

“Keeping In Touch”

Quarterly Newsletter by/for
Fish & Game Retirees/Families and
Interested Former Employees

January 2012, Vol. 8, No. 1

Dates to Remember

**Retiree Luncheon
Schedule
Golden Corral
on Emerald in Boise
11:30 a.m.**

**2012
January 12
March 8
May 10
July 12
September 13
November 8**

Mark Your Calendars!



A Note from the Editor

If some of your contributions were not included this time, please forgive me, especially *Royce Williams and Mart Morache*. We have a limited number of pages we can publish at a time (because of postage costs). However, don't be discouraged; they will definitely be included in the April issue.

2011 Christmas Wild Game Feed . . .

As usual was a huge success. Thank you to the IDFG Staff and the Retirees who participated in preparing this year's feast. It's just great that this event is being continued since it was initiated in 1965 after moving into the HQ's new offices on Walnut Street from 518 Front Street.

The attendees were brought up to date on department history by *Sharon Clark* and *Mick Hoover*, the Department Historians. One highlight was the story of the Department's embosser and possibly the Department's first female employee.

The following is a condensed version of the story by Mick Hoover:

“In 2006, I purchased from the internet, four Fish and Game vendor receipts from 1907, '08, '09, '10. Each are embossed with the Dept. seal, featuring a hybrid mascot of sorts: an artist's combination of an elk, mule deer, European stag, caribou, and Bullwinkle, including a subtle smile, with mountains and a rising sun in the background.

“I framed and brought the receipts to the Director's office. There, Mary (Boyer) was surprised and rhetorically inquired how nice it would be to know what happened to that embosser. I sadly responded with a feeling of another lost Holy Grail. She then said they had an embosser they still 'sealed' the current commission meeting minutes with and walked over to a fairly nondescript bookcase in the lobby of the Director's office and handed me the very embosser that sealed the receipts!

Making an imprint, I realized it was the exact embosser and could be instantly dated to 1907 by the receipt, making it at least 99 years old! I can confidently extend that date to late 1899/early 1900 to the formation of the Dept., as Charles Arbuckle would have needed an embosser to conduct official business. I can't imagine all the employees that have used the embosser and its a miracle it has survived.

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See: Embosser

Embosser, Cont'd from Page 1

I told Mary that cast iron becomes brittle with age and it shouldn't be used any longer. A new embosser featuring the same seal was made at ABC Stamp and the original has been 'retired' to the FG archives for exhibition only.

"I began to research the names of the clerks who signed the receipts: Harry Dietrich and Ethel Moon. With some genealogical tools on the internet I ran into a dead end with Dietrich. However, I found the 1910 US census for Ethel Moon indicating her employment with the Dept. According to the Dept. biennial reports, she worked as the stenographer for the years 1909 and 1910. She was born in Tennessee in 1888 and passed away in Boise in 1967. Sharon Clark and I found her portrait photograph in a collection in the State Historical Library and a recent discovery of her brother Eugene also.

"Recently, going back to the genealogical tools, I found some additional information that had been added since 2006. I found a family tree with Ethel and her husband Archie Gray, who had a son Dallas Norman Gray. Norman had two sons: Dennis and Dallas. Further research revealed that son Dallas was a part-time resident of Coolin, ID near Priest lake and a current

telephone number. Dallas Archie Gray was very receptive of me knowing the particulars of his family tree. Excitingly, he was unaware of his grandmother Ethel having worked for the Dept. nor was he aware of her portrait in the historical library. By pure coincidence, he and his wife Karen were coming to Boise and I invited them to the Wild Game Feed. They brought family photo albums and wonderful stories to celebrate (possibly) the first woman hired by the Dept!"

(Also, thanks to Mick and Sharon for the unexpected birthday cake even though I would like to forget that I'm getting "so elderly!" Kids, it was very kind of you! Now don't bother embarrassing me again, OK? — JJF)

Need Help?

Royce Williams was sitting at the Retirees' luncheon (last November) and people were saying they were too dizzy to get on a 2-step ladder to change a light bulb. "Seems these people could use some help with a lot of stuff around the house and yard, and their children aren't there or can't leave work to help." So, Royce did a little research and came up with the following ad:

"Connie Can-Do here in Boise is ready with tools to get a call when you need somebody to do just about anything around the house or yard. That's clean-up,

gardening, general repairs, landscaping, lawn care, painting, changing light bulbs, new magnets for the cabinets, leaves in the gutter, storm windows, etc. The two of you work out what's a reasonable price. If you've got a job and nobody to get it done, just call Connie Grainger Can-Do Services at 208-570-9517, or on the web at conniego425@gmail.com."

Thanks For Your Generosity!

Thank you to the following for your generous donations! **Nancy Richards, Ruth Stemper, Royce Williams** and to **Sharon Watson and Ed Mitchell** for the stamps. We certainly can use them.

Karen Fisher's

"One Artist" Show

Karen Fisher (Jack's wife) is having a "One Artist" show at St. Alphonsus Hospital in Boise. She was jury selected for the month of January. To see the exhibit of her watercolors, enter the main entrance of St. Al's Emergency Entrance just off Curtis Road. Part of the proceeds from sale of her art are donated to St. Al's Hospital. *(If you saw her last exhibition, you know what a great artist she is — don't miss it!)*



Cont'd on Page 3,
See: Exhibit

Exhibit, Cont'd from Page 2

The following is a brief biography of Karen's background which will be hanging by the art display. "I began watercolors to paint incredible places Jack and I have traveled to around the world. My art career began as I graduated from Utah State University; teaching art at Weber Basin Job Corps, and later at Intermountain Intertribal School. During those years, I won prizes for my pottery at the Utah State Fair.

"My love of Native American Pottery began as I grew up in the oldest town in Idaho, Franklin. Walking father's farm, I found shard, arrowheads, and an old sandal from early Native Americans. At age 12, I went into a "dig" on our farm with archeologists from the University of Utah. They were recovering history of ancient people living on what was then the edge of Lake Bonneville.

"My father also had Navajo people working on our farm weeding beets, etc., in the summers. I was always amazed at those women in their beautiful velvet long dresses out working in the fields and their little babies laying on blankets out in the hot sun with no shade in the fields. Fascinating experiences."

**Retiree Updates**

I got a call from **Bud Stackler** the end of October and had a very nice visit with him. He is trying to sell his home in San Luis Obispo, California so he can move back to either Idaho or Utah. Because of the present economy, he is having to bide his time and hope for the best. Bud celebrated his 73rd birthday on December 27. He wishes everyone of you the very best of health and a very Merry Christmas!

The "Snowbirds" were headed South earlier this year. **Kent Ball** is one of them and is spending the winter in Arizona City again and is braving the rough 86 degree temperatures for at least five months. And Jody and George Taylor are spending time in Yuma. *Trying not to be jealous!@!*

It was nice to hear from **Margaret Whipple**, too. She has tried to get to Boise but she is busy working as a volunteer and Administrative Assistant at Nellis Baptist Church and just doesn't have enough time to do the things she wants to do. She says she thinks about the good times at IDFG and misses a lot of the people. Also, Happy Birthday January 7, Margaret!

Just read in Pete Zimowsky's Outdoor column on Dutch oven cooking that **Butch Welch** will be returning to Idaho this spring where he will be teach-

ing cooking clinics again. See Butch's very nice website at: ceedubs.com.

Now for the news we don't like to report: Several of our good folks are under the weather and need your thoughts and prayers. We heard that **Jim Keating** was in the hospital with heart problems and was unable to attend the Christmas Wild Game Feed. After contacting Vickie, she said that he was out of the hospital and doing much better. Seems there was an over medication problem. Hang in there, Jim!

Also, **Jerry Conley** was unable to attend the luncheon because of an on-going illness. Everyone was concerned and I contacted Janet for a report. She said: "I'm not sure what to say except that Jerry is much the same as he has been the last 6 months or so. He is gradually having more trouble physically moving around and with speech and processing . . . as you well know, it is up and down, day by day . . . and available treatment options for him were completed in May. Right now he is just comfortable and enjoying grandchildren, friends and other relatives who are in and out. He is definitely looking forward to having more family members around for Christmas."

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See: Updates

Updates, Cont.d from Page 3

After circulating this information to the Retirees, Jerry received many notes, e-mails and cards from, not only you caring IDFG folks, but from other agencies, etc. Because of this, Janet says, he feels better than he has in the past couple of months (and she does, too) just knowing that others are thinking of him and that they remember the times they had together. The folks in the Regional Office in Northern Idaho sent him a 2012

calendar with notes from different employees on each month! Janet said all your kindness has made a difference for them.

More disturbing news from former employee **Roger McCormack**. His wife Norma is in the hospital recovering from surgery for a rare type of cancer (primary peritoneal cancer). Although the doctor removed about 90 percent of the cancer, she will have to undergo acute rehab at Tahoe Pacific located in St. Mary's

Hospital in Reno, Nevada. After her wounds heal, she will start chemotherapy in January. If you would like to contact Norma, she is in Room 336 and you can call her at 775-770-7988 and you will have to give her password "1938" if you want information. Just ask to speak to her and they will put you through. They are taking it one day at a time and they are doing well and Norma's mood is good overall and Roger is holding up all the way around.



Special Occasions

January Birthdays

Jack McNeel, January 4
Clay Cummins, January 6
Margaret Whipple, January 7
Grant Christensen, Jan. 18
Tom Parker, January 21
Ray Lyon, January 28
Perry Johnson, January 28
Martin Luther, January 29

February Birthdays

Wes Cannon, February 1
Dave Ortmann, February 1
Greg Tourtlotte, February 4
Jim Nixon, February 6
Gerald Scholten, Feb. 12
John Nagel, February 19
Chuck Jensen, February 20
Bernice Howell, Feb. 24
Doyle Reynolds, Feb. 25

March Birthdays

Terry Holubetz, March 3
Bruce Penske, March 4
Jerry Thiessen, March 6
Ken Norrie, March 9
Bill Hutchison, March 24
Cheryl Bridges, March 25
John Gahl, March 28
Cathy Kopke, March 28
Jack Fisher, 86 Years, March 30

Anniversaries

Ruby (Rose) & Tony Tolsma
42 years, March 7

Al & Sue Van Vooren
1 Year, March 14

**Our Tribute to
Retired IDFG Assistant Director
Robert L. "Bob" Salter, 1920 - 2011**

Robert L. "Bob" Salter of Garden City, passed away at home on November 7, 2011. Bob was born in Salem, OR on November 5, 1920. His first introduction to Idaho was when he was four months old and his mother took him in a sleigh from Grangeville to Florence to see his father who was working as a mining engineer.

Bob attended local schools in Republic and Wenatchee, WA and was in the first graduating class at Wenatchee Junior College. While enrolled there, he earned a Private Pilot's License thru the Civil Air Patrol. He graduated from Washington State College in 1947 with a BS in Wildlife Management and from Oregon State College in 1949 with a MS in Fish and Game Management.

At various times, he served as a movie usher, service station attendant (no self serve back then), lookout for the USFS, field aide with the USDA and a student assistant with the USFWS. He honorably served 3 years, 7 months and 21 days with the United States Navy in World War II. After stints at San Diego, CA. and Millington, TN., he was assigned as an aviation

machinist mate to a squadron (VJ4) at Norfolk, VA. He became a plane captain (flight crew) in this outfit that used twin-engined converted attack bombers to tow targets for air-to-air, ground-to-air, and ship-to-air practice. This is where he learned the valuable skill of "dodging bullets."

In May 1949, Bob joined the Idaho Department Fish and Game as their first waterfowl biologist. He subsequently became Game Bird Supervisor, Chief of Enforcement, and was appointed Assistant Director in 1962 which is the position he held until retirement in 1982. During this period, he served as Acting Director three times for a total of 15 months while the Fish and Game Commission selected those hardy souls who became Directors of the department.

He served for 15 years as Secretary-Treasurer of the Western Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies. He was active in the Idaho State Employees Credit Union, and was a charter member of the Idaho State Employees Association where he served on the board of directors for 8 years. Bob

received the American Motors Conservation Award in the Professional Category in 1971, the Idaho Statesman Distinguished Citizen Award in 1973, and Professional of the Year in 1981-1982 from the Western Association of Fish and Game Commissioners.

In 1983, he was appointed to the Idaho Outfitters and Guides Board, representing the Fish and Game Commission. He served for 6 years as Fish and Wildlife Representative on the BLM Boise District Advisory Council and for several years served as the Fish and Game Department's representative on arbitration boards to settle claims filed for wildlife depredation of private property. Many times he expressed his thankfulness for living and working in Idaho during the 1950's 1960's, and 1970's when "Idaho was still Idaho." Bob was a member of Capitol City No. 93 A.F.& A.M., Scottish Rite; Meridian Chapter #660. E.S; El Korah Shrine Greeters and Jesters. He also belonged to the fraternities Theta Chi and Phi Kappa Phi, and became a card carrying

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member of the Poacher's Club in 1962 and served as the President during 2005-2006. He enjoyed hunting, fishing, backpacking (earlier in his life), river running, and golf.

For a number of years, he belonged to a group at Eagle Hills Golf Club known as "The

Crew." They still miss his money. To paraphrase the Old King Cole rhyme, Bob "loved his pipe, loved his bowl, and loved being on the first tee."

Bob was very grateful to Marilyn for sons Tom, Bill, and David. To Phyllis for stepchildren Jeff, Greg, Scott, Bruce, Steve, and Caye. And to Doris for several years of companion-

ship. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to El Korah Shrine Travel Fund, 1118 W. Idaho St., Boise, Idaho 83702, or to a favorite charity. A private memorial service will be held at a later date.



My Memory of Bob Salter
By Joe Greenley, IDFG Director, 1971-79

I was one of those fortunate persons to have known Robert L. Salter for over 62 years as a classmate, a wildlife manager, and Assistant Director of the Idaho Department of Fish and Game, and a friend.

We both served in WWII, each serving 3 years, 6 months and a few days. He was in the Navy, I was in the Air Force. He was a plane captain (flight crew), I was crew chief on a P47 & P38.

I first met Bob at Oregon State College in 1948 when he was completing his MS degree and I my BS degree, both in Wildlife Management. He went to work with the Idaho Department in 1949, I went to work with the Nevada Fish and Game Commission in 1950. He

progressed to Assistant Director in Idaho in 1962, I to Chief of Game in Nevada in 1957.

When Dick Woodworth, then Director of IDFG resigned in 1971, I assumed Bob would become Director. He had been appointed as Secretary-Treasurer of the Western Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies in 1971, was awarded the prestigious American Motors Conservation Award in the Professional Category, as well as other significant achievement awards related to conservation and management of fish and wildlife.

The Personnel Commission in Idaho had setup an examinati

committee to interview the 20 plus applicants of which I knew only one from Idaho, and Bob informed me that it wasn't him. Surprised? Yes, but after he explained to me why, he had very good reason. He had been an assistant to two Directors. He came to Idaho because he loved the state and he wanted to stay here to the end of his career. The Director's job is an appointed position and subject to whims of politicians, to put it mildly.

Having 20 years in Nevada and being comfortable with my job, I was still interested in looking at other opportunities, and decided the Idaho Director's examination would be good

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practice for any other like position in the wildlife management field; so I applied. Also, it would give Marvel and I a good opportunity to visit with an old friend and classmate.

To make a long story short, I took the exam and was subsequently appointed by Commissioners Jack Hemingway, Bob Kalb, John Eaton, Paul Keeton and Jack Alvord, and served during the terms of Governors Cecil Andrus and John Evans. Whatever positive accomplishments were realized during my tenure were because of the confidence and support of that Commission, the expertise and support of my staff, and particularly the guidance and loyalty of my assistant, Bob Salter.

We were friends, enjoying some hunting, fishing and golf

together in our retirement. We were both members of The Poachers Club of Boise, of which he was the President for two years. He produced a vegetable garden at the "Poach" house for all members to enjoy the products therefrom.

Bob would probably still be here if he hadn't tried to climb that damn ladder to put up the flag. The effect of that fall resulted in his later passing, two days after his 91st birthday. — *JG*

Here are a few more responses to Bob's passing.

"How lucky the IDFG and the State of Idaho can lay claim to the great efforts of this guy! He fought for our retirement system right along with our natural resources and environment. Rest easy, Gray Ghost! Have a six pack and be sure your hunt-

ing and fishing license is current. Pete Horning is manning the check station and he's a tough CO!" — *Lorrie (Spiker) Parrish*

"Bob was a stalwart for the Department for many years." — *Bill Horton*

"On April 1, 1966, Bob hired me for the C.O. position at Nampa. He was a unique person." — *Bill Snow*

"I knew (Bob) for 50+ years as I also knew Marilyn over those years — since the 1950s." — *Lynn Meiners*

"Oh, man! That's the news that I never wanted to hear . . . BEST boss I ever had." — *Gloria Elliott*



In Memoriam

**Phyllis Siefkas
October 2011**

Another Data Processing former employee, **Phyllis Siefkas**, passed away Oct. 16. There were no funeral services and no obituary just as she requested. Thank you, **Jackie Crist**, for letting us know. Phyllis was Jackie's son-in-law's mother.

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**Our Tribute to
Claude Clapsaddle
1931 — 2011**

Funeral services were held November 10 at Cloverdale Funeral Home for Claude **Wesley Clapsaddle** who passed away November 5 at home surrounded by his loving family.

Claude was born to Claude and Bertha Clapsaddle on Aug. 15, 1931 in Boise. He graduated from Boise High school in 1949 and went on to Links Business School while working at Idaho State Dept. of Public Assistance. He moved to the Idaho Dept. of Fish and Game and spent 41 years as the Data Processing Manager. Claude married the love of his life, Marie Elizabeth Edmundson, on February 24, 1952 and would have celebrated their 60th anniversary this February.

Claude loved to hunt, fish, be outdoors and just living in Idaho. He spent many good times at their cabin in Cascade with family and friends. Claude was very proud to be a long-time member of The Masons, Scottish Rite and Shriners.

He is preceded in death by his parents and three older sisters. He is survived by his wife of 60 years Marie E. Clapsaddle, two sons Mel Clapsaddle and Chuck Clapsaddle, both of Boise. His two grandchildren, Carlyn Sanchez (Serafin) of Hawaii and Nick Clapsaddle of Boise. He has three great grandchildren, Josiah and Jacob Clapsaddle and Isaiah Sanchez. He will also be

missed by a very special friend Maureen Begas. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the Shriner's Hospital travel fund or a charity of your choice.



"I remember how kind and helpful Claude was whenever I needed help in I&E. And he could be real fun during our coffee breaks, too. My best to Marie and family. He was loved by all!" — **Judy J. Fisher**

