



The University of Kansas Department of Geography

Lindley Hall • 1475 Jayhawk Blvd., Room 213 • Lawrence, KS 66045 • (785) 864-5143



ALUMNI NEWSLETTER OF THE DEPARTMENT OF
GEOGRAPHY • UNIVERSITY OF KANSAS

From Lindley

A Letter from the Chair

Advisory Board Activities

I am pleased to say that this past April we held the first meeting of the Department of Geography Advisory Board. Those attending included:

Randy Baker (B.S. in Atmospheric Science, Class of 1985; now Senior Meteorologist, UPS)

Kevin Blake (M.A. in Geography, Class of 1991; now Associate Professor, Kansas State University)

Lisa Chismire (B.A. in Geography, Class of 1979; now Corporate Counsel, DuPont)

Floyd Henderson (Ph.D. in Geography, Class of 1973; now Professor, University at Albany)

Thomas Palmerlee (B.A. in History and East Asian Studies, Class of 1963; now Vice-Chair, Transportation Research Board, NAS)

Robert Shapiro (M.A. in Geography, Class of 1989; now Vice President, Verizon)

Polly Stallings (B.A. in Geography, Class of 1986; now Soil Conservation Technician, NRCS)

Board members who could not attend included Kevin Howald (Non-degree Alum, Class of 1986; now Senior Engineering Manager, Harris Corporation) and David Johnson (B.A. in Geography, Class of 1973; now Director, National Weather Service). The board discussed a broad range of issues, but focused on the need to expand opportunities for undergraduate and graduate students, such as increasing the number of internships and funding for scholarships and research. The board also stressed the need to reach out to alumni—thus, this past Oc-

tober we held our inaugural Fall Reunion where alumni enjoyed linking up with faculty in informal settings (both in Lindley and at a barbecue graciously hosted by Jerry and Gwen Dobson). More recently, we have welcomed several additional alumni as board members, including:

Chuck Martin (M.A./Ph.D. in Geography, Class of 1985/1990; now Associate Professor, Kansas State University)

Pat Murphy (B.S. in Atmospheric Science, Class of 1994; now Senior Aviation Meteorologist, NOAA)

David Stearns (B.G.S. in Geography, Class of 1994; now Senior Geographic Analyst, NAVTEQ)

Anke Wells (M.A./Ph.D. in Geography, Class of 1965/1979; recently retired after 21 years of public school teaching, 2005)

If you would be interested in becoming a board member, please contact our board chair (Rob Shapiro: robert.f.shapiro@verizon.com) or me (t-slocum@ku.edu). We would love to have you involved if you would be willing to spend some of your time to support and promote the Department of Geography at KU!

Forthcoming Hires

As I have discussed in recent letters over the past year, our number of faculty is high (now at 22) and we continue to excel in teaching and research activities. Particularly noteworthy is David Braaten's role as Deputy Director of a \$19 million NSF grant to study the melting of polar ice caps. There are two potential hires in glaciology associated with this

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The Lawrence and Campus Scene

Lindley Annex is no more. Although this low wooden building just to our southwest was not much frequented by geographers, we all were used to peering down at its roof and circling it in search of coveted parking spots in the inner lot. We knew the annex as a studio for architecture students, but it began life during World War II as a cafeteria for 800 men of the Army Student Training Program. If you are curious where these soldiers were housed, the answer is Lindley Hall itself. Our building was a dormitory from its opening in the summer of 1943 until the spring semester of 1945. For better or worse, the annex fell to the wrecker's ball on June 22 and we now have 10,000 square feet of extra parking.

For the past decade or so KU officials have worked hard to keep teaching activities focused on the central campus even as the university grows. The latest step in the process began in June with a decision to eliminate the campus printing plant. This move cost twenty people their jobs but opened up a nice building on west campus. The structure is now home to the university's fabulous collections in entomology, mammalogy, and invertebrate paleontology. These relocations, in turn, create space in Dyche, Snow, and Lindley Halls. Snow will soon house the economics department, but options for the other space are still under discussion.

Two developments on the eastern end of cam-

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Letter

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grant—this year we hope to fill one of these positions at either the Full Professor or Distinguished Professor level. These are exciting times to be chairing the department, but I sometimes wonder where we are going to put all of these faculty!

Recent Student Activities

Since I have focused on faculty activities in my recent letters, I thought that this would be a good time to summarize some of the accomplishments of our students over the past year:

John Bauer was first author of the paper “Visualizing environmental correlates of species geographical range limits,” *Diversity and Distributions* 11(4):275-278. John also received a dissertation fellowship from KU.

Cristin Burke reviewed *Modern Clan Politics: The power of Blood in Kazakhstan and Beyond* by Edward Schatz for the journal *National Identities*.

James Dietrich received an Undergraduate Research Award to study the feasibility of proposed beach nourishment projects on the Outer Banks of North Carolina.

Matt Dunbar received the *William Fischer Memorial Scholarship* and the *Ta Liang Memorial Award* from the American Soci-

ety for Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing (ASPRS). Matt also presented a workshop on *Landscape Analysis Using Geospatial Tools* at the Ecological Society of America/International Congress of Ecology joint meeting.

Angela Gray received a Fulbright-Hays Ph.D. fellowship to undertake research in Zambia for her dissertation. Ang is, as of early December, almost three months through her 10-month stay in Zambia.

John Kostelnick presented a paper on a standard symbolization approach for humanitarian demining at the International Cartographic Conference in A Coruña, Spain.

Joel Plummer received a three-year NASA Fellowship for his research with Professor Braaten on ice sheet mapping.

Matt Ramspott co-authored several published papers—particularly noteworthy was “Effects of cultivation history and current grassland management on soil quality in Northeastern Kansas” for *Journal of Soil and Water Conservation*. Matt also received a dissertation fellowship from KU.

Chris Post received the Ralph Brown award from the Historical Specialty Group for the best paper at the Master’s level at

the AAG national meeting in Denver.

Sarah Smiley received a Fulbright-III Ph.D. fellowship to undertake research in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania for her dissertation. Sarah is, as of early December, almost three months through her 10-month stay in Tanzania.

Congratulations are in order for those students who organized GIS Day and for those students who assisted Shannon O’Lear in handling the Globe-O-Mania Trivia Bowl, which were both held during Geography Awareness Week 2005. Globe-O-Mania was so successful this year that we had to move it to a larger venue in Wescoe Hall!

Annual Alumni Gathering at the AAG

On Thursday, March 9, 2006, from 7-10 PM, we will again host our annual alumni party at the national AAG meeting in Chicago. We will meet at The Berghoff, which is located at 17 West Adams Street, only about a block from the main AAG hotel (<http://www.berghoff.com/Berghoff/map.html>). For those of you going to the Chicago meeting, I look forward to seeing you there!

Terry Slocum
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Scene

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pus are worth special visits on your next trip to Lawrence. Part of the university’s old powerhouse near the corner of Sunnyside and Sunflower, which dates to 1887, has been saved. Its signature set of nine limestone arches that were copied from a palace in Oviedo, Spain, have been incorporated into a new, 14,700 square-foot building for the Hall Center for the Humanities. It is a beautiful structure. Another transformation is planned for the nondescript corner of 13th and Oread, near the student union. This has been designated the official eastern gateway to campus. Courtesy of Tom and Jill Docking, it will soon feature new plantings, signage, and a large fountain.

As both east and west Lawrence continue to sprout new houses and strip malls, the most interesting changes on the city scene continue to occur downtown. This year saw departures for two of the last old-style businesses on Massachusetts Street. Hanna’s Appliances in the 900-block, a fixture since 1946, closed via competition from big-box stores. Hopkins Sheet Metal at 1011 Mass,

which had operated at its site for over a century, moved to less congested quarters. Another long-time business experienced revival, however. The Eldridge Hotel reopened in May after a \$2 million makeover. A key to the new investment was securing sixty spaces for private, off-street parking.

Downtown’s extreme linearity, always a source of frustration to shoppers, seems about to change. New developments along New Hampshire Street between 7th and 10th are adding girth. The process there began a few years ago with construction of a large Borders bookstore at the corner of 7th Street and a new Lawrence Arts Center between 9th and 10th. Now the middle ground is filling in. Pachamama’s, an upscale restaurant long established in west Lawrence, is investing \$2 million in a new building at 800 New Hampshire. Its owner, Ken Baker, was inspired by an even bigger, \$9 million creation just to his north. This is Hobbs Taylor Lofts, a five-story building by local developer Bo Harris that is now near completion. It features four stories of

condominiums that sell in the range of \$200,000 to \$450,000 plus businesses at street level. Sales have been good so far, and the building’s sheer massiveness gives the town a genuine air of the cosmopolitan.

The renaissance on New Hampshire Street faces two potential obstacles. One, at the corner of 10th Street, is a daily assemblage of homeless people at a shelter run by the Salvation Army. This issue should be resolved soon as the Army is constructing a new building farther to the south and east. The second issue, which may or not become an obstacle, is the close proximity of the new Hobbs Taylor condos to The Bottleneck, the city’s premier spot for live, avant-garde music. Will youthful concert enthusiasts and not-so-youthful residents coexist happily? Everybody is hopeful but nobody is confident. Stay tuned.

Pete Shortridge
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Degrees Awarded

Dissertations, thesis, and non-thesis MAs completed during the 2004-05 period are as follows (advisor in parenthesis):

C. Drew Bednasek, MA, “British Colonial Geographies of Africa in the Early Twentieth Century” (Garth Myers)

David M. Cochran, PhD, “The Sustainability of Shifting Cultivation and Economic Change in Rain Forest Conservation: Participatory Mapping the Cultural Geography of Native Peoples in the Rio Platano Biosphere Reserve, Honduras” (Peter Herlihy)

Benjamin F. Coles, MA, “(Re)Placing the Alternative Coffee Commodity Chain” (Chris Brown)

Matthew D. Dunbar, MA, “Mapping, Analyzing, and Visualizing 60 Years of Forest Cover Change in Northeast Kansas” (Mark Jakubauskas and Steve Egbert)

Matthew S. Harman, MA, Non-thesis (Xingong Li)

Cameron K. McCormick, PhD, “Geography of Rural Water Development in Northern Cameroon” (Garth Myers)

Casey J. McLaughlin, MA “Up-scaling Local Nutrient Budgets Using Global Typology: Linking Local Budgets with Global Data Sets” (Bob McColl)

L. Monika Moskal, PhD, “Spatiotemporal Modeling of Post-



Disturbance Forest Regeneration in the Yellowstone National Park Region” (Mark Jakubauskas and Kevin Price)

Rex J. Rowley, MA, “Insuring the Range: Toward a Crop Insurance Program for Rangeland and Pasture” (Kevin Price)

Abigail R. Varner, MA, “Soil Signatures of the Santa Fe Trail in Douglas County and Morton County, Kansas” (Bill Johnson)

Roberto Castillo Vasquez, PhD, “An Ethnogeography of the Maleku Indigenous Peoples in Northern Costa Rica” (Peter Herlihy)

Advisory Board Update

This was the first year of operation for our Advisory Board. The board is composed of alumni, student liaisons, and Terry Slocum, the department chair. The Board is focused on the needs of students. This includes connecting students to professionals, driving private sector involvement, and growing the Geography endowment to directly benefit students.

The Board met for the first time last April at Lindley Hall and schedules conference calls every 2-3 months. The board sponsored an alumni reunion in October. With plenty of help from faculty and students, the department played host to about 30 alumni who gained insights to current faculty research, met up with former classmates and enjoyed a top notch barbeque at

Jerry Dobson’s house.

The Board is currently working on building a professional network and internship resource list. Both are accessible on the department website. If you want to learn more about the Advisory Board, please contact Robert Shapiro at: robert.f.shapiro@verizon.com.

Globe-O-Mania Lives!

The KU Geography Department held our second annual Globe-O-Mania trivia bowl event during Geography Awareness Week with great success. This year, the event more than doubled in size to approximately 240 students (53 teams). The organizers (a.k.a. Team Globe-O-Mania) had to reserve a large lecture hall in Wescoe as the event venue, and even then we had standing room only. The Geography Club and the Geography Graduate Student Organization also sponsored the event. Scott McEathron from the Map and Geography Library graciously (and, thankfully!) supplied many prizes (coffee mugs, water bottles, ID card holders and the surprisingly popular glow-in-the-dark, write-on/wipe off message boards). Other prizes for which students competed in-

cluded Geography Club T-shirts and inflatable globes. This year, we decided to offer “Globe-O-Mania” insignia beverage opener keychains as door prizes for all participants, and these items went quickly (we still have a few left for alum who donate \$100 or more to the Department!). For those of you unfamiliar with this new tradition in our department, Globe-O-Mania is an event that showcases the breadth and relevance of Geography to our undergrads while demonstrating that the members of our department—from undergrads to grads to all levels of faculty—know how to have a good time. We play a special selection of place-relevant, upbeat music ranging from the musical stylings of Frank Sinatra to the B-52s (thanks to Victoria Downey for

this year’s compilation!) and for those teams that did not come up with their own team name, we devised geographically appropriate team names. Some of our favorites this year were “I’m Hungry for Turkey”, “Don’t Blame Me, It’s San Andreas Fault!”, “Africa Is My Favorite Country”, “Stop Plate Tectonics”, “Kenya Dig It?”, “Igneous Is Bliss”, and the “Rasterfarians” (in recognition of GIS Day, of course). We solicited questions for this year’s event from faculty and grad students, and Curt Hall and Josh Long (who, by the way, tied for second place with his team of students!) sent in questions. We were particularly pleased with Curt Hall’s question about the Horse Latitudes and decided to ramp it up a bit by playing the Doors’ song of the same

Globe-O-Mania continued from page 3

title as part of the question. Although we ran into some problems in the days leading up to the event (e.g., unexpected charges to use the projection equipment in the lecture hall, funding

problems with the door prizes, and nearly having to go out and purchase all the Pepsi beverages ourselves), the event ran relatively smoothly and everyone appeared to have a fabulous time. Thank

you, everyone, who participated in this year's event and we will look forward to more mania next year!

Shannon O'Lear
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Emeriti Corner

Bob Nunley

In September of 2005, after five years of service, I retired officially from the position of Dean of Faculty and Academic Affairs of Holos University Graduate Seminary (www.hugs-edu.org and www.hugs-edu.net) and remained on the teaching and research faculty. Ann and I continue to co-teach the Inner Counselor Course (www.innercounselor.com) and my replacement as Dean and I co-teach a course on Integrative Medicine and the Capstone course. I was invited to be guest editor of the first of two volumes of the Journal of Subtle Energy / Energy Medicine for 2006 which will consist of 25 extended abstracts of dissertations done in Holos; each consisting of four pages. We also are developing a course on Environmental Energy Medicine Studies, and will be building it over the next few years. We have formally established a 501C-3 corporation entitled the Center for Environmental Energy Medicine Studies (CEEMS) and we are supporting re-

search and sponsoring meetings and projects that advance understanding of that aspect of environment. Berney Williams is President of CEEMS and oversees its daily operation. Plans are to integrate some of its activities into those of the growing and expanding Geography Department. I still go to the office each Wednesday afternoon and early evening and the last doctoral committee on which I have played a weekly role in the research is being scheduled for defense in December of 2005. For further details write to nunley@ku.edu or call 785-864-5544 or 785-863-2176. Be well.

John Augelli

One way of describing the past year is, "But aside from that Mrs. Lincoln, how did you enjoy the play?". My Florida residence was battered by hurricanes on three different occasions, but my insurance company paid in full. I elected to remain in Florida, but I did buy a house in Lawrence, just in case I get wiped out

by a future storm.

Similarly, traveling has become a bit more stressful for a senior citizen who will be 85 in January (2006), but I still managed to lecture on two cruises plus a fast trip to see the second of my grand daughters graduate from medical school. I am becoming more dependent on my cane to get around, but there is a little fight left in the old man yet. And so it goes.

More important than my own experiences is the very positive feedback that I get about the progress of the Department. Somehow, I continue to feel part of it, even though I have been retired for almost fifteen years, and most of my contemporaries are now gone or are phasing out. Occasional exchanges with Curt, Terry, Bev, Pete and others of the old crew convince me that "we shall (not) pass and be forgotten with the rest". Good luck and God bless.

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Faculty News



Steve Bozarth

Steve Bozarth had another busy year studying ancient pollen/opal phytoliths from sites in the American Southwest, the Great Plains, Central America and South America. The high point was working with Bill Woods on a archaeological site in the central Amazon (dated at ca. 1,000 BP), in which evidence of maize and squash was discovered in a region not known to have had agriculture at that time. Phytolith analysis of residue from ceramic vessels from Tomb 5 at Blue Creek in northern Belize demonstrated that the late Preclassic Maya placed offerings of maize, beans and squash, as well as large quantities of wild cherries, in ceramic vessels that surrounded the deceased individ-

ual. A similar study of the Margarita Tomb at Copán, a Classic period Maya site in Honduras, revealed that maize was placed in a ceramic vessel there as well. Large amounts of young native grass was also found in the vessel and on the offering platform. Phytolith analysis of sediment from a site in Nebraska revealed evidence of a climate change throughout its occupation. A pollen and phytolith study of paleoenvironments and prehistoric agriculture in New Mexico was published in a peer reviewed edited volume.

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Dave Braaten

Dave Braaten and his colleagues in Electrical Engineering and Computer Science were in-

formed by NSF in February that their proposed NSF Science and Technology Center (STC) Center for Remote Sensing of Ice Sheets (CReSIS) was selected for funding. NSF also selected the Team for Research in Ubiquitous Secure Technology (TRUST) at UC Berkeley for an STC. NSF funding for both Centers over 5 years is identical at \$19 million for each Center. With the addition of CReSIS and TRUST, there are now 13 STCs funded by NSF nationwide. This culminated a 2-year competition that included a pre-proposal, a full proposal, and an NSF site visit. This STC competition was especially intense, starting with 158 pre-proposals, with only 2 ultimately being successful. Dave Braaten will serve as the deputy director of CReSIS. The goals of

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CReSIS are to miniaturize various ice penetrating radar systems already developed at KU, integrate the sensors and antennas onto UAV's (unpiloted aircraft) and surface-based rovers, carry out detailed measurements of ice sheet regions that are undergoing rapid changes, and incorporate the measurements into ice sheet models. The Center also has education, diversity and knowledge transfer components, national and international academic partners, industry partners, and government partners. Again this summer, Dave spent about 3 weeks up on the Greenland ice sheet at Summit Camp conducting experiments that are part of ongoing projects – the PRISM project (Polar Radars for Ice Sheet Measurements) and a “plane-wave” snow accumulation radar project. Dave is also preparing for a research trip to a site in West Antarctica that will begin December 18, 2005. He will conduct similar experiments to what was accomplished in Greenland this past summer, and expects to return in the middle of January 2006. The site in West Antarctica is remote, cold, and has very limited facilities at this stage, but over the next few years, this will be the site of a large U.S. led deep ice core drilling project.

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Chris Brown

Chris Brown and his wife Denise Perpich are expecting their second child (a boy) in late February, necessitating yet another absence from an AAG meeting. Chris went with co-author Wendy Jepson to Vilhena, Rondonia in the Brazilian Amazon in July-August to interview soybean farmers as part of their study, with Kevin Price and others at KARS, on the expansion of soybean cultivation in the Amazon. Field work is going to get tougher and tougher with the growing family, but Chris has plenty of work to do here in Lawrence while he prepares his file for tenure review in Fall of 2006.

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Nate Brunsell

Nate Brunsell is settling into life here in the department. His research has focused on the remote sensing of vegetation-rainfall interactions using satellite and radar products and on field work studying atmospheric turbulence and evaporation from the prairie in central Kansas. This work has resulted in several publications (published, in press and submitted) in the remote sensing and atmos-

pheric science journals as well as several major proposals to NOAA and NSF. In other news, he and his wife Kistie were able to take a belated honeymoon and visited Banff, Lake Louise and Jasper Canada. After spending much of the year preparing for another Iron distance triathlon, he suffered a prolonged knee injury and was sidelined and was only able to finish one half-ironman this year.

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Johan Feddema

Johan Feddema started the year out in Boulder, CO, finishing his sabbatical year at the National Center for Atmospheric Research. He worked closely with a number of NCAR collaborators developing datasets for simulating land cover change impacts on climate in the NCAR GCMs. Overall it was a very successful year, with the work resulting in a number of publications, including *Climate Dynamics*, *Science* and a contribution to the 5th IPCC report due out in 2007. Spending a year at a research institution like NCAR was a significant change of pace, and allowed him to actually spend days on end thinking only of research questions; the windowless office was a disappointment given the potential views at the NCAR! However as a family they made up for it by managing to rent a house close to the mountains and with lots of wildlife in the neighborhood. They especially were entranced by the foxes!

In the fall, Johan was asked to assume the role of associate chair, as Bill Johnson was on a well deserved sabbatical break. This foray into administration will surely cure him of all desires for the chair position; although it has proved an interesting and active re-emersion into the realities of academia. He also taught the “Principles of Environmental Studies” and “Climate and Climate Change” courses, which he has enjoyed teaching.

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Bill Johnson

Bill Johnson was fortunate enough to be awarded a sabbatical leave for the fall semester of this year, during which he has been completing some field projects and long-overdue write ups of research projects. Ph.D. student Karen Willey and Bill have a book chapter in press and are currently working on several other manuscripts. Also, with the invaluable assistance of his co-

author and graduate student, Terri Woodburn, he has brought to completion a number of county geologic maps for western Kansas. Aside from work, for their biennial vacation, Claudia and Bill took another Caribbean cruise (10-day), this one to the low-latitude Lesser Antilles. Offspring-wise, his son Ben is starting at KU and daughter Ellen will be graduating from college in Boston this spring. Although his leisure time is fairly limited, he likes to mountain bike with son Ben, hike with Claudia and their three dogs, and continue to validate his lack of ineptitude as a backyard mechanic.

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Xingong Li

Xingong Li has had the most fruitful year so far at KU. Working with his first graduate student, Chris Larson, and former colleague, Arthur Rex, both from Appalachian State University, their research on developing algorithms of generating buffers on terrain has been published in the journal of *Cartography and Geographic Information Science*. The article manifests the connection Xingong had with ASU. Collaboration with Steve Wang at the Kansas Biological Survey and graduate student Matt Harman on lake water quality modeling has resulted in a publication in the journal of *GIScience and Remote Sensing*. Xingong also published a single-authored article on directional statistics in the journal of *Transactions of GIS*. Working with collaborators from the University of North Carolina at Charlotte, the Kansas Biological Survey, and Kansas State University, Xingong is actively searching for funds from NSF, USDA, EPA, and the State of Kansas to support his research in GIS algorithm development and GIS applications in water quantity/quality modeling and water resources management. Matt Harman, Xingong's first graduate student at KU, graduated last May and now works at the Washington D.C. office of ESRI. Joel Plummer, a doctoral graduate student, is working on developing innovative GIS tools to manage, analyze, and visualize ice-sheet datasets with support from a NASA doctoral fellowship. Joel won the first place prize in the 2005 KU GIS Day student paper competition and will publish some of his research results in a journal article as well as present them at next year's AAG meeting. Tom Overly, a first-year master's graduate student, is implementing and evaluating

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TOPOMODEL, a rainfall-runoff model, inside GIS and will present the research at next year's AAG meeting. Justin Penka, a master's student with a full-time GIS job in Lawrence, is determined to finish his degree and is developing GIS tools to visualize and analyze spatio-temporal NEXRAD data. At home, Xingong and his wife Xiaomei are kept busy with their first-grade daughter Lucy and are expecting their first son in April.

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Garth Myers

Garth's second book, *Disposable Cities: Garbage, Governance and Sustainable Development in Urban Africa*, was published this Fall by Ashgate Press. He is busy working with his co-editor Martin Murray to finish their volume, *Cities in Contemporary Africa*, to be published next year by Palgrave Press. This Fall has also brought Garth opportunities to lecture in Colgate University's lecture series on Cities, Citizenship and Modernity, and Binghamton University's faculty seminar on Urban Environments co-hosted by Sociology and Geography there. He attended the Critical Geography mini-conference at Miami University and the Mid-America Alliance for African Studies, too. Last Spring had some travel, too, particularly a two-week stay at University College London as a guest of their Geography department (and that is where he finished the book). His flat for those two weeks was in the building exactly adjacent to the bus bombing at Tavistock Square this summer, making it a bit more personally unsettling. This coming year ought to be a little quieter, and hopefully without bombs.

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Shannon O'Lear

Shannon has been working with some colleagues in Political Science at the University of Illinois on a project looking at how Geographers and Political Scientists analyze territorial conflict. They have just completed a special issue of **GeoJournal** on this topic, and they are also putting together a special issue of **Conflict Management and Peace Science** with a second collection of papers. With the help of Ang Gray and Cristin Burke as Research Assistants, Shannon is continuing to write up analyses of survey and interview data that she collected in Azerbaijan. This project looks at theories of resource conflict and asks why we do not see resource-related conflict in Azerbaijan

despite the fact that all the necessary ingredients seem to be there.

This semester she is teaching a new course titled Professional Development in Teaching for Geography grad students. They balance their time between "nuts and bolts" aspects of teaching and philosophies about how they think about teaching. A diverse group of graduate students is involved in the seminar, and their conversations have been very provocative! In fact, Shannon has plans to make changes to the courses she will teach in the spring: Environmental Policy and Geopolitics of Russia & Eurasia.

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Barbara Shortridge

Barbara Shortridge reports that this has been another year of serendipitous experiences with regional foods. Two publications came out: "A Food Geography of the Great Plains" in *The Geographical Review* and "Apple Stack Cake for Dessert: Appalachian Regional Foods" in *Journal of Geography*. For the latter work, she won the annual NCGE award for best content article. Barbara also participated in the Smithsonian Institute's traveling exhibit "Key Ingredients: America by Food" by presenting her research on Kansas at a local venue. If you haven't already seen this exhibit, you should look for it in your home state over the next several years of the tour. Barbara is currently surveying residents of the Northeast about their food preferences and coding her Midwestern data. She also arranged two sessions at the Denver AAG meetings on Food and Culture. The Shortridges put in many miles last summer with a long looping western trip to Portland, Oregon (food conference) and Ohio and Virginia (daughters). They recommend U.S. 12 as a pathway through the Great Northwest.

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Pete Shortridge

Pete Shortridge is happy to report that his book about urban Kansas (*Cities on the Plains*) received several nice reviews and honors this year including the Globe Award from the AAG. Two articles also are in print, one about efforts to stem rural depopulation on the Plains in the *Geographical Review* and another on the changing imagery of the state in *Kansas History*. He continues to be active with students, serving as the director of graduate study for the department and as advisor for Shawna Wright Brinson's new

thesis about the symbolic role of downtown Lawrence. Beyond the confines of Lindley Hall, he spent considerable time last spring felling the forest primeval that once mantled the Shortridge front yard. The new look still startles passersby, but allows them a better view of Barbara's flower beds.

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Terry Slocum

When not handling chair duties, Terry continues to pursue his interest in large-format stereoscopic displays. Terry, Matt Dunbar and Steve Egbert have submitted a paper to the *Journal of Geography*, and they (along with other faculty from geography, psychology, and education) are submitting research proposals to major funding agencies. Terry's children are now almost grown up—Diane graduates from KU in December, Kevin is in college, and Danny graduates from high school this year. Diane is planning a road trip to Florida this spring in a renovated school bus. Although this must mean that Terry is getting old, he doesn't believe it because he is still running 5K and 10K road races. Arlene recently switched jobs and now works for Freightquote.com.

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Curt Sorenson

The Sorenson household sends greetings. Having been at KU for a little over thirty years, Curt is giving serious thought to retiring soon. Peggy and Curt bought a place just south of field camp in Garden Park that once was part of the Chess ranch and most recently belonged to the Dickersons. Some of you may have mapped soils and landforms there in the past. Their daughter Anna is living there, and she's keeping an eye on the wildlife while she awaits the birth of their first grand child. The Garden Park area has seen a number of changes in recent years, most notably the subdivision of the Bill Dillely ranch and part of the Chess-Shoemaker ranch. That means a big change in the valley with many newcomers building homes and the passing of some of the old timers in the valley. Frank Dillely, Laurine Dillely, Jim Like, Mabel Wilson, and John Wilson have all passed on leaving large voids in the lives of those remaining.

Steve Schnell, several students and Curt had an article published on these changes in the winter 04/05 issue of *Montana: The Magazine of Western History*. One of the coauthors, Soren Larsen, and Curt taught field camp together last summer and are

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slated to do so again. They would like to see alumni visit and see first hand the changes going on in Garden Park. It makes for a great case study area.

One of the neatest things at KU is the integration of the Google Earth package into the introductory and intermediate geography classes. If you haven't yet had an opportunity to use it, Curt encourages you to check it out. It's free and does an amazing job of portraying earth surface features so that their processes of development can be interpreted.

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Bill Woods

Bill Woods came to KU in January after 29 years at Southern Illinois University, Edwardsville, where he was a Professor of Geography and Director of the Contract Archaeology Program. He also has a split appointment at KU and is a Professor of Geography and Director of the Environmental Studies Program. Bill is not a stranger to Lawrence though, as both of his children are KU graduates, and he reports that he is overjoyed to be here. Over the past 35 years, Bill has conducted geographic and archaeological field investigations in the eastern United States, Mexico, Belize, Colombia, Argentina, and Italy. His present work concerns anthropogenic landscape and soil modifications associated with a site in medieval Belgium and with the preEuropean settlements in Amazonia and in the Middle Mississippi River Valley. During 2005 he produced nine articles and book chapters on these topics that have or will be published in the United States, Belgium, Germany, and Brazil and presented ten papers to professional and public audiences. Bill will be team teaching with Valery Terwilliger a seminar on Global Environment and Civilization during the spring semester.

wwoods@ku.edu



Lost Alumni

Help! If you know the whereabouts of any of these lost alumni, please send a note to Beverly Koerner or e-mail to koerner@ku.edu or fax at 785-864-5378. Thank you!

Abedfattach Abdallah (MA 1981)

Hamiduddin Ahmad (PhD 1963)

Othman A. El-Awshar (MA 1982)

Erik C. Diekmeyer (MA 1995)

Rebecca Filer Ditgen (MA 1979)

Bruce M. Hall (MA 1984)

Chien-ti Huang (MA 1965)

James E. Kellogg (MA 1971)

Wen C. Lin (PhD 1976)

Jose del R.S. Loazia (MA 1969)

Richard (Rick) D. Miller (MA 1992)

J. Jeffrey C. O'Connell (MA 1998)

Mary C. Prante (PhD 1997)

Jawat Saadeh (MA 1979)

Samut Siriburi (MA 1977)

Shyammand D. Suman (MA 1970)

Joseph D. Terry (MA 1996)

Alumni News 50s

Charles Heller (MA 1957)

My contribution to this year's newsletter is to call attention to the value of solid research. The Fall 2005 issue of *Agricultural History* contains an article about the agricultural history of Cullman County, Alabama, in which the work of Walter Kollmorgen is acknowledged and cited time and time again! "Doc" Kollmorgen did the field work in Cullman County sometime around 1940 and published his findings shortly thereafter. You never know when your work will be of value to another researcher.

Doing the field work and the writing of my M.A. thesis under the supervision of Walter Kollmorgen in the middle 1950s was an extremely valuable experience for me, that's for sure.

New Years greetings to you all at KU.

Alumni News 60s

Byron Augustin, (MA 1968)

Well, another year of life under the bridge and a little bit closer to social security each passing year. The family is fine. My wife Rebecca is still teaching 4th grade at Seele Elementary School in New Braunfels, Texas. Our daughter, Kelly, is a CPA for Euro-Alamo in San Antonio and our son, Andrew, is a junior majoring in geography at Texas State. Rebecca and I had a neat experience this summer when we took a group of 15 of our resource and environmental studies majors to the United Nation's Sian Ka'an World Heritage Site Biosphere for a week. The students paid their own way and engaged in a week-long beach clean-up and analysis program on an island in Acension Bay. Good kids with good intentions and we cleaned up over 6 miles of pretty trashed beaches.

The highlight of the year for me was in May when I was selected as a Piper Professor by the Minnie Stevens Piper Foundation. It is the most prestigious university teaching award in Texas and it was only the second time a geographer was selected in the 47 years the award has been given. Dr. George Carter at Texas A & M University was chosen in 1974. I really feel that KU geography had a lot to do with the selection. In my mind, I studied under some of the best professors in the field of geography at KU. Dr. Duane Knos, Dr. George Jenks, Dr. John Augelli, Dr. Will Kuchler, Dr. Bob Nunley, Dr. Jacek Romanowski, and Dr. Walter Kollmorgen all played an important role in shaping my career in university teaching. I will always be grateful to those wonderful teachers.

BAO4@txstate.edu



Lewis Armstrong (MA 1975)

I am retired and living now in Fayetteville, GA, and staying busy doing substitute teaching. My geography website, *Electronic Resources for Geography*, is coming off the server at Abilene Christian University. All of the resources are now posted on the geography website page of *Web Based Resources* at <http://ejw.i8.com>. The page of Games, Quizzes and Trivia has been updated and many more sites have been added. For your holiday menu planning, *Online RecipeSites* is at <http://recipetimes.5u.com>. The "Gifts in a Jar" section has been expanded.

jayhawk2004@spamarrest.com

Michael Caron (MA 1978)

I'm still in the Douglas County Jail on a life sentence. Visiting hours are 8 am to 5 pm. Come see me and bring a file. The torture here is considerably milder than at any of my previous positions. I get to wear lots of hats I never anticipated wearing back when I was Kollmorgen's research assistant. Of course I should have known geography would lead me into odd places when I was wrapping long chains around half-born calves dangling legs in a muddy ditch at midnight by the headlights of Walter's pickup so he could "birth" them. At least I haven't wandered far. The jail, for those of you who have not been arrested in the past few years, sits on the edge of town just beyond the old Farmland Industries facility. People say it looks like a fancy hotel, but I assure you the rooms are more expensive if you know how to count and the maid service sucks.

I've recruited and trained about 130 volunteers. We've developed a broad range of programs at no cost to the county. The inmates have an opportunity to complete their high school diploma requirements, but there are also art and music therapy programs, substance abuse recovery, parenting, life skills and a really extraordinary writing program. It is both challenging and fascinating work, but then I'm also a guy who would not trade his combat experience in Vietnam for an extra ten years tacked on my life,

despite believing it was the biggest mistake America made up to the current mess we've got ourselves in. So not everyone would follow in my convoluted path, but you'll never know what you've missed.

Mayor Boog Highberger recently appointed me to a committee tasked to determine what kind of wastewater treatment facility the city ought to build for its \$76 million (largest project in Lawrence history), and where it should be located. Those who know me and read my letters and occasional columns, won't be surprised that I'm pushing for serious consideration of hyper-wetlands in several dispersed sites rather than a chemical based Taj Mahal of wastewater treatment. This project also promises to provide some major opportunities to re-examine the logic of building a "southern" by-pass well north of an area where the city intends to grow rapidly in the coming years. We've been fighting efforts to route the South Lawrence Trafficway through the wetlands for the past two decades. The group I head, Save the Wakarusa Wetlands, Inc., includes Haskell, Baker and KU alumni and students, plus active members of every environmental organization in the area. Most of the plaintiffs in the earlier successful lawsuit that kept the SLT out of the wetlands are on our board or serve as our officers.

Josh, for those of you who recall my son, has turned in his dissertation at UNLV, which he plans to defend in February when he comes home for the birth of his son in February. He is finishing his residency in Clinical Psychology at the University of Miami Medical Center. My daughter Lydia plays soccer and runs cross country for Lawrence High, where she is a junior. She just had her artwork accepted for a juried show in Kansas City. Nathaniel, my youngest, is an eighth grader at Central and wants nothing more than to get back to Maine. He and I climbed Mt. Katahdin last year and I still have lots of family back there.

My wife, Anne Marvin, who some may recall from that first ever field camp in Colorado, is the staff curator at Johnson County History Museum. She earned her doctorate in American Studies and taught core courses in the museum studies program at KU for years. Anne just

finished a term as chair of the Lawrence Historic Resources Commission.

The alumni gathering was really fun. Great to see so many familiar faces and meet lots of interesting recent graduates and new faculty.

mcaron@sunflower.com

Gregory Hembree (MA 1978)

All the pertinent personal information still remains correct (except we are all one year older). Marla and I still have two cats in residence, although the beloved orange tabby Spencer died in July and we acquired a real fireball—a gray cat—named Dakota who delights in attacking the large black male named Indiana (we liked the state name thing). Next week we are taking “Marla’s trip of a lifetime”—a week in the Central American country of Belize. Just our luck that Tropical Depression #27 has formed in the Caribbean Sea, and it could make it over there by the weekend.

Professionally, we have been bragging all summer and fall about the Town of Vienna’s ranking as the 4th best place to live in the USA (according to Money Magazine’s 2005 issue of “Best Places to Live”). Town staff members like to think that we have had a hand in this ranking, although much of the reasoning for living in the Town is structural (location to DC, endless economic opportunities, etc.).

gregor-the-great1@earthlink.net

James Hughes (MA 1968, PhD 1971)

On May 27, I retired from teaching geography at Slippery Rock University of Pennsylvania after thirty-four years at that institution. Judy and I traveled to Argentina in July, and have plans to visit Hawaii this spring. I have been taking an eclectic mix of college courses for credit (with the handy tuition waiver that retirees receive). Several days a week I do volunteer work at the Grove City Public Library, where I have been board president for over ten years, and serve as a member of the county planning commission. Judy still teaches voice at a nearby college, and is thinking of making a career move into the jewelry business.

Daughter Laura is editor of a travel magazine, and is based in New York City. I would love see any of my colleagues from KU who happen to be in western Pennsylvania.

james.hughes@sru.edu

Andrew MacCornack (MA 1976)

Still a long way from retirement. Working part-time at the Tourism office and looking for full-time work to pay the bills. Right now I'm building a handicap ramp at the Sandford Duncan Inn, a stagecoach stop on the Nashville-Lexington Turnpike and the B & B where Governor Sam Houston stayed before he fought his duel in 1826. The Inn is located within the "jog" where the Kentucky-Tennessee line takes an abrupt detour to the south. It seems that the local landowners plied the surveyors with hard cider when they came through in March 1780 surveying the Walker Line, an extension of the Virginia-North Carolina line. Today, it's 40 miles north of Nashville on I-65. Simpson County is also the birthplace of Jim Bowie, Alexander Majors (one of the founders of the Pony Express), Annie Potts (actress)! and Kenny Perry (pro golfer).

maccornack42134@yahoo.com

R. D. Mower (PhD 1971)

To all the good KU folks, especially Beverly: Merry Christmas to each and everyone, and may God bless you throughout the year of the Lord 2006.

rdm@cut.net

Mark Virden (MA 1976)

I am still consulting in planning, marketing and other areas and the firm just celebrated its 18th year. Interests remain active in health care, urban geography, and rural landscapes. I still seek out odd and interesting rural cafes and city blues bars. Kansas City and its surrounding hinterlands have many. I could summarize most of my consulting as variations of your basic "regional geography" technique(s).

mvirden@virdenassociates.com

Jon Woodward (MA 1970)

After teaching Geography at Indiana State University for a year, I have worked as a professional urban planner for 34 years, the last 25 in Kansas City as an environmental consultant to the aviation industry. As the managing principal of the environmental division of Landrum & Brown, one of the leading airport planning firms in the United States, I have been responsible for the preparation of Environmental Impact Statements and Environmental Assessments on major federal development projects at airports such as Chicago O'Hare, Los Angeles International, and Boston Logan. For the last two years I have been consulting to the Federal Aviation Administration policy makers in the development of noise abatement and mitigation standards for over flights of units of the national park system. My practice has recently initiated work on the development of a comprehensive master plan for development of a new international airport in Shanghai, China.

I am a member of the environmental committees of the American Association of Airport Executives and the Airports Council International. I have written numerous professional reports on environmental conditions and am a frequent speaker on airport noise issues.

In addition to my professional activities, I am a 33rd degree Mason and administrative officer of Scottish Rite Freemasonry in Lawrence. I serve on the Board of Trustees for the Lawrence Masonic Center and the Board of Kansas Scottish Rite Foundation, a major contributor to the University's Childhood Language Disorders Clinic.

jwoodward@landrum-brown.com



Michael DeMers (PhD 1985)

Dolores and I are building a new house here in Las Cruces, New Mexico. I guess we'll be staying put. Pictures of the house can be found on Mike's personal website: www.zianet.com/mdemers/. For those who want to write or visit, our new address will be 5435 Remington Road, Las Cruces, NM 88011.

Dolores has become a very successful, and very respected realtor in Las Cruces. Not only is she successful financially, but most of the other realtors in town explicitly want to work with her because she is so professional.

I have been working with a small team headed by David Dibiase at Penn State to define the GIS Body of Knowledge. This will be posted on the UCGIS Website (www.ucgis.org) once it is cleaned up. I am also making plans for a sabbatical for next year. Whether or not it will be a semester or a year depends on funding and opportunities. Need a guest speaker?

mdemers@nmsu.edu

Peggy Dickison (MA 1988)

After several years of nothing to say (same job, making maps for the feds; same husband, Nadim; same avocation, orienteering), I have some news this year. Nadim and I will be traveling to Russia three times this winter to meet and adopt a baby boy. He turns one on 1 December and lives in an orphanage in Sortavala, in the Karelia region, close to the Finnish border. It should be very exciting to become the mother of a toddler at age 45. We anticipate that our orienteering schedule will slow somewhat, but look forward to taking our little boy out into the woods in the near future.

pdickison@comcast.net

Jim Merchant (MA 1973, PhD 1984)

I continue to serve as Associate Director of the Center for Advanced Land Management Information Technologies, University of Nebraska-Lincoln. Next Fall I am chairing a joint meeting of the AAG Great Plains-Rocky Mountain and West Lakes Divisions in Lincoln (October 5-7, 2006). Please check the web site at <http://calmit.unl.edu/aag/> for updates. Hope to see many current and former Jayhawks. The family is well. My wife Loyola works part-time at Nebraska Wesleyan University (NWU) and has be-

come very active as a girl scout leader. Our son Karl started at NWU this Fall (interests in computer science and Japanese); daughter Anne is an 8th grader active in girl scouts, band (she plays flute) and the school newspaper.

jmerchant@unlnotes.unl.edu

Tom Sankey (MA 1985)

Greetings and Salutations!!! It's been a while. Things are going well for me these days and I hope that things are the same with you. My kids are growing and thriving in Texas. My son Evan just turned 17 on 19 October 2005 and is a junior at Cypress Springs High School. He is very active in music and wants to make a career of it. He'd like to either be a concert musician, a band director, or teach at the college level. He is the trombone section leader for his H.S. marching and concert bands, plays in a jazz band, plays in a brass ensemble, and sings in the church choir. His top two college choices are U. of N. Texas School of Music and the Moores School of Music at U. of H. He's growing up into a fine young Democrat. I couldn't be prouder. Amanda will turn 14 on 4 December 2005 and is turning into a beautiful young lady. She is an accomplished writer and photographer. Journalism or law school anyone? Her interests include journaling, horseback riding, basketball, photography, and weblogging. She has a beautiful soprano voice and sings in both the church and school choirs. We really enjoy going to the Y to play basketball together. She also is helping me with some things around my apartment, you know... domestic stuff... now that I am divorced. She is also beginning to realize that American power, oil money, greed and violence just won't cut it in the 21st Century. My career is going well. My job at SWCA Environmental Consultants continues to be a very satisfying part of my life. It is a much better fit than an engineering firm. I passed my 2-year anniversary with the company in July 2005 and will celebrate 20 years in environmental consulting in August 2006. I am working on an ecological risk assessment - trying to clean up a lake in Central Texas, a couple of pipeline permitting projects here in Harris County, and a long-term wildlife study in Waller County. I took a few business trips to California this summer. Fun? Oh,

yes.... I vaguely remember that. I am writing a book about the natural history and cultural geography of the Katy Prairie (first chapter is complete), playing the guitar just about every day now, birding quite a bit (especially through the winter), journaling, fishing, reading (I'm on a Ken Follett and a Wildlife Hazard Management Assessment/ bird censusing methodology kick these days), working out occasionally at the YMCA, walking in Bear Creek Park 3 times a week, goose hunting (about 150,000 snow geese winter on the Katy Prairie), and being a Dad. I love going to Evan's football games... the team stinks but the band is GREAT!!! I also love going to Amanda's school and church choir concerts, as well as basketball games. I took the children to VA in July. We also went to see the Moody Blues in August. They actually enjoyed the show!!! Let's see... what else... The 'Stros were strong right up until the end this year... I was disappointed in their frail display against the ChiSox, though. My favorite time of the year in Texas is here and I am looking forward to the REAL cold front we will be getting tomorrow evening. Lows will be near 40F. I will be doing a significant amount of birding on the Texas Coast this winter and spring. I'm already planning lots of trips. I also wanted to take this opportunity to express my deepest appreciation to each of you for your part in helping to make my time at Lindley so satisfying and for opening my eyes to the opportunities in the world out here. Many of my dreams from the early 1980s have come true and I owe that, in large part, to those of you who taught me to not be afraid to dream and to reach for the stars.

tsankey@swca.com

Ron Shaklee (MA 1979, PhD 1983)

I continue to maintain a split appointment between the Department of Geography at Youngstown State University and Director of the University Scholars and Honors Program. I am in my sixth year in the latter capacity. I take students to the Bahamas every December for a field Geography course combining elements of physical and cultural geography in the experience. For the past two years I have taught an Honors Course on the Geography of Middle Earth which is a bit of a departure from our normal curriculum and harkens

me back to undergraduate days at K.U. where the Geography of Dune was being bandied about. Best wishes to all.

rshaklee@ysu.edu

Robert Shapiro (MA 1989)

It has been 2 years since my last entry here, so let me catch you up to date. I'm in my 16th year at Verizon in their Information Technology organization. As with many companies we are putting a lot of energy into offshore development. From a geography point of view I've enjoyed two trips to India, visiting Chennai (formally Madras) and Bangalore. On my returns I've taken the opportunity to vacation in London and Barcelona. All firsts for me. Living in Tampa has been a test of nerves. Over the last two years Florida has been a magnet for at least 7 hurricanes. I don't know how, but Tampa managed to avoid most impacts. We did give shelter to friends from Pensacola and Melbourne during a couple of the storms. I suspect some of our alumni didn't fair as well. Last April I took the role as Chair for the new Geography Advisory Board. I'm sure all of you have received various mailings related to board activities. I've enjoyed being associated with such a fine group of board members and look forward to helping the students and the department.

robert.f.shapiro@verizon.com

Shigeo Takahashi (MA 1982, PhD 1988)

In last year's newsletter, I wrote that I was writing and editing a textbook which explains how to use ArcGIS for social science majors. I am glad to report that the book was published as planned in March this year. The book was well received by geographers and other scholars because we think that the book provides several informative examples of regional analyses. The first printing of a thousand copies sold out within a month, so the publisher ran a second printing of the book. This was sort of a big hit for a small publisher specializing in geography here in Japan. We may have an opportunity to revise the book sometime soon. Another major achievement this year is that I hosted a biannual meeting of the Association of Japanese Geographers in March. (Each spring and fall, a university hosts a meeting in turn.) It was tiresome, but I think my colleagues and I handled the two-day meeting with about one thousand participants quite well.

shigeo@econ.aoyama.ac.jp

John Banning (MA 1999)

Wow the holidays are sneaking up on us again.. I recently moved out to California. (Jason Shields and Craig Davis talked me into it). I am in San Francisco but working at Stanford in Palo Alto. What else can I say? I am still doing the GIS thing. I have a full time job looking into digital preservation of geospatial data (<http://www.ngda.org/>) through Stanford and I also am doing some consulting work on the side. I see Jason on a regular basis, but Craig only comes into town once in a while for hair cuts. We (Jason, Craig and myself) managed to get into tuxedos for Jason's wedding in Ohio, where Jason hopes to be relocating soon. Craig played field guide the day of the wedding as we toured the glacial grooves of Kelleys Island Ohio. I got to drive the golf cart.

jwbanning@gmail.com

Kevin Blake (MA 1991)

I'm in my fifth year on the geography faculty at K-State. Diana and I have averaged a move about every four years over the past twenty years, and this year we again decided to make a move. Unlike some of our long-distance moves, this time we're moving locally into a new house with a fine view of the Kaw Valley landscape. Proposed commercial development adjacent to the backyard of our old house spurred the decision to relocate, and we hope to be settled in by the start of next semester. In other news, this fall I attended my first AAG council meeting as the regional councilor for the Great Plains – Rocky Mountain division of the AAG. It was a pleasure to meet another KU graduate on the council, Tim Rickard of Central Connecticut State University, and to experience how such a diverse group of people shares the common goal of creating a stronger discipline for all types of geographers. Several trips to Colorado formed the majority of my other travels during the year, along with a trip to see lighthouses on the Gulf Coast of Mississippi and Alabama in May. Images of Hurricane Katrina's destruction struck home harder for me because of that recent visit.

kblake@ksu.edu

Craig Campbell (PhD 1993)

This year has been both good and a challenge for us. I am still chair of geography at YSU, and though my book based on the dissertation advised by Pete became a reality at the Univ. of Tennessee Press, I've had little time for research. I'm moving back in that direction, however. The most emotional part of our year was when Justin, our oldest, returned from his LDS mission in Lima, Peru with testicular cancer. Two surgeries later (an orchiectomy and RPLND - you don't want to look them up), he is cancer free and doing fine. My summer vacation was 11 days at the Cleveland Clinic! Geographically, he served in dry coastal, 11,000 feet highland, and rainforest environments. He and daughter Marta are now attending YSU. Mickey is awaiting his LDS mission call - always a time of great anticipation. Betty is doing fine and except for hearing loss is spunky and in good health. Our good wishes to everyone from the Western Reserve of Ohio.

cstevencampbell@sbcglobal.net

Mary Dillworth Clinthorne (PhD 1990)

I am enjoying teaching GIS and Remote Sensing as an Adjunct Professor at Grand Valley State University. This allows me to attend field trips and chauffeur my son Kevin, now 10, from activity to activity. I was involved in Grand Valley's GIS Day in November, which was a wonderfully chaotic day in which about 150 6th and 7th graders descended on GVSU to try out a variety of GIS activities. Most of the computers still functioned after they left!! In January, I'll take on the role of Book Review Editor for Photogrammetric Engineering and Remote Sensing. So, if you want to write a book review, let me know.

clinthom@gvsu.edu

John Dunham (PhD 1996)

In July, I ended my career as a GIS

specialist for the Kansas Data Access and Support Center. Fortunately, my career change just required a move down the hall, and no change to my staff season basketball tickets - I even have the same boss, Ken Nelson, who may be familiar to some of you. I'm now the Cartographic Services Manager for the Kansas Geological Survey, responsible for the cartographic production and GIS data aspects of KGS' geologic maps and mapping projects. As I like to tell people when I describe the change, I used to work *at* the Survey; now I work *for* the Survey.

My new job involves working with KGS geologists and others doing geologic field mapping, including geography's own Bill Johnson, who is involved in field mapping of several counties in western Kansas. I've enjoyed working with Bill and the KGS geologists - I've definitely refreshed and increased my knowledge of geology and geomorphology. I have three very capable student employees working for me; so much of my work now involves supervision and overseeing projects, though I still have opportunities to work with GIS and mapping. Earlier this fall, I was even able to get out in the field with several KGS geologists to better understand the field mapping process. I hope to do more of this as part of my job. I also work with KGS staff in Publications and Sales and Public Outreach to meet the demand for KGS mapping products.

On the home front, wife Cindy (KU Geography, '84) and I are busy with high-school senior daughter Tricia's basketball games for Lawrence Free State HS and various summer teams. Tricia also started throwing javelin last year and qualified for the state meet, which gave us something different (meaning not softball) to do in the spring sports season. We also keep busy year-round with Red Dog's Dog Days (www.ddays.com), a long-time Lawrence exercise (and socializing) tradition.

We also made our annual vacation trip to the Florida panhandle in August (after Hurricane Dennis), where we yet again spent time with KU Geography's Kelly Gregg and wife Karen. There was also the 8th annual road trip with fellow KU Geography alum Jerry Whistler to visit

KU Geography sandman/MSU prof Al Arbogast and his family in East Lansing, Michigan. The highlight this year was definitely NOT the MSU football game - Northwestern destroyed the Spartans - but the pregame and postgame activities offset the loss. Who'd have thought at the time of that game that MSU would wind up with a losing record, and the Jayhawks would be playing in a bowl game? Not us, at least not the KU bowl game part.

I hope everyone is doing well this holiday season.

dunham@kgs.ku.edu.

Kelly Gregg (PhD 1994)

Karen and I are still at Jacksonville State University, Alabama. Karen is the "Certification Secretary" for the College of Arts and Sciences, where, among other duties, she is the final authority on whether or not students graduate. She is truly the most feared woman on campus. I'm a Professor in the Geography Department. My research lately has centered around a box of old letters and business documents that I found while cleaning my mother-in-law's attic (no one knows their origin). They concern a couple of Jewish brothers who opened one of the first stores in Tucson, Arizona, back in the 1860s. It has become an interesting study in the Geography of Transportation. Less serious, and more fun, I continue to work on the development of our new \$7 million field school center adjacent to Little River Canyon National Preserve (check out our website <http://fieldschool.jsu.edu>). Most recently, I convinced a local family to donate a circa-1830s log cabin and a lot of period artifacts for part of a living history display. I and a group of students disassembled the cabin and moved it up to our facility over a couple of weekends. If anyone is ever in the neighborhood, be sure to come visit!

kegregg@jsucc.jsu.edu

Mike Ingram (Ph.D.1996)

Bonnie and I still live happily ever after in Leavenworth, Kansas. I continue to work for the Army at Fort Leavenworth and am now happily less than five years from retirement. I am finishing my eighth year of teaching economics part time for Kansas City Kansas Community College at the Leavenworth Center. We went to see Sioux Falls this summer. Now I know where they keep all the Sioux Quartzite. I love that stuff. Bonnie made her annual quilting retreat into Tennessee in the fall, and then spent two months out in the San Joaquin Valley caring for her younger sister and her two kids. Her sister has had a bit of a back problem which was not helped by her husband (who's in the Army) being sent away six months at a time to train soldiers deploying to Iraq. We all know that their situation is just the tip of that iceberg. Best Wishes to all.

ingramm@lvnworth.com

Mark Jakubauskas (PhD 1994)

My wife Sara Taliaferro and I welcomed twin girls Cecelia and Allison in 2005, born February 11, 2005. At the same time, we embarked on a major renovation and addition to double the size of our house. I continue to work as an associate research professor in the Kansas Biological Survey, and in the spring will start teaching one course per semester in the Environmental Studies Program at KU where I am a courtesy associate professor and lecturer.

mjakub@ku.edu

Christoph Karck, (MA 1993)

I am living in Appleton, WI with my wife Caralyn, and kids, Frederik and Elise. I am currently working at Jansport / VF, in the logistics department, handling the international inbound shipments.

christophkarck@yahoo.com

Joseph Kerski (MA 1993)

I serve as Geographer for the USGS and part-time instructor at Eastern Michigan University and at the University of Denver. I taught GIS, GPS, geography, and science in Costa Rica, New Zealand, and in 10 US states this year. In 2005, my new book entitled Essentials of the Environment was published. Perhaps it will be useful for some of you in your own courses. My latest educational newsletter is on: <http://rockyweb.cr.usgs.gov/public/outreach/eoy04.pdf>

jjkerski@usgs.gov

Lori Koepsell (MA 1992)

I can hardly believe it has been 13 years since I was last in Lawrence. On a professional level I am working for a small company called Technology Service Corporation and have been for the last five years. It's a small company and I really enjoy it. I continue to do imagery and geographic information system projects and learn new things every day. I am currently working on a project at US-NORTHCOM located at Peterson AFB that involves Critical Infrastructure Protection and Asset Vulnerabilities. On a personal level, my two daughters have grown and left the house. My oldest daughter graduated from Colorado State and got married last year and lives in Buffalo NY and my youngest daughter is currently a sophomore at Colorado State. I have to say it hasn't taken my husband and I long to get used to being on our own again. We are in the process of building a house in the forest north of Colorado Springs but since that won't be done until March we are currently living in a teeny tiny apartment. I love getting this newsletter and being able to keep up with the people I was at KU with. Right Karen? Hope everyone is well and hope to hear from you.

lkoepsel@tsc.com

Chuck Martin (MA 1985, PhD 1990)

The year 2005 (I call it the “Red Sox Championship Year”) was a busy one for the Martin family. I completed my 17th year in the Geography Department at Kansas State University, but unlike Bill Snyder will be staying on for another. I continue to teach classes in physical geography, human impacts on the environment, and geographic research methods and serve as the lead undergraduate advisor in the department. I also agreed to an additional three-year appointment as director of the Natural Resources and Environmental Sciences secondary major at K-State. Research this year took me back to a topic I looked at 20 years ago as part of my M.A. thesis: historical channel change in the Great Plains. One student has worked along the Cimarron River in southwestern Kansas, another is examining a small basin north of Manhattan. Summers find us (wife Sabine, son Nicholas, and daughter Christine) in Germany visiting my in-laws and continuing research on heavy metal storage in the Lahn River drainage basin.

As always, travel was an important part of our year. January took us on a visit to family in New Hampshire for 5 days of skiing near Mt. Washington. In March the search for the “white stuff” led west to Estes Park, Colorado, and a week of cross-country skiing in Rocky Mountain National Park. In June it was off to Germany for a month-long stay in Giessen. The past summer there featured the extra bonus of attending an international soccer match between Mexico and Argentina, held as part of the Confederations Cup “tune-up” for next summer’s big event, the World Cup in Germany. Nicholas has become quite a good defender on his traveling team in Manhattan, so enjoyed the chance to see some of the world’s elite players at close range. On the way back from Europe we spent 5 days in Iceland, visiting just a few of the many spectacular sites in the “Land of Fire and Ice”.

Sabine is working full-time at the Center for Hazardous Substance Research on the K-State campus as a technical outreach coordinator for a program that goes into small communities around the country that have environmental problems.

The work involves a fair amount of travel, something that she very much enjoys. Two active children keep us busy at home. Nicholas is now 11 and in 6th grade, Christine is 7 and in 2nd grade. Both play soccer, enjoy ice skating in the winter, and seem to be inclined towards science and math. And of course both are Red Sox fans.

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Tom McCray (PhD 1998)

Greetings and very best regards to all KU Geographers. I trust that we’re all enjoying these fast trips around the sun. I published my second book this year – RUSSIA, for Chelsea Press. It follows UZBEKISTAN, 2003. Always wishing the best for friends and mentors and to all in the spirit of reconciliation, I live with my better half and two wild boys in a parallel universe to that of Lawrence, called Columbia, Missouri. There, I drive the scouts around, attend a lot of baseball games, watch the river, and solicit volunteers for a tour to Samarkand. I also continue to teach 8-10 classes per year with almost as many preps, now on four campuses, so happiness comes at a price. It is a bargain, however, for the chance to enjoy it all. Merry Christmas.

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David Myers (MA 1998)

I was married in July, and we’re in the process of buying a home in Los Angeles. I continue to work at the Getty Conservation Institute in LA. For the past two years I have worked primarily on the Getty Conservation Institute and World Monuments Fund’s Iraq Cultural Heritage Conservation Initiative, which is focused on building capacity within the Iraq State Board of Antiquities and Heritage for the conservation and management of archaeological and historic architectural sites in Iraq. This has included developing the Iraq Cultural Heritage Sites GIS Database to provide for a national inventory of cultural heritage sites. I have spent time in Jordan the past two years coordinating and teaching in training programs

for staff of the Iraq SBAH. If you’re interested in finding out more about this initiative, it is described at:

http://www.getty.edu/conservation/field_projects/iraq/index.html

Earlier this year I also traveled to Egypt for the evaluation of one of the GCI’s past field projects for the conservation of the wall paintings of the Tomb of Nefertari in the Valley of the Queens on the West Bank of Luxor. Earlier this year the Getty also published a book for which I am co-author, entitled Heritage Values in Site Management: Four Case Studies, that focuses on the role of values in the management of four cultural heritage sites –Grosse Île and the Irish Memorial National Historic Site in Canada, Chaco Culture National Historical Park in the United States, Port Arthur Historic Site in Australia, and Hadrian’s Wall World Heritage Site in the United Kingdom.

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Amy Rork (MA 1997)

It’s been a long year, fraught with personal challenges, but it has gone by quickly. I’m still choosing to be not employed, but I’m running amuck in the antique world these days. Actually, geography plays a part in deciding which auctions to go to, and I map out garage sales each weekend for the most efficient routing. Keeping three antique mall booths stocked with goodies gets me out the door early on weekends and provides some play money most months. Family is good – husband consulting, children happy, working and productive, grandchildren growing and learning and getting to be more fun each day. Made it to the east and west coasts this year – the Outer Banks area is interesting, and would probably be more so without four days of continual rain. Saw the Wright Bros. site and visited Currituck and Bodie lighthouses. Napa continues to be its individual self – a world apart with a bazillion grapes awaiting harvest – quite a sight. Traffic in both places is for the birds. Best wishes to all for a great 2006.

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Steve Schnell (MA 1994, PhD 1998)

I am still living in Kutztown, PA, and teaching at Kutztown University. The biggest news in our life was the arrival of our second daughter, Fiora Sarah, on July 30. So far, Marina (now 3) loves having a little sister. The two of them keep things lively around the house for Lisa and me. I was also named editor of the Geographical Bulletin, a peer-reviewed journal of student research published by Gamma Theta Upsilon. If any of you are supervising students doing original research, encourage them to submit articles to the journal! (e-mail me for guidelines for submission.

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Christy (Knight) Spielman (MA 1997)

It's been a year of changes for me and husband Seth. First there was the move to Buffalo, NY where Seth is pursuing a PhD in Geography. Buffalo may get more snow but the winters aren't nearly as cold or as long as in Laramie, WY. Then there was the birth of Eli in February - he's fantastic and everyone is doing great. I am still working part time for the Community Mapping Assistance Project in New York City, soon to be part of the City University of New York, but have also started working with a SUNY Buffalo Anthropology professor to update an Atlas of Literacy and Disability of Canada.

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Janice Sterling (MA 1996)

I'm still working at USDA-NRCS-NCGC. The ESRI training is excellent, because sometimes we get custom training from ESRI instructors. I work with elevation data, ned10 meter and Lidar. In addition, I'm taking courses at University of TX at Dallas in Richardson, TX, to keep up with GIS. I visit KS sometimes, but mainly family in JC-Fort Riley-Manhattan area.

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Karen Trifonoff (PhD 1994)

I am in my 14th year at Bloomsburg University and hoping to retire after an even 20. This summer saw the completion of the new wing for our building and I have three new rooms to work in this fall. My favorite is a drafting table lab where I teach a map reading course; it has all the latest technology for the instructors "control panel". It is also attached to our map storage room, which makes getting materials ready for class a whole lot easier. I also have a new lab for cartography/GIS, which is just a big room with a bunch of computers, printers, big plotter, and the same instructors set up.

On the personal side, after living together for 13 years, Bill Belcher and I finally got married. And my son Bartholomew left his government job in Ohio to fly planes for the Navy. He is currently an Ensign and living on Pensacola Beach. It is still hard for me to believe it all!!

Best wishes to all in Lawrence.

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Gabriella Blair (MA 2004)

It's amazing that almost 2 years have already passed since Jason (MS Geophysics '03) & I left Kansas! We are currently residing in Omaha, Nebraska...again. Jason is working for the Corps of Engineers and I am staying home and enjoying motherhood with our son Noah, whom we were blessed with on March 3, 2005.

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Mark Carper (PhD 2004)

New tenure track appointment at the University of Alaska Anchorage. Yes, it's frigg'in' cold here. But beautiful. The other week I woke up to a moose munching in my flowerbed. This summer I'll be leading a group of students to the Balkans.

There's an open invitation for anyone who would like to visit.

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Craig Davis (MA 2001)

Greetings from Sacramento. I am working on finishing my sixth year of service at Sacramento City College and am still enjoying the position and living in Northern California. In addition, I am still a board member of the California Geographical Society (<http://www.calgeog.org/>) and have found myself becoming heavily involved with waste reduction and environmental quality issues on campus. On the personal front, I am still trying to get out and travel as much as possible and am currently waiting for the snow to pile up in the Sierra. I still keep in touch with some department alums and get the chance to see Jason Shields and John Banning. We were all brought together by another special occasion this September as Jason got married off in a quaint village on the shores of Lake Erie. Besides the wedding festivities and getting to see old friends, being able to check out some of the largest glacial grooves in North America (Kelley Island) was a highlight. One final note, I was not sure how to react when KU got their first gridiron victory

over NU in close to 40 years. As an alum, I was happy for KU, but definitely disappointed as a native Nebraskan – the end of an era. I hope that everyone at KU and old friends are doing well and look forward to hearing your news.

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Pinde Fu (PhD 2000)

Another year is passing by and another Christmas is approaching! I still work at ESRI and live in California. It never rains here in Southern California, let alone snows. Walking on the snow and ice covered Potter Lake has been a pleasant memory of mine. My recent work at ESRI is mostly e-Gov related, including a Geospatial On-Stop Portal. I mentioned before that Solar Analyst, a part of my dissertation research, was being integrated with ArcGIS Spatial Analyst. Now the integration is done! You will see the insolation modeling capabilities in ArcGIS soon.

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Xulin Guo (PhD 2000)

I was hoping that we could come back to KU for the geography reunion, but I just couldn't make it. I was very busy with work and my boys as always. Anyway, this is my lucky year. I was awarded tenure and promotion effective July 1, 2005. It is a big relief, but I didn't slow down a single bit as I expected. Beside the NSERC major research grant, I could obtain two contracts from a government and a company. Best of all, I was nominated for the excellent teaching award from two classes, one at the undergraduate level and one at the graduate level. However, the university doesn't accept nominations from graduate classes. I don't expect to receive the award because I don't think I am that good. The nominations are beyond my expectation already. My family is doing great. Yunpei just started his own business, a convenience store (not open yet). Lincoln is in his last year of high school. He is hoping to go to KU, but I don't see any chance at all. Michael and Matthew started to read on their own. It is amazing to see how good

they are at reading. Joshua moved to the campus daycare, which is very close to my office. We discuss a visit to KU and Lawrence every summer and Christmas. We hope that we can make it soon. Happy holidays to everyone!

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Hugh Howard (PhD 2003)

I am currently an Assistant Professor of Earth Science at American River College (ARC) in Sacramento. This community college boasts two successful GIS certificate programs and an A.S. degree in GIS. The emphasis at ARC is almost entirely on teaching as opposed to research, and I find myself (happily) teaching five GIS courses per semester. Many of our students are quickly recruited by private industry and, to a far greater extent, by governmental agencies (city, county, state, & federal). Former Jayhawk Craig Davis is just across town—a Professor of Geography at Sacramento City College. On a foggy day, the Central Valley looks just like Kansas...

It's good to be back in California (my home), but I miss my KU friends and professors—too numerous to identify. I can't say that I miss the frigid winters or humid summers of Lawrence (spoiled, I suppose), but I sure could use a bombastic Kansas thunderstorm, or to hear the screech of those freaky Cicada bugs again.

I recall my time in Lindley with fondness, and consider it a pivotal experience in my professional development. I was accepted as a competent academic and (somewhat aged) individual. A summer doesn't pass that I don't miss my bungalow home at the KU Field Camp in Colorado—nestled between flatirons, red sandstone, and cows—assisting Professor Curt Sorenson with the geography field experience course.

But Professor Terry Slocum brought me to Kansas. I explain this whenever my Cal-centric friends ask "why there?" I continue my collaboration with Terry, working on revisions for Thematic Cartography and Geographic Visualization, 2nd edition. Thanks, Terry.

As I've stated before, KU Geography

would be nothing if not channeled through Bev (and Karen...are you still there?).

Hope everyone is happy and well.

HowardH@arc.losrios.edu

Soren Larsen (PhD 2002)

Though I'm certain the South will rise again in a most glorious fashion, my family and I left the land of King Cotton for the Midwest, where we are closer to family (in Illinois) and friends (in Kansas). I took a position at the University of Missouri in August, after teaching at the KU fieldcamp in Colorado. It's been so rejuvenating for Kristi and I to reconnect with old friends and familiar places – after years of living in different places, I think the Midwest's become home. We now have two boys – Jonah's three and into Spider Man and PowerRangers; Eli's one and into everything! We're loving life in Columbia, though I can't help but feel like a traitor (or infiltrator) on game day!

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Cameron McCormick (PhD 2004)

I completed the Ph.D. in September, 2004 and raced out to Ellensburg WA. I am now in my second year of a 1-year contract at Central Washington University. It's a nice town with a mid-size university. This fall was my first attempt at deer and elk hunting. I was with fellow KU alumnus James Huckabay. I am now working on a proposal through CWU Study Abroad to take a batch of students to Zambia for 3-4 weeks in summer 2006.

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Michael Noll (MA 1993, PhD 2000)

The year 2005 has been a good one for the Noll Family. Sophia (4) is going to pre-school at the Episcopal Church right across the street from Valdosta State University, and Jonathan (6) has become a first grader at S.L. Mason Elementary School. Both seem to enjoy learning new

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things every day, from math, reading, writing, and drawing, to chasing frogs and lizards at home, or digging for worms in the yard. Mom is now working at the English Language Institute at Valdosta State University, and I interrupt my teaching routine with occasional soccer events (I am a proud "Soccer Dad") or by being director of a program offered by the European Council in Germany each summer. (I also just got tenured at VSU, a year after my promotion to Associate Professor.) Since we have never had any snow in the "winter" here in southern Georgia, we will spend our Christmas break in Germany this year! Christmas just ain't Christmas if you can harvest grapefruits in your yard in December and if your kids have to build a cottonman instead of a snowman.

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Professional Network

The Department has started an online Professional Network to help students gain insights into the professional world of Geography and Atmospheric Science. Professional Network listings are for alumni to relate their experiences in Geography and Atmospheric Science to current students. The goal is to provide real world examples of how Geography and Atmospheric Science are used outside of an academic setting. Please visit the Career Resources section of the Geography Department website (www.geog.ku.edu) to submit an entry for the Professional Network.



Donations to the Endowment Association

Our SPECIAL THANKS to the following recent contributors:

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If you wish to make a contribution to the Kollmorgen Geography Fund, the George F. Jenks Scholarship Fund, or the Marie Kabelitz Field Camp Award, you can send that contribution to the Kansas University Endowment Association, P.O. Box 928, Lawrence, KS 66044-0928 or to the Geography Department. Be sure to indicate which fund on your donation.

Updating Your Information

The KU Geography website now has a new Alumni Directory page for alumni information. Simply go to www.geog.ku.edu and click on **Alumni News**. Then click on **Alumni Directory** and then **information form**. After you have entered your information, click **Submit** at the bottom of the form.

We will be developing an alumni database, so your updated information is important.

Format Change

As you may have noticed, the format for the newsletter has changed. I extend a great big THANK YOU to Bev Morey. Bev was hired to replace Karen Ward who resigned from her position as office assistant in August. Bev brings sorely needed Desktop Publishing skills to her position, much to my delight! If you have any comments on the new design, please let me know.

Thanks.

Bev Koerner
koerner@ku.edu





Happy Holidays!

www.geog.ku.edu

