

FWS Retirees Association

NEWSLETTER

February 2015



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Reunion 2015 – Corpus Christi

“Time’s a’Wastin, Folks”

Are you still sitting on your butts trying to decide whether or not to join us? What’s to decide? Corpus Christi awaits and the cut-off date for reservations at the *Holiday Inn at the Marina* at our reduced rate is fast approaching. And all the good flight times may be booked if you delay any longer.

The FWS Retirees Reunion runs from Sunday, March 1 through Thursday, March 5. Room rates for the event are \$116/night (plus tax) and that includes one full breakfast per room. The hotel will honor this rate for three days prior to Saturday, February 28 and for one day after the Reunion (on a space available basis). A very limited number of rooms can be had at that rate for Friday, March 6: after that, none will be available at the preferred rate.

But you must make your reservations by **Friday, February 20, 2015** in order to get that rate or even to be assured of getting a room at any rate. Reservations can be made in any of three ways:

1. Phone the hotel directly at 361-882-1700;
2. Use the hotel’s “direct-link” website at www.holidayinn.com/corpuscdtwnxtx ;or
3. Call the national Holiday Inn Reservation Desk at 1-877-424-2449.

A special reservation code has been set up for you to make your reservations. The code is simply “FWS”. If you have any difficulties, call Board member Jerry Grover at 503-684-1809 or e-mail him at Groverjerry.judy@att.net .

You’re going to love *The Holiday Inn at the Marina*. It sits right on the Texas Gulf Coast and provides amenities to please even the most discriminating. Apart from their clean, comfy rooms, the hotel offers a first class restaurant and lounge, health and fitness facilities (including a steam room and lockers), an

indoor/outdoor rooftop pool with a panoramic view of the marina, a business center and free in-room internet and wireless access. They also provide an airport shuttle and complimentary parking for guests.

The hotel is within walking distance of much of Corpus Christi’s nightlife, with its many fine restaurants and drinking emporiums. It’s also close to other attractions such as the Convention Center, the USS Lexington Aircraft Carrier, and the Texas State Aquarium.



“What’s Happenin”

This Reunion is jam-packed with activities so be sure to rest up before you leave home. Registration will begin in the afternoon on **Sunday, March 1**. Later that afternoon we will have the second “Greenwalk Walk for Wildlife” at the Nueces Delta Wildlife Preserve. Those who sign up will have the options of viewing the local flora and fauna over courses of one to three kilometers. Should you care not to walk, just join the group for a barbeque dinner. This will be an extra cost event (\$30/person) with the proceeds going to the Aransas NWR Friends group. For those not going out to the Preserve, you may wish to connect with other retirees for some other interesting side activity. We will again have the “*Sign-up Genius*” program available to help folks make arrangements for other such activities.

Monday, March 2 will be the official beginning of the Reunion. Following opening remarks, FWS’s Bill Bartusch and Larry McKinney from the Hart Institute on the Health of the Gulf will speak and answer questions on local hot topics, including the use of surrogate species, the recovery of the gulf following the recent storms and oil spills, and how climate change might affect gulf coast resources. We also hope to get an NGO conservation organization speaker to give us their perspective on how well the FWS is doing in meeting its mission goals and what future opportunities may exist. Later on Monday morning, Dr. Liz Smith of the International Crane Foundation will present “*Whooping Crane 101*”, a brief intro on the biology and ecology of the species we are going to see on the morrow. Monday afternoon will be free time: we are working on a city sightseeing tour for those who care to go. But be back in time because that evening, we will have our ***Icbreaker Social*** with hearty snacks and hors d’oeuvres.

Tuesday, March 3 is Tour Day. We have arranged for tours of the Aransas NWR including boat trips to the best whooping crane viewing sites. We will do this in three shifts to be able to maximize the number of folks who can get on a boat. The boat's capacity is limited to 37 passengers, so we can only accommodate a total of 111 people for the three shifts. Consequently, the first to register and sign up for this part of the tour will be able to participate. However, there is no limit on the number who can take the ground tours of the refuge. Lunches will be provided during the ground tour portion of the trip.



Tuesday evening will be free time and dinner on your own.

The following morning, **Wednesday March 4**, Regional Director Ben Tuggle and FWS Deputy Director Jim Kurth will let us know what's happening at the regional and national levels. This will be followed by a talk from the 2014 Duck Stamp contest winner and a very enlightening panel discussion headed up by Robert Jess of the Service. Panelists will discuss *border issues* and how they affect wildlife and wildlife management. For that panel, we hope to include representatives of both the U.S. and Mexican Border Patrols. Also in the morning, we will again have representatives from the National Association of Retired Federal Employees (NARFE) to fill us in on retirement benefits and pending legislation/policy of concern to retirees.

The afternoon is free time for whatever you choose to do but be sure to be back in time for our **Silent Auction and Retiree Banquet**. Our banquet speaker will be noted nature photographer and videographer, *Louie Schwartzberg*, who will certainly interest and entertain all who attend.

Thursday is the final day of the Reunion and is Wrap-up day. The Heritage Committee will meet in the morning and your Board will provide a summary of the results of our Association business meeting. This will be followed by a Remembrance of Colleagues, Reunion evaluation, and closing announcements.

Silent Auction. Our Silent Auction is one of our major fund-raising events and a chance for you to get some great bargains on high quality merchandise and other amenities. Bob Streeter, our lead on the silent auction, has done a bang up job gathering goodies to tempt you to either open your wallets or go home regretting a missed opportunity. Among the offerings, Steve Rideout is again putting up a one-week stay at his three bedroom vacation cabin on Lake Ambajejus in northern Maine as one of the items up for grabs. The cabin has a full kitchen, ¾ bath, well water, electricity, satellite TV, and phone. It also has a canoe and kayak for your use. Just bring your swimsuits, beach towels, and your own food and drink; everything else will be provided.



Penobscot River or, should you long for ocean views, Acadia National Park is just a 2 ½ hour trip from the cabin. The cabin will be available on a mutually agreeable week in July or August 2015.

The lake is part of a connected 5 lake system of over 18,000 acres with myriad islands, coves and great places to swim and fish. There's also whitewater rafting on the nearby West Branch



For the discriminating art collector, there will be over a dozen wildlife prints and originals, some framed and some not, some signed and some not. And if you remember our speaker at the Kalispell Reunion, photographer Joel Sartore is donating a signed print of one of his collection.

We will also have a beautiful pair of hooded merganser decoys for the



auction. These were picked up by Denny Holland at a recent visit to Chincoteague specifically for the silent auction. They are the work of Roe Terry, a world renowned carver, and are worth several hundred dollars each. Wouldn't they look just great in your collection?

Or perhaps you'd prefer to bid on a carved western grebe or a hand carved duck decoy being provided by Ducks Unlimited.



Want something very different and crafted by one of our own? Remember Dave Hall, retired from LE but who left us last July (see our September 2014 newsletter). Dave's wife, Sara, has donated several items of jewelry carved by Dave, including a scrimshaw elk on ivory belt buckle. That would be one way to remember one of our great ones.

As at past reunions, we also expect to have a fine collection of other goodies such as field glasses from Leupold-Stevens, other field equipment and clothing as well as some electronics.

Other Activities.

Whether you plan to come early, stay late, or just use your free time in the afternoons during the reunion, there are lots of things to keep you busy in the Corpus Christi area. If you're into fishing, what could be better than the Gulf Coast, with the Marina just outside your hotel doorstep? Charter boat fishing or just dropping a line from the shore can be productive. The timeframe for this reunion is still in the heart of the migratory

bird season. There will still be lots of neo-tropical migrants (including some exotics) as well as waterfowl, herons, egret and cranes (think whooping cranes) to help you fill out your lifetime bird lists. The Corpus Christi area is home to several loops of the Great American Birding Trails and the Great Texas Wildlife Trails system. Check them out online for more info.

For the avid golfer, there are several local courses to be considered, including the prestigious Northshore Golf Club, a tough links style course that has taunted many well-known professionals. For history buffs, this area is also loaded. Especially noteworthy is the presence of the USS Lexington, the historic aircraft carrier that played such a crucial role in the Pacific during World War II. The Texas State Aquarium will provide an interesting afternoon as well.

Whatever else you want to do, we encourage you to **use the Sign-up Genius** on our website to coordinate and connect with other retirees with similar tastes in leisure activities. The Board will have its hands full running the reunion and its many events and will not be able to coordinate other activities that you might want to pursue.

Sign Up TODAY!

You don't want to miss this year's Retiree Reunion, but **you do need to register now! Do Not Delay.** The event is less than four weeks away. The deadline for hotel reservations is **February 20** and by that time we have to know how many of you will join us, especially if you want in on the boat trip at Aransas NWR.

A mail-in **Registration Form** is attached at the end of this newsletter. Or, if you prefer, you can register for the reunion online at our website www.fwsretirees.org. Click on the "What's New" tab. The registration fee is a modest \$100 per person and includes all break refreshments, the Icebreaker Social, all tour costs, and the Retiree Banquet. Only the Greenwalk Walk for Wildlife is extra (\$30/person) and that event is optional.

Who's gonna be there.

Here are the names of those who have already decided to join the fun at the FWS Retirees Reunion at Corpus Christi. More sign-ups are expected in the coming weeks. Get your names in here or miss out on a good time.

Gail Baker
Nell and Joe Baldacchino
Brian Cain
Gail and Peter Carmody
Joe and Faith Carroll
Dom and Beth Ciccone
Richard and Nancy Coon
Robin Fields
Don and Luann Fortenberry
Ron Fowler
Ken and Donna Garner
Dave and Marilou Gilbert
Jerry and Judy Grover
Sarah Hall
Bruce and Mary Ellen Halstead
Denny and Kathy Holland
Clay and Charlene Hardy
Deborah Holle-Friggle and Terry Friggle
Ron Hood
Skip Ladd

Curt Laffin and Carol Wallace
Tom and Joan McAndrews
Jim McKeivitt
Gary and Darlene Meggers
Bob and Irma Miller
Phil and Karen Morgan
Marvin Moriarty
Mamie Parker
Matt Perry
Don Redfern and Peggy Galbreth
Larry and Carleen Shanks
Jim and Rose Shaw
Franklin and Robin Smith
Jerome Smith
Tom Smith
Bob and Cathy Stevens
Pete and Marlene Stine
Bob and Karen Streeter
Jim and Jacque Tisdale
Al and Kathy Trout

In addition, we will be joined by:

Bill Bartusch, Steve Chase, Dawn Gardiner, Robert Jess, Jim Kurth, Mark Madison, Joy Nicholopoulos, Sonny Perez, Jay Slack, Ben Tuggle, and Jeff Underwood, all of the FWS; Louie Schwartzberg, nature photographer and videographer; Dr. Liz Smith of the International Crane Foundation; Larry McKinney of the Hart Institute, Jessica Klement, NARFE and David Snell NARFE (via Skype);

Miscellaneous

New Retiree. FWS Deputy Director for Operations, Dr. Rowan Gould, has joined the ranks of the retired as of January this year after a 38 year career that began as a researcher at the Seattle National Research Center. He held many more positions since that time and probably bumped into most of us at one time or another during our respective careers. Welcome, Rowan, to the stress-free life of a retiree, and we'll expect your dues in the mail any day now.

Ailing Colleague. As many of you may have heard, Ken McDermond had been diagnosed in August 2014 with acute liver failure as a result of ingesting an unidentified toxin. But doctors have now discovered they had misdiagnosed the liver failure and instead Ken has an advanced stage of pancreatic cancer. Months of illness have left Ken pretty weak, but he remains in good spirits despite his condition. Ken was to be moved into a North Carolina hospice in late January. He would love to be able to reach out to each of you who have meant so much to him, but that's going to have to remain an unmet wish. Instead, and at the request of his family, a website has been set up to give family and friends an opportunity to wish him well or share stories.

<http://www.caringbridge.org/visit/kenmcdermond>

FWS Author. Retired refuge manager Joe D. White has published another national wildlife refuge memoir, the title of which is *My Heart Goes Where the Blue Goose Goes*. This new book is the sequel to his first book, *The Blue Goose and Me*. Both are written in a light conversational tone and highlight the life and times of a pre-millennial refuge manager (1961-1996).

My Heart Goes Where The Blue Goose Goes relates the life and times of Joe as manager of Delta Refuge at the mouth of the Mississippi River, Gulf Islands Refuge 40 miles off-shore of Louisiana and Mississippi, and St. Marks in the Big Bend of Florida. Both books, in print and e-book form, are available at Amazon.com.

Passing of Colleagues

If you are aware of the passing of any retired FWS employee, including those who left the Service because of organizational or late career changes, please let us know so that we can pass that information on to their former co-workers and friends.

Jerry F. Bentley (1934 – 2014). Jerry Bentley passed away surrounded by his family in Albuquerque, New Mexico on December 5, 2014. Jerry was born in Perrin, Texas on September 17, 1934 and attended schools there, graduating from high school in 1953. He served in the U.S. Army from 1955 to 1958 as a paratrooper and medic. He earned his degree from Texas A&M University in January 1963. He began working for the Fish and Wildlife Service in 1961 and enjoyed a 37 year career in various parts of the country. His career took him to National Fish Hatcheries in



Arizona, New York, New Mexico, Oklahoma, and Alabama, to Area Offices in Missouri and Texas, and finally to the Regional Office in Albuquerque. He was working in the Division of Federal Aid when he retired in 1998. He and his wife Jane (also a FWS retiree) were active in their retirement and tried to attend every FWS Retirees Reunion that they could as well as most of the local luncheons. He and Jane were at our last reunion in Kalispell.

Jerry is survived by Jane, his wife of 26 years, His daughter Laurie Bentley of Albuquerque and son Rick Bentley of Datil, New Mexico, his step-children Jeremy Bridge and Jessica Coulson, seven grandchildren and one great-grandchild. Memorial services for Jerry were held at in Albuquerque in December 2014. His remains will be placed in the Sante Fe National Cemetery. Donations in Jerry's name may be made to the Salvation Army in Albuquerque or to the Gentiva Hospice of Albuquerque

Noreen Clough (1943 – 2015). Noreen "Renie" Kathleen Clough died in Forest Hill, Maryland, on January 16, 2015, surrounded by her family after a short but heroic battle with cancer. Noreen was born on August 11, 1943, in Selfridge Field, Michigan. She was a self-proclaimed Army brat who lived in many different states growing up. She met and married David Clough in 1963. They lived in the Southwest, Florida, and eventually settled in Maryland where she went to work for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Noreen rose through the ranks at the Fish and Wildlife Service, studied and graduated from the University of Maryland, earning a bachelor's degree in English.



She subsequently earned another bachelor's degree in biology and a master's degree in environmental biology from George Mason University, all while working full time. One of many highlights of her 30-year career was her work as lead editor of the, "1986 Report to Congress on Oil and Gas Exploration in Alaska's Arctic National Wildlife Refuge." She held many positions in the federal government including: Deputy Director, External Affairs in the U.S. Department of the Interior; Deputy Assistant Director of Fisheries in the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service; and Chief of Resource Management for the National Wildlife Refuge System. She was Director for the Service's Southeast Region when she retired in 1997. After retirement from federal service, Noreen served two stints as Bass Angler's Sportsman Society's (B.A.S.S.) National Conservation Director (2004-2007 and 2011-2013).

Noreen received many awards during her career including a Secretarial Commendation (1986), Interior Meritorious Service Award (1987), American Sportfishing Association Woman of the Year (1997), B.A.S.S. Meritorious Service Award (2006), and American Sportfishing Association Annual Conservation Award (2013). She served on numerous national boards involved in fisheries conservation including the Berkley Conservation Leaders Advisory Team and the Friends of Fisheries.

Noreen was preceded in death by her husband, David. She is survived by her sister Linda Cremeen, sister-in-law Nancy Lawhon, nephews Steven Lawhon and James Lawhon, niece Susan Taylor, and goddaughter Charlotte Roby.

A Memorial Mass was held on Friday, January 30, 2015 at the Chapel at Stella Maris in Timonium, Maryland. Memorial contributions may be made in Noreen's name to Cal Farley's Boys Ranch of Amarillo, Texas.

Patty Hoban. We have belatedly learned that Patty Hoban, former Refuge Manager at the Maxwell National Wildlife Refuge in Maxwell, New Mexico, passed away on December 20, 2013. No other information is available.

William H. Julian (1926 – 2014). Retired FWS Refuge Manager Bill Julian died on November 28, 2014 in Pittsburg, Texas after suffering stroke on Thanksgiving Day. A native Texan, Bill was born on February 13, 1926 in Camp County, Texas. At age 17 he enlisted in the Army Reserve and was later assigned to the 10th Mountain Division. The Division landed in Italy December 1944 and took part in two major campaigns. He was awarded the Combat Infantry Badge, European Theater Ribbon with two campaign stars. He was wounded twice and awarded the Bronze Star Medal with cluster and V Valor Emblem. After his discharge at the end of the war, he enrolled at Texas A&M University where he earned a Bachelor of Science degree from and was employed by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. He was Refuge Manager on National Wildlife Refuges in six southeast states and retired to Leesburg, Texas in 1981 after 30 years of service. Survivors include his wife, Mary Helen Gist Julian, sons, Keith Gist Julian and Paul David Julian, and two sisters, Virginia and Edith, seven grandchildren, and one great-grandchild. Services for Bill



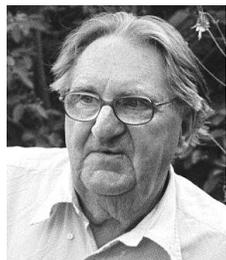
were held on November 30 and interment was at Leesburg Cemetery. Memorials may be made to the Leesburg Cemetery Association, P. O. Box 88, Leesburg, TX 75451.

Steven W. Kelly (1951 – 2015). Steve Kelly, a retired FWS Information Technology Specialist, passed away in Albuquerque, New Mexico, on January 29, 2015. Steve was born in San Francisco, California on May 8, 1951 and graduated from high school there in 1969. He served in the U.S. Army from 1971-1979, tours that took him on adventures all over the world. Steve worked in the Southwest Regional Office in the Division of Information Resources, as did his wife of nearly seventeen years, Gina Marie Kelly. January 31, 2015 would have been Steve and Gina's seventeenth wedding anniversary. Steve retired in 2007.



Steve spent his final days surrounded by love, laughter, Neil Diamond, and his loving family, and ended his journey in the arms of Gina and his daughter, April. He is survived by wife Gina, daughters Amy Kelly and April Kelly-Lotz, brothers Jerry and Mike Kelly, and sisters Linda, Leslie, and Tracy. He is also survived by his never-quite-adopted daughter, Stephanie Sprouse, as well as two step-children, Mandy Renteria and Faron Shetter Jr., five grandchildren and a step-granddaughter, and one great-granddaughter. A celebration of his life was held on February 3rd in Albuquerque and he was interred at the Santa Fe National Cemetery. To share memories with the family, please visit Steve's memorial webpage at www.danielsfuneral.com.

Louis N. Locke, DVM (1928 – 2015). Dr. Lou Locke passed away in his sleep at his home in Madison, Wisconsin at the age of 89. Lou was born on the family farm in Lockeford, California, in 1928, a scion of the town's founding family. Nearsightedness and a cleft palate made his childhood very difficult but after several surgeries, he was finally able to eat solid food at the age of 11. That period taught him lessons that he spent the rest of his life trying to pass on: that no one deserves to be picked on for appearance, the importance of family and the love of the natural world.



He entered the University of California at Berkeley in 1946 to study Wildlife Management and went on to U.C. Davis for his veterinary degree, finishing in 1956. While in vet school, he married Frankie, the love of his life, after chasing her all through their undergraduate years.

After graduation, they moved to Carlsbad, N. M., where Lou worked for the Public Health service for two years, studying rabies in bats and skunks. In the late fifties, he accepted a job with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service at the Patuxent Wildlife Research Center and the family moved to Maryland. It was there, serving as the Center's pathologist, that he made the discoveries that defined his career: that there is a visible, intracellular change which conclusively identifies lead

poisoning in birds, including waterfowl and raptors. It took 25 years, but this research eventually resulted in the ban on lead shot for hunting waterfowl.

In 1975, Lou was asked to help set up the USFWS National Wildlife Health Center in Madison, Wis. where he spent the rest of his career. He served there as both a research and diagnostic pathologist and as a mentor to students and aspiring scientists. Throughout his service, he authored many scientific papers on diseases, parasites and environmental contaminants in wildlife and trained countless field biologists across the United States in necropsy and disease investigation techniques. He was highly respected for his concern for his coworkers, his enthusiasm for the field and his ridiculous, encyclopedic knowledge of a wide variety of topics. He served as both secretary and president of the Wildlife Disease Association and was recognized with the Association's Distinguished Service Award and Emeritus Award. He was a semi-fanatical birder and in retirement, he and his wife, Frankie, traveled the world on birding trips.

He is survived by his wife, Frankie; his son, Jonathan and daughter-in-law, Sue; foster son, Mike; and grandchildren, Mary, Bethany and James.

A memorial service for Dr. Locke was held at the National Wildlife Health Center in Madison on Nov. 10, 2014.

Robert L. (Bob) Lumadue (1949 – 2014). Retired Law Enforcement Special Agent Bob Lumadue, died September 16, 2014 in Pinckney, Michigan at the age of 65. A native of Clearfield, Pennsylvania, Bob attended the University of Massachusetts on a wrestling scholarship and graduated with a degree in wildlife biology and a second lieutenant's commission in the U.S. Army. Bob married the love of his life, Kathy Helsel in June of 1971. His active duty military career took them around the globe and was followed by service as a military intelligence officer in the U.S. Army Reserve and full-time employment as a wildlife law enforcement office for the State of Pennsylvania.



After joining the Fish and Wildlife Service as a special agent, Bob worked as a criminal investigator in Missouri, where he orchestrated the Service's first large-scale covert investigation of the poaching of paddlefish for the black market caviar trade. His case work also included successful investigations that exposed the unlawful take of eagles and illegal migratory game bird hunting.

As a Resident Agent in Charge, Bob directed Office of Law Enforcement criminal investigations in Michigan, Ohio, and at times Indiana. He also oversaw wildlife inspection operations at Detroit and other border crossings in Michigan. He played a key role in a major U.S./Canada investigation of profiteering in black bear gall bladders; forged strong partnerships with State counterparts; and successfully mentored many new officers. He retired from the Service in 2006.

Bob leaves behind by his wife of more than 40 years (Kathy), three sons, and three grandsons. He is also survived by his mother and two sisters. A memorial service for Bob was held in

Clearfield, Pennsylvania. Donations may be made to the Robert L. Lumadue Memorial Scholarship Fund at the Clearfield Area High School, Clearfield, PA. Address: CASD -Attn: Sam Maney, P.O. Box 710, Clearfield, PA 16830. -

John (Joe) Mazuranich (1926 – 2015). Joe Mazuranich passed away on January 25, 2015 in Albuquerque at the age of 88. Joe served with the US Army's 81st Infantry Division in the South Pacific during WWII. After the war, he attended Montana State College and graduated with a degree in Fisheries Biology focusing. He joined the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and served at numerous fish hatcheries throughout the United States. He retired from the US Fish & Wildlife Service after 33 Years. He was very active in the BPOE Elks and served as Exhaulted Ruler and on many Elk's committees. He enjoyed traveling, hunting, fishing, golfing, and trap shooting. Joe and his wife, Erlene, attended many local FWS retiree luncheons in Albuquerque and helped host the national FWS Retirees Reunion held in Albuquerque in 2006.



Joe is survived by his sons, Bruce, Glen, and Devin Mazuranich and his daughter, Nita Brenholdt. He is also survived by his four grandchildren, two great-grandchildren, and a brother. Joe was preceded in death by his beloved wife, Erlene, and one grandson, Clinton Mazuranich. His Celebration of Life was held on January 30, 2015, in Albuquerque. Memorial contributions may be made to the McGrane Officer Street Survival Training Fund deputymcgrane.com. Friends may also visit the online guestbook for Joe at www.FrenchFunerals.com.

Gerold C. Mohl (1937 – 2014). Jerry Mohl died peacefully on November 12, 2014 in St. Paul, Minnesota at the age of 77. Jerry worked for the US Fish and Wildlife Service for most of his career, retiring as the Regional Safety Manager in the Great Lakes – Big Rivers Regional Office in 1999. Funeral service were held in Minneapolis with interment at Hillside Cemetery. Memorials preferred to Lyngblomsten Care Center or Salvation Army, Lakewood Division. Jerry was survived an aunt; cousins; and many friends.

Wilford Osmond (Bill) Nelson, Jr. 1921 – 2015. Bill Nelson passed away in Portland, Oregon on January 14, 2015. Born in American Fork, Utah, on August 21, 1921, Bill was the son of Stella and Wilford Osmond [Ossie] Nelson, Sr., also a U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service employee. He was a veteran of World War II and served in the European theater of operations. Bill married JoEllen Richins during the war while on a furlough in 1942. After his discharge from active duty as a first lieutenant, Bill attended Brigham Young and Utah State Universities, graduating with a degree in Wildlife Management from USU. He then began his 36 years career with U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Starting on a cooperative antelope



recovery program in Utah's west desert, Bill rose through the ranks serving in five states. He served as Assistant State Supervisor for Arizona, opened an office in Manhattan, Kansas; and became State Supervisor for Oklahoma and Kansas in Oklahoma City. He later became a Regional Supervisor in Minneapolis, Minnesota. He then moved to Washington, D.C., and was appointed Assistant Division Chief for Wildlife Services. Bill spent his last ten years as the Regional Director for the Southwest Region in Albuquerque, New Mexico. He helped pioneer the whooping crane recovery project between Grays Lake, Idaho, and the Bosque Del Apache Refuge in New Mexico. Also during these years, he completed the residential course at the Federal Executive Institute as a member of the Senior Executive Service. Bill was appointed chairman of the Federal Executive Board for New Mexico by President Gerald Ford in a White House ceremony in 1976. He was a charter member of the federal government's Senior Executive Service, appointed by President Carter. In 1980 Bill and JoEllen retired to Twin Falls, Idaho. Bill's wife JoEllen died on May 9, 2001. They had been married for almost 59 years. Bill was blessed with being cared for by his daughter Judy in Portland the last few years of his life.

Bill was proud to be an honorary life member of the Whooping Crane Conservation Association, life member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars, a long-time member of the Wildlife Society, the American Fishery Society, The Washington Biologist D.C. Field Club, National Animal Damage Control Association, and National Wildlife Refuge Association.

His three daughters, Judy Ellen Nelson, Jacque Ann Salisbury, and Jill Kathryn Nelson survive him as do five grandsons and four great grandchildren.

A graveside service was held at the American Fork Cemetery on January 31. Contributions to charities, including the Veterans of Foreign Wars, would be appreciated in lieu of flowers.

Richard Rigby (1932 – 2014). Born October 22, 1932, Dick Rigby passed away Jan 9, 2014 after a long struggle with Alzheimer's disease. After serving in the Air Force during the Korean War, Dick married Mary Jane Bennett in 1956 and moved to Tucson where he attended the University of Arizona. After graduation, he worked for the Fish and Wildlife Service in various parts of the country, eventually settling in New Mexico and Arizona, where he was a Wildlife Refuge Manager and Federal Game Warden. He was responsible for establishing game refuges and wilderness areas, most notably the Great Swamp Refuge in NJ and the Bosque Del Apache Wilderness Area in NM. After retirement in 1981, Dick worked as a salesman and became an avid restorer of Model A Ford's. He belonged to several antique car clubs, including the Phoenix Model A Club, the Horseless Carriage Club, and the Veteran Motor Car Club of America, of which he was the National President. He is survived by his wife, Mary Jane, 5 children, William, Richard Jr, Allison, Brian and Katherine, and 11 grandchildren. He is interred at the National Memorial Cemetery of Arizona in Phoenix.



Jean P. Wallis (1931 – 2015). Jean Wallis passed away peacefully in Albuquerque, New Mexico, on January 17, 2015 at the age of 84. Born in Quay County, New Mexico, Jean graduated from Tucumcari High School and then went on to business school. After graduating, she worked for the United States Fish and Wildlife Service in the Southwest Regional Office, Division of Personnel Management, as the Region's

payroll coordinator until her retirement. She is survived by her niece, Doris Hight, and nephews, Bill Killgore and Gene Kilgore. Memorial contributions may be made to Albuquerque Christian Childrens Home, 5700 Winter Haven Ave NW, Albuquerque, NM 87120. You may visit the online guestbook for Jean at www.FrenchFunerals.com.

2015 REUNION REGISTRATION (Mail-In Form)

Corpus Christi, Texas –

March 1 - 5, 2015

Reunion registration is \$100 per person. Includes break refreshments, the Icebreaker Social, the Banquet, and the Tour of Aransas National Wildlife Refuge. **Online registration available** at <http://www.fwsretirees.org/>

Your Name: First _____ Last _____ Name on Badge: _____

Spouse/Guest Name: First _____ Last _____ Name on Badge: _____

Your Contact Info: (_____) _____ E-mail: _____
Area Code Phone Number

I/We wish to go on the **boat tour** at Aransas NWR. _____ (Number of registrants wanting to go)

I/We will go on the Greenwalt Walk for Wildlife and BBQ Sunday March 1 (\$30 donation/person) _____ (Number going)

I'd be glad to help during the reunion (check as appropriate):

Registration Desk _____ Walk for Wildlife _____ Silent Auction and Raffle _____ Lead Morning Birding _____

Check your other interest areas:

Birding _____ Fishing _____ Charter Fishing _____ Hiking _____ Golf _____ Other (Specify) _____

Registration Fees (check as appropriate):

Fee for Myself (\$100) _____; Fee for Spouse/Guest (\$100) _____;

Walk for Wildlife (\$30 Donation for myself) _____; \$30 Donation for Spouse/Guest _____

Dues 1st year Free: Annual dues thereafter (\$25) _____; 5-year dues (\$100) _____; Lifetime (\$500) _____

TOTAL INCLUDED \$ _____

Mail completed form (with check) to:

"FWS Retirees Association"

c/o Pete Stine, 6609 Welton Court NE, Albuquerque, NM 87109-4084

For more details on the reunion, see: <http://www.fwsretirees.org/>