Mollie Fredricks, who came to America from Hamburg at age two; her father was German, her mother French. In 1882 they had a son Chester, my grandfather. In 1885 the family moved to Vulcan, MI, east of Iron Mountain, when William became the mine boss at the underground Vulcan iron mine. They lived on a small farm east of town, and reared ten children to maturity.

In 1901 Chester enlisted in the U.S. Army, went to the Philippines, got malaria, and lost his eyesight. Discharged in 1902, he returned to the Vulcan farm and slowly regained vision in one eye. He moved to Houghton and trained as an electrician. In 1905 he married Leila McAllister in Houghton, the next year, after the great San Francisco earthquake, they moved to San Francisco to help rebuild the city. Robert and Alice were born there in 1910. In 1916 the family returned to Houghton, where Alice graduated from high school in 1929. She moved to Chicago, and worked 30 years as an executive secretary at the headquarters of Sear Roebuck & Co.

I was born in 1930, and my Cornish genes eventually led me to Geology.

❖ Robert H. Dott, Jr.

I continued my historical research by completing a long paper to be published in the GSA Bulletin (2001?) titled "The Wisconsin Roots of the Modern Revolution in Structural Geology," which analyzes the major impacts of the Van Hise-Leith-Mead dynasty upon our science. Recently I have been researching William H. Twenhofel's career *(see "The Archivist's Corner" on page 14)*. Being a direct heir of the Wisconsin sedimentary geology tradition that he created, I decided it was time I learned more about the man.

John Attig of the State Survey and I continue writing a *Roadside Geology of Wisconsin*. We are not breaking any speed limits on that road, but we now hope for completion of the writing in 2001. It is destined for the Mountain Press' AAPG award-winning *Roadside Geology* series. Also on the publication side is an upcoming 6th edition of *Evolution of the Earth* (McGraw-Hill), but I happily deferred to my co-author, Donald Prothero (Occidental College), to do 99% of the revision grunt work.

I stayed home from meetings in 2000 and instead traveled with Nancy just for fun. We first joined a group of birders in Trinidad and Tobago in February. Besides fascinating tropical birds, vegetation, scenery and culture, I was also able to sample the geology a bit. Trinidad's famous tar lake and mud volcanoes were especially interesting, but the tectonic effects of an oblique collision of the Caribbean plate with northeastern South America were also noteworthy. In July-August, we joined most of our family for a week-long canoe trip on the Colorado River through Canyonlands, Utah. It is always inspiring for me to revisit those fabulous upper Paleozoic and Mesozoic red and tan sandstones with which students and I have flirted for some 40 years. Needless to say, all of us had a blast. **Gary Gianniny** and wife Cynthia Dott were our veteran outfitters; they now live in Durango, CO, where Gary teaches at Ft. Lewis State College.

In November, we accompanied **Eric Dott** and his family for two weeks in Paris and Bruges, Belgium. It was amusing to view Paris sights through the eyes of a 3 year old; the catacombs and sewer museum were much more interesting for young Collin than the Louvre, Orsay, Pompidou Center, or even the Eiffel. I got a special personal thrill from visiting the Jardin des Plantes, which was the scientific cradle for much of France's great 18th and 19th centuries contributions to the natural sciences. Here were Buffon and Lamarck perched at either end of a central esplanade. And over toward the west were Cuvier's house and lab as well as the Curies' lab. On the opposite side, were a geology museum with wonderful minerals and a paleontology museum with dusty fossilized displays. There is a fine zoology museum, too. Rue de Buffon borders the gardens on the east, Rue Cuvier on the west, and Rue Geoffroy St. Hilaire on the south. Within the gardens are walkways named for Cuvier's geologic collaborator, Brongniart, mineralogist Hauy, physicist Becquerel and other dignitaries.

Geologically I kept getting involved with a remarkable Cambrian fossil locality in central Wisconsin. My first involvement several years ago was to help interpret the environment for some excellent examples of the track called *Climactichnites*, which resembles a jeep tire track thought to have been formed by an extinct giant slug-like animal. More recently, hundreds of impressions of jellyfish medusae have turned up on two or three sandstone layers. The medusae must represent beach strandings of countless animals by onshore storm winds. Curator Klaus Westphal has acquired a fine specimen (see photo in the Museum's Annual Report) of these impressions on a rippled sandstone slab, which is now displayed in our museum near our best slab of *Climactichnites*. Speaking of Cambrian rocks, the annual Great Lakes SEPM Section field trip in September was to western Wisconsin to review new work (by others) on Cambrian sandstones. A good turnout of enthusiastic young sedimentologists made it a fine trip.

At the close of the year, colleagues Gordon Medaris and Mike Mudrey (State Survey) recruited me to help in a small way with the organization of a Baraboo field trip for the annual Lake Superior Institute meeting to be held in Madison in May 2001. Gordon

has been turning up exciting new insights about our venerable Baraboo Quartzite—its age, metamorphism, and regional tectonic relationships. Moral: it pays to revisit old problems with new questions and techniques!

❖ Gordon Medaris

2000 was another busy and enjoyable retirement year. The highlight of the year was returning in August to Norway after an absence of 13 years. I spent the first two weeks doing field work with Hannes Brueckner on high- and ultrahigh-pressure rocks in the Western Gneiss Region, followed by a spectacular two-week tour with Basil Tikoff and an intrepid group of graduate students, traveling from Oslo to the Karmøy ophiolite, Bergen arcs, Devonian extensional basins, Western Gneiss Region, Jotunheimen, the Røros area, and back to Oslo. Then it was off to Vienna to meet Nancy and spend the next month biking along the Danube from Vienna to Budapest, including side trips to savor a great variety of Hungarian wines, including the famous Egri Bikaver (Blood of the Bull) in the Valley of Beautiful Women. While in Budapest we heard an excellent concert in the Franz Lizst Hall, and have now been fortunate enough to have attended performances in the three most famous concert halls of central Europe—the Rudolfinum in Prague, the Musikverein in Vienna, and the Franz Lizst Hall in Budapest.

I'm continuing to do research on the Precambrian geology in the Lake Superior Region and on high-pressure and mantle rocks in central Europe. In May I presented two papers at the 46th Institute on Lake Superior Geology—one on the geochemistry of the Barron saprolite and another on the occurrence of foitite, an alkali-deficient tourmaline, in quartz veins in the Baraboo Quartzite. My review paper on "Garnet peridotites in Eurasian high-pressure and ultrahigh-pressure terranes", which originally appeared in 1999 in *International Geology Review*, was reprinted in 2000 in vol. 4 of the new GSA International Book Series, and another paper with Hannes Brueckner on "A general model for the intrusion and evolution of 'mantle' garnet peridotites...." appeared in the *Journal of Metamorphic Geology*. A comprehensive paper on spinel lherzolite xenoliths from Kozákov volcano in the Czech Republic with Nik Christensen, Herb Wang and Emil Jelínek is in press with the *Journal of Geophysical Research*—it provides a continuous petrological and geophysical view of the upper two-thirds of the lithospheric mantle in central Europe! Viorica Iancu from Bucharest visited our department in November, when we completed probe analyses on our project on South Carpathian eclogites, the results of which we plan to present at the Sixth International Eclogite Conference in Japan in September, 2001.

❖ Lloyd Pray

The year 2000 found me "alive and cheering" with my wife, Carrel, and my Los Angeles son's family, as Wisconsin beat UCLA in the Rose Bowl game. Since then the year has gone far too rapidly with a pleasant mix of many family activities and keeping in touch with my hobby—Geology. During the year I continued to appreciate the "Emeritus" status during retirement, with the privilege of Weeks Hall activities, of colleagues and students, an office, a library and other science support systems. In early April, I enjoyed the annual SEPM-AAPG convention in New Orleans, especially the well-attended UW Geology Alumni gathering, replete with snacks and libations. Mary Anderson, Geology and Geophysics chair, summarized departmental news, and together with Toni Simo, Allan Carroll, and others visited with the many returning former students, including geologist and certified magician, Eric Frodesen who regaled us with some of his tricks.

The geological highlight of my year was the May 12-20 SEPM-IAS International Carboniferous Conference in El Paso, Texas. The conference included two three-day field trips both before and following the El Paso technical sessions. The trips focused on the geology of my career-long "Happy Hunting Grounds" of the Sacramento Mountains of New Mexico and the Guadalupe Mountains, New Mexico and Texas and Toni Simo's research in the Hueco Mountains. The mountain sides seemed a bit steeper than in days of yore but remaining intriguing as succeeding generations of geologists glean new interpretations from their marvelous outcrops. This conference was truly international with many from the UK, Europe and the republics of the former Soviet Union as international petroleum geologists are understandably excited about the potential of multi-billion-barrel Carboniferous (Carbonate) reservoirs in the area of the northern Caspian Sea. Two confirmed are Tengis, long known but coming into new production significance and the newly discovered, apparently giant, Kashagan field. The carbonate strata of the Sacramento Mountains, with its bioherms and associated facies of Mississippian age, and its well-displayed cyclic Pennsylvanian strata, including their algal buildups, have been the target of much research in recent years. Their interpretations now have gained more economic significance. The technical sessions had numerous papers on the potential large oil fields in Kazakstan and excitement of outcropping surface analogs in little-studied mountains of Kazakhstan's bordering republics to the south. It was fun to have the conference dedicated to three octogenarians, Alan Lees of Belgium—the Waulsortain guru and to James Lee Wilson and myself, who have long crawled over Carboniferous outcrops in southwestern USA.