“Keeping in Touch”

Quarterly Newsletter by/for Idaho Dept. of Fish & Game
Retirees/Families & Interested Former Employees
July 2007, Vol. 3, No. 3

Dates to Remember:
Dates for the Retiree Luncheons, Golden Corral on Emerald in Boise, 11:30 a.m.
2007: July 12, September 13, November 8

2007 Biennual IDFG Retiree Reunion
August 4, 2007

“Mark Your Calendars”

IDFG Retiree Committee:
Ralph Pehrson, *tiffy@aol.com*
Jack Fisher, *jfish@msn.com*
Joe Greenley, *joegreenley@msn.com*
Bill Goodnight, *idaholc@aol.com*
Jo Toomey, *josephine@mailbug.com*
Tom Abel, *tjabel@intergate.com*
Corinne Barlow, *rogcor22@cableone.net*
Judy Fisher, *fisherjj@interplus.net*

Write or Send News Items to:
IDF&G Retirees
PMB 401
3313 W. Cherry Lane

Meridian, ID 83642
or E-mail: fisherjj@interplus.net

Okay, Folks!

Just a reminder! The Retiree Reunion is coming up so don’t forget to send your reservations in soon. If you have misplaced your reservation form, you internet users can print another one out which is the last page of this newsletter. **And if anyone has something they wish to donate for the raffle/ auction, please advise Ralph Pehrson at: tiffey@aol.com or call him at: 343-3945.** Remember, this is our fund source for the year (along with your donations) which allows us to handle our costs of operation for another two years. Let’s make this Reunion one of the best ever!!

Also, ***Lorrie Parrish*** and I had the opportunity to take in the Fish and Game History Exhibit at the Idaho Historical Museum and we can only say how amazed we were at how many artifacts have been collected by ***Mick Hoover and Sharon Clark*****.** It sure did bring back a lot of great memories. Serious thought should be given to making this a permanent display where everyone will be able to view it. Thanks, Mick and Sharon, for all your dedication and hard work.

And, a Big Thank You to ***Dick Orcutt*** and ***Monte and Nancy Richards*** for their generous donations to the Retiree Newsletter Fund. Every donation is greatly appreciated. Thank you again!!

News from Around the State

Dick Orcutt says, “I really enjoy retirement and the renewed friendships of those I lost touch with. With my extra time I have been fishing for steelhead at every opportunity which leaves no extra time. I also joined the ‘Stakeholders’ and am again working with those I admire most.”

I guess ***Keith Kiler*** won't be in Florida this summer. He reports, "I was on the Owyhee desert last week with ***Joe Curry*** for a couple of days. He drew a sheep tag, so we were out scouting, and had a great time, despite seeing no sheep. I will be guiding trout fishermen in Idaho this summer for Marshall Hayne's mother. She and her husband have the former Cox Dude Ranch on Johnson Creek and word has it that ***Dale Baird*** guided there as well."

For the past couple of months ***Jack McNeel and Ralph Pehrson*** have been working on the design for a memorial placque or marker to be placed at Snow Peak that would recognize Ray Rogers' work in trapping and transplanting goats and the initial work he did to protect the surrounding land for future public use. The Forest Service has given the department permission to rename the lookout (not Snow Peak) in honor of Ray. The tower is still under USFS jurisdiction but turned it over to the department several years ago under a special use permit.

Mike and Phyllis Kochert**,** along with a big crowd of well wishers, attended ***Jerry Baltazor's*** retirement celebration. Phyllis reports that "Jerry's family was there to share his awe at the pleasantries shared by his co-workers. It was near impossible for those game wardens to come up with a suitable 'roast' for Jerry. He kept his nose clean and to the grindstone all those years in Region 4."

"Just a note to let you know that "wildbill" is still around and kicking," says ***Bill Davidson*****.** "The Land Trust I helped start here in SE Idaho – 'Sagebrush Steppe Regional Land Trust' is up, going and has several Conservation Easements we are working on. FYI – ***Tom Lucia*** is the Chairman of the Board of Directors. Life is good, Idaho is still beautiful and a great place to live, play and work."

Congratulations to ***Bill Goodnight*** for the upcoming marriage of his oldest daughter. He will be traveling to Columbus, Ohio for the wedding.

Now for the "Health" report: ***Kent Ball*** just had a knee replaced (June 6) and is doing lots of therapy to get in shape for his 50th class reunion in September (and we hope the Retiree Reunion, too) and after that, the other knee replacement. *(Kent, you won't be the only one celebrating a 50-year high school reunion.* ***Bill Goodnight, Corinne Barlow*** *and I have ours coming up, too.)*

We heard through the grapevine that ***Sam McNeill's*** parents are not doing well. He has been traveling to Nampa to help his brother Steve care for them. We hope they are doing better, Sam.

And we hope ***Diane Harper*** is improving after her unnecessary gallbladder surgery. Seems that she was misdiagnosed and didn't have a bad gallbladder after all. She was suffering from shingles which was causing her much pain.

Before I Forget . . .
Does anyone know where ***Howard Carroll or Dale Turnipseed*** can be found? Their mail is being returned undeliverable. If anyone knows where they can be located, I would appreciate an e-mail at: or call me at: 888-1015.

In Memory

Burt Avery Bowlden of Boise and formerly of Post Falls passed away of natural causes at age 89 on Dec. 25, 2006 at Hillcrest Assisted Living. Graveside services were held on May 5, 2007 at the Bellevue Cemetery.

Burt started working for the Idaho Fish & Game Department on March 14, 1944. He worked at the Hayspur Hatchery, at Williams Lake, the American Falls Hatchery, the Ashton Hatchery, at Fernwood, the Hagerman Hatchery, the Twin Falls Hatchery, and the Warm River Hatchery. He retired at age 62 with 35 years of service at the Clark Fork Hatchery where he had worked for 16 years.

Burt married Beulah Coleman on Sept. 19, 1964. Beulah had 4 grown children. In April 2005, Burt moved to Boise to the Heatherwood Retirement Community to be nearer the Bowlden families. Burt was preceded in death by his wife Beulah, his parents, his brothers; Orville, Wayne, Arthur, Mark, Dee and Leon, his sisters; Ailene Potter, Ione Rich, and Ruth Fredrickson, a niece Marjorie and a nephew, Eugene. He is survived by his stepsons; Vince and George Coleman, his stepdaughters; Teresa Hurley and Eloise Hocking; and many nieces and nephews. Our condolences to the family.

A Little Reflection . . .
Now for those of you who think getting older is so bad, take a gander at this essay submitted by *Ralph Pehrson.* Makes you think, doesn't it?

For those there and for those not there yet:

The other day a young person asked me how I felt about being old. I was taken aback, for I do not think of myself as old. Upon seeing my reaction, she was immediately embarrassed, but I explained that it was an interesting question, and I would ponder it and let her know.

Old Age, I decided, is a gift. I am now, probably for the first time in my life, the person I have always wanted to be. Oh, not my body! I sometimes despair over my body, the wrinkles, the baggy eyes, and the sagging butt. And often I am taken aback by that old person that lives in my mirror (who looks like my mother!), but I don't agonize over those things for long.

I would never trade my amazing friends, my wonderful life, my loving family for less gray hair or a flatter belly. As I've aged, I've become more kind to myself, and less critical of myself. I've become my own friend. I don't chide myself for eating that extra cookie, or for not making my bed, or for buying whatever gadget I didn't need. I am entitled to a treat, to be messy, to be extravagant. I have seen too many dear friends leave this world too soon; before they understood the great freedom that comes with aging.

Whose business is it if I choose to read or play on the computer until 4 am and sleep until noon? I will dance with myself to those wonderful tunes of the '50s & '60s. I will walk the beach in a swim suit that is stretched over a bulging body, and will dive into the waves with abandon if I choose to, despite the pitying glances from the jet set. They, too, will get old.

I know I am sometimes forgetful. But there again, some of life is just as well forgotten. And I eventually remember the important things.

Sure, over the years my heart has been broken. How can your heart not break when you lose a loved one, or when a child suffers, or even when a beloved pet dies? But broken hearts are what give us strength and understanding and compassion. A heart never broken is pristine and sterile and will never know the joy of being imperfect.

As you get older, it is easier to be positive. You care less about what other people think. I don't question myself anymore. I've even earned the right to be wrong. I like being old. It has set me free. I like the person I have become. I am not going to live forever, but while I am still here, I will not waste time lamenting what could have been, or worrying about what will be. And I shall eat dessert every single day. – *Author Unknown*

Judy J. Fisher
fisherjj@interplus.net

All Right! All You Retirees! Front and Center!

Time Again for the IDFG Retirees' Reunion! August 4, 2007 – Boise, Idaho

Don't Miss the Fun!

Make your reservations now! ALL RETIREES, PAST and PRESENT EMPLOYEES, and FRIENDS are invited. Lots of fun and good conversation available. Just $20 takes care of your registration, continental breakfast, hospitality hour and dinner.

Registration: Begins at 9 a.m., Saturday, August 4, in the Boise Headquarters Trophy Room, 600 S. Walnut. A complimentary Continental Breakfast will be available during registration. As in the past, come prepared with an update of your activities since the last reunion.

Raffle: Bring extra spending money for the raffle and silent auction! The committee is again gathering some great gifts for the raffle and door prizes. You will remember that the money from the raffle helps defray the costs of the reunion. (If you have an item you wish to donate, please let us know. We will gladly accept all your donations!) If you have any questions, call Ralph Pehrson at 343-3945 or e-mail him at *tiffey@aol.com.*

Lunch Break: As in the past, lunch is on your own so you are free to do whatever you wish. There are many local attractions in the surrounding area.

Dinner at 6 p.m. At 4 p.m., the group will reconvene at Municipal Park Shelter for the social hour. The same great menu will be catered by American Catering as in the past: Ribeye steak and BBQ chicken, corn on the cob, baked beans, dinner rolls, salads, and strawberry shortcake for dessert, including soft drinks (iced tea, lemonade, coffee), beer and wine. Leave your diet at home!!

Cost & Deadline for Reservations: $20.00 per person by July 15. Children 6 years and under are FREE!

Idaho Dept. of Fish and Game Retirees' Reunion – August 4, 2007
(Make Checks to: IDFG Retiree Reunion)

____Yes, I plan to attend the reunion and dinner. Number of persons (including myself) _____

Name(s) of those attending: _____

____I am enclosing $20 per person. Amount enclosed: $_____

Send to:
IDFG Retirees, PMB 401, 3313 W. Cherry Lane, Meridian, ID 83642