

# Alumni News 2009

## 1950s

### Alfred James III, BS 1951

I was in graduate school in 1951 and '52, and the U.S. Army from 1952-54. I worked with Gulf Oil in Kansas and Colorado from 1954 to '56. I was with Walters Drilling Co. from 1956-65. I have been an independent geologist since 1965. I am a member of several professional societies and have published on the geology of Kansas, Alaska, Colorado and Utah.

### James A. Hartman, MS 1955; PhD 1956

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I am retired (twice). On 9/1/09 we moved into Edgewater, a new Wesley Retirement Community in West Des Moines, IA. About 10 days ago we were "treated" to a 16" snowstorm and we were snowed in for two days. We will be heading to Florida in late December.

### Victor Mayer, BS 1956

Since moving to Colorado I have organized and conducted earth systems workshops for Korean science teachers (2005-2008, summers) in cooperation with faculty at the University of Northern Colorado.

My wife of 43 years, Mary Jo, passed away in May 2008 from lung cancer

## 1960s

### David (Andy) Link, BS 1960

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I continue to teach five-day physical geology courses for the petroleum industry. Locations in 2009 included Perth, Melbourne, Oslo, Tripoli, London, and Aberdeen. Teaching is still fun, so why stop? Between courses in Melbourne and London I was "forced" to stop for six days in the Maldives to conduct some carbonate and beach "research."

### Fred Heivilin, BS 1963

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In 2009 I attended the Sustainable Development Meeting for Engineers in Switzerland and held several positions in SME and AIME. I was Chair of the Thomas County Republican Committee. I presented two papers at 2009 SME annual meeting in addition to being overall chair over six separate sessions of the Industrial Minerals Program.

### Roger L. Gilbertson, BS 1967; MS 1969

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I attended the AAPG Convention (and the UW

reunion) in Denver in June '09. I continue to work as an independent exploration geologist generating drillable prospects in the oil and gas business.

We visited our daughter Dorothy L. Gilbertson-Dahdal, and her family (husband and three children) in Tucson, AZ, over Thanksgiving. She is head of the Pediatric Radiology Department at the University Medical Center in Tucson.

### David R. Schwimmer, BS 1967

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I'm still teaching at Columbus State University (Georgia) after 31 years. I'm doing research on a wide range of paleontology subjects—Cambrian trilobites and Late Cretaceous marine and (some) terrestrial vertebrates. My last book was on the giant crocodylian *Deinosuchus*. I have a new book in the works on dinosaurs in the South.

## 1970s

### Dean Ayres, PhD 1970

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I have continued in retirement in Las Cruces with occasional consulting and yearly stints as a volunteer geologist at the Philmont Scout Camp in northern New Mexico. Also volunteer work as secretary of the local Habitat.

My wife Diana (UW Geography '67) now continues her art at her Mesquite Street studio. A grandson AJ (4) and granddaughter Skye (3) keep us on the go.

### Ralph L. Kugler, BS 1972

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I am a Senior Research Fellow in the Geology Department at the University of Malaya, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.

### Barbara Goldman-Grundl, BS 1977

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I left the field of hydrogeology after 30 years in the DNR and private industry. I am pursuing a certification in early childhood—3rd grade teaching as well as teaching English as a second language.

Both of our kids are off to university leaving us to be empty nesters. Tim and I have taken advantage of our new status traveling to Switzerland for a few weeks to visit friends.

### Steven G. Driese, MS 1979; PhD 1982

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I am concluding six years as Chair of the Geology

Department at Baylor University and have agreed to renew for three more years. I am also concluding my term as President of SEPM, and will join the UW Board of Visitors in September of 2010. I continue with my research of paleosols and paleoclimate reconstructions.

My wife Maryjane continues working part-time as the archivist of the McLennan Community College. My daughter Mary Catherine, a senior at Midway High School, plans to start college at the University of Texas this fall. Nathan is currently in the PhD program at Kansas and Trevor is working for a mortgage company in Knoxville, TN.

## 1980s

### Michelle McSwain, BA 1981

I have worked as a hydrologist for federal land management agencies for the past 23 years, both the US Forest Service and the Bureau of Land Management. Am currently Assistant Field Manager for the Bureau of Land Management in Oregon leading the Range, Hydrology, Fish, and GIS programs.

Personal news: Married for 17 years. No children, one dog. Live on 80 acres in a passive solar house in central Oregon where we watch the storm fronts blow in across the Cascade Mountains. Love to hike, cross-country ski, travel, listen to music.

### Michael Bittner, BS 1984

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I am a partner at Environmental Resources Management (ERM), a global environmental, health, and safety consultancy. I specialize in EHS compliance auditing, management systems, strategic planning, and sustainability consulting. In July 2009 I moved to Boston and became ERM's compliance assurance lead for the northeast. I am also the editor of the *EHS Journal*, an e-zine dedicated to EHS professionals. Please check it out at <http://ehsjournal.org>. We are always looking for articles and readers.

### Greg Kimball, MS 1988

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I am currently a technical manager with WSP Environment & Energy. I am primarily working on a RCRA Facility Investigation report that we hope to have out by the middle of 2010. Data from 200+ monitoring wells, 685 soil samples, and soil vapor samples from 1994 until Dec. 2009. Gotta love that data! The company is

worldwide and I am beginning to make some contacts in Europe and Australia. I really think the Italy office needs me to go there and help them with . . . oh , I don't know, wine tasting, whatever; I just want to go there. I have been able to do a little modeling of light non-aqueous phase liquid distribution and recoverable volumes, which has sent me down the Van Genuchten and specific retention roads of learning. But it's all good and I work with a fantastic bunch of people.

On the personal front we have our first grandchild; a girl, Jalyn Ann. My daughter (Jess) and Jalyn are staying with us right now, so the house is very much alive with activity. My oldest (Cory) is married and he and Cherie think being an uncle and aunt is great, but being a parent will be even better, in a few years that is. And my youngest (Melissa—19 yrs. old) is currently deployed in Iraq with the Army National Guard. We email and even get to occasionally do a video conference via skype, so we keep in touch. But we can't help but worry about her safety.

## 1990s

### Brian Landau, BS GLE 1992

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After eight years working for King County as an engineering geologist and engineer, I accepted a position at the city of Shoreline, WA in March 2009 to manage the Surface Water and Environmental Services Program. It has been quite a change, but a positive one. I am

managing four staff and a surface water program. The program addresses drainage, water quality, and habitat issues within the city.

Personal news: My partner and I just celebrated six years together. We are taking a two+ week trip to Patagonia in March. Also, have ambitious plans to run at least two ultramarathons this year, a 50km trail race in British Columbia (April 2010) and a 50 mile trail race in Wyoming.

## 2000s

### Nicholas G. Hayden, BS 2001

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I switched from measuring Sierra Nevada stream sediments for UC-Santa Barbara to working for NOA's National Marine Protected Areas Center. I'm currently focused on GIS activities studying human uses and impacts in California's ocean.

I live in the scenic Monterey Peninsula and make an effort to get outside as much as possible.

### Yu-Feng Forrest Lin, PhD GLE Hydrogeology 2002

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I am the Founding Director of the ESRI-GIS Development Center at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. The center was established in May 2009.

My second daughter, Charlotte Macy Lin, was born on August 31, 2009. Florence has been very happy to be a big sister. Hsiao-Ching always needs more sleep as a mother of two energetic girls.

### Richard A. Becker, MS 2005

richard.becker@live.com  
I taught all aspects of Intro. Physical Geography this past spring at UW-Platteville, my first time running a class from top to bottom. I then spent the summer working the National Park Service in Glacier Bay.

My spouse **Heidi Crosby (MS 2005)** continues to progress well on her PhD in Microbiology and she should have it finished in a year or two. She spent the summer doing an industry internship with Genencor in Palo Alto, CA attempting to maximize the profitability of an enzyme that they make and sell to Proctor & Gamble for inclusion in Tide laundry detergent.

### Sabrina (Behrens) Bradshaw, BS Geology 2005, MS GLE 2008

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In January 2010 I joined the academic staff of the Geological Engineering Department at UW-Madison.

On September 23, 2009, we welcomed our first son, Eli Flynn, into the world! Life is good.

### Penny Lancaster, MS 2007

I attended the my first Goldschmidt Conference in June 2009 and caught up with Badgers new and old! I'm currently on course to finish my PhD on time. ●

## At the 2009 AAPG GeoBadger Alumni Reception...

*photos by Eric Frodesen*



**Clockwise from top: Steve Driese and Bill Morgan. Right: Bob and Sue Cluff. Bottom: Ken Ciriacks and Rick Sarg. Left: back, Brad Macurda and Alfred James, front, Tom Laudon, and Dan Nedland.**

