

“Keeping in Touch”

Quarterly Newsletter by/for Idaho Dept. of Fish & Game
Retirees/Families & Interested Former Employees
January 2008, Vol. 4, No. 1

Dates to Remember: Retiree Luncheon Schedule

Golden Corral on Emerald in Boise, 11:30 a.m.
March 13, May 8, July 10, September 11,
November 13

Write or Send News Items to:

IDF&G Retirees
PMB 401
3313 W. Cherry Lane
Meridian, ID 83642

or E-mail: fisherjj@interplus.net

All donations should be sent
to the above address.

IDFG Retiree Committee

Ralph Pehrson, tiffy@aol.com

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(We are printing the following story as submitted to us. This exhibit will be on display until October 2008, so you can see how important it is!)

Idaho Museum of Natural History Hosts Ribbon Cutting October 24 (2007) New Exhibit Celebrates 100 Years of Idaho Fish Hatcheries

Pocatello, ID – The Idaho Museum of Natural History (IMNH) will open its newest exhibit, “A Century of Fish Hatcheries,” with a ribbon cutting with the Pocatello Chiefs on Wednesday, October 24 at 11:00 a.m. In addition, Del Monte Meats is sponsoring a fish fry as part of the celebration. IMNH will also offer free admission to the museum from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. that day.

“A Century of Fish Hatcheries,” on loan from the Idaho Department of Fish and Game (IDFG) where it was created by **Mick Hoover and Sharon Clark**, celebrates the 100th anniversary of the legislative act that created the first state fish hatchery.

Sharon Clark, a Technical Records Specialist, has been with IDFG for 20 years, all at the headquarters, Fisheries Bureau in Boise. She primarily works with grants in the fisheries program, specialized permitting processes, and fisheries related harvest and angler opinion surveys. Clark became interested in Fish and Game history when early in her career she inherited 100-year-old hand-written fish stocking records and reports of the Department.

Mick Hoover has worked at the Mackay State Fish Hatchery for the past 17 years. He is responsible for rearing resident trout and salmon for statewide distribution in lakes, reservoirs, and streams. He is also the staff writer of "Blast From the Past," a featured story in the quarterly Fish and Game News. Because the Mackay Hatchery was built in 1925 many historical items remained. Hoover saw the potential for creating an historical display at the hatchery, however he was missing a vintage embossed Fish and Game milkcan used for fish transportation. This pursuit, combined with a personal interest in history, led Hoover to begin collecting vintage Fish and Game artifacts, equipment, and documents. This has grown into an extensive collection which is used to provide public exhibits and education regarding the first 100 years of state fish hatcheries. Hoover and Clark have been developing and expanding the collection for the past 5 years and have plans to include other programs in future historical exhibitions and presentations.

A special feature of the exhibit that will only be on display for opening day is a restored 1957 Chevrolet half-ton truck which was purchased new by Idaho Fish and Game and assigned to the Sandpoint and Hagerman hatcheries. It was used to stock fish, as a feed truck, and had a fish pump mounted on the rear to load the large fish tankers. In 2002, the Dehryl A. Dennis Professional-Technical Education Center (PTEC) in Boise restored the exterior of the truck as a student project with no expense to IDFG. Mounted in the back of the truck is a restored 1940s-era fish tank recovered from a ranch near the Mackay State Fish Hatchery. It is most likely the Department's first slide-in pick up fish tank.

Also featured in the Fish and Game exhibit is historical aquaculture equipment which was designed and built out of necessity at the fish hatcheries. This equipment and historical photographs chronicle the 100-year-old practices and techniques used for spawning and egg collection, egg care until hatching, transportation of fish eggs, fish feeding and diet development, and the eventual planting of mature fish via horseback, backpack, truck, boat, airplane, and helicopter with a collection of equipment and historical photographs. The exhibit will also include a 1968 Salem Boat Works wooden drift boat and homemade trailer.

For more information, contact Teresa Nelson at the Idaho Museum of Natural History at (208) 282-2603 or nelstere@isu.edu.

Royce Williams Returning to Boise

Several of us had the opportunity to have lunch with Royce Williams, former I&E employee who was responsible for the PBS program "Outdoor Idaho." Seems Royce has been missing Idaho so much that he is turning his farm over to his nephew and coming back sometime in the future. Those who had the pleasure of his company were **Lorrie (Spiker) Parrish, Bob Salter, Diane Ronayne, Jo Toomey, Bill Goodnight, Joe & Marvel Greenley** and myself. Hope to see you soon, Royce.

NeSmith Columns on Fish & Game Website

As you probably know, **Frank NeSmith** has been writing columns for his local newspaper and I have gotten permission to include them on the Fish and Game website retiree section. So, when you pull up the Newsletter, you will be able to access Frank's columns, too.

Retiree News

Well, it's another year and it's time again to wish you all a very Happy 2008! Good health, good times and good memories, too. – from the Retiree Committee

First of all, we want to welcome **Dick Scully** to the Retirees' group. He will be retiring February 29, 2008.

The following is from new Retiree **Karen Huber** who has volunteered to be the Panhandle “Keepin’ in Touch” liaison for us. If for some reason you can’t or don’t want to e-mail your news, you can contact Karen and she will pass it on to me. “Now, since I have also joined the growing forces of IDFG retirees, I want you to know how important these communications are to us folks! . . . I’m finding the biggest loss is no longer being ‘in the loop’! I know the Panhandle retirees were the ones who hated to see the newsletter I’d done for 14 years come to an end.” (*Well, Karen, you will be kept busy in retirement and will wonder when you ever had time to work!*)

Received the following Jan. 3 from **Herb Pollard**: “Darlene and I left Boise on September 10 on a 6-month trip around the lower 48 states. We are now in deep south Texas, about 5 miles from Mexico in a trailer park with palm and citrus trees. Today was really cold – down to about 38 this morning and only getting up to the mid 60s this afternoon. You can check our travels at our on-line travel journal: www.mytripjournal.com/hapollard. We will be back in Boise sometime around the middle of March.”

Ralph and Edie Pehrson are spending a couple of weeks in Arizona (Phoenix and Tucson) visiting their daughters. (*Hope you are enjoying the warm weather! Picked the ideal time to leave Boise; it’s cold here!!!!*)

Keith Kiler and Tracey Trent are heading for Brazil in February chasing peacock bass. Then they plan to fish the Everglades for a few weeks. Tracey is doing well. They spent time steelhead fishing in November in the lower Salmon. Keith said, “He (Tracey) fished harder than I did. I was ready to get out of the water at dark, but he would still be standing there.”

Barbara Quenzer did some traveling this past summer. She made two trips to the Seattle area. The first trip was in June to celebrate her youngest son’s 50th birthday. (Are we really that old? Barb sez.) “In September, I went to a Seahawks football game (*they beat Cincinnati – YEAH!*)”

Tom Abel says “Hello to everyone.” He says the frame is up on his new shop. He sent some pictures showing all the snow and said, “Don’t you wish you were here?” As mentioned in the last newsletter, Tom and Connie are building a new home on their 10 acres in Rathdrum.

John Gahl finally checked in. He says, “Ironically, Connie and I were on our way back from East (we were there for 2 months) and I stopped in the gas station in Grangeville and who do I see but Tom Abel, and he told me about his move . . . he was loaded to the gills in his U-Haul truck.

“I’ve been working with **Fred Christensen** on an anti-litter/off-road vehicle education program. He’s a real worker and an inspiring leader. He’s raised tons of money for a booklet I wrote for teachers (kinda like Project WILD). I’ve sure grown to respect him for his efforts.”

Vicki Tokita and Bill Goodnight are very proud of their new son-in-law and very well deserved, I must say. Bill says, “Tooting our family horn! Our new son-in-law, John Nemeth, is one of five finalists for the W. C. Handy Award – “Blues Newcomer of the Year.” The award, by the American Blues Society, will be presented in Tunica, Mississippi on May 8. Needless to say, the Goodnight’s will be there.”

Wayne Melquist attended the Panhandle Region Christmas party and said “it was a really fun evening and great to see some of the Panhandle retirees that I hadn’t seen for some time. My continued work on ospreys (35 years now) in northern Idaho frequently brings me into the IDFG office in Coeur d’Alene, so I see current employees.

"I did run into **Bruce Penske** (retired CO from Island Park), who now works at the recently-opened Cabela's west of Post Falls. I was surprised to see him, as I didn't know he and his wife had moved to Spokane. I see **Jack McNeel** from time to time. He continues to stay busy and is a prolific writer.

"I was sad to see that **Chuck Harris** lost his battle with cancer. He worked with me for many years in the Nongame Program. Chuck was a fine person and so dedicated to the resources. He will surely be missed."

Received a Christmas letter from **Phyllis and Mike Kochert** -- sounds as if you two are busier than a whole hive of bees! Mike is still employed by the USGS and Phyllis recently resigned her position with the Idaho Wildlife Foundation. Besides all her quilting and genealogy obsession, she is kept busy with her mother's honey-do's. And if that wasn't enough, they are building their dream house, made a couple of trips to Indiana and Pennsylvania where Mike was honored (along with his colleague Karen) with the Hammerstrom Conservation Award. (Congratulations, Mike!)

Well, **Don McPherson** really has a guardian angel looking out for him for sure. Seems around Thanksgiving, he accidentally put his tractor in gear and the beast ran over him, breaking several ribs and his shoulder. As a result, he spent over 5 weeks in the hospital recuperating and now is in therapy five days a week. In spite of his injuries, he is doing very well. Geez, Don, take it easy and don't kick that tractor too hard!

Corinne Barlow has been busy taking care of her husband Roger while he recuperated from four surgeries in a three-week period. He is doing very well now and we wish both of them the best.

"My heart went South for the winter, but the rest of me is still here in the ice and blah weather capital of Idaho," says **Kent Ball**. "I had the left knee replaced in June and it is still a long way from recovery. But, the other one collapsed and I didn't have much choice so it was replaced in November. It is stronger than the first one, but still a ways from recovery. Not nice having two bad knees . . . am getting around with a cane and being careful to not fall down on the ice."

Bernice Howell said she seems to have something scheduled every time we have a Retiree luncheon. This time it was eye surgery. She said, "it doesn't amount to much but will be out of whack for that day and a couple of days following." Bernice is still taking and enjoying organ lessons which takes a lot of practicing. She does travel a bit and attends a few parties with her friends.

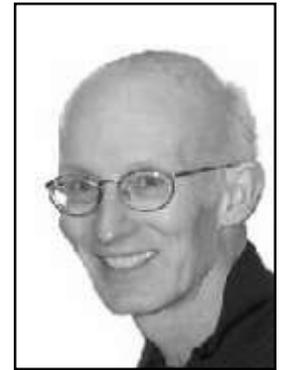
And **Jack Trueblood** has been through the mill lately. He said he had his throat slashed three times in a week. In October he had some disks in his neck repaired. "One had no disk (bone-to-bone), one was brittle and the other mushy. The doc took them out, put in some spacers of cadaver bone, and screwed titanium plates over these sites of three 'fusions.' Later that week my neck started to swell (no, not the rut) so I went back on Sunday when it had a knot like a lemon on the incision side. That afternoon they opened it up, cleaned the wound and cauterized all the weepers, drippers and oozers. They put in a drain.

"By Monday it was swelling again in a different location and the doc wanted to put in a second drain. When he got in there, he found no blood, no infection, just liquid. Turns out it was vicryl suture allergy, a reaction to a synthetic kind of suture." (*My God, Jack, can't you find something more entertaining to do? jff*)

Now for the news we really don't want to read.

In Memoriam . . .

Charles E. Harris, 56, Boise, passed away on Dec. 11, 2007 after battling lymphoma. Born in Akron, Iowa on Aug. 27, 1951, to Gaynor and Irene Harris. He spent his childhood in Iowa and began his formal schooling at Iowa State University, achieving his Bachelor's Degree and also his Master's Degree in Fishery and Wildlife Biology. Chuck's continuing love of knowledge and the outdoors led him to Utah State University where he pursued and earned his Doctorate Degree. Chuck was loved and respected by all who knew him. He made his home in Boise during the past two decades and served the State of Idaho as the Nongame Program Manager for the Idaho Department of Fish and Game. He also shared his knowledge and passion for wildlife as an adjunct professor at Boise State University.



Chuck was a member of the Idaho Wildlife Society, including a two-year term as President; he was also a member and moderator for many other Conservation groups. Chuck was highly respected as a scientist and as an administrator. He was a strong advocate for wildlife conservation. Chuck is survived by his wife, Kathie; his sons, Toby, Boise and Ben, Seattle, Wash.; granddaughter, Adrien, Boise; mother and stepfather, Irene and Neal Mandelko, Lolo, Mont.; brothers, Howard (Tamera) Harris, Las Vegas, Nev., Marlin (Joyce) Harris, Waikaloa, Hawaii ; sister, Marcia DeBruin, Phoenix, Ariz.; and many aunts, uncles, nieces and nephews . He was preceded in death by his father and grandparents. There will be a celebration of Chuck's life in the spring. In lieu of flowers, contributions can be made to the Idaho Conservation League at P.O. Box 844, Boise, Idaho 83701.

Retirees

Neda D. Coburn, 92, passed away Oct. 30, 2007 at a local care center in Boise, Idaho. Born to John Obrey and Elizabeth Ann Bruce May 21, 1915 in Idaho Falls, Idaho, she was the youngest of 12 children, Neda spent her early years in Idaho Falls, graduating from Idaho Falls High School in 1933, then attended secretarial school in San Francisco. In her early twenties, she contracted polio and was bedridden for some time. Told she would never walk again, but with the same tenacity she showed her whole life, she not only walked but danced, skated, bowled, and swam.



Neda worked for Fish and Game from 1974 to 1979 when she retired. After retirement she was one of the first seniors to help when the Meridian Sr. Center came into being and participated fully in all of their activities. Neda was preceded in death by her parents and 11 siblings. She is survived by her children, Bruce Coburn of Stanley, Idaho and Patt Turner (Gerald) of Meridian Idaho, grandchildren, Tom Boat right Jr. (Corrinna) of Meridian and Paul D. Turner (Ruth) of Grand Junction CO, numerous nieces and nephews. At her request, she will be cremated and there will be no formal funeral, her ashes to be scattered "when the sun shines." In lieu of flowers, please donate in her name to the Meridian Sr. Center, P.O. Box 606, Meridian ID 83642 or the American Diabetes Association.

A memorial service was held January 20 in Coeur d'Alene for Pete A. Printz, 81, who passed away January 11, 2008, after a long illness. Pete was born in Hamilton, Montana and spent most of his childhood in Oregon and Washington. He joined the U.S. Marine Corps in 1943 and served in Saipan and at the Marshall Islands. Pete then attended the University of Washington for three years after his discharge. This led him to his dream job at Idaho Fish and Game from 1955-1986, when he retired. Pete was dedicated to wildlife management and protection all his life. Even after retirement he was active in the preservation of waterfowl through Ducks Unlimited.

Pete is survived by his wife, Charlotte; four sons: Mark, Todd, David and Andy; two daughters Cheryl and Kristina; eight grandchildren; three brothers: Donald, Jim and Gary; and one sister Renae. He was preceded in death by one sister, Betty.

Former Employees

Memorial services were held January 10 for Richard K. Nixon, 59, of Boise who passed away suddenly of a heart attack on January 4, 2008. Richard was a Sr. DP Systems Programmer from 10-31-81 until 9-28-91. He was born in Dunkirk, New York and grew up in Brockton, New York, and graduated from Brockton Central in 1966. After attending a year at Alfred State College in New York, Richard enlisted in the U.S. Air Force as a computer programmer, and was stationed at Mt. Home Air Force Base, Idaho, Ching Chuan Kang Air Force Base, Taiwan, and Sunnyvale, Calif. Upon his honorable discharge from the service in 1972, Richard relocated to Boise where he attended Boise State University, graduating with a Bachelor of Business, with an emphasis in marketing. Richard worked in information technology in Boise for many years, and received a certificate of recognition for outstanding achievement from the Governor of Idaho in 1992.



Richard is survived by his wife, Janet; his children, Rich Nixon and Lori Evans (Matthew) of Boise; his grandchildren, Madeline and Andrew; his siblings, Marian Doyle (Ken) of N.Y., Janie Lus (Chuck) of California, Bob Nixon (Joanne) of N.Y., Ed Nixon (Marcia) of N.Y., and their families.

Services were conducted at Canyon Hill Church of the Nazarene, Caldwell for Irma Jo Simpson, 74, who passed away December 30 of complications from surgery. Irma worked outside the home in many different capacities, her favorite being the Idaho Department of Fish and Game, where she performed payroll and accounting functions. Irma is survived by her husband Elvin; her six children, her three stepchildren, two sisters and two brothers, 15 grandchildren and 14 great-grandchildren and numerous nieces and nephews.



Memorial services were held October 12 in Seattle, Washington for Maurice Henry Lundy of Bellevue, Idaho who passed away October 7, 2007 of complications due to Parkinson's disease. After serving as a pilot in the Air Force, Maury attended U.S.C. on a tennis scholarship, and graduated from WAS with a degree in Game Management. He began his career as a biologist with the Idaho Fish and Game Department and later joined the U.S. Department of the Interior Bureau of Outdoor Recreation, (BAR), as a game management agent eventually becoming the Regional Director of BAR.

In 1980, Maury was the recipient of the Interior Department's highest honor, the Distinguished Service Award for his 30 years of service. Over the course of his career, Maury was instrumental in establishing the National and Scenic Rivers System, development of educational

programs to protect wildlife and designating surplus federal land for development of public parks and recreation. He dedicated his career to preserving land and protecting recreational water and wildlife for current and future generations. Maurice was preceded in death by his beloved wife of 55 years, Lois, in 1999. He is survived by a brother, three daughters, three grandchildren, and numerous nieces and nephews.

Donald Reinecker, father of Tom Reinecker, passed away October 9, 2007. He is survived by his wife, Violet, son Tom (Marjorie), four grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

Our deepest sympathies go out to all the families.

Just for Fun!

An Old Farmer's Advice

- * Your fences need to be horse-high, pig-tight and bull-strong.
- * Keep skunks and bankers at a distance.
- * Life is simpler when you plow around the stump.
- * A bumble bee is considerably faster than a John Deere tractor.
- * Words that soak into your ear are whispered . . . not yelled.
- * Meanness don't jes' happen overnight.
- * Forgive your enemies. It messes up their heads.
- * Don't corner something that you know is meaner than you.
- * It don't take a very big person to carry a grudge.
- * You cannot unsay a cruel word.
- * Every path has a few puddles.
- * When you wallow with pigs, expect to get dirty.
- * The best sermons are lived, not preached.
- * Most of the stuff people worry about ain't never gonna happen anyway.
- * Don't judge folks by their relatives.
- * Remember that silence is sometimes the best answer.
- * Live a good, honorable life. Then when you get older and think back, you'll enjoy it a second time.
- * Don't interfere with somethin' that ain't botherin' you none.
- * Timing has a lot to do with the outcome of a rain dance.
- * If you find yourself in a hole, the first thing to do is stop diggin'.
- * Sometimes you get, and sometimes you get got.
- * The biggest troublemaker you'll probably ever have to deal with, watches you from the mirror every mornin'.
- * Always drink upstream from the herd.
- * Good judgment comes from experience and a lotta that comes from bad judgment.

Courtesy of Ralph Pehrson