

IN MEMORIAM

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Norman D. Newell at Wisconsin in the 1940's.

Norman D. Newell, faculty 1937-45, Paleontology

Norman D. Newell, an influential paleontologist who challenged opponents of evolutionary theory and helped shape theories explaining the mass extinctions of species, died on April 18, 2005 at his home in Leonia, NJ. He was 96. He had a wide-ranging career that included scholarship, fieldwork, and popular writing. After teaching at UW-Madison from 1937-45, he taught for four decades at Columbia and was simultaneously Curator of

Invertebrates at the American Museum of Natural History in Manhattan. He was named Curator Emeritus in 1977.

Dr. Newell was president of the Society for the Study of Evolution in 1949 and was elected president of the Paleontological Society in 1960 and in 1961. In 1978 he was awarded the American Museum of Natural History's Gold Medal for Achievement in Science. In 1990 he was the recipient of the GSA Penrose Medal. Other awards include a Special Award from the AAPG, and the first Raymond C. Moore Medal for Excellence in Paleontology from SEPM. In 2004 he received the Legendary Geoscientist Award from AGI/AGIF.

Dr. Newell pursued his interests in the evolution of living and fossil bivalve mollusks, the formation and ecology of coral reefs, and the geological history of the Peruvian Andes. He was an early and dedicated investigator of the causes and conditions surrounding marine extinctions. Dr. Niles Eldredge, a present Curator of Paleontology at the American Museum of Natural History, and Dr. Stephen Jay Gould, the essayist and Harvard paleontologist who died in 2002, were students of Dr. Newell's at Columbia University. Newell taught one of the first courses titled "Paleobiology." He emphasized physiology, ecology, and

evolution in welcome contrast with prior descriptive courses in "Invertebrate Paleontology." In 1989 Gould wrote, "I was Norman Newell's student, and everything that I ever do, as long as I live, will be read as his legacy." In fact, Newell's 1963 paper, "Crises in the History of Life," anticipated and undoubtedly inspired Gould's and Eldridge's theory of punctuated equilibrium.

Norman D. Newell was born in Chicago in 1909 and received his bachelor's and master's degrees from the University of Kansas, where he worked his way through playing in a jazz band. His doctorate was from Yale. He is survived by his wife, the former Gillian Wormall.

Albert R. Perko, BA 1940

A resident of Kirkland, WA, Mr. Perko passed away on Dec. 14, 2005 at the age of 89. He is survived by his wife Margaret, son Lee, and daughter Kathy.

James M. Parks, Jr., MS 1949, PhD 1951

James Marshall Parks, Jr. died January 29, 2005 at his home in Wilmore, Kentucky. He fell on ice as he stepped to the mailbox to get the morning paper. He suffered a severe head injury in the fall and did not regain consciousness. He is survived by his wife, Joyce, stepson Steve of Columbus, Ohio, son Joel of California, and an older brother, and younger sister.

Jim was born April 1, 1925 in Topeka, Kansas, where his father was employed as editor, manager of Cappers Farmer Protective Service, and the Capper Foundation for Crippled Children. Following graduation from high school, he entered the University of Kansas with a Summerfield Scholarship in 1942, where he came under the spell of his advisor, Lowell Laudon. From 1943-46 he was in the US Naval Reserve. After completing the college V-12 program, he was commissioned as an ensign and served on the USS Reno, anti-aircraft light cruiser in the Atlantic and Pacific. Parks received his BA, Phi Beta Kappa, from KU in 1948 and followed Laudon to the University of Wisconsin for his MS in 1949 under LRL on Mississippian corals and stratigraphy in Utah. As a graduate research assistant, he received his PhD in 1951 for work under Laudon and chemistry professor Farrington Daniels on thermoluminescence of limestones. During 1951-52, he was a Fulbright Scholar at Edinburgh, Scotland. He then worked as a research geologist for Shell Development Company in Houston and Pure Oil Research Center in Crystal Lake, Illinois. After Pure merged with the Union Oil Company, Parks managed Union's Geological/Geochemical Research Company at Brea, California. In 1967, he became professor of geology at Lehigh University, teaching



James M. Parks in 1977.

sedimentology and directing the university's Marine Science Center in Bethlehem, Pennsylvania. Following retirement in 1987, he helped found a small company, StaDeep, for scouring ship channels and stabilizing nearshore sands by burying perforated pipes and pumping to partially dewater the sand. After early success, the company folded when Parks could not afford to contend patent litigation.

Jim had published more than 35 titles on beachface dewatering, shape analysis of detrital particles, bivalves and forams, Pennsylvanian and Permian carbonate deposits, and gave at least that many presentations before professional societies. He had published one book, *A Day at the Bottom of the Sea*, had done the research and presented a paper on the effects of post-war oil-company research labs on academic geology, and had written one novel and started on another.

Jim Parks had been working at his computer the day before his untimely death on *Bushels of Fossils*, a biography of UW's legendary paleontologist Lowell R. Laudon. The first draft of the book had recently been returned from his editor at Wisconsin, where it is to be published by the Department of Geology and Geophysics. Joyce Parks gave Jim's disks, notes, and manuscript to Bud Holland, Jim's KU classmate and now geology professor emeritus of the University of North Dakota, to complete the revisions. The intention is to have Jim's book published in the summer of 2006. Contributions toward this end can still be received by the Department of Geology and Geophysics.

F.D. Holland, Jr.

Lewis Austin Weeks, MS 1949, Bacteriology

Lewis Austin Weeks, the only child of Lewis G. and Una Weeks, died on February 27, 2005 at Miami, Florida. He was 79. Because of his family's great generosity to our department and his MS degree from UW-Madison, we honor his passing. He also earned an MS in geology from Columbia University (1950), so he clearly was one of us.

Like his parents, Austin was an international personality throughout his life. He was born in Curacao in 1926, but only two weeks later moved with his family to Venezuela. Subsequently the Weeks lived in Argentina, Brazil, and settled in Westport, CT. Austin's early schooling was in England and Scarsdale, NY. After earning a bachelor's degree in Pre-Med from Brown University, he was commissioned as an ensign in the US Naval Reserve and sent briefly to a Naval Communications School at Harvard. From there, Austin served in the Mediterranean theater and later was assigned to Gen. Douglas MacArthur's communications staff in Tokyo during the post-World War II occupation.

After the war, he did some post-graduate study at Brown and then came to Wisconsin for his MS in industrial bacteriology. During summers, Austin worked for the Sinclair Oil Co. in Wyoming. Meanwhile, he went to Columbia University to learn more about geology and received an MS in structural geology in 1950. Then he joined the General Petroleum Co. (a Mobil subsidiary) covering the Rocky Mountain region from a base in Salt Lake City. Here he married Marta Sutton in 1951.

Coincidentally, Marta's father, petroleum geologist Fred Sutton (deceased), and her mother Ann had been close friends of the Lewis Weeks family in South America. The Austin-Marta union had a curious twist of fate, for Austin's mother, Una Weeks, and Fred Sutton had died about the same time. Some years later, Lewis and Ann Sutton, were married, meaning that Austin had married his stepsister. He liked to joke about this novel circumstance.



Marta and L. Austin Weeks at the dedication of Weeks Hall, Madison, 1974.

Austin was transferred to California in 1957, but he and many associates were terminated during a major reorganization of his company in 1960. Austin then tried working in real estate and investments, but soon joined the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration in Miami as a marine geologist. In 1964 he served as Chief Scientist for exploration of the Andaman Sea during an International Indian Ocean Expedition. Next he formed a consulting firm and joined his father's newly formed Weeks Petroleum Ltd. as Vice President and Director. After a 1984 raid on the company's stock by an Australian entrepreneur, Austin retired and took up photography and music. Like his father, Austin became a generous philanthropist, especially with important gifts to the American Association of Petroleum Geologists, the University of Miami Music School, the University of Wyoming, the Miami Zoo, a hospital foundation, and the Episcopal Church (in which Marta had become an ordained minister). In February 2006, the AAPG Foundation announced that Austin had left a bequest of \$10 million to the Foundation, the largest gift ever to the association. Marta has also made a generous gift to her father's alma mater, the University of Utah, for the construction of a new geology building.

R.H. Dott, Jr.

Milton Zeni, BS 1949

A resident of Norman, OK, Mr. Zeni passed away in June 2004. He retired from Chevron in 1977.

Robert Dollase, BS 1950

A resident of Frankfort KY, Mr. Dollase passed away on October 20, 2005. He was 83.

Alonzo Jacka, MS 1957

Former chair of the Department of Geology, Texas Tech University, Dr. Jacka died on December 5, 2005.

William H. Guhl, BS 1960

A resident of Myrtle Beach SC, Mr. Guhl died on Oct. 16, 2004.

Robert M. Sneider, PhD 1962

Bob Sneider died October 29, 2005 just three weeks after the death of his wife, Ramona. He was 76. Bob had a long and distinguished career in petroleum geology, being the AAPG's 2001 Sidney Powers Medalist. He was a strong supporter of our department and joined our Board of Visitors in 2002. Bob and Ramona contributed very generously to the Museum and, as part of the new wing project for Weeks Hall, they contributed a complete remodeling of the Museum lobby area with large panels of Cambrian sandstone prominently displayed. These are just a few of the many ways in which Bob Sneider realized his strong commitment to giving back to society for the education and fulfilling livelihood that he had enjoyed.

Sneider was a native of New Jersey and received his BS degree (1951) from Rutgers University. He first majored in engineering, but a course in mineralogy converted him to geology even though he had to give up a scholarship to do so. He observed that the geology faculty worked more closely with its students than did the engineers and the geologists seemed to have more fun. One of his professors, UW graduate John Prucha, suggested that Bob pursue graduate studies at Wisconsin. So, after serving in the US Army in Korea as a combat engineering officer, he did come here and earned the PhD under the direction of Bob Gates. His research topic was the petrology of a mafic complex in southeastern New York State.

Sneider's goal had been to work in the minerals industry, but there were no jobs there when he needed one. Former UW classmate Ray Murray suggested that he interview with his company, Shell, when Ray's boss, Augustus Archie, was coming soon to Madison to interview students. Bob later said that "Meeting Archie was the turning point of my professional life." Coincidentally, Gustavus E. Archie was also a UW graduate (engineering BS, 1930; geology MS, 1933). At Shell Research, Gus Archie had practically created the field that he called petrophysics. He schooled Sneider well and they became the closest of friends. Bob resolved to devote time to mentoring younger



Bob Sneider received our Distinguished Alumnus Award in May 2001. Here he acknowledges the applause of the department at the 2001 Spring Banquet.

geologists as Gus had mentored him. In appreciation of his debt to Archie, Bob established Gustavus Archie Memorial Grants in the AAPG Foundation. He also created the Archie Conferences on petrophysics, the first of which was held in 1990.

First in the Army and later at Shell, Sneider learned the importance of team efforts among people with different talents. He was an advocate of joint efforts long before "multidisciplinary teams" entered the common vocabulary. Long ago when I was in the industry, geologists and engineers hardly ever spoke to each other, instead making snide jokes about one another. The multidisciplinary approach is so obviously better that it is surprising how long it took to become commonplace. The team approach was the basis in 1974 for Bob and a Shell associate to found Sneider and Meckel as a multidisciplinary consulting firm, which soon participated in the discovery of more than a dozen new fields, most notably a giant deep gas field in western Canada. In 1981, Bob founded Robert M. Sneider Exploration, which has been very successful in applying better reservoir characterization and recovery methods for reviving production from old fields thought by many to be exhausted. In so doing, Sneider was applying what he had learned at Shell with great success.

In addition to his extensive consulting work, Bob has given back to the profession especially through AAPG. He taught many continuing education courses, was a Distinguished Lecturer several times, and chaired numerous committees. He was also a Distinguished Lecturer for the Society of Petroleum Engineers. Besides AAPG's highest award, the Sidney Powers Medal, he received Honorary Membership and a Distinguished Service Award from AAPG. Sneider was also elected to the National Academy of Engineering, an uncommon honor for a geologist.

Bob and Ramona Sneider had three children, all of whom are involved in the petroleum industry. John is also a geologist and partner in Robert M. Sneider Exploration.

R.H. Dott, Jr.

CONTINUING THE SNEIDER LEGACY: THE ROBERT M. AND RAMONA A. SNEIDER GEOLOGY MUSEUM FUND

Bob and Ramona Sneider had a special love for the Geology Museum. Their support was responsible for the magnificent Cambrian shoreline specimens that are displayed in the first floor lobby of Weeks Hall (see the 2005 Museum Annual Report) and they also provided funds last spring for a much needed upgrade of lighting in the rock and mineral exhibit area. Friends, family, and admirers of Bob and Ramona have established a new fund in their memory to continue their tradition of support of the museum. Initial contributions to the fund are being used to complete the lighting upgrade in other areas of the museum. Future donations will be used to further enhance the museum exhibits that attract over ten thousand visitors a year. Donations to the fund may be made through the University of Wisconsin Foundation.



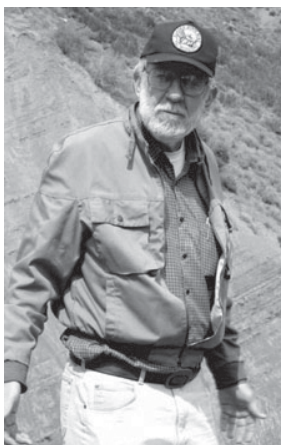
Ramona (left) and Bob Sneider (right) chat with the Dotts, Bob and Nancy, at the 2001 Spring Banquet.

Tor H. Nilsen, MS 1964, PhD 1967

Tor Nilsen died on October 9, 2005 after a six-year battle with melanoma; he was 63. When Tor came to the University of Wisconsin in 1962, it was immediately apparent that this big, red-haired, first-generation Norwegian-American, who grew up in Queens and graduated with honors from City College of New York, was going to stand out (as did fellow geology major Colin Powell for whom Tor was a TA). Tor had been a star college basketball player and could have turned professional. He was one of the few people I have known who simply had to be active athletically—both his body and soul demanded it. During his last years of horrendous cancer treatments, he was still winning Seniors basketball tournaments. Growing up in New York City and competing in athletics forged in Tor a formidable tenacity and resourcefulness, which served him well in creating professional opportunities and in geological debates.

Tor's MS thesis concerned two pure Precambrian quartzites within a thick succession of black slates and graywackes in northern Wisconsin. For his PhD language requirement, he chose Norwegian, which was unusual, but easily acceptable at Wisconsin with its strong tradition of Scandinavian studies. He also proposed to do his dissertation research in Norway. I was ill equipped to help with arrangements there, but he himself solicited suggestions for problems and for logistical advice from Norwegian geologists. He chose to attack a challenging thick, monotonous, succession of post-Caledonian Devonian conglomerates in a sparsely settled region with foul weather. Tor showed great initiative and persistence in executing a brilliant sedimentological analysis, which was published as a memoir by the Geological Survey of Norway.

In Madison, Tor was a Knapp House Fellow, which provided living accommodations with a select group of graduate students especially interested in interdisciplinary and international associations. Meanwhile, student unrest was beginning and Tor joined a 1966 anti-war sit-in, but he finished his PhD before the more violent campus actions began in October 1967. For several years we had an interesting correspondence about the effects of the Vietnam War upon our society. Tor worked briefly for Shell Development Co. under A.W. Bally after completing the PhD, but was soon called to active military duty, having obtained an ROTC commission at CCNY. He was assigned to the Army Map Service to make gravity observations for geodetic purposes across North America and Iceland, tasks at least somewhat related to his training. In 1969, Tor accepted a post-doctoral fellowship with the USGS in Menlo Park and was then offered a regular appointment. Shortly after joining the Survey, he was badly injured in an auto accident, which precluded field work for a time. While he convalesced, Tor used air photos to develop a series of geological hazard maps for the San Francisco area. These important early contributions to urban environmental geology are still much in demand for land-use planning.



Tor Nilsen in 2001.

Once he was fit and playing basketball again, Tor worked on a broad range of sedimentological and tectonic projects in California, Alaska, Idaho, Oregon and on several marine cruises. In 1985 he left the Survey for commercial consulting with RPI Pacific. With the collapse of oil prices in 1986, however, that company failed. Characteristically, Tor rebounded promptly by developing his own practice of consulting and teaching in workshops and field trips. He was one of the longest-time field seminar leaders for AAPG.

Consulting took Tor all over the world—I received notes from Norway, Kuwait, Indonesia, Australia, China, and elsewhere. In 1988 he took a six months leave to study turbidites in Italy with several leading sedimentologists and another year he lived in France while doing consulting in Europe. Tor still remained active in his adopted homeland of California to the very end, however, and was co-leading one of his field seminars only a few months before his death.

Last spring Tor received the Pacific Section AAPG's Honorary Life Membership Award and also the California Geology Hall of Fame Living Legends Award for "Extraordinary Lifetime Work Towards Improving the Geoscience Professions." The latter award was primarily in recognition of the importance of his urban geology contributions in the early seventies. When he died, Tor was much involved in co-editing an ambitious world atlas of deepwater deposits to be published in 2006 by AAPG. His co-editors are dedicating the volume to Tor, who will also be listed as senior author. What a nice tribute.

His family was very important to Tor and accompanied him for some of his longer stays abroad. Tor's wife, Paula Jeffries-Nilsen, teaches geology at San Jose State University, and lives in San Carlos, CA with their son, Eirik, and two daughters, Siri and Brit. An older son, Anton, lives in Florida.

Memorial gifts were specified by the family to be sent to the Department's Sedimentary Geology Fund.

R.H. Dott, Jr.

Charles V. Guidotti, faculty 1969-81, Metamorphic Petrology

Charles Guidotti died in May 2005 in Maine. He was born in 1935 in Somerville, MA, attended Yale University (BS, 1957) and earned the PhD from Harvard in 1962. His specialty was metamorphic petrology, which he pursued throughout his career through research in New England, chiefly in Maine.



Charles V. Guidotti in 1980.

Guidotti's entire career was spent in academia. His first position was at the University of California at Davis (1962-68) followed by his 12 years at UW-Madison. In 1981, he moved to

the University of Maine at Orono, where he remained until his retirement in January 2005, due to illness. The opportunity to live permanently and to teach in his favorite place in the world among the rocks he loved best was too good to pass up.

Charles Guidotti's work highlighted Maine as a world-class example of low pressure-high temperature metamorphism so common in many orogenic belts. In 2001, he was awarded an Honorary Degree in Geological Sciences by the University of Padua, Italy in recognition of "Professor Guidotti's distinguished career in metamorphic petrology and mineralogy and his long association with scientists at the University of Padua."

Guidotti's sense of humor and outspoken personality were notorious. At Wisconsin we remember his many good humored exchanges with students, which prompted graduate student Tom McCarthy to create a clever cartoon series titled *Metamorphic Man*, which is well remembered by all who inhabited the department during the 1970s. Everyone looked forward eagerly to the next installment. The hero, a barely disguised C.V.G., became entangled in various deeds and misdeeds, from which he always escaped miraculously. Various graduate students, especially the "Room Five Krazies," were also satirized in McCarthy's clever jibes. One of the issues included *The Ballad to Metamorphic Man* (to the tune of Davey Crockett), whose chorus was "Metamorphic Man, king of petrology." No one enjoyed those spoofs more than Guidotti himself. One particularly memorable event was the day that Charlie, in a cleaning mode, decided to throw out some old, unlabeled reagents in the lab that he inherited from Con Emmons in the north end of Science Hall. A loud boom was heard throughout the building when one of the reagents went into the drain, mixed with water, and blew the sink off the wall. Guidotti took a lot of ribbing over that *faux pas* which assured that he would be the hands-down winner of the annual OOPPS Award for 1970.

Besides his metamorphic minerals and rocks, Charlie loved nature. He joined the Massachusetts Audubon Society when he was only nine years old and throughout life remained an avid birdwatcher, gardener, and supporter of various conservation efforts.

Charles and Barbara Guidotti have two daughters, a son, and two grandchildren. Memorial contributions may be sent in Charlie's name to Sunflowers for Health, 5 Brookside Terrace, Veazie, ME 04401.

R.H. Dott, Jr.

Gerard Bond, PhD 1970

Gerard Bond died at age 65 on June 29, 2005 of cancer. His memory was honored by a lengthy obituary in *The New York Times* of July 6. In recent years, Gerard had been doing important internationally recognized research at Lamont-Doherty Geological Observatory of Columbia University on Quaternary climate based upon studies of deep sea cores. He gave a fine talk on this work in the department in October 2003.

Bond was born in Altus, Oklahoma in 1940. He received the BA from Capital University in Ohio (1962) and an MS from the University of Alaska (1965) before coming to Wisconsin. As a graduate student in the late sixties, he was a very classical stratigraphy-sedimentology specialist. His PhD dissertation concerned

Permian volcanoclastics and limestones in the Alaska Range. After teaching first at Williams College (1970-72), he moved on to the University of California at Davis, where he began doing innovative work on California rocks, including an early application of subsidence rate curves for continental margins. Something went wrong politically there, his "crime" apparently being to reach a conclusion counter to earlier work in the Sierras by the resident "grand old man."

In 1980 Gerard received a research appointment at Lamont-Doherty and began a new career in marine geology. At first he continued working with subsidence-rate studies, but in the early 1990s, as Head of the Deep Sea Repository, he began mining the rich record contained in LDO's huge collection of cores. He soon discovered surprisingly coarse and widespread Quaternary gravel layers within North Atlantic deep sea cores, which apparently had been transported by hordes of icebergs. He was able to relate these to episodic, rapid glacial melting in eastern Canada and Greenland. These so-called Heinrich Events seemed to have followed a 1400-1500 year cycle, which could be recognized back at least 100,000 years. Bond and associates then sought a cause, and tentatively concluded that the evidence pointed to variations of solar output, an idea that they were continuing to test when he died. In 2003 Gerard was awarded the Maurice Ewing Medal for outstanding service to marine sciences by the American Geophysical Union. Appropriately, Ewing was the founder of Lamont-Doherty. A symposium held at Lamont-Doherty last October celebrated Gerard's career and drew international leaders in climate research.

I knew Gerard well when he was a student and I followed his career with great interest. Lewis Cline was his dissertation supervisor, but I helped him with the sedimentary petrography of the Alaskan rocks that he was studying. Bond was a fine example of someone who dramatically re-invented himself in a most productive way. By his own testimony, however, his classical background in stratigraphy, sedimentology and sedimentary petrology stood him in good stead in his new, marine geology career. It was gratifying to see such a transformation, which had also been accomplished by some earlier alums, especially those who came through our Department before World War II with most of their background in 'hard rock' but who then adapted well to the sedimentary world of the petroleum industry. Our benefactor Lewis G. Weeks was an outstanding example. Such cases speak well of the timeless value of broad, fundamental training for an always uncertain future world.

R.H. Dott, Jr.

Charles W. ("Bill") Berge, PhD 1972

A resident of Newton UT, he passed away on Feb 9, 2005 from the effects of ALS (Lou Gehrig's Disease).

Michael E. Durch, BS 1975

Mr. Durch died in Chippewa Falls, WI on April 26, 2005 at the age of 52, after a four-year battle with cancer. He was a native of Chippewa Falls and an area business and community leader.