

JUNE, 1986

## GRADUATES CONGREGATE TO CELEBRATE 50 YEARS OF FINS, FUR AND FEATHERS

Over 400 alumni and friends gathered at the Benton County Fairgrounds last summer to join in celebration of the 50th Anniversary of the Department. The event took place July 5-7 and included fine food and drink, a dance, an auction, a symposium, awards, games, official reminiscing, alumni slide show, group pictures, planting of a commemorative tree, and boundless opportunities to renew acquaintances. Alumni from as far away as Massachusetts and Alaska bedded down in trailers, campers, tents, or just slept on the ground. The weather was perfect. By the end of the festivities, the prevailing comment was, "This has been such fun, we should repeat it every five years."

The anniversary was over a year in the planning by a committee composed of Carl Bond, Wayne Bowers, Kay Brown, Chris Christianson, Jim Hutchison, Howard Horton, Bill Hosford, Lee Kuhn, Alec Maule, Jim Reeher, Rollie Rousseau, Hank Schneider and Dick Tubb. It seemed everyone wanted to help out, and we found that our alums are a talented bunch. Some highlights of the celebration were:

**The Food.** Chris Christianson and Del Skeesick organized a core of neo-epicureans

who enthusiastically cooked and served barbecued chicken, hamburgers, baked beans, salads, garlic bread and desserts to 400 people. The food was hot, tasty and served on time--what more can you ask? Of course, Wayne Bowers' inexhaustible beer wagon helped wash things down.

**Symposium.** Carl Bond masterminded a symposium on "Past and Future in Fish and Wildlife management" that gave us all cause for professional reflection. Joe Greenley spoke on accomplishments and problems in wildlife management, while Bob Schoning addressed the same subject from a fisheries perspective. Jack Ward Thomas looked at the "Future in Wildlife Science and Management," and Dave Narver gave similar consideration to fisheries. The panel of speakers was well-prepared and their comments were warmly received.

**Fifty Years in Review.** What meeting of our alumni and friends would be complete without hearing Jay Long recount the good old days before the Department turned 30? Jay's stories never change, and his timing hasn't slipped either. We laughed and laughed and wondered whether it was really that funny at the time. Bill Wick talked about the last 20 years--when faculty and student numbers leaped, when the Department was moved into decent quarters,

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## MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN

Fisheries and Wildlife scientists seldom agree completely on any topic. I think we would agree, however, that of all the changes seen during the 50-year history of the Department, the advances in communication and growth of information have been among the most spectacular. Even with our modern capabilities to communicate, the rush of activities seems to keep us from corresponding with old friends and telling them about our activities. This newsletter is our attempt to let you know what is taking place in your Department. Newsletters are always somewhat impersonal. Nevertheless I hope you will take a few moments to read "News and Views" and let us know what you like, what you want to read about, and what you think of our programs in teaching, research and extension.

There are many remarkable projects under way in your Department. Dr. Coblenz and Monica Marquez are studying social interactions and individual roles in a partially protected herd of Roosevelt elk. The Cooperative Fishery Research Unit, directed by Dr. Schreck, is measuring cortisol levels in salmonids and using the figures to gauge stress in smolts as they navigate Columbia River dams. Research on stream biota and stream processes remains important in the Department, led by the Oak Creek Laboratory and the Stream Team. Drs. Warren and Liss are devising a stream classification system, and Drs. Hall and Gregory are determining the importance of invertebrate herbivores in the breakdown of organic compounds in streams. In a promising new venture with the Oregon

Department of Fish and Wildlife, Ellen Pikitch is modeling exploited marine fisheries.

Most of our research is conducted on problems in Oregon but the interests of the faculty and students have extended beyond state borders. Dr. Crawford and his student Kamal Islam have completed a habitat study of the Tragopan in Pakistan, and Dr. deCalesta and his student Schwann Tunhikorn are starting a research project on the nesting habitat of three species of forest birds in Thailand. Aquaculture research by Dr. Lannan ranges around the globe with projects in six countries.

Such research is exciting to us and we will be following its progress in "News and Views." However, our main concern in the Department is for the students, and in this we will remain constant, despite all the other changes, for the next 50 years.

--Dick Tubb

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## 50 YEARS OF FINS, FUR AND FEATHERS

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and when fish and wildlife management came of age. Dick Tubb then spoke of new challenges, diversified curricula, and the onrush of electronics and bioengineering.

**The Auction.** Tom McAllister did a masterful job auctioning off items donated by about 30 of our alums. Some of the "biggies" were John McKean's 12-gauge pump, a four-volume set of Jordan and Evermann donated by Othello Wallis, a framed collector's fish print from Tom McAllister, two Dakin double barrel 10-gauge shotguns donated by the Department, a wood carving from Chuck Seldon, and a whole trunk-load of items from Dale Litzenberger. Everything went by silent or oral auction. The end result was about \$2,500 added to the R. E. Dimick Scholarship Fund. And it was great fun. Incidentally, Bill Wick got carried away and bought more duck decoys than he needs. Any buyers?

**Awards.** Dick Tubb, on behalf of the Department, took great pride in presenting Certificates of Appreciation to the following organizations and individuals "In Recognition of Outstanding Contributions to Students and Staff of the Department of Fisheries and Wildlife":

Multnomah Anglers and Hunters Club  
Western Rod and Reel Club  
Order of the Antelope  
Oregon Bass and Panfish Club  
Wildlife Management Institute  
Carl E. Bond  
Lenora J. Bond

Wilbur P. Breese  
Peter Doudoroff  
Marjorie A. Jackson  
Hugo M. Krueger  
Lee W. Kuhn  
Andrew S. Landforce  
Jay B. Long  
Robert W. Schoning  
Thomas G. Scott

**The Others.** The younger set was still dancing at 1 a.m. when the Sawtooth Mountain Boys put their guitars down. George Chadwick donated a metasequoia tree which was planted near Nash Hall to commemorate the 50-year celebration. Lee and Bob Kuhn assembled alums into year-class groups and took their pictures and subsequently mailed prints where requested. Dick Tubb and his staff hosted everyone to a Department open house to view facilities. Dave deCalesta, Carl Schreck, Wayne Bowers and Bob Schoning organized games for kids and adults, with prizes for everyone. Dave Buchanan and Howard Horton threw a wine-and-cheese-tasting party, while Marcy Liljeberg arranged for a huge anniversary cake. Kay Brown developed a country store complete with commemorative caps, cups, medallion key chains (still available at \$4 each), balloons, and lots of goodies to eat and drink. Bill Hosford and Jim Hutchison presented alumni slides that had us all remembering when we were thinner and had more hair and fewer wrinkles.

All who completed the 50th Anniversary were awarded a diploma that recognized its recipient as having withstood three days of intensive nostalgia. It was truly a wonderful celebration.

--Howard Horton

## WILDLIFERS HIGH ON HART MOUNTAIN

April 22, 1986:

"We were on Hart Mountain before sunrise, trying to be at the right place at the right time to film one of the 40 or so pregnant ewes as she lambed. They lamb along a rock face overlooking Warner Valley.

"We found one on a ledge 65 feet below us, totally inaccessible. She was moving back and forth, looking very uncomfortable, vulva dilating--I mean birth was *imminent*. To film her we had to strap a tripod camera over the cliff, and my assistant held onto my belt as I leaned out.

"About then the wind went from dead calm to 40 miles per hour. Clouds formed around us, swooping in from all directions. In five minutes the ewe was no longer visible. Then it began hailing, but the hail came from *below*.

"We were wondering whether to wait out the storm when lightning hit the mountainside behind us. Without a word we packed our equipment and began the two-mile hike off the north face. We couldn't see in places because of the freezing rain, and we had to feel our way. It was snowing when we reached the road," said Jim Larison, Communications Director for OSU's Sea Grant College and also on the faculty of the Fisheries and Wildlife Department.

Larison is shooting a film about the Hart Mountain National Antelope Refuge. The impetus for the film came from Department members Dick Tubb and Bill Wick, who turned to Jim because of his credentials--he

and his wife, Elaine, have made one film for NOVA and are finishing their fourth National Geographic Education Film.

Tubb and Wick were especially interested in the Order of the Antelope as an element in Hart Mountain's wildlife story (see the following article by Bill). The range of the film has since broadened to take in management practices on the refuge, where wildlife and cattle coexist about as amicably as anywhere in Oregon. It also peers into the lives of prominent residents--antelope, bighorn sheep, sage grouse, mule deer, coyotes--and discloses a rich community of plants and animals in a land commonly misperceived as barren.

Filming has been financed by a \$32,000 contribution from the Order of the Antelope, with the OSU Sea Grant College, the Jackman Foundation, and the Fisheries and Wildlife Department providing backup services and additional funds. How it will be marketed remains undetermined but Larison anticipates a national audience. The response to the film, by Dick Tubb's reckoning, will create support for more Department projects on the antelope refuge and in the sagebrush empire of Eastern Oregon.

The film will be scripted by Joe Cone, also of Sea Grant and a past collaborator with the Larisons. Joe plans to draw on the expertise of those Fisheries and Wildlife Department faculty who have directed graduate student projects on Hart Mountain or have known its spell themselves.

Two students of Bruce Coblenz have worked on the refuge. Christine Kornett ('78) spent two field seasons pinning down what habitats were being used by an expanding

population of bighorns. Doug Cottam ('85) did a follow-up study, after sheep numbers levelled off, and found that two of the original lambing areas had stagnated while a third was growing rapidly. Their research has laid the foundation for an epical undertaking of the population dynamics of reintroduced bighorns.

Jim Good ('77), a grad student of John Crawford and before that of Paul Vohs, was assistant manager at the refuge until taking a leave of absence to earn his M.S. researching the summer diet and distribution of Hart Mountain pronghorns. He found them relying increasingly on the succulents of playas as vegetation dried on the uplands. Good also

observed that cattle and pronghorns co-occupied the playas, whereas wild horses chased the antelope away; but for some reason those observations never appeared in his thesis.

Last summer, Rebecca Goggans ('85) visited the refuge in search of flammulated owls. Working under the supervision of Chuck Meslow, Goggans had just completed a pioneering study of Oregon's rarest owls at the Starkey Experimental Forest west of La Grande. She wanted to verify whether they were also breeding among ponderosa pines at the Blue Sky Hotel (see Bill Wick's article for a description of this famous Hart Mountain

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(Photo by Jeff Anderson, OSU Sea Grant)  
**Jim Larison takes a long look at bighorn sheep.**

## AN EARLY CHAMPION OF HART MOUNTAIN: THE ORDER OF THE ANTELOPE

The Blue Sky Hotel rambles over the 6,500-foot level on Hart Mountain and may be the largest of its kind in the world. Located amidst a "lost" grove of ponderosa pines, it has an advertised capacity of more than four million rooms, all with outside exposure and running water, plus some of the largest mosquitoes in the universe and live all-night music from owls and coyotes. But it's not easy to get to. Even in 1986, with Lake County's back roads the envy of their kind, tires can be broken and springs bent. Whether the unwary start from Plush or Frenchglen, they may wish they had come a better way--except there isn't any.

But consider the year 1932, that bellwether year when one of the more improbable conservation groups in all history was formed, a group destined to become instigator and godfather for the Hart Mountain National Antelope Refuge. Now, 54 years and more than 15,000 initiates later, the Order of the Antelope remains dedicated to its original goal of wildlife conservation and continues to plan for the future.

Let's go back to review how this peculiarly Oregonian effort came about.

The Paiute Indians were at home in the Warner Valley/Hart Mountain area when the first explorers and trappers arrived. Peter Skene Ogden passed through Warner Valley in 1827. John C. Fremont and Kit Carson visited in 1843 en route to Pyramid Lake, Nev. Lieutenant (Brevet Captain) Warner was killed by hostile Indians on a trip from Hart Mountain to Fort Bidwell, Calif., around 1855. Hallie Huntington, in her excellent

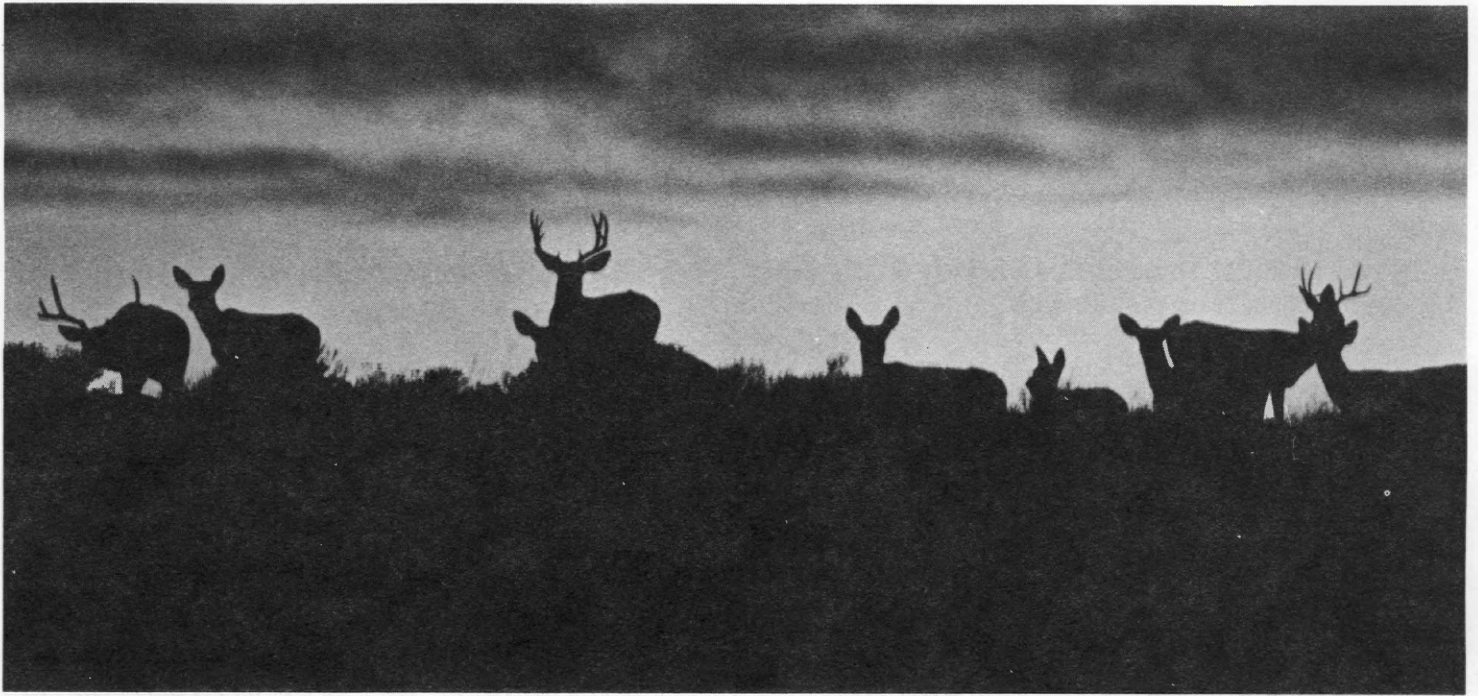
booklet "History of the Order of the Antelope" (1969), recounts in detail the history of the area.

Wildlifers were on the scene early too. Capt. Charles Bendire, assigned from 1875-77 to Fort Warner among ponderosas of the Blue Sky Hotel, was the first resident birdwatcher in Eastern Oregon. He compiled long lists of sightings, studied avian habits and habitats, and placed many specimens in the U.S. National Museum in Washington, D.C.

Bendire was the precursor of a host of early naturalists drawn to Warner Valley and Hart Mountain. And who could blame them? For lovers of wildlife ranging from antelope to ground squirrels, hummingbirds to geese, sagebrush to sand lilies, and spadefoot toads to rattlesnakes, this land was a veritable smorgasbord. The names have a familiar ring: Vernon Bailey, Henry Henshaw, Alex Walker, Herman Bohlman, William Finley, C.Hart Merriam, E. A. Preble, Cleveland Allen, Olaus Murie, Luther Goldman, Stanley Jewett, Ira Gabrielson and many more.

The latter two hold a special place in Order of the Antelope history. They began regular visits to The Mountain about 1914. Let Forrest Cooper's words describe what ensued:

"By 1932 they (Jewett and Gabrielson) had slept in about every sheep and cow camp in this part of the state...They were well and favorably known. They were trusted. Messrs. Gabrielson and Jewett came forward with the suggestion that the county (Lake) support the creation of the (antelope)



(Photo by Jeff Anderson, OSU Sea Grant.)  
**Hart Mountain deer elevate one's spirit as the evening sun goes down.**

refuge...Now, they painted a picture of a beautiful mountain that was not even to be found on our official state highway map and which but a few citizens of the county had ever visited.

"They talked about the five life zones, from the Sonoran to the Hudsonian. They told about six kinds of rabbits, the 150 different kinds of birds, the acres of wild pansies and other wildflowers and, of course, the deer and antelope. They knew as much as anyone else about the establishment of Fort Warner atop The Mountain as the present site of the 'Blue Sky Hotel.'

"We, of Oregon, were persuaded to visit The Mountain in June, 1932. We found that everything they said was true."

To digress, the summer of 1931 had been extremely dry in the Oregon desert. The herds of antelope and other game were at low numbers except for high on The

Mountain. It is reported that local boys were hired to patrol the few remaining waterholes and keep antelope, deer and other wildlife away to save water for cattle. This did not sit well with the townspeople of Lakeview--and it helped spur formation of the Order of the Antelope as an official function of the Lake County Chamber of Commerce.

And it came to pass on a warm June day in 1932 that a few dozen men made a homage to Hart Mountain. Among them was Marshall Dana, editor of the Oregon Journal and chairman of the state game commission. Another of the trekkers, Ned Harlan, proposed formalization of the Order and was named Grand Herd Sire, while Dana was selected as charter Chief Whitetail. Gabrielson and Jewett urged the group to publicize the area, help construct a good road, and invite citizens of the West to come, visit and enjoy. Forrest Cooper, also among the

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## OUTSIDERS REVIEW DEPARTMENT

O wad some Pow'r the giftie gie us  
To see ourselves as others see us!  
It would frae monie a blunder free us  
An' foolish notion.

--Robert Burns, "To a Louse, on Seeing One  
on a Lady's Bonnet at Church"

An external review of the Department was conducted in March, 1986. The review team included scientists representing OSU, four other universities, the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, and a member of our Department advisory council. Their mission was to assess Department performance from many standpoints, respond to several specific queries, and recommend improvements in direction or emphasis for teaching, research, extension and administration. It was the first external review since 1979.

The team noted several strengths in the Department. These included:

- A wide variety of expertise in research and teaching;
- Many interdepartmental and college ties in cooperative research;
- Outstanding research facilities, quality faculty and support staff;
- Great success in obtaining research funding;
- Recent beneficial changes in the undergraduate instructional program.

Weaknesses, too, were observed. The team cited:

- Poor communication within the Department;
- Shortage of funding for specific needs;
- A lack of cohesiveness in some operations;
- An expanding international emphasis that could harm in-state programs;

--Inadequate wildlife and inland fisheries extension programs;

--Disproportionate emphasis on graduate research compared with undergraduate education.

The review team emphasized the need for a flexible, comprehensive, long-range plan with defined objectives. Among its other suggestions, the team recommended that current program initiatives be solidified and options identified to help establish Department priorities. Greater multidisciplinary cooperation and research with other natural resource-oriented departments were deemed essential. Strengthening of the undergraduate curriculum, with an emphasis on wholistic approaches that stress application of ecological and social sciences, was advised, along with greater recognition of quality instruction. More input from graduates and potential employers of Department students, especially in regard to curriculum, was encouraged.

A self-evaluation questionnaire and a report on its responses were developed by the Department prior to the outside review. It helped to crystalize our thinking and resulted in several operational changes. No matter how well any entity is performing, there is always an opportunity for improvement and the Department is no exception.

Coordinated efforts are under way in response to recommendations in both the external and internal reports. Participation and involvement by faculty and staff are more widespread and enthusiastic than in the past--very encouraging signs. Committees are being evaluated and restructured as



necessary to insure broader involvement in decision making. The new curriculum package blends biological principles and conservation with increasing concerns of the social, economic and political aspects of resource management.

The review process has pointed out strengths, weaknesses and ways to improve. In so doing it has demonstrated a willingness to pay the price of pursuing excellence. Your support, advice and counsel are needed as the Department enters its second half-century of service.

--Robert Schoning, Professor Emeritus

## **BEAVERS FIND LODGING AT SEA AS FOREIGN FISHERY OBSERVERS**

Since 1977, the Department of Fisheries and Wildlife has been awarded annual contracts to provide Foreign Fishery Observers for the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS). These contracts are awarded on the basis of competitive bids. The qualifications of universities and consulting firms as expressed in their bids are evaluated for technical competence, administrative staffing and cost factors. The first contract to OSU was for 50 observers at an award value of \$272,689. The size of the contracts grew, reaching a peak in 1983 of 365 observers and \$3,276,910. This year, the department expects to provide about 200 observers for high seas work.

Our Foreign Fishery Observer Program has been administered from the outset by Dr. Howard Horton, aided by our office staff. Ms. Virginia Veach, Administrative Assistant, oversees daily operations of the program and attends to the myriad details. Dr. Richard Tubb and Susan Ellinwood are backup personnel. Horton and Tubb, to augment their qualifications for administering the program, have served as observers on Japanese trawlers in the Bering Sea.

What do foreign fishery observers do, and why is the department involved in such a program? First of all, they are representatives of the U.S. government on foreign fishing vessels operating by permit in our Fishery Conservation Zone between three and 200 miles offshore. Most observers have a B.S. degree in Fishery Science or a closely related field of natural resource management, although a few are qualified students with senior standing. Department personnel recruit and employ the observers, who are then sent to a NMFS lab in Seattle for three weeks of intensive training on fisheries regulations, sampling and reporting procedures, and identification of fish and crabs. They also receive counsel on working conditions aboard a foreign vessel. After training, the department flies observers to ports of embarkation for their assigned foreign fishing vessel.

On board the vessels, observers are expected to sample at least half of the daily catch. They determine species composition and volume; incidence and disposition of forbidden species (salmon, halibut, crabs, creatures of the sea bed, and marine

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## BEAVERS FIND LODGING AT SEA

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mammals); fishing locations, gear, depths, frequency and duration; processing procedures and volume of product; and daily observations of living marine mammals. Each week they radio information on the composition and quantity of the catch to NMFS. They also record evidence of improper reporting of data by the ship's personnel, which is provided to NMFS upon return to Seattle and may result in sanctions against a vessel's crew and owners.

The day-to-day life at sea offers variety and privileges. Observers are treated as officers, have private quarters, are free to roam about the ship (within standards of safety), and they mess with the officers. Table fare differs from nation to nation and ship to ship. The main fishing countries are Japan, Russia, Poland and South Korea. Japanese food features rice, steamed vegetable, and frequent but diverse fish. The Russian crew commonly eats borsch, cooked cabbage and potatoes. Korean food resembles that of the Japanese but is spicier, while Polish food is more typical of western dishes with liberal use of sausage and seasonings.

Homesickness can be a distraction. An observer spends two solid months at sea, apart from friends and family, and separated from shipmates by a language barrier. A female observer may be the only woman among 30 to 100 crewmen. Generally, though, several crewmen will know English, and friendships often develop. The exchange of gifts between observers and selected crewmen is a common practice. Audio tapes,

baseball caps, tee-shirts, illustrated books, myrtlewood carvings, and items reflecting one's university, state or talents are favorites.

Observers are paid \$1,578 per month initially, \$1,736 per month for second and third tours, and \$1,815 monthly thereafter. All food, housing, and transportation are provided once the observer departs Seattle at the completion of training. About 40 percent of the observers request a second cruise, and some are veterans of 10 to 12 assignments.

The department will continue to seek contracts to provide Foreign Fishery Observers. We believe these positions offer excellent opportunities for our graduates, and those of other universities, to gain firsthand experience in the procedures and politics of international fisheries. For many, it is a unique opportunity to test their sea legs, their independence, their ability to be decisive, and their self-image.

Our department profits by the association with NMFS and with the students we employ. Well-qualified students often apply for admission to our graduate program as a result of their association with our observer program. On occasion observers have collected specimens and pictures for use in our instructional programs. The university and our department share in the overhead funds that are provided in the contractual agreements. And finally, a sense is developed among our faculty of being current and involved in this arena of our nation's most abundant fishery resources.

--Howard Horton

## FROM THE MAILBAG

*Dear Lee.....*

One of the fun parts of any class reunion is sitting on the sidelines watching and listening. Old grads with name tags prominently displayed (names all printed in larger than normal letters) strolling around and greeting friends and former classmates. So it was last July at our 50th reunion party when I was able to play "mouse in the corner" at one such meeting. The puzzled look on the face of our very first grad, Frank Groves ('36), was understandable when that nice lady from Philomath said to him, "Why, yes, I remember you--you were my instructor in a wildlife course." A quick glance at the name tag confirmed the fact that Mrs. D. M. Hadjimarkos (Clara Budlong, '39) had indeed been a student when Frank taught game birds, big game management and other courses during the five terms he served as instructor prior to leaving to manage the largest wildlife refuge in the U.S. Frank managed the Desert Game Range in Nevada for several years, then later became Director of the Nevada Fish & Game Department where he stayed to retirement. Now back in Oregon, Frank and Mrs. Groves live near The Dalles.

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Another plus to having 50 class reunions all at one time was adding some names to blank spaces in the "old timer" photos we put on display. Even Prof. Dimick had not been able to fill in all the blanks on that photo of the "1939 Fisheries Class on the Alsea River" or the "1946 Outing at the Old Yaquina Lab." But then, how many of you (over age 30, of course) have a box or album full of old photos with no names or dates? That's why we dashed around and got I.D.'s for all the people in the group photos we took. Incidentally, we still have the negatives and can supply prints at cost to any alum who might want to see what former classmates now look like. Class groupings were '35-44, '45-54, '55-64, '65-74, and '75-85. Extras were taken of Chris Christianson ('61) and his crew of cooks, who did a super job providing barbecued hamburgers and chicken for the two evening meals.

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One such order has already been filled as Dan Hitchcock ('60), who served as one of the cooks, visited Hawaii in April and took along copies of the '55-64 class photo for old buddies Clyde Morita ('61), Ron Backman ('60) and Gerry Swedberg ('61).

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On a recent visit to the Oregon coast, following the usual lunch at Mo's in Florence, I strolled down Bay Street along the old waterfront, looking for old book shops. The Book & Gift Gallery caught my eye and after entering so did the proprietor, for it was none other than Chuck Selden ('34). Chuck, his wife and daughter now own the shop, having moved back to Oregon from Eureka, Calif., in December.

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A postcard arrived recently from that traveling man Jim Blaisdell ('48). In April, Jim and wife were just returning to their Friday Harbor home after a five-week tour of the Southwest and a Desert Bighorn meeting. Jim reported having lunch with the Spencer Smiths ('48) in Albuquerque. Guess Spencer got tired of shoveling all that snow at their former home in Golden, Colo.

Jim also reported that Ernie Hodson ('50) had a triple bypass operation in March. Ernie suffered a serious heart attack on July 5 while attending the 50th reunion. Fortunately, old friend Blaisdell was handy and called an ambulance to the Benton County Fairgrounds at 2 a.m., and Ernie spent the next week in the Good Samaritan Hospital. From there he was transferred to the Sacred Heart Hospital in Eugene, and eventually back to his home in Paradise, Calif., where he's now doing well. I'm sure if we announced another reunion for next July, Ernie would be there.

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My thanks to Ernie and also to Dick Pedersen ('61) for their generous donation of several boxes of books, journals and other publications. Some of these have filled gaps in our Department and Marine Science Center libraries. Others were sold and the money placed in the R. E. Dimick Memorial Scholarship Fund. If you too would like to clean out that closet or garage shelf and get rid of those dusty copies of Stoddard's Bobwhite or Bump's Ruffed

Grouse (or Leopold, Seton, Hochbaum, Darling, etc.), please think of us.

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A post card from my old friend Don Dickey ('42) arrived from Knoxville, Tenn. Don reported seeing some "strange" wildlife including "a woodchuck sitting by the road counting cars and another that got too close to the cars it was counting." How wife Maxine ever got Don to drive 5,000 miles away from their home and 10-acre ranch outside Eugene is the real mystery of the month.

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While enjoying one of those barbecued hamburgers at the 50th reunion, I overheard one old grad ask another, "Where in h..l is this Lake Harney I hear about?" Some of you who traveled with me on those now famous "big game field trips" of the 1948-68 era will recall the long, dry, dusty, graveled road from Burns south to the Malheur refuge. On some years we hunted arrowheads almost to the center of the nearly dry Harney Lake bed, and we had to climb the 50-foot observation tower at refuge headquarters to see water in Malheur Lake. No more! In recent years heavy snow packs on Steens Mountain and a high runoff from the Silvies River, coupled with low evaporation in the basin, have created Oregon's largest body of water by joining Harney, Malheur, and Mud lakes. Never since the arrival of non-Indians has the water level there been so high.

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Now if we could only send Mo LeFever ('66) some of that excess water. Mo is the manager of the Stillwater National Wildlife Refuge 75 miles east of Reno. Although it's a very important area for waterfowl of the Pacific Flyway, the refuge has no water rights. In wet years it must absorb all the region's excess runoff, but during dry years much of the water is used up before reaching the refuge. As Mo says, "It's all or nothing around here."

--Lee Kuhn, Professor Emeritus

(Lee appreciates hearing from Department grads and will do his best to expose your activities in this Fish & Game version of Dear Abby.)

## FISHERIES AND WILDLIFE SOCIETY ACTIVE ON CAMPUS, IN FIELD

The OSU Fisheries and Wildlife Society is dedicated to promoting sound stewardship of fisheries and wildlife resources and of the environment upon which fish, wildlife and humans depend. The society acts to prevent human-induced environmental degradation; increase awareness, understanding and appreciation of fisheries and wildlife values; and uphold the highest standards in all activities of the fisheries and wildlife profession.

**Annual Activities.** In addition to our bimonthly meetings, society members were able to spend some time together outdoors. We enjoyed a fall crabbing trip to Newport on Yaquina Bay. Just recently, five society members conducted an educational tour at Finley National Wildlife Refuge for a group of 45 third-graders from Mountain View Elementary. And our annual spring barbeque proved to be a great success this year, bringing faculty members and students together for some fun in the sun. Participation was excellent and the menu kept people coming back for more. This year we enjoyed donated game that included elk, deer, goose, tuna, amberjack and skipjack. We hope to see some new faces at next year's barbeque.

**Special Events.** In honor of the Department of Fisheries and Wildlife's 50th anniversary, the society staged a launch of several hundred balloons at the homecoming football game last fall. What a sight! This year was also special in that five society members were able to attend the North American Wildlife and Natural Resources Conference in Reno, Nev., over spring vacation. The conference provided a chance to meet professionals and students from all over the nation. It also offered a wide variety of presentations.

**Speakers.** The society succeeded in recruiting several outstanding speakers from the local area to address our gatherings. They were: Charley Bruce, Bruce Coblenz, Kevin Cooper, John Cornely, Robert Lackey, Nancy MacHugh, Bruce Mate, Bill McNeil and Greg Schroer. We extend a hearty thanks to these speakers for their time and effort.

--Daniel Shively

## WILDLIFERS HIGH ON HART MOUNTAIN

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hostelry). She found no breeders, only migrants, but Becky is returning this summer to look again.

As for Jim Larison and his stymied attempt to film a bighorn giving birth, he wasn't finished trying:

"We snuck back the next morning before dawn. We found two ewes in the same area, but neither was the one I'd tried to film--their markings were different. Each had a single lamb maybe a day old. The lambs were very wobbly. They would nurse 20 seconds, then collapse.

"I had to be more careful around those ewes than any other animal I've filmed.

They heard the slightest noise. The noise itself didn't startle them, but when we peeked over the rocks, they would stand up and look. So I was on my knees for three hours without moving my fingers. But I did get nice stuff of the lambs rubbing against the backs of their mothers and sort of frolicking," said Larison.

Jim began to film in the fall of 1985. He intends to finish next spring, when he will have passed 160 days in the field. By then, since each day requires a climb of about 2,000 feet, he'll have logged 320,000 vertical feet on Hart Mountain and should be nearing its summit.

--Dan Guthrie

## THE ORDER OF THE ANTELOPE

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originals. subsequently reported that, "Harry Utley caught a string of nine trout out of Rock Creek--in the middle of the worst drought in 50 years."

Formation of the Order of the Antelope led directly to establishment of the refuge. As former U.S. Representative Al Ullman stated:

"And it was because of the persistent efforts of this small group of conservationists that President Franklin Roosevelt formally established the Hart Mountain Antelope Refuge on December 21, 1936...There is...and always has been...a special relationship between the Order of the Antelope and the Hart Mountain National Antelope Refuge.

Simply put, one would not exist without the other."

It became apparent early that conservation of more than wildlife was occurring on The Mountain. People from all walks of life were invited, among them the commoner, the stalwart and the famous. Most of Oregon's governors have made the trek, as have U.S. senators and congressmen, state and local officials, and Justice William O. Douglas of the U.S. Supreme Court.

The Mountain experience has proved an equalizer and a soothing respite, with conservation of the human spirit an unexpected dividend.

--Bill Wick

## WHAT'S HAPPENING?

The Department enjoys hearing from its graduates. Send word of the milestones or noteworthy events in your life and we'll share it via "News & Views" with fellow alums. Please make any necessary address corrections. You might also kick in a buck or so to help cover costs of your newsletter, which will appear twice yearly.

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Class year ' \_\_\_\_\_ ' \_\_\_\_\_ Degree \_\_\_\_\_

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