Field Trip to Butte, Yellowstone, and the Snake River Plain

By Jeremiah Oxford and Kaleb Scarberry

Fifteen Oregon State Geosciences students and faculty explored outstanding geologic features of the western United States during our Butte-Yellowstone-Snake River Plain field trip in September 2005. The trip really began last spring with a seminar course in which a series of student and faculty presentations laid the logistical groundwork and produced a field trip guide. The trip was funded partly by alumni donations, and for some of us, it provided a first-time visit to many of the natural wonders in our own backyard. The group, led by John Dilles, departed for Butte, Montana, ready for adventure and packed into a van fully loaded with gear (and later with rocks). Two others followed in a car, and others would join and leave our traveling band as we made our way toward the Big Sky Country.

On the first day we drove through the Columbia River Gorge and across the basalt plateau of eastern Washington, where we spent the night in a channeled-scabland landscape carved by the Ice Age Missoula Floods. The next day we arrived in Butte and were greeted by the terraced walls of the Berkeley and Continental Pits that loom above the historic downtown. Headframes mark old mine shafts and stand among houses and businesses as visible reminders of Butte’s mining roots. We spent a few chilly nights at the Lowland Creek Campground outside of Butte, under rare and ghostly Northern Lights. A tour of the operating Continental open-pit mine, an opportunity that many of us could not have had outside of a school-associated trip, was certainly a highlight of our stay at Butte. The colossal artificial exposure of hydrothermally altered wall rock provided a perfect backdrop for a lecture on copper-molybdenum porphyry ore deposits.

We left Butte and traveled to the northern front of the Beartooth Mountains that stand like great walls and ramparts above the surrounding plains. Outstanding exposures of the famous Stillwater Complex, a 2.7 billion year old textbook example of a layered intrusion, offered a glimpse into the Earth’s early history. Lofty peaks dusted with the season’s first snow overlooked our campsite in the Stillwater Valley, while we visited the Stillwater Mine over the next few days.

Layering in the Stillwater Complex formed by crystal growth or settling, followed by tilting during Rocky Mountain uplift.

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days. Platinum and palladium are the primary resources mined from the Stillwater Complex. The vast subterranean network within the Stillwater Mine offers an entirely different view of mining operations compared to the open-pit mines at Butte. We descended as far as 2000 feet beneath the surrounding mountains and examined rocks under the light of our headlamps. For many of us, it was our first tour of an underground mine, a truly unforgettable experience. Once back at the surface, we found new meaning in the overlying mountainsides, realizing that brilliant rocks and minerals lie just below the thin surface veneer of soil and trees. Previously, most of us had only understood the Stillwater intrusion as hand samples in a petrology class, but here was an entire mountain of those rocks.

The drive to Yellowstone from the Stillwater Complex was a lengthy one, as road closures forced us to bypass the Beartooth Mountain Range. We reached Yellowstone National Park near midnight, after narrowly missing a bison that stood unmoved by our passage. Our first day at Yellowstone was spent hiking to the summit of Mount Washburn, a remnant of an Eocene volcano. To the south we could see the entire extent of the Yellowstone Caldera, one of the largest volcanoes on Earth, where we would later find ourselves examining the famous hydrothermal features. Steaming hot springs and rumbling mud pots emitted the rotten-egg odor of hydrothermal fluids.

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As I progressed in writing this note to you, I found myself with an interesting dilemma. I had to continuously edit in order to add notes on new gifts to the department or awards presented to our faculty—good reminders of how we have maintained our commitment to excellence in each of the primary missions of our department—research, teaching and service.

This year, the newsletter presents a few highlights from this past year (more information is available on our website at www.geo.oregonstate.edu). This year’s focus, however, is on our alumni, bringing you up to date with one another.

First, however, let me appraise you of the general state of the department. We once again set a new record for external funding. At the College of Science awards ceremony, the Milton Harris Award in Basic Research was presented to Dawn Wright, and the Loyd Carter Award for Excellence in Graduate Teaching to Ron Doel. Bob Lillie was presented with an award by the National Park Service at the national Geological Society of America meeting late in the year, and the department received recognition for the partnerships it has developed with the Park Service. These are other indications of the dedication of our faculty, how the students feel about their experiences (the Carter Award is student nominated), and the breadth of the excellence in our department.

In addition, we began offering new degrees for undergraduate, graduate, and professional students as part of the Geographic Information Systems certificate program. This collaborative program with the Colleges of Forestry and Engineering is designed to present students with a practical streamlined set of courses targeted at GIS techniques and applications.

One of the big student events of this past year was the field trip to Yellowstone and the Stillwater Complex. This trip was supported by a fundraising campaign from alumni, from the department, from several mining companies, and from the participants.

We will be welcoming our newest faculty member Hannah Gosnell, a resource geographer, early next year. Her specialty is land-use issues, and she will become an integral part of our role in the new Sustainable Rural Communities Initiative (more on this next year).

Please see the report from our Board of Advisors in this issue. I continue to be amazed by the breadth of knowledge and depth of intellectual commitment represented on our board. Its most valuable function is the outside perspective it provides on what we do. This has allowed us to ask ourselves questions that we might not ordinarily ask and has helped us to connect with our friends, alumni, and the employers of our students.

As with most state institutions, OSU is struggling with budget issues as we transition to an institution with less state support and more support from grants and private donations. The department has had to make some difficult choices over the past few years in order to streamline our operation. However, OSU continues to be one of the best places to study the Geosciences—largely because of your help. We are a major part of OSU’s long-range plan, allowing us to upgrade our facilities and curriculum to attract the best faculty to develop research programs and to apply the most effective teaching ideas. What we have been able to do is because of the resources you have helped to provide.

Once again, I encourage you to come to our gatherings (for example, football tailgaters and Geo-Day). We have a great time talking about you when you are not there—next time, be there so I can get the other half of the story. Come on by and I or one of our faculty or students will show you around—you will be pleased at the good things that are happening.

Roger Nielsen
Field trip—continued from p. 2

gen sulfide. Buffalo herds, elk, and a grizzly bear were among the wildlife spotted along the road and while we camped that night at Grant Village. The rutting elk just outside of camp kept us awake with a full night of bugling. Jake Lowenstern, the codirector of the Yellowstone Volcano Observatory, gave us a very informative tour of the Norris Geyser Basin. Afterward, we visited the Grand Canyon of the Yellowstone and Old Faithful before setting out for our final destination: Craters of the Moon National Monument.

We drove through the beautifully desolate sagebrush-covered expanse of the Snake River Plain and arrived at a volcanic landscape quite different from that at Yellowstone. Volcanic features that are only a couple of thousand years old are all accessible within a short hike. Pahoehoe basalt flows and chains of spatter cones form a surreal landscape at the foot of black cinder cones. Before driving back to Oregon, we concluded the trip by caving in lava tubes, trying to keep dry out of the rain.

In the span of 10 days we had seen a variety of geologic wonders and billions of years of the Earth’s history, all within the Pacific Northwest. We were provided firsthand exposure to the methods of extracting the raw materials that feed modern civilization. Exposures at Yellowstone and Craters of the Moon testified to the youthfulness of the volcanic activity in the region. Most importantly, we were all reminded of how dynamic and interesting is our little piece of the world.

Geosciences Board of Advisors Update

By Dru Hobbs Butler, Chair

The OSU Geosciences Board of Advisors is a diverse and independent group of geoscience professionals who volunteer their time to assist OSU in a visiting advisor role. We meet twice a year in Corvallis, and we are available as a point of contact for all our Geosciences alumni, and who knows, you may be asked to participate in the future.

We seek ways to bring the unique experiences and capabilities of our individual board members and alumni to benefit the Geosciences Department. We engage current students in an honest dialogue about their education and the services provided by the department. We consider input and information on issues confronting Geosciences from the department chair, the faculty, the students, and the administration. Based on this information, we develop and offer recommendations and advice to the department chair and other stakeholders.

Dru Hobbs Butler (MS Geog 1979) was named chair of the board at our October 2005 meeting. Dru has been a member since the board was formed in 2001. Tim Lauer (BS Geol 1964, MS Geol 1967) has served tirelessly as our chair for the first 5 years. Under his leadership we have enjoyed productive interactions with students and faculty and have come together as a multidisciplinary team. Tim continues to be an active member of the board.

We thank departing members recently completing 4 year terms for their service: Heidi Blischke (MS Geol 1990), Dick Marston (MS Geog 1976, PhD Geog 1980), and Bill Gallahan (MS Geol 1990, PhD Marine Geology 1996). We welcome new members joining in 2005: Denny Tower (BS Geol 1969, MS Geol 1972), Sharon Kelly (BS Geol 1979), and Gary Blackie (MS Geol Ohio University 1973). Other continuing members are Steven Anderson (MS Geog 1976), Ken Barrow (BS Geol 1977, MS Geol Stanford 1983), Richard Batasch (BS Earth Science 1976, MS Geog 1984), John Bubb (BS Geol 1958, MS Geol 1960), Brian Butler (BS Geol 1975), Janine Castro (PhD Geog 1997), Steven Dole (BS Geog 1972), Mike Gerstenberger (BS Geog 1977), George Sharp (MS Geol 1969), Greg Smith (PhD Geog 1982), and Steve J. Walsh (MS Geog 1975, PhD Geog 1977).

You can see their bios and email addresses on the Geosciences website at http://www.geo.oregonstate.edu/alumni/board.htm.

Reflecting over the past 5 years, contributions and advice enabled a 4-fold increase in private funds contributed per year since 2001, a safety program and safety training for department labs, teaching assistant training, web resources and contacts for employment within industry and government, establishing priorities for scarce funds, enabling E-campus courses,
generating graduate curriculum and undergrad majors and certificates, balancing geology and geography within the department, developing student internships and mentoring seminars, supporting student fundraising projects, sponsoring memberships for students in professional societies, upgrading computer labs, upgrading the conference room, and improving the teaching collections.

Our next board meeting is in May 2006, and our agenda will include interactions with students and faculty research updates. We are currently working on a pilot fundraising and department visibility outreach event, and are developing field trip options to help connect alumni, students, and faculty. We are also looking for ways to enhance Geosciences marketing.

We would love to put some of your career stories on the website so that students can see how you used your education to make the transition into a professional career track. You can do this by sending in your alumni information and photographs to Melinda Peterson, peterson@geo.oregonstate.edu, or contacting one of us or the department chair.

Get involved, let us hear from you. Go Beavs!

ALUMNI NEWS, 2002–2005 Information received since the alumni news in our December 2002 Newsletter. Date at end refers to the most recent submission.

Tracy H. Allen (PhD Geog 1999). Assistant Professor and Chair of the Geography Department, State University of New York, Oneonta. Received the State University of New York Chancellor’s Award for Excellence in Teaching in 2004, and earlier received the SUNY Oneonta Fund for Academic Excellence Award for Innovative Uses of Instructional Technology. Was a joint recipient of a $100,000 NSF grant concerning water quality, received several smaller grants including one from the EPA, and published the book Introduction to Geography. His children are growing—Madison is now 9 and Hunter 6. His wife Melissa is the Director of Financial Aid at Hartwick College. They live in an 1896 Victorian house in a sleepy college town, where snow stays on the ground from November to March. Spent the summer of 2004 completing a grant on deforestation and water-quality research in Tibet with Eric Larsen (PhD Geog 2001). Spent this summer on landscape-change studies in Myanmar. Takes students each year on an environmental trip, so far to the Brazilian rainforest, Costa Rican cloud forest, and Mexican desert. This year, it’s to Spain and Morocco. Want to go? allenth@oneonta.edu (2005).

Becci Dale Anderson (MS Geog 2002). Monitoring Specialist with the Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board where she uses her geography and mapping skills as a part of the Oregon Plan for Salmon and Watersheds monitoring team. She and Bill Anderson were married in 2002, and they live in Corvallis with their zany dog Z. beccianderson@yahoo.com (2004).

Dan Antonson (BS Geog 1991). Returned to Oregon after working in Spokane, Wash., for Spokane County Planning as a GIS analyst. Dan is currently working as a GIS analyst and planner in Lake Oswego for Otak, Inc., which is an Engineering/Architecture/Landscape Architecture/Planning firm. danantonson@otak.com (2004).
Craig D. Batchelder (BS Geol 1983). Lives in Carmel, Calif., with his wife Annette and their 6 year old son Matthew. Craig is a Commander in the US Navy and is currently completing an MBA degree. He traded emails a few years ago with Bob Foote (BS Geol 1983), an old Wilkinson Hall mate and workout partner, who was living in the Denver area. CDBatch@aol.com (2005).


Robert E. Bell (BS Geol 1962). Retired since 2000 after 35 years as a petroleum geologist. Now currently the owner and operator of LaCampana, Inc., an oil and gas exploration and production company. 76035.375@compuserve.com (2004).

Edward C. Beutner (BS Geol 1963). Enormously enjoying living in Ashland, but the mountains of Wyoming still call for field work during the summer, although they seem to be getting a bit higher and steeper each year. His paper on the Heart Mountain Fault came out in the Geological Society of America Bulletin in May and got coverage in Geotimes and Natural History. He is now working on another one together with Tom Hauge of ExxonMobil in which they hope to complete the story of the origin and mechanisms of the Earth's largest subaerial rockslide. He led a trip through the area for a group from Caltech in August and gave a talk on it at Washington Univ in St. Louis in October. Between continuing to work on the project, trying to keep up with the local theater and music, teaching a course on geologic catastrophes, preparing one on the misuse of geology by Creation pseudoscientists in the program for retired folks at Southern Oregon University, and keeping the deer and bears out of the garden, retirement doesn’t seem to be a whole lot less busy than what preceded it. ebeutner@fandm.edu (2005).


David A. Bird (BS Geol 1983). David is working for the Colorado Geological Survey, Denver. david.bird@state.co.us (2004).

Ellen Morris Bishop (PhD Geol 1983). Recently had a book published entitled In Search of Ancient Oregon. The book is about the past history of Oregon, why rocks are found where they are found, what animals graced the landscape, how oil is formed, and what the future might hold, geologically speaking. (2003).

Katherine Laing Bladh (BA Geol 1969) Teaching in the Geology Department at Wittenberg University in Springfield, Ohio. Katherine is currently an Associate Professor, while her husband is Provost, as well as a geologist. (2003).

April Herb Boughton (BS Geol 1996). Received her MS in geology from Portland State University and has worked in Environmental Consulting and as Adjunct Faculty for Indiana University South Bend. April is currently with Bruce Carter Associates (Environmental Consulting) as a Project Manager. She married Eric Boughton in 2002, and they hope to adopt a baby in the next couple of years. aherb@hotmail.com (2004).

David Brastad (BS Geog 2000). Working as a GIS analyst with AT&T Wireless Services in Redmond, Wash. Mostly performs analyses related to wireless network build-out and design. Also maintains various geographic data in relation to where wireless service is offered (zip codes, demographic info, wireless coverage maps, and so forth). (2004).

Kris Brooks (PhD Geog 1986). Currently Lead Systems Engineer at Northrop Grumman Mission Systems on a subcontract with the
National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency. She and her husband Patrick Joyce live in Long Beach, Calif., and are still trying to keep up with two teenagers, Michael a senior in high school who is in the process of applying to colleges, and Elizabeth a high school sophomore. She and Pat are not considering retirement any time soon. Kris.Brooks@ngc.com (2005).

**Aileen Buckley** (PhD Geog 1998). Aileen is a Cartographic Researcher at ESRI in Redlands, Calif. Her work entails developing GIS data models to support mapping, proposing software enhancements for cartography, and working with mapping agencies and organizations around the world. This year her work-related travel took her to England and Spain as well as to many places in the US. She still sails when she can and is now skiing during the snowy seasons. abuckley@esri.com (2005).

**Bryan Ciecko** (BS Geol 2004). Currently working for an environmental consulting company in Portland called Ecology & Environment Inc. He is engaged to be married to Amy Bean, who graduated from OSU in 2004 with a BA in Spanish. (2005).

**Megan Cogswell** (MS Geog 1997). Enjoying the life of leisure, staying home in Salem, Ore., with Nathan (8) and Noah (5) after leaving her position with OSU Extension in June of 2003. Spouse Paul continues to work hard to support her exercise, political reform, and scrapbooking interests. Megan hopes to do some independent publishing and is working on several projects. She enjoyed teaching Environmental Conservation for Geosciences last summer and Spanish to second graders. Her current goal is to hike half of the Wonderland Trail on Mount Rainier next summer (45 miles). cogswellcamuso@comcast.net (2005).


**Michael Collins** (BS Geol 1987). Currently living in Anchorage, Alaska. Michael is single with four sons, Chris, Matt, Kyle, and Colby. He is an account manager with RS Medical, Inc., selling and marketing noninvasive and invasive electrotherapy devices to a variety of physicians throughout the state of Alaska. (2004).

**Elizabeth Cox** (BS Geog 1987). Working as a realtor for RE/MAX Equity Group, Hillsboro, Ore. Liz@soldbyliz.com (2004).

**Ryan Dermody** (MS Geog 2001) and **Lori Slane** (MS Geog 2001) were married in April 2004. Ryan is working at the CalTrans District 9 office in beautiful Bishop, Calif., at the base of the High Sierra as a Transportation Planner. Lori is enjoying her position as a Watershed Resource Biologist for the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power Owens Valley Operations. The couple is happy to live in such a spectacular place and enjoy all of the wonderful outdoor adventures that the eastern Sierra has to offer. In September of 2005 they took a 3 week trip to England, Ireland, and Scotland. ryan_dermody@dot.ca.gov (2005).

**Jules R. Dubar** (MS Geol 1950). Living in Charlottesville, Va. Bad news: Broke his hip October 21, 2003, and is still doing therapy, but recovering fairly rapidly. Good news: His book *Never Piss Into the Wind* has been published (April 2004) and is now available from Amazon.com. [See also the review in the October 2005 *Geotimes*, “Who said geology had to be boring?”] (2004).

**Dave Easter** (MS Geog 2000). Spent the summer fishing in Alaska and now lives in St Paul, Minn. Dave’s fellowship is going well in the Lake Superior Basin area. He plans to attend the Coastal Society Conference in Rhode Island in May. dave.easter@dnr.state.mn.us (2003).
Maya Elrick (MS Geol 1986). After receiving her MS in 1986, she attended Virginia Polytechnic Institute for her PhD, working with J. Fred Read on Mississippian carbonates in Wyoming and Montana. The day after she turned in her dissertation, she drove west to the University of New Mexico to start her academic career as an assistant professor and has been there ever since. She married in 1995 (Mark Boslough, physicist at Sandia Labs) and has a wonderful and curious daughter. Her research focuses on carbonate stratigraphy, paleoceanography, paleoclimatology, and paleoenvironment events in Earth history. dolomite@unm.edu (2005).

Beverly Fahlstrom (MS Geol 1982). Beverly and her husband, geologist Bruce Falkenstein, recently donated a subscription to the electronic versions of the publications of the American Association of Petroleum Geologists to OSU’s Valley Library. (2005).

Stan Fisher (BS Geol 1975). Lives in the Santa Cruz Mountains, Calif., and currently has software contracts with Northrop Grumman and Filemaker. In his spare time he develops web-based applications for small businesses. His wife Ginger keeps busy teaching violin and is the secretary of a San Jose community orchestra. His oldest son graduated in June with a degree in Neuroscience from UC San Diego. He also has a son who is a junior at UC Berkeley, a daughter at West Valley College in Saratoga, and a son who is a sophomore at Scotts Valley High School. He purchased a house on Oahu, Hawaii, along with some 1-acre lots on Hawaii’s Big Island, and has an idea about building houses in Hawaii if he gets tired of software consulting. stan@jobhub.com (2005).

Lauren Forcella (BS Geol 1981). Became a professional artist and painter. Lauren also has won national gold medals for sparring in tae kwon do. She resides in Auburn, Calif. laurenforcella@yahoo.com (2002).


Sebastian Geiger (MS Geol 2000). In the summer of 2003, married Stephanie Boschung and now has a daughter Olivia. Despite the new focus in his life, has managed to finish and defend his PhD thesis at the ETH Zurich during the summer of 2004. Now working as a post-doc at ETH, and in January 2006 will move to the Department of Earth Sciences and Engineering, Imperial College London, to work on 3-D simulations of saltwater intrusion in realistically fractured aquifers. He is trying to move away from high temperature work and more into the applied side of modeling, but will also continue to work on hydrothermal flows. Hopes to visit Corvallis one day again. steph_sebastian@bluewin.ch (2005).


James W. Good (PhD Geog 1992). Retired this fall as Director of the Marine Resources Management Program in OSU’s College of Oceanic and Atmospheric Sciences. This past summer, Jim and a friend biked from Astoria to Missoula, to the extent possible retracing the route Lewis and Clark took on their return journey. Ever the perceptive observer, Jim noted that the landscape has changed a little, and that most of the fauna was of the flattened variety on the roadway. Jim’s partner Janet Moran (MS Geog 1990) is the Wetland Program Manager at the Oregon Department of State Lands, and she bikes when she can fit it in. They are at home with Kobe, their champion Belgian Tervuren. Good dog! jwg4@yahoo.com (2005).

William (Chip) Goodhue (MS Geol 1980). Associate with Aspect Consulting in Seattle, a small...
but diverse earth sciences consulting firm. cgoodhue@aspectconsulting.com (2003).


**Bryan Grigsby** (MS Geol 1986). Brian and his wife Anne Dougherty (MS OSU 1984) and their two children have lived in Boulder, Colo., for the past 11 years, where Anne is Associate Chair of the Applied Math Department at the University of Colorado Boulder. Bryan is a hydrogeologist with S.S. Papadopulos & Associates. In addition to “normal” environmental contamination projects, his work has included quantifying stream depletion due to water production from coalbed methane wells and evaluating the risks of the geologic sequestration of carbon. The family loves the skiing, mountain biking, and backpacking in Colorado. bgrigsby@sspa.com (2005).

**Carmelita Gutierrez** (MS Geog 2002). Carmen, Bernie, Helen, and Fluffy purchased their first home in Moreno Valley, Calif. (Riverside County), and moved in on January 14, 2004. It’s been a great adventure, and they really like their new environment. Come visit them when you can! (Now they’re really out in the middle of nowhere, but if you visit in the summer, Bernie can make you a great smoothie to drink.) (2004).

**James F. Hall** (BS Geol 1959, MS Geog 1964). Semiretired and developing and selling residential real estate in Oregon City, Ore. James is spending time with woodcarving and wood turning as well. He feels that what he has learned about the Earth helps him protect his customers from geologic problems. (2003).

**William B. (Bill) Hanson** (BS Geol 1971, PhD Geol 1976). Bill and his family constructed their home in the Upper Nehalem River Basin. They moved into the house during late December 2003, just in time for the big snowstorms of January 2004. They operate a small woodland and find time to relax while the trees grow. In addition Bill will continue to conduct some work in the energy business. alpinehi@aol.com (2005).


**Bret J. Hazell** (MS Geog 1993). President of 3Di West/GeoTerra, an aerial mapping, GIS, and survey firm in Eugene. bhazell@3diwest.com (2002).

**Eric Heller** (BS Geol 1996). Completed his Master’s in Civil Engineering at the University of Washington, and now is working for GeoEngineers in Seattle, Wash., as a geotechnical engineer. eheller@geoengineers.com (2003).

**Dan Henderson** (BS Geog 1995). Received the Grand Showcase Award for the San Diego Geography Showcase at the ESRI International Users Conference for his poster entitled, “Modeling Water, Toxics, and Environment Using GIS and 3D Visualization.” Dan was appointed to the Board of the California Geographic Information Association and accepted the CGIA award on behalf of UCSD for Excellence in Education. dhenderson@library.ucsd.edu (2003).

**Tom Henricksen** (PhD Geol 1974). Continues to work as a consulting geologist in South America—principally Peru, Bolivia, Chile, and Argentina—jungle work, high altitude work, living through the recent Bolivian revolution—no end to problems! Has been involved during the past 3 years in the discovery and development of two porphyry copper deposits, a borate deposit, and a silver deposit. Not bad for an old Beaver, but with early guidance from Cy Field, it probably should be expected. Tom’s first wife Christine passed away 5 years ago. His Peruvian wife Yony and her two kids are planning to move to the United States in January 2006. His three boys are in various stages—his oldest son Wynn is a stockbroker in Chicago, married with a young daughter and another child on the way. His second son Wes is finishing law school at the University of Washington, married to an Argentine lady, and will be working in San Diego starting in May 2006. His third son Wade is finishing his Associate Degree in computer science at Spokane Community College and will be attending a four-year college next year. tomhenricksen@hotmail.com (2005).

**Wallace Hibbard** (BS Geog 1968). Associate Re-
gional Director of Park Operations and Education for Southeast Region National Park Service, Naples, Fla., which includes nine states, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands. wally_hibbard@nps.gov (2003).

Mark D. Hilyard (MS Geol 1997). After several years of sharpening his skills with a local consulting firm, Mark is now with SAIC (Science Applications International Corporation) and has found a niche studying contaminant transport in fractured bedrock systems. The US Government is SAIC’s primary client, so he has been able to work on some long-term well-funded projects, including some work a couple of summers ago at the Nevada Test Site. He is living in Portsmouth, R.I., and was married 3 years ago to a truly wonderful person. Together they have a 2 ½ year old boy, Caleb, and a second child on the way. (2004).

Mary E. Hinkson (MS Geog 1993). Mary retired from the US Army in August 2002 and is now working as a military program analyst for a defense contractor in Huntsville, Alabama. Her daughter is attending Clemson University, and her son is a senior in high school. (2002).

Margaret Hiza (PhD Geol 1999). Was recently profiled in Science and by the Society for the Advancement of Chicanos and Native Americans, http://www.sacnas.org/WEBPDF/sacnewsspring05.pdf. She now works for the US Geological Survey studying climate change at the Navajo Nation, especially the movement of sand dunes and the levels of certain elements in the water. mhiza@usgs.gov (2005).


Herbert Lloyd Hofer III (BS Geog 1990). Two years after getting his geography degree, went back to college and wound up in 1994 as a Registered Dental Hygienist. Loves his work—what’s not to like about helping people get better smiles! Practices in Portland, and puts his geography training to use everyday in his ability to empathize, relate, and communicate in a meaningful way with any patient in front of him. He tried getting married a second time after OSU, but is now single again and loving it. Besides rock climbing, he is active with biking, hiking, yoga, ballet, and his three grandkids. (2004).


Kendra Hynes (BS Geog 2001). Contracting with the US Fish and Wildlife Service in Portland, Ore., and has worked in its Cartography Department making refuge boundary maps. (2002).

Patrick A. Jackson (MS Geol 1981). Since leaving OSU, has worked as a geologist and manager for Amoco Production Company, Basin Exploration Inc, and Stone Energy. His duties have taken him throughout the US, South America, Europe, Africa, and Asia. During 2003 he and Beth started a small consulting/prospecting firm, Barjay Inc. He is focusing on the generation of oil and gas prospects in the southern and western US. In 2004 for approximately a year, he and his 23 year old son physically built their new home in Golden, Colo. They personally lifted and installed every constituent piece of the structure and can proudly say that (as of today at least) everything works exactly as it should. barjay1@comcast.net (2005).

Mark James (MS Geog 1981). Finishing the second year since starting ED Solutions, Inc., in Powell, Ohio, a firm specializing in the use of technology in the economic development profession. Mark is a regular instructor and lecturer on technology issues and works with clients to effectively use technology tools to promote their communities and manage programs. mark.james@solutionsED.com (2003).


Patrick Kennelly (PhD Geog 1997). Assistant Professor at the CW Post Campus of Long Island University. patrick.kennelly@liu.edu (2002).

Marvin Kilbourn (BS Geog 1995). Works for Walker and Associates in Seattle, Wash., as a photogrammetric technician. Marvin loves what he is doing and is working on National Intelligence Mapping Agency projects and is

David Klanderman (MS Geol 1977). Art Boucot was his advisor, and Jess Johnson and Alan Niem were on his committee. Left OSU to go to West Virginia University to work on a Devonian gas shale project operated by the Department of Energy. The high point of his time there was working on computer models of Cambrian trilobite community assemblages around the North American Craton (crashed the entire state computer network running four-dimensional graphic representations). Returned to Arizona for 8 years of university study in anthropology, folklore, oriental studies, art history, medieval literature, and studio ceramics. Then became an employed member of society with an exhibits job at the Arizona State Museum. In 1988, started work at the Pima Air and Space Museum, Tucson, and has created approximately 200 interpretive exhibits in 17 years as Curator of Exhibits. Themes have included “Mighty Mars: How Humans Perceive Their Planetary Neighbor,” “When Rocks Fly,” the identification and history of the minerals used to build the SR-71 Blackbird spyplane,” “Imaging Mars: Water, Life, and Geology of the Red Planet,” an exhibit filled with rocks, geologic maps, and even a copy of Lyell’s Principles of Geology. (2004).

Richard A. Klecker (BS Geol 1969). Rich just celebrated 25 years with Amoco and now BP. He is now 9 years into learning his way around the deepwater part of the Gulf of Mexico, and is currently awaiting the availability of a semi-submersible rig to drill in the Keathley Canyon protraction area. Last December he was fortunate enough to travel to South Africa to have a good look at the world-class Permian turbidite fan systems dramatically exposed in the Karoo Basin. Saw Bill Hanson (BS Geol 1971, PhD Geol 1976) at BP after his retirement last year. Rich and his wife hope to join their daughter Tanya living in Portland in the next year or so. His son Travis will graduate from the University of Houston next spring. kleckera@bp.com (2004).


Andrika Kuhle (BS Geol 1992). After finishing an MS in 1997 from the University of New Mexico under the tutelage of Gary Smith (PhD Geol 1986), a student of Ed Taylor (BS Geol 1957, MS Geol 1960), Andrika was employed in Kalispell, Mont., working as an environmental consultant, where she specialized in groundwater and wetlands. She married in 2000, and in 2003 she caught the parental bug and quit working. Her husband Gordon Dicus and she now have two sweet little boys, Theo (born January 3, 2003) and Shafer (born August 23, 2004). She is for the time being a geologist only at heart, but content. They now live on the shoulder of Kilauea in Hawaii and extend an invitation to any faculty interested in a field trip to the world’s most active volcano, who are welcome to stay with them. (2004).

Kelli Larson (PhD Geog 2005) This fall she started a tenure-track Assistant Professorship at Arizona State University in Tempe. Her position is a joint appointment between the Department of Geography and the International Institute for Sustainability. (2005).

Brendan Laurs (MS Geol 1995). Working as the editor of the Gemological Institute of America’s quarterly technical journal called Gems & Gemology, Brendan gets to travel to an important gem-producing area each year, and last July he visited Madagascar for the second time. The main purpose of that trip was to assist with a World Bank and USAID sponsored program to professionalize the gem industry in Madagascar. He made arrangements for his institute to teach their Gem Identification Course there. He also visited some interesting gem deposits, including the pegmatite where a new pink mineral and gemstone called pizzottaite (a cesium analog of beryl) was recently discovered. He worked with scientists from the United States, Canada, and Switzerland on the original International Mineral Association proposal that described this new mineral, and he coauthored a feature article on it in the Winter 2003 issue of Gems & Gemology. blaurs@gia.edu (2004).

Michael Lewis (MS Geog 1984). Mike is Associate Professor of Geography and Director of Undergraduate Studies at the University of
North Carolina–Greensboro. He teaches courses in earth science and environmental change, and recently published a paper on neighborhood reactions to the return of beavers to urban streams of the southern Piedmont. He is currently planning a summer field trip to the Pacific Northwest for UNCG Geography students. Suggestions on places to see and stay are welcome! melewis@uncg.edu (2004).


Richard Marston (MS Geog 1976, PhD Geog 1980). Professor and Sun Chair, School of Geology, and Adjunct Professor of Geography at Oklahoma State University. Since 1999, Dick has served as coeditor-in-chief of the international Elsevier journal Geomorphology. He was elected the 101st president of the Association of American Geographers starting in July 2005. He recently received the Sterling L. Burks Award for Outstanding Environmental Research from the OSU Environmental Institute. His wife Linda Marston (MS Geog 1977) is a geoscience education specialist and consulting cartographer. They are parents to a son Bryce (born 1986), and a daughter Brooke (born 1990). marstor@okstate.edu (2004).

Andrew Mason (BS Geog 1990). Works for Harvest House Publishers, a Christian book publisher. Andrew has been in the distribution department since April 2002. He still is riding motorcycles and is looking for a different model. He is active in a few riding organizations. (2002).


Allyson Mathis (MS Geol 1993). Works as an interpretive park ranger at Grand Canyon National Park and continues to work in the field of geologic interpretation. (2004).


Philip McClellan (BS Geog 1995). Has been working for Titan Systems in Portland, Ore., for the past 9 years. Has worked on many GIS contracts from the creation of Digital Line Graphs (DLGs) and Digital Elevation Models (DEMs) for the USGS, the creation of the National Hydrographic Dataset (NHD) for the State of Alaska and the USGS, as well as on feature extraction with Boeing Automatic for NIMA (DoD). He is currently working with the US Forest Service Region 6 Information Resource Management (IRM) for data standardization of the National Forests in the region. (2004).

Al McGreehan (MS Geog 1974). In 2001, completed his 27th year of local government public service employed as either a planner or community development professional. Al, who lives in Paradise, Calif., is contemplating a possible retirement and commencement of a geography teaching career. (2002).

Claire McKee (MS Geol 2001). Moved to Arizona and started teaching at a high school. It is a blue-ribbon school where 90% of the students go to college, and the students have the highest SATs in the state. (2002).

Randy McKinley (MS Geog 1979). Senior Scientist employed by SAIC (Science Applications International Corporation). From his offsite office in Sheridan, Wyo., Randy provides remote sensing support to the USGS EROS Data Center in Sioux Falls, S.D. His current duties include mapping wildfires using satellite imagery, remote sensing, and GIS to assess the impact of coal bed methane (CBM) development on sage grouse in the Powder River Basin of Wyoming and Montana, and other technical and project management activities. (2004).

Terry J. Meehan (BS Geol 1987). Assistant Professor of Biology, Chatham College, Pittsburgh, Penna. Got his Master’s in geology and PhD in biology at the University of Kansas. Recently published a big paper in the January 2005 Naturwissenschaften on repeating faunas and climatic cycles, including a cover illustration of hippo and hyena ecomorphs. He had Art Boucot for Evolution, and he certainly didn’t
think then that his research on ecological evolutionary units would ever overlap with Art’s. His research specialty is fossil mammals (convergent evolution and climatic cycles), and his teaching specialty is human anatomy with cadavers. In 2003, he went to the Galapagos, and next time must scuba dive there. He’s on an ultimate frisbee team that’s going to the Ultimate Player’s Association National Championships. Tmeehan@chatham.edu (2005).

**Brian Millar** (MS Geog 1984). Senior associate for the firm of Pacific Municipal Consultants, which works with public agencies doing environmental analysis, planning, and other tasks. Brian hopes the California based company will expand to Oregon in the future. (2002).


**Wendy Mitteager** (MS Geog 1999). Finished a PhD at Rutgers and started a new job this fall at Oneonta State College in New York State. It is a tenure-track assistant professor position. Email mitteawa@oneonta.edu (2004).

**Ellen James Moore** (BA Geol 1946). Her book *Fossil Shells from Western Oregon* sells well on the Oregon Coast, and it has been adopted as a geology text at several community colleges. ellen.moore@cmug.com (2005).

**John Moran** (BS Geol 1968, MS Geol 1971). Living in Bakersfield, Calif., since 2001 and currently working with Denny Tower (BS Geol 1969, MS Geol 1972) to fund a new oil and gas exploration company there. John spent the middle part of his career working for Apache Corp in Tulsa, Okla. When he was promoted to VP of Exploration, he moved to Houston for 10 years. He managed an exploration effort primarily on the Gulf Coast. While there, Jim Peters (BS Geol 1968, MS 1971) got him interested in California, and he added California to the exploration of his company. They thought to bring the new 3-D seismic exploration tool to an old basin (the San Joaquin) and to use it to explore for oil and gas. John has been responsible for acquiring over 500 square miles of 3-D seismic since that time, and drilling is just starting on most of this work. He is married to Sherry Shelton, who got a business education degree at OSU in 1971. They have two daughters who are nurses in Cascade, Ida., and Ft Worth, Tex. He looks back on his OSU days with fondness, especially the days in geology graduate school. Jmoran@aol.com (2005).

**Stephanie Moret** (MS Geol 1997). Currently an Assistant Professor in Environmental Studies at Louisiana State University, teaching spatial modeling and decision analysis. Her oldest daughter Skye graduated from OSU in marine biology in 2004, and her youngest daughter Celia graduated from SOU in anthropology in 2005. Smoret@lsu.edu (2005).

**Jo Beth Mullens** (PhD Geog 1995). Promoted to Associate Professor in 2000 and received tenure in 2001 at Keene State College in New Hampshire. Jo Beth went on sabbatical during 2001–2002 and conducted research on water and gender issues. jmullens@keene.edu (2002).

**Cindy Ricks Myers** (MS Geol 1984). Just celebrated 20 years in Gold Beach since she arrived to work for Siskiyou National Forest. Since 1997 has been consulting for the South Coast and Lower Rogue Watershed Councils, performing watershed monitoring and assessment (more details at www.currywatersheds.org). Also, 1997 was the year she married Steve Myers, and now they have a daughter in kindergarten. She’s the science club advisor for the middle school, as well as the genotypical soccer mom. ricks@currywatersheds.org (2005).
Duane Nellis (MS Geog 1977, PhD Geog 1980) Since June of 2004, has been Provost at Kansas State University. He returned to K-State after 7 years at West Virginia University as Dean of Arts and Sciences. His wife, who also took classes at OSU in geosciences, is now Director of Knowledge Resources at the National Institute for Strategic Technology, Acquisition, and Commercialization in Manhattan, Kan. During his time at WVU, he also served as President of the Association of American Geographers (2002–2003). He is proud to be an alum of OSU and felt he had excellent experiences as a Master’s and PhD student in geography. dnel-lis@k-state.edu (2005).

William P. Nesmith (BS Geog 1974, MS Geog 1976). Administrator of the Conservation Division of the Oregon Office of Energy (OOE), Salem. His job responsibilities include management of several energy efficiency and renewable resource programs offered by the State of Oregon. He has been with OOE since 1985. He supervises a staff of about 30 with a biennial budget of $10 million. william.p.nesmith@state.or.us (2002).

Emily Oatney (MS Geol. 1998). Lives in the San Francisco Bay Area after a move from New Orleans. She is working for Chevron with the geostatistics and stratigraphy groups as a reservoir modeler. eoat@chevron.com (2002).

Doug R. Oetter (PhD Geog 2002). Assistant Professor of History and Geography at Georgia College & State University in Milledgeville, Georgia, only 35 minutes from hometown Macon, and under 20 miles from the family farm. Working on ways to grow fruits, nuts, vegetables, and herbs in the Georgia heat, with the hopes of one day running an awesome breakfast/lunch kitchen. doetter@gcsu.edu (2004).

Allison Osterbur (BS Geol 2003) and Eric Dick-erson (BS Geol 2003) met during their first year at OSU as geology students, and are now married with a beautiful new daughter, Mariel. She was born on March 24, 2005. They are living in Bend, Ore., and Eric has just accepted a position working with Kleinfelder Geotechnical Engineering (2005).

Dennis Pack (BS Geol 1970). Director of Studies at Seymour College in Adelaide, South Australia, a day and boarding school for girls from all over the world. Received a teaching certificate from OSU in 1971, and since has taught from Oregon to Australia to Paraguay to back to Australia again. His role at Seymour involves constructing the college timetable, course counseling, liaising with the state governing body, organizing vocational education opportunities, taking care of student teachers, and being a member of the College Leadership Team. He also looks after students enrolled in the Duke of Edinburgh Scheme, a worldwide program that awards people between 13 and 25 for various activities. He just finished revamping the geography curriculum for the state. He has been involved in anything outdoors and has extensive experience in bushwalking, kayaking, rock climbing, and snow skiing (yes, Australia has snow!). One of his most rewarding activities was cycling around parts of Tasmania and the Great Ocean Road in Victoria. In 2006 he plans to return to central Oregon to get to know his grandchildren, introduce locals to some of the cultures he has encountered, fish in the freshwater lakes of the Northwest, and support the Beavers sporting teams. packd@optusnet.com.au (2005).

Michael E. Pappel (BS Geol 1984). Working for the Boeing Commercial Aircraft Group for 18 years as a Facilities Engineer. Married for 10 years, with no plans for kids. It’s a busy construction zone at their house in Portland—remodeling and adding square footage.
e.pappel@boeing.com (2005).

F. Donald Parsons (BS Geog 1971). Enjoying retirement in Salem, Ore., and highly recommends it. He is still keeping busy with eight grandkids and volunteer work. donpars@open.org (2002).

Kevin Pendergast (BS Geol 2000). Engineering geologist for the past 5 years with R&M Consultants, Anchorage. Kevin is also pursuing a BS in Civil Engineering at the University of Alaska Anchorage, with the intent of focusing on Geotechnical Engineering. He is married to Rochelle Smith, an OSU graduate in Mechanical Engineering, and they have extensively renovated a house they bought in 2003. Their current recreational focus is on sailing and on taking care of their two beagles and a black lab mix. kpendergast@rmconsult.com (2005).

Heather Petcovic (PhD Geol 2004). Currently in her second year as an assistant professor at Western Michigan University, Kalamazoo, with a joint appointment between the Geosciences Department and the Mallinson Institute for Science Education. She has been revising and teaching a geology course for future elementary school teachers, which is designed to improve their knowledge and interest in earth science. She continues with her geologic research on feeder dikes to the Columbia River flood basalt flows. Her husband Mike Winkler is an environmental consultant for Secor International, Detroit. Their first baby Jessica Lauren Winkler was born on November 10, 2005, and they are looking forward to the adventure of parenthood. heather.petcovic@wmich.edu (2005).

Ernesto Podaca (BS Geol 1990). Graduate student in architecture working toward a Masters of Architecture at UNLV. podaca@unlv.nevada.edu (2003).

Kevin R. Pogue (PhD Geol 1993). Professor and chair of geology at Whitman College. He is married to Elisa Weinman who teaches Head Start, and they have two children, Eli age 12, and Keelin age 5. Kevin teaches physical geology, geophysics, structural geology, Cordilleran tectonics, and meteorology. His current research involves Quaternary clastic dikes of the Columbia Basin, the geology of the Elkhorn Mountains of northeastern Oregon, the geologic evolution of the City of Rocks National Reserve in southern Idaho, and a project in Mongolia. He and Elisa are enjoying the Napification of Walla Walla that has occurred during the past 5 years. About 65 wineries now lie near town along with many nice restaurants, cafes, and coffee shops. Kevin has lately been moonlighting as a vineyard site consultant, or terroirist as he calls it. They still manage the occasional rock-climbing trip. pogue@whitman.edu (2005).


William (Don) Reeder (BS Geol 1996). Working for INOVEC in Eugene, Ore., as a software engineer. He is still collecting rocks and likes to study mining history. Don and his wife Kerry had a daughter in December 2002. They enjoy hiking and camping. (2003).

Tom Rodhouse (MS Geog 2002). Works as an ecologist for the National Park Service Inventory and Monitoring Program. He and Casey have a baby, Isabel Louise Rodhouse, born March 10, 2005. They are still living in Bend, Ore., and having a very nice time. (2005).

Patricia Rogers (BS Geog 1979). Manager of the Transportation Enhancement Program, Oregon Department of Transportation, Salem. Patricia works with cities, counties, and other agencies throughout Oregon to select and
provide funds for sidewalks, bike paths, historic preservation, and landscaping projects. (2002).

**Martin Roy** (PhD Geol 2003). Martin has just received an offer for a tenure-track assistant professor position at the University of Québec in Montreal. He is finishing his postdoc at Lamont-Doherty Earth Observatory. (2005).


**Alexander Schriener, Jr.** (MS Geol 1978). Vice President of Earth Systems Southwest, Indio, Calif. It involves environmental investigations and remediation projects in southeastern California, as well as geothermal energy projects in California, Oregon, and Nevada. His office is half a mile from his house, and life is good. His wife Margie teaches twenty 3-year-olds at a preschool. She says she had the proper training for her job inasmuch as she raised two sons and a husband. Alex (20) is a Secondary Education English major at California State University San Bernardo with graduation in 2007 and then on to being a high school teacher. Timothy (21) is a Nuclear Engineering major at Oregon State with gradation expected in 2006, then on to graduate school. He worked the past two summers at NASA’s Jet Propulsion Laboratory on nuclear-related space missions. Timothy has taken to OSU like moss to a tree and thoroughly enjoys being a Beaver. He even took an introductory class in geology to humor his old man. aschriener@earthsys.com (2005).

**Sigmund D. Schwarz** (BS Geol 1952). Sig passed away in October 2005. He had practiced geology and geophysical engineering consulting on a limited basis after he and his wife Penny moved from the Seattle area to Astoria, Ore., in the early 2000s. (2005).

**Eric Sfetku** (BS Geog 2002). Working for the University of Washington Olympic Natural Resources Center in Forks, Wash., for over a year. The center’s website is http://www.onrc.washington.edu geosfetku@hotmail.com (2004).

**George Sharp** (MS Geol 1969). George retired in 2002 from the Weyerheuser Company after 25 years as Director of Mineral Resources. He managed exploration and development for all mineral commodities on Weyerheuser’s timberlands and mineral holdings in the US and Canada. Previously George worked for 8 years in oil and gas exploration as a frontier exploration geologist with Shell Oil and later as Division Geologist for Tenneco Oil in Denver. He is currently serving a 5-year term as a Trustee with the GSA Foundation, is a Trustee Associate with AAPG, a docent at the Forest Learning Center on Mount St Helens, and a member of the OSU Department of Geosciences Board of Advisors. George and Danielle travel extensively—their last trip was a month to the Cook Islands and New Zealand. They continue to live in the Puget Sound area and are in the process of remodeling their cabin at Zigzag on the flanks of Mount Hood. Their son Justin works for a nonprofit in Denver, and their daughter Audrey is teaching high school in Mukiteo, Wash. geosharp@comcast.net (2005).

**David Shively** (MS Geog 1990, PhD Geog 1999). Assistant Professor of Geography at Central Michigan University. David is conducting research into air pollution associated with snowmobile use in Yellowstone National Park. His wife Gret is working occasionally at local hospitals (ER) through a healthcare related staffing service, and substitute teaching as a clinical instructor for the local community hospital. Their kids are growing quickly. david.shively@cmich.edu (2003).
Lee Sickler (BS Geog 1990). GIS Technician, City of West Linn Engineering Department. Lives in southwest Portland with son Ben (6), daughter Molly (4), and wife Lisa, who is a teacher. Enjoys making it back to the OSU campus in the fall for football games and occasionally to check in on the Geosciences Department. lsickler@ci.west-linn.or.us (2005).


Scot Siegel (BS Geog 1990). Started his own planning consulting business in 2004, Siegel Planning Services, LLC. Based in Lake Oswego, Ore., the company specializes in land-use planning, urban design, code-development projects, and serves public and private clients throughout the West. Scot has served as a prime consultant to the state of Oregon’s Transportation and Growth Management Code Assistance Program since 1998. Recently completed projects include the City of Talent Railroad District Master Plan, Oregon’s Model Development Code for Small Cities, and zoning and development code updates for the cities of McCall, Ida., and John Day, Ore. He is vice president of Lake Oswego’s Talented and Gifted Education PTA, and he serves on the City of Lake Oswego Planning Commission. Siegelplanning@aol.com (2005).


Diana Sinton (MS Geog 1993, PhD Geog 1997). Working at Middlebury College as the GIS Program Director for NITLE (National Institute for Technology and Liberal Education). Diana received a NASF Fellowship and spent Jan–July 2003 in Argentina with her family, doing a project for a national park there. Here is the website put together for GIS work at NITLE, and when you get a chance, take a look (http://gis.nitle.org). Also, please feel free to send along any suggestions or material to add (literature citations, links, and the like). The literature database (http://gis.nitle.org/literature.php) is still rather heavy on biogeography and forestry, but they’re always posting new articles, and they’ve got well over 1200 at this time. dsinton@middlebury.edu (2004).


Harold Greg Smith (BS Geog 1976, PhD Geog 1982). Chief scientist for the National Imagery and Mapping Agency in Bethesda, Md. He is also a lecturer at the University of Maryland College Park Geography Department. (2002).

Rachel Sours-Page (PhD Geol 2000). Christopher Boyette (BS Geol 1998), who finished law school in the spring of 2003, got a job with the Public Defender’s Office in Twin Falls, Ida. Currently they are renting a house in Twin Falls but planning to buy as soon as they find something they like. Rachel is still working for Xcel Energy on a contract basis, telecommuting from Twin Falls. rachel.sours-page@excelenergy.com (2004).

Jessica Spiegel (BS Geol 2000) Has worked for the past 4 years in Portland, Ore., for Ecology and Environment Inc, an environmental consulting firm based in Buffalo, N.Y. She does a range of environmental work with a focus on permitting under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). (2005).

Ann Stark (MS Geog 1998). GIS Coordinator for the Lummi Indian Nation. Ann is using her biology and resource management degrees as well as trying to manage a GIS program. She lives with her husband Doug in Bellingham, Wash. starkdna@hotmail.com (2003).
Gary Stedman (MS Geog 1976). Master planner and land-use planner with the Directorate of Public Works in Fort Lewis, Wash. Gary worked nearly 14 years in the Environmental and Natural Resources Management for the US Army, and now has worked 5+ years at Fort Lewis. (2002).

David H. Steinbrugge (BS Geol 1984). Licensed mortgage broker with Stonebridge Mortgage Group, Gresham, Ore. David and Ramona have been married for 13 years now, and their son Sam is now 10 (two digits as he says), and Sarah is 7. dhs@stone-bridge.com (2004).

Len Stitt (MS Geol 1980). Len lives with his wife Diane in Peshawar, Pakistan, where he heads the local office of a nongovernmental organization, Shelter Now Afghanistan. They are now responding to the recent earthquake disaster in Kashmir. (2005).

Brian J. Stonebrink (BS Geol 1991). Works for the State of Arizona at the Department of Environmental Quality and lives in Goodyear, Ariz. Brian provides oversight on environmental cleanup projects by the Department of Defense. He is also the project manager for Davis-Monthan Air Force Base, Fort Huachuca, and Corps of Engineers cleanups of former defense sites. The projects include the cleanup of soils from jet fuel leaks using a soil vapor extraction system, treatment of aluminum dross and implementation of a cap, monitoring landfills, and removal of underground storage tanks, ordnance, and soils at contaminated sites. bs4@azdeq.gov (2004).

Erin Hille Stout (MS Geog 2000). Moved back to Oregon from the Seattle area with her husband and purchased a home in North Albany. Erin has been working for CH2M Hill. (2002).

David “Zan” Strausz (MS Geog 2001). Zan was fortunate to land a job near his ancestral home in Washington State as the main GIS person in a small electrical utility—Franklin County Public Utility District. Most of his time is spent managing a GIS mapping system involving lots of database management, general network administration, and software support and development in a kind of one-man-band environment. It’s lots more fun than being a tiny cog in some larger organization. Their daughter recently received her MS in psychiatric nursing and a Nurse Practitioner’s certification. Their engineer son just became an Ensign in the NOAA Commissioned Officer Corps and is assigned to a ship based in Seattle. dstrausz@franklinpud.com (2005).


Brian P. Sundin (BS Geol 1985). After graduation, Lt Col Sundin has served 18 years in the US Army as a Transportation Officer. Brian has been deployed to such places as Honduras, Korea, Japan, Germany, Australia, and East Timor. (2002).


David Theirl (MS Geog 2003). For almost a year now has been a US Army contractor working out of Schofield Barracks, Hawaii, in charge of the Army’s Range Training Land Assessment program. Basically he inspects, analyzes, and reports on the environmental conditions of six training lands on Oahu and one on the Big Island. That’s what happens during the work week. The rest of the time, it’s all body boarding, snorkeling, hiking, and generally trying not to lose his pearly white Oregon tan. (2004).

Wiley C. Thompson (MS Geog 1999). After OSU, Lt Col Thompson taught at West Point for 3 years and then moved to Germany in 2003, where after a few weeks he was deployed to Iraq and served in the Sunni Triangle. After
that he was stationed in Afghanistan, and on October 10, 2005, he led the first US aid effort to the Pakistan earthquake, initially consisting of 8 helicopters and 210 soldiers. It eventually grew to 28 helicopters and 500 personnel from the US, UK, and the Afghan Air Corps (on their very first deployment). Wiley flew on several missions himself and was privileged to spend time on the ground in some severely affected areas, helping to assess the needs of the villagers. “It was a great feeling to be able to ask someone what they needed and then to be able to follow-up over the next few days with a couple of Chinooks full of exactly what they asked for. Incredible job satisfaction and an outstanding experience for a geographer or geologist.” One of his photos of an earthquake-triggered landslide is in press in the January 2006 *Geotimes*. Wiley.C.Thompson@baf.afgn.army.mil (2005).

**Dale M. Timmons** (BS Geol 1980). Lives with his wife Pamela and youngest son in Issaquah, Wash. President of ARI Technologies, where by applying the principles of geochemistry and thermodynamics, Dale perfected a technology to convert asbestiform minerals into a nonhazardous asbestos-free product consisting of minerals such as olivine, wollastonite, and the pyroxenes. The patented EPA-permitted process takes place without melting the waste, reduces its volume by about 80%, and the treated product can be used as construction aggregate. ARI is in the final permit process for building Europe’s first commercial asbestos destruction and recycling facility. It will process about 30 tons a day of asbestos waste. Other systems are in the planning stages in other parts of the world. The process has been further demonstrated to immobilize toxic metals and radionuclides for the US Department of Energy. Recent testing was also completed for the US Army, where the technology was adapted to recycle lead from lead-based paint at military demolition sites. Most of his asbestos work is conducted overseas, and the US still throws all of its asbestos waste into the ground. dtimmons@aritechnologies.com (2005).


**Patrick M. Tolson** (MS Geol 1976). Changed companies from Marathon Oil to Dominion to keep from moving to Houston. Patrick’s title changed a little with the move, but he is still working on the deep Anadarko Basin in southwestern Oklahoma. (2004).

**Steve Tolzman** (MS Geol 2001). Water Quality Planner with the King County Department of Natural Resources and Parks in Seattle, Wash. He and his wife Wendy live in West Seattle and have a 4-year-old son, August. They are also very close to completing an adoption. In early 2006 they will travel to Thailand to bring home their new daughter Kritsana, who was born in April 2005. Steve.Tolzman@metrokc.gov (2005).

**Ove F. “Van” VanJepmond** (BS Natural Resources 1962). Lives in Olympia, Wash., with his wife Carolan (a graduate of North Texas State). Van is busy in his third career field managing his real estate investments, and Carolan is busy with her interior design business. He is active with Rotary (Lacey Club) and will be attending the 2006 International Convention in Copenhagen, Denmark. vanjepmond@yahoo.com (2005).

**Anna Versluis** (MS Geog 2002). Student at Clark University in Massachusetts. Anna is on a committee that is looking at how to improve the graduate program there. (2004).

**Daniel H. Vice** (BS Geol 1967). Teaching introductory geology and earth science courses at Penn State University (campuses of Hazleton
Jonathan Williams (BS Geol 2000). Has worked for BP Alaska in various parts of their Prudhoe Bay operations since graduating. Currently is the Subsurface Lead for the Orion and Polaris viscous oil developments. His technical specialty has become geocellular modeling, and he is getting dangerously close to becoming a reservoir engineer. He and his wife Janelle adopted their first child Abigail earlier this year. She has been an absolute blessing, and they look forward to raising her in Alaska. They have found a great community there, especially for cycling and triathlons that he has competed in since they moved to Anchorage. willijon22@yahoo.com (2005).

Dana Willis (MS Geol 1992). After a 5 year hiatus from mining, during which he was a senior scientist with Exponent Failure Analysis Associates working on a wide variety of building and geology related failures, the opportunity came up to work for Newmont Mining Corporation at the Midas Mine in Elko County, Nev. It was a timely transition, because otherwise Dana would have found himself in Iraq working for Exponent as a civilian contractor supporting the 101st Airborne in training and the use of surveillance robots. Now he is a senior mine engineer at Midas, an underground mine producing 220,000 ounces Au and 2,500,000 ounces Ag per year. Dana’s main role is deposit modeling and resource estimation, but like in many operations, he wears several other hats. (2004).

Jeffery Willis (BS Geog 1983). After not settling into a regular mapping position, Jeffery became interested in elementary education and in the spring of 1997 received a degree in it from the University of Alaska Anchorage. He is currently teaching kindergarten at a private nonprofit school. He is also going back to UAA to upgrade in the cartographic field and has done some freelance contracting map work for Cominco Alaska, Inc., and the Anchorage Area Atlas. (2002).

Daniel Wise (MS Geog 2001) Hydrologist with the USGS Water Resources Division in Portland. He works on the Yakima Basin as part of the National Water Quality Assessment. He is studying the effect of agricultural practices on water quality in the basin. (2002).


Kenneth J. Yeats (BS Geol 1981). Ken moved
back to Houston in 2004 after a 5-year assignment with Caltex in Duri, Sumatra. He is now working in offshore Nigeria for Chevron. He and his wife Carolyn hosted an OSU fundraiser for the Robert Yeats Professorship in April. They have two children, Emma 18 and Ian 14, plus their pet Basenji named Cleo. They will have a Christmas family reunion at Sunriver, Ore. (2005).

Shira Yoffe (PhD Geog 2002). After finishing her PhD, Shira moved from Oregon to Washington, D.C. She works at the US State Department in the Bureau of Oceans, Environment, and Scientific Affairs. shira@yifan.net (2002).

New Alumni, 2004–2005
Aaby, Alyssa A., Geography MS 04
Arghi, Louis M., Geology MS 04
Bennett, Brian A., Geography BS 04
Blair, Mehgan M. O., Geology MS 05
Blankespoor, Brian L., Geography MS 04
Bower, Peter A., Geography MS 05
Buchner, Edward L., Geography MS 05
Capozza, Togan C., Geography MS 04
Carter, Henry J. “Jamie”, Geography MS 05
Casebeer, Nathan E., Geology MS 05
Chambers, Shane M., Geology BS 05
Cocker, Adam A., Geology BS 05
Colombo, Mary C., Geology BS 04
Cooper, Colin A., Geography MS 05
Daniel, Isaac B., Geography MS 05
Davis, Cody G., Geology BS 05
Ensor, Kelly L., Geology BS 04
Erhardt, Morgan W., Geology BS 04
Fish, Ryan R., Geology BS 05
Frederick Mathew D., Geology BS 05
Geck, Benjamin S., Earth Science BS 05
Geier, Joel E., Geology PhD 05
Gray, Zeitel N., Geology BS 04
Green, Joe V., Geology BS 04
Hedstrom, Keldah E., Geography MS 05
Jaman, Musa, Geography BS 05
James, Jacob E., Geography BS 05
Jenkinson, Bernadette, Geography BS 05
Johnson, Chris R., Geology BS 05
Johnson, Sarah A., Geology MS 05
Keith, Charles M., Geography MS 05
Klemetti, Erik W., Geology PhD 05
Koslofsky, Adam D., Geology BS 04
Larkin, Emily M., Geography MS 04
Larson, Kelli L., Geography PhD 05
Lashlee, Jon D., Geography PhD 05
Littlefield, Samuel J., Geography MS 05
Longo, Anthony A., Geography PhD 05
Lundblad, Emily R., Geography MS 04
Madraso, Amanda F., Geology BS 05
Martin, Peter A., Geography MS 04
McClung, Steven C., Geography MS 05
McCrary, Kelly A., Natural Resources BS 04
McKendrick, Stephen, Geography MS 04
McKernan, Joshua D., Natural Resources BS 05
Muir, Camille K., Geography BA 05
Ninneman, Jeffery J., Geography MS 05
Petcovic, Heather L., Geology PhD 04
Price, Mark T., Geology BS 05
Rempel, Marcus E.G., Geography MS 05
Robinson, John R., Geography BS 04
Rodgers, Jennifer L., Geology BS 04
Twiss, Jeremy M., Geography BS 05
Uhrig, Andrew R., Geology BS 05
Vannatta, Lisa R., Geography MS 05
Wallick, Jennifer R., Geology MS 04
Wampler, Peter J., Geology PhD 04
Weese, Kelli A., Geography BS 05
Zanger, Christopher J., Geography MS 04


Undergraduate: Della Graham, Danielle Jansik, Mackenzie Keith (2), Lora Liegel, Cody Schrock, Circe Verba.
Symposium and Reunions in Support of the Yeats Professorship

As we reported last year, our department is in the process of raising funds to support an endowed faculty position in the field of earthquake geology and active tectonics. Oregon State University is an internationally recognized leader in this area, largely due to the work of Robert S. Yeats and his students. Over the span of his career, the scientific contributions of his research group have emphasized earthquake studies and their implications for society.

Our goal is to attract a new rising star to continue his legacy in earthquake geology. This addition will greatly improve our ability to deliver the educational mission of the department in field techniques, graduate education, and large-format courses. It also will help us to teach fundamental principles of the earth sciences and the relevance of innovative approaches in scientific research to Oregonians and the world.

As part of this effort, we organized three events during the past year—a reunion of Bob’s students in Houston last April hosted by Bob’s son Ken, a reunion symposium and field trip in Newport, Ore., in June, and a reception hosted by Ken and Donna Barrow in Denver in November. These events helped us to bring Bob’s students and other OSU alums together to recognize Bob’s contributions, the continued importance of this field, and the excitement generated by the work of his former students and colleagues.

After a year of effort, we have made good progress, but we can use your help. If you can make a contribution to the endowment, please contact Roger Nielsen (Chair, Geosciences Department—nielsenr@geo.oregonstate.edu).

Big Upgrades in Digital Earth Classroom

This summer, the Digital Earth Classroom was the recipient of $98,000 to upgrade computing resources and facilities for disabled students. The monies were part of a Technology Resource Fee (TRF) grant from Oregon State University.

Mark Meyers, director of Digital Earth and the Terra Cognita Geographic Information Systems and Spatial Analysis Laboratory led this effort. This grant allowed the department to purchase 31 new computers with flat screen and compact computer technology for more spacious workspace at the tables. Each of the new computers is running state-of-the-art GIS, cartography, image processing, and related software. There is also a new server with high bandwidth allowing ten-times faster communication across the network.

The TRF grant also allowed us to purchase two electric-lift desktops for students in wheelchairs. Previously, the stationary tables interfered with the wheelchairs, making it difficult for users to reach the keyboards and view the screens.

If you are visiting OSU in the near future, please stop by Digital Earth in 210 Wilkinson for a look at these exciting improvements.
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