

"Keeping in Touch"

Quarterly Newsletter by/for Idaho Dept. Of Fish & Game Retirees/
Families
and Interested Former Employees



July 2009 Vol. 5, No. 3

IDFG Celebrates 110 Years

By Mick Hoover, Asst. Mgr./IDFG Curator, Mackay Fish Hatchery &
Sharon Clark, Technical Records Specialist/IDFG Archivist

Dates to Remember

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

2009

July 8
Sept. 10
November 12

Mark Your Calendars!

Last Call!!!

If you haven't made your reservations for the August 8 Retiree Reunion, please do so by July 15. We must have a head count for the caterer. Print out the reservation sheet from the website or if you receive your newsletter by mail, the reservation sheet is attached.

Also, if you have something that you would like to donate for the auction, etc., please contact Ralph Pehrson at 343-3945 or e-mail him at: Repehr@gmail.com

Something for you to think

about: We aren't sure how many more of these reunions there will be since none of us are getting any younger and we aren't getting much response from the younger retirees. Who knows! We know the economic situation doesn't encourage much traveling during these hard times, but maybe by getting together and having a little fun...it might just ease the burden a bit!!

On May 5th, 2009, the Idaho Department of Fish and Game celebrated 110 years of fish and wildlife conservation in Idaho. This statement may confuse many of you, as 1938 has become a common reference point for most current employees relative to the Department and its beginnings.

On May 5, 1899, Governor Frank Steunenberg appointed Charles H. Arbuckle Idaho's first State Game Warden, who was assigned the task of creating a statewide department to enforce the 1864 Game Laws. From 1899 to 1938, fifteen men were appointed the title of State Game Warden that is synonymous with the Department's Director today. In 1939, with the passage of the 1938 Fish and Game Commission Act by Initiative Petition, the Governor would appoint a Fish and Game Commission and the Commission would select a person for the position of Director. Thirteen Directors have been appointed to date.

The State Game Wardens came from various walks of life, employed in many different professions, some holding prominent positions in state and

federal government either before and/or after serving as State Game Warden. The first State Game Warden was a representative from Owyhee County at the time of his appointment and would later become a member of the Boise Police Force and a U.S. Marshall and there was yet another who would also become a U.S. Marshall. There were also sheriffs, engineers, lawyers, newspaper owners and editors, postmasters, druggists, farmers, and miners. These men were very different but each took their position as State Game Warden seriously. They brought to the Department new thoughts and ideas and a desire to protect and propagate Idaho's fish and wildlife resources.

Many programs and ideas initiated or recommended by those appointed State Game Warden might surprise you. They include:

1899-1900: laws to restrict the spearing and seining of fish; a bag limit on fish, big game, game birds and waterfowl; that song birds should be protected; the need for the Department to be self sustaining and a fee to hunt and fish in Idaho would make that possible; a dedicated staff was needed to

Continued Page 3, IDFG 110 Yrs



“Keeping in Touch,”
a newsletter for IDFG Retirees/
Families
and Interested Former
Employees
is published quarterly by the
IDFG Retiree Committee.

Ralph Pehrson
tiffey@aol.com

Jack Fisher
jackfish@msn.com

Joe Greenley
Joegreenley@cableone.net

Bill Goodnight
Idaholc@aol.com

Jo Toomey
Jetset1932@hotmail.com

Corinne Barlow
Rogcor22@cableone.net

Judy Fisher
JJFishe938@q.com

Write or Send News Items to:
IDFG Retirees
PMB 401
3313 W Cherry Ln
Meridian ID 83642

Or email:
JFisher938@q.com

*All donations should be sent to
the above address*

New Retirees!

We want to welcome some new members to the Retirees' Group.

Rodney C. Duke retired May 29 from his position at the Clearwater Region. He was a Sr. Fishery Research Biologist where the majority of his time was spent marking fish. His last day in office was March 20.

And I bet you never thought you would see the day when these two would retire but they are doing it. **Cheryl Bridges** (Enforcement Bureau) is retiring July 31 after 32 years of service with IDFG. And **Cathy Kopke** (Human Resources) is retiring August 31 after 23 years with IDFG for a total of 41 years of state service. Her last day on the job will be June 30.

Welcome to all of you. Hope to see you at the Retiree Luncheons soon.

Program Schedule re: Kyle Miller

As you read in the April issue, **Larry Miller's** son Kyle is a true hero. Here is the latest information from Larry regarding the "Higher Ground Outdoors" schedule featuring Kyle's appearance:

It is confirmed, that Kyle's Shows will air on "Higher Ground Outdoors, Pursuing the Heart of America," on the Outdoor Channel on Thursday, July 2, @ 12:30 PM Eastern/ 9:30 AM Pacific, and Sunday July 5, @ 4:00 PM Eastern/1:00 PM Pacific for the first show. The second show will be the following week at the same times. I hope you will watch and enjoy a different kind of Outdoor Show.

For those of you close enough, we (Kyle and I and our families) will be at O'Malley's Sports Pub in Rathdrum watching the show on the big screen, July 5 th @ 1:00 PM.. Please come and join us!! If you don't get the Outdoor Channel, maybe you can do what we are doing and find a sports bar and convince them to show the program.

I am sure we will be getting a DVD of the shows AFTER they air, so that we can share them with others.

Thanks, Larry, for keeping us posted on air dates. Can't miss this one!

More Thank You's!

Thank you to **Osborne "Myra" Casey** and **Bud Ainsworth** for their generous donations to the Retirees' newsletter fund. Your donations are what keep us going!

Continued from page 1

enforce the game laws; and a fish hatchery was much needed to replenish Idaho's vanishing fisheries.

1905-1910: the introduction of the revolving fish screen to prevent fish from entering irrigation ditches and canals; the state's first fish hatchery was built at Hay Spur and the profession of fish culture is introduced in Idaho; transferring and planting of game birds between different areas of the state was done with much success; establishment of Idaho's first pheasant farm is made in the Boise area; a program for the extermination of predatory animals – specifically wolves, coyotes, wild cats and cougars – is put in place; the first State Game Wardens Convention was held in eastern Idaho; Chinese pheasants were introduced into Idaho.

1911-1912: it is recommended fishing in the Redfish Lakes be closed because the redfish are becoming scarce and there is concern they will be totally depleted.

1912-1913: recommendation of a "coupon" system for elk and deer hunters of which one coupon will be affixed to the animal and the other sent to the Department to estimate the number of animals killed during the season and to help ensure hunters are taking only the allowed number of animals.

1913-1914: the State Game Warden hires Idaho's first woman game warden – Mrs. Mabel Avery; Edison Studio Films of New York makes the first known educational moving picture of Idaho big game near Ashton titled "Big Game and their Legal Rights."

1914: recommendations are made to prohibit disguising the sex and species of birds and animals and that there is a need for uniform

laws governing Bear Lake between Idaho and Utah; the Dept. conducts the first economic survey of fishing and hunting in Idaho with statewide impacts of over \$3 million; a food value was placed on fish and game with deer being \$.20 per pound, elk at \$80.00 each and Mountain Sheep at \$10.00 each; Recommended the Dept. be controlled by a commission, consisting of the Governor, the Attorney General, the Secretary of State, and one citizen not holding office, to appoint a State Game Warden, who would then be the executive head of the commission with a term of 6 years.

1915-1916: 50 elk, 15 bulls/35 cows, are transplanted from Montana into Idaho.

1919-1922: Recommendations are made that women and children under 15 could fish free but women and children over 15 need a hunting license.

1935-36: recommendation is made for appropriations for the scientific study and treatment of diseases in fish and game.

1937: the first official statewide survey of Idaho's fish and game species.

State Game Wardens:

1899-1900: Charles H. Arbuckle
1901-1902: Thomas Wilson Bartley
1903-1904: William Van Iorns
1905-1910: William N. Stephens
1911-1912: Ben R. Gray
1912-1913: Frank M. Kendall
1913-1914: Orrin H. Barber
1914: J. B. Gowen
1915-1916: Leroy C. Jones
1917-1918: William H. Thorp
1919-1922: Otto M. Jones
1923-1930: R. E. Thomas
1931-1936: Amos Eckert
1937: Merle P. Bailey
1938: William McIntyre

The first "acting Director" for the Department would be the state's last State Game Warden, William R. McIntyre. Since then, 12 men have served as Director and like the State Game Warden's before them, they have initiated numerous programs and carried out the task of managing the Department.

Directors:

1939: William McIntyre: Department's first Acting Director
1939: A.B. Hatch
1939-1942: Owen Morris
1942-1947: James O. Beck
1947-1953: Thomas B. Murray
1953-1962: Ross Leonard
1962-1971: John R. Woodworth
1971-1979: Joe Greenley
1980-1996: Jerry M. Conley
1997-1999: Stephen Mealey
2000-2002: Rod Sando
2002-2006: Steven M. Huffaker
2007 – Current: Cal Groen

"To the first Fish and Game Warden of the state the sportsmen are indebted. He placed the first check on the slaughter of birds and game animals and did the pioneer work in laying the foundation on which the department could grow to its present proportions." (State Game Warden Leroy C. Jones, January 1, 1917)

To all the State Game Wardens and the Department's Directors, we, the present and past employees are indebted. Without guidance of having done it before, those before us carved the direction we pursue today.



Retiree News/Activities

The On-going Saga of the “Blue Goose”

Here’s the latest from **Dick Orcutt**: “Peg and I spent all of March and half of April fishing for steelhead at Riggins and the Grangeville area. We had an exciting time and caught fish in the rain, snow, wind and even some sunny days (rare). The locals in Riggins said ‘It never snows here in March and April.’ Right! We had a good opportunity to watch deer, elk and other wildlife wintering in the canyon. We’re headed back next year for another fishing trip of a life time. Meantime, we’re getting ready to leave for the salmon season and stay until mid-July. We do like to fish and by now I know who always catches the big ones!

“Since returning from up north, I’ve been fishing for kokanee at Lucky Peak with **Ralph Pehrson** and **Bill Platts**. Occasionally we get a glimpse of other retirees passing by in their boats. Most realize Ralph’s fishing reputation and Bill’s possessive nature towards his hooded lawn chair, so they try not to notice the ‘Blue Goose’ sitting up front.

“Me being captain provides an opportunity to keep an eye on the crew. Ralph can resort to dirty tactics if he isn’t catching all the fish. Case in point: Bill hooked a 31/2 lb. kokanee and had it up to the yacht when Ralph volunteered to net it. His backhand is matched by none. He expertly struck the fish on the snout, thus releasing it unharmed. I’ve never seen Bill cry before.

Bill, not being one to be out done, asked Ralph for more of his secret bait. As Ralph handed him this old family recipe, Bill ‘accidentally’ dropped it and it spilled all over the carpeted floor. When this happens, the bait is rendered useless because of contamination, according to Ralph. Bill had to resort to white corn but did hook more fish.

“The only acknowledgment we heard from Ralph was, ‘You couldn’t pay me enough to net your fish.’”

Oh, you just thought Ralph didn’t have something much to say. Just read this:

“Much has been written lately about the trials and tribulations of three supposedly expert kokanee fishermen. Just to clarify a couple of points, Bill Platts’ success has to be attributed to the fact that he is using someone else’s fishing pole, lures, bait, a luxurious canopy chair (The Blue Goose) and a fancy boat with an ‘expert captain’ in charge.

“As for the reckless spilling and contamination of the secret bait he has been using, that was the last of the supply and may not be available again for replacement. To compensate for his tragic loss, I have resorted to returning to a traditional never fail bait. Thanks to Peggy and Joe, I am now equipped to put it to use provided I can get back on the water once my ‘buddies’ stop playing around with mountain lakes and salmon fishing.
– *Ralph P*”

Just received word that **Louise Snodgrass** has been in rehab again in Ontario, Oregon after she fell and broke another hip. **Lorrie**

Parrish has been trying to get some more information but the retirement home and rehab center are very reluctant to give out any information. We’ll keep you posted.

Al Van Vooren spent a day in April planting bitter brush with **Mary Dudley** and a bunch of volunteers. Al informed us that one of the volunteers just happened to be a retiree **Bill Diederich** who worked for Region 3 maintaining public access areas. For some reason, we were not informed of his retirement and we are happy to say that we now have him on our Retirees’ List. Welcome to the group, Bill!

Back from down “South,” **Kent Ball** is trying to catch up on his accumulated chores. Of course, just as he returned home, it snowed and the weather was bad for about two weeks.

Here is the latest word from **Margaret Whipple**: “We are holding on down here (Vegas). I am doing great — volunteering 4 days a week and bowling at one of the casinos. Neil is doing as good as can be expected; still on dialysis 4 times a week and longer sessions. His kidneys have completely stopped working. He is unable to do much and no longer goes shopping with me; so I go early — 6 a.m. after I drop him off at the dialysis center

“I still mow the grass, do laundry, and try to keep house, but he is not one to put things away so housework gets done in the early mornings after I drop him off. We are fortunate as we only have to go 5 miles to the center and I am able to come back home. Before he

was downtown and it took almost all day. With it so hot, I cannot do much in the afternoon, so I do a lot early in the morning and when it comes 11 or 12, I just quit. Rest in the afternoons. Today it was 100 at 3 p.m. BUT can you believe I am awake at 5:15 in the morning — this is not me. But I guess early to bed and early to rise, makes me get things done. Just getting old and sassy.”

Karen Fisher's art exhibit at St. Alphonsus Hospital in April was a huge success. She has sold many of her paintings and we hope she keeps using her great talent to create many more.

After receiving my e-mail regarding Karen's exhibit, **Wayne Melquist** e-mailed that he was very impressed and said he would be seeing some of the animals in the painting when he travels to Namibia for a hunting and sight-seeing safari. (*Wayne, we expect a report on your trip highlights!*)

I must apologize to **Frank NeSmith** for not getting more of his columns on the website. And, Frank, I have been so busy lately that I haven't had time to read your book. That is next on my agenda. I know that everyone enjoys reading your work so I promise to get on it as soon as I can. When you get your book published, please let me know so that I can get a copy to pass around. I'm sure there will be many interested people here who will want one.

In Memoriam

Sandra Arlene Morgan – Memorial graveside services were held April 2, 2009 at Terrace Lawn Memorial Gardens for Sandra Arlene Morgan who died on March 29, 2009 at her home in Boise at the age of 68. Sandra retired from Fish and Game in 2006.

During her life, Sandra belonged to the Job's Daughters and Beta Sigma Phi Sorority. Sandra is survived by son, Michael Morgan; sister, Dusty Keene; brother, Guy Matthews, sister-in-law, Alice Matthews; and numerous nieces, nephews, cousins, and other relatives. Memorial may be made to a favorite charity.

Marie L. Arano Wilson – Marie L. Arano Wilson, 83, of Nampa, passed away May 21, 2009 at home in Nampa. (Marie was the widow of **Richard "Dick" Wilson**, a land manager for the department for 37 years.) Services were held May 26 at St. Paul's Catholic Church in Nampa. Marie was a registered nurse who worked for several valley hospitals and doctors. She then retired to marry her high school sweetheart, Richard A. Wilson on April 17, 1982 at St. Paul's Catholic Church in Nampa. In February 1993, Richard was diagnosed with pancreatic cancer and following two surgeries passed away on April 3, 1993.

Marie was a member of the Idaho Nurses Association and Catholic Daughters of the Americas. She is survived by a sister, Vivian Arano Lynch, Nampa, Idaho; many nieces and nephews, five grandsons, six granddaughters, four great

grandchildren and several cousins. Memorials may be made to the Mercy Medical Center Hospice Program, the Basque Museum in Boise or St. Paul's Church Building fund.

Marjorie (Marne) L. Biladeau — Marjorie (Marne) L. Biladeau passed away on May 24, 2009 at the age of 93. Marne married **Ted Biladeau** (Ted worked in Engineering when he retired) on May 19, 1939. Marne and Ted had two daughters, Susan Banister (Gary) and Candace Medders (Gary) and three sons, Ted Jr. (Kathy), Jay (Nancy) and Dirk which has to date resulted in 11 grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren.

Marne started work for Ma Bell at the age of 18. Thirtysome years later she decided to retire and focus her attentions on putting Ted in his place on the golf course. Lifetime membership at the Plantation Golf Course resulted in Marne establishing a low handicap and many golfing buddies and lifetime friends. Marne is survived by her brother Bobby, her two daughters and three sons, her many grandchildren and great grandchildren. A celebration of Marne's life was held at her home at 2802 W. Bannock St. on May 30, 2009. Condolences to the family may be submitted online at www.CloverdaleFuneralHome.com.

Leon Willard Murphy – Leon passed away peacefully at home on May 29, 2009. He was born July 12, 1923, in Caldwell, Idaho. He attended high school in

Caldwell, where he graduated in 1941. He was active in basketball, football and track. He attended the College of Idaho in 1942. During his freshman year, he enlisted in the U.S. Navy Reserve. While serving in the Navy, he attended the University of Idaho, Southern Branch of Pocatello and Columbia University in New York City, receiving his commission as ensign in 1944. During his assignment as training officer at Asbury Park, N.J., he married Hayward Baker in November 1944. He served on board the destroyer U.S.S. Vogelgesang until his discharge in 1946.

He resumed his formal education at the University of Washington, graduating from the School of Fisheries in 1949. He served with the Idaho Fish and Game Department in successive fishery positions from 1949 to 1966. He was stationed in Grangeville for seven years as district fishery biologist and was coordinator for the Idaho Columbia River salmon and steelhead program when he left Idaho for a position with the U.S. Forest Service in Portland, as the first fisheries biology for the Pacific Northwest region.

In 1981, he was promoted to the position of the first regional director of fish and wildlife. Under his direction, many innovative fish and wildlife habitat management activities were initiated, in coordination with other federal agencies and state fish and wildlife agencies in Washington and Oregon. He was a member of the American Fisheries Society, serving as president of the Oregon chapter in 1972. He also was a

member of the Wildlife Society and the Izaak Walton League of America. He was a longtime member of St. Matthew's Episcopal Church, Portland.

Leon retired in 1983. He continued to enjoy hunting, fishing and woodworking. His wife, Hayward, died in 1989. In 1990 he married Audrey Russell of Grangeville. She died in 1994. He is survived by his longtime companion, Phyllis Short of Prineville; daughter, Susan Murphy of Portland; son, Steven Murphy and his wife, Nicole of Portland; and grandsons, Jake and Nolan of Portland.

Memorial services were held June 13 at the Canyon Hill Cemetery in Caldwell. Please sign the online guest book at www.oregonlive.com/obits.

Jane Fisher – Jane Fisher, 83 (former wife of **Jack Fisher**), Albany, Oregon passed away Saturday, June 13. Memorial services will be in Albany, Oregon on June 29 and interment will be June 30 at the Willamette National Military Cemetery in Portland. A memorial service for friends and acquaintances will be held in Boise Saturday, August 29, at the Trinity Presbyterian Church, 4601 S. Surprise Way.

Jane served in the U.S. Coast Guard during World War II stationed in New York City and Seattle. She was very active in Veterans' affairs in both Idaho and Oregon.

Our deepest sympathies to all the families.



Happy Birthday!!

Lois Lunday — July 10
Jo Toomey — July 25
Mick Hoover — August 5
Colleen Cade — August 8
(no gifts, just send money)

Dan Papp — August 20
Lorrie Spiker Parrish — August 24

(If you want to sneak in a Birthday Wish for someone, just let me know!)



To Heck With The Economy!!
Let's Celebrate!!

Time Again for the IDFG Retirees' Reunion!
August 8, 2009 – Boise, Idaho

Don't Miss the Fun!

Make your reservations now! ALL RETIREES, PAST and PRESENT EMPLOYEES, and FRIENDS are invited. Lots of fun and good conversation available. Just \$20 takes care of your registration, continental breakfast, hospitality hour and dinner. *(Notice the cost is the same as last time!)*

Registration: *Begins at 9 a.m., Saturday, August 8, in the Boise Headquarters Trophy Room, 600 S. Walnut. A complimentary Continental Breakfast will be available during registration. As in the past, come prepared with an update of your activities since the last reunion.*

Raffle: Bring extra spending money for the raffle and silent auction! The committee is again gathering some great gifts for the raffle and door prizes. You will remember that the money from the raffle helps defray the costs of the reunion. *(If you have an item you wish to donate, please let us know. We will gladly accept all your donations!)* If you have any questions, call Ralph Pehrson at 343-3945 or e-mail him at tiffey@aol.com <<mailto:tiffey@aol.com>> .

Lunch Break: As in the past, lunch is on your own so you are free to do whatever you wish. There are many local attractions in the surrounding area.

Dinner at 6 p.m. At 4 p.m., the group will reconvene at Municipal Park for the social hour. The same great menu will be catered by American Catering as in the past: Ribeye steak and BBQ chicken, corn on the cob, baked beans, dinner rolls, salads, and strawberry shortcake for dessert, including soft drinks (iced tea, lemonade, coffee), beer and wine. Leave your diet at home!!

Cost & Deadline for Reservations: \$20.00 per person by July 15. Children 6 years and under are FREE!

Idaho Dept. of Fish and Game Retirees' Reunion – August 8, 2009
(Make Checks to: IDFG Retiree Reunion)

____ Yes, I plan to attend the reunion and dinner. Number of persons (including myself) _____

Name(s) of those attending: _____

____ I am enclosing \$20 per person. Amount enclosed: \$ _____

Send to:

IDFG Retirees, PMB 401, 3313 W. Cherry Lane, Meridian, ID 83642