2010

# UTK Geography Newsletter 10 (2009-2010)

Department of Geography

# UTK GEOGRAPHY

Newsletter of the University of Tennessee Department of Geography 2009/10 Academic Year

## Greetings from Shih-Lung Shaw

We had another challenging, yet successful, year! There are many accomplishments to share with you. Our faculty has been very successful in attracting funds to support their scholarly research and in publishing their research findings. In addition, many of our faculty members and students received awards and honors in the past year. Dr. Carol Harden was elected to the President of the Association of American Geographers (AAG) and was just elected to a Fellow of the American Association of the Advancement of Science (AAAS). Dr. Henri Grissino-Mayor received the Chancellor's Award for Extraordinary Service to the University. Dr. Sally Horn was awarded with the UT Chancellor's Professorship and won our College's Faculty Award for Academic Outreach. Dr. Bruce Ralston won the L.R. Hesler Award for Exceptional Teaching and Service from UTK and the GIS Champion Award from the Tennessee Geographic Information Council. Dr. Shih-Lung Shaw was elected to a Fellow of the AAAS and received the Chancellor's Award for Research and Creative Achievement and the Betty Lynn Hendrickson Professorship.

Our students also were recognized with many prestigious awards and honors. Maria Caffrey won the AAG Biogeography Specialty Group Best Poster Presentation Award and the AAG Paleoenvironmental Change Specialty Group Best Poster Competition. Hilary Dixson and Tracy Pollock were awarded internships with the National Geographic Society. Dawn Drake won first place in the AAG Graduate Student Affinity Group's Student Paper Competition and the second place in the University of Tennessee Sigma Xi Competition. Ms. Drake also was selected to be the Student Representative on the SEDAAG Steering Committee and was reelected as the student representative to the Executive Committee of Gamma Theta Upsilon. John Sakulich received an AAG Dissertation Research Grant and was awarded a Doctoral Dissertation Research Improvement Grant (DDRI) from the National Science Foundation (NSF). Ben Shultz won the Everett S. Lee Award for the best student paper presented at the annual meeting of the Southern Demographic Association. Zack Taylor received the Yates Dissertation Fellowship from the University of Tennessee's Graduate School and was awarded an NSF Doctoral Dissertation Research Improvement Grant. Mr. Taylor also received the Chancellor's Award for Extraordinary Professional Promise. Ling Yin was selected as a finalist of the AAG Geographic Information Science and Systems Specialty Group's Student Paper Competition to be held at the 2010 AAG annual meeting in Washington DC.

There are many other awards and honors received by our students that are too numerous to list individually here. Furthermore, it is important to point out that our staff also made many behind-the-scenes contributions to these accomplishments and successes. I hope the above examples are

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***Dept. of Geography***
***304 Burchfiel Bldg.***
***Knoxville, TN 37996***

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sufficient to highlight the excellent and hardwork accomplished by our faculty, students and staff in the Department of Geography at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville.

On the administrative side, it was a challenging year due to significant budget cuts. Nevertheless, we did well in this very difficult time. We were authorized last year to hire a tenure-track assistant professor in physical geography and spatial analysis and another joint appointment with the Center for Business and Economic Research to hire a tenure-track assistant professor in analytical population geography. It's my pleasure to announce that two energetic and promising faculty members, Dr. Yingkui (Philip) Li and Dr. Nicholas Nagle, joined our Department in Fall 2009. Dr. Li's research areas include geomorphology and paleo-climate reconstruction, cosmogenic nuclides, GIS/spatial analysis, and Tibetan Plateau. Dr. Nagle's research areas cover geographic data analysis, statistical mapping, and demography. They will no doubt bolster our research and teaching in their specialty areas. Furthermore, we received funding to hire a lecturer for the academic year of 2009-2010. We are pleased to have Dr. Madhuri Sharma teach urban, economic, and regional geography courses to our students. In addition, we are fortunate to have Toby Applegate and Alex Pulsipher teach World Regional Geography classes for us this year. For our graduate students, we received an approval for raising appointments of graduate teaching assistants from 40% to 50% with a proportional increase of their stipend. We also received additional funding from the UT Athletic Department for awards of graduate teaching assistantships in our Department. These are very positive outcomes in a very tight budget year!

In the midst of these accomplishments and successes, we also experienced changes. Dr. Peggy Gripshover moved to the Department of Geography and Geology at Western Kentucky University as a tenure-track faculty member effective the academic year of 2009-2010. Dr. Tom Bell decided to retire after thirty-eight years of outstanding service at UTK and moved with Peggy to Bowling Green, KY. It's a big loss to our Department as two very experienced and talented faculty members left at the same time.

Regarding the development effort, we continue to receive generous donations from our alumni and friends even under the current economic conditions. IAVO Research and Scientific in Durham, NC made a donation of GeoGenesis software to our Department with a total market value of over one million dollars. We are very appreciative of the contributions from all faculty, students, alumni, and friends who have contributed to the success of our Department in many different ways!

I invite you to read through this newsletter to find out the outstanding accomplishments of our faculty, staff, and students. Although we are facing a very challenging time, I am confident that we will sail through these tight budget years and emerge as a strong and competitive department via our collective efforts. Our goal is to have all of us proud of what we have achieved so far and what we will achieve in the future! Please drop us a line or visit us. We greatly value the many kinds of support and feedback we receive from all of you.

Best wishes,

Shih-Lung Shaw
Professor and Department Head

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## Dept. Establishes Outstanding Alumnus Award

The Department seeks to establish an Outstanding Alumnus Award for graduates who have gone on to have strong careers in geography and geography-related fields. We hope to give the first award during the spring semester 2010. As part of that process we are establishing a fund to support the award. If you would like to contribute to that fund, by all means do so! If you want to nominate someone for the award, please send an email to Bruce Ralston at bralston@utk.edu.

# Investment Opportunities in Geography

Gifts to the Geography Department may be designed for a specific purpose or fund or given to the department's Enrichment Fund as discretionary funding. Be assured that it will make a difference! Existing funds are shown below. Please contact Shih-Lung Shaw if you would like more information or if you would like to target your gift for a purpose not shown. The Development Offices of the College and University would be pleased to have you ask about other forms of giving, such as bequests, charitable lead trusts, and gifts of the remainder interest in a personal residence or farm, and they are set up to help you evaluate the tax benefits of different gift options. All contributors making gifts of a hundred dollars or more are eligible for University recognition via the Gift Club.

**Stewart K. McCroskey Memorial Fund –** Established by the McCroskey family after Stewart's death. This fund supports field research and professional travel by Geography students and faculty.

**Sid Jumper Teachers' Scholarship Fund –** Established in 1995 when Sid Jumper stepped down from the role of Head of the department, this fund supports graduate training for K-12 teachers.

**Bill & Donna Cobble Geography Enhancement Endowment –** Proceeds from this fund, established in 1995 by Bill & Donna Cobble in support of undergraduate education in Geography at UTK, are used to enhance the educational experiences of undergraduate students.

**Edwin H. & Elizabeth H. Hammond Endowment Fund in Geography –** Established to honor Professor Hammond, who retired in 1987. Gifts to this fund help bring a distinguished geographer, the "Hammond Lecturer" to the department each year.

**Robert G. Long Outstanding Graduate Student Award Fund –** The Robert G. Long Award, established to honor Professor Long who retired in 1979, honors one or two graduate students each year for superior scholarship and service to the department. The students are recognized on a plaque and receive checks of $50.

**The J. Harrison and Robbie C. Livingston Professorship Endowment** - This fund was established in 1997 by J. Harrison and Robbie C. Livingston to further teaching and research on population problems. Proceeds from this fund supplement the salary of a faculty member who specializes in population issues.

**Geography Department Scholarship Fund –** This fund provides one or more tuition scholarships to outstanding undergraduate geography majors.

**The Geography Department Enrichment Fund –** This fund may be used to meet special needs as determined by the department faculty. In recent years, it has supplemented our operating budget and provided travel support to professional meetings for faculty and students.

**The Geography Technological Enrichment Fund –** Established in 1995 by two anonymous donors, the funds are used to provide our computer research labs and classrooms with up to date equipment and software.

**Geography Endowment Fund –** Donations are invested by the university. The principal generates quarterly interest to the Geography Enrichment Fund.

**The Ralston Family Fund** - This endowed fund was established in honor of Bruce Ralston's mother and father. It enriches a designated faculty member's research opportunities.

Please send your gift to: Department of Geography, 304 Burchfiel Geography Building, University of Tennessee, Knoxville, TN 37996-0925. **Make checks payable to: University of Tennessee, but also use the memo line on the check to indicate "Geography" and, if you wish, to indicate a specific fund.**

## Tom Bell Retires

Dr. Tom Bell accepted an academic position as Instructor in the Department of Geography at the University of Tennessee in 1971. When he completed all the requirements for the Ph.D. from the University of Iowa, he was promoted to the rank of Assistant Professor (1973). Three years later, he was promoted to Associate Professor with tenure and, in 1983, while serving as Assistant Dean for Research (half-time), he was promoted to Professor of Geography. He returned to the Department full-time in 1984 where he served twice as Associate Department Head.

Until the early 1980s, Tom was investigator or principal investigator on many transportation-related projects valued at almost $2M funded by a variety of state and federal sponsors under the auspices of the Transportation Research Center on campus. Then his research focus shifted more to location theory and he collaborated with Dr. Richard L. Church who was then affiliated with the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering at Tennessee on several research projects sponsored by the National Science Foundation and the Department of Energy. These projects dealt with aspects of both optimal contemporary site location problems and the analysis of both archaeological settlement systems and aspects of the modern electric utilities grid network.

In the 1990s, Tom was called upon to develop a televised course for the Annenberg/CPB Project on human geography to complement another in regional geography (The Power of Place) that had already been developed. That televised course, called Human Geography: People, Place and Change, was the first of several projects that Dr. Bell worked on involving teaching materials for college-level courses in human and regional geography.

Tom has held many posts in the Southeastern Division of the Association of American Geographers including its presidency. He served as secretary of the local chapter of the Phi Beta Kappa society on campus. In addition to authoring or co-authoring many research articles, he co-authored a textbook in economic geography (Economic Growth and Disparities) and authored another in general human geography (Human Geography: People, Places and Change). He is currently working on two books dealing with music geography—the first, co-edited with Dr. Ola Johansson, is a compilation of papers presented at recent special music geography sessions at AAG meetings and the second is a specialist volume on the geography of modern rock music (also a collaboration with Dr. Johansson).

*Retired professor, Tom Bell proudly displays the velvet Elvis presented to him by the Department as a way of saying "Thank you, Thank you very much." for his many years of service.*

Tom continues his research, often in collaboration with his wife, Dr. Margaret "Peggy" Gripshover. They are now based out of Bowling Green, Kentucky after Peggy accepted a tenure track position in the Department of Geography and Geology at Western Kentucky University. Tom also stays active in geography by serving as an Adjunct Professor at WKU, teaching courses in cultural and urban geography.

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## Department Celebrates Dr. Gripshover Day

On April 23, 2009 the Geography Department celebrated Dr. Gripshover Day to give Dr. G a heartfelt send-off after she accepted a tenure-track position at Western Kentucky University in Bowling Green.

Peggy received her Ph.D. from the Department in 1995 and returned in 2001 after time as an Associate Professor at Marshall University in Huntington WV.


*Peggy Gripshover at the opening of Dr. Gripshover Day, April 23, 2009.*

While at UT, Peggy distinguished herself by receiving numerous teaching awards including; the Chancellor's Award for Excellence in Teaching, the UT National Alumni Association's Outstanding Teacher Award, and the Association of American Geographers (SEDAAG) Award for Excellence in Teaching.

Beyond the teaching awards, research, and producing numerous publications, Peggy also served on the Board of Directors of the Tennessee Geographic Alliance and contributed hundreds of hours toward improving geography education in Tennessee's K-12 schools.

If you would like to contact Dr. G her new contact information is:

Department of Geography and Geology
Western Kentucky University
1906 College Heights Blvd.
Bowling Green, KY 42101-1066
margaret.gripshover@wku.edu

## Black Soil and Big Worms

In June, 2009, Carol Harden and new graduate student, James Hartsig, flew to Ecuador to inaugurate a new field-based research project to determine how soils of the high elevation grass páramos are affected by differences in the overlying vegetation. Accompanying them was Mr. Gregory Metcalf, a science teacher at Heritage Middle School in Blount County, Tennessee, and also a Teacher-Partner of the NSF-sponsored GK-12 Earth Project, directed by Dr. Sally Horn.

Mr. Metcalf (aka "Gregorio Gringo Grande") quickly became an integral member of the field team. He helped dig pits in the soil, took gps (global positioning system) readings to document study transect

*Graduate student James Hartsig at an exposure of paramo soil in Ecuador.*

locations, and became quite skilled at measuring instantaneous soil moisture along transects and extracting precisely cored soil samples for further analysis back in the U.S. The high altitudes (typically around 11,500 feet above sea level) made ordinary physical activity unusually strenuous, but the work was fascinating, and spectacular scenery,

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*Black Soil continued from Page 5*

good attitudes, and interesting fauna (e.g., Andean condors, enormous earthworms, and inquisitive alpacas) kept the team in good spirits.

The research will produce new knowledge about high altitude landscape processes and document the consequences of the trade-offs that occur when payments are made to protect and improve the environmental services of carbon sequestration and water regulation. The Ecuadorian project is funded by NSF and led by PIs Carol Harden, Jaehoon Lee (UT, soils) and Kathleen Farley (San Diego State Univ. Geography).

*Mr. Metcalf (foreground) helps James Harsig (left), a geography graduate student extract a soil sample from the wall of the soil pit. Luis Racalde, an Ecuadorian assistant, watches.*

## Adjunct Professor Kappelle Now Lead Scientist at TNC

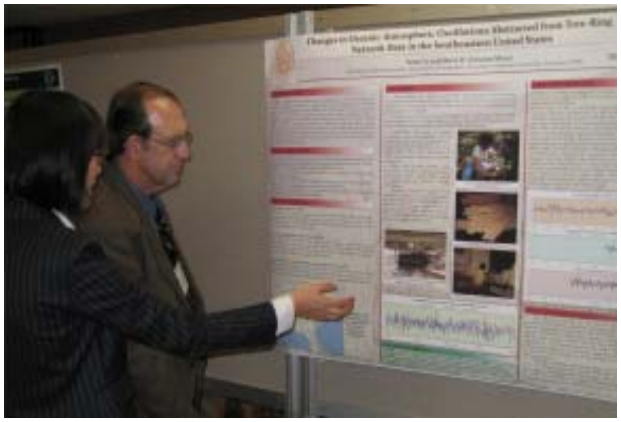
Dr. Maarten Kappelle, adjunct Associate Professor in the UT Department of Geography, was appointed Lead Scientist for Latin America at The Nature Conservancy (TNC) on July 1, 2009. Dr. Kappelle holds a Ph.D. in Ecology from the University of Amsterdam, The Netherlands, and is an expert on the spatial and temporal dynamics of tropical highland ecosystems and biodiversity conservation.

In his new position he will work with TNC and scientists including UT faculty to leverage scientific information and knowledge across Latin America, aiming at enhanced, science-based biodiversity conservation for human well-being in the Neotropics. He will particularly focus on strengthening partnerships between the hosting conservation organization and academic partners like UT, and seek to enhance climate change science for biodiversity conservation, particularly in support of climate change adaptation and mitigation strategies for big conservation outcomes.

Kappelle will also explore opportunities to strengthen the science-policy interface linked to the diverse and complex mosaic of natural and cultural systems that historically characterize Latin America. Kappelle will continue to be based out of Costa Rica and can be reached at mkappelle@tnc.org.

## 2009 SEDAAG Meeting Held in Knoxville

The 2009 meetings of the Southeastern Division of the Association of American Geographers were held at the Knoxville Hilton from November 22 to 24. Despite current challenging economic times, over 400 people attended the conference with a record number of papers and posters presented. The local organizing committee consisted of Ph.D. studnet Dawn Drake and Dr. Ron Kalafsky, and an impressive number of UT Geography graduate students presented their research at the conference.



*M.S. student Nancy Li explains her research poster to Dr. John Rehder at the 2009 SEDAAG meeting in Knoxville.*

*Dr. Andy Walter (West Georgia State) (left) and U.T. alum Dr. Roger Brown (Columbus State) at the 2009 SEDAAG meeting in Knoxville.*

*U.T. Geography Ph.D.s (left to right) Dan Royall (University of North Carolina-Greensboro), Judy Grable (Valdosta State), and Evan Hart (Tennessee Tech) at the 2009 SEDAAG meeting in Knoxville.*

# The Department in Action


*Our 2009 Hammond Speaker was Dr. Eric Sheppard from the University of Minnesota. One of then nation's foremost theorists in human geography, he is seen here (thumb's down) arguing with colloquium host Ron Foresta (thumb's up) over the merits of intertropical convergence.*

*L to R: Henri Grissino-Mayer, graduate students Grant Harley and John Sakulich take a break from tree ring sampling on Big Pine Key in Florida.*

*Carol Harden hangs out in one of her favorite places, Ellejoy Creek in Blount County, TN. (Photo by grad student Chunhao Zhu)*

*L to R: Undergaduate students Niki Garland and Saraj Jones and middle school science teacher Ann McGhee on the lava flows of Bandera Crater in New Mexico. The three accompanied Henri Grissino-Mayer to collect tree ring samples for fire history and climate research.*

# Degrees Granted Since August 2008

The following is a list of the Ph.D. and Masters degrees awarded by the Department since August 2008. The person granted the degree, dissertation or thesis title and committee chair are included.

**Ph.D.s**

**Curtis, Kendrick** (December 2008)
Influences on Growth: Development Beyond Conventional Wastewater Infrastructure
**Ron Foresta**

**Brym, Michelle** (May 2009)
The Integration of European Union Borderlands: Polish Views on Cross-Border Mobility and Cooperation across the Polish-German Border
**Lydia Pulsipher**

**Masters**

**Applegate, Toby** (December 2008)
The Kozolec: Material Culture, Identity and Social Practice in Slovenia
**Lydia Pulsipher**

**Baginski, James** (December 2008)
On the Trail of Fine Ale: Factor Conditions in the Location of Craft-brewed Beer in the United States
**Tom Bell**

**Burley, Thomas** (December 2008)
An Analysis of Spatiotemporal Variations of Water Quality in the Little River Watershed and Their Connection with Land Cover Patterns
**Liem Tran**

**Hass, Alisa** (December 2008)
Fire History of Gum Swamp and Black Pond in Eastern Tennessee, U.S.A., from Macroscopic Sedimentary Charcoal
**Sally Horn**

**Pollock, Tracy** (December 2008)
An Atlas of Natural Hazards in Tennessee
**Carol Harden**

**Wunderlich, Andrew** (December 2008)
GIS Data and Geoprocess Modeling for Hydrologic Network Conservation Analysis in a Green Infrastructure Plan
**Bruce Ralston**

**Biermann, Christine** (May 2009)
Shortleaf Pines (Pinus echinata Mill.) in Great Smoky Mountains National Park, Tennessee, U.S.A.: Potential Recorders of Global-Scale Climate Phenomena
**Henri Grissino-Mayer**

**Burgess, Joe N.** (May 2009)
Modern Pollen Assemblages Along Transects Across Two Lowland Tropical Lakes
**Sally Horn**

**Wambersie, Annie** (May 2009)
A Comparison of Suspended Sediment and E.coli in Two East Tennessee Streams
**Carol Harden**

**Bugg, Brian** (August 2009)
GIS for Ground Water Litigation
**Bruce Ralston**

**Dahoda, Jeff** (August 2009)
GIS Analysis of Factors Affecting Acidification in Crab Orchard Creek Watershed, Cumberland and Morgan Counties, Tennessee
**Carol Harden**

**Wilson, Bradly** (August 2009)
Modeling Cellulosic Ethanol Plant Location Using GIS
**Shih-Lung Shaw**

*Sally Horn was the Graduation Speaker for the Spring 2009 Graduate Hooding Ceremony.*

# Faculty and Staff News

**Kurt Butefish.** Kurt continues in his role as coordinator of the Tennessee Geographic Alliance. This past year was spent traveling across that state assisting the Alliance's regional and chapter coordinators in conducting activities at the local level. More than 20 workshops were hosted from Memphis to Kingsport. Kurt also serves on the Board of Directors for the Tennessee Council for the Social Studies and on the Education Committee for Discover Life in America. He will assume the position of Executive Director of the Tennessee Council for the Social Studies in March 2010.

**Ron Foresta.** Ron continues to head up the department's undergraduate program committee and its human-geography working group. This year he also has taken on oversight of the department's world regional geography sequence and is responsible for long-term course planning as well as for overseeing the search for a new urban geographer. He continues to teach the department's senior proseminar and serve as a reviewer for several journals including the Professional Geographer and Historical Geography. His recently completed book on the Land Between the Lakes is out for review with a (very slow moving) publisher. He is also at work on several new research projects including one on the origins and spread of the Santa Fe style.

**Henri Grissino-Mayer.** An exciting academic year began with Henri's invitation from the College of Arts and Sciences to give a presentation at the Pre-Game Faculty Showcase, organized by **Dr. Lynn Champion**, Director of Outreach and Communication for the college. His talk was titled "Will our Great Smoky Mountains Some Day Go Up in Flames?" Approximately 200 people attended the talk at the University Center and Dr. Champion commented to Department Head **Dr. Shih-Lung Shaw** "I would agree that Henri's talk was definitely in the top five in the history of our program." Henri also gave invited talks to the East Tennessee Society of the Archaeological Institute of America, the Oak Ridge Institute for Continued Learning, the St. Augustine (Florida) Archaeological Association, and the Southern Blue Ridge Fire Learning Network. In all, Henri and his students presented 23 talks in AY 2008–2009.

Henri believes that "Publications are the currency of science" (a quote made by his former advisor **Tom Swetnam** at the University of Arizona), and he and his current and former students had a banner year in publishing their research. Articles appeared in such peer-reviewed journals as Journal of the Torrey Botanical Society, Natural Areas Journal, Physical Geography, Tree-Ring Research, Plant Ecology, Canadian Journal of Forest Research, Dendrochronologia, Southeastern Archaeology, and Journal of Climate. Including two book chapters, publications for AY2008–2009 totaled 19 publications. Eight articles alone appeared in a Special Issue of Tree-Ring Research titled "Dendrochronology in the Southeastern United States" which featured articles authored or co-authored by current and former graduate and undergraduate students in our department, including **Georgina DeWeese**, **Saskia van de Gevel**, **Maggie Stevens**, **Jessica Slayton**, **Joseph Henderson**, **David Mann**, **Daniel Lewis**, and **Justin Hart**, along with faculty member **John Rehder**.

The field work seemed to be never-ending, but always provided a welcome break from teaching and writing manuscripts and proposals. In October 2008, Henri helped coordinate a field trip with Anthropology student **Daniel Brock** to collect samples from log structures at the Tipton-Haynes State Historic Site in Johnson City, Tennessee. Those that helped on this field work included undergraduate geography majors **Ruby Munoz**, **Kevin Patrick Russell**, **Alexander Pooler**, and **Josh Brown**, assisted by geography graduate students **Lisa LaForest**, **Grant Harley**, **Nancy Li**, **Monica Rother**, and **Matthew Kookogey**. Two trips were also made to Cades Cove in Great Smoky Mountains National Park to assist graduate student **Ian Feathers** collect

samples for his master's research. In May 2009, Henri and graduate student **Grant Harley** assisted **Lisa LaForest** in collecting the final samples in GSMNP for a project funded by the Joint Fire Science Program. The field work for this project spanned three years, with hundreds of samples collected from some very difficult terrain in nearly inaccessible portions of the park.

The summer of 2009 was also jam-packed with fieldwork for Henri and his students and colleagues. Teamed with **Charles Lafon** and **Will Flatley** from Texas A&M University, Henri and graduate student **Nancy Li** spent a week in late July collecting samples in picturesque Linville Gorge in North Carolina, also called the "Grand Canyon of the East." The field work involved very strenuous hikes up and down steep slopes to collect samples for fire history, but Henri and Nancy also found a few days to collect increment cores from very old pines growing in the gorge for Nancy's master's research on effects of long-term climate oscillations on tree growth. In August, Henri and **Dr. Sally Horn** teamed with graduate students **Grant Harley** and **John Sakulich** to collect samples for fire history analyses from fire-scarred pines and sediment cores on Big Pine Key in the Lower Florida Keys. This project has now become the dissertation research for Grant, funded by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Although working in the keys sounds posh (OK, we stayed at a low-budget resort on the beach), the temperatures each day were stifling, not to mention the hordes of mosquitoes that decided Sally was the tastiest treat ever to visit the Conocarpus coastal shrub forests.

The highlight of the summer, however, was a 3-week long trip to El Malpais National Monument and the Cibola National Forest in west-central New Mexico, where we collected hundreds of samples for fire history and climate research for graduate students **Mark Spond** and **Monica Rother**. Funded by the National Park Service and the National Science Foundation, this massive field project was assisted by graduate students **Ryan Foster**, **Hunter Terrell**, and **Nancy Li**, along with undergraduate students **Sarah Jones**, **Niki Garland**, and **Kevin Russell**. Middle school science teacher **Ann McGhee**, a Teacher-Partner in our GK–12 Earth Project, also spent a week with us and proved invaluable in helping with the strenuous field work. On our days off to rest, we visited El Morro National Monument and the Bandera Ice Cave and Volcano, and became quite addicted to the excellent Mexican cuisine found in back-country restaurants on the Ramah Navajo Reservation.

**Carol Harden.** Carol is a member of the full-plate club this fall. As President of the AAG, she spends about a day a week on AAG correspondence and has been traveling to meetings in the Pacific Coast (San Diego), East Lakes (Dayton), West Lakes (St. Paul), Middle States (New Paltz), and SEDAAG (Knoxville!) regions, as well as to an AAG executive committee and council meetings. In her year as president, she is working to get more geographers to engage with the world beyond their academic departments. She reports that she has enjoyed getting to know so many geographers, especially so many geography students, in her travels.

Harden currently has three funded research projects. One, funded by NSF, is a study of Andean páramo soil properties under different land uses (grass, pines) and land management (burning? grazing?) strategies. The project is designed to document the effects of management choices on the ecosystem services of water and carbon storage of these soils so that decision-makers can understand the trade-offs involved. **James Hartsig** is working on the Andean project. The other two projects are in East Tennessee. One monitors stream bank change, stream discharge, and water quality in tributaries of the Little River as part of a larger effort, supported by the EPA through the Blount County Soil Conservation District, to improve water quality in the Little River watershed. The second, funded by TDEC (Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation), investigates relationships of beds in wadeable streams in the region to the biotic integrity of riffles. M.S. student, **Hunter Terrell**, who is working on the TDEC project, laments that unusually wet weather in the summer and fall of 2009 has made the field work unexpectedly challenging.

**Sally Horn.** Sally, with help from M.S. student **Joshua Albritton**, increased the scope of UT research on fire and

vegetation history in the Florida Keys in 2009. Work done by Joshua, Sally, and grad students **Chris Underwood** and **Alisa Hass** under an initial contract from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service was received with great enthusiasm, and led to a larger effort. Sally and Co-PI **Henri Grissino-Mayer** received funding to expand high-resolution charcoal analyses of cores in hand; collect sediment cores from new sites in the Keys; and add tree-ring analyses of fire and vegetation history to the study. Initial tree-ring sampling in August 2009 was wildly successful, and Ph.D. student **Grant Harley** will develop his Ph.D. from this work. Assisted by Ph.D. student **John Sakulich**, Henri, and Sally, Grant collected over 700 lbs of fire-scarred cross sections. The focus of the next sampling trip will be coring some new sites discovered during the August 2009 trip. New M.S. student **Desiree Ketteringham** will develop her M.S. thesis from the sediment portion of the project. Undergraduate **Jeff Malik** is also working on cores from the project, for his Senior Honors thesis.

Meanwhile, **Joshua Albritton** completed his M.S. thesis in December 2009 on the detailed record of charcoal and pollen at Key Deer Pond on Big Pine Key, and will begin an internship with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. One of his first projects will be mapping the freshwater ponds on the island. These ponds are important water sources for the endangered Key Deer and are also potential coring sites for the project.

Also finishing his M.S. degree in 2009 was **Joe Burgess**, who worked with Sally on a study of modern pollen deposition in two tropical lakes in Costa Rica. Joe is a Geographer (yes, that is his job title!) for Dewberry in Fairfax, Virginia.

Sally and her students received several grants from the National Science Foundation (NSF) in 2009. Ph.D. students **Chris Underwood** and **Maria Caffrey** both received prestigious doctoral dissertation research awards; Chris for his work on soil charcoal as evidence of long-term fire and vegetation history in Great Smoky Mountains National Park, and Maria for her work on climate history from the sediments of a lake in the Dominican Republic. Maria's project supports December field work at the lake, this time using ground penetrating radar to better visualize the sediments. NSF also funded a collaborative project on climate history in the southern Appalachian region that involves **Zheng-Hua Li** (Earth and Planetary Science, the project's lead scientist) and Sally at UT, and **Steve Driese** at Baylor University. New geography graduate student **Mathew Boehm** will work on charcoal analysis of Holocene lake sediments as part of this project.

July 2009 marked the end of the last fully funded year of the NSF GK-12 Earth Project (http://web.utk.edu/~gk12/index.html), which Sally directs. For the first three years of the project, ten graduate student "Fellows" from Geography and Earth and Planetary Sciences were paired with ten teachers in seven rural middle schools in east Tennessee to improve science instruction by linking the world of University research to the world of middle school science, and by involving middle school students and teachers in authentic scientific research, including field research. In Summer 2008, two teachers participated in field work with project faculty: **Greg Metcalf** from Heritage Middle School dug soil pits in the Ecuadorian highlands as part of **Carol Harden's** NSF research, and **Ann McGhee** of Jefferson Middle School helped **Henri Grissino-Mayer** and students on tree-ring projects in the southwestern U.S. funded by the National Park Service. Scroll through this web page (http://web.utk.edu/~gk12/research.html) to see photos of Greg and Ann in action!

We were able to stretch our NSF funding to cover a fourth GK-12 year in 2009–2010. We're in down-sized mode, but enthusiasm among our teacher-partners, fellows, and project faculty remains high. GK-12 Fellows **Grant Harley** and **Alice Schoen** serve in classrooms of eight teachers in five schools, sharing favorite activities developed in prior years and also developing some new activities. **Henri Grissino-Mayer** replaced **Ken Orvis** as Co-PI on the project, and is hoping to develop a second UT GK-12 project down the line. Stay tuned!

With students and other collaborators, Sally published two papers and a book chapter in 2009, with another book chapter and two papers forthcoming. She presented papers and served on panels for the annual meetings of the AAG and SEDAAG, and the AASP–Palynological Society. She also

participated in the annual GK-12 meeting in Washington DC, along with faculty **Henri Grissino-Mayer** and **Kristin Rearden**, GK Fellows **Grant Harley** and **Jorene Hamilton**, and GK-12 Teacher-Partners **Greg Metcalf** and **Betsy Tillet**, and in the 2009 Great Smoky Mountains National Park Science Conference, along with **Henri Grissino-Mayer** and **Chris Underwood**.

Sally gave a class lecture on biodiversity and a seminar presentation on her research as a visitor to the Department of Geography at the University of Denver in January 2009. In February 2009, she presented the Evelyn L. Pruitt lecture in the Department of Geography and Anthropology at Louisiana State University. Here in Knoxville, Sally was the speaker for the Graduate Hooding Ceremony for the Spring 2009 graduation.

**Ron Kalafsky.** Ron was recently promoted to Associate Professor. His current research centers on two topics: 1) the competitive challenges of North American firms entering the Chinese market and 2) trends in Chinese foreign direct investment in Canada. Previous research findings from his work on Charlotte-area manufacturers and Japanese machinery firms will appear in two forthcoming book chapters and moreover, much of this research has been developed into case studies for his Geography of the Global Economy and Geography of East Asia courses.

*Congratulations to Associate Professor, Ron Kalafsky, who received tenure this fall.*

**Yingkui Li.** Yingkui moved to Knoxville at the end of July, 2009 from Columbia, Missouri. His research interests include glacial geomorphology and cosmogenic nuclides, GIS and spatial analysis, land use change and environmental studies.

Right after moving here, Yingkui attended the 5th International Symposium on the Tibetan Plateau in Beijing in early August. He and his collaborators presented several presentations. He also co-chaired two sessions of "Quaternary Landscape Evolution and Paleo-environmental Change" and "Geomorphology and Environmental Change". As a result of this conference, he will work with **Dr. Chaolu Yi**, Institute of Tibetan Plateau Research, Chinese Academy of Sciences, and **Dr. Jon Harbor**, Purdue University, to guest-edit a special issue of "Geomorphology and Environmental Change" for Physical Geography. During the conference, he had several meetings with Chinese collaborators to discuss future collaboration on the Tibetan Plateau and western China. One project has been funded by the National Science Foundation of China to support this collaborative work in Tian Shan for the next three years.

Before moving to UTK, Yingkui finished a project of "Private Lands Digitizing and Ranking in the Current and Eleven Point COAs" sponsored by the Missouri Department of Conservation. He presented this work at the ESRI user conference in San Diego. He also presented and organized a session of "GIS and Geomorphology" at the AAG meeting in Las Vegas.

In September and October of 2009, Yingkui participated in thesis defenses of two master's students at the University of Missouri-Columbia (finally finished all business in Missouri!). The student he advised submitted a manuscript based on his thesis work to Natural Hazard. In 2009, he published several journal articles and one book chapter as a first author or a co-author. He also has several manuscripts in review or in revision.

Yingkui is now working with **Sally Horn** to setup a cosmogenic nuclide sample preparation lab in the SERF building. This lab will process Be-10 samples for AMS analysis in paleo-environment and climate studies. It will significantly improve departmental facilities in physical geography, geomorphol-

ogy, and paleo-climate reconstruction. In addition, he is working with Sally and **Ken Orvis** on a NSF proposal of cosmogenic nuclide dating of late Quaternary glacial advances, Cordillera de Talamanca, Costa Rica.

Yingkui taught Geographic Information Management and Processing in fall 2009, and will teach Land Surface Systems and Introduction to GIS in spring 2010.

**Bruce Ralston.** The closer Bruce gets to retirement, the busier he gets. He currently is completing a project for the National Institutes of Justice involving mapping of missing persons (location last known) and unidentified human remains. It is part of the NIJ's NamUs project (www.namus.gov). Graduate student **Ling Yin** is working with Bruce on the project and they presented their work at the 10th Annual Crime Mapping Conference this past August.

In addition to his work with NIJ, Bruce has been working on developing mapping software for the 2010 U.S. Census. The Census Bureau releases data through their American FactFinder website (factfinder.census.gov). Bruce has developed software for taking that data and creating thematic maps for Google Earth or ArcExplorer (among others). The software even received an excellent review from a former Jeopardy! Tournament of Champions winner. You can download the software at (tnatlas.geog.utk.edu/downloadfree.htm). Bruce worked with recent Ph.D. student **Melany Noltenius** on a book chapter entitled "Pre-evacuation Trip Behavior". The chapter will appear in a soon to be released book Geospatial Techniques in Urban Hazard and Disaster Analysis.

The end of this academic year will mark Bruce's 34th year on the faculty at UT. He has decided to retire in June 2010. However, he will continue to teach in the department under what is called the Post Retirement Service appointment. The appointment allows him to teach part time for the next several years. Bruce says he is looking forward to telling **Shih-Lung Shaw** "No" whenever some task needs to be taken on!

**John Rehder.** John is in his forty-third year at Tennessee. His research focuses on writing solo-authored scholarly books that examine the historical and cultural geography of subjects in the South. Two earlier books, Delta Sugar: Louisiana's Vanishing Plantation Landscape (1999) and Appalachian Folkways (2004) both published by the Johns Hopkins University Press, have won prestigious book awards.

John's three new books are on-going research at different stages of completion. The book Tennessee's Log Buildings: A Folk Tradition may be published in 2010 by the Center for American Places. It is now in line for the copy-editing stage but printing costs for this book's color photography are a major concern and may be a delay factor.

A second book, An Architectural Guide to the Great Smoky Mountains National Park, is a scholarly field guide with photographs, floor plans, maps, and historical perspectives on more than eighty historic structures. The project is well into the fieldwork and writing stages. Fieldwork in 2006 and 2007 covered 40% of the Park. Fieldwork in 2008 covered about 30% more of the Park. In March 2009, John had radical prostate cancer surgery and is mending slowly. Two areas remain to be photographed and measured but they are in remote steep locations on Mount Cammerer and in part of Cataloochee. Since Mount Cammerer has a vertical climb of 2,700 feet in about 6 miles on an 11 mile trek, he says "I am not ready for this one; and at age 67, I may never be."

The New World Plantations book project is a resurrected project. John restarted it in May and July 2009 and it is progressing along nicely. He conducted fieldwork and writing on Orton Plantation on the Cape Fear River near Wilmington, North Carolina. He says that he can still do fieldwork on flat ground. The overall project analyzes four plantation areas: a Carolina rice plantation, A Georgia cotton plantation, two sugarcane plantations in Louisiana, and the sugar island of St. Kitts in the Caribbean. His earlier fieldwork and rough draft writing exist on all fronts for this unique book project.

John is still active in non-academic interests of: golf, kayaking, fishing, hiking, photography, and his two grandchildren.

**Shih-Lung Shaw.** It's another busy and productive year for Shih-Lung. He was elected to a Fellow of the American Association for Advancement of Science (AAAS). In addition, Shih-Lung received the 2009 Chancellor's Research and Creative Achievement Award and Betty Lynn Hendrickson Professorship Award. His National Science Foundation's (NSF) project, with **Hongbo Yu** (Ph.D. of this Department, 2003) as co-PI, of extending Hägerstrand's time-geographic framework to develop a space-time GIS for studying human activities in a hybrid physical and virtual space has produced many publications and presentations. This project also released a free space-time GIS visualization extension for ArcGIS 9.3 in early September of 2009. Within the first three months of its release, the web page hosting this extension was accessed by people from over 60 countries, more than 100 universities (including Harvard, Princeton, Stanford, MIT, Duke, Chicago, Columbia, and Oxford), many government agencies (e.g., CDC, NASA, NOAA, USGS, USDOT, ORNL, UN-FAO, along with state and local government agencies), as well as private companies such as ESRI, Northrop Grumman, Wilbur Smith & Associates, and Michael Baker Corp. For additional information about this NSF project, please visit (http://web.utk.edu/~sshaw/NSF-Project-Website/default.htm).

On top of his time-demanding administrative job, Shih-Lung managed to publish two refereed research articles in Journal of Transport Geography in 2009. He also has one refereed book chapter and two reviewed encyclopedia articles (for International Encyclopedia of Human Geography and Encyclopedia of Geography) accepted for publication. While finishing his NSF project, Shih-Lung also starts a new two-year research project funded by the Tennessee Department of Transportation to develop an integrated GIS database for statewide highways and local streets in support of transportation applications and emergency service. In addition, he is a co-PI of two research grants awarded by the National Natural Science Foundation of China and the Microsoft Research Institute Asia, respectively.

Shih-Lung was invited to give several presentations in 2009. He delivered the Fleming Lecture at the 2009 Annual Meeting of the Association of American Geographers (AAG) in Las Vegas as the recipient of Edward L. Ullman Award for outstanding contributions to the field of transportation geography. In May of 2009, he was invited to Beijing, China where he gave presentations at the Microsoft Research Institute Asia and at the Institute of Geographic Sciences and Natural Resources Research, Chinese Academy of Sciences.

In June of 2009, Shih-Lung was invited by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineering to give a presentation at the Second Spatial Socio-cultural Knowledge Workshop that was held at the Defense Academy of the United Kingdom in Shrivenham, United Kingdom. In October of 2009, he was invited to give a presentation and serve as a round-table panelist at the International Conference of GIS in the Humanities and Social Sciences that was held at Academia Sinica in Taipei, Taiwan. Shih-Lung also gave a presentation at the Taiwan GIS Center during this trip. In December of 2009, Shih-Lung was invited to deliver a keynote presentation at an International Workshop on GIS for Transportation in Wuhan, China.

Shih-Lung's graduate advisees also made good progress. **Brad Wilson** successfully defended his master's thesis in summer of 2009. **Ling Yin** was selected as a finalist of the AAG GIS Specialty Group's student paper competition to be held at 2010 AAG meeting in Washington, DC. Regarding professional service, Shih-Lung continues his role as the Head to serve the Department of Geography during this very challenging time of significant budget cuts. In addition, he continues to serve on the editorial boards of Journal of Transport Geography and Southeastern Geographer. Shih-Lung reviewed manuscripts in 2009 for International Journal of Geographical Information Science (2 manuscripts), Journal of Transport Geography (2 manuscripts), Geographical Analysis, and Computers, Environment and Urban Systems. He also reviewed two grant proposals for the U.S. National Science Foundation, one grant proposal for Netherlands Organization for Scientific Research (NWO), one grant proposal for Hong Kong Research Grants Council, and served on a review panel for the U.S. National Science Foundation. Shih-Lung is happy with the accom-

plishments in the past year and looks forward to another challenging, and hopefully successful, year.

**Liem Tran.** Liem has continued to strengthen his collaborative work with the U.S. Environmental Agency (EPA)'s Regional Vulnerability Program (ReVA) and the Future Midwest Landscape (FML) project. He has served as an expert for EPA on regional assessment and modeling in 2009 and he has been reappointed for the year of 2010. A multivariate distance measure developed by Liem in 2006 has been used by EPA to "bundle" the ecosystem services' values for several regions across the United States. Other regional integrated assessment methods developed by Liem have also been used extensively by ReVA.

Liem has a new project with TVA to facilitate collaborative research between TVA and UT geography in the context of the EPA's FML project. The $140,000 project provides one-year fund to a full-time research associate and a graduate assistant to assist Liem in several modeling activities. He has another NSF proposal in the pipeline seeking funding to carry out a regional vulnerability assessment for the Mid-Atlantic region. If funded, the project will support two graduate assistants for two years. Liem is collaborating with colleagues at the UT Institute for a Secure and Sustainable Environment to develop a GIS database and an environmental decision toolkit for water-related issues in Tennessee.

Liem has been busy with his publications, too. He had three peer-reviewed articles published in 2009 and another one co-authored with **Thomas Saaty** accepted for the inaugural issue of the International Journal of Strategic Decision Sciences in 2010. As for teaching, he and his students are having fun with various environmental modeling issues in his GEOG 509 class – GIS & Environmental Modeling – in Fall 2009.

**Micheline van Riemsdijk.** Micheline spent a month in Brussels, Belgium this summer to investigate skilled migration policies in the European Union. She is particularly interested in the geopolitics surrounding the European Blue Card, a proposed residence and work permit for skilled workers that is modeled on the American Green Card. Micheline conducted interviews with policy makers and archival research in the library of the European Commission. After this fieldwork project, she attended a summer institute at the Central European University in Budapest on Work and Inequality in the Global Economy.

Micheline plans to return to Brussels next summer to investigate the power relations between stakeholders in the policy-making process of skilled migration legislation. She plans to interview policy makers, representatives of multinational corporations, labor organizations, and migrant organizations.

Micheline organized two sessions at the 2009 meeting of the Association of American Geographers, a paper session on Inclusion and Belonging in Europe, and a panel on effective mentoring. Micheline was elected Chair of the European Specialty Group in August 2009 and she is a board member of the Population Specialty Group.

# Grad Student News

**Joshua Albritton** is a third year M.S. student working under the direction of Dr. Sally Horn. He received his B.A. in Geography with a minor in Spanish from the University of Tennessee in the fall of 2006. He also received a certificate for advanced proficiency in Spanish from Instituto Universal de Idiomas (Universal Institute of Languages) in San José, Costa Rica in the spring of 2005. His thesis research focuses on fire and vegetation history in the pine rocklands of the National Key Deer Refuge in the lower Florida Keys. In addition to his thesis research, Joshua was awarded a grant from the university's W.K. McClure Foundation to conduct exploratory research during the summer of 2006. The focus of the research was on soil charcoal in montain forests of Chirripó National Park, Costa Rica. In the fall of 2008, Joshua taught the introductory Physical Geography course and earned the

"Outstanding Teaching Associate" award from the department. Joshua has also been active in the department's outreach program, "Geography Awareness Week".

**Lily Ahrens** is a second year M.S. student from Spokane, WA. She received a B.A. in Biology and Environmental Studies from St. Olaf College in Minnesota in 2005. After graduating, she wrote for a publication on the biotechnology and pharmaceutical industries. Under the guidance of Dr. Ron Foresta, she is combining her interests in music and human geography by studying the nature and location of performance space, including galleries, music venues and theaters in the arts town, Asheville, NC. In her spare time, Lily likes to explore new places and play the violin, or "fiddle" as it's known around these parts.

**Andy Baker** is currently in the Ph.D. dissertation research & writing stage under the tutelage of Dr. Tom Bell. He received his B.S. in Geography and a B.S. in Business (Finance) from Eastern Illinois University in the spring of 2003. In June 2005, Andy completed his M.A. in Geography at Ohio University where he studied the historical and cultural geography of NASCAR. As a graduate student in the UT Geography Department, Andy is pursuing research in cultural and sport geography, adding a specialization in Geographic Information Science. His research analyzes how cities and regions use mega-events to showcase and market themselves to new residents, jobs and tourists. Andy is currently a Lecturer in the School of Liberal Arts at Indiana University on the campus of IUPUI in his hometown of Indianapolis, IN.

**Latha Baskaran** is a third year Ph.D. student. She received an M.S. in Geography from the Pennsylvania State University in 2003 and a B.E (Bachelor of Engineering) in GeoInformatics from Anna University, India in 2001. Since 2003, Latha has been working at the Environmental Sciences Division at the Oak Ridge National Laboratory. Latha's Ph.D. focuses on the environmental sustainability of bioenergy crops and, more specifically, in the area of modeling impacts of bioenergy crops on water quality and habitat of aquatic species.On a personal note, Latha has just welcomed her first baby.

**Mathew Boehm** is a first year M.S. student in the Department of Geography. He received his Bachelor of Arts in Anthropology, with a minor in Geography, from the University of West Georgia last spring. His current research interests include environmental reconstruction and human-environment interactions. Mathew is currently a TA for the introductory physical geography course and for the dendrochronology course.

**Charlynn Burd** is a third year Ph.D. student. She received her B.S. from Western Kentucky University in 2001. She went on to earn her M.A. from the University of North Carolina, Charlotte, in 2005. Her current research interests include economic and urban geography. Currently, her research focuses around knowledge-based economies, regional economic development, and how people see urban areas. Additionally, she is interested in topics related to small towns and cities, the rural/urban fringe, and gentrification.

**Maria Caffrey** is a third year Ph.D. student. She has been involved in palynology and lacustrine research for several years, starting when she was an undergraduate at the University of Plymouth, UK. There, she completed her undergraduate thesis on pollen evidence of Holocene vegetation change on the Colorado Plateau. She has had a variety of experiences with paleoenvironmental research, such as using surface pollen to examine the extent of invasive species along the Baja peninsula, Mexico, reconstructing Holocene climate changes in highland Guatemala from pollen assemblages in a peatland profile (her M.A. thesis), examining subalpine fire history from pollen and charcoal in lake cores from Rocky Mountain National Park, Colorado, and testing the use of heavy liquid separation of pollen from sediments from the Manix Basin, California. Under the direction of Dr. Sally Horn, her doctoral dissertation research, "Holocene lacustrine palynology from the Dominican Republic," investigates the impact of tectonic versus climatic processes on the character of Holocene lacustrine sediments from the Caribbean region,

using a combination of sedimentary proxy data and ground penetrating radar (GPR).

**Eric Carr** is a first year Ph.D. student working with Dr. Shaw. He received a B.S. in Mechanical Engineering from Bucknell University and an M.S. in Mathematics from the University of Tennessee at Knoxville. His current research is based on GIS, ecological modeling and network/graph analysis. These research interests are derived from his past and current experience with Everglades landscape restoration modeling under the ATLSS.org project. The focus of ATLSS is to compare alternative hydrologic scenarios for the Florida Everglades through the development and application of a suite of ecological species models. Currently, he is helping to support researchers at the new NSF center NIMBioS.org as a High Performance Computing Specialist. Eric hopes to meld his computational and ecological interests into an interdisciplinary research proposal.

**Sarah Deane** is a M.S. student who earned her B.A. in Geography from the University of Tennessee in 2003. Her research involves scanning electron microscope analysis of quartz sand grains from Costa Rica and the Dominican Republic. Her interest is mostly in the glacial microtexture signature patterns found on the surfaces of sand grains.

**Dawn Drake** is a third year Ph.D. student from Pennsylvania. She has a B.S. in Social Science Secondary Education from Indiana University of Pennsylvania. She substitute taught in high schools in Western Pennsylvania before entering the Masters Program at the University of Delaware, where she completed an M.S. in Geography this past May. Her thesis, "Connections between Mastitis and Climate: A Study of Holsteins on Pasture in Northampton County, Pennsylvania," found a relationship between factors of climate, such as soil moisture and relative humidity, and mastitis incidence, which can have long-term impacts on the milk supply in the face of future global climate change. Dawn's current research focuses on location decisions made by the "Big Three" U.S. farm machinery producers (AGCO, CNH North America, and John Deere), using Michael Porter's Theory of Competitive Advantage as a model. Her advisor is Ron Kalafsky. She is currently teaching world regional geography. Dawn serves on the Executive Committee of Gamma Theta Upsilon as the Junior Student Representative, Student Representative on the Board of the Rural Geography Specialty Group, and member of the Board for the Graduate Student Affinity Group and Student Representative to the Steering Committee of the Southeastern Division of the Association of American Geographers.

**Ian Feathers** is a third year M.S. student. His research involves using Dendrochronology to develop a history of wildfire in the Great Smoky Mountains National Park from areas of differing land use history. His work will demonstrate current vegetation composition and structure, and aid in determining future successional patterns of the eastern temperate forests.

**Ryan Foster** is studying streambank erosion in the Little River watershed under the direction of Dr. Carol Harden. His thesis project is supported, in part, by UT Geography's Stewart K. McCroskey Memorial Fund. Graduate school has given Ryan the opportunity to pursue his field-based research interests. In the Great Smoky Mountains National Park, Ryan collected sediment cores with Dr. Sally Horn and others, and also assisted C. Morris' research of stream morphology. Ryan has helped conduct dendrochronological research in multiple locales, including whitebark pine forests with D. Mann and D. Lewis in Montana, under canopy gaps on the Cumberland Plateau with J. Hart, and in and around the Zuni Mountains of New Mexico with M. Rother and others. He has also helped A. Wambersie monitor stream flow and E. coli concentration of Little River tributaries and aided H. Terrell in documenting substrate size and embeddedness in East Tennessee streams. Over the last couple of years, Ryan has also worked for the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service in North Dakota and has collected cloud water samples in the Smokies for an EPA-funded mountain acid deposition project.

**Andrew Gaskins** is a second year M.A. student. He received his B.A. in geography from the University of Tennessee in May 2008. His current research interests are downtown revitalization and sociopolitical networks. He is defending his proposal for his thesis, "The Social Ecology of Downtown Revitalization: The Case of Asheville, North Carolina," during the Fall 2009 semester. During the summer of 2007, Andrew interned at the Memphis and Shelby County Office of Planning and Development, an experience which piqued his interest in urban issues. He is currently a teaching assistant for Geography 101: World Regional Geography. In his free time, Andrew enjoys attending live music events and spending time with his family. He also has a special place in his heart for micro-brewed beers.

**Tim Green** is currently finishing up his M.S. thesis, "Exploring the Relationship between Socioeconomic Drivers and Land-cover Change in Tennessee." He received his B.A. in Geography at the University of Tennessee in the spring of 2006. His research interests include human-environmental interactions, geotechnologies - such as GIS and remote sensing, land-use/cover change, and landscape ecology. After graduation, he plans to either work abroad with the Peace Corps, or as an English teacher in China. When he is not busy with his duties as a teaching assistant for the GIS lab and Geography 101, Tim takes every opportunity to travel. During the summer months he can usually be found carrying a backpack somewhere in East or Southeast Asia, quite possibly lost, but more likely in search of finding something good to eat.

**Grant Harley** is a second year Ph.D. student working in the Laboratory of Tree-Ring Science with Dr. Henri Grissino-Mayer. He earned his B.A. in 2005 in Geography and his M.A. in 2007 from the University of South Florida. Currently, Grant is using techniques of dendrochronology to better understand the vegetation dynamics of endangered pine rockland ecosystems in the Florida Keys. In August, Grant, John Sakulich, Dr. Grissino-Mayer, and Dr. Sally Horn collected 700 lbs. of tree-ring samples on Big Pine Key during a 10-day field expedition. The expedition was funded by a grant awarded to Drs. Horn and Grissino-Mayer by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Preliminary results from these samples provide evidence that South Florida slash pine trees on Big Pine Key produce annual rings, a requisite for Grant's dissertation research. This year, Grant continues to serve as a GK-12 Earth Project Fellow. The project is funded by a National Science Foundation grant awarded to Drs. Sally Horn, Ken Orvis, and Lynn Champion to help bring the excitement of climate and environmental history research to rural middle schools in East Tennessee.

**James Hartsig** is a first year M.S. student. Originally from Old Hickory, TN, he received a B.S. in Environmental and Soil Science from the University of Tennessee in 2009. During this time, he has worked for an environmental consulting company as well as various projects in the Biosystems Engineering and Soil Science Department. Under the guidance of Dr. Carol Harden, he plans to combine his interests in soil and geomorphology by describing the hydrophysical properties of the soil in the Ecuadorian Andes. James is currently a research assistant working with Dr. Carol Harden and Dr. Jaehoon Lee, a soil physicist, on a project in Ecuador.

**Peggy Jackson** is a first year M.S. student. She earned her B.A. in Geography from the University of Tennessee in 1976. With guidance from her advisor, Dr. Micheline Van Riemsdijk, she will be researching power and gender issues in the sport of foxhunting in the United States. As a founding member of the Tennessee Valley Hunt, she is fascinated by the changing role of women in the sport. Peggy spends her free time with her horses - a 33 year old American Quarter Horse, retired from hunting, and a seven year old Thoroughbred that she is currently training.

**Austin Judkins** is a first year M.S. student. He graduated in 2007 from the State University of New York at Geneseo and went on to work for a satellite imagery business in Buenos Aires, Argentina. After a few years in Argentina, he enrolled at UT to pursue his interests in immigration/migration and refugee studies with Dr. Micheline van

Riemsdijk. Currently, Austin is organizing his thesis project, which will examine the relationship between faith-based organizations and the Cuban exiles in Miami.

**Desiree Ketteringham** is a first year M.S. student. She received a B.A. in Anthropology and in Geography at the University of Tennessee in the summer of 2003. Her thesis project will be conducted under the direction of Dr. Sally Horn and will involve participating in fieldwork in the lower Florida Keys in 2010. The goal of this work, which is funded by Florida's Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, is to develop a fire event chronology for the region by conducting charcoal analysis on sediment cores taken from lakes. Desiree has been employed as a full-time GIS Technician/Archaeologist II at UT's Archaeological Research Laboratory since the fall of 2004. Outside of school and work, she enjoys collecting dusty old books, riding her Royal Enfield motorcycle and eating fresh veggies from her garden.

**Karl Russell Kirby (Rusty)** is a second year M.S. student. He completed his undergraduate work in History at Maryville College in 1999. His areas of interest are in economic and urban geography & development, and GIS. Currently, Rusty is working on his thesis, which is tentatively titled, "Human Capital and Entrepreneurial Development in Transitional Vietnam: A Case Study from the Tourism Industry." Originally from Knoxville, TN, he is interested in seeing how the city will grow and change over the years and how geography shapes this process.

**Matthew Kookogey** is a second year M.S. student working under the direction of Dr. Liem Tran. He graduated with a B.A. in Biology from Georgia Southern University in 2006. His current research involves fine-scale modeling of salamander habitat in the Great Smoky Mountains. Matthew's other efforts include working for Will Fontanez as the Cartography TA (which is awesome!), and maintaining weekly relevance as the much revered "Happy Hour Czar."

**Lisa LaForest** is a Ph.D. candidate working under the guidance of Dr. Henri Grissino-Mayer in the Laboratory of Tree-Ring Science. She is writing her dissertation "Fire Regimes of Lower-elevation Yellow Pine (Pinus) and Pine-Oak (Quercus) Stands in the Great Smoky Mountains National Park, Tennessee," and plans to graduate in 2010. Lisa presented her research at the Southern Blue Ridge Fire Learning Network Workshop in Dillard, Georgia, and at SEDAAG in Knoxville, Tennessee. She will give another talk at the AAG annual meeting in Washington, D.C. this spring. Lisa is currently seeking post-graduation employment in the Knoxville/Oak Ridge area.

**Yanan Li** is a second year M.S. student. She received her B.S. degree in Beijing Normal University in 2008, majoring in Geography. She is interested in climate change and dendrochronology. Her advisor is Dr. Henri D. Grissino-Mayer. Currently, she works in the Laboratory of Tree Ring Science, where she is developing her thesis project, "The Impact of Oceanic-Atmospheric Oscillation Change in the Southeastern United States Abstracted from Tree-Ring Network Data." She has served as graduate teaching assistant for Geography 101, 102 World Regional Geography I & II, and Geography 320 Cultural Geography.

**Ingrid Luffman** is a third-year Ph.D. student. She received her B.S. in Math-Science and her M.S. in Earth-Sciences from the University of Ottawa in Canada and had spent 10 years in the workforce prior to beginning her doctoral studies. Her research interests lie in the areas of physical geography and hydrology, while the current focus is on land use and its effect on water quality. Specifically, she identifies livestock, wildlife and domestic animal population and distribution in a target watershed with the goal of using this information to project pathogen concentrations in the target stream and to identify sites where Best Management Practices (BPMs) can be most effectively implemented to improve water quality. Ingrid has received grants from Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation (TDEC), Tennessee Department of Agriculture (TDA) and the Tennessee

Valley Authority (TVA) to complete land use assessments for nine streams in the Boone Watershed in north east TN. She currently serves as Secretary for the Boone Watershed Partnership and is a lecturer in geography at East Tennessee State University.

**Mike Meyers** is completing his Ph.D. in topics combining environment, human health, and GIS. He is currently employed by the University of Tennessee Institute for Public Service as a GIS consultant. Mike has three sons and lives in Maryville, TN.

**Jamie Phillips** is a M.S. Student working under the direction of Dr. Carol Harden in the Little River Watershed. His research focuses on the application of the classification by former student Martin Lafrenz on the headwater catchments in the watershed. Jamie has been employed by the City of Austin as a Programmer Analyst Senior in the Geospatial Technology and Development Group. He has worked on many projects in the last few years and is a team lead for his group. Recently, he has been appointed to the city's think tank, the Center of Excellence.

**Amy Rose** is a first year Ph.D. student. She received her M.S. in Geography and a graduate minor in Logistics and Transportation from The University of Tennessee in 2002. Her research interests have involved spatial analysis and modeling, with a special interest in population, especially migration. Since receiving her M.S., Amy has worked in both private and public sector organizations, implementing GIS technology in environmental, logistics, and transportation planning projects. In 2007, Amy joined the Geographic Information Science and Technology Group at Oak Ridge National Laboratory as a full-time research staff member. She is currently a co-developer of ORNL's LandScan Global population distribution database, and LandScan USA, a very high-resolution population database for the U.S. that includes diurnal and demographic variations.

**Monica Rother** is a second year M.S. student and a member of the University of Tennessee's Laboratory of Tree-Ring Science. She received her B.A. in Environmental Science and in Spanish from Willamette University in Salem, Oregon, where she developed her interests in biogeography and dendrochronology through her coursework with Dr. Karen Arabas. After graduation, she joined Teach for America. She spent two years as a 6th grade math and science teacher at Westlake Middle School in Oakland, California. Her thesis research examines how climate serves to drive wildfire activity in the Zuni Mountains of northwestern New Mexico, adjacent to El Malpais National Monument. In July of 2009, Monica and her advisor Dr. Henri Grissino-Mayer conducted fieldwork with a team of five graduate students (Mark Spond, Ryan Foster, Nancy Li, Hunter Terrell, and Ian Feathers), three undergraduate students (Kevin Russell, Niki Garland, and Sarah Jones) and one K-12 teacher (Ann McGhee). Her research is funded by the National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship Program, and by a grant from the National Park Service Fire and Aviation Program.

**Linda Rust** is a second year M.S. student studying under the direction of Dr. Micheline van Riemsdijk. Prior to her work at UT, she studied architecture at the New York Institute of Technology and urban planning at the Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology in Melbourne, Australia. She later graduated with a Bachelor of Architecture from the University of Tennessee. Linda works with several community organizations in Knoxville and is a community development program manager for Knox County government. Linda's research interests include urban planning, community development, and the geography of homelessness. Her thesis research involves developing a model for locating permanent supportive housing for the chronically homeless.

**Austin Rutledge** is a second year M.S. student. He received his B.S. in History from the University of Tennessee in 2006 and his M.S. in Education from the University of Tennessee in 2007. His current focus is on urban and economic geography. He is particularly interested in the use of spatial statistics and GIS technologies in addressing issues of human geography. During the

2008-09 school year, Austin took time off from his graduate studies to teach the freshman geography courses at Austin-East High School in Knoxville, Tennessee. Austin also participates on the Knoxville Ski Club Race Team during the winter months and spends what little free time he has left kayaking the rivers of east Tennessee.

**John Sakulich** is a Ph.D. student working in the Laboratory of Tree-Ring Science with Dr. Henri Grissino-Mayer. He received his B.S. and M.S. degrees in geography from the Pennsylvania State University. He also spent two years working as a laboratory research assistant in the tree-ring laboratory of the Lamont-Doherty Earth Observatory at Columbia University. As a biogeographer, John's major research interests include understanding the influence of climate and disturbance on the structure and composition of vegetation communities, and identifying the controls on the geographic range limits of species. His dissertation research applies dendrochronology to understanding how the distributions of tree species respond to climate change and other disturbances. He is using networks of tree-ring data to examine the processes of tree establishment, growth, and mortality in forests throughout the central and southern Appalachian Mountains. The goal of John's research is to inform conservation efforts aimed at preserving biological diversity, as well as mitigating the effects of rapid climate change on ecosystems. This year he was awarded a Doctoral Dissertation Research Improvement Grant from the National Science Foundation, as well as a Dissertation Research Award from the Association of American Geographers. He also served as the graduate student representative to faculty meetings, and was the recipient of the Geography Department's Robert G. Long Outstanding Graduate Student Award for 2008.

**Nicole Samu** is a first year M.S. student. She was introduced to geography through an introductory course with Dr. Peggy Gripshover during her final semester as an undergraduate psychology major at the University of Tennessee. She received a B.A. in Psychology in 2005 and later returned to the university and received a B.A. in Geography in May 2008. Since then, she has spent a year working on population related research projects at Oak Ridge National Laboratory (ORNL). The majority of her work at ORNL involved validation and verification of the Landscan USA High-Resolution Population Distribution Data Model and research on incorporating dynamic population (business and leisure travelers) into the model. She presented her research on dynamic population modeling at the Association of American Geographers Annual Meeting in March 2009. Nicole is excited to be back in the Department of Geography at the University of Tennessee and enjoys being a graduate teaching assistant for the department's Physical Geography 131 course. Since returning to the university, she has been awarded a University of Tennessee Athletic Fellowship Award. Nicole's primary research interests include environmental modeling and studying water related issues and human-environmental interactions.

**Alice Schoen** is a first year M.S. student working under the direction of Dr. Sally Horn. She is originally from the small town of Wahsougal, Washington, but received her B.A. in Geology from Lawrence University in Wisconsin during the spring of 2008. Her current research focus is on climate and its impacts on humans and the environment. Last year, she took a year off of school to work as a teaching assistant and lab technician in the Geology Department at Lawrence University. Currently, she is a fellow in the GK-12 program, funded by the National Science Foundation, where she teaches science at middle schools in Knox and some of the surrounding counties.

**Ben Shultz** is a Ph.D. student in Geography at the University of Tennessee. He has an undergraduate degree in Geography from the University of Kentucky and a Master's degree in Geography from Indiana University. His research interests are in economic geography, especially as it relates to innovation and information. Currently, he is working on developing a dissertation that will examine distributed networks of innovation in the Web 2.0 era. He has also studied Latino immigration in the rural Southeast United States, and still has a strong interest in immigration. Outside of school, Ben is

actively involved in playing old-time music and also enjoys basketball and soccer.

**Mark Spond** is a Ph.D. student in the Department of Geography. Mark earned a B.A. at the University of Arkansas at Little Rock (2003) and an M.A. at the University of Arkansas (2007). As an undergraduate, Mark served as a student associate at Little Rock Central High School National Historic Site, a Student Conservation Association Resource Interpretation Intern at Arches National Park, Utah, and as an employee at Philmont Scout Ranch in Cimarron, New Mexico. While earning a Master's degree, Mark studied under Dr. David Stahle and Dr. Malcolm Cleaveland, and was an employee of the University of Arkansas Tree-Ring Lab. Mark's thesis addressed the age structure and spatial distribution of select old-growth cypress- tupelo forest parcels at the Dagmar Wildlife Management Area, Arkansas. Currently, Mark is teaching Geography 131: Geography of the Natural Environment, and is continuing his studies in dendrochronology with Dr. Henri Grissino-Mayer. Mark was recently awarded a National Science Foundation Doctoral Dissertation Research Improvement Grant ($11,700) to fund his work on the old-growth forests of El Malpais National Monument, New Mexico.

**Robert Stewart** is a senior research associate at The Institute for Environmental Modeling at the University of Tennessee. He has a B.S. with a double major in Statistics and Mathematics, an M.S. in mathematics with an emphasis in numerical analysis, and is now pursuing a Ph.D. in Geographic Information Systems. He has been primarily involved in developing environmental software and information management systems for university projects and for Oak Ridge National Laboratory. His primary interests are in geospatial modeling, uncertainty analysis, and risk assessment. Of particular interest is how these tools impact decision making within a spatial context. Much of his work in this area has resulted in the development of the SADA software package, a project he has managed since 1995. In addition to SADA, he has been involved in developing a number of other software applications for various agencies including DOE, NRC, EPA, and the Department of Agriculture.

**Josh Steufert** is currently in his last semester as an M.S. student under the advisory of Dr. Liem Tran. His thesis is titled, "Developing a Web-based Thematic Mapping Application Utilizing Keyhole Markup Language." Josh's current research involves web-based mapping and data modeling for the EPA. His overall interests are in GIS and the web, with a focus on emerging applications, like Adobe Flex, and Open Source software, like OpenLayers and GeoServer. After graduation, Josh's goal is to get a 9 to 5 job and work for the next 35 years in some field of geography.

**Zack Taylor (**M.S. University of Tennessee, B.S. University of Denver) is in the final year of his Ph.D. studies. He uses a variety of techniques to analyze lake sediment cores for evidence of climate and environmental change, including studying pollen, charcoal, and stable carbon isotope ratios. For his dissertation, Zack is building on earlier work done at UT using stable carbon isotope ratios of organic matter in Costa Rican lake sediments to estimate the extent of prehistoric agriculture. The National Science Foundation recently awarded Zack $11,388 to support his research in the form of an NSF Doctoral Dissertation grant. He also received a grant of $2,130 from the Geological Society of America. While at the University of Tennessee, Zack has been a research assistant, NSF GK-12 Fellow, teaching associate, and is currently a teaching assistant. Zack is an author on a paper published in the Journal of Latin American Antiquity, has a manuscript in review at Palaeogeography, Palaeoclimatology, Palaeoecology and is preparing several other manuscripts as he concludes his dissertation. He is currently serving as graduate student representative to the Paleoenvironmental Change specialty group of the AAG.

**Hunter Terrell** is a second year M.S. student. He received his B.A. in Environmental Studies with a minor in Wildlife and Fisheries Science from the University of Tennessee in the fall of 2004. Before beginning the Master's program, Hunter

contracted with the TVA's Natural Heritage program performing environmental reviews. His academic interests are in water resources, effects of human disturbance on aquatic systems, habitat modeling, and GIS. He is currently working on his thesis, "Improving Adaptive Sediment TMDL Implementation: Exploring relationships between substrate characteristics and benthic habitat status in the Ridge and Valley and Blue Ridge ecoregions, Tennessee." Hunter has been fortunate to help Dr. Carol Harden and Ryan Foster with bank erosion studies in the Little River watershed.

**John Thomason** is a first year M.S. student studying under Dr. Ron Foresta. He received his B.A. in Geography from the University of Tennessee in the fall of 2008. His current focus is the urban landscape in South America, particularly in Quito, Ecuador. His main interest is in researching the growth of legal, middle-class settlements on Quito's periphery. John is a former Marine and veteran of the Iraq War.

**Chris Underwood** is a Ph.D. student working with Dr. Sally Horn to study long-term fire history in The Great Smoky Mountains National Park. His dissertation research, supported in part by the University of Tennessee GK–12 Earth Project funded by NSF, the Joint Fire Science Program and the Great Smoky Mountains Conservation Association Carlos C. Campbell Memorial Fellowship, focuses on the use of soil charcoal to reconstruct forest-fire histories. During Spring 2009, Chris was awarded a Doctoral Dissertation Research Improvement grant ($10,550) by the NSF. After two years of work with the NSF-funded GK–12 Earth Project and a year of teaching Geography 131 and 132: Geography of the Natural Environment, Chris has moved on to the College of Arts and Sciences Office of Academic Services where he serves as an Academic Advisor.

**Matthew Valente** is a third year Ph.D. student. He received his B.S. in Botany, with a concentration Ecology and Evolution, from Auburn University in 2004. He completed his M.S. in Ecology and Evolutionary Biology at the University of Tennessee in 2007. Matthew's Ph.D. research involves investigating the fire history and paleoecology of the Cuatrocienegas, Mexico. He is currently spending most of his time in the lab analyzing pollen, charcoal, and snail shells in sediment cores that he collected in 2008. Matthew is currently supported as a research assistant and served as an NSF GK-12 Earth Project Fellow between 2007-2009, bringing the excitement of research to the 8th grade science students at Seymour and Halls Middle Schools. He is also involved in outreach with the Upward Bound Mentor program, the Great Smoky Mountains National Park Wildflower Pilgrimage, and as President of Darwin Day Tennessee.

**Brian Watson** is a M.S. student working with Dr. Sally Horn in the Laboratory of Paleoenvironmental Research. His thesis will focus on using pollen and charcoal found in high elevation lake sediments from Costa Rica to reconstruct past environments and to look for evidence of the 8200 year BP climatic event. His current research interests include global change, biogeography and human interactions with the physical environment. He received his B.A. in Environmental Studies, an interdisciplinary program, at the University of Tennessee. As an undergrad, he worked in the Laboratory of Tree Ring Science on a project for the Siskiyou National Forest in Oregon and, in the summer of 2006, assisted Saskia L. van de Gevel with her research in Northwest Montana. Brian was co-founder of the Geography graduate student organization, Graduate Association of Researchers in Geography (GARG), with the purpose to promote a greater interest in Geography in the student body and general public, and to promote solidarity among the Geography graduate students.

**Yitu Xu (Frank)** is a second year M.S. student. He received a B. E. in GIS from China University of Geosciences and a B.E. in Economics from Wuhan University in 2008. Currently, he works in Dr. Shaw's temporal Geography group. His work focuses on developing a tool using space-time GIS to measure and facilitate face-to-face interaction between people. Another recent focus of his work is interactive census data mapping using Google Map API with Dr. Ralston. He's also interested in exploring how information explodes over the internet,

and how that information creates spread patterns on commercial sites. It is a topic that he, along with Ben Scultz, will be exploring during the coming year.

**Ling Yin** is a fourth year Ph.D. student. She received her M.S. in GIS in 2006 and B.S. in Geography in 2003 from Nanjing University in China. Her research interests include transportation, time geography, GIS, and environmental modeling. During her time at Nanjing University in China, she participated in several research projects concerning land use planning and GIS. In her first year as a Ph.D. student, she worked as a research assistant for an NSF project, using grid computing for ecological modeling and spatial control. Specifically, she developed a GIS-based fire break optimization model with fire spread simulations in the ArcGIS environment. In her second year, she joined the NSF project, "Towards a GIS-based Analytical Time-geographic Framework with Physical and Virtual Activities." As a research assistant, she developed GIS analysis tools to explore the potential impacts of information and communication technologies (such as internet and cell phone) on individual daily activities, which has become her dissertation topic. Since her third year at UT, she has been developing WebGIS to offer geocoding and mapping functions for the national missing and unidentified persons system. Armed with the results of her work, she has given three presentations at AAG, submitted one journal paper and now is preparing a DDRI proposal.

**Ziliang (Ray) Zhao** is a first year M.S. student. He serves as a Teaching Assistant in Geography 101. He earned his Bachelor's from Jimei University in China in June, 2009. Ray studies under Dr. Shih-Lung Shaw and is focusing on GIS and transportation. During the last year of his undergraduate study, he undertook a project, "GIS Process & Analysis System for Doppler Radar Data," for The Weather Bureau of Xiamen City, using GIS in conjunction with Doppler radar. This project won fifth place in the 2008 ESRI (China) College Student Development Competition Final.

**Chunhao Zhu** is a first year PhD student. He received a B.S. in GIS and a B.E. in International Economy and Trade from Wuhan University in China in 2007. In 2009, he earned an M.A. in Cartography and GIS from Wuhan University in China and completed his thesis, "Fuzzy Classification and Uncertainty Research on Remote Sensing." His current research interests focus on GIS and environment modeling. In his first year of studies, he will be participating in a project under Dr. Liem Tran's instruction - "Hydrologic and land-use modeling analyses for the U.S. EPA's Future Landscapes and Ecosystem Services in the Midwestern United States."

# Alumni Updates

*We heard from a number of our alumni after the request sent out in the 2008/09 edition of the newsletter. Thank you for letting us know how you are doing. If you would like to provide an update for the '09/'10 newsletter, just email it to Kurt Butefish at kbutefis@utk.edu or complete the form on the back page and mail it to the department.*

**Louis Fatale**, M.S. 1986
7942 Gambrill Court
Springfield, VA 22153
Email: louis.a.fatale@usace.army.mil

I am still employed as a Physical Scientist with the U.S. Army in Alexandria, VA (26 years now and four more to retirement). Four years ago, I switched from Topographic studies to Army acquisition. I'm not traveling as much but the job is more challenging. I am the project manager for a new engineering reconnaissance capability that will soon be provided to our soldiers in the field. I successfully guided the system through a painstaking two-year "Milestone C" approval process, which is the highest and most difficult approval granted by the Army. I received several commendations for this arduous achievement which somewhat made up for the inherent stress. Once it is fielded, I will coordinate the support and

maintenance of the system (15+ years but of course, I'll be retired by then!!).

Speaking of retirement, four years ago my wife & I bought a 13-acre "estate" in the western foothills of the Shenandoah Valley of Virginia. It started out as a future investment but has ended up to be our home away from home. Wedged between North Mountain (WV border) to the west, rolling valleys to the east and complete with a beautiful brick ranch home, tenant house, barns, & pastures, it is truly a PARADISE location.

My wife is a veterinarian and we both love animals, so since we have had the country house, our numbers of animals/pets has "exploded" We now have seven miniature horses, two goats, five cats and seven dogs!!! When kids visit, the place is like a petting zoo (the miniature foals are just too adorable for words!!) We love visitors, so please stop by anytime.

With work, commuting, and caring for our 21 "kids", we don't get to travel much anymore but we did take a three-week tour of New Zealand & Tasmania in 2006 for our 20th wedding anniversary. The volcanic nature of the North Island & the glaciers of the South island were incredible. As a geographer, I thought Tasmania was spectacular - truly unique and isolated - but my wife was less than impressed ("boring").

I've also managed to keep in touch with my family in southern Italy in 2003, 2005 and 2008. After getting the royal treatment from the Fatale famiglia (i.e., eating 24/7) for a week, I typically meet up with an old friend (another geographer) and we tour the rest of rural southern Italy. The last two trips were to truly "remote" locations including the high Dolomite and Aspromonte mountain ranges of Basilicata and Calabria. Highlights included standing on an 8000+ ft peak (after a two hour 4x4 ride & four hour hike), visiting one of the highest waterfalls in Italy (~200 feet), and touring the Grand Canyon of Italy (2500' deep, 1 mile wide @ top & three feet wide at places in the bottom!!). The most amazing and haunting visit was exploring intact but abandoned villages in the eerie moonscape of the Aspromonte (cooling off place for many Mafia kidnap victims!!). With rutted roads and rickety bridges that were one good rain from disappearing, this trek was one I'll never forget. Needless to say, we were relieved when we saw that the last bridge back to civilization was still INTACT!!! Whew!!!

I was able to visit the new Geography building & talk to some of the staff in 2004. I also went to see my mentor, Ted Schmudde, at his house in S. Knoxville. I owe Ted much of the credit for the success of my career and many of my accomplishments today. I was so happy to see his picture in the last newsletter & hope to visit everyone in Knoxville again very soon!!

**Nora Evans**, M.S. 1980
10300 Jollyville Rd.
Apt. 1411
Austin, TX 78759
Nora-evans@sbcglobal.net

I am working for the Austin Police Department as a Police Planner. In addition to being responsible for crime statistics and open records requests, I handle the department's bi-weekly CompStat meetings. The data and GIS mapping is an integral part of our crime fighting operation. I use ArcGIS daily and since all city departments also use ArcGIS we have access to citywide data on everything from permits, code violations, housing and other cultural coverages.

I am currently divorced and have a 21 year old son. It is still difficult to hear talk of UT here because in Austin UT is the University of Texas…not the University of Tennessee.

**Colonel (Retired) Harry D. Scott Jr**.
M.S. 1984
38 Friendship Lane
Gettysburg, PA 17325

I retired as a Colonel on 1 Feb with 31 years in the United States Army. I was able to apply my geography skills in all my assignments in the Army especially as an Associate Professor in the Geography Department at the United States Military Academy where I taught Terrain Analysis, Meteorology, and Regional Geography of the United States. I was awarded the 3rd highest award in the military, the Distinguished Service Medal which is 2 awards behind the Medal of

Honor.

I am now living in Gettysburg, PA and continue to serve the Federal Government as the Chief of the Operations Division at Raven Rock Mountain Complex.

I still have many fond memories of my time in the Geography Department at UT.

**Charles F. Lane**
B.A. 1944, M.S. 1945 (Geology)
150 Farmville Lake Rd.
Farmville, VA 23901

Dr. Lane received his Ph.D. in 1951 in Physical Geography from Northwestern University. He taught three years at the University of Georgia. He is Professor Emeritus at Longwood University in Farmville, VA having retired in 1985 after 35 years there.

**Jennifer A. Caldwell**
516 10th St.
Sacramento, CA 95814

Jennifer Caldwell and her husband Donald enjoy living in downtown Sacramento, CA. Jennifer says, "I WALK to work!"

She wrote to Lydia Pulsipher, saying she is active in the movement to change energy use in the U.S. She also relayed greetings to Dr. Harden, Dr. Bell and Dr. Horn - "I still refer to my old textbooks and recall many of your fine lectures."

**Tom Maertens, Jr**.
M.S. 1980, Ph.D. 1990
101 Catawbah Road
Clemson, SC 29631-2826
maertenst@gmail.com

[Tom wrote]: Just retired (for a second time) from the College of Charleston. I had retired in 1992 from the US Army and the Military Academy where I had been an Associate Professor in Geography. I'm now looking for a third career and may work in the field of emergency services as I have been a volunteer firefighter/EMT for 30 years and still serve as an officer with the Clemson University Fire Department. Karen is fine and our daughter, McKenna, is in grad school at Ohio University in Athens.

## These Alums were seen at the 2009 AAG Meeting in Las Vegas

*Dr. Ola Johansson (University of Pittsburgh and Johnstown) and Dr. Jennifer Rogalsky (SUNY-Genesco).*

*Geography alums Dr. Evan Larson (University of Wisconsin-Platteville) and Dr. Charles Lafon (Texas A&M).*

# Please Keep Us Up To Date

Please share your news with us, and other alumni, *especially if you have a new address.* Return this form to Kurt Butefish, 304 Burchfiel Geography Building, Knoxville, TN 37996-0925, or email to kbutefis@utk.edu. We'll include your update in the next newsletter.

**Name:** _____

**Degree(s) if any; and Year(s):** _____

**Address:** _____

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**Email:** _____

**NEWS… (employment, career activities, family, achievements, awards, publications, travel, other... please attach additional sheets as necessary):**

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