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# USGS RETIREES

NEWSLETTER 176

August 2017

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

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Hope this newsletter finds all of you doing well, and having a great year. Don't forget to plan to attend the next reunion scheduled for September 13-15, 2018 in Minnesota. Those of you who have attended past reunions seemed to have had a great time. Consider calling a retiree that you have not seen at the reunions lately and invite them. If they are not Retiree Organization Members, invite them to join AND attend the next reunion. Such personal invites could have significant effect and be a good way to renew friendships.

November of each odd year is the time we vote on officers for our organization. These are volunteer positions and so should rotate to new people once in a while. If any of you would like to run for any of the officer positions, please let us know and we will put you on the ballot for the November newsletter. If the organization is to stay strong, please step up and help us move forward for the retirees.

One of the things we decided at the last reunion was going completely electronic for the newsletter and directory unless you let us know you want a hard copy. We are short on volunteers to stuff envelopes for these mailings and they are costly as well. Please let Andy Anderson ([cande2@juno.com](mailto:cande2@juno.com)) or me ([iekircher73@gmail.com](mailto:iekircher73@gmail.com)) know if you want to have a hard copy. We have heard from a few but it appears most of you are happy with an electronic copy.

This is also a reminder to all the state reps to stay in touch with the local office on a regular basis so we can keep apprised of retirees and other activities. We don't get notifications like we used to. Thank you for all you do for the retirees.

On another note, I am having a difficult time finding and keeping a current employee to champion the scholarship program that we started in 2006. Because of this, we will not be awarding scholarships for 2017. Until we get someone to champion this effort from the USGS, we will not be having discussions for future scholarships.

I hope all of you are doing well and I look forward to hearing from you. I am still hoping that someone will give me some new ideas or even volunteer to help with the organization. A volunteer organization needs lots of volunteers. Please drop me an email or give me a call (303-638-3404) with any ideas that you may have, or if you are willing to help in any way.



**NINETEENTH USGS RETIREES REUNION 2018**  
**You Don't Want to Miss This One—Tell a Colleague**

The next Reunion is set for September 13-15, 2018 in the Minneapolis/St. Paul area of Minnesota. The Local Arrangements Committee has been busy developing a fun list of activities that might include a pre-registered riverboat cruise on the bucolic St. Croix River and a Gangster “hangout” tour in St. Paul. They also are putting together a list of self-directed events, such as local “hydrologic-theme tours, museums, theater, or dinner options. As always, the lights will be on in the hospitality room. For those planning to extend their Minnesota visit prior to or after the reunion, a short list of adventures also will be available, such as visiting the Duluth Harbor or north shore of Lake Superior, fall-colors tours in Minnesota, or nearby rivers good for canoe/kayak runs.

The Reunion hotel, Crowne Plaza Aire [www.crowneplazaaire.com](http://www.crowneplazaaire.com), is conveniently located near the airport, Minnesota River Valley Wildlife Refuge, light rail to downtown Minneapolis, and the Mall of America. The agreement includes holding the reunion room rate for three nights prior to and after the reunion dates at the double-occupancy total cost of \$158.85/night (includes taxes, fees, and breakfast).

Watch for updates on the WRD website (<http://www.wrdretirees.org/reunions.html>) as the web page develops with more information about the reunion. If you have any questions, feel free to contact the Local Arrangements Committee Chair, Jeff Stoner ([J\\_stoner@comcast.net](mailto:J_stoner@comcast.net)), or any Committee member: Mark Have, Jim Stark, Don Hansen, and Linda Stoner (Minnesota), Gregg Wiche (North Dakota), Ken and Judy Lindskov (South Dakota), Marv Sherrill (Wisconsin), and Lee Case (Arizona).

## A SMALL USGS OFFICE WITH A LARGE IMPACT ON USGS

*What do the current acting Director (Bill Werkheiser), the current Southeast Region Director (Holly Weyers), and the current Deputy Associate Director for Water (Bill Guertal) have in common? They each began their USGS career in the Delaware office.*

The Delaware office is one of the smallest USGS offices in one of the smallest states in the country, but it has had a significant influence on Bureau-level USGS leadership over the past forty years. The office has been home to only twenty-four different scientists during that time, but five of them, including the three alluded to above, have gone on to occupy USGS leadership positions at the Bureau level.

During the past four decades, the Delaware office has been located in the state capital of Dover, and has been organizationally part of the Maryland office. Since 1977, the Delaware office has had several titles, including Delaware Subdistrict Office, Delaware Office, Delaware State Office, and Delaware Water Science Center Suboffice. A state agency, the Delaware Geological Survey, has been the Delaware office's steadiest, long-term funding partner over that time.

The Delaware office has been a consistent, visible presence in Delaware's water-resources community, growing from an average of six to eight employees during 1977-1997, to an average of ten employees from 2007 until now. The peak years of the office were from 1998 to 2004, when the program expanded to work with additional funding partners. During those years, the office boasted an average of about fifteen employees. The highest number of employees in any one year was nineteen in 2001.

The program of the Delaware office, like that of many USGS offices in the water discipline, has been a mixture of data collection and studies. The office has been responsible for data collection consisting of stream gaging, groundwater-level monitoring, and water-quality sampling. Its investigative studies have addressed a diverse set of hydrologic issues, including groundwater geochemistry, bridge scour, groundwater-flow modeling, groundwater contamination, regional aquifer assessment (RASA), regional water-quality assessment (NAWQA), effects of agriculture on shallow water quality, low-flow and flood frequency, coastal storm assessment, and wetland hydrology.

From 1977 to today, a small corps of sixteen different fulltime permanent hydrologic technicians has anchored the data-collection program of the Delaware office, averaging about three or four technicians at any one time. In particular, Frank A. Danner III, Anthony J. Tallman, and Deborah A. Bringman, each working at least thirty years, have served as the excellent nucleus of the Delaware office data program since the 1980s, training and mentoring the other thirteen technicians who have worked there, as well as occasionally providing coordination and training at the regional level.

Also since 1977, twenty-four different fulltime permanent scientists have been employed in the Delaware office, with nine of them also serving as office chief at various times. Judith M. Denver has been the long-term scientific presence in the office, starting there in 1980 and still working there today. She has served as a mentor to the other scientists who have worked in the office during her many outstanding years, and has been a key scientist on several large regional and national USGS and interagency studies.

The careers of the three current USGS Bureau-level leaders who are "graduates" of the Delaware office are briefly outlined here, in the order in which each arrived in the Delaware office:



**William H. Werkheiser** – Bill, the current acting Director of the USGS, was hired in 1986 as an entry-level hydrologist in the Delaware office, where he conducted a study of the water resources of Somerset County on Maryland's Eastern Shore, and a study of water availability in the Cockeysville Marble in northern Delaware. Bill's post-Delaware positions include Potomac NAWQA Groundwater Specialist (1991-93), Pennsylvania Associate District Chief (1996-99), and Pennsylvania District Chief (1999-2002). Then, from 2002 to 2015, Bill held a series of Bureau-level positions including Eastern Region Director, Associate Director for Water, and Deputy Director of USGS. He has been acting Director of USGS from 2016 until now.



**Holly S. Weyer** – Holly is currently the Southeast Region Director. She started her USGS career in the Delaware office in 1999, where she was the lead biologist for the Delmarva NAWQA study unit. She participated in national NAWQA biology studies as well, and then became the Chief of the Delaware office from 2007 to 2010. Her later positions include Assistant Director for Hydrologic Networks in the Maryland-Delaware-DC Water Science Center (2008-10), North Carolina Water Science Center Director (2010-14), Hurricane Sandy Science Coordinator (2014-15), Southeast Region Science Advisor (2016), and Southeast Region Director (2016-now).



**William R. Guertal** – Bill is currently the Deputy Associate Director for Water. He began his USGS career in the late 1990s on the Yucca Mountain project in Nevada, and then transferred to the Delaware office in 2000, where his first role was to serve as the Chief of the Dover Air Force Base project. Within a year, Bill became the acting and then the official Chief of the Delaware office, a position he filled until 2006. Starting in 2003, Bill also served in several different leadership roles in the Maryland-Delaware-DC Water Science Center. His later positions include Indiana-Kentucky Water Science Center Director (2006-13), Midwest Region Deputy Regional Director (2013-14), and Deputy Associate Director for Water (2014-now).

Improbably, Bill Werkheiser is not the first Delaware office alumnus to serve as acting Director of the USGS. That distinction belongs to Pat Leahy some ten years earlier. In fact, it is possible that Pat and Bill, who both have had the honor of using John Wesley Powell's desk at USGS Headquarters, had previously used the same, less famous, government-surplus desk in the Federal Building in Dover, Delaware. Pat's career is summarized here:



**P. Patrick Leahy** – Pat started in the Delaware office in the mid to late 1970s, where he worked on studies of groundwater in coastal settings in Delaware and Maryland, and developed an early groundwater-flow model of the Piney Point aquifer in Delaware. Following his Delaware days, his later positions include Groundwater Modeling Specialist on the Northern Atlantic Coastal Plain RASA study (1979-84), New Jersey Assistant District Chief (1984-88), staff expert in the Office of Ground Water (1988-91), Chief of the NAWQA Program (1991-95), Associate Director for Geology (1995-2007), and acting Director of USGS (2005-06). After retiring from USGS, Pat served as Executive Director of the American Geological Institute until 2016.

Another graduate of the Delaware office who went on to high-level USGS positions is Gary Paulachok, whose time in the Delaware office overlapped that of Bill Werkheiser. Gary's career is summarized here:



**Gary N. Paulachok** – Gary began his career in the Philadelphia Subdistrict of the Pennsylvania District in the early 1980s, and then moved to the New Jersey District, where he led a high-profile offshore drilling project near Atlantic City (1985-87). He then transferred to the Delaware office to be its Chief from 1987 to 1991. His later positions include Maryland-Delaware-DC District Section Chief (1991-92), Pennsylvania Associate District Chief (1992-94), Pennsylvania District Chief (1994-99), and Deputy Delaware River Master (1999-2011), where he ensured compliance with the streamflow provisions of a Supreme Court decree.

It is likely that few, if any, USGS offices as small as the Delaware office can count as many Bureau-level USGS leaders among its alumni. The Delaware office was fortunate to have enjoyed the service of these five high-achieving scientists and managers. No doubt their advancement was largely the result of their own talents and ambitions, but perhaps at least a little of their success may be traceable back to their formative years in the Delaware office and their interactions with the other talented and dedicated staff there.

***-Compiled by Jim Gerhart, Bob Shedlock, Herb Freiburger, Don Vaupel, and Shirley Hartsoe.***



## MEETINGS & GATHERINGS

### SPRING LUNCHEON -- CENTRAL REGION

Holiday Inn, Lakewood, CO

April 25, 2017

Photographs by: George Garklavs and Pat Tucci



**Back Row:** Jim Blakey, Bob Jarrett, Leo House, Pat Tucci, Gary LeCain, Dick Luckey, John Flager, Nevell Gaggiani, John McLean, George Garklavs

**Front Row:** Paula Blakey, Dee Teasdale, Donna Garklavs, Barbara Kastner, Bill Kastner, Dave Lystrom, Bob Meade, Merilee Bennett, Karen Lystrom, Zelda Bailey, Cynthia Norman, Carole DeHerrera, Chris DeHerrera

**Not in the group picture:** Judy Cornwell, Jim Bennett



**L to R:** Jim Blakey, Dave Lystrom, Bill Kastner



**L to R:** Barbara Kastner, Cynthia Norman, Paula Blakey, Dee Teasdale



**L to R:** Jim Bennett, Pat Tucci



**L to R:** Chris DeHerrera, Carole DeHerrera, Jim Blakey



**L to R:** Nevell Gaggiani, Dick Luckey, Gary LeCain, Pat Tucci

## USGS RETIREES - GEORGIA

Late - June 2017

USGS Georgia retirees and friends held a moving away luncheon for USGS retiree (2006) Mike Hacke. Mike and his wife are moving from Georgia to New Mexico. We all wish Mike and Bonnie the very best in their new home.



Those in the photograph are USGS retirees except where noted:

**Front row (L-R):** Elliott Jones, Mike Hacke, Bruce O'Connor (retired Georgia Geologic Survey)

**Second row (L-R):** Helaine Markewich, John Clarke, Eve Kuniansky (USGS), Mary Dunn

**Back row (L-R):** Bob Atkins (retired Georgia Geologic Survey), Kent Elrick, Keith McFadden, Jim McConnell, Ed Martin, Tom Watson (retired Georgia Geologic Survey), and Michael Peck.

## FORMER ILLINOIS DISTRICT COLLEAGUES FROM THE MID-80s

Albany, NY

June 7, 2017



**L to R:** John Gray, Ward Freeman, Pete DeVries, and Joy Israel -- serendipitously rendezvoused for drinks/dinner near Albany, NY. "Doesn't Joy look great?!"



## USGS RETIREES AND SPOUSES PICNIC

Rolla, MO  
June 20, 2017



Twenty-one Missouri retirees and spouses gathered at Reed's Lake for a picnic and fellowship.

**From the left are:** Jim Barks, Treva Imes, Jeff Imes, Patti Barks, Horace Jeffrey, Nelda Reed, John Skelton, Leon Reed, Barbara Gray, George Gray, Gary Alexander, Sherry Ternes, Jerry Davis, Larry Lumpkin, Suzanne Femmer, Barb Wessner, Don Spencer, Pam Keeney, Sue Spencer, Bob Whitaker. Barb Wessner's daughter, Erin, prepared an excellent meal and a great time was had by all.

(Picnic was held outside of Rolla at Leon and Nelda Reed's private lake)

## USGS RETIREES AND SPOUSES, SPRING LUNCHEON

Raleigh, NC  
MAY 25, 2017



**Front Row (L to R):** Myra Daniel, Mickey Reid, Nancy Williams, Charlotte Lloyd, Charles Daniel

**Second Row (L to R):** Mary Mickle, Bob Mickle, Alex Cardinell, Bruce Lloyd, Steve Howe, Nancy Garrett, Gary Garrett

## WESTERN REGION MANAGEMENT TEAM



**L to R:** Janet Thomas, Pete Anttila, John Conomos, John Klein, Marv Fretwell



**L to R:** John Klein, Joyce Klein, Jim Thomas, Janet Thomas, John Conomos, Pete Anttila, Joyce Anttila, Ardi Fretwell, Marv Fretwell

On April 20, 2017, a former Western Region Water Management Team (M-Team) held a reunion meeting in Folsom, CA, at Janet and Jim Thomas' residence. In attendance were John Conomos, Marv Fretwell, John Klein, Janet Thomas and Pete Anttila. The meeting included a fantastic luncheon buffet prepared by the hosts and concluded with a very enjoyable Chinese dinner at "Fat's Asian Bistro" with Ardi Fretwell, Joyce Klein, Jim Thomas, and Joyce Anttila joining the M-Team.

The meeting agenda included: (1) A round table of post-retirement updates on health, family, significant experiences and activities, reasons for relocations, and future plans; (2) a round table on post retirement contacts with USGS colleagues (current and retired); (3) ideas on maintaining viability of USGS Retirees Organization; (4) John Klein's international border coordination efforts during his last years of employment; (5) Janet Thomas' last years of employment; and (6) a round table of regrets during USGS employment.

Each of the M-Team expressed their enjoyment of getting to see each other again and unanimously agreed to have another reunion in 3 years.



## NEWS OF RETIREES

**Bill and Rosemarie Alley** write: We have completed our second general interest book as a husband-wife team, 'High and Dry: Meeting the Challenges of the World's Growing Dependence on Groundwater,' published by Yale University Press, also available on Amazon. Bill also continues to work part-time for the National Ground Water Association.

**Bill Barlett** writes: Enclosed is a check for 3 years dues (\$30) and the rest to the Scholarship Fund.

**Jim Blakey** writes: Cynthia Norman and her cello, George (George was made in 1824). Cynthia is the widow of WRD retiree and our late great friend, Vern. Barbara and Bill Kastner and Paula and I had the pleasure of attending her Cello Recital on May 12, 2017.

**Irma D'Angelo** writes: Enclosed are my WRD dues that should take me through 2020. My husband and I are enjoying our retirement and appreciate having the extra time to spend with family and friends. We love dining out and traveling. We will be going to New York this month (June) and Las Vegas the month after. Life is good! Thank you to all the volunteers that make this newsletter possible. It is much appreciated.

**Terry Danielson** writes: It looks as if we are a little late on our dues. I will send a check for two years and a little extra for the kitty. I best not send too much extra as we both turned 80 this year. Can't believe we could be so old. Our email address in the last registry is incorrect. Please change to: [twd\\_njd@yahoo.com](mailto:twd_njd@yahoo.com). Thank you and our best wishes to everyone.

**Paul Grantham** writes: Just a note to express our appreciation for your efforts at keeping the unique newsletter going. I've had both knees replaced and recovered completely. Pat broke her shoulder and it was replaced (completely). We're both active and enjoy our 17-year old grandson -- Show choir and other music activities. As much as two 80-year old can do. We're active in our church and interested in the political adventures. God Bless us all!

**Dave Grason** writes: Here are my dues for 2017 & 2018. As usual I praise you all for the work you do for the retirees. So sad to hear of Tim Cohn's passing (and others that are my peers). But congratulations to Jim Morris on his well-earned retirement.

**Marty Gurtz** writes: Hi and my apologies. Not only am I 'in arrears' with my dues, but I'm not even on the dues list so apparently I also need to submit my application. I've enclosed a check for five years of dues. Thanks for doing what you do to keep everyone connected.

**Paul Hayes** writes: Not sure when I last submitted anything. But, enjoying retirement life (14 yrs. and counting). Working part-time at my old High School, Bishop Chatard here in Indianapolis, IN. We are currently on our 3rd 5th wheeler. Most recent trips include Maine, Arizona (2), Texas, Florida, Connecticut and various spots around Indiana. My wife, Alice, is doing quite well with her MS, she is an inspiration. I am going on 2 years of being prostate cancer free. YAHOO! Our youngest grandson just graduated from HS and is headed to the U.S. Army as a helicopter mechanic while his older brother is finishing up training to become a fire fighter/EMT. Looking down at the green grass and laughing, and to the sky thanking the Lord for another day.

**William Herb** writes: Enclosed is a check for 3 years of dues owed to 2019.

**Horace G. Jeffery** writes: The enclosed check is to cover dues for 2017-2018, plus postage for having a hard copy of the retirees' newsletter. Also, please delete my wife Juanita from the telephone directory. She passed away on January 17, 2015. Thanks

**Dan Leifeste** writes: Hi folks, sorry about my spotty memory for paying dues. We are back in Texas after a better-to-be forgotten time in Georgia. Both of us are very good for our ages and continue to move around,

maybe too much. The last two of our seven grandchildren graduated college last month. Never thought I'd live this long.

**Ken Lindskov** writes: Enclosed is a check to pay my dues through 2019. Consider the balance as a donation to the USGS Retirees. Judy and I are looking forward to seeing many of you in 2018 in Minnesota. Let's have a better turnout this time. Please be there in 2018.

**Dave Lystrom** writes: Enclosed is a check to cover dues through 2019 and a brief update for the newsletter. We are still living in our Evergreen, CO home going on 36 years. Last winter we spent 7 weeks traveling with our travel trailer enjoying warm weather and hiking in the Organ Pipe Cactus Nat'l Park, Anza Borrego CA State Park, Joshua Tree Nat'l Park, Death Valley Nat'l Park, and Sedona, AZ. This June we spent 4 days camping at the Colorado Sand Dunes with our two daughters, husbands, and four grandchildren ages 7 to 9. Since retirement in 1999, I have volunteered building houses for Habitat for Humanity and more recently have served as a volunteer construction manager for two community gardens in Evergreen. Maybe it's time to consider retiring again. Looking forward to seeing many of you at the WRD Retirees reunion in Minnesota in 2018.

**Ed Martin** writes: You should soon be receiving in the mail a check from me for 2017 dues. Please apply any over payment to our scholarship fund. Also, please note I retired in January 2016 and my email address is [edmartin.ga@gmail.com](mailto:edmartin.ga@gmail.com) the email address you have listed for me in the WRD Directory is no longer valid.

**Ralph Quistorff** writes: I'm paying for four years of dues through 2020. I enjoy receiving the USGS newsletter. Thanks

**Lan Tornes** writes: Enclosed is a check to cover my dues for years 2017 and 2018. I recently enjoyed a Riverboat Cruise on the St. Croix River along the Minnesota-Wisconsin border to celebrate the career of Jim Stark, retiring Director of the Minnesota USGS Water Science Center. It was like a reunion reconnecting with present and former co-workers. I look forward to reconnecting with fellow USGS retirees at the reunion coming up in September 2018 in the Twin Cities metropolitan area.

**Tom Yorke** writes: Jeannie and I are still living in northern Virginia. We moved from Reston to a 55+ community in Haymarket in 2004. Our house is on the first fairway, and we have a short walk to the clubhouse, fitness center and pool. We dine at the clubhouse frequently and use both the indoor and outdoor pools, but we have not ventured into the fitness center. Walking and carrying my clubs for 18 holes is enough fitness for me. Our kids and grandkids are in Abington, PA and Andover, MA. We see the Abington kids frequently and the Andover kids a couple of times per year. We have been spending some time in Naples, FL each winter for many years, but we are now true "snowbirds". We bought a condo in Old Naples in 2013 and renovated it in 2015. We spent 4 months in Naples this year, and we plan to spend more time there in subsequent years. We might even become Florida residents again someday. We are reasonably healthy for a couple in their mid-70s. Jeannie had a bout with cancer last year, but surgery and follow-up radiation has minimized the chance of a recurrence. I'm in good shape except for some joints that are wearing out. I had my right hip replaced in May (3 weeks ago), and I'm walking and climbing stairs without a noticeable limp. We did not travel much last year because of Jeannie's surgery and radiation treatments, but we plan to get on the road again this year. We hope to do a Mediterranean cruise this summer and maybe another trip in the fall combined with my business trip to India.

## RETIREMENTS



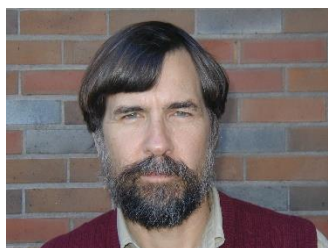
**John Clarke** retired in January 2014 after a 35-year career with the Georgia Water Science Center. As hydrologist and Assistant Director for Hydrologic Investigations, he authored or co-authored more than 50 papers on Georgia groundwater, and twice served as president of the Georgia Ground Water Association. Notable project work included assessment of the potential for off-site migration of contaminants at the U.S. Department of Energy's Savannah River Site; development of a hydrologic overview of Israel, Jordan, and Palestinian territories as part of the State Department's ongoing peace initiative; and design and implementation of the Georgia Coastal Sound Science Initiative, a 7 ½-year, \$14.5 million set of projects commissioned by the Georgia Environmental Protection Division to assess coastal area groundwater resources and address issues of salt-water intrusion and resource sustainability. John lives in Decatur Georgia with his wife Karen, who retired as Project Manager of IT projects at Delta Airlines in 2013. They have two children--Erin and J.

Christopher--and a grandson Ryan. Since retirement, John and Karen have travelled the world including Australia, Iceland, China, Russia, Peru, and Europe, with planned trips to South Africa and the Galapagos Islands this fall. John currently is coaching a high school lacrosse team and serves as treasurer of the Druid Lakes Youth Lacrosse Association.



**John A. Colman**, a research hydrologist in the New England Water Science Center, retired on April 28, 2017 after 30 years of service with the USGS. John's service to the USGS has been one of exceptional performance and dedication. He has an impressive record of innovative research that has been directly applicable to local, regional, and national water resource management challenges. His subject matter expertise in aquatic biogeochemistry and pollutant transport and fate has provided science-based solutions to several regulatory and environmental-policy

problems. He has also been highly effective at fostering interdisciplinary research, both within and outside of the USGS. Early in his career, he contributed to advancements in our understanding of surface-water and bottom-sediment quality in the Upper Illinois River Basin, as part of the initial studies of the USGS National Water Quality Assessment Program. In 1990, he joined the New England District as a Water Quality Specialist, and was involved in a large number of water quality investigations. These included studies on the chemical behavior of copper, mercury, and other elements in Massachusetts surface waters, as well as on the occurrence of arsenic in groundwater. More recently, he led investigative studies on: the effects of submarine groundwater discharge on growth of hazardous algal blooms in New England coastal embayments; identifying mechanisms of mercury deposition in lakes at continental and global scales; providing scientific expertise on the potential effects of a salt-marsh restoration on water quality in Wellfleet, Massachusetts; and most recently, research to support the understanding of the effects of organic carbon and hardness on aluminum toxicity in freshwater rivers and streams in Massachusetts. Over the next few months, John will be volunteering as he works on completing a report and assisting in the transfer of his project work to other center employees.



**John Williams** retired on May 31, 2017 from the Oregon Water Science Center, Portland, OR. It feels like the end of an era, one of geologic scale, which is probably how it feels to John, too, after 37 years. I wish he would stay, and I wish him the best. John has been a steady, good-humored, adaptable professional. He has freely given of himself to decades of authors, scientists and friends at the USGS. John's grasp of fundamental science practices, knowledge of USGS publishing arcana, and keen editor's eye are impossible to replace. Our Center is poorer for the loss; thanks, John, for your willingness to continue as a volunteer. I know your farm needs you, too. I'll

let John have the last word on his departure:

"Today will be my last day of USGS employment. In 1980, I signed on with the USGS in Tuscaloosa, AL, as an HFA-3 key punching computer cards when I ran out of fellowship money to finance my life as a doctoral student in biology. (They made me a 3 because they figured a PhD candidate deserved more than a 1.) I never did finish my dissertation (it was lame anyway); but, the center director offered me a career as a hydrologist. That turned



out to be one of the luckiest days of my life. Now, 37 years later, it feels like the right time to retire. (I mean, for crying out loud, some of you are nearly young enough to be my grandchildren!) The Oregon Water Science Center has been a big part of my life for the last 22+ years. I could not have asked for a better job or a better bunch of people to work with. But, this is not entirely goodbye. As soon as I am allowed I will return as a teleworking volunteer. I'll still be helping you with IPDS and other report issues, compiling the News Briefs, and contributing to the internal web for the foreseeable future. You might not even notice I'm gone. I'm hoping to retain my USGS e-mail in the interim, but, if I can't, you can reach me with questions at [503-290-6552](tel:503-290-6552)".

***-James Crammond, Director, USGS Oregon Water Science Center***

## HUMOR



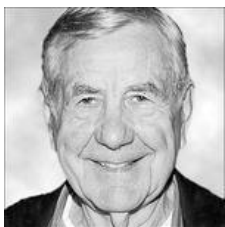
## MEMORIALS



**Madalene K. Ault, 88**, passed away on June 24, 2017 in Reston, VA. Maggie K. Lenco was born on January 17, 1929 in Beaver Dam, WI to John Charles Lenco and Anna B. Lenco. Maggie grew up in and around Washington, PA graduating from high school in 1948. While working downtown, she would often pass the U.S. Navy recruiting center and see a sign that read “Join the Navy and See the World.” When she was 21 years old, that is what she did, and in 1950 she joined the U.S. Navy in the WAVES. She trained in Maryland and was stationed in Philadelphia, PA, where she served as a secretary to the Chaplain. It was in Philadelphia where she met her husband Elmer, also in the Navy, and they married in November 1955 in Philadelphia, and went on to live for 3 years in Osaka, Japan. When they returned to the United States they eventually settled in Sterling Park, VA in 1963. Mrs. Ault was a stay-at-home mother until her husband’s death in 1977. She then returned to work as a secretary for the National Wildlife Foundation and then for the U.S. Geological Survey in Reston, VA until her retirement in 1996. Maggie was an active member of Christ the Redeemer Catholic Church until the onset of her illness; she served for many years as Treasurer of the Sterling Lioness Club; enjoyed playing bingo at the Knights’ of Columbus barn and Scrabble with neighbors. She was an avid bowler and continued bowling into her 70s. She loved gardening, growing apples in her backyard, and feeding the birds. She loved her grandchildren and loved spending time with them. She is survived by her 3 sons; 4 grandchildren; and 5 great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her husband Elmer Monroe Ault in 1977. The fifth of 10 children, she is also survived by 4 of her siblings. A service was held in Herndon, VA on July 15, 2017. She will be buried at Arlington National Cemetery with her husband.

**Justin A. (aka: Bud) Bettendorf, 94**, died peacefully in his sleep on March 25, 2017. He remembered his years with the Water Resources Division (WRD) with much fondness. Bud retired from WRD in 1980. He enjoyed a long and happy retirement. Bud is survived by his brother, and many nieces and nephews. Bud was interred in St. Cloud, MN at the end of June.

**Tim Cohn’s Memorial was reflected in the last Newsletter – NL175 this is an addendum:** **Robert Mason (Chief, USGS Office of Surface Water and Delaware River Master)** writes: Many in the USGS knew Tim Cohn. He spent most of his career with the Office of Surface Water and the Systems Group, taught several USGS courses in statistical hydrology to a generation of USGS hydrologists, consulted widely in support of scientists throughout the USGS, and collaborated on numerous projects, papers, panels, and program development efforts across the USGS water community. Tim passed away in late February after a year-long battle with mantle cell lymphoma. His family, friends, and coworkers miss him greatly. Bob Hirsch, former Associate Director for Water, and the man who hired Tim into the USGS, wrote a tribute to Tim which was published today in EoS. The tribute speaks to the outstanding person Tim was and reflects well on the USGS and the science mission we all share. In this busy and somewhat stained time, I thought it might be helpful to bring it to your attention. <https://eos.org/articles/timothy-a-cohn-1957-2017>



**Doyle G. Frederick** died peacefully at home in Gainesville, VA on April 29, 2017. He was born November 22, 1935 in Tishomingo County, MS. Mr. Frederick graduated from Corinth Mississippi High School and attended North East Mississippi Junior College on a basketball scholarship. He continued with a basketball scholarship at Bethel University and earned a Bachelors’ degree in Mathematics in 1957. After graduation, Mr. Frederick served in the United States Air Force from 1961 to 1963. After service, he joined the United States Defense Mapping Agency in St. Louis, Missouri, then earned a Masters in Science in Astronomy from

The University of Cincinnati. In 1965, Mr. Frederick went to work at the United States Geological Survey (USGS) in the National Mapping Division. Mr. Frederick had a long and distinguished career with the USGS, rising to the position of Associate Director of the USGS. His next career move was as Acting Assistant Secretary of Water and Science at the Department of the Interior where he provided management oversight to the USGS, Bureau of Mines and the Bureau of Reclamation. After retiring from the executive branch of the government, he became Chief of Staff to the United States Senate Sergeant of Arms. During his career, he received many awards and honors. The most prestigious was the Presidential Rank Award of Distinguished Executive, presented by

President Ronald Reagan. He was predeceased by his parents, Boliver Herman Frederick and Attie Lou Frederick (nee Grimes) of Iuka, Mississippi. He is survived by his wife of 60 years, Betty Lois Frederick (nee Todd); sons, Michael Dale (Jane) of Beaufort, South Carolina and Jeffery Glenn (Sandra) of Vienna, Virginia; grandchildren, Jana Sanders (Michael) and Jessica Maffett of Beaufort, South Carolina, Zachary of Kyle, Texas, and Carly and Camryn of Vienna, Virginia; three great-grandchildren; and sisters, Frances Jones (Winfred) and Peggy Bostick (Danny) both of Huntsville, Alabama. Mr. Frederick was an active member of Vienna Baptist Church for 52 years, where his memorial service was held on May 4.



**Kenneth C. Galyean, 66**, passed away on April 22, 2017, surrounded by his family. He was born to Preston and Ethel Galyean in Grand Junction, CO on November 22, 1950. He served in the U.S. Air Force, graduated from Mesa College, and worked for the U.S. Geological Survey for over 30 years. He enjoyed hunting, fishing, shooting, reloading, theatre, the outdoors, relaxing with friends, and caring for his pets. He lived for and was most proud of his children and grandchildren and treasured spending time with them. He greatly valued the friendships he made throughout the years. He lived most of his life between Grand Junction, Tucson and Moab. Ken was preceded in death by his parents and three siblings. He is survived by his two daughters and 4 siblings, as well as several cherished extended family members. He has six grandchildren and two great-grandchildren. As he desired, services were held at the Land Ends Visitor Center on the Grand Mesa in Colorado on July 22, 2017.



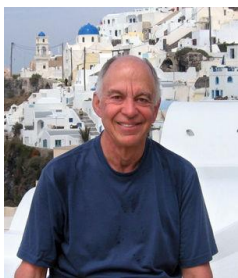
**Susan L. "Sue" Hartley, 53**, was born on April 8, 1964 and passed away on Saturday, June 10, 2017. Sue a colleague and friend to all, passed away unexpectedly on Saturday. She cannot be replaced, but memories of her will always be cherished. Services were held on June 16, 2017 in Arvada CO. Her Supervisor and close friend, Greg, wrote the following tribute: "It is with a heavy heart and deep sadness that I inform our USGS family that we lost one of our shining stars to a tragic motorcycle accident. Sue was a Supervisory Hydrologic Technician within the Lakewood Field Office and lead for the collection and publication of a large and complex water quality network. She was also involved in many National Water Quality reviews, research, and training endeavors. Sue was a very young 53 years old and so full of life. She was the nicest most caring person imaginable. She began her USGS career on April 8, 2000 in Alabama, then transferred to Georgia and finally the last 11 years in Colorado. Sue will be greatly missed. Good bye, my friend." – *Gregory J Smith, Lakewood Field Office Chief, CO Water Science Center*)

**Barbara (nee: Blakenbaker) Hite, age 83**, a resident of Warrenton, VA, passed away on May 7, 2017 at Fauquier Hospital, Warrenton, VA. Barbara was born on February 21, 1934 in Charlottesville, VA. She had worked at the U.S. Geological Survey for many years as a secretary. After retirement from the government, she worked at Fauquier Hospital in the snack bar where she made many friends. Barbara was preceded in death by her father, mother, and a brother. She is survived by her three daughters; five grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren. A private family service is planned and she will be interred at Monticello Memory Gardens, Charlottesville, VA.



**Carol M. Hoy, 80**, passed away on June 7, 2017 in Lincoln, NE. Carol was born on June 20, 1936, the daughter of Martin and Margaret Green. Carol earned a bachelor's degree in nutrition from University of Nebraska-Lincoln (UNL) in 1958 and started her career in 1960 as a hydrologic technician in water-quality management for the U.S. Geological Survey. Carol initially worked as a hydrologic technician for the Missouri River Basin Branch Regional Lab, later in the Nebraska District Water-Quality and Sediment Laboratory, and finally as the District Database Administrator until retiring after 35 years in 1995. Carol loved to garden, she was an avid bridge player, and always put her family and friends first. She was preceded in death by her parents, and a sister and brother. She is survived by two sisters, her three children, six loving grandchildren, and a great-grandson. A celebration of Carol's life was held on the family acreage on June 19, 2017.





**Phil A. Kammerer, age 74**, passed away April 15, 2017, at Agrace Hospice Care in Madison, WI. He was born in Milwaukee on April 25, 1942, to Phil A. and Hester (Hoskins) Kammerer. Phil married Valerie J. Deakin on Aug. 14, 1965. Phil retired in 1995 from the Wisconsin District after a 30-year career as a water chemist with the U.S. Geological Survey. Phil was active with Madison rowing clubs and volunteered with Agrace Hospice Care and Habitat for Humanity. During this time, the people that he met, worked and played with, joined his extensive network of friends. Phil was very intelligent and thoughtful. He had an appreciation for irony, and had no problem saying what was on his mind. This, combined with a great sense of humor, made him a lot of fun to be around. It's hard to say if Phil loved

to eat as much as he loved to cook, but he loved them both, "In moderation, of course." He spent a lot of time outdoors, hiking, boating, and even riding his bike across Wisconsin on several occasions. Phil loved the water, whether he was in it, or just sitting by it, reflecting on life. Phil is survived by his son, his sister, and a niece; and other extended family and many friends. He shared his enjoyment of the outdoors, travel, and cooking with his special love, Rosemary Stenback. He was preceded in death by his parents and his wife Valerie. He was a much-loved son, brother, husband, soulmate, and father. He loved us all back even more. This brought Phil joy in the end. He was grateful to have the time to have a proper closure with his people, and be at peace.



**Romaine Faye (Littlefield) Kupfer, 93**, was born January 3, 1924 in Hampden Highlands, ME. She was the only child of Carlton E. and Mazie (McLaughlin) Littlefield. She was educated in public elementary school in Boston, MA, and graduated from Deering High School in Portland ME. She graduated from the University of Maine (Orono) in 1947 and the University of Missouri (Columbia) in 1949 with degrees in Geology. From 1944 to 1946, she was enlisted in the U.S. Navy WAVES as an aerographer, stationed in Washington DC, Pensacola FL, and Oahu HI. She was on duty at CINCPAC, Pearl Harbor, on VJ Day, Aug 1945. On June 7, 1952, she married Donald H. Kupfer PhD. in Washington DC. They both

worked for the U.S. Geological Survey. They first moved to Claremont CA, where their two children, Madeleine and John, were born. In 1955, the family moved to Baton Rouge, LA, where Don was a professor at LSU. She graduated from LSU (Baton Rouge) in 1967 with a MA degree in Geography and was employed as Assistant to the Director of Coastal Studies Institute at Louisiana State University (LSU) until 1977, when she retired. In 1983, Romaine and Don bought a summer home in Canon City, CO, and made it their permanent residence in 1995. Then in 2002, they moved to Powell WY to be near their daughter, son-in-law, and grandchildren. Don died there in 2010. Romaine was a member of Phi Mu National Sorority; AAUW, and University of Maine Foundation. In Baton Rouge she was a member of Red Stick WAVES and Skimmers. At Canon City she joined the History Society, Geology Club, Fremont Center for the Arts, and Garden Park Paleo Society. In Powell she joined SOS and the Rock Club. She was active in uncovering the genealogy of both her's and her husband's family. After Don's death, Romaine was well-taken care of by Madeleine, the Heartland Care Center, and many friends. Romaine was preceded in death by her parents Carlton and Mazie Littlefield (ME). She is survived by her son and daughter, by three grandchildren, and six great-grandchildren. Memorial services were held Memorial weekend at Grace Point church in Powell, WY.



**Robert E. (Bob) Moran**, was killed on May 15, 2017, in an automobile accident while vacationing in Ireland. His wife, Philadelphia Cousins, was seriously injured, but is recovering at home. Bob worked for the Colorado District from 1972 to 1978. He was hired by Jim Biesecker to help with our statewide acid mine drainage studies. Bob and I published several reports, and Bob wrote his Ph.D. dissertation on the project. He went on to work on a number of mostly groundwater-related geochemistry projects, including Rocky Flats. Bob left the USGS in 1978 to pursue a consulting career, but he maintained an interest in groundwater geochemistry and environmental impacts of mine drainage

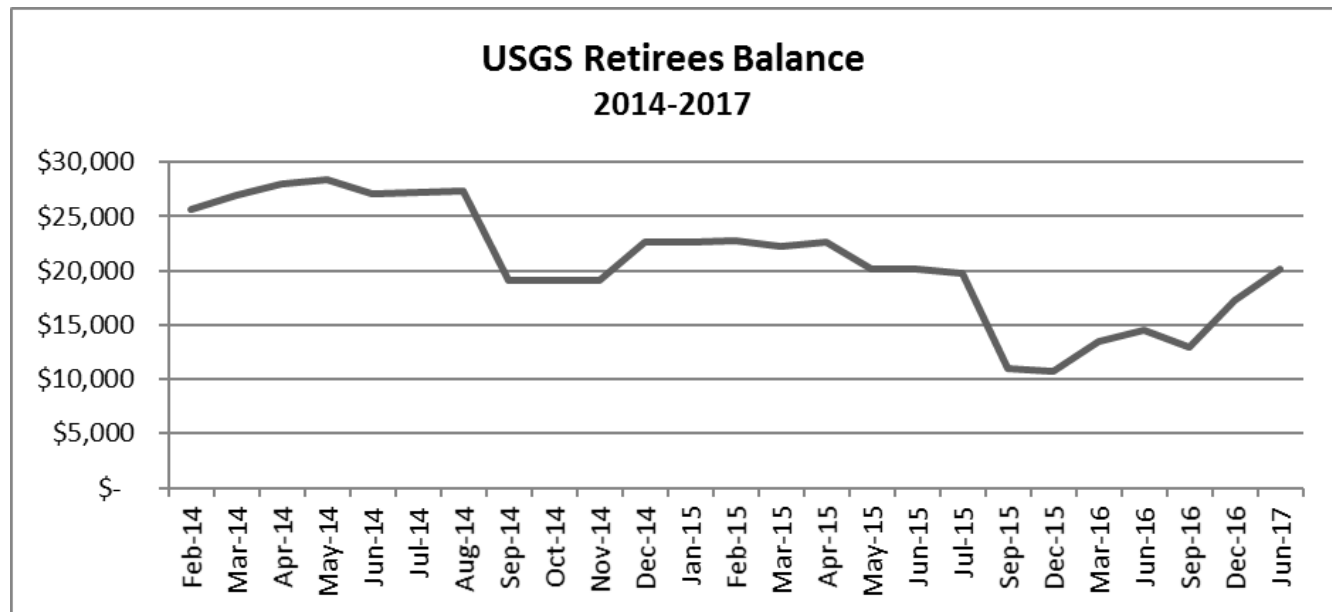
throughout the remainder of his career. His recent interests were focused on helping citizens in various countries understand the true environmental costs of mining. Bob purchased a home on Lookout Mountain early in his career and lived there for the remainder of his life. A remembrance of Bob can be found at <http://www.aida-americas.org/blog/remembering-robert-moran>, and a summary of his career can be found on his web site at <https://remwater.org>, although I'm not sure how long that site will be active. If anyone has questions, please contact me, and I will do my best to answer them.

*-provided by Denny Wentz*

## TREASURER'S REPORT, SECOND QUARTER 2017

Treasurer Cathy Hill reports that our organization had \$20,186 in its coffers at the end of the second quarter, June 30, 2017.

Special thanks for contributions above dues go to several retirees, including: Ronald Jarrett, Ken Lindskov, and Tom Yorke. The Bank thanks you!



**Andy Anderson (Secretary)** writes: Many thanks to all the members who write into us for the "News of Retirees", checking on dues situation, to make changes to the Directory (name, address, phone no., email address, and/or deaths) in a timely manner. Without your in-put the Newsletter would be a dull publication and the Directory not up to date. My time as secretary, with poor computer typing skills, has been very interesting and enjoyable, but due to my age and medical issues I feel it may be time to end this happy experience and find a person more experienced about computer operations to volunteer for the position as secretary. We have great editors, Newsletter layout editor, secretary, and president in our organization, who need a competent volunteer as secretary.

Mary and I don't plan on leaving the area so I could help in some ways, but my fingers don't want to do typing anymore and one finger typing is very slow. Also, mistakes happen if information is not followed through promptly. I have enjoyed interfacing with the many individuals (members) I worked with, and met in the 32 years with the USGS. I made many friends in my travels as Safety Officer, doing inspections in all 50 states (many more than once). I keep in touch with a good number of them since my retirement 22 years ago. Sometimes I'm surprised I can remember so many of them. Also, I have enjoyed meeting and visiting many old and new members (retirees) at the 10 reunions Mary and I have attended since retiring in January 1995. We are now looking forward to attending the 2018 Retirees Reunion in the Twin Cities, Minnesota. Thanks to Jeff Stoner and his committee for volunteering.

## NEW MEMBERS

**Colman, John (17) (Anne)** 65 Central St., Concord, MA 01742, (h) 978-369-8638, (c) 978-430-0415, [johna.colman@gmail.com](mailto:johna.colman@gmail.com) – addr, phone, email

**Delin, Geoffrey (17) (Ruth)** 6637A S Reed Way, Littleton, CO 80123, (h) 303-948-1193, (c) 303-242-4134, [geoffdelin@yahoo.com](mailto:geoffdelin@yahoo.com) – addr, phone, email

## DIRECTORY CHANGES

**Brown, Mrs. Delbert (Helen) (W)** – remove from directory (date of passing was not provided)

**Danielson, Terence W. 'Terry' (94) (Nina)** [twd\\_njd@yahoo.com](mailto:twd_njd@yahoo.com) – email

**Jeffery, Horace G. (86) (Juanita)** passed away 01/17/2015 – remove spouse's name

**Martin, Edward H. 'Ed' (16) (Diane)** [edmartin.ga@gmail.com](mailto:edmartin.ga@gmail.com) – email (*NOTE: moved from 'Affiliate Member' to 'Retiree'*) – address remains the same

**Swanson, Robert A. (09)** 143 S Belmont ST, Wichita, KS 67218 – addr

**Teasdale, Mrs. Warren E. (Dee) (W)** [dfteasdale@gmail.com](mailto:dfteasdale@gmail.com) – email

## AFFILIATE MEMBERS

**Meunier, Tony K. (17) (Betsy)** 1109 Morningwood Lane, Great Falls, VA 22066-1609, (w) 703-648-4575, [tmeunier@usgs.gov](mailto:tmeunier@usgs.gov) - addr, phone, email

**Myers, Donna (17) (Gerald)** 825 Fox Hollow Lane, Golden, CO 80401, (h) 720-668-9170, (c) 571-643-3020, [gmyers8@comcast.net](mailto:gmyers8@comcast.net) – addr, phone, email

**Mason, Robert R. Jr (17) (Heather)** 1302 Benicia Lane, Herndon, VA 20170, (h) 703-939-1119, [rrbrickmason@gmail.com](mailto:rrbrickmason@gmail.com) – addr, phone, email

**Rogers, Kimberly Stubbs (17)** 4313 Marigold Ct., Woodbridge, VA 22192, [ksrogers13@aol.com](mailto:ksrogers13@aol.com) – addr, email



## **How I Joined the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS)**

### **By Tim Smith**

I would like to share with you the story of my employment with USGS. Most of the USGS retirees worked in a line division like water, geology, mapping, biologic resources or information systems. So, you might be interested in my adventures in a completely different part of the agency. If you want to learn about something odd, read on.

In 1974, I was finishing my Ph.D. at Rutgers in New Jersey, while working at the EPA office in New York City as branch chief in data systems. This seemed like a good time to explore the opportunities in Washington, since I had been by then in the federal government for 10 years in field offices. I ended up with three offers, one of which was with the Resource and Land Investigations (RALI) Program at the Geological Survey in Reston, VA. The month was June, and we had lunch in the USGS cafeteria, looking out on the trees and flowers through those great window walls. What a contrast to the dreary commute each day into New York on trains that were seldom on time! They sold me.

RALI was one of five programs comprising Land Information and Analysis, which was run out of the Director's Office. At the time, I thought that the Survey was in the process of growing another division, in addition to geology, water, mapping, computer, and administrative (which existed at that time). RALI was a departmental program housed administratively in the USGS, and charged with the study of natural resources and land use in the U.S. As such, we had an advisory committee with representatives from the various bureaus of the Interior Department, and most of our projects were carried out in partnership with those bureaus. We had our own modest line item in the Survey budget.

Interestingly enough of those five programs today's survivors are the EROS Program in Sioux Falls, SD, and the Environmental Analysis Program, which handles EIS concerns for the USGS.

Over the years, RALI carried out several interesting projects. The goal was to provide natural resource information to state and regional planners, to promote better land use planning. Although the projects were all technical in nature, RALI did have a link to a departmental effort to increase federal input to land use. This was the ultimate downfall of the whole effort, which like many other attempts ran afoul of the so-called "taking issue" in the Constitution, which prevents private land from being taken by the government without just compensation. At the practical level, it has ensured that all land use actions in the nation are carried out by local government only, mostly in the form of zoning and similar laws. But I digress.

To those accustomed to the more traditional work of the USGS, I think the RALI projects must have seemed very strange indeed. I found them exciting, but what did I know? I won't bore you with a long list of projects, but will describe just one or two that stand out in my mind. I might mention that we worked on such topics as Western coal development, the onshore impacts of Outer Continental Shelf development, the application of computer analysis to land use on an Indian reservation, and a guide to information sources and services of the Interior Department, among others. Along the way we carried out some efforts to bring useful skills back into the USGS, such as strategic planning (done by Virginia Tech), and methods to improve the use of meetings and conferences in decision making. The USGS people who were involved in these efforts seemed interested, but the long-term impact is unknown.

One day a fellow came to visit from the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ), in the Executive Office of the President. Wow! From this came the project on Environmental Statistics, which concerned environmental data and was modeled on the Statistical Abstract of the United States (that's gone now, too). The project evolved over the years, and spanned several Administrations. I got to know CEQ very well indeed. What began as a data book morphed into later volumes of tables, maps, and graphs, and finally into on-line data in a web site. Even today, I keep alive a distant descendant of this project on my Sustainable Water Resources Web Site, at <https://sites.google.com/site/sustainablewaterresources/>

Perhaps most unusual of the projects was the one on Environmental Conflict Management (it had several names over the years). The premise is that there are methods to address differences in opinion among stakeholders

when some project is undertaken that will affect the environment, like developing the California Desert. How do you handle all the heat from all those different desires, all of which are legitimate? Resolving conflicts in court is time consuming and expensive. How to avoid litigation and get the job done? Clearly, we now were well past just natural resources and into sociology. This is the project that resulted in the spin-off effort on improving decision making that I mentioned earlier. We had several test cases from Interior Department bureaus, such as the Rails to Trails work of the Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service (a deceased Interior bureau). I even wrote a paper on this project for George Mason University, which ended up in a book called *Conflict Management and Problem Solving*.

I had a good experience in RALI, and no doubt it marked a key point in my career. If I write the next part of my time in the USGS, I will tell you about my adventures in the Director's Office.

## **NARFE NEWS (National Active and Retired Federal Employees Association)**

### **Federal Employee Compensation: An Update**

Full House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform

Full House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform

**Hearing Date:** May 18, 2017 9:00 am 2154 RHOB

### **TAKEAWAYS:**

- An April Congressional Budget Office (CBO) [report](#) found federal employees earn 17 percent more than comparable private sector employees.
- Most federal employees receive compensation through the outdated General Schedule compensation system that inhibits the government's ability to reward performance over tenure.
- The pay schedule also prevents the federal government from attracting top talent in high-demand areas, such as cybersecurity.
- Small adjustments to federal employee's defined benefit compensation plans could save taxpayers \$207 billion over ten years.

### **PURPOSE:**

- To discuss the recent CBO report comparing federal compensation to that of the private sector.
- To identify potential areas for improvement and modernization in the current federal compensation system.

### **BACKGROUND:**

- In April, CBO released a [report](#) that found federal employees earn 17 percent more than comparable private sector employees in total compensation, with wide variances depending on education.
- The retirement benefits available to most federal employees are an important factor contributing to the compensation differences.
- Entities such as the Heritage Foundation and the Government Accountability Office have offered reform proposals to make federal compensation more performance-oriented, affordable and sustainable.

## **HUMOR**

### **Half-a-Mile Away**

An elderly couple were taking a stroll  
When a bird flies' past and relieves itself on the woman's head.  
Yech! Cries the woman "Quick get some toilet tissue."  
"Whatfor?" The man asks.  
The bird must be half-a-mile away by now."

### **Instant Old Age**

My granddaughter askedme "What is it like to be Old"  
So, I told her  
"Put cotton in your ears and pebbles in your shoes."  
"Pull on rubber gloves."  
"Smear Vaseline over your glasses."  
"And there you have it;  
Instant OldAge."