

# “Keeping in Touch”

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

October 2013, Vol. 9, No. 4

## Dates to Remember

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

2013  
November 14

2014  
January 9  
March 13  
May 8  
July 10  
September 11  
November 13

IDFG Wild Game Feed  
December 13

Mark Your Calendars

## 75th Anniversary Celebration

By Virgil Moore, Director

*(This memo dated August 29, 2013, was sent to all IDFG employees. I'm sure that you retirees will be asked to participate in some of the activities, so be prepared.)*

It is my pleasure to announce that on November 8, 2013, Idaho Fish and Game celebrates the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of a voter-passed initiative creating citizen oversight of professional wildlife management. On this date we will kick off a year-long campaign designed to carry forward the following messages and ideas:

1. *Idaho Wildlife Belongs to You.*
2. Put a face on Fish and Game by bringing awareness of the many things that Fish and Game does for Idaho citizens and their wildlife.
3. Celebrate the “citizenship-driven” nature of the agency and its funding.
4. Market potential Wildlife Diversity Challenge plans or legislation.

The 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Team is led by the Communications Bureau, but has members from every bureau as well as regional represen-

tatives. This team has been meeting throughout the summer and is creating several products including:

- \* A special web section
- \* Weekly “Milestones” that tell our story
- \* “75 Game Recipes”
- \* “75 Things You Can Do for Wildlife” (modeled after Be Outside’s 101 Things to Do Outside)
- \* Special videos and an historical archive with the old Fish and Game films called “Wildlife Reviews”
- \* A special 75<sup>th</sup> Celebration at ISTS

Along with these products, a special logo has been created that also has an animated version for video. The logo is on the K drive under “75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.” It should not be used publicly until November 8<sup>th</sup>. However, we are

Cont. On Page 2,  
75<sup>th</sup> Celebration

**"Keeping in Touch,"**  
**a newsletter for**  
**IDFG Retirees/Families**  
**and**  
**Former Employees**  
**is published**  
**quarterly by the IDFG**  
**Retiree Committee**

**Jack Fisher**  
 jackfis@msn.com

**Bill Goodnight**  
 idaholc@aol.com

**Jo Toomey**

**Corinne Barlow**  
 corinneb@cableone.net

**Judy J. Fisher**  
 JJFisher938@q.com

**Write or**  
**Send News Items to:**  
 IDF&G Retirees  
 PMB 401  
 3313 W. Cherry Lane  
 Meridian, ID 83642  
**or E-mail:**  
 JJFisher938@q.com

**All donations**  
**should be made payable to**  
**IDF&G Retirees and**  
**sent to the above address.**

### **75<sup>th</sup> Celebration, Cont. from Page 1**

making it available so you can add it to publications that are in the works.

Fish and Game is responsible for a great deal of good work in our state. This 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary will be an exciting time for us to let all Idahoans know what we do for them and their wildlife. It will be a means to look back at and look forward into the future of citizen-initiated wildlife management in Idaho. Please participate in 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebrations in your region and bureau. To get involved, look for additional information in updates from the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Team.

Thank you for your dedication to Idaho's wildlife.

### **IDFG 48<sup>th</sup> Wild Game Feed Scheduled**

Mark your calendar! This year's Wild Game Feed is scheduled for Friday, December 13. This is the 48<sup>th</sup> year for this function — first one was held December 20, 1965 (the year we moved into the "brand new" building).

### **Welcome New Retirees!**

Three more employees are joining the Retirees' List. Welcome to *Michael Cooper*, Salmon Region Utility Craftsman, retired July 25 after 17 years of service. *Burl "Steven" Bailey*, Senior IT Information Systems Tech for

the Information System (IS) Bureau, retired July 31 after 16 years of service. And last, but not least, *Lada Stransky*, Senior IT Programmer Analyst for the IS Bureau after 20 years of service.

And we would also like to welcome *Tom Poczalski*, former Conservation Officer with the department who heard about the newsletter from Retiree Cheryl Bridges. Tom was stationed in Jerome first and was a Habitat Improvement Program (HIP) employee. He then served as a CO in Preston and then Rupert before he was stationed in Boise. He now lives in Sun City West, Arizona. Happy to include you on our Retiree/Former Employee List, Tom!

### **Bill Platts Wins Again!!!**

I limited my track meets this year to 4 and possibly 5 meets, counting the World Meet, so it did not completely disrupt my fishing season. I did work in 13 high mountain lake trips, however. I started the season with the Hayward Classic at the University of Oregon to prime for the National Track and Field Championships in Kansas City. At the Hayward Classic I set a new World and American Record in the javelin and took 4 gold medals in the javelin, shotput, discus, and long jump. I failed to check in in time for the 100 meter and 200 meter dashes and was immediately disqualified so I headed for home early. (Cont. on Page 3)

## Platts, Cont. from Page 2

The Hayward Meet got me ready for the USA National Championships in Kansas City where I again broke my own pending World-American Record in the Javelin and set a new World-American Record in the Pentathlon. An athlete from Czechoslovakia has held the World Pentathlon Record for many years and I beat his record by 1,600 points.

An athlete from Germany held the World Record in the Javelin and I exceeded his record by 17 feet. I went on to be the USA National Champion and gold medalist in the Javelin, Long Jump, Discus, 100 meters, 200 meters, and Pentathlon. My best accomplishment and "get even feeling" was beating my "nemesis" from the Great Lakes and Eastern Seaboard Regions in the 100 meter and 200 meter dashes. Over the past few years they have been beating me more than I have them. With the Pentathlon being held the first day of the Track Meet, the Stadium Announcer got to liking me quite a bit so Boise got a lot of notoriety as a result of it through the rest of the 5 day meet.

I participated in the August Idaho Senior Games which is always a lot of fun with some great people and won 5 gold medals and had to scratch from the sixth event because I pulled an old calf muscle in the long jump. I did break the American Record in the

Long Jump and the World Record again in the javelin, but because the Idaho Senior Games is not an official meet sanctioned by the USA Track and Field Association, they could not be sent in for acceptance.

Every morning I tell myself it is better to go the World Championships in Brazil in October than it is to go hunting and every evening I tell myself it is NOT. So, I do not know if I will go or not. I may stay home and guide Marty through another hunting season, as we only have but a very few left. Next year there will be a lot more fishing and a lot less track and field.

If you are interested in keeping up with Bill, you can go to [nationalmastersnews.com](http://nationalmastersnews.com) to read about all the events and keep track of upcoming events.

*(I don't know about you, but I am envious of "Macho Man" for his health and stamina to be able to participate in these events! — JFF)*

## A 2013 Moose Hunt and Irreplaceable Memories

*By Martel Morache*

Having hunted and fished throughout Idaho for over seven decades, I have amassed many fond memories involving the state's magnificent wildlife resources. I recently participated in a moose hunt with Bill Platts and his daughter, Willow. The setting was a stretch of the Henry's Fork between St.

Anthony and Rexburg. This beautiful broad cottonwood riparian zone with an impressive under-story of willow, Hawthorne, snow-berry and various grass species is an idyllic habitat for moose. After a couple of long unproductive walks on a big island just downstream a bit from St. Anthony, we decided to run the river with the drift boat. Bill had the moose tag, I ran the boat and Willow shuttled the boat trailer to the take-out landing.

The river was quite shallow at the launch site, but picked up more flow as we continued downstream. We saw geese, ducks, eagles, ospreys and sandhill cranes but no moose in the first 8 or 10 miles. Pressing on, we were nearly shut down by two large cottonwood tree trunks lying completely across the river. I charged the first log and the boat hung up on the log halfway across. We both got out and tried to drag the boat on across the log. We were struggling to free the boat and not fall off the log when we realized we had disturbed a hornet's nest as the nornets began buzzing around us. That got the adrenaline pumping and we freed the boat, piled back in the boat just in time to confront the second log and got across it without further incident.

Then it was down the river. Bill finally spotted a cow moose in a marshy area near the river bank, which was encouraging. Then on down the river less than a mile he

Cont. on Page 4, Moose Hunt

## Moose Hunt,

### Cont. from Page 3

spotted a big bull moose right along the edge of the river. It took from 2:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. to skin, dress and transport the meat to the landing two miles downstream. We could not have carried this particular hunt off without the drift boat. The weather was quite warm, so back at camp we laid the meat out to chill overnight. Then, it was on to Boise early the next day to cut and wrap the monster bull. That process ended about 1 a.m. the next morning.

The unique conclusion to this story is the three of us have now ended our moose hunting careers in Idaho. Each of us have now harvested both a cow and a bull moose over the past 10 or 12 years. I wonder how many women have taken two moose in Idaho? All in all, a most memorable experience.

## Retiree Updates

Don't have too much to report this time. However, **Chuck and Sherry Garey** have moved from their home in Boise to a new duplex in Garden City where everything is taken care of on the outside and they can, as Chuck said, "stay away from home longer!"

Life is treating **Joan and Jack Trueblood** good and they are keeping very busy. Jack's health has improved tremendously and they are back doing their fun

things again! (*You know, it really feels good to report some good news for a change! Don't you think? — JJF*)

## In Memoriam

**David K. Spicer — 1954 - 2013**

*By Chip Corsi, Panhandle Region Supervisor*

Early this morning (July 29, 2013) Panhandle Regional Wildlife Biologist **Dave Spicer** passed away after a very long fight with cancer. Like most everything else Dave did, he took on his illness with a mix of tenacity, directness, grace, and humor. Many of you knew Dave from his work in the flight safety program; he also contributed greatly to the region's and Department's wildlife management programs, particularly in advancing our ability to manage elk and wolves.

Dave had been stationed in St. Maries since the mid 1990s, and was a remarkable ambassador for IDFG and wildlife in the southern part of the Panhandle. Dave took his work seriously and truly cared about the welfare of his co-workers. At the same time he could (and often did) laugh at himself, and more importantly could get the rest of us to laugh at ourselves.

Dave leaves behind his wife, Yvonne; together they set a wonderful example for enjoying life, and for supporting one another through difficult times. He also leaves behind many close friends and family. Those of us in the

Panhandle who were fortunate enough to work with Dave on a daily basis will sorely miss his contributions to our work, his candor, his terrific sense of humor, and not least of all his ability keep a public meeting in order in a manner only he could. Most of all, we'll just miss him.

Dave was born in Kirksville, Missouri on May 16, 1954. His family moved to Keokuk, Iowa when he was very young and he graduated from Keokuk High School in 1972. He served in the U.S. Air Force from 1973 to 1978, spending time stationed in Germany, Guam and Phoenix, Arizona. Dave graduated from Iowa State University in 1989 with a degree in Fish and Wildlife Biology. In 1990, he began his career with the department in Post Falls, Idaho. In 1998, he moved to St. Maries, where he also served at the Fire Commissioner for the St. Maries Fire Department and he was a member of many wildlife organizations.

## William O. "Bill" Hickey

**Bill Hickey**, 73 of North Fork, Idaho, passed away Sunday, August 25, 2013, in the Bighorn Crag. Memorial services were held August 31 at the Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church.

*(The newspaper article regarding Bill's death is below. Thanks to Tony Latham for forwarding this for the newsletter. So sad, he was*

*Cont. on Page 5, In Memoriam*

## In Memorium, Cont. from Page 4

*with his daughter, son-in-law and grandson when this happened. His daughter and son-in-law, Diane and Peter Schuldt, are U. S. Forest Service employees. Evidently, they were going to pack out a friend's camp when this happened.)*

## Land Rules Delay Return

By Laura Zuckerman

Post Register News

Wednesday, August 28, 2013

SALMON — The body of a Salmon man who died early Sunday evening in a remote area could not be recovered until Monday evening because Salmon-Challis National Forest officials refused to allow a helicopter into the non-mechanized area, Lemhi County Sheriff Lynn Bowerman said.

Bill Hickey, 73, was hiking with family and friends near the Bighorn Crags in the Frank Church River of No Return Wilderness when he collapsed Sunday and died of apparent natural causes. A relative kept vigil over Hickey for roughly 24 hours until a deputy sheriff and an outfitter reached the back country location on horse back. They arrived in Salmon with the body at 9 p.m. Monday, Bowerman said.

The recovery was delayed and made more complicated by the forest's refusal to lend a

helicopter to the effort because of rules barring noise and other intrusions into the wilderness area, the sheriff said.

The forest supervisor can make exceptions to those rules for circumstances such as medical emergencies and fire suppression, Salmon-Challis National Forest spokeswoman Amy Baumer said.

There have been several mechanized rescues in the wilderness this season — the latest Friday, when an Idaho Army National Guard helicopter was allowed to fly to the Bighorn Crags to retrieve a hiker sickened by eating a poisonous mushroom, she said. Permission also was granted to the Idaho Department of Fish and Game for 20 helicopter landings in the wilderness in 2010 to dart and collar wolves, legal documents show.

Forest Supervisor Chuck Mark chose not to authorize an intrusion into the wilderness Sunday or Monday to recover Hickey's body. "I didn't get the justification for that. I just know that was the decision that was made," Baumer said.

Our thoughts and prayers go out to all the families and our deepest sympathies.

## Relatives Are Everything They're Cracked Up To Be

By Royce Williams

*(Royce thought we might need a little something to make us laugh, so . . . here is his contribution. Thanks, Royce!)*

Before you tackle research into your family tree, you should do a little preliminary work to see whether or not you really want to be carrying the same genes as those oldie-moldies. You might find out, for example, that your great-great-grandpa in Kentucky might have known one of Bill Goodnight's ancestors! This happened to me, and the ancient Goodnight was a preacher! Bill may have lost those genes.

The oldest relative I've ever found is a man named Dirck, who was a ship's carpenter for the Dutch West India Company. He either left the ship or was kicked off it at New Amsterdam (later New York). Judging from his behavior in New York, he probably was kicked off the ship. He was a hothead. Got into a knife fight with a neighbor and landed in court, where he had to pay a fine and the other guy's doctor bills. He also found an abandoned boat that was in bad shape, fixed it up, but the owner came back and asked for the return of the boat. Dirck whacked him with a shovel. Had to go to court for that and pay another fine, plus he lost the boat and the work and expense of fixing it.

Cont. on Page 6, Relatives

**Relatives,  
Cont. from Page 5**

Dirck had a farm just outside the smaller New York City, and he built a wall around the farm. There was a wagon road inside the wall, and Dirck rode his horse or hitched the horse to a buggy every day to check the wall. Indians kept breaching the wall to steal his produce, so he was constantly repairing the thing. Much, much later that wagon road became Wall Street, but my relatives, poor dummies, had sold the farm for peanuts, well before the bankers moved in. No inheritance there!

There's also not a penny left from the fortune of that great-uncle who took his skinny, redheaded wife to Oklahoma. They were digging turnips in the garden one cold fall day and struck oil. He became a millionaire overnight and founded a town out there. The couple had 12 children, and those children blew all the money within only a few months of the death of their parents. They visited the rest of the family once in Kentucky after the oil strike, but folks at home said they had gotten uppity, so it was just as well they stayed in Oklahoma.

Then there was that cousin of my great-great-great-great grandmother who rode with Quantrill's men after the Civil War. This guy claimed to be a preacher, too (you gotta watch these guys!), but he broke nine of the 10 commandments every day he rode with the infamous Quan-

trill. He hated Blacks, and it was the reason for his downfall. He had gotten drunk during a raid on a town in Kansas and didn't ride out with Quantrill and the rest of the gang. The townspeople took their revenge on him. They shot him several times, dragged his body through the town, then chucked it into a ditch. He had come to Kansas to round up runaway slaves and take them back to Kentucky and Tennessee. He was too dumb to know they had been freed.

And courtships in the old days weren't what they are today. A grandpa of mine thought at 21 years old that he ought to be married. He asked around at the general stores, sawmills, grist mills, hemp rope walks, etc., where he might find a pretty girl that wasn't a relative. He was told there was a family of them in the next county at the Chuck-A-Luck Mill. He rode out on Saturday morning, crossed the river at Broadford, and found the mill. He stayed overnight, then came riding home on Sunday afternoon with a barefoot, 15-year-old girl on the horse behind him. She had a pair of shoes in a sack. They were married for nearly 50 years and had nine children.

There's an overly suspicious, maybe paranoid, gene in my family tree. Best example is a great-uncle who built a small shack at the edge of his watermelon field. He sat in the shack all day with a loaded shotgun across his knees ready to shoot any neighbor who

had a desire for melon. He loved to fight, and he and a neighbor, who also liked a good scuffle, would meet on a hill between their farms on Sunday afternoons for a fisticuff. Once, it got out of hand. The great-uncle tried to stab his neighbor with his knife, but the neighbor knocked the knife into the grass. My great-uncle left the fight to search for the knife but never found it. The neighbor was too tired to get up and run off. I've always wondered what would have happened if he'd found the knife.

These neighbors also had a dispute over the line fence between the farms. My great-uncle built a fence, but the neighbor said it was too far onto his land, so he built another fence where it should have been in the first place. The two fences were a yard apart, and neither ever got to use the three feet of ground between them. Soon, trees came up and blocked the view of each of the other. Still, it was an excuse for a good fight.

Also downers in the gene pool are those ancestors who hankered for a better life, or maybe just a life. One of them was a cousin of my great-grandfather. One evening, he ate supper without a word, then put on his hat, walked out of the house and was never seen nor heard from again. In Kentucky, this was called a wilderness divorce. A man who wanted out of a marriage would

Cont. on Page 7, Relatives

**Relatives,  
Cont. from Page 5**

say he was going hunting or to check the fence line, but he never came home again. The wilderness widows were usually remarried within a year, for most men couldn't make it on a homestead without a wife.

I also have an ugly gene. My great-great-great-great grandfather came to Kentucky from Virginia when he was 26. He bought a small farm, but needed extra money, so he started tanning hides. This was to provide leather to the community, not just to his family. If you've never been around a tannery, it smells to high heaven — a cross between skunk and rotten bananas. The hides have to soak in sour water with the acid bark of oak trees before they're scrapped.

Anyway, it was hard for a stinky fellow to find a girlfriend, so this ancestor married a woman five years older than himself and not at all attractive. Both sides said they couldn't have found a better match. It's the reason Hollywood has never called me back!

**Happy Belated Birthdays!**

Irene Powell, September 10, 84 years old &  
Husband Dee Powell, September 1, 87 years old

**Happy Anniversaries  
November**

Gary & Laurie Gadwa, November 22, 44 years

**December**

Gloria & John Elliot, December 28, 57 years

**Happy Birthday!  
October**

Bill Horton, October 1

Bud Ainsworth, October 2

Mark Armbruster, October 6

Bill Davidson, October 6

Ted Meske, October 6

Chris Ewing Craig, October 7

Bob Royce, October 7

Brent Ritchie, October 8

Pat Cudmore, October 8

Darlene "Skip" Howard, October 8 (80 years)

Lynda Beach, October 15

Gary Phillips, October 20

Gerald Mowery, October 22

Kent Ball, October 22

Frank NeSmith, October 24

Lynn Merrill, October 24

Joe Curry, October 27

Al Nicholson, October 28

Cont. On Page 8

Cont. from Page 7

## Happy Birthday!

### November

Dale Baird & Bill Snow, November 2

Ardella Reinke, November 4

Gary Gadwa, November 7

Dick Scully, November 11

Dave Neider, November 12

Sharon Wavra, November 14

Les Trout, November, 89 years

Fred Partridge, November 21

Jerry Neufeld, November 22

Don Carr, November 24

Mike Schlegel & Ned Horner, November 25

Gary Loveland, November 26

Lloyd Oldenburg, November 28, 83 years

### December

Donna Dillon, December 1

Tom Levendofske, December 2

Ardith Butterworth, December 7

Joe Greenley, December 13

John Heimer, December 14

Rod Parker, December 16

Director Virgil Moore\*, December 18

Don Anderson, December 21

Anna Marie Halpern, December 23

Ed "Bud" Stackler, December 27

Bill Gorgen & Martel Morache, December 28

\*Current Employee

\* \* \* \* \*