

“Keeping in Touch”

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

July-September, 2015, Vol. 11, No. 3

Dates to Remember

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

**2015
July 9
September 10
November 12**

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

Mark Your Calendars

For Your Information Regarding Your Donations

Just want to let you know that I have completely taken over the Newsletter finances since our treasurer *Jack Fisher* passed. I think I mentioned it in the last newsletter. However, I am taking the funds out of the bank because of the finance charges, which take away from the balance each month. Therefore, I will be keeping the books if you have any questions. I guarantee you that your generous donations will be used for nothing but printing, postage, and envelopes.

And, a GREAT BIG THANK YOU to the following for your extra generous donations this last quarter which gave us a total balance past the \$1,000 mark for the first time: *Wanda Hays* (Walt's widow) from Wendell; *Les Trout* from Boise; *Brad and Julie Christensen* from Terretton; *Frank NeSmith* from Reidsville, Georgia; *Al Van Voor-en* from Sandpoint; and *Bud Ainsworth* from Hagerman. I

always knew the IDFG folks had the biggest hearts!!!

Welcome New Retirees

Wow! So many of you folks are retiring! You are:

** *Tim Shelton*, Regional Wildlife Biologist in Southwestern Region, retired May 16 after 37 years.

** *Gary Georgeson*, Office Specialist 2 for Southeast Region, retired May 29 after 8 years.

** *James Roll*, Officer for the Kooskia Patrol Area, retired June 20 after 21 years.

** *Dan Hislop*, Sr. Conservation Officer in the Panhandle Region, retired June 15 after 26 years.

** *Mark Hill*, Regional Conservation Officer in the Clearwater Region, retired June 20 after 31 years.

** *Cynthia Robertson*, Natural Resource Program Coordinator with the Director's Office, retired June 26 after 30 years.

** *Brent Snider*, Fish Hatchery Manager 2 at McCall Hatchery, is retiring July 15 after 32 years.

** *Craig Potcher*, Information Systems Bureau Chief at HQ, is retiring July 28 after 12 years.

Congratulations! Enjoy!

"Keeping in Touch,"

a newsletter for
IDFG Retirees/Families
and
Former Employees
is published
quarterly by the
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**All donations should be
made payable to
Judy Fisher and
sent to the above address.**

Retiree Updates

Two of our retirees have been coping with really bad health problems. **Kent Ball**, retired Salmon Region Anadromous Fish Manager, started out being flown in to the VA Hospital in Boise in critical condition in April. He was suffering from a severe kidney infection and complications due to surgery on his ankle. He was then transferred to St. Lukes CCU. He had to have his leg amputated.

After several weeks of recovery, he was transferred to the Kindred Nursing and Rehab facility in Nampa where they specialize in or are more oriented to the rehabilitation part of care and he was expected to stay a month. *(I just called the Rehab place and was told Kent had gone home Monday, June 26.)*

Kent was really in good spirits and on May 30, he was to be fitted for his prosthetic. Kent said, "That way (fitting process) because it will still be awhile before he challenges **Stacy Gebhards** to a race. Stacy has a head start on me — but I have youth on my side so I think it will be a good race!" This paraphrase from Kent captures his mindset: "Thanks to all the FG people, both working and retired, who have sent cards and notes, made phone calls, visited in person, and generally provided well wishes for me — it means a lot." And he thanks **Bert Bowler** for bringing him fresh MJB coffee when he

visited — best tasting coffee around.

Kent's son from Nevada, Travis, spent many hours with his father helping to watch after him and making his time in recovery more bearable. *(Kent, make sure to take care of yourself and we will be waiting for your race with Stacy! I want to be there to watch and take pictures!@! jjf And a special thanks to Bert Bowler and Bill Horton for keeping me updated.)*

Randy Smith, recently retired Regional Wildlife Manager for the Magic Valley Region, was taken to the Salt Lake Regional Medical Center ICU where he underwent several major surgeries. If you want more information, you can contact **Brad Lowe** at 358-4132. Randy is recovering and was moved into a rehab facility to gain back his strength. If you would like to send cards, it is suggested that you mail them to his residence, 20 Hidden Hollow Lane, Jerome, ID 83338. His family will be in and out through the duration.

Jack McNeel said he was surprised to see the article on his writing in the last newsletter. "I was surprised at the note about me (my writing). It keeps me busy and that's important in retirement, at least in my opinion. I usually do 4 or 5 articles for each issue of the Idaho Senior Independent but I do even more

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Updates, Cont. from Page 2

for Indian Country Today which comes out of New York City and is advertised as the nation's largest Native American publication. I've been doing that since 2003 and usually write upwards of 40 stories for them a year. I really enjoy my association with Native people and am now assigned a rather large assignment that involves all the tribes in Montana, Idaho and eastern Washington. That's in addition to the various and sundry other happenings in the Indian world. I also will have an article in Montana Magazine in the May-June issue.

"I don't get rich but it's nice to get the checks and the keeping busy aspect is even more important. . . ."

Now, here is some info that Jack sent along about the Coeur d'Alene Tribe. "The Coeur d'Alene Tribe is the bst friend the city of Coeur d'Alene could have." (*The vetoing of the bill regarding instant horse racing machines will definitely hurt the Tribe.*) Here are a few examples of the Tribe's generosity. "Coeur d'Alene was awarded a Kroc Center a few years back in competition with some major towns. I may not be correct but I think the final three were Chicago, Las Vegas and CDA. CDA won out due to community

support and we now have an amazing building that combines all sorts of physical fitness equipment, pools, gyms, plus a large auditorium, etc. The CDA Tribe donated \$1 million to that and it's extremely likely CDA wouldn't have won out were it not for the tribe. And they did it with no strings attached.

"The CDA Chamber of Commerce needed a new office/visitor center and the Tribe gave \$100,000 with no strings attached. The Tribe has donated about \$22 million to education since they began the gaming business. They voluntarily pledged to give 5% annually from the beginning even before anything was required from them. That money is distributed to schools around the state but largely in this area, including CDA schools and North Idaho College.

"I did a story about a year ago concerning the Tribes donations to Post Falls schools. It seems that a significant number of students there had very little to eat on weekends due to parents with little money. The Tribe provided packs of food for these students to take home on Friday afternoons to tide them over till Monday when they would be fed at the schools.

"The point of all this is that they're great neighbors — and truly good people — and we townspeople certainly don't begin to return the likes to them.

Then our local legislators voted against the Tribe (like the instant horse racing machine deal) even knowing that it could cause harm to the Tribe in the long term and in turn affect what the Tribe can do for the communities in the future."

Well, Jack, I wish there was a possibility of getting them to run our corrupted government. America would be in a much better place if they were in charge!@! And thank you for all your good work. Keep us informed, will you? — JJF

In Memoriam

**Lloyd E. Oldenburg
1930 - 2015**

Lloyd E. Oldenburg, age 84, passed away at a Meridian, ID hospital Saturday, May 30, 2015. He was born on November 28, 1930 at a Tyler, MN hospital. He grew up in Florence, MN and graduated from Russell, MN High School in 1948. His parents were Gus and Viola Oldenburg. In 1951, he married Edna Johnson, his high school sweetheart. They celebrated 68 years together and 63 years of marriage. Survivors include two sons, Wade Oldenburg (Michele) of Meridian, and Perry Oldenburg (Carmen) of Boise; and one daughter, Greta Doyle (Dan) of Eagle, ID. Lloyd was extremely proud of his grandchildren,

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In Memoriam

In Memoriam, Cont. from Page 3

Chrys, Nick, and Chantel Oldenburg, Jordyn Oldenburg, Amanda and Gabriella Doyle and two great grandsons; Rowan and Zayden Oldenburg and one step-granddaughter, Morgan. He is also survived by numerous nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his parents, one brother and two sisters.

He was a U.S. Air Force Korean War veteran and received Bachelors and Masters Degrees in Wildlife Management from South Dakota State University. He was a research biologist and regional wildlife manager for South Dakota Game, Fish and Parks from 1958-61 where he assisted in bighorn transplanting to the Slim Buttes. From 1961-66 he was a biologist for North Dakota Game and Fish Department where he participated in California bighorn transplants in that state.

Lloyd worked for the Idaho Department of Fish and Game as a statewide Wildlife Research and State Wildlife Manager from 1971 until his retirement in 1996. In those capacities he managed all big game, field research projects for several species, and supervised all bighorn research and management. He was responsible for preparing all bighorn plans including trapping, transplanting and interstate/province trades. His interest and knowledge of

bighorn sheep continued after his retirement where he worked with FNAWS (Foundation for North American Wild Sheep)/later changed to WSF (Wild Sheep Foundation) to expand cooperative projects such as the Hells Canyon initiative. He had a personal acquaintance with virtually all people who work with bighorn sheep in North America.

No public services were held. He was committed in a private family service at the Veterans Cemetery in Boise, ID. Donations may be made to the Lloyd Oldenburg Scholarship Fund, to assist students in the field of Wildlife Management to achieve their college education goals in care of the Idaho Wild Sheep Foundation on line at: www.idahowildsheep.org or by mail at P.O. Box 8224, Boise, ID 83707, or call the

office at 208 345-6171.

Our deepest sympathies for the Oldenburg family.

* * * *

Last Minute Item Because of Lapse of My Memory!!

Wow! Getting older doesn't have many pluses, does it!

Had a call from *Les Trout* a couple of weeks ago. He said he was cooking in his kitchen when something caught fire and the back of his home was destroyed. He got out okay and wasn't hurt. He had to move in with his daughter Cathy (*hope the spelling is correct*) until it is repaired. See you at the luncheon next time, Les, for your update!

Happy Anniversaries

July

Dan & Gail Papp, July 19, 47 years

August

Tom & Becky Rogers, August 20
Frank & Judy NeSmith, August 21, 51 years

September

Milt & Beverly Williams, September 7, 63 years.

Congratulations!

Happy Birthdays!

July Birthdays

Larry Hlavaty & Paul Sommerfeld, July 1
Butch Welch, July 3
John Scott & Phyllis Kochert, July 9
John Beecham & Lois Lunday, July 10
Fred Christensen, July 14
Sharon Clark* & Joe Blackburn, July 15
Rod Duke, July 22
Jo Toomey & Steve Barton, July 25
Wayne Melquist, July 28
Dale Tankersley, July 29
Diane Ronayne & Dale Toweill, July 30

August Birthdays

Monte Richards, August 2, 90 years
Jeff Copeland & Bert Bowler, August 4
Herb Pollard & Mick Hoover*, August 5
Kris Van Cleave, August 14
Lonn Kuck & Will Reid, August 15
Frank Morgan, August 17
Dan Papp, August 20
Gary Will, Tom Reinecker & Keith Kiler, August 21
Norm Guth & Leon Strickland, August 26
Stacy Gebhards, August 31

September Birthdays

Rick Gilchrist, September 1
Bob Vaughn & Tom Leege, September 3
Al Van Vooren, September 4
Irene Powell, September 10 (86 years)
Dee Powell, September 1 (89 years)
Ted Chu, September 11
Phil Jeppson, September 13
Dwight Kilgore & Steve Pettit, September 15
Chuck Garey, September 20
Julie Mulholland* & Jim Keating, September 21
Vickie Keating, Mel Sadecki & Norma Stewart, September 22
Eldon Anglen, September 29

Congratulations to All!!!