

CORNELL  
UNIVERSITY

## STATION NEWS

GENEVA  
NEW • YORKVOLUME LXXX • NO. 14  
APRIL 9-16, 1999

## BRIEFS

## WALKAMERICA

This year's March of Dimes WalkAmerica will be held on Sunday, April 18, 1:00 pm at the Seneca Lake State Park. A "thank you" party, complete with lunch, will be held at the finish line! This event raises money for polio vaccines, PKU tests, and neonatal intensive care units and will help save babies from death, disability, and retardation in Upstate New York. If you are interested in getting involved and becoming a Station Team walker, please contact me. I will send you more information and a registration form. If you have registered already (some people who have walked in the past receive registration forms directly), you can still join the Station Team. Please contact me (x211, kad2).

*Kathy DeRosa*

## DAYLIGHT SAVINGS

To change your computer clock, pull down the Apple Menu—>Control Panels—>Date and Time. Check daylight savings in the dialog box.

## WANTED

A few good writers. Station News needs writers to contribute stories on people and events at the Station on an occasional basis. If you have ideas you would like to see in print, contact Linda McCandless at llm3.

SOIL TEMPERATURE  
INFORMATION

Geneva historical soil temperatures from 1990 can now be found at the following site:  
<http://www.nysaes.cornell.edu/weather>

NEW SMALL FRUIT BREEDER  
APPOINTED AT GENEVA

**D**r. Courtney Alyn Weber has joined the Department of Horticultural Sciences at the Station as Assistant Professor. Weber is the new small fruit breeder, replacing John Sanford who has resigned to pursue other interests.

"It is wonderful that this program, which has a long history of productivity, will go forward without interruption, and that it will contribute to the efforts of the team of Cornell scientists working with the small fruit industry in New York," said department chair, Hugh Price. "Courtney brings to the position experience in conventional breeding integrated with the use of biotechnology," he added.

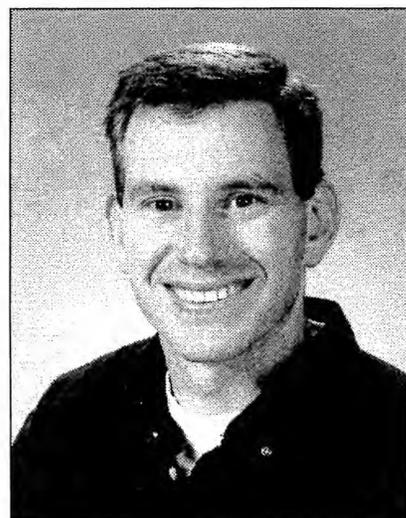
Weber, who started work in March, considers himself a plant breeder first and a molecular biologist second. "My short term plans" he said, "are to familiarize myself with the ongoing program's raspberry and strawberry plant material and to make crosses that will allow me to study segregation at the molecular level of such traits as root rot resistance and fruit color." Because the principles of genetics and inheritance apply similarly to most plants, Weber foresees that the transition from working on citrus to raspberries, strawberries, and other New York small fruits will go smoothly.

"I hope to release many improved raspberry and strawberry cultivars for the northeastern grower so that the industry will expand." Weber stated. "The more initial success I have, the easier it will be to be more successful in the future. Success feeds upon itself." Unabashedly upbeat, he added, "My biggest challenge will be funding a molecular biology program in small fruits. It is notoriously hard to get outside funding for a minor crop, but I plan on doing so."

Weber received his B.S. in Agricultural Sciences in 1991 from the University of Illinois-Urbana, and his M.S. and Ph.D. in 1994 and 1998, respectively, in Horticultural Sciences from the University of Florida. While a student, he won the Hughes Memorial Scholarship, the A.S. Herlong Supplemental Fellowship, the ASHS Student Travel Grant, and the Plant Molecular and Cellular Biology Workshop Best Student Oral Presentation award.

While pursuing his Ph.D., Weber worked on the genetic mapping of quantitative trait loci for cold tolerance in citrus hybrids using various molecular markers and mapping strategies including bulked segregant analysis and interval mapping. Weber's master's thesis was "Peach Flower and Anther Characteristics and Genetic Relationships of Some Qualitative and Quantitative Traits." He also served as Plant Breeding Intern for Pan American Seeds, where he designed and initiated breeding programs for trial ornamentals.

On a personal note, Weber will marry Betsy Bihn on April 24. Bihn is currently a senior biologist for the Horticultural Sciences teaching program in Ft. Pierce, Florida, at the Indian River Research and Education Center. She has a B.S. in zoology and an M.S. in horticulture and will be looking for employment when she comes to Geneva. Weber enjoys most sports. He likes golfing, fishing, hunting, and, generally, being outdoors. A softball player from Florida, where weather permits 60-80 games per year, Weber brings much experience to the Hort Science team. Watch out B&P!

*John Zakour*

## THE VITICULTURE COLLECTION AND ARCHIVE IN THE CORNELL UNIVERSITY LIBRARY



When he wrote his *History of Wine in America: From the Beginnings to Prohibition*, author Thomas Pinney had this to say on the subject of wine making: "Perhaps the most striking fact that I have learned in writing this book is how little is known about the subject.

There is a history of wine growing to be written for almost every state in the nation, and frequently there is room for more local history as well."

In order to preserve that history, in 1997, the editor of *Wine East Magazine*, Hudson Cattell, urged the Station librarian to consider starting an archive at Cornell in order to ensure that primary historical documents, such as Philip Wagner's among others, not be lost to posterity. The fear was that this great heritage of wine making might otherwise disappear and that future historians would be deprived of the means to access primary material, which might describe the evolution of the regional wine industry first hand.

Unfortunately, the Geneva Library has no archival facilities, so a call to Tom Hickerson, Head of the Rare and Manuscript Division of the Library, brought in Lorna Knight, Curator of Manuscripts for consultation. The result? The Eastern Wine and Grape Archive, a cooperative venture between the Geneva Library, the Division of Rare and Manuscripts in Kroch Library, and the American Society for Enology and Viticulture-Eastern Section (ASEV-ES). The archive was established early in 1998. With a generous start-up gift of \$2500 from the

ASEV-ES, the Division of Rare and Manuscript Collections was able to establish a mandate to collect, preserve and make accessible primary material relating to the wine industry east of the Rockies. Not surprisingly, this collection development initiative has a solid basis in some unique and interesting archival collections, which were already in RMC—the Widmer Wine Cellars records, in particular. With the donation of Philip Wagner Papers in 1998, the Wine and Grape Archive has acquired a cornerstone collection, and one which should attract other important donors.

Last year, a brochure advertising the Eastern Wine & Grape Archive was printed and mailed to the 2000-plus membership of both the ASEV-ES and the Wine and Grape Foundation. It is hoped that this brochure will serve to heighten awareness of the need to preserve the heritage of the Eastern wine industry. In the 4,000 square miles of the Finger Lakes region alone, there are over forty-five wineries, producing somewhere around thirty million gallons of wine annually and over 700 vineyards covering over 18,000 acres with vines laden with the vintners' fruit. Some regional wineries date back to the mid-nineteenth century. It is our hope that, with the establishment of the Eastern Wine and Grape Archive, the rich heritage of this important and tasteful industry will be preserved and available for generations to come.

Some key papers currently being sought after by the archive include those of our own Nelson Shaulis, who has played an important role in the development of the Eastern wine industry. Another Finger Lakes stalwart, the Taylor family, currently of Bully Hill, has also been approached and is currently discussing the possible donation of the Taylor Winery papers to Cornell. The papers of Seaton Mendall, Taylor's vineyard consultant are also on the list of important documents

to add to the collection. To their credit, last year the Taylor family donated their entire 3000 wine book collection to Cornell which added numerous new titles to our holdings. One interesting development occurred at the Michigan meeting of the ASEV-ES last July when Ben Sparks of Indiana, retired Possum Trot Vineyards owner, closed the general meeting doors and exhorted his colleagues to help fund the Eastern Wine and Grape Archive. He stunned the audience by offering to match every pledged donation made in the room that day. Nineteen members of the ASEV-ES pledged \$100 each that will be matched by Ben when the checks roll in. Another local, John Einset, who was in charge of the Geneva grape breeding program in the 50s and 60s, may leave his papers to the Archive. Widmer Wine Cellars has also been contacted.

Our own fine state can stand proud of its wine heritage. New York, after a somewhat slow start, soon passed all other states outside California in wine production. We stood sixth in 1870, behind not only California and Ohio, but also Illinois and Pennsylvania. By 1880 New York had closed to third, after California and Ohio. By the turn of the century we stood second, and that was where things stalled until Prohibition put an end to the production race.

The exceptional collection of books and journals held by the Geneva Library amply documents this proud heritage. Between the holdings at Geneva and those of the Hotel and Mann libraries, Cornell may claim the finest collection of wine-related titles east of the University of California at Davis. Monographs number close to 5000 distinct viticulture and wine-related titles throughout, and Geneva makes a concerted effort to subscribe to every wine-making and grape-growing serial published in Roman script, from brief broadsides to scholarly journals. The Hotel Library collects extensively in all matters related to wines and the hospitality industry.

Anyone who may know of valuable archival papers related to the wine industry of the eastern states is encouraged to contact the Station Librarian. We will make the appropriate inquiries following any suitable recommendation.

Peter McDonald



*"The winter is past;  
The rain is over and gone...  
The flowers appear on the earth,  
The time of singing has come..."*

—Song of Solomon 2:11-12—

## WOULD YOUR LAB PASS MUSTER?

BOSTON (AP)—The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency is going after colleges and universities in New England to get them to comply with federal regulations. Officials were prepared to file a complaint today against the University of New Hampshire, accusing it of violating hazardous waste management plans, The Boston Globe reported. "Complaints are expected to be made against other institutions in New England," said Ken Moraff, chief of the EPA's regional enforcement office.

The EPA also plans to notify college presidents in the region that in the spring, it will inspect campuses where violations are suspected. The EPA will offer training sessions for college officials on ways to improve environmental management.

"It's a very ambitious and concentrated effort to improve environmental performances on college campuses throughout New England," John DeVillars, the EPA's administrator in the region, told the Globe. "Colleges and universities are targets because they usually have labora-

tories, waste treatment facilities and power plants that can damage the environment if not properly managed," he said.

"We have found that some educational institutions don't take their environmental obligations as seriously as they should," DeVillars said in a letter to be mailed to college presidents. He said the complaint against UNH results from an inspection of its Durham, NH, campus in 1997.

Inspectors found 15 violations of federal and state hazardous waste laws at laboratories and storage facilities, DeVillars said. One accusation is that UNH poured mercury down a drain without ensuring it was properly treated, the EPA said. The university reportedly faces a fine of as much as \$300,000.

"We believe that although there were some technical compliance issues back in 1997, our program was fundamentally sound then and even better now," Donald Sundberg, UNH vice president for research and public service, said in a statement. He said university officials will work closely with the EPA

to satisfy the agency's concerns.

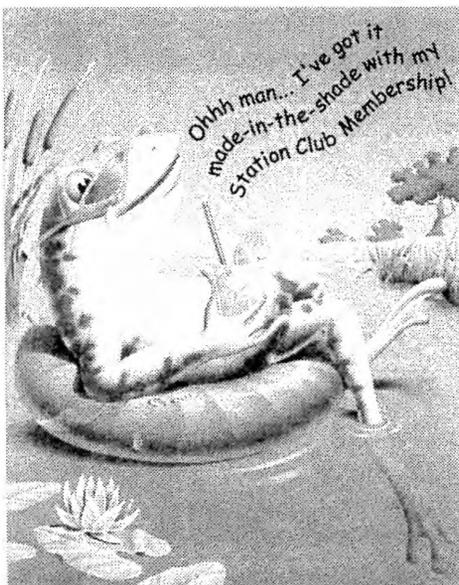
Moraff said UNH can contest the complaint in a hearing process, or seek a settlement. "What we are finding is that some schools don't have a good system in place to manage hazardous waste, or systems to manage underground oil storage," said Moraff. "That can be dangerous if you don't store it properly, risking explosions or spills," he said.

The complaint will be the third against a New England university in the last four years. Yale University paid \$348,000 in fines and community environmental investments in 1995 after it was cited for allegedly mishandling and improperly labeling hazardous chemicals. Boston University agreed to pay \$753,000 in fines and community projects in 1997 after being cited for allegedly violating regulations on underground storage tanks and storm water.

The investigation followed the leaking of 1,000 gallons of oil into the Charles River from a tank near the BU Bridge.

*Associated Press, March 15, 1999*

## STATION CLUB MEMBERSHIP DRIVE



The Station Club membership drive is now underway and will continue until April 30. The cost for joining the Station Club is \$8 for a family membership and \$5 for a single membership. Retirees receive a one-dollar discount.

Why should you join?

- To receive a discount on the price of Station Club events, such as the banquet, golf tournament, summer picnic, bowling party, holiday party. In fact, the discount is usually worth the price of joining, so, the more events you attend the more you save!

- To receive a discount on Station Club souvenirs such as T-shirts, sweat shirts, book bags, etc.—always great for gift-giving.

- To support 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.

- To support the Station Club's assistance with such projects as the Sawdust Cafe renovations and Bring Your Child to Work Day.

Contact your Station Club representative to join-up.

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

Pat Krauss  
 Ralph D'Amato  
 Sandy Antinelli  
 Donna Roelofs  
 Lee Hibbard  
 Nancy Long  
  
 Gemma Osborne  
 Kristin Ondik  
 Cheryl TenEyck  
 Tiffany Fisk  
 Colleen VanAllan

**!DISCOUNTS - banquet, golf tournament, summer picnic, bowling party, holiday party - DISCOUNTS!**

**CALENDAR of EVENTS**

APRIL 9-16, 1999

**EVENTS/MEETINGS**

**Tuesday, April 13, 10:30 am**  
348 Morrison Hall  
*CALS Chairs' meeting*

**Tuesday, April 13, 1:30 pm**  
Jordan Hall parking lot  
Bring appropriate outer and foot wear  
*Wellington Property Walk-Through*  
*Lead by Bob Seem and Mark Scott*

**Wednesday, April 14, 1:30 pm (Rain date)**  
Jordan Hall parking lot  
Bring appropriate outer and foot wear  
*Wellington Property Walk-Through*  
*Lead by Bob Seem and Mark Scott*

**SEMINARS**

**HORTICULTURAL SCIENCES**

**Date:** Monday, April 12, 1999  
**Time:** 11:00 am  
**Place:** Jordan Hall Staff Room  
**Speaker:** Cindy Cowan  
Horticultural Sciences  
Cornell University, Geneva  
**Title:** Elevating Pod Calcium in Snap  
Beans Through Variety and Fertility Management

**PLANT PATHOLOGY**

**Date:** Tuesday, April 13, 1999  
**Time:** 3:00 pm  
**Place:** Room A133, Barton Laboratory  
**Speaker:** Jim Travis  
Dept. of Plant Pathology  
Pennsylvania State University  
University Park, PA  
**Title:** Grower Decision-Making:  
What Level of Technology?  
*There will be a reception for the speaker  
at 4:00 pm.*

**FOOD SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY**

**Date:** Wednesday, April 14, 1999  
**Time:** 10:30 am  
**Place:** FST Conference Room  
**Speaker:** J. Harris  
Specialist in Microbial Food  
Safety  
Department of Food Science and  
Technology  
University of California-Davis  
**Title:** The Microbial Safety of Fresh  
Fruits and Vegetables—a California Perspective

**LTC**

**Date:** Tuesday, April 13, 1999  
**Time:** 9:30-11:00 am  
**Place:** LTC Rm, Jordan Hall  
**Class:** ADW User's Group

**SAVE the DATE**

**Friday, July 16, 3:00 pm**  
Pavilion  
*Station Club picnic*

**CLASSIFIED**

**SHRUBS AND TREES AVAILABLE:** Over 80 varieties of shade trees, flowering trees, native plants, flowering shrubs and foundation plants. Contact Jim Engel (jpe6@nysaes.cornell.edu or x378).

**BEACH HOUSE:** Plan now for your relaxing summer getaway! Lovely cottage rental on Canandaigua Lake, by the week or weekend. Renting May through October. For more information, contact Elaine at elg2.

*Cornell Employee  
Family Spring  
Sports Saturday*



Tickets are now available for the April 24th Cornell Employee/Family Spring Sports Saturday! The cost is only \$5.00 per ticket which includes admission to the Cornell vs. Princeton lacrosse game at Schoellkopf field at 2:00 and your choice of chicken BBQ or cheese lasagna dinner which will be served in Barton Hall from 4:00-6:00 pm.

Your ticket enables you to enjoy any/all of the following events:

12:00 pm	Cornell vs. Penn at Hoy Field (baseball)
12:00 pm	Tour of Mundy Wildflower Garden at Cornell Plantations
1:00 pm 2:30 pm & 4:00 pm	Tours of Johnson Museum
2:00 pm	Cornell vs. Princeton at Schoellkopf Field (lacrosse)
4:00-6:00 pm	Barbecue at Barton Hall (music by Johnny Russo & His Band)

Shuttles will leave from the eastside of Barton Hall 15 minutes prior to each tour of Johnson Museum and the Plantations. Please see Collen Van Allen by Thursday, April 22nd to purchase your tickets!