

Summer 2003

OREGON STATE UNIVERSITY

Department of Fisheries & Wildlife

News & Views

Remembering Lee Kuhn

Lee Kuhn died on May 30 of last year, and the primary purpose of this issue of *News and Views* is to provide his friends an opportunity to share with others some of their experiences and memories of Lee. I hope that you will find these stories of interest and that they will bring smiles to those who knew Lee. I hope you will also be moved to contribute to the Lee Kuhn Scholarship or any of the department's other endowments.

Lee had a major impact on my development as an Extension Wildlife Specialist here at OSU. I was always impressed with Lee's teaching ability and his sustaining interest in the many students he advised and taught while at OSU. I was not in my office in Nash more than a few days when the first mole control calls began to come in. Having done most of my wildlife training in areas where there are no moles, I was pretty clueless on the topic. I rapidly identified Lee as the resident expert on mole control and asked if he could teach me how to trap the critters. In that process I discovered a wonderful personality and sense of humor, as well as a person with very polished teaching skills. I cannot claim to have ever gotten very good at catching moles, but I know I learned from the best! One of my initial department duties was being editor of *News and Views*, and Lee was extremely helpful with each of the issues I produced. He maintained an on-going correspondence with many of our former students and could always draw on his personal letters to fill the "From the Mailbag" section of the newsletter when there were few contributions to the editor. Lee was always the one to remind me that it was time to begin thinking about the next issue, and he was always gracious enough to hand



me half of each issue when he reminded me.

Many things have happened in your department since Lee died. The state's economy began to tank well over a year ago (we don't attribute this to Lee), but during Spring of last year we felt the first impacts in the College of Agricultural Sciences. At that time the college distributed a 4% across-the-board budget reduction. In a program as healthy as ours, this first reduction had little impact. It was early enough in the biennium that we could make minor adjustments and meet our budget. However, as the state's budget continued to go south, the heads of the different units called on the college's administrative team to begin making targeted cuts to reduce the impacts on the college's more productive units. In October of last year the college closed the Departments of Entomology and Rangeland Resources (the latter decision was later reversed) and distributed additional cuts ranging from 5 to 20% to each of the other units, based on productivity. Although our cut was just 5%, it really hurt. We had just seven months to

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make a 5% adjustment in a biennial budget. In addition, the college froze all reserves that were not clearly committed during the biennium, further reducing our ability to ease into changes. We were forced to significantly change the way we do business, mostly in the administrative services area. We laid off LaVon Mauer, a 23-year veteran of our front office administration, and substantially reduced or curtailed other services. We cancelled classes, reduced access to others, and eliminated teaching assistants to still others. One of the casualties of those decisions was the Winter issue of *News and Views* during 2002, and I'm sorry to say we'll have to skip the Winter issue this coming year; we hope to return to a twice-a-year newsletter in 2004-05. It also became clear that we would not be able to refill the Extension Wildlife Specialist position that I vacated when I took over as department head. Thus, we close this biennium with a balanced budget that is 12% smaller than what we began with two years ago. As we go to press with this issue, our 03-05 budget remains uncertain, but given the state's revenue situation, it looks like additional cuts are certainly coming. The college administrative team has stated that additional cuts will be across-the-board up to 5%, followed by targeted cuts.

Our students are the ones who have really taken the brunt of these changes. The university has responded to reductions by increasing tuition

to cover half of the shortfall. Thus, tuition at OSU has increased by 20% over the past three years. Departments throughout the university, including our own, have increased student fees for activities such as field trips and laboratories. Classes or sections of classes have been cancelled across campus, in some cases making it difficult for our students to get courses required for graduation. The combined effects of increases in tuition and fees and reduced access to courses have placed a severe burden on many of our students. We have seen an increase in the phenomenon of students taking a term or two off to earn money for college. The need for scholarship support of our students has never been higher. Helping us meet our goal for the Lee Kuhn Scholarship is a wonderful way for you to help our students while establishing a permanent memorial to one of the department's pioneer teachers and researchers. I hope you will consider contributing to this or one of the department's other endowed scholarships, the R. E. Dimick, Phil Schneider, Henry Mastin, Bill Wick, or Coombs-Simpson.

— Dan Edge

Kuhn Scholarship Progress



OREGON STATE UNIVERSITY

DEPARTMENT OF FISHERIES AND WILDLIFE

News & Views is an alumni newsletter published twice a year by the Department of Fisheries and Wildlife at Oregon State University.

Editor — Jim Hall

Mission— Faculty and students in the Department of Fisheries and Wildlife study fish and wildlife at all levels of biological organization. Our goals are to acquire, integrate, and disseminate knowledge about these resources and the ecosystems that support them to provide people with the knowledge they need to make wise decisions on issues of conservation, sustainable use, and restoration of our biological resources and ecosystems. We accomplish these goals through a combination of undergraduate and graduate teaching, scholarly research, extension education, and public outreach.

Comments, letters, and suggestions are welcome and should be addressed to: Editor, *News & Views*, Department of Fisheries & Wildlife, Oregon State University, Corvallis, OR 97331-3803

Send us your news!

We enjoy hearing from alumni and Department friends. Send your autobiographical notes and your opinions to the Editor, and we will share them with *News and Views* readers. You can also e-mail to jan.cyrus@oregonstate.edu

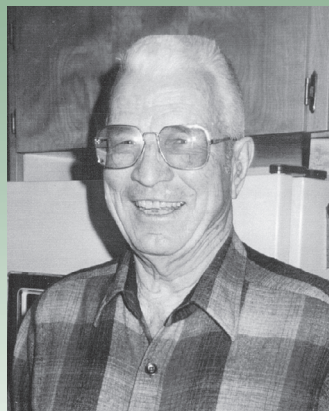
Remembering Lee Kuhn

I will feel a great loss when Christmas rolls around this year. For 46 years Lee and I exchanged long letters, along with Christmas cards. This must be a record of some kind. I always wondered how many former students were as lucky as I. When my fellowship money was running low, Lee would help by finding me work with O.S.U., such as rodent control, or work at the mink farm. His big game field trips and courses were a joy. However, now I can finally forgive him for including a beaver's old, dried-up front foot in an exam, costing many of us to fall short of a 100% score! Lee will forever serve as a role model for me as I move down the road of life.

Chris Nelson M.S. '55

I just received your department bulletin giving Lee Kuhn's obituary. Being one of the many students Prof. Kuhn tutored through the Department of Fisheries and Wildlife, I would like to relate a story about Lee that was amusing to us as we watched it unfold some 50 years ago, as Lee was guiding the senior wildlife class on the annual big game field trip to eastern Oregon April 4-9, 1952. There were 24 students on the trip.

We had stayed overnight at the Malheur National Wildlife Refuge in Harney County, south of Burns. Early the next morning the class was scheduled to meet up with Mr. Ellis Mason, the district wildlife biologist. We were to go up on the flats above Frenchglen to see the sage grouse strutting grounds. There were a small number of male grouse strutting their stuff. Lee expressed his desire to collect a good male grouse to make into a study skin for the department's collection. Ellis went over to his vehicle and returned with his shotgun. He handed it to Lee. Lee ambled slowly out among the strutting sage grouse and carefully selected his quarry. Taking careful aim, he fired and crippled a big male sage grouse. He was trying not to damage the bird's plumage. The bird was flopping around quite actively with Lee in hot pursuit. No student attempted to give Lee a hand in catching the crippled bird. Instead, we all stood on the sidelines and gave Lee our moral support. Finally Lee made one last desperate lunge for the bird and captured it as the students gave a lusty cheer.



My training at O.S.U. in the Department of Fisheries and Wildlife prepared me for the 30 wonderful years I spent with the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife as a district fishery biologist in south eastern Oregon. I retired from the Oregon Department in December 1982.

Larry Bisbee '52

Playing soldier in Japan and Korea from 1951 to 1953 interrupted my fish and game studies, but on returning to OSC for winter term of 1954, I brought new interests. I had been intrigued with the telephoto lenses I used in my army work, so bought a high quality camera and lenses before shipping home. I began taking wildlife photos many places, including while working in Alaska during the summer of 1954. During Fall term that year, I sold a bunch of photos to a scientific products supply house. During Spring term, just before graduation, I took a Big Game Management class from Lee Kuhn. Near the end of the term, Lee announced we'd have a test on the identification of big game species, but I wasn't at all worried because Lee had been showing us the same photos all term and I had them memorized. But as Lee dimmed the lights to begin the identification slide show, he announced, "Oh, it just so happens I recently bought a bunch of new slides. The quiz will be on photos you've never seen." The mass groaning could have been heard way over at the M.U.

The first two slides were no problem, and I quickly wrote down the names of the species that were shown, but when the third photo hit the screen, I was momentarily stunned. Then I recovered and wrote, "Dall sheep. Photographed in September 1954, along Igloo Creek, Mount McKinley National Park, Alaska, with a Leica camera, a 640-mm lens, and Kodachrome film." I wrote down similar information for many of the other slides shown. I aced the identification part of that test, but before our next class Lee called me to his office and asked for an explanation. I told him that many of the pictures on that test were ones I'd taken. He happened to buy his new test photos from the same company I'd sold them to a few months previously. Lee got a big kick out of the situation, and even though my fellow

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students jokingly yelled “foul”, we all enjoyed the coincidence.

Those college-days sales of photos triggered a career, and for over 40 years now I’ve been a full-time freelance outdoor writer and photographer.

Ed Park ‘55, M.S. ‘59

I was sorry to read about Lee Kuhn’s death. He was a very special teacher and person, my mentor, who was instrumental in directing my career towards animal damage control and employment with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service for 35 years. He helped many of his students get established in careers.

When I returned from a tour of duty in the Navy during the Korean War, Lee had a job waiting for me as the college rodent and bird damage control agent. This was in 1955, and I believe I was the first student of many successors to work for him protecting the college’s crops and experimental agriculture endeavors. On graduation from OSC in 1957 with a B.S. degree in Wildlife Management, it was with Lee’s recommendation that I was hired by the branch of Predator and Rodent Control, Bureau of Sport Fisheries & Wildlife as a Mammal Control Agent (government trapper), the start of my career.

One of my fond memories of Lee occurred during a local field trip with the class to check on some of the traps he had set the day before. He had caught a skunk in a #2 trap, and he was going to demonstrate how to set it free without injury to either party. The class failed to heed Lee’s warning, got too close, and the skunk did that handstand and spray job for which they are notorious. The class got a stern look and the skunk got a marble between its eyes, courtesy of Lee’s ever-present slingshot, for which he bragged about being so proficient. Lee’s demonstration was impressive. After an airing-out and lots of laughs, Lee forgave us and no one flunked the class.

Darrell Gretz ‘57

Lee was a really good guy. For a lifetime he supported his ex-students, the F&W Department, the Beavers in football, and you could always see him and VaDare at Beaver basketball games. Jay probably got most of the kudos, but Lee was in it for the long haul, a life well lived.

Dick Twenge ‘50

I was flooded with memories when I read that Lee Kuhn had died. Lee was largely responsible for kick-starting my fisheries career at an early age. I thoroughly enjoyed visiting with him (catching up) at the two “Fish and Game” reunions. Those were two great celebrations!

I first met Lee in 1952, when I was a senior at Grant High School in Portland. That year I was President of our Fin and Antler Club, and I invited Tom McAllister, Outdoor Editor for the *Portland Journal*, and a Fish and Game graduate, to speak to the Club. In his talk Tom mentioned the summer job opportunities in Alaska as stream guards. That sure spurred my imagination! Upon further questioning, Tom told me how to get in touch with Lee Kuhn at OSC, who had contacts with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in Alaska.

In the early spring of 1952 I met Lee in his office where he did a brief, friendly and informative interview and gave me the name and address of the senior enforcement agent for USFWS in Juneau. Lee also took me to meet Mr. Dimick, introducing me as a new student to be enrolled in the Department that fall. This all led to an eventful summer as a stream guard, living alone at Port Houghton in S.E. Alaska. There were new experiences around every bend for a green kid just out of high school: wolves, bears, tides, salmon by the millions, and seine boats by the score. I even arrested two seiners, for fishing way over the line, and took them to Juneau while the remaining boats robbed the creeks (I learned the next year).

Upon arriving at Corvallis and Snell Hall, Lee sat through my stories with apparent great interest. Of course it was lost on me that he had to listen to similar stories from many other eager summer students fresh from the wilds of Alaska. When I think of my fisheries roots, Lee certainly played a major role.

Dave Narver ‘56

I was so sorry to hear about Lee’s death. I will miss his humor and friendship.

Dan Hitchcock ‘60

Lee Kuhn was my faculty adviser in the 1950s. Fortunately, Lee’s advising philosophy was NOT “one size fits all”. I was a nontraditional student—military veteran and a transfer from three previous colleges. Lee took the time to learn my background and fit my program of study to my goals. He helped me get a valuable summer internship and guided me to rigorous electives to

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prepare for graduate school. Later, I took his advice, not to remain at OSU for graduate study, but to go to Iowa State—his alma mater—to broaden my education under Paul Errington, Milton Weller, and others. This was a pivotal decision in my wildlife career, and Lee's influence was critical and rewarding.

During my 35 years of college teaching, I adopted Lee Kuhn's philosophy as an adviser, i.e., each student is unique; serve the student's interest first; and take time to treat seriously each question and every small problem, or the student will never reveal the major ones. Lee was a good teacher, but an adviser nonpareil for me. He is the main reason I think of OSU as my alma mater.

Dale Hein '59

We all appreciated the information, advice, and suggestions Lee Kuhn provided. These were very helpful in my career with the National Park Service over the years.

Orthello Wallis M.S. '48

Lee Kuhn and I were not only friends, but he was my brother-in-law as well, so I am doubly blessed. I first met Lee in my senior year and we had several classes together, including the big game management class pictured in the summer issue of *News & Views*. He was indeed a great guy to know and we remained close friends until his death. Like most students in the late 30s and early 40s, neither of us had much money and barely squeaked through the school year. Friendships with fellow students made up for the lack of an otherwise unaffordable social life, and Lee was a mature and thoughtful individual whom I enjoyed visiting with. The fact that I picked him for a blind date with my fiancée's sister certainly indicated how well I thought of him. And it worked out, as he married VaDare shortly after entering the service. I have crossed paths with a lot of Lee's former students over the years and have yet to hear a negative remark about his performance as a mentor and teacher. He was truly respected and appreciated by all who studied under him.

Dan Edge wrote me some time back stating that he had initiated a Lee Wallace Kuhn Memorial Scholarship Fund to be administered by the OSU Foundation. That's a great idea and Phyllis and I are honored to be able to contribute to such a worthy cause. I am sure the fund will grow and Lee will be remembered anew each year as one or more scholarships are awarded in his name to worthy fisheries and wildlife students.

Lee, my friend, you are missed and occupy a permanent and fond spot in my memory.

Bob Mace '42

I've probably known Lee for over 40 years. His son, Bob, and I were friends in high school, and I spent many an hour at the Kuhn home on West Hills Road. Lee probably cringed every time Bob and I headed out the door to cruise the countryside looking for interesting things to do. While I can't remember Lee encouraging me to pursue fisheries as a career, I do remember his enthusiasm at my choice when I enrolled as a grad student in the Department of Fisheries and Wildlife at OSU in 1970. After moving to Alaska, I periodically wrote to Lee to tell him how much I enjoyed his reminiscing about Department history in some of the *News & Views* newsletters he edited. He was always curious and very interested in what was going on in Alaska, especially regarding fish and wildlife and the North Slope oilfields, where I've worked for many years. He was a great person with a warm and friendly smile.

Bill Wilson M.S. '73

I would like to share the following memories of Lee Kuhn: I attended OSU from 1964 to 1968, graduating with a B.S. in Wildlife Management. I returned for the Spring term in 1972 after being discharged from the military and awaiting a job with the then Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife in California. I retired in 2001 after 33 years with the federal government, having worked as a refuge manager and wildlife biologist in California and Nevada. OSU gave me the foot in the door and the basic knowledge to begin a successful wildlife career.

I remember Lee as a caring person and professor who had a very practical knowledge of the wildlife field and imparted a love for both the resource and the people. What I learned from Lee and other professors at OSU was not only the science of wildlife management but also the art. Much of what is accomplished to benefit our wildlife and fisheries resource comes in dealing with people—not only the sportsman, environmentalist, rancher, and developer, but also other resource professionals whose decisions affect the future of the great outdoors we love.

Lee always supported the students personally as well as professionally. His support for the "Fin and Antler Club" helped us learn to work together. He always contributed to our wild game banquet. Lee made the wildlife field interesting

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with personal stories and by bringing in guest lecturers who were working in the field.

I remember Lee standing at the entrance to the stadium as we marched in for graduation. He greeted each senior personally. Today we hire people often for their advanced knowledge of the science of wildlife and fisheries. May we never forget that equally important is the art of dealing with people to implement what has been shown to work. Lee was especially adept at teaching and living before his students the art of caring about people as individuals. I know he will be missed.

Mark Barber '68

The memory that comes back to me the strongest is the big game field trip. This was spring, 1967, I think. We camped at Malheur Refuge, Hart Mountain, and Ukiah, as I remember, and maybe one other spot. Every place we stopped for the night, Lee put out his small mammal traps to check up on the populations. There was a new (to us students) species of vole, gopher, or other small critter to look at every morning. Our party rode in small cars like the Plymouth Valiant that we checked out of the college motor pool, and things were crowded with luggage and all. By the end of the trip everyone knew his fellow travelers pretty well. A sense of adventure and high expectation was shared by the whole party when we started, and I think was fulfilled by the actual trip. The high point was the leg from Frenchglen out across the desert to Hart Mountain. This was definitely an unimproved road in 1967. Lee briefed the party before we started this leg: drive really careful, he said, because these aren't heavy-duty vehicles and we will be a long ways from help! Naturally, we got right out there in the middle of the Catlow Valley or someplace and a big rock knocked a hole in one of the gas tanks. Someone crawled under the car and put his finger on the hole while the rest of us stood in a large noisy group and brainstormed, or probably more correctly, tried to give the driver the hardest time we could. Someone, probably Lee, came up with the idea of sharpening a sagebrush stick and poking it into the hole in the tank to act as a cork. We drove the rest of the way on the trip with this repair in place, trailing only a slight track of gasoline.

Lee was my advisor for one year, and gave me good advice. I can still see him standing up at the front of the stuffy, crowded third-floor Extension Hall classroom waving one hand with a cigar in it to make a point and beaming that smile out to us

that said: it doesn't get any better than this. Thanks for the opportunity to remember.

Gary Hostick '68

I remember a discussion of forest habitat during Lee's Big Game class (this would have been in 1958). Lee said he was not a member of the Keep Oregon Green Society, but would instead be a member of the Keep Oregon Black Society. His point being that forest fires benefit wildlife, particularly in northwest coastal forests, by creating a good intermix of forage openings. Too much fire prevention was not, in his opinion, a good thing. Somewhat prophetic of the current discussions on forest fire management.

Warren Aney '58

Memory of Lee Kuhn: My admiration of Lee and his easy-going nature is probably shared by all those of us who participated in the "BIG GAME FIELD TRIP". Looking back, it took a lot of patience to put up with 5 to 6 carloads of out-of-control college students for a week traveling in Eastern Oregon. The drink-the-bar-dry night at the Ukiah tavern, the contraband booze, and the hot springs at Frenchglen, and the nearly all-night poker session at Summer Lake. Through it all Lee could still smile and keep a level head. Lee was my advisor at the beginning of my Soph. year and never once bugged me about being on schedule to graduate until the last term of my Senior year. At that time he called me in and informed me that I had not consulted with him since the beginning of my Soph. year and that according to his records I would not graduate. After much discussion and reviewing of my schedules we finally agreed that I had indeed fulfilled the requirements and would graduate. He always remembered this whenever I saw him and reminded me to check in with him a little more often. He also never forgot that I managed to complete all his classes even though I was sleeping in most of them. Thanks Lee, for understanding, and being a leader for so many of us.

Paul Ingram '61

It was the beginning of winter term, 1946, when all the veterans were returning from service in WWII that Lee Kuhn came to campus to begin his career teaching in Fish and Game and I began the final stages of my B.S. degree. He was an immediate friend and a good hunting and fishing companion for all the years that we knew each other. He also furnished us with apples, prunes,

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and pears for as long as he could work, putting in much labor in his orchard in the “top of the hill” location where he built his house.

Lee was always hot on the trail of any moles, etc., he heard about, catching them if possible and bringing them to the department, where he cooked the meat off the bones for the use of his classes, thus engendering many remarks from the office staff about the odors that accompanied the cooking. Sometimes he became the absent-minded professor when specimens were in his office and they became very “ripe”—he had forgotten to cook them. Several times as Lenora and I returned from overseas trips we brought back requested mole traps from “foreign” places for his mole-trap collection.

Lee was always very interested in the lives and welfare of his students, which prompted much correspondence for the “From the Mailbag” section of the *News and Views* and made for many visits when they came to campus. He was a fan of OSU sports, especially football and basketball, and we shared neighboring seats for lots of years for these games. We miss him.

Carl E. Bond '47, M.S. '48

During the winters of 1953–55 I ran traplines within walking distance of the campus. One such line was along Oak Creek, which was always good for muskrat, some beaver, and an occasional mink. Since I always checked my traps before class each morning, I ended up in Lee’s 8 O’clock Big Game class with hip boots and usually wet and muddy. After a week or so of that, one morning almost in mid sentence in a lecture, Lee monotonically inserted, “Polizzi, why don’t you have Smith leave some street clothes in my office and you can change before class and leave your gear and catch until a break?” He then picked up and went right on without missing a beat. It was a good idea and I did that for the next two seasons, not giving the matter a great deal more thought.

Through the pursuit of two other careers and three additional degrees, I had contact with dozens of other professors, none of whom ever so casually volunteered his office for me to leave my muddy clothes and dead animals. That was just Lee—my prof, my friend.

Lew Polizzi '56

I first met Lee Kuhn in the early 1960s as an undergraduate student. As a senior and student editor of *News and Views*, Lee’s contribution “From the Mailbag” was provided like clockwork and was always the most interesting to me. I wanted to know where graduates from the Department were working and what types of em-

ployment might be in my future. Lee was like the community barber. He knew where everybody was located and what they all were doing! I remember as a senior in 1965 that Lee was not available to go on the Big Game Field Trip, which was very disappointing.

I moved back to Corvallis in 1976 with the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, and then after several reorganizations, am now with the U.S. Geological Survey (in the same office doing the same type of research). I knew that Lee was a Beaver fan, and I sat fairly close to him at basketball games. They were good years at first with winning teams (even #1 in early 1980s), but as we got into the 1990s, instead of BS discussions at half time, Lee and I would jointly develop a “strategic plan” for winning the game, but it still didn’t seem to help the team. Lee knew that I was a pretty serious book collector (mostly bird books), and he would call me, or I would call him once or twice a year. He usually had a book or two that had been donated by alums and wanted to sell them to me to increase the scholarship fund (he always drove a hard bargain). He was a good friend and I miss our visits and discussions.

Charles J. Henny '65, M.S. '67, Ph.D. '71

I think it is altogether fitting that you and the staff of *News and Views* dedicate the summer issue to the memory of Lee Kuhn. He was no less than an institution in himself, especially to those of us who had the opportunity to take his big game classes, and to participate in the big game field trips to Eastern Oregon. He had the ability to control the students yet let them express themselves in their own unique ways. I remember vividly the field trip in 1956, when we were camped in some remote field in Ukiah (Ukiah itself was somewhat remote), and someone, probably my brother-in-law, Jim Heintz, said “lets go get a bath at Lehman Hot Springs”. As I recall it was less than 20 miles, or half a six pack. When we got there we found out that the hot springs were closed for the season, and we had no swim trunks, but neither of those factors deterred us. We splashed in the pools anyway. Using his usual good sense, Mr. Kuhn declined to go with us, but kindly gave us permission to use the state vehicles. He must have had his fingers crossed all the time we were gone.

Unfortunately, I left the beautiful state of Oregon many years ago, and have not been able to keep in very close contact with Lee. I do remember that he was above all a gentleman, and had I remained close to Corvallis, I would have enjoyed hunting and fishing in his company. I know that Lee has been retired for some time, but

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Remembering Lee Kuhn (continued)

he was unique to the halls of Fish and Game, right back to the old days of Snell Hall, and will never be replaced.

Austin Magill '58

As I've grown older and matured, the value of mentors like Lee Kuhn has become very evident to me. When I was in college in the late fiftys. I thought I could solve all the worlds' problems and quite frankly thought when I left college I would give it a try. It was mentors like Lee who by example tempered us and steered us down the path that would lead to productive professional careers. There were 42 of us in the class of 1961, most of us farm boys who lived to hunt and fish. It was Lee's job to help maneuver this fiercely independent bunch of young bucks down the right road, and I assure you that was no easy task.

Two stories bring back fond memories for me of Lee and his style of leadership. One lesson involved a library assignment that was due immediately following a field trip. Most of us assumed that Lee didn't really mean business and chose to postpone the library work until after the field trip. We were abruptly awakened to a library exam the day following the field trip and needless to say, most of us got an F, plus several went before R.E. Dimick, our advisor. Lee got our attention that day and I've always been grateful to him for caring enough to break us to lead.

The other incident that stands out for me took place on the 1961 big game field trip. Following a long day in the field, about 41 of us decided to close down the Trail Room in Ukiah one night to wash away the dust. The owner just locked the place up for us, and we didn't arrive at the Forest Service bunk house until about 3 AM in the morning. Lee was asleep, but was boisterously awakened. His only comment: "all right you xxxxxx, let's knock it off" and he went back to sleep. Albeit his voice had a slight chuckle in it when he yelled at us.

Lee knew how to deal with us. He planted seeds for success and was always practical and logical. He loved us no matter how smart we thought we were and knew how to challenge us to learn and succeed. I have had several great mentors in my life, and Lee Kuhn was one of them. I owe much of my professional success to leaders like Lee who rose above our weaknesses and mentored us to build on our strengths. He individually drew out our best so that we excelled in the areas that best suited each one of us, which

in my case was going on to a professional career on the cutting edge as an Oregon District Biologist. Lee was the man for our day and a great mentor and individual. He will be greatly missed by those of us who were so deeply influenced by his leadership and his person. This memorial to Lee is well deserved and I'm personally and professionally honored to have been asked to share a few thoughts about what Lee Kuhn meant to me. He and I, incidentally, kept in touch all the years of my career.

For His Legacy

Errol W. Claire '61

The toughest job in all of this Fish and Wildlife Management business is turning out a few lines of memory for one's departed professional friends and college cronies. Fifty- two years ago I met Lee in "the Department". Our relationship was closer yet. The Department arranged for housing me in a converted chicken shed at the experimental mink farm. Lee was my next-door neighbor. Not only did he share his championship vegetable garden with me, he made sure I could pick some choice petrale sole out of the mink farm food supply before it went into the freezer.

Upon completing of my graduate studies, Lee invited me to join the loosely knit, non- academic Mole Stompers Club, which was dedicated to eradicating moles and water pollution in Tillamook County. In all there were 7 members: Prof Kuhn; Sea Grant Director Bill Wick; Hatfield Marine Science Center researcher Willie Breese, retired Prof. R. E. Dimick; two oyster farmers, Sam and Dick Hayes; and finally me, an old water pollution guy. Kuhn and I were the last survivors of the group. We laughed at what we might eventually say about each other.

In all seriousness, the highlight of every wildlife management student's education was Kuhn's annual big game observation trip to Eastern Oregon. It was the one opportunity for the professor, agency wildlife managers, the student, and the wild animals to take a look at each other. There has been no single education event equal to it. I like to believe we may meet again. Incidentally, Lee, "What is the gestation period of an aardvark?" your famous, final examination question for your students.

Glen Carter M.S. '52

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This is one of the fond memories I have of Professor Lee Kuhn that Mr. Edge requested in the last issue of the *News & Views*: Among many of Prof Lee's attributes was one of compassion. On one of his final exams in the spring of '58, I drew a complete blank (probably from the cramming the night before) and answered but a few questions, miserably flunking the exam. Lee later confronted me, asking me what had happened. After my explanation, he said he would see what he could do. Later, he acknowledged that I really knew the material (from previous exams) and thus excused this exam, taking a different approach in grading me (I passed). He was such a mentor. Thanks for letting me share.

Gordon H. Gretz '59

Have known Lee Kuhn for many years, as I graduated from OSU with one of the first classes after WWII. As a Fish and Game student I enrolled in several classes where Lee was the instructor. I enjoyed all of the classes; Lee made them interesting and informative. When any of his conservation teachings would apply I passed them on the students in my 30 years of high school biology classes. The war-surplus Springfield .30-06 rifle that I purchased from Lee in 1951 is still in the family. It has caused the demise of a good number of deer, elk, and antelope.

Norm Masterson '50

Enclosed are copies of pictures of Lee W. Kuhn plus a picture of a group gathering of some ex Fish & Gamers celebrating Lee's birthday November 1998 and 2000. My first acquaintance with Lee Kuhn was fall term 1946, when I enrolled in the OSC Fish and Game program. The staff of the Department of Fish & Game, as it was called at that time, was Professor Dimick (department

head), Jay Long, and Lee Kuhn. Lee had just returned from military service earlier in the year, as had many other GI's. I'm sure it was quite a challenge to Lee to see the large influx of students facing him at the start of his teaching career. He rose to the occasion in great form and became friends of a great many students over the years, as can be attested to through correspondence, not to mention visits of students that lasted to his final days.

Lee and I became close friends over the years and especially after each of our retirements. We reminisced over the many years we had known each other and the numerous experiences of life as we had known it. We usually had a cup of tea along with these sessions, which later came to be a standard. Sometimes we had cider that Lee had made, as there was an abundance of apples in his orchard. I recall one day we were building a pump house at his home and it was a warm day. The cider ran out before completion of the building, so after that we switched back to tea. These tea sessions eventually grew into celebrating birthdays, the first of which if my memory serves me correctly occurred in the early 1990s and included Lee, Woody Holderman, Bill Lightfoot, and myself. We then started celebrating each one's birthday. Hank Schneider and Francis Ives were soon added to the group, with Francis the official photographer. Many other Fish & Gamers have attended from time to time, and we were sometimes mentioned as the Tea Drinkers Club. Lee often told me he looked forward to these get-togethers and the sometimes-lively discussions that ensued. Those of us remaining still meet on a weekly basis at my home for a cup of tea and birthday celebrations as they occur. Lee's cup has been retired in his memory.



*Friends celebrating Lee Kuhn's birthday, November, 2000. Back row (L-R): Andy Landforce '42, Ralph Swan '50. Woody Holderman, Lee Kuhn '42, Hank Schneider '41, Bill Lightfoot '41
Front: Francis Ives '49, John Adair '50*

Remembering Lee Kuhn (continued)

Lee W. Kuhn was a great friend to me, as I know he was to many others. I have many fond memories of our good times.

John Adair '50

In the fall of 1945 World War II had ended, and I returned to OSC to study fish and game management (I had started the program in 1942). In due time I was enrolled in Professor Lee Kuhn's "Management of Furbearers" and "Management of Big Game." Most of the department's students then were military veterans and we were all aware that Lee was one of us. We seldom mentioned the war—I don't remember any "war stories." But there was a camaraderie that comes only from those with similar backgrounds. I suppose, unknowingly, our military vocabulary subtly helped bind us together.

Competition for grades was fierce. Learning was fun, and we all had a goal. Despite the competition, the mood in Lee's late 1940s classes was relaxed. He was friendly and approachable. He had a great smile, which he used generously. There were numerous discussions in his classes on the philosophy of wildlife management. He encouraged student participation.

After graduating, I went to the University of Maine for a two-year M.S. in wildlife. In 1950 I joined the faculty at the University of Alaska, Fairbanks, to organize a new wildlife department. Lee Kuhn gave me a running start by providing me with course outlines, notes, and hundreds of pages of material. Thus, parrot-like, I disseminated management of big game and furbearers, a la Lee Kuhn, to students in Alaska. After graduation, some of these students worked in Africa and Asia, so the Kuhn legacy became widespread.

I left teaching and turned to writing and editing as a profession, and through popular magazine articles preached scientific wildlife management. In more recent years I turned to writing books. I sent Lee copies, and had a vigorous correspondence with him. My latest book involved wolves and predation; always generous, Lee sent me from his library books he knew would be helpful, as well as frequent news clippings. I especially appreciated and found useful his well-used copy of Errington's *Of Predation and Life*.

After I sent him a biography of a federal predator agent's life in Alaska, he wrote, "After reading it I thought about sending in a change of grade for you for FW457, Management of Big Game—retroactively, of course." I could picture

his smile as he typed that on his old Royal upright.

He was always the teacher, and a loyal supporter of his former students, in my case for 54 years.

Jim Rearden '48

Lee Kuhn was my major advisor and employer during my undergraduate years at Oregon State University. I was a transfer student from Kansas and came to Oregon State University because of the University's strong curriculum in fish and wildlife management. In my second year at Oregon State University I accepted an offer from Lee to be the University's vertebrate pest control person. Lee provided me with a University vehicle and the equipment to organize and carry out the function. Thanks to Lee Kuhn I was able to work my way through college with a positive bank account when I graduated and left for graduate school at Utah State University.

During my professional career with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, I constantly used the principles of wildlife management and animal identification gained from courses taught by Lee Kuhn. I can honestly say that the degree curriculum offered at OSU in the early sixties provided the necessary technical background and knowledge to step right out into the fish and wildlife management field several steps ahead of students from other Universities with degree programs in fish and wildlife management. Lee was part of the OSU Department of Fisheries and Wildlife Faculty that made it happen.

I, like everyone, looked forward to the senior year big game field trip through eastern Oregon. Professor Kuhn taught the course in Big Game Management and led the big game field trip each year. The Steens and Hart Mountains were part of the trip. We met with some of the game biologists of state and federal agencies and received some field lectures of game management issues on the ground. The camaraderie around the campfire every evening was great. Lee's reminiscing of experiences occurring on former field trips is permanently etched in my mind.

Lee was an important part of my education at Oregon State University. I send my condolences to his family.

Gary L. Hickman '64

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One of Lee's early research projects was getting current information about the life histories of moles and how to control them. With some graduate students from our OSU Fisheries and Wildlife department and the late Bill Wick, then a Tillamook County Extension Agent, they went to work in some mole-infested pastures of Tillamook County. They trapped and tagged moles for information about their travels, densities, and distribution. They dug up nests to determine litter size and length of the birthing season. Experiments to learn control included poison provided by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the effectiveness of several different kinds of traps, and cooperating in Extension's publicity to control moles in pastures, lawns, and gardens.

A challenge was to get dairy farmers and land owners to use the gleaned information on how to control moles. Newspaper stories, radio reports, and circular letters carried known information but very little response was noted. Lee said "We need a mole hunter's license, a season and a bag limit." Lee and Bill made up an official-looking mole hunter's license with your own season and bag limit. The Extension Service distributed the mole hunter's license at that year's Dairy Farmers meeting. In addition Bill set up an educational booth about moles and how to control them at the Tillamook County Fair. On display were the recommended out-of-sight mole traps, posters, pictures, and the free mole hunter's license. The novel idea of a mole hunter's license got publicity in the newspaper and on radio.

The results were increased sales and use of the recommended out-of-sight mole trap. The Extension Service responded to farmers request for a county-wide demonstration on how to set the mole traps effectively and published the Extension Bulletin on mole and gopher control. The information gained and used in Tillamook County was used state-wide by the Extension Service. Lee Kuhn made an impact that has helped a lot of people.

Andy Landforce '42

Every one of Lee's classes began with Lee working from his "time-yellowed notes". We would joke about their age, such as "did he write them before the war?" This, of course, led to questions regarding which war? It was even suggested his notes were so old that he must have inherited them. Yet, importantly, what Lee imparted to us was scholastically accurate, whether ageing jaws or censusing moles. The same cannot be said for the hundreds of wildlife picture books that have been published over the last 40-plus years since I sat in his class.

Late one evening a bunch of us were in the lab in the old girls dorm. We were preparing for lab mid-terms or finals the next day. I vividly remember we had study skins of birds, but also skulls of various critters on the tables. I might also mention that to keep memories sharp, a few beers had been sampled along the way. I do not remember the instigators but they were probably Dave Riley and Tom Juelson. Anyway, we began tossing study skins from one end of the room to the other, the object being that one of us in the middle had to identify the skins "on the wing." Soon, however, not only birds but skulls, jaws and stuffed rodents were airborne—you never know when you might have to identify a giant pocket gopher on the fly. Amidst this in walked Lee.

Things quieted down quickly. As I recall, Lee drank a beer with us and said nothing regarding flying objects. Then he explained why he was there so late. In previous lab quizzes some possible test specimens had disappeared just before the test but would reappear as soon as the tests were over. This included his favorites such as the skull of a domestic goat, a nutria with a beaver's tail, and things like that. He had come to the lab that evening to make sure his ringers were there for the test the next day. This time they were, but we never did find out who had been hiding the pieces. Important to this story was that Lee sat and visited with us, when academic eggheads would have gone ballistic. This was before anyone knew what ballistic was.

Russell Earnest '62, M.S. '67

Thanks for your November 11 letter re Lee Kuhn and my apologies for the delay in answering. To be frank when I was at Oregon State between 1945 and 1949 I had my nose so close to the grindstone that my personal relationships with the faculty were minimal at best and even worse after my departure. As a consequence there is little I can contribute to the memorial issue for Lee. However, I feel strongly that the group of Dimick, Long, and Kuhn did a lot to straighten me out after WWII (as they did for many of my classmates) and I owe them and the Department more than I can ever repay. So I am sending a small check to the OSU Foundation to help the Kuhn scholarship.

Ed Wood '49

It was great to hear that the *News and Views* Summer issue will be dedicated to Lee Kuhn, and the Scholarship is a wonderful tribute. I traded letters with Lee once in awhile through the years with regard to keeping in touch with former students, and we always chatted at the ODFW

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Remembering Lee Kuhn (continued)

Retiree luncheon held annually in Salem. I sat with Lee for some time at the 2002 gathering in May. Lee told me that healthwise he had no business being there. But he said "my home is with this group, these are my boys. I had to come". To put it mildly, he put his health aside to be there. He died within the next 2 or 3 weeks. Thanks for giving me a chance to take part in this wonderful memorial.

Jim Haas '53

The man of many talents: I first met Lee Kuhn when I started my schooling at Oregon State College. I had gone two years at Central Oregon Community College and moved to Corvallis to finish out my Wildlife Management degree. I had some very good and very interesting teachers and professors on my way, but I was really impressed the first time I met Lee. Now Lee was a friend, advisor, friend, instructor, and friend again; his charges were more than students, he had this personal obligation that he had to get us through the classes and he had to impart his working knowledge to each one of us.

Lee really impressed me. He taught by example because he was involved in the field with what he taught. How better to teach about wildlife management than methods he had used in the field? One favorite saying that Lee used extensively, "More buffalo were killed by the John Deere plow than by the Sharpe's rifle." Often in my working career I used his phrase, and the people I used it on had very little comeback.

Lee always was a part of our wildlife family, a part of our wildlife meetings. He was always there with his trusty camera, must have taken a million proud pictures of his kids, his family, at those meetings. After we all retired Lee was still there, part of the Oregon Department Of Fish and Wildlife, and we all were darned proud to be a part of his family.

Lee, I will miss you but I feel you are up there still looking out for us. God Bless You!

Frank Newton '67

I remember Lee Kuhn as an excellent teacher, well versed in his field. He was truly concerned with the well being of his students, and still concerned how they fared after they had left school and were working in their chosen field. I worked under Lee's supervision doing pest control about the campus and college farms. He always asked about my interest in fur-bearers and preda-

tory animal control and in later years asked about my activities in this field whenever I contacted him.

Once when I was a student, he called me at Buxton Hall where I lived and said a trapper near Wren, west of Corvallis, had reported catching a wolf. He asked me if I wanted to go with him to see the animal. Foolish question, of course I did. There hadn't been a wolf reported in Oregon for umpteen years. What we found after some maneuvering was the pelt of a German Shepard type dog complete with a rubbed mark around the neck where there had once been a collar. We always spoke of the animal as the "Wren Wolf" after that. I ran into similar critters several times in later years in North Florida, where wild dogs are not always uncommon. I always thought of or referred to such animals as Wren wolves.

During my junior year I had a pet raccoon, which my roommate didn't like. Something about muddy raccoon footprints allover his homework. Needing to find a new home for my beloved pet, I trusted a graduate student to care for him. I didn't

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Lee and the Wren wolf.

understand his interest in the animal until later, when Lee told me he heard the student had had a coon roast to celebrate the end of the semester. Lee's words of wisdom were "Never trust a starving graduate student with anything you care about".

Later that year I was trapping for some extra money. Lee asked me to demonstrate some trap sets for his fur bearing class. During the demo I told the students "A good trapper never catches anything except what he is trying to catch". The next day when the class and I ran the traps, I was surprised to find at the first set a big rooster pheasant that a fox had demolished during the night. Lee's only comment was "Pheasant pelts aren't bringing much money this year, Morrie"

I once caught Lee's attention and got a quick letter from him when I wrote an article for *Pest Control* magazine, called "Mole Control Is A Cinch". Lee said, "I wondered what joker had written such a crock". He soon found out, then realized the title referred to a type of trap—not the non-fact that moles are easy to catch. We had a good chuckle over that one. Later when taking care of a berry farm near Astoria, after my retirement, I called Lee for any possible new developments in handling mole invasions. Lee delighted in reminding me of the pest control article!

Lee was a good friend and a wonderful fellow. He will be missed and long remembered.

Maurice Naggjar '49

I was very sad to read in the *News & Views* that Lee Kuhn had died. He and I had some history. The Masters Degree class of 1942 had only 3 members: Lee Kuhn, Don Vogtman, and me. After graduation, Lee went into the Army and I believe Don did too. I was in the Navy. After the service, Lee returned to Oregon State as an instructor. I joined the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service in the new branch of River Basin Studies, where I spent my career, retiring in 1972. Interestingly, Don Vogtman also joined River Basin Studies

I last saw Lee at my 50th reunion at Oregon State in 1990. We had a good time recalling old times then. Over the years we had written to each other, so it was a special pleasure to see him in 1990. I know the entire Fisheries & Wildlife family of Oregon State will miss him greatly.

Cecil Gubser '40, M.S. '42

Your issue of the *News* brought sad news of Lee Kuhn's passing. Just had to reply, as he was not only my Professor but a long-time friend. He has kept me up to date on all the goings on in Oregon, let alone OSU. I would pass along happen-

ings here in New England, Maine in particular. Noted we here lagged in appreciation of current wildlife, fisheries, and general land management practices but we ultimately did apply them. With great satisfaction I did have the responsibility to apply them.

My days at OSU were truly inspirational, yet the one added key to success is not just dedication but a passion for our world. We truly care. Will miss Lee's friendly letters and his ongoing contributions to the life of F&W and its future.

"Bill" Barron '53

I was pleasantly surprised to receive a copy of your recent *News and Views*, but sorry to learn of the passing of Professor Lee Kuhn. I remember many things about Lee. One incident was especially amusing—the day when many of his students seemed to be "out of town" during a fall quarter of his Management of Big Game class. One of the "in town" lab sessions happened to be scheduled during the statewide opening of the big game hunting season. Lee's usual jovial response: "Look, fellows, you've just got to attend these classes—that's all there is to it!" Anyway, I have never forgotten Lee, his ability to teach, and his good nature.

Alton Y. Roppel '54

My boyhood birding pal, Tom McAllister (who subsequently became outdoor editor for *The Oregon Journal* and *The Oregonian*) and I enrolled at Oregon State College in 1946 as Fish and Game majors. This was the first freshman class after World War II, and with one exception was composed of 40 to 50 veterans. Many members of the faculty were also World War II veterans, including Lee Kuhn and Jay Long. Some of the faculty were younger than the students, a factor which no doubt led to Lee (and others) being called "Lee" instead of Professor Kuhn, as had been customary up to that time. This was a grand homecoming for those who had survived years in war zones. We were ready to get on with our lives. We also saw we had a curriculum before us that was directed to our becoming practical biologists and managers in as short a time as possible to meet a sudden demand in fisheries and wildlife agencies for professionally trained people. Lee played a big role in this. We had no sense that the department was understaffed and that the faculty/student ratio was overbalanced with students.

Lee was a very sociable individual who liked a good time. He taught a required one-year sophomore course called "Game Management" and a senior year course called "Big Game Manage-

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Remembering Lee Kuhn (continued)

ment.” The main text for the sophomore course was Aldo Leopold’s *Game Management*. We discussed it in class, chapter by chapter. It brought forth many principles like Leopold’s “recessive establishment,” which described how introduced populations often “go gangbusters” only to “fall back,” as happened with some introduced game birds in Oregon.

There was one exercise in the sophomore class that I can forever thank Lee for. We were required to conduct a field project, which for most students entailed looking into the resources of a given area and writing a report of observations with management recommendations. Tom and I had no trouble in deciding to write reports on McFadden’s Marsh, now a part of the William L. Finley National Wildlife Refuge. Tom and I each wrote rather complete illustrated reports on the marsh that dealt with seasonal events, current management, vegetation, and wildlife. This class field assignment required by Lee helped lead me to my first job with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Incidentally, in my report for Lee, I recommended that McFadden’s Marsh and adjoining areas become a part of the National Wildlife Refuge System, and when the opportunity arrived to make such a recommendation officially within the Service, I did so. It was acted upon by J. Clark Salyer, then Chief of Refuges. Salyer made a solo visit to the now Finley Refuge and returned with two words directed to my boss and me: “buy it.” It was so easy to get decisions on recommendations in those days.

Thanks to Lee Kuhn. He helped get me started with a rewarding career, and played an indirect role in establishment of that refuge, which is now widely used by OSU students.

David B. Marshall ‘50

Although not unexpected, the passing of Lee Kuhn was the loss of a mentor and long time friend to many of us WWII veteran students. The loss of friends in our age bracket now is not uncommon; however, the loss of those who have influenced our lives and careers still does have an emotional impact. Lee was one of those to me.

I first met Lee when I made a trip to Corvallis in 1947 looking into the prospects of attending OSU to major in the wildlife management field. He encouraged me by trying to discourage me if I had any misconception that it would be easy to get into the field. At that time it wasn’t easy and he made that abundantly clear.

After gaining admission to the Fisheries and Wildlife department, I learned a great deal of practical

big game and furbearer management principles and techniques from his classes and field trips. It was some of the most useful knowledge I gained from college that I could put into practice in the field.

Lee’s influence didn’t end with my formal education. He was one that had a sincere interest in the careers of his former students, even after they retired. He kept in touch through the department newsletter and correspondence for, in my case, more than 50 years!

Lee had a long and fruitful life, and I am one who is thankful for his teaching and friendship.

Joe Greenley ‘50

PROFESSOR LEE KUHN:

KEEPER OF THE NURSERY GROUNDS:

A nursery ground for natural resource stewardship. Those who recall 50 years back remember a teacher younger than some students. Students, most married, many with families. Rights to an education earned from living in foxholes or manning quad 40-mm anti-aircraft guns on a ship of the fleet. Students seasoned and firmly committed to purpose, hurrying to catch up with lost time, with expectations for the best of professional preparations. A demanding task in unusual times. Lee did then and continued to exceed those expectations, while always enhancing the standards.

A SPOKESMAN FOR FISH AND WILDLIFE:

His words have been for some half a century, and continue today to be spoken throughout this nation, and beyond. Words for the benefit of a public’s resource. A resource he held in the highest of professional respect and esteem. Measure the individual by his product. Calculate the thousands of man/woman-years afforded the resource through those words. Think on the array of leaders, managers, and researchers working worldwide equipped with those words. Also think on the life’s work satisfaction granted each student because of those words.

THE TEACHER:

Always of excellence. Equally important, always a friend, a compassionate, caring, and sharing person. A students’ man. A teacher who continued his interest and concern for each student. A concern mandating many days of effort in keeping the OSU family in touch. Days so willingly given.

THUS, as we stand at salute to honor and thank our friend and teacher, we all will share in the words, “You are sorely missed”.

Spencer H. Smith ‘48

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A TRIBUTE TO LEE

Imagine the surprise of a freshman forestry student who learned, while having a cup of coffee in the Memorial Union during a spring day in 1949, that there was actually a school of "Fish and Game Management" at Oregon State College. After several questions and a short search, I located a rather obscure, small office for the Fish and Game School on the third floor of Snell Hall. While talking with the secretary, I was introduced to the Department Head, Professor Dimick, who turned out to be, among other things, a super salesman. After he had pretty well convinced me to change my major, he turned me over to a relatively young instructor by the name of Lee Kuhn, who had joined the discussion to apparently seal the deal. Lee didn't have to twist my arm very hard for me to "sign on" for the 1949 fall term, which turned out to be one of the major decisions in my life.

Lee was one of three relatively young assistant professors who handled most of the undergraduate Fish & Game courses at that time. Carl Bond and Jay Long rounded out the trio of energetic, competent, and interesting teachers. Altogether, I had seven classes from Lee; they were all interesting and culminated with the Big Game Field Trip each spring term. I was part of the 1953 "tour" to eastern Oregon that ended with an unbiased kangaroo court the last day, which found the leader guilty of breaking a pledge to remain

unshaven until returning to Corvallis. As I recall, the sentence was separation of shirttails at the waist, which was carried out immediately.

Thanks for the memories, Lee—your classes, your advice, the Fin and Antler Club activities, your genuine interest in how we were doing in our career, and for your "From the Mailbag" columns and "Views from the Past" photos. They were always greatly appreciated!

Art Oakley '53

When I think of Prof Kuhn I see him leaning back in his chair with his pipe, smiling out through the open door of his office in Extension Hall. As a fisheries major, I missed out on all but the introductory wildlife management series taught by Lee. I really enjoyed those three terms and learned a lot that helped me over my career. But over the four years I was there, it seems I never failed to get a smile and a greeting from Prof Kuhn when I walked by his door. Often he'd invite me to sit a minute and tell him how things were going or just shoot the breeze. His relaxed and friendly presence and concern for all the students made the Fisheries and Wildlife Department feel like one big family.

Kin Daily '65

Many thanks to all of you who provided remembrances of Lee. My apologies for the editing that was needed to fit the material to the space available. -Ed.

Charlotte Vickers retired as Head Advisor on March 31. A member of the department since 1980, she served as Advising Assistant to the Head Advisor upon the retirement of Lenora Bond in 1984 and was appointed Head Advisor upon the retirement of Bob Jarvis in 1998. In 1995 she received a "Beaver Champion" award from President Byrne, and in 1997 she received the F. E. Price Award for Excellence in Student Advising and Counseling from the College of Agricultural Sciences. She was sent out in style at a gala event at the Adair Clubhouse (see photo). Nancy Allen, former Wildlife Extension Specialist in the Department, has been selected to fill the very big shoes that Charlotte leaves behind. Thanks to Charlotte for all her hard work and caring about students.



Registry of Distinguished Graduates

Dr. Charles J. Henny, '65, M.S. '67, Ph.D. '71

Chuck has had a continuous and distinguished career in the federal government. His initial appointment with U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service was at the Migratory Bird Populations Station in Laurel, Maryland. In 1974, he moved to The Denver Wildlife Research Center and in 1976 returned to Corvallis as a Research Leader at the Willamette Field Station of the Patuxent Wildlife Research Center

Throughout his career Chuck has become one of the preeminent scientists dealing with the effects of environmental contaminants on wildlife populations in the Pacific Northwest, and is recognized as an international authority on both raptorial birds and contaminant research. His current field studies include endocrine disruptors in mink, river otter, and osprey on the lower Columbia River System; effects of mercury on fish-eating birds on the Carson River in Nevada; and an evaluation of the effects of lead from mining on birds in northern Idaho. He has produced over 160 publications during his 33-year career with the federal government.

Chuck has received numerous awards, including several Outstanding and Superior Performance Awards. He is an Elective Member of the American Ornithologists' Union, chosen for significant contributions to ornithology, and has been appointed to serve on many state and national committees. He is an active member in a number of professional societies including The Wildlife Society, Raptor Research Foundation, and Journal of Raptor Research, where he served as an associate editor for more than 10 years.

Dr. Dirk Van Vuren, M.S. '80

Dirk Van Vuren came to Oregon State University in 1976 with the intent of studying reintroduced bison in the Henry Mountains of southern Utah. He graduated in 1980 and established himself as one of the most insightful and experienced bison ecologists in North America, ultimately publishing at least eight papers stemming from his Master's research. At about the time he was finishing his M.S. degree here at OSU, The Nature Conservancy asked him to do a yearlong study of feral sheep on Santa Cruz Island. Dirk was hired for that project, becoming one of the more knowledgeable ecologists in the realm of invasive

species and their effects on island biota, a role he continues today.

His next stop was at the University of Kansas, where he pursued his Ph.D. studying marmot dispersal. Dirk published at least 11 papers from that work. As in previous iterations of his professional career, Dirk is one of the recognized experts on marmot ecology.

Dirk accepted a faculty position at UC Davis in 1990. He was promoted to Associate Professor in 1996 and Professor only 4 years later. He currently serves as Chair of the Department of Wildlife, Fish, and Conservation Biology.

Dr. Anne R. Kapuscinski, M.S. '80, Ph.D. '84

Anne began her career in 1984 at the University of Minnesota as an Assistant Professor/Extension Specialist. She became Professor in Fisheries and Conservation Biology in 1995. In 1995 she was selected as Director of the University's MacArthur Interdisciplinary Program on Global Change, Sustainability and Justice. Currently, she is the founding Director of the Institute for Social, Economic, and Ecological Sustainability.

During her career she has served on many national and international committees including the U.N.'s Global Environmental Facility, Scientific, and Technical Advisory Panel; the National Academy of Science Committee on Protection and Management of Pacific Northwest Anadromous Salmonids; NAS Committee on Bioconfinement of Genetically Engineered Organisms; NAS Committee on Atlantic Salmon of Maine; and the Secretary of Agriculture's Advisory Committee on Agricultural Biotechnology.

Anne has been an active member of the American Fisheries Society throughout her career and has numerous publications. She received the "Best Paper" award from the AFS North Central Division in 1992 and the Minnesota Chapter in 1996 and was a finalist for the Transactions of the American Fisheries Society "Best Paper" award in 1995. In 1997 Anne received the USDA Honor Award for Environmental Protection, the agency's highest individual award, for promoting sound public policies related to the application of biotechnology to aquaculture and conservation of genetic diversity in fish. In 2001 she was awarded a Pew Marine Conservation Fellowship, one of the world's preeminent awards for marine conservation.

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Dr. Stanford H. Smith, '43

After leaving OSU, Stan went on to a distinguished career with several federal fisheries agencies, primarily in Ann Arbor, Michigan. Stan earned the Ph.D. at the University of Michigan in 1954 and spent most of his career analyzing and documenting changes in the fish fauna of the Great Lakes. In this work he demonstrated an unusual ability to discern complex interrelations among the many factors that influenced these changes in the fauna. Later in his career he served as his agency's representative as a technical advisor, including many years of service on the Scientific Advisory Committee to the Great Lakes Fishery Commission. He was Associate Editor of the Transactions of the American Fisheries Society from 1956 to 1966. In a 40-year career, Stan Smith contributed valuable insights that substantially enhanced the science of fish ecology and management in the Great Lakes ecosystem.

His 1968 paper "Species succession and fishery exploitation in the Great Lakes" received the Wildlife Society Award for the outstanding publication in fish ecology and management. Stan was twice the recipient of the James W. Moffett Award, established to recognize the best scientific publication authored by personnel of the Great Lakes Science Center during each calendar year. In 1986 he was the recipient of the Leonard Award for Outstanding Professional Achievement from the Michigan Chapter of the American Fisheries Society.

James D. (Jim) Yoakum, M.S. '57

Jim's thesis work was done with the Cooperative Wildlife Research Unit under Art Einarson and was some of the early research work on pronghorn to be done in Oregon. Upon graduation, he joined the Bureau of Land Management, continuing his work on pronghorn. In a long career with the Bureau, Jim has become known as the foremost authority on pronghorn habitat requirements and habitat condition on the western range.

Through his long career, Jim has received many honors, most recently the first-ever Berrendo award at the 20th Biennial Pronghorn Workshop in 2002, in recognition of his nearly 50-year contribution to the understanding and management of pronghorn on western rangeland. In his honor, the Western Section of The Wildlife Society established the "James D. Yoakum Award", to recognize individuals who have provided outstanding long-term service, support, and commitment to the Western Section of The Wildlife Society; Jim received his namesake award in 1998. He has been recognized as a Distinguished Alumnus by the College of Natural Resources, Humboldt State University, is an honorary member of The Wildlife Society, and a recipient of the American Motors Conservation Award.

Though long retired, Jim continues to be active in his dedication to the pronghorn. He serves on the Advisory Council to the North American Pronghorn Foundation and advises states and conservation organizations on issues that affect pronghorns and their habitat. With Bart O'Gara, he has compiled a definitive volume on the pronghorn, to be published in the near future.

Dr. Jack E. Williams, Ph.D. '81

After graduating from OSU, Jack worked as a Senior Biologist for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, with responsibilities for endangered and threatened fishes in Oregon and Nevada. His interest in desert systems and their management took Jack to the Bureau of Land Management, where he became National Fisheries Program Manager and later, Science Advisor to the Director in Washington, D.C. After 5 years in Washington, D.C., he moved to Boise, where he became the co-leader of the Aquatic and Riparian Science Team for the Interior Columbia Basin Ecosystem Management Project. In 1997, Jack moved to the U.S. Forest Service to become Deputy Forest Supervisor on the Boise National Forest. In 2000, he moved to Medford to become Forest Supervisor of the Rogue River and Siskiyou National Forests, where he worked to build scientifically sound projects for the benefit of both communities and watersheds. Early in 2002, he left the Supervisor role to continue his interests in research and natural resource problem solving as a Senior Fellow in the AuCoin Institute at Southern Oregon University.

Dr. Williams has more than 100 publications on the subject of fisheries, endangered species management, and restoration. His most recent book, co-authored with Michael Dombeck, is *From Conquest to Conservation: Our Public Lands Legacy*. One of his best known publications (co-authored with Willa Nehlsen and Jim Lichatowich), "Pacific Salmon at the Crossroads: Stocks at Risk from California, Oregon, Idaho, and Washington", helped bring the broad scope of salmon and steelhead decline to the attention of policy makers, scientists, and public in the West.

The Registry of Distinguished Graduates is intended to recognize a select few of our alumni who have made major contributions to the field of fisheries and wildlife, and who have achieved distinction in a career in natural resource education, research, or management. Please consider nominating someone from among our graduates with at least 20 years of experience in the field. Nominations should describe the highlights of the nominee's professional career and could include a resume. A committee composed of faculty and alumni will review nominations and select the next year's additions to the Registry. Please send your nominations to Dan Edge by March 31, 2004.

From the Mailbag

Carl Bond was pleased to hear from former student **Prodprasop Suraswadi**, M.S. '70 and find that he has been appointed the first Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment for Thailand, the highest position in the country's civil service. He mentions a possible run for Governor of Bangkok in a couple of years.

Amy Martin, '97, one of the top women's rowers in the history of OSU Crew, was inducted into the OSU Athletic Hall of Fame this spring. Amy competed in three World Championships (1997–1999) as a member of the U.S. National Team and also in the 2000 Olympic Games.

Todd Sanders, '93, M.S. '95, Ph.D. '00, wrote with the sad news that **Jim Olterman**, M.S. '72, had been killed in a plane crash in September 2002, while stocking fish in high mountain lakes. Jim was the senior terrestrial biologist for western Colorado and a longtime pilot for the Department of Wildlife. Todd also sent along two articles from the Denver Post in which Department staff and others lauded Jim's work, both as a pilot and a biologist. He was highly regarded throughout the state. [ed. note: I can email these articles on request to any who knew Jim]

An August 2002 article in the Corvallis Gazette-Times reported that **Doug Larson**, Ph.D. '70, received the Centennial Award for Excellence in Scientific Research from the Crater Lake Institute. Doug was cited for many years of limnological research in a volunteer capacity that contributed to maintaining the clarity of the lake and to developing an ongoing monitoring program. In an interesting connection, one of the members of the Board of the Institute is **Owen Hoffman**, M.S. '69. Owen, now in Oak Ridge, Tennessee, did his thesis research with Jack Donaldson on Crater Lake, as had Doug. In another twist, thanks to the G-T article, Owen just recently managed to reconnect with **Prof. Hiram Li** (who was yet to arrive at OSU when Owen was here). They had been schoolboy chums in San Francisco in the 1950s, but had been out of touch for nearly 50 years.

Gordon Kruse, M.S. '81, Ph.D. '84, wrote from Juneau to send greetings to all and report that after many years with ADF&G in marine research he had accepted the "President's Professor of Fisheries" position, an endowed chair with the University of Alaska at the Juneau Center. He is excited about getting back into education.

Alan Christensen, '69, M.S. '71, stopped by the Department to report that he had transferred from Montana to Portland to take up a position as Group Leader for Fish, Wildlife, Range, Watershed, and Soils with the U.S. Forest Service, Region 6

Bill Wilson, MS, 1973, wrote to say that he had been involved in a fairly high profile Alaskan investigation of illegal poaching of black bears and international trafficking in bear gall bladders. Bill and his colleagues were conducting pink salmon escapement surveys in Prince William Sound when one of the biologists encountered an illegally snared black bear. Bill and his colleagues provided Alaska State Troopers with evidence from the scene and first-hand witness information. Because of their discoveries, authorities caught a group of suspects red-handed 24 hours later, in possession a number of gall bladders and a global positioning system that led Troopers directly to other crime scenes.

Seth Naman, '01, wrote from Astoria to say that he is working on a PIT tagging project in the Columbia River estuary and looking forward to fatherhood.

The View from the Past in last summer's N&V brought back a lot of memories for **Don Barber**, '42, who had been on the trip. Among them were burrowing owls, deer carcasses and evidence of severe overbrowsing, and at Malheur NWR, hundreds of waterfowl dying from botulism. Don commented on the great job that refuge manager John Scharff did to get the botulism under control.

Richard Larson, '74, reports that he is working on a two-year assignment for NOAA-Fisheries at the Salmon Field Office in Salmon, Idaho.

D. Wayne Linn, M.S. '55 wrote to Dan, reporting on his retirement as Professor of Biology at Southern Oregon University and offering some of his books to the Department. One of the many things that Wayne is pleased about in his long career is the distinction of having an endemic fish in Lake Malawi named for him: *Haplochromis linni* (now *Nimbochromis*), a fish found while he served there as Chief Fisheries Officer with the Peace Corps in the mid-70s.

Faculty Recognition

AFS honors three

Three departmental faculty members have been honored in the last year by the American Fisheries Society. At the annual meeting in August 2002, **John Fryer**, '56, M.S. '57, Professor Emeritus of Microbiology, received the Society's highest honor, the Award of Excellence. The citation read, in part: "Active in research for more than 40 years, Dr. Fryer has achieved international acclaim for his work on infectious diseases of Pacific salmon. The research from his laboratory at OSU has spanned the disciplines of virology, parasitology, bacteriology, cell biology, immunology, and fish physiology, resulting in more than 200 publications, two patents, and recognition as one of the world's leading centers for research on infectious diseases of salmonid fishes. John joins a distinguished company, including two others from our faculty, **Pete Doudoroff** and **Carl Bond**.

At the 2003 annual meeting **Hiram Li** received the Award for Excellence in Fisheries Education, bringing to three the number of our faculty so honored in this category. Our Department is the only organization in the U.S. and Canada to have three recipients of these two significant awards. To top it off, **Peter Bayley** received recognition this year for the best paper published in the Transactions of the American Fisheries Society during 2002. Congratulations to all!

More National Awards

Judy Li and **Maggie Lang** won a 2003 Gold Award from the Agricultural Communicators in Education for Judy's Distance Education Class Multicultural Perspectives in Natural Resources. Maggie was director of videography (and also does the layout for your newsletter -ed.). Theirs was one of 469 entries submitted to the Critique and Awards program. And in a related item, The Natural Resources Distance Degree Program won Honorable Mention for Excellence in Distance Education Award from the American Distance Education Consortium for the 2nd year in a row. Fisheries and Wildlife offers 7 of the 45 courses in the program and by summer term will have 4 more on line.

Jim Bergeron won a Bronze "finalist" honor in the 24th annual Telly Awards for his recent video, "Coming Home Was Easy". The video, sponsored by Oregon Sea Grant and the Department, explores the history and culture of troll fishing through recollections of 15 fishermen and women. The Telly Awards were founded in 1980, to showcase and give recognition to outstanding non-network and cable commercials. The competition was expanded several years ago to include film and video productions.

Graduate Students host Symposium

The Fisheries and Wildlife Graduate Student Association (FWGSA) cordially invites alumni to participate in the first annual Research Advances in Fisheries, Wildlife, and Ecology Symposium. This symposium will showcase research, extension, and community outreach activities conducted within or in association with the Department of Fisheries and Wildlife, and promote communication and cooperation among our diverse faculty, students, and extension personnel.

The symposium will be held on November 5, 2003 at the LaSells Stewart Center on the OSU Campus. Activities include oral presentations, posters, workshops, and a keynote address by Dr. James Estes of the USGS Western Ecological

Research Center. The event is catered: refreshments will be provided during the morning and afternoon sessions, and an evening social and mixer will follow the keynote address. There is no registration fee—participation/attendance is free!

Alumni can support the symposium by attending and/or by making a donation to the FWGSA. Donations will be used to cover the costs of catering, facilities, and equipment rental. Donations may be made to FWGSA and sent to OSU, Dept. F&W, in care of Andrea Luedders, 104 Nash Hall, Corvallis OR 97331-3803. Thank you for supporting future fisheries and wildlife professionals. Additional details about the symposium can be obtained from the FWGSA website (<http://oregonstate.edu/groups/fwgsa/>) or by contacting Matt Mahrt (Matthew.Mahrt@orst.edu).

Thank You, Donors

The following individuals and organizations generously supported the Department with donations received between December 1, 2001 and June 30, 2003.

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Departmental Scholarship Recipients 2002-2003

Khoi Lam, David Lorrington, Tyler Reid, Brady Russell, and Sarah Sells—OSU Foundation Henry E. Mastin Memorial Scholarships, five \$1,200 awards, restricted to Freshmen entering the Department of Fisheries & Wildlife and based on scholastic ability; awarded since 1989.

Lyndsay Carlson and Toby Carlson—Southern Oregon Fly Fishers Scholarship, \$1,000 each; restricted to Juniors and Seniors majoring in Fisheries and Wildlife in the Department of Fisheries & Wildlife; preference to those with field experience; selection based on scholarship and need; awarded since 1995.

Kaylea Foster—OSU Foundation Roland E. Dimick Memorial Scholarship, \$2,000; restricted to Sophomores in the Department of Fisheries & Wildlife who have been in the Department for at least 3 terms; awarded since 1980, based on Freshman year performance.

Nancy Raskauskas and Rachel Ellis—OSU Foundation William Q. Wick Memorial Scholarship, \$1,000 each; to benefit students working toward an undergraduate degree in the Department of Fisheries and Wildlife; preference to Oregon high school graduates; awarded since 1993.

Erin Coleman—Multnomah Anglers & Hunters Club Chan Schenck Conservation Scholarship, \$600; restricted to Juniors or Seniors in the Department of Fisheries and Wildlife; awarded since 1942.

Nancy Raskauskas—Multnomah Anglers & Hunters Club Bill Schaffer Memorial Scholarship, \$400; restricted to Sophomores in the Department of Fisheries & Wildlife and based on Freshman year performance; awarded since 1942.

Bryce Macnab—E.R. Jackman Foundation Vivian Schriver Thompson Scholarship, \$2,500; to benefit qualified and needy wildlife students in the Department of Fisheries and Wildlife; restricted to Oregon residents; awarded since 1995.

Christopher Rombough and Rita Gillihan—OSU Foundation Bob and Phyllis Mace Watchable Wildlife Scholarship, \$1,500 each; to benefit qualified and needy students working toward an

undergraduate degree in the Department of Fisheries and Wildlife; preference to Oregon high school graduates; awarded since 1994.

Toby Carlson—Bob McGary Memorial Scholarship given by the Rainland Flycasters Club, Astoria, \$500; for undergraduates with specialty option related to fisheries and interest and commitment to wild fish conservation and management; awarded since 2002.

Lisa Krentz—Oregon Council Federation of Fly Fishers Scholarship, \$1,500; to a graduate student researching native fishes; awarded since 1992.

Marlene Bellman—Coombs-Simpson Memorial Scholarship, \$500; awarded to a female graduate student with personal and professional qualities that exemplify the role-model characteristics of Candia Coombs and Gay Simpson, alumnae of the Department. The recipient is nominated by her peers; awarded since 1995.

Shannon Claeson—OSU Foundation Thomas G. Scott Achievement Award: Graduate Fellowship, \$750; to recognize research potential in M.S. students; awarded since 1993.

Robert Suryan—OSU Foundation Thomas G. Scott Achievement Award: Graduate Fellowship, \$750; to recognize research potential in Ph.D. students; awarded since 1993.

Sarah Lupes, Anja Liebert, and Amarisa Marie—Hugo Krueger Graduate Research Award in Fish Physiology, \$500 each; awarded to graduate students performing research on fish physiology; awarded since 1986.

Marlene Bellman—H. Richard Carlson Memorial Scholarship, \$1,500; awarded to a graduate student working in the area of marine fisheries; awarded since 2000.



Faculty Changes

During the past 18 months we have seen several changes in our faculty and staff. In the front office we have lost two folks who provided very valuable services to the department. **LaVon Maurer**, our Office Specialist, was an early casualty of the budget cuts. LaVon served a switch-hitting role in the department for 23 years, ranging from greeting visitors and students, to record keeping and classroom support. Although we have filled many of her duties with student hourly help, LaVon's advice and motherly assistance to our students will be irreplaceable. LaVon took another position in the Radiation Safety Department. **JoAnne Schuler**, our Accounting Technician, has moved to Crop and Soil Sciences, and we are seeking to refill her position.

On the faculty front we have both grown and shrunk. **Charlotte Vickers** retired as our Head Advisor in March after serving in that role since 1998 (see the brief article on page 15). Charlotte reports that she is having a great time, which is well deserved. Many of us, including both students and faculty, wondered how we would ever replace Charlotte. However, we were extremely fortunate in that **Nancy Allen**, who had been serving as our Extension Wildlife Instructor, has stepped into Charlotte's shoes (her bio was in the Winter 2001–2002 N&V). Other retirements included **John Crawford**, **Bill Liss**, and **John Faudskar**. John Crawford's retirement was noted in the last newsletter; he taught and conducted game bird research in the department for 27 years, and has moved to Sunriver, Oregon. John's position was taken by **Doug Robinson** (see the previous issue for a biosketch of Doug). **Bill Liss** retired in May after teaching and conducting aquatic research for 26 years. Bill will continue to teach on a half-time appointment for the next two years until we are able to refill his position. Look for a career review on Bill in the next issue. **John Faudskar**, our Fisheries Extension Agent in Tillamook County retired last year, and currently his position is vacant. John's expertise in aquaculture and especially oysters was an important niche for the Extension Service, and we hope to be able to refill the position in the near future.

Three faculty members have moved on to greener pastures as a result of better offers that the state could not counter during the recent budget cuts—the articles you read about brain-drain are true. **David Sampson**, our stock assessment scientist in Newport, took a position as Director of the Centre for Economics and

Management of Aquatic Resources at the University of Portsmouth in England. David will direct an international program that conducts research related to fisheries and fisheries economics. David's position was shared with Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, and we hope to be able to refill it in the near future. **Boone Kauffman**, our riparian and fire ecologist, took a position with the U.S. Forest Service as Director of the Institute of Pacific Islands Forestry in Hawaii. In his new position, Boone will direct research related to fire and invasive exotic organisms throughout the Southwest U.S. and South Pacific. Tough assignment Boone! **Paul Heimowitz**, our award-winning Aquatic Health Agent in the Portland area, took a position with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service as the regional coordinator of the Invasive Exotics program. We wish these guys the very best in their new careers and offer a big thanks for all they did for us.

Some other changes have been positive, as we took advantage of opportunities that arose during the past two years. **Grant Thompson**, a stock assessment specialist with NOAA Fisheries (formerly National Marine Fisheries Service) provides an important expertise and liaison role with this agency. Closure of the Entomology Department resulted in the transfer of two research scientists to our department. **Sandy DeBano** and **David Wooster** are a couple who share an appointment at the Hermiston Agricultural Experiment Station. Sandy is a terrestrial insect ecologist working on grazing systems, and David is an aquatic entomologist working on salmonid food webs. Last, but not least, is **Steve Theberge**, our new Extension Fisheries Agent stationed in Astoria. Steve refilled a position that was vacant after **Jim Bergeron** retired two years ago. Look for biosketches on these new folks in the future.

— Dan Edge



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