

Employees Honored for Service to Ames Lab

10 Years



Left to right: Stephan Weeks, Lynnette Witt, Beth Lott, Bogdan Stomka, Gary Walter and Bill Buttermore. Not pictured: David Jiles, Matthew Kramer and Costas Soukoulis.

20 Years



Left to right: John Hayes, Pat Emley, Colin Chriswell, Lynn Runge, Dave Rehbein, Brenda Smith and Jim Anderegg. Not pictured: Sam Houk, Sam Washington and Jerel Zarestky.

15 Years



Left to right: Les Merritt, Mike Dotzler, Ila Haugen, Ellen Price and John Hjortshoj. Not pictured: Bob Angelici and Rose Bielefeldt.

25 Years



Left to right: Marv Anderson and Dave Eckels. Not pictured: John McClelland and Jerry Small.

Honorees who attended the luncheon were entered into a drawing to receive fresh flower centerpieces. The lucky winners were: Beth Lott, Bob Hofer, Brenda Smith, Mike Dotzler, Marlene Frisk, Bill Buttermore, Gary Walter, Ila Haugen, Jerry Flesch and Pat Emley.

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Highlights

Best Kept Secret on Campus 2

New CRADAs 2

"There's Been a Chemical Spill" 3

The Help Professionals 4

INSIDER

Newsletter for the Employees of Ames Laboratory ■ Volume 6, Number 4 ■ April 1995

Employees Honored at Awards Luncheon

30 Years



Marlene Frisk



Bob Jacobson

40 Years



Gerald Flesch

"The Lab is truly blessed to have such capable and dedicated people," said Rollie Struss, division director for Operations, on March 23 at the Awards Luncheon. "It's your efforts and contributions that make Ames Lab what it is. The Lab would be nothing without good employees. We're glad you're here, and we're glad to honor you for your service."

Thirty-eight employees were recognized with length-of-service awards. Struss noted that overall, 15 percent, or 51 of the Lab's permanent employees, have been at the Lab for more than 25 years. "That's remarkable," exclaimed Struss. "It says a lot about the Lab; it's a good place to work."

Materials Preparation Center Significant Accomplishment Award



John Wheelock

Established by Rick Schmidt, the award is given annually and recognizes an Ames Lab or IPRT technician who has significantly contributed to advanced materials and processing, equipment design and operations, and various service functions. "John is nationally recognized and is one of the winners of an R&D 100 award for his contributions to the thermite reduction process," said Rollie Struss. "Alloy preparation is an art, and he's very good at it. John's skill plays a key role in the success of many metallurgy and ceramics research projects."

35 Years



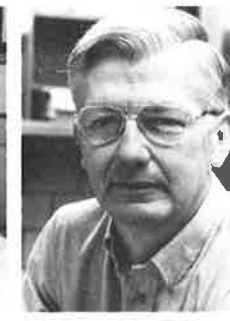
Bob Hofer



Dave Lynch



Dave Torgeson



Royce Winge



Art Klein

More Awards on page 8.

Best Kept Secret on Campus

Employee Assistance Program Helps Resolve Work, Family or Personal Problems

"I consider us the best kept secret on campus," says Charlene Gooch, Employee Assistance Program (EAP) coordinator. "In some ways that's good because it shows that our emphasis on confidentiality does work. It is important, however, for people to know that we are here if they need us."

EAP is a confidential service designed to assist people with problems or concerns that may interrupt or negatively impact job performance or daily living. Located on the third floor of the ISU Student Services building, the service is free and available to all employees and retirees and members of their families.

Ames Lab policy allows employees to visit the EAP office during regular working hours without taking vacation or sick leave. If you prefer, however, you can visit the EAP office during the noon hour or take vacation or sick leave.

The EAP staff will discuss

issues, assess needs and help build a plan to improve a situation or resolve a problem. Two new counselors and a secretary joined the EAP staff in January.

With over six years of experience in the mental health field, Catharine Phillips has worked in both inpatient and outpatient settings. "My strength is in mental health and chemical dependency," says Phillips. "I've also worked on sexual harassment issues."

The other new counselor, James Thacker, says his emphasis is in family and work relationships. He is the first male on the EAP staff. "I really like the team approach we've developed here," he says. "Once a week we meet as a group to discuss our case issues and resources. It's



Charlene Gooch

fantastic to get someone else's perspective on an issue because we all perceive things a little differently."

Secretary Wilma Bucklin is the first person visitors talk to or see when they contact the EAP office. "I try to direct people to the counselor that can best meet their needs," Bucklin says. "Sometimes clients will indicate whether they want to talk to a woman or a man, and I make an effort to honor those requests."

EAP hopes to add more workshops of interest to Ames Lab employees. "We'd like to offer small group sessions on topics such as parenting and support for people in graduate school," says Gooch. "Ames Lab employees have been very responsive to these workshops, and we hope to develop additional ones." ■



New members of the EAP staff are standing: James Thacker and Wilma Bucklin; seated is Catharine Phillips.


Employee Assistance Program
4-5069

Two More CRADAs Signed

Ames Lab scientists, together with the American Superconductor Corp. (ASC) of Westborough, Massachusetts, will help to optimize superconducting wire under two new Cooperative Research and Development Agreements (CRADAs). Superconductors facilitate low-resistance electrical transmission, which improves energy efficiency and reduces electrical costs,



Matthew Kramer

exciting improvements over the standard copper materials used in electricity delivery. The first CRADA, led by Matthew Kramer, associate scientist, and Iver Anderson, senior metallurgist, focuses on creating uniform microfilaments in superconducting wire that are consistent along the entire length of the wire. Microfilament inconsistencies have been a persistent problem for energy researchers.

"Many microfilaments begin to



Iver Anderson

'sausage', causing irregularities," says Kramer. "Our goal is to lower the cost of producing electricity, by maximizing the cross section of the microfilament."

In the second Ames Lab/ASC CRADA, John R. Clem, senior physicist, will analyze alternating current losses in superconducting tapes and cables. "It is extremely important that we ensure electrical losses are low," says Clem. "In order to maximize the amount of electric-



John R. Clem

ity transmitted, losses must be kept at a minimum." Clem says it is both "exciting and gratifying" to know that someday his research may be applied to real-world situations. "My research is usually fundamental," he says. "It is wonderful knowing that in ten years or so our efforts will help lower energy bills for consumers, businesses and industries." ■

Inside Scoop Meeting Challenges

Multifaceted and unique are qualities that describe Marv Anderson's career at Ames Lab and IPRT.

"I feel like I've been involved in four separate careers at the Lab," says Marv. "Each has been very interesting and challenging."

Since Marv began working for the Lab in 1965, he has conducted research in physics, worked for the Microelectronics Research Center, and designed, fabricated and field tested a mobile soil-testing unit while working for the Lab's Technology Integration Program. Currently he works in technology transfer.

"I'm a physicist by training," explains Marv, "and a physicist usually ends up being a jack-of-all-trades. I'm no exception."

Marv's current work in technology transfer brings DOE science together with business, enabling businesses to adopt DOE ideas for commercial use.

"I'm one step further away from science, and one step closer to business," says Marv. "Essentially I'm a marketing person for the DOE. A lot of interesting science happens at Ames Lab, and it's important to promote it to business and industry."

Marv's ability to adapt to different careers at Ames Lab has carried over to his family life. He gladly accepts the challenge of interacting with the individual and distinct personalities of his children. "I have three sons, and they are all completely different from each other," says Marv. "Each has his own unique interests, talents and career."

Marv's oldest son, David, is an artist and silversmith who works for Ames Silversmithing. Greg, an engineer with Johnson Space Flight in Houston, is designing a robot for use in NASA's space station. His youngest son, Derek, is an artist, author and publisher living in Minneapolis. Derek wrote and illustrated *Barnaby and*



Marv Anderson

the Sea, a children's book, which is selling well in bookstores.

"Even when they were young, they were very different from each other," says Marv. "David had a rock polisher and was always making something. We bought Greg a computer, and he took it apart and put it back together many times. And Derek was always drawing cartoons and coming up with all sorts of ideas."

"Each of them has a million things running through his head. All my sons challenge me with their projects," Marv says. "My family provides an excellent training ground for learning how to deal with many different things at one time."

Marv and his wife, Carol, who teaches third grade at Edwards School, have always enjoyed keeping up with their sons' interests.

"My wife and I agree it is important for kids to discover their own strengths and interests," says Marv. "We always encouraged them and gave them opportunities to discover their talents."

Marv says he looks forward to continuing his work in technology transfer and serving on various Lab committees. "Ames Lab is a great place to work, and the people are wonderful." ■

Together Whatever

Kate Sordelet enjoys her new Ames Lab home on the third floor of TASF where she works in the Office of Assurance and Assessment (OAA). And Kate will tell you that no two people were happier about her move to TASF than she and her husband Dan, a ceramist in the Metallurgy and Ceramics Program.

For almost three years Kate and Dan worked only two doors apart from each other in the Metals Development Building. "That was a little bit too much togetherness," jokes Kate, who answers to two titles within OAA. As continuous improvement officer she helps develop and implement new quality programs and strategies that help the Lab maintain its competitive edge. Kate is also the documents and records manager and has been busy setting up a base program to manage and protect the Lab's vital information.

Two doors of separation might have become a little old at work, but if any two people are used to being together, it's Kate and Dan. They met in high school, lived five minutes away from each other while growing up in Chicago, and both graduated from ISU. They've also become remodeling experts together, bringing their older home back to life. "We did most of the remodeling ourselves, enlisting the aid of every friend and family member we could," says Kate.

To help maintain the integrity of their sixty-three-year-old home, Kate has furnished it with some treasures from the past. She likes to poke around antique shops when she has extra time and has been rewarded for her efforts with such finds as a small drop-leaf table that fits her kitchen perfectly.

But it's not likely that Kate and Dan will use the newly refinished table too often, at least not for meals. Kate freely admits that



Kate Sordelet

she's not much of a cook and doesn't really enjoy cooking. "We go out to eat a lot," she says. "They know us at every restaurant in town. We're a frozen food family that consists of me, one research scientist and a wiener dog named Augie."

Little Augie was Kate's Christmas gift from Dan two years ago, and now the miniature dachshund rules the Sordelet household. "We spoil him," says Kate. "We carried him around too much when he was little, so now he doesn't even like us to leave the room without him."

Although Kate and Dan have shared equally in the spoiling of Augie, Kate is quick to point out that the pampered puppy does have some redeeming qualities. "He's a heck of a soccer player," she says. "He's almost ready for Letterman's stupid pet tricks." ■

CRADAs

CHEMICAL SCIENCES PROGRAM REVIEW

The Chemical Sciences Program Review, May 16-18, will include presentations by Lab scientists. Gerald Small, Walt Struve, Therese Cotton and Walt Trahanovsky will present on May 16, and Sam Houk, Ed Yeung, Gordon Miller and Marek Pruski on May 17. Discussions with researchers will be held in the afternoons. For more information, contact Shellie Siders at 4-1490.

AMES LAB DIRECTOR FINALISTS

Three finalists have been named in the search for a new Ames Lab director. Each finalist will visit the Lab and meet with a variety of Ames Lab and ISU groups. An open forum will be held for each candidate in the Spedding Hall Auditorium for all interested employees and the public. The open forums will be from 4 to 5 p.m. on:

Friday, April 28 - George A. Samara, manager of Basic Energy Sciences, Materials Sciences Program and Advanced Materials Physics and Device Research Department at Sandia National Laboratories.

Monday, May 1 - Bill R. Appleton, associate director for Physical Sciences and Advanced Materials at Oak Ridge National Laboratory.

Wednesday, May 3 - James P. Coronas, acting director of the Ames Laboratory.

SPEDDING HALL CONFERENCE ROOM KEYS

To check out a key for one of the Spedding Hall conference rooms, you MUST bring the room reservation form that automatically prints when you make the reservation. Keys are checked out from the Directors' Office, 311 TASF.

NEW SHIPPING ORDERS

New shipping forms (No. 58304.008) are now available in Materials Handling, 153 Spedding, and will soon be available on public drives on PC's. The new single-sheet form replaces the 5-part form, which may be used until October 1995.

Instructions for completing the new shipping orders are also available from Materials Handling. When shipping documents, it is not necessary to complete section three, Hazard Identification; all other information requirements remain the same. Shipping order numbers will be assigned by Materials Handling at the time of shipment.

Inadequate information may delay overnight shipments. To ensure that appropriate information is included on the shipping order, do not drop off packages or documents without first checking with personnel in Materials Handling.

ALLIE

The next Ames Lab Lunchtime Information Exchange (ALLIE) will be at noon on Wednesday, April 26 in the Spedding Hall Auditorium. The ALLIE will feature a presentation on electrical safety by the Lab's Electrical Safety Committee.

TRAINING SCHEDULE
Call Beth Lott (4-9972) to reserve

NEW EMPLOYEE TRAINING
April 27
8:15-11:45 a.m.
Held in 305 TASF

HOISTING AND RIGGING
April 26
2-3 p.m.
Held in 158 MD
Instructor: Dave Birlingmair/
Barbara Egbert

MAIL DELIVERY

Considering the daily volume of mail that's handled at Ames Lab, the mail delivery flows very smoothly. Here are some tips to ensure the fastest delivery possible: 1) Mail is sorted by building and room number, not by recipient's name. Be sure the full address is on each envelope; 2) If a member of your group changes address or resigns, make sure they notify Human Resources or their mail will continue going to the old address; 3) When you get mail delivered to the wrong address, notify the sender of the correct address; 4) If you can't pick up your mail, arrange for someone else to pick it up for you; and 5) If you receive unwanted catalogs, tell the companies to remove your name.

"There's Been a Chemical Spill"

Response Teams Activated For Emergency Drill

A four-liter bottle of nitric acid is accidentally dropped on the floor in the basement of Spedding Hall. The bottle breaks and acid quickly spreads over a wide area. On March 28 at 10:25 a.m., the Lab's 4-5511 emergency number rings and a frantic caller reports the spilled acid.

This phone call initiated the annual emergency drill, an exercise designed to test the procedures, capabilities and readiness of the Lab's emergency response teams in the unlikely event of a disaster.

Five evaluators were stationed at various locations to observe and report on the responsiveness and readiness of the chemical response team, public affairs, plant protection, photography, facilities, logistics, operations and the emergency team leaders in the Emergency Operations Center. The spill was confined to one room so a building evacuation was not required.

"The exercise was very real-



The chemical response team prepares to clean up the spill. From left to right are G. P. Jones, Kay Hannasch and Bruce Carlson.

istic," says Mark Godar, the Lab's emergency coordinator and one of the evaluators during the drill. "Everyone demonstrated that they were knowledgeable about their responsibilities. Recommendations for improvements were made during the debriefing, but overall the responders did a great job." For information on the emergency program, call 4-7890. ■

New Employees

Curtis Anderson, Plant Safety Patrol Officer (G.P. Jones)

Robert Bellman, Postdoc Fellow (Chris Schilling)

Ericka Sufka, Clerk Typist II (Cynthia Feller)

Sheryl Davis, Clerk Typist III (Walt Trahanovsky)

Andrew Fullerton, Laboratory Tech II (Kay Hannasch)

Joseph Ivanic, Postdoc Fellow (Klaus Ruedenberg)

Wai Leung, Postdoc Fellow (Kai-Ming Ho)

Yun Mao, Postdoc Fellow (Andreja Bakac)

Jonathan McCalmont, Assistant Scientist III (Kai-Ming Ho)

Bicai Pan, Visiting Scientist (Kai-Ming Ho)

Changyok Park, Postdoc Fellow (Andrew DePristo)

Gloria Wierda, Secretary II (Martin Edelson)

Junwei Zheng, Visiting Scientist (Therese Cotton)

Todd Zdorkowski, Program Coordinator III (Dan Williams)

Eric Zoellner, Assistant Scientist I (Larry Jones)

Promotions

Randy Wengert from Plant Safety Patrol Officer Lead to Plant Safety Sergeant (G. P. Jones)

Public Participation Workshop

CDS Cleanup is Complete, and Monitoring Wells Are Installed

On March 22, about 50 people participated in DOE and Ames Lab's sixth public information workshop on the cleanup of the Chemical Disposal Site (CDS). "All of the waste has been shipped to a commercial site in Utah," said Rich Freeman, DOE project manager for the CDS. "We have decontaminated both the processing pad and the decontamination pad. There are some trees we didn't need to mulch up that we'll use for erosion control by placing them perpendicular to the slopes. We also need to mend some fence," he added.

Workers will return to the site to conduct regrading and re-

planting this summer. DOE is working with ISU to determine the appropriate vegetation to plant. "We will do the planting in late summer to coincide with the normal germination period," said Freeman.

Well-drilling began April 11 and all 15 wells will be in by the end of April. The wells will determine the flow of the groundwater and monitor for any contamination. "In order to look



A member of the audience asks a question during the Public Participation Workshop.

at groundwater contamination, we need to understand where the groundwater is going and how fast it might be moving," said Craig

Larson, project consultant from RUST Environment and Infrastructure. "When we know the driving force for moving the water and have measured what the contamination level might be, we can address the groundwater issues and whether or not they

are a hazard." In addition to groundwater monitoring, soil and vegetation samples, including leaves, stems and fruits, will be tested for potential contaminants.

"You'll be updated on our activities through a quarterly DOE newsletter," Freeman told the audience. "We'll report where we are with the groundwater monitoring and vegetative sampling and will give you the results as soon as we get them. The next opportunity for formal public comment will be in late 1996 when DOE will issue a Proposed Plan for final site remediation." ■

The Help Professionals

Office Professionals—Always in on the Action

They're so good at what they do that you sometimes wonder if it's genetic, if all office professionals are blessed with a special DNA code that gives them superb organizational skills, uncanny intuitive powers and an amazing degree of adaptability.

The truth is there is no chromosome that predisposes these individuals to succeed at making the rest of us look good. That ability comes from dedicated preparatory work in schools for office careers or from valuable on-the-job experiences, and includes a genuine desire to be a team player and help out.

Helping out can mean almost anything. It's like that vague, catch-all phrase that appears in most university job descriptions—"and other duties as assigned." For office professionals this means planning, coordinating, juggling, organizing, second-guessing, investigating, correcting, answering, and almost any other verb you care to add. They're always in the middle of the action and have some interesting stories and observations about office careers.

Shirley Standley, secretary Materials Chemistry



Shirley Standley

Shirley didn't hesitate an instant when asked to name the most memorable event of her career as a secretary at the Lab. "Getting my own office after 17 years was just great," she says. "I can take more than two steps before I'm out of it. I feel like I'm a queen for the day."

During her career at the Lab, Shirley has had some unusual experiences that have made her more aware of how important it is for office professionals to possess good communication skills and be as clear as possible, especially when they work within an organization that has a community as diverse as Ames Lab's. One such

experience involved a new Chinese graduate student who wanted to know what he could bring for a group picnic. Since many of the traditional picnic items were already being brought by others, Shirley suggested he might bring chip dip. Unfamiliar with how the dip was used, the thoughtful student did more than his share. "He brought a container of chip dip for every person at the picnic," recalls Shirley, still feeling some guilt about the mistake. "Since then, I try to clarify everything more," she adds.

Like many office professionals, Shirley has had her share of unusual tasks to perform, but there is one in particular that she does regularly and at which she has achieved success. "I can read Dr. Corbett's handwriting in drafts," she says confidently. "I think I'm the only one in the Lab who can read it, but I'm used to it by now." The thing Shirley says

she likes best about her secretarial career is the chance to help people accomplish the things they need to get done. "The variety of people at the Lab has always been a joy to me. I've had the greatest people pass through my life."

Susan Knott, secretary Environmental Technology Development



Susan Knott

Susan wanted to be a secretary from the time she was a little girl. In fact, one of her favorite childhood pastimes was playing secretary in a make-believe travel office she stocked with maps from a neighborhood service station. Little did Susan know then that her desire for a secretarial career would put her smack-dab in the middle of some action she would have preferred to miss.

"While I was working as a secretary in Kansas City, Missouri, I discovered that an employee of the State Attorney General's Office was embezzling money," says Susan. "I alerted the main office, and he subsequently spent 18 months in jail for stealing \$25,000."

Happily, since the Kansas City experience, Susan's secretarial career has become more conventional. She's always willing to go that extra mile when it comes to getting a job done. "I get a real feeling of satisfaction when something comes off well, and I know my contribution helped make it happen," she says. "I like the challenge of organizing disconnected activities so that things run more smoothly. Being able to give people what they need when they need it is very gratifying."

Marelyn Wicks, clerk Accounting



Marelyn Wicks

Marelyn has been working at the Lab for just over one year, but she already knows where many of us have been and what we did when we weren't here. That's because she's the person who audits employees' travel vouchers. "It's interesting to see where people have been and the meetings and conferences they've attended," says Marelyn, adding that the Lab's diverse population presents some interesting challenges at those times when she has to call a traveler about his or her voucher. "I always worry about pronouncing names correctly and if I've turned the first and last names around," she says.

A relatively new kid on the block, Marelyn notes that one of the first things she looks for in an office is the manner in which individuals are trained for new jobs. "A willingness to be patient is critical in teaching people new tasks or training them for new projects. I've found that kind of atmosphere exists here at the Lab."

LuAnn Galeazzi, secretary Budget



LuAnn Galeazzi

When LuAnn worked as a secretary at the Archway Cookie Co. in Boone, Iowa, she was often called upon to impersonate another individual. For six years she played the role of Mrs. Santa Claus for the children of Archway employees. "I really liked doing that, and I still have the costume," she says.

Although LuAnn doesn't do any impersonations for the Budget Office, she says she enjoys the responsibility that comes with being the secretary for the office and the learning opportunities that are available there. "I like to help people as well as have the chance to learn new things and grow," she says. Noting that the other Budget Office employees value her willingness to help them out with various jobs, she adds, "It's nice to be appreciated and respected for what you do."

"There are many people who don't realize the effort that goes into being a secretary," LuAnn continues. "The fact that someone has chosen this job for their profession and sees it as an important service is no different from how people in other professions view the significance of their work."

Debra Okland, clerk Accounting



Debra Okland

Motivated by a desire to keep things running smoothly, office professionals characteristically have excellent organizational skills, are adept at learning new office technologies and are able to handle a variety of tasks at one time. Deb is no exception. "I like to get a job done before the deadline, and I'm happiest when there's a lot going on at one time," she says. "It makes you more productive."

Deb manages the vacation and sick leave records for Lab employees and says she enjoys answering their questions and helping them figure out their balances. To provide employees with accurate and up-to-date information on their vacation and sick leave, Deb uses specialized

computer programs that facilitate her work. "I couldn't imagine doing my job by hand," she says, with a look of anguish on her face. "When the computers are down for only a half day I think, 'What am I going to do.'"

Gina Holtzbauer, secretary Human Resources



Gina Holtzbauer

If you're in the Lab's Human Resources Office and talking to Gina, you're also talking to Miss Congeniality. No, Gina hasn't taken part in the Miss America pageant, but she has been recognized for her cooperative and helpful attitude.

"When I was a secretary for the utility company in Algona, Iowa, the Chamber of Commerce gave me a congeniality award," explains Gina. "It was a great satisfaction for me because I'm a people person and love working with the public. I enjoy meeting all kinds of people and have the chance to do that in my job in Human Resources."

"Ames Lab is a great place to work," says Gina. "It's exciting to see how the different offices interact and help each other out."

Committed to her chosen profession, Gina does have one pet peeve where secretarial careers are concerned. "It's not uncommon for people to look down on individuals who have chosen to pursue secretarial careers," she says. "But that's what I always wanted to do, and that's what I went to school for."

Susan Tourtellott, clerk Accounting



Susan Tourtellott

In the Accounting Office, Susan is known as the "IPRT person." That's because she handles all of the IPRT accounts and the various duties associated with them. If you have business with Susan and she happens to be away from her desk when you stop by, you might think that nobody works there at all. There are no papers, pencils or books scattered about; the desk looks so tidy that you could eat a meal there. But don't let the immaculate appearance of her office area fool you; Susan is at work. She's just an over-achiever in the organization department. "I can't have anything extra out on my desk," she says. "It bugs me. I do like being organized."

Susan is used to fielding questions about the different IPRT accounts she works with and says she doesn't usually get any questions that are too off-the-wall. That kind of thing used to happen a lot, however, when she worked for the ISU Student Counseling Service. She even had the chance to make a few predictions, such as the time when someone called in wanting to know what the weather would be like that day.

Patsy Duncan, secretary Fossil Energy



Patsy Duncan

"I wanted to be a secretary from the time I graduated from high school, but the opportunities just weren't there," says Patsy, whose job at the Lab is her first as an office

professional. "I'm so glad to have this job," she adds. "It's just great."

Patsy says the aspect of her job that gives her the greatest satisfaction is helping to keep everybody organized and on time. "When they're happy, that makes me happy," she says. "You need to have a good attitude about working with others. If you're not cooperative, people will go around you and find somebody they can work with."

Although this is her first clerical position, Patsy already has one particularly memorable experience that happened on the day of the great flood of 1993. "We had visitors that came in on the night of the storm and stayed at the Gateway," says Patsy. "We did manage to get them to the Lab, but it was crazy getting started that day." ■