

FWS Retirees Association

NEWSLETTER

Summer 2021



2021 Board of Directors

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Board Business

We hate to see him go, but Jim McKeivitt is leaving the Board. Earlier this year, Jim McKeivitt decided to resign as a Board Member due to family considerations. Jim was elected to the Board in 2011, and that was recorded in an excerpt from the October 2012 Retiree Association newsletter that he wrote as the Secretary/Scribe/Newsletter Editor! From that newsletter article, we are reminded that “Jim joined the FWS in 1971, starting in River Basin Studies in scenic Upper Darby, Pennsylvania. He helped to open the Annapolis ES Office, later moved to Laguna Niguel, California as ES Field Supervisor and in 1978 took over as Field Supervisor of the ES Office in Sacramento. With passage of the Central Valley Project Improvement Act in 1992, Jim assumed the role of FWS Program Manager for the Central Valley Fish and Wildlife Restoration Program, serving until his retirement in 2000. He was elected to the Board in 2011 and, like an idiot, agreed to serve as Secretary and Scribe.” Yes, he said that! We have enjoyed reading the Association’s newsletter for the past 10 years due to Jim’s many, many hours of dedicated research, unique style, and goal for perfection in every edition. In addition, as Secretary, Jim kept the minutes of the Board’s monthly meetings, and therefore played an important role in recording the history of this Association. We owe Jim our HUGE THANKS for 10 years as a very active Board member and wish him and his family well in their continued retirement years!

New Board Members. Every year the terms of three members of our Board expire and we launch a search for candidates to stand for election to fill those seats. Deborah Holle was re-elected for another three-year term last December, and two new Board members, Denise Baker and Paul Tritaik were elected to new terms. With his resignation from the Board, Jim McKeivitt, advised us that the Association’s By-Laws allow us to invite the person who received the next highest number of votes in the previous election to join the Board to replace an out-going

member. That person is Lew Gorman, so he is joining the board as our newest member. Welcome to all three new Board members!



Denise Baker – Denise, from Los Alamos, NM, worked as a Coop student in the Life Sciences Division at the Los Alamos National Laboratory. She graduated with a BS degree in Fish & Wildlife Science from NMSU and a MS degree in Wildlife from Texas A&I (now A&M). Denise began her career in the Clear Lake FO in the

Federal Projects Program and the Environmental Contaminants/Natural Resource Damage Assessment Program (EC/NRDA), with a majority most of her career dedicated to EC/NRDA. Denise retired from the Service after a 33-year career (1985-2018) with Ecological Services. Much of her career was in the Southwest with eight years in the Pacific Northwest. Her last duty station was in the Region 2 Regional Office. Denise resides in Albuquerque and travels with family and friends to visit National Wildlife Refuges and National Parks. She pursued her dream to become a certified yoga instructor and teaches at one of the 50+ Sports and Fitness Centers in Albuquerque. She jumped at the opportunity to become a certified SilverSneakers fitness instructor and teaches at the local YMCA.



Lewis E Gorman III – Inspired to care for nature through his boyhood experiences in Scouting, Lew sought a career in as a wildlife biologist. It needed to start with a bachelor’s degree at the University of Massachusetts in 1971, followed by a Master’s degree in Science from the University of Delaware in a degree program that was then termed Agricultural and Food Economics. It was then off to active duty in the US Army as a Second Lieutenant

assigned to an Infantry Battalion as a Medical Service Corps officer at Ft. Richardson, AK. After a military and civilian career in healthcare administration spanning 25 years that his military service spawned, he was selected for a finance and outreach position at USFWS Headquarters in 2003. The prodigal son had come home. After working less than a year in Fisheries and Habitat Conservation, he was offered a position as the Endangered Species Program Liaison to the Department of Defense, a department he had way more experience with than the

USFWS. After about six years the position morphed into the Partnerships Coordinator where the target audience was all partners and supporting FWS initiatives like Connecting People With Nature and Youth in the Great Outdoors. He finished his 15-year career working in Endangered Species Recovery, retiring in 2018. He currently serves on the Boy Scouts of America Conservation Committee, and as the Chair of his town's environmental board that seeks to connect people with nature and to manage the town's natural open space lands.



Paul Tritaik – Paul Tritaik retired on September 30, 2020 after 38 years of service. After graduating from the University of Maryland in 1982 with a Bachelor of Science degree, Paul started his career as an animal caretaker at Patuxent Wildlife Research Center in Maryland, assisting the captive propagation of bald eagles and Andean condors. In 1989, Paul was hired as an outdoor recreation planner at Okefenokee

National Wildlife Refuge (NWR) in Georgia, to help run the public use program. In 1991, Paul became the first refuge manager of the new Bond Swamp NWR in Georgia, a satellite of Piedmont NWR, where he formed new partnerships and initiated management programs. In 1993, Paul was selected to be refuge manager at the first refuge, Pelican Island NWR in Florida, then a satellite of Merritt Island NWR. There, Paul stabilized and restored the historic island, expanded the refuge, restored over 300 acres of coastal habitat, built the Centennial Trail boardwalk, and coordinated the Centennial Celebration in 2003. Paul also served as the first refuge manager of another new refuge, Archie Carr NWR, to coordinate its expansion and partnerships for the nation's largest sea turtle nesting population. In 2008, Paul transferred to J.N. "Ding" Darling NWR as the project leader where he also managed Pine Island NWR, Matlacha Pass NWR, Island Bay NWR, and Caloosahatchee NWR. Paul expanded the "Ding" Darling refuge, restored marsh and mangrove habitat, and added many improvements to visitor facilities, including solar energy. Paul also served many other roles and details, including the Southeast Region's employee representative on the Heritage Committee, a National Friends Group Mentor, and the Southeast Region's Hunting and Fishing Team. Since retirement, Paul has established Tritaik Consulting to assist others pursuing conservation objectives, like the City of Sanibel.

Paul's goal as a member of FWS Retirees Association Board of Directors is to help the Association be a voice and resource for all FWS Retirees, to help FWS Retirees stay engaged with the FWS mission, to support the FWS Retirees' role in preserving our heritage, and to continue to foster a culture of family with those we served with and those that continue our life's work.

Next Reunion. The next reunion gathering being planned by the FWS Retirees Association is scheduled for the week beginning June 19th in Spearfish, South Dakota. Lodging has been reserved at **The Lodge at Deadwood** – about a 10 minute drive outside Spearfish. It is a full-service facility with spa and casino, the preferred rates are within per diem and will be honored

3-days pre and post reunion dates for those wishing to do a little exploring of the area. The reunion will include events being planned by the Friends of D.C. Booth Historic National Fish Hatchery to celebrate its 125th anniversary. Also, tentative plans are being developed for simultaneous but separate meetings of the FWS's Heritage Committee, the FWS Broodstock Committee and possibly a regional Project Leaders gathering as well as a possible meeting of the FWS Directorate. Nancy Gloman and Jerry Grover will be putting together the agenda which will include the icebreaker social, a field trip(s), banquet and this year, in the park adjacent to the hatchery, an evening barbeque picnic complete with a local band. As we begin to develop the program, please let Jerry Grover (reunion@fwsretirees.org) or Nancy Gloman (issues@fwsretirees.org) know of any issue or informational sessions you would like to see at the reunion.

Association Funds. The Association of Retired Fish and Wildlife Service Employees (Association) is a 501 (c)(3) non-profit organization. We have two basic sources of income. One is grant monies received from the Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) to assist them in certain of their programs. Currently, we have two main grants from the FWS. A "Heritage Grant" assists in maintaining our database, doing oral histories, acquiring historic artifacts, celebrating station anniversaries and the like. The other is a youth outdoor activity/career awareness/conservation education grant. We have limited discretion on the expenditure of these grant funds. Our second source of income is Association dues and any monies received from things such as our reunion Silent Auctions (after expenses). We have complete discretion over the use of this second source of funds, limited only by our status as a non-profit. These funds have been used for certain conservation projects, such as the painting of the DC Booth Historic National Fish Hatchery (NFH) Rail Car, which we reported on in our July 2020 Newsletter).

We currently have a balance in our discretionary funds account and are considering worthwhile projects for expenditure of some of those funds. We have considered the establishment of a scholarship fund, funding conservation projects on FWS lands, development of a video to encourage careers in natural resources conservation, and similar conservation-oriented projects. We have been in touch with the FWS Directorate and have solicited requests for proposals for worthy project that align with both the Association's and the FWS's conservation goals and that are appropriate for use of our discretionary funds. We are currently considering awarding grants in the neighborhood of \$10,000 each for worthwhile projects.

New FWS Experienced Services Program. The FWS has launched an "Experienced Services Program (ESP), in which US citizens aged 55 or older can contribute their skills and experience to a wide range of temporary workforce needs. These could include wildlife biologists, realty specialists, writer-editors, graphic artists, engineers, budget analysts, and much more. The ESP enrollees will be able to help fill critical workforce gaps that include needs for hard-to-find or specialized skills, short-term backfilling of vacancies, mentoring of new hires, and support for technical, scientific, administrative, maintenance or other projects. Enrollees will earn an hourly wage depending on their education, experience and amount of oversight

required. Enrollees would be able to work full-time, part-time or intermittently, depending on their schedules and the demands of their assignments. Participation in the program would not impact the pension of most retired federal employees.

The FWS has developed cooperative agreements with two NGOs to post position openings, recruit and administer enrollee payroll and related workforce matters. These are the Center for Workforce Inclusion (www.centerforworkforceinclusion.org) whose key contact is Chris Garland (cgarland@poweringopportunity.org) and the National Older Worker Career Center (www.nowcc.org) whose key contact is Paul Schmidt (paulschmidt4c@gmail.com). Edith Thompson is the FWS Coordinator for the program (edith_thompson@fws.gov) and primary source for additional information. Several positions have already been posted. The two NGO's will be listing different types of jobs so you should visit both sites to see what's available and check in frequently for updates. You can click here for more details on the ESP, and we will try to provide updates on our website as the program develops..

Volunteer Opportunities. Many of our retirees have expressed an interest in continuing to assist the FWS in fulfilling its mission to protect and conserve the nation's fish and wildlife resources by volunteering their services and/or expertise at FWS stations. We decided not to develop a "volunteer database" to link our retirees with FWS stations needing assistance, based on the advice of Deborah Moore, the FWS National Volunteer Coordinator. Instead, we direct our retirees (via our newsletter and website) to volunteer opportunities that might currently be available to them and how to apply. 1) Log on to volunteer.gov and search by agency for opportunities that might be of interest to you. 2) Go to the Service's website (www.fws.gov) and click on "Volunteer" in the left column and then on "Get Involved". This is primarily for opportunities on NWRs 3) Lastly, you can reach out directly to a FWS field station and express an interest.

FWS News

Changes in DC. With the change in administrations, there came a flurry of changes in key FWS and Department of the Interior positions in Washington and elsewhere.

Fish and Wildlife Service Director Aurelia Skipworth, a Trump appointee, resigned her position in the days just before the inauguration of President, Joe Biden. Although there has been no news yet on who will run the agency under Biden, a new "Principal Deputy Director" has been temporarily appointed to guide the Service. That person is **Martha Williams**. Growing up on a farm, Martha gained an appreciation for nature and all that comprises it. Her passion for nature led her to a career that focused on public lands and wildlife—first as attorney for the Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks, then as Deputy Solicitor Parks and Wildlife in the Department of the Interior. She was also a professor at the Blewett School of Law at the University of Montana, and most recently again at the Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks as its Director. We welcome her to her new role in the FWS that, while perhaps

temporary, is essential in guiding the organization we love in this period of transition.

Former New Mexico US Representative **Debra Haaland** is the new **Secretary of the Interior**, replacing Trump appointee David Bernhardt.



Secretary Haaland is the first Native American to serve as a cabinet member and was previously one of only

two Native Americans to ever be elected to Congress (in 2018). In floor remarks leading up to the vote to approve her nomination, Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer praised Haaland and touted the historic nomination: "Given the long and troubled relationship between the federal government and tribal nations, the ascension of Rep. Haaland to the top of the Interior Department is a profoundly important moment for America as we advance on the long road—still not fully traveled at all—of equality, or towards equality. For too long, tribal nations have been denied a seat at the table where decisions were made that impacted their lives and their land. Not only will a Secretary Haaland ensure that they get a seat, she will bring her own lived experiences to the table alongside them."

Biden Executive Orders. Before he left office, President Donald Trump issued an executive order (EO) that would have removed job protections for many federal workers. Signed October 21, 2020, unions and other critics denounced the EO as an attempt to politicize the federal civil service. The order targeted workers other than those in the Senior Executive Service, involved in developing policy, allowing agencies to hire and fire them more easily and quickly without the usual protections afforded most federal employees. Referred to as Schedule F, agencies were to determine which employees fit the category and reclassify them before Inauguration Day. Soon after entering office, President Joe Biden signed another EO which initially delayed the change pending further review and then eliminated it altogether.

President Biden also signed many other EOs reversing other Trump EOs, some of which affected operation and interests of the FWS, including EOs to rejoin the Paris climate agreement, revoke the permit for the Keystone XL pipeline, pause energy leasing in the Arctic NWR, stop construction of the wall along the Mexican border, modernize and improve regulatory review, freeze any new or pending regulations, restore collective bargaining power for federal workers, tighten 'Buy American' rules in government procurement, Direct agencies to engage in consultations with tribal governments, pause new oil and gas leasing on federal lands/waters, elevate climate change as a national-security, foreign-policy priority, re-establish the President's Council of Advisors on Science and Technology and direct agencies to make decisions on best available science.

Migratory Bird Treaty Act Incidental Take Rules. Almost immediately upon assuming office, President Biden employed a rule that allowed him to freeze any finalized regulations in the Federal Register that had not yet been put into effect for 60 days to review for issues of fact, law, or policy and if such issues exist to hold for longer to remedy the issue. This was applied to the Trump Administration’s reinterpretation of the “take” provisions of the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA). Under a final rule published on January 7, 2021 the FWS removed incidental take of migratory birds from the prohibitions that can be enforced under the MBTA. The rule change became effective on February 8. The Biden Administration is planning to reverse the February 8 rule change, although it will take time, as the agency will need to go through the formal rulemaking process again, which could take some time. In the meantime, until the rule is changed again, the FWS will not be able to prohibit incidental taking of migratory birds.

Natural Resource Issues

The Association believes it is important that we keep our readers informed on what we think may be the most important fish and wildlife matters of regional or national significance or of major importance to the FWS. Please note that we also try to keep our website updated with more expansive information on important fish and wildlife issues. Please visit it at www.fwsretirees.org.

Oil and gas exploration halted, for now, on Arctic NWR. As one of his first actions on the day he took office, President Joe Biden issued an EO halting any further action on oil and gas exploration in the coastal plain of the Arctic NWR. On January 6 this year the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) held an oil and gas lease sale for the coastal plain. An oil and gas leasing program for the Refuge had been authorized by the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act of 2017, which mandated that two lease sales be held in the area by December 2024. Bids were received on only half the tracts being offered, the sale raised only \$14.4 million, far less than anticipated, and the leases were issued on January 14. The EO cited alleged problems with the oil and gas leasing program, including issues with the Environmental Impact Statement that was completed on it last year and called on the Secretary of the Interior to put a temporary moratorium on all activities that were covered (including proposed seismic exploration) pending conducting a new, comprehensive review of the program.

On June 1, in a follow-up Secretarial Order, the Interior Department officially suspended the oil and gas leasing program and announced that a new analysis of the program’s environmental impacts will be undertaken, essentially throwing out the analysis done by the previous Administration.

In a separate, but related action, the Kaktovik Inupiat Corporation (KIC) had applied for a permit from the BLM to conduct 3-D seismic exploration beginning last winter on a portion of the coastal plain. Seismic exploration is a tool used to help determine locations and extent of potential oil and gas deposits. It does not appear that the permit was issued prior to President Biden taking office.

A number of lawsuits related to the Arctic NWR leasing program are still pending. The EO gave the US Attorney General permission to request that federal courts stay or delay litigation regarding the coastal plain, pending completion of the new program review. The six largest U.S. banks have stated they will not finance oil development on the Refuge. We will update you on this important issue affecting the Refuge in later editions of the Newsletter.

Changes to Endangered Species Act Regulations.

The FWS and the National Marine Fisheries Service (together the “Services”) have released a plan to improve and strengthen implementation of the Endangered Species Act (ESA). The set of proposed actions follows Executive Order 13990, which directed all federal agencies to review and address agency actions during the last four years that conflict with Biden-Harris administration objectives, such as addressing climate change.

“The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is committed to working with diverse federal, Tribal, state and industry partners to not only protect and recover America’s imperiled wildlife but to ensure cornerstone laws like the Endangered Species Act are helping us meet 21st century challenges,” said Fish and Wildlife Service Principal Deputy Director Martha Williams. “We look forward to continuing these conservation collaborations and to ensuring our efforts are fully transparent and inclusive.”

As a result of this review, the Services will initiate rulemaking in the coming months to revise, rescind, or reinstate five ESA regulations finalized by the prior administration. These are:

- Rescind regulations that revised FWS’s process for considering exclusions from critical habitat designations: On December 17, 2020, the FWS revised the process they would follow when considering whether to exclude areas from critical habitat designation under section 4(b)(2) of the ESA. FWS will propose to rescind this regulation (85 FR 82376) in its entirety and revert to implementation of the joint FWS/NMFS regulations at 50 CFR 424.19 and the joint 2016 policy on 4(b)(2) exclusions.
- Rescind regulatory definition of habitat: The Services will propose to rescind the final rule that defined the term “habitat” for the purposes of critical habitat designation (85 FR 81411; December 16, 2020). A regulatory definition is not required for the Services to designate critical habitat in compliance with a 2018 Supreme Court decision.
- Revise regulations for listing species and designating critical habitat: The Services will propose revising the final rule (84 FR 45020; August 27, 2019) to reinstate prior language affirming that listing determinations are made “without reference to possible economic or other impacts of such determination,” along with other potential revisions also under discussion.
- Revise regulations for interagency cooperation: The Services will propose revisions to the final rule (84 FR 44976; August 27, 2019) which revised the regulations governing Section 7 consultation. The Services will propose to revise the definition of “effects of the action” and associated provisions to that portion of the rule, with other potential revisions also under discussion.

- Reinstatement protections for species listed as threatened under ESA: FWS will propose to reinstate its “blanket 4(d) rule,” which was withdrawn by the previous administration (84 Fed. Reg. 44753; August 27, 2019). The blanket 4(d) rule establishes the default of automatically extending protections provided to endangered species to those listed as threatened, unless the Service adopts a species-specific 4(d) rule.

Miscellaneous

Membership. We have four new Life Members to report, and we welcome their contribution to our Association.

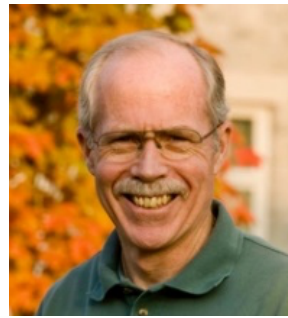
Jim Smith and **Sean Furniss** are the two most recent Life Members. Jim, of Red Bluff, California retired in 2020 from the Fish and Aquatic Conservation Program at the Red Bluff Fish and Wildlife Office. Sean Furniss, of Province, Virginia, retired from a career in the National Refuge System. We do not yet have biographical summaries from them, but we may include those in future editions of the newsletter.



New Life Member **Dr. Larisa Ford** is retired from the Department of Interior and in her last post served as the Project Leader for the Mariana Islands Refuges and Monument Complex, and Superintendent of the Marianas Trench Marine National Monument. Her father was a Navy officer so they moved often but her family raised her to value my

community and to prioritize finding ways she could serve the community. She has been passionate about environmental stewardship and ocean resources her whole life and even received an Oceanography Award during her senior year at Flour Bluff High School in Corpus Christi, Texas where she is now retired. She pursued a BS in Marine Biology at Texas A&M University at Galveston and then completed a MS in Microbiology focusing on diseases of cephalopods. She continued her education at Louisiana State University and received a PhD in Veterinary Microbiology with a minor in Fisheries. Later she also completed a Master’s in Public Administration – Environmental Track from Texas A&M University at Corpus Christi. Dr. Ford has had over 40 years of experience in marine biology, fisheries, aquatic animal health, wildlife conservation, natural resource and public lands management, environmental regulations and permitting, grant writing, and federal budget formulation and implementation. She worked throughout the United States and collaborated on scientific projects in Germany and Russia. Her interests include travel, fishing, bird watching, and volunteering to help with environmental stewardship, outdoor education, and other community service projects.

A graduate of Oregon State University, new Life Member **Rick Lemon** was a Peace Corps Volunteer in Central Africa during 1974-77 before joining the Service in 1978. Rick worked on Fish Hatcheries, in Federal Assistance and Ecological Services in the field and three Regional Offices before being asked in late 1989 by FWS Director John Turner to lead efforts to envision, plan, design and construct the National Conservation Training Center



(NCTC). Upon completion of construction of the NCTC in 1997 Rick served as Director until his retirement in May 2008. Rick is proud to have spent much of his career serving the dedicated professionals who make up the FWS family. Rick always believed that if the Service took care of her employees, those dedicated employees would always take care

of the critters. Rick and his wife Jeryl now reside in Jacksonville, Oregon.

Thank you sustaining members! We also want to give a special “shout-out” to all the new members who have joined our organization as sustaining members since the last newsletter (October 2020), as well as those members who have brought their dues up to date. The FWS Retirees Association has nearly 3,000 names in our membership database. Most are “general” members, those who are not up to date on their dues, but who enjoy the privilege of attending our frequent reunions, maintaining contacts with former colleagues, and keeping up to date on FWS and fish and wildlife resource issues through our website and newsletters. Others, however, have decided to become “sustaining” members who pay dues that enable the Association to continue its efforts on behalf of all FWS retirees. Without them, we could not survive as a viable entity. The following is a list of those sustaining members who either joined or brought their dues up to date (through December 2020) since the October 2020 newsletter, with current location and Legacy Region, Program, and station (if known) at retirement indicated.

- **Doug Andrews (& Bonnie Lamvermeyer)**, Alexandria, Ohio (Region 3)
- **Mike Blenden** of Del Norte, Colorado (Region 6, National Wildlife Refuge System (NWRS), Regional Office (RO))
- **Nancy and Richard Coon**, Palm Beach Gardens, Florida (Region 4, Nancy - Ecological Services (ES), RO; Richard – Migratory Birds (MB), RO)
- **Donna DeWurst**, Anchorage, Alaska (Region 7, MB)
- **Robert Flores**, Ridgefield, Washington (Region 1, NWRS, RO)
- **Dave Ferguson**, Round Hill, Virginia (Headquarters (HQ), International Affairs (IA))
- **Doug Frugé**, Whitingham, Vermont (Region 6, Fish and Aquatic Conservation (FAC), RO)
- **Monty Halcomb**, Wartrace, Tennessee (Region 4, Law Enforcement (LE))
- **Sarah Hall**, Raleigh, North Carolina (Region 4, LE)
- **Laurel Harrison (& Stephen)**, Westminster, Vermont (Region 5, NWRS, Patuxent Research Refuge)
- **Ronald Iverson (& Elysia)**, Ashland, Oregon (Region 1, FAC, Yreka Fish and Wildlife Office (FWO))
- **Angela Kantola (& Don)**, Littleton, CO Region 6, ES, Upper Colorado River Endangered Fish Recovery Program Office)
- **Keith McCartney**, Wetumpke, Alabama (Region 4, LE, Special Agent Office, Jackson, Mississippi)

- **Douglas McKenna (& Yvette)**, Sandia Park, New Mexico (Region 2, LE, Resident Agent-in-Charge Office, Albuquerque, New Mexico)
- **Sarah Mott**, Herndon, Virginia (HQ, MB, Bird Habitat Conservation)
- **Seth Mott**, Herndon, Virginia (HQ, Science Applications)
- **Bill Ostrand**, Anchorage, Alaska (Region 2, NWRs, Texas Mid-Coast NWR Complex)
- **Herb Reichelt (& Sue Ann)**, Dunnellon, Florida (Region 4, NWRs)
- **Stephen Rideout**, Hampden Maine (US Geological Survey (Previously FWS Research Division), Silvio O. Conte Anadromous Fish Research Laboratory))
- **Renee Robichaud**, Veguita, New Mexico (Region 2, NWRs, Sevilleta NWR)
- **Timothy Santel**, Thompson Station, Tennessee (HQ, LE, Special Investigations Unit).
- **Ken Schwindt**, Ft. Collins, Colorado (Region 2, NWRs, Washita/Optima NWR Complex)
- **Judy Steffel**, Evergreen, Colorado (Region 6, ES, RO)
- **Donna Stovall (& Robert Doyle)** of Crestview, Florida (Region 5, NWRs)
- **Bonnie Strawser**, Manteo, North Carolina (Region 4, NWRs, Alligator River NWR).
- **Elizabeth Souheaver (& Chuck)**, Suwanee, Georgia (Region 4, NWRs)
- **Evelyn “Jackie” Taylor**, Temperanceville, Virginia (Region 5, NWRs)
- **Paul Tritaik (& Rachel)**, Sanibel, Florida (Region 4, NWRs, JN “Ding” Darling NWR)
- **Linda Watters (& Russ)**, Portland, Oregon (Region 1, NWRs)
- **John Wegrzyn (& Susan)**, Monterey, Tennessee (Region 5, Ecological Services, EPA Superfund, Science & Quality Assurance)
- **Raymond Varney**, Naples, Maine Region 2, LE, Kofa NWR)

Fun Facts

More and more Retirees are sending in Fun Facts. **Thank You very much!!**

Fun Facts for the FWS’s Sesquicentennial. Here’s a compilation of several Fun Facts for 2021, which, by the way, is the 150th anniversary of what we now know as the FWS. One Fun Fact to start with is that the FWS actually traces its origins to 1871 with the creation of the United States Commission of Fish and Fisheries. Since that time, the name of the agency has changed a few times, it’s gone through multiple reorganizations and has been shuffled among different federal departments. If you want to dig deeper into this, check out www.fws.gov/home/timeline.html.

We’re sure many of you remember what it was like when there was a change in administration—lots of changes. But the bureaucracy generally stayed the same. For example, do you remember what it was like to order a vehicle back in the 1960’s &

70’s? Did you ever try to justify an AM radio for a vehicle? **Curtis James** was with the Division of River Basin Studies Field Office in Lebanon, Ohio in the early ‘70’s. He had to provide a written justification that he based on safety to get a radio. His justification was that if there was a natural disaster in the area they were traveling to, they would need that information. Legacy Region 3 accepted that as a legitimate justification. However, **Deborah Holle**, one of our Board members, tried something similar in the late ‘70’s. She reasoned that a radio would reduce the tedium of driving and help prevent drowsiness on long distance trips keeping the driver more alert. The contracting folks in Legacy Region 4 could spot a con when they saw it. However, the next vehicle her office ordered was delivered with a radio as a standard item. So an AM radio was a luxury in a government vehicle in the 70’s, but that was about to change.

John Gavitt, one of the Service’s finest in the Office of Law Enforcement, was assigned as the Special Agent in Charge (SAC) of Special Operations at their downtown office in Washington D.C. Being a trained and hardened investigator, he noticed after several months that a lock on a door heading into their “Secret and Very Special Office” was broken. Given the crime-ridden nature of that area of Washington at the time (John says it has changed for the better measurably since then), he was naturally concerned about security, and ordered a new lock from the General Services Administration (GSA). John said the GSA wasn’t particularly efficient in processing paperwork despite his submission of numerous required forms and estimates during the process. It still took several agonizing months. Finally, an appointment was made to install a new lock. He said happiness and joy permeated their office and tears ran down his face. Given this was probably his most profound accomplishment while working in D.C., he expected a large cash award for his dedicated effort. Unfortunately, that did not happen, but John said that’s another Fun Fact story. With the door secured, he headed out on a secret road trip. While he was gone, another Special Agent was assigned as Acting Chief of Law Enforcement while Chief Clark Bavin was also on travel. The newly assigned Acting Chief did not know about the agony involved in getting the new lock. At the end of a workday, John’s secretary accidentally left her purse, containing the keys to the Secret and Very Special Office, in said office. Another hardened and trained Agent, Dick Marks, heard some loud banging and after a silent prayer of several minutes



John Gavitt with his hunting dogs

went to see what the noise was all about. He rounded the corner to see the Acting Chief with sledgehammer in hand, busting through the door with its newly-installed lock. He splintered the wood and forced the door open, allowing Ms. Margaret to retrieve her purse and be on her way. John said he returned to Washington later one evening to a splintered, open door missing a lock and thankfully, no one in sight.

And for all you folks out there watching old movies to see if you can spot any NWRs as movie backdrops, we have another one

thanks to **Marion Mason**. Marion a former employee at Patuxent Research Refuge, reports that in 1999, part of the Harrison Ford film "Random Hearts" was filmed at the Refuge's north tract. As the Outdoor Recreation Planner then, she remembered meeting the Director, Sydney Pollack (hope she got his autograph). Mr. Pollack arrived in a helicopter to see if the site would meet their needs and it did. They constructed a cabin for the filming, which the Refuge hoped to use as a building for education afterwards, but it was not built to FWS standards, so they removed it. It was called Dutch's Cabin near Annapolis in the movie.

Fun Facts can be short and sweet too, making them especially useful for social media. For example, which NWR had its own railroad? Crab Orchard NWR! This fun fact was contributed by **Cindy Barry**, our very own Association Chairperson. Cindy should know because she spent a lot of her childhood on NWRs, Crab Orchard included. Her father was Darrell "Dick" Uptegraft, who after many years as refuge manager of several NWRs in legacy regions 3 and 5 retired as the National Environmental Policy Act Coordinator for Region 3. Crab Orchard NWR is unique for several reasons, one of which is that it is probably the only NWR that has "industry" as one of its primary purposes. The Refuge includes an industrial complex fully utilized by compatible "tenants" who operate under prescribed safety, health, environmental, and maintenance standards.

Prior to becoming a NWR in 1947, Native Americans, and later immigrants, occupied the area. Timber was harvested, and the land was cleared for farming. In 1936, the federal government purchased land along Crab Orchard Creek, built Crab Orchard Lake, and planted more than 4.6 million trees as part of a Great Depression reemployment program and for recreation and conservation. The War Department transformed the area into a munitions manufacturing facility called the Illinois Ordnance Plant to support the war effort during World War II. Wartime operations included production of artillery shells, bombs, and land mines. At the end of World War II, Crab Orchard NWR was established with four primary purposes: wildlife conservation, agriculture, recreation and industry. The Refuge encompasses about 44,000 acres. In its early years it had one of the largest staffs among refuges, including police and fire departments.

You can easily see how several Fun Facts could be pulled from this short paragraph. So, don't think you don't have any Fun Facts to submit. Mark Madison says he needs about 80 more to reach his new goal of 150 Fun Facts. But I think our illustrious Retirees can easily help Mark and NCTC meet their GOAL. Please send them to me at miamibig99@aol.com or to jamie_stoner@fws.gov.

Passing of Colleagues

If you are aware of the passing of any retired FWS employees, including those who left the Service before retirement because of organizational or late career changes, please let us know so that we can pass that information on to our readers. If you can provide us with links to online obituaries that would be most helpful and should be sent to Doug Frugé at communications@fwsretirees.org.



Larry Ralph Adams (1947 – 2020).

Larry Adams, 73, passed away peacefully at home on December 1, 2020 surrounded by his wife and his children after a lengthy 14-year struggle with Parkinson's and dementia. Larry was born January 4, 1947 in Ironton, Ohio to Ralph and Wanda Adams. While attending Rock Hill High School, Larry was part of the Volunteer Fire Fighters in School program.

After graduating high school in 1964, he attended Ohio University for two years and spent those summers working for the Wayne National Forest office in Ohio. In the summer of 1967, he did some smoke-jumping in Missoula, Montana (and again in Alaska in 1971).

In March 1968, Larry put his education on hold and enlisted in the Army. It was while in the Army in Anchorage, Alaska that he met his future wife, Toni Kelm, on a blind date. They married on December 21, 1970. After his honorable discharge, Larry and Toni returned to Missoula, Montana so that Larry could complete his degree.

His first job following graduation was with the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) which initially took the family back to Anchorage, Alaska, where their daughter Laurie was born in 1973. From there, the family moved to Ukiah, Oregon, where their son Troy was born in January 1976, then to Craig, Colorado before circling back to Alaska - this time to Glennallen where Larry finished his time with BLM.

In 1979, Larry started working for the Alaska Division of Forestry in Glennallen as a fire management officer. He transferred to the Soldotna State Forestry office in 1982, where he worked for ten years (including as Smokey the Bear on occasion).

Larry left the Alaska Division of Forestry to take a position with the FWS at the Kenai NWR as fire management officer from 1993 to 1999. Larry took a three-year break from forestry and fire management while he and Toni owned/operated the Map Shop in Sterling, Alaska. Missing the fire-related work, Larry kept busy the next two summers working operations for the Alaska Fire Service. In 2004, Larry went to work for the Bureau of Indian Affairs in Anchorage as their "fire guy". In 2012, Larry finally hung up his Nomex fire gear and officially retired to his home in Sterling, Alaska.

Larry was never one to shy away from a little excitement or to sit around, so it's not surprising that he found enjoyment in skydiving, owning and racing sled dogs, getting his private pilot's license and flying his plane in Glennallen/Sterling, and lots of hunting/camping/fishing while the kids lived at home. A family trip aboard a yacht in the San Juan Islands in Washington sparked Larry's love of sailing and, in 1998, he and Toni purchased their sailboat, "Trinity". Always eager to share their love of sailing, Larry and Toni hosted many family and friends on sailing excursions in Kachemak Bay. In the years that preceded and following Larry's retirement, he and Toni enjoyed numerous sailing vacations in Mexico and in Croatia, Thailand, Greece, and

the Grenadines. Larry ensured that he left his family and friends with decades of wonderful memories to cherish.

Larry was a long-time member of Sterling Baptist Church. Larry's family and his church were priorities for him, but the most important thing in his life was his faith which guided him throughout his life and made him an incredible, selfless husband, father, friend, and servant. Larry is survived by his beloved wife, Toni Adams, daughter Laurie Walters, son Troy Adams, sister Joyce Staker and grandchildren Bradley and Brooke.



Ralph Andrews (1926 – 2020).

Ralph Andrews, 94, of Nashua, New Hampshire passed away on Monday, December 7, 2020 at the Southern New Hampshire Medical Center after a brief illness. Ralph was born May 12, 1926 in Ithaca, New York to the late A. LeRoy Andrews and Olga (Wunderli) Andrews. He attended schools in Ithica up to and including college where he earned a Bachelor of Science degree from Cornell University. A congenital heart

condition prevented participation in organized sports or military service, but he trained as a mechanic and went to work for the US Army Air Forces in Hawaii for two years. After World War II he went to Ohio State University where he obtained a Master's Degree in 1952 and later spent two years in the New York State Department of Conservation. Ralph then joined the FWS as a Wildlife Biologist and enjoyed a stellar 40+ year career in many locations, but primarily in the Northeast Region, before retiring in 1992.

Ralph was a former board member of the New Hampshire Audubon Society, Beaver Brook Nature Center, Nashua River Watershed Association, and Mine Falls Park Advisory Committee.

Ralph met his wife, Hetty Jane White, a graduate of the University of Vermont, through mutual interests in canoeing, hiking, skiing, and other outdoor activities. They were married in 1960, a marriage of over 60 years. Ralph is survived by his wife, Hetty; sons Steven and David; and grandsons Liam and Owen. Besides his parents, Ralph was predeceased by his brothers, Harold and Walter Andrews and sisters, Christina and Helga.

Memorial donations for Ralph can be made to the New Hampshire chapter of the Audubon Society, 84 Silk Farm Road, Concord, New Hampshire 03301 or the Beaver Brook Nature Center, 117 Ridge Road in Hollis, New Hampshire.

Theodore N. Bailey (1940 – 2021). Ted Bailey died peacefully at his home in Soldotna, Alaska, on January 13, 2021, after a recent diagnosis of terminal mesentery cancer. He was 80 years of age.

Ted developed a love of the outdoors and became enthralled by nature at an early age. He attended a one-room country school, graduated in a class of eleven, enlisted in the US Air Force and served throughout Europe, as well as West Africa.



Ted received a Bachelor of Science degree in zoology from Ohio State University and was working as a fishery biologist in northwestern Nebraska, where he met his future wife, Mary Ellen Minnehan, who was then teaching at a one-room school on a remote cattle ranch in the Nebraska Sandhills. He returned to Ohio State, earned a Master's degree in wildlife biology and later, a Ph.D. in wildlife science from the University of Idaho. As a research

associate for the university, Ted conducted research on wolverines in Montana and African leopards in the Republic of South Africa.

Ted and his family moved to Alaska to work for the FWS in 1976, and later he became the first supervisory wildlife biologist on the Kenai National Wildlife Refuge, where he directed management-oriented research on wildlife such as snowshoe hares and lynx. He was a longstanding member of The Wildlife Society, Sigma Xi (Scientific Research Society), and a former member of the Cat Specialists Group (International Union for the Conservation of Nature) in Switzerland. His book *The African Leopard* was published by Columbia University Press in 1993.

Ted valued experiencing nature, hiking numerous trails, canoeing and observing wildlife. He was an avid reader of the natural sciences and history, traveled in Europe with his family and visited numerous national parks, wildlife refuges and national forests in the American West.

Theodore was preceded in death by his wife, Mary Ellen and by his parents, Nicholas and Margaret Bailey. He is survived by his daughters, Rebecca Bailey, Kimberly Bailey; son, Brian Bailey and his sister, Barbara Chorey.



Glen Waylen Bond, Jr. (1941 –

2021). Glen Bond, Jr. of Early Branch, South Carolina, died March 23, 2021 in the Beaufort Memorial Hospital. Glen was born December 3, 1941 on Crow Mountain, Arkansas, a son of Oma F. Norris Bond of Crow Mountain and the late Glen W. Bond, Sr. He was a graduate of Atkins High School and

Arkansas Technical University. He was a Navy Veteran and a Distinguished Marksman on the All-Navy Rifle Team.

Glen worked for the FWS for 29 years, serving as Assistant Refuge Manager at Merritt Island NWR, Florida before serving as Refuge Manager at J.N. "Ding" Darling NWR, Florida (1973-1977), Back Bay NWR, Virginia (1977-1983), Carolina Sandhills NWR, South Carolina (1983-1984), and Santee NWR, South Carolina (1984-1995). Glen retired from the FWS in 1995 at Santee. Some of Glen's accomplishments included starting the invasive plant control program at "Ding" Darling, enforcing the politically controversial beach driving restrictions at Back Bay, and leading the recovery from Hurricane Hugo at Santee.

Glen was a member of First Baptist Church of Elloree, South Carolina. Surviving, besides his mother, are his wife, Norma Jean Smith Bond; his daughter, Joy Elizabeth Bond Smith, son Kevin; and grandsons, Sawyer and Shepard Smith.



Sylvia Elvira Cabrera (1941 – 2021). Sylvia Cabrera passed away on May 11, 2021 in Rockville, Maryland. She had been living in Chevy Chase. Sylvia was born in Washington, DC to Kathrine and Hernan Cabrera on July 27, 1941. She graduated from The Maret School of Washinton, DC and received a Master's degree from

Georgetown University. Sylvia worked for the federal government for 56 years and retired from the FWS in July 2020. She worked in the Wildlife and Sport Fish Restoration Program and was an inspiration to many. She was a woman in a man's world when she joined the FWS, and she helped pave the way for other women. We all have heard stories from her and her peers and colleagues that demonstrate not only her professionalism but, her spunk. Her accomplishments in a man's world were remarkable. She was respected and appreciated because of her tenacity coupled with her incredible knowledge and wonderful personality. We owe Sylvia a debt of gratitude for paving the way for women in the FWS. Sylvia was the epitome of an inclusive and welcoming workplace environment.

Sylvia always stood up for the support staff when they needed it. Her willingness to confront obstacles such as these, both in-office and external, and follow best management practices were something she did her entire career.

Sylvia was preceded in death by her parents and is survived by her brother, Philip Cabrera. Memorial donations for Sylvia may be made to the Jewish Social Service Agency.



William D. (Pete) Carter (1924 – 2020). Pete Carter, longtime FWS refuge employee, died peacefully in his sleep on November 15, 2020 in Eagle Point, Oregon, at the age of 96. Pete was born in Eldorado, Illinois. He served in the US Army in the Philippines during World War II after which he attended and graduated from Southern Illinois University. It was in college that he

met his soon to-be wife Allynn Wright. They celebrated their 74th wedding anniversary in August of 2020.

Pete worked for the FWS for 33 years, moving his wife and family back and forth across the country serving on seven NWRs. His longest assignment was as Refuge Manager at the Sheldon-Hart Mountain and Modoc Refuges in the high desert country of northeastern California, northwestern Nevada and southern Oregon.

After retirement, Pete and Lynn moved to Payette, Idaho and later to Eagle Point, Oregon, to be closer to his daughters. His love of

the outdoors and nature began as a young boy in Illinois and continued throughout his life. He enjoyed hunting, fishing, and camping and shared this love with his family

Pete is survived by his wife Lynn; Daughters Jill, Jean, Susan and Elizabeth; six grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren.



Charles I. Downing (1940 – 2021). Chuck Downing was born December 7, 1940 and passed away in Edgewood, New Mexico on January 3, 2021 following a long illness. Chuck was born and raised in Cleveland, Ohio and was a Vietnam veteran. He worked as a surveyor for

the FWS in Portland, Oregon before moving to Albuquerque as Regional Land Surveyor for the Southwest Region. Chuck retired from the FWS right after his wife past away in 2001. After retirement, he was a regular at the FWS Retiree Association luncheons in Albuquerque. He will be remembered for his smile and quiet demeanor. The Service has yet lost another good one!

He was preceded in death by his wife, Alaine H. Downing in 2001. He is survived by his three children: Lea, Christopher, C. Allan Downing, and Sara Downing. He had four grandchildren: Caitlyn; Ryan; Summer and Abbi and a great-grandchild, Charlotte. He and Alaine will be interred at the National Cemetery in Santa Fe, New Mexico. His daughter Lea Christopher may be contacted at tallwoman17@yahoo.com.



Charles J. Foye (1940 – 2020). Charles Foye passed away October 25, 2020 at the age of 80 after a courageous fight with glioblastoma. He served for a time as Deputy Assistant Regional Director for Diversity and Civil Rights in legacy Region 3 and was a Vietnam era veteran. When he passed away, he was Suffragan Bishop and Pastor

Emeritus of Christ Temple Apostolic Church in Roseville, Minnesota.

Charles is survived by his wife Christina, daughter Suzanne P. Kelly, son Christian D. Russell, three sisters, four grandchildren, one great-grandchild, and many nieces and nephews.



Paul H. Geissler (1942 – 2020). Paul Geissler of Lafayette, Colorado, passed away on January 22, 2020. Paul was born in 1942 in Connecticut, the only child of Carl and Elizabeth Geissler. He was a retired PhD statistician with the US Geological Survey (previously with FWS Research Division), serving at the Patuxent Wildlife Research Center where he was instrumental in advancing statistical techniques for estimating avian population trends. Paul loved to be out in nature and,

after retirement, often hiked the foothills. Paul and his wife, Jill, were avid travelers, from sailing down the Rhine and traversing the Outback of Australia, to climbing the steppes of Mongolia and roaming the Serengeti Plains.

Paul is survived by his wife, his daughter, Lucy Geissler Repaci, and two grandchildren. A celebration of life took place in the spring of 2020. The Geissler family requested that donations be made to the Nature Conservatory, a charity dear to Paul.



Cay Collette Goude (1954 – 2021).

Cay Goude, former Assistant Field Supervisor at the Sacramento Fish and Wildlife Office, passed away peacefully on January 7, 2021 surrounded by her family after a courageous battle with cancer. She was the true meaning of a fighter to all who knew her.

Cay was a Sacramento, California area native, born on December 7, 1954 and spent nearly her entire

career in the area. She attended and received a Bachelor of Science degree in Renewable Natural Resources from the University of California at Davis and went on to earn her Masters in Fisheries Biology at Sacramento State University.

Cay began her federal service career with the Army Corps of Engineers as a GS- 4 Park Ranger on Memorial Day weekend in 1978 where her first assignment was directing traffic. Following that distinguished start, she later became an Environmental Planner with the Sacramento District Corps of Engineers until 1984 when she was hired to work on Corps of Engineers permits in the then Sacramento Ecological Services Field Office, a job that involved lots of controversy. She gave up a promotion and permanent status to work for the Service and says it was one of her better decisions. During her time dealing with Corps permits, she was one of the first in the Service to recognize the importance of vernal pools and their unique assemblage of threatened and endangered invertebrates.

Cay advanced to head up the Field Office permits section and, in time, she moved up to become Assistant Field Supervisor for Endangered Species. Ending her career on a high note, Cay championed regional conservation plans and left us with standards and practices that honor the ESA and the people working on the ground. She believed and acted on the premise that the FWS can administer the ESA with integrity, pride and partnerships without ever compromising its foundations. During her entire career with FWS, she unceasingly advocated for the conservation of land and wildlife, resulting in the conservation and protection of thousands of acres around Northern California. She was a true conservation champion.

Cay enjoyed walking at the river, traveling, lunch dates, bird watching, painting, speaking up for what is right and most of all spending time with her family. Although, her life was cut short, she made a true and lasting impact on those she touched. Her story telling was epic and her laugh infectious. She will be deeply missed by her loved ones. Cay is survived by her husband of 44 years, Eric, daughter Erica Keller, son Leif Goude and granddaughters Kaylee and Quinn Keller and Sophia and Natalie

Goude. Her legacy will carry on through the spirit she passed on to her family, especially her four granddaughters she cherished so much.



Daniel R. Greeley (1949 – 2020).

Dan Greeley passed away December 16, 2020 at his home in Belchertown, Massachusetts, surrounded by his loving family. He was 71 years of age and had battled colon cancer for 3 years.

Dan was born in Auburn, New York on December 5, 1949, the son of the

late Joseph and Virginia (Ceratt) Greeley. Dan graduated from Jordan-Elbridge High School in 1967. He was a US Navy submarine veteran who, as he would say, was a “deep-diving, death-defying submariner.” He had a Bachelor’s degree in Computer Science and served as the FWS legacy Region 5 Information Technology Chief for many years, working closely with the regional field offices providing much needed technical support. He retired from the Service in 2014. Dan was also a volunteer, fundraiser, team captain and Event Leadership Team member at American Cancer Society (ACS) Quaboag Valley Relay for Life.

Dan is survived by his wife of 30 years, Carol, (who is also a retired FWS Region 5 headquarters employee), and his seven children: Kristina Willis; Rebecca Ballinger; David Greeley Sara Greeley; Ryan Greeley; Tyler Greeley; Travis Greeley; and his eight grandchildren: Michelle, Brianna, Nicholas, Hudson, Maverick, Raffael, Mikaila, and Tessa. In addition, Dan leaves behind his sisters Karen Schutt; Deborah Paul, and several nieces and nephews. The family requested that memorial donations be made to Dan’s Relay for Life team at:

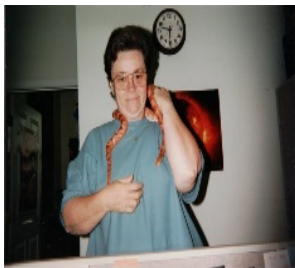
<http://main.acsevents.org/goto/DanGreeleyTeam>



Wanda Fay Harbottle (1946 –

2021). Wanda Harbottle, age 74 of Blair, Nebraska, passed away January 23, 2021 at Nebraska Medicine in Omaha. Wanda was born February 24, 1946 in Norfolk, Nebraska, the daughter of Robert and Mildred (Cook) Harbottle. She attended and graduated from Albion High School in 1964. Wanda worked

for the FWS at Desoto NWR for 32 years before retiring in 2009. Wanda will always be remembered as a loving mother and grandmother who was always proud of her family. She is survived by her daughter Chana Kubie, grandchildren; Austin and Kara Kubie, brother-in-law Earle Stoddard, niece Sheryl Heinen, nephew Chad Stoddard, great nieces and nephews; Krysten Weeldreyer, Kyla McPherson, Michele Alvarez, Matthew Stoddard and Tyler Heinen. She was preceded in death by her parents and her sister Karyn Stoddard. Memorials may be directed to First United Methodist Church or the Blair American Legion.



Mary Ann McKeogh (1945 – 2020). Although no formal obituary for Mary Ann McKeogh was found, the following was provided by her friend and FWS associate Dave Caithamer:

I became friends with Mary Ann McKeogh while we both worked for the Office of Migratory Bird Management in the 1990s. Mary Ann was the assistant to the Population and Habitat Assessment Section Chief during these years. Her office was about in the middle of the Henshaw Building.

Mary Ann had a long career with the U.S. Government and retired from the USFWS. Soon after I met Mary Ann, her father, Mickey, passed. The McKeogh family had lots of visitors to the funeral home that evening. It was the first time I had witnessed an Honor Guard by the Knights of Columbus; Mary Ann was proud of her Catholic faith.

Mary Ann and her mother, Pearlie, enjoyed living together on Idlewild Drive in Bowie until Pearlie passed in 2006 (I believe). Mary Ann also had an Uncle in New York; he passed sometime around 2000. I don't believe that she had any other family in the years I knew her.

The McKeogh home was a regular stop for my family on Halloween. Mary Ann always welcomed us and treated us like her family. When I had a few extra fish from one of my outings, Mary Ann and Pearlie appreciated the fillets. When Mary Ann learned of my passion for the Green Bay Packers, she embraced my fanaticism. She bought me a subscription to a Packer Fan newspaper and enrolled me in their club! Then she and Pearlie introduced me to their friend, who resided in Green Bay. The friend even secured 2 tickets at Lambeau for me and I watched, for the first time in my life, a Packer game from Lambeau! Because Mary Ann and Pearlie had cable television, they'd invite me over to watch the Packer games when it was broadcast on a cable station. They'd make me comfortable in their kitchen and at half-time they'd head off to bed and tell me to shut off the tv and lights once the game was over! I always felt welcome in their home.

Mary Ann enjoyed the western U.S. She regularly attended the Professional Bull Rider Association Championship, typically in a place like Cheyenne. At the PBR events, Mary Ann would have front row seats, and she got to know many of the bull riders (and bulls). Mary Ann was accomplished with a camera and captured amazing photographs of bull riders during their rides! Mary Ann, Judy Bladen, Esther Mills, and other Patuxent friends vacationed together at ranches in the mountains. Mary Ann also enjoyed attending a hot air balloon festival that was in New Mexico (I think). During her leisure time, Mary Ann enjoyed reading western novels and solving jigsaw puzzles. Mary Ann had a large collection of Disney figurines. She was very accomplished at making teddy bears, which she shared with youngsters of all ages. At home, Mary Ann and Pearlie enjoyed their little dog, Cricket. For years, Mary Ann had a menagerie of pet reptiles in her office. I recall corn snakes and some kind of Australian geckos.

Mary Ann was no fan of snow. Even though she drove a 4-wheel-drive Jeep, she'd leave work as soon as snow started to fall. I think she didn't want Pearlie to worry about her.

One time, Jackie and I forgot a dinner date we had made with Mary Ann. Oh, I felt awful. Bless Mary Ann as she forgave me. Once I moved to Wisconsin, it became harder for me to stay connected with Mary Ann. I learned from a mutual friend that Mary Ann had moved into a care facility in the Bowie area during the last years of her life. Mary Ann died on November 2, 2020 at the age of 75.



Ernest Lee Morris (1923 – 2019)

Ernie Morris of Vancouver, Washington passed away April 20, 2019. He was born in Gulfport, Mississippi to Vance Lee and Shaulie Morris. He served as a Marine in World War II and was awarded the Purple Heart. During the Korean War he was in the US Air Force. He earned his Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering from Mississippi State University and worked as a Civil Engineer for the

FWS in Portland, Oregon. He worked primarily as a construction inspector overseeing major new construction, maintenance and rehabilitation projects in the NWR and NFH systems throughout Region 1. He retired in April 1983. Ernest was an avid golfer, singer and songwriter. He will be remembered for his affection, sense of humor and singsong voice. He was survived by his wife of 73 years, Edith; (who passed away in April 2021). children Angela, Thomas, John and Mary Margaret; and grandchildren John, James, Sophie, Frieda, Jessica, Erika, Jillian and Cooper. He was preceded in death by his son Anthony.

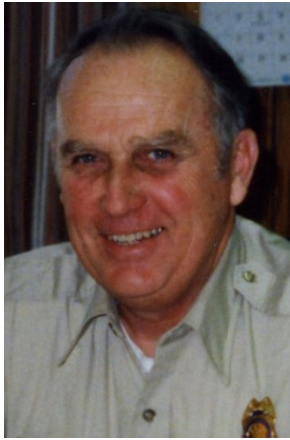


Robert "Bob" Richey (1930 – 2020).

Born February 11, 1930, Bob Richey, 90, a longtime Kenai, Alaska, resident died peacefully on December 8, 2020, at Heritage Place, Soldotna, Alaska. Bob was preceded in death by his wife, Tilde, who he met while stationed with the US Army in Germany; and parents, Jean and Robert R. Richey; and sister, Jane Aveni. He is survived by sister, June Brooks and family and nephew Kevin Aveni and family.

Bob earned a degree in wildlife biology from the University of Alaska and later relocated to Kenai, in 1964, to begin work with the Kenai National Moose Range and later NWR. Bob served as an Assistant Refuge Manager/Pilot for the Refuge and became a transformational force at the refuge. He was instrumental in day-to-day operations, including managing oil and gas exploration and production programs on the Refuge and in developing many new regulations, policies and programs over a storied 26-year career. Bob became one of the Department of the Interior's most trusted and skilled pilots.

Bob loved traveling, camping, classical music, babying his beloved wife, Tilde, his airplane and his Porsche 911T coup. Tilde and Robert were long-time members of Our Lady of The Angels Roman Catholic Parish in Kenai. Donations in Bob's memory of may be made to Our Lady of the Angels Catholic Parish, 225 S. Spruce St., Kenai, AK 99611 or the Alaska Aviation Safety Foundation, 2811 Merrill Field, Drive, Anchorage, AK, 99501.



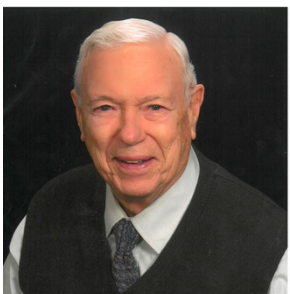
Thomas S. Sanford (1927 – 2021).

Tom Sanford, age 93, of Necedah, Wisconsin died on January 27, 2021, at Tomah Health in Tomah, Wisconsin. Thomas was the son of Arlow G. and Pearl Sanford May 18, 1927, in Royal Oak, Michigan. Tom attended Royal Oak High School, graduating in 1945. He then went into the US Navy for a couple of years. After the Navy, he went on to receive a Bachelor of Arts and Science from Michigan State University in 1951.

Tom married Dorothy L. Harris on September 1, 1951 in Royal Oak. He served as a Game Biologist for the states of Michigan and West Virginia for 13 years and later took a job working as a Wildlife Biologist for the FWS in Massachusetts, New York, Maine, Wisconsin, Illinois, and then back to Wisconsin. He worked for the FWS for 27 years. He and Dorothy moved back to the Necedah area in 1986.

Tom enjoyed canoeing in his earlier years. He had an old Indian canoe made of wood that he fixed up over time. He collected and put together model ships and model airplanes. He enjoyed woodcarving, carving toy soldiers, eagles, trains, and little pilot men for his model airplanes. He was a Boy Scout, a Sunday school teacher, superintendent, and a Deacon for a few churches. He also enjoyed photography, latch hooking, history (especially World War II), and loved being out in nature. Tom made many charitable contributions and donations to various organizations, including the Salvation Army and American Legion.

Tom is survived by daughters, Kathleen Johnston and Sharon Sanford; a brother, Clifford Lee Sanford; seven grandchildren; 13 great-grandchildren, and many other relatives and friends. He was preceded in death by his parents, his wife, Dorothy in 2009, and sister, Arliss Dennison.



Robert Falcon Scott (1922 – 2017).

Bob Scott died on January 14, 2017. He was 94 years old. He was born in Chicago on September 5, 1922, but he grew up in rural New England. Those early years of unlimited hunting, fishing, farm and orchard work pushed him towards a career in the outdoor sciences and a lifelong devotion to wildlife conservation. At

16 he applied to and was accepted to the University of Maine,

School of Forestry where he also was enrolled in the ROTC program.

He served in the US Army during World War II and was stationed in the Aleutian Islands in Alaska where he met his wife Rita who was serving in the Red Cross. After the war, while working on his Master of Science degree and a two-year fellowship at Oregon State College, he and Rita were the sole residents of Eliza Island off the south tip of Lummi Island.

After living many places around the world, that experience brought them back to the San Juan Islands. He moved to Alaska. There he worked for the FWS, was the leader of the Cooperative Wildlife Research Unit at the University of Alaska and taught Wildlife Management and Population dynamics. All four of his children were born there. After leaving Alaska, he moved to Maryland. He began working as a wildlife biologist at the Patuxent Research Center, then moved on to a long career at the US Department of the Interior and was appointed as the 10th Chief of the Division of Wildlife Refuges, being the first Chief to enter the position after Congress officially recognized this collection of wildlife lands as a national system in 1966.

After retiring Bob learned to speak French and moved to Gland, Switzerland where he served as Chief Executive Officer for the Survival Services Commission, part of the International Union for the Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources.

He and Rita spent the next seven years traveling, having many interesting adventures around the world. They returned to the San Juans and built a small home in Deer Harbor. Bob is survived by three of his children; Peter, Elle and Kristin and two grandchildren, Nicholas and Michelle. As the late Robert Frost shared in his poem: "Two roads diverged in a wood, and I took the road less traveled and that has made all the difference."



Larry Shanks (1942 – 2021).

After a long period of illness, former Association Board member, Larry Shanks passed away in Monett, Missouri early Sunday morning on April 12, 2021. He had been in hospice care since October of 2019. Larry was born in Eureka Springs, Missouri on August 10, 1942 and attended schools in that area where he picked up a love for the outdoors and for wildlife. After graduating from Monett High School he

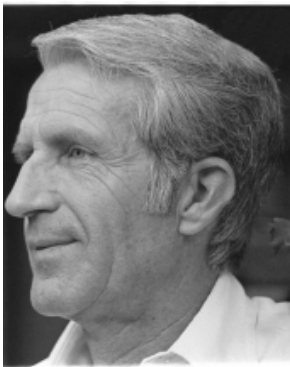
attended the University of Missouri and obtained a Bachelor of Science in Wildlife Science in 1965.

After college, Larry took a job with the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission and was assigned to work first in the Florida Keys and then in Pensacola. For a country boy from Missouri, exposure to those environments and with salt-water habitats, in particular, was something new, but he quickly learned and became involved in water issues. It was a time when dredge and fill projects in wetland habitats were a particular threat to fish and wildlife resources. He was also a key player in opposition to construction of the Cross Florida Barge Canal on the Ocklawaha

River which drew national attention. Larry's efforts to curtail such projects earned him the Wildlife Conservationist of the Year award from the Florida Wildlife Federation and the National Wildlife Federation in 1972. Larry left Florida for a position with the US Department of the Interior, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Fish, Wildlife and Parks in Washington, DC and after that moved to the Raleigh, North Carolina, River Basin Studies (later Ecological Services) Field Office. In spring 1973 Larry joined Marvin Moriarty and Jim McKeivitt in Annapolis, Maryland in the recently created Annapolis Ecological Services Field Office as the office's first Field Supervisor. It was the first Ecological Services field office in the Chesapeake Bay area, enforcing wetland protection statutes where such protection was previously weak or non-existent. It was like Wyatt Earp first going into Dodge City: the law was suddenly in town. Applications for dredge and fill permits began coming in, soon reaching well over 3,000 a year and violators were being prosecuted.

As things settled down in Annapolis, Larry moved to the Coastal Ecosystems team in Slidell, Louisiana in 1976. While there, Larry took the time to earn a Master's degree from Mississippi State University. He moved back to FWS Headquarters for a stint at the FWS Budget Office before taking the Assistant Regional Director for Wildlife and Refuges position in Denver, Colorado, from which position he ultimately retired. While there he became deeply involved in re-introduction of wolves to the Yellowstone Ecosystem and restoration of black-footed ferret populations in South Dakota.

After retirement, Larry reflected on his career and his many successes: *"I've lived my dream my whole life. I never passed an opportunity when the Good Lord presented it. The Lord has opened some amazing doors for me to walk through."* Larry is survived by his wife Carleen, daughters Melanie Foster and Lynn Stewart, son Mike Shanks and two stepsons.



Walter Otto Stieglitz (1934 – 2021).

Walt Stieglitz died of natural causes on February 12, 2021 in Micco, Florida. Walt was born in Bunker Hill, Illinois on April 14, 1934 and grew up in that small farming community. Walt attended a one-room schoolhouse and graduated from high school early at the age of 16. He took a year off to work on the farm and at various jobs, including making coffee pots in a factory, where he did so well the older guys

made him slow down as he was putting them to shame. Then, in the summer of 1951, Walt took a job with the U.S. Forest Service in Oregon as a fire lookout. In the fall of that year, Walt attended Southern Illinois University (SIU). There, besides classes, he enrolled in the ROTC, joined the Theta Xi fraternity, and got a job with SIU's Cooperative Wildlife Research Laboratory. Walt had always loved to hunt and fish with his dad, uncles, and friends, but the job with the wildlife lab at SIU showed him what his career path was to be in life.

Walt's personal path also came into focus when he met his college sweetheart, Lynn Montgomery. They married in 1954 and Walt soon graduated with a bachelor's degree in zoology in 1955. Walt started graduate school, but then took a break to fulfill his 3-year military commitment with the Air Force, where he served as a pilot and munitions officer. Walt then went back to finish his master's degree in wildlife management at SIU in 1960. During this time, Walt and Lynn had two children, Jeff and Kim.

Ten days after graduating, Walt started his career as Assistant Refuge Manager at Reelfoot National Wildlife Refuge (NWR) under Pres Lane. Walt's first job was painting a steel flagpole. After a year, Walt moved his family to Delray Beach to work for the South Florida National Wildlife Refuge Complex, headquartered at Loxahatchee. There, Walt served as Assistant Refuge Manager, but performed biological duties, including aerial surveys at Pelican Island, Brevard (now Merritt Island), Sanibel (now "Ding" Darling), and the Florida Keys refuges. Walt performed them so well that he was promoted by Refuge Supervisor Larry Givens to be the District Management Biologist for all the refuges in Florida, Georgia, and Alabama. While in south Florida, Walt and Lynn had their third child, Barry, who also went on to have a distinguished career with the FWS. In 1967, Walt moved to the Regional Office in Atlanta to become the District Supervisor for all of the refuges in North Carolina, South Carolina, Virginia, and Maryland. In 1973, Walt was tapped to be the first refuge manager of the new San Francisco Bay NWR. Walt enjoyed the public relations, master planning, land acquisition, adding refuges to the complex, and building facilities for the new urban refuge. Walt said that it was one of the highlights of his career.

In 1975, Walt was summoned to Washington D.C. to serve as Branch Chief of Natural Resources in the Division of Refuges, where he was tasked to implement the Bicentennial Land Heritage Program in 1976. He quickly organized regions to produce simple master plans for significant refuges resulting in the creation of 500 additional positions and about \$200 million in funding to build offices, visitor centers, and other needed facilities on refuges.

Walt's career took him back to Atlanta in 1980 to serve as Deputy Regional Director until he was called back to Washington D.C. in 1984 to serve two more leadership roles in Headquarters. In 1987, Walt was asked to go to Alaska to become the Regional Director, where Walt would supervise over 78 million acres and confront some of that Region's most challenging issues. In 1989, the Exxon Valdez struck a reef in Prince William Sound and spilled 11 million gallons of crude oil, coating over 1,300 miles of coastline and killing over 250,000 seabirds, 2,800 sea otters, 300 harbor seals, 250 bald eagles, 22 orcas, and billions of fish eggs. Walt led the Interior Department's response and damage assessment, which included staffing wildlife recovery centers, collecting data, and catching red-eye flights to Washington D.C. to attend meetings and Congressional hearings. Walt provided crucial testimony to refute claims of minimized harm to fish and wildlife and asserted the need to evaluate sub-lethal effects. The settlement received from Exxon resulted in the acquisition of over 1,000 acres of coastal habitat on Kodiak NWR.

Walt was also put in charge of the Interior Department's responsibility to take over the Alaska Native's subsistence program from the State of Alaska, on short notice, due to a court ruling. Walt successfully coordinated four federal agencies and the State to collect the information needed to establish fact-based subsistence hunting regulations for Alaska Natives. One of Walt's most enjoyable duties as Regional Director was serving on the Service Regulations Committee, which makes recommendations to the Director on the annual migratory bird hunting regulations. Walt also had the daunting responsibility of implementing the management provisions of the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act (ANILCA) on over 55 million new acres of refuges and working with Native communities pursuant to the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act. Walt also confronted the controversy surrounding oil drilling at Arctic NWR. The controversy endured during his 7-year tenure as Regional Director, as it continues to this day.

In 1994, after seven successful years at the helm of the largest landholdings in the NWRS, Walt decided to retire after 34 years with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. In retirement, Walt and Lynn moved to Micco, Florida, near Pelican Island NWR, and built a home. Walt soon became active again and was elected President of the Pelican Island Preservation Society (PIPS) in 1997 and got busy helping with the annual Pelican Island Wildlife Festivals, as well as leading volunteer projects to control invasive species and clean up trash on refuge spoil islands.

Walt was not satisfied with routine support projects and expanded the focus of PIPS to advocate for the refuge's expansion and acquisition of a buffer lands, resulting in the appropriation of \$19 million over four years to acquire most of the 300 acres targeted. Walt also led PIPS' support for the Pelican Island shoreline stabilization and restoration project, increased staffing, public use facilities, and planning for the Centennial celebration.

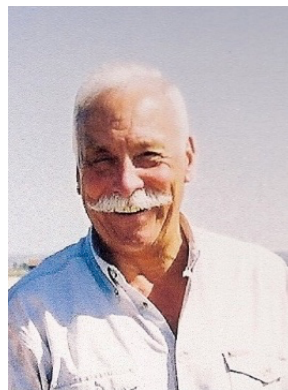
Walt's commitment to volunteerism was not restricted to Pelican Island. In 1998, one year after joining PIPS, Walt was elected to the Board of Directors for the NWRA and served until 2005, part of which was as Vice Chair. Walt used his position on the NWRA Board to lead discussions and/or resolutions on FWS reorganization, drilling in Arctic NWR, combatting invasive species, National Bison Range management, improving Board function, and increasing Friends Group coordination. Walt also co-founded the Friends of Florida National Wildlife Refuges to improve function and collaboration among Florida Friends groups, which helped save Egmont Key NWR in 2001, by stopping legislation to transfer Egmont Key NWR to the State of Florida. Walt also served on the Board of Directors, including Chair of the Board, for the local Marine Resources Council (MRC) from 1996 until 2014 to advocate for a healthy Indian River Lagoon. Walt was recognized for his outstanding leadership in directing the MRC to improve organizational structure, budget solvency, and advocating for a strong fertilizer ordinance. Walt made many friends working in the FWS, along with those from his boyhood, volunteer work, tennis matches, and bridge games. He wrote before his passing that he hoped people would remember him well. Walt's friendly demeanor coupled with his stern commitment to conserve our wildlife and wild places made a big difference for conservation. Walt will certainly be remembered well and fondly.



V. Daniel Stiles (1934 – 2020). Dan Stiles passed away from kidney disease on December 20, 2020. He was born in 1934 in Hadley, Massachusetts. After graduating from Williston Academy, he entered the University of Massachusetts in the fall of 1952. He was immediately

drafted into the US Army and served in the infantry and armor during the occupation of Germany. Upon his discharge, he again entered the University of Massachusetts and received a Bachelor of Science in Forestry in 1959 and a Master of Science in Wildlife Management in 1961. He spent his career working for the FWS in Amherst, Massachusetts, Ithaca, NY, and then 30 years in Washington, DC. In his career with the FWS, he focused mostly on conservation education. While in Washington Dan served on the Boy Scouts of America National Conservation Committee, as Chairman of the Hornaday Awards Committee and as FWS agency coordinator for scout jamborees at Fort AP Hill during 1981-1993. In 1996, Dan was awarded the William T Hornaday Gold Medal for his lifetime of Distinguished Service to Conservation.

Before he retired, Dan purchased a cabin and 65 acres of forestland in the mountains of near Falling Waters in Berkeley County, West Virginia, where he put his forestry and wildlife skills into practice and spent most of his time after retirement with his wife Elizabeth and their two chocolate labs, Fiona and Bridget. He also began writing a column for the local paper, *The Morgan County Messenger*, called *In the Wild*, educational and entertaining stories about local plants and wildlife. He later published a compilation of those articles in book form, with the same title. Dan was an avid deer and turkey hunter, and a strong advocate of creating opportunities for children and young adults to spend time outdoors.



James F. Voelzer (1940 – 2021).

Jim Voelzer died in Vancouver, Washington, on January 3, 2021, at the age of 80. Son of Meryl W. and Lucille G. Voelzer. Born in Niagara Falls, New York, in 1940, he started fishing and hunting with his dad at an early age. It framed his love for outdoor and nature and, ultimately, lead him to what is going to become his career. Jim obtained his wildlife degree from the Utah State University, at Logan. He went

through the Reserve Officer Training Corps program, which lead him to flight school in the US Army. Jim flew as an Army Test pilot in California and went to Vietnam in 1965, flying low-level reconnaissance missions over enemy positions in the L-19 Bird Dog. He was honorably discharged from the Army in 1966 as 1st Lieutenant. Thereafter, he started his incredible career as a Wildlife Biologist–Aircraft Pilot for the FWS. In this role, he was able to fly a variety of aircraft to survey wildlife in wilderness and remote areas from Alaska to Central America, and had a first-hand role in establishing hunting regulations and other natural resource policies applicable to Canada, the United States, and

Mexico. Midway through his career, Jim was tasked as Chief of what came to be known as the Branch of Migratory Bird Surveys, in which he was essentially responsible for most of the aerial wildlife surveys and waterfowl banding programs throughout North America. His legacy continues to live on through those he hired and mentored that are still serving in these roles. After his retirement, in January 2006, a hunter and fisherman through his life, he continued his outdoor activities and support for waterfowl management and conservation. He married Magaly Ojeda in 2007, and together they shared a common interest and love for outdoor activities.

Jim is survived by his wife Magaly, stepdaughter Laura Grethe Ojeda and stepson Rolando Grethe Ojeda, sister Joanne B. Ricker, brother-in-law Gary Ricker, niece Kim Hutton and nephew Scott Ricker. Those who wish to remember Jim in a special way may make gifts in his memory to the National Rifle Association.



Kenneth William Voget (1942 – 2020). Ken Voget was born July 17, 1942 and passed away on December 6, 2020 in Pocatello, Idaho due to COVID-19. Ken began his FWS career at Havasu NWR in a temporary position, then moved to Fish Springs NWR for a permanent appointment, followed by tours at Maxwell and Cabeza Prieta

NWRs. He served as Deputy Project Leader at the Sheldon-Hart NWR Complex, Project Leader at Salton Sea NWR, and finished his career as Project Leader at Desert NWR. He retired several years ago and moved to Idaho with his wife, Marty Collins Voget. Ken was 78 years old.



John Rudolph Walther (1926 – 2021). John Rudolph Walther, age 94, of Lake Charles, Louisiana passed away on Saturday, May 8, 2021. John was born September 6, 1926 to Rudolph Herman Walther and Viola Ruth Leekley Walther. John worked for the FWS for 42 years as Refuge Manager of Presquile NWR, Virginia (1956-59), Gulf Islands NWR, Mississippi (1959-62), and Sabine NWR, Louisiana for 28 years (1962-90)

where he retired. John's accomplishments at Sabine included establishing a pipeline alley to reduce the impacts of pipelines on habitat throughout the refuge, initiating water management projects to restore wetlands, implementing habitat restoration to support migratory birds, and keeping poachers at bay. John was a positive influence on many FWS careers and was widely respected by his colleagues throughout the FWS.

John was preceded in death by his parents; his loving wife, Rita; and son Patrick, a FWS wildlife biologist who worked at McFaddin and Anahuac NWRs. John and Rita also had other children who pursued careers in natural resources conservation. His other son, David, was a FWS supervisory biologist with the

Louisiana Ecological Services Field Office in Lafayette, Louisiana. One of his daughters, Cecilia Richmond, pursued a career with the Natural Resources Conservation Service.

John was a parishioner of St Theodore Catholic Church in Moss Bluff. Prior to his wife's death, he was a member of St. Peter the Apostle Catholic Church in Hackberry where he was a member of the choir and served on the parish council. John was a Scoutmaster with Boy Scouts of America. He belonged to the Numismatic Club for many years, was involved with the Calcasieu Council on Aging, was a CASA volunteer, a Board member for many years for Water Works District #1-Ward 1 for Moss Bluff-Gillis and was involved with the development of the Creole Nature Trail and the Cameron-Creole Watershed Project. John was also on the Moss Bluff Senior Center Board as an active member for many years at the Center, where he enjoyed participating in Ms. Annie's painting class, Tai Chi class, and their annual play. He volunteered at the Moss Bluff Library, and actively worked with the Calcasieu RSVP Volunteer organization. John was a proud US Army Veteran and served in World War II.

Those left to cherish his memory include his daughters Margaret Canizares, Catherine Montgomery, Dorothy Ortego, Anita Walther, and Cecilia Richmond; son David; daughter-in-law Patricia Walther; and numerous grandchildren and great-grandchildren.



Ralph Wayne Weier (1941 – 2020).

Wayne Weier was born October 15, 1941, in Piedmont, Missouri and died at his home in Shakopee, Minnesota on Thursday, November 19th, 2020. He was preceded in death by his mother Hazel Lenore Henson, Father, Ralph Vernon Weier and one son David Wayne Weier who died in Minnesota in a canoeing accident in 1986.

Wayne spent his early years in Piedmont, attended Piedmont Elementary school and graduated from Piedmont High School in 1959. He played basketball and was a part of the music program. He represented Piedmont at Boys State and briefly played American Legion Baseball.

He went to the University of Missouri where he earned a Bachelor's degree in Wildlife Management in 1963 and a Master's Degree in 1966. While an undergraduate he was a member of the ROTC Rifle team and was initiated into Alpha Zeta Honorary Fraternity. His Master's research on Wood Duck habitat was conducted at Mingo National Wildlife Refuge near Puxico Missouri.

He began his 30-year career with the FWS while still a student and served as an assistant manager at Mingo NWR from 1964 to 1968. He transferred to Mark Twain NWR, Wapello, Iowa and served two years there before being moved to northwestern North Dakota as manager of Lostwood NWR in 1970. Wayne worked at FWS National Headquarters in Washington D.C. from 1974 to 1976 before moving to the North Central Regional Office in Minneapolis Minnesota in January of 1977, where he served until 1990. His service with the FWS ended in 1996. His work of

planning new refuges brought him back to Mingo National Wildlife Refuge for the final 6 years.

While still in High School, Wayne was employed at Sam A. Baker State Park, Patterson, Missouri. His involvement with conservation work started at age 16 and continued until his working years ended with part time employment by the Missouri Conservation Commission. Altogether Wayne devoted 60 years of his life caring for the earth and protecting her resources. Wayne was united in marriage to Marilyn Baker of Montgomery City Missouri on December 22, 1963. They were parents of three children: David Wayne, 1966-1986, Wendy Margaret, 1968 and Daren Douglas, 1969.

Wayne and Marilyn resided in Piedmont from 1990 to June of 2019. During that time Wayne was a Charter Member of Trinity UMC helping to establish it by heading the telephone survey committee and serving on the building committee. He was head of Ushers for a time and led the Open Forum Sunday School Class for several years. He was president of United Methodist Men for three years as well as singing in the choir. Wayne served as chairman of the Piedmont- Clearwater Alumni Association for three years. He was a Charter Member and Finance Chairman for the Heartland Gobblers chapter of the National Wild Turkey Federation located in Poplar Bluff, Missouri. He was active in the Missouri East Walk to Emmaus, sponsoring 28 pilgrims and serving on two Emmaus Teams. He was a part of the Bass section

of the Piedmont Area Community Chorus singing in their annual Christmas presentation from the beginning until 2018.

Wayne is survived by his wife Marilyn, daughter Wendy Flemming,. son Daren, sister Janet Mann, brother-in-law John Baker, grandchildren Grace, James, Annie, Leah, Elise and Jonah and numerous nieces, nephews, cousins and friends.



Jack W. West (1925 – 2021). Jack West, age 95 of Apple Valley, Minnesota, passed away peacefully at home on February 14, 2021. Jack served in World War II, including the Battle of the Bulge. He had a long and successful career with the FWS, working in the legacy Region 3 Regional Office, and enjoyed volunteering at the Minnesota Zoo

and playing golf.

Jack was preceded in death by his parents, Corlis C. and Ferbia West, and brother, Don C. West. He is survived by his wife of 72 years, Ruth; brother, M.L. West; children Jacqueline Rediske, Douglas West, and Corlis West; five grandchildren and 11 great-grandchildren. Memorial donations in honor of Jack may be made to St John's Lutheran Church in Lakeville, Minnesota.

This Newsletter was drafted by outgoing Board member Jim McKevitt with contributions from other Board members and final editing by Acting Board Secretary Doug Frugé following Jim's departure. If you have information that would be of interest to Association members for including in future newsletters, please contact Doug at communications@fwsretirees.org. We also welcome any articles you may wish to contribute!

Also, be sure to visit our website for more up-to-date information at www.fwsretirees.org.