

“Keeping in Touch”

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

January-March, 2016, Vol. 12, No. 1

Dates to Remember

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

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**2016
January 14
March 10
May 12
July 14
September 8
November 10**

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Mark Your Calendars

IDFG 50th Wild Game Feed Celebration

This year marked the 50th year of the Wild Game Feed, the same year we moved into the new IDFG building on Walnut Street! Although the folks would have liked at least 50 retirees/former employees to attend, only 45 made it. But it was still a huge success. It was so great to see some of the folks from “way back” and to be able to visit and catch up.

The people who attended had served the department for a total of 1,014 years. (The number in parentheses after the attendee name is the number of years they worked for IDFG.)

Attendees: Rick Alsager (29), Bert Bowler (29), Steve Elle (29), Judy J. Fisher (31), Ron Fritz (11), Bill Goodnight (25), John Heimer (33), Tom Hemker (33), Carla Hogge (20K), Bill Horton (35), Darlene “Skip” Howard (11), Bill Hutchison (36), Phil Jeppson (34), Keith Johnson (20), Jim Keating (30), Steve Kraemer (13), Lois Lunday (12), Phil Mamer (12), Luana McCauley (12), Wayne Melquist (18), Ed Mitchell (18), Marty Morache (29), John Nagel (27), Carl Nellis (28), Andy Ogden (43), Bruce Penske (34), Charlie Petrosky (29), Herb Pollard (28), Craig Potcher (12), Irene Powell (34), Tom Reinecker (36), Tom Rogers (36), Ruth Stemper (12), Norma Stewart (35), Charlie Strasser (9), Jo Toomey (14), Dale Towell (28), Les Trout (29), Jack Trueblood (17), Joan Trueblood (20), Sharon Watson (11), Royce Williams (12), Commissioner Fred Christensen served from 1978-1989, Commissioner Richard Meiers served from 1989-1999. Also, Janet Conley, widow of former Director Jerry Conley, honored us with her presence.

We retirees/former employees thank the Department and the Fun Committee so much for continuing to hold this event. We know how much time and work it takes to put this on and we “THANK YOU!”

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"Keeping in Touch,"

a newsletter for
IDFG Retirees/Families
and
Former Employees
is published
quarterly by the
IDFG Retiree Committee

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**All donations should be
made payable to
Judy Fisher and
sent to the above address.**

Welcome!!!

Terry Thomas, Regional Wildlife Habitat Manager for the Upper Snake River Region, retired December 21 after 30 years with IDFG. (*Attached to the newsletter is Terry's Retirement Party Announcement.*)

And a welcome back **Dwain Lowry**, retired SCO of the Wallace District. (*Evidently he did not return the postcard I send to all retirees to make sure they want to be included in all mailouts/e-mails. So, take this as a warning New Retirees! If you don't return the postcard, you are automatically off the Retiree mailing list!!! — JJF*)

Also, another person who did not return the postcard was **Russ Thurow** who asked to be put on the Retiree list. Well, you guys, you are officially back on the list! (*Hope it's the right one! Ha! Ha! — JJF*)

And welcome back to Retiree **Rosanne Lokker**. She moved back to Mountain Home from Michigan four years ago and we didn't know it!

Thank You for Your Generosity!!

Thank you to **Bill Hutchison**, **Roger Olson** and **Les Trout** for your most generous donations. This now takes the Newsletter balance up to \$1,107, which

will probably last until I can no longer do the news because of my "Senior Moments!" However, I will keep it up until my time is up or someone else takes it over.

Retiree Updates!

Good to see **Carl Nellis** at the IDFG Wild Game Feed. He has been spending his retirement time helping out the sick and elderly. He builds special ramps at their homes for easier access and who knows what else. A very generous person you are Carl!

Gary Ady had a full knee replacement in November. We hope you are getting around again and will be able to attend the Retiree luncheon. We wish you well, Gary, and hope to see you soon.

As previously mentioned, **Dwain Lowry** has reconnected with us. "I decided after 15 years of retirement that I should let you know I am still out here in Wallace, Idaho. . . I have been getting the newsletter forwarded by **Karen Huber** but decided I might as well get it direct. . . Just in case you don't remember who I am (my memory is short, too) I am Dwain Lowry, retired SCO of the Wallace District from 1973 to 2000. I look forward to the newsletter to keep up on what's going on since we never hear

Cont. on Page 3,
New Retirees

New Retirees, Cont. from Page 2

from the department after you retire." *(Yes, you have to make the effort to keep up with the department nowadays. Since the department stopped publication of the printed 'Contact,' which I did for years, you can go to their website:*

http://fishandgame.idaho.gov to see what is happening. — JJF)

And Dwain, just want to congratulate you and your wife, El Donna on your 50th wedding anniversary on December 14 and a late Happy Birthday to you on December 15. Your dates are on my list and expect to see them in the corresponding newsletters.

And congratulations to **Rod and Lanore Parker** on your 50th Anniversary last year, too. They celebrated with an eight-week trip to Europe. Some of the places they visited were Rome via London Heathrow airport, then to Italy for a cruise on the Mediterranean. Also, they took in almost every country there. Later in 2015 they spent a week at Lake Tahoe and 10 days in Hawaii just before Thanksgiving. *(I forwarded your e-mail describing your whole trip because it was too long for the newsletter. It was very, very interesting. Anyone without e-mail can contact me and I will be happy to send a copy to you for your enjoyment! — JJF)*

Here is an update on **Tom Frew's** latest adventures: "I guess I am eligible for some magic things now that I am 62. However, the only perk of reaching that milestone I have taken advantage of is the purchase of a lifetime National Park permit for the grand sum of \$10.00! I have 3 years into the FWS (Fish and Wildlife Service) so I have a couple more until I am eligible for retirement benefits.

"LaNae and I are really enjoying exploring this new environment. The Mohave Desert is truly a wonderful resource and is providing us with untold memories, excitement and wonder. We also love the Las Vegas area and all of the fun and games it has to offer! Fishing is not very good but we manage to have some smallmouth bass on the dinner table once in awhile.

"The work is fun and challenging. I have lost about 20 pounds and feel really great, other than a few old man aches and pains when I overwork my elbows and shoulders. The service has allowed me to continue to teach the cold water fish culture course a couple times a year, and they have involved me in an internship program where I act as a mentor to up and coming FWS wanna-be's." *(Thank you Bill Horton for forwarding this to me.)*

Well, **Kent Ball** is still not home in Salmon. He is now at the Veteran's Community Living Center at the Veteran's hospital in Boise where he was fitted with his prothesis and going through extensive rehab. He is doing well; however, he is scheduled for two surgeries before he can go home. If you wish to visit or contact Kent, his mailing address is: Veterans Administration Hospital, c/o Kent Ball, CLC Room #157, 500 W. Fort Street, Boise, ID 83702. His phone number is: 1-208-756-7574. You have to enter the number as a long distance call.

In Memoriam

Gordon D. Bunch
7/29/1947-7/12/2015

Gordon Donald Bunch of Lenore, Idaho passed away July 12, 2015 after a long battle with cancer. Gordon was the Wildlife Land Manager for IDFG from August 15, 1979 until January 27, 1984. After five years with the department, he followed his dreams of having his own land and moved to Northern Idaho where he and his family settled on a small farm in Lenore. He also worked for the U.S. Postal Service as a rural mail carrier for over 20 years. He is survived by his wife, Charlene; daughter Jessica Bunch of Lewiston; son Daniel Bunch and wife Tiffany of Bremerton, Washington. Our deepest sympathies.

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2016 Birthdays/Anniversaries of IDFG Retirees/Employees

*Current Employees

January Birthdays

Jack McNeel, January 4
Clay Cummins, January 6
Margaret Whipple, January 7
Jody Taylor, January 13
Grant Christensen, January 18
Tom Parker, January 21
Ray Lyon, January 28
Perry Johnson, January 28
Martin Luther, January 29

February Birthdays

Wes Cannon, February 1
Dave Ortmann, February 1
Greg Tourtotte, February 4
Gerald Scholten, February 12
Tom Rogers, February 16
John Nagel, February 19
Chuck Jensen, February 20
Doyle Reynolds, February 25

March Birthdays

Terry Holubetz, March 3
Kate Bethke, March 3 (93 years)
Bruce Penske, March 4
Jerry Thiessen, March 6
Ken Norrie, March 9
George Stephens, March 19
Bill Hutchison, March 24
Cheryl Bridges, March 25
John Gahl, March 28
Cathy Kopke, March 28

March Anniversaries

Ruby & Tony Tolsma, March 7, 46 years
Al & Sue Van Vooren, March 14, 5 years

Please join us for a
RETIREMENT CELEBRATION
Honoring
TERRY THOMAS

*For 30 years of service to
Idaho Department of Fish & Game*

6:00 PM Saturday, January 30, 2016 at

Ducks Unlimited Ranch

2760 East 800 North

Roberts, ID

**RSVP with \$8.00 suggested dinner donation by
January 22, 2016**

to Jeanne Salisbury, 4279 Commerce Circle,
Idaho Falls, ID. 208-525-7290 (suggested donation includes
building insurance, dinnerware, and entree)

Entrée, lemonade, and water provided.

Please bring the following according to your last name:

A-G: Appetizer

H-Q: Side Dish/ Salad

R- Z: Dessert

Please send **gift contributions** to Jeanne Salisbury at the
Upper Snake Region office.

Directions to the Ducks Unlimited Market Lake Ranch

From Idaho Falls: Travel north on Interstate 15 for approximately 18 miles to Roberts, Idaho.

Take the Roberts Exit (Exit 135) east onto E 627 N and drive to North Bassett Road (N 2880 E).

Turn north on North Bassett Road. Travel through the town of Roberts for approximately 1.75 miles to the Diamond Road (E 800 N).

Turn Left (west) onto the Diamond road and cross over Interstate 15.

The Ducks Unlimited Market Lake Ranch headquarters (formerly Western Wings property) is on the left.

