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WRD RETIREES

NEWSLETTER 135
May 2007

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

Spring weather has arrived in Northern Virginia and Joyce and I are enjoying this beautiful season. We are sure WRD Retirees nationwide are welcoming the May climate. While enjoying the pleasant weather, I encourage all WRD Retirees to remember that the 2008 WRD Retirees Reunion is planned for Tampa, Florida, for October 30 through November 1, 2008 -- a great time to be visiting Florida. Please mark you calendar so you will be able to attend. Craig Hutchinson and the Tampa organizing committee are making great progress in planning the 2008 reunion and have signed a contract with a hotel in Clearwater. Also remember that our resident tour guide, Saundra Duncan, is planning a cruise associated with the 2008 WRD Retirees Reunion. For those of you who were fortunate enough to participate in the Alaska cruise she arranged following the 2004 reunion, you know Saundra will do an outstanding job. More details describing the Tampa reunion and associated cruise will be provided at a later date. Plan to participate in both!

The membership overwhelmingly approved the proposed changes in the Mission Statement, Constitution, and Bylaws described in the previous edition of the Newsletter, and a full copy of the revised documents can be viewed on our web page at WRDRetirees.org. Also, this edition of the Newsletter contains a summary of the approved changes. We expect the changes will allow the current USGS workforce to better relate to WRD Retirees and will assist us in continuing to attract new members.

We continue to receive very favorable comments from those enlightened WRD Retirees who have chosen to receive their copy of the Newsletter via email. It is in full color, is delivered at least 2 weeks before the printed version, is easy to read, and significantly reduces the delivery cost. We encourage all WRD Retirees who have a personal computer connected to the Internet to receive your copy of the Newsletter via email. To receive your WRD Retirees Newsletter by email, simply notify Mike Gaydos at TigerLSU2@cox.net of your wishes and he will see that you receive your Newsletter electronically. We guarantee you will be satisfied with this method of delivery!

It is once again nearing time to elect new officers for WRD Retirees. The November 2007 edition of the Newsletter will include a list of candidates for election. If you are willing to serve as either a National officer or Regional Director, please phone me at 703-777-6357 or email me at JEB393@Verizon.net and let me know of your interest. The Board of Directors serves as the Nominating Committee. WRD Retirees is a fun and worthwhile organization, and we have many talented members who can effectively serve as officers. Please demonstrate your stewardship by stepping forward to serve as a candidate.



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Ron Allen reports, "I want to thank the WRD Retirees who work as officers and on the Newsletter staff. Everyone does a fine job of keeping us in touch."

Jim Barks says, "The Office of Surface Water was thoughtful enough to invite WRD Retirees to participate in the OSW conference in St. Louis, April 2-6, 2007. I was asked by the President to represent WRD Retirees and I accepted that assignment with pleasure. I hosted a poster session at the "kegger" on April 5, armed with a personal computer loaded with all of the information from the WRD Retirees web page and handouts, including a description of the WRD Retirees Hydrologic Technician Scholarship Program and Applications to join WRD Retirees. There was a large crowd at the poster session. I visited with many of them from 4:00 to 8:00--they came early and stayed late. The information about WRD Retirees was well received. I was surprised at how many did not know that they could become affiliate members. There was a lot of interest in the Hydrologic Technician Scholarship Program. My wife, **Patti**, and I had a great time visiting with old friends and making some new ones." Note: See photos of Jim at the OSW meeting at the end of this section.

Larry Becker reports, "We enjoyed the Madison gathering very much and look forward to the next reunion."

Jim Biesecker reports, "**Joyce** and I were busy entertaining guests from Nottingham, England for 2 weeks from April 26-May 11. My dear friend Brian Kelk, retired from the British Geological Survey, and his wife were the visitors. We all took a trip to the Finger Lakes region and enjoyed the beautiful scenery and fine wine."

Chuck Berkstresser says, "I am doing all right, considering the last year-and-a-half. Our four daughters were, and continue to be, a wonderful help to me. Also, local USGS/WRD retirees have been most kind as have been the neighbors. It will take much time for me to adjust to life without Bev. Also, it never dawned on me that so many legal obligations had to be met (taxes, changes in estate status, title to jointly owned property) to keep sundry laws and lawyers happy. I plan to do some traveling when things get settled and a bit more free time is available."

Joe Beverage reports, "I enjoy the Newsletter very much."

Van Brahana says, "Keep up the good work with the Newsletter."

G. Allan and **Jean Brown** write, "This is our first submission to WRD Retirees since we have retired. Both of us retired from the New Jersey office, me (Al) in April 2003 and Jean in April 2005. For those of you who know the other Al Brown, he's "Alan C. Brown" and retired in January 2004. It really got confusing when both of us Al's worked in the New York District in the late 70's.

"When I retired in 2003, **Don Vaupel** asked me to help him start a retirees group in New Jersey. He anointed me president of the group after which I appointed him vice president. We've been operating pretty much under the radar, having luncheons twice a year at local restaurants. Sometimes we actually meet at the USGS office in West Trenton. Recently we've gotten official, with Don as the District contact and me as official leader of the local group. We get about 15 people attending each luncheon.

"Jean has been spending time since she retired as a volunteer teacher/naturalist at a local environmental education center. It's very important to her that kids these days get outside and learn about bugs and critters so that they grow up having an appreciation of the natural world around us.

"I've always been a singer. I've been in singing groups most of my life and continue to do so. I've sung for 20 years in a group in Trenton that performs two operas a year. I also sing in a community chorus. For several years, I have led a support group near Camden that is affiliated with the National Stuttering Association. Besides helping my own stuttering, it has been a way for me to help other people who stutter.

"Jean and I have been doing a bit of traveling. While we were at Disney World in December 2005, we had lunch in Orlando with **Bill** and **Jean Lichtler** whom I have known since our years in Richmond in the 1970's. In 2002 and 2005, Jean and I went to Alaska. Each trip we spent a week at Camp Denali in the heart of Denali National Park, then spent several days driving around seeing other features of that wonderful state. We also like traveling frequently to the Virginia-North Carolina area, especially around Asheville, where we are considering moving someday when the cost of living in Joisey gets too oppressive.

"We really enjoy reading the newsletter to hear about what other people are doing."

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Jilann Brunett reports, "My acupuncture practice continues to bring me joy. Travel this year was centered around family and friends, including a trip to my beloved home state – Alaska. Thanks to all of you in WRD Retirees for your hard work."

Charles Bryant says, "There was a slight error in the Fall Newsletter that needs correcting. It showed that my wife is "Shirley." I want all my retiree friends to know that I am still married to **Elizabeth (Liza)**. In fact, Liza and I celebrated our 50th anniversary last December 22nd.

"I had a close brush with death in January. I checked Liza into the hospital on January 1st with atrial fibrillations. The last thing I remember was heading out of the hospital to go home. The next thing I remember was waking up in the hospital on January 7. In the meantime, I had called an ambulance on the morning of January 2nd and was taken to the emergency room, apparently with a ministroke. I was kept in the hospital and on January 3rd I had a series of seizures. My family was called in because the hospital staff did not think I would live as they detected no brain activity. But, I came through and they dubbed me "The Miracle Man." Liza's heart is back in rhythm and she is doing well.

"I have no memory of any of this. Liza was in the room next to me and I was not aware of her presence. I am thankful to be alive. According to Tennessee law I cannot drive for 6 months. If I am seizure free during that 6-month period then I can resume driving."

Ivan Burmeister says, "We moved to a retirement complex November 1, 2006, here in Iowa City. We do enjoy receiving the Newsletter and many thanks to those who prepare it."

Michael Butcher reports, "There have been a lot of issues in my life over the past few years, primarily in the health area. I am doing fairly well at the moment and, God willing, will continue to do so for a long time. The latest saga was total knee replacements for both knees. **Sandy** and I have recently moved to Texas. There is a lot of family here, and the weather is friendlier to our health issues. I truly appreciate the efforts of the Newsletter staff. It is nice to know what others do and about their travels. It also is a reminder that we are getting older and the newsletter helps this weak mind remember some of the great people I had the privilege of working with for so many years."

Alice Dilandro says, "Greetings to all WRD Retirees."

Lee Case reports, "Midway through last year, I accepted a new assignment with the USGS Salton Sea Science Office in La Quinta, CA. My son is still attending the University of Washington."

Ruth Deike says, "I am moving to California as soon as I sell my farm in Maine."

John Elder reports, "I've recently moved to a new address in Corvallis, OR. My regrets that I could not make it to the 2006 reunion in my home district of Madison, WI. I fully intended to make it, but it didn't work out for me. So, maybe the next reunion!"

Frank Flynn says, "I am doing fairly well at 93, still living alone in the same old house where I've lived for more than 50 years. I can't ice skate anymore since a minor stroke in June 2004, but I manage to drive and get around with some help from physical therapy."

Herb Freiberger says, "**Pat** and I were in Florida for over a week in April. Weather was terrific. Also, **Jim Biesecker** and I attended the April meeting of the New Jersey retirees. It was a fine affair attended by about 20 retirees and spouses. Jim and I had a chance to visit with **Don Vaupel** at his home before the meeting. He's doing great."

Dan and Elaine Gockel report, "The past 2 years have seen major changes for us. First of all, we decided to move back home to Iowa City to be closer to family. We built a new home here and moved in January 2006. As is our usual mode of operation, we chose to do some of the work ourselves. We spent most of the year finishing off two additional bedrooms and a large family room on the lower level, landscaping, etc. However, it hasn't been all work and no play. In October 2005, we went to France and visited the WW II Beaches. One of the highlights of the trip for Dan was the 101st Airborne Division Museum in Ste. Mere Eglise (Dan's former Division). Our youngest daughter, Teri and her family have been living in Lyon, France, since June 2005. We've visited them three times in that time frame. Last April, we joined fellow WRD retirees **Dave Madril** and **Janet** and **Jim Thomas** on a road trip around France, ending up at our "kids" home in Lyon. It was a great trip. Great company, wonderful food and, of course, fantastic wine and cognac! Alas, our French connection comes to an end this month. Teri and family are moving back to take up residence again in the Denver area. We really miss the Colorado weather, so are looking forward to being able to continue the Colorado connection."

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Martha Frisbie says, "I recently moved to a new address in Carson City, NV. I, too, like so many others, enjoy the WRD Retirees Newsletter very much. It has now been over 20 years since Howard died, but I still enjoy all of the USGS news and look forward to the next reunion."

Harold Golden reports, "We are looking forward to the "Final Four" in Atlanta. The event always gets a lot of nationwide attention. Best wishes to all WRD Retirees."

Ralph Heath reports, "I really want to check out the WRD Retirees web page but when I use the email address WRDRetirees.org, nothing comes up. Any idea of what I am doing wrong?" Editor's note: Ralph, using the tool you use for an Internet search engine – examples are Google and Yahoo – simply type the Universal Resource Locator (URL) in the search box and then click the Search button. I just did it, as I have done many times and it works. If this doesn't work for you, call Ken Lanfear, the WRD Retirees web page master, and he will be able to help you.

Art Hodges says, "Perhaps retirees from Water, Mapping, and Geology should form a USGS retirees group." Editor's note: The Blue Ribbon Panel discussed and rejected this possibility. It was tempting but we didn't want to stray too far from WRD. However, we do welcome and encourage membership from the other Divisions, as well as other organizations. Our membership bylaw states: Section 2. Affiliate members of "WRD Retirees" shall be composed of applicants from the following categories:(a) active personnel of the USGS, (b) retirees of the Department of the Interior and its other bureaus, (c) retirees of Federal, State, or local organizations who have had long association with, and desire to remain in contact with, our membership, or (d) other retired persons allied with USGS by professional background or activities.

Ernie Hubbard reports, "We just returned from a month in Naples, FL. We liked it so much we are buying a condo there!"

Phyllis Jeffreys says, "It's great to keep up with the events and I couldn't do so without the WRD Retirees Newsletter."

Ivan Johnson was recently honored by the American Water Resources Association (AWRA). In 2002 AWRA created the Pyramid Award to honor the work of outstanding young professionals in the field of water resources. This year, the AWRA Board of Directors unanimously voted to rename the award the A. Ivan Johnson Outstanding Young

Professional Award. In doing so, AWRA recognized that Ivan, in a 60-year career, has untiringly supported your water resources professionals in the United States and world wide, both as Chief of the U.S. Geological Survey Water Resources Division Training Center and, since his retirement, as CEO of his own company. Congratulations, Ivan!

Dick Johnston reports, "You all do a great job with the Newsletter. Thanks so much."

John Kammerer says, "I think WRD Retirees is a terrific organization. The Newsletter is great."

Carl Kroll reports, "Bohn-zhoor, (spelling French words correctly doesn't help with the pronunciation one bit...). Yup, the high point of last year was a trip to visit our eldest son and daughter-in-law in Paris. We had an absolutely wonderful time! About half of the 2 weeks was spent exploring the city. Our shoe leather sure racked up the miles – er kilometers. With Rick Steves' guidebook in hand, **Linda** and I saw parts of Paris that our hosts hadn't discovered yet. For the other half of our visit, they took us on a tour of the Loire valley to see some of the many historical Chateaus. Quite impressive, but we think our little bungalow is less drafty and much cozier. The associated gardens were absolutely beautiful, colorful, and very peaceful. From Thanksgiving until Christmas, we joined my brother in Poulsbo, WA, for harvesting Christmas trees. It's a wonderful feeling to be able to roam again among the "ghosts of berry fields" where we grew up. Anyhow, in February while the snow is swirling about, Linda and I are again planting tomatoes in the greenhouse and getting ready for another big crop. Retirement is great! Oh vwhar."

Phil LaMoreaux says, "The WRD Retirees Newsletter is always read with great interest. Outside of local members, I have very little contact with former colleagues in WRD. For example, in the last Newsletter, **Harry Rodis**, **Joe Upson**, **George Whettstone**, and others allowed me good memories. I was sad to learn about **Digger Jones**. During the last 2 years, I have been experimenting with a different style of writing –The Exodus, Famous Springs and Bottled Waters of the World, and my third book is just out, The Captain Speaks. The book relates to many interesting tales of my former associates in the Alabama District that meet for coffee the first Tuesday of every month. We are about 20 strong."

Hal Langford reports, "**Jean** and I just moved to a retirement facility, Greenspring Village, in Springfield, VA. It is only a few miles from our

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previous location. WRD Retirees **Bob** and **Lore Schneider** and **Dorothy Daniels** also live here."

Deborah Lee says, "My husband, **Frank**, and I really enjoy the WRD Retirees Newsletter. I look forward to the WRD Retirees Directory to see who has retired in FL, GA, AL and CO. On April 26, 2006, several of us former Ocala Lab employees met for an informal celebration of the 2nd anniversary of our retirement. We all talked up a storm!"

Red Longfield reports, "Not many of us ole USGS guys and gals around here anymore. We do keep in contact with **Charlie** and **Pauline Morgan** and visit back and forth about twice a year or so. They have a fairly good pipeline on former members and coworkers. We went on a Caribbean cruise November 30 to December 10 with our good friends from Tacoma. Fantastic time except for the last 2 days when the sea was very rough! In fact, we couldn't stop at Princess Cays. Tried to get anchor down twice and it would not hold so we had to go on to Ft. Lauderdale. The winds were so strong that two of us could not open a starboard door to walk the deck!"

Nancy Lopez says, "Luckily, the recent tornado that went through The Villages passed about ½ mile south of our home. In The Villages the people that suffered property damage are getting plenty of help because the community really steps up when someone is harmed. Many people outside The Villages aren't doing so well. Lately, I have been working on water-resources issues in The Villages and addressing the impacts of the withdrawals. The Villages is the largest privately owned business in Florida. Rumor has it that the owner has slept at the White House and he owns the house next to Jeb Bush in the Caribbean. Based on the Southwest Florida Water Management District's data, current annual-average groundwater withdrawals essentially have lowered "my" lake to the designated minimum level. Not to worry, the District is proposing to issue The Villages a 6-year permit that would include the additional water needed to finish building the development within about 5 years. The 6-year permit would increase annual-average daily groundwater withdrawals by about 50% or about 7 mgd. Also, the peak-month groundwater withdrawals would triple to over 62 mgd. The permit has many loopholes to make life easier for the developer. The sun is shining and it is business as usual in Florida."

Jim Luzier reports, "I recently moved to Canada and that has been a real time-consuming

experience. My wife, **Janet**, died suddenly of a heart attack in May 2002."

Bob MacNish says, "**Jean** kind of wrecked her back taking care of her mother in the early 90s and that has kept us from doing much traveling, as she can't take long periods of sitting. We are currently trying to shed enough inventory so we can afford to move back to Washington and settle somewhere in or near Sequim on the northeast corner of the Olympic Peninsula. Twenty-eight years in the desert is enough, hopefully we'll get out of here before it's 30. I communicate regularly with **Phil Emery** and **Rene Baker**, who worked on my first project in Washington in the late 60s. Other than that I drop into the office in Tucson, but after 13 years there are not so many familiar faces there any more. Up until a couple years ago, I was teaching an elementary Hyrdology course at the U of A, which I thoroughly enjoyed. When the state finances got real tight they stopped paying adjunct faculty to teach, not that they were paying much anyway, so I stopped."

Marjorie Martin says, "Hi to all WRD Retirees."

Russ McAvoy reports, "I recently fell and broke my hip but I am getting around quite well now using a device which I call a "jitney." I've asked my son, Mac, who lives near us in Charlottesville, VA to work on a motorized version so I can go anywhere on our 60-acre farm. Recently I called my longtime friend **Jim Biesecker** and had a great conversation about old times at the USGS."

Jerry McCain says, "**MaryAnn** and I are still enjoying retirement on our 35-acre home in Alabama. I don't golf much anymore; it takes too much time to take care of my lot!"

Bob Meade reports, "I still refer often, and continue to refer others, to the Flood of 1993 on upper Mississippi: a selective overview. USGS Circular 1120 is a great report."

Linda Meadows says, "I hope all my WRD friends are doing well. Thanks so much to all of you who keep our Newsletter going."

John Musser reports, "**Nancy** and I continue to enjoy retirement in Baton Rouge. Regards to all my friends in WRD Retirees."

Bob Perry says, "I really enjoy retirement. Life is good!"

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Merv Peterson reports, "My wife, **Charlotte**, and I are enjoying retirement very much. It is hard to believe that I have been retired for 27 years so I am in that list of retirees who don't know many of the retirees mentioned in the Newsletter, but we still enjoy the Newsletter very much and always find a few of the old timers mentioned. We are in fairly good health for our age. Charlotte has macular degeneration and doesn't see well. She doesn't drive anymore and I have to read to her but we manage very well. In January, we celebrated our 63rd wedding anniversary and enjoy life together. Our travel is mostly limited to seeing our children, grandchildren, and great grandchildren in four states: PA, TX, UT and CO. We enjoy the Newsletter very much and thank all those who spend so much time making it possible."

Ada Rich says, "Thank you officers and Newsletter staff for volunteering your time to keep our organization going and informed. I have moved to Williamsburg Senior Living Community in Baton Rouge. It is an assisted living center."

Jim Rollo reports, "In January, **Anita** was stricken with a collapsed disk with no apparent cause. She was incapacitated for 4 months but microsurgery in April resulted in an instant cure. All was well in time for a June trip to Florence, Italy – our first trip to the continent. In October, we began a 2½ month trip including Lisbon, Portugal, Casablanca, the Canary Islands, the Cape Verde Islands, Salvador, and Brazil. We are going to East Africa in the late summer/early fall this year."

Stan Sauer says, "Greetings from Texas. I appreciate very much all the work the officers do to prepare and mail the Newsletter and other items to keep us WRD Retirees informed. By way of news, **Virginia** and I enjoyed a recent trip to Puerto Vallarta, Mexico. It was great to get away from the January and February Texas weather and to enjoy the warmth, ocean, food, and Margaritas."

Vern Sauer reports, "**Marylou** and I have been doing fine, travelling a bit, and just enjoying life. Last year we celebrated our 50th with a cruise of the Alaskan Inland Passage. This spring we attended the annual campout arranged by **Lamar Sanders** and hosted by **Marvin Franklin** on his farm near Ochoopee, GA. **Bill Stokes**, **Tim Hale**, and **Tim Stamey** were there, as well as a couple of still active USGS employees from the Columbia, SC office. As for myself, I'm still active doing a few odd jobs like re-writing the WMO streamgauging manual (now in review), helping Verne Schneider with the Afghanistan project, and I'm still serving as federal chairman of the Sabine River Compact. Marylou

and I are thoroughly enjoying the small town life here in Hartwell, GA. I am known locally as Tex, the waterologist. We are both active in church as choir members, cooking for about 180 people once a month, and other things. Marylou runs a blood drive twice a year and works with seniors in one of the local nursing homes. Our youngest son John, a Seabee reservist, just returned from a 6-month tour of duty in Iraq. We are very thankful he returned safely. Life is never dull."

Tom Shepard says, "I enjoy the Newsletter and hearing what other WRD Retirees are doing. My son, Blake, is now in the 8th grade and is keeping **Nancy and me forever young or old – not sure which one.**"

Earl Skinner reports, "Last summer, **Ruth** and I travelled to Washington State with our two grandsons. It was a good trip and re-educated us about boys ages 11 and 9. We visited many friends. Ruth and I also had a wonderful time at the Madison reunion and congratulate the retirees there who did such a good job planning the reunion and making us all feel welcome. While there, I visited the old office and Ruth and I visited our old neighbourhood and friends who still live there. Ruth keeps busy with friends we have here in Arkansas and does a lot of jigsaw puzzles. I keep busy mostly keeping my recliner warmed up, but do yard work and gardening during the summer and serve on the Board of Directors of Cleburne County Cares. I am awaiting a call for a cornea transplant which hopefully restores good vision. We plan on attending my 55th High School reunion in May. Our home is only a 6-hour drive from Southern Nazarene University in Oklahoma so we make the trip there for homecoming every year. Thanks to all of you who labor to put together the WRD Retirees Newsletter, you are doing a great job. Keep it going!"

Don Vaupel reports, "The New Jersey retirees are having a lunch meeting on April 26, coordinated by me and **Al Brown**, in the main conference room at the USGS Trenton office. Herb Buxton, NJ District employee, will talk about Environmental Contaminants."

Lloyd Waite says, "Greetings to all you WRD Retirees. Thanks to all who work on the Newsletter. It really keeps me informed."

Toni Watkins reports, "I retired in 1984 as the assistant to the Regional Geologist in Lakewood. I also served with WRD in Denver. The luncheons in Denver are so much fun and it is great to see so many old friends. Special thanks to **John George**

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and **Hugh Hudson** for getting me involved with WRD Retirees.”

John Wayenberg says, “I enjoy reading about my fellow WRD Retirees and being kept informed about issues that concern us.”

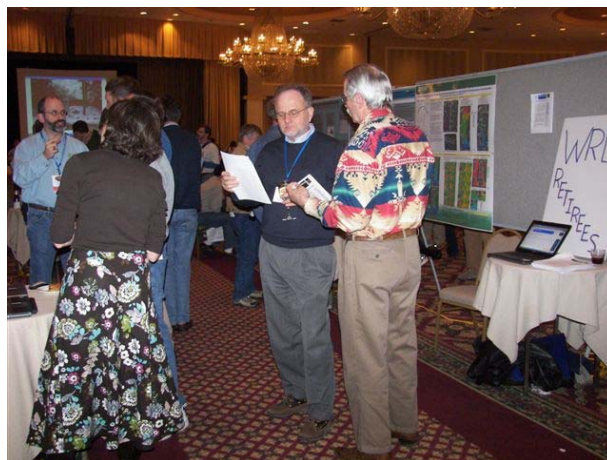
CT Welborn writes, “I went to see **Bill Broadhurst** recently and found him in the party room playing dominoes with a young pharmacy student. He is still very sharp and is fairly well. He will be 102 in June. I believe Bill is the oldest WRD member. Bill worked in the Texas District in the 1950's as Ground Water Chief.”

Lorraine West says, “All is well in southern New Mexico. I remain in the place Sam and I retired to in 1980, slower than then, but still growing a few pecans. Best wishes to all!”

Leonard Wollitz reports, “On March 17, 2007, I married **Marilyn Wollitz**. I really do enjoy reading the WRD Retirees Newsletter. Keep up the good work.”

Tom Yorke reports, “The HQ retirees had an outstanding speaker at the February luncheon which was attended by about 35 retirees and spouses. Bruce Molniar, Geologic Division, presented “Baked Alaska,” a detailed and interesting presentation describing the history and dynamics of Alaska’s glaciers. Bruce concluded that while the major glaciers in Alaska are not in danger of melting, the “temperate glaciers – those below 5000 m in altitude” will all melt by the end of the century. At the March meeting, about 35 folks heard our own **Ken Lanfear** talk about how the Journal of the American Water Resources Association has been modernized. Ken, since retiring from WRD, has been named the Editor of the Journal of AWRA and has done an outstanding job improving the publication. At the April meeting, Bill Werkheiser, Acting Regional Hydrologist, NR, gave a detailed and interesting overview of the reorganization efforts and actions at USGS over the past 6 years and also described the current functioning of the Regional office. It was a great job and very interesting. We also celebrated **George Ferguson’s** 101st birthday.”

WRD Retiree and Missouri District Contact Jim Barks (in the colorful shirt) manned the WRD Retirees booth at the April OSW conference in St. Louis



WRD Retirees Constitution, Bylaws and Mission Statement, revised May 2007

To make sure the working folks at USGS continue to relate to WRD Retirees, a Blue Ribbon Panel consisting of Jim Biesecker, Jim Blakey, Bill Boning, Hal Langford, Russ Wagner, Tom Yorke, and Loren Young suggested that the Mission Statement, Constitution and Bylaws of WRD Retirees be changed. Please note that the Blue Ribbon Panel included representatives from all 4 WRD Regions plus headquarters and representatives from the three states with the most WRD Retirees. The proposed changes were voted on by the membership in March 2007.

The votes have been tabulated and 92% of the voting membership approved all of the six proposed changes; the other members that voted approved most of the changes. Therefore, the 6 proposed changes, overwhelmingly approved, are hereby incorporated in the Mission Statement, Constitution and Bylaws.

Only those parts of the Constitution and Bylaws that were changed in accordance with the vote of the membership are shown below. For those interested, a complete copy of the Constitution and Bylaws as of March 2007 is shown on the WRDRetirees.org web page. If you do not have access to a computer connected to the Internet and want a complete copy of the Constitution and Bylaws, please contact WRD Retirees by phone or mail and one will be provided. Following are the new wordings for the Mission Statement, Constitution and Bylaws:

Mission Statement:

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

Constitution:

ARTICLE 1. NAME.

This organization shall be called the WRD Retirees of the U.S. Geological Survey.

Bylaws

BYLAW I. MEMBERSHIP

Section 1. Members of “WRD Retirees” shall be composed of those retired applicants who have served with the Water Resources Discipline, or other units of the U.S. Geological Survey. Members may vote and hold office in the organization.

Section 2. Affiliate members of "WRD Retirees" shall be composed of applicants from the following categories:

- (a) active personnel of the USGS,
- (b) retirees of the Department of the Interior and its other bureaus,
- (c) retirees of Federal, State, or local organizations who have had long association with, and desire to remain in contact with, our membership, or
- (d) other retired persons allied with USGS by professional background or activities.

BYLAW III. OFFICERS, DIRECTORS, AND BOARDS

Section 1. There shall be five elected National Officers consisting of President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, and Archivist; and four elected Regional Directors, each representing a geographical region similar to that used by the Water Resources Division during 1996. The elected officers and the Newsletter Editor shall constitute the Board of Management. Each Regional Director shall appoint a Regional Editor or shall serve as Regional Editor. The Newsletter Editor shall be appointed by the President in consultation with the Board of Management. The term of office of the Newsletter Editor and Regional Editors shall be two years; however, each may be reappointed by successor Presidents and Regional Directors. The Newsletter Editor and the Regional Editors shall constitute an Editorial Board, chaired by the Newsletter Editor, whose purpose shall be to implement Newsletter policies and practices leading to optimal quality, accuracy, balance, and content of the Newsletter. The Newsletter Editor shall be responsible for the final content and composition and for reproducing and distributing the Newsletter.

We repeat, only those parts of the Constitution and Bylaws changed in accordance with the vote of the membership in March 2007 are shown above. The entire Constitution and Bylaws as of this date can be viewed at the WRD Retirees web page, located at WRDRetirees.org. If you don't have access to the Internet and want a complete copy, one will be provided to you on request.

There have been many organizational changes at USGS in the past decade, and WRD Retirees needs to adjust accordingly. The changes in our Mission Statement, Constitution, and Bylaws described above will help guarantee that the folks currently working at USGS can better relate to WRD Retirees and will help in our ongoing efforts to recruit new dedicated and long-time members.

WHAT HAS NARFE DONE FOR ME?

By Bill Boning

NARFE, the National Active and Retired Federal Employees Association, is dedicated to protecting the future for active and retired federal employees.

- **NARFE** is an association of nearly 350,000 federal workers and retirees united to preserve the economic security and well-being of federal employees in retirement.
- **NARFE** sponsors and supports legislation to protect the earned retirement benefits and the general welfare of members.
- **NARFE** operates nationwide service centers staffed by volunteers who provide assistance to federal employees, annuitants, and survivors.

Now, doesn't NARFE sound like an organization WRD Retirees should support and strongly consider joining? The question that many of us ask is "What has NARFE done for me? The following is a short list of major recent legislative accomplishments reported by Dan Adcock of NARFE National Headquarters and the Virginia Federation of Chapters Legislative Chairmen:

- **In 2004**, NARFE was successful in persuading a conference committee reconciling differences between the House and Senate passed versions of the annual budget to reject a House provision that would have required the House Government Reform Committee to cut programs (Federal civilian retirement benefits) under its jurisdiction by an unprecedented \$38.3 billion between FY 2004 and 2014. This cut, if passed, would have resulted in a reduction to our retirement annuities.
- **In 2004**, NARFE was successful in persuading our "friends on the Hill" to defeat an amendment by Congressmen Jeb Hensarling and Mark Kirk to a budget procedure bill (H.R.4663) which would have required automatic reductions in Federal civilian and military retirement over a 10-year period to save the Federal government \$99 billion. Additionally, this amendment would have changed the percentage that the government contributes to the Federal Employees Health and Benefit Program (FEHBP). If this cut was passed, we would all be contributing a greater percentage to FEHBP, which would have resulted in a reduction to the net amount of our retirement annuities.
- **In 2005**, NARFE persuaded a conference committee, reconciling differences between the House and the Senate versions of the annual budget, to reject a House provision that would have required the House Government Reform Committee to cut programs, which included Federal civilian retirement benefits, by \$2.3 billion between FY 2005 and 2010. This cut, if passed, would have resulted in reductions to our retirement annuities.
- **In 2005**, NARFE supported legislation to offer current Federal employees and retirees separate dental and vision insurance beginning in 2006.
- **In 2006**, NARFE helped ensure that no further action was taken on legislation (S. 3521), introduced by Congressman Judd Gregg and approved by the Senate Budget Committee, which would have required automatic reductions in Federal civilian and military retirement benefits. The potential savings to the Federal government was estimated to be \$104 billion over a 10-year period. If passed, this would have reduced our retirement annuities.
- **In 2006**, NARFE helped persuade the Senate Appropriations Committee to fund technology improvements to expedite retirement claims processing. The FY 2007 Transportation – Treasury

Appropriations Committee bill included \$30 million for OMB to automate Federal employee record keeping for the purpose of shorting the time necessary to process retirement annuity claims.

- **In 2006**, NARFE persuaded the House Education and Workforce Committee not to reduce FECA benefits for FY 2007. The House version of the FY 2007 Budget Resolution instructed the Committee to cut entitlement programs under their jurisdiction, including FECA, by \$1.3 billion. A similar proposal was introduced in FY 2005, which was also not passed as a result of NARFE action.

The current legislative agenda for NARFE focuses on:

Protecting existing retirement and health benefits while Congress attempts to cut record federal budget deficits;

Fighting the growth of controversial "Health Savings Accounts" which could make comprehensive health plans more expensive;

Extending the Premium Conversion rights that federal and postal employees have to federal annuitants, so that retirees too can pay their Federal Employee Health Benefits premiums with pre-tax dollars and save an average of \$400 each year; and,

Repealing the Social Security Government Pension Offset (GPO) and Windfall Elimination Provision (WEP) - two provisions which can substantially reduce the expected retirement income of retired federal workers.

It is significant to note that no legislated reduction in Federal civilian retirement benefits has occurred since 1993. Would this be true if there was not a powerful NARFE voice? WRD Retirees, we encourage you to join NARFE, if you are not already a member. If you are a member, please continue your support for this organization dedicated to protecting your hard earned retirement benefits. If you are interested in joining, go to the NARFE web page at NARFE.org and complete the online application form, or contact Bill Boning and he will provide you with membership material.

NIRVANA

By Clifford T. Jenkins

Written about 1941

Introduction by Jim Biesecker:

When I was a young man, recently arrived in the Colorado District in 1971, I had the distinct honor and privilege to be mentored by a wonderful man, Edward "Ted" Moulder. A few days after reporting for duty and after everyone else had left the building; Ted came into my office and sat down. He said, "Jim never judge a book by its cover." I was momentarily bewildered but then Ted reached into his pocket and pulled out an essay titled "NIRVANA," written by a Colorado District hydrologist, Cliff Jenkins. I proceeded to read the essay and was absolutely amazed. It was one of the most eloquent articles I had ever read. For those of you who had the privilege of knowing Cliff, you understand Ted's quote about not judging a book by its cover.

Cliff was one of the most distinguished hydrologists ever to grace USGS, WRD with his presence. He was regarded by many as a genius. He was the author of the definitive conjunctive surface water- ground water model for alluvial streams – the Stream Depletion Factor. He was also an expert in hydraulics and flood routing. I remember Cliff at a meeting with the City Council of Boulder, CO. They wanted to build a new library – the old one had been flooded. The Chairman of the Council said he wanted the library built where it would never be flooded. Cliff calmly rose to his feet, proceeded to a window, pointed to a nearby mountain peak and said "Then build it up there and pray it doesn't rain for 40 days." Everyone busted out in laughter but ole Cliff had made his point. Cliff was an amazing character, an outstanding hydrologist who also was a chain smoker and an alcoholic. Thus, Ted's comment.

I kept a copy of Cliff's NIRVANA in my possession for many years -- to help me remember Ted's message. But, I lost my copy in one of my many moves. Thankfully, Judy Cornwell, who retired from the Colorado District Report Section, recently sent me a copy. It appears below for your enjoyment.

NIRVANA

By Cliff Jenkins

The Desert is a fickle mistress. She has blistered me with heat, parched my throat, blinded me with her merciless glare, and flung her hard, sharp sand into my eyes. She has tortured me with loneliness -- with promises never fulfilled -- but on occasion, she has given me a sense of peace and well-being so powerful as to be almost painful.

One of these moments came to me on the banks of the Colorado River, almost in the shadow of the Needles. In the summer, it is almost unbearably hot, but in the cool of an October evening, with a ghostly full moon rising over the rugged peaks, a world at war seemed far away -- and infinitely foolish.

There was silence; a desert silence broken only by the soft murmur of the Colorado tamed by Boulder Dam – the call of a lone goose as he flew down the silvery ribbon to the south – the bray of a wild burro – eerie – startling.

To the east, the Needles -- ghostly spires outlined against an eastern sky aglow with a soft, magic light; to the north – a void – a clear, deep, void set with sparkling pinpoints of light; to the west, across the river, the moon lighted the steep sides of the valley. The breeze blew gently across the river, carrying the sweet, permeating scent of the silver waters. Unconsciously, I relaxed – the cares of the day slid from my mind. I – my world – paled in significance as the rising moon slowly disclosed more and more in detail the grandeur of the scene. Suddenly – I realized that I had lost something – something terribly important – and that out there – just out of reach – lay the answer to all my yearnings and gropings. I stirred

restlessly, almost ashamed of myself for allowing my mind to swell on such foolish thoughts -- but the age-old rocks towering above seemed to say, in a deep, wise voice,

"They are not foolish thoughts – they are feeble signs of an awakening. If you follow them – if you stretch long enough – you will find peace -- lasting peace. We have watched here since the beginning of time – we have seen the rise of life – and now we see man -- foolish - floundering – apt to overestimate his own importance -- but in him there is the first glimmering of a new light. He can, if he but will, build a new and beautiful life for himself."

I gazed out over the rough, forbidding hills, softened by the caressing light, and let the spell claim me. It was like a warm, cleansing bath – thoughts drifted aimlessly; as an experiment, I tried hating someone. It was impossible; they – I – was too unimportant – my hate would be only a tiny discord in the great symphony that life should be – and could be – if only I could find that something – something the desert has – something for which man has groped for centuries – something one man found almost two thousand years ago – something all mankind will eventually find in spite of heartbreaking muddling.

The moon rose higher – scenes shifted – new panoramas were presented – new miracles of harmony disclosed. Slowly, the moon sank in the west. I forgot my night on the desert – almost – I went back to the terribly unimportant problems, my petty hates and prejudices. But, in the most unexpected moments – in the most unexpected places – I remember – faintly.

A Little Humor.....

The local bar was so sure its bartender was the strongest man around that they offered a standing \$1000 bet. The bartender would squeeze a lemon until all the juice ran into a glass and hand the lemon to a patron. Anyone who could squeeze one more drop of juice out would win the money.

Many people had tried over time, including the professional wrestlers and bodybuilders, but nobody could do it.

One day a scrawny little man came in, wearing a tie and a pair of pants hiked up past his belly button. He said in a squeaky annoying voice, "I'd like to try the bet." Everyone burst into laughter. After the laughter had died down, the bartender said, "Ok," grabbed a lemon, and squeezed away. He then handed the wrinkled remains of the rind to the little man.

But the crowd's laughter turned to total silence as the man clenched his fist around the lemon and six drops fell into the glass.

As the crowd cheered, the bartender paid the \$1000 and asked the little man, "What do you do for a living? Are you a lumberjack, weight lifter, or what?" The man replied, "I work for the IRS."

MEMORIAL
Robert E. Smith
1925 – 2007

Robert E. "Bob" Smith, 81, of Houston, died on April 2, 2007, after a valiant 10-year battle with lung cancer and a series of other complications. Bob was born in Tifton, Georgia, on September 17, 1925. He went from Tifton County High School into the Navy. He served in the Navy from 1943-46 as an electrician on the Destroyer Escort, Samuel F. Miles, engaging in many battles in the Pacific. He and Eleanor enjoyed attending reunions with his shipmates.



After the Navy, Bob returned to Georgia and the University of Georgia, and received his degree in Engineering in 1951. He taught High School math in Atlanta from 1951-1954. He began his Survey career in March, 1954, in the Atlanta Surface-water Branch with one A.B. Cameron. In July 1958, Bob transferred to the Tifton Sub-district office as Engineer-in-charge and in February 1962 he transferred to Houston as Engineer in-charge of the Houston Sub-district.

Shortly after their arrival in Houston, Bob and Eleanor joined the First Methodist Church and quickly found out that there was another member named Robert E. "Bob" Smith. About this time, the other Bob gave the church 5 million dollars. Our Bob mailed the 5-million announcement back to his buddies in Tifton with this brief note, "I just want to get off on the right foot."

Bob was the right person for Houston, because he believed (as many of us do) the WRD's mission is to provide timely and correct data and information for water managers. The Texas District reorganized to Water-Resources Division in 1965. Houston was becoming a very active area for water-quality, urban-hydrology, and land subsidence concerns. Already a member of ASCE, Bob joined the Texas Society of Professional Engineers, Houston Chamber of Commerce, and the Houston Federal Executive Board. He made the agencies in the area aware of WRD and our capabilities, and new multi-discipline studies were begun. In the late 60's, growing concerns over the water-quality problems in Texas bays and estuaries lead to a major study headquartered in Houston. The Houston office grew to about 40 people, and others were detailed in from all over the State for the intense studies of inflow and outflow of the bays. However, best known then, and still remembered, was the Texas Navy. The Houston office had at least a dozen boats and Robert E. "Bob" Smith was the Captain.

Bob declined offers to transfer to District Chief positions. He preferred to stay in Houston with his people; his water-management friends in local, state, and other Federal agencies; and the Texas Coast where he loved to boat and fish. He never left home without a rod. Demands for his time grew, but he always stayed "close to the action." One day a phone call came in from a field man who had been making a discharge measurement of a stream north of Houston when someone stole his truck that was parked near the bridge. Bob got in his car and headed up I-45 to pick up his man. He was just north of Houston when he saw the truck headed south. Bob did a u-turn and followed the truck into downtown Houston. He flagged a cop and they got the guy and the truck.

Bob retired from the USGS in 1980 and returned to teaching math at a Houston high school. He remained active in University of Georgia Alumni Society and was always a Bull Dog. His boat was named "The Party Dawg."

He is survived by his wife of 45 years, Eleanor, and son, Robert Andrew "Andy" Smith of Austin.

By Jim Blakey

Married To My Baseball Cap

By Donovan "Don" Kelly
WRD Freshman Class of 1966

The hardest part is throwing them away. Those ugly baseball caps that we men cling to, until the good wife finally gives us that special shake of the head. The one that says, "Please don't wear that thing in public."

How to explain how a man becomes married to his cap, for better or for worse, in cleanliness and in grime? Would you have us divorce our cap, cast it away, merely because we have grown old and worn together? Surely this is a dangerous legal precedent for any wife to take.

Yesterday my wife shook her head at my Louisiana cap. When I wear that cap I'm young and churning up the Mississippi River again on a research boat bound from New Orleans to St. Paul. As the greenest and most useless member of the scientific crew, I drew the watch from midnight to six, standing with the pilot and picking straight stretches of river every ten miles where we could stop and take water samples without being run over by barges. That left 9 miles out of every 10 for enjoying the river in the moonlight and dreaming about pirates and damsels in distress.

I was standing at the rail and the damsels were just about to thank me when Captain Ahab stomped into the cabin. Dr. Robert Meade, senior research scientist, immediately began grilling me on things nautical, discovered my total ignorance, and started pounding endless dull details about navigation lights and radar images into my head. My moonlight cruise was ruined.

At daybreak I wearily crawled into my bunk hard up against the bow. The river lapped against my headboard and laughed at my ignorance. Too mad to sleep, I switched on the bunk light and began to read. Above me the voice of Captain Ahab growled, "What are you reading?"

"Mark Twain's 'Life on the Mississippi'," I said, cursing myself for forgetting that Dr. Meade was sleeping above me.

"Read me where you're at in the book," Bob said, sounding almost human. I read a passage and Bob repeated the next two pages from memory. This tough demanding scientist was also a Mark Twain expert who guided tourists on Mississippi steamboat cruises. We -- mostly he -- talked the early morning away. Days later I left the boat in St. Paul, with a new cap, a new friend, and a deeper love of Mark Twain and his river.

This is why it took me so long to hang up the Louisiana cap on the hat rack in the mudroom. This rack is more than a retirement home for old baseball caps. It's a male scrapbook of memories that I'm just not ready to let go of, not quite yet.

* * *

(Kelly and his latest unshakable cap write from Hamilton, VA. They and other stories can be seen on his web page < <http://members.aol.com/crummybut/> >)

DIVISION 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

Blair F. Jones, Research Hydrologist, 7905 Glenbrook Road, Bethesda, MD 20814, (301) 656-7094,
03/03/07

Raymond W. Schaffranek, Research Hydrologist, 11004 Mountain Spring Drive, Glen Allen, VA 23060,
(804) 270-4076, 03/02/07

Philip M. Shackelford, Hydrologic Technician, 2788 Mansway Drive, Herndon, VA 22071, (703) 481-0946,
03/02/07

Charles R. Whited, Supervisory Hydrologic Technician, 5240 Harper Road, Holt, MI 48842, (517) 694-0420,
03/02/07

Southeastern Region

Jerry J. Ross, Supervisory Electronics Engineer, P.O. Box 2453, Bay St. Louis, MS 39521, 03/03/07

Central Region

Franklin D. Amundson, Hydrologic Technician, 942 Kansas Avenue SE, Huron, SD 57350, 02/02/07

Nora L. Bender, Secretary, 2555 Poplar Street, Denver, CO 80207, 02/28/07

Debra L. Dale, Admin Operations Assistant, 7684 S. Allison Street, Littleton, CO 80128, (303) 979-4241,
03/02/07

Allen J. Heakin, Hydrologist, 8310 Countryside Blvd, Rapid City, SD 57702, (605) 343-9715, 02/02/07

Patricia A. Hood, Administrative Officer, 12742 Nemo Road, Nemo, SD 57759, (605) 578-2638, 02/02/07

Patricia A. Latour, Editorial Assistant, 2750 Mathews Avenue, Fort Lupton, CO 80621, (303) 637-9346,
03/03/07

Debra K. Matthews, Information Technology Specialist, 1980 Meadowlark Lane, Huron, SD 57350,
(605) 353-1823, 03/02/07

Martha H. Mustard, Supervisory Hydrologist, 1015 Xenophon Street, Golden, CO 80401, (303) 238-2493,
04/01/07

Richard M. Neam, Hydrologic Technician, 12479 W. Bowles Drive, Littleton, CO 80127, (303) 972-1641,
02/03/07

Steven W. Norbeck, Hydrologic Technician, 10004 Kelly Drive, Bismarck, ND 58501, (701) 255-0204,
03/17/07

Ted I. Noyes, Jr., Chemist, P.O. Box 260611, Lakewood, CO 80226, 03/03/07

Richard A. Orr, Lead Hydrologic Technician, 4 Wright Court, Lakewood, CO 80228, (303) 986-8659,
02/03/07

Raymond L. Reed, Hydrologic Technician, 1015 Xenophon Street, Golden, CO 80401, 02/17/07

Paul J. Squillace, Research Hydrologist, 3122 Player Drive, Rapid City, SD 57702, (605) 399-2909,
03/12/07

Ralph W. Teller, Supervisory Hydrologic Technician, 805 Central Blvd., Rapid City, SD 57702,
(605) 342-6453, 02/02/07

Jimmie L. Whitaker, Hydrologic Technician, 1421 Cherry Avenue, Rapid City, SD 57701, 01/31/07

Western Region

Stacey J. Andrews, Secretary, P.O. Box 117D, La Honda, CA 94020, 03/03/07

Rick L. Backsen, Supervisory Hydrologic Technician, 16375 W. Hollister Hills, Post Falls, ID 83854,
(208) 777-0918, 02/02/07

Donna M. Bates, Accounting Technician, 15005 80th Avenue Ct. E., Puyallup, WA 98375, 03/02/07

Janice E. Bowers, Research Botanist, P.O. Box 819, Big Pine, CA 93513, 01/31/07

Carla A. Chamberlain, Information Technician, PO Box 83, La Honda, CA 94020, 03/0/07

Cecily C Chang, Research Hydrologist, 1173 Britton, San Jose, CA 95125, 03/03/07

Steven K. Gallanthine, Hydrologist, 5820 Topp Court, Carmichael, CA 95608, 02/28/07

DIVISION NEWS

Barbara M. Gillespie, Administrative Technician, 3249 W. Flowering Cactus, Tucson, AZ 85745,
(520) 206-0119, 02/28/07

Frances D. Hostettler, Research Chemist, 1214 Rembrandt Drive, Sunnyvale, CA 94087, (408) 773-9276,
03/03/07

Allen F. Moench, Research Hydrologist, 300 Arlington Way, Menlo Park, CA 94025, (650) 328-1072,
02/02/07

Nona P. Myers, Secretary, 1426 Isabelle Avenue, Mt. View, CA 94040, 03/03/07

Thomas E. Porter, Hydrologic Technician, 59 North Drive, Conway, AZ 72034, 02/28/07

Lawrence H. Smith, Supervisory Hydrologist, 4135 Mindt Court, Carmichael, CA 95608, (916) 944-1910,
02/02/07

Roy I. Taogoshi, Hydrologic Technician, 5763 Noni Street, Kapaa Kauai, HI 96746, (808) 822-4825,
03/02/07

Lucenia Thomas, Secretary, 993 Feller Avenue, San Jose, CA 95127, (408) 254-3395, 03/03/07

Sharon T. Touschner, Hydrologic Technician, 12829 Iowa Lane, Scott, AZ 72142, 03/17/07

Clayton H. Yoshida, Hydrologic Technician, P.O. Box 364, Anahola, HI 96703, (808) 822-4642, 02/28/07

Headquarters

Veronica A. Andreani, Program Analyst, 7362 Roxbury Avenue, Manassas, VA 20109, 03/03/07

Naomi C. Krishock, Information Technology Specialist, 324 Silver Ridge Drive, Sterling, VA 20164,
01/03/07

Proposed WRD Budget, FY 2008

The Water Resources program's proposed funding is \$212.5 million in the 2008 budget request, which is \$8.4 million above 2007. One of the chief recommendations of the U.S. Ocean Action Plan is the creation of an interagency National Water Quality Monitoring Network that will address and integrate watershed, coastal waters, and ocean monitoring based on common criteria. The budget includes an increase of \$1.5 million in the Hydrologic Networks and Analysis program, building upon pilot study results that will help begin the implementation of the network. The budget request includes an increase of \$1.7 million for the National Streamflow Information Program, including \$250,000 that would enable installation of three new streamgages in southern California and deployment of storm surge monitors in support of the bureau's ongoing hazards program. The increase of \$1.4 million in NSIP will be used to fully fund ongoing operating costs for the national streamgaging network, reactivate recently discontinued streamgages, supplement operations and maintenance funding for threatened streamgages, stabilize the network, and help reduce the loss of streamgages in the future. The 2008 budget also includes a decrease of \$2.2 million in the Cooperative Water Program for studies that are coming to an end.

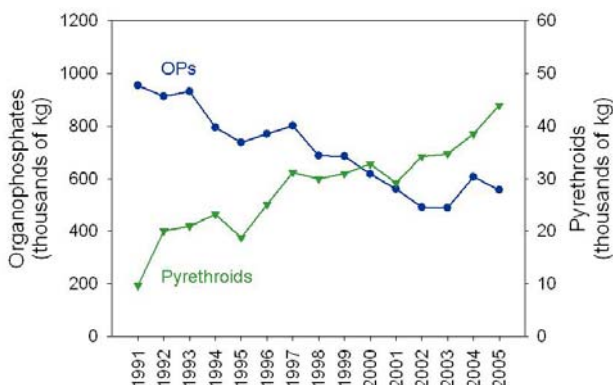
DIVISION NEWS

“RECENT RESEARCH ACTIVITY IN WRD”

News of the WRD National Research Program Matt Larsen, Chief Scientist for Hydrology

Pyrethroids: A Potential Peril?

Pyrethroids are replacing organophosphate (OP) insecticides in agriculture and urban use. Graph shows changing use on orchards in California. Note difference in axes - 20x higher OPs applied than Pyrethroids.

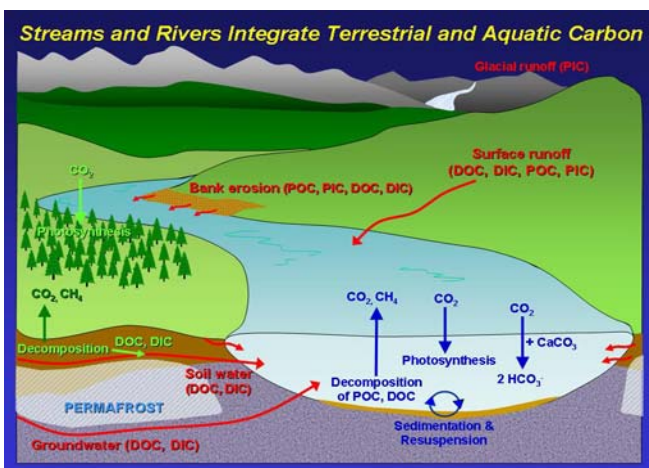


Kathy Kuivila, a researcher at the USGS California Water Science Center in Sacramento, has been working on methods to sample and analyze pesticides such as pyrethroids at environmentally-relevant levels in water, sediments, colloids, and tissue. Her work looks at important processes controlling the fate and bioavailability of pyrethroids in the environment using field and laboratory studies.

Pesticide use changes over time as pests become resistant, environmental problems are discovered or new pesticides are developed. In the past, insecticide use shifted from hydrophobic, persistent organochlorines such as DDT to the more hydrophilic and less persistent organophosphates such as chlorpyrifos and diazinon. Now these

insecticides are being replaced by pyrethroids which are hydrophobic and moderately persistent. This change is shown in the time series graphic below. More importantly, pyrethroids are highly toxic to aquatic invertebrates and fish, especially cold-water fish such as salmon. The use of pyrethroids is increasing in urban and agricultural areas and for control of West Nile virus and other mosquito-transmitted diseases. Water sampling can be problematic since these compounds sorb to container walls. Pyrethroids are being detected more and more frequently in surface waters, especially associated with sediments. Complexation with colloids is potentially an important mechanism for facilitated transport of pyrethroids to ground water.

Plumbing the Carbon Cycle: Terrestrial to Aquatic Linkages of Carbon Export and Exchange



Rob Striegl, with the WRD National Research Program in Denver, CO, serves as a chief of the project entitled: Characterization of Biotic and Biogeochemical Interactions at Environmental Interfaces. Some of his recent work focuses on factors controlling terrestrial-freshwater-atmospheric interactions of carbon, using field studies in the Yukon River basin and other locations as examples.

Hydrology plays an important role in determining the cycling and transport of carbon from uplands, through wetlands and lakes, streams and rivers, and to the marine environment. The graphic shows how streams and rivers integrate terrestrial and aquatic carbon. The relative importance of the

various biogeochemical pathways that determine the production, consumption, and transport of inorganic and organic carbon, carbon dioxide, and methane change with climate. This has consequences on the amount and chemistry of carbon that is exported downstream and/or exchanged with the atmosphere. You can find out more about Rob's work by visiting his project web site at: <http://water.usgs.gov/nrp/proj.bib/striegl.html>

Streamgager Maximus Emeritus Award
Presented
By WRD Retirees
To
Kenneth I. Darmer
USGS Retired, Albany, New York

The February 2007 WRD Retirees Newsletter contained an interesting and well-received article by Bill Schaefer, Hugh Hudson, and Ken Darmer, "Which WRD Retiree measured the maximum discharge?" Ken Darmer is hereby recognized as having measured the maximum discharge. This measurement occurred on the Mississippi River at Vicksburg. Ken says, "In May or June 1943 I made a measurement of 1,944,000 cfs. I don't recall whether my assistant that day was Jimmie Shell or Don Boswell. I recall that I made certain to have my field computations checked, as I was hoping to reach the 2 million mark, but missed it. That flood of the Mississippi resulted in part from the record flood of the Arkansas River. John Saunders, District Engineer in Fort Smith, AR, saw the approaching flood and called for our assistance with the Vicksburg "Rig." Jimmie Shell and I were (happily) "volunteered" for the expedition.

Also, according to Ken, "I was always concerned as to the accuracy of our high-flow measurements. It was disconcerting to look downstream past the railway part of the bridge and see our sounding cable enter the water "way down there!!" We had to recalculate the large air corrections, and at times also the wet line correction, for each velocity observation. Of course these velocities were observed far downstream from where we had recorded the depth. We often made integrated vertical velocity curves (at 0.1 depth intervals) and actually the .2 and .8 values, as well as the .6 value, were pretty close to the integrated result in most cases."

In recognition of having measured the most water in a single discharge measurement, in one channel, with a current meter, WRD Retirees has prepared and will be presenting to Ken a Certificate of Achievement recognizing him as Streamgager Maximus Emeritus. The caveats are to keep some smart-aleck geologist from coming up with a calculation of the humongous flood 18,000 years ago when the Pleistocene-epoch Lake Missoula broke out into the Columbia River basin! The award will be presented at a future local meeting of the WRD Retirees in Albany, NY. Congratulations, Ken. If some other retiree verifies making a current meter measurement with a larger discharge, we will not require you to return your award; we will make another presentation to that hydrologist!

IN MEMORIAM

Daniel G. "Dan" Anderson passed away on February 17, 2007. Dan was born in Seattle, October 5, 1921, and after starting college at the University of Washington in 1939 he worked as a ship fitter in a shipyard near Seattle until he joined the U.S. Navy in 1943. He served aboard a cruiser, the USS Montpelier in WW II. Following the war, he returned to the University of Washington and received his BS in Mechanical Engineering in 1949. He began his WRD career in the Tacoma SW office in 1948 as a Hydraulic Engineer and was assigned to the headquarters SW office, Research Section from 1956-58. From 1959-67, he worked in the VA District SW office. Dan joined the Office of Remote Sensing in 1967, a position he maintained until his retirement in 1980.

Mary Bauer, born in Austin, Texas, passed away March 23, 2007 at the age of 90. Mary began her career with the USGS in April 1954 as a clerk. She worked in the SW Office before that as a State employee. She retired in 1980. Mary was lovingly called Big M by her friends and co-workers. She was a long-time member of St. Mary's Cathedral and St. Ignatius Church, active in the Retired Senior Volunteer Program and Meals on Wheels. She loved traveling--spending one or two months a year in Toledo, Ohio visiting her sister and nephews and nieces. She also cruised frequently. Mary is survived by a brother, Henry J. Bauer; a sister, Helen Mikesell; and numerous nephews and nieces.

Eugene Howard Czajkoski, 78, died Friday, February 16, 2007, in Tallahassee, Florida. He is survived by his wife of 45 years. Later in her career she spent 20 years in the Florida District before retiring in 1991. Eugene was an Army Veteran of the Korean War. A New York native, he earned his Ph.D. in public administration from NYU in 1964. He joined the Florida State faculty in 1966 and was the chairman of the Department of Criminology before becoming the founding Dean of the School of Criminology in 1974.

Willard W. Dean, age 90, passed away on February 19, 2007. Willard was born December 12, 1916, in Glens Falls, New York and received a BS in CE from Union College in 1938. In October 1938, he began his Federal employment as an Engineering Aid for the Federal Power Administration in Washington, DC. He transferred to WRD in 1940 as an Engineer with the SW office in Portland, Oregon. From 1950-53, he worked with the Bonneville Power Administration. He rejoined WRD in the Sacramento SW office where he was the Subdistrict Chief until his retirement in 1973. He was preceded in death by his first wife, Dorothy in 1990. In 1993, Willard moved back to his birthplace, Glens Falls, New York. He is survived by his wife, Muriel; son, Warren; and daughter, Diane Dean Beppu.

James E. Elkins, a native of Hope, Arkansas, died January 7, 2007, at age 81. He was born July 10, 1925. James began his WRD career with the SW office in Jonesboro, Louisiana, in February 1949 as an Engineering Aid. He spent his entire career 30-year career gathering Water Resources data in Louisiana, having retired as a Hydrologic Technician in 1979. He is survived by his wife, Annie, a son, and two daughters.

Lucille Foxhoven passed away on April 5, 2007, after a long battle with lung disease and MS at age 72. Lucille started with the USGS in Denver in 1968. She was appointed as Secretary, WRD Training Center in 1970 and served capably in that position until her retirement in 1988. She came in contact with many WRD folks in that position and was admired and respected by all. Survivors are her husband, Dennis; daughter, Angela Jo Tollefson; sons, Matt and Brian; 4 grandchildren; and sisters, Antoinette DeLuca, and Belinda Christoffersen.

Janice Harrick died March 9, 2007, at age 100. She was preceded in death by her husband Stephen Herrick, a WRD retiree. She is survived by a son, Glenn; a daughter, Katherine Harrick Tutchings; 3 grandchildren; and six great-grandchildren. An Ohio native, Janice was a certified teacher who worked as a librarian for many years. Stephen retired from WRD in 1972. He served as a Geologist in the Georgia District from 1942-72.

Rose Langbein, age 91, passed away on February 13, 2007, in Falls Church, Virginia. Rose was the widow of Walter B. Langbein, prominent WRD Hydrologist who died in 1982. Walter had a distinguished 33-year career in research. His book, "Water Facts for the Nation's Future," co-authored by W.G. Hoyt in 1959, drew attention to the importance of systematic collection of data to the development of water-resources systems. He was instrumental in establishing the International Hydrologic Decade and was the recipient of numerous awards. Rose is survived by a daughter, Laura; son, John; and a grandson, Erik.

Alfred S. "Al" Lowe passed away on May 2, 2007, at age 80, at the Louisiana War Veteran's retirement Home near Baton Rouge, following a lengthy illness with Alzheimer's disease. He was born in Guatemala December 24, 1926. During WWII, he served in the Marine Corps, and at the battle of Iwo Jima he lost an eye, for which he received the Purple Heart. He joined the SW Branch in Baton Rouge in 1951 and served as a hydrologic technician for 33 years, retiring in 1984. After leaving WRD, he served for 7 years in the Drainage Section, Department of Public Works of Baton Rouge. Alfred's special interest was the drainage characteristics of small streams, especially in urban areas.

IN MEMORIAM

He is survived by his wife of 55 years, Catherine Meo Lowe; four children, Kenneth Alfred Lowe, Deborah Lowe Jones, Steven Lowe, and Diane Lowe McKernan; five grandchildren; and one great-grandchild.

David Vane Maddy, 60, died Tuesday, April 3, 2007, at his home in Stockton, Kansas. Dave graduated valedictorian from Stockton High School and went to the University of Kansas to earn his Masters degree in Hydrology. He spent his working life playing many roles, including Mathematician, Geologist, Hydrologist, and Computer Engineer. He worked for the U.S Geological Survey in Kansas, Miami, and Reston. He retired in 1997. Dave was very active in KU Alumni Association, St. Thomas Catholic Church, Ducks Unlimited, Pheasants Forever, National Turkey Federation, Knights of Columbus, The Audubon Society, The Nature Conservancy, The American Heart Association, and the American Red Cross. Survivors include his wife of 41 years, Elaine; 3 children, Shiela Marie Davis; David James Maddy; and Kala Renee Davis; and 3 grandchildren.

Brunius "Bruno" Nemickas passed away on March 22, 2007, in New York, at age 66. Bruno, who emigrated from Lithuania to the United States with his family after World War II, attended City College of New York where he earned his B.S. in Geology (1964). He earned his Master and Ph.D. degrees in geology, respectively, from West Virginia University (1966) and Rutgers University (1975). Bruno began his career with the USGS in 1966, as a hydrologist in the Trenton, New Jersey office and then transferred in 1975 to the Long Island office, at the time in Mineola, New York. In 1980, he was reassigned as Supervisory Hydrologist and from 1996 to his retirement in 2006; Bruno served as Chief of the Long Island office. Bruno will be remembered for his foundational work in describing the hydrology of the South Fork of Long Island, the integrity and leadership he displayed as head of the USGS Long Island office, and his love of the outdoors. He leaves a wife, Jurate; three sons; two grandchildren; two brothers; a large extended family; and many friends and colleagues.

Miriam B. Nyman, wife of WRD Retiree Dale J. Nyman, passed away on March 7, 2007 in Baton Rouge, Louisiana. Miriam was 73. A native of Memphis, Tennessee, she retired after many years of service with the East Baton Rouge Parish school system. Dale was with WRD from 1967 until his retirement in 1987. He began his USGS career as a Geologist with the GW branch in Memphis and also served in Indianapolis and Baton Rouge, where he retired. Miriam is survived by her husband, Dale; a daughter, Joy McEuen; son, Kenneth; and two grandchildren.

Alvin F. "Al" Pendelton, 82, passed away April 15, 2007. A Utah native, he served with the U.S. Army in WW II and received several commendations for his service in New Guinea and Luzon. Al received a BSCE from Utah State in 1949 and immediately began his USGS career in Logan, Utah, with the SW branch. In 1952, he transferred to Lincoln, Nebraska, as a SW specialist. In 1955, he was assigned to the SW reports section in HQ and from 1959-63 was the USGS General Hydrologist in Tehran, Iran. Al was assigned to OWDC in 1965, specializing in Network Planning and Operations. Prior to his 1979 retirement, he served in a number of key USGS positions, including the RALI program. After retiring from the USGS, Al worked on the Southern Asia Projects for the UN and as a private consultant in Oman. A high school and university athlete in football and wrestling, Al was an active as a father in youth sports programs working in Little League and Boy's Club. Al is survived by his wife of 60 years, Donna Bertin Pendelton; sons, Jim, Brian, and John; daughter, Carol; ten grandchildren; and one great grandchild.

Bobby L. Wallace of Scottsdale, Arizona, passed away on February 19, 2007, at the Hospice Cancer Center. He was born in Clayton, North Carolina and served four years in the U.S. Air Force. After his discharge from the Air Force in 1965, he started working for the Water Resources Division of the Geological Survey as a member of the AZ District's construction crew in Tucson. In 1966, he moved to Phoenix as a Hydrologic Technician and worked his way up through the ranks of both the surface-water and ground-water data collection programs to become the first Tempe Field Office Chief. In that position, he directed the field operations for surface-water data collection during the record flooding in Central Arizona in the spring of 1993. He also participated in the installation and operation of one of the largest networks of vertical extensometer installations ever developed to monitor aquifer compaction. He retired in 1994, and is survived by his wife, Patricia; a stepson, James; two grandchildren; and five great grandchildren.

Kenneth B. Young, 91, died on April 3 in Orangevale, California. Ken was born in Maine, graduated from the University of Maine with a degree in Civil Engineering, and joined the WRD in Augusta, Maine, in November, 1938. In 1949, Ken was transferred to Washington, DC where he served in a number of posts until 1960 when he moved to the Madison, Wisconsin office. He completed his career with the WRD in Boston, retiring to Florida in 1974 with his wife, Louise, who passed away two years ago. They moved to California in 1994 to be close to their two sons in Sacramento and Walnut Creek. He is survived by his two sons, Bradford and Randolph; two grandchildren; and two great grandchildren.

Local Meetings and Gatherings

Three veterans and a relative rookie celebrate George Ferguson's 101st Birthday at the "April HQ WRD Retirees Meeting"



L to R: Bill Schaefer (94), George Ferguson (101), Hal Langford (a young 81) and George Edelen (95)

Montana Retirees



L to R: Dave Hanson, Tom Reed, Gary Rogers, Bob Omang

Denver Area WRD Retirees Spring Lunch 2007



L to R: (Standing) Charlotte Peterson, 'Pete' Peterson, Dick Hadley, Bob Meade, Warren Teasdale, Gerhard Kuhn, John McLean, Hugh Hudson, Don Goolsby, Merilee Bennett, Jim Bennett, Ernie Cobb, John George, Joel Schuetz, Jack Weeks, Jim Blakey, Paula Blakey, Dick Luckey, Ivan James, Doug Posson, Bob Brennan, Jerry Duncan, Karen Lystrom, Dave Lystrom, John Moore. (Seated) Tom Lyons, Dee Teasdale, Becky Hudson, Ivan Johnson, Rudy Dosch, Bernice Cobb, Toni Watkins, Lee George, John Monis, Elaine Brennan, Margaret Olsen, Sandra Duncan (On Floor) Russ Livingston, Anita Livingston, Bill Kastner, Barbara Kastner

Local Meetings and Gatherings

Idaho Retirees at their April 16th Meeting in Boise



L to R: (Front Row) Glen Sisco, Mike Jones, Bill Harenberg, Barbara Pinkerton, Jerry Lindholm, Glenna Wilson and Luther Kjelstrom
L to R: (Back Row) Richard Helton, Frank Youngkin, Bob Luscombe, Linda Chanel, Glenda Blessing w/ Penny, Lios Douglas, Mary Donato, Bob Harper and Iva Lou O'Dell

New Jersey Retirees Luncheon



L to R: (Back Row) Ted Ehlke, Dave McCartney, Al Brown, Don Vaupel, Herb Freiberger, Fred Schaefer
L to R: (Front Row) Butch Grossman, Jean Brown, Tom Barringer, Bill Baurfeld, Woody Centerino

Louisiana Retirees at their March 2007 Luncheon



L to R: (Standing) Don Dial, George Cardwell, Mike Gaydos, Ann Gaydos, Darwin Knochenmus, John Musser, Will Martin
L to R: (Seated) Gen Floyd, Carmela Calandro, Elinor Sloss, Nancy Musser, Catherine Lowe

TREASURER'S REPORT, FIRST QUARTER 2007

Treasurer Celso Puente reports that the organization had \$7,842.41 in its treasury at the end of the first quarter for calendar year 2007. Receipts for the quarter were \$10,532.00 from dues and contributions. Disbursements for the quarter were \$4,046.36 for printing and mailing of Newsletters 133 and 134.

During the quarter a total of \$1,294.00 was received in contributions from 111 members. Special thanks for contributions above dues go to: Harold Gill, Lorraine West, Les Laird, Robert W. Boulger, Dewitt and Rose Kelley, Celso Puente, Harold P. Guy, C.T. Welborn, Linda and William "Bill" Carswell, Thomas B. "Tom" Shepard, Margaret Olsen, Bert Thomsen, Mrs. Harold McGovern, Robert MacNish, William Emmett, Arnold I. Johnson, Vincent D. Herreid, Loren Young, Gordon Chase Tibbets, Philip Carpenter, Richard McCullough, Keith V. Slack, James Blakey, Lloyd Stulken, Jerry Larson, Roger Waller, Clarence Anderson, Lawrence Becker, Alfred Lowe, Lessie Runner, James R. Rollo, Verne Schneider, David B. Grove, Francis Flynn, Ernest Hubbard, Joseph Upton, Charles Lane, Robert Steacy, Daniel Bauer, James A. Miller, Oscar G. Lara, James E. Biesecker, Jillian Brunett, Linda E. Meadows, Caroline A. Watkins, G. Allan and Jean L. Brown, Robert J. Longfield, Stanley Sauer, Charles R. Collier, William G. Shope, Bruce Parks, David Moody, James E. Luzier, Dorothy Walker, Melvin Edwards, Ivan Burmeister, Ronald Allen, Edith Chase, Lessie Runner, Charles Swift, Charles Tate, Joseph Upton, Eileen Smith, Peter Anttila, Milton Hackett, Marion Hines, Joel Schuetz, Harvey Jobson, Robert Bubeck, Paul Grantham, Terence Danielson, Orville B. Lloyd, Robert Hammond, Charles Lane, Robert Steacy, Raymond George, Kenneth Vanlier, Gordon D. Bennett, Vincent C. Lai, George R. Dempster, Thomas H. Yorke, Robert Baltzer, Norman E. Hutchison, John Kerestes, Donald Rima, Donald Price, Richmond Brown, Irvin Kantrowitz, Donald C. Helm, Carl G. Kroll, James A. Miller, James B. Baker, Leonard A. Wood, Steven W. Anderson, Edward Bolke, Jack Kume, Michael T. Butcher, Mervin Petersen, Robert Perry, Briane D. Adams, Daniel and Elaine Gockel, Donald Goolsby, Gale McMurtrey, John Scott, Richard Snyder, Loretta Conroy, and Warren Teasdale.

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