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SR: Vivian Olcott  
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WR: Loren E. Young

**Address:**

WRD Retirees  
P.O. Box 280  
Herndon, VA 20172-0280  
Phone (703) 648-5641  
Fax (703) 648-5002  
Email wrdretirees@usgs.gov

# WRD RETIREES

NEWSLETTER 140  
August 2008

*An organization of retirees of the Water Resources Discipline, U.S. Geological Survey, whose purpose is to keep its members in touch with each other and their former agency.*

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Greetings from warm, sultry Northern Virginia! I hope all of you are having an excellent summer and have, for the most part, escaped the flooding, the fires, and the drought that have been ravaging various parts of our great country.

First, hot off the presses, I've very pleased to announce that we have a winner of the WRD Retirees Hydrologic Technician Scholarship in the amount of \$1,500 for the 2008-2009 school year. She is Claire Bunch who currently is participating in the USGS Summer Training Program in Sacramento, California. Claire will be beginning her second year in the Hydrologic Technician curriculum at Gateway Community College in Phoenix, Arizona. Congratulations, Claire! My thanks go out to the dedicated committee who made the selection, Jim Blakey, Bill Emmett, Warren Teasdale, Merilee Bennett, and Bob Boulger with assistance from Jim Kircher and Deborah Lowe.

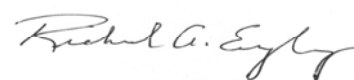
In less than 3 months, we will be in Tampa, Florida, for the biennial WRD Retirees reunion, the best way for face-to-face communication with our former colleagues. Craig Hutchinson, Carl Goodwin, Lynn and Peggy Barr, and Dan Duerr and other volunteers have a program that has something for everyone. It includes a hydrologic field trip for those of us still technically oriented, a visit to the Salvador Dali Museum for the artistic among us, shopping at John's Pass Village and Boardwalk, and the usual golf outing. This is just a sampling – visit the WRD Retirees website or see pages 2-6 of this Newsletter for the rest of the program. The venue, the Belleview Biltmore Resort and Spa looks fantastic. Your colleagues and friends already registered are listed on the Reunion website. Please register today and add your name to this growing list.

Following the Reunion some of the attendees (see the website) will be taking a 7-day western Caribbean cruise. They say that the early bird gets the worm, and the last word I had was that the cruise is already sold out. That said, you may contact Sandra Duncan (Page 12 of the May 2008 Directory) and get your name on a waiting list in case a spot opens up.

It has been a tough and trying time since my last President' message – we have lost an inordinate number of members and spouses. I wish to acknowledge two who have been very special people to many of us, our founder, George Ferguson, who celebrated his 102<sup>nd</sup> birthday in April, and Joe Cragwall, the highly respected former Chief Hydrologist. George died on May 23 and Joe on June 24, 3 days after he had attended a memorial service for George. These "giants" of the WRD Retirees family will be sorely missed. Our heartfelt condolences go out to Joan Ferguson, George's daughter, and to Joe's family and his companion, Mary, as well as to the relatives and friends of our other members and spouses who passed away during the same period. Please see write-ups about George and Joe elsewhere in the newsletter.

In a tribute to the living, however, I am pleased to wish a belated "Happy Birthday" to Bill Broadhurst, from Austin, Texas, who I believe is our oldest member (thanks, Bob Burchett). Bill celebrated his 103<sup>rd</sup> birthday on June 1. If any of you are aware that we have a member (or members) older than Bill, please let me know.

In closing, I wish to encourage you one more time to make your reservations to attend the WRD Retirees reunion in Tampa, October 30-November 2. You'll never regret it! See you then!



## **FOURTEENTH WRD RETIREES REUNION 2008**

**Tampa, Florida,  
October 30-November 1, 2008**

### **HOTEL**

The 2008 Reunion will take place at the Belleview Biltmore Resort & Spa, Clearwater, Florida, which has bestowed Southern hospitality and elegance to an impressive guest list. Our reunion will take place near the end of the hurricane season when activity is usually diminished and when the temperature is ideally in the low 70's. Eighty-five rooms have been reserved for the reunion -- we can get more rooms if reservations are made before September 15, 2008. Guest rooms feature water views and include small refrigerators or decorative fireplaces. Shuttle service is available from the Tampa and St. Petersburg-Clearwater Airport, call 800-282-6817. There is no charge for parking at the hotel. Special room rates for single or double occupancy (before taxes) are: Run of House \$109 and Sun Parlor Suite \$139. For more info about the hotel, go to WRDRetirees.org and click on 2008 Reunion Information. You can also make room reservations by calling 800-237-8947 (mention WRD Reunion when making your reservation) or by clicking on the reservations line of the reunion web page shown at WRDRetirees.org.

### **PRELIMINARY AGENDA**

#### **Thursday, October 30**

**Tropical Welcome, 6:00–9:00 pm** -- poolside buffet with steel drum music.

#### **Friday, October 31**

**Business Meeting, 9:00 am-12:00 noon**

All retirees and spouses are invited to participate.

**Lunch Buffet, 12:00 noon-1:00 pm**

A healthier side lunch buffet will follow the business meeting.

**Golf, Visit USGS Office or John's Pass Village, 1:00-6:00 pm**

**Belleview Biltmore Golf Club Outing, 1:00-6:00 pm**

The Belleview Biltmore Golf Club is about 2 miles from our hotel, and there is shuttle service. Carl Goodwin will arrange this golf outing. Information about the golf club can be found at <http://www.belleviewbiltmore.com/golf.shtml>.

**USGS Florida Integrated Science Center, 1:30–5:00 pm**

Each fall the USGS Florida Integrated Science Center office in St. Petersburg holds an open house with about 50 displays. They have graciously agreed to honor WRD retirees with a private tour. The tour bus will leave after our business luncheon at 1:30 pm and return to the hotel by 5:00 pm. The USGS office is about 20 miles from our hotel.

**John's Pass Village & Boardwalk, 1:00–4:30 pm**

This quaint turn-of-the-century fishing village is Pinellas County's #1 tourist attraction. The village is 14 miles from our hotel. Watch the fishing boats, shop, or have a great meal. More info at <http://www.johnspass.com>.

**Belleview Biltmore Hotel Historical Tour, 2:00 pm**

We will try to schedule a free group tour of the resort facility during which you will hear the guide speak about the resort's past social prominence and its remarkable revitalization through the years.

## **Saturday, November 1**

**Tours, 8:30 am–4:00 pm.** Please refer to specific tour for times.

**Gala Banquet, 6:30-10:00 pm.** A plated dinner will be served at the closing presentations and awards ceremony. See Registration form for menu.

### **TOURS**

The reunion committee has arranged several activities and tours. Some retirees may wish to forego the organized tours and take advantage of the hotel amenities. Complimentary transportation is available to and from the beach club every hour. The Belleview Biltmore also has a spa, tennis courts, pool, and bike rentals.

#### **Salvador Dali Museum and Baywalk, 9:00 am–3:00 pm**

The Salvador Dali Museum has attracted millions of visitors. The collection includes 2,140 pieces with 95 oil paintings and over 100 water colors by the world-famous master. The website is <http://www.salvadoralimuseum.org>. We will have a private tour led by a docent. It is about 20 miles from the hotel. A mile from the Salvador Dali is the Baywalk, a collection of shops and restaurants, where we will have buy-your-own lunch.

#### **Hydrologic Field Trip-USF GeoPark and Sinkholes, 8:30 am–4:00 pm**

The University of South Florida has provided much talent to WRD. The geology department constructed GeoPark that portrays aspects of the geology of Florida. Ann Tihansky of the USGS St. Pete will lead our tour. What do WRD retirees want to see when they come to Florida? Sinkholes and springs! After GeoPark, the tour will head to Schreuder, Inc., where Peter Schreuder will give an overview of the Curiosity Creek basin, that has sinkholes, retention areas, and water works. The field trip will end at Sulphur Spring City Park where refreshments and Cuban sandwiches will be provided.

#### **Florida Aquarium, 8:15 am-4:00 pm**

Experience one of the top aquariums in the world with over 10,000 aquatic plants and animals. You can take an optional behind-the-scenes tour led by an Aquarium docent. Information on the Florida Aquarium is available at <http://www.flaquarium.org>. Enjoy lunch on your own at the Aquarium Café or visit 2 blocks away at the Channelside Entertainment Complex where you can eat lunch, shop, and watch the ships.

#### **Sunken Gardens, 9:00 am-3:00 pm**

Sunken Gardens is one of the finest botanical gardens in the United States. The 13-acre site encompasses a sinkhole feature around which the garden's lowered elevation coupled with the tree canopy above creates a local tropical environment within a sub-tropical setting. Information on Sunken Gardens can be obtained at <http://www.stpete.org/SunkenGardens.htm>. After a self-guided tour of the gardens, a catered lunch will be served.

## **November 2 – November 9**

### **Western Caribbean Cruise**

A 7-day western Caribbean cruise will depart from the port of Tampa. A detailed description of the Cruise is presented on page 5 of this Newsletter. Join us for a fun time!

**Registration for the Reunion and Hotel Reservations must be made by September 15, 2008.**

**Please register and make your hotel reservations as soon as possible.**

Information and links to related sites are available through the WRD Retirees 2008 reunion website <http://mysite.verizon.net/cbhutchinson/wrdretirees2008reunion/>. This website is also accessible through the "reunions" page at the WRD Retirees website, WRDRetirees.org.

**REGISTRATION FORM  
WRD RETIREES 2008 REUNION, CLEARWATER, FLORIDA  
OCTOBER 30-NOVEMBER 1, 2008**

NAME(S) \_\_\_\_\_  
 STREET ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_  
 CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP CODE \_\_\_\_\_  
 EMAIL ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

**REGISTRATION FEE—DEADLINE SEPTEMBER 15, 2008**  
 Number attending \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$35 per person \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 (\$45 per person after September 15; refunds available prior to this date)

**FOOD**—Group meals are listed. Other meals are on-your-own.

**THURSDAY, OCTOBER 30, CABANA POOLSIDE BUFFET**  
 Soup, salad, baked grouper, jerk chicken, Cuban pork loin, rice,  
 plantains, dessert  
 Number attending \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$43 per person \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**FRIDAY, OCTOBER 31, HEALTHIER SIDE LUNCHEON BUFFET**  
 Soup, salad, roasted sea bass, fruit, cookies  
 Number attending \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$30 per person \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 1, GALA BANQUET**  
 \_\_\_grilled ribeye steak, \_\_\_pan seared grouper, \_\_\_chicken saltimbocca,  
 or \_\_\_vegetarian selection, with salad and 2 desserts. Check selection(s)  
 Number attending \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$47 per person \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**TOURS**—One 43-56-passenger bus is reserved for each tour.  
 Select first and second choice, pay for the more expensive, excess will be refunded.

**FRIDAY, OCTOBER 31**  
**Belleview Biltmore Resort Historical Tour**  
 Number attending \_\_\_\_\_ (free)  
**Trip to USGS Science Center, St. Petersburg**  
 Number attending \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$15 per person \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
**Belleview Biltmore golf outing**  
 Number attending \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$60 per person \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
**John’s Pass Village and Boardwalk**  
 Number attending \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$15 per person \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 1**  
**Salvador Dali Museum and Baywalk, lunch on your own**  
 Number attending \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$30 per person \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
**Hydrologic Field Trip, picnic lunch included**  
 Number attending \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$30 per person \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
**Florida Aquarium, lunch on your own**  
 Number attending \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$30 per person \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 Behind scenes tour \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$9 per person \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
**Sunken Gardens, catered lunch included**  
 Number attending \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$34 per person \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**TOTAL (registration, food, and tours) \$ \_\_\_\_\_**

**Reunion registration and hotel reservations must be made by September 15, 2008.**

**REMINDER: Don’t forget to reserve a room at the Belleview Biltmore Resort by calling 800-237-8947 and mention “WRD Reunion” to the reservationist. Contact Sandra Duncan at [wrdcruise@comcast.net](mailto:wrdcruise@comcast.net) for Caribbean cruise bookings.**

Mail this form, with your check, payable to “WRD Retirees 2008 Reunion Fund” to WRD Retirees c/o Craig Hutchinson, 15912 Willowdale Road, Tampa, FL 33625.

Questions? Contact Craig Hutchinson at [crabrahut@aol.com](mailto:crabrahut@aol.com), phone 813-960-3769, or Lynn Barr at [lynnbarr@tampabay.rr.com](mailto:lynnbarr@tampabay.rr.com), phone 813-973-3937.

## **WRD Retirees Cruise of the Western Caribbean following the Tampa Reunion**

**The cruise is full but you still may have a chance to join us. Read on!**

Because of the success of the Alaska cruise, which followed the Portland reunion, we asked Sandra Duncan to plan a cruise after the Tampa Reunion. She has arranged a cruise to the Western Caribbean from Sunday, November 2 to Sunday, November 9. The cruise will visit four destinations in the Western Caribbean: Grand Cayman, Costa Maya, and Cozumel, Mexico; and Belize. WRD Retiree cruisers will receive a cabin credit which will depend on the size of our group. We will also have a private one-hour cocktail party with food.

As we go to press with the August Newsletter, this very popular cruise is 'closed' and all of the cabins available to WRD Retirees at the group rate have been used. There may be scattered cabins throughout the ship still available; unfortunately, the rates are higher than our special group rates. If you would still like to cruise with us, Sandra will see that your name is put on a 'wait list' and if anyone cancels, Carnival may allow us to substitute. Call Sandra as soon as possible at 303-279-5061 if you want to join us on the cruise.

- **SHIP** - The Carnival Legend has 1,062 staterooms, for a capacity of 2,124 passengers. There are 12 decks, numerous bars, a library, three pools, a casino, and spectacular entertainment.
- **DINING** - We have requested Main Seating in the dining room -- breakfast at 7:45 AM, lunch at noon, and dinner at 5:45 PM or 6:15 PM (at the staff's discretion). You can request Late Seating on board. You may also enjoy a continental breakfast in your stateroom or a limited menu on deck. A reservations only Supper Club is also available for a nominal fee.
- **YOU SHOULD TRAVEL WITH YOUR PASSPORT**
- **FINAL PAYMENT DUE AUGUST 19** - Full and final payment is due by August 19, 2008. Sandra will contact each of the WRD Retiree cruisers individually for payment information and other details. You will be able to prepay gratuities and purchase travel insurance with your final payment. Gratuities are \$70 per person, and travel insurance is \$129 per person.

Plan to cruise with us – you will have a terrific time! To make your reservation, contact Sandra as soon as possible at 303-279-5061. Remember, even though the WRD Retiree block of reservations is full, Sandra may still be able to arrange for you to join us on this popular cruise. Call her as soon as possible to get on board! Additional information, including a map of the cruise sites, is also available on the WRD Retirees web page at WRDRetirees.org. Simply click on the words 2008 Reunion Information near the top of the page and then click on Cruise information.

## List of Early Bird Registrants, Tampa Reunion

The Reunion Committee is most grateful to all WRD Retirees who have sent in their registration information. We urge all those planning to attend the reunion to send in their registration as soon as possible. Please remember you must make room reservations by September 15 to guarantee the special discount. The Reunion Committee must make commitments to many of the vendors in advance so it is most important that the folks in Tampa know you are coming and in which activities you will participate. Early registration also helps insure your choice of options. See you in Tampa!

Anttila, Pete & Joyce, TN  
Barr, Lynn & Peggy, FL  
Becker, Larry & Virgene  
Bennett, Jim & Merilee, CO  
Biesecker, Jim & Joyce, VA  
Blakey, Jim & Paula, CO  
Boning, Bill & Shirley, VA  
Buono, Tony & Arlene, FL  
Buchanan, Tom & Marie, VA  
Carswell, Bill & Linda, KS  
Click, Dave & Laurel, PA  
Condes, Al & Mary, VA  
Curtis, Russ & friend, FL  
Duncan, Sandra & Jerry, CO  
Duerr, Dan & Kathleen, FL  
Engberg, Dick, VA  
Fitzpatrick, Dan & Maria, OH  
Freiberger, Herb & Pat, MD  
Goodwin, Carl & Bettye, FL  
Goolsby, Don & Eddie, CO  
Goss, Rick & Sharon, IN  
Hickey, Jack, FL  
Hindall, Steve & Sandy, OH  
Hutchinson, Craig & Tai, FL  
James, Bob & Jaye, MD  
Kilpatrick, Fritz and June, VA  
Langford, Hal & Jean, VA  
Leavesley, George & Rose, CO

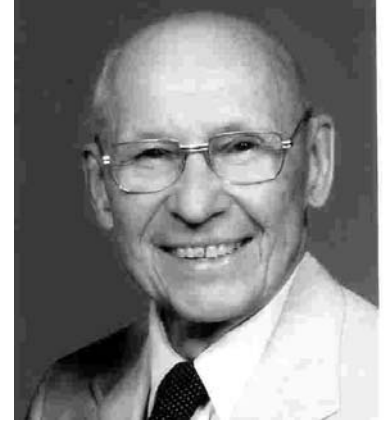
Luckey, Dick & Pat, CO  
Mann, Bill & Helene, VA  
Martens, Larry & Rita, AL  
McCartney, David, PA  
McCullough, Dick & Ruth, CO  
Messmore, Alan & Annette, FL  
Moore, John, CO  
Morgan, Charlie & Pauline, NV  
Murray, Mitch & Sherrey, FL  
Nassar, Salwa & Alba Najjar, AZ  
Pickering, Jack, VA  
Ritter, John & Judy, FL  
Rohne, Paul & Harriett, TX  
Sauer, Stan & Virginia, TX  
Schoen, Bob & Jean, WI  
Sherrill, Marv & Rosann, WI  
Singer, John & Micki, VA  
Steele, Karen & Gary Adair  
Swisshelm, Dick & Sheri, OH  
Tucci, Pat & Zeldia Bailey, CO  
Vecchioli, John and Lee, FL  
Wark, John & Marcella, CA  
Weeks, Jack & Judy, CO  
Welborn, Clarence & Dixie, TX  
Wilson, Bill & Kathie, CO  
Winner, Mike & Carol, NC  
Yorke, Tom & Jeannie, VA

### **Cruisers - Remember to get an Absentee Ballot**

WRD Retirees wants to remind all those who are going on the Caribbean cruise following the Tampa reunion to get an absentee ballot for the Presidential election. The cruise will be November 2 – 9, 2008 and the Presidential election is on Tuesday, November 4. We don't care how you vote but we want you all to be good citizens and vote!

**MEMORIAL**  
**George E. Ferguson**  
**1906 - 2008**

Our esteemed elder statesman, George Ferguson, passed away in his sleep on May 23, 2008, at age 102. He had attended a birthday celebration in his honor at the regular April meeting of the Reston chapter of WRD Retirees and was alert and conversant with old friends. George's exemplary USGS career spanned 44 years. Following graduation in 1928 with a BS in CE from the University of Minnesota, he joined the USGS. Shortly thereafter (1929) he married another U. of M. student, Lucille Dillery, beginning a devoted union of 75 years. After a brief training assignment in Columbus, OH, he transferred to the TX District for investigations of flow of and diversions from the Lower Rio Grande. His discharge measurements served as the primary hydraulic design data for Falcon Dam. In 1931, George transferred to the Hawaii District where he spent the next 6 years involved in the determination of streamflow in the Hawaiian Islands and in the development of improved methods for measuring the flow of mountain streams having severe floods and carrying heavy debris loads. And, using a guide and several mules he installed a rain gage on a mountain that measured the greatest rainfall ever recorded worldwide. He conducted research into the irrigation practices of ancient Hawaiians who grew taro. Findings provided valuable information in evaluating the water rights of modern descendants of these farmers. Also, while in Hawaii, he prepared a classified report for the Army on the availability of water supplies in rural areas for troops on Oahu.



Following a brief detail in 1938 to WRD headquarters, George spent the next 3 years conducting surface water investigations in the Mid-Atlantic States. During this assignment, he designed a pipe-type crest stage gage which became widely used throughout the Nation. Beginning in 1940, George served 6 years as District Engineer in charge of surface water investigations by WRD in FL. In addition to supervisory duties, he pioneered several investigations including characteristics of many large springs in FL, the water budget of Lake Okeechobee, surface-water resources of southeastern FL, and the definition of complex drainage systems in FL basins. While in FL, George became active in the American Water Works Association (AWWA). He served as a National Director of AWWA from 1946-1948 and was granted AWWA's Fuller Award.

George transferred to WRD headquarters in 1946. While serving as principal staff officer to the Chief of WRD, he assisted in developing a new organizational plan for the Division. The plan included sweeping changes nationwide involving the planning, conduct, and supervision of water-resources investigations and research activities. He became the first Chief of the newly established Program Control Branch in 1951, guiding the Division's overall program planning, work, and funding. In 1956, George was selected as the Area Hydrologist of the Atlantic Coast region sharing, with the Branch Chiefs, responsibility for investigations in 20 eastern States, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands. He served in this capacity for 16 years and by the time he retired in June 1972, held the record for length of service as a Regional Hydrologist. He had served three Division Chiefs, overseen the reorganization of all District Offices in the Northeastern Region, and directed USGS participation in such major interagency efforts as the Northeast drought study in 1966. In addition he helped develop an organizational plan for a comprehensive study of the water resources of the Narmada River Basin, India. Other notable achievements include assisting in the organization of the newly created Bureau of Outdoor Recreation in the DOI; and organizing and leading the initial inter-agency effort that produced the first Federal Plan for the National Water Data Network under the auspices of the Federal Bureau of the Budget Circular A-67. Still other achievements included serving as chairman of the AWWA Task Group for studying the threat to the Nation's water supplies from breaks in oil pipelines, and serving for many years as a member of Washington, DC's Cosmos Club. In 1970, he was awarded the Department of the Interior's Distinguished Service Award.

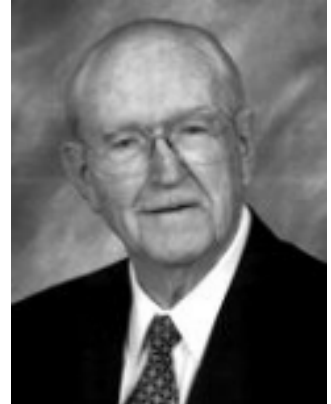
Following retirement, George worked diligently on Volume V, the 1947-57 updating of the *History of the Water Resources Division*, which was published as a USGS special publication. Of lasting importance to all WRD Retirees, he founded the WRD Retiree's Organization, and for many years, prepared its Newsletters and Directories which form the cornerstone of this nationwide organization of some 1,400 members.

Throughout his long and illustrious life, George was known for his great integrity, his kindness to others; his wide-ranging interests; his willingness to serve his profession, his fellow man, and his Nation in a variety of ways, and his dedication to the USGS. He will be long remembered by his friends and colleagues. His devoted companion, Lucille, passed away in 2004. He is survived by his daughter and best friend, Joan K. Ferguson.

By Russell H. Langford

**MEMORIAL**  
**Joseph S. Cragwall, Jr.**  
**1919 – 2008**

Joe Cragwall was one of the very best leaders ever to grace WRD. He died June 24, 2008, at age 88 due to complications from a gall bladder infection. Three days before his death he attended the Memorial for George Ferguson, even though he was in considerable discomfort due to his inflamed gall bladder. He said he just could not miss George's Memorial -- indicative of the kind and considerate man Joe always proved to be. During his service as Chief Hydrologist from 1974-80, he instilled professional pride in personnel throughout WRD. He possessed an uncanny ability to make people want to work very hard while simultaneously enjoying themselves. He and his loving wife, Jane, paid particular attention to the family feeling that existed in WRD during his time as Chief by hosting many parties, large and small, in such a gracious way as to convey a feeling that WRD was one big, happy family.



His dynamic leadership came at a critical time which required new kinds of data and increasingly sophisticated interpretations. He was widely respected and admired by the personnel he so capably led. Because he had served as a District Chief, field personnel knew Joe had a firsthand knowledge of problems encountered in the field. Physically impressive -- tall and ramrod straight -- articulate in a Virginia gentlemanly way, he had a thorough knowledge of WRD. A colleague who worked with him on a multiagency committee stated, "Joe Cragwall was so thoroughly knowledgeable about WRD that his commitments to the committee were gospel." His love and understanding of WRD is expressed in his quote, "My visits to the WRD Districts and many other field offices convinced me more than ever that we all worked for the best organization in the public service."

A native of Richmond, VA, born to Joseph S. Sr. and Florence Bristow Cragwall on August 3, 1919, he graduated from the University of VA in 1940 with a BS in Civil Engineering. He entered on duty with USGS in 1941 as a hydraulic engineer at the Charlottesville, VA, SW district office. Later assignments were in Marion, VA; Baton Rouge, LA; Nashville, TN; Washington, D.C.; and Reston, VA, where he retired in 1980. Joe Cragwall served in the TN District from 1958-62 as District Engineer and from 1963-66 as the District Chief. Joe was so highly regarded as a manager that the TN District was selected as one of three pilot Districts to test the integrated Division concept. His skillful leadership of TN was a key factor in this successful test. In 1966, Joe was assigned to the DOI as Staff Assistant for Planning, Programming and Budgeting of Water and Energy Programs. This Departmental position served him well in future years as it gave him a firsthand knowledge of DOI operations.

He was appointed Assistant Chief Hydrologist, Administration and Technical Services in 1968--this position was renamed Assistant Chief Hydrologist for Operations in 1971. Blessed with a keen mind and an intellectual's understanding of programming, he was also admired for his personnel management skills. He was the first USGS representative to attend the Federal Executive Institute (FEI). Joe was a strong proponent of FEI training, encouraging WRD senior staff to attend. His final USGS assignment was as Associate Director.

After retiring, he served as consultant and advisor to the USGS and other organizations, including from 1982-86, as a member of the VA State Water Control Board. Joe was active in a number of professional organizations including the American Society of Civil Engineers, the National and VA Societies of Professional Engineers, the American Geophysical Union, and the American Water Resources Association. He was a recipient of the Distinguished Service Award of DOI (76), the Julian Hinds Award of the ASCE (85), and the Engineer of the Year Award of the VA Society of Professional Engineers (86).

Joe was married in 1941 to Jane Elizabeth Anderson of Cartersville, who died in 1991 shortly after their move to Charlottesville. He is survived by one daughter, Linda Cragwall Kubistek; son-in-law, James R. Kubistek; grandchildren, Katherine Lynn and James Joseph Kubistek; and by beloved friend Mary Flippen. WRD retirees admired and loved this great man. He will be missed dearly by all, particularly those of us who had the privilege of working closely with him.

By Jim Biesecker with parts by the late Al Clebsch



## NEWS OF RETIREES

**Andy Anderson** reports, "The Director of U.S. Geological Survey, Mark D. Myers, was the guest speaker at the May meeting of the HQ WRD Retirees. He gave a very interesting and informative talk on the status of the USGS, difficulty of obtaining funding in today's fiscal environment, and the strategic plan for USGS science. The 35 members/spouses in attendance were impressed with Mark and his relaxed style."

**Bud and Bev Anderson** say, "We continue to try our skill on the golf course. Bud also continues to work in his garden. We will have a lot of nice fresh vegetables if the deer don't get to them first. He has been climbing trees and trimming limbs away from the roof of the house and from over the garden. Deer are feasting off the pepper plants. On June 4, we are going to Warsaw, IN, for the graduation of a granddaughter from high school. She will enter Butler University. Warsaw is about 1200 miles from Austin and Bud was undecided whether to drive or fly. He checked the train fare and it was \$900 and checked the cost of driving. My daughter-in-law said that we were too old to drive so she booked a flight for us."

**Jim Bailey** writes, "**Vivian** and I send regards to all WRD Retirees. You guys are doing a great job sticking in there with the Newsletter and Directory. Thanks!"

**Jim and Paula Blakey** report, "We visited the TX WRD Retirees for their May meeting and for the graduation of a granddaughter from the University of Texas. She graduated with honors and a degree in physical therapy and will be going to graduate school for 4 more years to work on a doctorate in physical therapy." Jim said that it was nice to be back in Austin. For most of March, Jim and Paula were in China and for three days they were on the Yangtze River and ended up at the new dam that will close next year -- this dam will be 3 times as large as Hoover. The dam was started in '93 and it will eventually generate 20% of the power needed in China. Most Chinese have a car, cell phone, and air conditioner. Fifteen years ago the Chinese were looking for washing machines, TV's, and good bicycles. One of the reasons that gasoline prices are so high is that the Chinese are driving about 4 times the number of cars that they did a few years ago. Jim said that it was great to visit Texas even though it was 102 degrees.

**Nancy and Jim Bley** hosted a party at their home for recently retired **Bill Carswell**. Other WRD Retirees in attendance included **Linda Carswell, Herb and Pat Freiberger** and **Joyce and Jim Biesecker**. A great time was had by all, including a number of folks who still work at the USGS. Bill had a USGS retirement party at the Reston HQ building earlier in the day. Linda and Bill are looking forward to retirement life in Lawrence, KS, in their new home.

**Bob Burchett** reports, "**Libby** and I are both doing well and have been staying close to home. I am still doing physical therapy at the North Austin Hospital. I have seen **Freeman Andrews** at the hospital several times doing his physical therapy. Freeman is working out so he can get back on the tennis court. At the beginning of May we went to Ruidoso, NM, to visit a daughter now living there and spent the weekend." From there we went to Marfa, TX, and stayed at a hotel that named their suites after people such as Liz Taylor, Rock Hudson, and others. While there we saw the famous Marfa lights. Bob said that the lights were very unusual. The lights, different colors, kept bobbing around. They also visited a rock shop in Marfa and Libby found a real pretty agate and had it made into a pendant. Bob wanted something to bring back and looked around at the various rocks and settled on a piece of petrified organic matter. It had been polished and cut into a slice. He asked the store owner what it was -- a piece of petrified dinosaur dung. Bob said that he was going to put in on the shelf with the rest of his "crap."

**Ivan Burmeister** reports, "**Fran** and I are doing well and have moved to a life-term care facility called Oaknoll. We are in the new addition. We don't really need any care yet but we're just ready when we do need it. With all the events available in Oaknoll (dining, exercising, swimming, entertainment, theater, etc.) we still golf, bowl, and attend many of the University of Iowa's sporting events and community events. Thanks for all of the WRD Retiree volunteers that keep all of us other retirees up to date. I retired January 1985, had my own Engineering business for thirteen years and then retired for good."

**Betty Cochran and Gene Charbonneau** write, "We always enjoy reading the WRD Retirees Newsletter. We don't do very much traveling anymore. Occasionally I travel to FL to see my son in Jacksonville. Gene still does some fishing and I play golf. Regards to all fellow WRD Retirees!"

**Chuck Collier** says, "I believe I am one of the famous 500 retirees referred to in the last Newsletter who have forgotten that I owed dues. Thanks for the reminder and my check will take care of matters for a few years. **Pat** and I visited our daughter and family in Wisconsin for Christmas and New Years; then extended the visit a couple of weeks when I came down with pneumonia. We are looking forward to a granddaughter's wedding on the Oregon coast in August. We will have family visiting us both before and after the wedding, so the month of August is booked. We certainly appreciate the work you folks do in putting out the Newsletter and Directory and in keeping the organization going. Thank you! Thank you!"

## NEWS OF RETIREES

**Ray Cunningham** reports, "Congratulations for turning out your great Newsletter – every issue! I've been receiving it since my retirement in 1976, after 32 years of service; and I've been retired for 32 years! Unlike so many Survey workers who have flipped several calendar pages as I have, my health is still near perfect. What a blessing. Before starting to work for the Survey (at the bottom) in 1948, I had worked for USED in San Francisco doing Surveying and Mapping. During WW II, I enlisted in the Navy CBs as a Surveyor and was sent to the Aleutians – to cool off. My wonderful USGS boss who became a very good friend, Archibald O. "Pat" Paterson, passed away on 6-6-08 at 99 years of age. Sometimes I feel as if I'm the only survivor. But, I was born 3-23-21. I worked my last 3 years in the District office in Tallahassee. Just before my retirement in March 76, I was asked by a couple of our survey ladies if I would bring my wife, Bernice, to the Brown Derby for lunch. When we arrived the place was full of people. They looked familiar and why not? The entire Florida District Office was shut down in my honor, from 11 AM to 1 PM (except for one person to answer the phone). Bernice passed away 11-25-06. We were as one! I may never forget the pain of losing her. I started writing in my 60s and have written 8 published books. I only have one hobby... to do as I please. Thanks to all of you who have become my friends."

**Claire Davidson** writes, "Please include a statement in the Newsletter about the annual dues rate." Editor's note: For all WRD Retirees, the annual dues is \$10.

**Liz Deavers** says, "I really enjoy the Newsletter. Keep up the good work. I had one of my carotid arteries reamed out and it affected my vocal cords, but I have gained back most of my speech. However, I talk very slowly."

**Lee Holt** reports, "In late November, before record breaking snowfalls in Madison, **Pat** and I entered a meeting room at the Marriott, expecting to see a program honoring our daughter. Instead we were surprised and delighted to see relatives from New Jersey, Kansas, and Colorado, and many friends from Madison and other parts of Wisconsin -- including a large number of retired USGS friends who kept the WRD spirit alive! Our children and their loving spouses, who live in Georgia, Florida, and Texas, had, with stealth and wit, gathered everyone together to celebrate our 25<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary. We stood under an arbor repeating words of love and commitment. A joyous time was had by all. **Bill Drescher**, recovering from a major spinal injury, sent his love to us and greetings to all. Fortunately, our scheduled departure for our vacation to Southeast Asia began before an impending snow storm. We flew 18 agonizing hours to Thailand to begin our vacation in Bangkok, then to Changmai, and then to Phuket, where we boarded a four-masted sailing yacht.

We followed the Malaysian Peninsula for 650 miles, stopping at many ports, including Kuala Lumpur, disembarking at Singapore for 4 awe inspiring days of fun and evenings, the last of which was spent at the famed Raffles Hotel drinking Singapore Slings. Returning to Madison and a very thick snow cover encouraged us in early January to drive south to our Port Aransas, TX, house. All went well until February 14 when I fell on my back and fractured a lumbar disc. Following x-rays, I wore a body brace until late April, at which time we returned to Madison. We now eagerly await the WRD Retirees Reunion in Tampa and hope to see many of you there."

**Craig Hutchinson** says, "All WRD Retirees need to remember to register for the Tampa Reunion. The deadline for reunion and hotel registration is September 15, 2008. The reunion organizing committee of yours truly, **Carl Goodwin**, **Lynn** and **Peggy Barr**, and **Dan Duerr** have planned a wonderful function. Also remember to register for the cruise that **Saundra Duncan** has organized. Details about the reunion and planned activities can be found on the WRDRetirees.org web site. Simply click on 2008 Reunion information in the upper right hand corner. Also information about the reunion is in the Newsletter. The reunion and cruise will be fun and offer a great opportunity to visit with your long time WRD Retiree friends and colleagues. Please join us in Tampa!"

**Hugh Hudson** says, "**Becky** read an article (At the Heart of Matter, p. 90-105, National Geographic, March, 2008), handed the magazine to me and said, "You'll find page 105 interesting." In the penultimate paragraph of the article was a reference to and a quote from "George Smoot, a Nobel laureate physicist." Many of us old timers remember the many accomplishments of his father, George Smoot, in WRD high-tech instrumentation research. Perhaps not as well known is the fact that Nobel George's maternal grandfather, WRD George's father-in-law, was, according to my faulty memory, a judge at the trials of Nazi war criminals in Neuremberg, Germany after WWII."

**Bob Jarret** says, "I think it is time I join the retirees group to stay in better touch with retired colleagues."

**Bev Josefson** reports, "I very much enjoy the Newsletter and hearing about the people I worked with. You all are doing a great job. Thank you very much."

**Gail Keeter** says, "I enjoy reading the Newsletter, so decided I should contribute a little. For the past 2 years I've been working 3 afternoons a week at the Sacramento Sports Commission as their volunteer coordinator. We bring sporting events to Sacramento, such as the AMGEN Tour of California bicycle race and NCAA events. It's great fun to be part of the events and

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it gets me out of the house and talking to people. And 12 hours a week isn't too onerous.

"On May 24, the 5th Northern California Retiree's picnic was held, on an extremely rare rainy and cool day in May. Happily, our picnic site is covered, to keep off the sun, but it works for rain as well. Fifteen or 20 hardy people showed up and a good time was had by all.

"Then, on June 7, I left on a 26 day vacation in New England. I flew to Boston, where I was joined by Lee Lenfest for a couple of days of sightseeing. However, temperatures in the mid-90's, and humidity that must have been in the 100's, combined to make walking the Freedom Trail take a little longer than I had planned. Guess I'll have to go back sometime to finish it. Anyway, then Lee headed home and I picked up a rental car to start my travels. I drove out to Cape Cod and Plymouth, then headed north to Maine. I took a leisurely drive up the coast of Maine, met Lee to visit Campobello, then followed him home for a couple of days. After that, I snaked my way back and forth across New Hampshire and Vermont, and extreme eastern New York. I can now say I've driven through Poughkeepsie, which has always been one of my favorite place names to say. I visited historic homes, Shaker villages, historical sites, and the Basketball Hall of Fame. All in all, it was a wonderful vacation. By the time I turned in the rental car, it had 3,000 additional miles on the odometer. Even having my flight home cancelled worked out okay. The flight I was re-booked on was unable to leave because of a mechanical problem, so I got a free night at the very nice airport hotel, with a lovely view of downtown Boston, and left early the next morning, getting home less than 24 hours late.

"When I got home, my daughter was in town from Eugene, OR, where she is in a master's program in physiology. It made coming home even nicer.

"I can't wait for my next trip, just as soon as I decide on where to go next. Thanks to the Survey, I visited a lot of states over the years, but none in depth, so now I hope to see them all again."

**Don Kelly** writes, "I'm onward into deeper retirement! Keep the Newsletter coming."

**Mary Lowry** says, "My son Jim and I are still in the apartment because we haven't found the house we want yet. Most everything I own is in storage. Although I am 95, I am doing fine, no aches or pains, still driving, and don't need glasses. I guess I have truly been blessed."

**Jim Malesky** says, "Thank you for the In Memoriam article in the Newsletter about Maggie Hellyer Malesky. It was most respectful and very true."

**Bob and Carol Middleberg** report, "Life in beautiful Port Townsend, WA, has not lived up to its reputation this winter and spring. It has been unusually cold and rainy compared to previous years. We did manage a 6-week motor home vacation to California and Arizona. Even there, we seemed to have brought the rain along with us. Our two kids have blessed us with two additional grandsons born in October and December of last year. Retirement still amazes us with how much we are constantly on the go with our soap making business, Townsend Bay Soap Company, [www.townsendbaysoap.com](http://www.townsendbaysoap.com), keeping up with the grandchildren, woodworking, gardening, and just plain enjoying life with gray hair."

**Charles Nethaway** reports, "Carol and I continue to do well, despite a few health problems. **Richard Hollway** (WRD, Oregon), one of the Core Team that helped design and develop the DIS went to his doctor in April after feeling unusually tired while biking. He was diagnosed with Acute Myeloid Leukemia (AML). It was a complete shock, and he and his wife, **Nancy**, are doing their best to keep their spirits up. Richard has developed multiple complications (rash on back, infection in nose, pneumonia). His sister is not a marrow match, so they are now exploring the national bone marrow donor registry. Speaking of cancers, **Joyce Solomon** recently had a double mastectomy after relapsed breast cancer. Her doctors found NO cancer in her lymph nodes after the surgery, so her prognosis is excellent. Just before she found this out, she had walked 26.2 miles in the Avon Walk for a Cure. Also, **Dan Winkless**, one of the DIS Systems Administrators and still working, is riding in the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society fund-raising ride in honor of his late mother who died of multiple myeloma, and in honor of all USGS-related blood-cancer patients, especially in honor of Richard. USGS folks do some mighty nice things!"

**Merv and Charlotte Peterson** write, "We are doing fairly well in our old age. I am 88. I am still doing yard work for our home, mowing the lawn, fixing things around the house, having a small garden, and enjoying it all. We are both in fairly good health with minor difficulties. Charlotte is legally blind. She is not able to drive a car nor can she read. I have to help her in many ways but we do alright. She has recently had a knee replacement, had a lot of pain and has been slow to recover but is now doing well. Traveling is quite difficult for us so we will be unable to come to the reunion in Tampa. We look forward to the newsletter at all times. Thanks for those who make it possible."

**Helen (Mrs. Wm.) Price** says, "I enjoy reading the Newsletter and its reports from those Survey people I remember, although they're dying off all the time. My husband was career WRD, 1948-84, but I worked for the Arizona District myself 1963-71 while he achieved one of

## NEWS OF RETIREES

the very first PhDs in Hydrology, on educational leave/WAE. Good times.”

**Margaret Randolph** reports, “Each time I receive my Newsletter as well as the Directory, I am determined to write a note of thanks. However the days, weeks, and months seem to fly by so quickly and before I know it my good intentions are just that! It has been a good while since I last wrote a note. I do thoroughly enjoy reading the Newsletter to learn about the activities of former friends as well as folks I never knew but feel like they are USGS family. I don’t often live in the “past” but I do have many wonderful memories of places we lived and people we knew during John’s career with the USGS. However, it has been almost 16 years since John died. That was another lifetime ago. Hello to all of you who may remember me! I’m fine, considering all the “old age” things. I still live on the farm but have no animals or crops – other than a few veggies in my flower beds. I am able to drive to Sunday school and Church every week to my Cumberland Presbyterian Church and in my little circle to the Post Office, bank, and stores. My family continues to grow. Son David’s son Ben was married on May 10, 2008. They have a house but no furniture yet! Ben is an anesthetist and he waited to marry his high school sweetheart until he finished all of his education. I could write a full-length book about my three children, six grandchildren and spouses. Space doesn’t permit so I’ll spare you! Don’t forget to vote in November – no matter which way you lean! Have a great reunion in Tampa and safe trips. God bless each of you.”

**Stan and Virginia Sauer** (as reported by CT Welborn in the Texas WRD Retiree News), “We recently traveled to Austin to attend the 33rd annual Texas Family Land Heritage Ceremony at the State Capitol honoring families with ranches that have been in the same family and in continuous agricultural production for more than 100 years. Our ranch at Doss, where I grew up, was purchased by my grandfather in 1899 and has been in their family since that time. It was an impressive ceremony held in Texas House of Representatives with addresses by Governor Rick Perry, Agriculture Commissioner Todd Stables, and others. **Virginia** and I, as well as other honorees, were seated at the desks of State Representatives – fun!! From there we traveled to the Dallas area to visit our daughter Sharon and family and especially to attend a musical production of “Beauty and the Beast” in which our granddaughter Nicole had a significant role. We were proud grandparents!! We both are doing fine and send our regards to all.”

**Herb Stevens** says, “We are all doing well in our home, thanks to a little help from daughters and grandkids. Travel is still on our list. We visited Ohio in April. My birthplace is Springfield and our granddaughter Emily attends Wittenberg University. While there, we visited

my grandparents’ and great grandparents’ memorials at Ferncliff Cemetery. I had never known where they were buried until a niece did our family history. We also visited San Diego in May. Our second daughter, Jeni, raises puppies for Canine Companions for Independence. We took a friend’s dog back for final training. Now we are off to Boise for a grandson’s wedding. We hope to visit Oregon and Washington while we are in the West. Elaine will have her 60<sup>th</sup> high school reunion in August. Our 4 daughters and their families are all doing well. Thanks for all the work the Officers and Newsletter staff do for WRD Retirees.”

**Joe Upson** writes, “Spring has finally arrived in New Hampshire after one of the snowiest winters in ages. The ice went out of our pond yesterday and the snow is nearly all gone from our meadow. There are three American Mergansers in the pond this morning and a muskrat. Best regards to all WRD Retirees.”

**CT Welborne** says, “I have not been traveling this month except back and forth between **Dixie’s** home and my apartment in southwest Austin. I finally got my pump replacement for my log splitter, and if I can get it put on I will be back splitting logs. I have three trees worth of logs to split and that will keep me busy for some time. My replacement knee has been giving me trouble so I saw my doctor and got a cortisone shot and it has helped a great deal.”

**Tom and Jeannie Yorke** report, “We had a wonderful cruise on the Danube River from Bucharest, Romania to Budapest, Hungary from May 25 – June 9. This was on board one of Grand Circle’s small ships – 140 passengers. Other stops in Bulgaria, Croatia, and Serbia were entertaining and interesting. Fellow WRD retirees **Joyce** and **Jim Biesecker** joined use on this relaxing river cruise. We were all impressed with the progress Romania has made in the 19 years since they overthrew their Communist dictator. One of the highlights of the trip was a visit to an elementary school in Croatia – the students there start studying English in the first grade!”

**Chet Zenone** writes, “I’m still working on USGS reports. Also, I continue to work several months each year with FEMA and continue to be involved in several volunteer activities in Salem. I get some woodworking done when I find the time! **Phil Emery** has just joined the ranks of FEMA’s Disaster Assistance Employees. That makes 9 former WRD Alaska folks who don’t know when to quit working!”

## WRD NEWS

Note to WRD Retirees: Recent retirees automatically become members of WRD Retirees. If you know any of these folks who recently joined our ranks, reach out and welcome them aboard. Please invite them to your Local Meetings!

### Recent Retirements

#### Northeastern Region

**Mark A. Ayers**, Hydrologist, 3184 Knob Creek Road, Shepherdsville, KY 40165, 502-922-1186, 05/03/08  
**Brian L. Benedict**, Hydrologic Technician, 4468 East Shady Lane, Mooresville, IN 46158, 317-831-1616, 05/29/08  
**Carolyn L. Bellante**, Administrative Officer, 45 Wickom Avenue, Trenton, NJ 08690, 07/03/08  
**Frank A. Danner III**, Hydrologic Technician, 980 S. Little Creek Road, Dover, DE 19901, 06/03/08  
**Gerald G. Girouard**, Hydrologic Technician, 1 Williamsburg Drive, Uxbridge, MA 01569, 508-278-7816, 05/31/08  
**David W. Hall**, Hydrologist, 701 Oneida Place, Madison, WI 53711, 06/06/08  
**Dennis L. McClain**, Hydrologic Technician, 3056 North Slab Road, Austin, IN 47102, 812-794-9554, 05/01/08  
**Sonja J. Sanders**, Secretary, 8228 Bittern Lane, Indianapolis, IN 46256, 317-841-8789, 05/31/08  
**James M. Sherwood**, Hydrologist, 4270 Smothers Road, Westerville, OH 43081, 07/03/08  
**Mary C. Watts**, Administrative Officer, Rt 3, Box 102-A, Ona, WV 25545, 304-743-1985, 06/03/08  
**George L. Zynjuk**, Hydrologic Technician, 97 Kent Point Road, Stevensville, MD 21666, 410-643-0255, 07/03/08

#### Southeastern Region

**Geraldine Stallworth**, Hydrologist, 4553 Salem Drive, Baton Rouge, LA 70814, 225-275-1916, 07/03/08

#### Central Region

**Carol J. Boughton**, Hydrologist, 11 Old Milwaukee Trail, Vaughn, MT 59487, 06/30/08  
**William J. Carswell, Jr.**, Hydrologist, 1705 Burning Tree Drive, Lawrence, KS 66047, 785-843-1017, 07/03/08  
**Larry J. Lumpkin**, Hydrologic Technician, P.O. Box 543, Dixon, MO 65459, 573-759-7935, 07/01/08  
**Thomas J. Maloney**, Physical Scientist, 13887 W. 3<sup>rd</sup> Place, Golden, CO 80401, 303-279-8004, 05/03/08  
**Lynn K. Miller**, Hydrologic Technician, 12 Calle Alta, Tueras, NM, 87059, 05/02/08  
**Dolores G. Stoner**, Administrative Officer, 1307 Firebush Drive, Pflugerville, TX 78660, 512-990-3437, 06/03/08  
**Leona M. Treloar**, Secretary, 6250 Everett Court, Arvada, CO 80004, 303-431-1621, 04/30/08  
**Michael J. Werito**, Physical Science Tech, 3384 West 31<sup>st</sup> Avenue, Denver, CO 80211, 303-433-2165, 05/03/08

#### Western Region

**Irene M. Beahan**, Administrative Assistant, 1389 SE Larch Way, Gresham, OR 97080, 503-674-7732, 04/30/08  
**Mark R. Danner**, Hydrologic Technician, 52 N. Villa, Clearfield, UT 84015, 801-774-6885, 06/20/08  
**Richard A. Fontaine**, Hydrologist, 677 Ala Moana Blvd., Suite 415, Honolulu, HI 96813, 05/30/08  
**Myrtle A. Jones**, Hydrologist, 41130 216 Avenue SE, Enumclaw, WA 98022, 360-825-6384, 06/03/08  
**David L. Kresch**, Hydrologist, 4001 N. 31<sup>st</sup> Street, Tacoma, WA 98207, 253-752-2246, 05/02/08  
**Darlana Lee Shoemaker**, Administrative Assistant, 1302 Hazelwood Street, Boulder City, NV 89005, 06/20/08

#### Headquarters

**Judith B. Griffin**, Information Specialist, 1775 Ivy Oak Square, Reston, VA 20190, 571-313-1849, 05/31/08  
**Toni M. Johnson**, Program Analyst, 11619 Charter Oak Court, Reston, VA 20190, 571-313-1302, 05/31/08  
**Gail E. Mallard**, Hydrologist, 2 Schumann Road, Westerly, RI 02891, 05/31/08

### Reinstated Members

**Dyar**, Thomas R. "Bob" (06) (Judy) 968 Sandy Ridge Road, McDonough, GA 30253-6174, 770-957-5729  
**Greene**, Patricia S. (05) (Joseph) 119 Avon Bend Road, Charles Town, WV 25414, 304-725-4006  
**Hacke**, C. Michael (05) P.O. Box 2594, Tucker, GA 30085, 770-938-2414, [methylethylk@aol.com](mailto:methylethylk@aol.com)  
**Lowry**, Mary R. (72) 521 W Mineral Avenue, Apt 225, Littleton, CO 80120  
**Merritt**, Michael L. (99) P.O. Box 492463, Keaau, HI 96749, 808-966-4825, [merrittm001@hawaii.rr.com](mailto:merrittm001@hawaii.rr.com)  
**Roddy**, William R. (99) (Leslie) 12503 Woodcock Lane, Oak Hill, VA 20171, 703-391-5048, [william\\_rodny@cox.net](mailto:william_rodny@cox.net)

**WRD NEWS**  
**WHAT'S NEW IN RESEARCH™**

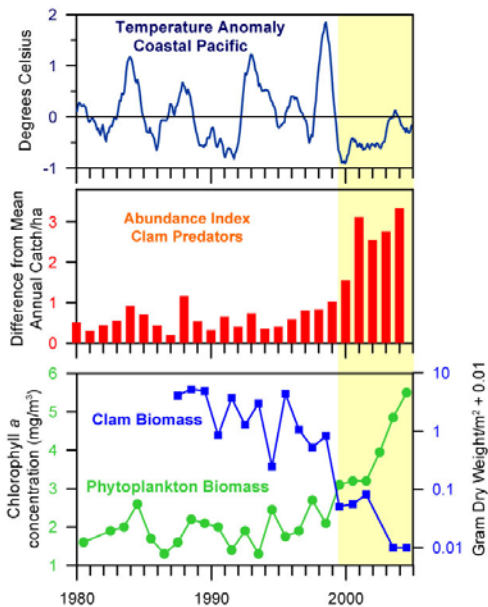
**News of the WRD Research**  
**Pierre Glynn, Branch Chief, BRR/ER, National Research Program**

Here is a highlight of some recent Water Discipline research. For more information email Pierre at [pglynn@usgs.gov](mailto:pglynn@usgs.gov) or visit the website: <http://water.usgs.gov/nrp/highlights.html>

**Pacific Ocean Cooling Triggers Phytoplankton Blooms in San Francisco Bay**

A cooling in ocean temperatures off the coast of California, between 1999 and 2005, led to increased phytoplankton blooms and [red tides](#) in San Francisco Bay, California. Scientists and water-resource managers normally associate phytoplankton blooms with increases in the amount of nutrients entering estuaries from such sources as wastewater treatment plants and runoff from agricultural fields. In this case, the phytoplankton blooms in the Bay occurred during a period of decreasing nutrient concentrations and inputs.

USGS scientists discovered the effects of cold Pacific temperatures through the monitoring of water-quality and biological data over 25 years. The colder temperatures caused changes in the types, abundance, and migration patterns of marine life in the San Francisco Bay and coastal ocean waters. More fish, shrimp, and crabs than usual migrated to warmer waters, like San Francisco Bay, causing an increase in the numbers of predators that eat filter feeders, such as clams. Clams filter large quantities of phytoplankton from the Bay's water, which can prevent phytoplankton blooms. With the increase in predators, there was a corresponding decrease in clam populations and an increase in the amount of phytoplankton.



The adjacent figure summarizes the data used to document changes in San Francisco Bay phytoplankton (measured as chlorophyll a concentrations) caused by the prolonged cold phase anomaly (1999-2005) in sea surface temperatures off the California coast (Farallon Islands). The abundance index of clam predators in the Bay reflects differences from the mean of the annual catch per hectare of English Sole, Bay Shrimp, and Dungeness crab in San Francisco Bay. The clam biomass is given in grams dry weight per square meter; the median chlorophyll a concentration (in milligrams per cubic meter) for the months of August through December is a proxy for how much algae (phytoplankton biomass) are suspended in water.

This study suggests that estuarine restoration and protection programs will benefit from: 1) a recognition of the coastal ocean as an important source of estuarine variability, and (2) a recognition of the importance of climate processes that fluctuate over decadal scales. **In summary:** long-term data collection efforts are key to understanding changes in biological communities and how ecosystems function.

**Reference:** Cloern, J.E., Jassby, A.D., Thompson, J.K., and Hieb, K.A., 2007, [A cold phase of the east pacific triggers new phytoplankton blooms in San Francisco Bay](#): Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences of the United States of America, v. 104, no. 47, p. 18561-18565, doi:10.1073/pnas.0706151104.

**Matt Larsen to be new Associate Director for Water  
as Bob Hirsch returns to the Research Program**

Matt Larsen is the new Associate Director for Water. Matt is a good friend of WRD Retirees, having been a speaker at a HQ WRD Retirees luncheon and authoring the "What's New in Research" articles that appear in each edition of the WRD Retirees Newsletter. He is very well qualified to be Associate Director, having served as a District Chief -- Caribbean District -- and as the Chief Scientist for Hydrology. Bob Hirsch is returning to the research program to address the critical issues of climate change and long-term trends in water resources. He has been serving as part of the bureau's senior leadership for 14 years. He has been an influential USGS ambassador, testifying before Congress and speaking before regional and national groups. Thanks, Bob and good luck, Matt!

## WRD Retirees Hydrologic Technician Scholarship Program

In May 2006, 96% of the voting members of WRD Retirees agreed to establish an annual \$1500 Scholarship for Hydrologic Technicians. The scholarship has proven to be extremely popular with both WRD Retirees and the folks currently working at USGS. Hydrologic Technicians enjoy a well-deserved reputation of delivering high-quality data products that meet local, State, and national needs. They are often referred to as the "backbone" of the water program. WRD Retirees started the scholarship program as partial recognition of the many contributions hydrologic technicians make to the success of the USGS water program.

Past President Jim Blakey and Past Vice-President Bill Emmett established the procedure to select candidates -- with assistance from Jim Kircher, Director, Colorado Water Science Center (District Chief, Colorado); Deborah M. Lowe, Central Region Human Resources Officer; and Carole A. De Herrera, Central Region Human Resources Specialist. All students from colleges offering a 2-year program leading to an Associate Degree as a Hydrologic Technician are candidates. The scholarship is awarded to a second-year student who has demonstrated the ability to earn good grades, is a good citizen, has interest in USGS employment, and preferably has successfully completed one summer of work with USGS and is being recommended by their supervisor to continue with USGS upon successful completion of his/her degree. USGS and WRD Retirees work with universities offering a Hydrologic Technician Associate Degree to provide a list of candidates. WRD Retirees convenes a group to make the final selection.

A selection panel, consisting of four WRD Retirees, both Hydrologists and Hydrologic Technicians, reviews the information gathered in order to judge the merits of each candidate, and to select a winner. WRD Retirees Bob Boulger, Jerry Duncan, Warren Teasdale, Jim Blakey, and Bill Emmett have served on the selection panel in the past and we thank them for their successful efforts.

**2006 Winner: Jacob B. Dayley** of GateWay Community College in Phoenix, Arizona. Jacob had a 2006 summer internship with the California Water Science Center. Jacob graduated with his Associate Degree and is currently a full-time Hydrologic Technician at the Carnelian Bay, CA, field headquarters.

**2007 Winner: Gretchen C. Anderson** of Vermilion Community College in Ely, MN. Gretchen worked in the Tulsa field office during the summer of 2007 and will be working in the Mounds View, MN, field office this summer on a nutrients loading program. She was awarded her Associate Degree in May 2008. Gretchen hopes to continue her education in the future, seeking a Hydrology degree from the University of Minnesota-Crookston.

**2008 Winner: Claire Bunch** a student at GateWay Community College in Phoenix and a USGS summer intern in the Sacramento office is the winner. Jim Blakey and Bill Emmett once again led the WRD Retirees selection process. The selection committee met in early August. Claire will be receiving a plaque and \$1500 check on August 8 at a ceremony arranged by Jim Bowers, Program Chief, Monitoring and Information Office in Sacramento.

We plan to continue to award a Hydrologic Technician scholarship every year.



## **The Perfect Kitchen, But Dunkers Need Not Apply** **by Donovan Kelly, WRD Retiree**

My first kitchen was very small, but then so was I. For my first two years I was an only child, and the world of this small kitchen revolved around me and life was good, very good. My parents worried that I needed a companion. To ease their mind, I asked Santa Claus for a puppy dog. I got a sister. I stopped believing in Santa Claus.

Adding messy insult to injury, my little sister turned into a dunker. In our small kitchen there was no room for a messy dunker. When my sister dunked her toast in her hot chocolate, we all were splashed. Six inches away from me, a slimy butter oil slick would spread across the top of her hot chocolate. Bits of butter-coated dead toast floated in the oil slick, like dying seabirds caught in the wake of a ruptured oil tanker.

Obviously, we needed a bigger kitchen. My parents found the perfect kitchen in a 15-room, 60-year-old farm house. Minor drawbacks included a lack of electricity, indoor plumbing, central heating, and nearby playmates. I repeatedly suggested a dog, and repeatedly was given brothers to go with the aforementioned sister.

Despite the nagging communication problem, we five kids did share the joy of awakening to winter blizzards in unheated bedrooms in Northern Pennsylvania. Arctic winds from Canada blew freely through the quaint walls. The winds carried with them frozen bits of Lake Erie that pelted the windows and piled up into deep snow drifts. The temperature always seemed to be below freezing . . . and that was inside my bedroom. Some might question that my bedroom could ever be so cold. I would only point to the skim of ice on the goldfish bowl.

Except, I would never point. Not for anybody. On such winter mornings, I would not venture any part of my body outside the 6 layers of blankets until absolutely necessary. Better to snuggle down into the warm spot I had worked all night to create. Better to wait until I heard Mom go downstairs. Better to linger until she had time to turn up the heat on the kerosene heater and to bring the kitchen back to life again. Because no matter how cold the house, Mom would make the kitchen warm.

It took me years to realize that the warmth of the kitchen owed a lot more to Mom than to kerosene. And more years passed before I understood that she did not do all this just for King Dad. Yes, she got up every morning before Dad to make sure his breakfast was ready, his coffee hot, and his lunch packed fresh for work. And yes, she even turned on the hot water faucet in the bathroom to a slow drip so that the water would be warm enough when Dad finally arrived in a grumble to shave. All this she did before the King was even out of bed.

Mom was spoiling Dad. I remember thinking this as a young teenager, so eager to explain life to others. I remember pointing out to Mom that it was wrong to spoil Dad like this. That it wasn't fair to her. I pointed this out to Mom in a righteous indignation that was warmed by a warm kitchen in a cold house. I scolded Mom as she poured me fresh hot chocolate and served me my favorite cinnamon toast, already buttered. And I fell silent when Dad entered the room.

I'm ashamed to admit how many years passed before I realized that Mom had been spoiling me along with Dad and my non-canine siblings. No matter how cold the house, Mom kept the kitchen warm and special for each of us, be we shavers, dunkers, or scolders. Even in the middle of a Pennsylvania winter when goldfish bowls froze over and toast was too freely dunked, we knew love because we knew a perfect warm kitchen.



## Water for America Initiative of USGS

The 21st Century brings a new set of water-resources challenges. Water shortage and use conflicts have become more commonplace in many areas of the United States – even in normal water years – for irrigation of crops, for growing cities and communities, for energy production, and for the environment and species protected under the law. Much has changed since the last overall assessment of water resources for the Nation was published by the Water Resources Council in 1978. It is time for a comprehensive examination of water availability in the United States using what we have learned during the past 30 years and with up-to-date capabilities. In response to a request from Congress, the USGS released Circular 1223 in 2002 -- “Concepts for National Assessment of Water Availability and Use.” The circular outlines a broad framework by which a national assessment could take place and advocates using 21 Water Resources Regions for the study units. In 2005, the USGS embarked on a pilot study of water availability in the Great Lakes Basin. The pilot focuses on understanding the dynamics of the water resources in the basin in terms of the flows and yields of both ground and surface water and demonstrates the importance of water-use data to quantifying water availability. These were the initial steps to building a comprehensive water availability initiative for America.

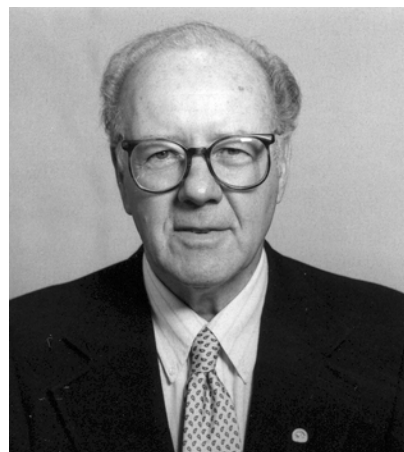
In the next decade, the Nation will have a new appraisal for water availability that tracks changing flow, use, and storage of water, as well as developing models and predictive tools to guide its decisions. The USGS science strategy identified water availability as a high priority and highlights the need for a water census, the objective of which is identical to the objective of this 2009 initiative. Last year, the National Science and Technology Council (NSTC) released a report entitled “A Strategy for Federal Science and Technology to Support Water Availability and Quality in the United States.” That report states, **“The United States has a strong need for an ongoing census of water that describes the status of our Nation’s water resource at any point in time and identifies trends over time.”** In its simplest terms, the philosophy of the initiative is “You can’t manage what you don’t measure.” Knowing our Nation’s water “assets” and rates of use on an ongoing basis is crucial to wise management. The Water for America Initiative will:

- 1). Conduct a nationwide assessment of water availability and human and environmental water use by 2019, describing the change in water flows, ground-water storage, and water use,
- 2). Proceed with regional-scale studies that compare the status of water storage and flows under current developed conditions to prior conditions for each of the Nation’s 21 Water Resource Regions,
- 3). Cooperate with State and local government in selected watersheds or aquifer systems to increase use of new technologies in water planning and management,
- 4). Cooperate with States to map the geologic framework of the Nation to improve characterization of the Nation's aquifers, and
- 5). Modernize the Nation's 7,000 streamgages by replacing obsolete telemetry to ensure continued real-time operations and provide more timely information needed for better water management, and stabilize the long-term network by reestablishing critical streamgages discontinued in the past 2 decades.

**MEMORIAL**  
**William "Bill" Back**  
**1926 - 2008**

William "Bill" Back had a distinguished 46-year career in the Water Resources Division investigating the geochemistry and hydrology of ground-water systems. He died January 31, 2008, at age 82, in Honolulu, HI, where he had lived for the past two years with his wife, Connie. They were longtime residents of Arlington County Virginia.

Bill was born in East Saint Louis, IL, and graduated from the University of Illinois in 1948. He received a master's degree in geology from the University of California at Berkeley in 1955, a master's degree in public administration from Harvard University in 1956, and a doctorate in hydrogeology from the University of Nevada in 1969, where he was one of Burke Maxey's students as were a number of USGS hydrogeologists of the era.



Bill started his career with the USGS in the summer of 1946 in the Alaskan Section of the USGS in Seattle, WA as a recorder and then in Sacramento, CA as a hydrologic field assistant working in Yakataga, AK. He came to Washington, DC as a geologist in the Ground Water Branch in 1954 and he remained in the area until his retirement from headquarters in Reston, VA. His interest in karst hydrology began in Florida with early work with Vic Stringfield. He developed the concept of hydrochemical facies to explain how the chemical composition of ground-water changes with the geology and flow of water in aquifers. He along with Ivan Barnes was among the first to apply thermodynamic principles to the study of chemical reactions in ground-water systems and to explain the occurrence of dissolved iron in ground-water systems of the Atlantic Coastal Plain. Much of his research was in coastal carbonate aquifers in Florida, Mexico, and Spain where he investigated chemical reactions that occur in zones where freshwater and seawater mix with colleagues Bruce Hanshaw, Meyer Rubin, Rodney Cherry, Janet Herman (University of Virginia), Juan Lesser (Mexico), Ramon Llamas (Spain), and many others. Much of his early field work was done with Connie and his 4 children as supporting staff.

He was a mentor to many scientists. To mention a few, he worked with Mary Jo Baedecker on understanding processes at landfills, Ed Landa on bottled water and spas, and with Niel Plummer on the mass balance approach to interpret chemical evolution.

Bill authored more than 150 scientific publications and was known internationally as an authority on the geochemistry of ground-water systems. He was an adjunct professor at George Washington University for more than 10 years. Bill was also active in AGU, GSA, and IAH. He was a long-term Fellow of GSA, served on the Executive Board of the Hydrogeology Division of GSA, and was Chairman of the Division in 1986. Bill was a driving force in the preparation of GSA's publication on Hydrogeology of North America, coedited with Joe Rosenhein and Paul Seaber. Bill was recipient of GSA's Hydrogeology Division's Meinzer Award in 1973, Birdsall Distinguished Lecturer in 1978, and the Distinguished Service Award in 1988. In addition to these awards, he received the M. King Hubbard Award from the National Ground Water Association in 1995 and the C.V. Theis Award of the American Institute of Hydrology in 1997. From the Department of Interior he received the Meritorious Service Award in 1982 and Distinguished Service Award in 1987.

Bill's colleagues found him to be a bright, warm, outgoing person and a superb mentor who was quick to make friends. His many colleagues and associates will miss him. Connie's address is Sheraton Princess Kaiulani, 120 Kaiulani Avenue, Honolulu, HI, 96815.

By MaryJo Baedecker

## LOCAL MEETINGS AND GATHERINGS

USGS Director Mark Myers addresses the HQ Chapter of WRD Retirees at their May Meeting



Recent Gathering of Georgia WRD Retirees



Left side bottom to top - Jim Bettendorf, Glenn Faulkner, Don Leifeste, Mary Dunn, Harold Golden  
Right side bottom to top-- Tim Stamey, Eve Kuniansky, JoAnn Leifeste, Dot Beasley, Dick Bloyd.



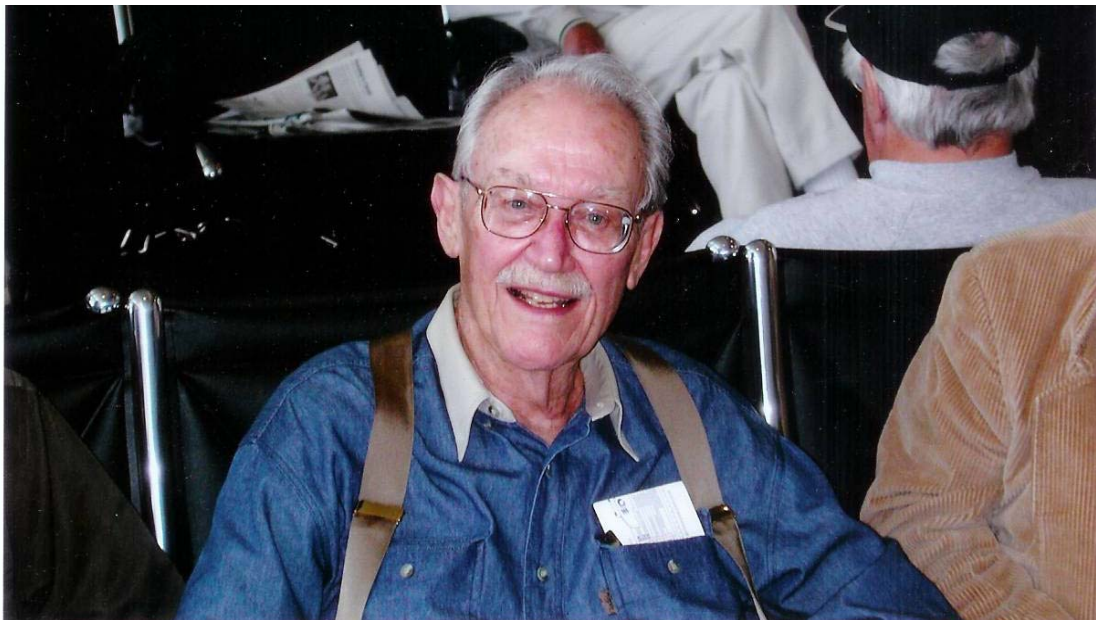
## LOCAL MEETINGS AND GATHERINGS

### Wisconsin WRD Retirees Enjoying a Summer Outing



L to R: Dale Cotter, Jean Schoen, Bob Schoen, Roger Waller, Bob Devaul, Al Harr, Phil Kammerer, Rosann Sherrill, Ruth Waller, Rachel Hagen, Marv Sherrill, Gerry Cotter, Fred Dreher, Lee Holt, Gerry Dreher, Pat Holt, Pat Young, Harley Young

Denver has one of the most active groups of WRD Retirees. There are many WRD Retirees in Denver who contribute much to the success of our organization, including Hugh Hudson, shown below. Thanks, Hugh!



## IN MEMORIAM

**J. P. Akers, Jr.** passed away in Sierra Vista, AZ, on March 7, 2008, at age 86. A Kentucky native, Jay received a BS (51) and MS (60) in Geology from the University of Arizona. He was a WW II U.S. Navy veteran. His first WRD assignment was with the SW branch in Lees Ferry, AZ, where he measured the discharge and suspended-sediment of the Colorado River. He transferred to the GW branch in 1952 and worked on the Navajo Reservation GW project. Jay transferred to the Caribbean District in 1963 and in 1965 to CA, Menlo Park subdistrict in charge of projects. He retired in 1982 and was active in the First Assembly of God. Jay is survived by his wife of 66 years, Mary and a son, Gary.

**Iva H. Brown**, widow of WRD Retiree Philip M. Brown, died on June 26, 2007. Phil was a graduate of the University of Alabama having received a BS in Geology in 1952. He served WRD as a GW specialist in the NC District for 28 years, retiring in 1981 and passing away in 2003.

**Rodney Noel "Rod" Cherry**, 79, died April 14, 2008. He was born Cadiz, KY, and was a graduate of the University of Western Kentucky. After serving in the Army, he was a teacher in Yulee, FL. Rodney began his 30-year career with the USGS as a chemist in Ocala. In 1978, he became chief of the SC District and the District grew substantially. He received the Superior, Meritorious, and Distinguished Service Awards. Following his retirement from USGS in 1991, Rodney was hired by the SC Water Resources Commission and later the SC Department of Natural Resources as Chief of Hydrology. Survivors are sons, Hank and Mike; and 6 grandchildren. Rod was predeceased by his wife of 56 years, Annelle Hogan Cherry. A Memorial for Rod will appear in the November Newsletter.

**Francis J. Flynn** passed away April 6, 2008. He was 94. Born in Massachusetts, Frank graduated from Northeastern University in 1936 with a BS in CE. He worked for the U.S. Army Corps until 1938 when he began his WRD career as a Hydraulic Engineer in Boston. He was a SW specialist in Boston and transferred to the SW Branch in HQ in 1944. Francis became Chief of the Basic Records Section of the SW Branch in 1957 and served in that position until his retirement. His wife, the late Mary Elizabeth Flynn, preceded him in death along with a daughter, Kathleen. He is survived by son, Peter; daughter, Maureen Hurney; and 4 grandchildren.

**Oliver C. "Ollie" Hettick** died May 22, 2008, at age 80. A WW II veteran of the U.S. Navy, Ollie had a 34-year career with WRD as a Hydrologic Technician in Tacoma. He had a passion for music, the outdoors, and gardening. He was very active in church and community activities. Ollie is survived by his wife, Regina, sons, John and Michael; daughter, Paula Abalahin; and 6 grandchildren.

**Caroline Jensen** passed away February 23, 2006, in Juneau, AK. She was 88. Caroline was a graduate of Heald Business College in San Francisco. Caroline transferred to WRD from GD in 1951 and served capably as an Administrative Assistant to the SW Branch in Juneau until her retirement in 1965. She was an avid gardener receiving acclaim and recognition as Juneau's foremost lay horticulturist. She was preceded in death by her husband, Carl.

**Pamela "Pam" Kettlehut**, age 53, of Edgewater, CO, passed away on May 5, 2008. Pam worked for WRD from 1989 to 2006 in administrative services for the Office of the Regional Hydrologist and the National Research and Yucca Mountain Programs. Pam is survived by her daughter, Angela and three grandchildren.

**Phil LaMoreaux** died at his home on June 23, 2008, at age 88. An Ohio native, he graduated from Denison University (BA '43), and the University of Alabama (MS '49). He began his USGS career as a Geologist with GW in Tuscaloosa in 1943, serving as District Geologist from 1945-48. In 1958, Phil was appointed Division Hydrologist in charge of the Mid-continent Region and then became the GW Branch Chief. In 1961, he became Alabama State Geologist. Phil was active in the Am. Institute of Professional Geologists, American Institute of Hydrogeologists, the American Institute of Petroleum Geologists, and the Geological Society of London. In 1976, he incorporated the consulting firm P. E. LaMoreaux and Associates. The recipient of numerous honors, including the Award for Distinguished Service in Hydrogeology by GSA and the Ian Campbell Award of AGI, he was elected to the National Academy of Engineering in 1989. He is survived by his wife of 65 years, Bunnie. A Memorial for Phil will appear in the November Newsletter.

**Katherine "Kay" Lyons** passed away in Denver on June 11, 2008, after a long illness. She was 91. Kay was the wife of WRD Retiree affiliate member Tom Lyons, longtime USGS Management Officer, CR. Tom spent his Survey career in the Administrative Division and worked with WRD in such activities as personnel, recruiting, and office and lab space. Kay served as a WAC in WW II and spent time overseas in North Africa and Italy. She is survived by her husband, Tom and children, Terry, Tom, Kate and Joe, plus 6 grandchildren.

## IN MEMORIAM

**Archibald O. "Pat" Patterson** died June 6, 2008, at age 99. A BS in CE graduate from Georgia Tech during the Great Depression, he started his WRD career in Augusta, ME, in 1930. He transferred to Chattanooga and then Knoxville in 1935 and began his final assignment in the Ocala SW office in 1947. He specialized in SW data collection and investigations. He was an avid camper and his favorite spot was the Great Smokey Mountains National Park. For many years he and his wife, Maybelle camped in a tent. Later they moved up to a Scotty travel trailer. Pat retired from the USGS in 1964 and lived in Ocala until his death. He is survived by a son, James.

**William N. "Will" Polmquist** passed away February 27, 2008, in Florida, after a long illness. He was a WW II veteran of the 10<sup>th</sup> Mountain Division of the U.S. Army. He graduated from Augustana College in 1949 with a BS in Geology and began his WRD career as a Geologist in Covington, KY. He also served in the Louisville office before transferring to the Denver Hydraulics Lab in 1956. He then served as a Geologist in the Boston GW office and also had an overseas assignment in Italy. He left the USGS in 1965 to join BLM and worked there for more than 20 years. He is survived by his wife, Carla, who described Will as a man with a heart of gold.

**Octavia Rhodenhamel** died on May 3, 2008, at age 84. She was the wife of WRD Retiree Ed Rhodenhamel. Ed received a BS (42) and MS (51) in Geology from Michigan State University. He began his WRD career as a Geologist in the Lansing GW office in 1947 and transferred to Trenton in 1951. In 1970, he moved to the NY District office in Albany and in 1972 rejoined the Geologic Division, retiring in 1980. Octavia is survived by her husband, Ed; son, Danny; daughter, Janice Budnik; and step-children, Jeff and Charles Rhodenhamel and Shelley Street.

**Ruth Grenadier Subitzky** died May 17, 2008. Ruth was the wife of WRD Retiree Seymour Subitzky. Seymour, a 1950 graduate of the Missouri School of Mines started with the USGS Topo Division and transferred to the GW Branch in D.C. in 1951, following a tour of duty with the U.S. Army during the Korean War. He then worked in Charlottesville and Salt Lake City before transferring to the Trenton GW office in 1960 and serving there until 1975 involved in many GW investigations. He was assigned to the Director's office in 1975 and returned to WRD in 1982. Ruth is survived by her husband, Seymour; children, Neal, Scott, Meta, and Amy; and 2 grandchildren.

**Wolfgang V. Swarzenski** died in Berkeley, CA, on April 14, 2008. He was 90. Born in Frankfurt, Germany he immigrated with his family to the USA and in 1954 received his PhD in geology from Boston University. He then joined the USGS in Long Island where he worked on the geology and hydrology of shallow coastal aquifer systems. Later, he worked for the USGS in Pakistan and Kenya, as part of a U.S. AID program. The recent turmoil in both countries left him greatly saddened, contrasting as sharply as it did with the spirit of optimism and genuine openness that prevailed when he lived in those countries with his young family. He is survived by his wife, two sons, two daughters, and eight grandchildren.

**Frederick Dale Trauger** passed away May 3, 2008, at age 92, in Albuquerque. He received a BA in Geology from Fresno State University in 1939. A WW II US Army Air Corps veteran, he enlisted at the outbreak of the war and served as a photo interpreter in North Africa and Italy until 1945. After the war, he had a brief assignment with the Bureau of Reclamation and joined USGS GW Branch in 1947. Fred transferred to the Albuquerque GW office in 1952 and had a long and illustrious career as a groundwater specialist in New Mexico, serving there until his retirement in 1975. He was a Past President of the New Mexico Geological Society. After his WRD retirement he founded Geohydrology Associates, Inc. and specialized in water supplies for municipal and industrial purposes. He was a recognized authority on turquoise and roses. He was preceded in death by his wife, Jeannie.

**Angelo Visconti**, husband of WRD Retiree Marilyn Visconti, passed away August 29, 2007. Marilyn started with WRD as a Clerk-typist in the Colorado District reports section. She moved to the CR research program as an Administrative Assistant in 1982 and retired from that position in 2002. Angelo was an outdoorsman who enjoyed skiing and golfing. He worked many years in the Title Insurance industry. He was married to Marilyn for 40 years. In addition to his wife, he is survived by a son, Allen, and 2 grandchildren.

**Ed "Eddie" Wilson**, 66, of Grand Junction, CO, passed away on June 12, 2008. Eddie was born and raised in Wichita, KS. He joined WRD as an Engineering Technician in Columbus, OH, in 1967. In 1978, he transferred to Meeker, CO, as Lead Hydrologic Technician. In 1988, as the Oil Shale program ended, Eddie transferred to Grand Junction as the Lead Hydrologic Technician for data collection in Western CO. He retired in 1995 and is survived by his wife, Irene, and daughter, Kristen Rubin.

## A FEW OF MY FAVORITE THINGS

To commemorate her 69th birthday, actress/vocalist Julie Andrews made a special appearance at Manhattan's Radio City Music Hall for the benefit of AARP. One of the musical numbers she performed was "My Favorite Things" from "The Sound of Music" but with the following lyrics.

Maalox and nose drops and needles for knitting,  
Walkers and handrails and new dental fittings,  
Bundles of magazines tied up with string,  
These are a few of my favorite things.

Cadillacs, cataracts, hearing aids, eye-glasses,  
Polident, Fixodent, false teeth in glasses,  
Pacemakers, golf carts and porches with swings,  
These are a few of my favorite things.

When the pipes leak, When the bones creak,  
When the knees go bad,  
Then I remember my favorite things  
And then I don't feel so bad.

Hot tea and crumpets, and corn pads for bunions,  
No spicy hot food nor food cooked with onions,  
Bathrobes and heat pads and hot meals they bring,  
These are a few of my favorite things.

Back pains, confused brains, and no fear of sinnin',  
Thin bones and fractures and hair that is thinnin'.  
And we won't mention our short shrunken frames  
When we remember our favorite things.

When the joints ache, when the hips break,  
When the eyes grow dim,  
Then I remember the great life I've had,  
And then I don't feel so bad.  
THEN I REMEMBER THE GREAT LIFE I'VE HAD  
AND THEN I DON'T FEEL SOOOO BAAAAD!

---

### New email addresses, WRD Retirees Directory

Beasley, Dorothy N "Dot"  
Burmeister, Ivan  
Gibbons, Willard J.  
Hacke, C Michael  
Inderbitzen, Anton "Tony"  
Joseph, Robert  
Phipps, Rebecca

[dnbeasley@gmail.com](mailto:dnbeasley@gmail.com)  
[fernivang572@oaknoll.com](mailto:fernivang572@oaknoll.com)  
[wgibbons@txwinet.net](mailto:wgibbons@txwinet.net)  
[methylethylk@aol.com](mailto:methylethylk@aol.com)  
[tp123@shentel.net](mailto:tp123@shentel.net)  
[lane\\_avenue@hotmail.com](mailto:lane_avenue@hotmail.com)  
[rebeccaphipps@comcast.net](mailto:rebeccaphipps@comcast.net)

Roddy, William R. "Bill"  
Shapira, Margery M  
Stewart, James A "Jim"  
Still, Patsy J.  
Straka, Darla E.  
Trotta, Lee C.  
Wade, Lewis V. "Lew"

[william\\_rodny@cox.net](mailto:william_rodny@cox.net)  
[mmshapir@gmail.com](mailto:mmshapir@gmail.com)  
[jstew@tds.net](mailto:jstew@tds.net)  
[pjstill@gmail.com](mailto:pjstill@gmail.com)  
[fxdbi@powerc.com](mailto:fxdbi@powerc.com)  
[lctrotta53702@yahoo.com](mailto:lctrotta53702@yahoo.com)  
[lewisvwade@hotmail.com](mailto:lewisvwade@hotmail.com)

## TREASURER'S REPORT, SECOND QUARTER 2008

Treasurer Celso Puente reports that the organization had \$8,124.64 in its treasury at the end of the second quarter for calendar year 2008. Receipts for the quarter were \$1,420.30 from dues and contributions from 62 members. Disbursements for the quarter were \$3,263.43, including the printing of WRD Retirees Newsletter 139 and for the 2008 WRD Retirees Directory.

During the quarter, a total of \$361.00 was received in contributions from 26 members. Special thanks for contributions above dues go to: Ben and Mae Jones, Mrs. Robert J. "Evelyn" Smith, John R. Little, Lehn Franke, Donald Jordan, William J. Shampine, O. Milton Hackett, Harold G. Golden, Mary J. Dunn, Dorothy J. Niles, John E. Moore, Herbert Stevens, Mrs. George "Mary" DeBuchananne, Mrs. Paul E. "Delores" Felsheim, Rebecca Phipps, Eugene J. Charbonneau, C.L.R. Holt, G. Allan and Jean Brown, Donovan Kelly, George A. Irwin, William H. Robinson, Claire A. Davidson, Ray Cunningham, Steven D. McAuley, Ivan Burmeister, and Doris Vandruff.

**Several hundred WRD Retirees owe back dues.  
Please check your records and pay your back dues.**

A review of outstanding dues received indicates there are still several hundred members who owe dues for 2006, 2007, and/or 2008. The dues support the printing and distribution of the WRD Retirees Newsletter, the annual Directory, and the Hydrologic Technician Scholarship. Please review your records and if you owe dues to WRD Retirees, send us a check in the amount of \$10 for each year of dues owed.

WRD Retirees  
P.O. Box 280  
Herndon, VA 20172-0280

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