

FWS Retirees Association

NEWSLETTER

October 2015



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Reunion 2015 – Corpus Christi

Texas Hospitality Prevailed Over The Weather.

Weather was a concern throughout the country the week of our Corpus Christi Reunion and, in fact, prevented many from attending and delayed several others. Nevertheless, over 80 of your fellow retirees made it and enjoyed the activities and the local hospitality. And in spite of threatening skies and some light rain at times, the reunion went off without a hitch and none of our outdoor activities were affected.

Highlights.

Rain earlier in the week made the Sunday afternoon Lynn Greenwalt Walk for Wildlife at the Nueces Wildlife Preserve a bit muddy for those who chose to walk (rather than birdwatch from the comfort of their vehicles). Afterwards however, we all enjoyed a delicious Texas barbeque indoors at a nearby restaurant and an informative talk from local conservationists. Funds raised for the Lynn Greenwalt Walk for Wildlife went to support local Friends groups.

On Monday, Larry McKinney of the Harte Research Institute spoke to us on the Deepwater Horizon oil spill and the monies being spent on restoration and recovery of fish, wildlife, habitats, recreation and the communities that depend on those amenities. Barry Wilson informed us of the Gulf Coast Joint Venture efforts, particularly in the face of declines in ricelands in this region while Bill Bartush of the Gulf Coast Prairie Landscape Conservation Cooperative described some possible effects of global warming being realized in this part of the world.

Then, in advance of our field trip to see the whooping cranes for which this area is famous, we got a primer on the species from Liz Smith of the International Crane Foundation and were shown a great video on the work of the experts at Patuxent on these magnificent birds.

Tuesday was set aside for an all-day field trip. We split into two groups: one embarking on tour boats that cruised the crane's prime habitats on the way to Aransas National Wildlife



Refuge and the other touring the refuge first before returning on the boats. Several of our retirees saw over 90 whoopers, many at close range, from the tour boat.

Another highlight of the tour was having one of the past managers of Aransas NWR, Phil Morgan, who is now a retiree, share his early-year experiences with us. Phil was nostalgic over the fact that there were only 32 cranes on the refuge in 1962, but the staff now boasts a population 10 times that number.

On Wednesday, we heard some very informative discussions on retirement topics, first from Jessica Klement, the Legislative Director of the National Active and Retired Federal Employees (NARFE) and from David Snell, Director of Federal Benefits Services for NARFE. We then got into issues dealing with wildlife along the Texas border from several U.S. Border Patrol agents responsible for management of the Texas/Mexico border as well as from our own FWS folks and from the conservation community. We not only heard about how difficult it is to manage and secure the border but also how those efforts have an impact on wildlife, particularly on migratory species and some endangered species.

Wednesday night all retirees enjoyed a fine banquet, silent auction, and then listened to a discussion on the role of plant pollinators, while cinema photographer and guest speaker, Mr. Louie Schwartzberg, amazed retirees with his unbelievable time-lapse photography. During the banquet, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's 2014 Heritage Award, which is given annually to an individual, individuals, or institution that has significantly contributed to the preservation of the history and heritage of the Service, was awarded posthumously to Dave Hall (see our September 2014 Newsletter) who retired from the LE program. Deputy Director Jim Kurth did the honors presenting the award to Dave's widow Sarah who because of the weather was unable to attend. During his career, Dave collected an extraordinary amount of important materials and

artifacts which are now part of the Dave Hall collection housed at the National Conservation Training Center.

Thursday was wrap-up day where we had final conversations with our old and new friends and then headed home with great memories of another successful FWS Retirees Association Reunion.

Memphis in 2016

Not too early to start planning. Our next big reunion will be in Memphis, Tennessee, on the mighty Mississippi and home of Graceland and Beale Street. The dates of the reunion are Sunday October 2, 2016 through Thursday, October 6. A draft agenda is being developed with a focus on migratory birds and big river fishes. We are working on several tours that should be of interest to all and contacting some very knowledgeable and entertaining speakers. We will visit Hatchie National Wildlife Refuge and *Ducks Unlimited* will host an evening reception at its headquarters campus. Ducks Unlimited and Bass Pro Shops (also headquartered in Memphis) are sure to figure prominently in our planning and logistics. Looks like our venue will be the Crowne Plaza Memphis with first class accommodations and a very reasonable \$99 lodging rate that includes a cooked breakfast. We'll keep you posted as things develop. In the meanwhile, get with your former colleagues, plan to join us there and let us know what sorts of activities will be of greatest interest to you and your fellow retirees next fall.

Election of Board Members

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

This year, ballots with the names and bios of qualified candidates will be mailed to eligible voters around the middle of November. Voter returns will be accepted through the 18th of December. This means that a slate of candidates needs to be identified soon. If you yourself are interested in serving on the Board, please let us know directly. Or if you know of someone else that you feel would make a good Board member, contact them first to confirm their interest before submitting their name for consideration. To make the ballot, names for candidacy must be submitted by November 13th. Send them to Jim McKeivitt at jimmymac@usamedia.tv or phone 530-878-7883.

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

Help Wanted. We are looking for a motivated member to *assist* the Association Treasurer who maintains our financial

records and accounts. The Treasurer's duties involve maintaining our bank accounts; preparing annual and reunion budgets; accepting funds on behalf of the Association; tracking and making payments for any bills or reimbursements related to the organization; and completing monthly and annual reports in QuickBooks. The current Treasurer also tracks grant funds we receive and disburse. Time investment is about 5 hours per month, with some extra time required in the months before and after our reunions which are held about every 18 months.

We are willing to provide economic incentives to the qualified individual who applies and is accepted. The amount and nature of the incentive will be based on the duties that the individual takes on. That will be negotiated between the applicant and our current Treasurer, Gail Carmody. Call Gail (850-867-9012) if you are interested. ☺

Resource Issues

Endangered Species Act Under Attack. Legislation continues to be introduced in Congress to gut the Endangered Species Act and the protections it affords. While the Service and the Administration support some modification to the regulations to make it easier to comply, that is not what some in Congress want: they would change the basic purpose and the protections of the Act. In May of this year, Don Barry, former Chief Counsel for the Service and former Assistant Secretary for Fish and Wildlife and Parks, testified mightily against this assault before the Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works on just eight of the proposals. Now a senior vice president with Defenders of Wildlife, Don testified that

“During my 40-year career in wildlife conservation, I've seen many efforts to undermine our nation's wildlife laws and programs, but I can honestly say to you, that this Congress is already unparalleled in its sweeping attacks on this country's wildlife and natural heritage. To date, we have seen 44 proposals introduced in Congress that would cripple endangered species conservation, 26 of which were proposed in the Senate alone....Other anti-ESA proposals before this Committee would create excessive red tape and burdensome reporting requirements for the Fish and Wildlife Service, severely handicap the designation of critical habitat, limit citizens access to court, target individual species, and circumvent the planning process under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)...Overall, these bills would individually and collectively take a legislative wrecking ball to the landmark Endangered Species Act”.

Border Issues. Did you know that since 1996 the Attorney General may waive any and all environmental reviews of border control infrastructure projects? Or that since 2005, the Department of Homeland Security has the same authority? At our reunion in Corpus Christi, we learned of this and of the impacts that are being realized on wildlife, including endangered species, as a result.

Now legislation has been proposed by Senator John McCain that any sort of border control activities - not just infrastructure projects - within 100 miles of the U.S. border in California and Arizona, may have all environmental reviews waived.

Wolves. The gray wolf has got to be one of the most controversial critters the Fish and Wildlife Service has ever been involved with. People are either “fur em or agin em”. Its status

reminds one of a ping-pong match: back and forth, back and forth. After nearly being extirpated in the lower 48 states, it was listed under the Endangered Species Act in 1974. In several areas in the northern Rocky Mountains district, wolves were reintroduced and thrived. With hunting curtailed due to the ESA protections, wolves in the western Great Lakes district also rebounded. In both areas, populations now exceed recovery plan targets.

Since the early 2000s, the FWS has declared the species recovered in those areas and several times has delisted them. And several times, litigation and court action has overturned these decisions. In 2011, Congress even intervened to require the Service to complete the delistings. Currently, gray wolves have been delisted in the northern Rocky Mountain district (except Wyoming) and are being managed under state plans. In 2012, the Service delisted them in the western Great Lakes district (Minnesota, Wisconsin, and Michigan), and in Wyoming in the NRM district. But in December of 2014, the court overturned that decision. Consequently, in February of this year, the Service reinstated them to their previous ESA listed status in Minnesota, Michigan, and Wisconsin and Wyoming. Michigan and Wisconsin have both appealed that court decision and Congress is again proposing legislative action. Stay tuned for more of this soap opera.

In the meanwhile, there is news from California where we had been insulated from all the drama described above. You may remember OR-7, that lone wolf that wandered down from Oregon into California, apparently looking for a mate. He was the first wolf in California in nearly 100 years. He stayed several months but, failing to find his soulmate and after being spotted hanging out with a bunch of lowly coyotes, he headed back to Oregon. There he found a lady love of his own species and successfully fathered a family. And there they remain. End of story? No way. This year, lo and behold, we were surprised to discover that another, this time unmarked, wolf had taken up residence in California and with him, a mate. This spring they were photographed several times with their own litter of five pups. Let the theatrics begin.

Red Wolf. More controversy brewing?? The Fish and Wildlife Service recently announced that no more captive-bred red wolves would be released into the wild but that it would continue to monitor and manage the existing wild population while they study the feasibility of continuing the 30-year old program. Program advocates feel that introduction of captive reared pups is needed to help replace those in the wild lost to mortality, primarily automobile and gunshot deaths.

Once common in the southeast, red wolves were considered extinct in the wild, primarily due to habitat loss and hunting. Reintroduced into eastern North Carolina in the late 1980s, the current wild population has been estimated to be less than 100 animals. Recent annual mortalities run around a dozen individuals. FWS says they will make their decision on the program by the end of the year.

Sage Grouse. The greater sage grouse in eleven western states had been severely declining in numbers and was further threatened by continued and expanding oil and gas development and ranching operations. In 2010, FWS determined that the species warranted listing under the Endangered Species Act and was under a court order to make a final decision by this fall. Listing was vigorously opposed by the affected states, the oil

and gas industry and the agricultural community, citing terrible economic harm. Conservationist, on the other hand, felt the protections afforded by the ESA to the bird's sagebrush habitats were essential to ensure their survival. What would the Service do?

It seems that the mere threat of listing was sufficient to bring the parties together to develop a landscape-scale campaign that would make an endangered species listing unnecessary. States have implemented regulatory actions to ensure development adequately addresses the bird's habitat needs. Private landowners, under the auspices of the Natural Resource Conservation Service's (NRCS) *Sage Grouse Initiative*, have been implementing crucial conservation and enhancement measures. Federal land management agencies have revised their land use plans to promote sage grouse conservation and have begun implementation of conservation actions. All told tens of millions of acres of vital habitats are protected and hundreds of millions of dollars already spent and/or dedicated to future actions, actions that will also benefit over 300 other key western species. In short, this monumental and unprecedented campaign has made the sage grouse's future secure across its range and made it possible for the Service to find listing under ESA unwarranted. And it prompted Interior Secretary Sally Jewell to call the ESA "a catalyst for conservation."

Miscellaneous

Colleague in Need. This summer, we became aware of a fire dispatcher at the Okefenokee National Wildlife Refuge in Georgia with a special need. Fred Wetzel, National Wildland Fire and Emergency Response Advisor at the refuge, asked if the Retirees Association could help with raising funds to purchase a \$14,000 "ActionTrac Wheelchair" that would allow the employee additional mobility and to stand to hunt and fish. Treasurer Gail Carmody researched IRS regulations on how to handle this since we, as a non-profit, cannot provide our funds to benefit an individual. Ultimately, Gail worked with Fred to set up a "GoFundMe" account for that purpose. Once established, the link was identified on our Facebook page

The GoFundMe campaign for the fire dispatcher has done very well. By the end of the summer and with a significant contribution from his family, we were within \$2k of purchasing the chair! And with no Association funds involved. There will be a special ceremony at a big partnership meeting in November when the chair is delivered. Several ranking Interior representatives are expected to be at the ceremony.

For the future, we are checking to see if there may be a broader need within FWS for a grant program that the Retirees Association Board may want to establish. We hope to have Gail's idea of an employee benevolent fund moving forward sometime soon.

Association Support of "Duck Stamp Proposal".

Recently, the Association sent a letter to FWS Director Dan Ashe supporting a proposal by the Friends of the Migratory Bird/Duck Stamp that an appropriate "secondary" migratory bird be depicted on the Migratory Bird Hunting and Conservation Stamp, aka the "Duck Stamp", at least during the period of time that the Migratory Bird Treaty and Act are being celebrated. The rationale is that lands purchased with the proceeds of Duck Stamp sales benefit a broad spectrum of

migratory birds and other species. Although the stamp typically features waterfowl, adding non-waterfowl species consistent with the habitat of the primary waterfowl subject is a recognition of those broad-scale values for other wildlife that co-exist on protected lands. These other species could include any of the diversity of wildlife and fish, including listed threatened and endangered species.

Travel Offer. What does a free travel offer mean for you? We've all received such offers in the mail or online. Usually, they are just a sales pitch or occasionally a scam. But, the Association's Jerry Grover received one that definitely was not a scam.

"Brian and I have a non-refundable cruise booked out of Portland, OR. It is all paid for. We now have a medical emergency and we did not take out insurance. We do not want any reimbursement. We just want someone to use it."

"It" was a one week cruise at the end of May on the Columbia River with a lecturer about Lewis and Clark. All meals, wine and alcohol and beer, and any off-boat excursions were all included. The only cost would be a \$50 charge to change the names on the reservation.

Here's the story. Gail Carmody, our Association Treasurer who lives in Florida, received this offer from her sister's husband's sister (Brian's wife). Unable to go herself, she sent the offer on up to Jerry to see if there might be an FWS retiree in the Pacific Northwest who might take advantage of this most generous offer with only a one week lead time. Using his wife Judy's Portland area luncheon mailing list of local retirees, the offer was sent out. Would anyone jump at the opportunity? Almost within moments, there were takers and the name of Ed and Ann Murczek were drawn from a hat. Ed retired from the Portland Regional Office in April 1997 after a 32 ½ year FWS career with the National Wildlife Refuge System.

Ed summarized the trip as;

"We had a great time and enjoyed wonderful weather, excellent interpretive lectures, helpful crew, smooth cruising, comfortable accommodations, great food and drink and on time embarkation, excursions and disembarkation. Couldn't have been better!"

And so, by taking a chance and for an investment of only \$100, Ed and Ann received an \$8,000 value special lifetime adventure. **And** it shows the benefit of being an active FWS retiree and in our database.

Grants.

The FWS Retirees Association is pleased to announce that the following Friends organizations have applied for and been awarded small grants to help support major anniversary celebrations.

- Friends of Dungeness (WA)– 100th Anniversary (celebrating events throughout the year)
- Friends of Rice Lake (MN)– 100th Anniversary of Mille Lacs NWR (celebrated June 12, 2015)
- Friends of West Tennessee Refuges Complex (TN)– 50th Anniversary of Hatchie NWR (celebrated April 2015)
- Friends of Ridgefield NWR (WA)– 50th Anniversary (celebrated Oct. 3-4, 2015)

- Friends of Sherburne NWR (MN)– 50th Anniversary (celebrated Oct. 3, 2015)

It is hoped that our provision of grant funds will help further public awareness and understanding of the Fish and Wildlife Service and the heritage and missions of the stations celebrating the anniversary. Grant information and application forms are available on the Association website, www.fwsretirees.org. All grant recipients are asked to do is send us a report of their events, including numbers of retirees attending, and photos of participating retirees which are especially appreciated!

Call to Action.

In addition to the five stations listed above, the following refuges and hatcheries are celebrating major anniversaries in 2015.

110 years

Stump Lake NWR, ND
Wichita Mountains Wildlife Refuge, OK
Huron NWR, MI
Passage Key NWR, FL

100 years

Big Lake NWR, AR

75 years

Entiat NFH, WA
Winthrop NFH, WA
Lake Alice NWR, ND
Sam D. Hamilton Noxubee NWR, MS
Cabeza Prieta NWR, AZ

50 years

Ankeny NWR, OR
Conboy Lake NWR, WA
Grays Lake NWR, ID
Browns Park NWR, CO
Baskett Slough NWR, OR
Seedskadee NWR, WY

Celebrating anniversaries in 2016 are:

100 years

North Platte NWR, NE

75 years

Williams Creek NFH, AZ
Havasu NWR, AZ
San Andres NWR, NM
Horicon NWR, WI
Pretty Rock NWR, ND
Snyder Lake NWR, ND
Springwater NWR, ND
Stoney Slough NWR, ND
Sunburst Lake NWR, ND
Tomahawk NWR, ND
White Lake NWR, ND
Willow Lake NWR, ND
Wintering River NWR, ND
Imperial NWR, AZ/CA
Lake Mason NWR, MT
Kodiak NWR, AK
Reelfoot NWR, TN/KY
Creedman Coulee NWR, MT
Kenai NWR, AK
Chassahowitzka NWR, FL
Parker River NWR, MA

50 years

Ridgefield NWR, WA
Las Vegas NWR, NM
Maxwell NWR, NM
Flint Hills NWR, KS
Muscatatuck NWR, IN
Brazoria NWR, TX
Rachel Carson NWR, ME

Any retirees living in the vicinity of these FWS stations which are hosting anniversary celebrations are asked to offer their assistance and attend if possible. Besides assisting with the event, this may be a good opportunity to lend expertise and to collect oral histories from former employees.

Noreen Clough Scholarship. In our February 2015 newsletter, we reported on the untimely death of former FWS Southeast Region Director Noreen Clough. Noreen also served two stints as Conservation Director of the Bass Anglers Sportsman Society (BASS). We are now informed that the Southern Division of the American Fisheries Society (AFS) website hosts a page for the *Noreen Clough Memorial Scholarship*. It has a mailing address and a new PayPal link so people can contribute. If you would like to remember this former colleague and friend, go to their website at <http://sdafs.org/students/cloughscholarship/>

Note from Carroll Donner. There may be snow on the roof but there is still fire in the heart for many of our retirees. We received a note from fellow retiree Carroll Donner shortly before the Corpus Christi Reunion saying "My 93rd year on this old planet is really telling on me" and going on to say that he and Wilma tried to make our Kalispell Reunion but couldn't and letting us know that he would not attempt to travel all the way to Corpus Christi. Nevertheless, he wished us good luck and a fun time. Hang in there, Carroll.

Charles Hasty Retirement Booklet. Ditto Charles Hasty. For many years and many reunions, Charles, a former Human Resources Specialist from Region 4, along with his wife Betty, has traveled to our reunions and given extensive talks on retirement processes and advice on how to make the best of your retirement benefits. For the past two reunions, Charles has been unable to join us but has produced an extremely informative booklet on retirement topics that we distributed to attendees. This 34 page booklet, much of it in Q and A format, can be a great help in understanding the ins and outs of retirement processes. And, while it can never replace the inimitable homespun two-hour presentations Charles made in person, it's something every recent retiree should read. We still have a few copies available and may be able to have some more printed. If interested, let Gail Carmody know. Her e-mail address is in the box on page 1 of this newsletter.

WildRead. Some of our FWS retirees might be interested to know that there is an online FWS book club called "Wild Read." Whether you are a nature enthusiast, book lover, young conservationist, student, teacher, or Refuge friend, you are invited to participate in America's WildRead community discussion. Most of the books to be discussed deal with FWS topics and issues. Anyone from anywhere in the country can participate in the discussions on this blog. All are welcome. This resource is provided to you by the Friends of the National Conservation Training Center (NCTC) in partnership with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Conservation Library.

To access WildRead, click on the *Resources/News* tab at the top of the NCTC homepage, and then on the *Conservation Library* tab. Down the center column, you will find the link "*America's WildRead Discussion*" link. That lets you in, shows the schedule of upcoming reading, and provides other information.

While at the NCTC site, take the time to explore all the many informational resources available. It is quite an extensive and valuable collection of fish and wildlife related topics.

Heritage Committee Thesis Project.

The FWS Heritage Committee is collecting copies of Masters Theses and PhD Dissertations for the archives at NCTC. Original copies, carbon copies, photo copies or scanned electronic copies are all accepted. The subject of the document need NOT be FWS related. The projects are all part of the collective body of work of our talented employees, past and present. Project Coordinator is John Cornely (johncornely@msn.com; 303-910-9360). If you have questions, contact John. Copies should be sent to NCTC in care of Jeanne Harold, 698 Conservation Way, Shepherdstown, WV 25443-9713.

South Africa Trip. Did last year's long winter leave you wanting for some fun and sun? Were you tired of shoveling snow for what seemed like three times a day? Well, we have the cure for you! You can turn winter into summer and join us for a South African Safari! The trip, scheduled for February 2016, will be the third that the FWS Retirees has supported. Our hosts, the Viljeon's, owners of the Chazen Game Reserve, have planned a wonderful experience. As in year's past, in exchange for a reduced rate, we will do a small conservation project, go on daily game drives on their 40,000 acre reserve, learn about the culture and geology of the area, and take a 3 day safari to Pilanesburg National Park.

The dates for dates for the 2016 winter safari are January 31 (arriving in Johannesburg February 1) through February 11. In the past many of extended their stay to include a long weekend in Cape Town or have gone onto another safari. The costs for this all-inclusive trip is \$2500 per person plus airfare. This is about 30% off the regular price. Once you land in Johannesburg all your lodging, meals, drinks, entry fees and transportation are paid. The number of slots are limited and some have already been reserved. If you are interested contact Donna Stanek at dstanek0418@hotmail.com or by calling 505 917 2023.

Life Members. Our newest "Life Members" are **Dr. Gail S. Baker, Hannibal Bolton, Debra Corbett, and Steve Parry.** Thank you for your faith in the Association and for your support.

Wouldn't more of you care to become Life Members? In addition to the benefits of a standard dues-paying membership, Life Members will receive special recognition and additional incentives at our reunions.

Passing of Colleagues

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

Terry Anderson (1940 – 2015). Terry Eugene Anderson of St. Louis, Missouri, retired predator control specialist and cowboy preacher, rode to heaven's gate on a beautiful spring morning, Sunday, April 26, 2015. He was 75 years old.



Terry was born on January 3, 1940 in Kearney, Nebraska where he attended Kearney Teachers College for two years before moving on and graduating from Utah State University in 1962 with a degree in Wildlife Management. He worked in the Animal Damage Control program for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service from 1962 to 1976. It was while working for ADC in Texas, that he met and married his wife, Michele Ellen Yantis. They had one daughter, Dawn Ellen Anderson, in 1967.

While living and working in Albuquerque, New Mexico, Terry felt a calling to the ministry. So he left coyotes and FWS to become a man of the cloth. Over the next 30 plus years as an ordained United Methodist Minister he served churches in New Mexico and Texas. He retired from the ministry in 2003.

Terry is survived by his daughter, Dawn, his son-in-law, Kent Patterson and two grandsons, Andrew and Matthew; his brother, Denny Anderson and sister, Jill Anderson and his nephews, Brooke and Pat Smith and Jonah Tamoria. He is also survived by his former wife, Cathy Brumbaugh Anderson; and stepdaughters, Laura and Carrie Bierck and was preceded in death by his wife, Michele Ellen Anderson. Memorial services for Terry were held in May both in Albuquerque and in Kearney. Donations in Terry's name may be made to the Alzheimer's Association, the New Mexico Boys and Girls Ranch Foundation, or to Boys Town National Headquarters in Kearney

Spencer Francis Conley. (1931 – 2015). Spencer Conley died on 24 June 2015 at Bay State Medical Center in Springfield, Massachusetts at the age of 81. Spence was born into a Navy Family in Berkeley, California. "Spike", as he was called growing up, moved frequently as a child, but ultimately graduated from Berkeley High School. Spence went on to the University of Utah where he played football and majored in Journalism. Prior to graduating, Spence was drafted into the Army and sent to postwar Korea. PFC Conley worked as a clerk typist for the 8th Army HQ and played on the All Army Football team. After his time in the Army, Spence graduated from the University of Utah and embarked on a career in journalism, covering professional sports, including hockey and tennis. He finished up his professional career working for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service as the Northeast Region's Assistant Regional Director for Public Relations.

Spence was a lifelong fisherman and member of the University of Utah Football Hall of Fame. Spence had a quick wit and was always ready with a funny joke or story. Spence is survived by his wife, Janet, his daughters Andrea (Greg), Michelle (David), his son Christopher (Erinn) and three grandchildren, Brennan, Patterson and Rylan. A remembrance for Spence was held in South Deerfield, Massachusetts on June 29th. Condolences can be sent to Spence's home at 24 Clark Mountain Road, Sunderland, Massachusetts, 01375.

Peter Allyn Cross (1944 – 2015). Peter Cross died suddenly but peacefully on March 2, 2015, in Carmichael,



California following a short hospitalization. Peter was born on Oct. 24, 1944 to Richard B. and Betty Taylor Cross in Summit, New Jersey. He developed an early interest in birdwatching and wildlife, attending Audubon camps, graduating from the University of Maine at Orono, and then earning a Master of Science degree in Wildlife Biology at the

University of Rhode Island. Peter settled in Wilton, Maine, where he worked as a wildlife biologist for the Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife from 1968 to 1991. He and his wife, Lindsley Beach Cross, moved to California in 1991 when he took a job in the Fish and Wildlife Service's Sacramento Ecological Services Office as an Endangered Species Specialist. He retired from the Service in 2009. Peter and Lindsley travelled every year of his retirement to visit with his two daughters, Elizabeth Fairbanks (Betsy) Cross and Katherine Taylor (Katie) Cross Townsend and their 4 children, sharing his enjoyment and knowledge about wildlife. Also in retirement, he volunteered at the Effie Yeaw Nature Center near his home in Carmichael, working with college interns on wildlife surveys within the Preserve and assisting with resource management planning. Other hobbies he pursued during his life were stamp collecting, geocaching, trains, astronomy, and, his biggest passion, wildlife photography at Effie Yeaw Nature Center Preserve.

Peter is survived by his wife of 33 years, Lindsley; his daughter Betsy Cross and granddaughters Jocelyn and Jillian of Framingham, Massachusetts; daughter Katie Townsend and grandsons Zachary and Ryan of Lyman, Maine; and his brother David Cross, of Hancock, Maine. Peter was predeceased by his first wife, Ola Blood Brownrigg of Old Orchard Beach, Maine. A memorial service for Peter was held on March 16 at the Effie Yeaw Nature Center in Carmichael. Donations in his name may be made to the Effie Yeaw Nature Center, the Sacramento SPCA, or the Pulmonary Fibrosis Coalition.

Robert Delaney. Robert Delaney, 71, of Madison, Mississippi, died on April 25, 2015, when his sailboat capsized



in a severe storm during a regatta in Mobile Bay, Alabama. No obituary for Bob has been found so information available to us on his career and personal life is scarce. After working for the Corps of Engineers at their Vicksburg, Mississippi Waterways Experiment Station, Bob joined the Fish and Wildlife Service to lead the Upper Mississippi River Long Term Research Monitoring Program out of

La Crosse, Wisconsin.

After he retired, he moved back to Mississippi and helped with outreach and partnership for the Lower Mississippi River Conservation Committee that is led by USFWS. He resided in Madison, primarily to be close to the Ross Barnett Reservoir where he was deeply involved in sailboat restoration and where he opened a boat restoring business.

Donald Paul Driscoll (1932 – 2015). Don was born in Cambridge, Massachusetts on July 15, 1932 and passed away in Weatherford, Texas on July 8, 2015, one week shy of his 83rd birthday.

Don graduated from Boston University with a Bachelor of Arts degree and, in 1960, went to work for the Fish and Wildlife Service as a Fisheries Biologist. His career of 20 years with the Service took him to several states in the southeast and to Washington, D.C. He worked at Welaka National Fish Hatchery in Florida, Natchitoches NFH in Louisiana, Marion NFH in Alabama, McKinney NFH in North Carolina, and Pisgah Forest NFH in North Carolina before going to D.C. In 1977, he was sent on loan to the State of Oklahoma, Department of Wildlife Conservation, as Assistant Chief of Hatcheries to assist in the management of fisheries and the supervision of hatcheries being built in the state. His efforts were such that the state offered him a permanent position there. Consequently, he retired from FWS in 1980 and spent the next 15 years working for the State of Oklahoma until he retired in 1995 to Hemphill, Texas to fish and guide. While there, he also served on the Toledo Bend Bi-State Alliance.

Don was an avid fisherman and hunter and was involved in the training and field trials of bird dogs (pointers). He also enjoyed archery and wood working. Don was blessed with a great God-given singing voice and sang in his Catholic Church choir and was requested to sing at funerals and other special events frequently.

Don is survived by his wife of 49 years, Lynn Hicks Driscoll; his two stepdaughters, Cindy Harrison and Susan Bamberg; three grandsons, Frank Harrison, Burt Harrison, and Brant Bamberg; and by eight great grandchildren, Anne Burt, Amelia and Jay Harrison, Anna Cale and Ayden Rain Harrison, Sierra and Mesa Jo Meadows, and Tate and Kash Bamberg.

Per his wishes, there was no service for Don. His ashes will be spread by his grandson, Brant, on lands they hunted and fished in Oklahoma. Any donations may be made in his memory to the Oklahoma Department of Conservation to support their youth programs, to the National Wildlife Federation or to the Bass Anglers Sportsman's Society.

Angela (Angie) Garcia. Angie Garcia passed away peacefully on July 12, 2014, in Albuquerque, New Mexico, surrounded by her loved ones. Angela was a career federal employee with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service who worked in Region 2's Personnel Office until her retirement in 2006. Being one of the senior personnel specialists in the office, her knowledge made her the "go to" person for assistance and answers, always greeting her clients with a smile and helpful attitude. Angie is survived by her husband of 45 years, Robert Garcia, and by her daughter



Renee Garcia and her son Robert Garcia and his wife Ednaly, and by her mother, Lillie Martinez. She is also survived by her grandchildren Brian, Eric, Angelo, Riley and Isabella, her sisters Barbara Martinez, Terry Trujillo, and Connie Chavez and her brothers Alfred and Vincent Martinez and many in-law, uncles, aunts, nieces, nephews, cousins and friends. After a Mass of Christian burial on July 16, 2014, Angie was interred at the Santa Fe National Cemetery.

Clayton Hardy (1931 – 2015). Clay Hardy passed away peacefully on October 7, 2015 in Bangor Maine. He grew up in Orrington, Maine and graduated from the University of Maine at Orono in 1959 with a degree in Wildlife Management.

His 30 year career with the US Fish & Wildlife Service began at Brigantine National Wildlife Refuge in New Jersey followed by a stint at Bombay Hook NWR in Delaware before being assigned as Refuge Manager at Montezuma NWR in New York. Following his refuge tenure, he transferred to Alaska in 1970 where he monitored wildlife habitats and populations before and after the Cannikan nuclear detonation on Amchitka Island in November 1971.



After the Amchitka Island project, Clay was looking for his next FWS assignment and, as fate would have it, he was the right person in the right place at the right time. He was selected to oversee identification of lands and rivers that would eventually become national wildlife refuges under the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (ANCSA). For the next nine years, Clay and his team scoured the vast Alaskan landscape by air, water and overland to identify the best habitats for addition to the National Wildlife Refuge System. This effort required extensive data gathering and interaction with Native Alaskan villages, multiple state and federal Agencies, natural resource-oriented non-profit organizations, and Congress. The information was then fed into one of the largest legislative processes in U.S. history. Only the Civil Rights Act involved more Congressional interaction.

The ANCSA eventually became the Alaska National Interest Land Conservation Act (ANILCA) that tripled the size of the National Wildlife Refuge System by adding roughly 56 million acres. Having been such a key player in this massive effort, Clay was invited to the White House on December 2, 1980 when President Carter signed ANILCA.

For the next eight years Clay filled several positions related to implementation of ANILCA and served as the FWS representative on the Alaskan Land Use Council. He was Chief of Planning for the Alaskan Refuges when he retired in December 1988. The significance of his accomplishments during the process of charting the course for protection of the magnificent natural resources of Alaska cannot be overstated. One measure of his contribution is five special achievement awards, three Secretarial Commendations, and the Department of Interior Meritorious Service Medal.

Clay is survived by his wife Charlene, son Frank, daughter Ellen and her husband Peter Morse, two grandsons Devin and Morgan and two sisters, Thelma and Kathleen. He was 84.

Clyde Jones (1935 – 2015). Dr. Clyde Jones passed away in Lubbock, Texas on April 6, 2015 after a lengthy illness. Clyde was born on March 3, 1935, in Scottsbluff, Nebraska and raised on a ranch in the sandhills of central Nebraska where he developed an early interest in wildlife. After graduating in 1957 from Hastings College, Nebraska, Clyde began serious studies of mammalian wildlife as a graduate student at the University of New Mexico from which he received his MS and PhD degrees.

During his tenure at Tulane University in Louisiana, he conducted field studies of primates, bats, and other mammals in Rio Muni, Republic of Equatorial Guinea, West Africa, as well as studies of mammals in the Southeast.

In 1970, Clyde became Chief of the mammal section of the Bird and Mammal Laboratories of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service housed in the U.S. National Museum of Natural History. He later served as Director of the National Fish and Wildlife Laboratory and Director of the Denver Wildlife Research Center. In 1982, he returned to academic appointments at Texas Tech University, Lubbock, where he served as professor of biological sciences and curator of mammals and later as a Paul Whitfield Horn Professor Emeritus.

Over the course of his lengthy career, Clyde received many awards including several from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the U.S. Department of the Interior, as well as from the U.S. Department of State, Texas Tech University, and the American Society of Mammalogists. He also published more than 190 scientific papers and five books, on various aspects of the biology of mammals, amphibians, and reptiles. Clyde was elected to membership in the Washington Biologists' Field Club in 1971.

Clyde is survived by his spouse, Mary Ann Jones; son, Craig (Elizabeth) Jones; daughter, Cheri Ann (David Shrader) Jones; granddaughters, Kinzea G., Clara J. and Emeline H. Jones; son, Rob (Melissa) Abbey; grandsons, Christian and Evan. A memorial service was held at the Museum of Texas Tech University. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to: Clyde Jones Memorial Fund, Department of Biological Sciences, Box 3131, Lubbock, Texas 79409.

Bryan Kenworthy (1946 – 2015). Bryan was born in New Haven, Connecticut, on December 21, 1946, to William and Mae Kenworthy and died on September 16, 2015 in Twin Falls,



Idaho after a lengthy illness. He was 68. A veteran of the Vietnam War, Bryan was also a 37 year career employee of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

He began with FWS as a Fishery Biologist at the Berlin National Fish Hatchery in New

Hampshire and went on to serve in Assistant Hatchery Manager positions at the Eagle Creek NFH in Oregon, the Quilcene and Carson NFHs in Washington, and the Lahontan NFH in Nevada. He also served a three-year stint as a Hatchery Evaluation Biologist in the Fishery Resource Office in Olympia, Washington, before being named as Project Leader at the Hagerman National Fish Hatchery in Idaho. He retired from Hagerman to his home in Buhl, Idaho, in September of 2011.

Bryan's love of the outdoors extended beyond his work in natural resources to include sailing, flying, horseback riding, and, most recently, raising two Griffons for pheasant hunting, Boonie and Duchess.

Bryan is survived by his wife, Peggy, his son, Nick (Jessica), his daughter, Jennifer, and his grandchildren, Isaac, Adam, Blake, Connor and Gavin. He leaves behind a legacy of people who

loved him and many friends who will cherish his memory. A memorial service for Bryan was held at the Hagerman National Fish Hatchery on October 3, 2015.

Lloyd Calvin (Bud) Lindvall (1925 – 2015). Lloyd Lindvall, a retired L.E. Special Agent, passed away on April 15, 2015 at his Maryland home. Lloyd (Bud to his friends) was born in 1925 in Minneapolis, Minnesota. Bud served in the U.S. Army in Europe during World War II. Coming home, he married Jean Elizabeth Palmer in 1946, a union that would last for 69 years, and began his law enforcement career as a Game Warden in Minnesota. In 1960, Bud joined the FWS as a Special Agent working in Michigan and Wisconsin. He was deeply involved with the Horicon Marsh goose depredation problem. He also served in Connecticut and, lastly, in Maryland before his retirement.

Bud was a superb wood worker and carver, completing a complete set of one hundred North American waterfowl and models of classic Viking long ships. His work received regional and national awards. Also as might be expected of a man whose career involved protection of fish and wildlife, Bud had a great respect for nature and loved to hunt and fish.

Bud and Jean were parents of four children: Michael, Mark, Matthew, and Elizabeth, eight grandchildren, and three great-grandchildren. A memorial service for Bud was held in Silver Springs, Maryland, in May.

John T. "Jack" Linehan (1920 – 2007). Jack Linehan of Newark, New Jersey and Bailey Island, Maine, died Sept. 20, 2007 in Newark at the age of 87. Born in Seymour, Connecticut and raised in Waterbury, he graduated from the University of Connecticut and attended the University of California, Berkeley, and the Universities of Maryland and Delaware for post graduate studies. He served in the U.S. Marine Corps in combat in the Solomon Islands and elsewhere in the South Pacific. He retired from the Corps with the rank of Major.

He was a research ecologist for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and at the University of Delaware, working largely on control of bird depredations on agricultural crops, primarily corn. He published numerous professional and popular articles (largely ornithological) and was founding editor of *Delmarva Ornithologist*, a periodical publication of the Delmarva Ornithological Society. He also led professional colleagues and amateur bird enthusiasts on ecology, birding and natural history field trips throughout the U.S., Canada, Central and South America and abroad. He was selected twice for listing in *American Men of Science* and was a member of many professional, recreational and civic organizations including the National Audubon Society, Sierra Club, Society of Natural History of Delaware (president) and Wilmington Trail Club (president, conservation chairman) to name a few.

As a retiree, he competed in synchronized (team) skating and national and international ice dance competitions, most recently in France in 2006. In tennis, his inventive drop shots and top spin serves were notorious, and won games for him and his partners through January 2007.

He was the son of the late Joseph A. and Mary H. Linehan, both of Maine; and brother of the late Sister Mary Grace Linehan and the late Capt. Joseph D. Linehan, USN. He was the widower of Betty J. Linehan, his wife of 48 years who died in 1993. He was survived by his brother, Terry H. Linehan of Downey, Calif.; his

sister-in-law, Mary F. Linehan of Virginia Beach, Va.; 12 nephews and nieces; and his beloved Elizabeth Williamson.

He was laid to rest in the Delaware Veterans Memorial Cemetery in Bear, Delaware.

Duane Kenneth McDermond (1957 – 2015). Ken

McDermond passed away on January 30, 2015 at a hospice in Raleigh, North Carolina, at the age of 57. Ken had struggled for several months with an illness that first manifested last summer and was ultimately diagnosed as pancreatic cancer.



Ken had been the South Atlantic Landscape Conservation

Cooperative Coordinator since it was formed in 2010. Prior to that, Ken had already led a highly successful career in the Fish & Wildlife Service, much of that time in the western United States and Pacific Islands. He spent 12 years in Regional Offices in Sacramento, California and Lakewood, Colorado, and two years in the Service's Headquarters in Arlington, Virginia. Prior to his assignment with the South Atlantic LCC, he was the Deputy Regional Director of the Fish and Wildlife Service's Pacific Southwest Region. But he said he wanted to get back in the field, closer to where conservation happens. Ken served 28 years with the Service.

Anthony Joseph (Tony) Opstedal (1922 – 2013). Tony Opstedal was born on May 15, 1922 in Munich, North Dakota and passed away at his home in Albuquerque, New Mexico on



January 29, 2013. Tony served in the Army during WWII and received a purple heart for wounds he received in the Philippines. After WWII, he attended Seattle University where he graduated with a Civil Engineering degree. He worked for a short time on the Alaskan Highway and then accepted a position with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. He started his FWS career in Portland, Oregon then moved his wife and 6

children to Albuquerque in 1954. Tony retired from the Fish and Wildlife Service in 1972 as the Regional Construction Supervisor at the age of 50 and went on to start the Opstedal Construction and Engineering Company with his oldest son in 1975. He retired for the second time in 2002 at the age of 80.

He was preceded in death by his beloved wife Mary who died in 2006; by his parents, three brothers, Aaron, Arnold and Eugene; his oldest son, Anthony Michael Opstedal, and one grandson, Matthew Joseph Brians. Tony is survived by his sister, Luella Olson; four daughters, Mary Lee Brians, Theresa Joyce Lyons, Frances Irene Christianson, and Barbara Ann Goddard, and one son, Joseph William Opstedal. He also leaves behind 19 grandchildren, 30 great-grandchildren and 9 great-great-grandchildren.

Funeral services and a Mass of Christian Burial were celebrated on February 5, 2013 in Albuquerque followed by interment at Santa Fe National Cemetery.

E. Robert (Bob) Panzner (1920 – 2015). Bob Panzner of Holley, New York, passed away on April 25, 2015 at the

Lakeside Beikirch Care Center, four days short of his 95th birthday. He was born April 29, 1920 to the late Edward and Martha Panzner. Bob worked many years for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in Law Enforcement throughout the Midwest. He was predeceased by his wife Betty Chadwick Panzner and daughter Patricia Lawrence. Bob is survived by his granddaughters Leslie (Lester) Payton of Holley and Sheryl (Michael) Jasinski of Crystal Lake, Illinois, four great-grandchildren and several nieces, nephews and cousins.

James Alton Pittman (1932 - 2015). James Pittman of Virginia Beach, Virginia passed away on April 19, 2015 at the age of 83. Jim served in the U.S. Army in the fifties and later worked for the US Fish and Wildlife Service. He retired from the Mackey Island National Wildlife Refuge where he received several awards for his hard work and dedication. He loved to restore old tractors and work in his very organized garage. He could fix anything.

He is survived by his wife of nearly 59 years, Helen Edwards Pittman: his children, Carolyn Pittman Halstead, Thomas Alton Pittman (Susan), Gerald Wayne Pittman (Lori), and Norma Pittman Dunagan; grandchildren, Beth, Chase, Sarah, Gerald Jr., and Kori; great-grandchildren, Madison, Kaydence, Zeke, Dustyn, and Carsyn; sisters, Frances Burgess, Becky Dillon, and Anne Lile (Raymond); and numerous cousins, nieces, and nephews. He was a member of Oak Grove Baptist Church where he served as a deacon and in many other positions through the years.



There was a Celebration of His Life on April 23rd at the Oak Grove Baptist Church. Memorial donations may be made to a mission church that the family is involved with, Calvary Baptist Church, 801 Riverside Ave, Elizabeth City, North Carolina 27909 or to the Creeds Volunteer Rescue Squad. Condolences may be posted at www.rwbakerfh.com.

Edith Sloan (1930 – 2015). Edith Sloan passed away in Portland, Oregon, on May 17, 2015 at the age of 85 after a 16 year battle with Alzheimers. She was born Edith Vidlund to Swedish immigrant Gustav Vidlund and Esther Westland Vidlund on January 20, 1930 in Portland, where she resided all her life. She attended grade and high school there and later Vanport College (now Portland State University) and Reed College. She then began a 35 year career as an Administrative Secretary with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. She enjoyed skiing on Mount Hood and even climbed it with her father. She married Ken Sloan in 1954 and together they enjoyed 46 years together raising their family. Edith was preceded in death by her husband, Ken, in 2000. She is survived by her sons Mike (Laurie) and Paul, three granddaughters and two great-grandchildren, and by her brother Roger Vidlund (Roberta), all of Portland. Edith was cremated and her ashes were buried next to Ken at the Willamette National Cemetery.

David Smith (1937 – 2014). Dave was born in Chicago, Illinois, and, as he grew, developed a deep love of wildlife, especially birds. Dave obtained his Bachelor of Science degree from Auburn University in 1967 and a Masters in 1969. He and his wife then transferred to Utah State University where he

worked on his PHD but also worked to make survival money. In 1977 Dave finished his schooling and joined the US Fish and Wildlife Service with the National Coastal Ecosystems Team in Slidell Louisiana. In 1980 Dave transferred to the Washington office with the Animal Damage Control program. He left D.C. in 1987 to become the Assistant Field Supervisor of the Ecological Services office in Lafayette Louisiana. In 1990 Dave participated in an Inter-governmental Personnel Act assignment with the State of Arkansas at the Hampton Research Center in Hungary Arkansas, returning in 1992 to the E.S. office in Lafayette. Later that year, Dave transferred to the Fish and Wildlife Enhancement Office in Stevens, Mississippi, from which he retired. He was living with his wife Dee in Daphne, Alabama, when he passed away on June 14, 2014 at the age of 77. A memorial Mass was held for him on June 18 in Daphne.

Graham Worthington Smith

(1950 – 2015). Graham Smith passed away on April 8, 2015, at his Amherst, Massachusetts, home with his loving family by his side. Graham was born June 14, 1950, in Eugene, Oregon, to the late Robert Worthington and Velma Louise (Sise) Smith. Graham had a rigorous academic career, earning a



B.S. in biology from the University of Oregon, an M.S. in wildlife biology from Washington State University and a Ph.D. in fisheries and wildlife from Utah State University. His research was wide-ranging, including work with population ecology, quantitative methods, migratory birds, and mammalian biology. Dr. Smith had a long and respected federal career, first with the Bureau of Land Management in Idaho, then nearly 15 years with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Division of Migratory Bird Management), and finally 10 years with the U.S. Geological Survey (Patuxent Wildlife Research Center) in Maryland. He retired in 2012.

Graham is survived by his loving wife, Mary J. Ratnaswamy; daughter, Elizabeth W. Smith; stepdaughter, Selena R. Burke; his four sisters, Ellen (Russ) Wilcoxson, Gretchen (Randy) Prakken, Adrienne Smith, and Anita McKey; and many nieces and nephews. He was predeceased by his first wife, Alice P. Wywialowski, and brother-in-law, Jeff McKey. Donations in his memory to Habitat for Humanity, Ducks Unlimited or The Wildlife Society would be appreciated. A memorial celebration of his life was conducted on September 19, 2015 at Patuxent Research Refuge and attended by many of his fellow employees and loved ones.

Luther Vick (1940 – 2015). Luther Vick, long-time refuge



maintenance mechanic, passed away on April 18, 2015 in Burrowsville, Virginia. Luther was born in Southampton County, Va., on January 21, 1940. He worked for the County of Prince George School Bus Garage for several years before joining the Fish and Wildlife Service in 1967. Luther worked his entire 41-year Service career at Presquile and James River National Wildlife Refuges in Virginia. During most of that time, Luther carried a collateral duty commission as a Wildlife Refuge Officer. Those refuges

combined never had more than four on-site staff, so Luther was, in addition to maintenance and law enforcement, a biologist, interpreter, ferry operator and firefighter. That last duty he shared with the community, serving as a volunteer firefighter for the County of Prince George for 55 years. Luther trained and generally "broke in" many refuge managers during his lengthy Service career, instructing in both refuge management and on life's many lessons. Luther retired in January 2008.

Luther is survived by his children, Dena Lucy (Kenny), Dennis Vick; and their mother, Mary; Bryan Vick, by children Michael Vick (Angela), Kevin Vick, Sarah Vick, Lisa Twait; and their mother, Dianna; by grandchildren, Ashley Lucy, Caitlyn Elder, Jonathon and Rachel Squires; by three sisters, Bernice, Emily, and RoseAnn Martin; by his brother Charlie (Jack) Vick; and by many nieces, nephews and cousins. Memorial services for Luther were held on April 27, 2015 in Burrowsville. In lieu of flowers, the family suggests memorial contributions be made to Burrowsville Volunteer Fire Department, 17300 James River Drive, Disputanta, Va. 23842.

Others Who Have Passed

We have been informed of the passing of the following retirees but at this time do not have information sufficient for an obituary.

Howard W. Brown. A former Region 5 employee, Howard passed away in February 2014. More information may be obtained or condolences sent to his daughter Pamela Palma, 26459 Rudder Road, Millsboro, Delaware, 19966.

Norm Chupp. We were informed by retiree Larry Nygren that Norm died on August 2th of this year. Norm was the former supervisor of the Ecological Services office in Sacramento and the Area Manager in Pennsylvania. He made his home in York Springs, Pennsylvania but no obituary has been found

Alan Flock. Alan Flock passed away on June 24, 2015 after a three year battle with ALS. Alan spent his career in Region 4 working at Merritt Island and Loxahatchee National Wildlife Refuges and the Savannah Coastal Refuge Complex. He is survived by his wife Linda and daughters Katie and Nicki and their families. No other information was available at press time.

Oren Reynolds. Oren, one-time lead fish culturist at the Carson National Fish Hatchery in Washington, died on January 30, 2015, after a lengthy illness. Oren worked for FWS for about 15 years before transferring to the U.S. Forest Service from which he retired. At his request, there was no service and no obituary.

Ernest Wilson. A longtime FWS employee who worked in both Budget and Finance and Contracting and General Services in the Atlanta Regional Office, Ernest died on February 16, 2015. He had been retired for over 30 years before his death. No other info about his life or career could be found.

Jim McKevitt, Sect'y/Scribe

FWS RETIREES ASSOCIATION



*Why join?
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Please complete each section in **BLOCK LETTERS** using Black Ink

This is a: New Application ___ Renewal ___ Information Update ___ (CHECK ONE)

Name: _____ Spouse/Partner: _____

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Phone: _____ email _____ @ _____

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- Heritage – oral and written histories, artifacts, photo records; celebrate station anniversaries
- Mentoring – youth activities, new employees;
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- Membership – Regional captain, recruiting; marketing
- Travel with other members – national and international volunteer projects
- Reunion location – site selection, tours, program, auction, Walk for Wildlife

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Send a membership pin (one per member only)

**Make check payable to and mail completed applications to:
Treasurer, FWS Retirees Association, PO Box 27896, Panama City, FL. 32411**

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

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

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

¹ By adding your name to the Retirees database, you will continue to enjoy FW News and Refuge Update and will receive announcements of other fun and rewarding Retirees activities. No dues are required to be added to the database. You will have voting membership privileges for one year. Dues are voluntary and support Association activities. We hope that you will join in the future!