

Solar Energy Laboratory

The University of Wisconsin - Madison
1500 Engineering Drive
Madison, WI 53706

William A. Beckman, Director
Tel: (608) 263-1590
FAX: (608) 262 8464
e-mail: beckman@engr.wisc.edu

February 2000

To Solar Energy Laboratory Alumni and Friends:

Jack was on top of everything once again. He was the one to put together your responses. I think the internet has caused some of you to neglect your duty to report your activities for the year. What do you think; do I need to send out a reminder in November?

Madison will host the American Solar Energy Society Annual Meeting June 18-21. The Midwest Renewable Energy Fair, the largest energy fair in the US, will precede the ASES meeting (June 16-18). So, try to make both events if you can. We plan to have a gathering of SEL alumni and friends at the ASES 2000 banquet. I will try to get a private room or at least an area where we can gather during the cocktail hour before the banquet. At the banquet I will reserve tables so we can all sit together. I was hoping that we could have a private dinner sometime during the meeting but the agenda is full.

The technical chairs for ASES 2000 are **Bill Beckman** for the so-called Active meeting and **Mike Utzinger** (79) for the Passive meeting. If you didn't get a paper in for this meeting you missed a golden opportunity to have your paper reviewed by experts.

Jack Duffie was invited by the UK Section of ISES to present a lecture on the history of the International Solar Energy Society at their 25th anniversary meeting in Brighton, England. It was a great opportunity for Pat and Jack to see many good friends in the UK, and do a bit of touring of southern England with Leslie and Kati Jesch. Jack is now getting involved with additional study of the history of ISES. He says that he is going to cut back on his teaching (with Bill) of the Solar Energy course. The Duffies spent much of the summer at their beautiful retreat in northern Wisconsin.

It appears that **Sandy Klein** is stuck. He is *still* working on his EES and FEHT programs and occasionally on TRNSYS and TRNSHELL. And he's slipping in these tasks as well. As of today early January 2000 there have only been 233 new versions of EES released since January 1, 1999 not even one per day. Perhaps he can be partially excused for this lapse due to his travels. Aside from the ASHRAE meeting that he attends in summer and winter, he routinely travels to Colorado in the summer and this year, to Bonaire (an island near Venezuela) for a winter break. Some reports indicate that he is getting pretty good at mountain biking but not nearly as good as his sons. Older son Danny has started college at UW-Madison majoring in you guessed it - Mechanical Engineering. That will be another challenge...

John Mitchell has continued his interest in HVAC system operation and control, with Ian McIntosh completing his PhD in this subject in December. This was an interesting project on fault detection for large chilled water systems, that brought in Osman Ahmed, another former SEL PhD. John continues his ASHRAE involvement. He is on the Research Advisory Panel, which is trying to set new directions for ASHRAE research. As editor of the ASHRAE International Journal of HVAC&R Research, he oversees the publication of high quality research reports - he certainly would welcome more from SEL grads.

A time consuming but rewarding effort has been coordinating the NSF-sponsored Foundation Coalition, on the UW campus. The goal is to make engineering education more effective, and starts with changes in the courses that students take their freshman year. There are six other schools involved, and John has visited such exotic locations as Tuscaloosa, Alabama, and Terre Haute, Indiana, to see what is going on there.

His bird-watching interests have continued, and he and Barbara took a trip to Trinidad and Tobago last January. They nailed 127 species on this trip, including the Tufted Coquette, a spectacular hummingbird. He now has approximately 843 species on his life list.

Bill Beckman continues to travel the world! Last year he made a couple of "business" trips to Florida (and enjoyed the golfing opportunities); gave ASME Distinguished Lectures in Huntsville, AL, Honolulu, HI (nice), Richmond VA; crossed the Atlantic several times (Belgium, Denmark, Germany and England); and attended the ASES annual meeting in Portland, ME. His travels means that he is now holds one of the coveted NorthWest Chairs; well, at least gold status for this year. The solar lab continues to have a great bunch of students (14 in the spring and 19 in the fall) although fewer every year working on solar projects. In addition to 3 solar projects, the lab has a large group working on energy systems (of course using TRNSYS and EES) and 2 working on heat transfer in computer chip manufacturing using ANSYS. Does anyone know if the laws of physics, as known to old-time mechanical engineers, really work? How does radiation of wavelength on the order of 10 micrometers get out of an object a few nanometers in size? Oh well.

Doug Reindl (92) is becoming more involved in SEL activities in spite of his heavy load in the Department of Engineering Professional Development. As usual each student gets to have two bosses; Doug provides insight to ½ of the SEL students.

Here's what we have from and about alumni and friends: If you have a (??) after your name it means we have lost the date that you were here. For people who received a degree from UW, we can find your date of graduation. However, for visitors and others, we need your help in getting the dates right.

Many of you will remember **Peter Schoffer**, who was a member of the Lab staff until he returned to Amsterdam with a terminal illness. The Duffies had stayed in contact with Peter's mother; she died in December at the tender age of 105, alert and interested to the end. She was a grand lady.

Laura (Clark) Francis (??) and her family are now back in Madison; in May she took on the job of chief financial officer for an internet-based startup company. She and Dave have two children.

Don Dessart (56) is retiring after a long and distinguished career at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville as a professor of mathematics and mathematics education. He says he retires on January 7, 2000 and has accepted a four-year post retirement appointment. Retirement???

Roger Gillette (59), retired from his career at Boeing, has expanded his retirement business of caring for large (48' to 65') yachts. He and Margie are active with water sports, skiing, travels, and caring for their two acres near Seattle. They write that their freezer has in it a year's supply of salmon.

George Blytas (61) completed five years of post-retirement consulting in the oil industry, and decided to retire again, this time completely. So, he is now putting more time into conducting the Houston Sinfonietta, which is now in its twentieth season, and in writing a book on "Greece in the Second World War," a project that he has been involved in for some time.

Duane Williams (61) and Dar retreated to warmer climes last winter; their travels were curtailed by Dar's illnesses, but she is doing well again. They had considered a tour to Egypt with friends but gave up the idea; the friends were lost on the Egypt-Air flight.

Many of you have met **George Lof**'s wife Davey, and some may have known **Roger Morse**'s wife Margaret. Sadly, both Davy and Margaret died last year. George is still busy with the swimming pool cover business.

Jim Krueger (65?) had been working at H-P, but the program he was working on was ended and he is now at IBM. He and Val have two sons, one in college and the other in the navy. They still live in Half Moon Bay CA.

Don Close, who spent 1966 in Madison, is thinking about retiring from his position as dean at James Cook U. in Townsville. His daughter Elizabeth was married in August. His family already has tickets to Olympic events.

Steve Sargent (71) continues as Renewable Energy Program Manager with the DOE Denver Regional Office. His specialty is solar and wind projects on Indian Reservations. He and his family drove around eastern Canada after the ASES conference in Portland, Maine, in June '99. He is planning to be at the ASES 2000 conference in Madison in June, 2000.

Neil Duffie (75), the first TRNSYS Engineer is now Chairman of the UW Mechanical Engineering Department.

Tom Freeman (75) and his family are still in California.

Toshiki Uesaki (75) and his wife Chicko are busy with hobbies and travels. On a trip to Canada to see the Rockies, he hit the jackpot on a slot machine - so they enjoyed a luxurious dinner.

John Anderson (79) is really looking forward to the new challenges and opportunities offered by his position. He is heavily involved in moving RE technologies into the marketplace, but from a pretty dramatically different viewpoint. The charter for the fund is "renewables and fuel cells" (which we can probably stretch to EE when needed), "for the benefit of the CT ratepayers". The fund is in the startup mode now, so I will be developing the strategic plan, hiring staff, and finding the initial projects, all at once. I'm expecting it to be quite busy -- but also a lot of fun. John is soliciting "business" and hints that if has a bankable renewables project in the New England area, or know of a renewables company that's looking for a base of operations in the NE, please ship them his way.

Bill Monsen (80) does power market assessments (he simulate the operation of utility generators and loads, ultimately coming up with estimates of how much different power plants operate and the market prices that those generators would receive in a competitive power market). These projects are typically data-intensive so he meets with utilities to get data and a better understanding of how the systems operate. This work has taken him to Korea and China. He survived a typhoon in Hong Kong and skied with John C. Mitchell and Mike Siegel and their families. Gail works part time in a jewelry store, and their kids are growing up.

John Sheridan (80) is still Associate Dean - Research (ADR) in the Faculty of Engineering at Melbourne University. He will be the Chair of Fluid Mechanics in Mechanical Engineering and is to take over as departmental chair in 2001. Liz is back at university part-time doing an Arts degree, and enjoying it thoroughly. She has been busy in her consulting business in 1999 working for one of the major hospitals in Melbourne. They just spent 4 weeks at their cabin isolated in the high country of

New Zealand.

Jay Theilacker (80) is still at Fermi Labs, involved in cryogenic engineering, and will be back in Madison for a Cryogenics Engineering board meeting this spring. He and Lynn are Badger backers, and took their children to the UW - Northwestern football game in Evanston.

Mike Brandemuhel (82) is a full professor at the University of Colorado and director of the Joint Center for Energy Management.

Leslie Jesch, who spent the summer of 82 with the lab, is semi-retired and still living in the solar house in Birmingham, England (when he is not in Hungary, Germany, or ???).

Jeff Jurinak (82) and Paula now have a married daughter!

Jim Madsen (82) writes: "Nothing new since last year, but thanks for keeping the annual letter going." (Sounds like he is still trying to keep up with their driving twins.)

Kevin Grabner's (85) one person firm, KG Energy, is still rolling along, doing energy efficiency work through public benefit charges. His new hobby is cross-country skiing, but unfortunately there has not been much snow. He says that his wife and kids are doing fine, as is the garden.

Uwe Hirsch (85) and Jutta are building a house - when they are not traveling to Turkey, Florida, or Brussels. He works for P& G and teaches at U. of Strasbourg. They have resumed their skydiving - in Germany and on a return trip to Florida where they were married about 10 years ago. Uwe wants to stay 39, but 40 overtook him.

Isabelle Blanc Sommereux (85) writes: what a change for us! 1999 was a year to settle down in England, adjust to English for the children. Emmanuel travels two or three times a month to Poland, Holland and France. He is happy with his new job as the European Telecom Manager for International Paper. Children are doing OK in school. I am teaching French and math (in French) to our three children after school. It is like being a part time teacher. I have to be very patient and disciplined but it is worth the effort.

Jim Kummer (86) has been at Johnson Controls for 10 years. He, Cindy and their three children now have three Bernese Mountain dogs, including a new Christmas puppy.

Fred Sick (86), at Transsolar Energietechnik GmbH in Stuttgart, works on a variety of projects. He writes that all three girls are in school now and doing well, Heike is working part time to help increase the family income - 4 girls in a family are a good reason to do so.

Alan Schuler (86) is living in Juneau, Alaska and still working for the State of Alaska, Department of Environmental Conservation as an environmental engineer in the Air Quality section. Alan and his wife have a seven-year old son.

Bob Mates (87) is living in Minneapolis and still practicing patent law with Schwegman Lundberg Woessner & Kluth,. Like a lot of us here in the Midwest he is wondering what happened to winter.

David Lockard (87) continues to manage a variety of energy-related projects in rural Alaska. He and Debbie had a baby girl, their first child, on 9/9/99, and are delighted with her. He heard from Fred Sick and Marc Pagnier (housemates in Madison) this year. He visited Madison in August and had dinner with Sandy and his family.

Ken Schultz (87) remains at Trane working on absorption chillers. The SEL is working with Ken on developing models of absorption chillers using EES (of course).

Erik Van den Bulck (87), Mary, and their twin daughters (An & Amy) are doing well in Belgium. Erik has been promoted to Professor, and Mary has a good job doing all kinds of administrative work. Erik is mostly working on burners and on controls for combustion engines.

Jim Braun (88) remains on the faculty at Purdue and visits Madison on occasion to work with John Mitchell on their HVAC textbook (planned for 200X).

Steve Carlson (88) and his family moved back to Wisconsin after 11 years in New York. He opened a office in Evansville to continue with his partner in New York doing research and demonstration of building energy technologies. Among other projects, they are monitoring the Northland college residence Hall complete with a 20 kW wind turbine, 3.5 kW PV, solar thermal hot water preheat, condensing boilers, heat recovery ventilation, and composting toilets. (He says he is not collecting data on the toilets). Their new 104-year-old house in Evansville needs some work.

Tim Townsend (88) is still at PVUSA, and will be presenting a paper at the ASES meeting in June in Madison. He is thinking reunion - maybe a solstice sundown seminar catered by Pizza Hut or some other high-class establishment. He and Lisa celebrated the new millennium while camping at a remote beach on Kauai's Na Pali coast. They see **Mark Cummings** (89) quite often and go on double dates with Mark and his friend Kathleen.

Ruth Urban (88) says "We're still doing the same thing in the same place. The biggest difference is that our kids are a little older (6 1/2 and 3 1/2)--so the excitements and challenges on that front have changed slightly."

Ann McCormick (88) says "no big news to report - John and I are doing well juggling work and two wonderful kids (Kelly - 5 and Daniel - 2) and are busier than ever after buying a "new" 100-year old house this year." Ann is still working at Newcomb Anderson Associates in San Francisco and feels like an "old-timer" there after 12 years.

Emily Tuzson (92) is with Siemens Building Technologies, in Buffalo Grove, IL 60089

Kevin Cross (94) and his family moved to Ft. Collins, CO in late 1998 from Green Bay, WI. He transferred from one Energy Engineering position within Johnson Controls to another. They bought a house in Ft. Collins that had its hundredth birthday in 1999, and are in the midst of a huge remodeling project. Kevin's replacement in Appleton, WI is **Dick Boor** (92).

Laurie (Poplawski) Neverman (94) and her husband August had a second baby boy in November. She is busy with her family and with fund raising for charitable organizations in the Green Bay area.

Keray Cragen (94) reports that she is still working at the EPA and is still in love my job, but budget cuts and the election year chaos places stress on every project. She and her husband Spiros bought a 100 year old flat in Oak Park, IL last summer and are up to their ears in renovations The big news is that they are expecting their first baby in June.

Brian Newton (95) is still at Trane, but has changed jobs from a Development Engineer to a Heat Transfer Engineer. He is now part of a team that is developing an absorption chiller for the global market. He proposed to his girlfriend Teresa (she accepted!), planned a wedding, bought a house, and

got married - all within 7 months. Teresa is a freshwater biologist and works for the US Geological Survey doing research on mussels and animals that live in the river sediment. They met playing volleyball.

Pat Quinlan (96) was appointed an ASME White House Fellow and now “works” at the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy. Pat writes “I run the White House side of the US Innovation Partnership, a joint program with the Department of Commerce to foster R&D activity at the state level. My Solar Lab experience often comes in handy in unusual ways; last week I spoke to a person in DOE about wall materials and moisture problems in various climates--stuff I remembered from one of our Tuesday seminars.” If any Alums come to Washington, he’d love to hear from you--even if only to get you a break on tours, etc.

Myrna Dayan (97) reports that she and Prax got married in July in Mexico and that “It was a great wedding and married life is quite nice.” She is working for Conectiv, (the electric company for Delaware) as a project engineer and most of her work involves upgrades in Conectiv's power plants. She recently had the opportunity to analyze the feasibility of installing solar collectors and PVs for a school district – she just pulled out THE solar book!

Dan Nugent (97) is living and working in Kailua, HI for PSEG Global in the Independent Power Producers Group. In addition he is pursuing an MBA and trying to keep up with their twin 16 month old girls, Julia and Fiona. We have an extra room if someone is ready to take that trip to Hawaii they have always dreamed of! Maybe we can hold the next SEL alumni meeting in their back yard – what do you think?

Kyle Brownell (98) married Lia in November in Indonesia. She is now in Wausau looking for a job. Things are going well at Greenheck, in Wausau, WI.

Graduates during the year were **Andre Gan** (at Amana), **Dagmar Jaehnig** (returning to Germany in January 2000), **Edward Lightbourn** (Where are you?), **Mark Reichler** (returned to school in Hanover, Germany), **Jae-Mo Koo** (a Stanford PhD student), **Sven-Eric Pohl** (returned to school in Hanover, Germany), **Janeen Ault** (at Anderson Consulting), **Ian MacIntosh** (at Dorgan and Associates in Madison) and **Kyle Manske** (who lives and works in Boulder CO).