

Summer 2010 Newsletter

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2011 Reunion

The *Association of Retired Fish & Wildlife Service Employees* has scheduled the 2011 retiree reunion at *The Dana on Mission Bay* in San Diego, California, during February 26 through March 5 -- a week of exciting activities that begin with a Saturday night early arrival and a no-host informal get together followed by an after meeting extension caravan trip to view desert wild flowers. The enclosed flyer has the detailed information for you to make your reservation for this landmark event. Visit the retiree Web site <http://www.fwsretirees.org> that will be updated regularly and will include a roster of the retirees planning to attend this reunion. The Event Chairman is Jerry Grover, 503-684-1809 or Grover@FWSRetirees.org. If you have any questions or comments, please let him or any Association board member know.

Association News

New Board Members

With Board terms completed by Jo Quinter, Jerry French, and Pete Stine, three new members were added this year. Frank Cockrell, Larry Shanks, and Steve Rideout (scribe in training), joined the Board in January.

Frank retired from the Washington Office in September 2004 after 31 years in the Refuge Division and Engineering as Facilities Management Specialist. Throughout, he worked with field stations and Regional Office staff in program planning, budgeting and oversight in areas including BLHP, Refuge Manual, ARMM (Accelerated Refuge Maintenance), Hazardous Waste, and the Service-wide Maintenance Management System (MMS), including 10 years as MMS Team Leader. He was the team leader for 20 facility management inspections at several dozen RF/FH/RES stations and FWS representative on seven DOI Task Forces. He and Elaine live in Beltsville, MD.

Larry began his FWS career in Washington, D.C. in the Office of River Basin Studies. He started the ES office in Annapolis, MD and initiated the Chesapeake Bay restoration program during that time. He then served 10 years as the Assistant Lab Director in Louisiana doing wetlands studies throughout the U.S. before returning to D.C. as budget chief for Ecological Services. In 1986 he became the Chief of Endangered Species and Environmental Contaminants in Denver, serving 8 years. His final 12 years saw him as Refuge Supervisor for Utah, Colorado, Nebraska, and Kansas until his retirement in May 2001. Larry and wife Carleen retired in Monett, MO.

Steve started in the Region 5 Federal Aid Division as the anadromous fish specialist in 1977. In 1979 he became the fourth Connecticut River Anadromous Fish Program Coordinator in Hadley, MA, holding that position for 9 ½ years. He joined the Fish and Wildlife Management Assistance Office in D.C. in 1989 as a staff biologist. During that time he (and Board Member Bob Ruesink) entered the

Service's second Upper Level Management Development Program that included a 9 month assignment with Congressman Silvio Conte's House Appropriations Committee staff. He, with staff, drafted the initial legislation to create the Silvio Conte National Fish and Wildlife Refuge in the Connecticut River watershed. Steve completed his Federal career in 2005 as Director of the Silvio Conte Anadromous Fish Research lab in Turners Falls, MA, overseeing research on migratory fish and fish passage issues.

Board Activities

The Board was proud to provide funding for logistical support to the family of former Director Sam Hamilton who died this past spring. Retirees who attended the October 2009 Reunion Banquet in Kennebunkport, Maine, both appreciated and enjoyed Sam's briefing to the gathering. Board Members Barb Ritter and Frank Cockrell and his wife, Elaine, attended the Celebration of Sam's life on April 9, 2010, and Barb passed on the following to the Board:

Frank and Elaine Cockrell and I were able to attend the very touching memorial service at Main Interior today.

First things first, I have it from an extremely reliable source (Colleen Holland) that the Hamilton family really appreciated the limo service ... the report was that the driver was on time, courteous...almost family. I was struck by the realization that our Association helped with Sam's welcome reception for employees and with his untimely farewell.

As expected, lots of familiar faces were there to celebrate Sam's life. A couple of comments really moved me. Dan Ashe remarked that forty some days ago four friends went to the top of a mountain in Colorado ... and only three came back. So poignant! John Frampton described how Sam had been the right person at the right time to lead the Service and that God must have faced an environmental catastrophe that He had called on Sam to solve.

The ceremony started with the eagle "Challenger" flying from the podium at the front of the auditorium to the back. Both Secretary and the Assistant Secretary for Fish and Wildlife and Parks made remarks (although the Secretary was caught by one of the elemental rules of public appearances ... never work with dogs or children.) Secretary Salazar brought Sam's grandson Davis to the stage with him. The entire ceremony was telecast to Interior offices nationwide and there were several large screen TVs throughout the auditorium, so we all got to watch young Davis as he fiddled with his suit coat, hung off the edge of the podium, and generally fidgeted like any young kid.

Jamie Clark, Corky Pugh (of the Alabama Division of Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries) and "Rock" Salt(!) (Principle Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Army - Civil Works) all spoke of Sam as a family man, a hunter and fisherman, a leader, and a friend.

The family accepted various awards, including a 30-year service award and the Meritorious Service Award from the Department.

Deputy Director Dan Ashe sent the attached letter to Denny expressing the Service's appreciation for our support to Sam's family.



United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
Washington, D.C. 20240



May 10, 2010

Mr. Denny Holland
Treasurer
FWS Retirees Association
102 Ridge Avenue
Eufaula AL 36027-1306

Dear Denny:

On behalf of Acting Director Rowan Gould and the entire Fish and Wildlife Service, I wanted to express our appreciation for the Retirees' generous sponsorship of the ground transportation for the Hamilton family's visit to Washington DC for Sam's memorial on April 9th.

The Retirees made it possible to provide Becky, her mom, Clay and Davis with safe, reliable transportation from the moment they arrived until their departure three days later. They commented several times on how much easier and more pleasant having a driver made their visit ... especially since the Cherry Blossom Festival was still in full bloom.

Denny, please let all of the retirees know how much their generosity meant, not only to Sam's family, but to all of us here at the Service who were involved with arranging the family's visit. At such a sad time, it was a heartwarming reminder of just how much it means when we refer to the "Fish and Wildlife Service family."

Sincerely,

DEPUTY DIRECTOR

TAKE PRIDE
IN AMERICA 

Other Project Support

In the last issue of the Retiree Newsletter, retirees were asked to write the Citizen's Stamp Advisory Committee in support of a Bob Hines commemorative postage stamp on the occasion of his Centennial year in 2012. This had arisen largely because of his professional stature as a renowned wildlife artist and his contributions to philately. The Association Board sent a letter to the US Postal Service expressing support for such a stamp. We received a response letter in May saying...in summary ... after careful deliberation, the Stamp Advisory Committee decided not to recommend a Bob Hines stamp. They went on to say they have a vast number of recommendations annually, and only a limited number are chosen each year. The Retirees Association is hoping the Service will be able to recognize, in one or more ways, the 100th birthday of Bob Hines in some way. He was the Service's sole wildlife artist for 32 years, until his retirement in 1983. He was born in 1912 and died in 1994. He began his career with the Ohio Division of Wildlife and Conservation, and moved to Washington, D.C. in 1948, 2 years after his redhead duck was the winning design for the 1946 Federal Duck Stamp. He coordinated the Duck Stamp judging event every year until his retirement. His 1957 wildlife conservation postage stamp of the whooping crane was judged one of the best stamp designs in the world that year.

Assistance Needed

NCTC staff are seeking to identify the following LE Agent. If you can identify him, please contact Dr. Mark Madison, Historian, NCTC, 304 876-7276, mark_madison@fws.gov



Volunteers

Keep checking the Retiree Web site. There is a link on the home page announcing current volunteer opportunities for FWS retirees – expenses are paid and most offer foreign travel. The U.S. Department of the Interior, International Technical Assistance Program is regularly recruiting volunteers from Interior bureaus for overseas assignments. Many of the specialties they are looking for fit well with many of the FWS operational programs. If you want to discuss with a FWS person just what these opportunities entail and their benefits, Marc Weitzel, Hopper Mountain NWR refuge manager, can answer any questions regarding these assignments. He can be reached at [Marc Weitzel@fws.gov](mailto:Marc.Weitzel@fws.gov)

* * *

E-mail

The FWS Retiree Association has mailing addresses for 2,562 current total memberships. Of these 1,458 have an e-mail address. It is beginning to be a monumental task in the copying and mailing of these newsletters. The Association Board is exploring mailing alternatives but expects that you retirees with e-mail will be notified to check the Retiree Web site for a posted newsletter. This is expected to substantially cut the regular mail work load and cost.

If you have e-mail and *did not* receive a notice this *newsletter* posted at <http://www.fwsretirees.org> for your review, it means the *Association* does not have your current e-mail address or that you have spam blocking software that isn't allowing the batch e-mail notification from the *Retiree Association* to your computer. At one time for you retirees with e-mail, we thought we had your latest address. Somehow, recent e-mail has bounced for a variety of reasons – addressee unknown, no such address, mail box full, mail not accepted, etc. We would like to remain in contact with you by e-mail. Therefore we need the current e-mail address for the lost souls.

To Update or Receive FWS Retiree E-mail – Send your current e-mail address to:
postmaster@fwsretirees.org

* * *

Thesis and Dissertation Project Update—

In 2007 the *Heritage Committee* initiated a project to collect and archive copies of graduate theses and dissertations of current, past, and retired FWS employees. To date nearly 200 works on a diversity of subjects have been received at the FWS Archives at NCTC. While we are encouraged by the response, we know this is just the tip of the iceberg of graduate contributions over many decades. This is an ongoing project and we would like to enlist your help getting the word out. Copies can be originals, photocopies, or electronic copies. The electronic ones are actually the easiest to archive. At some point a list of all of the authors and the titles of their works will be available. The research does not have to be FWS related or completed while the author is or was an FWS employee. The only requirement is that the author has been an employee of FWS at some point in their career. For further information, contact project sponsor John Cornely (303-933-9861; johncornely@msn.com) or if you have a thesis or dissertation that you would like to donate or can make a copy of one to donate, please send to:

Dr. Mark Madison, Historian
National Conservation Training Center
698 Conservation Way
Shepherdstown, WV 25443-9713
1-800-553-9472, x7276
mark_madison@fws.gov

Passing of Colleagues

Jim Hart, former employee at the Natchitoches National Fish Hatchery (LA), passed away June 10, 2010, after a long bout with lung cancer. He is survived by his wife of 49 years, Norma, and two sons, Charles and David. Jim began his career with the US Fish and Wildlife Service in 1960 at Lyman NFH, AL, and later served at Marion NFH, AL; Cohutta NFH, GA; and Natchitoches NFH, LA, where he retired in 1989.

Glenn Bennett Sekavec, 66, passed away on May 22, 2010. Glenn began his professional career with the Fish and Wildlife Service Bureau of Commercial Fisheries in 1967 (which became the National Marine Fisheries Service in the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration in 1972). He worked at the Beaufort, NC and Galveston, TX marine laboratories. In 1975, he joined the Fish and Wildlife Service, Division of Ecological Services (ES) at the Galveston ES Field Office and in 1977 moved to the Regional Office (ES) in Albuquerque. In 1979, he became a Resource Management Specialist with the Bureau of Land Management in Socorro, NM and Craig, CO (1983). In 1988, he moved back to Albuquerque, NM with the Department of Interior as the Assistant Regional Environmental Officer and in 1995 became the Regional Environmental Officer. Glenn retired from that position in 2003.

Joseph Wendell Kathrein, a longtime Albuquerque resident, passed away June 11, 2010. He was born December 28, 1919 in Glendive, MT. He retired from the US Fish and Wildlife Service as a fisheries biologist in 1982. Joe served in both the Washington, D.C. and Albuquerque Offices.

Keith Miller was born December 6, 1926, in Mescalero, New Mexico. He served in the U.S. Army during World War II. He was married to Rosaline Dolan on September 2, 1950. Keith worked at the Holloman Air Force Base and at the Mescalero Fish Hatchery for 37 years. Following his retirement from the Fish and Wildlife Service he was elected vice president of the Mescalero Apache Tribe, a position he held for 20 years. Keith passed away on June 24, 2010. He is survived by his wife Rosaline.

Ned Peabody passed away on May 30, 2010. He had suffered from Alzheimer's disease for the last few years. Ned is survived by his wife Anne, his son Mark, daughter Monica, granddaughter Maxine, and grandson Paris. Ned's first assignment was as assistant manager at Tamarac NWR. His career then took him to Lost Wood NWR, Valentine NWR, Bear River NWR, the Pierre Area Office in SD, and finally the Denver, CO, Regional Office. He retired from the Service in 1990 and moved to Eckert, CO. In 1990 he moved to Roseburg, OR, where he lived out the rest of his retirement. He was an active skier and tennis player throughout retirement.

Willie J. Parker passed away May 11, 2010. He dedicated his entire life to the protection of our wildlife resources from State Officer to Game Management Agent to Agent in Charge of Maryland, to Special Agent in Charge under the reorganization of the Law Enforcement Division in 1973. Willie had one goal in his career: catch those who would exploit our wildlife resources and he did his job extremely well. Upon retirement he wrote one of the first books on his job "*Halt! I'm a Federal Game Warden*," excellent essay on just what our Law Enforcement Officers did.

Walter "Perry" White passed away May 16, 2010. He and Willie J. Parker were Game Wardens with the TN Game and Fish in the late 1940s forties and they both ended their wildlife careers with U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service Law Enforcement. Perry came to the Service as an undercover operative. He later served in several positions, including Senior Resident Agent in Louisiana. Most recently, Perry attended the early May Retired Agents "Get Together" in Pigeon Forge, Tennessee, so he was able to visit with many of his old buddies one more time.

Paul Cole passed away on March 18, 2010. He was a Game Management Agent in Florida. He and Fred Williams were among the oldest retired LE Agents.

Fred Williams died on April 1, 2010. Fred came from Tennessee working his way up to Regional Supervisor in the southeast Region. He also spent time in the Washington office. He retired in 1976.

Kenneth A. Ystesund, 88, passed away on July 12, 2010. He was born in Thief River Falls, MN on June 9, 1922, and was a resident of Albuquerque since 1970. Ken was a U.S. Army veteran of WWII and the Korean Conflict, and retired from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. He was an avid sportsman, hunter, fisherman, and storyteller. He will be greatly missed by his friends and family for his warm sense of humor and love of the outdoors.

* * *

Yes! I want to be part of the Retiree Association (please print)

Name: _____ **Spouse** _____

Permanent Address:

City: _____ **State:** _____ **Zip:**

Phone Number: _____

E-mail: _____

(To help defer the costs of printing and mailing)

USFWS Program:

_____ **Title:** _____

(At retirement) **Office & Region:**

_____ **1-year Membership at \$25.00** _____ **2-year Membership at \$50.00**

_____ **3-year Membership at \$75.00** _____ **Lifetime at \$500**

(or why not just round it off to \$100)

Make check payable to and mail completed application to:

Treasurer, FWS Retirees Association

102 Ridge Ave

Eufaula, AL 36027-1306

For more information or assistance, call 1-877-831-5591 or Denny_Holland@FWS.gov

LOST SOULS

(The retired FWS kind)

August 2, 2010

For any number of reasons, the Fish & Wildlife Service Retirees Association has lost e-mail contact with the following retirees. The Retiree Association wishes to be able to contact you in a timely manner to provide news updates and make limited requests. Attempts to contact you has resulted in bounced e-mails with reasons given no such address, mail box full, sender denied, etc. Except for an occasional message, the technical part is that batch e-mail messaging is sent via the FWS Retirees Association list server, a commercial business. The Retiree Association is in the process of updating its address directory of 2600 FWS retirees [we count over 1525 with e-mail] and want to provide your current e-mail address to this system. This will allow you to receive occasional e-mail about activities and events of interest to FWS retirees. For you folks with spam screening or spam blocking software, your system should be set to allow receipt of future messages from postmaster@fwsretirees.org There is an explicit obligation on our part -- the address list is secure and goes nowhere else; it is used internally to provide you information of interest about happenings of the Service, the passing of former colleagues, to help you locate addresses of colleagues you have lost contact with, etc. Also, if you do not want your name on neither the e-mail nor snail mail address list, just let us know and it is off.

If your name is on this list, it means recent attempts to contact you by e-mail have failed. If you recently acquired e-mail or have changed your e-mail provider address and wish to receive occasional e-mail from the Retiree Association, please let us know your current e-mail address with a quick note to the official Retiree Association e-mail address. Now would also be a good time to make any name corrections and add spouses or significant others.

postmaster@fwsretirees.org

Jerry Grover – Association Board member & Scribe

Anderson	Maury	Couch	Dennis	Harms	Dale
Anderson	Stephen & Jan	Cowardin	Lew	Hawthorne	Bill & Pam
Armstrong	Randy	Creasy	Jim & Pen	Hayes	Daniel
Arnold	Phil	Crete	Ron & Lynn	Hazlewood	Rob
Azevedo	Bob & Vi	Crissy	Walt	Heard	James
Banning	Keith & Mary Jane	Cronin	Marsha	Heinrich	John
Barkuloo	Jim & Ann	Cummings	Jerry	Hemker	Marilyn & Tom
Bauer	Richard & Marilyn	David	Bob	Henry	Barbara Jean
Bazemore	Charles	Dean	Jack	Hill	Alfred
Beckwith	George & Kathy	Decker	John & Beth	Hines	Michael & Anne
Behrends	Bill	Dybsetter	Kermit & Phyllis	Hines	Norm & Idy
Bello	Dolores	Ede	Donovan	Hosking	Hank & Janice
Berry	Wanda	Edelbrock	Edward	Hotchkiss	Lee & Sue
Beyers	Bert	Elias	Don	Howard	Fred & Helen
Black	Geraldine	Erwin	Mike & Jeannette	Huber	Duane
Bladen	Judith	Filek	Larry	Hubley	Ray & Jo Ann
Boles	Art & Donna	Fisher	Jim & Joyce	Hurte	June & Elwood
Bonneau	Diane & Robert	Fortenbery	Don & Luann	Hutchinson	John
Brenneise	Duane	Fossum	Jim	Irwin	Louis
Brush	James	French	Bill & Joanne	Jenkins	Delano
Burum	Douglas	Frick	Steve & Donna	Jenson	Bruce
Cahill	Margie & Paul	Garrison	Betty	Johnson	Dick & Pam
Case	Charles	Gearhart	Lucille	Johnson	BJ & Geri
Castillo	Olivia	Geiger	Bruce & Cindy	Jones	Ron & Marion
Chambers	Rudy	George	Kenneth	Jones	Rosemary
Christen	Jarrold & Darlene	Griner	Carol & Dallas	Jones	Rosemary
Ciaffone	Bernice	Groutage	Tom	Karcz	Joann
Clapp	Don & Louise	Gruenthal	Henn	Keeler	John & Karon
Clark	Jim & Jamie	Gunther	Lloyd & DeEsta	Kenyon	Jim & Kathy
Colborn	Leon	Guthrie	John & Nancy	Kerbow	John & Betty
Connolly	Guy	Haines	Lynn & Judy	Ketola	Norbert & Elzbeth
Corin	Lenny	Hansen	Rew & Joy	Kirby	Bennett,
Corning	Ray & Mary Ann	Harke	Don		Eugene & Mary

Kohl	Peggy	Ochsner	Dennis	Stephens	Gerry
Kolz	Larry & Judy	Ogg	Larry & Linda Saunders	Stephensen	Wells
Kotok	Joe & Retta	Oland	James & Verne	Stephenson	Eugene & Betty
Kraft	Dave & Cherly	O'Neill	Berenice	Stroud	Richard & Ellen
Krantz	Joan	Opgrand	Norma	Stuart	Jeb & Linda
Lane	Janice	Orr	Wes & Diane	Swansson	Bill
Lavin	Mary Jane	Ortega	Lotario (Terry)	Talkin	Bill & Corinne
LaVoie	Keith	Pacific	Bob & Nancy	Tennant	Don
Leach	Rick	Pauley	Otis & Janie	Thomas	Robert
Lewis	Dr. James & Marian	Peace	Carol (Max)	Toltzmann	Richard
Lewis	Billy	Pearson	Bud & Connie	Turnquist	Roger & Mary
Lichtenberg	Dick	Peffer	Onnolee	Voget	Ken & Marti
Liehr	Ken & Nancy	Phillips	Ray	Vohs	Paul
Litzinger	Jim	Phillips	Marty & Arlene	Walker	Earl & Anita
Livingston	Don & Bev	Pierce	Andrew & Jeannie	Walker	Charles & Carmen
Luchtell	Duane	Pooler	Dan	Wall	Kathy & Johnny
Lundeen	Jim	Price	Donna	Walls	Darold T.
Lundy	Maurice	Rakes	Arnold	Walter	Lilian
Lutz	Bill	Ray	Walt	Webb	Robert
Lynch	Jim & Brownie	Rebne	Cordell	Weber	Yvonne
Lyons	Sam	Redfern	Don & Evelyn	Webster	Hank & Pat
MacNichols	Grant	Reffalt	Bill & Christine	Werner	Fred & Lorainne
Maiss	Fran & Barbara	Richardson	C. H. & Virginia	Wharton	Tom
Mandell	Lisa	Richardson	Frank & Dottie	White	Fred
Manion	Patrick	Richter	Dave & Nancy	White	Bill & Jean
Markwell	Earl & Theresa	Roberts	Betty	Willford	Wayne
Martinez	Georgia	Rothrock	Judy	Wills	Larry & Pat
Mauck	Wilbur	Ruhr	Gene & Jo Ann	Wisniewske	Pat
Maylone	Patricia	Russell	Patrick & Theresa	Wolf	Greg
McCabe	Charles & Elwanda	Sanchez	Helen	Woodward	Dan
McCartney	Keith	Savery	Jim	Woronecki	Paul
McClanahan	Ruth	Schafer	Ed & Carol	Wright	Patrick
McLaury	Eldon	Schnack	Clyde	Yee	Henry
McLean	Scott & Dona	Schneider	Hank & Ginger	Young	Joanne
Meacham	Chuck & June	Segura	Dennis	Ystesund	Kenneth & Ida
Meck	Bill	Seppala	Robert	Zahm	Gary
Medina	Manny	Seubert	John		
Miller	Bill	Sexson	Terry		
Miller	Harold	Shaffer	David		
Miller	Jim	Shimmons	Bayce		
Miller	William	Shudes	Roger & Georgette		
Minckley	Chuck	Simms	Frank & Shirleen		
Monson	Gale	Simpson	Kenny		
Moran	Barbara and Jeffrey	Sims	Joe		
Morgan	Michael	Sipco	Eric		
Morrison	Marie (Jack)	Sloan	Edith		
Moses	Ed & Marilyn	Smith	Jane		
Mott	Don	Smith	Steve & Betty		
Mountain	Tom & Vickie		Roger & Margaret		
Murphy	Sandra	Spaulding	Patterson		
Nash	Marjorie	Stagner	Gene & Elizabeth		
Nelson	Richard & Lynn	Stalnaker	Clair		
Niemeyer	Carter & Jenny	Stelter	Harvey & Nancy		
Nudi	Floyd & Pat	Stemmerman	Lyle		
Oakley	Clifford & Laura	Stendell	Rey		