

WRD RETIREES

NEWSLETTER 148
August 2010

An organization of retirees of the Water Resources Discipline, U.S. Geological Survey, whose purpose is to keep its members in touch with each other and their former agency.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

The year, 2010, here in the Northeast part of the country has been one of the stranger years in terms of weather that I have seen in a long time. We had record snowfall in the winter and record high temperatures of 100 degrees or more on a significant number of days in the spring and summer. Now we are in the midst of an agricultural drought. Many farmers have lost their crops and lawns, at least in our subdivision, are just brown straw. We could use a good soaking.

The WRD Retirees Association, as I see it, remains a strong organization and still is one of the few of its kind in the country with about 1500 members. Every three months the newsletter arrives and even though not everyone has major news of activities to report, a large number of them send short notes just to say they are well or not, and all of them say "Keep the newsletter coming," a tribute to Jim Biesecker and staff.

During the past six months, the WRD Retirees Board of Directors took on a campaign to collect late dues by sending letters and making calls knowing that a lot of members just forgot to pay or didn't know that dues were owed. I think the effort was successful but it had another positive side - talking to people you haven't talked to in years. Here's a case in point. I got a call a couple of weeks ago from a fellow named Fred Meyer who I worked with in Miami, Florida, almost 40 years ago. He just called to let me know that his dues were in the mail. We had a great conversation that covered the last 40 years!

The 15th bi-annual reunion of the WRD Retirees is set to happen September 9 thru 11, 2010, in Denver. The reunion is a great way to visit with friends and colleagues, especially those you haven't seen since the last reunion in Tampa two years ago. There are a number of great looking excursions and of course, there are the Happy Hours! Then there is a 3-day after meeting trip to Glenwood Springs, Colorado, a resort area north of Denver. Time is getting a little short for making hotel reservations and to sign up for excursions. Please see the reservation form on page 9 of this newsletter and sign up for a fun time! By the way, I like fun times and since I retired almost 9 years ago, I haven't had any fun when wearing a suit and tie. Therefore, you're not going to see me in one at the reunion. Anyone who feels they need a suit and tie, it's your call. Pat and I hope to see many of you in Denver.

Pat and I also hope you have a great summer/ fall.



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Andy Anderson reports, "The HQ WRD Retirees had their final meeting for the year on May 3. We take the summer months off! **Dick Engberg** arranged a talk from Elizabeth Shilling, Water Program Manager for the Smart Growth Leadership Institute in D.C. The thirty retirees/spouses in attendance enjoyed her interesting presentation. She fielded lots of questions."

Bud Anderson writes, "I've had a couple sessions in the hospital with pneumonia, March and May. The pneumonia they have cleared up, but my long term problem is broniechtasis. **Bev** and I will be heading for Wisconsin and Minnesota to see our 10 month-old great-grandson, Brandon Knowler, and our three year-old great grand-daughter, Aubri Knowler."

Bob and Elinor Beall write, "On May 17, we wrote that our grandson, Joseph B. Clements has embarked on a Nanofabrication Manufacturing Technology course at Penn State, State College. The three-month course leads to certification in the Nano Tech field. We are now pleased to add that a second grandson, Philip R. Clements, graduated on May 20 from the University of Maryland at College Park with a BS in Environmental Science & Policy. (Soil, Water and Land Resources). This is in the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources. He is to begin working with a Grad student on some sort of soils survey."

Craig Bentley reports, "**Charlie Morgan** and I arranged for a lunch meeting of Las Vegas WRD Retirees on June 9. We met at a local restaurant and of the 16 retirees in Las Vegas; we got a good turnout of 6 folks. VaDonna Bentley, Pauline Morgan, David Bauer and Gerda "Mrs. Paul" Seaber attended. Everyone had a good time." This was the first of many meetings of Las Vegas retirees. See a photo in the Local Meetings and Gatherings section."

Henry Blanchard says, "After transferring from SW to GW in the Georgia District in 1957 one of my first assignments was to gather data to update a report that **Harry LeGrand** had worked on in six central Georgia counties. I haven't heard from Harry in many years and it was good to read his comments. My gardening year has just started; most everything is planted and growing. I have made many cartoon characters out of wood for small children in our church. We now have one great granddaughter and two great grandsons."

Tony Buono writes, "**Arlene** and I returned from our sailing trip to the Windward Islands on May 2nd. I skippered a 46ft Catamaran again this year. Catamarans aren't as much fun to sail as monohulls, but they move pretty well and are quite luxurious (from a sailing perspective), including a generator, air conditioning, and lots of room for beer and wine. We discovered a few new places to snorkel in St Lucia's marine preserve and might SCUBA next time. (We're

already talking about the trip next year.) As mentioned a couple of years ago, if anyone would like to skipper another boat and join us, please let us know. The move back to Nevada is well underway: we should close on the Florida house on May 28th, and be in Pahrump on either June 2nd or 3rd, with furniture delivery on the 4th or 5th. We bought a great house a couple of months ago with a two and a half desert acres (finally no yard work) and a close-up view of the Last Chance Range out front and Mt. Charleston out back. The move will be a little easier as the car collection is down to two Porsche's, the '65 912 and '67 911 Targa: I sold the '84 Ferrari, '65 Porsche 356, and the '82 Mercedes 500SL. We're planning to build a motor home barn or garage sometime after the summer, which will provide additional space for a car or two (or at least a lift and workshop). After we get settled in Pahrump, we'll be thinking about the Denver reunion. If all goes well, we're hoping to participate."

Dave Byrd reports, "I enjoy the Newsletter by email – it's beautiful in full color! Like many, we have discontinued use of a land line phone and use exclusively a cell phone: 334-549-5725."

Dave Camp says, "Things are well for the Camps in Tucson. **Shirley** had knee replacement surgery in late January and is doing well. She is contemplating having the other knee done, but hasn't quite decided yet. Life is good for me – a few aches and pains and that ole "arthritis" works on my knees but I am still able to be very active. I continue to garden – tomatoes and "southern" vegetables like black-eyed peas and string beans and "greens" in the winter months. I still get to the golf course about 6 times a month and still enjoy walking the course. The summer heat sometimes makes me ride but I mostly walk! I still do volunteer work through the Council for Aging working in the money-management group that helps folks pay bills and keep their finances straight. I have been doing that for approximately 10 years. I also continue to direct one of the choirs in my church – I've been doing that for over 15 years. We're mostly stay-at-home folks except for an occasional trip to visit kids/grandkids. My wife just isn't much of a traveler."

Joan Cook says, "Hi to all the WRD Retirees."

Harlan Counts writes, "I would like to attend the reunion in Denver but I won't be able to go this year. Keep up the good work with the Newsletter. I enjoy reading it and keeping us with old friends."

Derrill Cowing says, "I just got back from a 2nd fishing trip to the Maine/Quebec border this spring. Retirement is hell, but someone has to be retired. I still beat the brush and waters hunting and fishing as much as possible. However, **Mary Jean** and I both work for FEMA part time as Disaster Assistance Employees.

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I work as a Hazard Mitigation Civil Eng./Hydrologist out of Region 10 (Seattle - WA, OR, ID, & AK) and MJ works as a Planning Section Chief out of Region 1 (Boston - ME, NH, VT, MA, RI, & CT). Sometimes we even get to work on the same disaster!! I work about 3 months each year and she works about 6 months.

Phil Carpenter got us into this program back in 2001. Another year or so and I will likely go into full time retirement to spend time corrupting my 4 grandchildren. We hope to make the reunion in Denver (if I don't get drawn in the Maine Moose hunt lottery)."

Ron Coble reports, "Nancy and I, along with **Alice Jackson** organized a meeting of NC WRD Retirees. Fourteen WRD retirees, spouses and guest met at the Golden corral restaurant in Raleigh at noon February 6, 2010. The meeting was opened by **Herb Hinson** singing The Lord's Prayer. The next meeting is planned for late summer or early fall and will be organized by **Charles Daniel**. A group photo appears in the Local Meetings and Gatherings section of this edition of the WRD Retirees Newsletter."

Jim Daniel writes, "The giant sinkhole which developed in Guatemala in late May brings to mind WRD's sinkhole expert, **John Newton** of Alabama. 'Newt' has passed on and WRD lost another of its real characters from the 70s. He and I were featured in the Atlanta Journal Constitution weekly magazine in early 1974 in a treatise about a large sinkhole in Alabama which was dubbed "The December Giant." It was larger than the Guatemala hole and most of the ones which occur in Florida but it occurred out in the sticks causing no damage. Newt had been investigating sinkholes for the Alabama Highway Department for years and had developed something of a regional reputation as an 'expert' on the phenomenon. Newt told the paper about mechanisms while my contribution was a quote that "You shouldn't oughta get too close!"

Newt was a Korean War Veteran (a 2nd Lieutenant as I recall) who had lost an eye in that police action which started exactly 60 years ago on June 25 this year. The Veterans Administration gave him a glass eye which he used in many creative ways. One time the police stopped him for speeding in a government car. Newt thought quickly, got out of the car before the patrolman got to the car, popped out his glass eye, and tossed it nearby in the grass. He got down on his hands and knees pretending to look for the eye. He conned the patrolman into helping him. After an appropriate credible time, Newt 'found' the eye and put it back in, all the while telling the patrolman how he lost his eye in Korea. With all this background, the patrolman decided not to ticket Newt and Newt had another story with which to regale anyone who would listen. Everyone who worked in Alabama in those days has a John Newton story. Maybe this one will encourage them to tell it so it isn't lost."

Bill Doyle writes, "I still enjoy receiving the WRD Retirees Newsletters. Thanks to those involved in preparing such a great product. I don't recognize many names outside the obituaries. The 40s group came on in the first half of another century. Now we must be the ancient wise men that nobody listens to."

Phil Emery says, "As **Janet** and I were born and raised in KANSAS, we refer to Arkansas as "ARE-KANSAS." We plan to travel to the Reunion via KANSAS and will drive westward parallel to the ARE-KANSAS River (except in Colorado where the river is mistakenly termed the "Arkansaw"."

Herb Freiburger reports, "Pat and I recently spent several days at the home of our friends **Jim** and **Joyce Biesecker**. We visited some more Virginia wineries and had a lot of fun. Jim and I talked about some of the activities planned for the Sept. reunion in Denver. If you haven't sent in your registration for the reunion, please do so very soon. See you there!"

Mildred Glenn reports, "A CD of the May gathering of USGS Tallahassee retirees and spouses and friends having fun and getting reacquainted is now available for your viewing pleasure. Costs for CD and shipping is \$4. Contact Mildred Glenn by email or snail mail to order your CD; payment can be made to Mildred following your order. Mildred Glenn, 2486-A Wren Hollow Road, Tallahassee, FL 32308. Phone 850 553-9667, email address mglenn@embarqmail.com."

Harold Golden writes, "Best wishes to all. We appreciate the efforts by all of you who keep WRD Retirees functioning. **Marie** and I are adjusting to life in MO. The Ozarks are great! We are only 30 miles from Branson – a most entertaining place."

George Gray says, "I have learned that I can easily download the Newsletter via the Internet. I will admit, the pictures in color are very nice. I've been used to sitting on the couch and opening the newsletter and easing my way through it so not to miss something."

John Gray writes, "Thanks to the officers and staff of WRD Retirees for your efforts."

Shirley Hamamoto writes, "It has been 20 years since I left the USGS at the Denver Federal Center. I really enjoy reading the Newsletter and learning what is going on with all the retirees. We are living on Ordway, CO now but plan to get back to our home in Lakewood in the next couple of years."

Leland Hauth says, "Zoe and I moved to Phoenix to be near our daughter. Our health is declining so we packed up our household (a small part of it anyway) in July 2009 and moved to a retirement community called

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the Baptist Village – we both love it! We certainly enjoyed the winter here – wasn't so good in Missouri where we moved from. The only thing that wasn't wonderful was that six weeks after moving Zoe had a heart attack followed by open heart surgery. She was in the hospital 11 days with two trips back within a short period. All is fine now! I would love to hear from my old friends in WRD. Our address is 20802 N. Cave Creek Road, Apt. 17, Phoenix, AZ 85024."

Paul Hayes reports, "Retirement is good although I do work as a maintenance man at my old HS during the summer months. I really enjoy it; I'm at the bottom of the ladder and plan to stay there. In the winter we spend our time on the 5th wheel outside of Sacramento where I retired."

Clairiece Humphrey writes, "Since I retired from the USGS in Charlottesville, VA in 1995, I have been having a great retirement. After a few years of doing "retired" things, I decided to get a part time job that was fun. I have been working at Historic Michie Tavern on the mountain with Monticello (Thomas Jefferson's home) and Ash Lawn (James Monroe's home). I greet visitors. The only requirements for this job were being able to talk with people and having a Southern accent. Couldn't have fit me better!! I get to dress in Colonial costumes and have made about 50 outfits so it's like playing dress up every day! I meet people from all over the world -- celebrities, Presidents, and Kings and Queens. My picture is probably in most of the countries around the world as every-one on vacation wants to have their picture made as a remembrance. One gentleman told me I had "Thomas Jefferson hair" (Jefferson had red hair). After I welcome the people, a sure-fire ice breaker is always "Where y'all from?" Sometimes they can't speak English and we end up trying to use hand signals. Then there are the people from Scotland who try to teach me how to say "Michie" correctly and the kids from California who want me to teach them how to say "Y'all". Sometimes people ask me if my Southern accent is real. I tell them that "I get up talking like this every morning." The downside of my job is weather and standing on brick. I get rained on, snowed on, melted in the summer heat, and my feet hurt from standing on brick for 6 hours. But every day is usually fun and exciting. I hope all the other retirees are having as much fun as I am!"

John Klein says, "**Joyce** and I are on our RV lot east of Temecula right now. We just finished a great 2 month volunteer assignment at the Yaquina Head Natural Area and Historic Lighthouse near Newport, OR. In 3 weeks we report for our next volunteer detail at the Kilauea National Wildlife Refuge on Kauai where we have worked in the past. We will return to OR again next spring to put to work all we learned."

Hal Langford reports, "For decades some WRD Retirees have been making an annual fishing trip to the Outer Banks of North Carolina. Some of us decided we needed to go more than once a year so **Andy Anderson, Jim Biesecker** and I made a spring trip to Cape Hatteras from May 18-21. We had a great time and caught lots of fish: blues, Spanish mackerel, Atlantic Bonita, red drum and trout. We will make our annual fall fishing outing in October."

Ken Lindskov writes, "**Judy** and I were saddened to learn of **Art Putnam's** passing while reading the May WRD Retirees Newsletter. Art and I worked together in the North Carolina District during the early 1970's. I have many great memories of all the fun we had some 40 years ago. **Russ Curtis'** write-up in the May newsletter, when he discussed the great memories while working with **Jim Craig** in Kansas prompted me to think of the great memories I had while working with Art. One special memory of the North Carolina days while working with Art just stayed in my mind for days. Here it is! We were doing field surveys for indirect determination of peak flows for some gaging stations in the upper Catawba River basin. We would stop daily during those hot and humid days to make lunch at a cross-roads country store near the Catawba River in western North Carolina. We dined on baloney sandwiches, chips, and soda pop. While eating our junk food, we would sit on an outside bench and discuss life with the owner (older granddad) and his 4-5-year old grandson. About the third day of chats, granddad approached Art and I about asking the grandson to point out where we could find a "Still". So as we sat there, we asked the boy if he could show us where a "Still" was. We said we would pay him for locating one. Well this cute, little freckle-faced boy looked at us and our US government vehicle, then ran. During lunch during days thereafter, we would only get a glimpse of this boy from a distance while peeking around a corner. He would not come near us let alone sit with us. We knew that this boy knew where "still" was and that he thought we were Revenuers."

Dorothy Meyer writes, "I do enjoy reading the WRD Retirees Newsletter when I receive it. As time goes by I know fewer of the Retirees; however, I still enjoy reading about the travels of the new retirees. I appreciate all the work you put into each edition. Thank You! At the age of 94 I am hanging in there. I fell March 31, and cracked three ribs, which are now fully healed. Have a sitter come every day for 7 hours to help me make my appointments."

Jo Porter writes, "**Chuck** and I continue to enjoy retirement in KY. Our miniature horses have never been trained (they are 4). I decided it was time since the care and harness were purchased 2 summers ago. So, off to the local stable to be trained to pull a cart. We were both pleasantly surprised when we visited

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and saw both of them pulling a cart. We hope they will not forget their training once they return to our farm. We added 13 acres to our farm last year. Our local vet leases our pastures for his heifers. Chuck helps him on his day off. The vet enjoys supper with us often. I like reading about all of the retirees I know. Thanks.”

Roger Rumenik writes, “In the mid-1960s, the Florida District Office moved its headquarters from Ocala to Tallahassee. A few years later a field office was created and later expanded to a Subdistrict Office. In the 1980s, the District and Subdistrict were combined. In 2002, the title of District Office was abolished and the Florida Integrated Science Center (FISC) was established as a combined science center that included water, biology, and geology. In 2009 under the new USGS Director, FISC was abolished and Water resumed as a separate discipline. On May 13, 2010, Tallahassee WRD retirees (1966-2010), including friends, gathered at a local tavern to meet, greet, reunite, reminisce, talk, and have a good time. Retirees in attendance included: **Jerilyn Collins, Glen Faulkner, Sherron Flagg, Don Foose, Linda Geiger, Jerry Giese, Mildred Glenn, Don Goin, JoAnn Grove, Renee Herring, Irv Kantrowicz, Jerry Losey, J.B. Martin, Barbara McBride, Jack McCoy, Ed Oaksford, Jerry and Janet Pascale, Ada Pinson, Mike Planert, Jack Rosenau, Roger Rumenik, Roy Stanley, Alejandro Supelveda, and Don Tucker.** The person that traveled the furthest was **Linda Geiger** (Reston, VA); then, **Glen Faulkner** (Atlanta, GA); and, **Jerry and Janet Pascale** (Pensacola, FL). Ages of retirees ranged from 52 to 90. Invitations were initiated by the steering committee members: Roger Rumenik, Sherron Flagg, and Mildred Glenn. Also, the American Water Resources Association (AWRA) Florida Section is dedicated to the advancement of water resources management, research, and education, and provides the forum for connections to take place. The AWRA FL Section started in 1971 and continues to hold bi-monthly meetings each year promoting research and technological, social, and legislative advances in all aspects of water resources. This year, my friend, Bill Stimmel (SFWMD retiree) and I agreed to plan and chair the bi-monthly meeting held in May in the Tallahassee area. Presentations focused on two critical continuing issues in northern Florida: the decline in the quality and quantity of spring flow and an update on the on-going 15-year tri-state (FL/AL/GA) water war for determining flow allocations for the Apalachicola/Chattahoochee/Flint Rivers. During the AWRA May 2010 meeting, I was proud to introduce **Jack Rosenau** (85), as my guest. Jack is the principal author of Florida’s first complete comprehensive publication on Florida springs. The publication, *Springs of Florida*, 1977, contains color photos of most all the springs in Florida, many taken from Jack’s private plane by him and his wife, **Jean**. Second author is **Glen Faulkner** (89). Jack was the

Tallahassee Subdistrict Chief in the 1970s; Glen, in the 1980s. Also noted was that 3 of our retirees served as President of the AWRA FL Section: **Clyde Conover** (Florida District Chief), 1974/75; **Bill Mann** (Tallahassee Subdistrict), 1977/78; and, **Joel Kimrey** (Orlando Subdistrict), 1979/80. **Peg Conover** moved to Texas in 2009 to be close to her daughter.”

Stan Sauer reports, “Greetings to all from the TX Hill country. It has been a wonderful spring and early summer here with ample rain. The peaches are especially good – a bumper crop. As for us, we continue to enjoy the family, with 12 grandkids and 2 great grandkids at last count. I have been doing fine, enjoying the ranch and an occasional game of golf. **Virginia** continues to deal with health issues but we are hopeful that will improve soon. We still hope to attend the reunion in Denver but probably will not be able to do so unless her health improves dramatically. The WRD Retirees reunions have always been a special part of our lives and we will be very disappointed if we can’t be there to renew acquaintances with our fellow retirees.”

Eleanor Smith says, “My husband, **Robert E. (Bob) Smith** passed away in April, 2007. We moved to Houston, TX from Georgia in 1962. Many of you visited us to see some of the projects that we had going on in the Houston subdistrict (at least that was what I was told). We enjoyed having many of you in our home for dinner when you were here. What you had for dinner sometimes depended on what time Bob got a message to me at school that he had invited 2, 3, or 4 of you for dinner. We enjoyed it and hope that you did too. Bob lived ten years and four months after being diagnosed with lung cancer, much better than the six months the doctors had anticipated. I retired from teaching to take care of Bob and now stay very busy with church, community, University of Georgia activities and foreign exchange programs. I appreciate hearing from **Jim Blakey** and sometimes from **Clarence Welborn** and **Abie Cameron**. My brother, **Joe Inman**, retired from the Atlanta office a few years ago. He had a stroke on Thanksgiving, 2009 and is still in a rehab center in Atlanta. He is doing better now, but still does not have the use of one foot and leg. Please contact me at eleanors@swbell.net or 713-667-5911 for additional information. Recently I talked to **Robert Gabrysch** who also retired from the Houston office. He and his wife are having major health problems. If you knew him very well, he would probably appreciate a call.”

Elaine Stevens writes, “**Herb** will be 83 this year. We are off to Springfield, Ohio for grand daughter, Emily’s graduation from Wittenberg University in Springfield, Herb’s birthplace. Never thought we would have a close association with that town. !!! Ah--grands and where they want to go to college.”

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Dennis Stewart says, "Hi to all you fellow retirees. I'm still working for the State of IN – about half-time. My schedule won't permit me to make the reunion, sorry."

Darla Straka writes, "My husband and I moved to Sierra Vista, AZ, area in May 2005. It is a beautiful area in southern AZ, 4,600 ft in elevation, surrounded by the Huachuca Mountains, the Mule Mountains, the Dragoon Mountains, and the Whetstone Mountains. Winter temperatures are milder and summer temps about 10 deg. warmer than Albuquerque. Sierra Vista is about 81 miles south and east of Tucson and is located next to Ft. Huachuca Army Post, the original Buffalo Soldiers Army Post. It is a birder's paradise. Our house is located in Hereford, AZ, which is a community south of the Sierra Vista city limit boundary. We are very active in our local HOG (Harley Owner's Group) Chapter. I ride a 2006 Harley Dyna Street Bob. **Jim**, my husband, rides a 2008 Harley Davidson Ultra Classic. We both started riding motorcycles again in 2001 (we had ridden motorcycles 20-plus years earlier before we knew each other). My 2006 Street Bob has over 37,000 miles on it. Besides all the local rides, we have ridden to Roswell and Albuquerque twice, ridden around Las Vegas and to Tucson multiple times a year. One of the rides last year to Roswell, NM, was over the 4th of July to attend the UFO Festival, which was really fun. We have a group going with us again this year to attend it. The end of March we rode to Apache Junction, AZ, to meet another HOG Chapter group from San Diego, CA. Sierra Vista is located near Bisbee and Tombstone, AZ, which is a popular destination for dinner rides. Most Chapter rides are 200 to 300 miles in a one-day ride. If anyone is looking for a beautiful area to retire, come check out Sierra Vista, AZ. Thank you. My new phone number is 520-432-0008 and my email address is fxdbi@powerc.net."

CT Welbron writes, "**Dixie** and I are flying to Fairbanks, Alaska on the 24th for a 6 day land tour. We will go on the Copper River for about 4 hours on a sternwheeler. After spending 2 nights in Fairbanks we will travel by train to Denali and to the Denali National Park for a tour. After Denali Park we will go by coach to MT. McKinley Park for a day of leisure and then by train to Whittier and board the Diamond Princess for a 7 night cruise down the coast of Alaska to Vancouver, Canada. From there we will fly back to Austin."

Frank Wells reports, "**Cindy** and I went to OK to the Wichita Mountains to visit the Wild Life Refuge near Lawton and drove around the day in the refuge and then went to Amarillo and Pala Duro Canyon and then down the eastern side of New Mexico. From New Mexico we drove to San Angelo and then to Austin. We were gone for a week and that's the longest we have been gone in the last 7 or 8 years outside of visiting Mississippi to take care of family. I am feeling fine now but I do have a skin cancer on his face and treat it with

a salve. I won't be doing any mowing until fall because the cream makes my skin very sensitive to the sun."

Lorraine West writes, "Time seems to pass by so quickly! I appreciate the efforts of the Newsletter staff and am so proud of the activities of the WRD Retirees."

Leonard Wollitz reports, "I enjoy the WRD Retirees Newsletter very much. Not many of us old timers left."

Sandy Williamson writes, "I retired June 3, 2010. **Debbie** and I had 77 folks to our house for a party June 5. I will continue to work my part-time boat business [see WORDBoats.com] started 4 yrs ago. I will also step up my activities as a high school water polo referee spring and fall [I played in HS and coached in 2003]. I expect to teach some science classes starting this fall at Tacoma Community College and or UW Tacoma. Debbie will continue in her 7th year as a school nurse in 4-5 schools spanning ages 5-21. However, now I can be off with her and travel more of the 12 weeks they get off. We will continue to volunteer at our church, RainierView.org, do mission trips in Mexico [drilled well and put up windmill and solar pump last year] and perhaps Nairobi, Chile or Peru where we also send teams. We will also enjoy some traveling to visit 2 kid's in CA and HI, and the 6 grand kids."

John Yee writes, "**Elaine** and I just returned from a very enjoyable visit to Russia. We made an extended trip starting from New York, to Helsinki (Finland), over to Tallinn (Estonia), then St. Petersburg and down the "river" to Moscow, flew to Kiev (Ukraine) and finally back to New York to "decompress" before coming home. It was tiring but a fun filled and eye-opening 30 days of discovery."

Special note from the Editor: There are about 650 WRD Retirees who get their copy of the Newsletter much sooner than those of you who have the Newsletter delivered by US Mail. These folks also get all the photographs and technical illustrations in full color! These members aren't being treated specially; they were just wise enough to sign up for email delivery or web page viewing of the Newsletter.

Electronic delivery of the WRD Retirees Newsletter saves our organization money that would otherwise be spent on printing and mailing. Also the volunteers who stuff the Newsletters in envelopes for delivery by US Mail would have their workload decreased if more retirees used electronic delivery. [You can help your organization.](#) If you have email and are not receiving your Newsletter via email, please strongly consider doing so! It's simple, just send an email message to Jim Bisecker, Editor at jeb393@verizon.net and I will see that your name is added to the list of retirees who have their Newsletters delivered via email.

FIFTHTEENTH WRD RETIREES REUNION 2010
Denver, Colorado
September 9th – September 11th, 2010

HOTEL

The WRD Retirees 2010 Reunion will take place at the Holiday Inn/Lakewood, Lakewood, Colorado. One hundred rooms have been reserved for the Reunion. There is no charge for parking at the hotel. Rooms consist of both King and 2- bed rooms. The rate is \$89.00 per room plus tax, and includes a complimentary breakfast for both occupants during the stay. For reservations made after August 1, the committee will do the best it can to get reduced rates. To help, **register ASAP**. Rates will be honored if you wish to extend your stay, either before or after the reunion. Room reservations can be made by calling the Holiday Inn/Lakewood **directly** at 303-980-9200 or **online** at www.hilakewood.com and referencing the **Group Code 'WRD Retirees'** for the Reunion dates and, if you are staying for the post Reunion trip to Glenwood Springs, for the return night of September 14th. **The Holiday Inn's address is:** 7390 W. Hampden Avenue Lakewood, CO 80227

The registration form can also be found at: http://home.sprintmail.com/~ptucci/WRD/index_retire.htm or the reunion section of the WRD Retirees web page at: wrdretirees.org.

TRANSPORTATION TO AND FROM AIRPORT Either: (1) Car Rental Agencies; (2) SuperShuttle \$58.00 per person round trip – arrangements can be made by calling 1-800-525-3177, or visiting their website www.supershuttle.com; and, (3) local taxi cab services at the airport upon arrival (approx. \$100 one-way, could be split 4 ways with 4 people, plus tip).

PRELIMINARY AGENDA

Thursday, September 9th (Official hotel room check-in time is 4:00 PM)

Information packages containing Reunion functions will be available at a 'Reunion check-in' desk between 12 PM and 6 PM. The Hospitality Room will open at 12 noon. An informal Reunion 'kick-off' gathering is scheduled from 6 PM to 9 PM in the Banquet Ball Room and will include a free 1st drink coupon for those participating in the kick-off gathering, a cash bar, and plentiful Hors d'ouvres.

Friday, September 10th

Business Meeting, 9 AM -11 AM -- All retirees and spouses are invited to participate in the business meeting. Agenda for the meeting will follow at a later date.

Optional afternoon activities will include: Free time or

-Golf outing with Jack and Judy Weeks – please contact them directly by email at jnweeks@gmail.com

-Rockies baseball game vs. Arizona Diamond Backs Friday evening. If you are interested, call Sandra Duncan at 303-279-5061 or email her at sduncan211@comcast.net

- **Note:** The King Tut exhibit will be at the Denver Art Museum during the reunion. For those who have Friday afternoon free or are not participating in the tours listed above you may want to consider this exhibit. The Denver Museum web site for this exhibit is www.tutdenver.com/. Advance tickets must be purchased online and you will need to arrange for your own transportation.

Saturday, September 11th

Tours: 8 AM -4 PM -- Please refer to specific tour for times.

Gala Buffet Banquet: 6 – 10 PM -- Will include closing remarks by the WRD Retirees' President and awards ceremony.

TOURS

The Reunion committee has arranged five tours. Some retirees may wish to forego the organized tours and take advantage of the Denver areas amenities. Below are brief descriptions of the tours, times, and, their websites.

Celestial Seasoning and Leanin' Tree Tours (8:45 AM – 4:00 PM): Celestial Seasoning tour (www.celestialseasonings.com), includes a tour of the world's most advanced tea production plant, some tea tasting and an opportunity to visit their gift shop. Leanin' Tree tour (www.leanintree.com/Museum.html), are exhibits of the private art collection of Ed Trumble, Founder and Chairman of Leanin' Tree, publisher of fine art greeting cards since 1949. His collection was born of a passion for American western art that has spanned five decades and continues to grow today.

Georgetown Museums and Train Ride (8:45 AM – 4:00 PM – Elevation 8,512):

The self-guided tours will include the Hotel de Paris (www.hoteldeparismuseum.org/), the Hamill House (www.historicgeorgetown.org/houses/hamill.htm), and the Energy Museum (www.georgetownenergymuseum.org/); and finally a train ride on the Georgetown Loop Railroad (www.georgetownlooprr.com/), brings Colorado history to life, the beauty of the rugged Rocky Mountains surrounds you as an old-time steam locomotive or a powerful diesel locomotive winds up the Clear Creek canyon, hauling your train past the remains of several gold and silver mines.

Denver Museum of Nature and Science (9:30 AM – 2:30 PM): The Museum (www.dmns.org) has expertise and provides programming in six main areas: anthropology, geology, health science, paleontology, space and zoology.

Front Range Tour (9:00 AM – 4:00 PM): This tour takes you to some of the most scenic vistas along the Front Range and the associated museums that chronicle the history of the area. At Dinosaur Ridge near Morrison we will have a guided tour of the excavated dinosaur tracks and bones. World famous Red Rocks Amphitheater is a unique geologic feature and the museum traces the history of musical performances. Lookout Mountain and Buffalo Bill's Museum have permanent exhibits about Buffalo Bill's life and a spectacular view of Denver and the Plains. (www.dinoridge.org); (www.redrocksonline.com); (www.buffalobill.org)

Garden of the Gods (7:30 AM – 4:00 PM – Elevation 6,008): Explore Colorado Springs' paradise in one magical stop. Garden of the Gods Park (www.gardenofgods.com) is a registered National Natural Landmark. Imagine dramatic views, 300' towering sandstone rock formations against a backdrop of snow-capped Pikes Peak and brilliant blue skies.

**REUNION POST TRIP -- Glenwood Springs
September 12th – September 14th**

Elevation – 7,000 ft. Avoid high-altitude sickness. See the article on p. 13, NL 146, Feb. 2010.

Come join us for a trip back in time, and visit THE HOTEL COLORADO that opened in 1887. You will spend two nights where Teddy Roosevelt, Molly Brown, Presidents Taft and Harrison, and many other famous people from the past have stayed. In 1977, the hotel entered into THE NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES. The 6-hour bus trips from and to Denver will include 2-hour lunch stops near Lake Dillon (elev. 8000 ft). We will travel over THE CONTINENTAL DIVIDE thru Eisenhower Tunnel, then over VAIL PASS and thru spectacular GLENWOOD CANYON. The cost of round trip bus ride is \$80 per person. If you prefer, drive over in a POV and save the bus costs. However, you will miss the on-going presentation on geology, hydrology and biology during the bus ride.

The Reunion Post Trip hotel (*including a full buffet breakfast*) will be \$132/night – double occupancy. The guaranteed room rate is for reservations made prior to August 1, for reservations made later the room rates may be higher.

Call the hotel directly at 1-800-544-3998. Ask for the **WRD RETIREES GROUP**. You will be charged for the first night when you make your reservation. Buses will leave Lakewood on Sunday (September 12th) at 9:30 – 10:00 AM, and leave Glenwood Springs to return to Lakewood at 9:30 -10:00 AM on Tuesday (September 14th).

Monday (September 13th) is a free day. So after breakfast, consider a guided tour of the hotel, a therapeutic dip in the large hot springs pool, a tram ride up to Glenwood Caverns Adventure Park, or all three. In addition to the hotel dining room, there are several excellent restaurants close by. For more information about Glenwood Springs and things to do, visit website: <http://www.glenwoodchamber.com/>. You may leave large bags and cars at the Holiday Inn. Also, a block of rooms has been reserved for Tuesday night (September 14th) for people flying out on Wednesday (September 15th) at the same rate that was established above for the Reunion. You should make a reservation for September 14th when you reserve for September 9th – 11th.

Please note the following:

-Please register and make your hotel reservations as soon as possible.

-Information is available online at:

http://home.sprintmail.com/~ptucci/WRD/index_retire.htm or through the "Reunions" page at the WRD Retirees website at: <http://wrdretirees.org/>

If you have any questions, please contact the following:

Merilee Bennett
Jim Blakey

merjimeric@comcast.net
jblakey@comcast.net

303-232-5205
303-988-8520

**WRD RETIREES 2010 REUNION
DENVER, COLORADO
SEPTEMBER 9 – 11, 2010**

NAME(S) _____
 STREET ADDRESS _____
 CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP CODE _____
 EMAIL ADDRESS _____ PHONE _____

REGISTRATION FEE

Please register ASAP! Arrangements for tours, busses, etc. require early registration.

Registration Fee -- Number attending _____ @ \$40 per person \$ _____

FOOD -- Group meals are listed. Other meals are on-your-own.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 9, 2010

Reunion 'Kick-Off' Party at the Holiday Inn (6 – 9 PM) – Hors d'ouvres (cash bar after 1st drink)
 Number of people attending _____ @ \$20 per person \$ _____
(A ticket for the 1st drink, will be included in your package at Reunion check-in)

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 2010 (Afternoon Optional Activities)

-Golf Tournament (Jack and Judy Weeks) – refer to information on page 11 for details
 -Rockies Baseball Game (vs. Arizona Diamond Backs) Number Attending _____ \$ TBD

TOURS -- A 55-passenger bus is reserved for each tour. All tours run simultaneously; cancelled tours due to lack of participation will either be refunded or we will try to accommodate the participants in a remaining tour as available.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 2010

Celestial Seasoning and Leanin' Tree	Number attending _____ @ \$26 per person	\$ _____
Georgetown Museums and Train Trip	Number attending _____ @ \$53 per person	\$ _____
Museum of Nature and Science, Denver	Number attending _____ @ \$31 per person	\$ _____
Front Range Tour	Number attending _____ @ \$36 per person	\$ _____
Garden of the Gods	Number attending _____ @ \$45 per person	\$ _____

NOTE: All lunches will be on your own, except for the Garden of the Gods tour where a 'Catered' lunch is included in the tour price. **Catered Lunch:** French bread Sandwich, Soup, Potato Salad, Dessert and a Beverage
Please indicate your choice: Ham and Cheddar ___ Turkey and Swiss ___ Vegetarian ___

GALA BANQUET -- SEPTEMBER 11, 2010

Buffet Dinner Number attending _____ @ \$35 per person \$ _____
NOTE: *Special arrangements for a Vegetarian Meal can be arranged if desired*
Please indicate Number of People _____ for this selection only.

POST REUNION TRIP -- SEPTEMBER 12 – 14

Glenwood Springs Trip Number attending _____ @ \$80 per person (*transportation only*) \$ _____
 Please refer back to '**REUNION POST TRIP -- Glenwood Springs**' on page 11 for cost

TOTAL (registration, kick-off party, tours, banquet, post-reunion trip) \$ _____

Mail this form, with your check, payable to "WRD Retirees 2010" to WRD Retirees c/o Merilee A. Bennett, 3026 Parfet Drive, Lakewood, CO 80215.

List of Early Bird Registrants, Denver Reunion

The Reunion Committee is most grateful to the WRD Retirees who have already registered for the reunion. We urge all other retirees planning to attend the reunion to send in their registration **as soon as possible**. The Reunion Committee must make commitments to the vendors in advance so it is important that they know you are coming and which tours you want to take. Early registration helps insure your choice of options. See you in Denver! WRD Retiree Reunions are a blast! Those already signed up are:

Dave & Alice Appel
Mary Jo Baedecker
Larry & Virgene Becker
Jim & Merilee Bennett
Craig Bentley and VaDonna McKim
Jim & Joyce Biesecker
Jim & Paula Blakey
Bill & Shirley Boning
Bob & Marie Boulger
Bob & Elaine Brennan
Bob & Libby Burchett
Bill & Linda Carswell
David & Laurel Click
Dan & Cherie Collins
Judy Cornwell
Jim & Ruth Daniel
Terry & Nina Danielson
Rudy & Richard Dosch
Bill & Virginia Dudley
Jerry & Sandra Duncan
Phil & Janet Emery
Bill Emmett
Dan Fitzpatrick
John Flager
Herb & Pat Freiberger
Linda Geiger
Don Goolsby
Tim & Katie Hale
Steve & Sandra Hindall
Becky Hudson
Julia & Steven Huff
JoAnn & Curt Huffman
Robert & Jaye James
Sara James
Bill & Barbara Kastner
Gail Keeter
Bob & Shirlee Knutilla
Les & Thelma Laird

Hal Langford
Lee Lenfest
Dick & Pat Luckey
Dave & Karen Lystrom
Doug Manigold
John McLean
Jesse & Fran McNellis
Bob Meade
Joe & Kay Moreland
Charles & Pauline Morgan
John & Nancy Musser
Cynthia Norman
Jerry & Janet Pascale
Kathy Peter
Merv Peterson
Jack Pickering
Ron & Barbara Rathbun
Paul Rhone
Everett & Billie Richardson
Jim & Anita Rollo
Barb Ryan
Bob & Jean Schoen
Marv & Rosann Sherril
John & Micki Singer
Dick & Sheri Swisshelm
Warren & Dee Teasdale
Bert Thomsen
Debi Treseder & Mark Eaton
Lee & Beth Trotta
Pat Tucci & Zelda Bailey
Robert & Carolyn Ugland
Janice Ward
Jack & Judy Weeks
Clarence Welborn & Dixie Madaville
Bill & Kathie Wilson
Tom & Jeannie Yorke
Chet & Merrilee Zenone

LOCAL MEETINGS AND GATHERINGS

The Alabama WRD Retirees had a summer meeting on June 3 in Tuscaloosa.



L to R: Front: Hillary Jeffcoat, Elizabeth Meadows, Madeleine Powell, Dave Byrd, Riley Cobb
Back: Jim Tucker, Ira Giles, Bob Kidd, Jean Roberts, John Scott, Jerry McCain, Frank King

The Las Vegas, Nevada WRD Retirees held a local gathering on June 9. This was the first of many!



L to R: Front: VaDonna Bentley, Pauline Morgan, Gerda Seaber **Back:** Craig Bentley, Charlie Morgan, David Bauer

North Carolina retirees met in February 09 and will meet again this summer.



L to R: Seated: Curtis Gunter, Nancy Williams, Charlotte & Bruce Lloyd, Nancy & Ron Coble.
Standing: Gerry Ryan, Barbara Gunter, Charles Daniel, Herb Hinson, Bob Meikle, Mickey Reid, and Ed Floyd.

LOCAL MEETINGS AND GATHERINGS

The New Jersey WRD Retirees had a summer meeting. Everyone had a great time!



L to R: Gene Dorr, Amleto Pucci, Henry Trapp, Don Vaupel, Carolyn Bellante, Al Brown, Joe Hochreiter, Jean Brown, Ted Ehlke, Bob Schopp, Ed Pustay, Marilyn Pustay, and Alice Dorr.

Wisconsin retirees met this summer to talk and laugh!



Front: Jean Schoen, Gerry Cotter, Dale Cotter, and Al Harr **Back:** Bob Schoen, Fred Dreher, Gerry Dreher, Bob Devaul, Harley Young, Phil Kammerer, Rosann Sherrill, Pat Young and Marv Sherrill

The Georgia WRD Retirees had a great summer get together.



Back: Dot Beasley, Cassie Pufnock (Hiding), Glen Faulkner, Tim Stamey, Mike Hacke
Front: John Beasley, Dick Bloyd, Mary Dunn, Harold Gill, Harlan Counts

Grandpaw Has Tunnel Vision
By Donovan Kelly, (élan Magazine, August 2009), WRD Retiree

Too often, we only see our grandchildren vaguely, with tunnel vision.

With tunnel vision we view distant grandchildren. First step. First tooth. First word. First Grade. The latest bulletins in the lives of our grandchildren that we too often share second hand, because they are there and we are here. Is this the good news or the bad news for the slightly older, slightly weary bodies that grandparents have developed through years of family practice?

Is the "there not here" arrangement an evolutionary blessing, a way to help preserve the grandparent generation? On those days when the slightly older body finds that mowing the yard is a yard too far, when just thinking about playing in the sandbox is exhausting, who needs a grandchild? I do.

Why? If you have to ask, you'll never understand.

It's a state of mind, an acquired taste developed over the years, just like my addictions to sunrise coffee, and honey on warm toast. Some have it, some don't. If you are a don't, that's OK. But please pass the honey and I'll take a grandchild on the side. Both sides if possible.

The good news days, when the grandchild himself slides into our laps.

Ahh, the good new days, the glorious grandparent days, when the grandchild himself slides into our laps.

Always, bigger, taller, more self-assured than we remember from our last bit of tunnel vision.

And alive! No longer seen as vague bits of photographs, telephone bulletins and email, but an actual loving, running, shouting sawed-off human being.

He exploded out of Mama's car, handed me a truck, tugged at my hand and said, "Paw. Digger."

Two-year-old boys are given too many thoughts but not so many words. Let me translate. "Dearest grandfather, please hold this truck, which you can play with until I need it. Now come with me to the sandbox and I will be happy to show you again the right way to dig roads."

This is a special occasion child. The one who grows in spurts and bursts between occasions, between visits. In our tunnel vision, we develop cold, still pictures of distant grandchildren. We watch them grow and change in single frame bursts of time lapsed photography that covers the refrigerator. Where do the time and lapses go? Gone in too much mowing yards. Gone like yesterday's sunrise that can never be saluted with toast and honey again.

What's not gone is hope, well-aged hope, nurtured in a slightly older body. A trust in tomorrow's sunrise, in tomorrow's visit, in tomorrow's burst of grandchild energy. Grow on oh grass, while I with gleeful tread, play in the sandbox my grandson plays, a day not wasted mowing, but building little roads instead.

WRD NEWS

Recent Retirements

Note to all WRD Retirees. Recent retirees automatically become new members of WRD Retirees. Please treat these new members like old friends – welcome them aboard and invite them to participate in Local Meetings and Gatherings. Call them and ask them to become active in our organization.

Northeastern Region:

Gerald L. Goddard, Hydro. Tech., 949 Poplar Way, Verona, WI 53593, (608) 845-6485, 06/01/10
Kerie J. Hitt, Hydrologist, 2079 Cobblestone Lane, Reston, VA 20191, (703) 758-8183, 06/01/10
Russell J. Minnerick, Hydro. Tech., 6085 Blue Lake Road NE, Kalkaska, MI 49646, 05/31/10

Southeastern Region:

Thomas A. Abrahamsen, Biologist, 155 Melville Road, Columbia, SC 29212, 05/28/10
Paul A. Drewes, Hydrologist, 517 Acadian Way, Myrtle Beach, SC 29588, (843) 650-4115 06/03/10
Janice L. Stateler, Admin. Asst., 9450 Telfer Run, Orlando, FL 32817, 05/03/10
Paul S. Tippet, Elec. Tech., 507 Bales Avenue, Picayune, MS 39466, 05/31/10
Antoinette E. Waller, Admin. Asst., 4933 Holly Bay Way, Orlando, FL 32829, (407) 273-8369, 05/28/10

Central Region:

Susan E. Ahrendts, Financ. Tech., 2385 South Lowell Blvd., Denver, CO 80219, (303) 989-4341, 06/03/10
Scott C. Christenson, Hydrologist, 1228 Parsons St. NE, Albuquerque, NM 87112, 04/30/10
Pamela B. Daddow, Hydrologist, 14154 W. Evans Circle, Lakewood, CO 80228, (303) 989-7072, 06/03/10
Charles D. Freestone, IT Spec., 989 South Miller Street #103, Lakewood, CO 80226, 07/03/10
Cheryl L. Hall, Admin. Asst., 2400 Big Cedar Avenue, Edmond, OK 73012, (405) 330-6971, 06/03/10
Charles E. Hornig, Biologist, 5614 Clay Avenue, Austin, TX 78756, (512) 371-7659. 07/02/10
Carolyn V. Norton, Admin. Officer, 11305 Keystone Road #202, Oklahoma City, OK 73114, (405) 752-8540, 06/03/10
Richard W. Spengler, Geologist, 15989 W. Ellsworth Drive, Golden, CO 80401, 06/03/10

Western Region:

Kimball E. Goddard, Hydrologist, 631 Chelsea Place, Carson City, NV 89703, (775) 841-5191, 05/03/10
Randell J. Laczniak, Hydrologist, 5431 Reiter Avenue, Las Vegas, NV 89108, (702) 646-3299, 07/03/10
William D. McFarland, Hydrologist, PO Box 1872, Estacada, OR 97023, (503) 630-2090, 04/30/10
David S. Morgan, Hydrologist, 18134 S. Red Hereford Lane, Beavercreek, OR 97004, 04/30/10
Alex K. Williamson, Hydrologist, 16809 Lakeside Drive, Spanaway, WA 98387, (253) 531-1481, 06/03/10

'WHAT'S NEW IN RESEARCH'

USGS Response to the Deepwater BP Oil Spill in the Gulf of Mexico By Jerad Bales, Chief Scientist, WRD

USGS scientists have been involved in the response to the Deepwater BP oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico since the beginning of the disaster in mid-April. One of the most high visibility activities has been the Flow Rate Technical Group (FRTG), which is led by USGS Director Dr. Marcia McNutt. This team has provided the more recent estimates of oil discharge from the well after the initial estimates from NOAA and BP were found to be seriously underestimating oil flow.

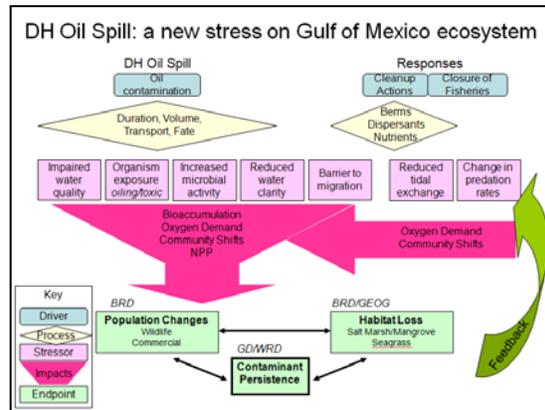
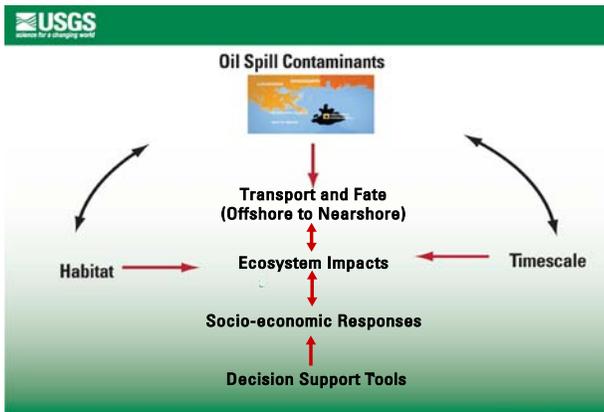
The FRTG scientists analyzed new data and brought together several scientific methodologies, each of which has particular strengths and weaknesses to develop an updated estimate of how much oil is flowing from BP's well into the Gulf of Mexico. The Plume Modeling Team used video of the oil/gas mixture escaping from the damaged well and particle image velocimetry analysis to estimate fluid velocity and flow volume. The Mass Balance Team used remote sensing data from deployment of the Airborne Visible InfraRed Imaging Spectrometer (AVIRIS) and satellite imagery to calculate the amount of oil on the ocean surface on a certain day. This estimate was then corrected for oil evaporated, skimmed, burned, and dispersed up to that day and divided by time to produce an average rate. The Reservoir Modeling Team is describing the geologic formations as well as composition and pressures of the oil, natural gas, and other compounds that are being released. Using open-hole logs; pressure, volume, and temperature data; core samples; and analog well or reservoir data; the team will populate computer models and determine flow rate from targeted sands in the well as a function of bottom hole pressure.

WRD NEWS

Almost as soon as the spill began, scientists from USGS Water Science Centers, in collaboration with other DOI agencies around the Gulf of Mexico began collecting background water samples. These samples will provide data needed to demonstrate impacts on DOI lands and trust species of the spill. About 100 water and sediment samples (including quality control) were collected at about 70 sites from Texas to Florida, and these samples will be analyzed for a suite of constituents, including material that can be used to identify the source of any detected oil (fingerprinting) at a cost of almost 4 million dollars.

The USGS Geologic Hazards Working Group, which includes an NRP scientist, is evaluating the geologic hazard implications of temporarily shutting in the Deepwater Horizon Well at the sea floor, as recently occurred. This shut in has led to a rapid buildup of wellhead pressure, and could lead to a loss of wellbore integrity and increased rates of hydrocarbon release to the Gulf of Mexico through uncontrolled, upward hydraulic fracture propagation and/or soft-sediment erosion initiating at leak-points in the cased well. Additional hazards may be posed through triggering of shear failure on nearby faults due to enhanced rates of fluid pressure diffusion away from the well during shut in, leading to potentially hazardous induced seismicity and/or shear-induced damage to wellbore integrity. NRP also participated in a team to consider the geologic and geophysical aspects of the relief wells intended to intercept and aid in the kill of the Macondo well.

In early May, a group of National Research Program scientists participated in an initial meeting to begin thinking about a long-term science plan for understanding the effects of the oil spill and the effects of initial responses (dispersants, berms, etc.) to the spill. Over the course of the next two months, the team expanded to include a broad range of scientific expertise, including scientists from other disciplines. This team developed a conceptual model (see below) for the Gulf of Mexico ecosystem, which, prior to the spill already was stressed from excessive nutrient inputs, reduced sediment inputs, over fishing, hydrologic alteration, climate change and other factors. This conceptual model is forming the basis for the Department of Interior's long-term science response plan.



WRD Retiree Volunteers in Action
Working with the Boy Scouts
By William A. "Bill" Harenberg

When the WRD Retirees Newsletter staff asked if I would write an article about my volunteer work with the Boy Scouts, I thought why anyone would want to know that. Then I decided maybe it would help me to know why I do it. Our son started with the Troop when he was 13, in 1977. At the time I would help him get to Troop meetings and campouts. Then I went on a campout or two with him. In about 1980 the Scoutmaster who had become a good friend of mine by then, asked if I would become the Institutional Representative for the Troop. He said it would only involve signing papers once or twice a year, so I said yes. I started attending Troop Committee meetings when I was not out of town or otherwise busy. I still attended campouts when convenient.

Early in 1986, the Scoutmaster suggested that I would probably get more out of scouting if I got more training and I should go to Wood Badge Training for a week. It fit in my schedule that year so I did. Wood Badge is a week of adults being boys. Trainees are put in patrols and learn by doing. They also learn what works because they are exposed to things that don't work and learn to avoid them. I also learned there was more to being the Institutional Representative than just signing papers once or twice a year. As part of Wood Badge the trainee writes a "ticket" where he/she agrees to do a specific number of things to learn his job and advance. I found out that as Institutional Representative I should attend District Committee meetings and Council meetings as I was a voting member of those bodies. At some time my job title changed from Institutional Representative to Scouting Coordinator. It has since changed to Charter Organization Representative. I still attend Troop meetings once a week, Troop Committee meetings once a month, District Committee meetings once a month, and Council business meetings once a year.

Troop meetings for me usually involve talking to other adults while the Scoutmaster and his assistants conduct the meeting. Occasionally I will help a Scout with a skill or sit in on a Board of Review for a Scout's advancement. Boards of Review are the best part of Scouting for me. The first Board of Review for a Scout is his Tenderfoot board. He is quite intimidated by three or four adults sitting around a table asking him questions that will determine if he can attain the Tenderfoot rank. Most of the time he is near hyperventilating because he is so nervous. As time goes on the Boards get easier for the Scout. Those who make it to Eagle rank are confident, self assured, and ready to take on the different questions that a Board will ask.

In the 30 years I have been involved with scouting, I have been able to do four 50-mile hikes, attended a number of summer camps, and participated in a large number of Camporees. About 25 years ago, the current Scoutmaster and I decided the Troop should do a winter campout at a camp sponsored by the church that holds our charter. As I recall the first year or two the campout was a January event but then it evolved to a President's Day weekend and has been ever since. In recent years, the Troop started going out of Council for Summer Camp, and this year we will be going to South Dakota to the Medicine Mountain Scout Ranch. We have done summer camp in Oregon, Montana, and Idaho.

I think I have stayed with Scouting for 30 years because it is still fun. I enjoy working with the boys and the adults. Our Troop has a core of adults who have been with the program for many years. Several of us are good friends who do non-scout things together because we enjoy each other's company. One of those adults is my son who is still with the Troop as an Assistant Scoutmaster.

WRD Retiree Volunteers in Action
American Business Women's Association (ABWA)
By Cathy Jones-Waggoner (Retired WRD 2009)

Founded in 1949 by Hilary a. Bufton Jr., a Kansas City, MO businessman, ABWA has thousands of members in chapters and Express Networks nationwide. The organization provides business training and networking opportunities for women of diverse occupations and backgrounds. ABWA has dedicated more than half a century to women's education and provided workplace skills and career development training for more than 545,000 members. The mission of ABWA is "To bring together businesswomen of diverse occupations and to provide opportunities for them to help themselves and others grow personally and professionally through leadership; education, networking support and national recognition."

I joined ABWA in Saginaw, MI during the mid 70's. I liked what the organization had to offer in promoting scholarships for women to further their education. I've held several offices from Recording Secretary and President when I was in the Al-Lu-We Chapter in Oklahoma City, OK. I've also held the position of Financial Officer for the Oklahoma Area Council. When my husband retired and we moved to Washington State the Olympia Charter Chapter knew I held several offices in Oklahoma and approached me to hold the position of Vice President with this chapter. I'm currently in my second term. The fund raisers we've held each year are selling Entertainment Books and working the Rest Stops serving free coffee, tea, hot chocolate and cookies. With these funds we grant scholarships to deserving individuals to further their education at local colleges. We also send our members to ABWA district conference and/or ABWA's National Women's Leadership Conference held throughout the United States.

This year we plan on striving toward "The Best Achievement Awards" and some of the criteria are to have:

- Nine professional development programs 45 minutes in length
- Six newsletters through-out the year
- Recognize local members by selecting a Chapter/Express Network Woman of the Year
- Submitting a Top Ten Businesswoman of ABWA candidate to ABWA National Headquarters
- Sponsor the attendance of some of our members to an ABWA district conference or to an ABWA National Women's Leadership Conference

These conferences are held throughout the U.S. Some of the topics we plan on having in the Olympia Charter Chapter are:

Mentoring
Financial Planning
Organization and goal settings

We have expanded to the greater Tacoma area, which includes Bremerton, Seattle and Olympia. By doing this we have opened our chapter for growth. We want members from the Puget Sound area to help this chapter achieve its greatest potential. In today's economy, education is the greatest asset any person can hold and that's what ABWA is all about; "bringing businesswomen of all diverse occupations and to provide opportunities for them and help themselves and others grow personally and professionally through leadership, education, networking support and national recognition."

WRD Retirees Scholarship Program for Hydrologic Technicians

There are a great many WRD Retirees who believe strongly that the best thing we do as an organization is sponsor the Hydrologic Technicians Scholarship Program. Hydrologic Technicians enjoy a well-deserved reputation of delivering high-quality data products that meet local, state, and National needs. Praise for these employees comes from groups both internal and external to USGS -- they are often referred to as the "backbone" of the water program. As partial recognition of the many contributions they make to the success of the USGS water program, WRD Retirees created a Hydrologic Technician scholarship program. The proposal to establish the scholarship was presented to the membership in the May 2006 Newsletter and the retirees showed overwhelming support with 96% of the voting members in favor. Beginning in 2009, WRD Retirees decided to award two scholarships annually. For 2010 the Board of Directors decided to award \$3,000 for 1st place and \$2,000 for 2nd place.

Several institutions offer university level training for Hydrologic Technicians: GateWay Community College in Phoenix, AZ; Vermilion Community College in Ely, MN; Spokane Community College, in Spokane, WA and Western Dakota Technical Institute in Rapid City, SD are schools that USGS has experience with. They offer two-year programs that lead to an Associate Degree as a Hydrologic Technician. Students are trained in procedures and with equipment used by USGS. Scholarships are awarded to second-year students who have earned good grades, are good citizens, have interest in USGS employment, and preferably have completed one summer of work with USGS and are being recommended by their supervisor to continue with USGS after graduation.

Selection Process:

In 2006, WRD Retirees appointed then Immediate Past President Jim Blakey and then Vice-President Bill Emmett to establish a procedure to award the scholarships. With assistance from Jim Kircher, Director, Colorado Water Science Center, and Deborah M. Lowe, Central Region Human Resources Officer, they developed a plan that works well. Each eligible student is asked:

- Why do you want to work for the USGS?
- Where are you willing to accept USGS employment?
- What has been your best experience during your internship with the USGS?
- What are your career goals?

A group of WRD Retirees meets annually to evaluate the applicants. The answers to the above questions, academic performance and the evaluation by the USGS supervisors are considered. This year's selection panel met July 28 and consisted of: Jim Blakey, Bill Emmett, Bob Boulger, Jim Bennett and Merilee Bennett.

The winners of the 2010 Hydrologic Technician Scholarships are:

First place, \$3,000: Travis L. Gibson, a student at GateWay Community College in Phoenix who was a summer intern in the Salt Lake City, Utah WRD office.

Second place, \$2,000: Michael Blumberg, a student from Vermilion Community College in Ely, MN who interned in the Richmond, Virginia office.

Congratulations to the 2010 winners and best wishes for a long and productive USGS career!

IN MEMORIAM

Raymond S. “Ray” George, 76, died on June 11, 2010, in Palmer, Alaska, from complications of leukemia. Ray was born in Wilma, Washington, in 1933. He served in the U.S. Navy from 1952 to 1960, received a degree in Agricultural Engineering from the University of Idaho in 1961, and later that year was hired as a Hydraulic Engineer with the WRD in Boise, Idaho. In 1965, Ray transferred to the Alaska District, where he spent the remainder of his USGS career. He began his Alaska work as the Area Engineer for the Susitna River Basin region, and went on to serve in several positions in the Alaska District over the next 25 years, including Anchorage Subdistrict Chief and Associate District Chief. Ray was preceded in death by his wife of 48 years, Nancy, in 2003. He is survived by four sons and two daughters and their spouses, 19 grandchildren, and 1 great-grandchild. A full Memorial will appear in a later edition of the WRD Retirees Newsletter.

Victor J. “Vic” Janzer, 83, of Lakewood, passed away Thursday, June 24, 2010. A graduate of Monticello, New York High School and Clarkson College of Technology in 1948, Vic worked in private industry and was in the U.S. Army until 1957 when he joined USGS as a Chemist in Denver. In 1964, Vic was promoted to the Leader of the Radiochemical Surveillance Unit and worked on the development of radiochemical techniques until his retirement in 1988. He was instrumental in the development of data pertaining to the composition and concentration of radioactive constituents in US waters. Surviving are, wife Marie Madeline (Dollbaum); children, Conrad J. Janzer, Eric C. Janzer, Diane M. Gutentag, Beth Ann Ondrak; and three grandchildren.

Margaret June Leach, 83, of Brandon, Florida, left this life on February 19, 2009. She follows in death her husband of 30 years, Stanley D. Leach. Stan was a long time Surface Water specialist in the Florida District who retired in 1983 and passed away in 2008. Margaret was a Navy wife and later in life a business woman. She traveled extensively, settling in Sky Valley, Georgia, in 1985 and eventually back in Brandon. She is survived by her two sons, Robert L. Westly Jr. and Douglas A. Westly; stepson, William S. Leach; two stepdaughters; four step grandchildren; and a great-grandchild.

John McKenzie passed away November 7, 2009 following a motorcycle accident. John was riding his beloved Harley Davidson motorcycle near his home in Belleview, Florida, when a car turned into his path. He died instantly. John spent his entire 31-year career working for the Ocala Water-Quality Laboratory (OWQL) and retired when the lab was closed in 2004. Over the course of his career, John operated a mobile water-quality laboratory, taught water-quality field technique courses and spent time as acting chief of OWQL. John was proud of his career with the USGS and especially the role he played in creating the water-quality supply unit. He was well known throughout WRD, especially in the water-quality community, as “Ocalaman” (the e-mail alias used to order water-quality supplies from Ocala). John’s life partner, Ruth Lastinger, was also involved in the accident. Ruth suffered serious injuries, but is doing well and expected to make a full recovery. She is a former USGS employee and currently works for the NPS. Ruth was the OWQL’s administrative officer for many years. John’s sense of humor, encyclopedic knowledge of rock and blues music, and the warmth and dedication he had for friends and family will be sorely missed.

Mearle M. “Swede” Miller died on April 8, 2002, at age 84. WRD Retirees just recently learned of Swede’s passing. He was a Washington native and a graduate of Washington State with a BS in Civil Engineering in 1942. Swede lettered in basketball, track and golf while at Washington State. Upon graduation from college, Swede was appointed as a Hydraulic Engineer in the Tacoma SW office. During WW II, he was on military leave and served in the U.S. Navy in the South Pacific from 1944-46. He also was on military furlough 1951-53 during the Korean conflict, serving as a Public Works Officer at the Naval Air Station in Spokane. Swede established the eastern Washington office in Spokane and in 1953 was selected Engineer-in-charge. In 1961, he transferred to the Hawaii District and eventually was selected as the first District Chief for Hawaii in 1966. Swede became Chief of the Operations Section in D.C. in 1971 and retired in 1973. He was active in the American Society of Civil Engineers throughout his professional career and was selected as a fellow. He is survived by a son, Tom D. Miller. A full Memorial for Swede will appear in a later edition of the Newsletter.

IN MEMORIAM

Edmond G. “Ed” Otton, long-time resident of the Baltimore area, passed away in Lakewood, Colorado, on April 25, 2010, at age 92. He was born in Chicago, Illinois, on April 3, 1918, and graduated from the University of Illinois in 1939. After working for oil companies for a few years, Ed joined the U.S. Geological Survey as a ground-water geologist. He married Lucile R. Fredigke of Evanston, Illinois, on May 3, 1941. During the early years of WWII, he was assigned to find water for war plants and military installations. Late in the war he served in the army and was stationed in Panama preparing soldiers for chemical warfare during the planned invasion of Japan. After the war, he returned to the USGS, eventually coming to the Baltimore, Maryland office in the spring of 1949. He became an expert on the ground-water resources of the State of Maryland. He retired from the WRD in 1983 and traveled extensively with Lucile. He and Lucile moved to the Charlestown retirement community in Catonsville in 1993. Lucile passed away in August of 2000 after 59 years of marriage. He was a member of the Towson Kiwanis and VFW Post 219. In August of 2004, Ed moved to Lakewood to be closer to his son and family. He lived in a retirement community there until the effects of age claimed his life. He is survived by his son, James K. Otton, daughter, Janet S. Borradaile; six grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren.

Walter Ray “Walt” Scott, 87, passed away peacefully at home in Providence, Utah, surrounded by his family, on March 21, 2009. Walt spent his childhood and youth living in California with various family members until he enlisted in the Army in February of 1940. There he was assigned to an accelerated engineering course at Utah State University (USU). In October of that year, the USU Institute sponsored a “blind date” Halloween dance. Mona Floy Christensen was paired with Walt. After a long distance courtship and an honorable discharge, Walt and Floy were married in Tremonton, Utah, on the 8th of December, 1945. He is survived by his loving wife of 63 years, four children and their spouses, 15 grandchildren and 39 great grandchildren. Walt went to work for the U.S. Geological Survey, Water Resources Division in 1947. He retired from the USGS in 1978 after a career spanning nearly 30 years, with his final position as District Chief in North Dakota. He started with WRD in Logan, Utah in 1947 as a Hydraulic Engineer and also served in Wyoming; Milford, PA; Washington, and New York. His years of service in the LDS Church include many leadership positions. He will be greatly missed. A full Memorial will appear in a later edition of the Newsletter.

Beverly Jean “Bev” Tirrell, 82, of Tavares, Florida, passed away on June 4, 2010. Bev was born in Denver, Colorado, and was known for excelling at most everything she tried in life. At Englewood High School in Colorado, her scholastic accomplishments propelled her a full year ahead of her classmates, graduating in 1944 instead of 1945. She also attended the University of Denver. Beverly met Robert Frank Tirrell at an old-time square-dance hall. They were married for 57 years until his death in 2003. Together they raised two sons and enjoyed an active outdoor life of family camping and fishing. She and her husband also held numerous awards as water skiing champions. Bev joined WRD in 1966 as a Secretary to then District Chief Ted Moulder, transferring to the Colorado District from the Administrative Division. In 1972, she was promoted to an Administrative Assistant and became the District Administrative Officer in 1978. She retired in 1987, moving to Florida shortly thereafter. In retirement Beverly worked side by side with her husband building five duplex houses and after purchasing a motor home they traveled the country extensively, finally deciding to make Tavares, Florida their home in 1991. Survivors include son, Donald Dean Tirrell and 4 grandchildren.

Kenneth N. “Ken” Weaver passed away on July 7, 2010. Ken was the Maryland State Geologist and Director of the Maryland Geological Survey from the 1970's to the early 1990's when he retired. Ken was pivotal in developing significant cooperative projects with the Geologic, National Mapping and Water Resources Divisions of the U.S. Geological Survey. He was a valued friend and supporter of the entire USGS. He was also an affiliate member of the Water Resources Division Retirees for at least 15 years. Ken is survived by his wife, Mary Elizabeth Weaver, a daughter Wendy W. Scheinberg and a son Matthew Owen Weaver.

MEMORIAL

Charles R. "Chuck" Collier 1926 – 2010

Charles R. "Chuck" Collier died on June 7, 2010 in Lakewood, Washington at the age of 84. He was born and raised in Grant, Nebraska. During World War II, he attended Doane College in Nebraska under the U.S. Navy training program and was commissioned Ensign and later promoted to Lieutenant USNR.



Chuck began working for the USGS in 1946 as an Engineering Aid in the Quality of Water Office, Lincoln, Nebraska, while attending the University of Nebraska. After receiving a Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering in 1949, he was appointed Hydraulic Engineer and assigned to the Norton, Kansas office where he collected streamflow and sediment discharge data.

In February 1952, Chuck was transferred to the Water Quality Office in Columbus, Ohio, to assume the supervision of the sediment transport program in Ohio and Kentucky, which was later broadened to include programs in Wisconsin and Indiana. He subsequently supervised segments of studies of the effects of strip mining in Kentucky and West Virginia which were published in Water Supply and Professional Papers. He served as a consultant to the Department of Interior and State agencies on this subject. In July 1965, the Ohio District, WRD, was formed and Chuck was designated the Assistant District Chief.

Chuck was transferred in May 1967 to St. Paul, Minnesota, to become the first District Chief of Minnesota under the Division reorganization. Several major programs were carried out under his tenure: Hydrology of the Twin Cities artesian basin; study of the glacial outwash of the Mesabi Iron Range; and Models of ground water systems and lake-ground water relationships. He also served as an expert witness in the Federal Court trial, U. S. vs. Reserve Mining Company.

In June 1977, Chuck transferred to the position of District Chief of the Washington District. He was also designated as the Chairman of the United States section of the Osoyoos Lake Board of Control of the International Joint Commission. In May 1980, Mt. St. Helens erupted and Chuck supervised the WRD response to this major geologic-hydrologic event. This included not only major efforts in the collection of streamflow and sediment transport data, but continuing coordination with many Federal, State and local agencies.

Chuck retired in December 1981. He continued to be active, serving as an Arbiter for the Tacoma Better Business Bureau and spent many hours working as a volunteer in rehabilitating buildings at Historic Fort Steilacoom. Chuck loved to play cards. He was a good Bridge player, but his first love was Cribbage. He could be found often playing at Cribbage clubs or tournaments several times a week.

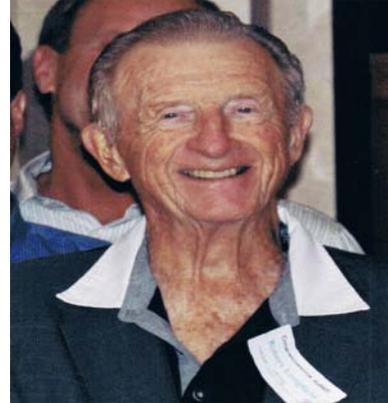
Chuck is survived by Patricia, his wife of 64 years, daughters Charla, Debora, and Chris, and son Charles Patrick, ten grandchildren, and four great-grandchildren.

By Les Laird

MEMORIAL

Robert J. "Red" Longfield 1925-2010

Robert J. "Red" Longfield died February 4, 2010 at his home of 34 years in Lake Forest, California. He was 84. Red was born September 15, 1925 at Blue Island, Illinois and graduated from high school at Blue Island. Following high school he served in the U.S. Air Force. After being discharged from the Air Force, he attended the renowned Hydraulic Engineering School at the University of Iowa. He joined the Iowa office of the Water Resources Division of the USGS after graduating in 1952. He met his loving wife Shirley, a student nurse, at the University. Red was famous for singing a love song to her one night beneath a balcony at her student living quarters.



In 1962, Red and family transferred to the Washington District in Tacoma, where Red was assigned as office engineer. In 1975, Red transferred to southern California, first to the Garden Grove office, later to Laguna Nigel, where he was Data Chief and served as acting Sub-District chief for a time. Red always had time to help and guide young technicians and hydrologists on professional and personal matters. In his leisure time, Red actively assisted in the sport activities that his three boys were involved in, including football, baseball and basketball. Also, he was a Boy Scout and Boys Club leader. He and Shirley were involved with co-workers socially, playing bridge and bowling.

Red retired from the USGS in 1984, after 32 years, when the office moved to San Diego County. After retirement, he obtained a job at Angel Stadium as an usher, moving up to doorman for the VIP club. There he had the pleasure of meeting some of the baseball greats, such as pitcher Bob Feller. This was a job Red had dreamed of because of his love of sports. In addition, he was a marshal and regularly played golf at a nearby golf course.

Red and Shirley enjoyed traveling, going on trips to Australia, Hawaii, and taking five cruises on the Pacific and Caribbean/Panama Canal. They also regularly visited friends and family in Iowa, Wisconsin, Washington, and Nevada. One of their favorite activities was going to garage sales. Red and Shirley were active in the Methodist Church and were heavily involved as volunteers at the South County Out Reach facility near their home in Lake Forest.

Red is survived by his wife Shirley, of 57 years, three sons and their families, John and wife Robin, Jim and his wife Mary, Joe and his wife Myra, and five grandchildren, Dean, Michael, Sarah, Luke, and Jennie.

By Thomas Higgins and Charles Morgan

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Salvo, Judy (10) (Franco) 43808 Lees Mill Sq., Leesburg VA 20176, ciaobellaluna@gmail.com, 571-333-1225

TREASURER'S REPORT, SECOND QUARTER 2010

Treasurer Celso Puente reports that the organization had \$19,919.94 in its treasury at the end of the second quarter for calendar year 2010. Receipts for the quarter were \$2,160.52 from dues and contributions from 80 members. Distributions for the quarter were \$2,345.16, including the costs for the printing of WRD Retirees Newsletter 147 and the 36th edition of the WRD Retirees Directory, May 2010. During the quarter, a total of \$500.00 was received in contributions from 27 members. Special thanks for contributions above dues go to: Barbara J. Ryan, W. "Pete" Shelton, Robert Boulger, Wayne Webb, Gary D. Cobb, Donald G. Jordan, Dorothy J. Niles, Mrs. T. William Lambert, Russell E. Curtis, Howard McCormack, Fred Ruggles, Bobby D. Ramsey, William W. Doyel, Harold Golden, Robert Knutilla, Mrs. G. Scott "Lessie" Runner, Marjorie Reid, Frank C. Wells, Michael D. ReMillard, John P. Monis, Paul D. Hayes, Solomon Lang, Angel E. Alvarez, Roger Rumenic, Philip Cohen, Perry and Vivian Olcott, and Harlan B. Counts.