kraemer Company (a mining company) in Plain, WI. I am married to my wife of three years, Dawn, and we have a 13 month old son, Will.

**Stoddard, John, BS 1996**

I am working in Lander, WY for NOLS as full time climber/mountaineer/field instructor, mostly out of Tucson, AZ, Lander WY, and Conway WA. I still see lots of rocks up close and personal—I’m mostly happy when they’re not falling off or rolling at me.

**Raatz, William D., PhD 1997**

Recently joined the New Mexico Burea of Geology and Mineral Resources in Socorro. He won the best poster award at the 2002 AAPG Southwest Section Meeting. His topic was “Bias in Cyclic Sedimentation Toward Deposition During Sea Level Turn Around Points.”

**Lorenz (formerly Pittman), Andrea S., BS GLE/Geology 1998**

Andrea passed the Professional Engineering exam in April 2002. She is working as Project Engineer for Superior/Onyx Waste Services, a national garbage hauling and landfill company. She designed and constructed a Subtitle D-compliant landfill facility on Grand Bahama Island (the Bahamas government has no environmental regulations—the existing landfill was a 1960’s style dump where waste was burned.) Andrea’s personal news: her first baby is due April 2003, and the doc says it’s a boy.

**Krause, Rich, BS 1999**

This fall I started in the PhD program in paleontology at Virginia Tech.

**Peotter, Benjamin, GLE 1999**

I am an environmental engineer at RMT in Madison.

**Peotter (Thistle), Jodie, BS 1999**

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