

ALUMNI NEWS 2003

Reid Bryson, Grad work 1941-42, faculty 1946-48.

I'm still modeling Quaternary climate and stream discharge. I received an Honorary Doctor of Engineering from Colorado School of Mines this year.

Howard Schoenicke, PhB 1945, MS 1955.

I am still working as a consulting mining geologist, but on a limited scale. Most of my former clients are either retired or dead. I am doing about two or three jobs per year. But, "Have pick and will travel." Since business is slow, I devote most of my time to flying gliders, playing tennis and golf, skiing in the winter and SCUBA diving. Semi-retirement is not too bad.

Burt Amundson, BS 1949, MS 1951.

I am retired and I continue to enjoy my association with the Sacramento Petroleum Association (SPA). I did extensive travel throughout eastern U.S., Florida, and Wisconsin, visiting friends and of course, geology, this past summer. I'm gearing up to develop CD's for geology using a new Dell computer, using slides of a several thousand collection, accumulated throughout my 50-plus years of professional activity.

Rodney Coenen, BS 1951.

My recent reading of Simon Winchester's *Krakatoa*, with his review of seafloor spreading evidence gathered in the 50's and 60's, brought back a memory, which may be of interest. L.M. Cline gave my lectures for general and historical geology in 1946. On more than one occasion he would excitedly report on magnetic reversal evidence or other confirming field data that (he said) was beginning to show continental drift was looking less like esoteric theory and more like a sure bet. This awe-struck freshman was much impressed with Cline's ability to give immediacy and passion to both his subject and its delivery. I was certain that I was both in-the-know, and ahead-of-the-curve. I hope that all of you for whom plate tectonics is just more geology, have had or will have as great a "WOW" moment as I did when Cline gave me my first realization that continents have traveled the globe.

John Griesbach, BS 1951.

I am retired, and have seven grandchildren.

Ron Tank, BS 1951, MS 1955, WRM 1980.

I am retired. I have recently completed a book, *Geology at Lawrence University 1847-1991*.

Lynn Yelike, BS 1952, MS 1959.

I am emeritus with the U.S. Geological Survey, continuing to do surficial geologic map-completion work in Alaska. I also provide assistance to local historical societies.

Frederick Digert, BS 1954, MS 1955.

We are concentrating on exploration activities in the Tamarugal Basin of Northern Chile. This has been an ongoing study initiated in 1992 and has provided an opportunity to work with a wonderful group of Chilean geologists and geophysicists. We are concentrating on evaluating more than 16,000 feet of marine Jurassic sediments. My wife Donna (UW '54) and I continue to work as firefighters and medical responders in the Boulder area. We have one son working with BP as a petroleum engineer in Alaska and one son working in Southern California as an illumination engineer. Our latest hobbies involve astronomy and Southwestern Indian ruins.

Jim Hartman, MS 1955, PhD 1957.

I'm retired (twice) and enjoying life. Just returned from a six-week trip to Australia and New Zealand.

Raymond Murray, PhD 1955.

Mountain Press will publish my latest book on forensic geology in March 2004. The title is: *Evidence From the Earth*. It's filled with gory crime stories solved with geologic evidence, history of the science, value and use of geologic evidence, methods of examination including geophysics and a chapter on mine, mineral, gem, and art fraud. I had the opportunity this year to give the keynote address at an international conference on forensic geology at the Geological Society of London. Yes, I did get to see and photograph the first geologic map.

Perry Roehl, PhD 1955.

Perry sent *The Outcrop* a copy of his article, "A Commentary—Let's cut directly to the chase: Plate Tectonics versus Expansion of the Planet," *South Texas Geological Society, Bulletin*, p. 9-11 Vol. XLII, No. 8, April 2002. "These past months I have developed an interest in hierarchical tectonic developments centered on thermal expansion and block polygonal evolution, it has now grown into bona fide paranoia about the validity of plate motion. . . ."

Jack Goffman, BS 1956.

I am retired from Goffman, McCormick and Urban (GMA), geochemical consultants, and am a volunteer geologist at the Ocean Institute in Dana Point, California.

Keith Roberts, BS 1956.

I have been semi-retired for several years doing some consulting. I spent most of my career in industrial minerals and mine planning and development in the eastern and central U.S. with some work in Canada and Spain.

John Behrendt, MS 1957, PhD 1961.

I went on a geophysical cruise on the *R/V Nathaniel B. Palmer* to the Ross Sea (and McMurdo) Antarctica Dec.-Jan. 2002-03. I was elected Fellow of American Association for the Advancement of Science for “distinguished contributions to the understanding of crustal controls in the Antarctic Sea Ice and for efforts to protect and manage Antarctica for the scientific benefit of all nations.”

Andrew Walchin, BS 1957, MS 1959.

I worked as a petroleum geologist for Continental Oil until 1971. After working in Washington D.C. and Denver CO as a trial attorney for the United States Department of Justice for over 30 years thereafter, I ostensibly retired in 2001. However, I have continued to work decreasing amounts of part-time on environmental and water rights matters. In December of 2001, perhaps prompted by a brain tumor, Janey Davenport and I married in Rochester, MN, immediately followed by my surgery and weeks of radiation. All is well, with no recurrence after two years, and we are enjoying our retirement years at our cottage in Stone Lake WI (half the year) and Denver CO and elsewhere (the other half). I thought some of my friends from long ago might find this update of some interest.

Email: Janeycolo@hotmail.com

John Mathie, BS 1958.

I retired in 1993 after 33 years teaching science and English in Wauwatosa, including much geology learned from Woollard, Cline, Gates, Tyler, Laudon, etc.

James Michelson, BS 1958.

I am retired.

John Howard Tyler, BS 1958.

I am still retired.

Email: placido@batnet.com

M. Ray Thomasson, PhD 1959.

Thomasson Partners Associate, Inc. is still going strong into our 14th year and has projects in twelve states. Out of a staff of 32 partner associates, we have five Wisconsin grads (John Andrew, Dan Bakker, Terry Mather, Tom Steward and me). I have just finished the presidency of the American Geological Institute and will have more time for TPA, grandchildren and personal travel.

Carl Piette, BS 1960, MS 1963.

Retired; consulting geologist; oil producer.

William Burt, MS 1963.

I have retired from Eaton Vance Investment Managers in Boston.

Email: burt.william@verizon.net

Elwood Brooks, PhD 1964.

I'm retired and am a research associate for the University of California-Davis, Department of Geology. I'm still doing research in the northern Sierra Nevada and Baja CA; the California Geological Survey Map Sheet 55, “Geologic Map of the Haskell Peak Area, Sierra County, California,” was published in July. We now have a winter home in Oro Valley, AZ to which we will retire in early December. We are “snowbirds”! Please continue to host the GSA receptions. We had a wonderful time in Denver (Oct. 2002) jawing with classmates Dave Hite, Tor Nilsen, Freddy Schwab, etc.

Email: woody@cwo.com

Doug Nolte, BS 1964.

I strayed from the field of geology, having graduated in 1964 with a BS in the endeavor, but then moved on the Cartography from the inimitable Prof. Robinson and Randy Sale in the Cartography lab (MS Geography 1966). But my real impetus in the earth sciences came from Bob Dott and his colleagues in the Geology Department. This was probably spearheaded by none other than the crusty Lowell Laudon whose intro Geology course hooked many a prospective prospector. His spirit of adventure and descriptions of encounters with the outdoors truly grabbed me and swept me into the very meaning of the scientific adventurer. Luckily for me I've not forgotten this and feel it to this day.

Nancy Neal Yeend, BS 1965.

Nancy continues her career as a mediator, however, her experiences in geology has been helpful. Recently, she mediated a dispute over mining rights over a sand and gravel pit! She just completed her tenth year as faculty at the National Judicial College.

Thomas Waddell, BS Chemistry 1966 (with 23 hours of geology!)

My wife and I live in rural Tennessee with lots of outcrops and a very sweet Great Dane! My research interests combine geology and organic chemistry—the origin of metabolic pathways. I am grateful to Dr. Dott for outstanding teaching!!

Jim McCaslin Brown, PhD 1968.

I was promoted to Professor of Environmental Geology (Alaska Pacific University) in May 2003. I have been teaching at APU since 1987; still continuing consulting work in environmental geology. My ex-wife Dean Naomi Brown (BS 1967) is currently Deputy Director of the Division of Forestry, State of Alaska. Greg Wilson (PhD 1990), while working full-time for Conoco-Phillips, has been a part-time Adjunct Professor for us at APU. Thus, we have the alpha to omega or the first and last of Cam Craddock's doctoral students.

Dean Ayres, PhD 1970.

I retired as Chair of Geology & GIS Department at Houston Community College in May 2003. My wife, Diana, also a UW graduate in Geography, and I have retired to Las Cruces, NM to enjoy good weather and magnificent geological scenery. Our new phone number is (505) 525 8334 for any old UW grads and staff passing through.

Email: Ayr56@aol.com

Robert Blodgett, BS 1972.

I continue to enjoy teaching at Austin Community College. My project to construct an automated monitoring well in the Edwards aquifer took major steps forward with completion of a 200-square foot teaching facility/well house, and installation of the Hydrolab probe. Low water levels in the aquifer have hampered further progress. Personal news: We have settled into our newly renovated house enough to adopt Mona, a black and white retriever/border collie puppy. She “replaces” Daisy who died in 2002 at age 14.

Jamie Robertson, MS 1972, PhD 1975.

It's hard to believe but sons Doug and Paul are now seniors at Fort Worth Country Day School. As we go through various school events for the last time after twelve years of FWCDs activity, we are conscious of the transition in progress as they look ahead to university life. Stella continues to be very busy overseeing the development of new pharmaceutical products at Alcon Laboratories. Her most ambitious project, a new medicine called anecortave acetate for the treatment of age-related macular degeneration, has reached phase three clinical trials. Alcon is approaching its second anniversary as a publicly traded company, so Stella also keeps refining her skill at dealing with stock analysts. I continue to do both some oil industry consulting and assorted volunteer activities for geoscience professional societies and university earth science departments. All the best for a great 2004, and we are always happy to see friends if your travels bring you to the Fort Worth area.

Email: jdrsmr@sbcgloal.net

Jack Eloranta, BA 1974.

After 23 years with US Steel Corp., I started Eloranta and Associates, Inc. My company specializes in blast engineering. We will be starting our sixth year this winter. My wife, Elizabeth Johnston Eloranta (UW, 1976), and I have a daughter (a freshman at UW-Superior) and two sons, one in eighth grade and the other, a senior in high school. I'm no longer in geology, but I get to work with mine geologists in most of my projects. I am currently involved in a three-year Department of Energy (through University of Missouri-Rolla) project to cut mining and milling energy costs by 10%. We see various university field trips stopping at area roadside outcrops. If UW

profs are planning Northern Minnesota fieldtrips, we would love to have them stop for a cookout. Also, if a visit to an operating mine is desired I can provide contacts.

Stephen Hall, MS 1974.

I am currently operations manager for a company (Keymaster Technologies) that manufactures EDXRF spectrometers, and I am also doing applications R & D. My personal research is in contaminant transport in aquifers. My daughter, Laura Hall, is studying geology at Washington State University in Pullman.

Thomas Johnson, MS (WRM) 1975, MS 1976.

I was elected President at Groundwater Resources Association at California for 2003-04; I received the 2003 Keith Anderson Award from the National Ground Water Association of Scientists and Engineers.

William York-Feirn, BS 1975.

I worked for 15 years as a geologist for Anaconda, Gold Fields and Noranda. I was part of the team that discovered the New World Au-Cu-Ag deposit in Montana. I now work at CDMG with the state of Colorado (there 12 years) as manager of the Mine Safety & Training Program in Denver. I'm married with two daughters, ages 15 and 13 1/2. We enjoy camping, hiking, x-country skiing, rock climbing and traveling.

Michael Collentine, BS 1977, MS 1979.

I'm working for MWH in Madison—approaching 20 years—managing environmental engineering and hydrogeology projects. I thoroughly enjoyed AIPG/Wisconsin Groundwater Association field trip in October '03 lead by Bob Dott and John Attig to the Baraboo Hills. It refreshed many great memories. One daughter (Sarah) is at the UW-Madison, another (Cathy) just found out she has been accepted at the UW—neither in geology—smarter than their old man—and one son (Will) is in high school.

Barbara Goldman Grundl, BS 1977.

I have been with the WDNR now for seven years in remediation and redevelopment overseeing most issues related to WI-DOT projects as they relate to contaminated soil and groundwater clean up. Tim and I just celebrated 21 years of marriage. Our children (Katie is 15 and Nick 12) are both very healthy and happy. We spent the summer participating in research of the goshawks on the Kaibab Plateau and how their habitat is directly related to how the national forests are managed. We backpacked Paria Canyon (absolutely spectacular) and spent time in the Colorado Rockies. We are expecting to spend August 2004-August 2005 in Switzerland on a year sabbatical. It's hectic preparing for the adventure but we know what a great year it will be. Hi to all who remember me, would love to hear from you.

Email: qtpieqtpie@yahoo.com

James Stark, MS (WRM) 1977.

I am Supervisory Hydrologist with the U.S. Geological Survey and Chief of the Upper Mississippi River portion of the National Water Quality Assessment Program. My wife Carol, a school psychologist, and I have two children. Bethany is in medical school and Andrew is in college at Michigan Technological University.

Heather Macdonald, MS 1979, PhD 1984.

I am excited about the professional development program for current and future geoscience faculty, *On the Cutting Edge*, funded by a five-year national dissemination grant from the National Science Foundation. Cathy Manduca, Dave Mogk, Barb Tewksbery and I are the PI's on this project. Check out our website at <http://serc.carleton.edu/NAGTWorkshops>.

Jonathan Skuba, BS 1980.

I'm in my seventh year as a consulting mechanical engineer. My wife Jill and I have three children, Lauren, 19 (who attends the University of Colorado-Denver), Sean, 12, and Kristen, 6. I have taken a great interest in rocketry as a hobby, and I'm still biking and climbing Colorado's glorious 54 14,000 ft. peaks.

Cynthia (Anderson) Wallace, MS 1980.

I earned a PhD in Geography and Regional Development at the University of Arizona in 2002. I am working with the U.S. Geological Survey in Tucson.

Richard Manser, MS 1983.

I am employed at MACTEC Engineering and Consulting, Inc., in San Francisco.

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Reed Meek, MS 1983.

Joined the XTO Energy Company of Fort Worth, Texas as Division Geologist.

Matthew Hood, BS 1984.

My company, Environmental & Foundation Drilling, Inc., has drilled four municipal/high capacity wells over 1000 feet deep. It was great to see the geologic samples taken.

Jay Nania, BS 1984, MS 1987.

It's hard to believe that I have been with BP for 17 years already, and almost 18 years since I sat across the table from a Sohio [BP] recruiter in Room 235. In addition to my continuing role as Asset Manager for BP looking after joint interest properties in the deepwater Gulf of Mexico, I have enjoyed a five-year run of being able to sit on the *other side* of the interview table in Weeks Hall. This is an experience I really enjoy, probably more so than the candidates. More recently, I have expanded my recruiting role as BP's liaison to the Cooperative Developmental Energy Program at Fort Valley State University in Georgia. It is a superb, one-of-a-kind minority education program. I encourage you to check it out on the web. On a personal note, most of my time is spent with

my wife Silvia and our three kids—Christina (age 8), Jason (age 6), and Julia (age 4). In the spring of 2003, I even found myself standing in front of 200 second graders delivering their first ever lesson on geology (finding oil and gas in 5000' of water is easier. . .). The most recent addition to our family is Becky, the golden retriever. My daughter registered her full pedigree name as *Christina's Becky Badger*. No influence whatsoever from her father. . .2004 will also mark the end of my term as Chairman of the University of Wisconsin Department of Geology and Geophysics Board of Visitors. Service in this role has been one of the most rewarding experiences of my career. You can read more about our activities elsewhere in this edition of *The Outcrop*. I invite all of my fellow alumni to take a more active role in the support of this great department. You won't be disappointed that you did!

William Boone, MS 1985.

I am doing psychometric investigation of an assessment instrument to evaluate Earth Science misconceptions.

Gregory Ronning, BS 1988.

My son Justin went to Italy as an exchange student. He stayed with a family in a small town in the Alps. He still wants to be a chef, though.

Nick Van Wyck, MS 1989, PhD 1995.

Nick is doing some adjunct teaching at the University of Alaska, but mostly works in exploration, and, "I taught myself to fly and now own a small plane. Geology from the air is most spectacular up here." Nick also mentioned the paper by Bob Dott and Gordon Medaris (Baraboo Revisited, 2002, *The Outcrop*) and he maintains an interest from his PhD on the age relations of the Baraboo quartzite and Baxter Hollow granite.

Branden Born, BS 1993.

I have accepted a position as an assistant professor of land use planning in the department of urban design and planning at the University of Washington-Seattle ("the other" UW). This spring I was in Madison working as a research director for Dave Cieslewicz's mayoral campaign. My natural and environmental science background has helped me in each of my career steps. I will add, though, that I outlived the utility of the advice of my advisorial group at UW-Geo, who collectively wondered why one would want to skip a second semester of physics in exchange for stats, soils, and GIS. I've never approached the use of the physics, but will be teaching stats and use it regularly; soils are the interface of land and people; and if one weren't using GIS by now for land use classification and mapping it would seem incredible. Perhaps the moral of the story is that we, as geologists, should recognize the broad synthetic qualities of our field, and not be so concerned with pigeonholing ourselves into narrow boxes. . .at least not our students. GeoBadgers have much to offer in geology and outside it. On Wisconsin!

Jon Navarre, BS 1993.

We have moved from Ann Arbor Michigan to Adairsville Georgia. Our first child was born October 16, 2003, Rebecca Jean Navarre. I hope all is well.

Gregory Roselle, MS 1993, PhD 1997.

I started a new job in January with a private company. I'm working as a senior scientist/model analyst on the Yucca Mountain Project. I'm doing what's known as Total System Performance Assessment. We're doing complex computer simulations to evaluate the safety of the Yucca Mountain repository. On the personal side things are going well. We just bought a house here in Las Vegas and Marsha and the kids (four of them now, Rachael 13, Maria 8, Zachary 4 and Thomas 18 months) are thrilled to hopefully be semi-permanently settled. Hello to everyone back there.

Email: Gregory.Roselle@ymp.gov

Coco Van den Berg, MS 1995.

I am branch manager of the analytical lab at SGS Minerals Services in Huntington, Utah.

Chris Van de Ven, BS (GLE) 1997.

I am working in the GIS section of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers after earning my PhD in the Ecological and Environmental Sciences Department at Stanford University.

Eric Carson, MS 1998, PhD 2003.

I'm now in my second semester teaching at San Jacinto College in Houston (enjoying it, although it's keeping me quite busy); I'm the sole geology professor here in a small Natural Sciences Department (seven total professors in Geo, Bio, Chem, and Phys). I'm continuing geomorph research in the Uinta Mountains of Utah, and this summer plan to begin some collaborative work in Wyoming/Colorado with Mike Daniels, a 2002 grad of the UW Geography Department.

Meredith (Rhodes Carson, MS 1998, PhD 2002) has now been working for BP here in Houston for just over a year, mostly working on an exploration team working in the Gulf of Mexico. She's starting to get involved in organizing fieldtrips, and in the last year has had the opportunity to travel to Ireland, western Canada, and Azerbaijan. The big personal news for us is that in May we're having our first child—probably a budding geologist. It will be a daughter, and she's due May 4 to be exact (although due dates never are). The timing is perfect because Meredith will have her maternity leave and I'll also be off for most of the summer from teaching. We'll be up in Madison in July for Danny Douglass' wedding, so we'll certainly be stopping by the department to show her off.

Email: Eric.Carson@sjcd.edu

Jeff Pietras, MS 1998, PhD 2003.

After finally defending my PhD at the end of October 2003, I rushed the appropriate corrections so I could leave for Anchorage Alaska in early December to start with BP. I am currently involved in well planning for Prudhoe Bay, the largest oil field in North America. After all the years of producing oil from the Ivishak Formation there are limited reserves left; in fact, we are literally trying to drain the very bottom of the barrel (no pun intended). My mentor, Cole Abel, with whom I interact on a daily basis, worked with Dr. Bob Dott in earning his Master's degree at UW-Madison. Indeed, Badgers are everywhere! In early March I am headed to Vietnam for a two-week new hire induction event. All this is proof that a lot can happen in just three months after graduating from one of the best geology and geophysics departments around. ON WISCONSIN!

Email: Jeff.Pietras@bp.com

Michael Tompkins, MS 1998, PhD 2003 (GLE).

After finishing my dissertation in late 2002, my fiancée, Vong, and I moved to Houston, and I started a job in research and development at BP Corporation. After a year at BP, I realized that the company was a little too big, so I took a job as senior research geophysicist with a small start-up company, OHM Ltd., in the UK—they have 30 employees not 120,000! Vong and I now live in Aberdeen, Scotland and are enjoying traveling Europe as much as possible. We have only been in Aberdeen since Jan, 2004, but our recent trips include Greece, Belgium, France, and much of the North of Scotland. Our UK highlights include Hogmanay in Edinburgh and the Jorvik Viking festival in York. Of course, emails are always welcome.

Email: mike.tompkins@ohmsurveys.com

Sara Principato, MS 1999.

I received my PhD last year from the University of Colorado, Boulder, and now I have a faculty position at Gettysburg College. I am in the environmental studies department and the only geologist on campus. I was recently asked to evaluate the college's mineral collection (housed in storage)—quite funny if you remember that I was one of Dave's Quats!

Email: sprincip@gettysburg.edu

Chad Trabant, MS 2000.

Renate Hartog (a past PostDoc of Cliff's) and I were recently married and are now expecting a child in late April/early May. After living for three years in the Netherlands we have just recently moved to Seattle, WA where I accepted a position at the IRIS Data Management Center.

Email: chad@subgroove.net

Michael Tryggestad, MS 2000.

I am working for ExxonMobil Exploration Company, in Houston. My current focus is deepwater exploration in the Central Gulf of Mexico. In 2002 I was one of five full time staff working exclusively on corporate philanthropy, helping to raise over \$9M for the local United Way. During that time I was very fortunate to work under the guidance of fellow Badger, Mike Johnson. Mike, who logged 31 years with the company, has since retired from the company and moved with his wife, Nan, to Crested Butte, CO. On our home front, Jen and I are expecting our first child in September. Thankfully, Eric Carson and Meredith Rhodes are about five months ahead of us, so we will be able to learn from their trials and tribulations.
Email: mike.a.tryggestad@exxonmobil.com

Darrell Stanley, PhD 2001.

I'm starting on my third year working as a geophysicist for BP in Houston. I'm currently doing exploration in the Perdido area of the deep water Gulf of Mexico. I'm enjoying work and the occasional travel that accompanies the job, especially recruiting trips back to Madison. I recently bought a small house about seven blocks from Eric and Meredith Carson's place in an area

of Houston called the Heights. I probably live closer to them now than when we were in Madison. That's not, however, the reason I bought the house, which was to give my dog, Blue, some space to run around. I've since learned that in addition to running around, she likes to eat grass and dig holes. I'm still working on teaching her to fetch.
Email: Darrell.Stanley@bp.com

Katie (Thornburg) Stariha, MS 2003.

I graduated in August 2003 with my Masters after working with Dr. Nita Sahai in aqueous geochemistry (see photo page 46). I got married in the end of June, 2003 and, after graduating, moved to northern Wisconsin. I am currently working with the St. Croix Chippewa Indians of Wisconsin in their Environmental Services office, serving as their groundwater specialist and grant coordinator and am very happy working here. In my free time I enjoy spending time with my husband and our six-month-old Golden Retriever puppy by talking walks through the woods and playing on the many lakes in the area. We are currently very busy preparing to build a home in the spring.
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Left, at AAPG, Rick Sarg (front), Pete Stark (center back), and Doug Neese (front); below left, Don Yurewicz; below Bob Sneider and Toni Simo. Photos, Eric Frodesen.

