

CORNELL  
UNIVERSITY

## STATION NEWS

GENEVA  
NEW • YORK

VOLUME LXXIX • NO. 2

JANUARY 16-23, 1998

## BRIEFS

## STATION EMPLOYEE MEETING

The annual Station Employee Meeting will be held on Thursday, January 22, from 10:30 am to noon in the Jordan Hall Auditorium. Mary George Opperman, Associate Vice President of Human Resources, and John Lambert, Director of the Statutory Finance and Business Services, will explain the roles of their offices and discuss issues important to employees.

Cornell is in transition to meet the challenges facing the University. Employee Essentials, COLTS, and the procurement card are examples of recent changes Cornell employees have accepted. New challenges posed by Project 2000 will be discussed. The basis for Salary Improvement Programs, the process for classifying positions, and the value of employee's benefits also are topics expected to be presented by Mary Opperman and John Lambert.

The time has been expanded from 1 hour to 1-1/2 hours to address a number of topics and to allow time for questions and answers. Employees are encouraged to attend this meeting to become better informed about how Cornell and SUNY affect employees at Geneva and how Geneva employees can learn more about the system. Please think of questions you would like to ask before coming to the meeting.

## LIBRARY NEWS

The new schedule for the Library Technology Center workshops for January through April is now on the Web. Please check the schedule and register (using the web) for the workshops you are interested in. The URL is <http://www.nysaes.cornell.edu/library/cal.html>.

IPM AWARD WINNERS ANNOUNCED  
AT HORT SHOW

A dedicated crop consultant and an innovative scientist from the Experiment Station were honored this week at the NYS Horticultural Society meeting for their achievements in integrated pest management (IPM). Elizabeth Graeper Thomas, who owns Liz Thomas Orchard Consulting, and David Gadoury, senior research associate at Geneva, received their awards from IPM Program Director James Tette on Thursday, Jan. 15.

Half a dozen state IPM awards are presented each year to individuals or groups showing leadership in biological, cultural, physical, and chemical tools that minimize economic, health, and environmental risks. According to Tette, the purpose of the award is to "honor people for developing new IPM methods or for sharing IPM with others."

Gadoury, senior research associate in the Department of Plant Pathology, works on the biology and ecology of plant pathogens and how this information can be used to better manage diseases of grapes and apples. He emphasizes practicality, simplicity, economy, and biologically based solutions.

Focusing on powdery grape mildew, Gadoury, together with the late R. C. Pearson, determined how the fungus survived winter to cause infection in the spring. They then revised the grape disease management program to target the early part of the growing season, when the disease is inconspicuous but easier to control. This new approach reduced the annual number of fungicide applications by as much as 50 percent in some cases, and simultaneously improved disease control. As a direct result of these changes, New York grape growers save nearly \$1 million a year in lower fungicide costs, and produce higher quality fruit.

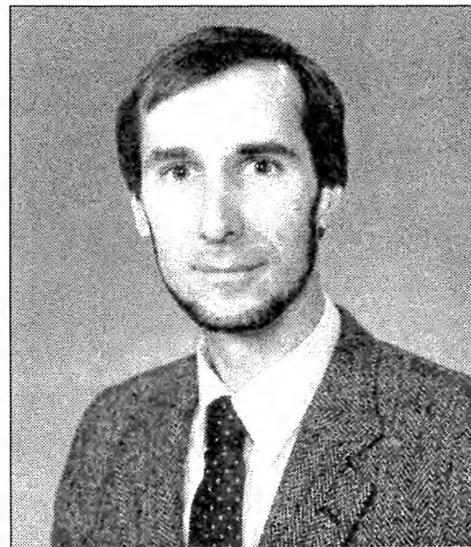
Gadoury's research is expanding our knowledge of how other major grape diseases, such as downy mildew and black rot, develop. New information about diseases developing in sequence as they weaken a plant is helping growers to select fungicides that target each disease at the proper time. Gadoury is also involved in controlling powdery mildew with beneficial mites.

In the field of apples, Gadoury worked on managing apple scab for some 20 years, developing the "Potential Ascospore Dose" principle and a simple heat-maturity model that likewise predicts the availability of inoculum. His work on both apples and grapes has been incorporated into disease management programs in New York, the northeast region, and other parts of the world.

Gadoury earned both an M.S. and a Ph.D. in Botany and Plant Pathology at the University of New Hampshire.

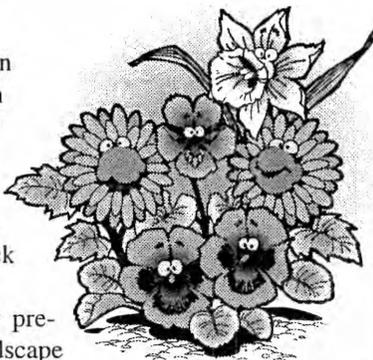
The second winner to receive an IPM award is Liz Thomas, who has been a crop

(Continued on page 2)



## GardenScape

GardenScape, Greater Rochester's Flower & Garden Show, will be held this year at the Dome Center in Henrietta March 19-22. Ticket price, at the door, is \$7 (for adults), however, Station Club is making advanced sale tickets available at a cost of only \$6. You can purchase your tickets through Colleen Van Allen, at Barton Lab., or through Gemma Osborne in Hedrick Hall.



GardenScape '98 is a large-scale garden show presented by the Genesee-Finger Lakes Nursery and Landscape Association. It is an indoor garden paradise with numerous ideas and professionals on hand to help consumers get the greatest enjoyment and value from their outdoor environments.

There will be more than 50 fully landscaped gardens and displays, including an interactive children's garden and numerous demonstrations and speakers. Featured speakers include Patrick Nutt, horticultural consultant, Ken Druse, author and award-winning garden photographer, Chris Gangi, editor of GARDEN DESIGN MAGAZINE, and Candace Miller, author and storyteller, entertaining children with her stories of nature and the environment.

The hours of the event are 9:00 am - 9:00 pm, March 19-21 and 9:00 am - 5:00 pm on March 22.

If paying for tickets by check, please make check payable to: GardenScape. We will have tickets available through March 4th.

## 14th ANNUAL STATION CLUB BOWLING PARTY

Saturday, January 31, at Sunset Bowl, Geneva

This is a fun night! Bring your spouse or a friend, if not to bowl, to watch the fun and cheer you on! See flyer that accompanied last week's issue of News for details. Deadline to sign up is **Friday, January 23**

TEAM NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

TEAM CAPTAIN: \_\_\_\_\_

TEAM MEMBERS: \_\_\_\_\_

1) \_\_\_\_\_

2) \_\_\_\_\_

3) \_\_\_\_\_

4) \_\_\_\_\_

5) \_\_\_\_\_

NON-BOWLERS: \_\_\_\_\_

COSMIC BOWLING:      Yes                      No

Bowling:      \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$11/Club Member \$ \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$13/Non-Club Member \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Non-Bowling:      \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$5/Club Member \$ \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$7/Non-Club Member \$ \_\_\_\_\_

TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Return to Matt Lewis, Jordan Hall • Make checks payable to "Station Club"**

(AWARD, cont.)

consultant since 1982, working with commercial apple growers in Wayne County whose farms range from 15-600 acres. One of her greatest contributions to the field of IPM has been interpreting and putting to use the information provided by Cornell. Specifically, she has encouraged growers to manage apple scab by relying on rainfall data, rather than by applying calendar sprays. "We've fine-tuned the process," says Thomas. "I care about how much pesticide is out there."

Thomas also cares about growers' interests and is able to provide what she calls a "bird's-eye view" of what works and what doesn't. In previous years, by advocating a "soft program" that is less detrimental to beneficial organisms in the orchard and by pinpointing the timing of pesticide applications, Thomas was able to save her growers money. Today she thinks everyone has to work harder to ensure that new, softer pesticides are economically viable. Thomas advocates the use of predatory mites and sometimes sees growers shift perspective, changing their tolerance for damage, or becoming more willing to try biological control.

Sixteen years of experience has enabled Thomas to become well respected by growers and Cornell University staff and faculty. After earning a B.S. from Cornell University in 1981, she was hired by Seneca Foods to be their pest management supervisor for fruit orchards. In later years, she teamed up with consultant Jeff Alicandro of AgrAssistance and still cooperates closely with him.

Thomas is on the board of directors of NEWA (the Northeast Weather Association), regularly attends conferences and trade shows, and is active in her local Parent Teacher Association. She is the mother of five children.

*C. Koplinka-Loehr*

### REMINDER

The Library Technology Center  
**Excel Workshops**  
 will be held on  
**January 20th at**  
**9:00 am-12 pm and 1:30 pm-4:30 pm**  
 (two separate sessions.)  
 Mark these dates if you enrolled

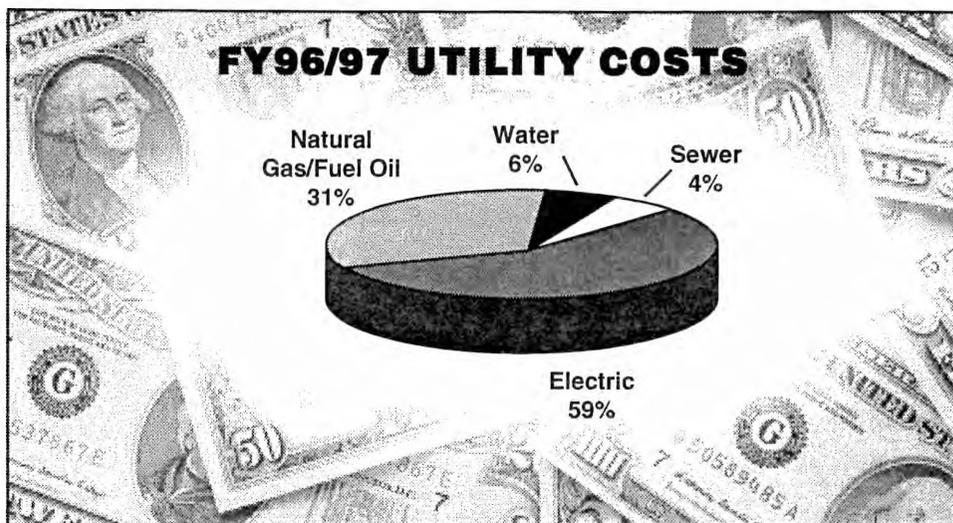
## SAVE ENERGY—USE MONEY FOR SALARIES AND PROGRAMS

It took \$1,250,000 to pay for the cost of energy at the GENEVA Station this past year. That amounts to almost 6.6 per cent of the entire Station budget of some \$19 million. The following chart shows how much the different kinds of energy cost by percentage.

Even though there is a separate budget item earmarked for utilities, monies in this account have not covered the full energy costs of the Station in each of the past two years. In 1995, the shortfall was just over \$51,000 and, last year, just over \$93,000. Fortunately, in both years, officials on the Ithaca campus provided funds to balance the account. In essence, Ithaca bailed us out of a utility deficit at Geneva on two different occasions. This is not something that can be expected to happen should another deficit occur.

It is true that the Station's Heating Plant has just undergone a complete renovation at a cost in excess of \$1.5 million. This provides the Station with state-of-the-art facilities for producing steam, which is used to heat and, in some instances, cool buildings. Although it is anticipated that the three new boilers will be much more efficient than the old ones, there is no way of knowing just how much more until after a year has gone by.

Therefore, it is essential that every employee of the Station do everything they can to continue to conserve energy. How do you do this? Electrical energy is by far the largest component of our utility bill. Last year, our bill for electricity was nearly \$740,000. Two major draws on our energy sources are greenhouses and reach-in growth chambers. Just for lighting, a typical greenhouse on our campus will use \$90 worth of electricity a month. To operate the lights in one particular house in the Old Range costs more than \$200 per month. If you can combine experiments with someone else, reduce the number of hours that your lighting is turned on (most houses have lights running for 16 hours a day), or even find ways of reducing temperatures in a range, the cost savings will be significant. For example, it is estimated that



the decision by Horticultural Sciences to keep the west wing of the Old Range at 40°F this winter will save at least \$4,000 between November and mid-February.

Growth chambers are another major energy hog. The reach-in chambers, such as found in Room 55 in Barton Laboratory, cost more than \$160 per month to operate. The critical thing here is to be sure that the growth chamber is shut down completely after an experiment is finished. Unfortunately, chambers are left running too frequently even when they have nothing in them and no experiment planned for the immediate future.

Something we all can do is to be sure that we turn the lights off in our offices if we are going to be away from them for more than 30 minutes. Also, lights in hallways should be turned off when not needed. Whenever possible, turn off computers and printers at the end of the work day. Three large draws of electrical energy, our largest utility expense, are portable electric heaters, window air conditioners, and coffee pots that have heating elements that run whenever the pot is plugged in to an electrical outlet.

Electric space heaters should only be used after checking with Buildings and Properties personnel to determine that adequate heat cannot be supplied through the building's regular heating system. Here's an example of where some real savings can be realized throughout the Station campus. A typical electric space heater costs about \$31 per month if used only during the work day. If there are 100 heaters in use on campus, and that may be an underestimate, the cost per month to operate these heaters is \$3,100 or \$37,200 per year. If your office is a little cool after Buildings and Properties has adjusted the regular source of heat, try dressing accordingly.

A window air conditioner costs as much as an electric space heater to operate, so using them only when needed and turning them off after work hours will result in thousands of dollars in savings.

An electric coffee pot that has its element on all the time can cost up to more than \$70 per month to operate. If you ask Buildings and Properties to provide you with an automatic timer and set it to have the heating element turned on only during working hours, you can save up to 50 per cent of the operating cost for that unit.

Your cooperation in conserving energy at the Station will be greatly appreciated. By SAVING ENERGY, you will be SAVING MONEY, which means that every possible dollar will be used where it is most needed—to buy supplies and pay people to do research and extension.

*Pat Krauss*

**"So many of our dreams at first seem impossible, then they seem improbable, and then, when we summon the will, they soon become inevitable."**

—ACTOR CHRISTOPHER REEVE AT THE U.S. DEMOCRATIC PARTY NATIONAL CONVENTION—

**CALENDAR of EVENTS**

**JANUARY 16-23, 1998**

**EVENTS/MEETINGS**

**Tuesday, January 20, 10:30 am**

Room 310, Barton Lab  
*Administrative Managers' Meeting*

**Thursday, January 22, 10:30 am-noon**

Auditorium, Jordan Hall  
*Annual Station Employee Meeting*

**SEMINARS**

**HORTICULTURAL SCIENCES**

**Date:** January 19, 1998  
**Time:** 11:00 am  
**Place:** Jordan Hall Staff Room  
**Speaker:** Rashid Al-Yahyai  
**Topic:** "Effect of Irrigation on Young Apple Trees"

**FOOD SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY**

**Date:** Tuesday, January 20, 1998  
**Time:** 10:30 am  
**Place:** FST Conference Room  
**Speaker:** Chang-Ping Hsiao  
**Topic:** "Modeling the Inhibitory Effects of Organic Acids on Microorganisms"

**PEOPLE**

• *Condolences*

Our sincere condolences to Olga Padilla-Zakour and her family on the loss of her father on January 12.

• *Congratulations*

Pat Krauss is the proud grandfather of Maryssa Patrice Greer who was born on Sunday, January 11 at 9:10 pm. His third grandchild weighed in at 6 lbs., 14 oz.

**PEOPLE**

Cathy Weeden's telephone extension in Communications Services has been changed to x253. Please mark this change on your phone directory.

**CLASSIFIED**

**For Rent:** Studio apt. one mile from the station. Very clean, fully furnished including linens and kitchen equipment. \$350/mo includes utilities. Within walking distance from laundry and grocery market. Separate entrance and use of half the garage. Call Karen at x387 or 789-5240, or e-mail at kje7@nysaes.cornell.edu.

**SKI BARGAINS**

Ski or snowboard at Bristol Mt. on Feb. 15 from 5-10 pm for only \$14. Reduced ski and snowboard rental rates and \$5 lessons will also be available. Proceeds benefit the Bristol Mt. Ski Patrol. Tickets must be purchased before Feb 10. Contact Jennifer Grant, jag7@cornell.edu or x342.

**SURPLUS FOR SALE**

The following vehicles are being surplused by Buildings and Properties. Minimum bid price is given. Send sealed bids to Al Fairbrother, B&P, by January 16 at 2:00 pm. Please be sure to include your name, campus telephone number, and department on your bid. The Station has the right to reject any or all bids.

Bid #1 (marked on windshield): 1989 Ford Mini Van, 107,000 miles, exhaust and rear end noise. Minimum bid: \$1,200  
Bid #2 (marked on windshield): 1978 Chevrolet 1/2 ton pick-up, 45,000 miles, broken windshield. Minimum bid: \$400

The Field Research Unit has the following surplus items for sale :

	Minimum Bid
1954 A/C "G" tractor painted with hydraulics	\$2,000
1953 A/C "G" tractor no hydraulics	\$1,200
1954 A/C "G" tractor, needs clutch, battery	\$800
1977 Int. 186 hydro tractor	\$10,000
1983 Riverside trailer, 20' deck, 12 ton capacity	\$4,000
1966 Int. Cub tractor with Woods belly mower 5'	\$2,600
1967 Royer shreader/mixer, portable	\$3,000
12 John Deere flex planters with hoppers	\$25 each

Sealed bids will be accepted at FRU by Mark Scott until Tuesday, January 20, 1:00 pm. Bids will be opened at 1:05 pm and will be posted outside the FRU office. Bid should include name, item, phone number, and bid. If you have any questions, please call Mark at x296.

 **DAVID GILL**   
**RETIREMENT LUNCHEON**

**Friday, January 23, 1998, noon**  
**Mario's Restaurant**



David retired from Cornell University on December 31, 1997, after a career in the rootstock breeding program.



Please Print:

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_  
Dept: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Total  
\_\_\_\_ Lunch Buffet @ \$8.25 \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Drink choices will be coffee, hot tea, iced tea, soda, and milk.  
Gift Donation (optional) \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Total Amount Enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Please respond by January 21, 1998 to Lisa Biletzky or Dona Soper, Hedrick Hall. Make check payable to Dona Soper.