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WRD RETIREES

NEWSLETTER 159

May 2013

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

I hope when you read the February Newsletter it was clear that the word, "**volunteer**," was highlighted a number of times. Over four months of my second year as president has past, which indicates that someone will have to be volunteering to assume the President's and Secretary's positions of our great organization. Our secretary of eleven years, Bill Boning, is calling it quits at the end of this year due to making a move from his home in Herndon, VA. Bill will surely be missed because he does much behind the scenes that helps keep the WRD Retirees on the straight and narrow! Should anyone have a nominee for either of these positions and can get the person's permission to run for either, it would be greatly appreciated. We could use some competition so we can put the name(s) up for a vote. Please contact any officer to discuss a potential nominee.

Again this year, here in the Washington, D.C. area, the winter was on the cold side, but very light on snow. A couple of our light snows only required the use of my leaf blower to clear three vehicles and the driveway. On the other hand, spring just didn't want to arrive, with colder than normal temperatures, causing our famous cherry blossoms to show up later than predicted. Now that the sun is shining brightly, we broke some high temperature records, and the yard work is taking over.

The headquarters Retirees have their lunch meetings on the first Monday of each month from September through May, being off during the summer months. The number of WRD retirees has been shrinking at our lunches, but since we invited the Geologic Division Retirees to have lunch with us, we are still having between 20 and 30 in attendance. A good many members live 30, 40, and 50 miles away, so we get different ones attending each meeting. I send email invitations to 70-80 members, but many don't respond to the request. Sometimes a new face shows up and surprises us. A good number of our regular members have serious medical problems that keep them from attending; others are absent due to retirement travel.

The month of May is the time for the WRD Retirees Directory to be updated. We appreciate receiving information about any changes to the Directory whether it be addresses, phone numbers, the death of a member or a spouse, or changes to our representatives across the nation. We print the directory in May and send it out to each member. Please don't forget to keep us up-to-date on happenings in your life, just to keep in touch with your friends and co-workers.

Our Newsletter Editor, Charles Nethaway, is again preparing to enter another session of chemo due to a growth on his rib cage. He is facing this new round with a positive attitude but could use much support during this time of torment.



Thanks for the 39th Edition of the WRD Retirees Directory, May 2013

Our Directory helps us reach our organization's goal, "**Keeping Retirees Connected**." We gather names, addresses, phone numbers, email addresses, and other information about our group of over 1,300 members. "**Thanks!**" to the people who made the 2013 Directory possible: Tom Yorke, the editor; Al Condes who selected the cover photos and Annette Goode-Ledford from the Office of Surface Water who formatted the cover page; Bill Boning who maintains the database; Andy Anderson who reviewed the "District Contacts" and "Local Meetings and Gatherings;" and the volunteers who assemble the annual mailing. "**Enjoy!**"

What's New in Research?
Jerad Bales, Acting Associate Director for Water

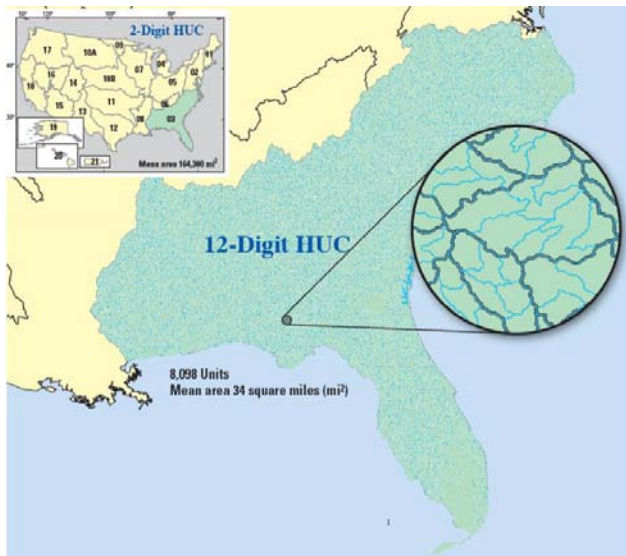
Progress toward establishing a national assessment of water availability and use

Earlier this year, USGS released a report to Congress on progress toward completing a National Water Census. The last water census was completed in 1978. This new report presents the history and background of and the need for a Water Census. It describes the initial steps taken toward accomplishing the Water Census, which is designed to systematically provide information that will allow resource managers to assess the water availability of the Nation.

The USGS has leveraged existing studies and activities from ongoing USGS programs to enhance efforts toward a Water Census. The USGS also engaged stakeholders to establish priorities for work in surface water, groundwater, evapotranspiration, water use, and environmental flow science—all key areas for the Water Census. An important component of the Water Census includes focused studies in basins where significant water use conflicts or shortages have occurred or are occurring. The three focus area studies are in the Delaware, Colorado, and Apalachicola-Chattahoochee-Flint River basins.

Five important topical areas are addressed as part of the Water Census. (1) The Water Census will improve on existing surface water information that currently is available for ungaged locations by providing estimates of monthly streamflow through a StreamStats-like application

(<http://streamstats.usgs.gov>). (2) The Water Census will leverage Groundwater Resources Program studies and assessments to accelerate assessment of the Nation's groundwater resources. (3) Existing satellite imagery will be used to provide detailed estimates of evapotranspiration over broad areas in order to develop HUC-12 water budgets. (4) Better water use information on withdrawals, conveyance, consumptive use, and return flow by sector will be provided. (5) Environmental flow science, which is the study of the quantity, timing, and quality of water flow and storage required to sustain ecological and human needs, will be addressed by providing resource managers with tools to compare altered and natural flow regimes for determining effects of streamflow alteration on aquatic ecosystems.



A goal of the Water Census is to deliver measured or estimated information on all components of the water budget at the HUC-12 scale (average basin size = 100 km²) and at monthly time scales. To the extent possible, USGS will strive to quantify or estimate the uncertainty associated with Water Census products.

More information on the National Water Census is available in the progress report (<http://pubs.er.usgs.gov/publication/cir1384>) and at the Water Census web site (<http://water.usgs.gov/watercensus/>).

2014 Maine Reunion – Before We Know It!

Derrill Cowing, Chair of the Maine Reunion which is scheduled for autumn 2014, is already looking for potential venues where we Retirees can enjoy ourselves. Portland, Maine and the vicinity will be the location. Lobsters, steamed clams and local breweries are likely to feature prominently in the program. Viewing of spectacular autumn foliage, cruises to Casco Bay Islands, a trip to Freeport outlets (and of course LL Beans), and other entertainment options are being investigated.

Mark your calendars for heading to New England in the fall of 2014. We hope to see many retirees and guests, new faces and people who have been to many a past reunion. Come one, come all.

Tim Rowe Receives Wendell McCurry Award

The Nevada Division of Environmental Protection presented its annual Wendell McCurry award to Tim Rowe at a ceremony on December 4, 2012 in Carson City in recognition of Rowe's contribution to water quality protection and education in Nevada.

Established in 1999 to honor Wendell McCurry and memorialize his long-term commitment to water quality protection and improvement, the McCurry award acknowledges individuals, agencies and other organizations for outstanding water quality protection and improvement efforts. Rowe's work spans more than 30 years with the U.S. Geological Survey and Nevada Water Science Center in Carson City.



Recently retired from USGS, Rowe is pursuing another of his great passions, cycling. He currently works at the Nevada Department of Transportation as a transportation planner in the bicycle and pedestrian section.

Above, Tim Rowe, formerly of the Nevada Water Science Center, with his wife Hank (Harriett) and son Christopher, holds the Wendell McCurry

NEWS OF RETIREES

Ted Arnow of Salt Lake City sent his dues, including advance years "that should cover until I'm over 100 years old!"

Gil Bertoldi of Wilton, CA, sent his dues along with a contribution to the treasury and said, "Hope all is well with you."

Edward "Bush" Boyd of Ashland City, TN says, "Thanks for the great job you are doing. The Hydro Tech Scholars are very impressive. Keep up the good selection process."

Richmond and Lee Brown wrote from North Carolina that they "are still enjoying the winters in western North Carolina. Way more rain than during what has been considered a normal year and 70-degree days, very different from our Michigan winters. We are both reasonably healthy and able to walk a couple of miles or more every day. We think the hills here are what keep us healthy. Look forward to getting the newsletter. Thanks for putting it together for all of us!"

Robert Cory of Dunkirk, Maryland sent us this nice update: "Thank you for the most recent WRD newsletter. I enjoy reading about all the Chapter activities and retiree updates, so I have decided to contribute my update from Dunkirk, MD. I am a healthy and active 86 year old man. However, two years ago I experienced severe back pain. I went to Chiropractor, Dr. Josh. The initial treatment was severely painful back manipulations. Alternatively, Dr. Josh treated me once a week for eight weeks with electro therapy, which felt like someone gently stroking my lower back. At the same time, I self-administered apitherapy of over 40 beestings. ('Bee stings as therapy? Apitherapy can treat arthritis and more.' *Natural Health News*. Retrieved 27 Feb. 2013(http://www.naturalnews.com/028370_apitherapy_bee_stings.html)).

I also consulted with my Physical Therapist grandson, Dr. Dan. Both Dr. Dan and Dr. Josh advised me against surgery and steroid shots. Over a period of about three months, I progressed from bedridden, to a walker, and then a cane. I received a second opinion from an Orthopedic Surgeon, who put me through a painful series of X-rays and MRI scans only to confirm Dr. Josh's diagnosis of ruptured disc and lower spinal stenosis. At the present time and except for morning stiffness, I am back to my active lifestyle of daily chores doing yard work, Christmas tree farming, gardening, beekeeping, and daily walks. Do not rush into invasive procedures where the back is concerned. In comparison, my older sister had the identical diagnosis from X-rays, etc., but opted for steroid shots and surgery. She can barely walk now and is close to being wheelchair bound. An article about backs in UCLA Medical Center brochure acknowledged that '*Most back problems will get better on their own. The key is to know when you need to seek medical help and when self-care measures will allow you to get better*'. ('Low back pain--chronic.' *UCLA Health System* 007422, 2009: n. page. *UCLA Health System*. Retrieved from Web, 27 Feb. 2013.) As for the rest of my family, my wife of 65 years, Jane, has recovered from a bout of bronchitis, a touch of pneumonia, and a blood clot in her right leg. I am greatly relieved and thankful that she is also back to her daily routines. My 5 children, 12 grandchildren, and 14 great grandchildren are all well. I am truly a blessed man."

Jim Daniel wrote a letter on the Distributed Information System, days of transition from the USGS mainframe. "Hey **Charles, Doug Posson** and I exchange real-life anecdotes, gossip, memories, etc. frequently. Some of them are computer based. I broached the subject of a 'history' to him not too long ago. But, after a little thought, we decided we didn't have the energy to do it right (I understand what's going on with the Pope Emeritus). And, as Doug pointed out, the WRD History Volume VIII has a good bit of info in it about the DIS. That 1979-1994 history, though, does not capture the introduction of computing, data processing, and related junk into the WRD. It doesn't relate that Charlie Showen BUILT an analog data processing computer early on. It doesn't relate that in the early 60's, the Surface Water folks (I was one) began computing streamflow in the office with a Burroughs 220 'Datatron' centrally located in Arlington (no terminals, just brute force transmission by snail mail). Then there was the IBM 1620 that I used to program (in original Fortran) computation of the 6 types of culvert flow at crest-stage gage sites. The machine choked on that and it had to be broken into 2 parts. Of course, in general society, there was the early IBM card architecture used for many Federal buildings (rows of windows resemble punch cards, get it?). As an aside, the first 'portable' machine I used was a Texas Instruments thing that used heat-sensitive paper. However -- if you decide to go ahead with your idea of a column/section in the newsletter, it might be a lot of fun and draw out stories from many retirees that might not otherwise contribute. That would be a good thing. You could start with soliciting short stories from the group that got together at the Boise conclave last year. You could entitle the section, 'Bits & Bytes.' 🤖"

[Editor's Note: The Texas Instruments Silent 700 was what I used when programming the IBM mainframe in Reston while sitting, or standing, at home on South Washington Street in Denver, all times of day and night. Cool stuff way back when...]



NEWS OF RETIREES

GINNA DINGMAN reported that **Bob Dingman** had a stroke in early April of this year. He is doing well and is back at home after three weeks in the hospital and rehabilitation center. He is undergoing therapy to restore some areas of speech and motor skill. Bob and Ginna live in Normal, IL, and the "good" part of the story is that Bob had the stroke when he was at the Normal Hospital visiting Ginna who had pneumonia at the time. Hence, he was immediately taken care of, and quick help leads to some of the best prognoses in the case of a stroke. Bob and Ginna's contact information is in the WRD Retirees Directory.

Bill Emmett of Littleton, CO sent us his check for dues along with a contribution for the good of the organization." He also says, "**Andy, Bill, Charles**, and others in Reston; thanks for keeping the organization going. All is well in the Emmett household. I had promised myself to retire from a second career in consulting when I turned 75; I'm past that now so maybe this is the year to start cutting grass and shoveling snow rather than working for a living. Of course, if our drought continues, I won't have much grass or snow to worry about."

Shirley Hidalgo writes, "We are now snowbirds, alternating between Denver and San Diego. We will be in San Diego through July 2013. Please let me know by mail or phone about dues as our computer is not hooked up. Thank you and Sincerely, Shirley."

Richard Hollway, new retiree from Portland, OR wishes us well for 2013. He says, "Happy New Year! 2012 included many milestones for our family. Nancy and Richard visited Evanston to see 'Fedora,' the dance production that their son, Grover, wrote and directed at Northwestern University. Rhoda Hollway, my mother, celebrated her 90th birthday with family, friends, and BINGO in Arizona. Richard celebrated his retirement from the USGS with 33 years of service, shown here with Nancy and long-time colleague and friend Melanie. We wish you and yours a prosperous and happy 2013!"



Penny M. Johnson from Grant, LA says, "Thanks so much for your 'grace period' on the dues! I really do appreciate that. Here is my 'catch up.' Thanks again!"

Les and Thelma Laird of Tacoma, WA write, "First let me add our names to the every-increasing-wave of 'Thanks' that many have been voicing to the Officers and Staff of the Retirees for your efforts in keeping this great, viable organization going. Your work is appreciated. Second, enclosed are my dues and some extra for the scholarship fund. Third, the Laird update: The last eight months have been somewhat life changing for us. In July, Thelma 'blacked out' while driving home and the car went in the ditch. Her Angel was on her shoulder because she wasn't seriously hurt, but it did take a short hospital stay and two months of rest and therapy for her recovery. She has been having a few memory problems. With this in mind we decided to 'pull the trigger' on down-sizing our life, and in December moved to the Tacoma Lutheran Retirement Community. It was a traumatic move and we would never have accomplished it without the help of our three kids and their spouses. We had 28 years since our last move and we had a mountain of stuff to donate to Goodwill and local Church and a mountain of stuff that Thelma couldn't part with. So now we live with stuffed closets and two stuffed storage areas. We were just getting settled in when Les started having a few physical problems, which led to a CT Scan and an endoscopy and a diagnosis of pancreatic cancer. The only 'cure' is an 8-10 hour surgery and the doc's say I'm too old to have a good chance of surviving that; so we fight a delaying action. The good news is that it seems to be slow-growing, so I'll be hanging in there for a while yet. Our mailing address and phone number have changed; the email address is the same. New address: 1707 North Vassault Street Unit 2-4, Tacoma, WA 98406. Our new phone number is 253-759-3456. Best regards!"

Irene Leafer-Levine of Palo Alto, CA, tells us, "You do a great job on the Newsletter! The years fly by faster each year. It is always interesting. Enclosed are some funds for dues and contribution."

NEWS OF RETIREES

Joe McIntyre of Bakersfield, CA tells us, "Lila and I are still experimenting with our teen years, 'never grow old, never give up.' Here are a couple of pictures of our new things in our life. The car is a 1939 Ford convertible, the dog is Frankie, a mini Labradoodle. Both are a hoot and more fun than a kid otta have!!!"



Roger Morin, now of Friendship, ME tells us that he has moved from Colorado to Friendship after retirement. "Am now sea kayaking, eating *lobstah*, and teaching part-time at a nearby college."

Charles Nethaway of Reston is confronting a return of his multiple myeloma (MM) only six months after finishing his 2012 chemotherapy. "I resumed chemotherapy in April 2013 to shrink a plasmacytoma on the upper right ribcage, which was a surprising relapse. MM sometimes produces these tumors outside of, but attached to, the skeleton. I'm optimistic that a few months of a 3-drug 'combo-chemo' will put me into a longer remission. In fact, by early May the tumor had practically disappeared! In other family news, my youngest daughter, Alpha Morris, is off for her second deployment to Afghanistan and her fifth deployment to the region. My oldest granddaughter, Elizabeth Nethaway, will be my first grandchild to graduate from college, graduating from Western Kentucky University in May. So, I am very proud of Alpha and Elizabeth. Go, Girls!"

Franklin Olmsted of Palo Alto, CA reported, "My wife, Jean, and I pull up thistles in our local Foothills Park-Nature Preserves, and we attend monthly lunches with local WRD Retirees."

Kim Otto writes from Tremont, PA, "Thanks for the newsletters and keep up the good work."

Stanley Sauer from Fredericksburg, TX, sent us a nice note, "Greetings from Texas! I trust that all is well with you and the others in the national officers. I appreciate very much all the work that you and the other officers do to prepare the newsletter to keep us all informed as well as all the other work to keep the organization strong and moving forward. Along with my dues, please find an additional contribution. Regarding news, it has been a quiet year with most activity related to the family – three more grandchildren graduating from high school this year, along with one recent graduation from college. We enjoyed the college graduation very much as it was at my alma mater, the University of Texas at Austin ('Hook 'em Horns!'), so far the only one of the six to graduate from UT. Six more to go – there is still hope! All the snow back East from Nemo certainly brought back memories of the March 1993 snow storm which coincided with my retirement party – hard to believe it has been 20 years. I left my snow shovel in Reston and haven't missed it! Best wishes to all and thanks again to all the retirees that work so hard to maintain our organization and keep us informed.

Elaine and Herb Stevens report, "It is winter in Colorado – many times over after some spring-like days. Herb enjoys the WRD Newsletter. A check for dues is enclosed. Herb has not sat at the computer for several years -- which used to be his working life. He has short-term memory problems, but he knows all of his friends and converses with anyone who may be visiting. He talks to the little kids. Herb plays Jeopardy very well if science or math problems are the answer, and he gets words before I do on the WHEEL!! Isn't that the old folk's game of all time? Right now, he has been hospitalized for fluid retention, but is at Johnson Care Center for rehab. He may get to come home this weekend. We shall see. My role is chief caregiver which I am happy to do after 61 years of marriage – add a half a year to that now too. Two daughters, Jeni and Paula, and their families, live close to us and are very helpful, along with sons-in-law, Bob and Gary. Four grands also are available – but college and work or job-hunting complicate some available time. Fourth daughter, Sandi, and her husband, Chris, and family live in Pueblo. Eldest daughter, Bev, Scott, and Brent are in Oregon City, Oregon. Their eldest, Reid, is soon off to Law School in Moscow, Idaho. His music degree from Boise State was wonderful. But – work?? Reid's wife, Ari, just graduated with her B.S. in Nursing. Another job hunt. Pueblo granddaughter, Ashley, is a freshman at Colorado State, as is a cousin, Andrew Ellermann, a junior at the school. Youngest grand is Josh, now a freshman in high school, and the catcher for the JVF baseball team at Centennial. He's the best athlete of the five grandsons. Special thanks go to the hard working staff of the newsletter and to all those that contribute articles. We have been unable to get to many of the functions for the retirees in the Denver area but appreciate the notification of breakfast times and luncheons. Thanks, everyone! Sincerely, Herb Stevens and ES too..."

NEWS OF RETIREES

Neil Stuthman writes, "Here are my dues. In my senile ways I have trouble getting things right the first time around... Keep up the good work!!"

John E. Terry writes from Alexander, AR, "Enclosed are my dues and contact information. I retired in October 2010, with nearly 44 years of service, the last 10 years as Director of the Arkansas Water Science Center."

Pat Tucci and Zelda Bailey tell us, "We've done a bit of island travelling in the past six months. In December we went to the Caribbean island of St. Kitts for a week. In April we took advantage of Icelandair's direct Denver-Reykjavik flights to visit Iceland for eight days. Although we didn't get to see the northern lights, we did have a great time on this very scenic island. Between the volcanic, geothermal, and glacial features, it's a geologist's dream spot. Our mineral/jewelry business continues to do well and it keeps us busy. Fortunately, we both are healthy and that allows us to do the things that we like."

Russ and Pat Wagner had a busy year in 2012. "In February we had a week long Caribbean cruise, visiting Key West, Bahamas, and Cozumel, as part of Pat's Red Hat group. In April we took a two week Mediterranean cruise from Barcelona to Venice. In October we took a Grand Circle River cruise from Antwerp to Basel, Switzerland. We spent a week exploring the beautiful Alps and lakes near Luzerne. A highlight of this trip was that we took a side trip to Spiez, Switzerland where my father grew up before immigrating to the US in 1920. We found the house where he lived which had changed little from pictures my parents took in the 1960s. As usual we spent June to September at our Ontario cottage. The rest of the time was spent building sets for our local amateur theatre and supporting local medical facilities. We've also visited our daughters' families in Herndon and Rochester. All of the grandchildren are now in colleges. Our oldest grandson has one year remaining in Civil Engineering at the University of Buffalo and is quite interested in a career in Water Resources, perhaps with USGS. Not a great economy for budding hydrologists. We are looking forward to the next reunion in Maine, one of our favorite states after having lived there for over four years with USGS."

Mike Winner of Raleigh, NC, says, "Hi, Hope all's well with you and yours!"

Ruth Yeager-Thornberg sends us a contribution for the scholarship fund along with a note, "Thanks, **Bill**, for the information. I totally enjoyed our Boise Reunion and am looking forward to our Maine Reunion next year. Thanks again!"

NEWS OF RETIREES

Butch Grossman honored on 96th Birthday

Butch Grossman is still working about one day a week as a consultant for the New Jersey Water Science Center. His home is in the Martins Run Retirement Community in Pennsylvania, about 60 miles from the Survey office in Trenton, NJ, so he does most of his work, which is editing, at home and sends edited manuscripts back by snail mail. On February 28th, his colleagues honored him with a party for his 96th birthday in Trenton. About 25 staff employees turned out for the birthday cake and celebration.

Butch drew a big laugh when he recounted a story told to him way back in 1968 by **Hugh Miser**, the legendary editor for the USGS. It seems that the venerable Miser got into an editing argument with a USGS geologist. The geologist saw nothing wrong with a sentence he had written. "Many of the people lived in the valleys and their bottoms were covered with palm trees."!

Butch and his wife, **Ann**, find a lot to do on the Martins Run 22-acre campus, whether it is physical activity or intellectual stimulation. Butch studied philosophy and geology in Brooklyn College and Columbia University; and Ann, classical studies at Cornell and the University of Michigan. They met while working on the play, "Uncle Harry," in an Albany, NY theater. It was in Albany where Butch joined the Survey as a geologist for the WRD Ground-Water Branch in 1949. The Grossmans went to Puerto Rico for Butch's next assignment, then back stateside to Hartford, CT; then to the Reston Scientific Publications Section under **Gene Hampton** and **Kathy Iseri**; and finally back to the New Jersey District where Butch retired in 1986. The Grossmans have now been married 56 years.

Scientist Emeritus Harry Lins Elected President of WMO's Commission for Hydrology



Harry Lins of the Office of Surface Water was elected President of the World Meteorological Organization's (WMO) Commission for Hydrology (CHy) at its Fourteenth Session in November 2012. Harry has represented USGS and the United States at WMO activities for 25 years, and has been a member of the Commission's Advisory Working Group since 2004. As president, he is responsible for representing CHy within WMO and at other UN water-related organizations, such as UNESCO. He also oversees the work activities of the Commission as chairman of its Advisory Working Group. Currently those activities include quality management systems in hydrology; data operations and management; water resources assessment; hydrological forecasting and prediction; and water, climate and risk management.

Harry began his USGS career in 1971, and came to WRD in 1982 as a member of the Branch of Systems Analysis. In 1989, he became coordinator of the Survey's Global Change Hydrology Program, and joined the Office of Surface Water in 1995. In 1999, he and Dave Wolock (KS WSC) developed WaterWatch (<http://waterwatch.usgs.gov/>), the USGS website of maps, graphs, and tables describing real-time, recent, and past streamflow conditions for the United States. A specialist in hydroclimatology and stochastic hydrology, his research activities have focused principally on characterizing the surface water response to climate, with an emphasis on regional streamflow variability, long-term trends, and the statistical techniques appropriate for such analyses. He is the author of more than 60 scientific and technical papers. Harry retired at the end of 2012, but remains in the Office of Surface Water as a Scientist Emeritus.

Our Web Site

<http://www.wrdretirees.org/>

In addition to our retirees' luncheons and gatherings, newsletter, and reunions, we have a great web site that provides a lot of details about all facets of our organization. For instance, it has copies of our Newsletters going back to May 2006 and the Supplements since they began in May 2012. The web site also includes detailed contact and location information about all of the local retirees' meetings, Reunions, District Contacts, Officers, Constitution and Bylaws, Historical Notes, Scholarships, Application Forms, as well as a pointer to the public USGS WRD Website. An example of what we have on the site is the scholarship program which is explained quite well as follows.

WRD Retirees Scholarship for Hydrologic Technicians

Hydrologic Technicians enjoy a well-deserved reputation of delivering high-quality data products that meet local, state, and National needs. Praise for these employees comes from groups both internal and external to the USGS. These folks are often referred to as the "backbone" of the water program. To honor these fine folks, WRD Retirees created a scholarship program for Hydrologic Technicians. WRD Retirees presented a proposal in the May 2006 Newsletter to establish an annual \$1,500 Scholarship for Hydrologic Technicians. The membership of WRD Retirees showed overwhelming support for the Hydrologic Technician Scholarship with 96% of the voting members in favor. Beginning with the scholarships awarded in 2009, WRD Retirees decided to award two scholarships annually, one for \$1,500 and a second for \$1,000. In 2010 the scholarships were increased to \$3,000 and \$2,000.

Several institutions currently offer university level training specific for Hydrologic Technicians: GateWay Community College in Phoenix, AZ; Vermilion Community College in Ely, MN; Spokane Community College, in Spokane, WA and Western Dakota Technical Institute in Rapid City, SD are schools that USGS has experience with. They each offer a two-year program that leads to an Associate Degree as a Hydrologic Technician.

Selection Process:

WRD Retirees appointed the Immediate Past President and Vice-President to establish a procedure to identify and select candidates. With assistance from the Director, Colorado Water Science Center, and the Central Region Human Resources Officer, they developed a plan that works well. Students from all schools offering a 2-year program leading to an Associate Degree as a Hydrologic Technician are eligible. Each eligible student is asked to answer:

- What College are you currently attending?
- What are your career goals?
- Why do you want to work for the USGS?
- Where are you willing to accept USGS employment?
- What has been your best experience during your internship with the USGS?

A group of WRD Retirees meets to evaluate the applicants. The answers to the above questions, their academic performance and the evaluation of their USGS supervisors are considered.

Sally Jewell Gets to Work as Secretary of the Interior

WASHINGTON, D.C. 04/15/2013. Assuming her responsibilities as the 51st Secretary of the Interior, Sally Jewell spent her first full day in the office meeting some of the Department's more than 70,000 employees. She also began to hold meetings on important issues before the Department, including energy development, conservation, Indian Affairs and youth engagement. During brief remarks to employees who greeted Secretary Jewell as she entered the main Interior building in Washington, D.C., Jewell underscored her commitment to public service. "There is no higher calling than public service, and I am honored and humbled to be serving as your Secretary of the Interior," Jewell said. "At Interior, we have vast responsibilities to the American people, from making smart decisions about the natural resources with which we have been blessed, to honoring our word to American Indians and Alaska Natives."



"Our public lands are huge economic engines for the nation," added Jewell. "From energy development to tourism and outdoor recreation, our lands and waters power our economy and create jobs. I look forward to working with you all to ensure that we are managing our public lands wisely and sustainably so that their multiple uses are available for the generations to come."

Jewell was officially sworn in on Friday, April 12 at the Supreme Court of the United States. Retired Justice Sandra Day O'Connor administered the oath of office. O'Connor and Jewell worked together on the National Parks Second Century Commission, an independent commission charged with developing a twenty-first century vision for the National Park Service. As Secretary of the Interior, Jewell leads an agency with more than 70,000 employees. Interior serves as steward for approximately 20 percent of the nation's lands, including national parks, national wildlife refuges, and other public lands; oversees the responsible development of conventional and renewable energy supplies on public lands and waters; is the largest supplier and manager of water in the 17 Western states; and upholds trust responsibilities to the 566 federally recognized American Indian tribes and Alaska Natives.

Prior to her confirmation, Jewell served in the private sector, most recently as President and Chief Executive Officer of Recreation Equipment, Inc. (REI). Jewell joined REI as Chief Operating Officer in 2000 and was named CEO in 2005. During her tenure, REI nearly tripled in business to \$2 billion and was consistently ranked one of the 100 best companies to work for by Fortune Magazine. Before joining to REI, Jewell spent 19 years as a commercial banker, first as an energy and natural resources expert and later working with a diverse array of businesses that drive our nation's economy.

Trained as a petroleum engineer, Jewell started her career with Mobil Oil Corp. in the oil and gas fields of Oklahoma and the exploration and production office in Denver, Colo. where she was exposed to the remarkable diversity of our nation's oil and gas resources. An avid outdoorswoman, Jewell finds time to explore her backyard in the Pacific Northwest where she enjoys skiing, kayaking, hiking and other activities. She has scaled Mount Rainier on seven occasions, and recently climbed Vinson Massif, the highest mountain in Antarctica.

Over her career, Jewell has worked to ensure that public lands are accessible and relevant to all people from all backgrounds. "We have a generation of children growing up without any connection to nature," said Jewell. "From our urban parks to the vast lands of the BLM, the Department of the Interior is well positioned to build a deep and enduring connection between the great outdoors and a new generation of Americans and visitors."

Jewell is a graduate of the University of Washington. She and her husband, Warren, have two adult children, Peter and Anne. You can welcome Secretary Jewell to the Department of the Interior by following her at www.twitter.com/SecretaryJewell.

DOI Press Contact: Jessica Kershaw (DOI), 202-208-6416

Marcia McNutt Steps Down as USGS Chief

The director of the U.S. Geological Survey, Marcia McNutt, stepped down from her post in February and is heading back to California. McNutt was seen as part of the Obama administration's scientific "dream team": a group of prominent researchers who had agreed to come to Washington early in the president's first term. Another member of that group, Jane Lubchenco, left as director of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. McNutt, a geophysicist, had been president and CEO of California's Monterey Bay Aquarium Research Institute for 12 years before joining the survey in 2009. In an email sent to staffers entitled "Early Edition of the Monday Message: All Good Things Must Come to an End," McNutt noted that she wanted to remain until the launch of the long-awaited Landsat 8 satellite, scheduled for February. Deputy Director Suzette Kimball has been named acting director. It is likely to be months before McNutt's successor is in place, given that the position requires Senate confirmation.



Dr. Alan D. Thornhill Becomes Director, USGS Office of Science Quality and Integrity



Dr. Alan D. Thornhill has been appointed the new Director of the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) Office of Science Quality and Integrity, effective February 4, 2013 according to Deputy Director Suzette M. Kimball. He will be based in Reston, Virginia. Alan joins USGS from the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM), where he was the Chief Environmental Officer and the Science Advisor to the Director of BOEM. From 2001 to 2010, he was the Executive Director of the Society for Conservation Biology (an international society working towards the goal of advancing science and protecting life on Earth). He has also served as the Director of Learning and Communications for the Science Division for The Nature Conservancy, and as faculty in Ecology and Evolutionary Biology at Rice University. For more than 15 years, Alan has worked in the nexus between academic research and the application of science to conservation and policy. He has focused his attention on climate change adaptation science, a significant part of his portfolio at the DOI, and he is the

DOI's principal representative to the U.S. Global Change Research Program. Alan is filling the vacancy left by Linda Gundersen, who retired in January after more than 30 years of dedicated service to the USGS. As for this new assignment, Alan says, "The Office of Science Quality and Integrity has several essential roles in protecting and maintaining the reputation of the USGS – I take these roles very seriously and am honored to be trusted with these responsibilities."

Water Measurements Taken by the Miami, Florida Office

By John D. Warren

December 5, 2011

The Miami, Florida office was different from many USGS offices in the United States or the world. We had to measure the inflow and outflow of Lake Okeechobee to the Everglades. We also had to measure the flow from the Everglades into the Gulf of Mexico and Atlantic Ocean through the Miami, West Palm Beach, and Hillsboro Canals.

The 1927 hurricane caused many deaths in the town of Okeechobee. The hurricane blew all the water to the south side of Lake Okeechobee. As the hurricane passed the people from Okeechobee thought the hurricane was over, and they went down to the lake. However, the water came back from the south and many people were killed. The U.S. Corps of Engineers built a levee around Lake Okeechobee to prevent this from happening again. This lake also provided water for Miami and cities to the north of Miami along the Atlantic Coast.

The world's largest pumping station, S5A, was built on the south side of Lake Okeechobee. A horizon control gate was built at the site to let out water to irrigate the sugar cane to the south. During the rainy season, the water is pumped back into Lake Okeechobee. The canals had water flowing in different directions depending on the season. This was like the tide coming up and down rivers. The Miami office installed deflection veins on these tidal stations. The deflection vein is like a rudder on a plane. The deflection was used to relate to velocity; and the water level was used to relate to area. These two things were recorded on a Steven's recorder. It was very hard to compute the average discharge for each day. The Miami Office purchased a digitizer.

The water level was copied on one metallic tape and the deflection on another metallic tape. A person spent all day copying the record to the tapes. The two ratings for water level and deflection were used in the computation of daily discharge. The tapes, rating, and dates were punched on IBM cards and read into an IBM computer. The computer printer printed out the daily discharge and maximum, minimum, and mean water levels for each day of the period. The Miami office established five water-level stations in the Everglades, which had to be reached by helicopter. A special timer was made that sent the water level to the ERTS satellite as it passed Florida every 90 minutes. This timer is one of a kind.

The Miami Office replaced all deflection stations with electronic flow meters. When the GOES satellite was sent into space it didn't move (geosynchronous) so water level could be sent to the satellite every hour. The first digitizer was a Calmer, and a larger one was purchased that was twice the size of the old one.

Deflection meters were removed from the pumping stations and a rating table was developed with all pumps running at full speed. The discharge was computed using discharge for one pump running, and the number of pumps running was punched on IBM cards. Discharge was computed by multiplying the discharge for one running pump by number of running pumps. Another way we measured flow was by the float stick method. Two tag lines were stretched

across the canal, five feet apart. A dowel rod a little shorter than the depth of the canal was used. This rod with a weight on the bottom was timed between the two lines. This gave velocity and knowing that, discharge was computed by multiplying velocity times depth. Measurement of flow over a sharp-crested weir was measured by making a flume one tenth of a foot wide; measuring the time it took to fill a cubic-foot bucket. If the weir was ten feet wide, ten measurements were taken, then added up to get total flow.

EDITOR'S NOTE: This article was originally published in the May 2012 Supplement. We are putting it here in the main newsletter because we did not make it clear to the author whether it would be in the main newsletter or supplement. In the future, we will make sure the authors know where material will be placed.

MEETINGS AND GATHERINGS

MARCH 2013, TAMPA, FLORIDA RETIREES LUNCHEON



Thirty-two WRD retirees and friends met for their annual dinner at Whiskey Joe's in Tampa on March 24. Retired and current employees in italics.

Back Row: *Lynn Barr, Dann Yobbi, Amy Swancar, John Trommer, Arturo Torres, Ernie Meeder, Dan Duerr, Carl Goodwin, Ray Mularoni, Tom Yorke, John MacKenzie, Scott McBride, Craig Hutchinson, Dave Moore, Bernard Dew*

Middle Row: *Lari Knochenmus, Mayra Torres, Judy Fretwell-Thompson, Bettye Goodwin, Aggie Mularoni, Jeannie Yorke, Gayle Teter, Tai Hutchinson, Pam Moore*

Front Row: *Madalyn Wylie, Bob Wylie, Bobby Ramsey, Helen Ramsey, Alynza and Tammie McBride, Daris Dew*

Missing: *Lewis Fletcher*

APRIL 2013, COLORADO RETIREES LUNCHEON



From left to right: Judy Cornwell, Sandra Duncan, Bob Brennan, Jim Blakey, Anna Belle Gutentag, Ed Gutentag, Bill Emmett, Rich Hawkinson, Jerry Duncan, Dave Lystrom. We are delighted to point out that Rich Hawkinson has recently accepted the Retirees' position of Central Region Editor for the Newsletter. Thank you, Rich!

MEETINGS AND GATHERINGS

MAY 2013, NORTH CAROLINA RETIREES LUNCHEON



Back Row: Holly Weyers, Nancy Garrett, Mickey Reid, Frank Fogleman, Larry Deckard, Mike Winner, Bruce Lloyd, Ron Coble, Jeanne Robbins

Front Row: Nancy Williams, Amy Fogleman, Becky Deckard, Carol Winner, Charlotte Lloyd, Nancy Coble
Holly Weyers and Jeanne Robbins from the North Carolina District attended. (Gary Garrett took the picture)

APRIL 2013, TEXAS RETIREES LUNCHEON



C T Welborn, secretary-treasurer of the Texas WRD Retirees, reports, "We met at the Nutty Brown Restaurant for our spring meeting in April. Those attending (l to r) were: **Paul Rohne, Libby Burchett, Frank Wells, Willard Gibbons, Bob Burchett, Dixie Welborn and CT Welborn**. We chit-chatted among us and we enjoyed doing what we did, and the food was excellent. As of April, Ruff's will close the restaurant for the last time. It has been leased to a lady that will sell herbs and vitamins and maybe she will have some vegetarian's food. I guess we could have some vegetarian tacos. We will meet at the Nutty Brown Restaurant for a May 15th meeting then take off for the summer. We will return to our meetings the third Wednesday of the month of September, and we hope to have a new location by that time."

Identifying and Contacting New Retirees

We have a real challenge – how to ensure that new retirees join our organization. The main problem is making contact with the person who either has retired or is about to retire.

Our WRD Retirees Secretary includes in the USGS internal electronic distribution of the WRD Retirees newsletter, a request to provide the names of retiring personnel. The internal distribution includes the A and B distributions, and the Water Science Center (WSC) Directors, as well as the WSC Data Chiefs and the WSC Administrative Officers (AO). Subsequently, after receiving the names of the retiring personnel, the WRD Retirees Secretary sends an email to the potential retiree inviting him/her to join WRD Retirees.

This has been marginally successful. Sometimes we receive no response from the recipients of the USGS distribution, and sometimes the employee has already retired and is no longer in the USGS email directory. Also, many potential retirees simply do not respond to the invitation to join our organization.

If you know of a retiree or an employee about to retire, please encourage them to join WRD Retirees. Also please notify WRD Retirees at wrdretirees@usgs.gov of the potential retiree.

Let us know if you have any other suggestions to reach more of the new retirees.

Our MAY 2013 Newsletter Supplement

We have another fine Supplement for May. We have a good World War II story about “Kilroy Was Here!” Our archives have turned up two more photos: 1962 meeting of the Surface Water Branch District Engineers in Silver Springs, Florida, and 1977 WRD and OWDC leadership taken in Lakewood, Colorado.

We have developed an [Index to Supplements](#) from the first year of supplements, May 2012 through February 2013. See page 17 of this newsletter to see the articles in those first four Supplements.

And finally, on page 12 of this newsletter, we are reprinting “Water Measurements Taken by the Miami Office,” by John D. Warren. We put this article in the main newsletter because we did not tell the author that it had been published in the supplement in May 2012, causing some confusion.

Go to www.wrdretirees.org/newsletter.htm page and click on the “S” to see the May 2013 Supplement.

Please give me a call to discuss your items to send in, or just send them to my email at whozit1130@aol.com or to my address at 2370 Albot Road, Reston, VA 20191. My best phone is my cell phone, 703-609-8271.

--Charles

INDEX TO SUPPLEMENTS
MAY 2012 THROUGH FEBRUARY 2013

Items in Newsletter Supplements 155-158	Author	Item Date	Date	Suppl
USGS Satellite Real-Time , Data Network: How it came to be	Daniel	9/1/2011	May-12	NL155S
History of the New England District, Water Resources Division	Baker	5/2/1979	May-12	NL155S
How to Submit Items to the WRD Retirees Newsletter Supplement	Nethaway	5/1/2012	May-12	NL155S
Our First Newsletter Supplement	Anderson	5/1/2012	May-12	NL155S
Note from the Editor	Nethaway	8/1/2012	Aug-12	NL156S
How to Submit Items to the WRD Retirees Newsletter Supplement	Nethaway	8/1/2012	Aug-12	NL156S
About the National Training Center	Nethaway	8/1/2012	Aug-12	NL156S
PHOTO: Seminar for WRD Managers, USGS National Training Center	Nethaway	2/1/1985	Aug-12	NL156S
PHOTO: Colorado District, Building 53, February 1976	Nethaway	2/1/1976	Aug-12	NL156S
PHOTO: A Fish Story (Hal Langford)	Anderson	8/1/2012	Aug-12	NL156S
Creative Leader (Jim Biesecker)	Nethaway	8/1/2012	Aug-12	NL156S
From the Editor	Nethaway	11/1/2012	Nov-12	NL157S
We Want More Contributions!	Nethaway	11/1/2012	Nov-12	NL157S
Merced River at Happy Isles, Yosemite National Park, CA	Nagel	7/1/2012	Nov-12	NL157S
PHOTO: USGS WRD Recruiting Seminar, RM Reg-PC Reg, Las Vegas, NV	Scott	9/1/1967	Nov-12	NL157S
PHOTO: Seminar in SW Hydrologic Analysis, WRD USGS, Denver, CO	Scott	10/1/1968	Nov-12	NL157S
2012 Boise Reunion - Attendees	Peter	10/1/2012	Nov-12	NL157S
2012 Boise Reunion - Photos	various	9/1/2012	Nov-12	NL157S
From the Editor	Nethaway	2/1/2013	Feb-13	NL158S
We Want More Contributions	Nethaway	2/1/2013	Feb-13	NL158S
Yosemite Streamgaging	Daniel	2/1/2013	Feb-13	NL158S
Fred F. Henshaw's Promotion by Acting Secretary Woodruff	Zenone	6/17/1907	Feb-13	NL158S
Letter from the Fourth USGS Director, George Otis Smith	Zenone	8/1/1908	Feb-13	NL158S
PHOTO: Fourth Intensive Seminar in GW Hydrology, Baton Rouge, LA	Nethaway	2/24/1969	Feb-13	NL158S
PHOTO: Project Planning and Supervision, WRD Training Center, Denver, CO	Nethaway	10/11/1972	Feb-13	NL158S

IN MEMORIAM

Robert “Bob” Cushman, 95, of Cheyenne, WY passed away on September 12, 2012 in Cheyenne. He was born on May 30, 1917 in Danville, Indiana. At the time of his death he was living in a retirement community in Cheyenne. His wife, Joyce, died several years ago. Bob moved to Flagstaff, Arizona after high school because he had chronic pulmonary problems (mostly asthma). He enrolled in college there, which at that time was N. Arizona Teachers College, now the Univ. of Northern Arizona. He later transferred to the Univ. of Arizona where he received a degree in Mechanical Engineering. Bob joined WRD soon after graduation—he told Joe Gates that he always wanted a job “outside.” His USGS career started in Arizona. He was stationed in Flagstaff for awhile and then in the District office in Tucson where he was an Assistant District Chief from 1948-54. He worked on projects in the Safford Valley, Tucson Basin, and the Douglas Basin, where he prepared Water Supply Paper 1354, “Geology and ground-water resources of the Douglas basin, Arizona, with a section on chemical quality of the ground water,” published in 1955. In 1954 he took his first overseas job in Egypt. He seemed to like overseas work as he had three tours plus at least one short assignment. In Egypt during 1954-56, he was working in the Nile Delta and Nile Valley. He then went to western Pakistan where he worked in the Lahore area during the late 1950s. In about 1960 he moved to New Mexico in the District office in Albuquerque and worked in the Los Alamos area for awhile—he was in New Mexico until 1965 when he took his second assignment in Egypt; working in the “New Valley” area of the western desert (Joe Gates was his assistant on that project which is their connection). In 1967 he returned to the U.S. as District Chief in Wyoming, where he retired in June, 1973. After retirement he continued to live in Cheyenne. During his career he also did a short 3-month tour in Turkey in 1964 doing well testing and presenting a seminar on ground-water hydraulics (well and aquifer testing was his main specialty). He also did a similar short tour in Arkansas. He and Joyce had no children and his only survivor was the husband of Joyce's niece. Bob didn't want a memorial service--his wish was that he be cremated and that his and Joyce's ashes be scattered at the St. Albans chapel in the Snowy Range west of Laramie, which was done in early October 2012. --**Contributed by Joe Gates**

Mildred L. “Mimi” Devaul, age 90, wife of the late WRD retiree **Robert “Bob” Devaul** (see below), passed away on April 18, 2009, at her home in the arms of her family. She was born on Oct. 18, 1918, in Cummington, MA, the daughter of Milo A. and Susan Wesley Steele Liebenow. Mimi and Bob had been married for nearly 66 years. After marrying on June 12, 1943 while Bob was serving in the Army during World War II, she worked at the Fitzsimmons Army Hospital in Denver, CO. Later, they spent nearly three years in Santiago, Chile where Bob was employed with the U. S. Agency for International Development (USAID) as a hydrologist. On their return to the States in 1962, they moved to Madison, WI where Mimi was employed in the Department of Sociology of the University of Wisconsin and Bob joined the USGS. She worked at UW for 22 years until her retirement in 1985. On summertime nights she and Bob enjoyed Capitol City Band concerts in the park and dances at the Elks Club. Every October they journeyed to beautiful Door County, WI. Mimi loved her Badgers and Packers. At the time of her death, Mimi was survived by her husband, Bob; her children, Deanna Susan “DeeDee” Devaul and Greg Devaul; a sister, a brother, two brothers-in-law, and many nieces and nephews. Private burial was held at Madison's Forest Hill Cemetery. The Devaul family will be forever grateful to HospiceCare of Madison.



Robert "Bob" W. Devaul, 94, passed away peacefully at home January 3, 2013 with Deanna Susan “DeeDee” Devaul, his daughter, and their two companion kitties at his side. Bob was born June 21, 1918 in Meriden, CT. In 1943 he married his true love Mildred (Mimi) Liebenow in Cummington, MA. Their marriage was a heartfelt one of 66 years and ended with Mimi's death in 2009 at the age of 90 (see above). Bob served his country proudly in the US Army which took him many places in Europe. After his honorable discharge, Bob earned a Master's degree in Geology at Syracuse University in Syracuse, NY. During Bob's 33 years as a Geologist for the USGS he and his family traveled throughout the United States as well as to Santiago, Chile. Upon returning to the States, Bob and his family were transferred to Madison, WI where he continued to work as a Geologist. Bob enjoyed his work, but his real passions were his family, friends and helping those in need. During the summer Bob enjoyed the Capitol City Band concerts. Come October, he and Mimi would venture north to Door County for the Fall Festival. Bob enjoyed Sing-A-Longs and Friday night dinner and dancing with friends at the Elks Club. Bob also, enjoyed having breakfast with his USGS friends and coffee with his friends at Oakwood Village University Woods. Bob was a member of Bethany United Methodist Church where he enjoyed potlucks and men's coffee get-togethers. One of the latest highlights of Bob's life was the Badger Honor Flight, a trip he and DeeDee shared together to visit the memorials created to honor Veterans. Bob was a true Wisconsinite ~ he was a loyal Badger and Packer fan. Bob is survived by DeeDee and many loving family members. He was preceded in death by Mimi, beloved wife, and Gregory "Greg" L Devaul, devoted son. Bob will be deeply missed by all who knew him. There will be a public memorial at Forest Hill Cemetery in the summer to celebrate his life full of special memories. In lieu of flowers,

IN MEMORIAM

please send donations to ~ the Capitol City Band, PO Box 258007, Madison, WI 53725-8007 and Agrace Hospice Care, 5395 E Cheryl Parkway, Madison, WI 53711. If you would like to send DeeDee a Special memory (story, photo, etc.) of Bob it would mean so much. She plans to make a book ~ Special Memories of Bob ~ to be displayed at his memorial. Special thanks go to all of Bob's healthcare providers for their caring professionalism which attributed to Bob's quality of life ~ a Wonderful Life."

Alfred "AL" H. Harder, 84, passed away on November 3, 2003. We have just recently been informed of Al's death. Al was born on February 17, 1919. Al enlisted in the Army National Guard from Syracuse, NY on January 6, 1941 in the Infantry. His native state was listed as Massachusetts. Following the service in the Army, Al received a B.S. from the University of Wisconsin in 1949. He began working for WRD as a Scientific Aid in the Ground Water Branch in August 1949 in Madison, WI. Al attended the first Ground-Water GWSC in Madison in September 1951. In that same year Al was promoted to a Geologist while still in Madison. In 1953 Al transferred to the Ground-Water Branch in Alexandria, LA. In 1960, Al published USGS Water Supply Paper: 1488, "The geology and ground water resources of Calcasieu Parish, Louisiana." (Available at USGS site: <http://pubs.er.usgs.gov/publication/wsp1488>) In 1961 Al was transferred to Lake Charles, LA and became a supervisory hydrologist in 1966. In 1967 Al transferred to Boise, Idaho where he was again promoted. He retired in Boise in 1974, and his residence at the time of his death was Boise.

Donovan "Don" Kelly, 71, died May 2, 2013, in Hamilton, VA. Don worked for the USGS for 31 years in the Director's Office and WRD. He was Chief of Public Affairs when he retired in 1997. He was also a freelance humor writer, contributed articles to the Washington Post, élan Magazine, the Loudoun Times Mirror, and Morgan Messenger among other publications and was author of the book Crummy But Good Restaurants. Surviving Don is his wife, Rita. **A longer In Memoriam piece will be published in the August 2013 WRD Retirees Newsletter.**



Marjorie S. Martin, 79, died July 28, 2012 at the Delaware Hospice Center, Milford, DE. Mrs. Martin was born on October 28, 1932 in Wyoming, DE, to the late John Edward and Bertie Young Sapp. She began her federal career with the U.S. Geological Survey, WRD in Dover, Delaware, where she served with distinction as a secretary from the early 1960's to the late 1980's. Subsequently, Marjorie transferred to the U.S. State Department and served as a Foreign Service secretary in Yemen and Taiwan. She concluded her federal employment in 1994, retiring after 31 years of dedicated and professional service. Everyone that knew Margie would agree that she was a kind and gentle soul, a "Gem" as one colleague recently commented. In the late 1980's, Marjorie was contemplating retirement from the USGS when she came across a vacancy announcement for an administrative position with the State Department. Since she was widowed and her children were grown, she decided this would be the perfect way to finish out her federal career. She applied and was selected, and began working as a Foreign Service secretary from 1991 until 1994. Her first assignment would take her to the U.S. Embassy in Sana'a, Yemen. Needless to say, this was a huge surprise to her family and friends, especially since Marjorie was not a world traveler, having lived in Delaware all her life and who rarely traveled beyond her home base in Kent County. Those who knew Marjorie couldn't imagine that she would set out on this quest so far removed from her beloved Delaware, and were amazed at her courage to work in a country that, even then, was not a safe place. In 1993, Marjorie moved to the State Department's operations in Taipei, Taiwan, where she served until her retirement in 1994. Outside of her official duties, Marjorie was a highly engaged, respected member of the First State Chapter, International Association of Administrative Professionals and a member of the Wesley United Methodist Church in Dover, where she participated in the choir and Methodist Youth Fellowship, and taught Sunday school. Marjorie was preceded in death by her husband, Paul E. Martin in 1984 and is survived by four sons, Lewis Everett Martin of Charlotte, NC; John Edward Martin and his wife Rebecca of Dover, DE; Donald Renie Martin and his wife Jodi of Tampa, FL; and Timothy Paul Martin and his wife Melissa of Bulverde, TX; and a sister, Martha Brereton and her husband Bill of Milford, DE. Also surviving are six grandchildren, Landon Martin, Jason Edward Martin, Libby Soleil Monahan, Cody Martin, Nicolas Martin, and Josh Martin. Marjorie was laid to rest in Barratts Chapel Cemetery, Frederica, DE. **--Submitted by Gary Paulachok**

IN MEMORIAM

Martha Ann Skelton, 77, wife of WRD Retiree **John Skelton**, of Rolla, Missouri, passed away on February 5, 2013. She and John were married March 14, 1958 and were blessed with five sons. She was proud of her hometown of Holly Springs, Mississippi. She was also an avid fan of the St. Louis Cardinals. Martha worked as a nurse for many years and taught in the LPN program at the Rolla Vocational Technical Institute. She and John have been devoted workers at Salem Avenue Baptist Church since 1963. Martha will be greatly missed by her family, friends, and Missouri WRD Retirees.

Ellen P. Stewart, 86, of Baton Rouge, LA, died February 14, 2013. She was the wife of the late WRD employee **Mack R. Stewart** who was injured in an auto accident in Louisiana in 1967 that ended his career with WRD. Mack had served as an engineer in Surface Water at headquarters and in Alabama, Indiana, and briefly as District Engineer in Louisiana. He died in 1993. Ellen was born in 1927 in Coffee County, Alabama. She married Mack after WW II and was a stay-at-home mom until Mack's accident. In Louisiana, she worked for the Billy Graham Crusade and as an office manager for United Way in Baton Rouge. She also served as president of the Baton Rouge Chapter of Executive Women International. Among her hobbies were ballroom dancing, playing bridge, and traveling the world. In 1999, Ellen moved to Alexandria, LA to be near her son and family. She gradually developed dementia and died in Alexandria. She is survived by two children and three grandchildren. --**Submitted by John Musser, Louisiana Contact**



Caroline A. "Toni" Watkins, 92, of Lakewood, CO, died on April 1, 2013, in Greenwood Village, CO. She was born July 23, 1920 in Rothschild, WI. After graduating from the University of Rochester, she married Al Bush in 1942, and began her career as a cartographer with the War Dept while he served in the Navy. She was a world-traveler with her second husband, Victor Watkins (US Army WW2 veteran). After the war she was raising a family in western Colorado and building lifelong friendships with other USGS families during the uranium-prospecting years of the 1950s. While Al did geologic mapping in the San Juans, Toni built a lifelong social network that extended from Uravan to Slick Rock, Telluride, Grand Junction, and Lakewood. During her own career with the USGS in the 60s, 70s, and 80s, she headed the Office of International Geology in Denver, facilitating international exchange and training for American and foreign geologists. Toni was very proud of her work for OIG. As her son, James, recalls, she excelled as an ambassador of goodwill, always putting people ahead of protocol, as one incident from the late 1960s illustrated: when an Iraqi geologist in the program died suddenly, Toni made all the arrangements for a Muslim burial, had the body prepared in accordance with Islamic law, and got the State Department to authorize diplomatic privileges for its immediate return to Iraq. Her efforts won the gratitude of his family and the Iraqi government, but as she said, it was just the right thing to do. Toni was instrumental in the early development of the JeffCo Action Center in Lakewood, served as a volunteer for over 30 years, was on the board of directors, and, as president, led the effort to purchase the old Lakewood Post Office for the Action Center's operations. Toni and Victor were an enthusiastic patrons and supporters of the Denver Symphony, the Santa Fe Opera, and particularly the National Repertory Orchestra in Breckenridge, CO. During the formative years of this summer music festival that focuses on developing talented young musicians, Toni served on the board of directors and was honored to provide a home-away-from-home in Lakewood to its conductor, Carl Topilow (founder and conductor of the Cleveland Pops Orchestra), and his family. At the age of 75, Toni became a Jew, and was active in the B'nai Chaim Synagogue in Morrison, CO. Survivors include 6 children: Caroline (Bush) Rapalyea (Philadelphia), John Bush (Chama, NM), James Bush (Boulder), Margaret (Bush) Rettig and Martha (Bush) Poland (Littleton), Amy (Bush) Calkins (Portland); 20 grandchildren and 22 great-grandchildren; her sister-in-law Louise (Bush) Leader (Seattle) and her family. Memorial service July 23, 2013, 10:30a.m. at B'nai Chaim Synagogue, 4716 S. Coors Ln., Morrison, CO 80465. Contributions can be made to B'nai Chaim, or to the JeffCo Action Center, 8755 W. 14th Ave., Lakewood, CO 80215. --**Contribution by James Bush**

MEMORIAL

Robert “Bob” Schneider

1921-2013



Robert “Bob” Schneider, 91, passed away on March 9, 2013 in Springfield, VA. He was born on April 7, 1921 in New York City of parents who emigrated from the Ukraine and Latvia. The Schneiders lived near their tailor shop in Brooklyn, and Bob could walk to his studies at Brooklyn College where he also worked at the library. After Bob’s B.S. from Brooklyn College in 1941 he became an engineering aide for the Geologic Division, USGS, in Alaska and Arkansas, then in Washington, D.C. working on maps. It was in Washington where he met his wife, Lore, in 1941. From Germany, she was a night student at GW University and a “Government Girl” for DOI in the daytime, one of those thousands of young women who moved to Washington at about the time of World War II to get federal jobs where there was great demand. With arms full of text books, Lore was on the same bus as Bob on the way to work at Interior. Bob, being the gentleman, offered her his seat, and the courtship began. Bob served in the Army during World War II, 1944-1946. Bob and Lore married after the war, and they had celebrated their 66th anniversary before Bob’s passing. Bob joined the WRD as a geologist for the Ground Water Branch in Memphis in late 1946. He studied the geology of the Memphis area. Bob’s first paper was published in 1947 in “Economic Geology,” entitled “Ground-water conditions and problems in the upper Mississippi River embayment.” Bob and E.M. Cushing wrote a paper in 1948 that would be cited many times in the future: “Geology and water-bearing properties of the ‘1,400-foot’ sand in the Memphis area: USGS Cir. 33.” In 1950 he transferred upriver to the GW Branch in St. Paul, MN. Hal Langford remembers Bob when Hal was in the Regional QW Office in Lincoln and Bob was the District Geologist of the Ground Water Branch in St. Paul. Among his many papers, he co-wrote USGS Circular 274 in 1953, “Water resources of the Minneapolis – St. Paul area (Preior, Schneider, and Durum).” In the later part of his Minnesota assignment, he became the ground-water district chief. Then, after 10 years in Minnesota, Bob moved to the GW Branch, USGS headquarters, in Arlington, VA. Bob and Lore had three children along the way, Valerie, Glen, and Marilyn. When Bob was sent to Brazil in 1960 for a few months, Lore asked for the assignments from the children’s school, and everyone went to Rio. She home-schooled the children for much of the latter part of the 1960 school year, setting down the rule, “Homework before the beach.” All had a great time. Bob traveled throughout Brazil, particularly in the Amazon River basin, and the USGS published his findings, “Status of Investigations and Development of Ground Water in Brazil.” In 1962, Bob was detailed to Israel where he produced a paper, “USGS WSP 1608-F: Cenomanian-Turonian Aquifer of Central Israel – Its Development and Possible Use as a Storage Reservoir.” Bob returned to Israel several times to give papers about his findings. Bob also had a brief detail to the U.K. In 1967-1971 Robert was the Chief, Office of Radiohydrology. Bob continued to write and edit for USGS until he retired in 1981 and as a rehired annuitant until 1985. After retirement, Bob worked for Environmental Strategies Corporation. He also served on the editorial boards of “Ground Water,” GW Technology Division, NWWA; and “Hydrogeology Journal,” the official journal of the International Association of Hydrogeologists. Bob loved to read and take long walks. In his later years he was interested in green issues and, according to his wife, he was “Going Green” and was active in the Greenspring Environment Club where the Schneiders lived. Bob is survived by his wife, Lore; their three children, Valerie, Glen, and Marilyn who live in MA, FL, and the Eastern Shore of VA, respectively; 3 grandchildren, and 2 great-grandchildren and one brother, Sherman. Bob was laid to rest at King David Memorial Gardens, National Memorial Park, Falls Church, Virginia.

By Charles Nethaway with contributions from Lore K. Schneider and Hal Langford

MEMORIAL



John Vecchioli

August 8, 1934 – February 9, 2013

John Vecchioli, 78, passed away on February 9, 2013 in Odessa, Florida. John was born in Manhattan, New York on August 8, 1934. The family moved shortly thereafter and John grew up in South Plainfield, New Jersey. He received his B.A. in Geology in 1956 and his Master of Science in 1957 from Rutgers University in New Brunswick, N.J. After graduation, John began his 42-year career with the U.S. Geological Survey as a geologist in the Trenton, N.J. Ground-Water Office. He was to remain in New Jersey until 1968.

John's Master's thesis at Rutgers on the Precambrian rocks of Warren County, NJ was geologic rather than hydrologic in nature, but his familiarity with low-permeability, fractured rocks was put to good use during his years in the New Jersey office. He conducted some of the first quantitative studies to characterize ground-water movement through fractured shale and presented the results at an international symposium in Yugoslavia. Prior to the integration of the Branches, John's studies of the complex hydrology of northern New Jersey led him to recognize the need to integrate ground-water and surface-water investigations. He headed up the study of the Ramapo River Basin which was possibly the first investigation to be staffed by personnel from the three branches. John also directed an extensive test-drilling program for the Office of Emergency Planning (OEP) to locate ground-water supplies for drought-stricken northern New Jersey. John received the first of his numerous awards for his work with OEP. It's of interest to note that the success of the OEP efforts planted the seed that would eventually result in the Regional Aquifer Systems Analysis (RASA) studies. Was John one of the fathers of RASA? John crossed the New Jersey fall line to work on the Island Beach test-drilling project. This deep-well drilling and hydraulic-testing program in coastal plain deposits was a foreshadowing of the research that would mark the remainder of his career.

In 1968 John transferred to the Long Island office in Mineola, NY, and assumed leadership of the Bay Park Artificial Recharge Project. This project, originally directed by Phil Cohen, tested the feasibility of injecting treated waste water into a deep sand aquifer. John played a leading role in numerous experiments to understand the effect that bacteria, dissolved gases, and geochemical reactions have on 1) the injection rate of treated wastewater and 2) the hydraulic and geochemical impact of the injected wastewater on the deep aquifer. The Bay Park project, under John's continued direction, was expanded in scope to include the design of a demonstration-scale deep-well recharge program and an alternate plan for surface recharge of reclaimed water. The surface-recharge project involved laboratory studies to investigate the hydraulic and geochemical effects of surface recharge of reclaimed water on the shallow water-table aquifer. The results of the Bay Park project were published as a series of chapters in Professional Paper 751 as well as several journal articles. John also presented numerous papers at technical meetings and symposia and, at the request of the U.S. Department of State, he spent time in Qatar to evaluate the feasibility of artificial recharge with desalted seawater. In 1975, based on his excellent skills as a manager, he was appointed Assistant Office Chief of the Long Island program. In 1976, John transferred to Tallahassee to become the Ground-Water Specialist of the Florida District.

MEMORIAL

As Ground-water Specialist of the Division's largest District, in an overwhelmingly ground-water dependent state, and often serving as acting Regional specialist as well, John shouldered an overwhelming work load. He was involved in program development, preparation and review of project plans, periodic project reviews, and technical review of all ground-water reports in the five offices comprising the Florida District. John was not only an excellent writer, but a sought-after reviewer. Despite this workload, John continued his research into subsurface waste injection, artificial ground-water recharge, and ground-water quality protection, averaging a report or paper each of the 16 years he served as Ground-Water Specialist. Also during this time he served on the National Research Council Committee, "Ground Water Recharge Using Waters of Impaired Quality"; taught graduate-level courses at Florida State University; and presented invited papers at symposia in Israel and the Netherlands. His studies of the injection of waste water into deep, saline ground-water systems underlying Florida demonstrated the feasibility of using this technology to avoid contaminating surface water and fresh ground water with industrial and municipal effluent. John spent the last seven years of his career serving as Florida District Chief. His years as District Chief were marked by strong support of research activities. Also, he worked with the State of Florida as a technical advisor in the development of regulations governing underground injection of liquid wastes and aquifer protection. He retired in 1999, having received during his career numerous awards including the Keith Anderson award from the Association of Ground Water Scientists and Engineers and the Department of the Interior's Meritorious Service Award and Distinguished Service award. Following his retirement he served on his second National Research Council Committee, "Regional Issues in Aquifer Storage and Recovery for Everglades Restoration".

Thus ends the description of the professional side of John's life. As dedicated as he was to the USGS, he was even more dedicated to his family and community. John was married to the former Lee Bengivenga for 53 years. In addition to Lee, John is survived by his children, Joan, Beth, Joseph and Michael, and two grandchildren. Shortly after he retired, John and Lee moved to Odessa, FL, just north of Tampa to be near their grandchildren. It was a sacrifice to leave the Tallahassee community they had come to love, but for John and Lee family always came first and that meant, among other things, continuing the tradition of Sunday dinners with his children and grandchildren. His declining health did not diminish his joy of life and his ability to interact with his family. He enjoyed reading, photography, and when his health permitted, walking and golfing. John was an active member of Good Shepherd Catholic Church in Tallahassee, FL, where he served as a Lector. For many years he was the pitcher on the Good Shepherd Men's Club softball team. Somehow, John even squeezed in the time to serve in the Air Force reserves and was buried with full military honors. He will be greatly missed by those of us whose life he touched.

By: Irvin "Irv" Kantrowitz

TREASURER'S REPORT, FIRST QUARTER 2013

Treasurer Celso Puente reports that the organization had \$ 24,910 in its treasury at the end of the first quarter for calendar year 2013. Receipts for the quarter were \$6,760.63 from dues and contributions from 280 members. Distributions for the quarter were \$539.61, including the costs for the printing of the WRD Retirees Newsletter. During the quarter, a total of \$1,130.00 in contributions above dues was received from 60 members.

Special thanks for contributions above dues go to:

Leslie Laird, Howard McCormack, Jack C. Rosenau, William J. Davis, James Rollo, Marshall Moss, Thomas A. Herrett, Stanley Sauer, Gilbert Bertoldi, Frank T. Hidaka, Joanna Combs, Eugene Patten, Donald Vaupel, John C. Briggs, Philip Carpenter, George Leavesley, Edward Bush Boyd, Irene Leafer- Levine, William W. Emmett, James R. Slack, Gordon Nelson, James F. Blakey, Bruce Parks, Harold Golden, Terry Danielson, Douglas Posson, Raymond Smith, James Culbertson, Fred Ruggles, Richmond Brown, Charles R. Showen, Kenneth Taylor, Robert L. Cory, Ren Jen Sun, Larry Jones, Alan Lumb, Kenneth Markham, William Bartlett, Philip Cohen, Rick Iwatsubo, Jerry Smithson, Vivian and Perry Olcott, Roger White, Charles Gamble, Douglas Manigold, Stephen Hager, Bobby D. Ramsey, Warren Teasdale, Richard Engberg, Paul F. Kapinos, Sharon Mathey, Daniel Bauer, Charles Lamb, Roger Rumenik, Peter Anttila, Gerhard Kuhn, Mary Dunn, John Cotton, Norman E. Schmidt, and Marjorie Reid.

CHANGES THAT DID NOT GET IN THE DIRECTORY

We try to put all Directory changes and additions into the new Directory published each May. However, there are sometimes changes that occur after the Directory has gone to the publisher but come in before the Newsletter is printed. The following items should be changed, as indicated.

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WRD RETIREES

NEWSLETTER 159S
SUPPLEMENT
May 2013

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.

From the Editor

We have many retirees who were active in World War II, and just about everyone remembers that "Kilroy was here," that little cartoon that was one of the first all-purpose, clean graffiti. In this Supplement we have the real story behind Kilroy, a person who counted rivets on ships headed off to the war.

We have two photographs from the Retirees Archives. 1962: Palm trees are behind the folks shown at the Surface Water Branch Atlantic Coast Area District Engineers Conference in Silver Springs, Florida. As befits the early 60s, just about everyone is in suits. 1977: A photo from the Ramada Inn in Denver shows the WRD Senior and OWDC staff in their sporting best.

In the main Newsletter we reprinted an article about the history of WRD in Florida. Also, in the Newsletter we have an index to the articles from the first year of supplements, May 2012 through February 2013.

This first year was a pretty good beginning to this online-only addition to the Newsletter. Tell your friends that it exists! Even though we always point to it from the main newsletter, some people have yet to discover it.

Please keep sending in your material. Thanks! Okay, here we go. Enjoy!

--Charles

How to Submit Items to the WRD Retirees Newsletter Supplement

Our Newsletter Supplement will be online and will be capable of publishing color and black-and-white photographs along with articles, stories, and histories. Please send your material to the WRD Retirees Newsletter addresses as shown on our web site at <http://www.wrdretirees.org/newsletter.htm>, using email to whozit1130@aol.com or US Mail to 2370 Albot Road, Reston, Virginia 20191. The desired formats are Word and .jpg digital photographs; however, we will accept other formats and typed material. Feel free to call me at 703-609-8271 to discuss.

We would enjoy seeing photographs from our working days. We hope that you can identify the date, place, and people in the photos. But if you have only partial identification, we will invite readers to write in and help complete names and captions for interesting shots. We can scan your paper photographs if you do not have them digitally. We will save copies of these photos in the Retirees Archives in Reston. So, enjoy, and we hope to hear from you soon.

--Charles Nethaway

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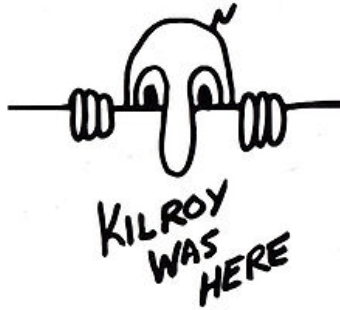
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Alberto Condes, Vice President
Charles W. Boning, Secretary
Celso Puente, Treasurer
Charles Nethaway, Archivist

"Kilroy Was Here" originally used during WW II

Forwarded to us by Celso Puente

This was the graffiti of the 1940's.



We are including this in our newsletter because many of us either drew Kilroy or saw Kilroy in our youth.

Who was this "KILROY?" This will solve the mystery.

"KILROY WAS HERE!" along with the drawing was oft-used graffiti that began in World War II.

In 1946 the American Transit Association, through its radio program, "Speak to America," sponsored a nationwide contest to find the REAL Kilroy, offering a prize of a real trolley car to the person who could prove himself to be the genuine article. Almost 40 men stepped forward to make that claim, but only James Kilroy from Halifax, Massachusetts had evidence of his identity.

Kilroy was a 46-year old shipyard worker during the war. He worked as a checker at the Fore River Shipyard in Quincy, Massachusetts. His job was to go around and check on the number of rivets completed. Riveters were on piecework and got paid by the rivet. Kilroy would count a block of rivets and put a check mark in semi-waxed lumber chalk, so the rivets wouldn't be counted twice. When Kilroy went off duty, the riveters would erase the mark. Later on, an off-shift inspector would come through and count the rivets a second time, resulting in double pay for the riveters.

One day Kilroy's boss called him into his office. The foreman was upset about all the wages being paid to riveters, and asked him to investigate. It was then that he realized what had been going on. The tight spaces he had to crawl in to check the rivets didn't lend themselves to lugging around a paint can and brush, so Kilroy decided to stick with the waxy chalk. He continued to put his checkmark on each job he inspected, but added KILROY WAS HERE in king-sized letters next to the check, and eventually added the sketch of the chap with the long nose peering over the fence and that became part of the Kilroy message. Once he did that, the riveters stopped trying to wipe away his marks. Ordinarily the rivets and chalk marks would have been covered up with paint. With war on, however, ships were leaving the Quincy Yard so fast that there wasn't time to paint them.

As a result, Kilroy's inspection "trademark" was seen by thousands of servicemen who boarded the troopships the yard produced. His message apparently rang a bell with the servicemen, because they picked it up and spread it all over Europe and the South Pacific. Before the war's end, "Kilroy" had been here, there, and everywhere on the long haul to Berlin and Tokyo.

To the unfortunate troops outbound in those ships, however, he was a complete mystery; all they knew for sure was that some jerk named Kilroy had "been there first." As a joke, U.S. servicemen began placing the graffiti wherever they landed, claiming it was already there when they arrived.

Kilroy became the U.S. super-GI who had always "already been" wherever GIs went. It became a challenge to place the logo in the most unlikely places imaginable (it is said to be atop Mt. Everest, the Statue of Liberty, the underside of the Arc de Triomphe, and even scrawled in the dust on the moon.)

And as the war went on, the legend grew. Underwater demolition teams routinely sneaked ashore on Japanese-held islands in the Pacific to map the terrain for the coming invasions by U.S. troops (and thus, presumably, were the first GI's there). On one occasion, however, they reported seeing enemy troops painting over the Kilroy logo!

In 1945, an outhouse was built for the exclusive use of Roosevelt, Stalin, and Churchill at the Potsdam conference. The first person inside was Stalin, who emerged and asked his aide (in Russian), "Who is Kilroy?"

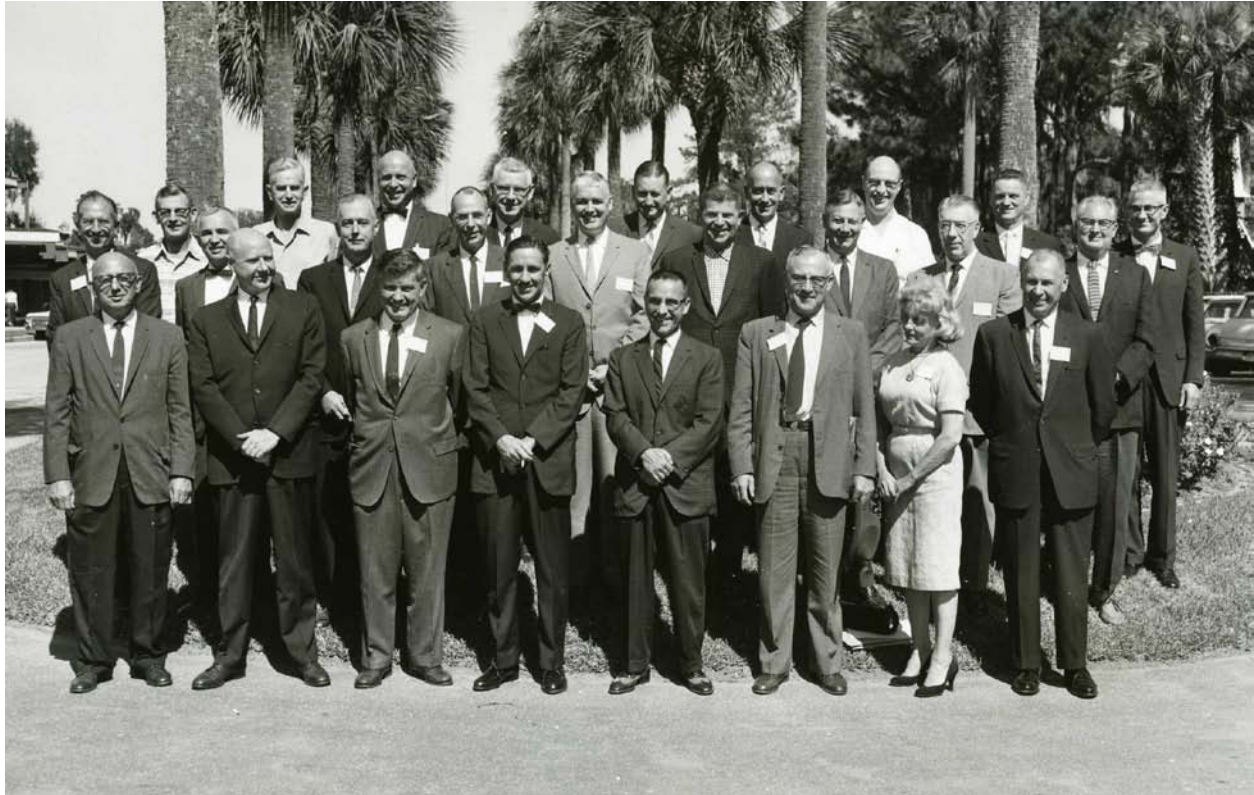
To help prove his authenticity in 1946, James Kilroy brought along officials from the shipyard and some of the riveters. He won the trolley car, which he gave to his nine children as a Christmas gift and set it up as a playhouse in the Kilroy front yard in Halifax, Massachusetts.



Editor's Note: Snopes.com, <http://www.snopes.com/language/phrases/kilroy.asp> , also has this etymology of Kilroy. A comment by Barbara Mikkelsen in 2008 states that Kilroy "did not turn it over to his children as a Christmas gift ...; the 50-foot car was instead attached to the Kilroy home and used to provide living quarters for six of the family's nine children, thereby solving what had become an acute housing crisis for the Kilroys."

We invite any of you to send us your World War II memories of Kilroy!

SURFACE WATER BRANCH
ATLANTIC COAST AREA DISTRICT ENGINEERS CONFERENCE
SILVER SPRINGS, FLORIDA, OCTOBER 24-25, 1962



FROM LAST ROW TO FRONT ROW, LEFT TO RIGHT

HAYES	KNOX	FORREST	GAMBRELL	HENDRICKS	BOGART	DOUGHERTY	MCCALL	RIGGS
PATTERSON	CAMERON	GRIFFIN	M.WILLIAMS	STEACY	HORTON	SCHAEFER	MILLER	RICE
JOHNSON	CARTER	TAYLOR	HARTWELL	PRIDE	CRAWSFORD	MCDONALD	FERGUSON	

SENIOR WRD AND OWDC STAFF
RAMADA INN, LAKEWOOD, COLORADO



Front Row, left to right: W.E. Hofstra, A.I. Johnson, J.E. Biasecker, J.P. Monis, A. Clebsch, Jr., T.J. Buchanan

Second Row, left to right: J.E. Wagar, R.H. Langford, E.A. Moulder, J.S. Cragwall, Jr., J.T. Callahan, F.T. Schaefer

Third Row, left to right: C.L.R. Holt, Jr., L.E. Newcomb, W.H. Robinson, L.B. Laird, J.W. Geurin