



FWS Retirees Association

NEWSLETTER

September 2014

2014 Board of Directors

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Reunion 2015

Find your field glasses, get out your party hats, whet your appetites and start packing. Our next Retirees Reunion will be



held at the Holiday Inn at the Marina in Corpus Christi, Texas, the first week of March 2015 and we have a lot

planned and even more in the works. The weather should be good, the birds have been ordered to cooperate, and many of old friends from your working days will be there to help you celebrate retirement at Reunion 2015.

The "core" dates for the Reunion are Sunday, March 1 through Thursday, March 5, 2015. But plan to come early or stay late. This timeframe is just before spring break for the college crowd and still in the heart of the migratory bird season. There should be lots of neo-tropical migrants (including some exotics) as well as waterfowl, herons, egret and cranes (think whooping cranes) to help you fill out your lifetime bird lists. The Corpus Christi area is home to several loops of the Great

American Birding Trails and the Great Texas Wildlife Trails system. Check them out online for more info.

If you're more into fishing, what could be better than the Gulf Coast, just outside your hotel doorstep? For history buffs, this area is loaded. And if you'd rather stick with the more refined visitor amenities, the place is crawling with top-notch restaurants and drinking establishments and entertainment venues.

Our venue, the Holiday Inn at the Marina, has its own set of attractions for those inclined to stay put:



- A first class restaurant and lounge and within easy walking distance of local nightlife and other fine restaurants and drinking emporiums;
- Health and fitness facilities, including a steam room and lockers;
- An indoor/outdoor rooftop pool with a panoramic view of the marina;
- A business center and free in-room internet and wireless access, and

- Clean, comfortable room and beds.

Negotiated room rates at the Holiday Inn for the Reunion are \$116/night and that includes one full breakfast per room. The hotel will honor this preferred rate for three days prior to Saturday, February 28 and for one day after the Reunion on a space available basis. A very limited number of rooms can be had at that rate for Friday, March 6 but, after that, none at the preferred rate.

Our vision for the 2015 Reunion will be discussions on interesting Texas/Gulf Coast wildlife issues and on topics of concern to retirees sandwiched in with great tours and lots of free time. We'll have our usual *Icebreaker Social*, our *Retiree Banquet* with an entertaining dinner speaker and our *Silent Auction*. We are also hoping to put together a Texas-style BBQ and a boat trip to view whoopers and other birds. As we normally do, we will also gather info on local attractions and events for those not so inclined toward wildlife and outdoor activities.

Our schedule is still in development but we have an outline of activities

Saturday, February 28 will be arrival and work day for the Board and volunteers to set things up. Touring on your own is encouraged and we will give you several options to connect with other retirees who want to do similar touring.

Sunday, March 1 in the AM will be work day for Board and volunteers. In the PM, Registration begins. Also, possible picnic BBQ at the Greenwalt Walk for Wildlife. Again, you will be able to connect with other retirees for some interesting side activities.

Monday, March 2 will be the official opening and welcoming. Registrations will continue while opening meet and greet speakers (RD, State of Texas, Chamber of Commerce, etc) have the podium. Retiree issues and the Keynote Speaker will also be on the AM agenda and perhaps a panel and/or conservation topic speaker. The afternoon is free time and in the evening we will have our Icebreaker Social.

Tuesday, March 3 will be tour day, probably to Aransas NWR. Box lunches or ?? on site and return mid-afternoon. Rest of the day is free time.

Wednesday, March 4. More on conservation topics, enlightening words from DC, talk from the Duck Stamp winner, etc., in the AM. The afternoon is free time for most but the Heritage Committee meeting and Association business meeting will be held in PM.

A cash bar, Reunion Banquet, Banquet Speaker, and Silent Auction will be held in the evening.

Thursday, March 5. Wrap-up day. Business meeting update, Remembrance of Colleagues, Reunion evaluation, and closing announcements.

We will keep you informed as more details are worked out and our agenda firms up. We hope you are planning to attend and that you will get in touch with your former colleagues and party pals to encourage them to join you in Corpus. The real success of our reunions can only be measured by the camaraderie and social interactions they generate and that depends on **YOU**.

Board Meeting at NCTC

For one week in April, the Board of Directors of the FWS Retirees Association held its monthly meeting at NCTC. We normally get together face-to-face like this only at our periodic reunions but with new Board members and a lot of business to discuss, it was felt that this approach was necessary. The following is a summary of our discussions and decisions.

Election of Officers. Normally, Board officers are elected at the first Board meeting after elections. However, this year we delayed until we could meet face to face at NCTC. At his own request, 2013 Board Chair Larry Shanks asked not to be considered chairperson for 2014. Consequently, Donna Stanek was elected Chair and Larry elected Vice Chair. 2013 Treasurer Gail Carmody and Secretary/Scribe Jim McKeivitt will continue in those positions in 2014.

Note! *Chair Donna Stanek recently resigned from the Board and Vice Chair Larry Shanks has agreed to resume as Chair until after the elections for Board of Directors seats. this fall. Thank you, Donna, for all you have done for us.*

Roles and Responsibilities. Aside from the four offices, several topic areas were identified and Board members tentatively identified to take the lead in these areas:

Communication – Jim McKeivitt

Reunion – Mamie Parker and Jerry Grover

Membership – Bob Streeter, Gail Carmody, Matt Perry, and Nell Baldacchino

Volunteer opportunities – Donna Stanek and Larry Shanks

Heritage – Jerry Grover and Matt Perry

Mentoring – Mamie Parker and Larry Shanks

Oral Histories. Mark Madison, NCTC Historian, joined us to encourage that we continue and even accelerate our efforts to obtain the oral histories of those who have made a difference in the work and accomplishments of FWS and/or in the natural resources conservation field. To aid us, NCTC has provided funds to purchase digital recording equipment and cover expenses. Mark also provided an updated list of interviews already conducted and a list of those he would like to see interviewed. The Board elected to form a committee to develop a priority list of interviews for our approval. The committee will be headed by retiree John Cornely. If you interested in conducting interviews for oral histories in your area, and are willing to complete the training, contact John at johncornely@msn.com.

Website. In addition to the newsletter, the Board decided to post copies of our Board Meeting and Conference Call minutes on the Association website. We also decided to use the website to link to Facebook for easier communication between our members and the Association.

Membership. To increase our profile among soon-to-be retirees, we decided to develop a tri-fold brochure describing the Association and our activities. We will also look at producing a short video. The brochure will be distributed to each FWS station and be made a part of the exit packages for retiring employees. The video would be used at pre-

retirement training sessions and other larger gathering of active Service personnel. Together, the video and brochure will become part of a traveling display or exhibit.

Database. We maintain a large database that contains, among other things, retiree's names, addresses, phone numbers, and e-mail addresses. This database was developed by several authors over the past years for a variety of purposes and some of the data is extraneous to our needs. The Board went over all the fields and made decisions to streamline the database to meet our basic needs in serving the retirement community and to make the database managers job a whole lot simpler and easier. In addition, the Board determined to renew its efforts to find "Lost Souls" to be sure that all are kept informed of our activities.

Budget. The Board went over its budget and accounting procedures to ensure that we maintain adequate control and accountability for all Association funds.

Communicating with the Directorate. The entire Board met with the FWS Directorate at NCTC to discuss avenues of communication and how the Association and the Service should inter-relate. We asked the Directorate to think seriously about how we could help the Service deal with issues and offered several suggestions in that regard. We also identified official "points of contact" between us and the DC office to enhance communication between us. Finally, we agreed to develop a Memorandum of Agreement between us that will clarify our expectations of each other and strengthen the relationship between the Association and the Directorate. The Association Board also had the privilege to meet with the former Directors of the Service at NCTC and sought their advice on how we could better serve both the Service and the retirement community.

Membership. We continued this ongoing discussion of how to attract and recruit new members and, in particular, dues-paying members. Currently, fewer than 300 of our approximately 2600 retirees in our database pay dues. The Board wants to emphasize the benefits of becoming a dues-paying member and agreed to provide incentives to do so. As a first step, the Board agreed to revise our dues structure to include a five year membership for only \$100, a savings of \$25 over the five year period.

Regional Retiree Representatives. Over the years there have been retiree representatives identified for each of the FWS Regions. However, there has been no clear description of the expectations of these representatives and many of those identified are no longer active. The Board determined to fill such a position for each region and to clarify what the position entails.

Board Emeritus Position. The Board discussed the establishment of a "Board Director Emeritus" position (or positions) to be awarded to past directors who have contributed greatly to the Association and who were no longer on the Board as an elected Director. The Board agreed and unanimously approved the appointment of Denny Holland to the Board as our first Director Emeritus. Denny was one of the founders of the Association and a Board member for several years. As Director Emeritus, Denny will be afforded all the privileges of an elected Board member with the

exception of the authority to vote, should we ever need to cast votes on an issue. He will, however, be sought for his advice on any issue before the board.

Next Reunion. We spent a good deal of time discussing the next *Retiree Reunion*. Jerry Grover and Mamie Parker will take the lead in planning for this Reunion. The Board agreed that the Corpus Christi, Texas would be the main focus of our planning efforts and identified several possible themes for the Reunion. These include sea level rise, resource recovery from recent natural and man-induced disasters, border issues, and challenges to F&W resources from climate change.

See Discussion Above!

Using Association Funds as a Catalyst for Action. The Board often receives requests for funding various events such as station anniversaries. We agreed that we should consider doing so, that it would be appropriate to use Association funds and that we should consider setting aside a block of funds to provide such funding.

We then developed criteria to guide us in determining when and what to fund. These include:

Would it benefit the Association and its goals;

Is there a heritage connection;

Do we believe the membership would approve of our involvement;

Would our involvement generate good will for us;

Is it a conservation project; and

Is there a possible partnership and/or funding match?

Issues Involvement. The Board wholeheartedly agreed that we want to continue to be involved in issues that affect natural resources and the Fish and Wildlife Service. How and when to do so, however, is the question. Two specific issues that we agreed to get involved in are the re-naming of the Archbold Trail in Rock Creek Park to the Rachel Carson Trail and a letter the Secretary congratulating her for her stand on the Izembeck Road.

We then developed criteria to determine when and how to become involved in issues. These include:

Is the issue of significance to fish and wildlife resources;

Is there a Fish and Wildlife Service nexus;

Is the issue of concern to retirees (e.g. retirement benefits);

Would our involvement be detrimental to the Association or affect our credibility;

Can we handle it in a timely manner; and

Do we know both sides of the issue.

Finally, we agreed on a sequence of actions to take before we become involved. These are:

Identify the issue;

Explore all aspects of the issue;

Inform/advise our membership; and

Decide how to become involved.

The general process is that the issue would be vetted using the criteria listed above, the sequence described above would be followed, and then we would take action. Members would be advised of the potential issue and then kept fully informed of

our actions. We would also look for opportunities to coordinate and possibly partner with other organizations on key issues.

Board Members Needed

Each year, the terms of three members of the Association's Board of Directors expire. And each year, every dues paying member gets a chance to run for one of those seats or nominate someone else to run. And once a slate of candidates has been identified, every dues-paying member has the opportunity to vote for the candidates of their choice. Elections are normally held in the fall or early winter, with new or re-elected Board members taking their seats in January.

This year, ballots with the names and bios of qualified candidates will be mailed to eligible voters around the 15th of November. Voter returns will be accepted through the 13th of December. This means that a slate of candidates needs to be identified soon. If you yourself are interested in serving on the Board, please let us know directly. Or if you know of someone else that you feel would make a good Board member, contact them first to confirm their interest before submitting their name for consideration. To make the ballot, names for candidacy must be submitted by November 9th. Send them to Jim McKeivitt at jimmymac@usamedia.tv or phone 530-878-7883.

We need a good and active Board to keep this Association running smoothly. The duties of Board members are not onerous. Members meet via conference call every month and a modest commitment of time devoted to Association business is frequently required of members between each conference call. So, if you think the functions of the Fish and Wildlife Retirees Association in continued involvement in natural resource issues, preserving the heritage of the Service, and fostering camaraderie among retirees is something that appeals to you, consider running for a seat on our Board of Directors.

Have You Moved?

To keep you in the loop on relevant happenings and events and to send you the latest newsletters, we need to have up-to-date contact information. If you have a new mailing address, phone number, or e-mail address, please let us know. You may use the form at the back of this newsletter or you can phone or e-mail the new information direct to our database manager, **Kelle Quist**; **Phone: 1-413-339-4718**; **e-mail: kquist1@verizon.net**

Lifetime Memberships

We want to take this opportunity to recognize and thank **Ray Brunson** who opted to become lifetime members of the FWS Retirees Association. Stalwarts such as Ray are foremost in supporting our efforts and among the most active of our members. While we can't guarantee that their investment in a lifetime membership will assure them of a long lifespan, I have it on good authority that it will merit them a higher seat in Heaven when their membership does expire.

Other New Members

Since April 2014, the following retirees and their significant others have joined our ranks as new, sustaining members:

Jim & Debbie Bartel, Keith & Sue Beske, Hannibal Bolton, Jean & Robert Burghduff, David & Judith Ferguson, Patty & Lee Gelatt, Paul & Carol Larson, Deb Magnagno, Doug & Yvette McKenna, Monica "Niki" McQueary, Nancy Morrissey, Lorna & Tim Patrick, Eugene & Rosella Patten, William Edward Purcell, David & Tammy Sharp, E. Franklin & Robin Smith, Richard & Mary Ann Sojda, Robert & Norma Stewart, Doug & Betsy Wells, and Doug & Merry Jo Zimmer.

Miscellaneous

Change in Dues Structure. The Board recently voted to make a slight change in the dues structure to make it a little more attractive to our members. Annual dues still remain at \$25 per year and a lifetime membership is still \$500. However, we have added an option for a five-year membership for just \$100, a savings to you of \$25 over that period. We strongly encourage all retirees to enroll as sustaining, dues-paying members to support the Association's activities and to avail yourselves of benefits not afforded others (eligibility to vote in our elections and to hold office, discounts at reunions, snail mail services, etc.).

Reminder: Our dues are by calendar year. If you have not renewed for calendar year 2014, please go to <http://www.fwsretirees.org/JoinUs.html> to update your membership form and review your payment options

Resources in Retirement. Medicare and our federal employee health benefits is usually a hot topic at our Reunions. Charles Hasty has always done an excellent job letting us know how this works and the pros and cons of deciding to sign-up for Medicare. He informs us that OPM has a video about Medicare that may interest you. It's at: <http://www.myfederalretirement.com/public/1262.cfm>. Additional information is summarized at: <http://www.myfederalretirement.com/public/247.cfm>

Were You on the "Hit List"?? In the midst of the recent, tense Clive Bundy impasse in Nevada over cattle grazing on BLM lands, retiree David Klinger is writing on the issue of threats to and intimidation of Federal employees in the performance of their jobs. The Clive Bundy situation brought to mind an earlier, but less well-known, matter: the Manson Family's "hit list" of Federal employees in the West that was uncovered after Lynette "Squeaky" Fromme attempted to assassinate President Gerald Ford in Sacramento in 1975. The names of several FWS employees appeared on that infamous list. Were you one of them? Dave first wrote about this harrowing tale in the summer 2006 issue of "Fish and Wildlife News." He recently filed "Freedom of Information Act" requests with the FBI and the U.S. Secret Service for portions of the investigative records from 1975 that pertain to the "hit list" with no success. Dave is very interested in talking with any current or retired Fish and Wildlife Service employee whose name appeared on that list and who may have been warned by the FBI about potential "Manson Family" threats to

their safety some 39 years ago. Dave's contact information is e-mail: idahodavid2012@gmail.com; phone: 208-994-8731.

Wildlife Warehouse. Retiree Alan Levitt thought this might be interesting for other retirees. Alan says when he first saw it, "it brought back so many memories because I wrote the news release about the ESA and was heavily involved in publicizing the issue of wildlife products, etc. Did some PSAs, went to the then repository in New York, and the auction of Lacey Act products in Brooklyn. This was back in the 70s. We even had the entire stage of the DOI auditorium covered with thousands of endangered species products and trophies for a media event." Check it out for yourselves at this link: <http://www.theatlantic.com/video/index/374819/wildlife-warehouse/>

Passing of Colleagues

If you are aware of the passing of any retired FWS employee, including those who left the Service because of organizational changes or late career changes, please let us know so that we can pass that information on to their former co-workers and friends.

Elinor Beaver (1929 – 2014). Elinor died peacefully in Silver Spring, Maryland on March 27, 2014 after a brief illness. Elinor was born December 23, 1929 on a small farm in rural Garrett County, Maryland, the oldest of four children. Following several moves in western Maryland, she graduated high school in Cumberland.



Following high school, and after a short courtship, Elinor became a military wife when she married William (Bill) Beaver in October 1949. She entered federal government service as a civilian employee with the U.S. Navy in Norfolk, Virginia. Military transfers took her and her young family to Newport, Rhode Island in 1963 and west to San Lorenzo, California in 1966, for an especially trying year during Bill's Vietnam deployment. She and her family returned to the Washington, D.C./Maryland area in 1967, where she resumed her civil service career, first with the U.S. Census Bureau and the U.S. Bureau of Land Management, and ultimately with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Elinor's career with the USFWS was all in the Washington Office, and she was, at one time, Secretary to the Director. Elinor retired in 1990. According to her son, David, himself a federal employee and one-time FWS realty specialist in Region 5, Elinor's years with the USFWS were the highlight of her federal career. He recalls that she and her husband Bill attended at least one USFWS Retirees event at NCTC in Shepherdstown, WV. Her last visit to a National Wildlife Refuge was in October 2012, when David took them on a visit to tidewater Virginia for their 63rd anniversary and they stopped at Back Bay NWR for a few hours, walking trails and visiting the beach. It was a special time for all of them. Elinor is survived by her beloved husband, William "Bill" of 64 years. She is also survived by her daughter, Carole Beaver

Schnitzler and two grandsons, Brian and Eric Schnitzler of Waldorf, MD; her son, David Beaver and his partner, Harry Trines of Arlington, VA; sisters Ruth Bowman of Cumberland, MD and Veronica Severns of Chula Vista, CA; and brother, Oren F. McKenzie (Mona) of Cumberland, MD. A memorial service for Elinor was held on April 3, 2014. Burial will be at Arlington National Cemetery at a later date.

Alfred J. Godin (1927 – 2014). Al passed away on March 3 2014 at his home in Fitchburg, Massachusetts with his family at his bedside. Al was born in Fitchburg on April 4, 1927, and was raised there. He served as a Seaman First Class during the Korean War and was honorably discharged in 1954 with six years of service. After the war, Al went back to school and graduated from the University of Missouri in 1955 with his Bachelor's Degree in Wildlife Management. He earned a Master of Science Degree in Biology/Ecology from UMass Amherst in 1960 and was an instructor at Rutgers University for 16 years. In 1975, he authored a comprehensive nature field guide entitled "The Wild Mammals of New England", which took eight years to complete. He later worked as a biologist for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in the Division of Animal Damage Control, consulting with the NTSB on bird strikes at airports and railroads. He also became interested in whales and did some research on why they sometimes became stranded. He retired in 1991 after 30 years as a biologist and enrolled at the Mt. Wachusett College to study sculpture. He sculpted every species of endangered whales and had them cast in bronze, for which the college sponsored an art exhibit in his honor. One of his sculptures, the Northern Right Whale, was given its final critique by the curator of marine mammals at the Smithsonian Museum in Washington, D.C. Al's whale sculptures will be exhibited in Maine at the Maine Coastal Islands NWR.

Al is survived by his sister, Louise Delguidice of Fitchburg, MA; his main care givers for several years; and many nieces and nephews. A memorial for Al will be hosted at The Gables Assisted Living Residence in Fitchburg at a later date. Donations in his name may be made to the St Jude Children's Research Hospital, P.O. Box 1000, Dept. 142, Memphis, Tennessee, 38148-0142.

David Hall (1938 – 2014). Retired U.S. Fish and Wildlife Agent David Louis Hall died July 14, 2014 in Raleigh, North Carolina. Dave was born January 8, 1938 in Memphis Tennessee, to the late Fred David and Rozelle Sawyer Hall and had one sibling, the late Mary Lou Hall O'Connor. His family moved to Jackson Mississippi in 1945 where he later met his wife of fifty-two years, Sarah Warnack Hall.



David became an avid sportsman, while hunting and fishing with his father as a young boy. He received a B.S. degree in forestry and a M.S. degree in Zoology/Wildlife from Mississippi State University. For his M.S. degree, Dave conducted one of first waterfowl wintering ecology studies in

the late 1950s, focusing on winter feeding ecology of mallards at Noxubee NWR. The Unity College in Maine awarded David its highest recognition, a Doctorate Degree of Environmental Science. During Hall's thirty-five year career with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, he was responsible for supervising federal wildlife law enforcement efforts in seven states. He conducted undercover investigations from Alaska to the East Coast, and his writings and photographs won awards and were featured in outdoor recreational publications. Dave was instrumental in organizing "Poachers to Preachers", an innovative program aimed at converting game law violators into game law educators. An article in People magazine about Dave and this program can be seen at the following link:

<http://www.people.com/people/archive/article/0,,20115343,00.html>.

Dave also taught at universities, presented seminars to wildlife organizations, conducted hunter behavior research, produced video programs and served in the U.S. Air National Guard. Dave is survived by his wife Sarah Ann, son F. David Hall and his wife Vicki Hall of Slidell, LA, daughter Pam Kirkbride of Raleigh, NC, four grandchildren, a niece and two nephews.

Services for Dave were held in Slidell LA on August 2, 2014. Memorials may be made to Aldersgate United Methodist Church in Slidell or the Alzheimer's Foundation of America.

Donald Joseph Kosin (1933 - 2014).

Don Kosin of Port St. Joe, Florida passed away on Tuesday, August 5, 2014 one day after his 81st birthday. Born in Cleveland, Ohio, he was a graduate of Miami University and a veteran of the Korean Conflict, serving his country in the United States Army. He was a devoted husband, father and granddaddy. Don worked for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service for 30-plus years and was a long-time manager at Key Deer NWR and manager at St. Vincent NWR from 1980 until his retirement in 1990. A member of First United Methodist Church of Port St. Joe, Don was very active in church ministries. Don is survived by Judy, his wife of 52 years; sons David Kosin and wife, Denise, of Georgetown, Kentucky and Joe Kosin and wife, Sarah, of Lexington, Kentucky; daughter Elizabeth Roberson and husband, Matt, of Tallahassee, Florida.; and grandchildren Matthew and Caleb Roberson and Mac and Jay Kosin.

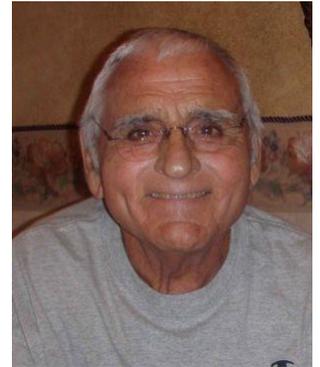


Funeral services were held on Aug. 8, 2014, at First United Methodist Church of Port St. Joe. Graveside services will be held at a later time in Wilmore Cemetery in Wilmore, Kentucky. Donations may be made in memory of Mr. Kosin to Gideons International at www.gideons.org.

Barbara Kroon (1933 – 2013). Barbara Kroon, one-time Administrative Assistant at Coleman National Fish Hatchery, passed away on October 11, 2013 in Redding, California at the age of 80. Barbara was born in Lone Pine, California on March 27, 1933. She married Donald Kroon on November 14,

1950 in Roseburg, Oregon. The family moved to French Gulch, California in 1966 and lived in that area for nearly 25 years. After receiving her college degree from Shasta College, Barbara went to work for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service at Coleman National Fish Hatchery. She worked there for 20 years before retiring in 1995. Barbara loved gardening, sketching and family gatherings. Barbara had the kindest heart and gentlest soul of anyone you would ever meet in life. She was preceded in death by her brother William, husband Donald and son David. She is survived and will be greatly missed by her son Mark, his wife Shelly and their children, Orinn, Ethan, Tala, Trevor, Sebastian, Anthony and Rose Kroon, and her daughter Chris, her husband Jon and their children, Jessica and Kelcie Main. There were no funeral services held.

Carl D. Marks (1999 – 2014). Carl Marks 77, passed away May 22, 2014, at Wesley Hospital in Wichita, Kansas. He was the son of Herb and Nellie Marks and was raised in the Zenith/Stafford, Kansas area. Carl was a 1954 graduate of Stafford High School and Hutchinson Junior College. He proudly served in the United States Army for 3 years and was a long-time U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service employee. He retired from FWS in 2003 at Quivira National Wildlife Refuge after 30 years of service. Carl was an avid hunter and wildlife enthusiast having helped establish Sunflower Mallards and had raised Greater Canada Geese to be released back into the wild for many years. He also helped establish C&J Pumping, Inc. in 1991, Oil/Gas Operator/Producer and was very much still involved in the "Oil Patch", with help from his wife, daughter and son-in-law. Carl was a member of the Zenith Community Presbyterian Church at Zenith and was a faithful Elder serving for many years. He served as Mayor and Council Member in Sylvania, Kansas for 10 years and was a member of American Legion, Hutchinson Post 0068.



He is survived by his wife, Jeanette, daughter Lori and husband Brent of Great Bend; sister, Mary Bartlett of Apple Valley, California; brother, Gene (Vicki) Marks of Great Bend. He was preceded in death by his parents and brother, Keith. A memorial service for Carl was held on May 27, 2014 at Minnis Chapel, Stafford. There was a private burial at Sylvania Cemetery preceding the Memorial Service.

Contributions in Carl's name may be sent to the Cancer Council of Reno County, or the Zenith Church, Kansas for Kids/Camp Hope all in care of Minnis chapel.

Kathryn (McCloskey) Wallace (1953 - 2014). Kathryn (Kathi) Howard Wallace passed away in Elgin, South Carolina on Saturday July 12, 2014 as the result of an inoperable brain tumor. Kathi was born on October 06, 1953 in Patterson, New Jersey. She worked for the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service from 1980 until her retirement in 2004. She worked initially for the Division of Wildlife Refuges but transferred to the Office of Law Enforcement in 1991 where she was a computer analyst.

She enjoyed reading, cooking, shopping and spending time with her family and moved to South Carolina in 2009. Kathi was a long time member of the Ladies Auxiliary to the Veterans of Foreign wars of the U.S. She served as President of the Elgin VFW Post 11079, and was active in their programs.

Kathi leaves behind her loving husband, Jimmy Lee Wallace, her children, Joseph F. McCloskey III and Stefanie Richardson, four step children, Amy White, Jimmie Lee Wallace Jr., Amanda Saylor and George Belleville and 14 grandchildren. She is also survived by her sisters, Yolanda Treiguts, Wendi Combs, Cindi Howard, Joni Howard, and brother Terry Howard.

Funeral services for Kathi were held on July 18, 2014 in Lugoff, South Carolina followed by burial at the Ft. Jackson National Veterans Cemetery. The family asks that any donations be made to the South Carolina VFW Veterans Service Program, 210 Glassmaster Road, Lexington, SC 29072.

Onnie Pepper. We were notified by her daughter that Onnie Pepper, one-time Fisheries Administrative Assistant in Region 4 passed away on May 13, 2014 in Mandarin, Florida. At her own request, her body was cremated and no services held. No other information is available to us at this time.

Frank Raymond Richardson (1925 – 2014). Frank Richardson, 89, of Vero Beach, Florida, passed away on June 7, 2014. Frank was born on May 30, 1925, in Trenton, New Jersey and spent his teen years in Lawrenceville. In May 1943, while attending Princeton High School, he was drafted into the Navy and served until 1946. Richardson spent his service time at Bethesda Naval Hospital in Maryland, St. Albans Naval Hospital in New York, and Hunters Point, San Francisco. He was training to be part of the Underwater Demolition Team (now called SEALs) when the war ended.

After earning his BS and MS degrees in Wildlife Conservation & Management from North Carolina State University, he began his career as a fisheries biologist for the State of North Carolina before joining the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service in 1963. He held positions in Washington D.C., the Virgin Islands, Minnesota, Colorado, and Michigan and retired as Assistant Regional Director, Fisheries in Atlanta, Georgia in 1989. During his 26 year career with the federal government, he also served as Special Assistant to the Secretary of the Interior and to the Director of U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service.

Since retirement, Frank spent the majority of his time in Bozeman, Montana, which he loved dearly. He was an avid angler, who traveled far and wide to indulge his passion for fly-fishing. He was active in many civic and professional organizations including Boy Scouts, Rotary, Lions, Jaycees (President in North Carolina), the Fishery Management Councils for the Atlantic, Gulf and Caribbean, as well as three fishing commissions. He served on the National Boards of Trout Unlimited and Federation of Fly Fishers and was the first President of the Georgia Chapter of American Fisheries Society. He also served as a Deacon at First Presbyterian Church in Bozeman. He received numerous awards including Trout Unlimited Conservationist of the Year in 1977 and Federation of Fly Fishers Conservationist of the Year in 1980. He was also awarded the prestigious Leopold Medal in 1984

by Federation of Fly Fishers, Trout Unlimited, American Fisheries Society, and the Departments of the Interior, Agriculture and EPA for his lifetime contribution in the field of cold water fisheries.

Frank is survived by his wife of 33 years, Dottie Resler Richardson; son, Bill (Linda) Richardson; step-daughter, Leslie (Brad) Creel; sister, Barbara Johnson; brother, Bill (Peg) Richardson; sister-in-law, Fay Richardson; three grandchildren, and numerous nieces and nephews. The family asks that any donations in his name be made to VNA Hospice House, 901 37th Street, Vero Beach, FL 32960 at www.vnadc.com.

Burton Ward Rounds (1924 – 2014). Burton Rounds died on March 25, 2014 in Bigfork, Minnesota at the age of 89. Burton was born May 6, 1924 on the family farm near Milan, New Hampshire. He attended college at Colorado A&M in Ft. Collins, Colorado where he graduated in 1948. While in Ft. Collins he met Ruth Miller and they were married May 17, 1946.

After graduating from college, he began his career with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in Billings, Montana. In 1952 he transferred to Minneapolis-St. Paul, where he served in the Division of River Basin Studies and the Division of Refuges, before becoming Wetlands Program Coordinator. In 1956 he proposed a program to acquire small wetlands to save them for waterfowl production in the upper Midwest. In early 1957 he drew the basic design for a ten year wetlands purchase program, which began in 1960 with the purpose of protecting 1,750,000 acres of wetland habitats.

Burt served as the sole representative of the Fish and Wildlife Service at the first Pan American Soil Conservation Congress in Sao Paulo, Brazil in 1966. He chaired the 18th Plenary Session. In 1972 Burt was elected National Chairman of the Fish and Wildlife Resources Division at the Soil Conservation Society's annual meeting in Syracuse, New York.

He was preceded in death by his parents Addie and Ward Rounds, and stepdaughter Carol Ann Kucera. He leaves his wife Ruth and sons George (Meredit), Charles (Barbara) and sisters Louise and Bernice.

Services for Burton were held in Bigfork in April 2014.

James N. (Doc) Runnigen (1923 – 2008). James "Doc" Runnigen passed away peacefully on Tuesday, May 27, 2008, at Columbia St. Mary's Hospital Ozaukee in Mequon, Wisconsin. Jim was born on Dec. 21, 1923, in LaCrosse, the son of Arthur and Julia (Miller) Runnigen. Jim served in the Navy as a Medical Corpsman for the U.S. Marine Corps in World War II and Korea and in the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, where he was a staff photographer. He was a member of several organizations including the Knights of Columbus, fourth degree, First Marine Division Association, WI Chapter of the Chosen Few and the Marine Corps League. His hobbies included reading, recreational photography, watching baseball and traveling in his car across the country. Jim is survived by his brothers, Edward (Roberta) of Marion, Ind. and Charles (Carol) of Glendale, a sister-in-law, Myrtle Renningen; 15 nieces and nephews; many great-nieces and nephews; and many dear friends. He was preceded in death by his parents; and brothers, Robert and John (Peggy). A Memorial Mass was held on June 13, 2008, at St. Maria

Goretti Catholic Church in Madison, WI. Inurnment was held later at LaCrosse Catholic Cemetery in LaCrosse, WI.

Jens Uwe (Jim)Stolz (1952 – 2014). While surrounded by his family, Jens "Jim" Stolz died peacefully in Linwood Township, Minnesota on March 20, 2014 at age 61. Jim was born on August 17, 1952 in Neustadt Germany to Annemarie Holdinghausen and Edwin Donath. He was adopted by Thomas Stolz and became an American citizen on November 22, 1963. He proudly served his adopted country for 22 years in the US Army (1969 – 1991) advancing to the rank of Master Sergeant. During that time, he was united in marriage to Maryann Spencer in 1981 and again in 2013. After his discharge from the Army, Jim began working for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in the Division of Law Enforcement where he earned the admiration and respect of his peers and supervisors and made many friends.

He will be greatly missed by all who knew and loved him. He is survived by his wife, Maryann; children, Chris, Tommy, Stephanie (Keith) Burth, Tracy (Donald White) Stolz; seven grandchildren; many other family and friends. Memorial Services for Jim were held on March 29, 2014 at the Linwood Community Center. Interment with Military Honors at Linwood Cemetery followed.

John Thomas Taylor (1949 – 2014). John Taylor died Sunday, June 1, 2014, at his residence in Springville,



Tennessee following a battle with pancreatic cancer. John was born Dec. 15, 1949, in Pikeville to Louise Lee Taylor Keaton and Charles Gaut Taylor II. He retired after 40 years with the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service. He was a member of Knights of Columbus, the Optimist Club and Friends of the National Wildlife Refuge, where he served on the board. He worked at 18 refuges across nine states in his career. His 40-year career began while he was at the University of

Tennessee in Knoxville, when he was a student trainee at the Mattamuskeet National Wildlife Refuge in Swan Quarter, N.C. He later worked at Piedmont National Wildlife Refuge in Hillsboro, Ga., in 1970 and Back Bay National Wildlife Refuge near Virginia Beach, Va., in 1971. After graduating from college, he was named part-time assistant manager at Santee National Wildlife Refuge in Summerton, S.C., earning a full-time position less than a year later. In 1979, Taylor became the first manager of the 1.15 million-acre Becharof National Wildlife Monument in Alaska. In 1980, he became Refuge Manager of both Becherof and the Alaska Peninsula refuges with a total of 4 million acres in both refuges. In 1991, he moved back to Tennessee, as manager at Tennessee National Wildlife Refuge. During the following years, he was given the Director's Award for Unusually Outstanding Performance. He was instrumental in establishing the Clarks River National Wildlife Refuge in western Kentucky in 1997. He also was manager of the Cross Creeks Refuge in Dover,

Tennessee. The U.S. Department of the Interior gave him the Meritorious Service Award in 2009.

John is survived by his wife Angie, his three sons: Matthew Chase McDurmon, Anderson Luke Taylor and Beau Thomas Taylor, all of Springville; his mother Louise Keaton: two sisters and one brother: Chuck G. Taylor III of Knoxville. A funeral mass was celebrated on June 5, 2014, at Holy Cross Catholic Church, where he was a member. His cremains were buried in Elkhorn Cemetery with members of the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Honor Guard serving as pallbearers. Charitable donations may be made in John's memory to the Friends of Tennessee National Wildlife Refuge, 3006 Dinkins Lane, Paris, TN 38242

Paul EldridgeThompson. In case you weren't aware, Paul's daughter, Patricia, advised that Paul had passed away in 2002 at the age of 89. Paul had a 38 year career with the Fish and Wildlife Service, working first in Alaska, then Washington, D.C., followed by Chicago and back again to D.C. He retired from FWS in 1971 as Director of the Division of Sport Fisheries.

John Walter Yount (1938 – 2014). John Yount of Blairsville, Georgia passed away on June 15, 2014 in the Union General Hospital following an extended illness. John was born on May 16, 1938 in Stillwater, Oklahoma, to Paul and Katherine Yount and grew up in Starkville, Mississippi. John was a veteran of the US Army. He retired from the US Fish and Wildlife Service as a Realty Specialist after many years of service. John was an avid outdoorsman and a wildlife enthusiast as well as being a devoted and loving husband, father and grandfather.

Surviving John are his loving wife of fifty three years, Lynda Bryan Yount, three daughters and two sons in law, Carol Adams of Blairsville, Beth and Steve Owens of Lilburn, GA., and Ginger and Gordon Hamrick of Lawrenceville, GA. He is also survived by his five grandchildren, Zachary and Caitlyn Adams, and Emma, Helen and Brendan Hamrick. Graveside services were held on June 19, 2014 at the Antioch Baptist Church Cemetery. The North Georgia Honor Guard will conduct Military Honors. The family requests that donations may be made to the Men's Ministry of Antioch Baptist Church in John's memory.

Kenneth A. Ystesund (1922 – 2010). We were informed that Ken Ystesund passed away on July 12, 2010 in Albuquerque, New Mexico at the age of 88. Ken was born in Thief River Falls, MN on June 9, 1922, and had been a resident of Albuquerque since 1970. . Ken was a U.S. Army veteran of WWII and the Korean War, and a retired Realty Specialist with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. He was an avid sportsman, hunter, fisherman, and storyteller.

He is survived by his wife of 62 years, Ida Z. Ystesund; son Kenneth J. Ystesund and his wife Cindy of Albuquerque; son Keith A. Ystesund of Dolores, CO; daughter Karen A. Clement and her husband John of Gunnison, CO; and three grandchildren and numerous nieces and nephews. A Memorial Service for Ken was held on July 19, 2010 in Albuquerque.



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A retiree is any person who worked for the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service and has now retired, including their spouses or partners.

If you were caught up in a reorganization, retired from another agency, or took on a second career, but still consider yourself part of the FWS family, you are an eligible retiree.

Among these are colleagues that were formerly in Research, Animal Damage Control, or certain National Fish Hatcheries transferred to State operation