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# NEWSLETTER

The Newsletter for Retired Conservation Service Employees

Vol. 47, No. 6 Nov/Dec 2020

The **ARCSE Newsletter** is published bi-monthly by the Association of Retired Conservation Service Employees, P.O. Box 8965, Moscow, ID 83843

Website: [www.arcse.org](http://www.arcse.org)

## NOTES FROM THE POTOMAC

Doug Lawrence and Patty Lawrence

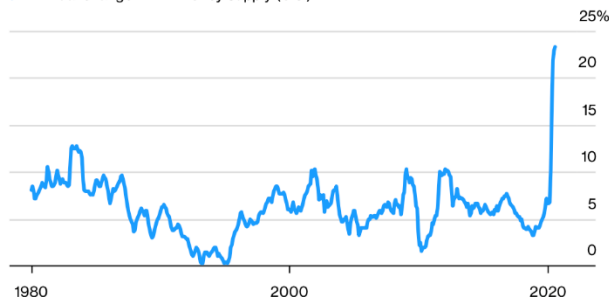
### **Personal Finance – Federal Retirement Annuity COLA and More**

There is good news regarding the 2021 COLA for Federal retirement annuities. Annuities will be increased by 1.3 percent and we have the FED to thank for this.

As you may recall, the change in the Consumer Price Index for urban wage earners and clerical workers for July, August, and September is used to set the COLA for Federal annuitants. Inflation had been running at very low rates after the spring COVID-19 shock to the economy. To help off-set the negative economic impacts of the COVID-19 shock, the FED began pumping money into the economy in an effort to reach their goal of a 2% annual inflation rate, which they consider healthy. Boy-howdy, did they pump money into the economy.

### **There's Lots of Money...**

Annual change in M2 money supply (U.S.)



Source: Federal Reserve

## Watch for Membership Dues Notice

According to an assessment by the Bank of America governments and central banks have already injected \$20 trillion into the world economy. To get an idea of the scope of the COVID-19 economic stimulus, that's about 20% of the world's annual gross domestic product (GDP).

Also note that the world GDP is highly concentrated—the top 10 economies account for 66% of the world GDP and the top 20 economies account for 79% of the world GDP.

**Federal Health Insurance**—Health insurance costs for the Federal Employee Health Benefits Program will see an average increase of 3.6% in 2021. This is lower than the increase in 2020 but more than double record low increase in 2019.

However, the cost increase is likely to be split into an average 3 percent increase for the government's share and a 4.9 percent increase in premiums for employees.

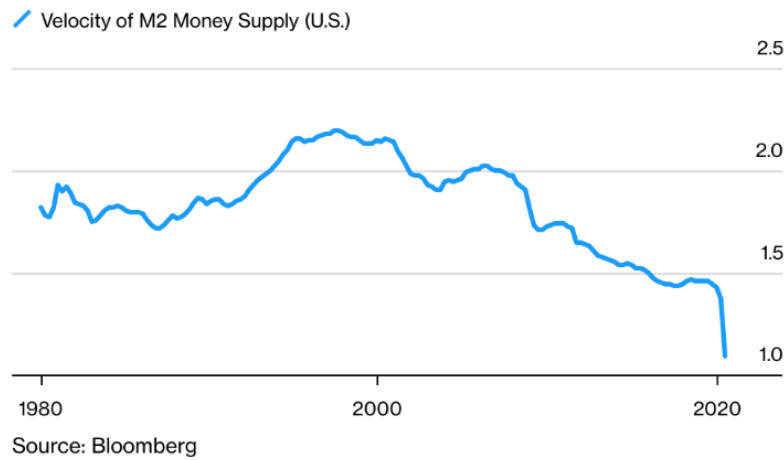
In addition, Federal employees will have more dental and vision insurance options available in 2021.

**Economic Outlook**—Economists are closely watching what happens to economies around the world because we are in uncharted economic territory. An economist at the London School of Economics argued in a recent paper that what happens to inflation after the pandemic "will affect macroeconomic theory and teaching, perhaps forever."

**What will happen to inflation?** As discussed above, there has been a huge, FED-generated increase in the US money supply the past few months and that concerns some economists because the economy could overshoot the 2% inflation goal of the FED.

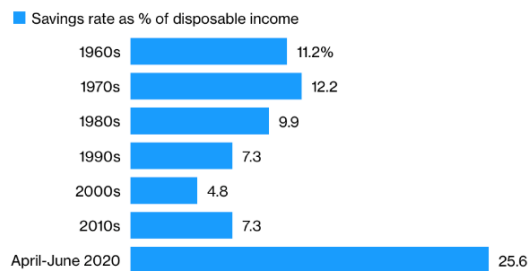
There are other economists that point out that it is the use of money (or what economists call the money velocity) that affects prices and the velocity of money has taken a dive. Consequently, economists who are focused on the velocity of money as a key indicator of future inflation use it to argue against concerns about the surge in the money supply creating excessive inflation.

**ASSOCIATION OF RETIRED CONSERVATION SERVICE EMPLOYEES**



There are also economists who argue that excessive inflation is a concern because along with the infusion of money from the FED the fiscal stimulus provided by Congress last spring is being spent by businesses and consumers which will contribute to inflationary pressures even though the velocity of money has fallen.

But... Household savings rates are at record levels because people are apparently preparing for a worse-case, COVID-19 impact on the economy this winter. A higher savings rate implies a lower consumption rate which reduces pressure on prices.



Source: Bureau of Economic Analysis

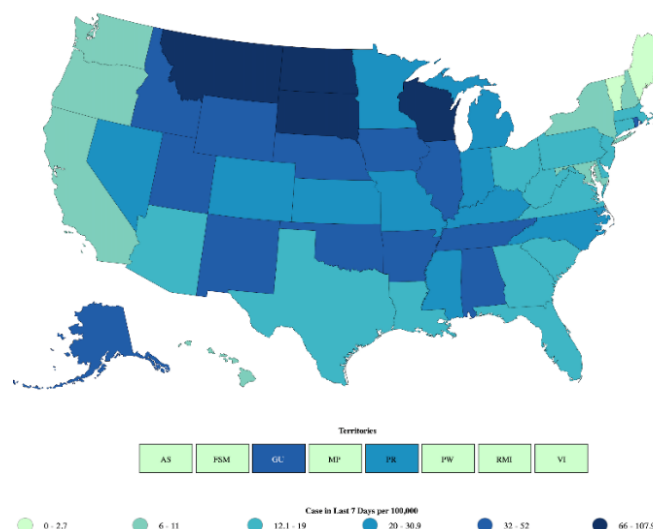
Finally, three forces that increase the concerns about inflation are uncertainties about trade, technology, and large corporations. Morgan Stanley economists wrote that “Trade, tech and titans” (cheap imports, technological advances, and corporate giants with the market power to suppress wages) have been “the driving forces behind the disinflationary trends over the last 30 years.” However, these same three trends also get blamed for widening inequality, and face growing political pressure that “could create a regime shift in inflation dynamics.”

As you can see, forecasting where the economy is headed—even in the short term—is difficult at best.

### COVID-19 Update –

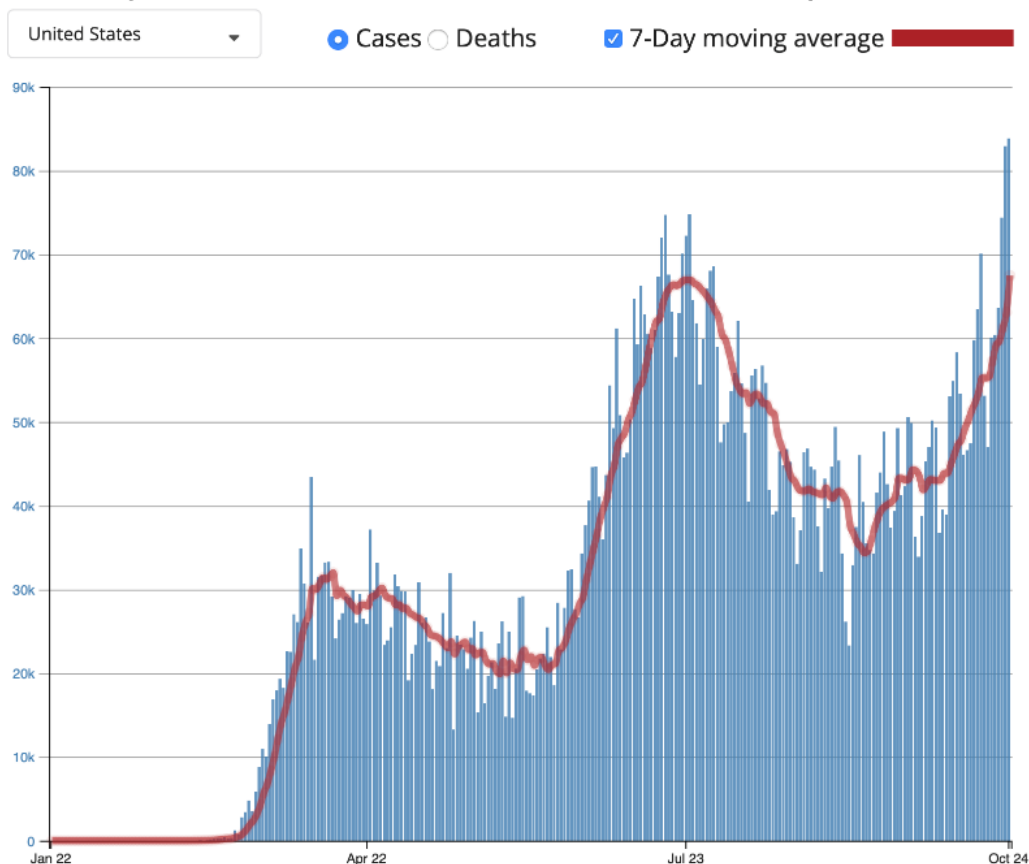
CDC data indicates that the number of confirmed COVID-19 cases in the US has risen since the August “Notes from the Potomac” by 2,801,000 cases to over 8,554,000, and the number of confirmed COVID-19 deaths has risen to about 224,000. The CDC map below displays the number of cases in the last 7 days per 100,000 people. As the map indicates, the COVID-19 hotspots have shifted from the coasts to middle America.

The following graph—the daily trend in the number of COVID-19 cases—highlights that we are now entering the 3<sup>rd</sup> wave of COVID-19 infections and that we have recently surpassed the daily high in COVID cases established this past July.

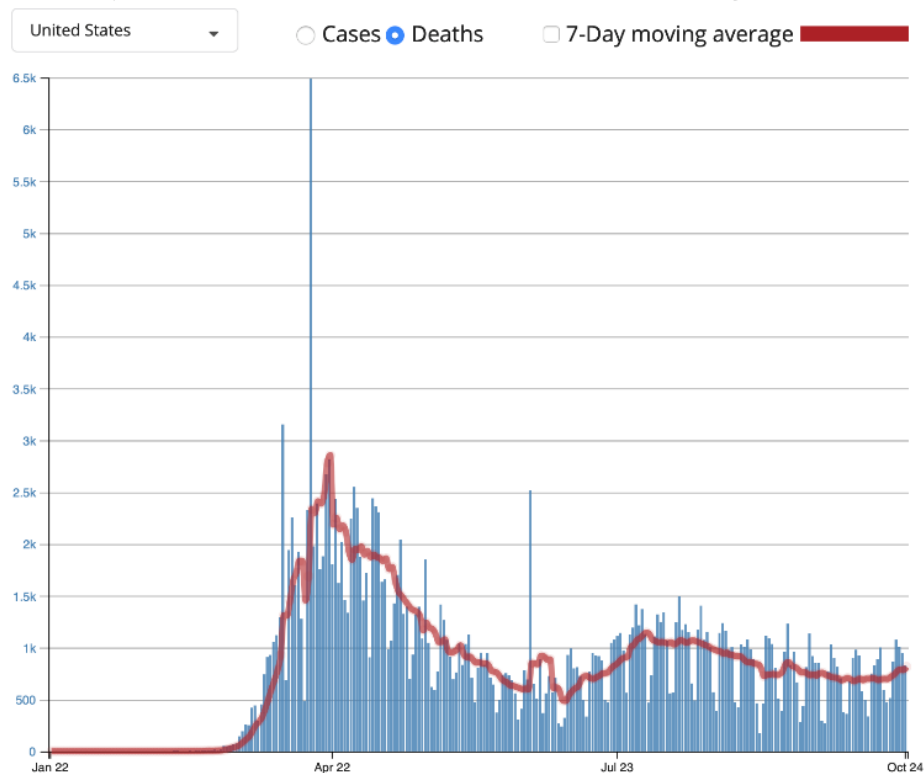


One bit of good news is that the US medical system has learned how to treat severe cases of CoViD-19, and the number of deaths per day has been relatively constant even in the face of sharply rising COVID-19 case numbers.

#### Daily Trends in Number of COVID-19 Cases in the United States Reported to CDC



#### Daily Trends in Number of COVID-19 Deaths in the United States Reported to CDC



The last two months have been full of conservation program activity! Over \$126 million in funding availability and awards were announced for work in everything from urban agriculture and conservation innovation to wetlands, water quality, and feral swine control. In addition, the Agency finalized some key farm bill regulations, and broke new outreach and collaboration ground. The following are just a few highlights, not by any means all the conservation work being accomplished by our intrepid colleagues who continue to help farmers, ranchers, and others to manage and care for the land and its resources despite the many challenges of the day.

### Program Awards

The new USDA Office of Urban Agriculture and Innovative Production announced \$4.1 million for the first-ever recipients of Urban Agriculture grants and cooperative agreements for planning (three projects), implementation (7 projects), and community compost and food waste reduction (13 projects). You can see the full list of grant and cooperative agreement recipients and project summaries at:

<https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/detail/national/newsroom/releases/?cid=NRCSEPRD1638214>

In September alone 24 conservation projects related to conservation innovation received funding: NRCS awarded \$25 million to 14 projects through the On-Farm Conservation Innovation Trials (On-Farm Trials) provision authorized in the 2018 Farm Bill (in the Conservation Innovation Grants program). Projects focus on the adoption and evaluation of soil health management systems and practices, irrigation water management, precision agriculture, and a variety of other management technologies. For the list of recipients go to

<https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/detail/national/newsroom/releases/?cid=NRCSEPRD1660621>.

**NRCS** awarded \$50 million to 10 conservation projects across 16 states through the Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP) Alternative Funding Arrangements (AFA). In addition to bringing \$65 million to the table, partners will be managing the project and associated relationships with participating producers and landowners, including contracting and technical assistance. More information on these projects is available at: <https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/detail/national/newsroom/releases/?cid=NRCSEPRD1655414>

The agency's longstanding commitment to improving water quality got a boost in early October with the announcement of 379 priority watersheds across the country. Producers in these targeted watersheds will receive focused financial and technical resources through the Mississippi River Basin Healthy Watersheds Initiative (MRBI) and National Water Quality Initiative (NWQI). A total of 204 MRBI watersheds will receive financial assistance for practice implementation and a total of 175 watersheds will receive NWQI financial assistance for practice implementation. For more information see:

<https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/detail/national/newsroom/releases/?cid=NRCSEPRD1662423>

**Wetlands** stayed in the news, with funding devoted to restore and protect wetland systems and support for producers through wetland mitigation banking: In late September, \$5 million was awarded to eight new wetland mitigation banking projects through the Wetland Mitigation Banking Program. This program helps conservation partners develop or establish mitigation banks to help agricultural producers maintain eligibility for USDA programs. For more information see:

<https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/detail/national/newsroom/releases/?cid=NRCSEPRD1660022>

In early October, NRCS announced up to \$30 million to help conservation partners protect and restore critical wetlands on agricultural lands through the Wetland Reserve Enhancement Partnership (WREP). Partners are encouraged to work with their NRCS state office in developing WREP proposals, which must be emailed to their respective NRCS state contact by November 30, 2020. For more information see:

<https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/detail/national/newsroom/releases/?cid=NRCSEPRD1664617>

The second round of funding for projects to help trap and control **feral swine** through the Feral Swine Eradication and Control Pilot Program (FSCP) was announced in late September. FSCP is a joint effort between NRCS and the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS). NRCS is making \$12 million available and will accept applications through November 5, 2020, for projects in select areas of Alabama, Hawaii, Mississippi, Missouri, North Carolina, Oklahoma, South Carolina, and Texas. More information about FSCP is available at:

<https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/detail/national/programs/farmbill/?cid=nrcseprd1461219>

**Farm Bill Rules:** You may have missed it, but the earth shook a bit in late August with the publication of the final rule on Highly Erodible Land and Wetland Conservation (conservation compliance). Hats off to NRCS for landing the plane on this controversial farm bill provision that has heretofore operated under an interim final rule. This final rule makes updates directed by the 2018 Farm Bill, integrates public input, and improves the scientific consistency in determinations. You can read the federal register notice at:

<https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/FR-2020-08-28/pdf/2020-18626.pdf>

On October 9, 2020, the final rule for the Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP) was published in the Federal Register. The rule makes changes to the program as directed by the 2018 Farm Bill and integrates public input. As a result, CSP is better aligned with the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) through common applications, contracting operations, conservation planning, conservation practices, and related administrative procedures. NRCS received more than 600 comments on an interim final rule that was published in November 2019. The final rule makes permanent the changes appearing in the interim rule, responds to comments, and makes some minor technical corrections. You can see the federal register notice at: <https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/FR-2020-10-09/pdf/2020-22345.pdf>

**Outreach and Collaboration:** Activities announced in September ranged from interagency and academic collaboration to public input and participation:

A joint Interagency Coordination and Operations (ICO) plan will enhance collaboration between NRCS and the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). Under the plan, NRCS and FEMA will jointly identify opportunities to foster better understanding of each agency's authorities and capabilities, encourage the sharing of ideas, and build a foundation for cohesive teamwork in response and recovery efforts. More information is available at: <https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/detail/national/newsroom/releases/?cid=NRCSEPRD1658220>

NRCS ushered in a new partnership with the Community College Alliance for Agriculture Advancement (C2A3) to enhance and accelerate training and adoption of technologies and best practices for improved agricultural productivity and natural resources stewardship. The partnership with nine Midwest community colleges will support hands-on student conservation learning and conservation-minded farmers and ranchers. For more information on C2A3 go to: <https://agalliance.net/>

Nominations of qualified candidates for a 2-year term on the Task Force on Agricultural Air Quality Research (Agricultural Air Quality Task Force (AAQTF)) are being accepted through November 9, 2020. The Task Force was established by the Federal Agriculture Improvement and Reform Act of 1996 to provide recommendations to the Secretary of Agriculture on air quality and its relationship to agriculture based on sound scientific findings and review of research on agricultural air quality supported by federal agencies. You can read the Federal Register notice at: <https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2020/09/08/2020-19783/request-for-nominations-to-the-task-force-on-agricultural-air-quality-research>

Public comment and written stakeholder input to further USDA's work on its Agriculture Innovation Agenda (AIA) is being accepted through November 9, 2020. The AIA is looking for input on the most innovative technologies and practices that can be readily deployed across U.S. agriculture to support its objective to increase agricultural production by 40% by 2050 while cutting U.S. agriculture's environmental footprint in half. You can see the Federal Register notice at:

<https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2020/09/10/2020-20020/innovative-technologies-and-practices-for-the-agriculture-innovation-agenda>. More information on the Agriculture Innovation Agenda is available at <https://www.usda.gov/aia>.

## FROM THE PRESIDENT

**Cheryl Simmons**, <http://www.arcse.org/>

Happy Virtual Holidays to All!

Below is the outgoing letter from our joint ARCSE-SWCS summer intern, **Joe Derry**. You may recall that ARCSE partnered with SWCS to support Joe as a summer intern position to benefit both of our organizations. Joe worked hard and offered some great ideas that he outlines below. Joe agreed that a main pathway forward may be a **Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)** between ARCSE and SWCS.

Our organizations often share similar goals and objectives in natural resources conservation and staying connected with members. The most recent ARCSE annual meeting was held virtually in conjunction with the 75<sup>th</sup> SWCS anniversary. With similar goals and objectives, the MOU opens membership opportunities for both organizations. With some shared marketing and member communications, our joint goal is for both organizations to gain additional membership.

The draft MOU lays out a general plan of how each organization would share membership information with the partner organization and members. There are still some final language details to work out on how organization information will be shared. The MOU can be cancelled at any time, and has no money attached or obligated.

A draft MOU is attached to the newsletter email, and we welcome your thoughts and ideas. We are excited to explore new opportunities for organization so please feel free to email your State Representative or any on the ARCSE Board.

—Cheryl Simmons, ARCSE President

### Summer Intern Outgoing Letter

Dear Soil and Water Conservation Society,

Calling our time together during the Summer of 2020, "weird" would be a disservice to how spectacularly bizarre the last three months have been. For in that time from May 4, 2020 to July 31, 2020, we've seen: America take on a global pandemic that has impacted nearly every aspect of our day-to-day lives, a social uprising of justice in the form of the Black Lives Matter movement, Des Moines recording the worst air quality index in America on July 5, and the unbelievable success of the first SWCS *virtual* conference! All of that, I got to experience with seven extremely intelligent, charismatic, and motivated SWCS staff that taught me so much about conservation and succeeding in professional endeavors. When I graduate from the University of Iowa in December 2020 with my major in Journalism & Mass Communication and my Certificate in Creative Writing, I'll be able to take the knowledge and experience that I learned here and implement it into whatever career I find myself in.

After hearing the tasks SWCS wanted me to do for them, they let me go in any direction I like. I got the freedom to create documents in the ways I envisioned them while still getting help from staff when I needed it.

While I only got to work remotely, I still accomplished the following products:

- ✓ Created the "Soil and Water Conservation Society" and "Association of Retired Conservation Service Employees" **Partnership Plan**. This plan required me to talk with staff members of both organizations to get an idea of what they wanted to get out of this partnership. After discussions with them, I researched organizations that had success with their partnerships and picked out what ARCSE and SWCS could imitate.
- ✓ Presented the ARCSE and SWCS Partnership Plan to SWCS staff, the ARCSE board, and at the SWCS conference to ARCSE members.
- ✓ Created a **Communication Plan for ARCSE**. This is a step by step instruction guide to create their own Facebook page. This guide also lays out some social media strategies on what to include in posts and how often posts should be published.
- ✓ Created a **Communication Plan for SWCS** that covered critiques of the current social media and offered new ideas to implement in the near future. This process required a meeting with **Joe Otto** and **Jody Thompson** to gain an understanding of what the vision they had for SWCS social media pages. After that constructive conversation, I looked at similar nonprofit websites, social media pages, and newsletters. With all that information gathered, I used my knowledge from my classes to create realistic goals and strategies for SWCS to use for their social media platforms.
- ✓ Assisted with the first ever **SWCS virtual conference**. **Courtney Allen** gave me conference tasks about once a week. These miscellaneous tasks were assigned to me to get done in a timely manner without sacrificing the quality of the work. These tasks ranged from data entry, PowerPoint presentations, calling speakers for event related confirmations, etc.

Although I couldn't be in the office every day, I think the remote internship experience still proved itself as a viable means of learning nonprofit and professional business setting skills. This internship has been unlike any professional experience that I've ever had. Learning from the SWCS staff has been the single most influential aspect of my professional career development thus far. I made it a point in my ARCSE and SWCS Partnership Plan presentation to urge both organizations to continue to do everything possible to continue this internship experience for future students to enjoy the benefits of learning in this one of a kind environment.



Thanks so much! Joe Derry



## MEMBERSHIP REPORT

**Paul Benedict, Membership Chair**

### **New Affiliate Member**

Anne Pollok— Champaign, Illinois

### **New Life Member**

Cheryl Simmons –Moscow, Idaho

### **New Honorary Members**

The following six members of ARCSE have celebrated or will be celebrating their 91<sup>st</sup> birthdays by the end of 2020. With this milestone, each of these members becomes an Honorary Member. As an Honorary Member, no dues are required for calendar year 2021 and thereafter. However, those honorary members who wish to receive a printed copy of the newsletter are required to pay a \$12 fee (see enclosed dues notice).

First Name	Last Name	State
Francis	Lum	HI
Edward E	Weber	OR
Wendell A	Styner	OR
Dick	Gilbert	IN
Curtis	Sharp	PA
Wayne F	Maresch	MD

## MEMBERSHIP DUES AND ADDITIONAL FEES FOR PRINTED NEWSLETTER IN 2021

**Paul Benedict, Membership Chair**

For your convenience ARCSE annual dues and hard copy fees can now be paid by credit card: <http://www.arcse.org/nFORMS.htm>.

You still can pay by check as in the past. Mail checks to: ARCSE, PO Box 8965, Moscow, ID 83843

**2021 Dues Notice to Members receiving the newsletter by printed copy:** A dues notice is included with the hard copy newsletter (green page insert). Please follow the instructions on the notice concerning the address label information to determine if your dues are due.

If you are receiving a hard copy and have not yet paid your 2021 dues or hard copy fee, here is some information on how to decipher the information on your label. **See payment example labels below.** 1. If the **first number to the right of your name on your mailing label is "20", "20C", "20S" or lower, your dues are due! Numbers like "21C", "21", or higher indicate that your dues are paid for 2021. Numbers "999" indicate life members, and your dues are paid.** 2. If the **second number to the right of your name on your mailing label is "H20", an additional payment of \$12 is required to continue receiving a printed copy of the newsletter. If it is "H21" or above, no additional payment is required to continue receiving a printed copy of the newsletter.**

-----Sample labels-----

\*\*\*\*\*ALL FOR ADC 123

0000123-11223

JOHN Q. PUBLIC, 999, H20

11 GRANITE MOUNTAIN

ANYWHERE, USA 01010-1010

\*\*\*\*\*ALL FOR ADC 456

0000456-44556

JAMES P. PUBLIC, 20, H21

11 GRANITE MOUNTAIN

ANYWHERE, USA 00101-1010

**2021 Additional Fee for Printed Copy:** All members (life members, honorary members and those who pay annual dues) who desire a printed copy of the newsletter must pay an additional fee of \$12.00 per year. Since many of you have already paid, please follow the instructions on the dues notice concerning the address label information to determine if you must pay the

additional fee. This \$12.00 will help offset ARCSE annual costs of over \$20.00 per member to print and distribute the printed newsletter.

**2021 Dues Notice to Members receiving the electronic newsletter:** A dues notice is not included with the electronic newsletter. Members receiving the electronic newsletter whose dues are due will receive a separate email from ARCSE with a dues notice attached (WATCH FOR IT).

Life Members, honorary members, and members who have already paid their 2021 dues will receive an email assuring you that your membership dues are paid.

**ARCSE Complimentary membership** - When you have retiree social functions or any other time that you see new retirees from NRCS, be sure to remind them that they are eligible for a one-year complimentary membership in ARCSE if they have not previously been a member. All that is required is that they submit a membership application. This one-year complimentary membership includes receiving the bimonthly electronic newsletter. Membership applications and the ARCSE brochure may be printed at:

<http://www.arcse.org/nFORMS.htm>

#### ARCSE MEMBERSHIP DUES

Member	\$18 per year
Affiliate	\$18 per year
Life (One – time payment)	
Age 64 or younger	\$250
Age 65 thru 74	\$200
Age 75 or older	\$125

*NOTE: Dues payment includes receipt of the bimonthly electronic newsletter only. All members (both life members and those who pay annual dues) who desire a hard copy of the newsletter must pay an additional fee of \$12.00 per year.  
Please submit Dues to ARCSE at P.O. Box 8965 Moscow, ID 83843*

## WE NEED STATE VOLUNTEERS

We are dedicated in our efforts to help our retirees stay in touch with each other, with the Natural Resources Conservation Service and national/state conservation activities. Through our national NEWSLETTER, we also view conservation concerns, policies, and programs from a non-governmental point of view. This gives members the opportunities to better understand concerns and assist with conservation efforts in every state.

To this end, we are seeking volunteers to assist in Connecticut, Delaware, District of Columbia, Maryland, and Rhode Island. Our volunteers will help in coordinating retirees' activities, monitoring their well-being, and their state's conservation activities.

Finally, volunteers will collect and submit updated information to be posted in the national newsletter. For more information or to sign up to be a volunteer in your state, please contact **Melvin Womack**, East region vice president at [mwpocket2@comcast.net](mailto:mwpocket2@comcast.net). See the Member Locator listing at the end of this edition for a list of members by state.

Here are the total members by state:

State	# mem- bers	State	# mem- bers	State	# mem- bers	State	# mem- bers
AK	1	IA	53	MS	2	RI	3
AL	10	ID	21	MT	7	SC	24
AR	11	IL	29	NC	39	SD	7
AZ	19	IN	28	ND	3	PA	40
CA	23	KS	13	NE	19	TN	14
CO	20	KY	10	NH	4	TX	47
CT	4	LA	1	NJ	5	UT	9
DC	2	MA	3	NM	3	VA	46
DE	5	MD	25	NV	5	VT	3
FL	21	ME	9	NY	15	WA	16
GA	9	MI	10	OH	23	WI	15
HI	2	MN	9	OK	15	WY	13
PR	1	MO	29	OR	36		

## ARKANSAS

**Ralph Mashburn, ARCSE Representative**

**Email:** [ralphmashburn@gmail.com](mailto:ralphmashburn@gmail.com)

**Bob Price**, Arkansas ARCSE president has notified members here that our annual meeting has been postponed until the COVID-19 is much subdued.

**Ralph and Nancy Mashburn** both had heart checkups in June. To their surprise, Nancy had two stents inserted to unclog arteries that were 75% and 95% closed. Ralph had to spend three days in the hospital after treatment for atrial fibrillation. They are both doing good and making sure they have enough exercise at the Community Center. Ralph feels it is even more important in these unsettling days to have his regular early morning Quiet Time Bible reading and prayer in his office.

The Mashburn family have get-togethers outside, and since the virus caused cancelling their regular Easter Egg Hunt in their yard, they had a Fall small pumpkin hunt. Prizes were given as usual for who found the most and who found the silver and gold pumpkins. The group picture at the swing-set shows that all wore masks to be safe.

**Dick and Lori Babeu** are walking about two miles most mornings to keep up exercising after Dick had triple bypass open-heart surgery.

Amazingly, Dick, Lori, Ralph and Nancy were in the same heart hospital at the same time, and later, the exercise program together. See the picture at Dick's graduation upon completing the program.

**Ralph and Nancy Mashburn** have recovered from heart treatments and are feeling good. Nancy had two stents inserted that opened up severely blocked arteries. Ralph had electrical cardioversion to treat his atrial fibrillation problem. The picture below shows them the day they completed exercise therapy.



**Dick and Lori Babeu, and Nancy and Ralph Mashburn**



**Ralph and Nancy Mashburn**

Dick and Lori help Nancy and Ralph organize and facilitate family get-togethers out at the Mashburn Farm, like the Pumpkin Hunt this year.

No one has been allowed in their house, but they have family birthday parties in their back yard with all wearing masks as shown in this picture.



**Masking and being safe with family.**



Ralph and **Dick Babeu** began fishing together again in October after about four months of recovery from heart treatments they both had. Nowadays, Dick and Ralph are frequently fishing together again on Lake Maumelle and feeling safe from the virus while in the outdoors and separated in the boat. Ralph claims that Dick is better than any professional fishing guide. As a result, they catch fish 99% of the time.



*This picture shows a largemouth bass on beautiful Lake Maumelle near Little Rock. These guys have been fishing together since 1967 when they worked together on the SCS Water Resources Staff in Syracuse, NY.*



## CALIFORNIA

**Bill Ward, ARCSE Representative**

Email: [bluegrassbillward@gmail.com](mailto:bluegrassbillward@gmail.com)

Greetings from California! California continues to reflect positive progress in its fight to limit spread of the coronavirus; but as some parts of the state fare better than others, health officials continue to warn people not to let their guard down. California's hospitalization figures remain in relatively good shape with hospitalizations less than a third of peak totals recorded over the summer. However, after almost two months of consistent and steady decline starting in late July, hospitalization rates in recent weeks are on more of a "plateau" as Gov. Gavin Newsom recently described it.

**California Statewide Fire Summary October 13, 2020.** I am sure that many of you have watched the news on TV of the devastating California wildfires. The 2020 fire statistics in California are staggering. Today over 11,500 firefighters remain on the frontlines of 21 wildfires across the state, 13 of which remain major incidents. Yesterday, firefighters responded to 34 new wildfires across the state, all of which were quickly contained.

Since the beginning of the year, over 8,500 wildfires have burned well over 4.1 million acres in California. The previous California record was 1.8 million acres burned in 2018. The smoke has impacted many parts of the state, reaching unhealthy levels. To date, the total number of fatalities statewide is 31, and more than 9,200 structures have been destroyed. And the fire season is not over, with wildfire risk still high through October and into November.

**First CA Eng/Design/WNTC Zoom Session.** Some time back I had the idea that it would be fun to reconnect with some of the WNTC and other California staff. They worked closely on review and approval of some of California's more complex projects before the WNTC closed. I have very fond memories of working with folks like **Don Wallin, Lamont Robbins, Lee Saele, Cliff Deal** and others during that time. Besides myself, many other CA Engineering and Design staff also really enjoyed our great working relationship with the WNTC staff. Recently, five of us in this group had our first Zoom meeting of these two staffs: **Harold Honeyfield** and **Bill Ward** from the California Staff; and **Don Wallin, Lamont Robbins** and **Don Stettler** from the WNTC staff. Following are a couple screen shots of our group.



**L-R Top row: Don Wallin, Bill Ward. Bottom Row, Harold Honeyfield, and Don Stettler**



**L-R Top row: Don Wallin, Bill Ward, Lamont Robbins. Bottom Row, Don Stettler, and Harold Honeyfield,**

We all had a great time reconnecting and remembering the great working relationship we enjoyed on many important projects that are still doing their jobs protecting life and property.

Out of this first Zoom meeting our plan now is to see what other California Staff and WNTC staff members would like to be included in a future Zoom meeting connection of these staffs.

I have already heard back that the following retirees who worked as a member of one or both of these staffs would like to participate in our next such meeting: **Bill Evans** was quick to express interest as he holds the unique criteria of at one time being State Conservation Engineer in California and then later the Head of the WNTC. Others expressing interest include **Bob Snieckus** and **Doug Toews** from California, and **Lowell Kennedy** from the WNTC staff. As the word gets out to more people from these staffs, we expect the number to grow.

One of the things I shared with the group was a video I put together to recognize reaching the 10-year anniversary of my retirement. We all enjoyed this as the video includes photos of many California staff going as far back as 1978!

<https://youtu.be/ag3DL8CrAmQ>

*Bill's 10-year retirement anniversary  
A look back at some Projects and People!*

With comments that went back and forth after our session I know we all agreed that it is nice to reconnect with old friends and refresh good memories of our times working together, getting important work done and good projects on the ground.

**California Retiree's regular Monthly Zoom meeting.** Two days after our California/WNTC Zoom meeting, California retirees held our regular monthly Zoom meeting. We all enjoyed having **Don Wallin**, former Head of Design and **Lamont Robbins**, Design Engineer from the WNTC staff in Portland, join us. Those taking part in our Zoom session are shown below.

As usual, we took turns sharing what was new with each of us and I know we all enjoy both the sharing and hearing about each other. In general, everybody seemed to be doing pretty well in these trying times we are dealing with.

With Don and Lamont in our group we did talk a fair amount about the "good old WNTC days" and California's great relationship we enjoyed working with them. We talked about a number of our projects we worked on together. Bob Snieckus talked a little in detail about our Pine Creek Detention Basin project which involved building a small-scale model to address seismic and environmental concerns. State-of-the-art technology was used to create a video of what the project looked like as you moved upstream of the basin down into the basin. I did bring everybody up to speed with our success story on Santa Monica Debris Basin, as well.



**L-R Top Row, Chester Bush, Bill Ward, Don Wallin, and Harold Honeyfield. Middle Row, Bob Snieckus, Al Cerna, Hank Wyman, and Madalene Ransome. Bottom row, Walt Sykes and Lamont Robbins.**

**Bill Ward's Music Project documenting the 30-Year History of Western Lights.** With the extra time that not being able to get out and play music has provided me, I was able to finish documenting our band's 30-year history of playing music, bringing things up to the present day. I feel really good about being able to do this for all my fellow band members and my family and for my family's future generations. I hope it will further inspire my kids and their kids on the blessings of learning, playing, and sharing music. While I had shared chapter 1 previously in my last California submission for the newsletter for completeness, here are all three chapters.

<https://youtu.be/SmSHqudC2Sc>

*Western Lights, a 30-year History  
Of Treasured Memories and music  
Chapter 1, the Early Years*

<https://youtu.be/fUUVIBOKV4>

*Western Lights, a 30-year History  
of Treasured Memories and Music  
Chapter 2, with Gene and Bobbie*

[https://youtu.be/4TV\\_zE0K7Tw](https://youtu.be/4TV_zE0K7Tw)

*Western Lights. a 30-year History  
of Treasured Memories and Music,  
Chapter 3, the Trio*

Well, that is it from California, until next time, wishing all Retirees the best and to be safe!

## COLORADO

**Jack Carlson, ARCSE Representative**

**Email: [pspicata@gmail.com](mailto:pspicata@gmail.com)**

While keeping an eye on the nearby fires, **Ivan Wilkinson** from Estes Park reports he has a Soil and Water Conservation, Fifty Years of Progress belt buckle he'd gladly give to any current or retired NRCS/SCS conservationist who would like to have it. If interested in this limited-edition buckle (#1366), you can find Ivan's contact information in the ARCSE Directory.

On the back in small print the buckle has the following:

"Wind and water erosion was widespread when the formal soil conservation movement began in the 1930's. The great clouds of dust and their destruction caught the attention of people in cities as well as farmers and ranchers. In 1935, Congress passed the Soil Conservation Act, establishing the Soil Conservation Service. **President Franklin Roosevelt** signed the bill into law. In cooperation with landowners and conservation districts, the SCS has been lending a helping hand to carry out 50 years of soil and water conservation."



**Fifty Years of Progress Belt Buckle - Front**



**Fifty Years of Progress Belt Buckle - Back**



## INDIANA

**Jane Hardisty, ARCSE Representative**

Email: [dirtlady52@aol.com](mailto:dirtlady52@aol.com)

Not a lot of news from Indiana retirees. We decided not to have an annual meeting like we normally do in October, nor did we have any small get-togethers. The COVID-19 still has us being very careful and concerned. I do have some sad news to share that some of you will want to know regarding **Bill Reichenback**. Bill passed away on October 17<sup>th</sup>. At the time of this writing, I don't know the cause or any arrangements. I know the last few weeks he had been in the hospital with pneumonia, sepsis, and cancer. He loved his hunting trip with many of his SCS friends to West Virginia. His last position before retiring was the Area Conservationist in Southeast Indiana. We here Indiana can all tell some fun stories about Bill. He was known for his interesting comments, his smelly cigars, his love for the North Vernon theater and, most of all, his love for conservation and the land owners. While on a trip to the doctor a few weeks ago he made this comment, "I was born with polio and will die of cancer, but I had one heck of a great life in between. I would just like to have one more trip to West Virginia." We will miss Bill.

## IOWA

**Mark Jensen, ARCSE Representative**

Email: [amjens1@gmail.com](mailto:amjens1@gmail.com)

Thanks to **David Breitbach** for the following article and pictures: "**Kay and I** ventured out on a six-day trip to Duluth and Lake Vermillion, MN, to visit our daughter and son-in-law who live and work in the Duluth area and have a vacation residence on the west end of Lake Vermillion near Cook, MN. We had a great trip and saw some great fall leaf color. Unfortunately, the weather was cool and cloudy with occasional showers. The attached photos were taken from the kids' front deck overlooking the lift bridge and downtown Duluth. The afternoon we got back to Duluth we had a passing rain shower that produced the double rainbow over the lift bridge and harbor. Did not find the 'pot of gold' at either end of the rainbow."



*Lake Superior, Lift Bridge, and downtown Duluth*



*Double rainbow over downtown Duluth*

Like many of us, **Ron and Jo Hersom** have done a lot of staying at home the past many months. However, they have been to some family outings and participated in two campouts this fall with their camping club. They plan to head south for the winter in late October.

Thanks to **Larry Beeler** for the following article and pictures: "A year ago, **Lynne and I** were fortunate to travel to Italy for ten days. We visited Rome, Orvieto, Assisi, and Florence. Highlights included: St. Peter's Square (so I could chat with Pope Francis), visit Castel Gondolfo (Pope's Summer Residence), Scavi Tunnels (excavations under St. Peter's Basilica) and visit the tomb of St. Peter, Sistine Chapel, the beautiful countryside near Orvieto, and Assisi, Florence (statue of David by Michelangelo and shopping), food tour of Rome, wine and food tasting, and a visit to the largest food market in Rome. We enjoyed the trip immensely and look forward to our next trip."

Larry said that he talked to the owner of the Irish Pub shown in the picture. The owner said they still remember Dennis Pate from his two-day stay in Florence some time ago!



*Pope Francis*



*Pope's Gardens North of Rome*





**Dennis Pate's "hangout" in Florence**



**One of many cathedrals visited by Larry and Lynne**



**Larry and Lynne Beeler enjoying great company, good wine and food.**

**Eldon and Jeannie Weber** had planned to attend their oldest grandson **Ward Weber**'s wedding on October 10<sup>th</sup> on a mesa on his grandson's bride **Shannon**'s home ranch near Fredericksburg, TX. However, due to an injury that Jeannie suffered in a fall and concerns about COVID, they didn't make the trip, but instead watched it through live-streaming on you tube. Ward and Shannon met in law school at Baylor and both have jobs as attorneys in Dallas. Ward is employed with the Dallas District Attorney's Office. Incidentally, Ward got his interest in law from his dad, **Brad Weber**, who is an anti-trust attorney in Dallas and was the president of the Dallas Bar Association.



**Shannon and Ward Weber exchanging wedding vows near Fredricksburg, Texas**

**Marty Adkins** reports that they are about done with their home improvement projects for the year. Now, he is in the early stages of producing a play that will be entirely socially distanced. Rehearsals will take place largely over Zoom, and actors will perform their parts mostly individually in front of a green screen. The backgrounds, and in some cases other actors, will be stitched in by computer. The play will be presented via Facebook and YouTube in short installments later this fall and winter. Productions that Marty has worked on in the past have been very good, and I expect this will also be a good one.

I had an interesting visit with **Herb Wilson** about the Professional Soil Classifiers of Iowa (PSCI). This is an organization that was formed in the late 60s or early 70s. It came about because of the progressive soil survey effort that was initiated at that time to get the entire state soil-mapped. It was a joint effort with the counties, Iowa State University, and SCS. Iowa had approximately

50 soil scientists working on the effort. After the soil mapping was completed in the state, the need for the organization was diminished. Along with Herb, some of the folks who were active in the organization included retired NRCSers **Chuck Fisher, Ron Kuehl, Robin Wisner, Tom Gust, and Mark Minger** as well as **Dr. Jerry Miller and Dr. Tom Fenton** from Iowa State. About a year ago, Herb met with some of these folks to discuss the future of the organization. While no firm decision was reached, one outcome of the meeting was that Tom was to contact **Kathy Woida**, retired NRCS Geologist, to discuss including information about PSCI in her soon to be released book about the soils of Iowa.

Recently we were saddened by the passing of **Donna Knutson**. She was the wife of **Russ Knutson**, a long time Hydraulic Engineer in the State Office. She was also the mother of **Rick Knutson** who was a Design Engineer in the State Office for most of his career.

## KANSAS

**Deanne Lull, ARCSE Representative**

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Virus cases and deaths continue to increase in Kansas, and the beat goes on. **Ron and I (Deanne)** continue to be cautious but have recently completed a self-quarantined period after we were informed that **Ron** had been exposed to the virus at his eye doctor's appointment, when his doctor tested positive. I have also learned that retiree **Michael Ahern** and wife, **Marjorie**, are recovering from COVID. They each had a mild case with a bad cough.

**Ron** had two cataract surgeries during this pandemic period. After his last surgery in mid-May, he often teared up. It felt like something was in his eye, and sometimes had discomfort in his eye. The day after Labor Day he arose with a very bloodshot eye, some pain, tears running down his cheek, and a puffy eye. A trip to the doctor was quickly made and one look into the eye soon found the culprit. A piece of the cataract had slid behind his iris and was not removed. It had taken four months for it to work its way out and become visible. Surgery was scheduled the very next day, and he now has the honor of having had three cataract surgeries.

October 21<sup>st</sup> arrived misty and cold, but inside our home was love and warmth as **Ron and I** celebrated our 60<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary. A wonderful day was spent receiving flowers, phone calls, and e-mails, opening the many cards from family and friends, and dining out.

**Mary Shaffer** reported that her travel plans this year came to an abrupt halt with COVID-19. She had trips planned to Mexico and Canada. So to keep safe, most of her time has been spent at home doing yard work and gardening, both of which she enjoys. However, in October, she did travel to Sargent, TX, located north of Corpus Christi. She and her brothers and wives enjoyed a week at a vacation rental on a canal off the intercostal waterway. The guys did "crabbing" during the week, which produced a delicious crab boil dinner. One day they drove the auto tour at the San Bernard National Wildlife Refuge and saw herons, egrets, and spoonbills. While watching a "bowl" of Roseate Spoonbills in a tree, they noticed a pool of water with a log floating and discussed whether it was a log or an alligator. They could not get out of the car to have a closer look because the mosquitoes, although small, were many. And if the windows or doors were opened, they swarmed into the car. When they returned to the house and viewed the photos on the computer, it was indeed an alligator. The mosquitoes unknowingly probably provided a safety net. They also experienced the storm surge from tropical storm Delta.

This summer **Mary** also volunteered with some friends to weed some of the new flowerbeds and flowerpots downtown. She pulled lots of bindweed on her daily five-mile walk. She wondered if the soil in the flowerbeds was purchased from a bindweed farm! The flowerbeds are the responsibility of the Parks Department; but its budget was cut 80 percent, and it is up to volunteers to weed the downtown and park flowerbeds to keep them looking good.

Two new retirements have occurred. **Troy J. Munsch** retired August 31<sup>st</sup>, 2020, as an Assistant State Conservationist for Partnerships in the Kansas State Office in Salina, KS. He had 33 years of service. **Kevin D. Nelson**, District Conservationist, Tribune, retired September 30<sup>th</sup>, 2020, after 29 years and 51 weeks of service. **Kevin** began his career with SCS/NRCS in eastern Kansas, working in Fort Scott, Effingham, and Holton before moving way out west.

One retiree has passed away. **Edith K. Hadle** died on July 10<sup>th</sup>, 2020. Edith retired in 1983 as a Biological Technician at the Plant Materials Center in Manhattan, KS. Her husband, **Fred**, preceded her in death.

## MAINE

**John Simon, ARCSE Representative**

Email: [balnengr@tds.net](mailto:balnengr@tds.net)

Hi everyone out there in the great US of A from the great state of Maine.

The picnic on Tuesday September 9<sup>th</sup> went over better than I expected. It was a beautiful day, and **Bruce and Karen** captured a picnic bench for us to circle around. In attendance were **Karen and Bruce Champeon, Pat and Bill Moulton, Chris Jones, Patty Clark Wright, and Noreen and John Simon**. We haven't seen each other for a while (five months) so it was fun catching up on family news.

**Chris Jones** is not doing much at the food bank warehouse in Hampden recently, as it is being detoxed I guess, but he did say he spends a lot of time on the lake fishing. Now that sounds like fun!

**Patty Wright** said she recently flew to Colorado to visit her grandkids. Had a great time and really enjoyed flying! On several flights I believe she said she had the plane pretty much to herself.

**Bruce and Karen Champeon** are doing well, and Karen showed us a photo of their new grandchild. Really cute little baby.

**Pat and Bill Moulton** are also doing well. Most of us have not seen Bill and Pat for many years. Pat indicated that her two cataract operations went well and loves the better sight. All of us who have gone through the procedure appreciated the better sight also. Bill is still busy doing genealogical research for lawyers and others. He said the internet has changed this work drastically. He enjoys the work and does most at home. We shared information on ancestry and decided to keep an open mind as to how exact the results are, but there is an enormous amount of information out there. Bill has leased out his farm now, so lots of farm chores are no longer a part of his daily business.

**Noreen and I (John)** are doing well. We recently visited our son's family in Castine. They rented a place for a week. We drove down for three days. It was great seeing them all, but the masks and social distancing took the warm fuzzy feeling away. We did not stay overnight with them as their camp was only 34 miles from our home. Our son **Peter** did come up to Hampden one afternoon and set me up on Wi-Fi. Peter gave his mom Noreen a new iPad and linked it to our Wi-Fi so Noreen could do visual chats often. It works great and will be a blessing to all of us over the holidays as we do not plan on traveling this year.

**Paul Hersey and Terese** are moving from Farmington (after 38 years there) down to Saco. Their two sons and grandkids live in Saco and will be only 15 minutes or so from them. Paul has bought a house in Saco and has his house in Farmington on the market. Houses are moving well up here in the Bangor area, so I suspect he will have his home sold soon. He will still be working part time for NRCS out of the Scarborough office on farms in southern Maine. Paul will follow up later with us after the work of moving is over.

Got a nice report from **Stephen Davis**. I am inserting his comments for the best results rather than changing anything inadvertently. I am sure many hospital patients and staff appreciate Steve's help!

"Hi John, good to hear from you. Thanks for your concern. I'm not currently working as a nurse. After my mother died late last fall, ending a five-year decline from progressive dementia, I moved to Augusta and worked on rehabbing a house all winter. Earlier this summer I moved back to Presque Isle.

I'm currently working part time helping Catholic Charities distribute food boxes in Aroostook County, Washington County, and northern Penobscot County through a USDA-funded program called 'Farmers to Families.' We have distributed over 40,000 boxes since the first of July in a truck-to-trunk format in 14 different communities. It is good exercise unloading a semi-trailer with about 1,300 boxes; usually takes us less than three hours. I am also responsible for safety at the distributions, performing COVID-19 screenings and ensuring CDC guidance is followed for anyone helping to distribute the food boxes—so it is a bit of nursing. I suspect I will go back to Med-Surg nursing in 2021. I really enjoyed the patient and hospital staff interaction and miss that experience—but I don't miss the 12-hour shifts. Stay safe. Steve"

Hi me back again. My personal feelings are that we will not soon see each other again. Masks and social distancing make restaurant meeting out of the question in my opinion, and the weather will also be making picnics out for quite a while. Will try for a picnic in May or June of 2021, if all goes well. So many of us retirees are in the high-risk group that the benefit/cost ratio is just not there. I'll keep you up on things around here. From the looks of things, the fall surge in COVID-19 is upon us. I pray for all of our safety. I am continuing my consumption of vitamin D3 and the mineral Zinc. Several years ago my Doc recommend I take 5000 IU of D3 like she does.

Talked to **Art Taylor** recently and he is in recovery and doing well. He just finished his 12-week heart rehab program. He has no pain but is very low on energy. In spite of that he finished building his second kayak but has yet to install the seat. He otherwise is staying home. **Linda** has several groups that are doing Zoom meetings. She, like Bruce, is a wiz at computers.

Also talked to **Joe Bertolaccini**, and he is also in recovery from his fall and broken bones. He is now able to use a walker but with a lot of pain, because during his fall he tore a lot of ligaments in his knees. They are apparently healing slower than his bones. In spite of the constant pain, Joe is finishing the second edition of his fly-fishing book. He said this second edition will have more diagrams and colored photos! God bless you Joe. You and Art are an inspiration to us all. "Don't let the old man in!"

Heard from **Wayne Hoar**. He has a new email address (see above). He and his wife are moving from Guilford to Unity. Unity is a pretty little town in central Maine. Whole lotta moving going on! Best wishes on your move, Wayne.

**Kay Nickel and Vassar** finished their summer vacation in Michigan. Vassar was helping friends on some small construction projects. They will be heading back to their new Florida home soon. They are feeling fine. We wish them a safe drive home.

Wishing you all a full and healthy winter and holiday season. Till we meet again, Shalom—John.

## MISSOURI

**Dave Rastorfer, ARCSE Representative**

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**Dennis Shirk:** Hello all. We are well. We spent a week on the banks of the Black River near Lesterville, enjoying the fall gaited horse club fall ride—a great week. **Lois** is in the middle of her cataract surgery. She goes again in the morning for the other eye. The surgery is working wonderfully well. Otherwise we are staying close to home and trying to be safe. Enjoy the fall and winter holidays with your families. See ya down the trail.

**Mike Blaine:** Hello all. **Pam and I** are doing well. We just arrived back home in late October from a trip East to Pennsylvania. We were visiting one of our daughters who lives south of Pittsburgh. While there, we also got exposed to COVID, so we spent



most of the trip quarantined with both of our daughters and some of our grandchildren. We had a really wonderful visit in spite of COVID and just had a good time. None of us ever experienced any symptoms whatsoever.

**DEADLINE FOR JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2021 NEWSLETTER CONTRIBUTIONS IS DECEMBER 25<sup>TH</sup>, 2020**



***The Shirks at Black River near Lesterville.***

I traded trucks the day before we left to go to Pennsylvania. I was pleasantly surprised on the trip to see that the Ford F-150 I bought with a 5-liter v8 engine got 21.7 miles per gallon going out and over 18 coming home against a headwind. I was really pleased. Now that we are home, I need to get busy and cut some firewood. I don't have any cut yet at all, and the weather is turning cold. It has been in the 30s at night several nights now, and it's only going to be in the high 40s and low 50s all week this 3<sup>rd</sup> week of October. And, deer season is creeping up on us, and I have some work to do to get ready for that, too. Best wishes to all from Blaine Hill.

**Paula Price:** In a world of turmoil and illness I just have to share that I've been assisting in an office where their office assistant went to Barnes Hospital in St. Louis to be with her 19-year old daughter as she waited for a double lung transplant. Miracle of miracles happened last week, and the daughter received her new lungs. She is now out of ICU. Another medical miracle is happening in St. Louis at Children's Hospital today where a boy entered a trial for cancer that is being administered for the first time in that hospital. He is from Savannah, and our community has been behind his cancer journey for several years now. He received the T-Cell transplant today. In both instances medical history is being made. Praise God and Great Doctors! We never know when we may become a recipient. It makes me feel good to help a 19-year-old and her Mom and family who had to relocate temporarily to St. Louis and to be support for the cancer journey also. There is a lot of good happening in our world!

**Jack Walker (From Joyce):** We are pretty much staying at home, due to COVID. Our trips are mostly to the doctor or grocery store, so nothing very interesting. Jack has a couple of small squamous skin cancers that will be removed in the next few days, and he gets around slowly with his walker. His hip healed okay, but his right leg doesn't work too well—but he can walk on it, which is a blessing! He does a little reading, helps around the house, and works on a jigsaw puzzle (we have a 1,000-piece one now that's really hard— don't want any more with that many small pieces! Ha! Our retirement community takes really good care of the residents, so we're doing okay. Hope you are, too!

**Alton Taylor:** I am in northwest AR now. Was in S/W MO the last two weeks, looking over the Ozarks Springs, Creeks, mills caves, and fall foliage. Got to go home Sunday and catch up on three weeks of mail and stuff. Any sign of interest we checked it out, be it a park or trail. Sure been nice with first rain in two and half weeks.

**Bob Ball:** Our summer travels started with a routine trip to our farm in SE Ohio in August. From there we drove to Savannah and Hilton Head ending in a week later in Orlando to visit our daughter and her family. Having our two small grandsons so far away makes us really appreciate our visits with them even more. But this time we came away from Florida with more than great memories. **Lenore and I** brought COVID home too! Fortunately, we both had mild cases with two weeks of fatigue following. My suggestion: don't let this pandemic alter your lifestyle too much unless you have pre-existing conditions. Then, you **MUST** be more careful. We are already planning another return trip, of course! We just got back, again, from our fall farm visit. An earthmoving contractor finished installing the second phase of a pressure water system for beef cattle. The complexities and costs with that project have been more painful than COVID by far! When I wasn't trying to raise water from our pond 125 feet in elevation into a Cobett waterer, I was basal-spraying invasive species within our tree plantings, hardwood timber, or pastures. I have more chemicals in my farm building than a pharmacy. I do a lot of killing in Ohio! Stay safe and Healthy!

**Bill Pauls:** Been pretty calm around here. COVID not as crazy here at the lake.



I turned 71 on October 21<sup>st</sup> (happy birthday to me). I've been retired almost 14 years now, hard to believe. Enjoying most every minute of most every day. Only got two marathons in this year due to the coronavirus (#s 110 and 111). Another is rescheduled for next year in Denver. Fall is setting in, and the trees are turning pretty. Supposed to have one more summer day tomorrow, so will get the boats all set for cold weather. Staying busy with trips around the STL area for G'kid ballgames—a true joy! Still volunteering at the Pregnancy Help Center in Camdenton and in charge of our church cemetery. Even digging a few cremated remains graves. What a segway for a retired soil scientist! Missed not having the summer get-together and seeing some of the rest of you ol coppers and coggerettes. May God bless you all,

Sad News, **Bill Mozingo's** daughter **Cheryl** has informed us of Bill's passing on September 15<sup>th</sup>. Please keep Bill's family in your thoughts and prayers. See the In Memoriam section for more details.

## MONTANA

**Dick Gooby, ARCSE Representative**

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### Montana Big Sky Report

**Joyce Swartzendruber Report:** We had a great socially-distanced reunion with **Bob Bartholomew** and **Leah Juarros** from Boise. Bozeman has experienced a big surge in COVID-19 cases this fall, and between that and the election we are just ready for it all to blow over!

**Gooby Ranch Report:** With all the fires in California, Oregon, and Washington it has been so smoky around here that you can hardly see. The other day Mary Ann and I were coming home from town when the smoke was really thick. **Mary Ann** was in the garbage can in the back of the pickup. She has to ride in the pickup box so we can maintain social distancing. So, she couldn't help me determine which road to take to get home.

I finally got to what I thought was our turnoff and drove over an hour and came to a caution light. Since we don't have any caution lights in our neck of the woods, I definitely took the wrong road. I turned around and headed back down the road. I came to the road I had turned off before. I know that was it because I saw the stop sign. I drove up the road a ways and came to another turn-off that I was sure was our road. After about a half hour the pickup motor quit. We ran out of gas.

I let Mary Ann out of the garbage can and told her what happened. Mary Ann said it was her turn to sit in the pickup cab. So, I had to stay outside to keep our social distancing. When I got really bored, I walked up the road to have something to do. After about a half mile I came to a mailbox, and it had our name on it. I couldn't believe it.

I went back and told Mary Ann. We gathered up all the groceries that needed to be refrigerated and put them in a box. Mary Ann carried it the mile and a half we had to walk to get home. She didn't even set the box down once. I offered to help, but Mary Ann said she didn't want to take a chance that I might drop the box and break something. That Mary Ann is one smart tough kid.

After Mary Ann got the cold groceries put away, she got me a snack. Then she carried a five-gallon gas can full of gas down to put some gas in the pickup.

Jerry Bernard wanted to know what we are going to do for Halloween with all the COVID-19 problems. Mary Ann and I decided that instead of going trick or treating she will put on a really scary outfit and get in the garbage can in the back of the pickup. Then we will drive through town; and when we come to a bunch of kids, Mary Ann will jump out of the garbage can, scare the kids half to death, and they will drop all their candy. I will get out and pick up the candy and then drive down to the next bunch of kids. That way, we won't have to go house to house to trick or treat.



**Bob Bartholomew (left) and Leah Juarros (right) from Boise, visiting with Joyce Swartzendruber (center).**

## NEBRASKA

**Norm Kempf, Jim Culver, ARCSE Representatives**

Emails: [nkempf@neb.rr.com](mailto:nkempf@neb.rr.com), [j4culver@aol.com](mailto:j4culver@aol.com)

**Harold Klaege**, President of NARFE Capitol Chapter-Lincoln, announced they will be having their November meeting with Zoom and will invite BCBS, GEHA, and AETNA representatives to cover changes in the 2021 FEHB insurance changes.

**Gary Muckel, Gary Wells, Rich Torpin, Norm Kempf and Jim Culver** participated in the 24<sup>th</sup> Annual **Dave Langemeier** Memorial Golf Tournament on August 28<sup>th</sup> at the Highlands Golf Course in Lincoln. The golf tournament was started 24 years ago by Dave Langemeier, a strong past member of our Lincoln SCS/NRCS Retirees Club to raise funds to provide scholarships for students attending a Nebraska college or university and majoring in a natural resource related field. Proceeds from the tournament are invested with the University of Nebraska Foundation and the Nebraska Soil & Water Conservation Foundation, and income from those investments are used to fund the scholarships. This past year four \$1,000 scholarships with proceeds from the tournament were awarded to outstanding bright, energetic university students committed to the conservation of our natural resources.

**Norm Helzer** has created an outstanding Nebraska natural prairie centered around a nice circle drive at his home in a very busy area within the city limits of Lincoln. Norm and **Linda** bought their home in May of 2005.



*Urban native prairie created by Norm Helzer along the circle drive to his home in Lincoln, Nebraska.*

Originally the area had a crab apple tree right in the middle. The crab apple tree was cut down, and the long process of transplanting and establishing a wide variety of prairie grasses was started. Norm selected many prairie grasses from the prairie on his farm in Hamilton County and farm ditches in Clay County. Also, native plants were obtained from sales by Friends of Wilderness Park and Lauritzen Gardens, etc. plus local nurseries. As Norm said, I have "Urban agriculture for butterflies." The wild rose came from the farm ditch, along with sideoats grama from the family farm prairie that son **Chris** now has.

Norm has warm season grasses and native grasses, including the state grass, Little Bluestem and lots of flowering plants. In 2009, Norm counted 37 different flowering native plants. An area in the urban prairie with high clay content supports blue grama and buffalograss, which do well on these clayey soils.

**Jim Carr** reports he is doing very well with home rehab following some health heart related issues.

**Bob Engel** noted that during the COVID-19 difficulties he has been busy with his business of remodeling older homes and finding new renters, as people keep moving from place to place.

**Joe Calder** has a granddaughter in Cincinnati, Ohio who was recently married; but due to the virus issues, **Joe and Flo** did like most of us in the Lincoln area—stayed home and did our best to be SAFE!

**Thomas Reinsch** updates on cycling adventures: His cycling odometer exceeded 2,000 miles after riding over 100 miles in Kansas. The rides included portions of the Oregon trail near Topeka and the beautiful Chief Standing Bear Trail (owned by the Ponca tribe) from Marysville, KS to Beatrice, NE. Chief Standing Bear made an historic trek from Indian Territory in Oklahoma to Niobrara, NE to bury his son in his native homeland. Chief Standing Bear was the first Native American to be recognized as a person in a federal court decision (<https://chiefstandingbear.org/about/>).



*Thomas Reinsch biking near the Nebraska-Kansas line. He has biked over 2,000 miles in the Lincoln area already this year.*

**Norman Kempf**: celebrated his 80<sup>th</sup> birthday on October 12<sup>th</sup>. His wife's mother said that when a person lived long enough to celebrate their 80<sup>th</sup> birthday they should be entitled to a week of birthday celebrations. The picture shows the first of three celebrations attended by **Dottie and Ed Svendsen, Norman Kempf, Gus Dornbusch**. Not pictured are **Donna Dornbusch and Sylvia Kempf**. A decision was made to limit the size of the parties to six each in an attempt to be safe from the virus.

The decision has been made to cancel all meetings for the rest of the year due to the virus.



*Celebrating Norm Kempf's 80<sup>th</sup> Birthday. Left to right: Dottie and Ed Svendsen, Norm Kempf, and Gus Dornbusch. Photo by Sylvia Kempf.*

## NEW YORK

**Nancy Lee, ARCSE Representative**

Email: [mlee0006@rochester.rr.com](mailto:mlee0006@rochester.rr.com)

Things are slowly opening from the coronavirus. Schools opened in September with a mix of learning—some attending five days a week for in-school learning, while others are in a mixture of attending two days in-school and two days virtual learning. Other districts that are experiencing a spike in the numbers are totally remote virtual learning.

Halloween is coming and no door-to-door trick or treating, unless it is family or in your neighborhood. No Halloween face masks, but must wear a regular face mask. Very hard for the little ones to understand what is happening.

Sad to report also that wife of former Soil Scientist, **Ken Van Doren**, has passed away at the age of 85. **Joanne** is survived by three sons, six grandchildren, two great grandchildren, and a brother and sister.

Just received word that former DC in Batavia, **Art Hanson**, passed away in New Port Richey, FL.

## NORTH DAKOTA

**Robert "Bob" Bird, ARCSE Representative**

Email: [Rajmbird@aol.com](mailto:Rajmbird@aol.com)

In the early months of the pandemic, North Dakota was one of the states with a low percentage of positive test results. Lately, North Dakota has been one of the highest states in percentage of positive test results. Many precautions are being taken, such as masking, social distancing, limitations on size of gatherings, and contact tracing. We did cancel our annual reunion last month because most of our retirees that attend are mostly older.

I do a lot of volunteering for Veterans' service organizations, technical and professional organizations, and the State Historical Archives. I find it amazing how much our retirees have accomplished after they retired by reading their obituaries, the ARCSE Newsletter, and other publications. Well, we have been getting snow and cold in North Dakota, which is causing some of our snowbirds preparing to migrate to their winter homes in California and Arizona, unsure if they will have to quarantine, once they get there. I wish everyone a great holiday season with family gatherings and a better and safer year in 2021.

We did have three retirees pass away recently. See the In Memoriam section for more details.

**Joan Kobs** worked in the State Office with her last position being secretary for **Myron Senechal's** department. Her daughter, **Connie Kobs**, currently works at the Bismarck State Office.

**Larry Luger** from Hettinger, ND, was fondly known as the "tree man."

**Jim Kramer** worked in four locations for SCS, rising to range conservationist in the State Office before going to work for BNI Coal as a reclamation specialist.

## OHIO

**Jon Gerkin, ARCSE Representative**

Email: [jgerken47@gmail.com](mailto:jgerken47@gmail.com)

Earlier this year on Saturday, February 29<sup>th</sup>, Cuyahoga Valley Scenic Railroad volunteers gathered to celebrate this past year's accomplishments and revel in 2019 memories. The annual CVSR Volunteer Appreciation Dinner recognizes the support and efforts volunteers have made throughout the year.



Volunteers with 100 or more hours during the calendar year of 2019 are invited to the dinner. Those who have been an active volunteer for 10 years or more are also in attendance.

Our volunteers have diverse backgrounds and contribute positively to CVSR both on and off the train. Among the volunteer group is one volunteer who stands out and above and beyond for passengers and their fellow volunteers.



**Ralph and Betty Gray, June 14. Socially distanced cookout on Joy and Marvin Gray's deck celebrating 73 years of marriage today.**



**March, Volunteer of the Year: Ralph Gray**

The volunteer of the year is nominated by his or her peers. They must be an active volunteer who is in good standing (minimum 100 volunteer hours) and exemplifies outstanding contributions to the railroad. In determining the volunteer of the year, the Nominating Committee considers the facts, specific achievements, and spirit of volunteerism demonstrated by the person nominated. On Saturday, it was an honor to give **Ralph Gray** the 2019 Volunteer of the Year award. Ralph is one of our ARCSE Honorary Senior Conservationists.

Ralph started volunteering with CVSR in February 2010 and has accumulated 4,714 total hours. Now, at 95 years young, Ralph is CVSR's oldest volunteer. He was nominated for his positive attitude and customer service. At more than one volunteer meeting he has been quoted saying "You are never too old to volunteer."

## OKLAHOMA

**Randy Freeland, ARCSE Representative**

**Email:** [randy.freeland@suddenlink.net](mailto:randy.freeland@suddenlink.net)

With the pandemic still spiking in Oklahoma, the Oklahoma SCS/NRCS Retirees cancelled their meeting scheduled for October 23<sup>rd</sup> and instead opted for an exchange of information via the internet. Following are a few comments from members about what is going on in their lives during the pandemic.

**Carolyn Webb:** You are so right about finding packed-away "treasures" that have to leave our closets, storage room attached to driveway, and even Bob's barn. I have been to way too many garage sales! In fact, I took a pickup load to the Salvation Army today in Tulsa.

**Bob** and I are doing fine, except I thought hibernation was only in the winter months. Tired and weary of so much Matt Dillon on the TV. Thank goodness I enjoy reading and working crosswords. My outside plants have kept me sane throughout this ordeal.

Appreciate receiving the notices from our State Office regarding the retirements and those we have lost. Pray for each of their families and also pray that all of you will be healthy and strong. The 5Ks that we usually run were canceled, but at least twice a



week I walk the route which is around Bristow's beautiful lake. Sorry you all can't celebrate my birthday again this year, as I am 81 on the 23<sup>rd</sup>. You are all in my thoughts and prayers.

**Mark Moseley:** Thanks for doing the newsletter. As is life, it was full of good news and sad news. I appreciate the thorough job. I am still alive and well in the Heart of Texas and wanted to update you to my most used email: [mosemoseley@gmail.com](mailto:mosemoseley@gmail.com). The other is used by my wife mostly, so please make the update so I do not miss any news. I cannot believe I have been gone from Oklahoma for 15 years. I think often of the welcome our family received and recall fondly many great memories and friends in Oklahoma. Heck, I even run across a few Okies down here! We are hunkered down like everyone else and faring well with the pesky COVID-19. Very best regards, **Mark Moseley**, Grassland Stewardship Services, LLC, 1102 S. College, Brady, TX 76825, 210.516.5038, Certified Professional in Rangeland Management.

**Larry Caldwell:** I thought some of the retirees who worked most of their careers in the watershed program might be interested in seeing a legacy summary of their hard work.

The "Watershed Facts and Figures" document that I have been working on for the last decade has been finally posted to the NRCS website as a historical note (see url link below). This is a really good feeling for me as I have been preparing and updating it for a loooooong time!

<https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/detail/national/about/history/?cid=stelprdb1042935>

I understand that some hardcopies will be published later when the government printing office is opened again.

I prepared this in an effort to consolidate all of the national watershed records in one place as a reference for future generations. I included several items that several people helped me gather and update as we prepared for DamWatch, developed the new watershed benefits model, updated the National Inventory of Dams, analyzed auxiliary spillway flow data, summarized watershed program statutes, and summarized the evolution of design criteria over the years, etc. These records and data had previously been spread all over the place in program files, engineering files, National Inventory of Dams, etc. With all of these records in one place and summarized by state, I hope they will make the information and history more easily available for future NRCS, sponsors, Dam Safety Officials, and other Watershed Program supporters. It is a 288-page document including many tables, charts, graphs, and several appendices. The preface/introduction section describes the background and intent of the document.

The National Watershed Coalition has also posted this on their website with an intro that describes what is in it. It can be accessed at

<http://www.watershedcoalition.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/USDA-Watershed-Programs-Facts-and-Figures-Resource-Packet.pdf>

Recent NRCS retirees: **Eddie Campbell**, 4/30/20, SCT, Coalgate; **Larry Frey**, 5/22/20, CET, NW Oklahoma; **Warren Sanders**, 7/3/20, DC, Marietta, 39 yrs. Service.

**Stanley Irving**, DC Team 3, was selected as the DC for Team 2. Until **Stanley** receives his official start date, **Jeremey Hughes** will remain as Acting DC Team 2.

Leaving NRCS: **Breonna McElroy**, Soil Conservationist, Team 14, accepted a position with Food Nutrition Service in Dallas effective April 12, 2020.

We Oklahoma retirees were thrilled to see our own, **Kevin Norton**, Acting Chief of NRCS, testify in front of the House Ag Committee on October 1<sup>st</sup>. **Kevin** worked several locations in Oklahoma before moving to Louisiana a few years ago, then on to Washington, D.C. He left many trails here and carries a lot of respect from his many supervisors and co-workers.

Members are reminded to look at the information presented on the website, [www.joepad.com](http://www.joepad.com). If you happen to miss our meetings, the website provides pictures, list of attendees, etc.

See the In Memoriam section of this newsletter and the web site ([arcse.org](http://arcse.org)) for information on retirees who have left us.

The next meeting is scheduled for April, 2021 at Golden Corral Restaurant in Oklahoma City. A specific day will be established after the first of the year. No reservations are needed, and we welcome out of state guests as well.

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## OREGON

**Don Stettler, ARCSE Representative**

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Many of us here in the Northwest wonder how things could be worse, because along with the pandemic the region has had wildfires destroying thousands of acres of forest and towns resulting in hazardous air quality. Air quality in the Portland area was the worst in the world for several days in September, with index readings ranging from 350 to more than 515. During those days we were encouraged to stay indoors. Then outdoor activity came to a halt, giving the surreal feel of a ghost town.



**Smoky conditions on a farm near Warm Springs**

For me the smoky conditions were reminiscent of my years stationed at the Eugene Field Office during the 1960s when grass seed farmers burned their fields without restriction. During August and on into September there was always the smell of smoke in the air and the surrounding hills hidden because of the smoke. Particularly memorable was Tuesday, August 12<sup>th</sup>, 1969, a day remembered as "Black Tuesday." That day smoke was so thick that I could not see traffic lights a block away. Oregon's Governor **Tom McCall** happened to be in town that day for a BBQ. Seeing how bad the smoke could be made him a believer. He immediately called for a temporary ban on field burning. However, the smoke issue was not dealt with until after August 3<sup>rd</sup>, 1988 when smoke from a burning field poured across all four lanes on I-5 near Albany. When it was all over, wrecks had killed seven, injured 38, and burned out 24 crashed vehicles. Since then, the grass seed acreage allowed to be burned is very limited and only on days when smoke dissipation will occur.

Because of the pandemic, the Oregon Health Authority is recommending Oregonians avoid traditional door-to-door trick or treating and "Trunk or Treat" events because they are high-risk activities for crowding among people outside one's household. Trunk or treat is something new to me. These events are often held at schools or churches. Adults decorate the back of their cars for Halloween, load up on candy, and then sit in a parking lot for kids to "trick or treat" from car to car. Kids come fully dressed in Halloween costumes and hold out bags or plastic pumpkins for treats. At the same time, adults get to socialize and be creative while seeing all the cute and scary costumes.



*In keeping with the pandemic and Halloween, a neighbor employed their Halloween decorations to encourage proper behavior to combat COVID-19 and not to be a "COVIDIOT."*

## PENNSYLVANIA

**Bill Bowers, Tim Murphy; ARCSE Representatives**

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**Alan Wood** says thanks to COVID-19, he and **Judy** have been exploring some of the many bike trails in Central PA. Most recently, they did the trail from Mifflinburg to Lewisburg in Union County, which interestingly has a brewery at both ends! When they did the Lykens Valley trail in Dauphin County, they had a 15-minute delay while a bear and her two cubs crossed in front of them!

**Bob Escherman**, who many of us knew as the landscape architect at the NNTC in Chester before it was closed, was then reinvented several times, working at the Regional Office and NHQ. He and **Nancy** retired to the Inner Banks of North Carolina.

In the summer of 2019, Bob joined five other families on the Albemarle Plantation to voluntarily build a dog park. As the primary designer, Bob and another owner presented the concept to the Board of Directors and gained preliminary approval in December, 2019. In early May, the dog park committee had a soft opening of the two dog park areas. In mid-May the park opened to all residents. We have over 120 dogs here. The park is not complete since we need shade and a water source. Since the opening, Bob has made two benches and asked the wood workers to construct bluebird houses. Trees will be planted this fall. What is interesting, the Escherman's don't own a dog.

**Ed Brzostek** reports that the weather was finally ideal for flounder fishing off Ocean City, MD in late September. First mate **Wayne Bogovich** and I headed out at daybreak from the Ocean City West Marina. Luck was on our side this trip as we were catching flounder.

**Mary Smith** says her first year of retirement has been pretty strange, but it has been relaxing. Our family rejoiced at the birth of a new grandson on January 27<sup>th</sup>, and we were all able to get together for our children to meet him in February, just before the pandemic affected all of our lives, in so many ways,

Our middle daughter, who works for USDA-Food Safety Inspection Service, as a Veterinarian and Supervisor in California got engaged to a Naval officer in June. She is in a quandary as to where and when the wedding will be. I will be sewing her wedding gown, as I did for our other two daughters.

Sometimes happy times can be cut short with tragedy, and we experienced that on August 30<sup>th</sup>. What should have been another joyful celebration of life turned out otherwise. Our oldest daughter went into labor, and our grandson experienced unforeseen complications, and was stillborn.

**Rose Marie Updegraff** writes: "My daughter **Tracy** and I took a trip to the Finger Lakes Region in New York in October. We stayed at "Moonshadow," a wonderful B&B in Hammondsport. We started off in Corning, visiting the Corning Glass Museum and the Rockwell Museum.

After I retired from Pennsylvania, I moved to my home state of Texas, and lived in Lufkin for 9+ years. I moved to Florida in 2014, when my son **Henry** and his wife asked me to, after he retired from the Air Force. It was quite an experience being in a state that only has one season – summer all year long!! I am now back in Texas and will be living in Jasper, which is not too far from my other two sons. We lost Henry in January of this year – he battled colon cancer for 4½ years, which we believe he received from the Burn Pits in Iraq when he was stationed there. I stay busy with various hobbies, exercise, and volunteer work. Praying that everyone, especially all of you and your family members, stay safe from COVID-19!"

**Bill and Mary Ann Bowers** have been maintaining a rather low profile. Doctor visits, Giant Direct, lots of yard and garden activities, church on Facebook and lots of Zoom meetings. My trail cams continue to capture amazing wildlife activity that would go unnoticed otherwise. There have been the typical deer, red fox, squirrels, raccoons, turkeys and an occasional bear and coyote. Perhaps the most unusual picture this year is one of a six-foot black snake with a gray squirrel who had a ripe tomato in its mouth. Not sure if they were just passing each other or what the occasion was.

We did enjoy a week at Deep Creek, MD. Lots of hiking, playing games, some golf, and a day on the lake. Sure was good to get away and spend time with family. The grandkids are growing up. College senior and junior. Wow! We are missing Penn State football but will get back into that via TV soon. What a strange time! Hope everyone can get out to see some fall leaf color and the beauty of Pennsylvania.

**Don and Shirley Lindsey** are doing well. Tiring of the long restrictions due to COVID-19, but we have lots to do and feel that our stress level has not escalated like some others. Big wonderful news: A trip to Hershey Medical Center recently showed that the tumor on Don's remaining kidney has not increased in size since his radiation therapy in January.

**Carl DuPoldt** suggests that we consider joining Penn State Cooperative Extension's Green Stormwater Infrastructure Series webinars to learn how research and work across Pennsylvania are providing cost effective approaches to managing stormwater. Explore how to properly prepare soils, select appropriate vegetation, plant, and maintain green stormwater infrastructure systems. Several webinars are offered from mid-October through early December. Register at <https://extension.psu.edu/green-stormwater-infrastructure-series>.

Carl also notes some interesting web sites.

[PowerFilm Solar Indoor/Outdoor e-peas Solar Development Kit Coastal Wildlife](#)

[Infection prevention & emergency preparedness: lessons learned from the Healthcare industry - webinar materials:](#)

[Barnagat Bay Partnership](#)

[Audubon's I Saw A Bird Show](#)

[Schuylkill River Greenways:](#)

Carl sent a summary of a honeybee workshop (for humans) by beekeeper Ed Levi. You can see some of his postings by Googling "honeybee workshop ed Levi."



**Frank Resides Family:** It has been a tough year. The pandemic, forest fires, hurricanes and floods, the civil unrest in the cities, the wrecked economy and a lot of people in need. A sad time. We pray for the health care workers, the fire fighters, and police and emergency responders.

**Jane and I (Frank)** are thankful for many things. We don't have to go to work, haven't lost a job, have no children to care for and have all of life's necessities we need and more. Our daughter, **Leigh**, and grandson **Matthew** do some of our grocery shopping. Frank still gets out a couple days a week to do volunteer work for his church or pick up pallets that he cuts up for firewood. We skip out a day or two a week to get breakfast or lunch at Burger King or a similar priced restaurant that is serving through a window. The Senior Centers are still closed, so some people are getting a chance to do some cooking at home.

Jane still has her perennial garden and more flowers on the front and back porches; some herbs and some tomato plants, always something to water. And she continues with her career/past time of writing stories and poems.

Matthew is back at Bloomsburg U. for his third year. He and his seven fraternity brothers all got a case of the coronas and were in isolation for two weeks. Fortunately, all have recovered with no apparent ill effects. Matthew and Frank built a weight-lifting bench since Matthew works out a couple hours on most days.

We have been able to make a few trips to Tioga County and always enjoy staying at our cabin in the woods. It's been a dry summer in northern PA with streams at record lows.



We get our church services from both Jane's and Frank's church on our screens every Sunday, along with brief messages during the week, for which we are thankful.

What will the future bring? How long will we be wearing masks, not be going to football games, be avoiding group activities and with so many unemployed, etc.? Deer hunting 2020? Frank's truck is ready, his rifle's ready, the license and permits are in hand, is Frank ready? Time will tell.

It would be nice if we could get our wonderful two-party system working again. The politicians need to go to work and do some government business, instead of spending most of their time investigating each other. Unfortunately, it doesn't look like this will happen anytime soon. Are we finished investigating the 2016 Election? I hope so, for it will soon be time to start on 2020.

We wish you all good health, happiness, and a good year to come—and may the Lord's Blessing be upon you. We look forward to hearing your news—Frank and Jane.



*Jane and Frank married on March 17<sup>th</sup>, 1962.*



*A cabin in the Tioga County woods since 1969.*

## TEXAS (NORTH)

**Arnold King, ARCSE Representative**

**Email: [arnolddking@hotmail.com](mailto:arnolddking@hotmail.com)**

Comparatively speaking, Texas is heading toward normalcy. That is, compared to NYC. Our Governor is being very cautious, so masks and distance criteria are being observed. Drinking establishments and restaurants are open to 75% capacity, in most cases. The hospitalizations and deaths from COVID-19 are definitely on a downward trend. The number of cases are generally up due primarily to improved and increased testing procedures. Regarding Halloween, we live in a gated community where Halloween is traditionally a big deal with numerous activities and parties. This year I don't think we are planning anything, but some of the kids will go to selected houses for trick or treating.

Sadly, we have had a few deaths. The ones I'm acquainted with are retired NTC personnel. **Jim Speith** was our associate director. I received a notice just today that he has passed away at his hometown in Florida. **Morris Liebrecht**, NTC staff design



engineer, passed away on October 10<sup>th</sup>. **John W. Jackson**, 88, died on Sunday in Ft. Worth, TX, February 16<sup>th</sup>, 2020. **Kermit Adolph Wahrmond** passed away on March 21<sup>st</sup>, 2020 after losing a battle with cancer.

I will conclude by bragging on two of our five grandchildren. My grandson, **Greyson**, won 1<sup>st</sup> place in saddle bronc riding, high school division, Fort Worth Livestock Show and Rodeo. We were all glad and excited about that, and he won a \$2,000 scholarship and a big belt buckle that he will cherish forever. His sister, **Georgia**, was elected to represent the sophomore class of the Aledo High School home coming court. The other three are also great kids, and I have stories about them, as well.



*Arnold's grandson, Greyson, rode this horse and won 1<sup>st</sup> place at the Ft. Worth Livestock Show and Rodeo, high school division.*



*Arnold's son, Todd and granddaughter, Georgia, are pictured here during the halftime show where Georgia represented the sophomore class of the homecoming court during their annual homecoming football game.*

## VIRGINIA

**Ken Carter, ARCSE Representative**

**Email: [duckheadone@gmail.com](mailto:duckheadone@gmail.com)**

Retirees in Virginia are saddened at the loss of long time District Conservationist **Fred Copenhaver**. Fred had been in the Abingdon Field Office and the Marion Field Office his entire career. Before working with SCS/NRCS Fred was a VoAg teacher in the local school system. A natural born salesman with his folksy manner, Fred was instrumental in working with farmers to adopt some of the first water quality improvement practices and stream fencing in the state through cooperative efforts with TVA.

Another great loss in the state was the recent death of former Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation's Soil and Water Division Director, **Roland B. Geddes**. Roland led the state agency through the creation of the state's Chesapeake Bay Program development, cost share program development, and revamping of the state erosion and sediment control programs and dam safety efforts.

**Warren Lee** reports that he and his wife are preparing to head to their Arizona home for the winter.

**Melvin Womack** reported in that he has not been able to get out fishing this year, while I can report nice catches of speckle trout and puppy-drum; and the stripe bass are all turning on with the fall weather. (Sorry Melvin, I'll send you pictures).

## WASHINGTON

**Ken Kaul, ARCSE Representative**

Email: [kenkaul@msn.com](mailto:kenkaul@msn.com)

Things have not changed much in Eastern Washington. The best thing is that the smoke is gone, and the air quality is now in the good range. We had about 10 days of very bad air quality. On a scale of 0–500 we had several days of 499 HAZARDOUS TO ALL. It was a good time to be in the air filter business. Now we are getting ready for snow—good for the skiers, not the shovelers.

With nearly one million homes at risk from wildfire and after the devastating fires this season that burned 713,328 acres and three whole towns, there is a new emphasis on forest management, and particularly prescribed burns and thinning on federal, state and private land.

**Carl Vennes** is recovering from the COVID-19 virus. Doing better every day.

**Stefan Fecher Report**—Not much new here. The yard is in the best shape ever, and it helped keep us in shape at the same time. Rooms have been painted, kitchen appliances updated, and all the rolling stock has been hand-waxed, all thanks to good social distancing

We will be heading to Arizona soon and look forward to the warmer winter weather and continued social distancing. We will be traveling with the trailer, so maybe we will be able to vacation a bit on the way home in the spring. Wishing all good health.

**Paul Taylor Report**—There is a 2020 Netflix movie, "Kiss the Ground" narrated by **Woody Harelson** that highlights an NRCS agronomist and soil health. Science experts and celebrity activists unpack the ways in which the earth's soil may be the key to combating climate change and preserving the planet. I haven't finished it yet, but what I did view was interesting.

We spend one day a week with two grandkids while they home-school. Looks like the 1st grader may be going back to the classroom part of the week.

I also have been quite active on the Regal Place HOA board as Treasurer, instigator, and contact with our landscape/snow-plow contractor. Lots of spreadsheets and written reports and other evaluations—at least enough for a retiree.

Looks like we will have to hold meetings with Zoom or Google Teams this winter. Something new for us.

Keep up the good work and take care.

## WEST VIRGINIA

**Peg Reese, ARCSE Representative**

Email: [pegreesevw@gmail.com](mailto:pegreesevw@gmail.com)

We lost two of our NRCS/SCS family recently. Retired Soil Conservation Technician **James E. "Jim" Wilson**, of New Martinsville, WV passed away Friday, September 11<sup>th</sup>, 2020. Retired Civil Engineer, **Harvey Oliver Mitchell**, 77, of Ripley, WV passed away on Wednesday, September 16<sup>th</sup>, 2020. You can read more about them on the memorial page of this newsletter. Thank you to **Jim Ali, Ron Gilkeson, and Roger Sites** for their assistance in alerting us to their passing. See the In Memoriam section for more details.

On a more positive note, **Dr. Elaine Bowen** joined her husband, Retired Assistant State Conservationist **Pat Bowen**, in the West Virginia Agriculture and Forestry Hall of Fame. Pat was inducted in 2013. The West Virginia Agriculture and Forestry Hall of Fame (WVAFHF) Foundation recognizes individuals for their outstanding contributions to the agricultural, forestry, and family life of West Virginia. Other SES/SCS/NRCS to receive this honor include State Resource Conservationist **Frank Glover** (1989), Assistant State Conservationist for water resources **Norris (Lefty) Caryl** (1990), and State Forester **Barbara McWhorter** (2012). Other 2020 inductees include **Mary Beth Adams, Patricia R. Gruber, Joe A. Gumm, Andrew Delmar Hopkins, Terry Jones, Donald L. Michael, Dr. Phillip I. Osborne, William McClellan Ritter, and Jules August Viquesney**. Due to COVID-19, these individuals will be enshrined at the 2021 banquet to be held at West Virginia University Jackson's Mill next July. More details about the accomplishments of all inductees can be read at



**Dr. Elaine Bowen**

<https://agriculture.wv.gov/divisions/executive/west-virginia-agriculture-forestry-hall-of-fame>

## NEW SENIOR CONSERVATIONISTS

Prepared by Marc Safley, Senior Conservationist Chronicler

Bush, Jesse Charles	Opelika, AL
Canterberry, James H.	Cary, NC
Johnson, A. Glen	Berthold, ND/Mesa, AZ

*They have reached the minimum age of 83 years and have completed the Senior Conservationist Questionnaire. See IN-MEMORIAM for the Senior Conservationists who have left us since the last Newsletter. Please help us identify retirees who should be named Senior Conservationists. Please provide their contact information to your ARCSE Representative or Regional Vice-President. No new Senior Conservationists have been named as of this issue.*

### SENIOR CONSERVATIONIST CHRONICLE

#### Senior Conservationist

#### A. Glen Johnson

Senior Conservationist **A. Glen Johnson** was born Feb. 9, 1936, in Burlington, North Dakota, to **Arthur and Olava Johnson**. Burlington is about eight miles northeast of Minot. Glen began his education in a one-room country school near Coulee, ND. In 1945 the family moved to a farm at Hartland where he completed grade school and later graduated from the Dakota Lutheran High School, Minot, ND in 1954. He earned his BS Degree from Pacific Lutheran University, Parkland, WA in 1959.

He and his brother **Curt** took over the family farm in 1959 and continued operating the farm for the next seven years. During that time, he also served in the Army as a medic; this included duty during the Berlin crisis. In addition, Glen taught high school social studies at Des Lacs, ND. He earned his Master of Science Degree in Agricultural Economics from North Dakota State University, after which he began his career with Soil Conservation Service as a trainee in the West Regional Technical Center.

He moved to Casper, Wyoming, as the State Economist, then transferred to the Washington State office as Watershed Planning Party leader. He then moved to the West Regional Technical Center as Regional Economist for the 13 Western States. He met and married his wife **Linda** while there and they lived in Vancouver, WA. In 1976 he was promoted to the National Headquarters as National Economist on the Watershed staff. While in transit, Headquarters was reorganized (he had three different supervisors while in transit) and he was assigned to the Economics Division staff. He later moved to the Watershed Planning staff from which he retired in 1986. He and Linda were divorced. After retirement he enjoyed living at Lake Anna and selling real estate part time. He moved to Sebring, FL in 1990, spending the winter there and summers back on his farm at Hartland, ND. He now spends the winters in Mesa, AZ where he purchased a home in the Fountain of the Sun Resort. In summer he resides in Berthold, ND.

## ASSOCIATION OF RETIRED CONSERVATION SERVICE EMPLOYEES

PO Box 8965, Moscow, ID 83843

### 2020 MEMBER LOCATOR

**November 1, 2020 (Sorted alphabetically by State, City, then Last Name)**

*Use this current listing to find members in states or cities you may be passing through.  
Bold names are ARCSE state representatives. Find contact information for members in the 2020 ARCSE Member Directory.*

First Name	Last Name	City	State
<b>Robert (Bob) N.</b>	<b>Jones</b>	Palmer	AK
Erlene	Lingle	Auburn	AL
Charles	Love	Auburn	AL
P George	Martin	Auburn	AL
John C	Meetze	Auburn	AL
Ronnie D.	Murphy	Auburn	AL
Marshall "Mac"	Nelson	Auburn	AL
<b>Earl L</b>	<b>Norton</b>	Auburn	AL
Ernest V	Todd	Auburn	AL
Kathy	Gotcher	Muscle Shoals	AL
David L	Schertz	Northport	AL
J G (Jodie)	Jones	Bentonville	AR
Billy A	Garner	Booneville	AR
Harry	Rucker	Edgemont	AR
<b>Ralph</b>	<b>Mashburn</b>	England	AR

Emily J.	Knight	Hope	AR
Dennis	Hackbart	Little Rock	AR
M J (Whitey)	Spears	Little Rock	AR
George	Dahlke	North Little Rock	AR
Bruce M	McCullough	Ozark	AR
Burthel	Thomas	Pine Bluff	AR
John W	Chenoweth	Van Buren	AR
A Glen	Johnson	Apache Junction	AZ
Christopher P	Williams	Chandler	AZ
Thomas E	Calhoun	Green Valley	AZ
Gordon O	Klofstad	Mesa	AZ
Ron	Lowery	Mesa	AZ
Stephen	Black	Phoenix	AZ
J Gordon	Odell	Saddlebrooke	AZ
Warren J	Fitzgerald	Sun City	AZ
John C	Lowrey	Sun City West	AZ

Kenneth G	McManus	Sun City West	AZ
Rodney M	Alt	Surprise	AZ
Ruth	Wilimek	Tempe	AZ
Galen S	Bridge	Tucson	AZ
Christopher	Cochran	Tucson	AZ
<b>Kenneth M</b>	<b>Cookson</b>	Tucson	AZ
John D	Hedlund	Tucson	AZ
Karl R.	Klingelhofer	Tucson	AZ
Joseph L	Knisley	Tucson	AZ
Ronald E	Moreland	Tucson	AZ
Romy	Myszka	Antioch	CA
Ron	Harben	Arroyo Grande	CA
Albert	Neu	Cathedral City	CA
Darwyn H	Briggs	Davis	CA
Harold R.	Honeyfield	Davis	CA
Edward	Schmit	Davis	CA



Walter E.	Sykes	Davis	CA
Henry	Wyman	Davis	CA
Chester	Bush	Fresno	CA
Clarence U	Finch	Fresno	CA
John H	Stierna	Hidden Valley Lake	CA
William L	Braker	Lancaster	CA
Robert D	Slayback	Lodi	CA
Leonard	Jolley	Napa	CA
Charles W	Bell	Paradise	CA
Hewlett F	Todd	Redding	CA
Nyle L	Jordre	Rio Vista	CA
Thomas	Wehri	Roseville	CA
Mary	Andreuccetti	Sacramento	CA
<b>William A.</b>	<b>Ward</b>	Sacramento	CA
Albert	Cerna Jr.	Salinas	CA
Edwin L	Minnick	Walnut Creek	CA
Paul	Koluvek	Winters	CA
Wendell	Hassell	Arvada	CO
Ronald F	Bauer	Brush	CO
Duane L	Johnson	Cedaredge	CO
Carl L.	Glocker	Colorado Spgs	CO
Ivan R.	Wilkinson	Estes Park	CO
<b>Jack R.</b>	<b>Carlson</b>	Fort Collins	CO
Larry	Flentie	Fort Collins	CO
Allen	Green	Fort Collins	CO
Chuck	Hart	Fort Collins	CO
Dennis	Lytle	Fort Collins	CO
Scott	Snover	Fort Collins	CO
Paul J	Ohland	Ft Collins	CO
Stuart N.	Keil	Ft. Collins	CO
Emery C	Johnson	Grand Junction	CO
James R	Fisher	Lakewood	CO
Richard L	Porter	Longmont	CO
Carter	Christenson	Lyons	CO
Edwin W	Olmsted	Northglenn	CO
Jerry D	Schwieh	Northglenn	CO
Larry D	Miles	Pagosa Springs	CO
William	Ireland	Chaplin	CT
Marjorie	Faber	Coventry	CT
Joseph	Csiki Jr.	Willington	CT
Joseph E	Polulech	Woodstock Valley	CT
Bruce	Knight	Washington	DC
Douglas J.	Lawrence	Washington	DC
Richard P	Bennett	Georgetown	DE
James W	Stingel	Lewes	DE
Carl E	Bouchard	Milford	DE
Edward J.	Brzostek	Ocean View	DE
Andrea M.	Cora	Rehoboth Beach	DE
Patricia	Cecil	Auburndale	FL
Robert W	Belcher	Brooksville	FL
Maurice J	Mausbach	Daytona Beach	FL
Robert G	Law	DeLand	FL
Richard E	Highfill	Fort Meyers	FL
Clayton R	Miller	Ft. Meyers	FL
William E	Austin	Gainesville	FL
Robert G	Halstead	Homosassa	FL
Willis J	Ridenour	Largo	FL
Raymond L	Marshall	Mt Dora	FL
Sterling B.	Caple	North Port	FL
Janie	Jolly	Ocklawaha	FL
Jerome C	Hytry	Orlando	FL
Janice	Reid	Palm Coast	FL
John N	Holeman	Pompano Beach	FL
John S	Pirie	Punta Gorda	FL
<b>William</b>	<b>Kuenstler</b>	Santa Rosa Beach	FL
Paul M	Howard	Sarasota	FL
Donald	Butz	Tampa	FL
Karl H.	Langlois	The Villages	FL
William E	Frederick	Winter Haven	FL
Carolyn C	Adams	Athens	GA
Linda R	DiPietro	Athens	GA
Robert L	Wilkes	Athens	GA
John W	Adams	Lyons	GA

Ross L	Ulmer	McDonough	GA
Walker G	Carter	Statesboro	GA
Phillip	Hadarits	Toombsboro	GA
<b>Edward P.</b>	<b>Ealy</b>	Watkinsville	GA
Beverly H.	Walker	Watkinsville	GA
Kenneth M	Kaneshiro	Aiea	HI
Francis	Lum	Honolulu	HI
Rick	Bednarek	Altoona	IA
David D	Breitbach	Ames	IA
Charles S	Fisher	Ames	IA
Thomas	Gust	Ames	IA
John K.	Skerritt	Ames	IA
Eldon C	Weber	Ames	IA
Dennis G	Miller	Ankeny	IA
Lee C.	White	Ankeny	IA
John H (Herb)	Wilson	Ankeny	IA
Russell L	Knutson	Boone	IA
Gerald C.	Stevens	Boone	IA
Lyle W	Asell	Chariton	IA
Scott	Osborn	Cherokee	IA
Brian C.	Peterson	Corning	IA
Lawrence L	Dorgan	Creston	IA
Jeff	Godwin	Cumberland	IA
Dennis L	Hurtz	Decorah	IA
Paul	Johnson	Decorah	IA
Keith	Krause	Delhi	IA
Jay	Ford	Denison	IA
Jody	Christiansen	Des Moines	IA
Christopher (Chris)	Knudsen	Des Moines	IA
Tom	O'Connor	Des Moines	IA
Maralee J	Sarasio	Des Moines	IA
Donald K	Ummel	Des Moines	IA
Kathleen	Woida	Des Moines	IA
Ronald J.	Kuehl	Elkader	IA
Roger A	Will	Emmetsburg	IA
Stanley R	Simmons	Fairfield	IA
Daryl L	Carpenter	Ft Dodge	IA
Arthur A	Bryant	Indianola	IA
Lynn	Betts	Johnston	IA
Martin "Marty"	Adkins	Knoxville	IA
Lew	Brent	Knoxville	IA
Donald D	Redman	Leon	IA
Dale	DuVal	Logan	IA
Roger	Link	Maxwell	IA
Marvin D	Brown	Mt Pleasant	IA
Steve	Manternach	Nevada	IA
Barbara	Stewart	Newton	IA
Mark	Lindflott	Northwood	IA
Pam	Koster	Norwalk	IA
Erwin O	Aust	Shenandoah	IA
Edward	Earl	Silver City	IA
Edward "Ed"	Marshall	Silver City	IA
Richard W	Hall	Sioux City	IA
Terri	Sage	Sioux City	IA
Donald	Carlson	Spencer	IA
Jim	Ayen	Urbandale	IA
Dennis	Pate	Urbandale	IA
<b>Mark J.</b>	<b>Jensen</b>	W Des Moines	IA
Don C	Peterson	W Des Moines	IA
William R	Woerner	Waterloo	IA
Shelby H	Brownfield	Boise	ID
Paul H	Calverley	Boise	ID
<b>James A.</b>	<b>Cornwell</b>	Boise	ID
Amos I	Garrison	Boise	ID
Stanley	Hobson	Boise	ID
Gerald G	Larson	Boise	ID
Paul L	Malone	Boise	ID
William O.	Moore	Boise	ID
Rob	Sampson	Boise	ID
Neil D	Wilton	Boise	ID
Mark	Weatherstone	Bonnors Ferry	ID
Richard	Van Klaveren	Hayden	ID
Wm (Bill) R	Evans	Lewiston	ID
Charles D	Clarke	McCall	ID

Sue R.	Ellis	Meridian	ID
Rob	Fredericksen	Meridian	ID
Daniel	Ogle	Meridian	ID
Donna	Beggs	Moscow	ID
Daniel R.	Pierce	Moscow	ID
Cheryl	Simmons	Moscow	ID
Mike	Somerville	Nampa	ID
Leroy J	Drechsel	Albion	IL
<b>Dale</b>	<b>Benz</b>	Champaign	IL
Lester J	Bushue	Champaign	IL
David W	Dalzell	Champaign	IL
Richard L	Dickerson	Champaign	IL
Earl Eugene	Evans	Champaign	IL
William J	Gradle	Champaign	IL
Ben	Mingo	Champaign	IL
Anne H	Pollok	Champaign	IL
Earl E	Voss	Champaign	IL
Andy	Cerven	Charleston	IL
John R.	Garrity	Earlville	IL
Jerry	Misek	Elizabeth	IL
Glenn H	Paulsgrove	Galesburg	IL
Ronald	Gebhardt	Island Lake	IL
Lee H	Bridgman	Jacksonville	IL
Jim E	McQuilkin	Magnolia	IL
Elsie Mae	Campbell	Mahomet	IL
J Wiley	Scott	Mahomet	IL
Neil	Pellmann	Mokena	IL
Bob	McLeese	Monticello	IL
Nancy	Phalen	Monticello	IL
Raymond E.	Coombes	Paris	IL
James F	Steinkamp	Quincy	IL
Shelby H	Brownfield	Shelbyville	IL
Loran E. (Gene)	Davis	Shelbyville	IL
Jerry W.	Leonard	Tuscola	IL
James L	Evans	Urbana	IL
Judith C	Hummel	Urbana	IL
Harold F	Creech	Bloomington	IN
Rex	Brock	Bourbon	IN
Glen A.	Weesies	Brownsburg	IN
Dick	Gilbert	Carmel	IN
B Harold	Kracht	Crown Point	IN
Robert V.	Bollman	Danville	IN
Rebecca	Fletcher	Danville	IN
Dan	McCain	Delphi	IN
Alvin K.	Balmer	Edinburgh	IN
<b>Jane</b>	<b>Hardisty</b>	Greenfield	IN
Ronald J	Kerrigan	Greenfield	IN
Elias	Bloom	Indianapolis	IN
Robert L	Eddleman	Indianapolis	IN
Charlie	Gossett	Indianapolis	IN
Jerry D	Larson	Indianapolis	IN
Mike	McGovern	Indianapolis	IN
Wayne C	Mullin	LaFayette	IN
Roger	Roeske	Lucerne	IN
Richard L	Schafer	Plainfield	IN
Jerry J	Pearson	Plymouth	IN
Donald E.	Weaver	Richmond	IN
William E	Swern	Rockville	IN
John M	Robbins, Jr.	Scottsburg	IN
Robert C	Martin	Wabash	IN
Carl S	Diehl	Warsaw	IN
Earl A	Terpstra	Washington	IN
Charles C	McKee	West LaFayette	IN
Franklin	Furr	Winamac	IN
James L.	Gaskell	Chanute	KS
C Owen	Maddux	El Dorado	KS
Randy	Bennett	Girard	KS
Roger L	Haberman	Larned	KS
William B	Sorensen	Ness City	KS
Robert B	Crawford	Newton	KS
Don	von Wolfradt	Olathe	KS
Harold	Blume	Salina	KS
<b>Deanne</b>	<b>Lull</b>	Salina	KS
John	Ourada	Salina	KS
Jim & Bobbie	Wallace	Salina	KS

Tom	Badger	Topeka	KS
Harlan E	Dietz	Topeka	KS
Michael J	Mitchell	Bowling Green	KY
Greg	Kist	Catlettsburg	KY
Billy W	Milliken	Fulton	KY
Glenn E	Kelley	Lexington	KY
Richard A	Myers	Lexington	KY
Kenneth W	Overhults	Lexington	KY
Frank C	Scudder	Murray	KY
<b>Billye Morgan</b>	<b>Haslett</b>	Richmond	KY
Gregory K.	Johnson	Richmond	KY
Donald S.	Henry	Winchester	KY
<b>Joseph</b>	<b>Branco</b>	Alexandria	LA
Jeffrey G	Anliker	Belchertown	MA
Cecil B	Currin	Hadley	MA
<b>James A</b>	<b>Wesoloski</b>	Hadley	MA
Doug	Holy	Bethesda	MD
Edward G	Riekert	Bowie	MD
Gale W	TeSelle	Bowie	MD
Eleanor	Bogner	Catonsville	MD
William	Boyer	Chester	MD
Obie D	Ashford	Columbia	MD
Stephen & Judy	Foland	Crofton	MD
James E.	Hannawald	Denton	MD
Diana	Morse	District Heights	MD
William U	Reybold	Easton	MD
Wesley M	Gordon	Flintstone	MD
Wayne F	Maresch	Ft Washington	MD
Donald	Woodward	Gaithersburg	MD
Lee B	Shields	Greenbelt	MD
Roger	Cronshey	Huntington	MD
Noller	Herbert	Huntingtown	MD
Robert R	Ensor	Manchester	MD
Bobby E	Rakestraw	Monrovia	MD
Hagner R	Mister	Prince Frederick	MD
Helen L	Ross	Rockville	MD
Richard W	Hardy	Salisbury	MD
Robert	Snieckus	Silver Spring	MD
James	Talbot	St Leonard	MD
Shirley	Klumpe	Stevensville	MD
Sharon	Calhoun	Upper Marlboro	MD
Charles L	Boothby	Bangor	ME
Peter M	Tidd	Belfast	ME
Patty	Wright	Exeter	ME
D Bruce	Champeon	Glenburn	ME
<b>John J</b>	<b>Simon</b>	Hampden	ME
George & Nancy	Stevens	Lincoln	ME
Arthur	Taylor	Milford	ME
William G	Moulton	Pittston	ME
Stephen S.	Davis	Presque Isle	ME
Loren W	Berndt	Bridgman	MI
Thomas H	Purkey	Gaylord	MI
Dwight S	Jerome	Gwinn	MI
Julius O.	Pigott	Jackson	MI
<b>William J</b>	<b>Fude</b>	Lansing	MI
Frank A	Griffin	Lapeer	MI
Daniel F	Kesselring	Marshall	MI
Dwight & Norma	Quisenberry	Okemos	MI
Robert G	Law	Oscoda	MI
Bruce E.	Green	Vandalia	MI
Terri	Hodgin	Henning	MN
Mark	Oja	Lindstrom	MN
Richard L	Phillips	Maplewood	MN
Jon E.	Nestoss	Plymouth	MN
Justin L	Murray	Rochester	MN
Margaret	Gangl	Roseville	MN
Marlene	Mechelke	St Paul	MN
Vic	Ruhland	St. Paul	MN
<b>John</b>	<b>Brach</b>	Stillwater	MN
Stephen E.	Robbins	Alton	MO
Michael	Blaine	Baring	MO
Lyle	Noblitt	Carrollton	MO
Hugh	Curry	Columbia	MO
Darlene E	Edwards	Columbia	MO
J.R.	Flores	Columbia	MO

Roger A.	Hansen	Columbia	MO
Jean C	Herman	Columbia	MO
John R	McCarthy	Columbia	MO
Gary	Moreau	Columbia	MO
<b>Dave</b>	<b>Rastorfer</b>	Columbia	MO
Burns (Ed)	Smith	Columbia	MO
Jimmy	Henry	Elsberry	MO
Rita Marie	Williams	Fair Grove	MO
Francis F	Miller	Hartsburg	MO
Dennis	Hilger	Independence	MO
Robert L	Hummel	Jefferson City	MO
Kenneth E	Benham	Joplin	MO
Charles D	Cheek	Kansas City	MO
John J (Jack)	Walker	Kansas City	MO
Michael J	Bradley	Kirksville	MO
Marvin L	Knabach	Lee's Summit	MO
Gerald K	McElhiney	Lee's Summit	MO
Ross	Braun	New Haven	MO
Jim	Gulliford	Parkville	MO
James E	Sturm	Princeton	MO
F. Tyler	Smith	Springfield	MO
Ellis	Benham	Stockton	MO
John F	Rice	Trenton	MO
David W	Sanders	Madison	MS
Charles B	Tisdale	Raymond	MS
Gordon L	Decker	Belgrade	MT
Phillip	Farnes	Bozeman	MT
Scott	Hoag	Bozeman	MT
James S	Johnson	Bozeman	MT
Joyce	Swartzendruber	Bozeman	MT
Gordon	Watson	Bozeman	MT
<b>Dick</b>	<b>Gooby</b>	Twin Bridges	MT
Francis T	Holt	Asheville	NC
<b>James H</b>	<b>Canterberry</b>	Cary	NC
Rex O.	Tracy	Cary	NC
Mark W.	Berkland	Chocowinity	NC
Jesse R	Stevens	Clayton	NC
Rodney W.	Johnson	Elizabeth City	NC
C Wilson	Spencer	Faison	NC
Randall W	Giessler	Faith	NC
Dean K.	Bingham	Goldsboro	NC
Rufus	Croom	Goldsboro	NC
Donald L	Basinger	Greensboro	NC
Richard A	Gallo	Holly Springs	NC
Dennie G	Burns	Kitty Hawk	NC
P. Benjamin	Robinson, Jr.	Lincolnton	NC
Phyllis K	Pate	Lumberton	NC
Craig M	Right	Mebane	NC
Lane	Price	Mill Spring	NC
John C	Hill	Mt Gilead	NC
Francis	Zaik	Pine Knoll	NC
		Shores	
Robert	Horton, Jr.	Pinehurst	NC
William J.	Harrell	Pleasant Hill	NC
Thomas T.	Cutts	Raleigh	NC
Coy	Garrett	Raleigh	NC
John J	Garrett	Raleigh	NC
W. Hubert	Hawkins	Raleigh	NC
Edgar L	Helmey	Raleigh	NC
Horace	Smith	Raleigh	NC
Manly S	Wilder	Raleigh	NC
Sam	Bingham	Rutherfordton	NC
Larry	Hendrix	Salisbury	NC
Suzanne C	Schenkel	Southern Pines	NC
Frank	Clearfield	Southport	NC
Dominic	Fetterer	Southport	NC
V. Loring	McIntyre	Swannanoa	NC
Rodney E.	Woolard	Washington	NC
Tim	Garrett	Waynesville	NC
M. Alan	Walker	Waynesville	NC
Talmadge J	Wiggins	Wilkesboro	NC
Charlie	Godley	Winston Salem	NC
A Glen	Johnson	Berthold	ND
<b>Robert A</b>	<b>Bird</b>	Bismarck	ND
Gary	Tibke	Bismarck	ND

Norman	Koester	Beaver Lake	NE
James R.	Gerding	Elkhorn	NE
Joe	Calder	Lincoln	NE
Dave	Camper	Lincoln	NE
<b>James</b>	<b>Culver</b>	Lincoln	NE
Gus & Donna	Dornbusch	Lincoln	NE
William G	Hance	Lincoln	NE
Norman	Helzer	Lincoln	NE
<b>Norman &amp; Sylvia</b>	<b>Kempf</b>	Lincoln	NE
Harold L.	Klaege	Lincoln	NE
Robert S	MacLauchlan	Lincoln	NE
Henry R	Mount	Lincoln	NE
Gary B	Muckel	Lincoln	NE
Kenneth E	Noonan	Lincoln	NE
Steven C	Stover	Lincoln	NE
JoAnne	Thiele	Lincoln	NE
Charline A	Woodside	Lincoln	NE
Dana	Snyder	Seward	NE
Tony & Elaine	Vrana	Seward	NE
Ann J.	Wadsworth	Canaan	NH
Donald W	Haley	Durham	NH
Charles H	Dingle	Exeter	NH
Dean F	Sherman	Plymouth	NH
Gregory J	Westfall	Allentown	NJ
Thornton	Hole	Egg Harbor City	NJ
Annunziata (Nancy)	Paolini	Ewing	NJ
<b>Tom</b>	<b>Drewes</b>	Flemington	NJ
Laurence R	Irelan	Pennsville	NJ
Luther F	McDougal	Mimbres	NM
<b>Kenneth B</b>	<b>Leiting</b>	Rio Rancho	NM
Jim P	Thornton	Sante Fe	NM
James A	Linebaugh	Carson City	NV
Charles R.	Houston	Reno	NV
Loretta	Krall	Reno	NV
Loren J	Spencer	Reno	NV
<b>Elizabeth</b>	<b>Warner</b>	Washoe Valley	NV
Dana C	Chapman	Auburn	NY
Paul A	Dodd	Baldwinsville	NY
Henry S	Stamatel	Camillus	NY
William P	Yolton	Canastota	NY
Joe	DelVecchio	Clayton	NY
Gary	Lamont	Delhi	NY
Donald W	Lake	Erieville	NY
B. Keith	Reece	Fayetteville	NY
Eugene C	Hanchett	Latham	NY
Frederick L.	Gilbert	Manlius	NY
Anthony J.	Esser	Owego	NY
Julius D	Toennissen	Rush	NY
Allan S.	Connell	Southold	NY
<b>Nancy</b>	<b>Lee</b>	Waterloo	NY
Richard K	Crowe	Whitney Point	NY
<b>Jon</b>	<b>Gerken</b>	Carroll	OH
William	Richards	Circleville	OH
Byron H	Nolte	Columbus	OH
<b>Bob</b>	<b>Parkinson</b>	Columbus	OH
George T (Tom)	Haynes	Eaton	OH
Clifford E	Simpson	Englewood	OH
David F	Berna	Grove City	OH
Richard W	Rush	Grove City	OH
Eugene H	Derickson	Hamilton	OH
John H	Brown, Jr.	Marion	OH
K Keith	Huffman	Marysville	OH
Charles F	Lamborn	Mt Gilead	OH
Norman	Mull	New Paris	OH
Joseph	Branco	Port Clinton	OH
D Rex	Mapes	Powell	OH
George J	Newberger	Ravenna	OH
Mark	DeBrock	Reynoldsburg	OH
Karl H	Reinhardt	Sidney	OH
Larry	Tornes	Sunbury	OH
Gene F	Baltes	Tiffin	OH
Lennie	Losh	Westerville	OH
Ralph E	Gray	Willoughby	OH
Joseph R	Steiger	Zanesville	OH

Robert C	Maples	Chandler	OK
Jesse	McMasters	Duncan	OK
Donald R	Jantz	Enid	OK
Wes	Oneth	McAlester	OK
Nickey J	Lambeth	Okemah	OK
Jimmy D	Thomas	Okmulgee	OK
Joe	Freeland	Pauls Valley	OK
Clifford L	Williams	Sayre	OK
Larry	Caldwell	Stillwater	OK
Ronnie L.	Clark	Stillwater	OK
Fred J	Fortney	Stillwater	OK
<b>Randy</b>	<b>Freeland</b>	Stillwater	OK
Jimmie W	Frie	Stillwater	OK
Roland R	Willis	Stillwater	OK
Jess C	Epple, Jr.	Warner	OK
John E	Witty	Adrian	OR
Donald E	Greiner	Albany	OR
John D	Hedlund	Aloha	OR
Ralph S	Wadleigh	Aloha	OR
Gerald W	Yeoumans	Baker City	OR
Bill	Woolcock	Beavercreek	OR
<b>Donald L.</b>	<b>Stettler</b>	Beaverton	OR
Garry L.	Schaefer	Clackamas	OR
Terry	Mitchell	Fairview	OR
Bruce G.	Williams	Florence	OR
Eldena	VanderZanden	Forest Grove	OR
Roy M	Carlson	Fossil	OR
Clifton E	Deal	Gresham	OR
Wendell A	Styner	Hillsboro	OR
Richard (Dick)	Sylvester	Hillsboro	OR
Maurice L	Jernstedt	Hubbard	OR
Patricia L	Straka	Keizer	OR
Edward E	Weber	Keizer	OR
Donald R	Robertson	Lake Oswego	OR
Matthew H.	Fillmore	Lebanon	OR
Gerald O	George	Molalla	OR
Beth	Zetter	North Plains	OR
Roy E	Bright	Portland	OR
Tommy A	George	Portland	OR
Leonard L.	Gilson	Portland	OR
Roberta L	Hart	Portland	OR
Cliff	Hillebrandt	Portland	OR
Jack P	Kanalz	Portland	OR
Bruce	Newton	Portland	OR
Jeffrey P.	Repp	Portland	OR
Donald E.	Wallin	Rainier	OR
Leland A	Hardy	Salem	OR
Frank F	Reckendorf	Salem	OR
Duane K	Setness	Salem	OR
Bob	Graham	Terrebonne	OR
Chad L.	McGrath	Tigard	OR
Thomas W	Calvert	Berlin	PA
Samuel E	Young	Bloomsburg	PA
Robert T	Heidecker, Jr.	Boiling Springs	PA
Donna	Krebs	Centre Hall	PA
William R	Parrish	Ebensburg	PA
Carl A	Du Poldt	Edgemont	PA
Nevin L	Ulery	Elizabeth	PA
Shirley	Thomas	Elizabethtown	PA
<b>William J</b>	<b>Bowers</b>	Enola	PA
John R	Akers	Everett	PA
Harvey	Pinkerton	Fryburg	PA
Steven A	Probst	Gettysburg	PA
Rollin N	Swank	Graysville	PA
<b>Timothy J.</b>	<b>Murphy</b>	Harrisburg	PA
Gary P.	Smith	Harrisburg	PA
Jana L.	Malot	Harrisonville	PA
Donald	Bowers	Indiana	PA
Robert L	Hilliard	Lancaster	PA
Walter Hosea	Latshaw	Lebanon	PA
Alan	Wood	Lebanon	PA
Larry	Schardt	Lewistown	PA
Norman G	Wolfrom	Lock Haven	PA
Jeff	Mahood	Mechanicsburg	PA
John J	Mank	Mechanicsburg	PA

Frederick E	Bubb	New	PA
		Cumberland	
David C.	Tindall	New Hope	PA
Leonard R.	Beck	Newtown Square	PA
Charles	Ford	Philadelphia	PA
Howard W	Hall	Quarryville	PA
Edward	Sokoloski	Scott Township	PA
Judith L	Hughes	Shiremanstown	PA
Gene	Krotzer	Somerset	PA
David G	Lorenz	State College	PA
Wayne M.	Bogovich	Sugar Run	PA
Frederick H	Schuetz	Trappe	PA
Duane E	Pysher	Wernersville	PA
Frank E	Resides	West Chester	PA
Paul	Welle	West Chester	PA
Donald E	McCandless, Jr.	West Sunbury	PA
Curtis	Sharp	York	PA
<b>Juan</b>	<b>Martinez</b>	Gurabo	PR
Richard G	Hutchins	Charlestown	RI
Richard (Pooh)	Vongkhamdy	Conventry	RI
Everett A	Stuart	North Kingstown	RI
Arthur B	Holland	Bluffton	SC
John H	Miner	Blythewood	SC
Walter W	Douglas	Chapin	SC
Wm Burton	Wells	Chapin	SC
<b>H Grady</b>	<b>Adkins, Jr.</b>	Columbia	SC
Niles	Glasgow	Columbia	SC
<b>Ellis D.</b>	<b>Morrow</b>	Columbia	SC
Larry	Robinson	Columbia	SC
Dennis	Bauknight	Easley	SC
Johnny M	Eubanks	Gilbert	SC
James C	Sanders	Greenwood	SC
Ann	Christie	Heath Springs	SC
Gene E.	Hardee	Jonesville	SC
Russell F	Patrick	Lancaster	SC
Jacob W	Black	Laurens	SC
Hugh	Caldwell	Lexington	SC
Dave	Demarest	Moore	SC
George H	Comer	Murrells Inlet	SC
George & Nancy	Stevens	N Myrtle Beach	SC
James	Williams	Orangeburg	SC
Daniel	Guy	Saluda	SC
James N	Krider	Seneca	SC
Ned	McGill	Starr	SC
Bunyan W	Anderson	Timmonsville	SC
Mike	Kuck	Brookings	SD
Ron E	Hendricks	Gann Valley	SD
James C	Hunt	Mitchell	SD
Yvonne	Haefner	Mobridge	SD
Verle R.	Smith	Spearfish	SD
Rod	Baumberger	Sturgis	SD
Julian L.	Meuer	Webster	SD
Darwin	Newton	Ashland City	TN
Harold D.	Jones	Bean Station	TN
Jim	Lansford	Cookeville	TN
Donald L	Dotson	Franklin	TN
Hardy	Cloutier	Germantown	TN
Robin	Heard	Hohenwald	TN
Doris Marie	Blackwell	Jackson	TN
Dwight E	Allman	Johnson City	TN
Dana	York	Jonesborough	TN
Byron T	Waldrip	Kingston	TN
James F	Brasfield	McEwen	TN
Robert	Sanders	Nashville	TN
Raymond P	Sims	Nashville	TN
Glenn	Headen	Union City	TN
Benjamin C.	Doerge	Arlington	TX
Stephen B	Owen	Arlington	TX
Marie	Wallace	Belton	TX
Rafael J.	Guerrero	Benbrook	TX
Ed	Thomas	Bryan	TX
Martin E	Vavra	Bryan	TX
<b>Rosendo</b>	<b>Trevino III</b>	Bulverde	TX
Karen	Garner	Burleson	TX
Steve	Garner	Burleson	TX

Johnny	Green	Burleson	TX
Mark	Boysen	Crowley	TX
David V.	Buland	Crowley	TX
William	Erion	Crowley	TX
Harry L	Smith	Early	TX
Clyde L.	Goodman	Fort Worth	TX
Earl R	Blakley	Ft Worth	TX
Thomas C G	Hodges	Ft Worth	TX
Calvin M	Jackson	Ft Worth	TX
Frank	Richardson	Ft Worth	TX
David C	Moffitt	Ft. Worth	TX
W Ken	Twitty	Ft. Worth	TX
Barbara C	Perritte	Garland	TX
Michael H	Bogard	Gatesville	TX
<b>Arnold D.</b>	<b>King</b>	Granbury	TX
David A	Stockbridge	Granbury	TX
Earl D.	Archer	Grandbury	TX
Wilson	Scaling	Henrietta	TX
Jim W	Doughty	Livingston	TX
Hector	Gonzalez	McAllen	TX
O Dale	Fischgrabe	Moody	TX
John D	O'Connor	Mt Pleasant	TX
Carl F	Englerth	New Braunfels	TX
Wayburn D	Mitchell	Paducah	TX
Richard L	Peace	Paris	TX
Larry D	Miles	Round Rock	TX
Paul F	Larson	Sherman	TX
Jimmy	Apel	Sweetwater	TX
James D	Abbott	Temple	TX
Robert C	Brown	Temple	TX
Joe B	Camp	Temple	TX
Allen L	Newman	Temple	TX
Ronnie G.	Skala	Temple	TX
Charles M	Thompson	Temple	TX
Richard M	Matthews	Universal City	TX
Alfred	VanderStucken	Victoria	TX
Richard B	Heizer	Weatherford	TX
Terri	Muse	Weatherford	TX
Jon G	Werner	Eden	UT
<b>Phillip J</b>	<b>Nelson</b>	Farmington	UT
Wm 'Bill'	Goddard	Fillmore	UT
Warren	Lytton	Herriman	UT
R Dale	Webber	Logan	UT
Richard	Baird	North Ogden	UT
Ross S.	Lahren	North Ogden	UT
Phillip D	Coombs	Salt Lake City	UT
J Michael	Nethery	Smithfield	UT
Eileen	Begovich	Alexandria	VA
Lawrence	Clark	Alexandria	VA
R Neil	Sampson	Alexandria	VA
Robert K	Reaves	Arlington	VA
Jerry	Seinwill	Arlington	VA
Joseph S	Haugh	Ashburn	VA
Gerald W	Root	Bumpass	VA
John W	Peterson	Burke	VA
Edgar H	Nelson	Cross Junction	VA
James H	Spitz	Daleville	VA
Ronald W.	Gilkeson	Dayton	VA
Cindy	Lauster	Dumfries	VA
Barbara	Osgood	Fairfax	VA
Keith O	Schmude	Fairfax	VA
Ronald L.	Marlow	Fairfax Sta	VA
Ron	Page	Fairfax Sta	VA
Diane	Gelburd	Falls Church	VA
Mike W.	Anderson	Fredericksburg	VA
Gary R	Gross	Fredericksburg	VA
<b>Kenneth E.</b>	<b>Carter</b>	Glen Allen	VA
Ernest E	Lincoln	Harrisonburg	VA
Brenda	Thomas	Herndon	VA
Helen M	Jennings	Kilmarnock	VA
Carol	Campbell	King George	VA
Thomas W	Christensen	Leesburg	VA
Warren M	Lee	Locust Grove	VA
Paul W	Benedict	Manassas	VA
Melvin	Womack	Mechancisville	VA



Barry L.	Kintzer	Mechanicsburg	VA
Janet	Perry	Oak Park	VA
Swayne	Scott	Reston	VA
Wade	Biddix	Richmond	VA
George C	Norris	Richmond	VA
Tom H	Pointer	Ringgold	VA
James A	Maetzold	Spotsylvania	VA
Bill	Irwin	Springfield	VA
John S.	Moore	Springfield	VA
Paul R	Newcombe	Springfield	VA
Walter J	Ochs	Springfield	VA
Jerry M.	Bernard	Stafford	VA
Gary A	Margheim	Stafford	VA
Richard L	Duesterhaus	Vienna	VA
Tom	Weber	Warrenton	VA
Ronald W	Tuttle	Winchester	VA
Marc	Safley	Woodbridge	VA
Dave	Thackeray	Woodbridge	VA
<b>Francis M</b>	<b>Keeler</b>	Colchester	VT
David G	Van Houten	Essex Junction	VT
Raymond N.	Brown	South Burlington	VT
Daniel A	Smith	Chelan	WA
Jon	Lea	La Center	WA

Phil	McLoud	Mount Vernon	WA
Russell F	Pringle	Olympia	WA
Gilbert R	Landtiser	Sequim	WA
Thomas L.	Spofford	Soap Lake	WA
A. Stefan	Fechter	Spokane	WA
<b>Kenneth D</b>	<b>Kaul</b>	Spokane	WA
W J "Joe"	Carmack	Spokane Valley	WA
V. Lennie	Husa	Spokane Valley	WA
Hans	Krauss	Spokane Valley	WA
Mark	Parson	Stevenson	WA
Harlan G	Collins	Vancouver	WA
Lowell W.	Kenedy	Vancouver	WA
F Eugene	Liggett	Vancouver	WA
Lamont	Robbins	Vancouver	WA
David L	Omerik	Antigo	WI
Roman A	Statz	Baraboo	WI
William	Conner	Madison	WI
<b>James L</b>	<b>Enlow</b>	Madison	WI
Michael C	Schendel	Menomonee	WI
Carol A	Wettstein	Middleton	WI
Patricia	Leavenworth	Mount Horeb	WI
Emerson P	Christensen	Onalaska	WI
Irwin	Ten Haken	Portage	WI

Louis C	Barber	Siren	WI
Steven J	Price	Spring Valley	WI
Norbert E	Wozniak	Stevens Point	WI
Joseph F.	Biebl	Viroqua	WI
Glenn E	Lorenz	Viroqua	WI
Olin C	Fimreite	Whitehall	WI
James R	Michael	Berkeley Springs	WV
Richard L.	Judy	Beverly	WV
Carrie	Wetsch	Elkins	WV
David F	Burns	Fairmont	WV
Gary A	Gwinn	Hambleton	WV
Tom	Noonan	Morgantown	WV
<b>Margaret (Peg)</b>	<b>Reese</b>	Morgantown	WV
Delores "Dee" R	Weston	Morgantown	WV
John S.	Weller	Philippi	WV
Orland C.	Parks	Scherr	WV
Betty A	Ball	Williamstown	WV
Ted	Gilbert	Casper	WY
David O	Taylor	Casper	WY

## OBITUARY INFORMATION

**Paul Benedict, Membership Chair**

*When you receive word of someone passing, with little other information provided to you, obituaries can often be found by doing an advanced search using Google, using the full name of the deceased. If you do not have access to the web, Paul Benedict will be glad to do the search. PLEASE SEND DEATH NOTICES AND OBITUARY INFORMATION DIRECTLY TO PAUL AT [soilwarden@verizon.net](mailto:soilwarden@verizon.net). Always include the position or the spouse's position with SCS/NRCS.*

**Surname Year** *In-Memoriam* (Note: These are recent notices. For a complete list, please see [www.arcse.org](http://www.arcse.org))

- Akins 2020** **Loyd Akins** (81) of Lindsay, Oklahoma passed away August 25, 2020, in Lindsay. He was born on May 13, 1939, to **Elmer and Zola (Courtney) Akins**, in Pocasset, Oklahoma. He married the love of his life **Carolyn Akins** on December 28, 1956. She preceded him in death on July 5, 1992. Loyd worked his younger years as a milkman and gas station attendant. He later went to work at the USDA-Soil Conservation Service as a dam inspector, where he retired in 1994. Loyd is survived by his five children, **Steve Akins, Deborah (Phillip) English, Laura (Bruce) Frye, Elaine (Mitch) Gilreath, and Brenda (R.D.) Patterson**, Hall; nine grandchildren **Kyle, Kris, Crystal, Quent, Dustin, Heath, Miranda, Trent and Austin**; and ten great grandchildren. In addition to his wife, Carolyn Akins, he was preceded in death by his granddaughter, **Amy**.
- Amos 2020** **William Henry Amos, Jr.** (87) of Horse Cave, Kentucky passed away September 19, 2020 at his home. He was a native of Barren County Kentucky and a member of Horse Cave Baptist Church, where he was a Sunday School teacher. William worked for the USDA-Soil Conservation Service and retired as the State Agronomist for Kentucky. He was a gentleman farmer and a loving husband, father, grandfather and great-grandfather. He is survived by his wife of 63 years, **Kaye Amos**; one son, **Chuck Amos**; two daughters, **Robin Keller (Tim Hix) and Suanne Jacobs (David)**; three grandchildren and two great-grandchildren. A graveside service was held September 21, 2020 at Hose Cave Municipal Cemetery.
- Blan 2020** **Kenneth "Spud" Ray Blan** (81) of Antlers, Oklahoma passed away August 6, 2020 in Stillwater, Oklahoma. Kenneth was born in Bakersfield, California on May 9, 1939 to **Virgil and Willie "Bill" (Thompson) Blan**. Kenneth was raised in the Antlers area and returned to the community he loved upon retirement from a career with the USDA-Soil Conservation Service. During his career, Ken was a District Conservationist in Dewey and Perry, Oklahoma; an Area Conservationist in Hugo, Oklahoma; and the State Resource Conservationist at the State Office in Stillwater. He was a graduate of Oklahoma State University and Kansas State University, as well as earning his law degree at Mississippi College. He was a devoted Christian and an active member of First Baptist Church. He was also active in the community, having served on the boards of Pushmataha County Hospital, the Pushmataha County Conservation District, and Oklahoma Farm Bureau. Kenneth was preceded in death by his stepson **Leslie "Pete" Harrison** and his beloved first wife **Mary Alice "Judy" Blan**. He is survived by his beautiful wife **Rebecca (Harrison) Blan**; his stepchildren **Regina (Archie) Wade, Lonnie "Buddy" (Almira) Harrison**; 18 grandchildren and 25 great grandchildren.
- Buckner 2020** **Robert Eugene Buckner** (83) of Apache, Oklahoma passed away September 3, 2020 in Lawton, Oklahoma. Robert was born January 11, 1937, in Chattanooga, Tennessee to **Vernon Sr. and Ruth Elizabeth (Stafford) Buckner**. Robert obtained a Bachelors' Degree in Soil Conservation from Cameron University. He proudly served in the US Army during the Korean War and again during the Vietnam War, accumulating 20 years of service. He married **Dolly "Loretta" Comanche** on October 1, 1972, in Apache. He was employed for 20 years as a Construction Inspector for the USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service. Robert is survived by his wife, Loretta; children: **Robert (Lori) Buckner** of Chickasha, Oklahoma; **Larry (Karen) Buckner** of Mansfield, Oklahoma; **Max (Linda) Buckner** of Arkansas; **Jack Buckner** of Chickasha; **James Buckner** of Apache; **Latisha (Martin) Sullivan** of Lawton, Oklahoma; **Hilary Buckner** of Lawton; foster children: **Lucille Olivates and Henry Kaulaity**; 17 grandchildren; and numerous great grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his son, **Steven Buckner**.
- Copenhaver 2020** **Charles Frederick Copenhaver** (82) of Abingdon, Virginia passed away on October 3, 2020, at his home. Fred was born December 26, 1937 and raised in Blue Springs, Virginia. He was a graduate of Virginia Tech. He taught as an Agriculture teacher at John Battle High School in Bristol, Virginia for 13 years and then worked for the Natural Resource Conservation Service for 33 years. He served as the district conservationist in the Abingdon and Galax field offices. Fred

was a friend and mentor to a lot of current district conservationists and field staff. Fred had a jovial spirit and was good story teller that always brought a smile and laugh to whoever he was around. Survivors include his wife of 60 years, **E. Maxine Copenhaver**; daughter, **Diane (Scott) Rector** of Meadowview, Virginia; son **Jim (Karen) Copenhaver** of Glade Spring, Virginia; and 5 grandchildren.

- Doren**      2020 **Joanne M. Van Doren** (85) of Chaumont, New York passed away September 4, 2020 at the Samaritan Medical Center in Watertown, New York after a brief illness. Joanne was the wife of former USDA-Soil Conservation Service Soil Scientist, **Ken Van Doren**, who passed away in 2016. Joanne is survived by three sons, six grandchildren, and two great grandchildren.
- Fosberg**      2020 CP Conservation partner **Maynard Axel Fosberg** (101) of Moscow, Idaho passed away peacefully in his sleep on September 18, 2020 due the effects of coronavirus. Maynard was born July 7, 1919 with twin sister **Eva to Axel** and **Helen Fosberg** in Turlock, California. He was another of the "greatest generation" and a pillar of the Moscow and University of Idaho community. He joined the Army Air Corp in 1940 and was stationed at Lemoore Air Force Base in California in charge of a photo lab, then to Denver, Colorado for training for gun cameras in the Army Air Corp. Maynard was then transferred to Lakeland, Florida for reconnaissance training then to Thomasville, Georgia to train on P1 fighters as a gun camera specialist. He was honorably discharged in 1945 from the service as a Technical Sargent. He married **Margaret Williams** in May 1947. After his service, he enrolled in the University of Wisconsin, Madison earning his Bachelor of Science in Soil Science in 1945 and his Masters' degree in 1947 in Soil Science. Maynard also achieved his doctorate in Soil Science from Wisconsin in 1963. He and Margaret moved to Moscow, Idaho in 1947. Maynard worked as a Soils Professor with the University of Idaho from 1947 (intending to stay only three years) until his retirement after 42 years in 1989. During his time, he developed the largest soils monolith collection in the United States with 234 total soils monoliths and contributed to the World Soil Monolith collection in Holland. He published more than a hundred research papers on soil projects. Ever active in retirement he took over the annual high school FFA Idaho State Land and Soils Evaluation Contest and ran it for 18 years. His wife of over 68 years, **Margaret** passed away in March of 2016 and his daughter **Stephanie** in April of 2020. His son, **Mark (Karen) Fosberg** of Spokane Valley survives along with his six grandchildren.
- Gann**      2020 **Calvin Joe "Doc" Gann** of Antlers, Oklahoma passed away in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma on October 8, 2020. He was born in Stanford, Texas on May 19, 1942 to **WD and Ardney (Burleson) Gann**. He graduated with a Bachelor of Science degree in Animal Husbandry at Abilene Christian College, Abilene Texas in 1965. Calvin began a career with the Soil Conservation Service as a Soil Technician in Floydada, Texas in 1965 and worked for the Dunn Ranch in Fort Worth. He had huge a passion for ranching. In 1968 he moved his Texas family to Oklahoma where he would operate a 3000-acre ranch in Daisy, Oklahoma and continued his career with the Soil Conservation Service in Antlers, Oklahoma. Calvin served as a mentor to the technicians in South East Oklahoma before retiring in 2004. Calvin is survived by his wife: **Beth Gann**; children: **Kevin (Debra) Gann** of Antlers, Oklahoma, **Kam (John) Harden** of Soper, Oklahoma, **Kay (Monty) Hamman** of Nashoba, Oklahoma, and **Kaci (Michael) Applegate** of Paris, Texas; 10 grandchildren and 9 great-grandchildren.
- Hadles**      2020 **Edith K. Hadle** (98) of Manhattan, Kansas, passed away July 10, 2020. Edith was born in Halstead, Kansas, on December 1, 1921, to **Amelia Bahr and William Mierau**. She attended Wichita University (now Wichita State University) and Kansas State University. Edith served in the U.S. Army in the Women's Army Corps as a Laboratory Technician during World War II. On October 5, 1946, she married **Fred B Hadle**, and together they had two sons. She worked as a Biological Technician for the USDA-Soil Conservation Service for 17 years until retirement in 1983. Edith was a long-time member of the Ashland Community Church where she also served on the Church Board. Edith is survived by her two sons **Gary (Kathleen) Hadle** of Topeka, Kansas and **Stephen (Diana) Hadle**, of Manhattan, Kansas; 13 grandchildren, and numerous great-grandchildren. She is preceded in death by her husband Fred Hadle, and one grandson.
- Hanson**      2020 **Arthur H. Hanson** (80) of New Port Richey, Florida (formerly of Batavia, New York) passed away October 20, 2020. He was the District Conservationist in Batavia, New York for the USDA- Soil Conservation Service, retiring in 1994. He enjoyed working outdoors, watching hockey and news, and doing jigsaw puzzles with the grandchildren. He is survived by his wife **Donna Hanson**, two sons, **Mark (Abby)** and **Michael (Lesa)**; and two grandchildren, **Maria** and **Alexey**.
- Jones**      2020 **George J. "Jack" Jones** (76) of Luverne, Alabama, passed away June 28, 2020. Jack graduated from Auburn University with a Bachelor of Science degree in Agronomy and Soils. He worked for the USDA-National Resources Conservation Service for 42 years, much of it as a District Conservationist. His love for the beauty of the outdoors manifested itself in the pride he took in taking care of his yard. Jack was a long-time member of the Luverne Rotary Club. He served as the president and was recognized as a Paul Harris Fellow, their highest honor. Jack was devoted to the First Baptist Church of Luverne, where he served in many leadership roles. He is survived by his loving wife of 51 years, **Linda Morris Jones**; their son & daughter-in-law, **Brandon and Dayna Jones**; three grandchildren, **Hannah Grant, Chris Jones, and Jaiden Jones**; and great-grandson, **Logan Grant**.
- Knutson**      2020 **Donna Marie Knutson** (89) of Boone, Iowa passed away August 29, 2020 at the Israel Family Hospice House in Ames, Iowa. Donna Knutson was the wife of ARCSE Honorary Member **Russell Knutson**. Russ was a long time Hydraulic Engineer on the USDA-Soil Conservation Service Iowa State Office staff. Her son, **Rick**, is a retired Design Engineer who worked on the State Office staff. Donna was born on July 21, 1931 to **Mae and Alvin Hummel** in Cushing, Iowa. She married Russell on September 9, 1951. A stubborn German, like her father, and nicknamed "Speed", she was challenged to be the mother of three boys, became the grandmother of five, having met the youngest great-grandchildren (2-year old twins) for the first time shortly before her death. She lived with her family in Des Moines for many years, retired, and built a house in Boone County, where she has been a resident for the last 35 years, attending Augustana Lutheran Church. Donna had a creative flair and indulged in painting, and was an object of perpetual motion, enjoying music, square dancing, quilting, gardening, bird watching, traveling, camping, hiking (including summiting the 14,259 foot Long's Peak in Colorado), church, current events and taking care of her family which included preparation of their favorite cultural foods, notably lefse (Norwegian potato flatbread) and Kartoffelpuffer (German potato pancakes). She is survived by her husband of 69 years, Russell, their three children, and their spouses: Richard (Lori) Knutson; Steven (Lorrie) Knutson; Gary (Peggy) Knutson.

- Kobs**      2020 **Joan Kobs** (88) of Bismarck, North Dakota, passed away September 1, 2020 at Missouri Slope Lutheran Care Center. In 1989, Joan went to work for the USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service in Bismarck and her last position before retiring was as secretary for the State Resource Conservationist. She was a crafter, loved puzzles and games, and walking and camping in her two favorite places, Theodore Roosevelt and Glacier National Parks. Her daughter, **Connie Kobs**, currently works at the Bismarck State Office. She is survived by her husband **Erwin Kobs** of 61 years; her daughter **Karen (Bill) Haas** of Bismarck; her daughter **Connie Kobs** of Bismarck; two granddaughters and their husbands; and two great-grandchildren.
- Kramer**      2020 **James "Jim" Kramer** (76) of Bismarck, North Dakota, passed away October 6, 2020 of multiple myeloma. Jim received a bachelor's degree in agronomy from North Dakota State University (NDSU). He then served in the US Army for two years, nine months and three days, including a year in Vietnam with the 44th Medical Brigade at the 93rd Evacuation Hospital. Upon his discharge, Jim entered graduate school at NDSU earning a Master of Science degree in botany. Jim worked as a soil conservationist and range conservationist for the USDA-Soil Conservation Service at Mott, Dickinson, and Mandan, North Dakota and finally in the state office in Bismarck, North Dakota. In 1984 he began employment as a reclamation specialist with BNI Coal, Ltd. in Center, North Dakota, retiring in 2001. After retirement, he was a range management/botanist consultant for five years with Western Plains Consulting of Bismarck. He was a member of the Society for Range Management, the Soil and Water Conservation Society, National Rifle Association, a life member of Disabled American Veterans and charter member of Chapter 150, Vietnam Veterans of America and organized the chapter's Color Guard in 1985. He also volunteered for Heartview Foundation, St Alexis Hospice program, Bismarck VA Clinic, Cub Scouts, a past member of the Dickinson Fire Department and was a published poet. Jim's heroes were all WWII veterans and he loved reading their stories, meeting them, thanking them for their service, and shaking their hand in gratitude for what they did for us and their country. He is survived by his wife **Linda Kramer**, of Bismarck; his son, **Richard (Maren) Kramer**, of Fargo, North Dakota; his daughter, **Rebecca (Jeremy) Johnson**, of Fargo; and six grandchildren.
- Lobrecht**      2020 **Morris Neal Lobrecht** (75) passed away October 10, 2020. Morris was born December 18, 1944 to **Tonner** and **Annie Mae Lobrecht** in Navasota, Texas and grew up in Alice, Texas. Texas A&M was his college of choice, but he moved closer to home and graduated from Texas A&I in Kingsville with a Bachelor of Science in civil engineering. During the summer breaks, he worked as a student trainee for the USDA-Soil Conservation Service (SCS). Upon receiving his degree, he was hired by SCS and began training to become a design engineer. In 1969 he entered the U.S. Air Force Officer Candidate School and served his country as a missile launch officer. After his tour of duty, he returned to his SCS job in Fort Worth. He worked for SCS, later renamed Natural Resources Conservation Service, until he retired 37 years later. His job sent him to various locations around the US, but in 2000 he returned to Fort Worth as a Design Civil Engineer. A coworker commented that Morris was a mentor, teacher, and leader for many people in the dam safety community and that he would be missed. He called Morris a true civil servant in every sense of the word. Morris was a member of Arlington Heights United Methodist Church, Arlington Sportsman's Club, NRCS retirees and the Association of Dam Safety Officers. He is survived by his wife **Kathleen Lobrecht**.
- Luger**      2020 **Lawrence "Larry" Luger** (84) of Hettinger, North Dakota, passed away at the Hilltop Home of Comfort in Killdeer, North Dakota September 28, 2020. He joined the US Army in December 1954 and served at Fort Riley, Kansas, in Texas as a helicopter mechanic, then Colorado in a mountain climbing rescue unit, and a year in Germany during his enlistment. He attended Dickinson State University and completed his 4-year degree at North Dakota State University in Fargo, North Dakota. He worked for the USDA-Farmers Home Administration for 3 years, then switched to the USDA-Soil Conservation Service where he worked as the District Conservationist until he retired in 1986. Larry purchased 10 acres of land which he developed into his "Ponderosa" tree farm. He was fondly known as the "tree man". He took great pride in raising his evergreens for transplanting and also for fresh cut Christmas trees. He also loved to garden and wood-working, golfing and playing cards. He is survived by his wife **Barb Luger** of 60 years; his children, **Jim (Debbie) Luger**, **Suzanne (Dennis) Dynneson** and **Bill (Ana) Luger**; three grandchildren; three step grandchildren; and a very special great granddaughter.
- McC Campbell**      2020 **James "Jim" Boyd McC Campbell**, (83) of Norman, Oklahoma passed away in his home in the evening of August 19, 2020 surrounded by his family. Jim was born in Erick, Oklahoma on September 9, 1936 to **Harry Robert** and **Ruth Louise McC Campbell**. Jim attended Cameron University, where he played football. He finished his education at Oklahoma State University where he graduated with his Bachelor of Science in 1958. Jim served in the Air National Guard from 1959 - 1965. Jim began his 40-year career with the USDA-Soil Conservation Service in Sayre, Oklahoma in 1960 as a Conservation Technician. Two years later he moved to Walters, Oklahoma where he was promoted to Soil Conservationist. While there, he met his wife of 57 years, **Barbara J. (Lee) McC Campbell**. They were married February 10, 1963. The couple next moved to Hughes County; where they welcomed their daughter, **Sheri** into the world. The family then moved to Ada, Oklahoma, and finally settled in Norman, where Jim would serve as a District Soil Conservationist, until his retirement in January 2001. In addition to his wife, Barbara J. and his daughter **Sheri (John) Vera** of Norman; Jim is survived by his grandchildren **James** and **Jennifer Vera** of Norman.
- McManus**      2020 Honorary Member and Senior Conservationist **Kenneth G. McManus** (97) of Fort Myers, Florida passed away July 23, 2020. After high school he married his wife of 63 years **Lois A. McManus**. She preceded him in death in 2005. Soon after marrying Lois, Ken served in the Marine Corps during WW II in the Pacific Theater. He was a Michigan State College graduate and strong Spartan. He worked for the USDA-Soil Conservation Service first in Michigan and Iowa where he was an Area Conservationist and Assistant State Conservationist. He then served as Deputy Director of the South National Technology Center in Ft. Worth, Texas before going to Missouri as State Conservationist. After retiring from federal service in 1981, he moved to Sun City, Arizona. There, his son **Greg McManus** reports, he started "a 30-year career in golf. A new putter became an annual event. My mother, Lois, and dad started a bridge club and played frequently." He would have been 98 years old on September 8, 2020. In 2015 he moved to Fort Myers, Florida to be near his son. There he lived in American House, a senior facility that strongly supports veterans and where he told old war stories. He was proud of his marine years in WWII. He was always a gentleman, well dressed and a great supervisor and a great golfer. Ken is survived by son **Greg**, daughter **Debra** and three grand kids **Erica**, **Alex** and **Ben**.
- Mitchell**      2020 **Harvey Oliver Mitchell** (77) of Ripley, West Virginia passed away on September 16, 2020 at his home. He was born February 4, 1943 in Moyers, West Virginia, and was the son of the late **Cecil Guy Mitchell** and **Madeline Florence**



**(Sinnett) Mitchell.** He worked for the USDA Soil Conservation Service for 36 years as a civil engineer. He and his family lived in Spencer, Moundsville and Ripley, West Virginia. Harvey worked flood recovery out of Franklin, West Virginia after the 1985 flood. He was methodical, careful, and complete in his work. He got along with everybody and made friends with all the people he worked with. On August 28, 1965, he married **Patricia (Dahmer) Mitchell**, who survives in Ripley. In addition to his wife, he is survived by a son, **Harvey O. Mitchell, Jr. (Joelle)** of Madison, Alabama; a daughter, **Connie Mitchell-Joe** of Ripley; and two grandchildren

- Mongomery 2020 Charles Francis "Butch" Montgomery** (79) of Auburn, Alabama, passed away August 27, 2020. Charles was a graduate of Auburn University where he earned a bachelor's degree in Agricultural Economics. He had a 30-year career as a Soil Scientist for the USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service. During this time, he mapped and classified soils on over one million acres in Alabama. In 1978 he started a 'Choose and Cut' Christmas tree farm, which the Montgomery family operated for over 30 years. As a 37-year member of Craig Memorial United Methodist Church, Charles served in multiple leadership roles and was always available when called upon. He was an avid outdoorsman with a love of fishing and a vast knowledge of Alabama flora and fauna. He is survived by his wife **Billie Joyce Hulsey Montgomery**; his children, **Mary Alene Stump**, **Charles Christopher Montgomery** and **Lori Allyson Montgomery**; three grandchildren, one great grandchild; and his parents, **Charles William** and **Mary Frances Montgomery**.
- Mozingo 2020 Billy Fred "Bill" Mozingo** (82) of Grant City, Missouri passed away at the Mozingo family home on the evening of September 15, 2020. He was born July 10, 1938, in Grant City, Missouri to **Estelle Myrtle (Porter)** and **Fred Bertram Mozingo**. Amidst his collegiate studies, he wed **Judith Ann Stevenson**, with whom he shared 61 years of partnership, on August 30, 1959. He graduated from the University of Missouri with a Bachelor's of Science degree in Agriculture in 1960. After Bill's graduation, he took a job with the USDA-Soil Conservation Service (SCS) in Neosho, Missouri, beginning a long career with the SCS. Bill's career with SCS led him to live in El Dorado Springs, Missouri; Montgomery City, Missouri; Audubon, Iowa; Lincoln, Nebraska; and Washington, D.C. Bill retired from the SCS in 1994 and returned to his boyhood home in Grant City, where he served as Presiding Commissioner for Worth County from 1999 to 2009. Additionally, Bill worked as a consulting inspector of hog confinement facilities for the Iowa Pork Producers Association. Bill is survived by his wife, Judith; son, **Jeffrey (Barb) Mozingo**; daughter **Cheryl (David) Plate**; grandchildren: **Tyler (Christy) Mozingo**, **Samantha Plate**, **Corey Mozingo**, **Hannah Plate**, and **Rebecca Plate**.
- Pewthers 2020 Phyllis Joy Pewthers** (82) of Waurika, Oklahoma passed away June 25, 2020 in her home. Joy was the loving wife of **John Pewthers**, retired Waurika District Conservationist for the USDA-Soil Conservation Service (SCS). Joy and John married September 25, 1955. Joy was a homemaker while their 3 daughters were growing up and later worked at a bank and was a bookkeeper. She was avid Earth Team Volunteer with the SCS. She is survived by her husband John and three daughters: **Janice Mackiewicz (Jake)** of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania; **Kim Duell (Doug)** of Burlington Colorado; and **Terri Moore (David Morelos)** of Amarillo, Texas.
- Spieth 2020 James Wayne Spieth** (85) of Fort Meade, Florida passed away April 3, 2020 in Winter Haven, Florida. James was born November 17, 1934 in Fort Meade, Florida. He graduated from the University of Florida and returned to Fort Meade where he became a teacher at Fort Meade High School. Mr. Spieth later assumed a position with the USDA-Soil Conservation Service, where his job connected him to many people while working in Florida, Virginia, and Texas. He retired from the Soil Conservation Service as Associate Director of the National Technology Center in Fort Worth, Texas. After retirement he returned to Fort Meade in 1996 where he has resided for the last 24 years. He is survived by his loving wife of 65 years, **Alice Hedden Spieth**, of Fort Meade, Florida; sons, **Kenneth Spieth**, of Lexington, South Carolina, **Samuel (Tracey) Spieth** of Richmond, Virginia, and **George (Barbara) Spieth** of Fort Meade, Florida; daughter, **Mary (Mark) Robitaille** of Plantation, Florida; and grandchildren, **Sandy, David, Mary, Rachael, Dylan, Taylor, Michael** and **Miles**.
- Reichenbach 2020 Senior Conservationist and ARCSE Member William Herbert "Bill" Reichenbach** (90) of North Vernon, Indiana passed away on October 17, 2020 at Majestic Care in North Vernon. Bill was born November 18, 1929, in Middletown, Kentucky, the son of **Herman** and **Lena (Leunberger) Reichenbach**. He married **Hulda Mae Hans** on August 2, 1974 at the First Baptist Church in North Vernon; she preceded him in death on December 13, 2014. Bill was a 1952 graduate of the University of Kentucky, where he earned a degree in agriculture. He served in the Army Reserve. Bill worked 37 years for the USDA-Soil Conservation Service, including many years as the Area Conservationist for Southeastern Indiana, before retiring in 1989. He was a board member of the Jennings County Players and served on the board of the Park Theatre Civic Centre. Bill was a member of First Baptist Church and the Soil and Water Conservation Society. He was also a Kentucky Colonel and was awarded the Sagamore of the Wabash. He enjoyed golfing and loved to spend his time at the Park Theatre seeing to its daily operations. Survivors include his children, **Peter Hobson "Hob" (Mary Beth) Reichenbach** of Chicago, Illinois and **Sally Scott DiLaura** of Louisville, Kentucky; stepchildren, **Michael Marshall**, **Patty (Bruce Johnson) Yount**, and **Diana Marshall**, all of North Vernon, Indiana; grandchildren, **Andrew Reichenbach**, **Grant Reichenbach** and **Christian Reichenbach**, all of Chicago, Illinois; step-grandchildren, **Robb (Martin Gregory Yount) Yount Gregory**, of Sacramento, California, **Amanda Yount Nott** and **Jessica Marshall**, both of Columbus, Indiana, **Annie (B.J.) Bingham**, **Lucy Goins**, and **Allison Bowling**, all of North Vernon, Indiana, **Bernie (Natalie) Marshall** of Tampa, Florida, **Chris Marshall** of New York City, New York, and **Trey Goins** of Texas; step-great-grandchildren, **Tristan Nott**, **Eli Nott**, **Lilly Nott**, and **Jaden Marksberry**, all of Columbus, Indiana, **Zach Bingham**, **Ruth Bingham**, **Bridget Bingham**, and **Sawyer Patterson**, all of North Vernon, Indiana, and **Aidden Foist** of Scipio, Indiana. In addition to his wife Hulda, he was preceded in death by his stepson, **Robert Marshall**.
- Townsend 2020 Mark Anthony Townsend** (72) of Muskogee, Oklahoma, former resident of Holdenville, passed away January 30, 2020. Mark worked for the USDA-Soil Conservation Service. He was an area soil scientist in Claremore, Oklahoma, then switched over to the resource specialist position. He retired in 1994.
- Waggoner 2020 Mark Andrew Waggoner** (67) of Lexington, Kentucky passed away August 1, 2020 at St. Joseph Hospital in Lexington. He was born January 14, 1953 in Louisville, Kentucky to the late **Harold K.** and **Hettie B. Hall Waggoner**. Mark was a veteran of the US Navy. He received a Masters' degree in Soil Science from the University of Kentucky; and was retired from the USDA-Natural Resource Conservation Service. He was the State Resource Conservationist for Kentucky when he retired. Following his retirement, Mark enjoyed his "job" of handicapping horse races. Along with his wife of 38 years, **Jennifer C. Waggoner**, he is survived by his son, **Michael Andrew Waggoner**. Contributions in honor of Mark are suggested to the Permanently Disabled Jockeys Fund, [www.pdfj.org](http://www.pdfj.org).

- Wahrmund**     **2020 Kermit Adolph Wahrmund** (85) of Brenham, Texas passed away March 21, 2020 after losing a battle with cancer. He was born in Fredericksburg, Texas on September 10, 1934. Kermit proudly served his country in the U.S. Air Force. He married **Barbara Haby Wahrmund** on May 5, 1962 at St. Mary Magdalen Catholic Church in San Antonio. Kermit was a proud graduate of Texas A&M University majoring in Animal Husbandry. For 30 years he worked for the USDA-Soil Conservation Service, the majority of his career spent in Washington County as the District Conservationist. He knew every highway and by-way in this county and much of the land is fertile and green because of his devotion to its preservation. Kermit was preceded in death by his firstborn son **Larry**. He is survived by his wife, Barbara, stepdaughter **Theresa** and three children **Gary (Melanie)**, **Sherry (Keith)** and **Bernadette (Gerald)**; and 10 grandchildren.
- Wilson**     **2020 James E. "Jim" Wilson** (81) of New Martinsville, West Virginia passed away September 11, 2020 at his home. He was born August 16, 1939 in Kingwood, West Virginia, the son of the late **Clarence J.** and **Vivian Ernestine Benson Wilson**. Jim served four years in the US Navy and was aboard the ship that recovered the first astronaut in space, **Alan Sheppard**. He was a retired Soil Conservation Service Technician with the USDA-Soil Conservation Service and a 21-year employee of Grisell Funeral Homes & Crematory. He was preceded in death by his loving wife, **Mary Lea Hoffman Wilson**. Survivors include his son, **James Michael (Lisa) Wilson** of McKeesport, Pennsylvania; and his daughter, **Jo Beth (Mike) Simmons** of New Martinsville, West Virginia; and four grandchildren.