

## Oklahoma SCS/NRCS Retirees Newsletter

### April 2014

On April 25, 2014, the Oklahoma SCS/NRCS Retirees met at the Golden Corral Buffet Restaurant in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. Thirty-nine people were in attendance. They were: **Ken and Kay Awtrey, Steve Chessmore, Everett and Helen Cole, Wayne Fjeseth, Fred and Gayle Fortney, Randy and Bonnie Freeland, Jim and Roberta Frie, Gayle and Mary Goforth, David Haggard, Odos and Dianne Henson, Sandra and Terry Hough, Otho Lamar, Nick Lambeth, Jim McCampbell, Gordon and Minnie Carol Moebius, Nelson and Mary Mueller, Glen and Eunice Mullen, Stan and Fredia Rice, Dan Runnels, Tom Sebert, Jim Smith, Betty Todd, Keith and Phyllis Vaughan, Dickey Welch, and David and Susie Wells.**

Oklahoma SCS/NRCS Retirees President **Dan Runnels** reported that **Becka Redding** (retired State Conservationist's Secretary) had been diagnosed with breast cancer. She also had back surgery and is currently taking radiation and chemo. She appreciates the prayers and is doing better and hopes to join us at a future meeting. **Bob and Betty Day** were not able to attend the meeting due to health issues.

**Sandra Hough** reported that she has 324 addresses on her Oklahoma SCS/NRCS Retirees mailing list. Most are current addresses but we appreciate knowing when addresses are changed. The Oklahoma SCS/NRCS retiree website ([www.cyber-shack.net/nrcs/](http://www.cyber-shack.net/nrcs/)) has been helpful in our effort to keep retirees informed. This website also has a posting of the attendees, minutes and pictures from each of the meetings.

**Ken Awtrey** introduced himself and his wife **Kay** as first time attendees. They currently reside in Nacogdoches, TX. **Ken** had worked in various locations in Oklahoma before leaving the state for Hawaii as well as other locations. He continues to consult with a couple of RC&D Councils in the area and plays golf once or twice a week. **Kay** babysits grandkids, quilts, and sings with the Sweet Adelines.



**Ken and Kay Awtrey**

**David Wells** also introduced himself and his wife **Susie**. They currently reside in McAlester, OK. **David** retired from the McAlester TSO where he was an agronomist. He does vegetable gardening, home remodeling, and occasionally driving a mail truck for his neighbor who contracts with the USPS. They travel often to Iowa to visit their daughter and her family. **Otho Lamar** introduced his guest, **Dickey Welch**, son of **Archie Welch**, deceased Area Conservationist.



**David and Susie Wells**

**Fred Fortney** read a list of recent retiree deaths: **Mary Lou Crider**, mother of **Duane Crider**, retired DC at El Reno, 11/6/13; **Cliff Corbin**, husband of **Wanelda Corbin**, retired IT Specialist at Clinton TO, 12/2/13; **Billy Wayne Fenton**, father of **Audra Fenton**, Sallisaw FO, 12/9/13; **James Betchan**, father of **Jay Betchan**, SCT at Enid FO, 12/13/13; **William Carl Nelson**, retired engineer, Geary, OK, 1/30/14; **Dr. Roy Mack Gray**, Retired Deputy Under Secretary in USDA and Acting Chief SCS, 2/2/14; **Carl Mackey**, 90, retired DC at Purcell FO, 2/15/14; **Jackie Sandy**, wife of state office retiree **Gayland Sandy**, 2/24/14; **Larry Poindexter**, retired Water Quality Specialist at the State Office; 3/18/14; **Jackie Henslee**, retired construction inspector and father of **Stacey Mathis**, DC at Atoka, 3/25/14; **Vivian Ankle**, wife of **David Ankle**, retired Area Range Specialist at the Perry TO; 4/10/14; and **Margie E. Adams-Anderson**, 93, mother-in-law of **Julie Adams**, Cartographer/GIS Specialist at the State Office, 4/21/14. A moment of silence was observed and **Fred** offered a prayer.

Retirees since our October 2013 meeting include: **Susan Baggett**, former ASTC FO in Zone 3, State Resource Conservationist, Texas, 38 years, 11/2013; **Andy Tucker**, State Office and RC&D Coordinator, 35 years, 1/2014; **Tracy Potter**, CET in Design Section in State Office, Stillwater, 35 years, 1/13/14; **Rich Olson**, Program Assistant, State Office, Stillwater, 3/28/14.

**Randy Freeland** presented a slide show “Do You Remember” to the delight of those in attendance. The slides he presented were furnished to him by **Lowell McMasters** who unfortunately was not in attendance.

**Randy** asked those in attendance to 'jot down' on an information sheet something he could include in the next newsletter.

Here are a few of the comments he received:

**Stan Rice** said he was doing contract work with ASCOG, doing some church work, traveling, and following grandkid's activities. **Nelson Mueller** volunteers 2 days a week at the Arbuckle Hospital and two days a week at the Senior Citizens Center. **Otho Lamar** lives on a farm in Bray, Oklahoma. His granddaughter is 18 and graduating from High School. He said he still owns a few cattle but NO BIRD DOGS! (Must be more to the story here).

Planning a cruise and land tour of Alaska in June is on the agenda for **Keith and Phyllis Vaughn**. They also spend quite a bit of time on the road to Grapevine, Texas and Palo Alto, California visiting children and grandchildren. **Glen and Eunice Mullen** say they spend all their available time keeping up with great grandchildren and their sports activities. **Jim and Roberta Frie** volunteer at the Stillwater Hospital. He remarked that they just returned from San Diego, CA where they visited with their granddaughter who had her third child two days "after" they returned to Stillwater. Their children (twin boys and a girl) have been quite successful. The two boys are named **Brett** and **Bart**. Remember the old western **Maverick**? That's who they were named after.

**Wayne Fjeseth's** oldest granddaughter will graduate in May and has a golf scholarship at a university in Missouri. He plans to take a fishing trip this summer to Canada. **Steve Chessmore** visited Alaska to see his daughter and son-in-law. He enjoys his time with a granddaughter and grandson. **Nick Lambeth** says he very much enjoys his retirement. Fishes some, church activities, American Legion, and NARFE keep him as busy as he wants. He also serves on the Cross Timbers RC&D Board and delivers cars for a local car dealer.

**Jim McCampbell** is the President of the Norman NARFE Chapter. He is member of the Norman Greenbelt Commission and has been involved with the Norman Land Conservancy District in buying up development rights. **Sandra and Terry Hough** love spending time with their children and grandchildren. They are just "enjoying" retirement for now going on "Ten Years"!



**Terry and Sandra Hough**

**Jim Smith** retired in April 2002. He is active with a sportsman's club since 1994 and enjoys hunting at leases throughout the state. His wife, **Terry**, still works as a pharmaceutical sales rep and has the states of Oklahoma, Mississippi, Arkansas and Louisiana in her territory. He sometimes travels with her while she calls on hospitals in her sales territory. They have been able to travel to Europe twice, and go on an Alaska cruise since his retirement. They also enjoy playing golf and visiting with friends. They are also big OSU sports fans and have both season football and basketball tickets.

The next meeting is scheduled for Friday, **October 24, 2014**, at the Golden Corral, 520 South MacArthur Blvd. in Oklahoma City. It is located between I-40 & Reno behind the Shell Station. Take Exit #144 off I-40. Go north on MacArthur Blvd. Please join us sometime. Out of staters are always welcome. We even let a Texan in this month!