

CORNELL
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STATION NEWS

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MARCH 20-27, 1998

BRIEFS

SAVINGS BONDS

As part of the Project 2000 initiative, the Payroll Office is looking to streamline processes, focus on getting people paid, and allow employees to handle their own finances.

One of the first steps was opening Direct Deposit to all employees and moving the direct deposit date from Friday to Thursday. By promoting direct deposit, employees now have more efficient use of their pay allowing interest to accrue immediately, and to take advantage of the many services banks provide. Ultimately, the PeopleSoft processing will allow direct deposit to multiple banks, eliminate the need to separately worry about the credit union deduction and leave all the banking to employees.

Another step in allowing individuals to maintain their own finances is to get Cornell out of the US Savings Bonds business. Employees can have their money deposited directly to a savings account and earn interest immediately on their money, and purchase savings bonds from their banks at the same intervals they had set up with payroll deduction. Banks are better suited to handle bonds and will assure timely purchases. As such, effective immediately, we will not be taking any new enrollments into this program. Employees currently in the bond program will be notified that effective with the last pay period in June (June 25, 1998), we will no longer be accepting payroll deductions for the purchase of US Savings Bonds and any balance remaining in their bond will be refunded in their next check. Any employees who would like to cease their payroll deduction earlier than June 25 should fill out a Savings Bond Deduction sheet, available in Central Payroll, indicating their desire to terminate the deduction.

R. Blehar

STONE FRUIT SCHOOL ON THE
LAKEFRONT

FST's fruit wines were tasted during the recent Stone Fruit School. Ross Orton (plaid shirt) from Ripley, NY, the senior stone fruit grower in attendance, joins in the sampling.

The Ramada Inn was the site of an eager gathering of stone fruit growers on March 16 and 17. The purpose was the New York Stone Fruit School, and the 96 participants included growers from across New York and Pennsylvania.

A major highlight of the event was the launching of a stone fruit growers association (as yet unnamed) for New York and neighboring states. "The growers are looking for a consumer-friendly name for their fruits," commented Bob Andersen, an organizer of the event. "They feel that stone fruits does not convey to most people what they produce and they are open to suggestions."

The school was sponsored by the Statewide Program Committee for Fruit, Cornell Cooperative Extension, and the New York State Horticulture Society. Each year a fruit school is organized, but this was the first such school on stone fruits. It is hoped that the new association will continue the gathering of growers and sharing of information through similar events.

"Strength Through Diversity," the school theme, stressed economic security for growers by planting a variety of crops. Topics included IPM strategies for disease and pest prevention, marketing, irrigation, varieties, growing recommendations, and industry organization with the emphasis on the most difficult aspects of growing and marketing crops.

(Continued on page 2)

(FRUIT SCHOOL, cont.)

Growers from New York and nearby states profited by coming together and sharing their experiences with stone fruit profit centers within their businesses.

"The growers were very pleased. The timing was good, and the information was pertinent," said Andersen. "In addition, the Ramada Inn staff was outstanding in meeting the needs of the organizers and the participants. Even the weather was cooperative, and we had two bright, sunny days."

C. Weeden

(photo at right) Copper and Bacterial Pest Control Forum members (left to right) David Rosenburger, Ernie Borchert from Marlboro, NY, Joe Nicholson from Geneva, NY, and Tom Burr of Plant Pathology.



MORE WEB SECURITY



This week we'll look at two hot security topics, JavaScript and cookies.

Q: What is JavaScript?

A: JavaScript is an extension to HTML that allows a

WWW site designer to imbed code into a Web page. Its intended purpose is to give a Web page designer more control over a browser. Usually this control is for beneficial purposes such as validating form input or opening another browser window.

Q: What security problems does JavaScript pose?

A: JavaScript can play some potentially damaging "tricks" because it has certain security holes that allow intruding on a user's privacy. It is possible for a Web site to use JavaScript to monitor pages a user visits and transmit the information obtained about these pages to a host somewhere on the Internet.

Q: What can I do to protect myself?

A: For starters you should make sure you

have the latest version of your browser, both Netscape and Microsoft are constantly adding patches to their programs to combat the newest variants of JavaScript "tricks." You may also wish to disable JavaScript by unchecking 'Enable JavaScript.'

In Netscape 3 this can be found in Options → Network Preferences → Languages.

In Netscape 4 this can be found in Edit → Preferences → Advanced.

If you disable JavaScript, you will lose the advantages, too.

Q: What are cookies?

A: In the early days of the Web when you visited a site, there was no record of whether you had previously been there. Now, with cookies, it is possible for a site to record previous visits or keep track of ordered items, among other information.

Q: What security problems do cookies pose?

A: Cookies cannot damage your system in any way. In fact, most cookies disappear right after you leave the site that sent them. There are *persistent cookies* though, which are small pieces of information stored on your hard drive. These do not harm your drive, but they can make it easier to track your Web browsing habits.

Q: What can I do to protect myself?

A: To select which cookies are sent to your machine, check 'Show an Alert Before Accepting a Cookie.'

In Netscape 3: Options → Network Preference → Protocols.

This will cause your browser to issue a warning and allow you a choose whether to accept a cookie.

In Netscape 4: Edit → Preferences → Advanced.

Netscape 4 also adds the options of 'Accept Only Cookies That Get Sent Back to the Originating Server' (which will not allow persistent cookies) and 'Do Not Accept Cookies.'

There are also numerous programs that will remove persistent cookies from your hard drive. In summary, *neither JavaScript nor cookies can damage your system. The security risk they presently pose is one of privacy.* It is up to you to decide if this potential risk is worth the advantages you gain by leaving JavaScript and cookies enabled.

J. Zakour

SQUIRRELS WITH A SWEET TOOTH

The Station's resident population of grey squirrels is already showing a lot of spring-time activity. One such activity is the tapping of maple trees for their sugary sap. The large sugar maple between Parrott and Hedrick Halls has come under its annual late winter attack by squirrels.

At about this time every year, the squirrels go to the farthest ends of all the branches they can reach and nip off about 1 to 2 inches of the twig tips. The tips themselves are apparently not wanted, just the sweet sap that exudes out of the cut stubs. This sap continues to dapple the pavement long after the nippers have gnawed. Early in the week it was easy to spy tiny icicles at the tips of the most recently severed tips; stand too near and you might even get dripped on.

Take a look sometime: you will be impressed at how significant this damage is, and how much it probably reduces the health of this already declining specimen. There are often a half-dozen squirrels at a time lapping up the sweet liquid. One day last year I counted 12! The parking lot, sidewalk and lawn is strewn with nipped twig tips. The ends of all the branches on the tree are very short and brushy, the result of years of this "nipped in the bud" activity.

M. Goffinet
Geneva Arboretum Association

ANNUAL PESTICIDE UPDATE SECOND DATE AVAILABLE

Geneva pesticide applicators that cannot attend the update in Geneva on March 26 may want to consider attending the meeting in Ithaca on Friday, March 20, 8:30-11 am, 146 Morrison Hall. All college personnel, including faculty, who use pesticides in their research, teaching, and extension programs/activities must attend one of these sessions. No pre-registration is required.

*"Spring rides no horses down the hill,
But comes on foot, a goose-girl still
And all the loveliest things there be
Come simply so, it seems to me."*

—EDNA ST. VINCENT MILAY—

STATION EMPLOYEES EXTEND A HELPING HAND (Bruce and BJ's Nearly Excellent Arctic Adventure)

As readers will recall, this past January a devastating ice storm ripped through the North Country leaving thousands without utilities for days. The situation was so dire that help was called in from across the Northeast, the central East Coast, and the Midwest. What you may not know is that three Station employees, Bruce Moore and his son BJ along with Bill Hanvey, were among the 50 volunteer firefighters and emergency aid workers from Ontario County who responded to that call.

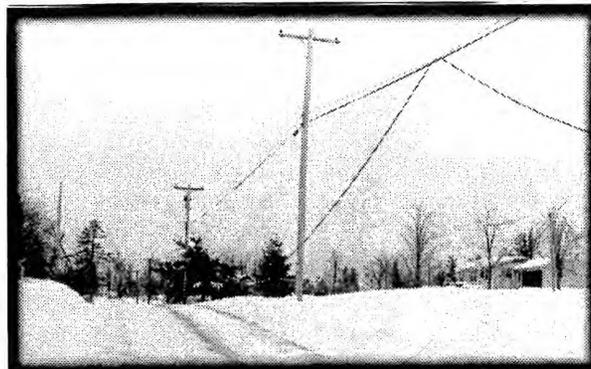
On January 15, Bruce and BJ headed to the Emergency Operations Center in Canton, NY, for assignment. The devastation was so severe that on the drive through the ice covered region from Watertown to Canton, they rarely saw a power or telephone pole left intact. When they arrived in Canton, the Moores were assigned as relief to the Richville Fire Department, which would become their home away from home for the next two days. The fire station had emergency generators for power, but the rest of the town was powerless.

The relief was very welcome as it enabled the local Richville volunteers to return home for the first time in days. This, though, posed a big challenge for the Moores as they were unfamiliar with the fire district and any potential problems they might face. Still, they persevered and were able to accomplish much. During their stay they provided a number of relief services, such as delivering drinking water to people and livestock and transporting people to the emergency shelter. In fact, they did every job that needed to be done, from carrying firewood and shoveling snow to checking in on people who stayed in their homes instead of the shelter. Though the work was hard and the conditions barely tolerable, both took pride in the fact that they were helping people. Their only reward was knowing how much their help was needed and appreciated.

Bruce Moore is a employee of Communications Services, where he is print shop manager. He is Assistant Fire Chief in Geneva. BJ is a part-time employee of Communications Services and is also a Geneva Firefighter.

Bill Hanvey of B&P also went north to do his share. In fact, Bill, who was initially going to serve a four day tour, actually stayed for six days helping with North Country relief efforts!

J. Zakour



Photos courtesy of Bruce Moore

CALENDAR of EVENTS

MARCH 20-27, 1998

EVENTS/MEETINGS

Thursday, March 26, 1998, 8:30-11 am
 Jordan Hall Auditorium
Annual Pesticide Update

SEMINARS

**HORTICULTURAL SCIENCES/
 PLANT PATHOLOGY**

Date: Monday, March 23, 1998
Time: 11:00 am
Place: Jordan Hall Auditorium
Speaker: Verna Higgins
 Univ. of Toronto
Topic: Oxidative Burst and Disease
 Resistance: the *Cladosporium
 fulvum*/Tomato Story

ENTOMOLOGY

Date: Tuesday, March 24, 1998
Time: 10:30 am
Place: Room 310, Barton Laboratory
Speaker: Dr. W. K. (Peter) Ma
 Department of Entomology
 Cornell Univ., Geneva
Topic: Neuroendocrine Control of Sex
 Pheromone Production in Moths:
 Basic to Applied

*There will be a period of social interaction
 with the speaker at 10:00 am.
 Coffee & cookies will be available.*

FOOD SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

Date: Wednesday, March 25, 1998
Time: 10:30 am
Place: Conference Room, FST Bldg.
Speaker: Geza Hrazdina
 Dept. of FS&T
 Cornell Univ., Geneva
Topic: Just a Taste

LTC WORKSHOPS

Wednesday, March 25, 10 am-12 pm
 Library Tech. Center, Jordan Hall
Beginning HTML

Wednesday, March 25, 2-4 pm
 Library Tech. Center, Jordan Hall
Advanced HTML

Thursday, March 26, 10 am-12 pm
 Library Tech. Center, Jordan Hall
Create a Web Page With Netscape Gold

STATION CLUB ROUND-UP

Hey, Matt...did you
 round up your Station
 Club Membership
 this year?

You boys sure do right
 by Colleen when you join
 Station Club. There's
 bargains and fun galore!

Sho'nuf did, Rob.
 I've got a family of four,
 and you sure can't beat
 those prices!!



1998 Station Club Membership Drive

The Station Club membership drive ends March 21. Membership is \$8 dollars for families, \$5 for individuals, and retirees receive a one-dollar discount of these prices.

Reasons to join include:

- a discount on the price of Station Club events such as the banquet (Nov. 6), golf tournament (June 5), summer picnic (July 24), bowling party (TBA), holiday party (TBA), and the new Niagara Falls/Casino Niagara bus trip (May 31).
- a discount on Station Club souvenirs such as T-shirts, sweat shirts, book bags and other fine products.
- your support of Station Club sponsorship of such events as the Bike/Walk to Work Week, the Corporate Cup team, and the Outstanding Employee-of-the-Year Award. Your joining helps to make these and future events possible.
- your support of the Station Club's assistance with such projects as the Sawdust Cafe renovations.

Station Club reps are:

Administration
 B&P, Security, Fleet & Heating Plant
 Communications
 Entomology
 Field Research Unit
 Food Science & Technology
 Horticulture Sciences
 Hedrick Hall
 Sturtevant Hall
 Integrated Pest Management
 Plant Genetic Resource Unit
 Plant Pathology

Charene Hibbard
 Ralph D'Amato
 Sandy Antinelli
 Donna Roelofs
 Mark Scott
 Nancy Long

Gemma Osborne
 Kristin Ondik
 Cheryl TenEyck
 Tiffany Fisk
 Colleen VanAllan, Station Club president

CLASSIFIED

WANTED TO RENT: One or two bedroom apartment for visiting European couple. Mid-April to December. Call 781-5331 (evenings) or e-mail dm51.