

## Regarding Dale Cole

I came to the University of Wisconsin in 1954 to pursue my interest in soils. I did so very reluctantly in that Wisconsin is far from the mountains I so enjoyed in Washington. However, the incredible reputation of the Soils Dept. was a sufficient magnet to convince me the journey was well worth traveling. While in Washington I had heard rumors that there was a mountaineering club at the University. I found this hard to believe but my curiosity took me to the Student Union Building to see for myself if this could be true. Indeed, there it was. To further satisfy my curiosity I attended one of their meetings. After attending several more of their meetings showing them slides of what a real mountain looks like and discussing what it takes to climb one, I became president of the group.

As my journey in life took shape, coming to the University of Wisconsin, studying soils and especially taking that chance trip to Hoofers and attending a meeting of the Mountaineering Club set the direction for the rest of my life. The incredible education I received in soils paved the way my professional career would take. My attendance at the Mountaineering Club meeting did the very same for my personal life. For it was through the Mountaineering Club that I met my wife and we enjoyed a wonderful life together for 60 years until her departure a decade ago.

The Student Union Building and Hoofers became my home away from home. The weekends were spent at Devils Lake with the Mountaineering Club and the evening at the Union Building with my new friends in Hoofers. Raelyn followed me wherever I went. With a promise I would take her up Mt. Rainier, she agreed to marriage.

With her passing and knowing how much the University and especially the Hoofers meant to her, I decided to establish an endowment promoting leadership in the outdoor, mountaineering and sailing clubs, the three clubs that meant the most to Raelyn. In my time as president of the mountaineering group it was apparent to me that what the group lacked was not just mountains to climb but leaders that could safely organize and lead a mountaineering adventure. Accidents and disorganization need not be a part of an outing adventure. With that in mind, I decided the endowment should provide leadership training as its basic premise.

My professional life as well as Raelyn's was always within a University setting. Whether it was my role as a teacher or Associate Dean for Student Affairs, students were always a major part of my life. I became fully aware of their wishes and concerns and since my retirement have devoted much of my time and resources to supporting them in their activities and academic pursuits. I fully believe there is nothing more important than supporting students at this important juncture in their lives. All of my charitable efforts these past years have been focused in this direction. I have found this decision personally rewarding in many ways but most importantly in the way it has influenced the lives and what it has meant to the recipients.

My association with the hoofers as a student was hardly an accident. The outdoors has always been a major part of my life. Prior to enrolling at the University, I spent every spare moment I had in the mountains or on the boat I had built. At that time the Cascades were a true wilderness. Many of the mountains had not been climbed or even named. Together with my climbing friends, we pioneered areas in the Cascades that today you have to have a permit to even enter. I often think how lucky I was to have been a part of this period when you did not need a permit to enter nor did you have a detailed guide book or trail map to guide you on where to go and how to get there nor a cell phone in case you got into trouble. You were truly on your own. This early mountaineering experience led me, later in my life, to climbing mountains in many other countries and participating in some spectacular ascents. If indeed I had not enrolled in the graduate program in soils, I could well have spent a delightful life climbing mountains.

Although I am now retired for nearly 30 years, spare time seems as scarce now as it was during my active employed life. The outdoors is still my passion. Although I still venture into the mountains, climbing them is now limited to those mountains with trails to the top. I am the proud owner of a schooner built in 1912, the Mary Hillyer. We have taken her to Alaska over a dozen times and up the BC coast nearly every summer. A beautiful vessel we rescued as a derelict in Lake Union nearly 50 years ago. The restoration of this wonderful vessel has been a family endeavor.

Perhaps my major activity for relaxation is spending time in my workshop, primarily crafting furniture or making bowls and other items on my lathe. I am blessed to come from a family very talented in the arts, especially where wood is involved. My sons have all taken up this passion and collectively my home is a show place for this collection of family art.

Recently we completely renovated a 40-year-old slide-on camper. This addition to my life has allowed extensive travels to the SW, an area of the country I had seldom visited before. To do our part in minimizing our carbon footprint, we recently placed solar panels on our roof and purchased an electric vehicle, (not a Tesla, a Rivian thank the lord).

#### Accomplishments:

\*Received a graduate student scholarship while attending University of Wisconsin. This was a prestigious award by the NSF and funded my entire graduate career.

\*Became a faculty member at the University of Washington in 1961? Spent my entire professional career at the UW serving in a variety of ways

\*Chaired PhD programs of 14 graduate students, 4 of whom were elected fellows in their respective professional societies.

\*Published over 100 articles, edited 4 books and gave countless talks to professional and lay organizations.

\*Active in a number of international research programs including the International Biome Program and International Acid Rain Studies. These activities gave me the opportunity to meet many international scientists and travel to many countries around the world.

\*Pioneered the effort to place the bioproduct of municipal sewage treatment plants on forested landscapes (now referred to as Biosolids)

\*Director of the University of Washington Arboretum for 9 years

\*Chaired the University Landscape Committee for 6 years

\*Member of the University Building and Grounds Committee

\*Associate Director for Research for the Organization of Tropical Studies for 2 years. A program headquartered in Costa Rica and sponsored by a number of universities.

\*Appointed Associate Dean for Research and later Associate Dean for Student Affairs.

\*Dean of the College of Forest Resources the last two years prior to retirement.

\*Received several awards including

Honored Alumnus, College of Forest Resources

SA Wilde Presentation, SSSA

Fellow SSSA

\*Retired to a life I truly treasure in 1966, nearly 30 years ago. Is there any part of my life I would do differently if given the option, none that occurs to me.