

Retirees newsletter

March 2001

“In the Tense and Troubled West Bank, an Oregonian Takes Calculated Risks”

Last August the "Portland Oregonian" carried a story with the above headline. It was about Collie and Dottie Martin, long time CH2M HILL people that many of you retirees know. On behalf of the company they have moved around a lot since Collie started in SEA in 1968. Just back from Israel the Martins are now in the process of moving to Beijing, China.

To the West Bank part of our story. While the Martins were there alerts



would come through from the U.S. Council's Security Office in Tel Aviv full of phrases like "are planning mass demonstrations," "likely to cause disruption," "possibly violent," "tension rising," "avoid travel to the West Bank." There was Collie and Dottie living right in the middle of the West Bank in Ramallah, and Collie working at a variety of West Bank locations on water system improvements and in Bethlehem to improve some 5 miles of streets and roads.

Ramallah is in a Palestinian controlled area as defined in the Camp David Accord. However, Collie reports that in the West Bank Areas supposedly under Palestinian control, as well as in the areas of joint control, and Israeli control, the Israelis see that they have the final say on most things. Collie expresses a lot of sympathy for the plight of the Palestinians.

Collie mentioned that there's a saying, "In Haifa they work, in Tel Aviv they play, in Jerusalem they pray." Collie reports that they were not too uncomfortable living in the West Bank, but he was certainly sensitive to the best route to drive home each day. He felt that it is safer for individuals who

are not seen as targets. They planned their travels to stay away from hot spots. For the most part they had a feel for where violence might occur; the refugee camps for example. Collie noted that if anybody is going to throw rocks, it will be near the refugee camps.

The Martins feel that most of the Palestinians and Israelis want peace. In joint meetings with presidents of Israeli and Palestinian engineering firms Collie found them talking about future opportunities to work together "when things become more secure."

In connection with the current wave of violence, the expatriates were hurriedly moved out of the West Bank to a hotel, and the office continued to be operated by the remaining staff; keeping in touch by phone, fax, and e-mail. The Martins had to leave some of their things in their flat in Ramallah. When Collie phoned one of the people in the office and asked that he go to their flat and send Dottie's sewing machine to the hotel, the reply was, "What is a sewing machine."

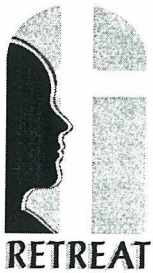
In addition to the Martins, other expatriates that spent time in Ramallah were George Powell, former president of Gore and Storie, Larry Belken formerly OMI, Mick Yallop (currently in Ukraine), Ross Sproul (GNV), Don Olson (MKE), Otto Vydra (COR), Gary Weil (WDC), Dan Wendell (SFO) and Chris Thomas (WDC).

The Beijing waste treatment project which takes the Martins to China is to be financed by the World Bank, but the Bank has not yet given the go ahead. To get it moving is part of Collie's job. Our proposal was submitted by CH2M/EHS. EHS is a Hong Kong firm in which CH2M HILL owns a majority interest. The managing director is Sarah Liao.

2/7/01 e-mail from Collie: "I am in Beijing now and Dottie will join me next week. It is cold and one of the first lessons I learned is that there are two taxi rates. One is 1.2 Yuan per km and the other 1.6. The difference is because the more expensive ones have a better heater."

And a Good Time Was Had by All

By Les Wierson



A successful and fun filled Retirees Retreat was held from September 30 through October 3, 2000, in Portland, Oregon. Over 40 people attended the event that was dubbed our Y2K Jubilee. Headquarters for the event was the Double Tree Hotel at Lloyd Center.

Editors Note: The Y2K Jubilee was organized and coordinated by Les Wierson and Gene Suhr. Prior to the event, Gene became extremely sick, which required emergency surgery and hospitalization. See "Medical Update," later in this newsletter.

Festivities started with a Welcome Reception on the first night. The next morning we enjoyed an excellent Sunday Brunch in preparation for local tours in the afternoon. Sunday night was a dinner at the hotel with lots of time to visit old friends and catch up on all the news.

Monday was a busy day starting with a breakfast buffet. Our Portland Regional Office, across the street from the hotel, invited us to tour their facilities. Project teams presented various projects underway in the PDX office. Every project was extremely interesting to all of us. One could feel the enthusiasm of every team and the office. The Retirees know that they build well and that our firm remains the very best. At noon we boarded the bus for our featured event—Wine Country Tour. Box lunches were provided by the Portland Office. We visited three wineries and sampled a lot of good Oregon wines. Before returning to the hotel we had a gourmet dinner at the Bistro restaurant in Dundee.

Our last day, Tuesday, started with the traditional Farewell Breakfast—lots of prizes. After breakfast, many of the attendees headed for the Oregon Coast to sightsee, shop, and have lunch at our home in Cannon Beach.

Everyone commented on how much they enjoyed the Jubilee. One of the things everyone noticed was that plenty of time was set aside for mixing and visiting.

One of the things that made our event more affordable was use of CH2M HILL corporate rates for the hotel, airfare, and car rentals. We were an

official corporate event. Thanks to Ralph Peterson and all the fine people at CH2M HILL. Maybe we should try future meetings in Denver, East Coast, etc. We have \$251.10 leftover for the next event.

Attendees:

Bob and Mary Adams	Lloyd and Pauline Anderson
John and Genny Filbert	Mike and Sue Fisher
Lyle and June Hassebroek	Burke Hayes
Jerry and Kullaya Knapp	Sally Madden
Harry and Dorothy Mejdell	Tom and Mary Lou Mlcoch
Gus Pantazi	Jim and Raeda Poirot
Ramona Richards	C.Y. and Kathryn Shieh
Les and Myrna Wierson	Carol Wilkinson
Lee Overcamp	Kathy Ritter
Arlen Borgen	Dick and Valerie Nicols
Ray and Mary Hanson	Earl and Jodi Reynolds
Jim and Meisy Howland	Bill and Vivian Watters
Ralph and Janie Martin	Nofal Kasrawi

Both the Suhrs and Wiersons look forward to the next gathering of the clan.

2K Jubilee Followup

At the closing breakfast on October 3, there was a discussion about the frequency of future retreats and the location where the next retreat should be held. Through a showing of hands, about one-half of the attendees said they would like to have the retreat every year, and the other half, every 2 years. Since there was no clear majority, (sounds familiar?), it was suggested that we survey the opinion of all the retirees. Enclosed you will find a self-addressed and stamped post card for this simple questionnaire. Please take a minute to fill it out and drop it in the mail, NOW!

Arlen Borgen volunteered to organize a retreat in the Baker City area of eastern Oregon. The area is in the Powder River valley between the Wallowa and Blue Mountain ranges. Hell's Canyon of the Snake River lies just on the eastern side of the Wallowas. Below is a description of the area and its attractions written by Arlen. If you are interested in having the retreat in eastern Oregon, we will ask Arlen to start organizing and send more detailed information in the next newsletter.

Baker City

By Arlen Borgen



Baker City lies in the Powder River valley between the two mountain ranges of eastern Oregon, the Wallowa Mountains to the east and the Blue Mountains to the

west. Hell's Canyon of the Snake River lies just on the eastern side of the Wallowas, separating Oregon and Idaho. I-84 passes through the valley on its way to Portland (300 miles) from Boise (125 miles). There are many attractions around Baker City.

- Hells Canyon with its three dams is 40 miles to the east. The road ends at the downstream Hells Canyon Dam, where the white water boats then take passengers down and back up the canyon through the rapids. This route passes through Half.com, which will regain its name Halfway when the internet company no longer pays the city a large sum each year.
- The National Oregon Trail Interpretive Center, which receives acclaim for its Oregon Trail memorabilia and recollections of life on the trail. Touring the center is a half-day event.
- A little further away on the north side of the wallowas is the valley occupied by Enterprise, Joseph and Wallowa. Artists have made this area their home with large scale bronze casting of sculptures being a specialty. The driving distance from Baker City is about 100 miles. Wallowa Lake lies in the valley and is a favorite vacation spot for many people.
- Anthony Lakes, to the west, is a popular spot in the top of the Blue Mountains. The scenery and fishing are the big attractions in the summer as well as the Anthony Lakes ski resort in the winter. Continuing on over the top of the mountains and down the other side are the old mining communities of Granite, Sumpter, and ghost towns like Auburn. Continuing on the loop following the Powder River, past the old gold dredge, the tailing piles, the restored narrow gage railroad, and Phillips Reservoir takes you back to Baker city, a trip covering something like 100 miles.

- For Baker City, the restored Geiser Grand Hotel on Main Street is a popular destination for those who like to stay downtown. Motels at the I-84 exit are attractive as well. A couple of points of interest in town are the raw gold exhibit in the bank and the museum next to the city park. We could, of course, always arrange to visit the dairy to see the source of our milk supply.
- Baker Valley is about 30 miles long and 20 miles wide with 15,000 people. The island nation of Singapore being 27 miles long and 15 miles wide with its 3,500,000 people could sit within the valley. America's West still leaves us room to roam, and drive leisurely to places near Baker city that I'm sure you would enjoy.

An "Outsider" Joins Jubilee

By Lee Overcamp

CH2M HILL, Denver

Last month, during a few days of celebration in the City of Roses, dozens of people swapped stories, exchanged ribbings, recalled a folly or two and looked back on years of fulfilling dreams and achieving goals. The CH2M HILL Retirees 2000 Jubilee, held in Portland, OR, was an exceptional experience and, for me, a career highlight bright enough to shine through an Oregon rainstorm.

If you were unable to be there, you missed a sometimes humorous, always cordial, thoroughly entertaining event. Flowing along with catch-up conversations was a stream of well-orchestrated activities, including a visit to the Portland office, a trip to Les and Myrna Wierson's coastal retreat, and a tour through Oregon's wine country.

I attended the jubilee to learn firsthand about the firm's history from some of the people who helped create and mold this one-of-a-kind organization. It was an intriguing work assignment, but here's a little secret I'll share with you: I had a terrific time! At first I thought I might be considered an infiltrator; a snoop who asks too many questions. Not true. (Well, maybe I did ask too many questions, but everyone kindly put up with my barrage of queries and endless note-taking.) I was taken aback by the gracious welcome I received and the warmth shared at the jubilee. It was a family reunion.

It's this kinship and mutual respect that, I believe, has served as a rudder and helped steer CH2M HILL on its long, successful journey. Although the firm has grown and diversified, and some might say it's not the

intimate company it once was, the always-take-the-high-road philosophy laid down early on continues to have a guiding quality for CH2M HILL today. To meet so many first generation CH2Mers was a joy. To learn about the firm's rich history from people who helped make it was an opportunity of a lifetime.

Thanks, CH2M HILL retirees, for letting me join the fun and meet so many nice people who continue to do "interesting things."

Lee Overcamp hails from Denver and works in corporate communication. His primary focus is on employee communications and is editor of Unlimited. You can reach him at lovercamp@ch2m.com or 303/713-2276.

Welcome to the List

Some of you are receiving this newsletter for the first time, because of your recent retirement. Congratulations, and welcome to the list, which now contains 477 names. As you can well imagine, our retirees are scattered across the country and Canada, so we have prepared a new Roster, divided into six geographical areas, as follows:

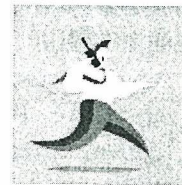
1. NORTHWEST. Alaska, Washington, Oregon, Idaho, Montana and Wyoming, Hawaii.
2. SOUTHWEST. California, Nevada, Utah, Colorado, Arizona and New Mexico.
3. CENTRAL. North Dakota, South Dakota, Nebraska, Kansas, Oklahoma, Texas, Minnesota, Iowa, Missouri, Arkansas, Louisiana, Wisconsin, Illinois, Michigan and Indiana.
4. NORTHEAST. Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Connecticut, Rhode Island, Ohio, New York, Pennsylvania, Maryland, New Jersey, Delaware, and the District of Columbia.
5. SOUTHEAST. Kentucky, Tennessee, West Virginia, Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Alabama, Mississippi and Florida.
6. CANADA. All Canadian Provinces.

Our purpose in doing this is to encourage any of you to promote and organize social functions for retirees in your area, much like the Retreats that have been held in the West. If any of you would like to do so, volunteers in the Retirees Activity

Center (RAC) in CVO will be happy to assist you; just contact us. Naturally, any of our retirees would be welcome to attend and participate in any, and all, such functions, regardless of the location. We are including a copy of the Roster for your files.

Improved Retiree Communications From CH2M HILL Planned

We have talked with Ralph Peterson, CEO and Mike Kennedy, Regional Operations President, about the retirees desire to have a more consistent, ongoing flow of communications about what's going on inside CH2M HILL. As you all probably know, the firm is doing quite well and growing rapidly into many new areas, including telecommunications, nuclear waste clean up and clean construction.



It turns out that both Ralph and Mike have been thinking about how to improve the communications with retirees as well. They are interested in keeping retirees informed about the progress of the firm that you all helped to create as well as providing information about friends and colleagues we all have who are still working at the firm. Ralph and Mike are also interested in providing retirees with a window into ongoing work opportunities inside the firm, in case any of you want to keep your fingers in the business of the firm.

So here is the deal. Once a quarter, the firm will mail to each of you a copy of Ralph Peterson's quarterly report, which lists the last quarter's business activities of the firm, and also the most recent firmwide newsletter, which is now called "The Unlimited." Once a year, each of you will receive a copy of the firm's Annual Report. In the near future, the firm will be creating a way for all of us to access potential short term job opportunities. This will probably take the form of a web based tool that will serve as a "Work Wanted--Workers Needed" type of exchange. More on this later.

We think that this is a good move and one that will add value to each of you, but none of us need extra paper in the mailbox. If you end up finding that this level of communication is too much for you, or you are just not interested, let us know and we will remove your names from the mailing list. If you have any ideas on what you would like to see in the form of communications, or ways in which to communicate

with you, please let us know and we will pass that along to Ralph and Mike.

Medical Update

Many of you have expressed an interest in how Gene Suhr is recovering from his surgery in September. Gene returned home from Good Samaritan Hospital November 21st. Since then, he has been engaged in physical therapy and has grown considerably stronger as time progresses. He is still confined to a wheelchair, but is making progress towards his goal of being able to walk again. Gene has grown proficient in wheelchair maneuvers to the extent that he garnered three speeding tickets at the hospital in January alone. He claims that if they lift his wheelchair license, he'll just have to walk that much sooner. You can e-mail him at Genesuhr@popd.ix.netcom.com

E-Mail Addresses

In one of the past newsletters, you were asked whether you wanted your e-mail address added to the Retirees Roster. Many of you sent us your address, which are included in a separate listing attached. If you would like to add your e-mail address, send it to Ken Stuart at kenstuart@proaxis.com.

Congratulations!!!

Over the past year, the following people have joined the list of Retirees and are now faced with daily decisions; golf, fishing, hiking, reading, shopping, etc.

Dan Chatfield	4/1/00
Bob Crittenden	6/2/00
Mike Dilembo	3/31/00
John Doran	3/31/00
John Filbert	4/14/00
John Graham	4/28/00
Frank Jenes	3/30/00
Jerry Knapp	3/18/00
Steve Lee	3/31/00
Jerry Mencias	10/20/00
Virginia Merryman	6/16/00
Davi Richards	4/29/00
Sally Ruggles	3/17/00
Ross Sproul	3/31/00
Bill Thornton	3/24/00
Chuck Torkko	3/6/00
Gary Triplat	1/1/01
Joyce Ufford	6/2/00

Marian VanBaggen	12/20/00
Ken Wengler	4/11/00

In Memory

Our hearts go out to the families of these people who passed away this past year.

Al Grimm	3/23/99
Bill Gross	3/10/00
Harold Hart	3/7/00
Jean Horton	3/29/00
Dennis Leong	12/2/99
Mrs. Vince Mangan	5/2/00
John Mayo	9/21/00
Mrs. Alan Messman	12/15/00
Robert Rutmeyer	6/12/00



Retirees E-mail Addresses

Vivian Watters
Allen Schwindt
Les Wierson
Ann Shankland
Ken Bielman
Anita Blaylock
Bob Pailthorp
Carolyn and Norm Brazelton
Clinton Smith
Don Wengler
Dale L. King
Dennis Lack
Frances Schy
C. V. Gibbs
George Dotson
Gene Suhr
Hal Mozer
Harry Mejdell
Jack Sivinski
Jim Howland
Joey Benedict
Joe Patten
Jack Smith
John T. Smith
Ken Koppler
Ken Shute
Ken Stuart
Alice and Kenneth Weitershausen
LaMont Matthews
Roy Taylor
Dick Rawlings
Ray Hansen
Dick Nichols
Sandy Leonard
Tom Mlcoch
Tom McClellan
Verna Fowler

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Csmith@azstarnet.com
Ddwengler@aol.com
Diking-70@juno.com
dnlack@c-zone.net
Fschy@proaxis.com
Gcv1@uswest.net
GDotson@CH2M.com
Genesuhr@popd.ix.netcom.com
Halmo@jps.net
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Jsmith4@msn.com
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