Newsletter for the Employees of the Ames Laboratory • Volume 1 Number 1 • January 1990

AMES LAB INSIDER

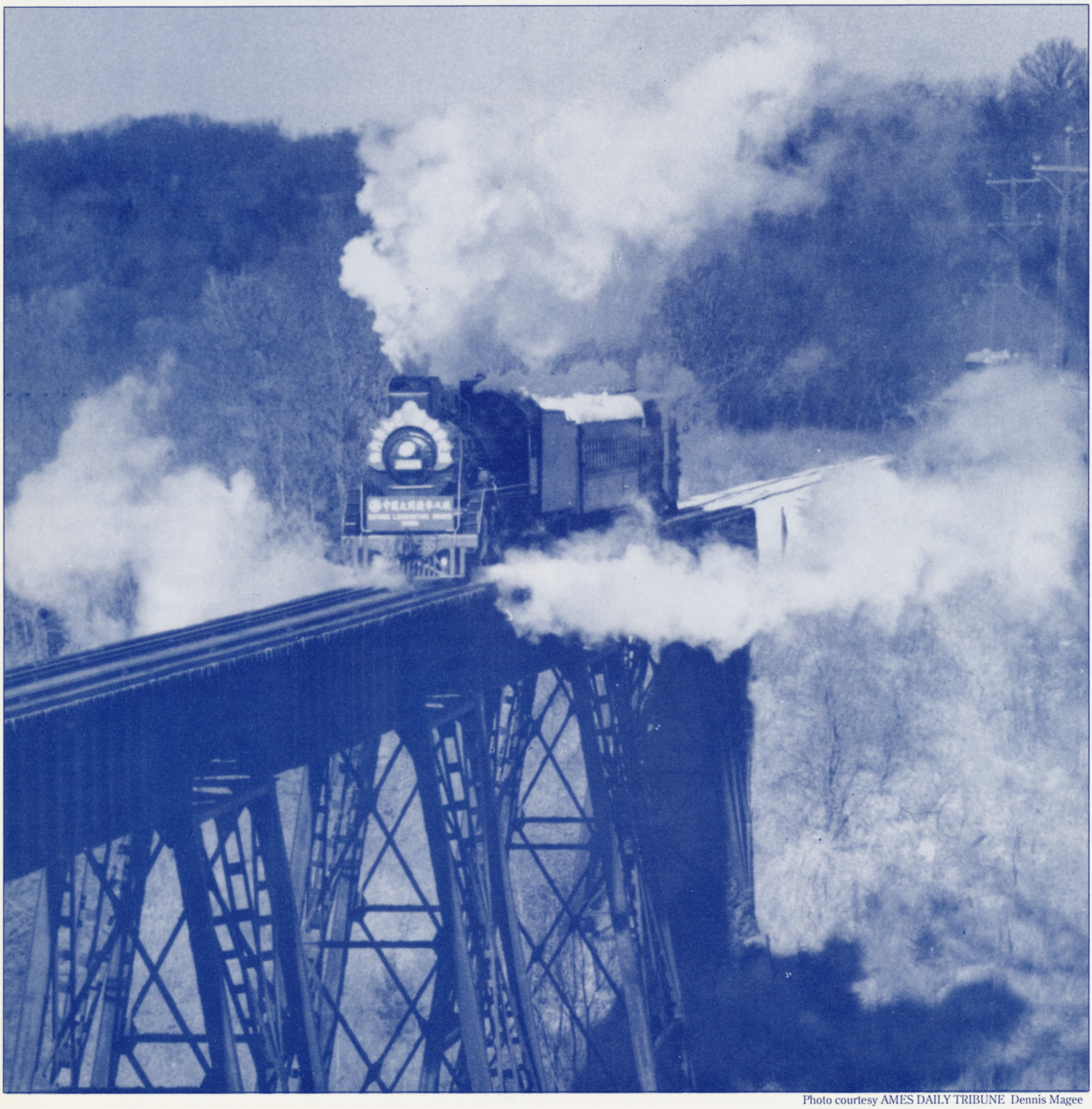

Photo courtesy AMES DAILY TRIBUNE Dennis Magee

Ames Lab's Ping Liu Coordinates Pufferbilly Translation

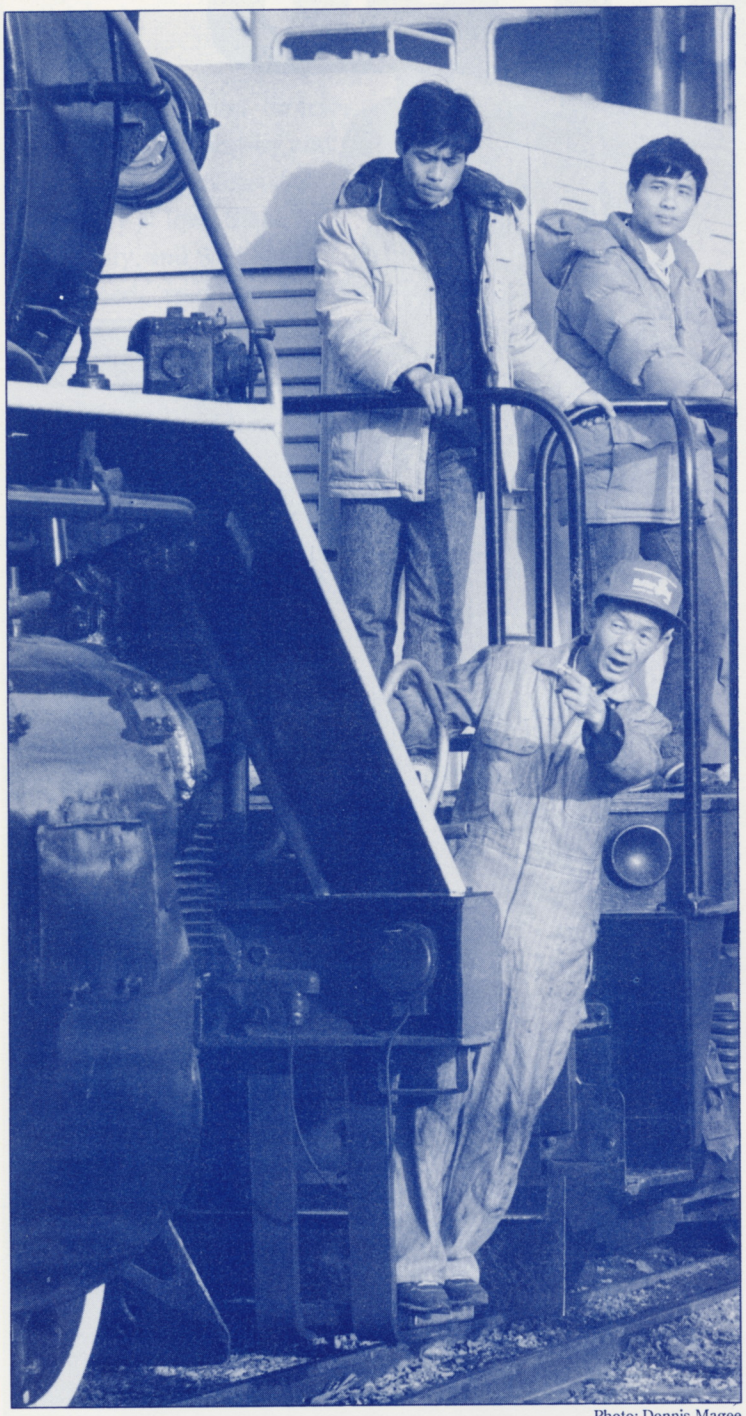

Photo: Dennis Magee

Ping Liu, graduate assistant in Metallurgy and Ceramics, top-right, coordinated a group of Mainland Chinese students who served as interpreters to the Chinese engineers installing the new steam engine for the Boone Scenic Valley Railroad.

The December, 1989 arrival of the Chinese built steam locomotive was an exciting event for Boone and central Iowa. Four out of the five Chinese engineers who came to install the engine did not speak a word of English.

Ames Lab graduate assistant Ping Liu coordinated a group of Mainland Chinese students who served as interpreters for the project.

"All the Chinese students were excited about helping," says Liu, who notes that the Taiwanese translator contingent was coordinated by someone else. "We tried to have everyone who wanted to help take a turn for at least half a day." Liu put in four full days, and enjoyed his ultimate reward–the initial ride on the locomotive to the Des Moines YMCA camp.

"I felt like in my homeland," Liu smiles. "We were going very slowly, less than 25 Kilometers an hour. That's so tourists can enjoy the beautiful scenery, they said, and it's true."

The entire effort was successful. The Chinese engineers were able to repair the damage sustained by the $300,000 locomotive when it was dropped in Los Angeles, and the trial run worked perfectly. Liu, who comes from southeastern China, has ridden on many trains, but never before on the locomotive itself. He says diesel locomotives are now being installed on main routes in China, some of them imported from General Electric.

Liu is a mechanical engineer working with John Verhoeven on the friction and wear of copper composites. ❑

Service Recognition Awards

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A. DOE Certificates of Appreciation: O. Norman Carlson, John Smith, and David Peterson.

B. Superior Service Awards: Rebecca Shivvers and Harlan Baker.

C. Materials Sciences Awards: William Spitzig (1987), Frederick Schmidt (1987, 1988), David Peterson (1988), John Verhoeven (1981, 1987, 1988), Jerome Ostenson (1988), Edwin Gibson (1987, 1988). Not pictured: John Clem (1988), John Corbett (1987), Douglas Finnemore (1981, 1988), Hugo Franzen (1988), and O. Dale McMasters (1988).

D. 40-Years: John Smith and Robert Hansen.

At a festive luncheon held in the Sun Room of the Memorial Union, on December 14, 1989, Ames Laboratory employees received awards for 10 to 40 years' service to the Ames Laboratory. Director Tom Barton expressed his thanks to the "old-timers," with special mention of those who "don't quit" despite being officially retired. Barton also presented three DOE Certificates of Appreciation, and the prestigious DOE Materials Sciences Awards. The Laboratory has won eight of these awards since 1981, a record to be proud of. Award winners received special plaques designed by Graphics Communication Services.

The first two Ames Laboratory Superior Service Awards were presented, with each recipient receiving a $500 savings bond. Harlan Baker was the clear winner, with a sheaf of supporting nominations, all testifying to his being "an Ames Laboratory person in every respect." "He is patient, thorough, exciting. . ." and "willing to put in time and effort to make it perfect." The winner of 14 national awards while serving in the Laboratory's operations services division for 27 years, Baker is considered one of the world's great metallographers. Barton said his achievements set a benchmark of excellence for these awards in the future.

Roberta Shivvers won the second Superior Service Award. Shivvers started as a half-time clerk typist in Bruce Harmon's group six years ago, and "her contributions to the group are legendary." Nominators praised her dedication, her computer expertise, her speed, and her drive for excellence. An hour after receiving this award, Shivvers defended her Master's thesis in Business and Technical Communication. The 150-page thesis analyzes how solid state physicists use English to communicate. ❑

Additional service recognition photos on pages 4 and 5.

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E. 35-Years: Melvin Tschetter, Paul Palmer, Edwin Gibson, Gerald Flesch, and Bernard Beaudry. Not pictured: Harvey Burkholder, Billie Carlson, Bernard Gerstein, and Daniel Williams.

F. 30-Years: Royce Winge, Arthur Klein, William Haas, David Torgeson, Robert Hofer, and John Mason. Not pictured: Robert Conzemius, and David Lynch.

G. 25-Years: Robert Staggs, John Erickson, William Thomas, Patrick Stowell, Eva Kinstle, Willard Wierson, Paul Millis, Hugo Franzen, Jack Moorman, John Verhoeven, and Marlene Frisk. Not pictured: James Espenson, Robert Jacobson, Louis Koeneke, and Harold Skank.

H. 20-Years: James Safly, Arthur D'Silva and Gerald Small. Not pictured: H. Bert Crawley, David Eckels, John McClelland, and John Wheelock.

I. 15-Years: John Hayes, David Rehbein, Patrecia Emley, Carol Mack, Catherine Brendeland, Colin Chriswell, Burton Gleason, Brenda Smith, James Anderegg, and Lynn Runge. Not pictured: Dallas Gummert, Bruce Harmon, Robert Houk, Sammy Washington, and Jerel Zarestky.

J. 10-Years: Shirley Standley, Kathryn Hendricks, Ellen Price, Elizabeth Weiser, Dianne Borgen, W. Thomas Meyer, Rose Bielefeldt, Frank Margetan, Vera David, Charles Burg, Sylvester Merritt, Steven Gilliland, Michael Dotzler, James Evans and Ila Haugen. Not pictured: Robert Angelici, Kai-Ming Ho, Dennis Johnson, Glenn Norton, Eli Rosenberg, Janet Rueth, and Donald Thompson.

Barton presents awards to:
K. Frederick Schmidt
L. Catherine Brendeland
M. Steven Gilliland
N. Kathryn Hendricks
O. Patrick Stowell

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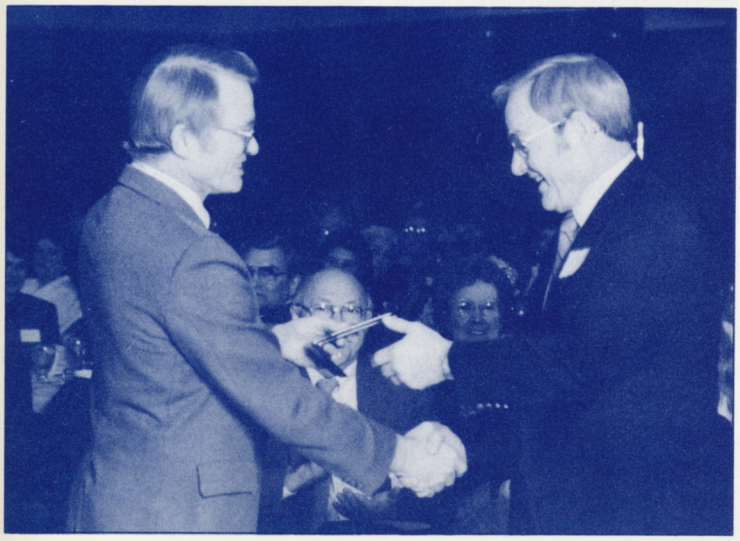

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BULLETIN BOARD

Notices are to be posted on bulletin boards only, NOT ON THE DOORS. Effective immediately, Facilities will remove any notices that are posted on doors. The group responsible for the notices will be charged the cost of removing them as well as the cost of repairing any damage caused by the notices.

Vera R. David, editor of the *Changing Scene,* and Public Affairs Officer for the Ames Laboratory is recovering at home from major surgery. She will be on leave through most of the month of February.

The windows on the north half of Wilhelm Hall are scheduled to be replaced starting this spring. Your cooperation will be appreciated.

Wall charts on Nuclides and Isotopes (14th edition) are available in the Office of Information, 201 Spedding. They are 54 3/4 inches long and 31 3/4 inches high.

The chart and a booklet explaining it, have been supplied by General Electric Nuclear Energy. They are available on a first come, first served basis. Those interested are welcome to pick up the chart and booklet.

A Macintosh disk containing the antivirus program DISINFECTANT 1.2 is available from Frank Carlsen, the CPPM. Any Mac user that desires a copy of this program may borrow the master disk.

All service work, including connections to utilities, MUST be performed by Facilities Services personnel to ensure that they conform to all applicable building codes as well as to our facility requirements. Being a do-it-yourselfer at home is great but it is not permissible at the laboratory.

In order to provide better service to Wilhelm Hall, a new passenger elevator is being installed which will be extended to reach the penthouse and will be handicapped accessible. The installation of this new elevator will require the old elevator to be out of service from mid-April to early September, 1990. Your cooperation will be appreciated.

The Spedding Hall conference room is in the process of being remodeled and should be back in service by the end of February.

Thanks to those of you who responded to the in-house newsletter survey. Forty four names were suggested for the publication. The selected title, *Ames Lab Insider*, was submitted anonymously. A few of the other titles suggested were: Ames Lab News, Ames Lab Inter View, The Lab Monitor, Ames Lab Bulletin, Ames Lab Link, Interchange, Know-AL, ALmanac, Interconnect, Lab Notes, Lab Report.

During February, 1990, connect hours for CIN (Chemical Industry Notes) are free. CIN is an English-language database covering worldwide business news related to the chemical industry, and produced by Chemical Abstracts Service. Anyone who would like to have a literature search done in the CIN file should contact Saren Johnston at 4-3474.

Charges for literature searches on the Chemical Abstracts Online Academic Program have increased. Instead of receiving the 90% discount we have enjoyed in the past, we will receive an 85% discount in 1990 and an 80% discount in 1991. This is still a significant savings and an excellent opportunity to economically access scientific information electronically.

His Hands Are Still Busy

The dexterous hands of Carl Westberg which once made equipment for scientists at Ames Laboratory are still active. The same hands are now busy carving wood clocks and other artifacts.

"We are quite happy with my retirement," Westberg reports from his home in Boone.

Asked how he passes his time, Westberg answered, "Well, I am busy making a fine wood clock for my daughter. I work a lot in my home wood-working shop. I enjoy it.

"We go out to parks to watch the American bald eagle. I love nature and am still very active watching birds and other wildlife," he adds.

Carl Westberg, left, is presented some retirement gifts by his supervisor, Jerry Hand.

Westberg retired last month as a lead engineering research development machinist in the Laboratory development shop in the Metals Development Building. He served the laboratory for 25 years. Jerry Hand, shop manager recalls, "Westberg was a good guy to work with. He was always willing to help students and scientists with their projects. I worked with him for eight years and enjoyed it very much. We really miss Westberg." ❑

Avinash Pancholi

Eager To Learn

Some of you might have seen a small lean fellow with a beard moving about the Ames Laboratory. He says hello to all, and looks around like an eager beaver attempting to learn more and more about what he calls 'this temple of science.'

Avinash Pancholi

He is Avinash Pancholi, a new graduate student from India, working in the Office of Information on the *Ames Lab Insider*. If you find his name a bit long, just call him 'Avi'.

He may call to interview you for the newsletter. Don't be surprised if he asks you many simple questions, all aimed at getting information and putting it into terms for the broad spectrum of employees at the Lab.

Avi brings 15 years' of experience of working in diverse fields like journalism, public relations, teaching, administration, wildlife conservation, and voluntary services. He is a teaching assistant in the Department of Journalism and Mass Communication, where he is studying for his master's degree.

A senior journalist with Press Trust of India, the largest news agency of the Developing World, Avi has interviewed some of the top scientists from India and various parts of the globe.

He holds a master's degree in English literature and admits that he does not understand much of science. However, he hastens to add that he looks upon it as something sacred and worth learning.

A polyglot, Avi knows four languages, enjoys talking to people and learning more and more about science.

"Working at Ames Lab is both light and delight. It adds a great deal to my knowledge of science and helps improve my communication skills. It is a sheer pleasure working with the nice people in the Lab," he says with a smile. ❑

NEW EMPLOYEES

Douglas Bailey,
Research Helper
(Rick Schmidt)

Ellen Balm,
Associate *(John Hill)*

Jane Blair,
Clerk Typist III
(Rose Bielefeldt)

Yungui Ding,
Student Associate
(Kai-Ming Ho)

Barbara Doran-Rogel,
Clerk Typist III
(Terese Cotton)

Judy Grass,
Clerk Typist II
(Jack Cummings)

Junhua Gu,
Student Associate
(Terri King)

Erlene Mooney,
Associate *(John Hill)*

Athansios Petridis,
Student Associate
(Eli Rosenberg)

Xindong Wang,
Student Associate
(Bruce Harmon)

Jian Sheng Zhou,
Postdoctoral Fellow
(Nenad Kostic)

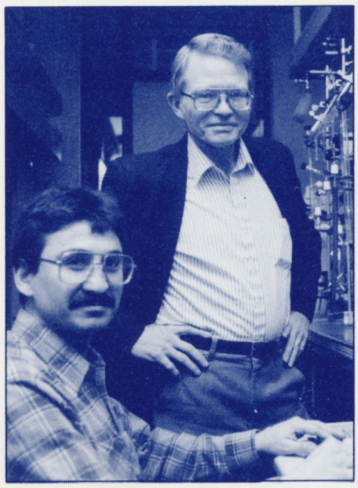
PROMOTIONS

Pamela Anderson
from Custodian I to
Custodian I Lead

Chemists Recognized For Innovative Research

Thomas J. Barton, director of the Ames Laboratory and distinguished professor of chemistry at Iowa State University, and Sina Ijadi-Maghsoodi, associate chemist in the Ames Laboratory, have been named by the U.S. Department of Energy as winners of the 1989 Materials Sciences Research Competition for Outstanding Scientific Accomplishment in Materials Chemistry.

The award was established to encourage innovative and high quality research within the DOE laboratories. Their research on synthesis and study of silicon-acetylene polymers and their conversion to ceramic fibers was judged



Sina Ijadi-Maghsoodi and Thomas Barton

to be of special merit by peers in the materials science community.

In recognition of this achievement, the DOE has awarded Barton's program an additional $50,000 in incremental equipment funding for materials science research. ❑

Thiel To Serve

Pat Thiel, program director of Materials Chemistry, has been elected to serve on the executive committee of the Surface Science division of the American Vacuum Society, the main professional society in her field. She was one of three candidates nominated for the three-year term, and one of two elected by a division vote.

Thiel was also invited to serve on the Advisory Board of Langmuir for the American Chemical Society's (ACS) Journal of Surfaces and Colloids.

She has recently become a member of the Advisory Board of the Petroleum Research Fund of the ACS.

Pat Thiel

The board meets three times a year to make decisions about funding three-year, $60,000 grant proposals. ❑

Insider Is For You!

The *Ames Lab Insider* is designed specifically for employees of the Ames Laboratory. It will feature people and general lab news.

Everyone should read the Bulletin Board located on page 6. This section will include notices and announcements that could affect all employees, or may be directed to specialized groups. The Bulletin Board will replace some memos and will be used to provide employees with various pertinent information. Another section will feature news and briefs from areas such as computer security and purchasing.

We encourage you to submit items to the Bulletin Board. We also welcome photos, written materials, cartoons or humor, and other entries to be considered for publication. Please submit items to the Information Office, 201 Spedding Hall. It may save you time and energy if you contact us for guidance on matters such as length and appropriateness prior to submitting an article.

We would appreciate your comments about the newsletter. ❑

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Volume 1/Number 1/January 1990

Ames Lab Insider is published 12 times a year for the employees of the Ames Laboratory by the Office of Information. Ames Laboratory is operated by Iowa State University for the U.S. Department of Energy under Contract W-7405-Eng-82, and is administered through the Institute for Physical Research and Technology.

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Address correction requested
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