

Department of Soil Science Newsletter



Spring 2002
Vol. 8, No. 1

Department of Soil Science
University of Wisconsin-Madison



Birl Lowery

Greetings, alumni students and friends of the Department of Soil Science! You probably have noticed that each issue of our newsletter is published progressively later. Unfortunately, the degree of lateness is in direct proportion to the amount of work that seems to get added to the Chair's job and to the job of my assistant, Sheri Speth. However, we have a lot of information to share with you so I'll get right to it!

In the last newsletter we informed you of Robin Harris' impending retirement. Well, Robin is now officially retired but it's not very apparent because he still comes to the Department on the same schedule as when he was being paid to be here! He has been helping with various aspects of departmental activities but can now be selective about which assignments he takes on. His replacement, Dr. Teri C. Balsler, joined the faculty in September 2001. Teri obtained her PhD in soil microbiology from the Univ. of California, Berkeley in 2000, and her undergraduate degrees in biology and earth science from Dartmouth College in 1992. Teri spent 2000-01 at Stanford University as a postdoc. We are pleased to have Teri on board and note that she started off with a full teaching load. Her research is in the area of soil microbiology and ecology.



Teri C. Balsler



Joel A. Pedersen

The University, as does the State, continues to undergo severe budget reductions. As such, open faculty positions are held by CALS administration and departments must request release of positions. Our request for a position in soil biochemistry to replace Professors John Harkin and Gordon Chesters was approved and we have since hired Dr. Joel A. Pedersen. Joel has a BS degree in biological sciences from the Univ. of California, Irvine (1988), a MS in environmental engineering science from California Inst. of Technology (1990), and a Doctor of Environment in environmental science and engineering from the Univ. of California, Los Angeles (2001). Joel joined us in September 2001, and like Teri, he immediately started lecturing. His research will focus on fundamental biochemical processes affecting the fate and behavior of toxicants in the environment. More information on both our new faculty is available at www.soils.wisc.edu.

On behalf of the Department, I want to express a special thank you for the very generous gifts you continue to provide to us. Private donations such as these allow needed flexibility for various programs in the department. As you know, funds were provided from the Wisconsin Turfgrass Association for the Wayne R. Kussow Wisconsin Distinguished Graduate Fellowship in Turfgrass in 2000. Our first student on this fellowship, Douglas Soldat, started working toward his MS degree in Fall 2001. Thanks to your generous donations and that of Leo M. Walsh and the Wisconsin Fertilizer and Chemical Association, the Leo M. Walsh/Wisconsin Fertilizer and Chemical Association Soil Fertility Distinguished Graduate Fellowship is now complete. We are currently developing a graduate fellowship in soil pedology, with Emeritus Prof. Marv Beatty leading this campaign. As always, we welcome your support.

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Newsmakers!

The **UW Soils Club** received a Team Award from the UW Student Organization Office in recognition of the collaborative environment they created that contributed to the success of individual leaders. Among the individuals recognized are **Ann Crosby** (BS, Iyer), **Jaslyn Dobrahner** (BS, Iyer), and **Randy Zogbaum** (MS, Bundy) for outstanding leadership and achievement within the Soils Club.

Dick Corey received the CALS Distinguished Emeritus Professor Volunteer Award. Among Dick's many volunteer activities, one of great importance to the department has been his willingness to teach a lab section of Soil Science 326 each spring! Dick also provided the major effort (and funding) to update and reproduce a revised lab manual for this course. Not only is his service of great value to the department, but students taking his section are impressed with his dedication to teaching and to the department.

Keith Kelling received the 2001 Robert E. Wagner Award, Senior Scientist category from the Potash & Phosphate Institute. He is recognized for his many significant contributions to crop production, especially in the areas of balanced fertilization, maximum economic yield and a more efficient and environmentally protective agriculture. He received a check for \$5,000 and a recognition plaque. Keith is also recipient of the "Second Mile Award" from the Wisconsin Association of Country Agricultural Agents. Honorees are nominated by county agents for their support of the programming efforts of county agents.

Stefanie Van Wychen (BS, Iyer) was chosen as the 2001-02 recipient for the Carroll D. Besadny Scholarship. The Wisconsin Environmental Working Group established the \$2,000 scholarship in honor of the late Besadny, Dept of Natural

Resources Secretary from 1980-92. Stefanie's selection was based on her academic excellence and commitment to the environmental sciences.

Joshua Palmer (BS, Iyer) and **Lily Palmer** (BS, Iyer) participated in the Trinidad Semester Abroad program in St. Augustine during spring semester 2001. They took classes from the Faculty of Agriculture and Natural Sciences at the University of the West Indies and lived in campus dorms along with students from Guyana, Belize and many other countries.

Sam Kung was awarded a Vilas Associate Award for 2003-04. This award provides summer salary plus a \$10,000 flexible research fund each year for two years.

CALS recently established a series of annual employe awards and two of our classified staff were nominated (by faculty) and received Classified Staff Recognition Awards. **Sheri Speth** is a 2001 recipient and **Carol Duffy** received an award in 2002. The awards included dinner at the Gamma Sigma Delta banquet, a plaque and a cash award.

Soil Science faculty have selected **Phil Helmke** to be appointed to a five-year term as the Rothermel-Bascom Professor of Soil Science, effective July 2002. William A. Rothermel received his BS (1930) and MS (1932) in soil science and upon his death in

1974, in accordance with his will, a William Rothermel Bascom Professorship in Soil Science was established. Phil will receive about \$20,000 of discretionary funding per year for up to five years to support his research. This is the second awarding of the Professorship - John Norman was the first recipient, 1997-2002.

Phil Helmke and **Larry Bundy** were named Fellows of the Soil Science Society of America at the 2001 annual meeting in Charlotte, NC.

Jason Grode, a senior in the Turf and Grounds Management program, was named the winner of the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America (GCSAA) student essay for 2001. Jason's essay "Managing a Golf Course on a Limited Budget" earned him \$2,000 and an all-expense paid trip to the GCSAA Annual Meeting in Orlando, FL.

Sam Kung, **Phil Barak** and **Bill Bland** submitted a proposal that garnered the department a semi-finalist position for a Chancellor's Award for Departmental Excellence in Teaching. The \$2,000 award is to be used for instructional improvement.

Bill Hickey received a promotion to Professor, effective July 1, 2002.

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Department of Soil Science Newsletter

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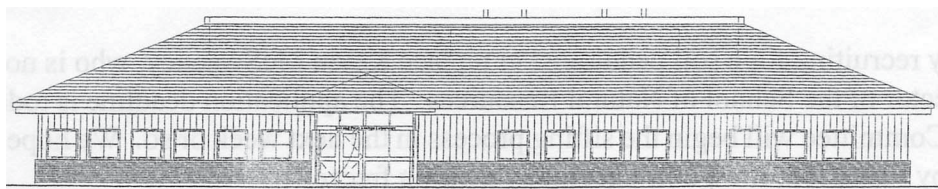
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A New Soil and Plant Analysis Lab!!

The time has finally come for the UW Soil and Plant Analysis Lab to move on—the ‘temporary’ location at 5711 Mineral Point Rd. has been home to the laboratory since the relocation in 1984 from a vacated Park St. auto garage and has become unsuitable for continuation of lab services (does this surprise anyone?)! Through much effort from Soils faculty and strong support from CALS administration, the need for a new lab was recognized and is moving forward.

We have final design plans and should start construction in June 2002. The approximately 8,000 sq. ft. single story building will be sited at the West Madison Agricultural Research Station and will have an entrance from Mineral Point Rd. The new space will



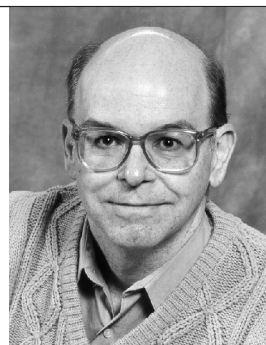
accommodate not only all of our current services but will also allow for expansion. New services that are being considered include pesticide residues, in-depth soil physical analysis, organic constituents in food/feedstuffs and mercury analysis.

The Madison Lab currently has 10 full-time talented staff who have taken significant steps toward ‘modernizing’ with an eye to our future move: test results are available via email or on the Web; sample information sheets can be submitted on the Web; better in-lab sample tracking via an electronic laboratory information management system; automated, on-line potassium and phosphate routine soil fertility analysis and access to additional instruments shared with Soils faculty. Current home landscaping trends and management have been addressed in the new recommendation program for home horticulture. In addition, the plant analysis recommendation program is being updated with new research data and interpretation schemes and report style. Hope to see you at our new address soon!

_____ submitted by *Sherry Combs, Director, UW Soil and Plant Analysis Lab*

Physics in the cornfield ... uncovering some underground secrets could help farmers conserve soil, cut costs, and improve production. Farmers who have combines equipped with yield monitors know that corn yields can soar to 200 bushels per acre and plummet to 50 bushels per acre within the same field. Moreover, a field’s top-producing areas can shift from year to year.

Scientists have struggled to determine why yields are so variable and use their findings to help growers. Soil physicist **John Norman** thought a computer model that tracked information across a field could make sense of the numbers. An accurate model of corn growth could help growers make better decisions about managing their fields and marketing the crop, he says. Now Norman and a UW-Madison team have knit together hundreds of equations in a mathematical model that operates on a computer. When researchers feed the computer information about soil properties, farming practices and weather, the model tells them how the corn is growing in that field, and what its yield and grain moisture will be. Tests of the model at the Arlington Agricultural Research Station and on several farm fields show that its predictions matched field observations.



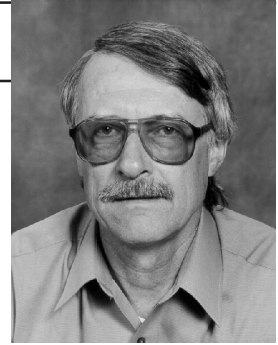
John Norman

The team includes soil physicist **Birl Lowery** and several other soil scientists, as well as George Diak and others from the UW-Madison Space Science and Engineering Center and the Center for Sustainability and the Global Environment. “Over the years, we’ve seen many models that try to predict yields from fields,” says Norman. “But they haven’t been reliable.” The Wisconsin model is called PALMS (Precision Agricultural Landscape Modeling System). One key to its accuracy is that the model works by determining how corn will grow on each 20-foot-by-20-foot section of a field and then combines that information for a whole-field result. Because of its design, the model predicts variability across a field. For example, after prolonged rains during May and June of 2000, the corn began dying in parts of the Arlington field just as the model said it would.

“Soil is the capital base of farming,” he says. “With our model, growers will learn much more about their soil and how they’re treating it. We just couldn’t have done this sort of research 10 years ago.” The approach is now possible thanks to high-speed personal computers and advances in space-age and information-age techniques known as global positioning and geographic information systems.

_____ from *CALS Science Report, 2002-2003*

Under the Eagles Wings – A Year in Albania



Jim Bockheim

The UW granted me temporary leave to be Team Leader of the Albanian Watershed Assessment Project (AWAP) from mid-January 2000 to mid-January 2001. The project was supported by a grant from the US Aid for International Development (USAID) to the US Forest Service and administered by a private contractor. My responsibilities included finding office space in the capital city of Tirana, hiring a staff, issuing contracts to perform various aspects of the assessment, receiving and evaluating reports from our clients, hosting workshops, and submitting a preliminary assessment report.

The goals of the assessment were to (1) determine the causes of flooding and sedimentation downstream, (2) identify best mitigation practices, and (3) develop a management plan. The study included the highly disturbed (primarily from mining, deforestation and overgrazing) Shkumbini watershed and the relatively undisturbed Vjosa watershed.

The assessment required gathering historical data on meteorology, hydrology, sediment discharge, water quality, the longitudinal profiles of the rivers, forest cover types, and land use. Information was also collected on the soils, and a detailed socioeconomic survey was taken. Topographic maps of the two study areas were digitized, and digital elevation maps were prepared. In addition, over 1,000 thematic maps were scanned and analyzed using a geographic information system.

The main findings of the assessment included: (1) the streams tend to be “flashy” (i.e., respond rapidly to a rainfall event) because of steep topography, intense winter rains, and thin soils; (2) over the past 40 years there has been a slight decline in stream-flow and peak floods because of increased water use and possibly a reduction in rainfall; (3) changes in land use over the past 40 years appear to have been insufficient to generate changes in discharge or flooding frequency; and (4) the river basin appears to be “flattening out” (i.e., aggrading) in the coastal plain because of intensive gravel mining which leads to increased sedimentation downstream.

In addition to managing the watershed project, I gave lectures at the Agricultural University of Tirana on the watershed management, land protection, and soil erosion and sustainable development. Because of power outages due to low rainfall and water levels in reservoirs, the overhead projector I used to give the lectures was powered by a car battery! I also led a discussion on interesting aspects of Albania’s geology with faculty and students at the Polytechnic University of Tirana Geology Department.

While in Albania I had numerous adventures, such as being held up by a masked gunman while mountain climbing with some Albanian friends, having electricity for only eight hours per day for several months because

of the country’s energy crisis, losing 17 pounds due to an unknown illness (I have since recovered), meeting the prime minister of Albania, Ilir Meta, at a reception, surviving a week of temperatures over 100° F, and wondering what “life after Albania” would be like. I enjoyed my stay in Albania as the people were gracious, the food was excellent, and the mild Mediterranean climate generally was appealing.

I was able to return to Madison quarterly to attend to my University duties and see my family. Dr. Nick Balster, a postdoc in the Department, advised my graduate students, gave lectures for me, and managed my research projects during my absence. I appreciate his excellent support. I am also grateful to the College of Agricultural & Life Sciences, the Department of Soil Science, and especially my family for allowing me the opportunity to spend the year in Albania.

During my visit I kept a log, which numbers over 200 pages, and took numerous digital images. I am working on an illustrated book with the same title as this summary.

submitted by **Jim Bockheim**, Professor

Thailand to host the 17th World Congress of Soil Science

Bangkok, Thailand is the location of the World Congress of Soil Science, August 14-21, 2002. Organizers are the Soil and Fertilizer Society of Thailand, the International Union of Soil Sciences, and the Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives of Thailand. Go to <http://www.17wcss.ku.ac.th> for more information.

Alumni Updates/Address Changes

Warner H. Anthony, PhD '51, is retired from Rohm & Haas Co., Agricultural Division. He and his wife, Joanna, have 5 grown children. Warner comments that it is important to him that we keep the Soils name in the department but he sees change coming.

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Clyde C. Applewhite, MS '59

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Albert J Beaver, BS '60, MS '63, PhD '66 says that after retiring as Interim Chancellor of University of Wisconsin-Extension, he's been serving as Interim Sr Vice President for Academic Affairs, UW System Administration. He planned to retire (again) in September 2001.

2605 Park Ridge Rd.
Bloomington, IL 61704
(309)662-4477

Andrew Brill, BS '93

1064 Norwood Ave, Apt A
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Amos M. Bunyolo, MS '78, is chief agricultural research officer for the Ministry of Agriculture in Zambia. He noted that Zambia lies between 8 and 18 degrees south in southern Africa and that they experienced an eclipse of the sun on June 21, 2001. Many tourists from around the world traveled to view it.

Misamfu Regional Research Center
Box 410055
Kasama, Zambia

Allan Cattanaach, BS '68, is General Agronomist, American Crystal Sugar Co., Moorhead, MN. He accepted this position in 1998 and serves as agronomy program director for 29 agronomists.

2702 9-1/2 St N
Fargo ND 58102

Susan E. Fischer, BS '73, is Associate Director of Student Financial Services, UW-Madison. She mapped for Indiana DNR Accelerated Soil Survey from 1975-77 and is currently enjoying her career in student services.

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Paul Gandar, PhD '75

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pgandar@paradise.net.nz

Armin R. Grunewald, BS '42

Richard O. Grunewald, BS '52

Rt 2 Box 286
Eureka Springs AR 72632

Charles P. Hautot, BS '88, owns a nursery in south Florida and works for a fresh market tomato grower. He thanks his advisor, Kevin McSweeney, and the faculty here for the excellent education he received and notes that he continues to use his books/notes from the UW to solve problems encountered on the job.

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Cleitus J. Hilliker, BS '57, worked for the USDA-SCS in Santa Maria, CA, classifying and mapping soils in Santa Barbara Co., CA from 1954-65. After moving to Anaheim in 1965 he became a health inspector with Los Angeles Co., until his retirement in 1993.

1502 E Hedgewood Ave
Anaheim CA 92805-1207

Carl S. Hoveland, BS '50, MS '52, Terrell Distinguished Professor, still works full-time in teaching, research and some extension after 45 years on the faculty at Texas A&M, Auburn University, and the University of Georgia, enjoying the stimulus of university life.

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Dean Kahl, BS '97, is crew leader with the City of Madison Forestry Department.

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John (Jack) P. King (grandson of F.H. King)

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jking48111@aol.com

S. MacCallum (Mac) King, PhD '56, added an MBA to his resume in 1981 and is an instructor in the Adult Program at Columbia College of Missouri at Lake County, IL and the Dominican University. He teaches marketing, management and natural science to degree-seeking adults.

36 Pine Ave
Lake Zurich IL 60047-2326

Stephen Lesavich, BS '81, worked as a software engineer for 10 years after receiving an MS and PhD in computer science and then returned to the UW Law School and received JD degree. He is currently a partner in a Chicago law firm where he focuses on high-tech intellectual property matters, including patents, trademarks, copyrights and litigation related to computer software and the internet.

www.hightech-iplaw.com
Lesavich@mbhb.com

Keith Lightbown, BS '98 is employed with Anadarko Canada Corp as reclamation coordinator.

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_____ continued on p. 10

Deaths

Francis D. Hole, the University of Wisconsin Madison geography and soil science professor who led a grassroots campaign in 1983 to have Antigo silt loam named Wisconsin's state soil, died Tuesday, Jan. 15, 2002. He was 88. Hole was one of UW Madison's most popular former teachers, and a sought after guest lecturer. For many years, Hole used his battered violin, soil auger and suitcase full of puppets to great effect as he performed soil songs, soil poems and puppet plays about the earth beneath our feet. "Soil is the hidden, secret friend, which is the root domain of lively darkness and silence," Hole once wrote. "My goal in promoting popularization of the soil resource is not so much to attract young people to careers in soil science as to give all children and their parents and grandparents a chance to enjoy the soils of their native landscape." Hole spent a lifetime teaching folks not to treat soil like dirt. As he wrote in a 1989 poem based on a popular children's rhyme:

*Darkle, darkle, little grain,
I wonder how you entertain
A thousand creatures microscopic.
Grains like you from pole to tropic
Support land life upon this planet
I marvel at you, crumb of granite!*

Hole was born Aug. 25, 1913, in Muncie, IN. He received a B.A. from Earlham College in 1933 in geology and biology; M.A. from Haverford College in French in 1934; and a Ph.D. in soil science and geography from UW in 1943. Hole joined the UW faculty in 1946 as assistant professor of soils. He published widely and co-wrote a standard textbook, "Soil Genesis and Classification." He received the university's distinguished teaching award in 1974. He retired in June 1983 but remained active in education. As an emeritus professor he lectured to any interested audience, from preschoolers to academics to retirees, about humanity's stake in the soil. As he sometimes recited:

*By sense of touch the feet assess
The nature of the wilderness
Of earth beneath. Yet human speech
Cannot express what feet can teach.*

Hole began a campaign in 1983 to get lawmakers to name Antigo silt loam the state soil. Ridiculed in the media, with a group of McFarland sixth graders initially his only backers, Hole ultimately found common ground with lawmakers and prevailed. A conscientious objector to World War II, Hole



"A living person, like a tree, fills a space with the body and, more especially, with a unique spirit. When death empties the space of the former occupant, the continuation of the space without the person seems contradictory, even irreverent. The more beautiful the spirit of the human being, the more hallowed the space remains. The place in which we are must be blessed over and over by those who have lived well before us in this landscape."

Francis D. Hole, 1913-2002

worked in civilian public service camps in 1944-46 and remained devoted to nonviolence throughout his life. Hole was a Quaker who took his diagnosis of prostate cancer in 1996 as a spiritual signal: "It's a love letter from the divine," he told the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel. "And I turn to the divine and I say, 'It's about time I paid attention to you.'"

A memorial service was held on February 2, 2002. Dr. Hole is survived by his wife, Agnes, daughter, Sarah, and son, Ben. Additional information about Dr. Hole may be viewed online at <http://www.soils.wisc.edu/~barak/fdh/index.html>. The Wisconsin Distinguished Graduate Fellowship in Pedology begun in 2000 will serve to honor Francis and all the Department's emeritus faculty in pedology (more information on this in later issues).

David Lesczynski, professor of agriculture at Truman State University, Kirksville, MO passed away on August 4, 2001 at the age of 55. Lesczynski received his MS (1969, Gardner) and PhD (1976, Keeney) in soil science here at the UW. He was an active member of the Soil & Water Conservation Society, supporting numerous events and running for chapter office. He is survived by his wife, Bettie, and three children: Erin, 21; Kevin, 18; and Megan, 16. Contributions may be made to the Catholic Newman Center in Kirksville, MO or to his children's education fund (Bettie Lesczynski, 602 College Park Drive, Kirksville, MO 63501).

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Deaths, *from p. 6*

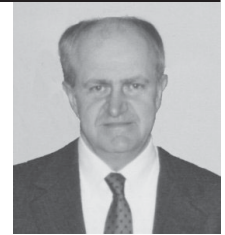
Robert Odell, BS '47, passed away August 2000 in Vancouver, WA.

Dr. Robert W. Pearson, PhD '38, passed away in April of 1998.

J. Mitchell "Mitch" Mackey, BS '42, age 80, of Sturgeon Bay, WI, passed away July 12, 2001 in Middleton, WI. Mackey was born on April 1, 1921 in the town of Clay Banks, WI. After graduating from Sturgeon Bay High School in 1938 he attended the UW-Madison, receiving a BS in Agronomy with a minor in Soil Science in 1942, an MS in Extension Education and Commerce in 1957, and a PhD in Adult Education with minors in Sociology and Psychology in 1977. In 1947 he accepted an appointment to teach Veterans On-the-Farm Training in Lancaster, WI. In 1950 he began the first of many roles with UW Extension, ranging from specialist in 4-H and Youth Development, Assistant Director of Cooperative Extension Service, Chair of the Department of Community Affairs, and then in 1970 returning to 4-H and Youth Development as Leader. He retired in 1983 and returned to his beloved farm in Door County where he was active in many civic organizations. Mackey was preceded in death by his wife, June, and his parents. He is survived by six children and nine grandchildren.

William T. Dible, PhD '52, of Dakota Dunes, SD, died on March 6, 2002. Dible received a BS in agronomy from Pennsylvania State University and a PhD in soil science at UW-Madison. Mr. Dible was co-founder of Terra International Inc., where he served as president, chief executive officer and director from 1964 until his retirement in 1987. He is survived by two sons and seven grandchildren.

Allan R. Isensee, 61, died of leukemia on Feb. 2, 2001, in Maryland. Dr. Isensee was born on Dec. 25, 1939, growing up on a farm near Sparta, WI. He received a BS in 1962, from Wisconsin State University-Stevens Point, then entered the UW-Madison Dept. of Soil Science. Both his MS (1965, Berger) and his PhD (1968, Walsh) research dealt with effects of fertilizer on corn growth. He minored in Plant Physiology.



Allen Isensee

Dr. Isensee began his scientific career with USDA-ARS in 1967, at the Beltsville Agricultural Research Center, Beltsville, MD. His 32 years of service there were devoted to research on agricultural water quality-related concerns; in that capacity he published more than 80 scientific articles. Al's initial studies on the fate and effects of pesticides in simulated aquatic environments (model ecosystems) led to wide recognition for his achievements. Several significant accomplishments included: i) the finding that dioxin TCDD (a highly toxic contaminant) did not enter the food chain from plant uptake and was not a hazard to the aquatic environment; ii) discovering that arsenical pesticides, despite some unavoidable exposure by catfish and crayfish, did not pose a threat to the environment; and iii) the application of his model ecosystem as an ideal system to study fate, distribution, and effects on fish of rice production herbicides. Even today Al's model ecosystems are being used in Thailand, the Philippines, India and Indonesia to identify practices needed to continue to raise fish in rice paddies treated with pesticides. Among his numerous achievements he was part of a team that received a Superior Service Award from Secretary of Agriculture Earl Butz for his research on the fate of dioxin in the environment.

During the mid-1980s, along with heightened public concern about the use of herbicides in agriculture, Dr. Isensee's research goals shifted toward better understanding of the fate of herbicides in crop production systems. He and others formed an interdisciplinary water quality team, initiating a large-scale field study to determine the runoff and leaching potential of several widely used herbicides in corn production systems. Theirs was the first field experiment to demonstrate accelerated pesticide leaching (known as preferential transport) under conservation, and specifically no-tillage, crop production systems.

At home, Allan was a talented woodworker, who equally enjoyed designing and fabricating various devices that enhanced the efficiency and reproducibility of every aspect of field and laboratory research. In the late 1990s, he created a unique lab rainfall simulator for studying soil-rainfall-pesticide interactions. Because of the system's uniqueness, accuracy, and versatility (e.g., its adaptability to multiple soil core setups), other scientists have adopted it for their research.

Because of his special love of sailing on the Chesapeake Bay, Dr. Isensee retired in Maryland in March 2000. An avid sailor, he knew the tributaries of the Chesapeake Bay as well as any waterman. Al was an enjoyable soul and a great friend to many. His pleasant smile, friendly nature, and wealth of stories about his native State will be missed.

Al is survived by his wife, Helen; sons Brian of Norfolk, VA, and Eric of Chesapeake, VA; and granddaughter Amanda of Baltimore. Memorial donations may be made to Greenebaum Cancer Center, University of Maryland Medical System, Suite 103, 29 S. Greene St., Baltimore, MD 21201.

_____ submitted by **Charles S. Helling (MS '63, PhD '66)**
ARS, USDA Beltsville, MD

Ever-Energetic Emeriti

Some of you wondered what our retired faculty are up to these days so we made some phone calls and sent some letters and were very pleased by the gracious response to our inquiries. We've included a few updates here - look for more in upcoming issues.

Emmett E. (MaryAnn) Schulte

Since retiring (officially July 6, 1994), I returned to work 10% time for the remainder of 1994. In the summers of 1995-99, my wife and I worked two to three months each summer with the Missionaries of Charity (Mother Theresa's organization) on the Navajo reservation between Gallup and Zuni, NM. We helped with a two-week bible camp and did maintenance work. For the past two summers I have been involved (with Ken Witte) in raising vegetables for the Madison Area Food Pantries. Last year, with the help of volunteers from area churches and service organizations, we had three 1-acre plots. This year we have six. We are delivering approximately 6,000 pounds of produce weekly to Second Harvest of Southern Wisconsin and the Community Action Coalition for distribution to some 32 area food pantries.

Marion L. (Chrystie) Jackson

After retiring in 1986, I fulfilled a number of commitments in the U.S. and abroad sharing in my field. We've enjoyed traveling overseas, as well as in Canada, and much of the United States — it has been a pleasure to travel in beautiful Wisconsin. National meetings have afforded us the opportunity to stay "connected" with many friends. It is especially an opportunity time to renew acquaintances with our former graduate students and their families, who remain like our own extended families. It has been delightful to spend more time with our own families: children and grandchildren have done well and are a real pleasure to us. We are grateful for our good lives here. We are proud of the excellence of Soil Science and the University of Wisconsin. May it continue to be one of the great institutions of teaching and learning.

Arthur E. (Eva) Peterson

Activities since retirement (1994):

Continued field research for biosolids application with Milwaukee and Madison; Madison ended in 1999 and Milwaukee ends in 2002.

Madison-Oslo Sister City Committee to Norway in 1995 and 2000.

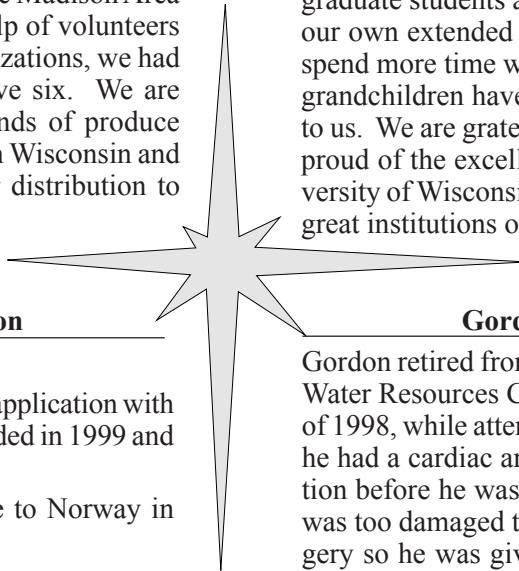
Chaired Extension Fund Raising Committee (ESP) that raised over \$200,000 for updating distance learning equipment at the Pyle Center (formerly the Wisconsin Center) and naming the Epsilon Signam Phi Board Room.

Spent 3 weeks in Armenia, September 1999, as a consultant for VOCA on the Lake Sevan watershed project. That lake is the size of Lake Winnebago and was very interesting.

Visited Egypt for a week on the return from the Armenia trip and checked on the Aswan Dam and Lake Nassar. Both are doing what they were designed to do. Have given several talks recently on Egypt and The High Dam.

Gordon (Joan) Chesters

Gordon retired from the Dept. of Soil Science and the Water Resources Center in June of 1998. In October of 1998, while attending a UNESCO meeting in Paris, he had a cardiac arrest. The arrest was of long duration before he was revived by a paramedic; his heart was too damaged to allow him to survive bypass surgery so he was given angioplasty with a stent and a tracheotomy. Following his return to Madison, he was fitted with an internal defibrillator. He was unconscious in Paris for 9 weeks and is still recovering after 3 years. His meeting in Paris was about an encyclopedia being launched under UNESCO management. The Encyclopedia of Life Support Systems (EOLSS) is divided into six major sections dealing with Sustainable Development, Water, Energy, Environment, Food and Agriculture, and the scientific underpinnings of the other five sections. Chesters was responsible for the first draft of the Tables of Contents for the Water and Environment sections. The EOLSS will be published in approximately 70 volumes with upwards of 7,500 authors on CD-ROM. Each volume is about 1,200 pages with 1,000 words/page. Two "forerunner volumes" entitled "Our Fragile World" have been published in hard copy to introduce the EOLSS. Chesters is re-editing the forerunner volumes for their second printing. It is a daunting task because of the enormous scientific scope of the two volumes. He also wrote a chapter for the forerunner volumes entitled "On Controlling the Chemical Contamination of Groundwater," Chapt. 3.21, Forerunner to the EOLSS, pp. 1407-1422, 2001.



Degrees Granted

BS-International Agriculture & Natural Resources

—2000

Angeli, Andrew C.
Burgos Cardona, Monica

BS-Natural Resources

—2000

Burek-Faber, Mary E.
Dobrahner, Jaslyn J.
Puccio, Ellen A.

—2001

Batterman, Jason R.
Bittner, Erin E.

BS-Agricultural Sciences- Production

—2000

Burns, Brandon M.
Counselman, Eric D.
Goninen, Aaron R.
Prosser, Thomas E.
Rohde, Nathan

—2001

Berry, Robert J.
Blumke, Paul D.
Christenson, Troy M.
Grode, Jason M.
Rasmussen, Erik C.
Soldat, Douglas J.
Spitz, Phillip M.
Uselding, Nathaniel L.

Newsmakers, *from p. 2*

Angela Ebeling (MS '01, Bundy) was awarded a J. Fielding Reed PPI Fellowship in 2001. The Potash & Phosphate Institute Fellowship provides \$2,000 each to three qualified students.

MS

—2000

Morgan, Cristine L.S. - Quantifying plant available water across landscapes using an inverse yield model and electromagnetic induction. (Norman)

Sternfels, Jessica M. - Compaction effects on physical properties of two forest soils in the Upper Great Lakes. (Bockheim)

—2001

Ebeling, Angela M. - Phosphorus source effects on phosphorus losses in runoff, plant availability, and soil phosphorus. (Bundy)

Foley, Brian J. - Papermill residuals and composts effects on soil physical properties, soil fertility, and crop production. (Cooperband)

Gonzalez, Ronald F. - Effects of compost application on soil physical chemical properties and its relationship with woody ornamentals growth. (Cooperband)

Muñoz, Gabriela R. - Estimate of manure nitrogen availability using ¹⁵N-labeled manure and other techniques. (Kelling)

—2002

Fujinuma, Ryosuke - Base-cation cycling by individual tree species in old-growth hardwood-hemlock forests of Sylvania Recreation Area, Upper Michigan. (Bockheim)

PhD

—2000

Kongoli, Cezar E. - Snow climatology and snow cover as affected by winter landspreading of manure. (Bland)

—2001

Escosteguy, Pedro A.V. - Stability constants of copper, zinc and cadmium with humic substances at indigenous concentrations. (Helmke)

Falk, Paulette K. - Soil landscape modeling on hillslopes with a sequence of bedrock benches in southwestern Wisconsin. (McSweeney)

Kim, Eun Gyeong - The effect of humic macromolecular aggregates on sorption and mineralization of neutral organic compounds. (Bleam)

Yoon, Soh-Joung - Trace-metal sorption by minerals and humic substances. (Bleam)

Soil Science Society of America Emil Truog Soil Science Award

The Truog fund needs assistance to remain viable. The original \$5,000 gift has grown to \$6,400; however, an additional \$5,000 is needed to continue to generate the annual award. The Emil Truog Soil Science Award is given to a PhD recipient who has made an outstanding contribution to soil science in his or her thesis.

The Truog and Bouyoucos awards were established before the creation of the Agronomic Science Foundation and thus are not included in any ASF mailings. According to ASF staff it is possible to make contributions to ASF indicating for "Truog Fund," and receive credit on your total Agronomic Science Foundation contributions.

Many of Truog's students are gone, but many more were influenced by him and "now is the time to come to the aid of the party!"

submitted by Art Peterson

Staying on course...

He oversees some of Wisconsin's classiest turf. Many people dream of spending their retirement on a golf course. **Michael Lee, BS '87** wanted to spend a career there. "I had a pretty good idea of what I wanted to do when I was still in high school," says the Madison native.

Lee began working on the grounds crew at Madison's Blackhawk Country Club at age 15. The College graduate now manages the Kohler Company's four prestigious golf properties near Kohler, WI. Soon Lee will be preparing Kohler's Whistling Straits Golf Course for the 2004 PGA Championship. He and his staff are responsible for ensuring that the course meets exacting standards and for making it more challenging for PGA play.

Lee earned a bachelor's degree from the Department of Soil Science while specializing in golf course management. As a student, Lee also interned at Madison's Cherokee Country Club and helped with turf research in the Department of Plant Pathology.

The golf course management program is well organized and has a good job placement record, Lee says. It helped him land an assistant superintendent post at the Blue Mound Golf Course and Country Club in Wauwatosa after graduation.

Lee's college education helped equip him with good technical information, he says. "But it runs deeper than that. Part of the college experience is starting and finishing something and learning how to collect and use information." He encourages students to take some courses that are not specific to their future career. "You're going to have the rest of your career to learn things. Taking some courses outside your major helps, especially if your discipline requires more broad-minded thinking."

Lee says he was lucky to have mentors who were "as good as it gets," starting with Blackhawk golf course superintendent Monroe Miller and continuing with soil science professors and advisors James Love and Wayne Kussow.

Lee also considers his position at Kohler as good as it gets. "We're always doing something new and we're always developing higher standards." His future goals? "To host the best PGA Championship in the history of the game and possibly having the opportunity to host other championships. That's what we get fired up about."

_____from *CALS Science Report*, 2002-2003



Michael Lee

Many thanks to these recent (2000 and 2001) contributors to the department!!

Gilbert N. Brooks
Bruce E. Brown
Edward and Mary Carbon
Emily S. Collins
Todd L. Cramblit
Nils P. Dahlstrand
LuAnn Engelbert
William N. Grimm
Art and Mary Heers*
Brian G. Hess
Leroy Jansky
Roy and Elizabeth Janzen
Daniel and Nancy Jo Karlen
MaryBeth Kirkham
James F. Krueger
James D. Lancaster
David Leszczynski
Ronald G. Menzel
Clarence J. Milfred
John M. Norman
Donald W. Owens*
Kay M. Pike
Janice Powell
Gary J. Rathbun
Thomas J. Rice, Jr.
Thomas J. Sauer
Gregory A. Senst
George J. Staidl
Joseph J. Stellato
James B. Swan
Tsuneo Tamura
Kay Tanner
Bert and Ellen Tanner*
Edwin A. Taylor
James C. Vanherwynen
David L. Wenzel

*matched gift

Alumni Updates, *from p. 5*

Linda Markham-Nitz, BS '88, is self-employed at EnviroPro as a regulatory consultant (environmental and safety) and an ISO 14001 auditor.
21343 Sylvan Ct
Bristol IN 46507
lmnitz@aol.com

Michael J. Mlynarek, MS '88
71210 Hwy 13
Ashland WI 54806
mlynarek@facstaff.wisc.edu

Victor Rendig, BS '43, PhD '49, appreciates being kept informed about the UW.
1515 Shasta Dr Apt 3331
Davis CA 95616-6689

Robert H. Schmidt, BS '91
192 Riverview Acres Rd
Hudson WI 54016
(715)549-6827

Thomas E. Wiese, BS '67, is owner/manager/golf director at Quit-Quit-Oc Golf Club in Elkhart Lake, WI, where a third nine-hole addition opened September 2001.
574 S Lake St
Elkhart Lake WI 53020

Sirio Wietholter, PhD '83
Embrapa Trigo
PO Box 451
99001-970 Passo Fundo RS
Brazil

Chris Wooley, BS '93, has been named marketing manager for turf and ornamental insecticides at Dow AgroSciences LLC. Wooley earned an MS from Iowa State University and joined Dow in 1998.
30 E Quail Wood Ln
Westfield IN 46074-8937

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at the University of Wisconsin-Madison**

I/we wish to join other students, alumni, industry and friends in enhancing the teaching, research and outreach programs in the Department of Soil Science by contributing as indicated below.

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Please allocate my gift to:

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ALUMNI UPDATE

Name: _____

Degree and Date(s): BS (_____) MS (_____) PhD (_____) _____

Home Address: _____

Position: _____

Employer: _____

News to share: _____

Return to: Dept of Soil Science Newsletter OR email to: slspeth@facstaff.wisc.edu
 University of Wisconsin-Madison
 1525 Observatory Drive
 Madison, WI 53706-1299

1950's Reunion

Leo M. Walsh and Ed Hobson rounded up as many area faculty and students who were "on board" in the department in the mid- to late 1950s to attend a luncheon at Bishops Bay Country Club, Madison, WI on November 9, 2001. Following Birl Lowery's update on department activities, a lot of "catching up" was done. In attendance were:

Bernice and Jim Bartz (BS '52, MS '57, PhD '59)
Ellouise and Marv Beatty (PhD '55)
Margaret and Bruce Brown (MS '54, PhD '57)
Joan and Gordon Chesters (MS '56, PhD '59)
Dick Corey (BS '49, MS '51, PhD '52)
Jane and Ed Hobson (PhD '57)
Jaya Iyer (MS '62, PhD '68)
Chrystie Jackson (Marion L.: PhD '39)
Mary and George Klacan (BS '55, MS '59, PhD '62)
Nancy and Jim Love (MS '52, PhD '56)
Midge Miller (Ed Miller, former faculty member)
Sue and John Murdock (PhD '55)

Karen and Ted Peck (BS '57, MS '58, PhD '62)
Eva and Art Peterson (BS '47, MS '48, PhD '50)
Arlene and Lloyd Peterson (MS '56, PhD '58)
Carol and Tom Richard (BS '54, MS '57, PhD '65)
MaryAnn and Emmett Schulte (MS '61, PhD '64)
Carol and Tom Schultz (BS '50, MS '52, PhD '62)
June and Paul Stangel (MS '62, PhD '64)
Kay Tanner (Champ B.: PhD '50)
Carole and Leo Walsh (MS '57, PhD '59)

MaryAnn Schulte and Nan Love



Jim Bartz Ed and Jane Hobson

Eva Peterson Sue Murdock

Leo Walsh



Tom Richard



John Murdock

Jaya Iyer



Gordon Chesters

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