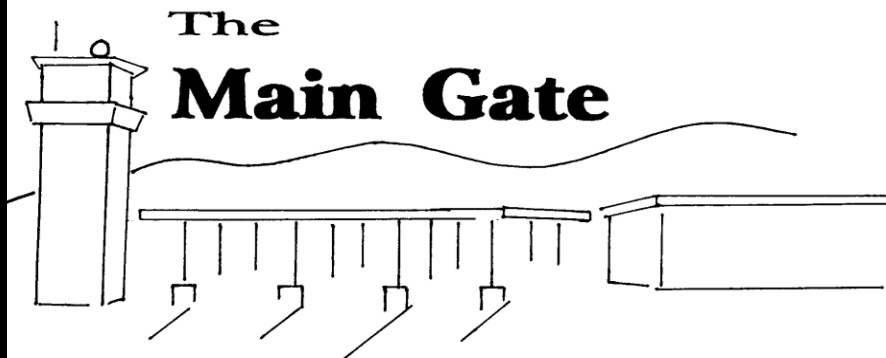


Laboratory  
Retiree  
Group  
Newsletter  
(LRG)

Vol. 23, No. 3  
Fall 2018



Reaching Out From a  
Common Experience

***"Reaching Out From a Common Experience"***

Greetings from a unique group of people - the retirees of the Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL). The Laboratory Retiree Group (LRG) is a non-profit corporation which seeks to maintain communications with and to serve the needs and interests of retirees from LANL. If you wish to join our organization, an application is available in this newsletter. For more information, please contact our President Dale Thompson at [dalethompson@losalamos.com](mailto:dalethompson@losalamos.com) or by mail at P. O. Box 546, Los Alamos, NM 87544.

**LRG Officers and Board Members**

President: Dale Thompson [dalethompson@losalamos.com](mailto:dalethompson@losalamos.com)

Vice President: Leigh House [hagar@newmexico.com](mailto:hagar@newmexico.com)

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Board Member: Norman Delamater [ynormdel@earthlink.net](mailto:ynormdel@earthlink.net)

Board Member: Paul Lewis [plewis0@comcast.net](mailto:plewis0@comcast.net)

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Board Member: David Schiferl [dsconsult@centurylink.net](mailto:dsconsult@centurylink.net)

Board Member: Erika Spallitta [Erika.joseph@hotmail.com](mailto:Erika.joseph@hotmail.com)

Board Member: Cecil Stark [cecilstark@gmail.com](mailto:cecilstark@gmail.com)

Board Member: Alan Wadlinger [awadlinger@vla.com](mailto:awadlinger@vla.com)

Board Member: Patricia Wing [hwybks455@yahoo.com](mailto:hwybks455@yahoo.com)

Board Member: Joyce Wolff [jwolff@lomalobo.com](mailto:jwolff@lomalobo.com)

**Committee Chairs**

Membership: Sheila Girard (505) 672-3497

Main Gate: John Stewart (505) 662-7158

Medical Affairs: Being formed

**Web Master:** Paul Lewis [plewis0@comcast.net](mailto:plewis0@comcast.net)

The Laboratory Retiree Group web site is [www.lalrg.org](http://www.lalrg.org).

**LRG is looking for a person or persons to keep track of medical insurance affairs. Also another board member. Contact any of the people above if you are interested.**

# **TRIAD National Security**

TRIAD National Security will soon run LANL.

Who is TRIAD? TRIAD National Security is the company that will manage and operate Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL) after November 1, 2018. In June 2018, the National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA) chose TRIAD to run LANL after about a year-long competitive bid process. NNSA's contract with TRIAD is for an initial five years, and could last for a total of ten years if NNSA exercises all possible extensions. TRIAD is a non-profit organization composed of Battelle Memorial Institute, Texas A&M University, and the University of California. In July 2018, TRIAD began a four-month-long transition to taking over operation of LANL.

Although the change of contract for running LANL mostly affects current employees, after November 1, pensions for LANL employees who retired under the TCP-1 retirement plan and health benefits for all LANL retirees will be managed through the new TRIAD contract. Because of this importance to LANL retirees, Laboratory Retiree Group (LRG) got involved in the bid process, and sent a series of questions and concerns about retiree benefits to NNSA in response to their Draft Request for Proposals (RFP). LRG also engaged New Mexico's Congressional Delegation to draw attention to LANL retiree issues.

The information LRG has gotten so far from TRIAD is that they plan to make no changes to the current retiree pension plans or benefits. Although many details have yet to be announced, TRIAD's stated goals are to continue all of the existing LANS contracts with pension and retiree benefits providers (i.e. Aon/Hewitt for TCP-1 pensions, Emyrean to coordinate benefits, NM Blue Cross-Blue Shield for health plans, Delta Dental for dental care, etc). Retiree pensions that are paid by the University of California or CalPERS will not be affected by the new TRIAD contract.

LRG has learned that Open Enrollment for retirees will start November 5 and end November 19 at 11:00 PM Mountain Time. Open Enrollment materials are to be available from the website [www.LANLBenefits.com](http://www.LANLBenefits.com) by November 5. The medical premiums will increase on average 5.5%.

You can find more information about TRIAD National Security from its web site at [www.triadns.org/](http://www.triadns.org/)

## **Health Issues Working Group**

LRG is looking for volunteers to join an LRG working group to help answer the questions and concerns of Laboratory retirees about health and benefits issues. Familiarity with the retiree health and benefits plans would be helpful. Glenn Lockhart and Ken Wilson served admirably in this role for many years until they passed away recently. LRG would like to continue providing help and guidance to all Laboratory retirees, since health and benefits issues can be complicated and confusing.

To find out more, or to offer to help, please contact LRG by email: [president@lalrg.org](mailto:president@lalrg.org), phone: 505-661-0470 (Lee), or regular mail: LRG, P.O. Box 546, Los Alamos, NM 87544.

Now (as of January 1, 2018), dues are \$20.
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## **Paul and Sue Elkins 1992 Trip to Alaska (3 of 3)**

By Sue and Paul Elkins, February 2018

(Photos are on page 4)

We spent a few days exploring and came back to Denali National Park. We got bus tickets for the next day at 12:40. All campgrounds were full so we went back to a gravel pit I remembered. Spent another night in the rain and cooked dinner—the first that wasn't salmon, a welcome change. Broke camp in the rain and drove back to Denali. Found a good parking spot for Jed to wait for us while we were on the eight-hour bus ride. He made it OK. We saw lots of animals, including 10 to 13 bears, and got a few photos. (See photo 14A)

Went to the Kenai Peninsula to try our luck at salmon fishing for Sock Eye (Reds) and Coho (Silvers). Fishing is hard work but someone has to do it. We fished on the Kenai and Kasilof rivers all hours of the day and in the rain most days. We finally got reasonably proficient at it, but not experts. First the Reds in July and the Silvers in August. Sue learned how to can fish with our little four-pint canner. It boiled down to fishing a day and canning a day. While fishing in this area one day, the rain stopped and we got a photo (See photo 14—Mount Redoubt and fireweed). This mountain is an active volcano, we would learn later.

We packed up and left the Kenai on 8/13/92 on our long road home. On the way out we saw Dall sheep (See photo 14B) on Turnagain Arm. While fishing on the Kenai I talked to someone who told me about an interesting sight to see on the way back; first we took a short trip to the Yukon River town of Eagle (see photo 14C). Then back to the TOW highway. After a short distance we took a side road north to the mouth of the Forty Mile River where it flows into the Yukon; and spent the night (See photo 15). Returning the next morning to the TOW highway we continued on to Ross River, where we would turn north toward the NWT border on the CANOL Road North. You have to gas up at Ross River because there are no stations on the CANOL Road North. Figured we could safely go 300 miles on a tank of gas. We headed north, arriving at the NWT border, and we still had a few miles to go. The first bridge across the border was out and since I didn't want to risk getting stuck we opted not to chance going around the bridge. We camped on the south side of this creek (See photo 16). The weather was getting cold. We took a walk with our trusty shotgun. We soon encountered three young bull caribou that were in rut. With no cows around they just followed us back to camp. The next day we headed back south stopping to fish some creeks. We caught several Grayling and since it was cold we kept 6 or so in a bucket. Getting back to Ross River we gassed up and headed toward Watson Lake, some 230 miles away. We remembered a good camping spot at Mink Creek. Pulling in there we set up camp for the night and I set out fishing. I soon caught a nice-sized Grayling (16") and released it; while Sue was cooking the ones we had in the bucket. It turns out that Grayling need to be cooked while fresh, a lesson learned. We ate them but they didn't taste good.

On the way to Watson Lake we saw some Stone Sheep in Stone MTN Park, BC. (See photo 17) At Watson Lake we took the Alaska Highway to Fort St. John and from there we headed south toward south central BC. We fished a little on the way and arrived at the border north of Spokane, Washington, where we picked up I-90 and drove on to Missoula, MT. We got a motel for the first time since July 16. It sure felt good. We made it home August 29, unpacked, and took a well-deserved rest. (See photo 18)



**Pictures for the “Paul and Sue Elkins 1992 Trip to Alaska (3 of 3)” Article  
(on page 3)**



14. MT Redoubt and Fireweed



14A. Grizzlies at Denali National Park



14B. Dall Sheep at Turnagain Arm



14C. Eagle Landing Co at Eagle, Alaska



15. Paul Eating Breakfast at Forty Mile River in YT



16. Sue at NWT Camp



17. Stone Sheep at Stone MTN Prov. Park BC



18. The End



## Snow in Los Alamos, October 15, and Fall Colors

Photos from the Los Alamos Daily Post



## Scarecrows on Central Avenue - Happy Halloween

Photos from the Los Alamos Daily Post

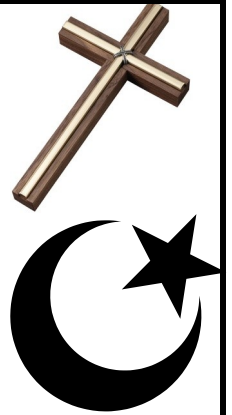




# LANL In Memoriam

06-22-2018—10-24-2018

By Jack Clifford



Robert Villarreal  
Frank D. Wells  
Joseph L. Vigil  
Tammy M. Thorn\*  
Robert C. Crook  
Michael D. McKay  
Charles L. Mader  
Robert Rael  
John L. Richter  
Jerry D. Williams, M.D.  
Mary Ann R. Kosty  
Larry D. Clark  
Edgar B. Stein  
Brenda E. Dickey  
Robert L. Fuechsel  
Roy N. Hopwood\*  
James Coulter  
Paul E. Harper  
Sharon M. (Sibbitt) Kettwich  
Louise M. Criss  
Gaye Garringer Schofield

Patrick Herrera  
Hywel White  
Frances Marie Kasik  
Kathleen M. Padgett  
George R. Ortiz  
David H. White  
Virginia Caizza  
Maxine B. Rupert  
Rebecca S. Easley  
Rose M. Schoolcraft  
William L. Holloran  
Robert Hendron  
Terry D. Langham  
Marie T. Lyon  
Gaston Neil Lowry  
Barbara A. Buchen\*  
William H. Chambers  
Larry Hatler  
Patricia Metropolis  
Robert D. Cowan  
Gregory S. Fenner

Peter D. Shalek  
Marvin M. Hoffman  
Donna M. Hill  
Marvin Moss  
George A. Baker  
Julia A. Gauthier  
Thomas H. Harlow  
Creed Caldwell  
James C. Maxwell  
Walter R. David  
Pilar Aguilar  
Amarjit K. Sahota  
James D. King  
Charles W. Mikkelsen  
Martin M. VanDyke  
Kate L. White  
Richard G. Gido  
Bobby R. Rector  
Thelma D. Segura  
Arnold J. Sierk

\*Not a LANL employee but well known in area

After many years as Editor of the *Main Gate*, John Stewart is handing the task over to Joyce Wolff. This is his last issue. Joyce worked with John at LANL for more than 12 years – he as Geophysics Group programmer and she as a data analyst for him. John has given selflessly to this project. We owe him a huge debt of gratitude. He truly is a Living Treasure. (By Joyce Wolff)

## Coffee and Conversation (and Breakfast)

1st Tuesday of the month, 8:30-10:30 a.m.

**Morning Glory Baking Co.**

(Across from the High School)

Coffee or tea is paid by LRG.

## Please, need articles for the *Main Gate*.

Experiences, humor, travels, work.

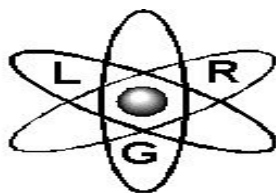
With or without pictures.

From a paragraph to a page and a half.

**E-mail them to [jwolff@lomalobo.com](mailto:jwolff@lomalobo.com)**

Donations to the LRG Legal Fund will be accepted at P.O. Box 546, Los Alamos, NM 87544.





Reaching Out From a  
Common Experience

## LABORATORY RETIREE GROUP (LRG)

### MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

#### LRG works to protect retiree benefits

Membership in the Laboratory Retiree Group, Inc. (Los Alamos) is open to any person age 50 or older who currently receives or expects to receive an ongoing financial benefit (health or other insurance, retirement income, or other forms of remuneration) from having worked or having an association with someone who worked for the prime contractor of Los Alamos National Laboratory.

**ACTIVE MEMBERS** (described above) pay \$20 per calendar year, have voting privileges at Annual Meetings, and are eligible to serve as LRG Officers and/or Board Members. Active members receive copies of the LRG Directory and LRG's every-four-month publication, *The Main Gate*. Spouses of deceased Active Members become Active as long as yearly dues are paid.

**FRIENDS** are persons who do not meet the criteria of an Active Member but support LRG. Friends pay dues of \$20 per year to cover the cost of printing and postage of issues of *The Main Gate*. Friends cannot vote, hold office, be listed in or receive the LRG Directory.

#### THE LABORATORY RETIREE GROUP, INC. (LRG)

☐ New Membership    ☐ Renewal    ☐ Friend    ☐ Change of Address

☐ Check here if requested information remains unchanged (including phone no. and e-mail)

☐ Check here if you do **\*NOT\*** want to be listed in the **DIRECTORY**

**Active Member:** \_\_\_\_\_  
Last Name First Name Middle  
LANL Retiree? No Yes Year \_\_\_\_\_ System: UCRS PERS LANS OTHER (circle as needed)

**Spouse and/or Active Member:** \_\_\_\_\_  
Last Name First Name Middle  
LANL Retiree? No Yes Year \_\_\_\_\_ System: UCRS PERS LANS OTHER (circle as needed)

**Friend** \_\_\_\_\_  
Last Name First Name Middle

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_ **City:** \_\_\_\_\_ **State:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Zip:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Telephone:** ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ **E-mail?** No Yes \_\_\_\_\_

**Payment: Please send dues\* payment by check to the following address:**  
**LRG, PO Box 546, Los Alamos, NM 87544**

Check#: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Dues Amount: \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Laboratory Retiree Group  
Scholarship Fund Donation: \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Total: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\*Dues are \$20 per calendar year beginning January 1, 2018.

Laboratory Retiree Group  
LRG, Inc.  
PO Box 546  
Los Alamos, NM 87544

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