



# Fish and Wildlife Retiree Association

## NEWSLETTER

Spring 2013

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### Reunion 2013

Ain't you done packing yet? Time's a'wasting and Kalispell awaits. Come on, guys and gals, get it in gear. The best FWS Retirees Reunion ever is just a few months away and you don't want to miss it. The scenery will be spectacular, the venue relaxing, the tours fun and informative, and the agenda jam packed with sessions and events that should delight everyone. Best of all, lots of your friends from those days when you actually worked for a living will be there to socialize, reminisce, and share stories (and lies?) of their lives in retirement.

The official core dates for the Reunion itself are September 9th to September 13th. With these dates, we avoid the major vacation times (and crowds) but should still enjoy very pleasant weather conditions. September 9th would be a travel, arrival and registration day, while the 10th through the 12th would be full agenda and touring dates and the 13th would be for our closeout and any spillover activities and/or meetings.



The Hilton Garden Inn in Kalispell will host our 2013 Retirees' Reunion. The hotel is perfectly located in the heart of the Flathead Valley with its abundant recreational activities and

scenic vistas. The hotel itself has something for everyone, whether you just want a place to relax in comfort, to socialize, or to get in a little work or physical activity. Some of the services and features of the five year old property include:

- ⌚ 144 elegant guestrooms including 9 suites & 3 Jacuzzi rooms. All include 32 inch HD flat screen televisions, refrigerators, microwaves, coffee makers, two dual-line speakerphones, large work desk with an ergonomic desk chair, and individual climate control.
- ⌚ Complimentary high speed and wireless Internet access throughout the property with remote access to on-site printing and a 24 hr business center.
- ⌚ An indoor swimming pool and whirlpool spa. The hotel also has a modern fitness center equipped with weights, cardio-vascular fitness machines and exercise bikes.
- ⌚ Two great restaurants and a tavern, as well as a casino featuring video gaming machines
- ⌚ Evening room service plus a 24 hour "Pavilion Pantry" where you can purchase snacks and drinks.
- ⌚ Valet and laundry service, plus a self-laundry.
- ⌚ Complimentary parking.



We have negotiated a reduced daily rate of \$109 plus tax. This rate includes a full cooked breakfast option for up to two people in each room. Breakfasts feature an extensive array of delectable choices, including cooked to order omelets, Belgian waffles, French toast, eggs any style, fresh fruits, pastries, breads, cereals and a large selection of juices, coffee and teas.

These rates will also be available to us for three days before and three days after the core reunion dates. Consequently, you can take advantage of these rates starting on the night of September 6 and get them through September 16<sup>th</sup>. And I'd be willing to bet that if you asked and told them you were part of the FWS Retirees Reunion group, you could get these favorable rates even before or after these extended dates. **Please note, however, that reservations at this special rate must be made before August 28, 2013. Reservations after that date will be on space available at the prevailing rate.**

**Making reservations** is easy. The direct online reservation link to the Hilton Garden Inn is:

<http://hiltongardeninn.hilton.com/en/gi/groups/personalized/F/FC/AKSGI-FWMEET-20130906/index.jhtml> .

Be aware, however, that the online reservation link works for the *core reunion dates only*; to add pre/post reunion dates, you will have to call the hotel's direct line.

For those making phone reservations, the direct line to the hotel is **406-756-4500**. Be sure to tell them you are with the **Fish & Wildlife Service Retirees**.

If you have difficulty with your reservation, Jerry Grover is standing by to assist. [Groverjerry.judy@att.net](mailto:Groverjerry.judy@att.net) or 503-684-1809.

If you think you will be attending this reunion event, you would be wise to make your hotel reservations as soon as possible. If you later decide not to attend, you can cancel anytime up to 24 hours in advance of your registration at no charge.

**Getting there** is no problem. Glacier Park International Airport sits less than 10 miles from the Hilton Garden Inn while the Kalispell City General Aviation Airport is less than a mile from the hotel. Glacier Park International Airport is served by Alaska, Allegiant, Delta, Horizon, Skywest, and United Airlines and all the major rental car companies (should you choose to reserve a car to travel the countryside). The hotel offers complimentary shuttle service to and from the airport seven days a week.

Nearby Whitefish, Montana, some 16 miles distant, is served by **AmTrak** and, with prior notification, the hotel will also provide shuttle service there should you prefer riding the rails.

**Why Kalispell?** Not many areas of the country can boast of scenery, natural wonders, and recreational opportunities as are



found in northwestern Montana. Kalispell sits in the midst of the beautiful Flathead Valley and at the northern end of Flathead Lake which is renowned for its fishing and other recreational opportunities.

In close proximity to Kalispell are areas of worldwide significance for those wishing to take the time to visit. Glacier National Park is a

scant 30 miles the north and the Bob Marshall Wilderness Area 30 miles to the east. Yellowstone and Grand Teton National Parks are a five and one half hour drive to the south. Glacier National Park, in particular, is something you don't want to miss and it can take several days to see and enjoy all that it alone has to offer.

**Local attractions** in the towns of Kalispell and nearby Bigfork and Whitefish offer venues that should interest everyone, including those not so inclined towards things wild and rugged. There are museums, art galleries, boutiques, and great restaurants and watering holes to serve our attendees. The valley has breweries, wineries, and micro-distilleries that offer a "Connoisseurs Tour". For those inclined to more physical

pursuits, there are several challenging golf courses nearby, and numerous opportunities for horseback riding, fly fishing, river rafting and hiking. For a more complete and detailed listing of what the local area has to offer, refer back to our January 2013 newsletter or check the area out online.

While we obviously can't include trips and tours to all the area attractions in our five-day agenda, you should consider tours on your own or with fellow retirees before and/or after the Reunion core dates (remember those three days prior and three days after that the Hilton is offering at their reduced rate?). For example, Glacier National Park has two companies, **Glacier Park Inc.** and **Sun Tours**, that provide guided tours at very reasonable rates (about \$10 an hour). Or you can go it in your own vehicle.

**Glacier Park Inc.** operates a fleet of 33 convertible "Red Buses", which seat 17 passengers each. These historic vehicles were manufactured by the White Motor Company between 1936 and 1939 and were fully restored as late as 2001. These iconic motorcars provide a variety of tours from four hours each to two days each which focus on the scenic wonders of the park. Their e-mail address is [www.glacierparkinc.com](http://www.glacierparkinc.com).

**Sun Tours** runs a fleet of large, air-conditioned, 25 passenger coaches. It is operated by the Blackfeet Nation of native Americans and their tours focus on the natural features of the park most relevant to their nation. Their e-mail address is [www.glaciersuntours.com](http://www.glaciersuntours.com).

**Plan Ahead.** We have provided a *pre-registration* form on the last page of this newsletter and we hope that you will use it to help us plan the reunion. The form is in no way binding but is intended solely to help us determine which events and tours during the core reunion dates are of most interest to those likely to attend. It will also enable us to get a head count of potential attendees and helps us to plan for adequate transportation for off-site events and to contract with the hotel for the on-site social events. And with a list of potential attendees, we'll be able to publish those names in our next newsletter so that everyone can see who might be there in time for them to make up their own minds about attending.

## Draft Agenda

The Board and several other retirees, both local and distant, in concert with active Service personnel in the Region, have been working on the reunion agenda. While still a draft, the following will give you a pretty good insight as to the activities and events we have in mind. But it won't be finalized until we hear from you.

### Sunday, September 8 - Early Arrivals

- AM/PM** Optional Field Trip, Fishing, or Birding Trip  
Service project on a Refuge, Hatchery, or in the community
- 6-8 PM** Informal No Host Reception  
Entertainment, Board Games, Show and Tell (LE travel exhibit; artifacts from NCTC, etc)

### Monday, September 9 – Regular Arrivals

- AM/PM** GeoCache Introduction  
Optional Field Trips ( Bob Marshall Wilderness, local hikes, birding, etc.)
- PM** Registration  
Lynn Greenwalt 1K Walk for Wildlife  
Board of Directors Meeting (Open to all)
- 6-8 PM** Informal No Host Reception

## Tuesday, September 10 – Reunion Opening

GeoCache Competition

Bird Count near Hotel

Registration continues

**8:30** Welcome, Opening Remarks, Area Highlights

**10 AM** Keynote Speaker – Ken Goddard, Ashland F&W Forensics Lab

**10:45 AM** NARFE – Legislative and Benefits Update

**11:30** Panel Discussion – Management of the FWS National Bison Range

**PM** **Free Time**

Suggested Options:

Flathead Lake Boat Trip ( \$35 extra cost includes lunch)

Whitefish Mountain Resort

Local Kalispell Tour

**6-8 PM** Icebreaker Social (with hors d'oeuvres)

## Wednesday, September 11

**AM/PM** **Field Tours**

Planned Options:

National Bison Range and Nine Pipes

National Wildlife Refuge – 1 day trip

Creston National Fish Hatchery – ½ day trip

**PM** Dinner on your own

## Thursday, September 12

**9 AM** Announcements

**9:15 AM** Future of the FWS – Director Dan Ashe

**9:45 AM** Friends of the Migratory Bird/Duck Stamp – Dom Ciccone

**10:10 AM** South Africa Safari – Bob Streeter

**10:30 AM** Panel Discussions – Wolves in the Northern Rocky Mountain Area: Reasonable Perspectives on a Very Hot Topic

**PM** **Free Time**

**5-10 PM** Reunion Banquet and Silent Auction  
Guest Speaker Joel Sartore, National Geographic Society

## Friday, September 13 – Closeout

**AM** Business Meeting Updates

Remembering Departed Colleagues

Reunion Evaluation and Closing Thoughts

## New Board Member

Since our last newsletter, Board member Bob Jacobsen reluctantly resigned for health reasons. Bob was active in helping to plan the Kalispell Reunion prior to his departure from the Board and his presence and hard work will be missed. The Board, in keeping with the Association by-laws, appointed Dick Gritman to fill the remainder of Bob's term, which expires at the end of 2013. Dick was a candidate for the Board in our last election and was the next highest vote-getter. During his active 31 year Fish and Wildlife Service career, Dick worked in Research and in Refuges before moving over into Law Enforcement. Dick resides in Washington state.

## How to Avoid the Winter Doldrums in 2014.

Did you know that when we are in the grips of winter, it is the middle of summer in sunny South Africa? Looking for a warm

place to get away from the snow, ice and cold, and a trip with some purpose? If so, read on. Working with the owners of the Chazen Game Reserve we will once again offer a two week volunteer opportunity for Fish and Wildlife Service Retirees during the winter of 2014. Chazen Game Reserve is located about two hours southwest of Johannesburg near the town of Parys and in the Verdefort Dome World Heritage site.

The first group of FWS Retirees went for two weeks this past February. The primary project was to begin construction of an African lion observation platform but the group also participated in capturing nyala for relocation, visited a local school and went on a number of wildlife observation drives.



The two week stay also

included a two night three day trip to Pilanesburg National Park and the Cradle of Humankind Cultural Center.

The dates have been set for 2014: there will be two – two week sessions from which to choose – January 12 – 24 and February 16 - 28. The size of each group is limited to 10 and, of course, friends and families are invited. Reservations are first come first served and will be taken until the slots are filled or



January 1, 2014. We will start taking payments as of September 1. We can work out payments plans, as long as the trip is paid in full by January 1, 2014. The cost is airfare plus \$2500 per person (all inclusive). Once you get to South Africa, all transportation, meals, and lodging are covered including a side trip and visits to local sites. The tentative project for 2014 is to construct a walking trail for Chazen guests.

**If you are interested or have questions please contact Donna Stanek at [dstanek0418@hotmail.com](mailto:dstanek0418@hotmail.com) or via Facebook.**

## Have You Moved?

To keep you in the loop on relevant happenings and events and to send you the latest newsletters, we need to have up-to-date contact information. If you have a new mailing address, phone number, or e-mail address, please let us know. You may use the form at the back of this newsletter or you can phone or e-mail the new information direct to our database manager, **Kelle Quist; Phone: 1-413-339-4718; e-mail: [wquist1@verizon.net](mailto:wquist1@verizon.net)**

## Miscellaneous

**Foreign Game Introduction Program.** Andrew Lawler, a contributing writer for Science magazine, is looking for some info on the now defunct “Foreign Gamebird Introduction Program” that was run by Dr. Gardiner Bump. The program

began in the mid 1940s and ran until the early 1970s. There are records of the Secretary of Interior acknowledging the program as late as 1970 but no record of just when it was concluded. Anyone out there know when it was shut down?? If so, contact Jim McKevitt at [jimmymac@usamedia.tv](mailto:jimmymac@usamedia.tv).

**Refuge Signage Needed.** Eddy Pausch, Assistant Refuge Manager at the Ottawa National Wildlife Refuge in Ohio is in need of a large FWS shield sign (3'-6' in width) for their Visitor Center. They would greatly appreciate a wood or metal sign that would be worthy of display on the outside of the Visitor Center, *or* an old wood sign that they could rehab. If you have something in your stash that could be used for the building you would be willing to donate to a good cause, contact Eddy at 419-898-0014, extension 31 or e-mail [www.eddy\\_pausch@fws.gov](mailto:www.eddy_pausch@fws.gov).

**Annuity Info.** Not sure if you noticed it when you were doing your taxes this year but OPM advises that they will no longer mail out Form 1099-R to annuitants, effective January 2104. This little tidbit of information was on the reverse side of the Form 1099-R they mailed to you this year. Starting with the tax year 2013, you will have to access, view and print your 1099-R electronically. To do this you will need to log in to **Services Online** which requires a password. If you need a new password, go to [www.ServicesOnline.OPM.gov](http://www.ServicesOnline.OPM.gov) and select the "Forgot Password" link. This same hyperlink allows you to view your annuity statement, change your mailing and direct deposit address, change your withholding options, and manage your account.

**New Semipostal Stamp Proposed.** Legislation proposed by Delegate Gregorio Sablan (Dem.- Northern Mariana Islands) received a favorable hearing in the House at the end of April, HR 1384 would authorize a new "semipostal" stamp similar to the FWS International Program's multi-national species stamp. The stamp would be priced higher than the regular first class postage rate with the difference going to a fund specifically set aside for the backlog of O&M projects on National Wildlife Refuges. Estimates are that the stamp would raise about \$5 million annually, money that is sorely needed to get our refuges into the condition that these national treasures deserve. For more info, log on to the Friends of the Migratory Bird/Duck Stamp website at <http://www.friendsofthestamp.org>.

**Region 6 Fisheries Newsletter.** Carlos Martinez at the D.C. Booth National Fish Hatchery and Archives reports that the Spring 2013 issue of *Stream Lines* is currently available online. To access it as well as the D.C. Booth Society newsletter, go to: <http://dcboothfishhatchery.org/news>. Carlos advises that the publications are best read in the 2-page view.

## Passing of Colleagues

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

**Evelyn Barbara Azer (1936 – 2013).** Evelyn Azer, passed away on Tuesday, April 30<sup>th</sup>, 2013 in Atlanta, Georgia at the age of 76. A native of Atlanta, Evelyn attended local elementary and high schools and Georgia State University. Evelyn joined the

Fish and Wildlife Service in 1984 and, for 23 years, served the Service's conservation mission in External Affairs at the Atlanta Regional Office. She was instrumental in the establishment and operation of the regional external affairs program, supporting the work of her colleagues in the regional office and in field stations across the Southeast. Her efforts included handling publications, displays and exhibits along with a wide range of community relations activities that helped tell great stories about the wildlife that call the Southeast Region home. She coordinated Earth Day events at the Atlanta Zoo and supported conservation work at events held at Atlanta Braves' baseball games, garnering the Service a very positive public image. Evelyn retired at the end of 2007. She is survived by her sisters Angela and Renee and numerous nieces and nephews.

**John Potter Davis (1933 - 2013).** Legendary former refuge manager, John Davis, passed away at his residence in Savannah, Georgia on April 22, 2013. Known affectionately as "the Chief", John served as project leader of the Savannah Coastal Refuges from 1974 to 1996.

Born in Sparta, Tennessee, John served in the U.S. Navy Submarine Service after high school from 1952 to 1955. At the end of his enlistment, he enrolled at Tennessee State University where he obtained a Bachelors degree in Biology. He followed that up with a Masters in Wildlife Management from Louisiana State University and studied for a doctorate at Southern Illinois University. His stint at SIU led to his first FWS job at Crab Orchard National Wildlife Refuge where he started as a student trainee. After assignments at St. Marks NWR (Florida) and Mingo NWR (Missouri), he was made manager of the Okefenokee NWR in Georgia and then at Mattamuskeet NWR in North Carolina. Finally, in 1974, John was assigned as project leader of the Savannah Coastal Refuges where he stayed until his retirement in 1996. In retirement, John was able to pursue his passions for woodworking and bottle/jug collecting.

John is survived by his wife of 59 years, Nancy, their son Johnny and his wife Joanne and by two grandsons. Though health prevented him from building his dream house, the "Chief" would never part with the land he had purchased for that purpose on Lake Mattamuskeet. However, his ashes will soon be part of that remote North Carolina coastal landscape where he enjoyed so much the wildlife he worked for in life.

**Lola Fletcher (1931 – 2013).** Lola passed away on April 7, 2013 at the age of 81. Lola was born in Glendale, California and worked as an Executive Secretary in the private sector until 1970 when she moved to Portland, Oregon. There, after a short stint with the Bonneville Power Administration, Lola came to work for the Fish and Wildlife Service. She was a mainstay in the Portland Regional Office Division of Law Enforcement where, at the time of her retirement in the early 1990s, she served as a Budget Analyst. Lola also had her private pilot's license, was a den mother, and an advocate of the American Humane Society. Lola is survived by her son, Jerry and three grandchildren. Donations can be made in Lola's name to the American Humane Society.

**Homer S. Ford (1923 - 2013).** FWS retiree Homer S. Ford, Jr. passed away on Wednesday, April 10, 2013 in Billings, Montana at the age of 89. Homer was born in Alhambra, California but an early age the family moved to Ellensburg, Washington, where he resided until entering the military service in 1942. Homer served 3 ½ years with the United States Marine Corps during World War II, with oversea duty in the South Pacific.



Homer married his high school sweetheart, Mary Schell, in 1944 and, after an honorable discharge from the Corps, attended college at Utah State University in Logan, Utah, and received a BS Degree in Wildlife Management. In June 1966, Homer accepted a position with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service as Regional Supervisor for the Division of Wildlife Services in Portland, Oregon.

In 1976, Homer retired from the Service and he and Mary worked their small acres of fruit, cattle and other crops. Mary passed away in 1997 and, in 1999, Homer moved to Billings where married the former Dorothy Miner. The two of them traveled until ill health kept them home-bound.

Homer is survived by his wife Dorothy; sons Mike, Fred, and Douglas and daughter Barbara. He is also survived by eight grandchildren and 12 great-grandchildren. Cremation has taken place. Inurnment will be at a later date. Memorials may be made to a charity of one's choice.

**James Charles Gritman (1932 - 2013).** Former Midwest Regional Director Jim Gritman passed away on April 10 in Green Valley, Arizona after a long bout with emphysema. Jim was born in Geneseo, Illinois on July 16, 1932. After his graduation from high school, Jim put in a stint with the Marine Corps during the Korean War. Following that, he attended the University of Missouri, played football there, and graduated with a degree in Forestry. Jim did graduate work at the University of Georgia in Athens. Shortly thereafter, in 1956, he married his wife Ann in Sioux City, Iowa.



Jim started with the Service in 1964 as an Area Forester developing forest management plans, which were used in planning for Necedah National Wildlife Refuge in Wisconsin. He worked his way up in the Service at refuges throughout the Midwest. He was one of the first Area Managers and was at Bismarck, South Dakota; was the Deputy Regional Director in both Region 3 and Region 6; and the Deputy Assistant Director for Refuges and Wildlife in Washington, D.C. In 1987, Jim was appointed as Director of the Midwest Region where he served until his retirement in 1992. He was a devoted husband and father who loved to hunt, fish and play baseball.

Jim is survived by Ann, his wife of 57 years, daughters Julie, Jayme, and Jennifer, six grandchildren, three great-grandchildren, and a sister, Judith. A celebration of his life will be held on Saturday, July 20, 2013 at their home on Lake Andrusia, eight miles southeast of Bimidji, Minnesota

Address: 14466 Perca Drive S.E., Bimidji, MN 56601

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e-mail: anngrit@gmail.com

**Rodney C. Hanlon (1942 - 2013).** Rod Hanlon passed away on February 20th, 2013 at the New York State Veterans Home, after a long battle with Alzheimer's disease.



Born in Shelton, Washington, Rod was a special agent with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and a Navy veteran. His FWS career took him to Delaware and New York before finally moving him to Montana where he worked in the Great Falls area, enforcing federal wildlife laws protecting threatened and endangered species. Rod worked extensively with the U.S. Customs Service, U.S. Forest Service, and Blackfeet American Indian Nation. He enjoyed patrolling the Bob Marshall Wilderness Area with the help of his horses, Willie and Roy. Rod retired in 1999. His hobbies included woodworking and fishing.

He is survived by his devoted wife, Susan Morse Hanlon, daughters Tina, Sara, and Laura, and five grandchildren.

**Roy M. Jones Jr. (1931 - 2012 )**

Born in April, 1931, Roy Jones passed away on November 19, 2012 in Roswell, New Mexico at the age of 82. Roy was a veteran of the U.S. Army. After his enlistment, Roy served as the Town Marshall of Hagerman, New Mexico for a period during the 1960s before joining the Fish and Wildlife Service as a Fisheries Technician. His first station was at the Dexter National Fish Hatchery in Dexter, New Mexico, followed by tours at Tishomingo, Oklahoma and finally at the San Marcos National Fish Hatchery and Technology Center in San Marcos, Texas, from which he retired. Former co-workers remember Roy as scrupulous in his data keeping at the hatcheries, famous for his stories of "the famous, or infamous, Catfish Ben Nelson", and for his old International Harvester truck "totally decked out with all known radio equipment, a row of antenna whips from bow to stern and looking like some kind of prehistoric beast". Remembered as a real character but most of all as a good friend.



**Forrest Lee (1919 - 2013).** Forrest Byron Lee, world renowned for his dedicated work with two nearly extinct Canada goose species, passed away peacefully on February 1, 2013 at the Regional Medical Center in Jamestown, North Dakota.



Forrest was born in July, 1919 near Pettibone, North Dakota. Childhood experiences on the Pettibone prairie would stay with Forrest his entire life.

Their family farm bordered a lake where young Forrest enjoyed the migrant ducks, geese, swans, and crane and soon took to hunting and trapping. After high school, Forrest attended Crosby-Ironton Jr. College and St. Cloud State Teachers College, earning a Bachelor's degree in biological sciences in 1942. Inducted into the military in 1943, Forrest saw combat in New Guinea, Northern Solomon Islands and the Philippines. After his discharge in 1946, he enrolled at the University of Minnesota where his graduate work included studies at Itasca and Isle Royale. He received his Masters degree in wildlife management

and botany in 1948 and shortly thereafter joined the Minnesota Conservation Department where he specialized in waterfowl research. It was while working with the Conservation Department that Forrest began studying a flock of large Canada geese on Silver Lake at Rochester, Minnesota and invited waterfowl experts in for trapping and further examination. The flock turned out to be the giant Canada Goose (*Branta canadensis maxima*), a sub-species at that time thought to be extinct.

In 1964, the first director of the Fish and Wildlife Service's Northern Prairie Wildlife Research Center, Harvey Nelson, talked Forrest into joining his team at Jamestown. There Forrest would head the center's Canada goose production and restoration program where he was instrumental in the re-introduction and recovery of several subspecies of Canada geese, including the giant Canada goose and the Aleutian Canada goose. He also worked with Russian and Japanese biologists to restore snow geese to Japan, and with biologists using ultralight aircraft to lead young geese from nesting areas to wintering areas. Forrest officially retired from the USFWS in 1983 but continued to work for the recovery of the Aleutian Canada goose, making many trips to the Aleutian Islands and to Russian facilities at Kamchatka. He headed up restoration efforts on Amchitka Island in the late 1970's and in 1995, at age 76; found himself aboard the USFWS vessel (TIGLAX), tube feeding hundreds of Aleutian geese being relocated to a fox free island along the Aleutian chain. Forrest Lee's expertise with geese was known worldwide. He was affectionately called 'Father Goose' by the Japanese and Russian biologists with whom he worked

Throughout his career, Forrest published over sixty-five articles and publications. He received numerous honors and awards at the state, federal, and international level. In 1999, he also received the distinguished alumni award for science and engineering leadership from St. Cloud State University. An avid photographer, his photos appeared in National Geographic and other well known publications.

Forrest was just recently preceded in death by his wife of nearly 60 years, Janet, and is survived by two sons, Forrest Jr. and George, four grandchildren and ten great grandchildren.

**Harold Francis Miller (1918 – 2013).**

Harold died on February 21, 2013 in Hutchinson, Kansas at the age of 94. Born in Oklahoma, Harold joined the U.S. Army Air Corp soon after high school and served in Italy during World War II. After the war, Harold went to work at the Great Salt Plains NWR in Oklahoma as a Refuge Clerk where he served for 38 years until his retirement.



Harold was honored with a special dedication of the Harold F. Miller Auto Tour which highlights points of interest at Great Salt Plains. Harold was preceded in death in 2011 by his wife of 68 years, Velma May and is survived by his son, Frank, and daughters Connie and Judy, as well as by six grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

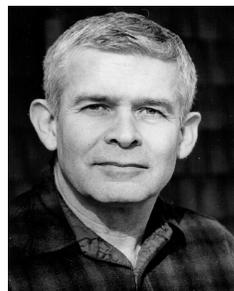
**Conley Moffett (1932 – 2012).** Conley died in Annadale, Virginia on December 16, 2012. He was 80 years old. A native of North Carolina, Conley joined the U.S. Army shortly after high school, was a Medic as well as an Airborne Ranger, and served in Korea during that war. After the war, he attended

Appalachian State Teachers College where he studied Biology, Chemistry and Physics. After some time spent as a high school teacher, Conley worked as the North Carolina State Naturalist before joining the Fish and Wildlife Service. He was the Coop leader at the North Carolina Cooperative Fish and Wildlife Research Unit at North Carolina State University before moving to the Washington, D.C. Office and was Assistant Deputy Director at the time of his retirement. He was buried in Cherryville, North Carolina.

**Francis Parrish** of Decatur, Georgia, passed away in December 2011.

**Wilford Lee Peterson (1926-2013).** Lee Peterson died as a result of complications from an automobile accident at the age of 86 in Albuquerque, New Mexico, surrounded by his family. Lee was born and grew up in Sanford, Colorado and, after high school, attended the Denver School of Business where he received an Associate degree. He honorably served in the US Navy in World War II during which he traveled throughout the Orient. After the war, Lee began a successful career in Administration with the US Fish and Wildlife which resulted in assignments in Washington DC, Boston, Massachusetts and finally retiring in Albuquerque, NM in 1985. Lee is survived by his loving wife, Carol Peterson; his sons Harold and Shaun, daughter Connie, nine grandchildren and 14 great-grandchildren.

**Henry Milton Reeves (1927 – 2013).** Milt passed away unexpectedly on February 2, 2013. Born in 1927 in Woodbury, New Jersey, Milt's early years were spent afield, often hunting, in the Pine Barrens of southern New Jersey, particularly the Maurice River tidelands. After discharge from the U.S. Navy in 1946, he entered Utah State Agricultural College (now Utah State University) in Logan, obtaining his BS degree in wildlife management. In 1950, he joined the Idaho Department of Fish and Game as a conservation officer and research biologist but returned to Logan in 1952, using his studies on waterfowl and muskrats on Dingle Marsh, Idaho, as his MS degree thesis. This ecological study eventually led to the establishment of the Bear Lake National Wildlife Refuge.



In 1953, Milt entered duty with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in the Lower Rio Grande Valley of south Texas where enforcement-management duties focused on white-winged doves and the waterfowl of the Laguna Madre. Three summers were spent in Canada on waterfowl air-ground studies and banding. In 1957, he transferred to Aberdeen, South Dakota, to head up the

Service's fledgling Wetlands Habitat Protection Program and eight years later moved to the Minneapolis Regional Office, serving as assistant regional chief (technical) of the Branch of Management and Enforcement for migratory game bird programs. In 1967, he transferred to Laurel, Maryland, to organize the newly funded Accelerated Research Program for "webless" migratory game birds and related activities. Then, in 1976, he took the position of chief of the Branch of Operations, Office of Migratory Birds in Washington, D.C.. In this capacity, he drafted the annual federal hunting regulations and supervised the Service's role in flyway migratory game bird management. Overseas assignments took him to Canada, Mexico, Brazil,

Venezuela, and the Caribbean. It was there in 1976 that he and two colleagues developed the first procedures to use satellite imagery to monitor presence of snow cover on Arctic goose breeding grounds.

During Milt's career, he authored, edited, or contributed to 50 or so papers and books on migratory game birds or their habitats. Among them were *A Contribution to An Annotated Bibliography of North American Cranes, Rails, Woodcock, Snipe, Doves, and Pigeons* (1975), *Flyways* (1984), and *Ecology and Management of the Mourning Dove* (1993). He also served as assistant editor for the *Journal of Wildlife Management* for migratory game bird papers during 1983 and 1984. While in retirement in Amity, Oregon, his interests focused on the "cultural-historical aspects" of various North American species and on introductory chapters in books on the wood duck, moose, and pronghorn. For several years he had been working on a book on the historical and cultural relationships between man and North American migratory game birds.

**Wayne E. Sanders (1918 - 2013)** Wayne passed away on April 2, 2013, in Jefferson City, Missouri at the age of 94. Wayne was born on December 10, 1918, in Fort Dodge, Iowa,

graduated from Spencer High School and attended Estherville Junior College in Estherville, Iowa. He proudly served in the United States Navy during World War II as a chief petty officer in the European, African, and Pacific theaters. Wayne had a lengthy career with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in the Division of Law Enforcement. Wayne was the Agent in Charge for the State of Missouri from 1963 to 1971 and, with the reorganization of the Division, was one of the first 13 Special Agents in Charge of a District. Wayne served as the SAC for the New England Region from 1971 to 1976 until his retirement to Missouri. Wayne was one of the most well-known antique collectors in the Midwest. He had one of the largest antique marble collections in the United States. He also collected antique toys, Native American artifacts, and duck decoys. He was united in marriage to Jane E. Weise for 49 years, who preceded him in death. His survivors include his sons Wayne, Timothy, and David, seven grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

**Omer Swenson** passed away in Bagley, Minnesota, on April 30, 2012 at the age of 89. Omer was Manager at Tamarac National Wildlife Refuge in Minnesota. He retired in 1983.

## **2013 Kalispell Reunion Pre-Registration Form**

**I Plan to Attend: (Name) \_\_\_\_\_ With Spouse?(Name) \_\_\_\_\_**

**Preferred Wednesday Field Tour (indicate priority 1 or 2)**

**Creston National Fish Hatchery (1/2 day tour) \_\_\_\_\_**

**Nine Pipes National Wildlife Refuge & National Bison Range ( Full day tour incl. lunch) \_\_\_\_\_**

**Are you interested in going on an extra cost 4 hour boat trip on Flathead Lake? Cost is \$35/person and includes lunch. Tour boat holds 145 passengers**

**Yes/No \_\_\_\_\_ Before, during or after Reunion \_\_\_\_\_ Number who would participate \_\_\_\_\_**

**Any other events/tours we should plan? Please describe.**

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**Mail completed forms to: Jim McKevitt, 3220 Christian Valley Road, Auburn, CA 95602**

**Or: e-mail to: [jimmymac@usamedia.tv](mailto:jimmymac@usamedia.tv) Or Phone: 530-878-7883**

**Please let us know what you want to see and do. Forms or info wanted by June 1, 2013**

## Membership Application/Renewal/Update

*Fill out and mail Or, for membership applications and renewals only, you may use PayPal on our website at <http://www.fwsretirees.org>*

This is a: **New Application** \_\_\_\_\_ **Renewal** \_\_\_\_\_ **Information Update** \_\_\_\_\_ (CHECK ONE)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Spouse: \_\_\_\_\_

Mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ email \_\_\_\_\_

FWS Program (at retirement) \_\_\_\_\_ Title \_\_\_\_\_

Office and Region \_\_\_\_\_

Memberships: \_\_\_\_\_ 1-year - \$25.00 \_\_\_\_\_ 2-year - \$50.00 \_\_\_\_\_ 3-year - \$75.00\* \_\_\_\_\_ Lifetime - \$500  
(\* why not just round it off at \$100: after all, it's a worthy and **tax deductible** cause)

**For membership applications and renewals, make check payable to and mail completed applications to:**

**Treasurer, FWS Retirees Association, PO Box 27896, Panama City, FL. 32411**

**For assistance, e-mail Gail Carmody at [fwsretiree@gmail.com](mailto:fwsretiree@gmail.com) or phone Gail at 1-850-235-9012**