

# The HOOTER



## Retirement Association of Portland State November 2002

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Thurs 11-4 pm

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## Antarctic glaciers chill meeting

While students basked in bright sunlight and near record October temperatures, 17 RAPS members were feeling the chill of Antarctic glaciers. PSU graduate students Robin Johnston and Thomas

## Cyclist to describe Spanish pilgrimage

“Let’s just call it ‘Adventure of the Spirit,’” Dan Johnson said when asked for a title for his presentation to the November RAPS General Meeting.

Johnson, professor of geography at PSU since 1977, has had a long-standing personal and professional interest in Spain. In spring, 2000, he completed a pilgrimage along the Way of St. James, a 500-mile journey from the Pyrenees to the ancient city of Santiago de Compostela.

A legend contends that the bones of St. James had been borne, after his martyrdom in Palestine, to this area; and a church was built over the site. The present cathedral was completed in 1211 after 133 years of labor.

The Way is recognized as one of the more demanding routes for pilgrims. In Santiago de Compostela, the church has officially welcomed pilgrims since 1504.

The meeting will begin at 1 pm in Room 296, SMC, on Nov. 21. Light refreshments will be available.

Nylen showed slides and shared data from their on-site studies of the McMurdo Dry Valley as an overview of glaciology. In both cases, the focus of their studies was on the how and why of changes in the glaciers as reflected in temperature data and in the geometry of certain crevasses in the glacier.

Robin Johnston and Thomas Nylen are PSU graduate students in the Department of Geology. They are both assisting Dr. Andrew Fountain in research sponsored by the National Science Foundation.

Just getting to their study site is an arduous task. It calls for commercial flights from Portland to Los Angeles and Los Angeles to Christchurch, New Zealand. From there, it is another 8-hour flight to Antarctica aboard a very noisy military cargo plane, followed by a helicopter lift to their workstation.

The arduousness carries over to the conditions of the polar south. Only four percent of Antarctica is not covered with snow and ice. But this is not evidence of a banana-belt area. It is instead the result of an arid area known as a polar desert. In addition, the continent is swept by unbelievably strong winds which sometimes reach 200 mph.

Despite the very harsh weather, life forms are present in the snow and icy waters of the lakes, which do thaw somewhat. The presence of such life

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# Mary X. Grimes (CAPS), charter member of

By

Ann Alexander, Emerita Professor, Counseling, and  
Victor C. Dahl, Emeritus Professor, History

Emerita Professor Mary X. Grimes, born December 4, 1922, in Abilene, Texas, died October 6, 2002, in Beaverton. Dr. Grimes served as staff sergeant in the United States Marine Corps during World War II and subsequently pursued a successful, productive career in education and counseling until retiring at PSU in 1988.

After earning a baccalaureate degree at North Texas State University (1946), she completed a master's (1951) and doctoral degree (1963) in education at the University of Denver. She was a faculty member at

Syracuse University (1948-1957), Eastern New Mexico University (1957-1960), and the University of Denver (1960 to 1964) prior to coming to the PSU Counseling and Psychological Services in 1964.

As the institution became an urban university, Dr. Grimes actively participated in academic committee assignments and in faculty governance, notably the PSU Faculty Senate and the statewide Inter-institutional Faculty Senate. She was an original RAPS member and had begun to serve as secretary just before her death.

Her community outreach service activities included public speaking and membership in the Zonta Club, the American Association of University Women, and

# David Malcolm, once assist. grad dean, dies at age 77

By

Vic Dahl, Professor Emeritus of History

Dr. David R. Malcolm, PSU biological sciences faculty member from 1955 to 1969, succumbed to prostate cancer at his home near Helvetia on October 21, 2002. He was 76 years of age.

He received a bachelor's degree in 1949 at Winona State College, Minnesota, and master's and doctoral degrees at Washington State in 1951 and 1954. He taught at Iowa State University for a year before join-

ing the Portland State science faculty.

His PSU service coincided with the institution's transition from Extension Center to College and ultimately to University status. He taught and developed biological science courses to fulfill curriculum requirements for general education as well to serve students with professional objectives, especially in medical career fields.

A gifted and inspiring teacher, he attracted large numbers of students and received a *John Mosser Award for Undergraduate Teaching Excellence*. At PSU he actively participated in university-wide faculty governance through committee service. He was an original member of the Ferdinand Society. Ongoing research accomplishments prompted his appointment to be assistant dean of graduate studies, and during the 1960s, he worked closely with Dean Frederick J. Cox in establishing standards and criteria for PSU's first doctoral programs.

In 1969 Dr. Malcolm accepted an appointment as chairman of the science division at Pacific University where he developed various new undergraduate and graduate programs. He became dean of arts and sciences, in 1976 and subsequently served as vice president for development.

A detailed obituary appeared in *The Oregonian*.

# Chris Thoms, biologist and wife of Richard E (GEOL), dies at age 59

By

Vic Dahl, Professor Emeritus of History

Chris Thoms, spouse of Emeritus Professor of Geology Richard E. Thoms, died on October 4, 2002. She was born July 21, 1943, in Tacoma, moved to Portland during childhood where she graduated from Portland State College, and married Richard in 1967.

At the time of her death she was employed as a biologist for the United States Army Corps of Engineers. Survivors include her husband; sons, Evan E. and Bryn E.; two grandchildren; and a sister, Anna Thomas.

A memorial Mass was held on Tuesday, November 5, 2002, at St. Mary's Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Portland.

Our heartfelt sympathy goes to her family.

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“. . . of course, though few acknowledge it anymore in our jaded age, proper use of the subjunctive is the hallmark of a civilized man.” — John Lescroart

## **RAPS dies at age 80**

the Lady Marines Rose Chapter Oregon-1. In retirement she performed volunteer assistance for the Breast Cancer Outreach Program at Providence St. Vincent's Hospital and Medical Center in Portland.

A brother, sister, a niece and two nephews survive her.

A campus memorial service sponsored by the PSU Counseling Service was held from 3:00 to 5:00 pm, Thursday, October 24, 2002, at the Gallery, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Urban Center, SW 6<sup>th</sup> and Mill Streets.

Remembrances may be made to the Breast Cancer Outreach Program.

## **Margaret Marshall (OIRP & BUD) dies at age 59**

By Alan Kolibaba,  
Senior Budget Analyst

Margaret Marshall, a former PSU employee, died September 25, 2002, from lung cancer at age 59.

Born Margaret Hietpas on October 11, 1942, in Cut Bank, Montana, she moved to Portland in 1952 with her family. She graduated from Marycrest High School.

In June 1970, Margaret came to Portland State as a clerk/typist in the Office of Institutional Research. Three years later she transferred to the Budget Office, where she worked until her retirement in December, 2000.

In the Budget Office, Margaret was in charge of budgeting for all classified employee positions. She developed various spreadsheets to track classified salaries and calculate the budgetary impact of salary increases. She worked with the Budget Director and the rest of the Budget Office staff to develop the University's budget each year.

Margaret was a member of the team that developed the University's new Financial Information System (FIS). That team won a PSU award for their work.

Margaret was an avid soccer player until shortly before her death. She often played on several teams at once, both indoor and outdoor. She played at various levels at the same time and got her children involved in the sport.

Margaret is survived by her parents, Martin and Sheivonne Hietpas; sons, Christopher and Richard; her daughter, Bonnie Dowdican; and ten grandchildren.

## ***Edd Casto (XS/PS) dies of cancer at age 57***

By Steve Harmon.

Summer Session Coordinator

Friend and colleague Edd Casto passed away October 2 following a sudden and rapid fight with cancer. He died peacefully with friends surrounding him. Edd was 57 years old. A celebration of his life was held October 12.

He was born May 12, 1945, in South Charleston, West Virginia. He graduated from the University of Oregon.

Edd was the lead information representative for Extended Studies and was known across campus for his dedication to helping students, staff, and faculty. Over the past six years,

Edd has provided first-rate assistance to the many people who plan, teach, and take School of Extended Studies courses and workshops. He helped with everything from where to park and buy books to tuition and financial aid information.

Prior to working in Extended Studies, Edd worked for the Admissions and Records office as a front window representative.

Before joining the staff at Portland State University, he worked for the Social Security Administration, but Edd's great love was taking care of children. He was instrumental in starting a child care center at the University of Oregon and worked in child care for many years before leaving the profession. His gentle humor and kind, caring manner will be greatly missed.

He is survived by his mother, Naomi; brother, John; and two nieces. Remembrances may be made to the Nature Conservancy for Borax Lake preservation.

## **Benson ornaments on sale again**

Looking for something for that person who has everything? Want to get a jump-start on your holiday shopping?

Simon Benson House Christmas ornaments are again available. These miniature works of art are hand-numbered and signed by the artist, Betty Gimarelli. The limited edition ornaments are 24-karat gold plated and sell for \$28.

For more information and to place an order, call the Simon Benson House Events Coordinator, Mary Coniglio at (503) 725-5073.

The supply available is limited.

# Aging, memory study solicits RAPS volunteers

RAPS members are being invited to take part in the Oregon Aging Study at Oregon Health & Science University. The study involves comparing the normal changes in brain function in healthy, older adults with those of Alzheimer's patients.

The goal of the study is to identify factors that may help in the diagnosis, prevention and treatment of Alzheimer's.

The study sponsors now are recruiting persons between 60 and 74. Participants must not be on medication for heart diseases, high cholesterol or diabetes. The sponsors are especially interested in enrolling persons over the age of 84.

Requirements include a one-time entry exam that includes blood tests and an electrocardiogram (EKG).

Annual examinations consisting of a medical history and physical exam by a neurologist, tests of mental functioning, and a magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) brain scan are also required.

Transportation and escort services are available for the testing at OHSU.

An annual mid-year follow-up is also required. It consists of a medical history update and a brief test of mental functioning. This test is usually done at the volunteer's home and takes about 30 minutes to

## Mrs. George Hoffman dies at 78

By Vic Dahl, Emeritus Professor of History

Virginia H. Hoffmann, widow of Emeritus Professor of History and Dean of Social Science George C. Hoffmann was honored at a memorial service held at the River View Cemetery chapel on September 30. She was born July 19, 1924 and died September 23.

In 1946, she married Dr. Hoffmann who then was teaching at the recently-formed Vanport Extension Center and subsequently served as Dean of Social Science. Her active participation in institutional gatherings during its formative years enabled Virginia to become well known to many new faculty.

She is survived by her son, John; stepdaughter, Jane Watingham; two grandchildren; as well as by her mother, Mrs. Ruby Gush; and sister, Lois Larter.

Remembrances should be made to the Alzheimer's Association.

complete.

Participants will not receive any medical treatments, but the results of tests and examinations will be shared with the volunteer and can also be shared with the volunteer's doctor.

The study has been underway for the past thirteen years. The sponsors have been looking at the patterns of healthy aging and why some people live to be very old with their minds still sharp. The study is funded by the Department of Veteran's Affairs and the National Institute of Health.

A study fact sheet and additional information are available from Donna Godwin, Oregon Aging and Alzheimer's Disease Center, at OHSU, 3181 SW Sam Jackson Park Road, CR -131. The phone number is (503) 494-616.

## Antarctic . . . .

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poses the possibility that similar forms might exist in the even harsher conditions of Mars.

Both speakers remarked on the pristine conditions of the glaciers. Instead of being streaked with dirt and dust, as is the case with lower latitude glaciers, the Antarctic glaciers are brilliant white.

Johnston's research centers on energy balance and the changing geometry of the major crevices found in the glacier. Because the sun does not set for six months of the year, the glacial crevices are exposed to round-the-clock sunlight. But because the sun rises only 34° above the horizon, the crevice reach a limited depth but expand wider and wider as the season progresses.

Nylen will bring his Antarctic glacier experience to further study of the glaciers of Mount Rainier.

Their presentations were based on thesis research. They made similar presentations in Vancouver, B.C., on Oct. 17-18, to the Northwest Glaciologist's meeting.

Both have received the Antarctic Medal.

Professor Christina Hulbe, Department of Geology, was originally scheduled to address the group. However, a family emergency prevented her from doing so.

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"If there were no bad people, there would be no good lawyers." -- Charles Dickens