

## Allens married for half century

Dr. Wesley and Katy Allen celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on Dec. 22. They were married on Dec. 22, 1957, in Salt Lake City, where Wes graduated from medical school and Katy taught sixth grade.

They raised their children in La Grande, Ore., where Wes was a physician for 35 years and Katy taught in an elementary school and private piano lessons.

They moved to Kalispell in 2004 to be near their daughters and enjoy the beauty of Montana.

They have five children, Genia Allen-Schmid and husband Kevin, and Julie

WESLEY AND KATY Allen were married on Dec. 22, 1957 in Salt Lake City.

Stone and husband David, of Kalispell, Elizabeth Allen-Miller and husband Doug of Davis, Calif., Phillip Allen and wife Cathy of Bellevue, Wash., and David Allen of Nampa, Idaho. They also have 13 grandchildren.

Their children and their families will celebrate the anniversary by spending this Christmas together.



## Bakers celebrate 60th anniversary

Victor and Madelaine (Coquet) Baker of Kalispell were honored at a reception celebrating their 60th wedding anniversary on Aug. 4 at Trinity Lutheran Church. A dinner for the extended family followed the reception.

The celebration was hosted by the couple's children, Gene Baker and his wife, Missy, of Breckenridge, Colo., and Annick Berkoben and her husband, Wayne, of Oklahoma City. Also assisting were the couple's four grandchildren, Juliette Berkoben Newcomb of Stillwater, Okla., and Emily, John and Kimi Baker of Breckenridge, Colo.

About 80 friends and relatives attended the reception.

Madelaine is a native of Epernay, France. During World War II, Victor was



MADELAINE and Victor Baker were married June 20, 1947.



THE BAKERS recently marked 60 years together.

ily with her works of art.

Victor retired as office manager of the Kalispell division of the Montana Department of Transportation in June, 1980.

The Bakers are active members of Trinity Lutheran Church.

stationed in Epernay, and it was there the couple met.

They were married on June 20, 1947, at St. John Lutheran Church, in Libby. Since that time they have resided in Kalispell in the home that Victor built.

Madelaine is an avid knitter and has graced her fam-

## Baltrusches mark 50th anniversary

Carl and Sharon "Shari" Baltrusch will be celebrating their 50th wedding anniversary next month. Originally from Havre, the couple were married in March 1957.

In 1966 they moved to Great Falls where they resided until retirement, except for two years which they spent in Fairbanks, Alaska, during the construction of the Alaska pipeline.

They owned and operated CS Trucking and Sourdough Freightlines in Montana and Alaska where they raised three sons and a daughter:

Carl Jr., in Billings, Chad in Arizona, Tod in Colorado, and Shannon, who is in the Army, stationed at Fort Leonard Wood in Missouri.

The Baltruschs have 10 grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

After a second honeymoon in Hawaii they will be at their home in the Kalispell area. Now semi-retired, Carl enjoys fishing and occasionally still drives truck. Shari is involved in clogging and line dancing.

Friends may write them at P.O. Box 7007, Kalispell, MT 59904.



CARL AND Sharon Baltrusch were married in March 1957.

## Belands celebrate their golden anniversary

Walt and June Beland of Kalispell recently celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary.

The couple were married June 15, 1957, in St. Catharines, Ontario. They had two sons there, James and Kenneth. In 1963, the family moved to southern California, where two more children were born, a daughter, Victoria, and another son, Timothy.

After retiring, they moved to beautiful Montana, in October of 2003.

Their children are Jim and Mariane Beland of Kalispell, Ken and Lisa Beland of Wayne, N.J., Vicki and Rod Franklin of



WALT AND JUNE Beland were married June 15, 1957.

Kalispell, and Tim Beland of Huntington Beach, Calif. The Belands also have six grandchildren.

## Billheimers mark 50th anniversary

Charles Stanley and Eleanor (Golden) Billheimer celebrated their golden wedding anniversary on Oct. 19.

They were married at the Church of the Holy Spirit in Missoula on Oct. 19, 1957.

Stan served in the U.S. Army from 1952 to 1954. He graduated from the University of Montana Forestry School in March of 1957 before working in Superior, where he and Eleanor started their life together.

A 25-year career with the Forest Service followed for Stan, with many moves in Montana and Idaho.

In 1978, the couple moved to Kalispell, where they have lived for the past 29 years.

In 1981, Stan retired from the Forest Service. He then did private appraisal work as well as working for Owens and Hurst Mill, the



CHARLES AND ELEANOR Billheimer were married Oct. 19, 1957.

Department of Revenue, Department of State Lands and Glacier Bank.

Eleanor worked part-time in sales at The Bon, Montgomery Wards and Hallmark. She was also a Welcome Wagon hostess.

They are members of Trinity Lutheran Church.

The Billheimers are blessed with a son and three



THE BILLHEIMERS traveled and had a dinner to celebrate their golden anniversary.

daughters, four grandchildren and one great-grandson.

They celebrated their 50th year with family activities, including a reunion in July, a cruise to Alaska in August, and a dinner at Meadow Lake Resort on Oct. 19.

## Bordens mark golden anniversary

Bob and Mary Lou Borden of Kalispell celebrated their golden wedding anniversary at a yard party for friends and family on Sept. 1, hosted by their children and spouses.

The couple were married Aug. 30, 1957, at Our Redeemer's Lutheran Church in Seattle.

They met in high school in Everett, Wash., and later they both attended Central Washington University. After teaching in Washington, they moved to Missoula in 1965, where Bob attended graduate school. They lived in the old "Vet Village" and remember being able to see the open ground below through the holes in the floor.

After living in Noxon for a year, they moved to Kalispell where they have resided since, raising five



BOB AND MARY LOU Borden were married on Aug. 30, 1957.

children. They presently live on Two Mile Drive.

Their children are Brad and Shelley Borden; Jeff and Robin Borden, and their children, Brooke and Brant; Stuart and Becky



A PARTY was held on Sept. 1 for family and friends to honor the Bordens on their 50th anniversary.

Borden, and their children, Breanne and Chance; Mary Thomas and her children, Zach, Tyler and Connor; and Angie and Jim Berry, and their children, Jacob and Jade.

## Broads mark 60th anniversary

Bill and Irene Broad celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary at a surprise family reunion picnic on June 30.

More than 60 people were in attendance, including many local Leighty relatives as well as families from out of state.

Two of Bill's nephews and their families, including his great niece, Lisa, from Wyoming, her children and grandchildren, were also in attendance.

A FAMILY reunion was held for Bill and Irene Broad on their 60th anniversary.

The event was hosted by their daughter, Naomi, her husband Dave, and their son John, his wife, Liz, all of Woodinville, Wash. It was held at Dick and Bev Dillon's home.

The family thanks everyone who attended and made the day special.



## Bybees celebrate their golden anniversary



THE BYBEES celebrated their golden anniversary in Palm Desert, Calif.

Joe and Myrna Bybee of Kalispell and Palm Desert, Calif., celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on March 17 with friends and family at Monterey Country Club in Palm Desert.

The high school sweethearts were married on March 17, 1957, in Sandpoint, Idaho.

Their children are Roger and his wife, Tammy, of Kalispell; Ron and his wife, Barb, of Missoula; and Joanne and her husband,

Jack, of Hamilton. They also have nine grandchildren.

The couple worked together as logging contractors in Montana.

## Cottets celebrate 65th anniversary

Harold "Bud" and Joyce Cottet of Kalispell are celebrating their 65th anniversary today, Aug. 5 at an open house, from 1-4 p.m., at their home.

The couple were married Aug. 15, 1942, in Kalispell.

Their son Harold Scott Cottet and his wife, Karen, reside in Spokane.

The Cottets also have two grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.



HAROLD AND JOYCE Cottett were married Aug. 15, 1942.



AN OPEN house today marks the couple's 65th anniversary.

## Davises celebrate 50th

Gorman Ray and Jean Rogers Davis of Kalispell are celebrating their 50th anniversary today, Jan. 14, at a reception from 2 to 4 p.m. at Epworth United Methodist Church in Kalispell.

The honored couple were married Jan. 25, 1957, at Waverly Methodist Church in Baltimore.

Ray is a retired United Methodist pastor who has held positions at United Methodist churches in Mary-

land, Sunburst, Columbia Falls, Cody, Wyo., and Livingston, and as district superintendent in Great Falls.

Jean is a former teacher, having taught in Maryland, Wyoming and Montana.

The couple have three children: son, Paul Davis, of Tuscaloosa, Ala., and daughters, Ginny Neal and husband, Vard, of Stone, Idaho, and Cheri Walker, and husband, David, of Orem, Utah. They have eight grandchildren.



RAY AND JEAN Davis were married Jan. 25, 1957.



A RECEPTION for the Davises golden anniversary is today.

## Drews celebrate 60 years together

Bob and Maxine Drew of Kalispell celebrated 60 years of marriage on June 30 with a family dinner and a trip to Glacier Park.

Bob, who was born in Cleveland and grew up in Missoula, attended telegraph school in Jamestown, N.D., and Maxine, a Kalispell native, went to school in Spokane.

Bob and Maxine met in 1946 when they both worked as telegraph operators for the Northern Pacific Railroad. During their early careers, they filled in as vacation relief operators at many small towns in western Montana.

They married in Missoula in 1947 and moved to St. Regis, where Bob was the station agent. In those days of railroading, trains com-



BOB AND MAXINE Drew were married in Missoula in 1947.

municated by having typed orders handed up to them at small stations that lined the

train tracks. That was the job of telegraph operators — to provide accurate communications for train personnel by a series of orders, signals and telegraphed messages.

Bob was at St. Regis for most of his career until he retired in the late '80s, and Maxine spent her years prior to retiring in the Missoula yard office after working in St. Regis, Superior, Lothrop, Rivulet, Paradise and numerous other small towns. After their retirement, they settled here in Kalispell, the town of Maxine's childhood.

Maxine and Bob have one daughter, Cheryl, of Kalispell; and two grandsons, Dave and B.J. Poll, both of Wyoming.

## Ferrees mark golden anniversary

Doug and Sylvia Ferree of Kalispell celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on June 30, with a renewal of vows ceremony conducted by their pastor, Dr. Lloyd Pearson, at Faith Covenant Church, followed by a reception in the fellowship hall.

Attending the celebration were family members and friends along with the Ferree's three daughters, Jacquie and Jeannie from Colorado, and Julie from California, their husbands and eight grandchildren.

That evening a dinner for the family was hosted by their daughters at Jagz Restaurant in Kalispell. For the three days prior to the ceremony, the Ferrees enjoyed a family reunion at the Izaak Walton Inn in Essex.

Doug, a native of San Diego, and Sylvia, a native of Denver, were married in Denver on June 30 1957, at



DOUG AND SYLVIA Ferree were married on June 30, 1957.



THE FERREES celebrated their 50th anniversary by renewing their vows.

Berkley Community Congregational Church.

Doug was a career Marine, retiring at Camp Pendleton, Calif., in May of 1976. During their Marine Corps years they lived in many different locations, ending up in Fallbrook, Calif. They

moved to Kalispell in 1990.

The Ferrees thank all who attended their celebration or sent cards and good wishes and particularly those who traveled long distances to be with them on their special occasion.

# Grells celebrate 50th anniversary

Donald E. and Jean (Stueve) Grell of Kalispell celebrated their 50th anniversary June 8. The couple were married June 8, 1957, in St. Cloud, Minn.

They moved to Kalispell in 1976. Jean was a school librarian at St. Matthew's School until retirement. Don was a banker for Norwest Bank and then a general manager for Day's Inn until retirement.

Don and Jean's children are Lois and Joel Hendrickson of Minneapolis, Diane and Marc Mueller of Spokane, Carol and Tim Morris of Helena, Nancy and Vince Cesario of Miami,



DONALD AND Jean Grell were married June 8, 1957.



THE GRELLS are having two anniversary celebrations this summer.

and Brian and Kyle Grell of Portland.

They have nine grandchildren.

The couple will celebrate during the summer with friends and relatives in Minneapolis in June and in Kalispell in July.

# Hartfords to hold anniversary reception

Russell and Judy Hartford will celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary Saturday, June 30, at a reception from 1 to 4 p.m., at the Kalispell Elks Club, hosted by their children.

The couple were married June 21, 1957, in Lewistown.

They moved to Kalispell in August of 1964, from Townsend. Judy was a librarian at Evergreen Junior High School until retirement. She then began a small business as a professional photographer until

the mid-1990s.

Russ taught chemistry and geology at Flathead High School until his retirement in 1993.

Throughout their 42 years in Kalispell, Russell has been very active in the Elks Lodge, both as a lodge officer and as a dedicated handball player. Both Russ and Judy have been very active in the Masonic Lodge; Russ in the Shriners and Judy in Eastern Star.

Their children are Lori and Orié Dosdall of Billings,



RUSSELL AND Judy Hartford were married June 21, 1957.

Diane Hartford and Brandy Dowling of Portland, and Bill and Teresa Hartford of Kalispell.

Their five grandchildren



A RECEPTION will be held June 30 for the Hartfords to celebrate their golden anniversary.

are Sean and Nathan of Kalispell, Joliene and Rick of Billings, and Logan of Portland.

# Hartrys mark 60 years together

Jim and Jeannine Hartry of Marion will celebrate their 60th anniversary on Feb. 10.

The couple met in Culbertson when Jim was home on leave from the Navy. They were married in Glasgow on Feb. 10, 1947. They have three children, daughter Wanda Bissell and husband, Dennis; Stuart, deceased; and Warren, of Marion. They also have five grandchildren, Brian and Jeff Marcus, and Courtney, Britney and Caleb Hartry.

They have lived in numerous states due to Jim's work with the Federal Aviation Administration and transfers for advancements. He retired in 1980. Jeannine has been a homemaker through the years.

The Hartrys have resided in Marion for 34 years.



JIM AND JEANNINE Hartry were married on Feb. 10, 1947.



THE HARTRYS have lived in Marion for 34 years.



TOM AND PEG Hayek were married on Nov. 9, 1957.



THE HAYEKS will celebrate their golden anniversary on Nov. 10.

## Hayeks mark 50 years

Tom and Peg Hayek of Somers will celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary on Nov. 10. Their family will honor them at an open house celebration from 2 to 5 p.m. at Vista Linda Restaurant in Somers, hosted by their children and grandchildren.

The couple met while Tom was stationed in San Diego with the Marine Corps. They were married on Nov. 9, 1957 in a Methodist church in San Diego.

They moved to a number of places, eventually settling in Somers, in 1972,

once Tom retired from the Marine Corps, after serving 20 years.

Their children are Lon and Carla Hayek, Bob and Wendy Kienas, and Doug and Mel Hayek, all of Somers, and Rusty and Barb Hayek of Kalispell.

The Hayeks have eight grandchildren (including one now deceased) and seven great-grandchildren, all residing in Somers, except for one granddaughter and great-granddaughter who reside in Arizona.

## Johnsons celebrate 60 years

Leonard and Mabel Johnson of Kalispell celebrated their 60th anniversary on Feb. 24.

After serving in France and Italy during World War II, Leonard met Mabel in Sidney. They were married Feb. 24, 1947.

They moved to the Flathead Valley in 1955 and raised eight children, including twins. Leonard worked in the autobody industry for more than 25 years.

The couple still enjoy

camping in the Swan Valley.

Their children are Jim and Val Johnson of Bellingham, Wash., Mike and Sonya Johnson of Salem, Ore., John Johnson of Clearwater, Fla., Kathy Harp, Pat and Keila Johnson, Mark and Suzanne Johnson, and Margie and Steve Herman, all of Kalispell, and Carol and Bruce Kelley of Columbus.

They also have 18 grandchildren; 12 great-grandchildren, and one due in March.



LEONARD AND MABEL Johnson were married Feb. 24, 1947.

## Kellers celebrate 60th

Charles and Viola Keller celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary April 29 at an open house dinner hosted by their children and grandchildren.

Charles and Viola were both born and raised in Kalispell. Charles ventured to Alaska in 1946 and Viola followed in April of 1947. They were married April 29, 1947, in Anchorage, Alaska.

After their first son was born in 1948 they moved back to Kalispell where Charles bought his first logging truck. He and Viola built a successful trucking business and he still dabbles in the business.

They raised five children

together. Viola guided them and many others through 17 years of 4-H as the leader of the Evergreen Pinetoppers and Evergreen Hummingbirds.

She also served on the Flathead Safety Council and as state and local president of the Eagles Auxiliary.

Charles and Viola enjoy spending their winters in Hawaii and Arizona.

Their children are Joe and Sheila Keller, Frank and Mary Cabbage, L.W. and Bonnie Schuman, Terry and Patty Keller, and Lonnie Keller, all of Kalispell. They also have 13 grandchildren and 26 grandchildren, with another on the way.



CHARLES AND Viola Keller were married on April 29, 1947.

## Kienas mark golden anniversary

Bob and Joanne Kienas celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on Sept. 2, with a reception at the Vista Linda Pavilion in Somers. A family dinner followed at the Vista Linda Restaurant.

The couple were married on Sept. 14, 1957, in Wallace, Idaho, and have lived in Somers since then. They have three children, Bud Kienas, and Bob and Wendy Kienas, all of Somers, and Karla and Kurt Fischer of Woods Bay. They also have five grandchildren and five



**BOB AND JOANNE**  
Kienas were married on Sept. 14, 1957.

great-grandchildren.

Among the guests attending were family and friends from Maryland, Boise, Idaho, Seattle, Spokane and Ronan.

They would like to thank the Vista Linda and everyone who shared their celebration and made it a special day.

## Klains mark 50th anniversary

Edward and Carol Klain of Kalispell recently celebrated their 50th anniversary by renewing their vows, and dining and dancing with family and friends at Village Greens Golf Course. The event was hosted by their daughters, Gina and Rhonda, and son, Kevin.

The couple were married June 16, 1957, in Douglas, N.D.

Their children are Gina and Morse Olson of Poway, Calif., Rhonda and Kent Harper of Fullerton, Calif., and Kevin Klain, also of Fullerton.

The Klains also have two grandchildren, John and Brian Olsen.

The family thanks all who made the anniversary special.



**EDWARD AND CAROL**  
Klain were married on June 16, 1957.



**THE KLAINS** recently celebrated their golden anniversary with family and friends.

## Kluesners mark 50th anniversary

Fred and Eileen Kluesner of Kalispell celebrated their golden wedding anniversary on June 16 dining with family and friends at the Vista Linda Restaurant pavilion, enjoying the beautiful view of Flathead Lake in Somers, and also renewing their vows.

The couple were married June 15, 1957, in St. Francis Xavier Catholic Church in Missoula.

Fred retired from PTL/Centurytel. Before retiring, Eileen spent 25 years in education, teaching various grades.

In their retirement they spend their time volunteering at Kalispell Regional Medical Center, the Glacier Jazz Society, enjoying their grandchildren and family, and traveling.

Their children are Tammy and Kelly Nathe



**FRED AND EILEEN** Kluesner were married on June 15, 1957.



**FAMILY AND FRIENDS** helped celebrate the Kluesners' 50th anniversary.

of Great Falls, Kirk and Mary Beth Kluesner of Woodbury, Minn., Tim and Kaori Kluesner of Kalispell and Robin and Doug Addicott of Salem,

Ore. They have seven grandchildren and two stepgrandchildren.

The family thanks all who attended and made the celebration special.

## LaBrants mark golden anniversary

Floyd and Toni LaBrant celebrated 50 years of marriage with a dinner party on Sept. 1, in the company of family and friends.

Antonette Ferguson and Floyd LaBrant were married Aug. 30, 1957, in Kalispell. Their first home was in Kalispell, but career and family considerations over the years have taken them throughout Montana — to Helena, Butte, Stevensville, a return to the Flathead Valley, and now Corvallis.

Floyd made a career with the U.S. Forest Service in construction and engineering, until retiring in 1985. He continued to farm and ranch near Creston until 2005, serving, as called on, with FEMA in disaster reconstruction for five years.

Toni was at home tending their two children, managing the house or farm, until returning to the salary work force in 1982. She worked as a bookkeeper and later office manager, retiring in 1998.



FLOYD AND TONI LaBrant were married on Aug. 30, 1957.



THE LABRANTS were honored on their 50th anniversary during a party with friends and family.

In retirement the LaBrants have traveled to Alaska, New Zealand, Hawaii, the Cook Islands, both coasts of Canada, and much of the U.S.

They also enjoy spending time with their four grandchildren and attending their activities and events.

Daughter Karen (LaBrant)

Benediktson graduated from Montana State University, and resides in the Gallatin Valley with her husband, John, and daughter Anna.

Daughter Jeanne (LaBrant) Borer graduated from Central Washington University, and resides in western Washington with husband, Jeff, and children Sara, Aidan and Marisa.



The Lyfords on their wedding day.



Bob and Gloria Lyford on their 50th anniversary.

## Lyfords celebrate golden anniversary with trip to Southern California

Bob and Gloria Lyford of Kalispell were married June 23, 1957, at Central Christian Church in Kalispell. They celebrated their golden wedding anniversary by going to Southern California in June for a week with all five of their children: sons, Scott and Carleen Lyford, and their grandson, Thomas, of Indian Springs, Nev.; Mark and Irene Lyford and children, Christa, Amanda and Nathan, of Stanwood, Wash.; Dan and Jill Lyford

of Columbia Falls; and Tom Lyford and children, Jordyn and Chase, of Laguna Niguel, Calif.; and daughter, Jewel and Matt Dyson, and children, Chandler, Colton and McKynzie of Chino Hills, Calif.

The Lyfords enjoyed a family dinner on the Queen Mary in Long Beach, Calif. They spent the Fourth of July at Dana Point Laguna Cliff Marriott Resort, capped by a spectacular fireworks display.

The Lyfords also enjoy-

ing seeing their granddaughter McKynzie's ballet performance, and watching their grandson Chase pitch a winning game.

In addition to their wonderful time in California, a surprise party was hosted by Bob's brother and sister-in-law, Ron and Lois Lyford, at their home. Besides enjoying the company and phone calls of many friends and family members, a highlight was a ride in Art Olson's Model T around Village Greens.



## Nelsons celebrate 50 years together

John and Jackie Nelson of Kalispell celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary with their family July 7 at the Eagles.

The couple were married July 7, 1957, in Missoula.

John was a logger for many years, retiring from the woods a few years ago.

He is currently working as a courier for Medical Messengers.

Jackie is a homemaker, raised four children and offers tremendous support for all of their grandchildren. She is also an excellent cook.

Their children are Justin Nelson, Don Nelson and Kelly Thompson, all of



JOHN AND Jackie Nelson were married on July 7, 1957.



THE NELSONS celebrated their 50th anniversary with family on July 7.

Kalispell, and Joleen McCauley of Arizona.

The Nelsons have seven grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

## Pedersens celebrate 50 years together

Kenneth and Iva Pedersen of Kalispell are celebrating their 50th wedding anniversary today, Oct. 7, at a private family dinner. They were married on Oct. 7, 1957, at the Kalispell Church of God.

The dinner is being hosted by their daughter, Connie Mackay, and grandson, Calder Mackay of Bozeman; and granddaughter, Serena Mackay, of Las Vegas.

The Pedersens have owned and operated Ken Pedersen Excavating and Septic Service for 48 years, serving the Flathead Valley.



KEN AND IVA Pedersen were married Oct. 7, 1957.



A DINNER is being held today in the Pedersens' honor.