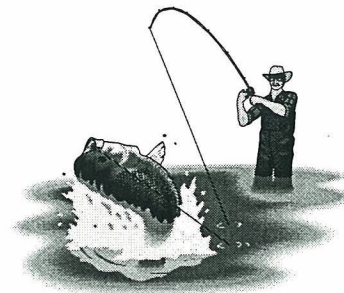


# CH2M HILL RETIREES NEWSLETTER



VOL 5

JUNE 1998

## Response to Questionnaire

Attached to the November 1997, Retirees Newsletter was a questionnaire regarding future retirees retreats. You were asked to respond to eight questions, returning the questionnaire to the RAC/CVO by January 15, 1998. Of about 275 receiving the newsletter, 26 returned the questionnaire, a 10 percent response.

In terms of East Coast, Central, or West Coast locations; 4 responses were received from the East Coast, 1 from Central, 20 from the West Coast, and 1 unknown. A tabulation of the results of the questionnaire is attached, with discussion to follow.

## Discussion

Let's examine the answers to the eight questions.

**Question 1**—22 of 26 respondents felt that retreats should be organized in the three general areas of the country; East Coast, Central, and West Coast. This is an overwhelming majority, but does 10 percent response represent the 275 retirees?

**Question 2**—23 people responded to this question, 15 yes, 8 no. Those willing to help organize, promote, and put on a retreat in their part of the country are listed below.

**East Coast:** Bob Goodings (Canada/Ontario)

**Central:** None

**West Coast:** Harry Mejdell, Chuck Meek, Earl Reynolds (if within 300 miles of Boise), George Silkworth, LaMont Matthews, Don Benson, Ed Lance (help, but not lead) Alan White, Carl Ryden, Dick Nichols, Don Wengler, Hal Mozer, Joe Worth, Bob Harding (help, but not lead), Dan Fox, Ken Stuart, and Ken Beilman

**Question 3**—With regard to frequency of the retreats, every other year prevailed, but not by much. Nor does it really matter. The frequency will most likely be

dictated by those willing to organize and promote the affair—probably no more often than every other year in one particular part of the country, but they might occur every year somewhere.

**Question 4**—There were lots of good suggestions on where retreats might be held:

**East Coast Region**—Gainesville, FL; Niagara Falls or Ontario

**Central Region**—Denver

**West Coast Region**—Ashland, OR (4) (again); Bend, OR; Sunriver or Blackbutte, OR; Sunvalley (2); San Juan Islands (2); Vancouver, B.C. (3); Victoria, B.C. (3); Oregon/Northern California Coast; California Wine Country—Napa; Seattle; San Diego; Portland; Las Vegas

**Question 5**—Of the four seasons winter received only one vote; whereas it was almost a toss-up for the other three, spring being slightly ahead of summer and fall.

**Question 6**—The majority of respondents felt that two nights and three days was the optimum length for the retreat, but the organizers could certainly do as they felt best.

**Question 7**—Of all the activities listed, tennis was the only one not to receive at least one vote. The top five activities desired by the respondents are (1) scenic tours, (2) local tours, (3) theatre/entertainment, (4) golf, and (5) art galleries.

**Question 8**—There were several "Other Comments" received that were particularly favorable regarding the Ashland retreat. Travel Ideas.

## Conclusion

Even though we received only 26 responses, the thinking here at the RAC (Retirees Activities Center) in Corvallis is that another retreat should be held sometime in 1999. We will be looking for a site in Washington, Oregon, or California, with Carl Ryden and Tom Gibbs exploring possibilities in WA;

Lamont Matthews and Ken Bielman in OR, and Bob Harding and Dan Fox in CA. A decision on the selected location will be reported in the fall '98 newsletter.

## Whales Touch Humans

by Bob Pailthorp (Retiree from DEN office)



Bruce Mate, Ph.D. and Oregon State University host a one-week boat trip to San Ignacio Lagoon on the west coast of Baja, California, to observe gray whales. San Ignacio is one of the lagoons where gray whales have their calves. Whales come to the boats and let you rub them. This experience is the highlight of the trip but there are many activities. You stop and hike on several small Mexican islands where you see a variety of birds, elephant seals, and sea lions. Dr. Mate and other experts make interesting presentations most evenings.

The 113-foot-long boat leaves San Diego. The trip is in early March. Accommodations and food are good, but this is not a cruise ship. The boat has capacity for 24 passengers, 10 scientists, and a crew of 8. All meals and lodging is onboard.

Dot and I give this experience a 10 plus.

For information contact Molly Cook at OSU (1-800-354-7821).

Bob also wants to know who have second homes and where they are. They spend 4 months in Palm Springs each year, and would like to have visitors.

## CH2M HILL Website

For those of you with computer access to the World Wide Web, you might, just for fun, access [http://www.CH2M\\_HILL.com/](http://www.CH2M_HILL.com/). This will give you information on the firm from which you retired. If you are interested in knowing more about the CH2M HILL Alumni Center at Oregon State University, go to <http://osu.orst.edu/dept/alumni/>.

## Alumni Center Update

By Fred Harem

- ❑ First year room rental revenue projection was approximately \$136,000. As of April 1998, there are reservations of approximately \$163,000.
- ❑ Approximately 60% of business OSU and 40% other.
- ❑ Increase in Alumni Association events including pre- and post-football game receptions, pre-PAC-10 basketball game receptions, "Bring your Kid" to the game reception, and a gymnastic reunion reception partnered with OSU athletics; more reunions, etc.
- ❑ Some examples of our client list includes HP, Microsoft, Nature Conservancy, Good Sam Hospital, Chamber of Commerce, Corvallis Youth Symphony, Corvallis Art Center, Old Mill School, proms for CV, Philomath, and next year Albany, over 30 weddings booked, campus and off-campus local, statewide, and regional conferences.
- ❑ Aggressively marketing and bringing conferences to campus.
- ❑ Customer satisfaction surveys have shown that overall the Center's users have been extremely happy with the service, facility, and staff at the Center.

## Did You Know?

For those of us on Medicare, Cigna does not pay much of our annual medical expenses other than 80% of our prescription drugs. We have what Cigna calls a "carve out" policy—whatever that means.

If Medicare pays 80% of the approved medical expenses, Cigna pays nothing. However, if you incur over \$1,200 in "out-of-pocket" medical expenses in any given year, Cigna will pay the full amount over \$1,200.

For more details contact Cigna at 1-800-270-5283

## Retirements

David Barnes, Joey Benedict, John Burke, Hank Douville, Sumant Gupta, Sandy Johnston, Larry Well.

## Deceased

Our hearts go out to the families of Clair Hill, Jim Driscoll, Joe Farris, Lori Kerns, Ray McDonald, Mel Osborne, David Smith and Evelyn Waters.

## A Letter from Eleanor Benedict

*(Retiree from Reston office)*

I am sorry I couldn't attend the Ashland retreat. I look forward to the retirees newsletter and I've enclosed some notes on what I have been doing. Hope you all enjoy.

First of all I discovered on the name and address list—a cousin—CARL GLOOR—I wrote him and also sent pictures and news of relatives whereabouts. I hope he writes back. I've traveled much since retiring. My latest trip in May 1997 was to Hong Kong, China. My daughter said Mom, how about Chinese food for Mom's Day. Great, I replied. Where? And the rest is history. It was so great and just before the takeover. Other years I visited London, Paris, Germany, Switzerland, and Vienna I am



overwhelmed at my good fortune. I advise all to travel, and take the trains in Europe—buy a loaf of bread, a bottle of wine, and enjoy the breathless scenery such as the windmills in the Netherlands. My daughter and I, both being tall, fit in very well in Munich and Austria. I've also enclosed a recipe. It's a dump all beef stew. Easy and delicious. I pride myself on being a frugal cook. A challenge to prepare delicious meals on low budget and leftovers. I've also enclosed a picture my husband took of me (which I staged) and I won first prize I keep in touch by phone and mail with former fellow employees and visit Reston, VA, as much as I can. It's been almost 7 years since I retired from CH2M HILL, and I miss the reception desk as if it were yesterday. Please find me a fill-in position, have suitcase, will travel!

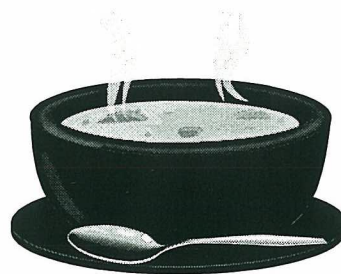
Hugs,  
Eleanor

## Eleanor Benedict's French Oven Stew

2-1/2 lbs (or less) lean boneless beef (don't brown) and cut in 1-inch chunks or smaller  
12-oz small white onions  
4 large carrots, quartered crosswise  
6-oz small fresh mushrooms  
3 large ribs of celery cut in 1-inch pieces  
1-1/2 cups tomato juice  
1/2 cup quick-cooking tapioca  
1 TB sugar  
2 tsp. salt  
2 small bay leaves 1 tsp. basil, pepper to taste  
Heat oven to 300 degrees F.

Mix all ingredients in a heavy 3-quart ovenproof casserole. Cover and bake 3 hours or until meat is tender and sauce thickened (stir three times). Add frozen green peas near end of cooking, discard bay leaves.

Suggestion: Serve with corn bread and a white wine. Enjoy!



*If anyone has an experience or a recipe they would like to share, please do! We all enjoy hearing from fellow retirees.*

## CH2M HILL Retirees 1998 Questionnaire Related to Retirees Retreats

Those that attended the Ashland Retreat had a ball. There were about 40 retirees, and their spouses or significant others in attendance out of about 250 Retirees. We suspect that the primary reason for low attendance has to do with the distance that many of you would have to travel. Other reasons such as sickness, unsure of having a good time, etc., are also known. Therefore, it seems that the first question to ask is:

1. Should we attempt to organize Retreats in three general areas of the country. East Coast, Central, and West Coast?

22 Yes     2 No     1 Other (please specify) \_\_\_\_\_

Note: Any and all CH2M HILL retirees would be welcome at any and all Retreats.

2. If the majority of our retirees answer "Yes" to question No. 1 above, the RAC/CVO will need some help. Will you be willing to help organize, promote, and put on a Retreat in your area?

15 Yes     8 No    Name See names at end of this article.    Region \_\_\_\_\_

3. Do you have an opinion as to the frequency of the Retirees Retreats?

10 Every Year     16 Every Other Year     Every Third Year     1 No Opinion

4. A good location for a Retreat in the East Coast-2 Region would be See listing at the end  
Central-1 of the article.  
West Coast-17

5. What season do you prefer?

12 Spring     9 Summer     9 Fall     1 Winter

6. A Retreat should last for:

6 One Night, Two Days     15 Two Nights, Three Days     2 Three Nights, Four Days

1 Other 2 nights/2 days.

7. Of the activities listed below, check the **five** most important to you.

<input type="checkbox"/> 7 Accessible to R/V Parks	<input type="checkbox"/> 9 Art Galleries	<input type="checkbox"/> 7 Beach	<input type="checkbox"/> 5 Dancing
<input type="checkbox"/> 5 Fishing/Hunting	<input type="checkbox"/> 11 Golf	<input type="checkbox"/> 16 Local Tours	<input type="checkbox"/> 3 Professional Sports
<input type="checkbox"/> 18 Scenic Tours (lakes, mountains)	<input type="checkbox"/> 6 Shopping Malls	<input type="checkbox"/> 0 Tennis	<input type="checkbox"/> 14 Theater/Entertainment

8. Any other comments you have. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature (optional)