

WRD RETIREES

NEWSLETTER 153
November 2011

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.

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Mary Jo Baedecker, Vice President
Charles W. Boning, Secretary
Celso Puentes, Treasurer
Charles Nethaway, Archivist

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James F. Blakey, Central
Chester "Chet" Zenone, Western

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Hello Folks,

This will be my last message as President of the WRD Retirees Association. The two-year assignment went by just as fast as retirement years do. This coming January will mark my tenth year of retirement which is hard for me to believe. Almost all of my messages during the past two years have had a blurb or two about how strange our weather has been back here in the east. I promised myself that I would not mention weather in my final message. I have to break that promise because the weather in the last three months has been stranger than ever. In about a ten day period at the end of August and the beginning of September we had to deal with two hurricanes (Irene and Lee) which caused tremendous damage, long power outages and some record flooding, especially in New Jersey, New York and New England. Sandwiched in between the hurricanes were several tornado warnings and an earthquake that registered 5.8 on the Richter scale. As I mentioned before, the weather has been strange, very strange.

As I leave the position of president I want to thank the members of the Board and all officers for making this organization move forward as we want and need. We all understand that your contributions are voluntary and are very much appreciated. Thank you immensely.

I want to highlight one program that seems to have flourished during my tenure, but doesn't have to do with my input. It does, however, have a lot of Jim Blakey's input. That is the hydrologic scholarship support program. This past year, the WRD Retirees, supported four students in their college endeavors as hydrologic technicians. The USGS will employ all of them. Our scholarship program is a win – win situation for everyone involved. The students get tuition support, we get fully trained hydrologic technicians which everyone knows we need and hopefully someday these folks will join our association. You should all be proud that you helped support these students in their desire to become hydrologic technicians for a career and to help the USGS.

The last two years have been fun and a privilege. Thanks for the opportunity to serve as your president. Lastly, there are two things: a) cast your ballot for the new board and b) mark your calendar for Boise, Idaho in September, 2012.

Pat and I wish you a great holiday season.



ELECTION OF WRD RETIREES OFFICERS: 2012 - 2013 BIENNIUM

It is election time. The slate of candidates, selected by the Board of Directors, is shown below with a brief biographical sketch for each.

President, Clarence W. "Andy" Anderson: Andy started his career with WRD, in Washington, DC in 1962, as a Hydraulic Engineering Technician. He was hired to make complete engineering drawings of all WRD equipment utilized in the field, according to military standards, and which could be used to contract out to the open market. In the mid 1980s Andy was named WRD Safety and Occupational Health Specialist, performing safety inspections of District and field Offices, laboratories, storage areas, and selected vehicles, until he retired in January 1995. Andy and his wife, Mary, a USGS retiree, reside in Herndon, VA.

Vice President, Alberto "Al" Condes : Al began his career with WRD as a streamgager in AZ. After a 4 year leave of absence to serve as a lieutenant in the US Air Force he returned to the AZ District to work in construction, special studies, and then as Subdistrict Chief in Yuma. Al moved to Headquarters and worked as Contracts Coordinator and then as Chief of the Operations Branch. He is a Registered Professional Engineer in Arizona and a recipient of the Department of the Interior Meritorious Service Award. Al and his wife, Mary, reside in Fairfax, VA.

Secretary, Charles W. "Bill" Boning: Bill began his WRD career as a streamgager in the Washington District in 1960. His next assignment was in Juneau, Alaska. Bill was Subdistrict Chief in Tennessee from 1974-78 and Subdistrict Chief in CA from 1978-81. In 1981 he was selected as District Chief, TX and in 1989 was designated Chief, Surface Water Branch, a position he held until his retirement in 1994. Bill and his wife, Shirley, reside in Herndon, VA.

Treasurer, Celso Puente: Celso began his WRD career in 1966 as a Hydro Tech in San Antonio, TX. He converted to a Hydrologist in 1972. From 1976-80 he served as the Project Chief of the Warrior Coal Field Hydrologic Study in AL. From 1981-86 Celso was Assistant District Chief and Hydrologic Studies Section Chief of WV. Celso transferred to HQ in Reston and served as the WRD Staff Hydrologist for Reports from 1986-2001 and as Acting Chief of Environmental Affairs from 2001-2005. Celso retired in 2005 and currently lives with his wife, Maria, in Herndon, VA.

Archivist, Charles Nethaway, Jr.: Charles joined WRD in 1974 in the CO District as a mathematician and computer specialist, calibrating rainfall-runoff models and developing database-supported applications that graphed actual and projected project expenditures. In 1979 Charles became the first WRD Regional Computer Specialist, NR, and in 1989 Chief of the Distributed Information System. He was also the Enterprise Architect, DOI National Business Center, before he retired in 2003. Charles lives in Reston, VA.

Northeastern Region, Sharon Goss: Sharon began her WRD career in 1975 in Indianapolis as an Editorial Assistant. In 1981 she became the Administrative Officer for the IN District. In 1986 she transferred to the PA District as the AO and in 1993 she transferred to Denver as the CO District AO. Sharon chose early retirement in 1999. Since her retirement she has held a variety of jobs in the educational and social work fields. She also volunteers for several community organizations. She has served as the Indiana District contact for WRD Retirees. She and her husband, Rick, also a WRD retiree, live in Sullivan, IN.

Southeastern Region, Richard M. "Dick" Bloyd: Dick began his career with the Weather Service in 1962 and in 1965 transferred to WRD in Garden Grove, CA as a Hydrologist. He was appointed a Research Hydrologist in the Mid-Continent Region in 72 and in 74 moved to the CA District where he was appointed District Chief in 78. In 82 he was Regional Manager of the Conservation Div. WR office -- when CD moved to MMS, Dick returned to USGS. In 83 Dick became District Chief, WY and in 87 Asst. Regional Hydrologist in Atlanta, retiring in 81. Dick and his wife, WRD retiree Mary Dunn, live in Hoschton, GA.

Central Region, C. R. "Bob" Burchett: Bob began his career in the Marion, VA Subdistrict in 1963. Bob worked as a streamgager until 1966 when he transferred to Nashville, TN to work in the Studies Section on Limestone Hydrology projects. In 1976 Bob was selected as Chief of the Nashville Field Office which was later upgraded to a Subdistrict. In 1982 Bob was named Chief of the San Antonio, TX Subdistrict and stayed in that position until he was selected as District Chief for OK in 1986. In 1989 Bob was picked as District Chief, TX. In 1991 Bob was named as Area Hydrologist of the "Great Southwest Area." Bob was then selected as the Central Region Program Officer in 1996. He retired in 1999. He and his wife, Libby, live in Austin, TX

Western Region, Chester "Chet" Zenone: After completing field work on the Juneau Ice field for his MS at Michigan State Univ., Chet began his WRD career in the AK in 1968, where he worked on groundwater projects. In 1977 he transferred to the AZ District, where he worked on land subsidence and in 1979 moved to Fairfax VA. In 1982 Chet headed back to AK as Chief of the Anchorage Geohydrology Project and District report specialist. In 1989 he was Staff Hydrologist for Reports at HQ and later became NR Regional Reports Improvement Advisor. Since his retirement in 2001, he has continued to review WRD reports. Chet and his wife, Merrilee, live in Salem, OR.

An election ballot appears on page 3 of this Newsletter.

**ELECTION BALLOT, WRD RETIREES
2012 – 2013**

Vote for one person for each National office and a Regional Director in **your** Region. Vote for either the nominee shown or another WRD retiree whose name you must print in the blank space to the right of the nominee. Complete the ballot by placing an "X" in the parentheses () to the right of the candidate of your choice. Print your name and provide your signature in the space provided. Mail your completed ballot to:

**Secretary, WRD Retirees
P. O. Box 280
Herndon, VA 20172-0280**

Your ballot must be received by December 30, 2011.

President:	Clarence W. "Andy" Anderson	()	_____ ()
Vice President:	Alberto "Al" Condes	()	_____ ()
Secretary:	Charles W. "Bill" Boning	()	_____ ()
Treasurer:	Celso Puente	()	_____ ()
Archivist:	Charles Nethaway	()	_____ ()

Regional Director: **Note** -- vote **only** for a candidate in **your** Region

Northeastern	Sharon Goss	()	_____ ()
Southeastern	Richard M. "Dick" Bloyd	()	_____ ()
Central	C. R. "Bob" Burchett	()	_____ ()
Western	Chester "Chet" Zenone	()	_____ ()

Members Name: (Please print): _____
Members Signature: _____

NEWS OF RETIREES FOR THE NEXT NEWSLETTER

Please use the space below to let us know what's happening in your life. Your friends and colleagues in WRD Retirees would like to hear what you have been doing! Thanks!

NEWS OF RETIREES

We changed “News of Retirees” from a two-column format to one column. The Newsletter staff and Board of Directors approved this change, suggested by many retirees, because it is easier to read one column online. More than 1,150 copies of the Newsletter are currently delivered online.

Andy Anderson reports, “The head of the USGS Water program, **Bill Werkheiser**, was the speaker at our October lunch. Bill gave a great presentation describing the water program at USGS. One of the features was a video describing the activities of USGS during the numerous recent floods. 33 retirees/spouses attended.”

Jim Bailey says, “**Vivian** and I send greetings from our retirement home in Amherst, VA to all WRD Retirees.”

Jim and Merilee Bennett write, “This July we took a 10-day excursion to the Galapagos Islands aboard the ‘Letty’, an 83 ft. long yacht, along with 18 other people of which 12 were family or friends. The trip included both snorkeling expeditions and/or afternoon hikes on seven of the Galapagos Islands. We arrived in Quito, Ecuador (at 9,000+ feet) and on the second day either took the city tour or rode a bus to the town of Otavalo and visited their famous market for shopping and beautiful scenery. On the third day we flew to the island of San Cristobal and met our two well-versed guides from Natural Habitat Adventurers who introduced us to the wonderful up-close wonders of the Galapagos Islands such as blue-footed and red-footed boobies, tortoises, shorted-ear brown owls, sea lions, fur seals, dolphins, penguins, frigate birds, and albatrosses; plus a wide variety of plants found nowhere else. One afternoon and evening was spent camping on Santa Cruz Island where land tortoises make their habitat, and the following morning we made a visit to the Darwin Station which is responsible for the reintroduction of over 5,000 tortoises on several islands. It was a trip of a life time and one we are grateful to have done.”

Jim Bettendorf says, “Seems like just yesterday that I retired but the calendar says it’s been 5 years. I stay busy playing tennis a few times a week and being **Ruth’s** “house husband” since she is still working with The University of Georgia. Guess she was right all those years – grocery shopping and laundry are never done! A year ago I decided to “play trains” with my oldest grandson (now almost 4) and it turned into a serious hobby and a complete finishing of our basement into space to simultaneously run 9 O-gauge trains at various levels and through walls (tunnels). I had to drag out and dust off my rusty engineering skills but it’s been great fun. With 3 grandsons and another due in Jan. my train days will continue for awhile.”

Bob Burchett reports, “There are a number of wonderful WRD retirees – among these are **Gene Hendrick**. The Newspaper in Marion, VA announced that in Nov. 2010 Walter E. “Gene” Hendrick, Jr. was presented the “Virginia Mountains Most Beautiful People Award” given by the Smythe County Chamber of Commerce. WRD’s very own Gene was one of 15 recipients. Gene began his career with WRD in Charlottesville, VA moved to the Marion, VA Subdistrict where he retired as Supv. Hydro. Tech. After retirement he became very active in community activities, serving over 17 years on the Marion Town Council. He also served as vice-mayor and as chairman of the board of a Governmental Cooperative. He has held offices in the Kiwanis Club and is currently President of the Settlers Museum of Southwest Virginia and is a member of the Friends of Hungry Mother State Park.”

John Conomos writes, “**Janice** and I are well--she does lots of volunteering and is a bridge enthusiast. I’m fully retired and try to complete at least one activity everyday--mailing a letter counts. I have frequent lunches with my growing number of widower friends and help my son (John) with his construction and development company in San Francisco. I just gave up my office at the Survey where I was an Emeritus but I still attend lectures and other activities. We travel often to visit our two daughters located in Bellevue, WA (Penny) and in Dallas (Alexa)--all told we have seven grandsons, age 10 and younger--all are being prepped to pay taxes and to kill terrorists. We travel to Europe annually, mainly to the northern countries, and to the Greek Island of Kythera, the birthplace of both my parents, where we maintain property. All in all, a great life--my motto is “stay vertical!”. Regards and best wishes to all. I might add that I regretfully miss most reunions because I am usually on travel status during that time period.”

Ken Covay says, “I retired on Jan 3, 2006, although I did not want to. My legs and back finally gave out after 39+ years. I wanted to work 40 years but the pain was too much. 2008 started off well with the marriage of our oldest son Jeff to his long time girl friend, Beth. They met while working at the Dept. of Highways in Little Rock. Both graduated as CEs from LA Tech. Our granddaughter will be 2 in Oct. and a grandson due in Nov. The remainder of 2008 was not good. Kathy’s mother passed away in July. Later I had to go to Chicago -- my mother who was 91 and had fallen a few times. We decided she should live in a nursing home. I returned from Chicago on Dec. 18 and on Dec 21, our youngest son, Brian, had a stroke. Dec. 30 Brian left us forever and now lives in heaven. He was a devoted Christian and hard worker for the Albertson grocery chain. Brian was a great kid and left behind a lot of friends. Our Christmases have never been the same. Brian left a huge hole in our family and we miss him daily. Losing a child has to be one of the worst things a family can deal with. Some of you folks who lived in CO or LA during 1984-90 may remember Brian had cancer in his left tibia when he was 14. Since then Kathy and I either stay in Las Vegas or we go to Chicago several times a year to see my mother. Sometime we hope to be able to go to Grand Junction and Meeker to see some good friends. Some of these things will have to wait until everything in Chicago gets settled. This past summer, **Kathy** and I celebrated our 45th wedding anniversary. I was very lucky in my WRD career -- I worked in some great places with terrific people on some fascinating projects. Best wishes to one and all!”

NEWS OF RETIREES

Ernie Denison writes, "I enjoy the Newsletter even though each issue contains many names I do not recognize. Thanks to the folks who put the Newsletter together for keeping us abreast of those who pass on. I stay in reasonably good health but **Ola** is pretty much bed-bound. She has dementia and has lost all use of her arms and legs as well as her speech and hearing. Between me and Hospice we try to keep her comfortable."

Fred Dreher reports, "I enjoyed reading the articles on the huge streamflow measurements. As data section chief of the Wisconsin District I had a lot of experience with high-water measurements but none anywhere near a million cfs."

Bill Emmett reports, "It's hard to believe I've been retired nearly 16 years; I guess that's what happens when you enjoy retirement yet have never retired. As emeritus with USGS, I stay in touch with a lot of the active employees – trying to offer advice only when asked, but not sure even if that is heeded. An ongoing task is digitizing and archiving movies (several hours) and slides (several thousand) documenting the technical activities of Luna Leopold and me from the 1960s – the mid 1990s. The Vigil Network concept was put forth in 1961 and I instrumented and surveyed the first sites, largely in the Rocky Mountain west. Having resurveyed them periodically over the years, this past summer I put together a group for a resurvey to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the Vigil Network - even learned new surveying skills using GPS technology so that all benchmarks, cross-sections, etc have coordinates and true elevations. A contribution let it all happen and a report discussing landscape change during a documented 50-year record is a contribution to science. Outside the USGS, I've done a little consulting, teaching, and serving on dissertation committees. My principal consulting has been serving as expert witness on cases involving river behavior, limiting my involvement to one case at a time. My goal is to write a good enough technical report that the other side throws in the towel or agrees to settlement or negotiation rather than litigation. The work is enjoyable because I put to use 50+ years of experience in trying to understand river behavior. Otherwise, **Lynda** and I travel a little and are thankful for good health."

Herb Freiberger says, "Some guy called and said he was tired of telling people where to get a good lobster in Maine. He and his FEMA co-worker were in Baltimore and wanted to know where to get a good Maryland crab cake. It turns out it was **Derrill Cowing** and a co-worker, **Bill Wiggins**, WA who were assigned to help out with Hurricane Irene problems in the Maryland area. The crab cakes were good and it was good to see Derrill again and to meet Bill."

Jim Gerhart says, "**Nancy** and I both retired in 2010 and we moved to our hometown, Lancaster, PA. We bought an older (1899) home near F&M College and are busy fixing it up. We also are trying to make a go of a small antiques business in this tough economy. I am still involved a little with the Baltimore USGS office, helping out with reports. Nancy is working part-time at Wheatland, the home of President James Buchanan, which is a mansion open to the public. Daughters Becky (Columbus, OH) and Jamie (Baltimore, MD) are both doing well. "Hi" to USGS friends."

Willard Gibbons writes, "How dry is it in Texas you ask? The Blanco River or what used to be the river, below my house has dinosaur tracks that are usually under water but have been high and dry for a couple of months. Yikes!"

Norm Hutchinson retired (again) after working 14 years with the Town of Purcellville, VA Public Works Department. Norm retired from USGS in 1988. Norm worked with the Director of Public Works on engineering and water related projects. The Town honored Norm with a retirement party and recognized him at the annual employees' luncheon.

Hal Langford reports, "The Great Plains of North America stretch 1,800 miles southward from southern Canada through parts of MT, ND, SD, MN, IA, WY, CO, NE, KS, MO, OK and TX, and then into Northern Mexico. The Dakotas, NE and KS, however, are the only states that lie completely in the Great Plains which cover an area of one million square miles. In Oct. 2010, my daughter, **Amy**, and I traveled through a large part of the Great Plains with emphasis on the Ladder of Rivers. This term refers to the streams that headwater in the Rocky Mountains or the High Plains of MT, WY, CO and NM and flow eastward into the Missouri River or, in the southern part of the Great Plains, into the Mississippi River or other streams. The "ladder" term refers to the rungs of a ladder formed by these eastward-flowing streams that had to be crossed as the early cattlemen drove their herds northward out of TX to the mid-country railheads so their cattle could be shipped market. Both Amy and I are Nebraskans by birth and have a strong interest in the Great Plains. I spent much time during my youth in the sandhills of NE, which cover an area of some 20,000 square miles in central and western NE searching for Indian artifacts and relics and digging fossils. Beyond this, I conducted field and laboratory investigations of water resources in the Great Plains states north of OK for the USGS. As a result, I became familiar with the history and natural resources of much of the northern Plains. Amy and I decided to do more than just focus on the rivers; although we took photographs of and documented each river we crossed (61 in all) on our journey. The trip began by flying from Washington, DC to Minneapolis-St. Paul, MN, renting a vehicle there, and driving approximately 2,850 miles west and south through the Great Plains to Dallas, TX, and then flying back to DC. Our auto route took us from Minneapolis northwest to Fargo and then Bismarck, ND, south through western ND and SD, NE, KS, OK and finally, to Dallas, TX. We visited museums, art galleries, and other sites of interest. Special attention was given to the cattle ranches and history of our ancestor, Russell Watts, who was one of the early (1860-1890) cattle barons in the western Nebraska sandhills. Also, we focused on North America's early

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man and more recent American Indian tribes as well as the exploration and development of the Great Plains by the white man. An odyssey and adventure to cherish, relay to others, and remember.”

Jerry and Muffy Lindholm write, “We spent an enjoyable 6 weeks at our cabin near Grand Rapids, Minnesota this past summer. The weather was fantastic, the water warm and solitude unbeatable. While camping with us, our new 5-year old Ethiopian granddaughter said she couldn't sleep because of the noisy loons. We visited with numerous relatives and friends and also attended Jerry's 60th high school graduation reunion. By unanimous consent, Boise WRD retirees now meet for breakfast on the second Tuesday of odd- numbered months. Typically 20-25 retirees, spouses and friends enjoy the socializing and breaking bread together. **Kay Lehman** is the most recent retiree to join our august group.”

Walton Low writes, "Moving after a career with the WRD may be great for some and withdrawal for others. I have been working for FEMA as a Disaster Assistance Employee since I retired in 07. I follow many other WRD retirees who also work for FEMA. I was deployed in MS working the 2011 tornado disaster. As you know, spring 2011 was trying for residents of MS, AL and other Mid-West states. About the only things missing are pestilence and locusts of historic proportion. FEMA is looking for USGS retired hydrologists. If you want to help disaster victims, you may want to contact FEMA or Email me. **Marion Fisher** (Systems Group) retired from Homeland Security and we moved to Las Cruces, NM this past March and settled into a warm, dry climate. I had time to paint, hang window coverings, and garage shelves, before FEMA called. I was deployed to Jackson and Tupelo, MS. We are currently exploring our local environment and enjoying the area. I am a player assistant at NMSU golf course and Marion volunteers at the local hospital. We both volunteer for the Local Emergency Planning Committee.”

Jaye Lunsford reports, “We continue to live aboard our boat full-time and year-round. After spending the summer in Annapolis, we're ready to set sail again for warmer climes ... finances and hurricanes permitting, we leave for Florida at the end of Sept. I write about the (mis)adventures of life afloat in a blog by the same title for the Annapolis Capital newspaper: http://www.hometownannapolis.com/blogs/blog/9/Jaye_Lunsford_Life_Afloat.html. **Dan** and I try to get to as many of the WRD Retiree lunch meetings in Herndon as we can make.”

Dave Lystrom writes, “It's hard to believe that I have been retired 12 years. It's been said that time goes fast when you're having fun. **Karen** and I are enjoying good health and many activities. We now have 4 grandchildren ages 1 to 4 years in the Denver area to entertain us. In the last year we spent 2 weeks in Italy and our usual hiking trips in Colorado and Utah. I enjoyed an Alaskan fishing trip last summer and just returned from a horse pack fishing trip in the Bridger Wilderness in Wyoming. We continue to spend some time maintaining our farm in MN and visiting friends and relatives. Karen and I have recently gotten involved in a sustainability group in the Evergreen area which focuses on lowering our impact on the planet. We enjoyed seeing many friends at the WRD retiree reunion last year.”

Dave Madril says, “The past year I've had knee replacement surgery and after recuperating went back to my volunteer work with the Billings Chamber of Commerce Visitor Center and the Billings Police Department. I've traveled to CA to see my Mom a couple of times, the last time with my French granddaughter Nathalie who I picked up in France in July. We visited Germany and spent a couple of days in Paris before returning to MT. We visited CO, as guests of **Dan** and **Elaine Gockel** before visiting with my son in Aurora. I visited old USGS friends at the Center in Denver and they're getting fewer as many have retired. From there to Mesa Verde and the Grand Canyon before visiting great grandma in CA. I picked up a niece there and am now being led by 13 and 11 year old girls. I've come to appreciate the role women play in raising girls and can't understand how they do it. I raised 2 teenage boys and they were a snap. Girls are another matter. They're much more inquisitive, need a "BIT" more attention, and must always have something planned. I guess this starts early for young women whereas boys just chill out at an early age besides being a little mischievous. They both leave at the end of Aug. and my life will be back to normal. I have hosted some USGS friends in the past -- the Gockels in Bozeman and **Debi Tresseder** in Billings where I now reside. I've also had quite a few old military friends stop by at the Hotel Madril. I have what every bachelor needs, a 2200 sq ft home. I never learn! My plans for the rest of the year are rather loose with another trip to CA to see Mom for her 89th birthday. Other than my passion for fishing, which has suffered this year due to flooding, I'll probably just relax the rest of the year and hopefully host a few more friends as they pass through as I'm on a major interstate.”

Larry Martens writes, “**Rita** and I are fairly well. We spend much more time in doctors' offices than we want to but it's better than the alternative. Actually we have slowed down quite a bit. I quit golfing a year ago because I was no longer enjoying it. I still fish during the winter months and spend a lot of time in the yard and down by the lake. Rita and I play a lot of bridge, she more than me. I no longer am comfortable driving on long trips so Southwest and Delta airlines both see more of us. We continue to go to Green Bay, Wisconsin at least once a year as we both have siblings there. We also get to Chicago, Clarksville TN and Sierra Vista, Arizona to visit children and grandchildren. Our oldest child lives only 30 miles from us so we see them weekly. We will be going to Fort Huachuca, Arizona in September for the retirement of our son. He is leaving the Army after 23 years but is remaining in the area so I suppose we will continue making trips there. We do enjoy the WRD Retirees newsletter. It has gotten to the point where we no longer know most of the recent retirees – I imagine that is a common occurrence for many of us older retirees. We are looking forward to Boise and plan to be there. We appreciate the Newsletter!”

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Sharon Mathey reports, "Hello and Best Wishes! First of all, thanks to the staff for the Newsletter. It's always interesting and I enjoy reading about what retirees are doing. I keep busy working at our hospital gift shop 3 evenings a week, playing bridge every other Tue., spending time with my 2 granddaughters (10 and 7) and a great-grandson (5), and tap dancing with the senior "Gotta Dance" troupe -- not exactly the Rockettes, but we have great fun and its exercise. Having lunch with friends is a favorite of mine. I travel when I can and my daughter, Lynn, and I are taking the 3 grandchildren to Dutch Wonderland near Lancaster, PA. When my daughter spent 5 years in Australia recently I was lucky to have visited her 3 times. The first time we toured the east coast, the second time we toured the west coast, and the third time we toured Melbourne and then went on to New Zealand. Of course my favorite place was Sydney. Last year my daughter and I spent a week in Paris and it was a trip I'll never forget. We stayed in a small hotel downtown and when we stepped outside the door and looked to the left, we saw the Eiffel Tower. We visited museums and did two tours: Monet's beautiful gardens and Versailles."

Ed McGavock says, "After attempting "retirement" from WRD in 1993, I gave up after a year and joined a consulting firm. It was a seamless transition because the firm was founded by **John W. Harshbarger** and still retains the traditional USGS standards, ethics and even quirks of "Survey usage". I stay busy, and **Sue** and I love Prescott. She helps run our Homeowners' Association. She enjoys and has talent for conflict resolution. I appreciated **Jim Biesecker's** May article on the new USGS organization. There are some positive aspects, but the loss of the traditional review process is worrisome -- and obvious in recent reports. The passing of **John Wark** is also keenly regretted; he was definitely one of my favorite people. One quick story: **Larry Jo Mann** and I were in Holbrook, AZ at the time of a record flood on the Little Colorado River. The bridge was closed because of concern that the bridge might go at any time, and a large crowd was gathered to watch. Larry Jo was never one to pass up a measurement so he convinced the state troopers that we had business on the bridge. We were part way through the measurement when an attractive, well-dressed lady came sashaying out onto the bridge. She looked familiar, but was definitely not a "local". Then I spotted John Wark in the crowd behind her and it clicked -- **Marcella**. I looked at John; and shrugged as if to say, "I don't control that lady!" Obviously, the police didn't, either. Larry Jo saw where I was looking and saw Marcella. "Get that woman off the bridge!" he yelled. "That's John Wark's wife", I responded. "I don't care who she is -- get her off the bridge!" By that time, Marcella had reached us; she said, "Hi", circled behind us and watched for a few moments. Then she said, "Thank you", and walked back off the bridge. Shortly afterward, the bed scoured out, the stage dropped a couple of feet, and the measurement was shot. The Warks were gone by the time we packed up. I never did learn what Marcella was up to, nor did I learn what John thought of two idiots risking their lives just to get a high point on the rating curve. He probably thought, "Been there -- done that".

Pat McKinley reports, "Since retiring, I started my own consulting firm that has occupied about 3 years of the last 8. I've had a good mix of work and fun. On the family side, I'm officially a grandfather with 2 grandsons and a granddaughter. One daughter graduated from the Air Force Academy and has a Masters in International Relations from Virginia Tech. The other daughter is a Nurse Practitioner. Travel has included 2 trips to New Zealand. Some of my other adventures were trips to Australia, some South Pacific islands, Alaska and a few Caribbean islands. Much of the travel involved hiking and staying in huts and hostels; along with a few cushy scuba dives in places like the Great Barrier Reef, the Cook Islands, Honduras and Costa Rica. Probably the most interesting trip was to Africa and climbing Kilimanjaro but visiting Israel and Petra in Jordan were fascinating. I have 8 14ers left to climb in CO to finish up the 54. For good measure an ol' WRD buddy, **Jerry Leenheer**, and I floated the Grand Canyon. This Feb., I participated in a ski trip to Harry Gates Hut, a 10th Mountain Division hut, with some current WRD employees: **Dave Stannard**, **Barb Ruddy** and **Don Campbell**. Trying to keeping up with the youngsters was tough (I didn't keep up!). This summer I enjoyed 10 days above 12,000 ft trekking in the Bolivian Andes and a raft trip down the Green River enjoying Dinosaur National Monument. Congratulations to **Gale McMurtrey** on his 60th! My 41 years seems paltry in comparison. Yes, Gale, I remember you and my years in MT. I've enjoyed reading "News of Retirees". Cheers!"

John McLean writes, "The Franktown 'mud hut' is still standing and the garden is still producing. John helped out with the National Speleological Society annual convention in Glenwood Springs, and received the Society's Science Award at the concluding banquet. John continues to use geophysics to locate unexplored cave passages, and explore them (at least as much as his ageing bod will permit) as well as continuing his monitoring of cave microclimates. **Vivienne** has been active in prison ministries, teaching classes in English Literature and Life Skills at the Douglas County Jail. She has also been asked to start an art class there."

Ben McPherson says, "Log from the Southern Ocean and Antarctica. I left Tampa on Dec. 6, 2010 and flew to Ushuaia, Argentina at the southern tip of Tierra del Fuego, claimed by some to be the southern-most "city" in the world. Along the way, my checked bag was lost, so I had only part of a day on December 8 to buy some essentials for the voyage to Antarctica. I was able to locate most essentials even though it was a local holiday and most shops were closed. We boarded the Marina Svetava-- a ship built in Poland in the 1989 specifically for polar exploration on Dec.8. The Marina Svetava is 92 meters long with a draft of almost 6 meters and a maximum speed of 14.5 knots. The Marina Svetava has a Russian crew of about 40. Also on board were the staff of One Ocean (our guides) primarily from Canada, and about 80 passengers from all over the world, including Canadians, Americans, Brits, Europeans, Australians, South Africans, and a contingent of about 20 teenagers from China. We sailed down the Beagle Channel on the evening of December 8, and entered the Drake Passage that night. The Drake Passage separates the southern tip

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of South America from the Antarctic continent, and is famous for its fierce storms and monster waves. The Antarctic circumpolar current flows through the Drake Passage in an easterly direction around Antarctica. We crossed the Drake Passage Dec. 9-11. Part of the time it was sunny and not too rough. On the second day, however, seas increased and I begin taking sea sick medication. For two days the sea was endless with no land in sight. We saw a few whales, but many sea birds that followed the ship. On the morning of Dec. 11, we arrived at King George Island, anchored and went ashore in zodiacs. This is a bleak outpost, mostly snow covered rocks with an assortment of shacks and other structures where several countries maintain research facilities, most of which appear little used. We saw no other people – only penguins. The Antarctic is the world's largest wilderness. The Antarctic is the world's largest wilderness. No one lives here permanently. There are no trees and only a few moss-like land plants. The sea is rich with life and has a tremendous biomass that supports a rich diversity and number of sea birds and marine mammals. After leaving King George Island, the ship sailed south visiting islands and the Antarctic Peninsula, including Half Moon Bay, Paradise Island, Danko Island, Petermann and Pleneau Islands, and Neko Harbor. Along the way we often saw penguins swimming, various Antarctic sea birds, and occasionally whales and seals. Each day the zodiac boats were lowered into the sea so we could visit icebergs or land on shore for close up photography of penguin colonies and for hikes along the shore and up ridges. Kayaking was also available as an activity, but required special dry suits; three passengers did kayak on several days. We turned north on Dec.16 and headed back for another crossing of the Drake Passage. We passed Cape Horn in the distance on late afternoon of Dec.17 where I was told there is a memorial plaque dedicated to the Sailors from days gone by: *"I am the albatross that waits for you at the ends of the earth .I am the forgotten soul of a deceased sailor who crossed Cape Horn from all the seas of the world. But they did not die in the furious waves, today they fly in my wings to eternity in the last trough of the Antarctic winds".* "

Mike Merritt writes, "I'll provide a short narrative of my experiences post-fulltime USGS employment, a period that started in Dec. 1999. The following year, I returned to the Orlando office on a part-time basis to do a project dealing with the use of ocean, earth, and atmospheric tides to determine aquifer characteristics. It was the equal in challenge and fascination to any project I did before. Later, I did a project involving leakage between aquifers caused by water-table mounding in rapid infiltration basins. In 2003, I was diagnosed with prostate cancer, and elected to have surgery. I continue to have checkups here in HI and so far there is no evidence of recurrence. Otherwise, my health is excellent as I approach 70. Sold my home and other property in FL right at the height of the housing bubble and used the proceeds to buy 8+ acres in the Puna District of the Big Island of Hawaii, the windward, rainy side and build a 3-story house. From the wraparound upper deck, I have a wide, though somewhat distant, blue-water view, and have a view on the other side of Mauna Kea and Mauna Loa when the clouds part long enough. I received the final copies of my WMD report after I arrived here, but have not done any more hydrology. I continue to receive Journal of Groundwater and read the abstracts. I have read a few local USGS modeling reports - stuff about groundwater dikes and perched water tables, etc. My main interest these days is in clearing my property, gone wild after being abandoned by the sugar-cane industry in the early 1980's, and planting tropicals and native Hawaiian plants. I handle the finances of the International Palm Society, as well as those of the local palm society. I've been saddened to read of deaths of many people I worked with in bygone years. I can't believe that people like Tom Winter are gone. And almost all of the old Tallahassee crew that I started with in the 1970's. Aloha!"

Charlie Merk reports, "In May, relaxed on a thirteen-night repositioning cruise on the Celebrity Solstice from Fort Lauderdale to Barcelona with port calls at the Azores, Lisbon, Malaga and Cadiz. While in Lisbon I visited the Catholic shrine in Fatima --got rosaries at the shrine for family. After the cruise, I spent a week in Barcelona. In July, celebrated my birthday with snowbird friends in Cape Elizabeth, ME; having a surprise fresh Maine lobster home-cooked dinner. Day-tripped on the ferry mail boat sailing to several islands in Pasco Bay near Portland. Also took a back stage tour of the famous Ogunquit, ME Summer Theater Playhouse. While in New England, toured Phillip Johnson's "Glass House" in New Canaan, CT - this is Johnson's personal residence built in 1949. Check it out at <http://philipjohnsonglasshouse.org/>. Continued on to NYC, to see several Broadway shows, including "War Horse", a drama, ranking right up there as one of the most exciting theatrical performances ever. Also, attended a performance of the musical "How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying" starring Daniel Radcliffe who played Harry Potter in the famous movie series and several more Broadway musicals. Disappointed that there were no tickets to "Book of Mormon: (maybe **Gerry Parker** would have his son Trey Parker, the Tony-award winning director of the show, procure a ticket for me. Back in Fort Lauderdale, I am volunteering at the Broward County General Hospital - a few days a week - just to give back to the community to the institution that served me so well! Looking to get back to a real job someday sooner rather than later, if anyone has a lead."

Dee Molenaar says, "I have prepared my 1971 magnum opus, *The Challenge of Rainier*, for availability in September as a Special 40th Anniversary edition. Otherwise, my wife Colleen and I still host a menagerie of four cats, a llama, pigmy goat, and umpteen birds, and mowing the lawn has become a real chore."

Charlie Morgan reports, "The WRD Retirees luncheon was held at noon Wednesday, August 3rd at Putters (old T-Bird) at the corner of Tropicana and Pecos in Las Vegas. The attendees were as follows: **David and Virginia Bauer** with grand-daughter, **Cassie. Craig and VaDonna Bentley, Jim Daniel, Louise M. Lupton, Charles O. and Pauline Morgan.** A number of other local Retirees were contacted, but were unable to come due to other activities, such as travel out of the area (**Seaber and Eccles**). A special thanks to the Bauers and the Bentleys for contacting Las Vegas area retirees."

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Joe Moreland says, “**Kaycee** and I seem to keep ourselves pretty busy...tending our winter vegetable garden (me), cooking gourmet meals on our backyard barbeque (us), walking 3 miles a day for exercise (Kaycee, while Joe sleeps in), attending to the myriad duties of the President of the Orange County Grand Jurors Association (me again), and trying to figure out why we don't have time to enjoy the “life of leisure” that was promised to us as retirees. Although we talk at length about traveling, lately it seems like too many things come up every day to go. We did manage to find 10 days this summer to drive up the coast highway to Oregon for my 50th high school reunion. Along the way we squeezed in a few days to visit 2 grandsons in the Seattle area. Two years ago, I used a solar eclipse in China as an excuse to visit 4 of my grandchildren who live in Xian. Seeing the kids was wonderful but a 10-hour train ride to view the “longest eclipse of the century” was a total bust. Minutes before totality, clouds moved in and all we saw was midnight darkness...no spectacular view of the corona, no Bailey's Beads...just another moonless night in the middle of the day. We enjoy being close to Kaycee's 14-year old granddaughter. She lives a few blocks away and we keep a bedroom fully equipped for female occupancy whenever she decides to spend an evening with her Amma and Papa. And next year we will celebrate the 100-year anniversary of the construction of our home in “Old Towne Orange” and since it happens to also be the 100-year anniversary of the sinking of the Titanic, it seems like a perfect time to have a full-on costumed “Titanic” party. (Note from Kaycee: Joe looks a whole lot like Captain Smith.....). I keep close contact with my colleagues in the United Arab Emirates and contribute to the Ground Water Research Project by reviewing reports on an “as-needed” basis. We are both looking forward to the next gathering of the WRD Retirees in Boise. I am hoping that planners will include a “close-up” look at some of the spectacular springs in the Thousand Springs area. Thanks to all who keep the newsletter filled with interesting notes from WRD retirees.”

Dale Nyman writes, “I'm enjoying the Retirees Newsletter. I'm so glad you people are doing it. Next week I'm flying to Sweden for the World Water Week international conference at Stockholm. I'm looking forward to sharing expertise on water problems in 3rd-world countries, plus having hors d'oeuvres with the Lord Mayor of Stockholm, float trips around the archipelago, and other adventures. I have an ulterior motive in going and that is to meet my Swedish relatives. My mother and father were both of Swedish ancestry so I'm visiting my father's side of the family in northern Sweden (Pitea) and my mother's side at Mellerud in southern Sweden. I will have traversed essentially the full length of the country when I finish. I leave Aug. 19 and return Sept. 7. Cousins on my mother's side visited me in June here in Louisiana, so now I'll visit them in Sweden. I'm in the process of joining Hydrogeologists Without Borders. My primary professional accomplishment this year was completing a treatise on the entire Baton Rouge aquifer system for the LA Department of Transportation and Development. There hasn't been a discussion of the entire system since **Rex Meyer** and **Turcan** wrote a WSP in the 50's. As I concluded in my summary the local people need to know, and water managers need to be reminded, that the groundwater in this area is a natural resource of infinite value that needs to be appreciated, protected, and properly managed. I'm doing great, hope all my old friends in the Survey are doing great too.”

Ivalou O'Dell says, “I've been retired for 5 years now and I've decided that retirement is not overrated. My motto has become “have passport, will travel”. I must confess to being stricken with the International travel bug before retirement and finally came to the conclusion that I couldn't earn enough annual leave to cure the problem. Since my retirement, in 2006, I have taken 2 to 3 International trips per year which have added up to 29 countries. My adventures have included an elephant ride in the jungle of Nepal to a camel ride in the Sahara desert of Tunisia. One of my more recent trips was a small ship cruise along the Dalmatian coast of Croatia and Montenegro with a side trip to Bosnia. The buildings, especially the ones in Bosnia, are still showing the results of the wars during the 1990s. I haven't totally ignored travel in the US. I've spent quite a bit of time in Southern Utah and the 4-corners area plus a couple of trips to the Oregon coast. I finally realized my geology dream trip last September with an 8 day motorized raft trip through the Grand Canyon. The scenery was spectacular and the rapids a bit scary. I rode, most of the time, in the section of the raft that is fondly referred to as the “chicken coop”! After years of working in water quality I had a problem being told to use the river as a toilet! In July, I did an RV trip to Glacier NP and on north to Jasper. It has been many years since I visited Glacier NP and there are far less glaciers now and those that are remaining are much smaller. The Canadian Rockies are beautiful.”

Fred Paillet writes, “**Scott Keys** was a friend, colleague, mentor and role model – in that order of importance. My USGS career began when Scott recruited me for his research project from my faculty position at Wright State University, one of the most important events in my professional career. At that time borehole geophysics was just another step among many others in hydrogeologic investigations, although well connected to my background in geophysics and geophysical fluid mechanics. I will admit to a little coaching in the importance of gamma logging on the part of **Stan Norris** and **Al Sedan** during my Wright State affiliation. I was on the scene several times when Stan asked Scott to explain “one more time” exactly how the time constant works in gamma logging. During those days of tagging along with the Ohio District, my kids learned from camping out with those guys that aquifer testing consists of sitting by the campfire eating sardines, and waiting for the alarm to go off as everyone grabs the electric tapes and runs for the observation wells. But I digress. My first professional adventure with Scott was during our work at the Whiteshell Nuclear Research Establishment in Manitoba. Our mission was to characterize the hydrology of fractured crystalline bedrock as part of the joint NRC-AECL research related to a crystalline rock repository. As a junior partner, I worked with Scott to essentially write the textbook on the borehole geophysics of crystalline bedrock. Along the way we became virtually honorary residents of the pleasant little cottage settlement of Lac Dubbonet. Those were days when hydraulic fracturing was in its infancy and the significance of borehole wall breakouts was just being recognized. So our work in Canada and elsewhere brought the

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excitement of seeing first hand how borehole stress affected geophysical log response. At the same time, Scott's partnership with some of the first names in geophysical research at Mobil provided access to the industry leaders in geophysics and the forefront of borehole imaging research. His prominence in SPWLA (Society of Professional Well Log Analysts and not the Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Well Loggers as sometimes proclaimed) also opened doors for me in that direction. So it was easy to step into the front line of geophysical research by literally standing on the shoulders of Scott and the geotechnical giants he worked with. Probably the single most important aspect of working with Scott was sharing his excitement as the latest data set poured from the wireline fountain. In the world of geology, you never know what wonders are going to emerge from the data as it streams up from what is otherwise just a short piece of steel pipe sticking up above the ground. Often as not, those geophysical logs provided the clue with which to piece together a meaningful story from a few discontinuous pieces of broken core and the fuzzy images provided by surface soundings. The variety of experiences and technical applications was also astounding. Where else but in geothermal logging can you experience scalded hands and frozen ears at the same moment? Where else can you associate with the most learned seismic geophysicists and nuclear engineers while hobnobbing with those jack-of-all trades and salt-of-the-earth handymen known as well drillers? What other discipline allows you to work with acoustics, seismic, nuclear physics, electrical signal processing, and geomechanics all at the same time? That was the wonderful world that my association with Scott opened up for me. Now, some have said that as manager, Scott was very stingy with the distribution of "ataboys". But when Scott pronounced a job well done, you really knew you had accomplished something! Those moments still mean something to me today. Few of us can ever claim to have been there at the beginning. But Scott really could, since he was part of the very beginning of the use of borehole geophysics in ground water studies. It was a real pleasure to be infected by his enthusiasm for the discipline, while exploring new worlds and hearing stories about the very first applications in the field of well logging. A lot us old timers who worked with Scott back when are really going to miss him."

Kathy Peter says, "We continue planning for a great reunion in Sept. 2012. There is an update about the 2012 reunion in this Newsletter. Idaho is a terrific place to visit so plan on joining us at the reunion – especially you retirees who live in Idaho, Montana, Nevada, Northern California, Oregon, Utah, Washington and Wyoming. It's not very far to Boise for you folks! I'll see all of you in September in Boise."

Jim and Anita Rollo report, "We took their annual long trip in June and July. Since we will be celebrating our 60th anniversary in Dec. we decided to do it in style. First, we took a riverboat trip across central Europe via the Danube, Main-Rhine canal system and the Rhine, starting at the Black Sea and ending at the North Sea with 72 locks in-between. We saw Bulgaria, Romania, Serbia, Croatia, Hungary, Austria, Germany, the Netherlands and Belgium--and lots of castles. The escorted trip ended in Brussels where we took off on our own, taking the train back to Amsterdam where we spent several days. Train travel in Europe is a delight once you solve the station puzzle. Our train from Brussels stopped underneath the Amsterdam airport so connections are a chinch. In a first class car they serve wine, smoked salmon and cream cheese sandwiches, and other snacks. It was cheap, fast, on-time and they provided excellent service. Then, we are off to Scotland. We flew to Edinburgh, rented a car and visited a few distilleries along the way to soothe the trip. We never met a more friendly and hospitable group."

Lamar Sanders writes, "After WRD retirement in 2003 I worked for 5 years at the SCDOT designing bridge openings. As soon as I retired from SCDOT Dianne had a stroke. She still walks with a bad gimp but we are able to travel and get about. I have been volunteering to develop a "flow-anywhere" program for using a free statistical package, R. When I get time I would like to look at sing envelope curves of peak discharge versus drainage area as an alternative method of computing flood frequency using my handy R package. I was honored to receive an award at the March 2011 SW meeting in Tampa and it was good to see folks again. I turned over the big 70 this year but I am still hunting deer, doves and squirrels and taking my Aikido class. I had a hip replacement in 2003 and don't take falls anymore. Also, South Carolina makes good sons-in-law because no South Carolinian would ever take your daughters out of the state to live."

CT Welborn says, "**Frank Wells, Stan Sauer, Paul Rohne**, guests, **Phil** and **Patrice Carpenter** and **Clarence Welborn** attended the October Texas WRD Retiree luncheon. Frank Wells came from Liberty Hill, TX, about 45 miles; Stan Sauer came from Frederickburg, TX, about 90 miles. Phil and Patrice have an RV and they are traveling all over the country. Phil retired in 1994 from Alaska. It was nice to have Frank Wells with us today traveling from his "ranch" outside of Liberty Hill. He said that **Cindy** couldn't come today but she was ok. Stan makes the trip to Austin about twice a year. **Virginia** couldn't come because of other commitments but she is holding her own. Paul Rohne had to travel all the way from Pflugerville; actually he came all the way from Albany, NY, after having fun time with FEMA. **Dixie**, Clarence's wife had a knee replacement about two weeks ago and has been staying at their apartment while she recuperates."

Tom Yorke reports, "**Jeannie** and I continue to have a great time in retirement. We are leaving for a trip to the Greek islands in late October and will spend some time in Florida this February. We also are still going to the Penn State football games. We hope to see you in Boise at the WRD Retirees reunion."

WRD NEWS
Recent Retirees

Note to all WRD retirees: Recent retirees automatically become new members. Please treat these new members like old friends -- welcome them aboard and invite them to local meetings.

Northeastern Region:

Jean P. Campbell, Hydrologist, 25 Woodside Dr, Whitinsville, MA 01588, 508-234-4185 – 07/29/2011
Carol A. Dudley, Admin. Officer, 285 Scribner Hill Rd, Manchester, ME 04351, 207-622-5149 – 07/31/2011
E. Louis Harris, Secretary, 901 East Poplar Ct, Sterling, VA 20164 – 09/03/2011
Thomas F. Kraemer, Hydrologist, 7009 Union Mill Rd, Clifton, VA 20124, 703-830-5678 – 08/31/2011
Donald E. Rice, Hydrologist, 423 Barclay Ave, Morrisville, PA 19067, 215-428-4715 – 07/31/2011

Central Region:

Scott K. Anderholm, Hydrologist, P.O. Box 421, Sandia Park, NM 87407, 505-281-1569 – 07/31/2011
Robert C. Buchmiller, Hydrologist, 2726 Hickory Trail, Iowa city, IA 52245, 319-338-2113 – 08/31/2011
Dennis D. Eberl, Hydrologist, 540 22nd St., Boulder, CO 80302-7911, 303-447-3305 – 08/01/2011
Patrick F. Edelmann, Hydrologist, 121 Carrillon Ln, Pueblo, CO 81005, 719-566-0105 – 09/02/2011
Robert D. Goodrich, Hydro. Tech., 1 Lynncrest Circle, Coralville, IA 52241, 319-338-0014 – 09/02/2011
Roger H. Morin, Geophysicist, 1015 12th St, Golden, CO 80401, 303-278-8825 – 09/30/2011
David A. Peterson, Hydrologist, 7002 Healy Rd, Cheyenne, WY 82009, 307-635-1802 – 10/03/2011
Linda S. Queern, Admin. Asst., 111 Aberdeen Court, Austin, TX 78737, 512-288-0290 – 07/31/2011
Kenneth G. Stollenwerk, Hydrologist, 483 S. Race St, Denver, CO 80209, 303-777-0371 – 08/31/2011
Robert L. Swenson, Hydro. Tech., 1248 Fir St, Cedar City, UT 84720, 435-586-7462 – 07/30/2011
Brent M. Troutman, Math. Statistics, 2139 S. Parfet Dr, Lakewood, CO 80227, 303-985-9188 – 10/03/2011

Western Region:

Dirk V. Derksen, Research Wildlife, 3721 Patricia Ln, Anchorage, AK 99504– 09/30/2011
Bruce M. Gamble, Geologist, 15026 Longbow Dr, Anchorage, AK 99516, 907-345-6273 – 07/01/2011
William N. Herkelrath, Physicist, 34974B Palomares Rd, Castro Valley, CA 94552 – 07/30/2011
Deborah J. Parlman, Hydrologist, 1708 N. 14th Street, Boise, ID 83702, 208-344-1321 – 09/30/2011

New or Reinstated WRD Retirees

Kidd, Mary (11) 8797 W Cornell Ave #8, Lakewood Co 80227, 303-985-2137, Mamakidd5@gmail.com
Tepper, Dorothy (11) 15076 Strickler Place, Amissville VA 20108, 540-937-2243, dhtinva@comcast.net
Thomas, Janet T (04) 105 Kershaw Ct, Folsom CA 95630, 916-817-8542, jnthomas@comcast.net

Update on the 16th WRD Retirees reunion, Boise, Idaho Sept. 20 - 22, 2012

We hope you are looking forward to the reunion in 2012! The Boise reunion will give retirees living in northern California, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, Oregon, Utah, Washington and Wyoming a special opportunity to get together with friends. Like all the reunions, there will be field trips, a banquet, and a hospitality room that is always the favorite "meet and greet" place. The Boise Committee has arranged a guided float trip on the Payette River, including transportation, lunch, and gear. The tour of the World Center for Birds of Prey, a breeding and research center for falcons, condors, and avian predators is planned for the following day, so you can enjoy both the float and learn about these amazing birds. A tour of some of the Snake River Valley wineries and orchards will round out the field trip choices. Also planned is a tour of the MK Nature Center, the Basque Museum, and downtown Boise art is planned. You have plenty of opportunity to plan to attend! The Reunion will take place at the Owyhee Plaza Hotel: 1109 Main Street, Boise, ID 83702; phone number 1-800-233-4611, and web site owyheepalaza.com. Room rates are very reasonable. The hotel has a complimentary shuttle from the airport, free parking and is located a 15-minute drive from downtown. Several major airlines serve Boise. Transportation will be arranged for reunion events outside the hotel and many restaurants and bars are within a couple blocks of the hotel. WRD Retirees is now on Facebook. If you are a Facebook user, just type "WRD Retirees" in the search box, then click "like". Facebook is another way to announce local WRD retiree meetings and share other news. Join your friends and colleagues in Boise for a great time!

WRD NEWS

What's New in Research, by Jerad Bales, Chief Scientist, Water Resources National Research Program Scientist Recognized as 2011 Federal Employee of the Year

Dr. Paul Hsieh, National Research Program research hydrologist, has earned the Federal Employee of the Year Medal for providing critical scientific information during the Deepwater Horizon oil spill. Dr. Hsieh's calculations were key in helping senior federal officials and scientists conclude that the containment cap on the ruptured well was working and did not need to be removed, thus ensuring no additional oil leaked into the Gulf of Mexico.



"Dr. Hsieh's swift work and creative thinking was critical to the successful kill of the Macondo well," said Secretary of the Interior Ken Salazar, who presented Hsieh with the award during a ceremony on September 15. "Paul's brilliance and determination in the face of a national crisis are to be commended and I present this award on behalf of a grateful nation. In recognizing Paul, we also commend the thousands of scientists, public servants, citizens, and volunteers who worked around the clock to protect the Gulf of Mexico and cap the Macondo well."

The Federal Employee of the Year Medal is presented by the nonprofit Partnership for Public Service and recognizes annually a federal employee whose professional contributions exemplify the highest attributes of public service. Celebrating its tenth anniversary, the *Samuel J. Heyman* Service to America Medals (Sammies) have earned a reputation as one of the most prestigious awards dedicated to honoring America's civil servants.

After a 75-ton containment cap was placed on the well in July 2010, new concerns arose that the cap could cause a rupture and worsen the spill. Hsieh was back in California when he received a cell phone photo from a USGS colleague of a computer screen showing pressure readings on the well's cap. From that little picture, Hsieh labored through the night to evaluate the integrity of the well.

"I knew I had only one chance to get the calculations right," recalled Hsieh who spent the entire night analyzing the data and modifying the model. "As a scientist, we are not trained to follow our gut instinct. We have to follow the data, and we did not have much time to make decisions, seek feedback from colleagues, or follow the normal course of action."

Based on Hsieh's evaluation, in which he applied the groundwater flow model MODFLOW to the oil reservoir, and following expert consultations and corroboration with additional evidence in Houston, the government recommendation on the morning of July 16, 2010, was that the Macondo well be allowed to remain shut in and stopped leaking oil into the Gulf of Mexico.

Paul is the first DOI employee and the first earth scientist to win the award. Information on previous winners is at <http://servicetoamericamedals.org/SAM/recipients/>. In 2011, more than 400 nominees were considered in the eight categories of Sammy Medals, and Paul was chosen from the 34 category finalists to receive the highest honor. Paul and the other winners were selected by a prestigious committee that included OPM Director John Berry, U.S. Senator Michael Bennet, Northrop Grumman President and CEO Wes Bush, United Way President and CEO Brian Gallagher, Atlantic Philanthropies President and CEO Gara LaMarche, Skoll Foundation President and CEO Sally Osberg, Georgia Tech President Bud Peterson, and Facebook COO Sheryl Sandberg, among others.

WRD Retirees Hydrologic Technician Scholarship Program

The Hydrologic Technician Scholarship program continues to be very popular with our membership. This year we were able to award 4 scholarships. A photo of each winner is shown below. A WRD retiree was at each ceremony. The size and number of future scholarships will depend on the Treasury.



Casey P. Lovato, center, was the winner of a \$4,000 scholarship. Casey is a student at GateWay Community College in Phoenix and was a summer intern at the Oregon Water Science Center. He was recognized at a meeting in the Portland USGS office with **Chet Zenone**, right, representing WRD Retirees. The Oregon Water Science Director, **Dar Crammond**, organized the meeting and is shown on the left.



Brandon Clark, left, won a \$2,000 scholarship. He is a student at Western Dakota Technical Institute in Rapid City, SD. Brandon was an intern at the South Carolina Water Science Center in Columbia. He was presented his award during a ceremony at Western Dakota Tech with WRD retiree **Ken Lindskov**, center, attending. Also shown is **Starla Russell**, right, Western Dakota Tech's Director of Financial Aid.

WRD Retirees Hydrologic Technician Scholarship Program



Jeffery S. Sallas, center, also won a \$2,000 scholarship and is a student at GateWay CC. Jeff was an intern at the Sullivan's Island, SC office and was presented his award during a ceremony at the SC Water Science Center arranged by SC Water Center Director **Eric Strom**, left. **Gary Tasker**, right, represented WRD Retirees.

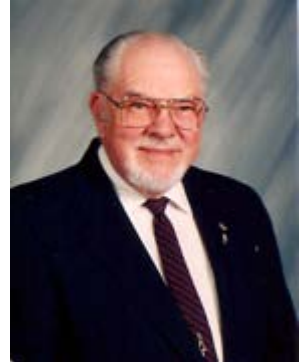


Michael Buil, center, was also awarded a \$2,000 scholarship. He is a student at GateWay Community College and interned at the Massachusetts Water Science Center. Michael received his award during a ceremony at the MA Water Science Center arranged by **Wayne Sonntag**, right, MA Water Science Center Director. WRD retiree **Forest Lyford**, left, represented WRD Retirees.

Details about the Hydrologic Technician scholarship program, including a list of all prior winners and the selection process are shown on the WRD Retirees web page at WRDRetirees.org, scholarships.

MEMORIAL
Robert MacDonald “Bob” Beall
January 9, 1923 – August 23, 2011

Robert MacDonald Beall died peacefully at his home in Herndon, Virginia on August 23, 2011. He was surrounded by his immediate family: wife Elinor, son James and his wife Susan Becker, and daughter Janice with her son Philip Clements. Bob was born on January 9, 1923 in New York City. Although his parents lived in New York, Bob spent many summers in Sherbrooke, Quebec with his mother's parents, and graduated from high school there in 1939. After graduation, Bob responded to an advertisement in a flying magazine which solicited interest in U.S. Army Air Corps technical training. He initially was told he was too young (age 17) to be accepted, but upon turning 18 he received an official invitation to join. He traveled from Quebec to Rantoul, IL, where he enlisted in the service, and subsequently served in weather forecasting offices of the US Army Air Force in numerous places during the years 1941 to 1945. He was honorably discharged in 1945 as a Master Sergeant, with an American Defense Service Medal and the American Service Medal.



Subsequently Bob attended the University of Rhode Island, majoring in engineering. During his college years, he was President of the ASCE student chapter. At college he met Elinor Lucier, and they were married in Wakefield, Rhode Island on December 23, 1947. Shortly after marriage, Bob was hired by the U.S. Geological Survey in July 1948 as a student aid, and after graduation with a B.S., in July 1949, began full time work for the USGS as a hydraulic engineer.

Bob's full time career with the USGS spanned some 40 years. His initial assignment was to the Boston office, and he subsequently transferred to Cumberland and College Park, MD, to the USGS headquarters in Washington DC, to Albany, NY, to Garden Grove, CA, and to Carnegie, PA, before a final move to the USGS National Center in Reston VA. In many of these offices, Bob was involved in data collection, flood reports, indirect measurements, and rainfall-runoff studies. In his last assignment in Reston, he participated in the administration of the International Water Resources Program until his full time retirement at the end of 1978. This assignment included short details to Somalia, Yemen, and Geneva. During his career he authored 20 publications and collaborated on a number of others. Following retirement from full time employment, Bob continued to contribute to the International group for many years. At age 80 he said enough is enough and resigned his temporary assignment.

Bob had avid interests in many things, but his main interest was weather. He was a registered professional engineer in NY, a Fellow of the American Society of Engineers, a member of the American Water Resources Association, a life member of the National Active and Retired Federal Employees association, a member of the British Hydrological Society and was certified as a Professional Hydrologist by the American Institute of Hydrology. As a hobbyist member of the Metropolitan Washington Volunteer Weather Network, Bob collected a vast amount of weather information, utilizing a rainfall gage contributed by the U.S. Weather Service. His own history was important to Bob, and he wrote a book entitled "One Soldier's Tour of Duty", depicting his career in the US Army Air Corps.

Bob was intensely involved in WRD Retirees and served as a major figure in the organization for many years. He became Secretary in 1980, serving until 1997, when he surrendered this responsibility and became the WRD Retirees' Archivist. His efforts as Archivist are still evident, as he spent many hours screening retirees' personnel files for material that would be useful for subsequent writings for "in Memoriam" and "Memorial" articles for the WRD Retirees newsletters. As Secretary following Bob, he was my mentor in that position, and I am grateful for his work as Archivist. He will be greatly missed by family and many federal Retirees.

Bob leaves behind his loving wife of 63 years, Elinor, his son James, his daughter Janice, and grandsons Joby, Jonathan, Philip, and granddaughter, Kate. He was preceded in death by a daughter, Joy, in 1999.

By Bill Boning

LOCAL MEETINGS AND GATHERINGS

The Oregon WRD retirees are active and having fun. They say they are going to have a large presence at the Boise reunion. The OR retirees who attended their October meeting are shown below.



L TO R: Front: Sue and Gary Gallino, Chet Zenone. Back: Frank Packard, Larry Hubbard, Al and Lynette Onions, Bryant Smith, Gene (red vest) and Ruth Oster (seated), Ed and Kay Bolke, Tony and Carol Laenen, and Eilene Curtiss (seated)

Wisconsin WRD retirees meet in Madison the 1st Tuesday of each month for breakfast. Those who attended the September meeting are shown below. These folks hosted a great reunion in 2006 – the photos can still be viewed on the WRD Retirees web page, WRDRetirees.org.



L to R: Rachel Hagen, Bob Devaul, Al Harr, Marv Sherrill, Rosann Sherrill, Jean Schoen, Phil Kammerer, Bob Schoen, Pat Young, Harley Young, Gerry Cotter, and Dale Cotter. Photo by Deanna Devaul. Pat Holt was there but had to leave before the photo was taken.

LOCAL MEETINGS AND GATHERINGS

The Denver retirees have a number of regular meetings including lunch meetings each spring and fall. Those who attended this year's fall luncheon are shown below. The mountain air is treating these folks well!



L to R: Seated: Dickie Moore, John Moore, Carolyn Ugland, Judy Cornwell, Bill Kastner, Barbara Kastner, Becky Hudson, Anna Belle Gutentag. 1st Standing row: Sandra Duncan, Bob Ugland, Cynthia Norman, Mary Kidd, Rich Hawkinson, John Monis, Marilee Bennett, Barbara Rathbun. 2nd Standing row: John McLean, Dave Lystrom, Karen Lystrom, Lynda Emmett, Paula Blakey, Jim Bennett, Ron Rathbun, Dee Teasdale, Warren Teasdale, Anita Livingston, Ed Gutentag. Back row: Bob Jarrett, George Garklavs, Dick Luckey, Pat Luckey, Bill Emmett, Jim Blakey, Jerry Duncan, Bob Meade, Russ Livingston.

The Georgia WRD retirees meet in Atlanta the last Wednesday of each month. Join them if you are in the area!



L to R: Rita Garmon, Dot Beasley, Mary Dunn, Eve Kuniansky, Glen Faulkner, Tim Stamey, Dick Bloyd, Harold Gill & John Beasley

LOCAL MEETINGS AND GATHERINGS

The Tampa area retirees are still having fun. These folks hosted a fantastic reunion in 2008. Those attending a Feb. meeting are shown below.



L to R: Front row: Craig Hutchinson, Carol Horn, Virginia Coston, Ernie Meeder, Judy Thompson, John Trommer, Donna Trommer, Peggy Barr and Kathleen Duerr. **Back row:** Jeannie Yorke, Tom Yorke, Aggie Mularoni, Ray Mularoni, Bob Wylie, Madalyn Wylie, Arturo Torres, Lynn Barr and Dan Duerr.

The Louisiana WRD retirees meet regularly. We all hope the food was delicious LA style! Those attending the Sept. 2011 meeting are shown below:



L to R: Vergie Couvillion, Don Dial, Louise Chaisson, and Gen Floyd. **2nd Row:** Will Martin, Mike Ross, and Charles Demas.



L to R: Seated: Nancy and John Musser, George Cardwell
Standing: Elinor Sloss, Darwin Knochenmus, Noland and Cheryl Johnson.

WRD RETIREE VOLUNTEERS IN ACTION

“The Satisfaction Derived from Volunteering,” By Dave Camp, retired 1992

When I started making retirement plans in 1991 people who knew me well asked what I intended to do with my time. I have always been active and I guess folks wondered if I was planning on finding a suitable rocking chair. My response to the question was consistent; “I have had a wonderful career with the USGS and God has given me good health, a wonderful spouse and family and I plan on “giving to others” as best I can during my retirement years along with playing golf a couple of times a week, raising a garden, woodworking in my shop that I plan on building at my retirement location and enjoying the remainder of my life. Retirement was in July 1992 and we moved from Menlo Park back to Tucson where we had lived before. I went about building a wood-working shop and then built a considerable amount of furniture for our home as well as playing golf for a year or so, seemingly forgetting about the “giving back” part. One Sunday in our church bulletin, I read a short article from the Pima Council on Aging (PCOA) telling of a need for “volunteers” to help older folks manage their finances, balance their checkbooks, pay their bills and live within their means.

I filled out the application and submitted it to PCOA. A few months later, I received this packet of materials from PCOA thanking me for my application and telling me that I needed to fill out more forms, and be finger printed. I filled out the forms and went to the Police Station to be fingerprinted. Later I was informed that I was now an official “volunteer” for the budget management program of PCOA. The City is divided into sectors and the leader of the team from my sector called and said they had a client for me. He told me he would make the first visit with me and away we went. This was a very new experience for me and to say the least, one that was “different”. This first client (a lady) had almost no income, but insisted on going to the bingo hall each week and essentially, blew almost all of her money there. We worked out a budget together and she promised that she would follow it, but the bingo hall won out. She never understood that food and medication came before bingo. She died after I had worked with her about two years. Soon thereafter, I was assigned another client and a year or so later, I agreed to take on a 2nd client. Each person was different, but most were difficult. One lady had so many medical problems that she didn’t know which one to take care of first. In addition, her husband was living in MD with another woman and sent her money each month. I asked her if she had seen her husband’s will and she said “No”. She was afraid to ask because she feared that her husband wouldn’t send any more money. This lady couldn’t bring the mail in and place it in a box I had prepared without losing it, and each visit created a frantic search to try and find bills. A few years later, this lady inherited a few tens of thousands of dollars and that made her ineligible to continue in the program. I could continue with stories of each of the people that I worked with, but they would all sound much the same. They are people who for whatever reason struggle to get by day-to-day, and in most cases, really appreciate the help and assistance that volunteers provide. Most of us don’t ever see these kinds of people and even though we know they exist, we don’t really understand the kind of life they live. It was an eye-opener for me.

In addition to working with PCOA, I also became a guardian for a friend of ours in Tucson. We had gone to church with Emma and her husband when we lived in Tucson the 1st time. One Sunday Emma called and said she was in trouble. We went over to see her and ultimately discovered that she was in the early stages of dementia. Her husband had left her a few years back, and she was by herself with no family to help. To make a very long story short enough that you will read it, I started visiting Emma almost every week and just “took over” her financial affairs. It finally dawned on me that I had no legal right to do any of the things that I was doing and we talked with Emma’s attorney and went through the court procedure of becoming her legal guardian. We finally had to place her in a home and I spent many hours “taking care” of Emma. She started having seizures and most would occur very early in the morning. I would get the call that Emma was transported to the hospital and we would go and spend much of the day in E.R waiting on them to get her stabilized. I assisted Emma for almost 10 years. She died about 5 years ago. I still serve as “trustee” for a trust that was established for her grandson. That responsibility still requires some of my time and will exist for another couple of years.

So, what is the purpose of this epistle? I would hope that you could discern some of the sense of purpose and satisfaction that is received by becoming a volunteers and helping folks. There are times when volunteering gets in the way of your daily living, but I’ve never been sorry that I have given time to help those who are much less fortunate. I must be honest and say that I have resigned my position with PCOA for a number of reasons. However, I am already exploring serving as a volunteer for a new food bank that has been established within about 10 miles of home. The Tucson Community food bank is a good program that serves others who have to choose between buying food or medicine with their limited financial resources. If you have never served as a volunteer, I strongly encourage you to investigate the possibilities and hopefully “give it a try”. It is a wonderful way to give thanks for all the good things that have come our way and to let others know that “someone out there cares for them”.

WRD RETIREE VOLUNTEERS IN ACTION

WORKING WITH THE YMCA (You Meet Constantly Association)

By Vern Sauer, retired 1990

I'm told that before the YMCA went co-ed, men were allowed to swim in the pool naked.

Our YMCA, Hartwell, GA—Hartwell, GA, is a small town of less than 5,000 people in a county of less than 25,000. Marylou and I retired here in 1993, built on Hartwell Lake just 2 miles outside the city limits and really love it. We discovered the Hartwell Y in 2002 just after I had a heart attack. After a stent was installed, my doctor advised that I do some physical therapy, so I chose to go to the Y, which at that time was located in an old downtown building. As many of you know, I've been a runner (some call it jogging) for about 30 years, so this seemed like a good thing. At the same time, one of our rather wealthy ladies of the town was building a new Y facility that for a city of this size is huge. It's complete now and includes a gym with 2 full-size basketball courts, a full-size gymnastics court, a regulation size outdoor swimming pool, a large wellness center, children's daycare facilities, several acres of soccer and football fields, and a separate little league baseball field. We have many and varied programs for all age groups.

This was all great until we realized that a small town like ours had a very hard time supporting such a large facility. We struggled for several years. Then we enlisted the help of the National YMCA, and another large Y near Atlanta, and hired an excellent administrator. Gradually we started to grow and get better, and today we have over 1,000 family units in our membership. But it took a lot of volunteer work, and still does. Marylou was a board member for 4 years, and now I'm on the board.

I work with the "facilities" committee. That means Marylou and I work with several other people and do a lot of volunteer work, like painting, working on things that break, installing shades that we inherited from another Y, keeping flower beds free of weeds, installing lockers in the men's and women's locker rooms, and installing screens on the gym windows to keep the birds out. The list goes on.

I've also written and assisted in writing grant proposals for such things as upgrading electrical facilities, installing new power saving lights in the gym, and installing a vestibule in our main entrance room to save energy. These proposals were successful and we are now saving money on power bills.

It seems like a lot of work, but the rewards are worth it. We exercise at least 5 days a week and in the process get to know a lot of people that we ordinarily wouldn't have met. We have doctors, lawyers, business people, many of the lake retirees, and just ordinary people that come to the Y. We open at 5 am, 7 days a week. Marylou and I go to the Y mid-morning, and when we finish exercising we join with a number of others for our "coffee club". And as you would guess, people sometimes bring cakes, cookies, and sweets, especially on special occasions like birthdays, anniversaries, etc. It's a great family.

Retirement is a great life. I hope you are all having as much fun as we are. If you haven't already, find a Y and join it. Your insurance may pay the monthly fee and the exercise will definitely do you good.

MEMORIAL

Sulo Werner Wiitala 1918 – 2011

Sulo Werner Wiitala, former Iowa District Chief, died nine days short of his 93rd birthday on August 4, 2011, in Iowa City, Iowa, after a brief illness. Sulo was born August 13, 1918, in Copper City, Michigan. His family returned to their native Finland shortly after his birth, but returned to the United States in 1921 and settled in Gay, Michigan—a fact Sulo loved to joke about. He attended local schools and graduated in 1940 from Michigan College of Mining and Technology (now Michigan Technological University) Houghton, Michigan, with a B.S. (with honors) in Civil Engineering. That fall, shortly after his marriage to Leone Winquist, he began work with the Surface Water Branch, Water Resources Division, as a junior engineer in Indianapolis, Indiana. His WRD employment was interrupted by service in the Navy in 1945-46 and as an instructor in engineering drawing at the University of Illinois, Navy Pier Branch, Chicago 1946-47 and with the Chicago District, Corps of Engineers as a hydraulic engineer from 1947-48. In October 1948 Sulo returned to the USGS as engineer in charge of the Upper Peninsula Subdistrict Office, Michigan District, Houghton, Michigan. His Survey career was briefly interrupted again in 1950 when he spent 4 months in a Calumet, Michigan, hospital recuperating from a gunshot wound after he was mistaken for a deer by a Detroit deer hunter. In June 1951 Sulo accepted a transfer and promotion as Assistant District Chief in the Michigan District Office in Lansing. While in Lansing, he interrupted his Survey career again, this time to work for Harza Engineering Company, Chicago, in the establishment of a Hydrologic Survey in Bagdad, Iraq. Sulo left Iraq in October 1956, shortly before the assassination of the Shah of Iraq and the formation of a leftist government in that country. He returned to the Michigan District where he continued to work until being selected as District Engineer of the Iowa District. Sulo arrived in Iowa City in May 1965 at the time the WRD District was established. Sulo was the first Iowa District Chief, a position he held until his retirement after 38 years of Government service in December 1978. During his 13 year tenure, the Iowa District was known for its timely completion of the annual basic data report, many years being first in the nation to deliver the report. Sulo was principle author of several survey publications among them WSP 1526, "Hydraulic and Hydrologic Aspects of Floodplain Planning"; WSP 1677 Magnitude and Frequency of Floods, Part 4, St. Lawrence River Basin' and WSP 1842, "Water Resources of the Marquette Iron Range, Michigan" and a Circular, "Water Resources of the Flint, Michigan, Area".



Following his retirement from the USGS, literally the next day, Sulo began working part-time as a hydrologist for Shive-Hattery Engineers in Iowa City. This second career lasted twenty-five years. One memorable assignment took him to Nigeria for two weeks in 1981 as part of an investigation into the possibility of a third annual crop season for the country. Sulo was a lifelong member of the American Society of Civil Engineers as a member and president of the Lansing-Jackson Section in Michigan and as a member of the Iowa Section. He was a member and past president of the Iowa Engineering Society and President and member of the Iowa City Engineers Club; a member of the American Waters Resources Association and the Iowa City Rotary Club where he held most offices. He was a life-long Lutheran, serving Zion Lutheran Church as Deacon, Treasurer and President.

During the past several years Sulo had cared for his wife Leone, who suffers from Alzheimer's disease. He is survived by his wife, his daughter, Susan Vasquez, her husband, Lee, and grandsons, Gabriel and Marcus all of Coralville, Iowa.

By Elaine Gockel

IN MEMORIAM

Ernest D. "Ernie" Cobb, 75, passed away October 6, 2011 after a courageous struggle against cancer. A native of Oakland, California, Ernie graduated from Whitney High School. In 1957 he married his childhood sweetheart, Bernice McCarter and they moved to Sacramento where he worked for the USGS while completing his BS degree at the University of California. After graduation he moved with the USGS to Menlo Park, CA and then to the SW Branch. He earned an MS in Civil Engineering from Colorado State University in 1967. He was a member of Phi Kappa Phi. In 1970 he transferred to Albuquerque as Assistant District Chief and in 1974 became District Chief of the Caribbean District. He returned to the USGS Headquarters in 1978, retiring in 1994 and in 2000 moved to the Woodland Park, Colorado. He often looked for someone he could help and was active in the service group "In The Lord's Service", transporting people in need to doctor's appointments and such. He traveled to Haiti on several occasions to help before it was popular to do so. Besides traveling, he enjoyed spending time with family and friends, hiking, reading and studying the Bible. Ernie is survived by his wife of 54 years, Bernice; a son, Dale; daughters Rhonda Grigg and Hope Anne Cobb and 8 grandchildren.

Theron R. "Rudy" Dosch, 87, died September 23, 2011 in Denver. He is survived by a son, Richard; daughters Geraldine Sparkman and Jeanne Howard; 4 grandchildren and 10 great-grandchildren. A U. S. Navy veteran of WW II, Rudy received a Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering from the University of Utah in 1950. His first WRD assignment was Hydraulic Engineer in the San Francisco SW office. Rudy was designated Assistant District Engineer in Wisconsin in 1960 and became a registered Professional Engineer in Wisconsin in 1964. Rudy also served in the Illinois and Colorado Districts as a SW specialist before his retirement in 1981. He was active in the US Navy retirement organizations and in WRD Retirees.

Jacqueline "Jackie" Evans passed away in Lakewood, CO on July 14, 2011 at age 75. Jackie worked in the Administrative section of the Colorado District throughout the 1980s. She is survived by a son, Rick; a daughter, Cindi Bruntz; 3 grandchildren and 2 great-grandchildren.

Shirley Evertz died on August 24, 2011. Shirley suffered a stroke several years ago and lived her later years in Shalom Home, East St. Paul. She was the Asst. Administrative Officer in the Minnesota District when she retired in 1994. Shirley was born October 23, 1925, in St. Paul, where she graduated from high school. She started with WRD on September 12, 1966, in St. Paul. Her early career involved administrative support in the surface-water section of the district. She was an essential link in assembling the annual report. She was a joy to work with owing to her pleasant personality and old-fashioned work ethic. Shirley was preceded in death by husband Paul and son David. She is survived by daughters: Darlene Mahoney, Judy Marshall, Barbara Joan Evertz, Barbara Ellen Berthiaume; 8 grandchildren and 5 great-grandchildren.

James B. "Buck" Foster, 83, passed away peacefully in Fort Collins, Colorado on July 30, 2011. Buck served three years in Korea with the US Army. He graduated in 1953 with a Bachelor of Science in Natural Science from Colorado State University and in 1956 with a Bachelor of Science in Geology from American University. Buck's career with USGS began in 1956 in Cocoa, Florida. He subsequently moved to Panama City and then to Tallahassee. Buck was involved in groundwater studies in Florida. In 1970 Buck relocated to Morgantown, WV, where he compiled a state-wide water-table map for fresh and saline groundwater. In 1976, Buck moved to the Illinois District Office to become Groundwater Specialist and project chief of the study of water and radionuclide movement at the disposal site at Sheffield. As the GW Specialist in the District, Buck mentored many young hydrologists. Buck retired in 1984. He spent 2 years working on water projects in Oman and then settled down in his home town of Fort Collins. Buck will be remembered as a quiet, kind man with a good sense of humor. He was a good friend to all who knew him. He was an avid golfer and runner. Buck is survived by his wife, Darlene; daughters: Sharon, Jamelyn, and Emelie; 2 step daughters; 7 grandchildren; and 4 great-grandchildren.

IN MEMORIAM

Arnold Ivan Johnson passed away August 31, 2011 in Arvada, Colorado at age 92. A native of Madison, Nebraska, Ivan received a Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering from the University of Nebraska in 1949, following service in the U. S. Navy. He began his USGS career in 1946 and served most of his time in Denver, CO where he served as the first Chief of the Water Resources Division National Training Center. In the later stage of his career he was Assistant Chief of OWDC. Ivan was active in American Society of Testing Materials, American Society of Civil Engineers and the American Water Resources Association. Following his retirement from USGS in 1979, he established AIJ Consulting, Inc. and worked throughout the Middle East and Africa. He was preceded in death by his wife of 62 years, Betty. He is survived by 2 sons; Robert and Bruce; a daughter, Carmen; 10 grandchildren and 9 great-grandchildren. A full Memorial will appear in the February 2012 edition of the WRD Retirees Newsletter.

Walter Scott Keys passed away on August 8, 2011 in Colorado at age 83. A native of Dobbs Ferry, New York, Scott graduated from Pasadena, CA High School and received both a Bachelor and Master of Science in Geology from UCLA. He began his career working for the Atomic Energy Commission in Idaho, joining WRD in 1963 as the chief of the Geophysical project. In this role Scott gave technical assistance and advice to many USGS scientists regarding the use of geophysical techniques in water resources investigations. Following his retirement from WRD in 1983, he formed his own consulting company GeoKeys, Inc. and worked globally. He was preceded in death by his wife of 49 years Shirley McDonald Keys. Scott is survived by his second wife, Polly Watts Keys; 5 daughters: Gail, Terry, Marcia, Anita and Sandy; 14 grandchildren and 5 great-grandchildren.

Ora Kunkle, widow of WRD retiree Fred Kunkle, died on 21 April 2011 at the age of 91. During her last years Ora was living in a continuing care facility in Palo Alto, California. Fred passed away in 1991. He had joined USGS in 1948 in Sacramento as a geologist, retiring in 1983.

Anthony "Tony" Maevsky died in his home in Brookline, Massachusetts August 6, 2011, at age 79. Born in Poland, Tony immigrated to the US after WW II and settled in Passaic, New Jersey. He was a U. S. Army veteran. His first WRD assignment was as a Hydrologist with the Massachusetts GW office and he spent his entire USGS career in Massachusetts authoring a number of reports on ground water resources before retiring in 1999. Tony is survived by his wife, Inga; son, Andrew and 2 grandchildren.

Evelyn L. Walters, widow of WRD retiree Kenneth Walters, passed away August 2, 2011. Born in Kansas, Evelyn obtained a nursing degree from Kansas State University. After their marriage in 1948, they lived in Tacoma, Washington with Ken working in the Washington District and Evelyn at the Tacoma Pierce County Health Department. Evelyn was residing in Auburn, Washington at the time of her death. She was active in a number of volunteer organizations where she gave of her time, talent and energy. Some of the organizations where she volunteered are the Red Cross, Fife Senior Center, Food Bank of Tacoma and South Tacoma Christian Church. Evelyn is survived by 2 daughters; Cheryl Gower and Cathy Cooper; son, Larry Walters; 3 grandchildren and 5 great-grandchildren.

Hugh Braxton Wilder, 78, of Southern Pines, North Carolina, died on August 5, 2011. A North Carolina native, Hugh received a Bachelor of Science in Chemistry from North Carolina State University in 1953. He began his WRD career in the Raleigh Water Quality office in 1953 as a Physical Science Aid and earned his rating as a Chemist in 1960. Hugh spent his entire WRD career in the North Carolina office and was well known as a water quality specialist throughout WRD. He retired in 1985. Hugh is survived by his wife, Pauline Narron Wilder; son, Gregory; daughter, Paulette Schumacher and 2 grandchildren.

TREASURER'S REPORT, THIRD QUARTER 2011

Treasurer Celso Puentes reports that the organization had \$17,881.34 in its treasury at the end of the third quarter for calendar year 2011. Receipts for the quarter were \$ 300.56 from dues and contributions from 8 members. Distributions for the quarter were \$ 6,251.27, which included costs of awards associated with the WRD Retirees Hydrologic Technicians Scholarship Program. During the quarter, a total of \$60.00 in contributions was received from 2 members. Special thanks for contributions to A.S. " Steve " Van Denburgh and Vincent C. Lai.

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