Good Will to All

Spirits High at Holiday Open House

On the afternoon of December 20, employees had the opportunity to tour TASF and get acquainted with the new facility at the Lab's holiday open house. Conversation and laughter reigned as people were served coffee and punch by Acting Director Jim Corones and Division Directors Bruce Thompson, Rollie Struss, John Eckert and Dan Williams. ■

***PUNCH OR PAPERWORK?** Bill Buttermore (right), program director for Fossil Energy, found that a holiday party was as good a place as any to catch up with Bruce Thompson, who was carefully filling cups of punch for thirsty employees.*

***COME ON IN.** Rollie Struss greets the holiday party crowd with a cup of coffee.*

***HERE, TRY SOME OF THIS.** John Eckert hands a cup of punch to Lucille Kilmer, administrative specialist for Environmental Technology Development.*

***SERVICE WITH A SMILE.** Acting Director Jim Corones offers a cup of coffee to Mark Godar, Facilities manager, at the holiday open house.*

***PATIENCE AT THE PUNCH BOWL.** Michael Vaclav, engineer, waits while Dan Williams ladles a cup of holiday punch.*

INSIDER

Volume 6 / Number 1 / January 1995

Ames Lab Insider is published 11 times a year for the employees of the Ames Laboratory by the Office of Public Affairs and Information. Ames Laboratory is operated by Iowa State University (ISU) for the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) under Contract W-7405-Eng-82 and is part of the Institute for Physical Research and Technology (IPRT) consortium of fundamental and applied research centers.

Address comments to:
Editor, ***INSIDER***
111 TASF
Ames, IA 50011-3020
515/294-1856
FAX 515/294-3226

Address correction requested
P-208-9

Editor	Dianne Borgen
Writer	Saren Johnston
Designer	Chris Fullhart
Photographer	Dennis Sailsbury
Intern	Cindy Joanning

PRINTED WITH SOY INK

Printed on Recycled Paper

INSIDER

Newsletter for the Employees of Ames Laboratory ■ Volume 6, Number 1 ■ January 1995

AMES LABORATORY
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF ENER

Ralph Appelgate, supervisor of Mechanical Services (above), attacks a huge drift with some heavy-duty equipment and loads the excess snow into the back of a truck driven by Darren Huntley, facilities mechanic (below).

Let it Snow Let it Snow Let it Snow

An early December snowfall all but buried the entrance to TASF. Depending on your perspective, the towering drifts were either beautiful to behold or quite literally a pain in the back. Those who were shoveling, blowing or plowing through the looming wall of white had little time to compare the frosty world around them to a Currier and Ives landscape.

Howard Klemmer, facilities mechanic (above), and Bennie Lewis, pipefitter (below), realize it takes all kinds of snow-removal equipment to clear the way so employees can reach their offices.

Jim Corones Named Acting Director of Ames Lab

Jim Corones was named acting director of Ames Laboratory effective December 7, 1994. Corones will serve until a new director is named to replace Tom Barton, who announced his resignation in July after serving for six years.

Corones was Ames Lab's deputy director from January 1989 through April 1991. Most recently he has been director for the Lab's Applied Mathematical Sciences Program and the Environmental Technology Development Program, which he established in 1990. He holds a Ph.D. in mathematical physics from Boston University and is an ISU professor of mathematics.

In announcing Corones' appointment, Joel Snow, director of IPRT, remarked, "Dr. Corones' previous experience as deputy director of the Laboratory gives him an understanding of its administrative and management needs. In addition, he has a demonstrated track record in developing new program initiatives that will be valuable in maintaining the strengths of the Laboratory while adjusting to changing DOE priorities."

In accepting the interim appointment, Corones said, "Given the changing climate in the DOE and in national science and technology policy, this is an important time for Ames Lab. I'm enthusiastic about our ability to capitalize on the work we are already doing and to continue to work with DOE to meet national needs." ■

Jim Corones

Employee Information Session

Acting Director Jim Corones discusses his insights about the future of Ames Lab and DOE.

Acting Director Jim Corones held an employee information session December 19 to discuss and answer questions about the future of Ames Lab and the DOE. Corones told employees that Ames Laboratory is highly valued by DOE and ISU for its scientific and technological contributions. ■

Attentive employees listen as Corones fields their questions.

Information Board

Interested in reading about the Lab's latest research and seeing press releases, news clips and fact sheets? Stop in TASF's personnel interaction space, more commonly known as vendoland, and check the Lab's new information board. "The Lab is filled with exciting research of interest to our employees," explains Steve Karsjen, manager of the Office of Public Affairs and Information. "But it is not practical to provide everyone with copies of Inquiry, press releases and fact sheets. The information board will help update employees on laboratory activites." A limited number of *Inquiry* magazines are also available at the board.

You are encouraged to check the board for items that might be of interest to you. If you have any questions, please contact Public Affairs at 4-1856. ■

Employees can find out what's going on at the Lab by visiting the new information board in vendoland.

Family Farmer

The small family farm may be on the verge of extinction, but Jeanine Crosman and her family are putting up a pretty good fight to stop that from happening. Both she and her husband, Dan, work full time at ISU as well as farm Dan's family farm near Ogden.

"My husband's family has been farming the same land for four generations," says Jeanine, clerk typist for Engineering Services. "It's close to being a century-owned farm."

Even though it is a lot of hard work, Jeanine would never want any other lifestyle for herself or her family. Her love for animals and the outdoors would make it impossible for her to live anywhere else. "I was raised on a farm and so was my husband. We could never live in town," she says. "We're country, farm people, and our kids are the same way."

Farming traditionally means early mornings, and there is no exception for Jeanine and her family. Although she usually gets out of doing chores, Jeanine still has to get up early to make sure the others get up, do their chores and eat breakfast. With her sons also participating in sports, Jeanine and her family sometimes have to rise at 5:30 a.m. to get the boys to practice.

A longtime veteran of 4-H and leader of her sons' 4-H club, Jeanine recognizes the benefits that her sons, Eric, 14, and Paul, 11, receive from participating in the organization. "The summers are mainly filled with 4-H activities," says Jeanine. "I help teach the boys how to take care of their animals. Over the years, they have taken many animals to the fair, including cattle, pigs, chickens, turkeys, rabbits and a miniature dachshund named Buster. They have done very well with their livestock. This year they bought market steers to try

Jeanine Crosman

out at the fair, and I'm helping them break the calves to lead. Also, Paul and I have a flock of laying hens, and we collect the eggs to sell to neighbors."

Eric was able to sell 75 market chickens last summer, and the orders are pouring in for more this summer. Eric and Paul manage all the money from the sale of their livestock.

"In caring for their animals, my sons are learning to be responsible and are becoming hard workers," Jeanine explains. "In fact, they're working too hard. We're trying to cut down on the number of things they're doing, but they always want to do more. My sons are responsible and dedicated, and I'm sure they will continue the family farming tradition," she adds. ■

Following His Dreams

Fulfilling dreams is not always possible, but Tim Ellis has been able to realize two of his and is well on his way to achieving a third.

"I've had three dreams in my life," says Tim, associate metallurgist. "Number one was to have the opportunity to leave Upper Michigan if I wanted to. The second was that I wanted to work in science. I've accomplished both of those. The third thing I want to do is to sail around the world. I want to either take my wife, if she'll go, or go solo."

To achieve his first and second dreams, Tim did his undergraduate and master's degree work at Michigan Tech in Houghton, Michigan. He then came to ISU and did his doctoral work with Ames Lab Senior Metallurgist John Verhoeven. After graduation he accepted a job at the Lab.

"I was very, very lucky. When I was a kid, my dad used to drag me off to the lab, and that's how I really got interested in doing science," he says. "My dad was a graduate student and got his Ph.D. at ISU under Harley Wilhelm, one of the Lab's founders. So I'm a second-generation lab rat. I don't really think I have a job. I go and have fun and get paid to do it."

Tim's third dream is a little more complicated. However, he just purchased a sailboat, which brings him one large step closer to achieving it. The gray sailboat is a 27-foot Dana that sleeps four. Tim named it *Los Eyns*, which is Cornish for "grey island."

Growing up in Upper Michigan near Lake Superior gave Tim plenty of opportunities to sail, which he has been doing since he was 8. He has also sailed in Rhode Island and the Caribbean.

"It's kind of hard to remember a time in my life when I didn't sail," says Tim. "Sailing is a lot like the Jimmy Buffett song 'Quietly Making Noise'. That's

Tim Ellis

my life. I quietly make noise. I like sailing because there's always something to do, and it's very intellectual."

Tim doesn't do all his sailing alone. His wife, Paula, and daughters, Jennifer, 18, and Alayna, 13, often join him. "Paula and I got the boat as a place to get away," says Tim. "The quiet and solitude are great. My daughters love to sail, but right now they're teenagers and the mall is more important than Dad," says Tim. ■

BULLETIN BOARD

MARLOK KEYS

For some unknown reason, about one percent of the Marlok keys are failing to function properly. This is usually the result of the key reader not recognizing the original key code. When this happens, Facilities receives an "Unknown Key" message and they have no way of tracking whose key went bad.

If you enter your key into a Marlok on a door for which you are authorized and the red LED does not turn green, try inserting the key the other way — sometimes only one side of the key goes bad. Whether this works or not, please contact Facilities Services as soon as possible and another key will be issued to you.

Note: If the LED turns green but you still can't unlock the door, either you aren't turning the key (required for interior locks only) or the lock is defective. Again, please contact Facilities Services for assistance or to report any problems with the system.

WASTE SHIPMENT BEGINS

The long awaited removal of the waste material from the Chemical Disposal Site has begun. Trucks are transporting the waste to Envirocare, a commercial disposal site in Utah. The waste and debris, such as soil and mulched trees, are packaged in large reinforced polyethylene bags, roll-off containers and 80-gallon ovepack drums. Shipment of the waste material is expected to be completed by the end of January.

TIME CARDS

All Ames Lab time cards and absence requests are to be sent or delivered to the Accounting Office, 224 TASF.

SCIENCE BOWL IN FEBRUARY; VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Ames Lab's annual High School Science Bowl will be held Saturday, February 4 in the Memorial Union. For the fifth year, the Lab will host the fast-paced science competition, which provides a means of recognizing students who excel in science and math. Teams will vie for the chance to go to the National Science Bowl in Washington, D.C.

The Office of Educational Programs needs volunteers to help with the Science Bowl. Interested employees should contact Educational Programs at 4-1478 or stop in 252 TASF to volunteer.

TRAINING SCHEDULE

Call Beth Lott (4-9972) to reserve

NEW EMPLOYEE TRAINING
January 19 and 26
8:15-11:45 a.m.
Held in 305 TASF
January 23 and 30
1:15-4:45 p.m.
Held in 305 TASF

COMMUNITY CPR (AMERICAN RED CROSS)
January 18
8 a.m.-12:30 p.m.
Held in 305 Spedding
January 24
8 a.m.-12:30 p.m.
Held in 305 TASF

HOISTING AND RIGGING
January 17
10-11 a.m.
Instructor: Dave Birlingmair/ Barbara Egbert
Held in 160 Metals Development

HAZARDOUS WASTE MANAGEMENT
January 25
2-3:15 p.m.
Instructor: Kay Lampe-Hannasch
Held in 305 TASF

COMMUNICATION
January 25
9-11 a.m.
Instructor: Charlene Gooch
Held in 305 Spedding

CONFLICT RESOLUTION I
January 31
1:30-3:30 p.m.
Instructor: Charlene Gooch
Held in 305 Spedding

SAFETY COORDINATOR/SAFETY REPRESENTATIVE TRAINING
January 31
9-11 a.m.
Instructor: Barbara Egbert/Diane Meyer
Held in 305 TASF

Allie TO FEATURE TIAA/CREF ACCOUNTS

To learn how you can get the most return on your retirement investment, be sure to attend the next Ames Lab Lunchtime Information Exchange (ALLIE) at noon on Thursday, January 26 in the Spedding Hall auditorium. Ann Molison, ISU retirement advisor, will offer advice and counseling on TIAA/CREF retirement accounts. Bring your most recent TIAA/CREF quarterly report and, of course, your lunch.

Note: Although this ALLIE is scheduled to end at 1:00 p.m., those individuals with questions about their personal accounts should be prepared to stay longer.

Public Information Session

Ames Lab and DOE Commended for Holding Public Forums

"We have essentially accomplished what we set out to do this year," said Cherri Langenfeld, manager of the Chicago Operations Office at the Public Information Session on November 30 in the Ames City Hall. "The source of the contamination at the Chemical Disposal Site (CDS) has been removed."

After a 12-minute video explaining the cleanup, Rich Freeman, DOE project manager for the CDS, discussed the cleanup process and future monitoring plans and answered questions from the public. "The removal went very smoothly," said Freeman. "The soil was incredibly dry in those pits. We had anticipated it might be wet and were prepared to handle it, but that was unnecessary."

Freeman met with the regulators earlier the same day and reported that they agreed the priority now was to get backfill into the pit so it doesn't fill with water and possibly spread residual contamination. (Note: The pit was filled in mid-December.)

Regulators are currently reviewing confirmatory sample results, which have shown that there are a few pockets of contamination remaining. "Over the next few months, a risk assessment will be conducted to determine if the residual contamination poses an unacceptable risk," said Freeman. "If it is determined that unacceptable risks are present due to contaminated soils, we will go back, reopen the excavation and dig deeper or wider, whichever is appropriate."

Freeman and the regulators also discussed the monitoring wells that will be installed next spring. According to Freeman, current plans call for about 16 wells to be installed in various locations and at various depths within the east ravine area. "We also plan to do more vegetative sampling and better characterizing of the east ravine," he said.

At the end of the session, Jim Cossitt, an Ames lawyer, commended Ames Lab and DOE personnel for their efforts and dedication in holding the public information sessions and answering many tough questions. "Solving these types of issues in open forums with public participation is a much preferable method to others available," Cossitt said.

Tom Barton and Cherri Langenfeld joined community residents who packed the Ames City Hall to hear about the cleanup process of the Chemical Disposal Site.

Commenting on the need for government openness, Tom Barton, then director of Ames Lab, said, "I've learned a lot about community involvement. The most important lesson is the most obvious one, namely that working in a truly open fashion with concerned and committed citizenry can actually help you in correcting problems from the past."

"I've also discovered something very important during the last six months," Langenfeld said to the audience. "The government is of the people, by the people and for the people, and the only way it will work is if the citizens of the community participate in the government. That's the approach we took, and in my view it was better because of your input, your involvement and your participation." ■

John Lee Retires

John Lee retired January 4 after serving Ames Laboratory as a plant safety patrol officer for nearly 33 years. "Working at the Lab has been an experience," says Lee. "It's been interesting meeting people from different countries and with different religions. There's a lot of people here I will miss."

Lee lives in Roland, Iowa, 17 miles from Ames. In all his years at the Lab, there were only about six days when weather kept him away from work. "Of course, the weather has kept me here at the Lab several different times," he adds. "If I couldn't get home, usually someone on the next shift couldn't get to work, so I'd stay and work a double shift."

He looks forward to not working weekends and holidays. "I'd like to work part time, maybe in Story City," he says. "I'm tired of driving back and forth to Ames."

Lee also plans on doing some gardening. "I'll probably plant more flowers than vegetables, because you don't need to be around to harvest them," he says. "Looking forward to doing some fishing, he jokingly says, "After about six months, I might even put a hook on the line." ■

John Lee

New Employees

Keith Allen, Environmental Systems Mechanic (Ray Gress)

Paula Ellis, Program Assistant II (Kate Sordelet)

Shellie Hosch, Program Assistant II (Barb Helland)

Phyllis Mann, Plant Safety Patrol Officer (G. P. Jones)

Shrilata Nath, Program Coordinator III (Jim Corones)

Dianna Wallace, System Support Specialist II (Barb Helland)

Snowed

Ways to Cope When You Commute

On December 6, Old Man Winter was more than generous with his icy art, leaving many of us snowbound in a winter wonderland.

Beautiful and bountiful, the woolly snowfall blocked doorways and driveways and, in all of its tremendous, silent whiteness, seemed to smirk and shout out to would-be travelers, "How are you going to handle this one?"

"I stayed home. That's how I handled it," says **Pam Joab**, secretary for the Environment, Safety and Health Group. "I spent an hour and a half snowblowing our driveway and then started helping my neighbors get out." Joab, who commutes from Pleasant Hill, says, "I fear the driving of others who don't know what it means to slow down."

Lanny Lincoln, senior research technician for Metallurgy and Ceramics, relied on his new pickup to take him and his wife the 26 miles to work from their home near Woodward. "It has anti-lock brakes that help control skidding situations," he explains. "I've never gone in a ditch." Lincoln says he thought of the snowy drive to work as an adventure. "Being a farm kid I've been driving vehicles of all kinds since I was very young. However, as you get older, you do appreciate life more," he adds. "If there's ever a time we're caught at work and don't feel like venturing out, we'll stay in town with Rick and Jane Schmidt."

"It really wasn't too bad; the roads were fine," says **John Erickson**, supervisor for Technical Services, who commutes from Ogden. As an afterthought, he adds, "I got up a little early to shovel." Of course, Erickson has an admirable commuting record. In the 31 years he's worked at the Lab, he recalls only one morning when he couldn't get in to work and only one evening when he couldn't get home.

Kathy Petersen, secretary for the Technology Integration Program, commutes to the Lab from Polk City and says her husband was responsible for her safe passage to work on the day of the big snow. "He's a very capable driver. I have to hand it to him, and I don't do that very often," she says jokingly. "I would have been driving white-knuckled, holding the steering wheel. He seems to have more fun than I do in that type of situation."

"I stayed home and shoveled snow for four hours — 90 feet of driveway, 24 steps to the house and 60 feet of walkway from the back of the house to where the cars are parked," recalls Storekeeper **Lewis Oswood**, about the snow removal job at his Marshalltown home. "After the first shovelful, I said, 'Oh, shoot!' or something similar. I was shocked; I didn't expect anywhere near that amount of snow. After all that shoveling, I could hardly move for two days. I came to work, but it was a struggle."

Snowflakes keep falling on their heads. Ames Lab commuters, left to right: Barbara Egbert, Kathy Petersen, John Erickson, Pam Joab, Lewis Oswood and Lanny Lincoln.

"I had several offers from coworkers to stay in town with them, but I had to drive one night in a storm to see if I could do it," says **Barbara Egbert**, training coordinator for the Office of Assurance and Assessment. Egbert took off on the 80-mile journey to her home in Manson after work on December 5, when the snow was just beginning its all-night free fall. "During the last quarter of the trip, the windshield wipers iced over, and I had to get out to clean them off," she says. "It took me three hours to get home, but I never slid off the road or got stuck." Now a true Iowa winter warrior, Egbert proudly notes that on the following morning it only took her two hours to make the same journey back to Ames. ■

Winter Storm Survival Kit for Your Car

- ✓ Blankets and extra clothing
- ✓ Windshield scraper and snow brush
- ✓ Matches, candles and a can to melt snow in
- ✓ Shovel and sand
- ✓ Flashlight or signal light and batteries
- ✓ Tow rope
- ✓ Battery operated AM/FM weather radio with spare batteries
- ✓ First-aid kit
- ✓ Non-perishable food
- ✓ Prescription medicines
- ✓ Cellular phone or CB radio, if possible
- ✓ Fuel line drier, like *Heet*
- ✓ "Send Help" sign

Snow Removal

Even though ISU is responsible for clearing snow from the Lab's parking lots and sidewalks, Facilities personnel usually assist them by clearing what they can before ISU gets to this side of campus. The snow removal crew begins at 7:30 a.m. To facilitate plowing, please do not leave your vehicles overnight in the parking lots.

When the Weather Outside is Frightful

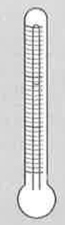
What to do in Severe Weather

With little or no warning, winter weather conditions can change and become hazardous. In bad weather, everyone is potentially at risk. Appropriate precautions are essential.

"Ames Lab's Plant Protection Section monitors a weather radio for winter storm watches or warnings that may affect Lab personnel," says Mark Godar, emergency coordinator. "Watches and warnings are announced over the building paging system. Sometimes Lab management will suggest that personnel, especially those who travel out of town, leave early in order to miss or beat a storm."

When these announcements are made, they are only suggestions. Personnel who choose to leave early must comply with their department's policy on weather-related early dismissal. Contact your supervisor or the Human Resources Office if you have any questions.

If ISU closes because of severe weather, Ames Lab also closes. Announcements are made over local radio stations. According to the University Office Procedures Guide, if the university closes, "Faculty and P&S staff members whose responsibilities are not based upon a specific work schedule will be expected to make appropriate adjustments in their activities in consultation with their organizational unit. Other staff members will be expected to utilize compensatory time, vacation, or leave without pay for all hours involved during their regular work schedule. With the approval of their supervisor, employees may make up lost time within the same work week or may elect to work their regularly scheduled hours even though the university may be closed to the general public or classes have been cancelled." ■



Watches and Warnings

The National Weather Service issues outlooks, watches, warnings and advisories to alert people about weather conditions. ***Outlook***: issued 48 to 72 hours before a significant winter storm *may* take place. ***Watch***: issued when there is the potential for severe winter weather to develop within 12 to 36 hours. Winter storm watches are issued only if there is a possibility of major disruptions in travel and commerce and threats to life and/or property. ***Warning/Advisory***: issued within 12 hours of a winter weather event, when the storm is imminent or already occurring. Warnings are issued when major disruptions in travel and commerce exist and/or lives and property are seriously threatened. ■

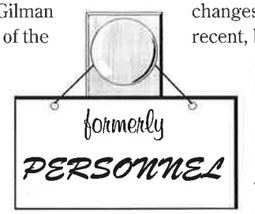
Where's Personnel?

Lost in TASF

The array of windows in the conference room adjoining the Public Affairs office provides a perfect view of TASF's first floor crossroad that leads to Spedding on the north and to Gilman on the south. Users of the conference room have seen many perplexed and lost individuals standing at that crossroad, eyes scanning the walls just above door level, searching for the Personnel Office, which doesn't seem to exist. And it doesn't, at least not with that name.

These lost folks are more than a little embarrassed when they discover that they've been standing within a few feet of Room 105, the very office they were trying to locate, but it's now called Human Resources instead of Personnel.

Although the switch from Personnel to Human Resources may be the most obvious name change, employees trying to find their ways around TASF should be aware of a few other name changes that may not be so recent, but are worth reviewing nonetheless. Take the Public Affairs office, for instance. For years it was the Technical Information Office, more affectionately known as the Document Library. But for the last four years it has been the Office of Public Affairs and Information, and that's what it says above the door in 111 TASF.



If you're looking for the Computer Garage, you won't find it on the third floor of TASF, but you will find Information Systems in Room 334.

When looking for Procurement and Property Management, you'll wind up in 211 TASF, the new home of Purchasing and Property Services.

Education personnel have resurrected their office's original name, adding an "al." It is now called Educational Programs and is located in 252 TASF.

Even though the remaining TASF offices retain their familiar names, their locations may still be a mystery. Here's a list of each new space in the new place. ■

New Office Locations in TASF

Ground Floor
Occupational Medicine - *G11*
Plant Protection - *G34*
Environment, Safety and Health Group - *G40*
Vending Area - *G51*

First Floor
Human Resources - *105*
Public Affairs and Information - *111*
Travel and Project Management - *118*
Graphics - *132*

Second Floor
Purchasing and Property - *211*
Accounting - *224A*
Budget - *231*
Educational Programs - *252*

Third Floor
Office of Assurance and Assessment - *305*
Directors' Offices - *311*
Information Systems - *334*
Internal Audit - *354*
Planning and Intellectual Property - *332*