

About the Authors

Alan Giambattista grew up in Nutley, New Jersey. In his junior year at Brigham Young University he decided to pursue a physics major, after having explored math, music, and psychology. He did his graduate studies at Cornell University and has taught introductory college physics for over 20 years. When not found at the computer keyboard working on *Physics*, he can often be found at the keyboard of a harpsichord or piano. He is a member of the Cayuga Chamber Orchestra and has given performances of the Bach harpsichord concerti at several regional Bach festivals. He met his wife Marion in a singing group. They live in an 1824 parsonage built for an abolitionist minister, which is now surrounded by an organic dairy farm. Besides making music and taking care of the house, gardens, and fruit trees, they love to travel together.



Betty McCarthy Richardson was born and grew up in Marblehead, Massachusetts, and tried to avoid taking any science classes after eighth grade but managed to avoid only ninth grade science. After discovering that physics tells how things work, she decided to become a physicist. She attended Wellesley College and did graduate work at Duke University. While at Duke, Betty met and married fellow graduate student Bob Richardson and had two daughters, Jennifer and Pamela. Betty began teaching physics at Cornell in 1977. Many years later, she is still teaching the same course, Physics 101/102, an algebra-based course with all teaching done one-on-one in a Learning Center. From her own early experience of math and science avoidance, Betty has empathy with students who are apprehensive about learning physics. Betty's hobbies include collecting old children's books, reading, enjoying music, travel, and dining with royalty. A highlight for Betty during the Nobel Prize festivities in 1996 was being escorted to dinner on the arm of King Carl XVI Gustav of Sweden. Currently she is spending spare time enjoying grandsons Jasper (the 1-m child in Chapter 1), Dashiell and Oliver (the twins of Chapter 12), and Quintin, the newest arrival.

Robert C. Richardson was born in Washington, D.C., attended Virginia Polytechnic Institute, spent time in the United States Army, and then returned to graduate school in physics at Duke University where his thesis work involved NMR studies of solid helium-3. In the fall of 1966 Bob began work at Cornell University in the laboratory of David M. Lee. Their research goal was to observe the nuclear magnetic phase transition in solid ^3He that could be predicted from Richardson's thesis work with Professor Horst Meyer at Duke. In collaboration with graduate student Douglas D. Osheroff, they worked on cooling techniques and NMR instrumentation for studying low-temperature helium liquids and solids. In the fall of 1971, they made the accidental discovery that liquid ^3He undergoes a pairing transition similar to that of superconductors. The three were awarded the Nobel Prize for that work in 1996. Bob is currently the F. R. Newman Professor of Physics and the Senior Science Advisor at Cornell. In his spare time he enjoys gardening and photography.

In loving memory of Dad and of my niece, Natalie

Alan

*In memory of our daughter Pamela,
and for Quintin, Oliver, Dashiell, Jasper,
Jennifer, and Jim Merlis*

Bob and Betty