



**WSWS Officer and Committee Report  
February 2023**

**Office or Committee Name:** Necrology

**Officer or Chairperson Name:** Rachel Seedorf

**Other Committee Members:** Earl Creech, Ryan Rapp, Leslie Beckworth

**Date of Preparation (include year):** February 13, 2023

**Activities during the year:** Information was collected for WSWS past and present members who passed away this last year. This year, our society lost five members, their write-ups are provided below.

**Scott K. Parrish**

Scott passed away on June 29, 2022, at his home in Logan, Utah near his children and grandchildren. Scott was born in Logan, Utah to Wallace and Treva (Killian) Parrish. He grew up in Logan spending his summers swinging on a rope swing with his childhood friends and fishing with his dad. At an early age Scott took to sports and as a natural athlete excelled at basketball and football. That passion took him to Utah State on scholarship for basketball, eventually transitioning to football and becoming an all American on the Utah State football team. After college he was drafted by the New Orleans Saints, later finishing his football career as a Denver Bronco.

After receiving his bachelor's in agriculture from Utah State in 1976, Scott completed his graduate degree at Washington State University where he earned his master's in crop physiology and doctorate degree in Agronomy with minors in plant breeding and soil sciences. In September of 1977, Scott married his beautiful high school sweetheart Lynn Margaret Broadbent who he met while attending Logan High. Later their marriage was solemnized in the Logan Temple sealing them to their six children.

Following his desire to feed the world, Scott pursued a career in agricultural research where he had numerous professional achievements which include the discovery and development of multiple herbicides and other agricultural inputs which greatly shaped modern agriculture. Scott considered himself a "professional Killer" (of weeds).

After graduating from Washington State, Scott accepted a research and development position with Monsanto in St. Louis, Missouri. While there, his ability to create products to assist in controlling weed growth was met with great success, sending him throughout the world. He cherished his opportunities as he witnessed the effectiveness of the products he had created to improve farming and food production in many underdeveloped countries. After his time at

Monsanto, Scott continued his desire to help feed the world by creating his own agricultural research and development company, Agrasyst, Inc.

At a young age, Scott caught wanderlust. It all started in Logan Canyon and moved to Star Valley, WY. He went on to river rafting as a guide in southern Utah among other places. His love for nature and plants started while fishing with his dad at his favorite place, Greys River, WY. He became an avid fisherman, catching trout fever and out fishing his brother, Alan. His professional life allowed him to travel around the world where he could, in his own words, “drag Lynn around with him” on their many adventures. She certainly loved it.

Aside from his professional and adventurous life, Scott was deeply spiritual and was a devoted lifelong member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. His strong and abiding testimony of his Savior Jesus Christ influenced his daily life.

Although a very accomplished scientist and athlete, Scott considered his greatest accomplishment to be the creation of his family. As a father of six, his greatest joy was watching his children grow and sharing in their accomplishments.

Scott is survived by his loving children, Alexandria Lynn Parrish, McCall Parrish Florez, Maddison Parrish, Chance Parrish, and Cade Parrish. Grandchildren Ryland and Adelynn Florez. Siblings Jan Parrish Campbell (Ted), Alan K. Parrish (Marcia), Jean Parrish Longhurst (Reed), and Joan Parrish Boman (Tel). Scott is preceded in death by his beloved wife, Lynn Broadbent Parrish, son Dalton Scott Broadbent Parrish, and brother Steven Wallace Parrish. Parents Wallace Alonso Parrish and Treva Killian Parrish.

Scott’s huge character and big heart leaves a massive void in our lives and he will be greatly missed by all that knew him.

### **Albert Fischer**

Provided by Trina Kleist, UC Davis Department of Plant Sciences

Albert Fischer passed away on November 22, 2022, in Davis, California at the age of 72, shortly after being awarded the Outstanding International Achievement Award by the International Weed Science Society (IWSS).

Albert was born in Montevideo, Uruguay. He earned his bachelor’s degree in crop science and animal husbandry from the University of the Republic of Uruguay and his Master of Science and Ph.D. from Oregon State University in crop science.

He started his career in weed research and extension at the Plant Protection Center, Uruguay, in 1975. He was a professor at the Autonomous University of Chapingo, Mexico, from 1979 to 1981. He was a rice and weed physiologist at the International Center for Tropical Agriculture (CIAT) in Cali, Colombia, from 1989 to 1996. During that time, he was also a visiting weed biologist at North Dakota State University, Fargo.

Fischer joined the faculty at UC Davis in 1997 and spent his time there specializing in weed ecology, competition of weeds in rice and integrated weed management until his retirement in 2016. During that period, he mentored more than 15 graduate students and six postdoctoral researchers, and he hosted short and long-term visiting scholars from many countries. Fischer and his colleagues published more than 80 papers in peer-reviewed journals and more than 300 non-refereed scientific documents, reports, and presentations at scientific meetings. His writings were mostly in the areas of weed physiology and management.

He had a lifelong passion for ending hunger in developing countries and collaborated extensively with colleagues around the world. His research and scientific service were highly regarded, both in California and internationally. He held the Melvin D. Androus Professorship for weed

research in rice for most of his career. In 2017, the Cooperative Rice Research Foundation awarded him the Marlin Brandon California Rice Industry Award for his impact on weed management. His peers elected him vice-president of the IWSS, which he served as president in 2014. His students and colleagues remember him as a good scientist and collaborator, an outstanding mentor, and a man of sharp wit and humor.

Fischer spoke English, Spanish, German, French, Portuguese and Italian. He was known for his love of sailing, reading, music and other hobbies. More recently, he enjoyed editing and sharing his lifetime of photography from numerous trips to Africa, Central and South America, Europe, and Asia.

Albert is survived by his wife, Madeleine, and sons Patrick and Eric. A celebration of life was held on Saturday, February 11, 2023, at the Walter A. Buehler Alumni Center on the UC Davis campus.

### **Bobby J. Goeman**

Bobby Joe Goeman was born on December 18, 1957 in Bridgeport, NE to Donald and Jean Goeman. He attended school and graduated from Bridgeport High School in 1976. He met his wife, Tracy, in Fort Collins, CO and were married in 1980.

Bobby worked at the Larimer County Weed District from 2001-2015 as a Weed Specialist. He was a loyal participant in the WSWS annual meetings, giving posters or helping out whenever he was asked. His passion for land management was evident in the way he was always willing to help anyone who wanted to do research in the Larimer County area. He worked closely with folks at the university and industry level, not only to secure research sites, but help with all aspects of the research. He was always enthusiastic about establishing, spraying, and evaluating plots, as well as always working toward new solutions based on research. He volunteered for the Western Invasive Weed Short Course for a few years helping when he was asked and doing calibration demonstrations. As a selfless servant helping everyone improve their herbicide expertise, Bobby was there to lend a hand, offer a tank mix suggestion, or simply listen and learn from those around him. His ability to strike up a conversation with anyone will be missed. Bobby enjoyed hunting and fishing, playing pool and hunting for arrowheads. He was especially fond of spending time on the family ranch in Wyoming and recently created a beautiful pond named Chelsi's Pond, stocked with fish for his grandchildren to enjoy. Along with traveling and planning his next adventure, Bobby's life was his wonderful family, spending time with his beloved grandsons.

Bobby is survived by his father, Don Goeman, mother Jean McKnight, former wife Tracy Mill, daughter and son-in-law Chelsi and Isaiah Childers and grandsons Chase and Carter.

### **Mike Newton**

Mike Newton, known worldwide as a legend in Forestry, one of the oldest and most beloved teachers at Oregon State University and loved community member has gone to be with his Heavenly Father and wife, Jane on August 30th, 2022, surrounded by family after a prolonged battle with Alzheimer's Disease. He never lost his sweetness.

Mike was born October 24th, 1932 in Hartford, Connecticut to Margaret Young Newton and David Newton. Margaret was a Vassar graduate and David a graduate of Princeton. Mike was the youngest of four siblings. The family purchased a 200-year-old farm in West Townsend, VT, where they proceeded to create a "Working Boys Prep School". Mike grew up on the farm, speaking French and Latin, milking cows and logging with horses. They cut ice chunks from

Burbee's Pond for their icehouse where they stored their food for the year. He learned to work hard caring for animals and studying to meet the high expectations of his rigorous parents. The "boys" would cross country ski for miles to go to a square dance in the winter. When Mike was 14, he went to Loomis Chaffe Prep School for Boys. He then went to University of Vermont at age 16, where he majored in Dairy Science with a minor in Forestry and played on the UVM Football Team. He was "dirt poor," and did odd jobs including gun smithing to make ends meet for college. Mike's sister, Mary, had a roommate at nursing school named, Jane. A romance developed and they were soon married there on the farm. Mike was in ROTC, then joined the US Army, where he served at Fort Riley, Kansas, where his son Dan was born, then stationed in Germany on the Russian border. In the Army he was an explosive expert and also taught marksmanship on the range. He served two years, and then arrived in Corvallis in 1957 to begin his master's degree in Botany and Forest Ecology, graduating with a Ph.D. He worked two jobs to support his growing family, bought a house for \$3500 and remodeled it while studying. His research was primarily in weed science and silviculture. Mike became a professor at OSU Dept. of Forestry where he taught and did research from 1959 until 1999 when he retired. He published over 400 papers on Forest Science, taught 67+ Graduate students from 11 countries and will be remembered for his unconventional teaching techniques. Mike was an active participant at WSWS presenting forestry research and he was also a Fellow of WSWS. He was known as a "dirt forester" who would spend more time in the field with hands on teaching, critical thinking and humor. He was known for his strength, a wonderful mentor, loved to dance, was hospitable, kind and a good father and husband. He loved working on his "stump ranch" in Eddyville rehabbing it into a beautiful forest. If you would listen... he would teach and make you think. Mike could fix anything with ingenuity. He will be greatly missed and remembered by all who knew him, with much love.

Mike is preceded in death by his wife of 63 years, Jane Webster Newton, his parents, Margaret and David Newton, siblings, John Newton, Marg Mechanic and Mary Western, daughter, Melanie Newton and Grandson, Andy Pederson. He is survived by his Newton children, Dan and (Kathy), children and great grandchildren, Linda & (Mike), and children, Tom and (April) and children.

### **Charles Randall Hart**

Dr. Charles Randall Hart lost his battle with Leukemia on Sunday, November 27, 2022, in Abilene, TX.

Charles was born in Lubbock, TX on February 25, 1964 to Bill and Linda Hart. He married Melanie Rose on April 19, 1986, in Carlsbad, New Mexico, and they were blessed with 36 years of marriage together.

Charles graduated from Baird, TX High School in 1982. He received his B.S. in Agriculture Business from Abilene Christian University (ACU) in 1987, also his master's in Wildlife Biology in 1989 from ACU and a Ph.D in Range Science from New Mexico State University in 1992.

Charles began his career as an extension agent at Colorado State University and he was a Range and Pasture Development Specialist with Corteva Agriscience. He spent 17 years of his career as an Extension Range Specialist with Texas AgriLife Extension in Fort Stockton and Stephenville, before taking his current role in the fall of 2012. With almost 30 years' experience in the field, Dr. Hart worked with Corteva Research and Development to evaluate experimental herbicides, launch new products, and develop uses for current products. His primary role supported this commercial business by assisting Sales Reps, distributor partners and applicators with technical

support and training. His primary emphasis was in brush and weed control in the Southwestern US and worked globally for Corteva assisting with the Pasture and Land Management business in South Africa, China, Brazil, and Argentina. Charles received many awards including ACU Aggie of the Year 1998, Texas A&M Vice Chancellor's Award in Excellence 1999, Society for Range Management Texas Section President 2004, Society for Range Management International President 2020, and many more.

Charles appeared on tv shows like Cattleman to Cattleman several times. He published many books and research articles. Charles had many hobbies that he enjoyed such as hunting, coin collecting, and he loved jeep crawling. His favorite place was on his family's ranch. Charles worked hard and sacrificed daily for his family that he loved dearly, and he loved and served God with all his heart.

Charles is preceded in death by his father, Bill Hart. Charles is survived by his loving wife Melanie Rose Hart; daughters Morgan and husband Reed Parker, Lauren and husband Jace McLeroy with a grandson due in May; his mother Linda Hart; sister Cindy and husband Jerry Hickerson; sister Marilu and husband Bill Hall; brother Keith and wife Chris Hart; numerous nieces and nephews.

### **Doug Ryerson**

Doug passed away on March 6, 2022. He grew up in Bozeman, Montana where he earned his B.S. in Agriculture Science from Montana State University. Doug went on to earn his M.S. and Ph.D. in Crop Physiology from the University of Wisconsin, Madison. His first position was as an area crop specialist for the University of Idaho before moving on to work for Monsanto as a Product Development Specialist. He had a long history with Monsanto, where he made a concerted effort to improve crop production through better weed control, specifically in cereals. Throughout his career, he served the WSWS in many capacities, including Past President, President, President-elect, Secretary, moderator for the Agronomic Crops Section, and participated in the student educational enhancement program. Doug will be remembered for his participation at WSWS but mostly as a husband, father, and a friend with a kind heart.

**Recommendations for Board Action:** None.

### **Budget Needs:**

Poster material – poster, poster holder for travel

If funds there are already funds for this committee, there needs to be communication about making purchases and reimbursements for things such as poster material.

**Name of Person Preparing This Report:** Rachel Seedorf

**Date of Report:** February 13, 2023