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Obituaries of the Members of the Ohio Academy of Science: Report of the Necrology Committee, 1995

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OBITUARIES OF THE MEMBERS OF THE OHIO ACADEMY OF SCIENCE
REPORT OF THE NECROLOGY COMMITTEE, 1995

The Necrology Committee of The Ohio Academy of Science, chaired by Historian-Archivist Ronald L. Stuckey, consists of William R. Burk, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, NC, and Relda E. Niederhofer, Firelands College of Bowling Green State University, Huron, OH. Thanks are extended to those individuals who provided information to the committee. The committee is seeking volunteers to provide information or to write obituaries on deceased members of the Academy whose obituaries have not yet been written for The Ohio Journal of Science. If you can assist in this effort, please send information to, or call, the office of The Ohio Academy of Science. A two page outline of instructions for preparation of obituaries in The Ohio Journal of Science, written by Ronald L. Stuckey, is available from the author or the Academy office.

The following is a list of 17 recently deceased members of the Academy with their field of interest, year joined, and date of death if known, whose obituary has not yet been published in the Journal.

RONALD L. STUCKEY

| NAME                  | FIELD OF INTEREST | YEAR JOINED | DATE OF DEATH
|-----------------------|-------------------|-------------|----------------
| Ell Dee Compton       | Chemistry         | 1964        | 25 December 1994 |
| Herman J. Eichel      | Chemistry         | 1966        | 5 September 1994 |
| Hoke S. Greene        | Chemistry         | 1946        | 26 April 1995   |
| Joseph E. Krysiak     | Engineering       | 1988        | 1 May 1992      |
| Kaye R. Everett       | Geology           | 1959        | 21 October 1994 |
| Walter M. Chappell    | Medical Sciences  | 1988        | 9 July 1991     |
| John Lieu             | Medical Sciences  | 1968        |                |
| William F. Davis      | Natural Resources | 1967        | 3 January 1991  |
| Wave H. Shaffer       | Physics & Astronomy | 1948     | 15 May 1995    |
| Paul B. Taylor        | Physics & Astronomy | 1956     | 31 July 1989   |
| Stephen W. Barber     | Science Education | 1983        | 1989           |
| Gertrude Masters      | Science Education | 1951        | 9 February 1989 |
| Donald M. Strother    | Science Education | 1961        |                |
| John S. Caldwell      | Zoology           | 1949        |                |
| E. B. Henson          | Zoology           | 1954        | 15 January 1994 |
| Edward C. Kinney      | Zoology           | 1953        | 17 April 1991  |
| James F. Smith        | Zoology           | 1952        |                |

The following 15 obituaries appear in the 1995 Report, with the page number.

Page
Glenn Halstead Brown (1915-1995) ................................................................. 344
Elizabeth Eleanor Coyle (1904-1995) ......................................................... 344
Fred Harry Glenny (1913-1992) ................................................................. 344
William Franklin Hahnert (1901-1994) ....................................................... 345
Robert Paul Hartley (1929-1994) ................................................................. 345
Clarence Henry Heinke (1912-1994) .............................................................. 346
Clara Boggess Kenney (1902-1991) ................................................................. 346
Dolores A. (Bodnar) Kurek (1935-1995) ....................................................... 347
Joseph Alfred Aurele La Rocque (1909-1990) ............................................... 347
James Alfred MacDonell (1899-1991) ............................................................. 348
Robert Ellison McKay, Sr. (1908-1992) ....................................................... 348
Mildred Althea Miskimen (1901-1995) ............................................................. 349
John Arvid Schmitt, Jr. (1925-1994) ............................................................ 349
John L. Smith (1946-1994) ............................................................................ 350
Cornelius Wandmacher (1911-1992) ................................................................. 350
Glenn Halstead Brown (1915–1995)

Glenn Halstead Brown, age 79, Professor of Chemistry at Kent State University for 24 years, died 18 April 1995 at Crown Center of Laurel Lake in Hudson, OH. Professor Brown founded the Glenn H. Brown Liquid Crystal Institute at Kent (1965). He received the Kent State University President’s Medal for distinguished service (1980), and the Ohio Board of Regents honored him with the state’s highest academic ranking, designating him a Regents Professor (1966). During his career, numerous honors were awarded him, including the Governor’s Excellence Award (1986), the Bikerman Award (1981), the Morley Award for distinguished service to the field of chemistry (1977), and the selection as a guest of the Academy of Sciences in the USSR (1970). In 1991, he was among a select group of 25 scientists and teachers honored as a Centennial Honoree by The Ohio Academy of Science for his contributions to science, to education, and to the Academy. A member of The Ohio Academy of Science (since 1954), Dr. Brown was elected a Fellow (1956), was vice-president for the Section of Chemistry (1958-1959), received its Distinguished Service Award (1966), and served as Academy president (1960-1961). He was an active lecturer in the Academy’s visiting scientists program to high schools in Ohio (1962-1967) and was accorded emeritus status (1991).

Born 19 September 1915 in Logan, OH, Dr. Brown earned his BS degree (1939) and MS (1941) from The Ohio State University and his PhD degree from Iowa State University (1951). He also received an honorary doctorate of science degree from Bowling Green State University (1972). Prior to coming to Kent State University (1960), he taught at the University of Cincinnati (1952-1960), the University of Vermont (1950-1952), and Iowa State University (1945-1948), and the University of Mississippi (1941-1950). At Kent State University he was Chairman of the Department of Chemistry (1960-1968), Dean of Research (1960-1965), Regents Professor (1968-1995), and Director of the Liquid Crystal Institute (1965-1983).

Dr. Brown was a member of the American Chemical Society, the American Association for the Advancement of Science, the American Institute of Chemists, the American Crystallographic Association, Sigma Xi honorary research society, the New York Academy of Sciences, and Omicron Delta Kappa honorary society. He authored or co-authored three books and a number of articles in scientific journals.

Dr. Brown was active in the YMCA and its campus program. He was a member of the Methodist Church where he was a layman. His hobbies included baseball and softball.

Survivors are his wife, Jessie A. (Adcock) Brown, whom he married 27 May 1943; sons, Larry H. of Columbus and Donald of Milford; daughters, Nancy of Beavercreek and Barbara of Stow; three grandchildren; brother, Harold of Renfrew, PA; and a sister, Esther Britt of Columbus. His sisters, Nellie St. Clair, Ruth Leonard, Cora Hummel, and Doni Brown are deceased. Services were held at the Methodist Church in Kent, with burial in Standing Rock Cemetery, Kent. Memorials are to be made to the Glenn H. Brown Scholarship Fund for Liquid Crystal Studies and Research, Kent State University Foundation, 120 Kent Student Center, Kent, 44242; the National Parkinson Foundation, 1501 W. 9th Avenue, Bob Hope Road, Miami, FL 33136; and the Kent United Methodist Church, 1435 E. Main St., Kent, 44240.

ELIZABETH ELEANOR COYLE (1904–1995)

Elizabeth Eleanor Coyle (1904–1995)

Elizabeth Eleanor (Libby) Coyle, age 90, Emerita Danforth Professor and former chairperson, Department of Biology, The College of Wooster, died 1 January 1995 in the Wooster Community Hospital, Wooster, OH. Dr. Coyle, whose interests focused on botany, bacteriology, and zoology, devoted her entire professional life teaching biology at The College of Wooster (1926-1972) where she was a co-founder of the Faculty Club. As a member of The Ohio Academy of Science, Dr. Coyle joined (1927) and affiliated with Section Plant Sciences.

Born 26 August 1904 in Galion, OH, Elizabeth Coyle was the daughter of Curtis C. and Lulu (Winter) Coyle and descendant of the renowned Dr. Charles Lester Coyle who settled in Galion about 1865. After graduating from Galion High School (1922), Coyle received the BS in biology at The College of Wooster (1926), and the MS (1929) and PhD (1935) in botany at The Ohio State University. When she received her doctorate degree at the 15 March 1935 commencement, the Columbus Dispatch stated she was the only woman among a group of 13 upon whom doctoral degrees were conferred. Her dissertation, “Algae of Some Ohio Soils,” concerned subterranean algae from soils to determine possible correlations between algal species and various soil types. It was completed under the direction of Professor Lewis H. Tiffany. Except for leaves of absence for graduate studies (fall 1928; 1932-1934), Coyle’s entire professional career was in the Department of Biology, The College of Wooster, as an instructor (1926-1939), assistant professor (1939-1948), associate professor (1948-1960), professor (1960-1972), and professor emerita (1972-1995). While chairperson (1963-1972), she was the primary liaison between the biology department and the architect during the design and construction of the new biology building, Mateer Hall. Concurrently, she served as head resident of Wooster’s Holden Dormitory for Women (1941-1951), and longtime faculty advisor for Pyramids Social Club for women students.

An advocate of ecology before it became vogue, Elizabeth Coyle continued her education in biology and botany with summer studies at The Ohio State University Franz Theodore Stone Laboratory (1926-1929), the Rocky Mountain Biological Station (1931), Columbia University (1937), Marine Biological Laboratory, Woods Hole, MA (1947-1950), and Cornell University (1950) under a National Science Foundation grant for 51 teachers of botany from small colleges. During her sabbatical leave she studied botany and biology at the University of Hawaii in Honolulu (1961-1962) where she attended the 10th Pacific Science Congress.

Professor Coyle held memberships in the American Association for the Advancement of Science, Botanical Society of America, and the Ohio College Biology Teachers Conference (secretary for several years). Among Dr. Coyle’s honors were her election as a charter member of Wooster’s chapter of Phi Beta Kappa (secretary, 1945-1973), and a member of the Triennial Council of United Phi Beta Kappa (president, 1972). Awarded a National Science Foundation grant, Dr. Coyle studied the ecology of algae at the Pymatuning Laboratory of Ecology, Linesville, PA, under the auspices of the University of Pittsburgh. Upon her retirement from a lifelong career at Wooster, the greenhouse on the uppermost floor of the biology building was named the Elizabeth E. Coyle Greenhouse, and an endowment fund was established by classmates, colleagues, and former students for its maintenance and enhancement.

Elizabeth Coyle was a regular member of a theatrical group at Wooster, whose productions raised funds for the campus faculty club. She appeared in such plays as “Abie’s Irish Rose,” “Macbeth,” and “Arsenic and Old Lace,” and acted in other plays to entertain students on Thanksgiving weekends. As a College of Wooster alumna, Coyle became secretary of the Class of 1926, shortly after her graduation; and since 1972, served as class agent for the Wooster Fund. She held memberships and offices in the Westminster Presbyterian Church, College Circle Book Club, Faculty Retirees Association, and Classics Club, the latter in which she often served as an officer.

Dr. Coyle is survived by a sister-in-law, Bertha E. Coyle of Wooster; two nieces, Mrs. Larry (Christine) Snyder of Boerne, TX; Mrs. Mark (Deborah) Barron of Augusta, GA; a grand-nephew and niece; and cousins, Mrs. Tom (Liddy) Pittenger of Wooster and Marilyn D. (Lyn) Loveless, biology professor at Wooster. Her brother, Charles Winter Coyle, died 23 June 1983. Memorial services were held 4 January 1995 at Custer Funeral Home, Wooster, with the Rev. Rev. Gooch officiating. Interment was at Fairview Cemetery, Galion. Memorial contributions may be made to the Department of Biology, The College of Wooster, 931 College Avenue, Wooster, OH 44691.

WILLIAM R. BURK

Fred Harry Glenny (1913–1992)

Fred Harry Glenny, age 79, an authority on the aortic arch system in birds, died 28 December 1992 in Winter Park, FL. A member of The Ohio
Academy of Science (since 1937), he was elected a Fellow (1952), and was a founding member of the Section Conservation, serving as its first vice-president (1952-1953).

Born 31 May 1913 in Akron, OH, to Fred and Blanche Genny, young Fred Genny was a graduate of the Western Reserve Academy and attended College, Western Reserve University, and the University of Toronto. He took his BA degree (1938) and MS degree (1940) at the University of Akron, and the PhD degree in zoology (1953) from The Ohio State University. His PhD dissertation, "Modification of Pattern in the Aortic Arch System of Birds and Their Phylogenetice Significance," was completed under the direction of Professor John W. Price. Prior to completing his doctoral degree, Mr. Genny had published over 40 papers, many of them in The Ohio Journal of Science and other leading scientific journals, concerned primarily with the aortic arch system in birds. His teaching experience involved lectureships and instructorships at the University of Akron (1949-1949, 1946), Western Reserve University (1946), University of Saskatchewan (1946-1947), The College of Wooster (1949-1950), and The Ohio State University (1953). His last faculty position was professor of anatomy at Fairleigh Dickinson University, Rutherford, NJ, from where he retired and moved to Florida (1971).

A veteran of the United States Army, Genny served in World War II with both the Royal Canadian Army Medical Corps and the Medical Department of the United States Army. He was a member of the Wilson Ornithological Society, the Zoological Society of London, and the Florida Academy of Science.

In 1951, Fred Genny married Mary E. Cerestenslager, formerly of Wooster, OH, who survives, along with a sister-in-law, Florence E. Rich, also of Wooster, and three nieces. One brother died previously.

William Franklin Hahnert (1901-1994)

William Franklin Hahnert, age 93, who was Professor of Zoology for 33 years (1934-1967) at Ohio Wesleyan University, Delaware, OH, died at Austin Manor in the same town, 19 December 1994. A member of The Ohio Academy of Science (since 1937), he was elected a Fellow (1941), was an active lecturer in the Academy's visiting scientists program to high schools (1960-1966), and was accorded emeritus status (1976). Hahnert affiliated with Section Zoology, serving as membership secretary (1948-1949) and vice-president (1949-1950).

Born 6 October 1901 near Logansport, IN, to Frederick William and Susan Vena (Rautsaw) Hahnert, young Bill Hahnert attended a one room country school, taking the eighth and last grade offered a second time, because he wanted to learn more. Following his father's death, he operated the family farm and, against his mother's wishes, eventually attended and completed high school in Logansport, graduating in 1923. Here he met his future wife and lifelong companion, Zelda. Hahnert worked his way through DePauw University, IN, where he was a Rector Scholar, an elected member of Phi Beta Kappa, and graduated with a BA degree (1927). Thoughts of a career in the ministry gave way to an interest in science and nature, and Hahnert, who received the Adam T. Bruce Fellowship in Zoology (1930-1931), attended Johns Hopkins University where he studied physiology of protozoans and received the PhD (1931). He was an investigator at Mt. Desert Island Laboratory, Maine (summer 1929), and also held a National Research Council Fellowship to study at Johns Hopkins University and the Marine Biological Laboratory, Woods Hole (1931-1932). He continued at Woods Hole while supported by the Johnson Foundation for Medical Physics at the University of Pennsylvania (1932-1933), and then held a temporary teaching position as an assistant professor of biology at the University of North Carolina, Greensboro (fall 1933). Hahnert was the chairman for the Biology Department of the Federal Emergency Relief Agency College, Baltimore, MD (spring 1934), before coming in the fall of 1934 to the Department of Zoology at Ohio Wesleyan University. There he served as an assistant professor (1934-1938), associate professor (1938-1947), and professor (1947-1967) and chairman of the Department (1941-1967).

Professor Hahnert had a reputation for being a skilled and thorough teacher who demanded the same high standards in his students that he held for himself. His courses, with their systematic approach and meticulous attention to detail, gave generations of students good preparation for the rigors of graduate and professional school. He was a pre-medical advisor most of his career. During summers he was an instructor in Invertebrate Zoology at the Marine Biological Laboratory, Woods Hole (1938), and a professor at the Franz Theodore Stone Laboratory, The Ohio State University, where he conducted research on Lake Erie invertebrates (1939-1948, 1956-1958) and taught Invertebrate Zoology (1939-1941, 1946-1948, 1957). He enjoyed field work and his research concerned mainly populations and distribution of invertebrates, particularly terrestrial isopods.

Bill Hahnert was active in the local chapter of Phi Beta Kappa, the Boy Scouts of America, and Masonic activities. He served as a Reserve Officer in the United States Army (1927-1941). Hahnert was a member of the administrative board of the Ohio Biological Survey (1945-1972), and in retirement from teaching served the Survey as a Research Associate (1967-1969) and Administrator (1970-1972). He maintained interests in gardening, antiques, and designing and completing his own needlepoint designs.

Dr. Hahnert held memberships in the American Association for the Advancement of Science, American Society of Zoologists, Society of Systematic Zoology, American Institute of Biological Sciences, American Society of Limnology and Oceanography, American Association of University Professors, Natural Science Teachers Association, and National Association of Biology Teachers. He was elected a member of the honorary societies Phi Beta Kappa, Sigma Xi, and Gamma Alpha.

On 13 June 1928, William F. Hahnert married Zelda (Ida, die) Wheatley of Logansport, IN. Surviving are his wife and one son, William Franklin. Mrs. Hahnert was for many years Director of the Delaware, OH, History Museum. Masonic and memorial services were held 21 December 1994 at Austin Manor, Delaware, OH.

Ronald L. Stucky

Robert Paul Hartley (1929-1994)

Robert Paul Hartley, age 64, an accomplished geologist, oceanographer, and physical scientist for several governmental agencies, died of cancer in Cincinnati, OH, 1 March 1994. Bob Hartley's 28 years of work for the U.S. Public Health Service, Federal Water Pollution Control Administration, and U.S. Environmental Protection Agency has resulted in a measurable enhancement of the nation's environment. He was one of the prime architects of the remarkable recovery of Lake Erie, and in 1968 received a Special Achievement Award from the Federal Water Quality Administration for several of his research reports which set the stage for phosphorus control in the Lake Erie drainage basin. From 1978 to 1987 he received two awards from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency for Special Achievement in the fields of pollution control guidance for geothermal energy development and remediation of radioactivity-contaminated Superfund sites. Bob also was given three Superior Performance awards for sustained accomplishments in environmental protection. As a member of The Ohio Academy of Science (1955-1992), Rob Hartley published in The Ohio Journal of Science (1959) and presented at an Annual Meeting (1956). He was affiliated with the Geology and Science Education sections and was elected a Fellow (1964).

Born 10 April 1929 in Athens, OH, Robert Hartley attended Ohio University where he earned a BS degree in geology (1950). Soon after graduation he entered the military during the Korean War. From 1950 to 1952 he served as a military intelligence specialist for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Beach Erosion Board. His research, classified as secret, dealt with determining beach conditions at various locations throughout the world as a
Clarence Henry Heinke (1912-1994)

Clarence Henry Heinke, age 81, professor of mathematics and former chairperson of the Department of Mathematics at Capital University, Bexley, OH, died 8 July 1994 at his Bexley home. He served as president of the Ohio Council of Teachers of Mathematics (1958-1960), was later presented the Christofferson-Fawcett Award, and named the Ohio Tree Farmer of the Year (1980). A member of The Ohio Academy of Science (since 1950), Dr. Heinke was elected a Fellow (1951) and became an emeritus member (1975). He was an active participant in the Academy's Visiting Scientist Program to high schools (1962-1965).

Born 13 July 1912 in Rozellville, Marathon County, WI, Clarence H. Heinke graduated from Wausau High School, Wausau, WI. From Capital University he received his BS degree (1930). He taught mathematics in the high schools of Kings Mills (1938-1941) and Ashtabula, OH (1941). At The Ohio State University, Smith was an assistant in the Department of Mathematics (1941-1942); obtained his MA degree (1942), and the PhD in mathematics (1953). His thesis was on the topic of "Certain Aspects of the Theory of Binary and Ternary Quadratic Forms," and his PhD dissertation, "Discovery in Geometry through the Process of Variation," gave the proof of Dickinson's famous theorem, from which was derived the Four Square Theorem as a corollary. His major accomplishments included the preparation of efficient guidelines for the glass fiber manufacturing industry and for the transportation industry. Later, he worked on methods for the containment of hazardous waste, solar energy and geothermal energy development, water treatment technology assessment, radioactive waste disposal, and air pollution controls.

Robert P. Hartley's papers were published in The Ohio Journal of Science, Ohio Conservation Bulletin, and technical publications of the Ohio Department of Natural Resources, International Association for Great Lakes Research, Federal Water Pollution Control Administration, and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. Noteworthy presentations were made by Hartley at the International Conference on Great Lakes Research (1968), National Conference on Health, Environmental Effects, and Control Technology of Energy Use (1976), Geothermal Resources Council (1978), and International Workshop on Land Disposal (1987). In addition to The Ohio Academy of Science, Hartley was a Fellow of the Geological Society of America and a member of the International Association for Great Lakes Research.

Robert P. Hartley is survived by his wife Lucicie (Umbohr) Hartley, whom he married 22 May 1954, three children: Teri Slick, Diana Gantzler, and Robert Paul, Jr., and eleven grandchildren. A memorial service was held 4 March 1994 in Cincinnati, followed by interment at Mt. Moriah Cemetery, Withamsville, OH.
Clara B. Kenney, born 12 October 1902, in Mahoning County, KY, to Milton Lee and Bita (Stuart) Boggess, graduated from Georgetown College (1924) and took graduate work at the University of Kentucky and Ohio University. She taught at the Ohio University Branch at Chillicothe for several years. Mrs. Kenney was a member of the Ross County and the Ohio Retired Teachers Association, and was past president of AAUW-Chillicothe Branch. She was also a member of the First Presbyterian Church.

On 11 August 1944, Clara Boggess married Walter W. Kenney, Jr., who died 11 September 1966. She was survived by a sister, Marjorie Brewer, Jacksonville, FL; a sister-in-law, Mildred Kenney, Chillicothe, OH; several nieces and nephews and grandchildren and grandnieces. Graveside services were held 9 December 1961 at the Grandview Cemetery, Chillicothe, with the Rev. James Gove officiating.

RELEA E. NIEDERKOFER

DOLORES A. (BODNAR) KUREK (1935–1995)

Dolores A. (Bodnar) Kurek, age 59, an associate professor of physical sciences at Lourdes College, Sylvania, OH, and an instructor in mathematics at the University of Toledo, was instrumental in helping young women develop careers through the pathways of science and education. She died 2 June 1995, in the St. Vincent Medical Center, Toledo, OH. Mrs. Kurek was the recipient of numerous awards, among them the Acker Outstanding Teacher Award from The Ohio Academy of Science (1980, 1981). She was named Woman of Toledo by St. Vincent Medical Center (1988), and named one of 100 Women in Science Exemplars in Ohio Women in Science, Engineering, and Mathematics Consortium of Ohio (1988); she was awarded a teaching excellence and campus leadership award at Lourdes College from the Sears and Roebeck Foundation (1991) and a Sears Grant for Science and Engineering (1993). She joined The Ohio Academy of Science in 1973 and affiliated with the Section Science Education. In the Academy, she served as chairperson of the Women in Science Day at Lourdes College (1987-1995), was president and judging chairperson of the Northwest District Science Day (1975-1995), and was a member of the board of directors for the Junior Science and Humanities Symposium.

The Dolores Kurek Memorial Achievement Award was established by the Technical Society of Toledo to recognize a student of grade 11 or 12 standing with a superior science or mathematics project submitted to the annual Northwest Ohio District Science Day. The award consists of a scholarship for attendance at the University of Toledo to be used for any educational expense that the student incurs on campus.

Born 14 December 1935 in Toledo, OH, Dolores (Bodnar) Kurek was the daughter of James J. and Veronicka Clara (Goniejski) Bodnar, who married Arnold John Kurek, 30 August 1958. A graduate of Central Catholic High School, Toledo, OH (1954), Dolores A. Bodnar was a four-year Mary Manse Scholar and earned a BE degree, magna cum laude, from Mary Manse College (1958), the ME degree from the University of Toledo (1972), and was currently working there on a PhD degree in physics. In Toledo she taught chemistry, physics, and mathematics at St. Ursula Academy (1961-1975), science at McCauley High School (1975-1978), and chemistry at St. Francis De Sales High School (1978-1983). Mrs. Kurek was a teacher of mathematics and chemistry at Owens Technical College (1980-1986) and of mathematics at the University of Toledo (1986-1995). At Lourdes College, she was an instructor in chemistry, physics, and astronomy (1983-1986), an associate professor of physical science and director of the Copernicus Planetarium at Lourdes College (1990-1995), and a medical transcriptionist for the St. Vincent Medical Center (1990-1995).

Mrs. Kurek was a member of many professional organizations, among them the American Association of Physics Teachers, American Chemistry Society, National Science Teachers Association, Society for College Teachers, Great Lakes Planetarium Association, the Men's Astronomical Society of the Pacific, and the Great Lakes Planetarium Association, and the Technical Society of Toledo (vice-president for education 1989-1995). She was elected a member of the honorary societies for chemistry, chemistry editor (1986-1988), Phi Delta Kappa, Lambda Theta, Phi Theta Kappa, and the Le Chalaterre Society of Toledo. A co-member of the Sisters of Notre Dame and the Ursuline Sisters, Mrs. Kurek was also an active parishioner of Rosary Catholic Church. She was a member of the choir, a cantor, a lector, and a communion distributor. Her biographical record appears in Who's Who in American Education, Who's Who in the Midwest, Who's Who in American Women, and Who's Who in Science and Engineering.

Mrs. Kurek is survived by her husband, Arnold, and four daughters: Kerry, wife of Michael Johnston; Darrah, wife of Edward Konoff; Michele Kurek; and Ursula, wife of Gregory Graves; and one son, James Kurek of Columbus, OH; mother-in-law, Mrs. Lucille Kurek; sister, Mrs. Carolyn Fisher of Ft. Jennings, OH; brother, James A. Bodnar of Lincoln, IL; and nine grandchildren. One daughter, Kristen, is deceased (1959). Funeral services were held in the Sujkowski Funeral Home, Northpoint, 6 June 1995, with burial in Rosary Cathedral.

RONALD L. STUCKY

JOSEPH ALFRED AURELE LA ROCQUE (1909–1990)

Joseph Alfred Aurele La Rocque, age 81, internationally respected paleontologist, specializing in mollusks, and Professor Emeritus, Department of Geological Sciences, The Ohio State University, died 5 November 1990 at his Columbus, OH, residence. He founded, edited, and for many years published Storbiiana, a journal featuring studies on mollusks. La Rocque joined The Ohio Academy of Science (1959), affiliated with the Section Geology, and was elected a Fellow (1950).

Born 26 April 1909 in Ottawa, Ontario, Canada, Aurele La Rocque, as he was known, was the son of Joseph Alfred and Marie-Aimee Haspeck La Rocque. Completing all his secondary education in Ottawa, Ontario, La Rocque graduated from LaSalle Academy (1925), where he was introduced to the mollusks when a teacher gave him a small collection of freshwater shells. In college he majored in geology at the University of Ottawa (BA, 1945) and the University of Michigan (MS, 1947, PhD with Honors, 1948). His dissertation, "Pre-Devonian Pelecypods of Michigan," published in Contributions from the Museum of Paleontology; University of Michigan 7(10): 271-366, 1950, described 39 pre-Traverse species, 14 of them new to science, and was the first work devoted exclusively to the Devonian pelecypods of Michigan.

La Rocque was a museum assistant, Geological Survey of Canada, Ottawa, Ontario (1927-1945); research assistant, Museum of Zoology (1945-1948) and teaching assistant in geology (1948), both at the University of Michigan. Concurrently, he was an instructor in geology, University of Ottawa (1942-1945) and served as Captain in the Canadian Army Reserve. His subsequent career at The Ohio State University was in the Department of Geology, where he advanced through the ranks of assistant professor (1948-1951), associate professor (1951-1954), professor (1955-1976), and professor emeritus (1976-1990). During his early years at Ohio State he also taught at the Utah Field Station and later at the University of Michigan as a visiting professor and curator in paleontology (fall 1969). Although his teaching and research focused primarily on nonmarine Pleistocene Mollusca, he regularly gave a stimulating, popular first-year course in historical geology, an undergraduate-major course in invertebrate paleontology, and graduate seminars in paleoecology and the history of geology. Prof. La Rocque was equally interested and enthused in teaching non-science majors as well as his most advanced graduate students.

During his early years in Canada, Aurele La Rocque conducted studies on Recent mollusks and published papers mostly in the Canadian Field-Naturalist. In Ohio his first work on the paleontology of the state resulted in the book, Ohio Fossils (1955: reprinted 1963, 1970) with M. F. Marple. His Pleistocene studies specialized in nonmarine mollusks during which he and his students had studied six Pleistocene marl deposits in central Ohio, culminating in the publication of the four-volume reference work, Pleistocene Mollusca of Ohio (1966-1970) as well as nearly 60 scientific papers. Well known for his interests in the history of geology, La Rocque translated many pre-1750 French geologic works, among them three books. With his seminar students he compiled the three-volume biographic/bibliographic reference work, Contributions to the History of Geology (1964).
James Alfred MacDonell (1899–1991)

James Alfred MacDonell, age 91, a noted philanthropist, humanitarian, historian, and oil company executive who served as president of the Allen County Historical Society for 50 years in Lima, OH, died 23 June 1991 at his Lima residence. Mr. MacDonell was recognized as Lima’s Citizen of the Year for his work with the community and his financial contributions to various projects in the county (1977), and was honored as the Lima Sertoma Club’s Outstanding Citizen of the Year (1970). He was a member of The Ohio Academy of Science since 1943.

James A. MacDonell, born 22 August 1899 in Lima, was the youngest of four sons of Alexander Thomas and Elizabeth Meason (Dalzell) MacDonell. He graduated from Howe School in Howe, IN. At Harvard University, where MacDonell earned a bachelor’s degree in geology, he once held the title of New England middleweight wrestling champion, and was named the school’s “Strongest Man.”

Mr. MacDonell was a member of the American Association of Petroleum Engineers, the American Institute of Metallurgical Engineers, the American Geological Institute, of which he was a founder, the Allen County Historical Society, First Baptist Church, Lima Kiwanis Club, T&T Club, and Shawnee Country Club. He also was a member of the National Trust for Historic Preservation, the Ohio Genealogical Society, and a 32nd degree Mason.

Mr. MacDonell, a member of the first Lima Planning Commission, donated 56,000 trees to many Lima organizations. For years he gave a tree to every first grader in Lima and area schools. He donated his family home, the MacDonell House, to the Society as a memorial representing the 1890s era of Lima, and furnished it in a manner typical of the period. He also established the Children’s Museum. As a bicentennial project, Mr. MacDonell oversaw construction at the Allen County Fairgrounds of a working oil well, typical of the 1890s era when Lima was an oil center. He was responsible for providing the finances for the county museum’s acquisition of the Mount Vernon display and its mineral collections room. He was also active for many years with the Boy Scouts and the Girl Scouts of America, was a past vice president of the Lima Library Board, and he was a past president of the board of trustees of the First Baptist Church, where he fashioned and finished the walnut cross at the front of the church sanctuary. Many awards came to him including the Silver Beaver Award from the Boy Scouts of America, the Service to Mankind Award from the Lima Noon Sertoma Club, the Daughters of the American Revolution Award for outstanding service, the Lima Exchange Club “Book of Golden Deeds Award,” and a state forestry award. He also received the Good Shepherd Award from the Boy Scouts, the National Award of Merit from the American Association of State and Local History and an Award of Recognition by the Ohio Associations of Historical Societies and Museums. He was named an honorary Rotarian for outstanding community involvement and was recognized by the Allen County commissioners for outstanding service to the community. His geological and hunting expeditions took him to British Guiana, Alaska, and Africa, where he became one of the only three white persons to survive. Funeral arrangements were made by the Chiles and Sons—Laman Funeral Home. Rev. Kenneth Swenson and Rev. John H. Krier officiated at services 28 June 1991 for family and friends at the First Baptist Church. Memorial contributions are to be made to the Allen County Historical Society and the First Baptist Church of Lima.

Robert Ellison McKay, Sr. (1908–1992)

Robert Ellison McKay, age 84, who taught physics at Bowling Green State University for thirty years, died 26 May 1992 at the Wood County Hospital in Bowling Green, OH. After World War II he administered the G.I. Bill benefits and eventually became director of the student financial aid office, retiring in 1973. Mr. McKay was instrumental in developing the National Association for Financial Aid Directors. He was the co-founder of the University’s chapter of Alpha Phi Omega, the Ohio Campus Science Day, and the Bowling Green Hi-Twelve.

A member of The Ohio Academy of Science (since 1949), Mr. McKay was elected a Fellow (1951), was Junior Academy Executive Secretary (1954-1957), and direct the Northwest District Science Day (1946-1965). While McKay was teaching in Middleport High School he took his students to the first District Science Day at Ohio University, and since then he was an active participant in the Junior Academy of Science. His greatest desire was to make people understand that science is an enormous and important part of everyday living (COS News 6(9):1.4, 1954.April).

Born 16 February 1908 in Middleport, OH, to Alan W. and Jeannette (Miller) McKay, Robert McKay worked as an engineering assistant for the New York Telephone Company immediately after graduating from The Ohio State University with a degree in electrical engineering (1929). He was released because of the Great Depression (1931) and upon returning to Ohio he attended graduate school at The Ohio State University, earning a master’s degree in physics (1937). He worked for Trojan Powder Company as a TNT chemist (1941-1942), was an instructor of physics at Antioch College (1942), an assistant professor of physics at Heidelberg College (1943) and the University of Toledo (1943), and an assistant professor of physics at Bowling Green State University (1944-1945). He worked for National Carbon as an engineer (1945) and a year later returned to Bowling Green State University as an assistant professor in physics until retirement (1973).

Mr. McKay was a member of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, American Association of Physics Teachers, American Association of University Professors, American Institute of Physics (Ohio Section), Mid-West Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators, Mid-West Association of Student Employment Directors, and the International Institute (Toledo).

Mr. McKay was active in the Boy Scouts of America, becoming a scout master in the early 1930s and eventually being awarded the Silver Beaver, the highest award available to a volunteer worker, by the Toledo Area Council. He was a Wood County Commissioner for five years. McKay also was active in the Wood County Historical Society and the Friends of the Library, a member of the Wood County Lodge 112 F&M, Scottish Rite
Valley of Toledo; Zenobia Temple of Toledo, Order of Scottish Clans– Clan MacGregor–Toleco, Greenwood Chapter 159, Order of Eastern Stars, and Kiwanis Club including a member of its Board of Trustees (1948–1957). He was a member of St. John’s Episcopal Church, active in the vestry and a junior and senior warden.

Robert E. McKay married Laura Schofield, 24 June 1933 in Newark, NJ. She died 18 January 1985. Surviving are a son, Robert E., Jr. of Royal Palm Beach, FL; a daughter, Elizabeth Bailey, Schenectady, NY; a sister, Jeannette Jarvis, Dover, DE, six grandchildren; and a great-grandchild. Funeral services were held at Deck-Hanneman Funeral Home, with Masonic rites. Memorial cards are to be made to the Shriners Burn Hospital and Wood County Historical Society.

Mildred Althea Miskimen (1901–1995)

Mildred Althea Miskimen, age 94 minus 2 days, died 14 August 1995 at the Elyria United Methodist Village, where she lived since 1988 in Elyria, OH. Miss Miskimen, a professor of Zoology, taught Advanced Ornithology and conducted research on bird migration for the United States Fish and Wildlife Service, while at the Franz Theodore Stone Laboratory, The Ohio State University, Put-in-Bay, OH (1959–1974). A member of The Ohio Academy of Science (since 1948), she affiliated with Section Zoology, was elected a Fellow (1966), and became an emeritus member (1984).

Born 16 August 1901 in Linton Township, Coshocton County, OH, to John and Luella (Cross) Miskimen, daughter Mildred graduated from West Lafayette High School, West Lafayette, OH (1919) and then earned the BS degree in Biology from Muskingum College, New Concord, OH (1923). Under the auspices of the Methodist Protestant Church, she sailed for Dhuila, West Kianlesh, India (1923), where she worked for 18 years as a school administrator and orphanage superintendent. Upon returning to the United States (1941), Miss Miskimen lived in Plainfield, Coshocton County, and taught in the Plainfield Local School (1943–1946). In the summer of 1944, she was a Special Student in the College of Education, The Ohio State University, and in 1947 she was a part-time Special Student at Muskingum College, completing requirements for a four-year Provisional Certificate for science teaching in high schools.

In 1948 Mildred Miskimen entered the Graduate School at The Ohio State University, and with an assistantship in the Department of Zoology and Entomology, she received the MS degree in Zoology (1949), specializing in Ornithology. Her thesis, “Sound Production in Passerine Birds,” published in The Auk(68:493-504:1951), was widely recognized by animal sounds researchers, including a letter of commendation from the Harvard Systematic Zoologists, Ernst Mayr. In 1950, Mildred was granted a research fellowship by The Ohio State University to work on the role of weather in bird migration. This work led to her PhD degree (1952), her dissertation titled, “The Influence of Social and Physical Factors on Autumn Bird Migration” (Dissertation Abstracts, 18(4):2268-1958). Her graduate work was directed by Professor Loren S. Putnam. She held memberships in three ornithological societies: Wilson Ornithological Society, the Cooper Ornithological Society, American Ornithological Union.

Mildred Miskimen’s college teaching career began as an assistant professor of physiology in the Department of Zoology at Miami University (1952–1958), visiting lecturer in the Department of Zoology, Rutgers University (1959–1960), from assistant professor to associate professor of zoology in Douglas College of Rutgers University (1960–1968), associate professor of zoology (1968–1973), and was appointed an adjunct associate professor of zoology at The Ohio State University, at the Franz Theodore Stone Laboratory (1973). During summers, beginning in 1959, Mildred began attending the Stone Laboratory, where she held an appointment as Dean of Women (1959–1967), and worked with Dr. Loren S. Putnam in his Advanced Ornithology course, first as an assistant (1959–1960), co-instructor (1961–1964), and as a full instructor (1965–1968). Following retirement from Rutgers University, she moved to South Bass Island (1967) and bought a home there on Peach Point (1968).

In 1968 Mildred became the residence leader of the OSU blackbird migration research program conducted at the Stone Laboratory. Two years later the United States Fish and Wildlife Service asked her to join in this program, and over 100,000 red-winged blackbirds were banded with associated meticulous records. These records were made available to the Fish and Wildlife Service at Sandusky for analysis when the project closed in 1974.

Dr. Miskimen was a truly devoted faculty member to the academic program of the Stone Laboratory. In September 1984, she gave the first financial contribution toward establishing the Friends Visiting Professor Endowment Fund for the Laboratory. At the time of her 90th birthday in August 1991, she made a substantial donation to this fund, which enabled the Laboratory to hire Dr. Michael R. Ross of the University of Massachusetts as the first Visiting Professor supported by the Endowment.

Dr. Miskimen was active at a time when very few women were teaching and engaged in research in the zoological sciences. Professor Putnam spoke of her as “a student and philosopher above the ordinary, who inspired students to reach beyond normal levels of education. She enjoyed discussions with friends and colleagues, often teaching to new levels of thought. In her quiet way, Mildred was always a haven for those who needed an uplift. She supported numerous worthwhile programs, including the establishment of the Visiting Professor Program at the Stone Laboratory. Her life was a blessing to everyone who knew her.”

During retirement, Mildred remained at Put-in-Bay, where she maintained an office and continued with research at the Stone Laboratory. She was an active citizen of the village and participated in community and church projects. She was affiliated with St. Paul’s Episcopal Church. In the fall of 1984, Mildred moved to Hingham, MA, and in 1988 located at the Elyria United Methodist Center, Elyria, OH, so she could be closer to relatives. She always retained an interest in nature and wrote articles for the Methodist Village Newsletter. Helen Lou Amos, director of the residence, spoke of Mildred as “an outstanding, lovely lady.”

Her family survivors are nephews, John Longsworth, Austin, TX; William Longsworth, Ft. Worth, TX; Rev. James Longsworth, Middleburg Heights, OH; Bert Miskimen, Columbus, OH; Thomas Miskimen, Annapolis, MD; John Edmonds, Kilmarnock, VA; nieces, Mary Lou Lefelar, Chagrin Falls, OH; Dell Magee, Canton, OH; Mary Emler, Winston-Salem, NC. Services were held 18 August 1995, at the Elyria United Methodist Village, with the Rev. Stacy Terrell, Rev. James Longsworth, and Rev. H. B. Magee officiating. Burial was in Plainfield Cemetery, Plainfield, Coshocton County, OH. Memorials are to be made to the Presiding Bishop’s Funds for World Relief, 815 Second Avenue, New York, NY 10017.

Ronald L. Stuckey


John Arvid Schmitt, Jr., age 69, who was Professor of Botany at The Ohio State University for 32 years (1955–1987), died 24 December 1994 at Kobacker House in Columbus, OH. Dr. Schmitt came to the University to develop a teaching and research program in medical mycology, which was successful through increasing enrollments to 50 to 60 students per quarter twice a year. He was the recipient of the College of Biological Sciences Student Council’s Excellent Teaching Award (1969). A member of The Ohio Academy of Science (since 1956), he was affiliated with the Plant Sciences Section, elected a Fellow (1963), and accorded emeritus status (1989).

Born 30 July 1925, in Buffalo, NY, John Schmitt was the son of John Arvid and Emily Virginia (Norvell) Schmitt. Upon completion of a college preparatory curriculum at the high school in Royal Oak, MI, he attended the University of Michigan before being inducted into the United States Navy (1943). Following his discharge from the Navy (1945), Schmitt earned the BS in zoology (1949), and the MS and PhD degrees in botany (1950, 1954), respectively; and a Certificate in Medical Mycology from the Medical School of Duke University (1956). Schmitt served as professor and head of the Biology Department, Findlay College (1953–1954), and assistant professor of biology, University of Mississippi at Oxford (1954-
John L. Smith, age 48, professor of chemistry and physics at Mount Vernon Nazarene College, died 28 December 1994 at his residence in Mount Vernon, OH. He joined The Ohio Academy of Science in 1988 and affiliated with the Section Physics and Astronomy.

Born 15 April 1946 in Blackwell, OK, to John A. and Madge (Anderson) Smith, young John L. Smith received his BSE (1970) and MS (1973) degrees from Emporia State University, Emporia, KS, and his Ph.D (1979) from Oklahoma State University, Stillwater, OK. He taught in the Kansas public high schools and was an instructor at Oklahoma State University, assistant professor of physical science at Seminole Junior College, Seminole, OK, and associate professor of physics and electronics at Kansas Technical Institute. Dr. Smith came to Mount Vernon in 1984 as a professor in the Department of Chemistry and Physical Science at Mount Vernon Nazarene College, where he served as chairperson of the Natural Science Division (1986-1989). He published numerous laboratory manuals for science and physics classes.

Dr. Smith was a member of several professional societies, among them the American Association of Physics Teachers, American Society for Engineering Education, National Science Teachers Association, American Scientific Affiliation, and The Society for College Science Teachers. He was a member of the First Church of the Nazarene in Mount Vernon and served as pastor for the Sparta Advent Christian Church, president of Gideons International of Knox County, and a zone leader for Ashland, Richland, and Knox County Gideons International. Smith was also chaplain at the Knox County Jail and a member of the jail committee. His time also involved working as a member of the board of trustees for the Knox County Freedom Center and the council for Boy Scout Troop 339.

Dr. Smith is survived by his wife, Doris (Schoenfelder) Smith; two sons, Jonathan and Joshua of Mount Vernon; his father, John A. Smith of Trenton, NJ; and daughter Holly S. and husband, Jeffrey M. Graebske of Hilliard, OH; grandchildren Heather and Kyle Graebske; sister and brother-in-law, Virginia S. and Paul R. Bryan, Durham, NC.

Ronald L. Stuckey


Cornelius Wandmacher, age 81, former professor and dean of engineering education at the University of Cincinnati, OH, died 12 September 1992 at the Llanfair Retirement Community in College Hill, Cincinnati, OH. He was a member of the Ohio Board of Registered Engineers (1962-1972), named Cincinnati Engineer of the Year (1963), and was a recipient of the Distinguished Service Award from the National Council of Engineering Examiners (1970), received the National Cooperative Education Award of the American Society of Engineering Education (1980), and was given an award of Merit by the National Society of Professional Engineers (1984). A member of The Ohio Academy of Science (since 1973),
he affiliated with the Section Engineering and was elected a fellow (1979).

Born 1 September 1911 in Brooklyn, NY, to Frederick Cornelius and Louise Meta (Jenson) Wandmacher, young Cornelius graduated with a bachelor of civil engineering (BCE) degree (1933) and an MCE degree (1935) from the Polytechnic Institute of Brooklyn, NY, and was awarded an honorary doctor of engineering degree from the Polytechnic Institute of Brooklyn (1969) and the Rose-Hulman Institute (1976). He took postgraduate work at Columbia Teachers College (1948-1950).

Mr. Wandmacher began his career as a civil engineer in the Plant Engineering Department of the West Virginia Pulp and Paper Company, Mechanicville, NY (1935-1937) and then became an educator in the Department of Civil Engineering, Polytechnic Institute of Brooklyn, as an instructor (1937-1942), assistant professor (1943-1945), and associate professor (1945-1951) of civil engineering. He was director of the evening session, member of the administrative council, and an assistant to the president (1944-1951). Concurrently, during summers, he was a designer, detailer, and office engineer of structures with the New York Central Railroad (1939), engineer examiner for the Municipal Civil Service Commissions, New York Central Railroad (1939-1951), and structural designer for the Morenci Works Development, Phelps Dodge Corporation (1940).

Dr. Wandmacher became William Thomas Professor of Civil Engineering and head of that department at the University of Cincinnati, OH (1951-1958), associate dean (1957-1962), and dean (1962-1974) of the College of Engineering, and the first Geir Professor of Engineering Education (1974-1981), and dean emeritus (1981-1992). He expanded graduate opportunities and research in all departments, and established programs designed to increase the number of women in engineering. The Distinguished Alumnus Award Program for outstanding engineering alumni at the University of Cincinnati was established by him (1969).

Dr. Wandmacher’s research concerned mainly professional engineering education to which he contributed articles to professional journals. From 1954 through 1978, he participated in 51 university campus visits for the purposes of accreditation or consulting on engineering curricula. On approximately half of those occasions he was the chairperson of the visiting team. His great interest was marveling at engineering projects, which was his focus on vacations. He loved the idea that a major engineering project could help society, and marveled at the skill taken in planning and building projects, such as the Markland Dam on the Ohio River between Cincinnati and Louisville, KY, which he and son Richard watched being constructed. Dr. Wandmacher oversaw the design and construction of Rhodes Hall, where the Departments of the College of Engineering were now all in one building. It was recognized as the industrial research laboratory of the year by Industrial Research, Inc. (1971).

Dr. Wandmacher held memberships in the American National Metric Council, American Society for Testing and Materials, American Society for Engineering Education (president, 1974-1975), American Society of Civil Engineers, (Fellow), Institute of Civil Engineers, (United Kingdom), Engineers Council for Professional Development, and Engineering Society of Cincinnati (president, 1959-1960), and the Ohio Society of Professional Engineers (president, Cincinnati Chapter). He was elected to the honorary societies of Sigma Xi, Omicron Delta Kappa, Alpha Sigma Phi, Tau Beta Pi, Chi Epsilon, Pi Tau Sigma, Triangle Club, and Cosmos Club of Washington, DC.

In public service, Dean Wandmacher was appointed by the Governor of Ohio for two five-year terms as a member of the Ohio Board of Registration for Professional Engineers (1962, 1972), appointed by the mayor of Cincinnati at various times to the Air Pollution Control Board and several Advisory Boards, served as a member of Commandant’s Advisory Committee, Air Force Institute of Technology (1970-1972), and was a member of the Chancellor’s Advisory Committee, Engineering, Ohio Board of Regents (1966-1972). As president of the American Society of Engineering Education and faculty member at the University, Dr. Wandmacher himself noted that he “continuously emphasized close relationships between education, industry, and government.” In 1978 he also noted that the “change-over to a modernized metric system of measuring units in the U.S. . . . if done with vision, imagination, and compassion...can be a highly beneficial and productive experience for education, industry, commerce, government, and the entire nation.” He was a member of the board of directors of the National Metric Council and authored the book, Metric Units in Engineering—Going S.I. (Systems International).

On 28 November 1936, Cornelius Wandmacher married Mary Elizabeth Royce, who survives, and to whom were born three sons, Richard Royce of Utica, MI, William Neil of Jacksonville, FL, and James Lewis of Fort Wayne, IN. Surviving also are two sisters, Margaret Wandmacher of Palm Harbor, FL, and Louise (Wandmacher) Halsteadt of Manhasset, NY; eight grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

Private services were conducted for the family with Anderson, Baiter and Sahnd Funeral Home in charge of the arrangements. Memorials are to be made to the Dean’s Discretionary Fund, College of Engineering, University of Cincinnati; the Llanfair Life Care Fund, 1772 Larch Avenue; or Immanuel Presbyterian Church, 3445 Clifton Avenue.

RONALD L. STUCKEY