

FWS Retirees Association NEWSLETTER



Spring (May) 2022

2022 Board of Directors

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Board Business



Message from the Chair.

Hello again! Seems like yesterday when we were trying to decide: Should we have a Reunion this June? And if so, would we have enough participants who would want to come? Gladly, the Board members are as anxious as the 80+ retirees/guests (at time of this writing) who have said, **YES!**

Therefore, we have been busily working on various tasks to host another great Reunion. Watch out Deadwood and Spearfish, South Dakota, ... here we come! By now, you should have received e-mails with the dates and registration information. You can also find this and other details in the next article below, as well as on our website: FWSRetirees.org Huge kudos to Jerry Grover, Board Member Emeritus, and to Board Member Nancy Gloman, for co-chairing this 19th Reunion gathering of our Association! Jerry has, once again, taken on all the logistical tasks with lodging, field trips, and many more behind-the-scenes projects. Nancy is coordinating an excellent program on Tuesday and Wednesday, with many speakers (and some virtual presentations). And thanks to Bruce Halstead for hosting the always-popular raffle and silent auction. **Again, please see the next article below for more information.**

I called the Lodge at Deadwood a couple of days ago and asked the person who answered the phone, "What are your requirements for mask-wearing at the Lodge and in the town of Deadwood." She said, "We have no mask requirements and South Dakota hasn't ever taken that stuff seriously." (I expected that response.)

So, then I asked, "Will the local folks look at me funny when I wear my mask?" And she didn't respond, just giggled. Oh well, I look forward to going there anyway, and seeing you there, too! Mask or no mask!

The Board meets on a videocall every month, so please forward your thoughts, ideas, comments, and articles for this newsletter, including "Fun Facts" to share. *Cindy Uptegraft Barry, Chair*

The 2022 Retirees Reunion begins June 19! Here's what you need to know!

The next Retirees Association Reunion will take place from Sunday, June 19 through Friday, June 24, 2022, centered around the DC Booth Historic National Fish Hatchery (NFH) and Archives (formerly Spearfish NFH) in Spearfish, SD. A contract has been signed with The Lodge at Deadwood, about a 10-minute drive from Spearfish. As we previously announced via e-mail, they offered a nightly rate of \$129 plus taxes that includes a light continental breakfast of coffee, toast, muffins, fruit and juice and complimentary airport shuttle service to Rapid City. Locals who have attended functions there say it has always been good. That special



Von Bayer Museum of Fish Culture at DC Booth Historic National Fish Hatchery and Archives. Photo courtesy of The Booth Society

room rate was available only through May 20, so if you haven't yet made your reservation, the hotel may or may not have rooms available during the week of the Reunion. You can check the hotel's website at deadwoodlodge.com for availability or call the Lodge at **877-393-5634**. If you call, tell them you are a member of the FWS Retirees Association. If they have rooms still

We hope you're planning to attend the Reunion! If so, you need to register. You can do that at this [link](#).

available there would be no harm in asking them if they might still honor the special room rate.

If there are no rooms available at the Lodge during the week of the Reunion you may be able to find alternative lodging elsewhere in Deadwood or the surrounding area, and you could check online hotel search and reservation systems such as Booking.com, Expedia.com, Hotels.com, Priceline.com, Reservations.com, Travelocity.com, etc. If you find accommodations off-site you would need to have or arrange for transportation from there to the Lodge and DC Booth at Spearfish.

Otherwise, here are a few more details regarding The Lodge at Deadwood.

- The Lodge's cancellation policy requires that rooms be cancelled by 4:00 PM on the day **prior to arrival** in order to avoid a cancellation penalty.
- The special rate was **\$129** + taxes. The government per diem rate for June through October is \$130. Reservations must be secured via a credit card.
- The special rate includes a light breakfast of coffee, toast/muffins, juice and fruit in the Pine Crest C Room. If you're a bacon, eggs & waffle person the restaurant will accommodate you at the menu rate.
- If you are flying into Rapid City (the nearest airport, about 50 miles away) and wish to use the Lodge shuttle service and you know your flight number and arrival time, inform the reservations clerk when you arrange your lodging to schedule pick-up. Hint: You should double-check with the hotel a couple of days before your flight to assure they still have you on the shuttle schedule.
- Other information about the Lodge can be found at deadwoodlodge.com
- If you have any difficulty with the Lodge you should contact Board member Jerry Grover at reunion@fwsretirees.org or jcgrover36@gmail.com. Jerry is our event arrangements coordinator.

We currently have 80 or more retiree prospective attendees, with two dozen additional spouses/partners.

There will be other FWS groups holding meetings simultaneously but separately from our gathering. However, they will be joining us for the social events. The National Fish Hatchery System's (NFHS) Operations and Broodstock Committee will be meeting at the Lodge as well as at the hatchery, and part of their program is a ceremony to induct a new member into the Fish Culture Hall of Fame, which is located at DC Booth NFH, and that inductee will also be announced at the Reunion banquet to be held later in the week. The Service's History Committee and its sub-committees will also meet at the Lodge.

Here is a snapshot of what has been planned and scheduled so far. We are planning a full and exciting Retirees program! Top of the list is a report from the Retirees Association about our activities during the past few years including a first-time grant program for Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) conservation projects and opportunities to help the FWS. We'll be visiting the DC Booth NFH to learn about their important programs and help celebrate

the 150th anniversary of the NFHS and the 125th anniversary of DC Booth NFH. You'll hear about the latest in the FWS at Headquarters and Regional levels and find out what some retirees are doing to keep busy in their retirement. A Ducks Unlimited (DU) representative will tell us the latest about what is going on in the flyways. We will also have someone from the National Wildlife Refuge Association to tell us what they are up to, and a representative from the National Association of Active and Retired Federal Employees (NARFE) will update you on the latest legal and policy news affecting you as a federal retiree (**see the article in the "Notes from the Field and Other Things" section of this newsletter on Page 7 for more details about NARFE**).

Although there could still be some adjustments made between now and the start of the Reunion, the final program is mostly fleshed out. Sunday, June 19 will be arrival for the Board, volunteers and other early arrivals. Monday is a mostly a workday to set up the event, prepare for and register retiree attendees as they arrive, but at 3:00 PM that day we will have the ever-popular *Greenwalt Walk for Wildlife*. Tuesday morning the retiree program meetings will kick off followed by an evening icebreaker social of heavy hors d'oeuvres featuring a complimentary local microbrew and soft drinks (full bar available). Wednesday its back to the program with an early afternoon break to tour the DC Booth NFH to be followed by a picnic dinner in the adjoining park with live music. Thursday is a wildcard day with open meetings of the Service's History Committee as well as the NFHS's Operations and Broodstock Committee, a DU-sponsored tour of Bear Butte State Park (a Native American sacred site) and Mt. Rushmore, a spa day at the Lodge, or an opportunity to do whatever you'd like in the local area followed by an evening banquet with wine for all attendees, including retirees, FWS personnel, Booth Society members (the Booth Society is DC Booth NFH's Friends group) and local officials. Plus, there will be an appearance and on-stage performance by "Mr DC Booth" himself (**see related article in the "Fun Facts" section of this newsletter on Page 6**). Friday is clean-up, pack-up and departure day. **You can find a full draft Reunion agenda (still being fine-tuned as we speak) at the end of this newsletter**.

Keep in mind there are a substantial number of your former colleagues without e-mail who do not get information regularly from the Association. If you can share information about the Reunion with any of these folks, please do. Speaking of sharing, do you have a talent you'd like to share--written a book or painted your masterpiece? **We are looking for items for our silent auction and raffle at the Reunion banquet on Thursday night**. If you have any items you would like to contribute for the silent auction, you can either take them with you to the Reunion or mail them to the DC Booth Hatchery at 423 Hatchery Circle, Spearfish, SD 57783. **Make sure you identify on the outside of the package that it is for the FWS Retiree Association**. Also, if you would like a letter acknowledging the donation for tax purposes, please notify Bruce Halstead about that (ak9pak@gmail.com) as he is coordinating the auction.

We're also looking for folks who will have personal vehicles at the Reunion, as we may need assistance getting folks to the Walk for Wildlife venue and buffet supper on Monday and perhaps assist with taking some folks to Spearfish on Wednesday from the hotel. We will ask for this information at registration.

If you plan to attend the Reunion you must register, preferably online or when you arrive at the Lodge at Deadwood. It would really help us out if you could register online. When you check in at the Lodge, a name tag will be waiting, which you need to wear to access the venues and activities you select. The basic registration fee of \$65 will include the ice-breaker social on Tuesday that includes a complementary local microbrew IPA, a Wednesday visit to the DC Booth Historic NFH and Archives Museum with a picnic style supper and music concert in the park, and the closeout banquet on Thursday night that includes wine and a special appearance by Mr DC Booth. You can optionally also register for the Monday afternoon *Greenwalt Walk for Wildlife*. About half of the \$30 fee for that will cover your buffet meal at the end of the walk with the balance going to support a designated local Friends group. Also, as an additional option, the Association with assistance from Ducks Unlimited is sponsoring a complimentary Thursday bus tour to Bear Butte State Park, a sacred Native American site, and Mt Rushmore. A subway style sandwich for a \$10 lunch fee for that tour will also be on the registration form. You can indicate when registering, whether you will have a vehicle at the Reunion and are willing to help transport others between Reunion venues. **You can access the online registration form at this [Link](#).**

If you are interested in helping with any activities preparing for the Reunion, such as registration, participant packets or stuffing goody bags, please contact us (Jerry Grover at reunion@fwsretirees.org or jcgrover36@gmail.com or Nancy Gloman at issues@fwsretirees.org). For info on the Greenwalt Walk for Wildlife on Monday, contact Lew Gorman at lew.gorman@yahoo.com. Steve Rideout (treasurer@fwsretirees.org) will be able to answer any registration payment questions.

Coincidentally with the Reunion, 2022 is an important milestone in the FWS's history -- the 150th anniversary of the NFHS. This anniversary marks the creation in 1872 of the Baird Fish Hatchery on the McCloud River in California by the newly created US Fish Commission (the first precursor agency of the FWS). In addition, 2022 is also the 125th Anniversary of the establishment of the DC Booth (formerly Spearfish) NFH, one of the oldest NFHs still in operation. In addition to fish production the mission of DC Booth was later expanded to include hosting an archive facility to conserve items important in the history of the Fish and Aquatic Conservation Program as well as the FWS generally. One prominent example of that is a railroad car that was used during the early days of the NFHS to stock fish in efforts to restore fisheries across the United States. In 2020 the Retirees Association provided a \$5,000 grant to the Booth Society to help restore the railroad car, which is a favorite of visitors to the hatchery. More information about DC Booth Historic NFH and Archives can be found at <https://dcboothfishhatchery.org/education/> and at <https://www.fws.gov/fish-hatchery/dc-booth-historic>.

Note that we will be following the COVID-19 safety protocols in place for each venue at the time of the Reunion. *Nancy Gloman and Jerry Grover*

Early Announcement of the 2023 Election for the Board of Directors. Each year, the terms for three of the nine Board members expire and their seats come up for election. We are looking for candidates for the 2023 Board. It's important that we have a good and active Board to keep this Association running, and we need people with new and diverse ideas and viewpoints to step forward. In 2023 the terms of two members of the Association's Board of Directors will expire: Robin West and Nancy Gloman. Every dues-paying member gets a chance to run for one of these seats or nominate someone else to run. Once a slate of candidates has been identified, every dues-paying member has the opportunity to vote for the candidates of their choice. The 2023 elections will be held this fall, with new or re-elected Board members taking their seats in January 2023. While current Board members may again stand for election to the Board, this is the opportunity for others interested in being active and influential in their Association to throw their hat into the ring. **To be qualified to seek nomination and vote, Members must be current and paid up with their dues by October 15.** Names and biographical summaries of candidates must also be submitted by October 20 to Denise Baker at secretary@fwsretirees.org. Ballots with the names and bios of all qualified candidates will be electronically available or mailed to eligible voters by November 1 to begin voting. Voter returns will be accepted through November 22. If you are interested in serving on the Board, please let us know directly. Or if you know of someone else that you believe would make a good board member, please confirm their interest first before submitting their name for consideration. Nominations and bios should be sent to Denise Baker at secretary@fwsretirees.org or phone 602-796-0769 by October 20. **By the way, if you're not sure of your membership/dues status, you can go to <http://www.fwsretirees.org/Documents/FWS-Retirees-Paid-current.pdf> to find out.** *Denise Baker, Secretary*

Treasurer's Report. Four plus months into our new year, our main checking account stands at \$25,211.85 including a generous donation of \$3,000 from Ducks Unlimited. Our PayPal account stands at \$212.30 and soon will grow with Reunion registrations. Our regular income, primarily from dues stands at \$4,359.38 at the end of April including a third lifetime membership, one more than we anticipated in our budget. Regular dues total \$2,750 and are 50% of our expected total for the year. Typically, more dues come in during reunion registrations as well as in the fall in advance of voting for our three Board positions. Our expenses, as of the end of April stood at \$864.20, well below our budget. We will be getting an invoice for Webmaster services and anticipate having to pay for some IT assistance with the Reunion, but our balances and expected expenses and remaining dues payments will keep us in a healthy condition.

Our Heritage (=History) Grant account balance is \$27,722.63 and is sufficient to cover our budgeted expenses through the remainder of the grant year, September 30. Similarly, our Youth/Conservation Career Awareness balance of \$42,787.25 is very solid for our remaining commitments. COVID-19 has impacted anticipated expenditures in both grant programs, especially this latter one. We may need to request a no-cost

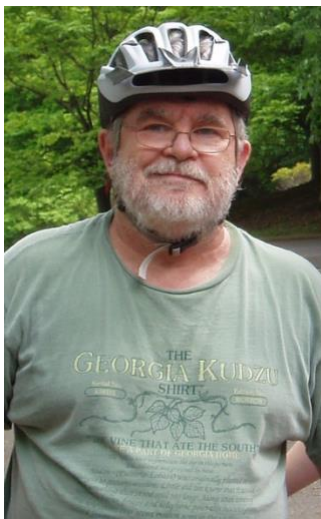
extension of time to complete the funded activities. We will make this determination by July 30.

We will be separately budgeting and tracking income and expenses for the Reunion. Reunions generally pay for themselves between registrations, raffle and silent auction income and contributions. The next newsletter report will cover how we did.

Steve Rideout, Treasurer

Membership

New Life Members. Congratulations and a big “Thank You” to **Kevin Foerster**, for becoming our newest Life member. Kevin retired last year and was working in the National Wildlife Refuge System (NWRS) in Region 1. **Sean Furniss** was initially recognized as a new life member in our Summer 2021 and again in the Fall 2021 newsletters. Sean recently provided the bio that follows. Thanks again Sean! We are now up to 54 Life Members. *Deborah Holle*



Sean Furniss began his career with the FWS as a student trainee at Klamath Basin Refuges in June 1967. He was drafted into the Army in July 1968, and in 1969, experienced his first year living in the tropics in the Republic of South Viet Nam. He was assigned to Malheur NWR in August 1970. In 1972 Sean left the FWS to work on his master’s degree at Oregon State University. Upon completion of that degree, he joined the Peace Corps in 1974. Sean was sent to Colombia, South America, as a member of the Smithsonian–Peace Corps environmental program. He

worked in the eastern plains of Colombia as a research ornithologist with the International Center for Tropical Agriculture (CIAT). His parasite collection and assorted bird collections were donated to the Smithsonian Natural History Museum and the Field Museum of Natural History in Chicago. In 1976 Sean re-joined the FWS at Imperial NWR in Arizona and in 1978 he became the first refuge manager of Caribbean Islands NWRs, headquartered in Cabo Rojo, Puerto Rico, where he and his family enjoyed nine years in the tropics (A much nicer experience than his year in Viet Nam!). He joined the FWS Headquarters staff in 1987. Between 1987 and his retirement in January 2010, Sean served in various positions, working with the Office of the Vice President, the Office of the Secretary of the Interior, an assortment of interagency programs and committees, the National Academy of Sciences, Transportation Research Board, the Senate Environment and Public Works (EPW) Committee staff, and other groups. He assisted the Office of International Affairs with programs in Mexico, Honduras, Nicaragua, Costa Rica, and Florida. In 1998 Sean was chosen to work with the Federal Lands Highway program and assemble information about refuge roads and transportation needs. Working with the EPW staff the 20-million-dollar Refuge Roads program

was added to the transportation bill. The EPW staff and other congressional staff were taken on field trips to review the transportation issues on federal lands. The EPW’s support of Sean’s environmentally responsible dust control project proposals resulted in funding studies to improve dust control on unpaved roads, which was later recognized by the Federal Highway Administration with an Environmental Excellence Award. After retiring Sean has focused his efforts on family history and genealogy projects. He has served as education chair and program chair of the Fairfax Genealogy Society for six years and is currently serving as co-leader of the Family History Writing Special Interest Group. In addition to waterfowl and seabird publications, Sean has had ten genealogy and family history articles published in three journals. *Contributed by Sean Furniss*

Thank You Sustaining Members! We appreciate our sustaining and new members to the Retirees Association! Without your continued support through joining or renewing your memberships we wouldn’t have reunions, travel opportunities with other FWS retirees, funds for field station mini-grants, grants to support station anniversaries, and an easy way to keep in touch with our former colleagues and friends in the FWS. In October 2021 the Retirees Association started a Conservation Project Grant Program. In that effort the Association provided \$43,396 to five FWS field stations to assist in completion of a variety of projects ranging from improving public use facilities at a NFH headquarters site to improving habitat for an endangered species. We can’t do it every year but will try to do it again when our reserve funds accumulate sufficiently. Thanks for your support!

The following folks are those members who have either joined or renewed their dues during November 2021 - April 2022.

- **AULT, Charles (Joyce)**, Gold Canyon, AZ, Retired 2008, R2, RO, Science Applications
- **BARTEL, Jim (Debbie)**, Carlsbad, CA, Retired 2014, R8(CA/NV), Ecological Services, Carlsbad Fish & Wildlife Office
- **BARTLETT, Mike (Jeannie)**, Bow, NH, Retired 2008, R5, Ecological Services, New England FO
- **BIERCE, Pamela**, Sacramento, CA, Retired 2021, R8(CA/NV), RO, External Affairs – **NEW MEMBER**
- **BLOHM, Robert (Shari)**, Lupon, MI, Retired 2010, R9(WO/NCTC) Migratory Birds
- **BOHAN, Carolyn**, Green Valley, AZ, Retired 2011, R1, RO, Refuges & Wildlife, Assistant Regional Director (ARD) NWRS
- **BOWKER, James (Jesse Trushenski)**, Bozeman, MT, Retired 2018, R9/WO, Fisheries, Aquatic Animal Drug Approval Partnership – **NEW MEMBER**
- **BURGER, Carl (Kristie)**, Battle Ground, WA, Retired 2006, R5, Fisheries, Maine Fisheries Complex, East Orland
- **BUTERBAUGH, Galen (Glenda)**, Spokane, WA, Retired 1992, R6, Regional Director
- **CAIN, Brian**, Houston, TX, Retired 2007, R2, Ecological Services, Contaminants, Clear Lake Field Office

- **CAMPBELL, David**, Stanley, NM, Retired 2020, R2, Ecological Services, NM Ecological Services Office – **NEW MEMBER**
- **CHAPMAN, Rose**, Klamath Falls, OR, R1, Refuges & Wildlife, Klamath Basin NWR's, Administrative Office
- **DURHAM, Megan, (Richard Graus)**, Reston, VA, Retired 2007, R9/WO, Deputy AD, External Affairs
- **FOERSTER, Kevin (Maureen)**, Camas, WA, Retired 2021, R1, Ro, Refuges & Wildlife – **NEW LIFE MEMBER**
- **FORTENBERY, David (Luann)**, Lewiston, MT, Retired 2005, 6, Refuges, Lewiston, MT
- **FREDERICK, David (Joyce)**, Pagosa Springs, CO, Retired 2006, R2, RO, Ecological Services
- **GAMBLE, Lawrence (Jane)**, Morrison, CO, Retired 2017, R6, RO, Fisheries – **NEW MEMBER**
- **GARST, Ron (Karen)**, Silverton, OR, Retired 2001, R1, Ecological Services, Portland Field Office
- **GILBERT, Nancy (Dave)**, Madison, SD, Retired 2005, R6, Refuges & Wildlife, Madison WMD
- **GILBERTSON, Nancy (Tom Prall)**, Oro Valley, AZ, Retired 2010, R3, Refuges & Wildlife, Neal Smith NWR
- **GLADWIN, Terry (Mary)**, Pocatello, ID, Retired 2001, R1, Refuges & Wildlife, SE Idaho Refuge Complex
- **HAGENBUCK Warren (Sharon)**, Rio Rancho, NM. Retired 1997, R2, RO, Ecological Services, Wetland Coordinator
- **JACOBSEN, Susan, (Mark)**, Rio Rancho, NM. Retired 2020, R2, RO, Ecological Services
- **JUNG, Susan (Henry Jung)**, Clackamas, OR, Retired 2019, R1, RO, Administration, CGS
- **KANTOLA, Angela (Don Wallace)**, Littleton, CO, Retired 2017, R6, RO, Ecological Serviced, Upper Colorado River Endangered Fish Recovery Program
- **KOLAR, Marge**, Davis CA, Retired 2013, R8(CA/NV), RO, Refuges & Wildlife, ARW
- **LAMBERT, Dale (Marcia Hamley)**, Portland, OK Retired 2018, R9/WO, Refuges & Wildlife, Facilities, Equipment, and Transportation
- **LANEY, R. Wilson (Gail)**, Raleigh, NC, Retired 2019, R4. Ecological Services Field Office, Raleigh, NC
- **LEVITT, Alan (Marilyn)**, Chevy Chase. MD, R9
- **LOWE, Roy (Laurie)**, Waldport, OR, Retired 2015, R1, Refuges & Wildlife, Oregon Coast NWR Complex
- **MATTHEWS, James (Jerrie)**, Arvada, CO, Retired 1994, R6, RO, Refuges & Wildlife
- **McANDREWS, Tom**, Nashua, NH, R5, Refuges & Wildlife
- **McCUE, Robert (Patrcia)**, Dover, DE, Retired 2004, R6, RO, Ecological Services 1-year renewal
- **MONTOYA, Gary (Carla)**, Truth or Consequences, NM, Retired 2006, R2, RO, Refuges & Wildlife, GM AZ/NM
- **MOTT, Sarah**, Herndon, VA, Retired 2018, R9/WO, Migratory Birds, Bird Habitat Conservation
- **MOTT, Seth, (Sarah)**, Herndon, VA, Retired 2019, R9/WO, HQ Science Applications, Science Advisor
- **MULLIS, Diana**, Hedgesville, WV, Retired 2007, USGS, Leetown Science Center, WV
- **NISSAN, Jim (Ruth)**, La Crescent, MN, Retired 2015, R3, Refuges & Wildlife, La Crosse District, UMRNW & FR
- **PARRIS, Steve (Tina)**, De Ridder, LA, Retired 2010, R2, Ecological Services, Clear Lake FO, Houston, TX
- **PASCUZZI (MARTINKOVIC), Patricia (Tony Pascuzz)**, Eagan, MN, Retired 2007, R3, Refuges & Wildlife, Minnesota Valley & Wetland Complex
- **PERCHETTI, Sandy (Joe)**, Audubon, NJ Retired 2008, R5, Refuges & Wildlife, Forsythe NWR
- **PHILLIPS, Ray, (Cindy)**, Buffalo, WY, Retired, 1986, R3, Fisheries, Fish Food Technology Center, Beulah, WY
- **RILEY, Dave (Susan)**, Portland, OR, Retired 2016, R1, Administration
- **RUTHERFORD, Constance**, Fountain Hills, AZ, Retired 2007, R2, Law Enforcement, Nogales, AZ
- **SACHS, Coleman (Shana Weiss)**, Anna Dale, VA, Retired 1979, Law Enforcement, Regulations, Penalties Branch – **NEW MEMBER**
- **SCHEINDER, Anne (Paul)**, Onamia, MN, Retired 2021, R3, RO. Federal Aid & State Programs – WFSER – **NEW MEMBER**
- **SMITH, Carol (David Broyles)**, Gatesville, TX, Retired 2017, R6, Ecological Services, Missouri River Recovery
- **SKUTEK, Stan (Karen)**, Stevens Pt., WI, Retired 2007, R5, Refuges & Wildlife, Canaan Valley NWR
- **STANBROUGH, Dave (Joanna)**, Cache, OK, Retired 2002, R1, Refuges & Wildlife
- **STARNES, Lynn**, Sparks, NV, Retired 2006, R2, RO, Fisheries
- **TRAUGER, David**, Marine on St. Croix, MN

Fun Facts and Other Interesting Stories. As the History Committee (formally Heritage Committee) started gathering Fun Facts for the FWS's sesquicentennial I don't think Dr. Mark Madison imagined how many facts would be submitted or how varied they would be. It's so nice that in the FWS, many of us as "newbies" had mentors who helped us in our careers. As we remember the good old days, it's nice to reminisce about some of them. Wendell Ogden, who retired from the Leetown Fisheries Center at Harpers Ferry, Virginia submitted the following memory of such a person. If anyone wants to take Wendell up on his offer to share memories of Buck Shot, or anyone else, send to me at miamibig99@aol.com or promote@FWSRetirees.org and I'll be in touch. Thanks. *Deborah Holle*

Remembering "Buck Shot". Soon after arriving at my first permanent position at the Warm Springs NFH, in Georgia in the spring of 1962, I had the pleasure of being introduced to Mr. Raymond "Buck Shot" Haase. He had retired from the Service several months prior to my arrival. He settled into a little house out by the airport. He'd frequently stop by the hatchery driving an old Ford truck from which he had removed the roof, creating a quasi-convertible/pickup. Sometimes I'd visit his "ranch" and offer to help him with some of his chores. Frequently, however, we would wind up in his springhouse where he always had a supply of homemade beer (but that's another story) cooling. He kept a saucepan into which the beer would be poured in order to

create a great foamy head. We didn't get much work done but told a lot of tales.

Shortly after my arrival at Warm Springs and during one of his occasional visits he pulled me aside to offer some career advice. "Wendell" he said "the way to succeed on the fish hatchery is to always have a shovel close by. That way if anyone ever asks you what you're doing, you say "just going to . . ." or "you're just coming from . . ." Buck had a long and varied career and I wonder if any else of our group have any Buck Shot stories they would like to share or reminisce about. I have a few more and will offer to share them if anyone is interested. *Submitted by Wendell Ogden, retired 1993.*

Trading Places. It started in the early 1990s, in a Mexican state called, confusingly, Mexico. The prize Lowland Gorilla at a local zoo in Toluca had died. The Zoo's Director, Victor Bernal, was desperate to get a replacement as quickly as he could. Mr. Bernal, also head of the state's Natural Parks and Zoos Commission, contacted a dealer of exotic animals in Miami and began to arrange, illegally, to have a gorilla shipped to Mexico, for about \$250,000.

Unfortunately for Bernal, the animal dealer, Matthew Block, a real endangered species smuggler, was working as an informant for the FWS. He informed FWS agents and they started planning how to catch Mr. Bernal. To arrest him and make their case, they needed to complete the transaction, with Bernal handing over money for a gorilla. It was too risky, not to mention dangerous, to use a real animal, so they had to use a willing substitute which turned out to be Special Agent Terry English, now retired, in a gorilla outfit.

The agents put Terry in a special gorilla cage at the Opa-locka airport near Miami, where Bernal and his companions were coming to transact the deal. Thanks to the Miami Zoo, some



FWS LE Agent Terry Smith as gorilla.

authentic gorilla scat was donated to make the deception more authentic, along with some straw. In addition, Terry made some very authentic sounding Gorilla noises, and movements.

Two U.S. Customs agents hidden in a trailer office at the airport captured the scene on blurry black-and-white videotape. The old DC-3 transport plane, its belly underlit and a cargo hold open, waits on a runway in the dimness of night while five men drift distantly in and out of camera range. The ground is shiny from rain; lightning flashes. Suddenly more figures, a dozen or so, swarm out of nowhere. They force three of the men to kneel at gunpoint and handcuff them. About then a dark, hulking figure climbs from the plane down a short ladder and walks away from the scene in the direction of the hidden camcorder. It's unmistakably a man's impassive face atop an ape's body. The ape's head is tucked under an arm. Still walking, businesslike, he lights a cigarette and veers out of the picture.

It was the sting that had everyone laughing in the planning stages and after. Bernal, terrified when Terry exited the cage and lit up a cigarette, was ultimately convicted, although some jurors had

misgivings that the sting was probably entrapment. However, there was no doubt Bernal believed the gorilla was real.

Submitted by Deborah Holle

So, who was DC Booth? If you're planning to attend the Retirees Reunion next month or have read the 2022 Reunion article beginning on Page 1 of this newsletter you may be scratching your head and asking, "Who was this DC Booth person, why will he be making a re-enacted appearance at the Reunion Banquet, and why is the fish hatchery in Spearfish named for him?" Dewit Clinton Booth was the first Superintendent (Hatchery Manager in today's terminology) of the hatchery. The hatchery began operations as the Spearfish NFH in 1896 with 17 ponds and a hatchery building. Mr Booth, a New York native, then at the Leadville NFH in Colorado, arrived at the Spearfish Hatchery in 1899, about the time the hatchery had received 100,000 westslope cutthroat trout eggs. A few days later the area was hit by a flash flood, and all the eggs were destroyed. Booth and his staff cleaned up the mess and finished setting up a new main hatchery building, still under construction. They later added two storm channels to prevent future flooding. At completion, the building was able to hold and hatch 2.5 million eggs at a time. Booth described winter conditions at the hatchery as being "very favorable for incubation". Despite the storm channels Booth and his staff had built, another flood occurred in 1904, causing more damage. Booth and his folks then built ten-foot-high bulkheads to help protect the hatchery. Booth also built a home for himself and family in 1905 on the hatchery grounds. The Neo-colonial Revival style building is still present and maintained on the site by the Booth Society. If you attend the Reunion, you'll be able to tour it. Adjacent to the Booth House is Ruby's Garden, which can be rented from the Booth Society for weddings and other events during May through September. Mr Booth stayed at the hatchery for 34 years. The hatchery ceased operation as a fish production facility in 1983 due to budget cuts, but the FWS still allowed visitors to tour the Booth House and hatchery site. The hatchery re-started fish culture operations in 1989 as the DC Booth Historic National Fish Hatchery.

Contributed by Doug Frugé

FWS News

Robyn Thorson Retires. Robyn Thorson, Regional Director in Region 1, Portland since 2008, officially joined the ranks of FWS retired employees effective April 29 but was already a life member of the Association! Robyn started her career with the Service in 1985 and was the Regional Director in Region 5, Minneapolis prior to Portland. Her career took her to four Regions (twice to Alaska) and multiple tours in Headquarters. We thank her for her service and wish her the very best in her well-deserved retirement. *Robin West, Vice-Chair*

Anniversary Celebration Being Planned for Great Bay NWR in New Hampshire. A 30th Anniversary celebration is being planned for this fall for the Great Bay NWR in Newington, NH. Peggy Hobbs, at Parker River NWR is trying to reach all former employees of Great Bay, as well as volunteers and partner organizations who were involved with the Refuge

during the 1990s and early 2000s. Whatever your connection to the Refuge, we're sure Peggy would be interested in hearing from you and getting your contact information so she and the staff there can provide you more details on this event. Peggy can be reached by e-mail at peggy_hobbs@fws.gov.

Natural Resource Issues

The Association believes it is important that we keep our readers informed on what we think may be the most important or highest profile fish and wildlife matters of regional or national significance, especially those of major importance to the FWS. While we have no illusions of being comprehensive in selection of articles, we believe those of most interest or significance for fish and wildlife conservation in the United States should be brought to our members' attention. Please note that we also try to keep our website updated with more expansive information on important fish and wildlife issues. Please visit the website at www.fwsretirees.org.

The Fight to Protect Izembek NWR Continues. In March this year, the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals set back decades of successfully protecting the Izembek NWR and Wilderness in Alaska from road construction through it. In 2013 the Interior Department rejected the proposed road. During the Trump Administration, the Department reversed that position and approved two land exchanges needed for the road construction. Those were challenged in federal district court in Alaska, which then ruled against the land exchanges. The Trump administration appealed that decision, and the Biden administration has continued that appeal. A recent decision by the Ninth Circuit reversed the district court's decision. Former President Jimmy Carter and others have filed amicus briefs challenging the most recent Ninth Circuit Court decision. President Carter is arguing that the Court's interpretation of land exchange provisions in the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act is counter to the Congressional intent of the 1980 law (which he signed) and could threaten the very values the law was clearly intended to protect. It is possible the case could be reheard in front of the full (nine judge) Court. Stay tuned. *Contributed by Robin West*

First Wild Red Wolf Litter in Four Years. A litter of six red wolf pups this spring is the first to be born in the wild since 2018. The pups, four females and two males, were born on the Alligator River NWR along the northeastern North Carolina coast. Red wolves were found throughout the Southeastern US during pre-colonial times, but hunting, deliberate extermination and development drove the species to near extinction. Only 17 red wolves remained in 1973



Red wolf pups born on Alligator River NWR. USFWS Photo

in a small area of the southwestern Louisiana and southeastern Texas coasts. Most of those were captured for a breeding program to help restore the species, the remaining wild wolves eventually disappeared, and the red wolf was declared extinct in the wild in 1980. As part of the Red Wolf Recovery Plan more than 60 adult

wolves were released into the Alligator River NWR during 1987-1994. The population reached a peak of 120 in 2012. However, increasing mortalities caused by hunters mistaking them for coyotes after the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission relaxed coyote hunting rules in the area surrounding the refuge once again sent the wild population into decline. Today, again only 15-17 red wolves are estimated to be living in the wild, with another 241 in captivity. They are one of the most endangered mammals on the planet. *Contributed by Doug Frugé*

Ninth Circuit Court ruling helps protect Kenai NWR Brown Bears. On April 18 the US Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals upheld a refuge rule that prohibits hunting brown bears over bait on Kenai NWR in Alaska. The ruling also re-affirmed the FWS's authority to manage wildlife on NWRs in the State.

In 2016, the FWS finalized several regulations for the Kenai NWR that codified long-standing management policies collectively known as the "Kenai Rule". The State of Alaska and a coalition of hunters' associations challenged the Rule. In November 2020, a US District Court upheld the part of the Rule prohibiting brown bear hunting over bait, but the ruling was appealed in 2021. On April 18 this year the Court of Appeals upheld the lower court's decision. *Contributed by Doug Frugé*

Proposed Legislation Would Expand Migratory Bird Protections. A bill recently introduced in the US Senate by Senators Ben Cardin (D-MD) and Rob Portman (R-OH) would reauthorize and expand conservation programs funded under the Neotropical Migratory Bird Conservation Act (NMBCA). Referred to as the Migratory Birds of the Americas Conservation Enhancements Act ([S.4187](#)) the new legislation would lower the cost-sharing requirement for grant recipients from 3:1 to 2:1 as well as authorize an increase in funding that can be provided under the program from \$6.5 million to more than \$20 million annually. The NMBCA grants support projects on research and monitoring, law enforcement, community outreach and education, and the management, protection, and restoration of bird populations and habitat.

Notes From the Field and Other Things

This is the section formerly called "Miscellaneous". We welcome your contributions of stories or articles on just about anything that may be of interest to FWS Retirees. Just send them to Doug Frugé at communications@fwsretirees.org.



What is NARFE? Hi, I'm NARFE's lead for government affairs, John Hatton, and I'll be addressing the FWS Retirees

Association Reunion on June 21 with an update on the latest on legislative issues affecting federal employees and retirees. Before I do, I appreciate the opportunity to introduce you to NARFE in this newsletter. So, what is NARFE?

NARFE is the only organization solely dedicated to the general welfare of all federal workers and retirees. It's the federal community's leading voice in Washington, speaking on behalf of current and retired federal employees before Congress, the administration, and other federal leaders.

NARFE also delivers valuable guidance, information, and resources to help you get the most out of your federal benefits. Federal benefits specialists provide members with expert advice to help them make critical decisions about financial planning, retirement funds, health care, insurance, and many other federal benefits. Whether you're an active or retired federal employee, NARFE will help you take charge of your federal benefits and financial future.

As a NARFE member, you can stay current with *NARFE Magazine* and the *NewsLine* e-newsletter, the best sources for the latest news and information on issues that affect federal employees and retirees.

NARFE members also have exclusive access to FEDHub, a vibrant online community of active and retired federal employees. Members connect with other members and subject matter experts in discussion forums on topics like federal benefits, legislation that affects Feds, job types or roles, career stage, and many others.

We hope you'll join more than 150,000 of your fellow federal employees and retirees in supporting the organization that supports you. *Contributed by John Hatton, SVP, Policy and Programs, NARFE*

FWS Retirees Initiating Natural Resource

Outreach Efforts. The FWS Retirees Association is starting to promote the concept of its members continuing to help connect people with nature in their communities and beyond. We believe our members are in a unique position and are equipped with special natural resource knowledge and skills to advance this effort. Volunteering at local, county, state, federal and NGO properties can add much needed assets to help these organizations learn, appreciate, and care for the species and habitats that all of us worked so hard for during our careers with the FWS. One of our Board Members, Lew Gorman, is leading this initiative and would like to recruit retirees to perform natural resource outreach activities. Please let Lew know if you are already engaged in doing outreach or if you are interested in becoming involved. Please contact him for further information at lew.gorman@yahoo.com or if you are planning to attend the Reunion next month, talk to him in person.



Lew recently staffed an exhibit table at the National Museum of Natural History, Smithsonian Institution's annual Botany Symposium on May 13 this year. The exhibit highlighted the connection between plants and pollinators. Our table (with new table cover and drape) included beautiful Pollinator Partnership posters provided by the Smithsonian Botany Department. Those were distributed to excite interest for and knowledge of

pollinators. Monarch butterfly brochures and *How to Plant a Pollinator Garden* pamphlets provided by the US Forest Service were distributed to promote pollinator conservation actions on the ground. A FWS bookmark was also available to encourage interest in our former employer. The source of the materials and, the Association's role in making the exhibit happen show the value of partnerships in providing natural resource outreach activities to connect people with nature while furthering the mission of the FWS even after our retirement. We welcome any and all who would want to join in these efforts! *Contributed by Lew Gorman III*

FWSRA Represented at The North American Conference on Wildlife and Natural Resources.

The premier gathering of fish, wildlife and natural resource agencies and professionals on our continent is organized by the Wildlife Management Institute (WMI). Established just over 50 years ago, the WMI holds an annual gathering, commonly referred to as the "North American", this year in Spokane, Washington in mid-March, and the FWS Retiree Association was represented. The WMI website states, "The North American Conference sessions, workshops and more than 150 separate meetings and functions, serve as the annual forum to set conservation policy in North America." One of those separate meetings is the National Military Fish and Wildlife Association Annual Meeting & Training Workshop held in concert with the North American and attended by those managing natural resources on Department of Defense (DoD) lands. It was there that the Retiree Association was represented. Board member, Lew Gorman, coordinated a session on opportunities for DoD natural resource operations to partner with NGO's, including the Retiree Association. As the WMI website states: "The conference is a regular gathering of professionals to learn and exchange ideas, through a formal program, related meetings and other scheduled business, social and educational events." Since many FWS employees attend the conference, Lew set up an information table highlighting our organization. Some FWS "retirees-in-training" stopped by the table to inquire about the FWSRA as they were getting close to joining our ranks and picked up our brochure. Others could take a brochure titled, "Join the Service," targeted to those interested in working for the FWS. So, we were promoting both the FWS and our organization.

The plenary session of the "North American" formally opens with keynote speakers. This year those included WMI Executive



FWS Director Martha Williams and FWSRA Board Member Lew Gorman III

Director and a past FWS Director, Steve Williams, newly confirmed FWS Director, Martha Williams, and the Director of the National Wildlife Federation, Collin O'Mara. All made inciteful and stimulating remarks on conservation and cooperation in the US. Lew met with all of them and put a plug in with Ms Williams for FWS leadership attending our Reunion in Spearfish, SD next month.

Clearly, that is an event at which representation and participation by FWS leaders at the highest levels is important. *Contributed by Lew Gorman III*



Telling a Complicated Story about Fish Conservation in the Northeast.

A new book, *Managing the River Commons: Fishing and New England's Rural Economy*, by historian Erik Reardon tells how small farmer-fishers in New England, prominently in the Connecticut River Valley, promoted fish conservation measures from the early colonial period through the mid-nineteenth century. They advocated for fishing regulations, encouraged local millers to open

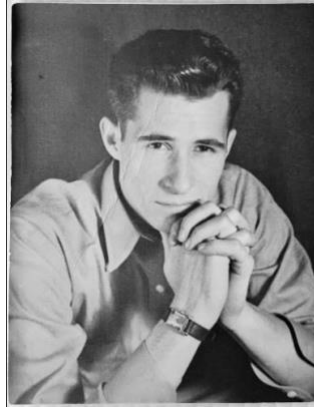
their dams during seasonal fish runs and fought against industrial proposals to erect large dams, in order to promote sustainable returns.

New England historically had large populations of anadromous fish species, including salmon, shad, alewives and sturgeon that were utilized by the indigenous peoples, as well as European immigrants, as important sources of nutrition and economic exchange. Small-scale farmers in the interior parts of the region relied heavily on seasonal fishing when anadromous fishes were concentrated in certain areas at falls and in steep rapids trying to ascend rivers to their spawning areas in spring. It was primarily these people who were motivated to maintain sustainable fish populations into the future, setting up a tension between the larger commercial interests in the region and the smaller, primarily agricultural communities. As work continues today to restore rivers in New England and other parts of the country, *Managing the River Commons* provides an important historical perspective that may inform current efforts to remove dams and restore anadromous fish populations. The work, published in 2021, is available from Amazon.com and Barnes and Noble. *Contributed by Doug Frugé*

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 later career changes, please let us know so 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.

Gerald Evert Davis (1928 – 2021). Gerald “Gerry” Davis, 92, passed away peacefully of natural causes on September 27, 2021 in Portland, Oregon. Gerry was born November 5, 1928, in Auburn, California to Winifred Beaumont and Avie Davis and grew up on a small ranch in northeastern Oregon. He graduated from Union High School in 1946, served in the US Air Force and while attending Russian language classes at Syracuse University he met Ann Elizabeth Potter. They were married in San Antonio,



management. He may have transferred to the FWS Federal Assistance Program in the Portland Regional Office, but he did eventually transfer to the National Marine Fisheries Service and helped manage US fisheries in the Pacific.

In addition to his professional endeavors, Gerry was also a pilot, loved motorcycles and could fix just about anything. He was preceded in death by his wife, Ann and survived by daughters, Lynne Larson and Amy Davis, son, Tom Davis, and numerous grandchildren. His obituary indicated that a private family memorial service would be held at a later date. *Thanks to Ron Iverson for informing the FWSRA about Gerry's passing. Doug Frugé*



Robert “Bob” Jacobsen (1940-2022). Bob Jacobsen, 82, of Chandler, Texas, passed away on May 14, 2022, in Tyler. Bob was born May 14, 1940, in Los Angeles, California, the son of Donald Jacobsen and Claribel (Smith) Jacobsen. He graduated in 1958 from Montrose High School in Montrose, Colorado. After graduation, Bob enlisted in the US Navy, where he served four years in the Pacific during the Vietnam War as a radio operator. He loved

our country and was proud of the time he devoted to its service in the military. After discharge from the Navy Bob attended Mesa College and then Colorado State University, where he graduated with a bachelor's degree in Wildlife, Fish and Wildlands Science and Management in 1968.

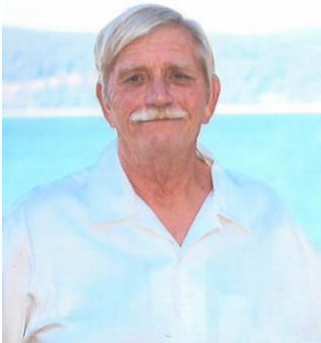
Bob began his 31-year career in the Department of the Interior with the Bureau of Land Management as a wildlife biologist and an area manager in the Las Cruces District, New Mexico (six years) and an area manager in the Craig and Montrose Districts, Colorado (four years). His career with the FWS began in 1974 in the Office of Endangered Species and International Affairs at Headquarters. He transferred to Salt Lake City, Utah as Ecological Services Field Supervisor for Colorado and Utah and later moved to the Alaska Regional Office as ARD for Habitat Resources/Fish and Wildlife Enhancement and for the Fisheries program for a short while. Bob made his final move to the Denver

Regional Office as the ARD for Ecological Services for eight states and retired in 1995.

After retirement, Bob moved to Crockett, Texas and enjoyed fishing and creating wildlife habitat on his and wife Bonnie's small farm there. Bob also enjoyed traveling and visiting family. Bob joined the FWSRA Board of Directors in April 2012 to fill a vacant position and helped plan the 2013 Retiree's Reunion in Kalispell, Montana. However, Bob was unable to complete his term due to health reasons and resigned in the spring of 2013. Bob was a remarkable Christian man who loved his family. His legacy as a husband, father, grandfather, and friend will live on in the lives of those he knew.

Bob was preceded in death by his parents and is survived by his wife, Bonnie and children, Robert Jacobsen and Teri Allen, Bonnie's children, Michael Shiner, Gregory Shiner and Amy Keeney, sister, Linda Ditsworth, numerous grandchildren, several cousins and his super border collie, Bandit. *Drafted by Board Member Paul Tritaik, and thanks to Dale Hall for notifying us of Bob's passing.*

Walter Shoichi Okamoto (1942 – 2022). Walter "Walt" Okamoto, of Mesa, Idaho was born May 2, 1942 and passed away peacefully at home on February 9, 2022. Although an obituary was found online, it contained no details other than those dates. The following was compiled from information provided by fellow FWS retirees. Walt was under Hospice care at the time of his passing. Walt worked in the NWRS and was in one of the earliest Refuge law enforcement training programs in the 1970's. He spoke several languages, which resulted in temporary assignment in the lower Rio Grande Valley in 1970 or 71 to help with a project in Mexico. Walt chaired the FWS's Uniform Committee during his career, and he also worked in Fire Management with the NWRS in Idaho where he retired in 1992. A very young Walt and his family were held in one of the detention facilities in Idaho for Japanese American citizens during World War II. *Thank you to Jerry Smith for informing FWSRA Board Member Jerry Grover of Walt's passing and to Jerry Smith and Deborah Holle for details about Walt's life and FWS career.*



Joseph R. Sandberg (1946 – 2022). Joe Sandberg, of Chico, California passed away on January 3, 2022 at age 76. Joe grew up in Eugene, Oregon along with his twin brother, John and older brother, Mike. He early-on developed a love for the outdoors, which created the foundation for his career path. He moved to California, attended Diablo Valley College then

graduated from Chico State and got a job as an Oregon State Police Game Warden. He later was selected for a position as a Special Agent with the FWS. His penchant for telling stories led him naturally to his role as an undercover agent. His work

involved enforcing the Endangered Species Act, the illegal marketing of Bald Eagles, and other protected wildlife, including national and international trade in wildlife products, as well as enforcing the Migratory Bird Treaty Act. Joe excelled in his career and was well respected among his peers. His accomplishments were many and often understated, as he was humble, never wanting to be the center of attention.

In his family life he always found time to enjoy trips with his family, including camping, hiking, rafting and salmon fishing in Alaska. He attended all of his kids' soccer games and sporting events, helped coach Little League and was a supporter of Butte College Men's Soccer.

Joe left behind, his son, Ross, daughter, Marlow, four grandchildren, other family members and many friends. His life was one of kindness, purpose, and dedication.

A private family graveside service was held January 29 at Chico Cemetery, and a Celebration of Life was planned for June 4, 2022, at 1:00 p.m. at the Lakeside Pavilion located at 2565 California Park Dr, Chico, CA 95928. *Compiled from online obituary by Doug Frugé*

Tom Sechrist. FWS Retiree Jerry Smith notified the FWSRA in March of Tom Sechrist's passing. Jerry indicated that he worked in LE. Online searching has not yielded an obituary, and we have no other details at this time. If anyone has information that would help us in developing a more complete future article regarding Tom and his career, please contact Doug Frugé at communications@fwsretirees.org.

Rolf Wallenstrom (– 2022). As reported in the previous edition of our newsletter we learned in February that Rolf Wallenstrom passed away at his home in Houston, Texas. According to his daughter, a memorial service and obituary are still pending. When we obtain sufficient additional details, we will publish a more complete article regarding Rolf in a future issue.



Norma Jean Wardle (1926 – 2021). Norma Wardle, 94 of Vernal Utah passed away February 15, 2021, at her home. Norma was born August 27, 1926, in Roosevelt, Utah to Ada Rhea Hanson and Albin Emanuel Anderson. She was the oldest of five children. Norma married Harold Richardson in 1947. Harold passed away in 1963 and Norma married Darrell Wardle in 1972. Darrell died in 1989.

Norma held numerous positions in county and federal government but spent most of her career working for the FWS offices in Vernal. She was involved in a number of civic activities,

including Beau Arts and the Dinah-Mites, the Ambassadors for the Vernal Area Chamber of Commerce. She was particularly proud of her work planting flowers in the many planters lining Main Street, as well as special recognition and awards she had received from the FWS for her work there. Norma was also an accomplished knitter, knitting hundreds of sweaters, slippers and dishcloths for family and friends and taught adult education classes in knitting.

Norma is survived by son Jay, stepson D. Duane Wardle and numerous grandchildren. A funeral service was held on February

20, 2021, in Vernal with burial at Rock Point Cemetery. *Drafted by Doug Frugé based on an online obituary with thanks to Jerry Grover for alerting the Board when Norma's hard copy newsletter was returned undeliverable and to Melanie Fischer for finding Norma's obituary online.*

This Newsletter was compiled by Newsletter Editor Doug Frugé with contributions from other Board, Association members and others.

If you have information or would like to contribute articles that would be of interest to Association members for inclusion in future newsletters, please contact Doug at communications@fwsretirees.org.

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

Draft Agenda – subject to change

Association of Retired Fish and Wildlife Service Employees 19th Reunion

June 19-24, 2022
Spearfish and Deadwood, South Dakota

SUNDAY, JUNE 19

Early Arrivals – Board Members/Volunteers

All activities take place at The Lodge at Deadwood (the Lodge) unless indicated otherwise.

Set up for registration

MONDAY, JUNE 20

9:00 AM Workday – Cody Room

Board/Volunteers Meeting– Roosevelt Room, Scope out day’s activities.

Sort raffle & silent auction items, Set-up for meeting rooms, Stuff “goody” bags

2:00-6:00 PM Registration – Lobby

3:00 PM Greenwalt Walk for Wildlife – Reunion fundraiser Prior Registration Required

This year’s *Walk for Wildlife*, a leisurely, fun and fundraising event, will start at the Lodge. We will gather near the hotel reception desk at 2:45 for a 3:00 PM departure. We’ll drive 2.5 miles to a US Forest Service gravel parking lot and proceed to the Mt Roosevelt Trailhead. Ascending the moderate trail, we’ll reach the summit after covering about one-half mile. At the summit of Mt Roosevelt, we can climb the Mt. Roosevelt Friendship Tower for a nice view of the Black Hills. Returning to the trailhead, we’ll then drive to Spearfish for supper at the Jade Inn, an Asian buffet, before driving back to the Lodge at Deadwood. Cost at the Jade Inn is \$30 per person which will include the cost of the meal and a donation to the DC Booth Friends Group. This should be selected and paid as a separate option when registering for the Reunion. If anyone has a rental car or personal vehicle that can transport others, please indicate that, and how many others you can transport, on your registration form and inform Lew Gorman at lew.gorman@yahoo.com.

TUESDAY, JUNE 21

7:00 AM Registration – Lobby

7:30-8:30 AM Breakfast – Pine Crest C

MEETING ROOMS

FWSRA General Session – Pine Crest B 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM

FWS Broodstock Meeting– Roosevelt Room 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM

8:00 AM - 4:00 PM History Table – at the back of the Pine Crest B.

Bring a piece of history to share. Questions? Contact Mark Madison (304-616-7905)

8:30-9:00 AM Announcements, Housekeeping, Today's Business (Jerry Grover) – 1st Raffle Drawing

Booth Society Chair

FWS Broodstock Committee Chair

FWS History Committee Chair

8:40-9:00 AM Welcome to the 2022 Reunion – Board Introductions

Cindy Barry - Chairperson, Board of Directors, Fish and Wildlife Service Retiree Association

9:00-10:15 AM US Fish and Wildlife Service Retirees Association Accomplishment Report -Association Board

Each Board member will provide a five-minute introduction and report on their accomplishments, except for Treasurer who will be given more time.

10:15-10:30 AM Raffle Drawing

10:30-11:00 AM National Wildlife Refuge Association (Mark Musaus)

11:00-11:30 AM Retirees Association Outreach (Lew Gorman)

11:30-12:45 PM Lunch, Raffle Drawing

1:00-2:00 PM Update on Retirement Legislation, Policy and Benefits – National Association of Active and Retired Federal Employees

John Hatton, Staff Vice President, Policy and Programs, Washington, DC

2:15-3:00 PM Fish and Wildlife Service, Report from Headquarters

Martha Williams, Director

3:00-4:00 PM Status of Waterfowl Populations and the Work of Ducks Unlimited

Dr. Mike Brasher, Waterfowl Scientist, Ducks Unlimited, Memphis, Tennessee

6:00-10:00 PM Icebreaker Social – Pine Crest C

Serving a variety of heavy hors d'oeuvres, cash bar for mixed drinks, wine and a complimentary local microbrew

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 22

7:00-8:00 AM Breakfast – Pine Crest C

MEETING ROOMS

General Session	– Pine Crest B 8:00 AM - 6:00 PM
Broodstock Meeting	– Roosevelt Room 8:00 AM – 5:00 PM
History Subcommittee	– Bullock Room 1:00 – 5:00 PM

8:15-8:30 AM Announcements, Raffle Drawing

8:30–10:00 AM FWS Mountain-Prairie Region Presentation

Acting Regional Director Matt Hogan and the Regional Directorate will discuss the Region's priorities and projects.

10:00-10:15 AM Raffle Drawing

10:15-10:45 AM FWS Experienced Services Program

Edith Thompson, FWS, Headquarters Liaison, National Conservation Training Center

Paul Schmidt, FWS Retiree

10:45-11:15 AM Craig Brook National Fish Hatchery and the role of Charles Aikin in Atlantic Salmon Restoration

Steve Rideout, FWSRA Board Member

11:15-11:45 AM FWS History Committee (Presenter TBD)

12:00-1:00 PM Lunch

1:00-1:30 PM FWS National Eagle and Wildlife Repository

Elisa Dahlberg, Acting Supervisory Wildlife Repository Specialist, Denver, CO

1:30-2:00 PM Closeout/Next Reunion

Logistics for hatchery tour and tomorrow's activities (Jerry Grover)

3:00-8:00 PM Depart for tour of DC Booth Historic National Fish Hatchery and Archives with evening picnic and live concert music. A local restaurant, Barbacoa's, is catering for us in the picnic shelter immediately behind the band shell. You can build your own dish as you go through the line and make beef or chicken tacos, nachos, rice bowl or a salad with water. Drinks will be available from a ring of food carts at the seating area.

THURSDAY, JUNE 23

Open/Fun Day!!!

Today is a "free day." You have several options:

1. Visit the nearby towns of Spearfish or Deadwood. Drive on your own or take the \$2 Deadwood Shuttle from the resort, which departs hourly at five minutes past the hour.
2. Attend the FWS History Committee meeting – Roosevelt Room, 8:00 AM – 5:00 PM
3. Attend the FWS Broodstock Meeting – DC Booth Hatchery, time TBD
4. Complete your FWS oral history
5. Field Trip with sack lunch to Bear Butte State Park, a Native American Heritage site, and Mt Rushmore where you can have dessert of Thomas Jefferson's vanilla ice cream, said to be the best-flavored in the world. Seating is limited to the first 57 to register for the trip by motor coach (complementary of Ducks Unlimited), but you will need to pay \$10 for the sack lunch. Departs 10:00 AM from the Lodge and returns at 5:00 PM.

Prior Registration Required – **This should be selected and \$10 lunch fee paid as a separate option when registering for the Reunion.**

6:00-10:00 PM Reunion Banquet – Pine Crest C

6:00 PM No-host Bar and Silent Auction open. Final Raffle Drawing(s)

7:00 PM Dinner Service begins

Plated dinner with wine included. Indicate your choice of sirloin, chicken piccata or vegan when registering for the Reunion.

8:00 PM Banquet Program Begins

Annual History Committee Award Presentation

American Fisheries Society Fish Culture Hall of Fame Inductee Presentation

Retirees Association Life Members Recognition

And a Special Appearance and Performance by Mr D.C. Booth

~ 9:30 PM Silent Auction closes

FRIDAY, JUNE 24

9:00 AM Volunteer Workday – Clean up and pack up!

Travel Day! Safe travels everyone! See you at the Next Reunion!