



# OldSmokeys Newsletter

Newsletter of the Pacific Northwest Forest Service Retirees—Spring 2006

## *President's Message — Marlin Plank*

Where does the time go? Here we are at the beginning of Spring and publishing of the Spring newsletter now in the capable hands of new editor **Les Joslin**. I am confident that the high standards displayed under former editor **Wendall Jones** will continue to be upheld.

Early in March **Phil Hirl** and **Dave Scott** visited the Regional Office on a quest to sell more of the book *We Had An Objective In Mind*. Phil reported that they did not have much success but this could be good news as the market at that location is probably saturated. I commend them for their efforts and urge all of you to push the sale of the book whenever and wherever you see an opportunity. They had a chance to meet with the Director's staff which gave them a chance to explain how the book project developed as an effort to record some of the Forest Service's history. They also provided information about past and current PNWFSA projects.

As of March 17 we still had 13 members who had not yet paid dues for 2006. This is, however, an improvement over last year when there were 65 delinquent members. I hope all of you continue your membership as your support is needed to maintain a viable organization. There is no better way to keep informed of our former associates and continue the relationships established during our careers with the best agency in the federal government. We did gain 66 new members over the past year and hope this trend continues.

The annual Participating Agreement between the PNWFSA and the Pacific Northwest Region and the Pacific Northwest Research Station is well under way. This agreement has been vital to our organization and we appreciate so much the support of the Regional Office and the Research Station. Without their help it would be difficult to maintain our quarterly newsletter and support our website at the level we do now. It behooves all of us to lend our time, talent, and expertise to ongoing and planned Region and Station projects that may otherwise languish because of other priorities or because of lack of funding or personnel.

The Spring Banquet is planned for May 21. This annual event will again be at Charbonneau and is made possible by the hard work of **Emil** and **Dorine Sabol**. Details and reservation slip are in this newsletter. This is a fun event and I invite all of you to attend and share news as a good time with old friends or to harass those former co-workers you haven't seen in some time.

*Marlin Plank*

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Visit our website at: [www.oldsmokeys.org](http://www.oldsmokeys.org)

## *Forum*

### **A New Editor**

It's with no little trepidation that I sit at my computer, a copy of *Microsoft Publisher for Dummies* balanced on my knee, pretending to replace Wendall Jones as editor of the PNWFSA newsletter. Talk about a tough act to follow!

In addition to already-forgotten computer tricks of the editor's trade, Wendall imparted to me a lot of better-remembered philosophy about the newsletter and its content and – most important – its readers. He told me what you like and what you don't. So I'm well lined out. My recognition of that fact lets Wendall off the hook. Anything I might do with the newsletter that you might not like is on my head, not his.

Not that I plan to do anything you won't like. It may look a little different. It might have looked a lot different if my daughter Amy hadn't helped me do what Wendall showed me how to do but I forgot! But, like most everyone else, I emphasize my strengths. I like the art of writing and layout; I'm lousy at the technology. In a previous career, in the days before every executive was a secretary, others handled the technological aspects of realizing my visions. More recently, it's been up to me. So, the look and writing style of the newsletter will change a little. I hope you'll like it. I'll value your feedback.

The content won't change much. The focus will remain on the members. But, from time to time, issues affecting the National Forest System and the Forest Service in which we served – you longer than I – will surface on this *Forum* page. I will write some of those pieces. I hope you will write others.

Who knows? In addition to keeping in touch, we just might do the Outfit a service.

-- Les Joslin

### **Job One: To Save the System and the Service**

OldSmokeys know better than just about anybody what others – but, unfortunately, not enough others – are only beginning to learn from the more-responsible media: the National Forest System and the Forest Service are in danger.

Some of us might even go so far as to say the National Forest System and the Forest Service are targets of a conspiracy to divest the American people of their public land heritage. I would, and I have. In recent months, that perception has been reflected in and reinforced by press reports of proposed sales of National Forest System lands and proposed outsourcing of many Forest Service jobs. While there may be some merit in some parts of some of these proposals, it's doubtful that merit adds up to an initial sell-off of some 300,000 acres and privatization of as many as 21,000 jobs.

Recent press reports have referred to those 300,000 acres as “Forest Service lands” that “no longer meet Forest Service needs.” The first district ranger I worked for over 40 years ago taught me that those lands are “national forest lands” that belong to the people of the United States – the citizen-owners of the National Forest System – and are administered for them by the Forest Service, not “Forest Service lands.” A small point? A nitpick? I don't think so. I think it's an all-important distinction that informs – or should inform – the perceptions (and, thus, the operational realities) of the politicians, the public servants, and the publics they serve of their respective roles, responsibilities, and prerogatives vis-à-vis the national forests and each other. What do you think?

Recent press reports that “roughly 21,000 of the agency's jobs would be considered for privatization in the next four years” because many Forest Service jobs are not “inherently governmental” and could be performed by “more cost-effective” contractors trouble me.

This may be true of some support jobs, but not of most jobs in a Forest Service of dedicated professionals who serve to accomplish a mission with which they identify and to which they are committed. Forest Service professionals don't just do a job. They follow a calling. Can you remember the last time you drove your green rig past a problem because it wasn't in your job description? No. You can't and I can't, because we didn't. That's just not the way we're put together, and that's not the way we worked. Right?

'Nuff said. Except, since you and I still can't drive past that problem, it's good to know there are ways we can help save the National Forest System and the Forest Service. The four retired Forest Service chiefs – three of them OldSmokeys – have shown us one way (see *News* on page 3). We can track issues and write members of Congress, too. We can support efforts of the National Association of Forest Service Retirees (NAFSR) on these issues. We can volunteer for Passport in Time (PIT) projects and support other projects. Each of us can do whatever works for him or her.

As old Smokey himself asks: “If not you, who?”

-- Les Joslin

**“Anyone who is going to get by in the Forest Service had better be able to fix anything but the break of day.”**

-- District Ranger Varick McCaskill, Two Medicine National Forest, Montana,  
in Ivan Doig's 1984 novel *English Creek*

## News

### “The Four Chiefs” Oppose National Forest Land Sales

The four living former Chiefs of the U.S. Forest Service last month warned Congress against the Bush administration’s plan to sell about 300,000 acres of National Forest System lands to funnel \$800 million to rural schools in 41 states over the next five years.

The retired chiefs, who led our Outfit for 22 years under Republican and Democratic presidents, said in their March 14 letter to every member of Congress that selling public lands to pay other bills, “no matter how worthwhile those programs, is a slippery slope.”

The proposed sales “would establish a precedent contrary to that of the last 102 years” they wrote.

Max Peterson, Dale Robertson, Jack Ward Thomas, and Mike Dombeck signed the letter. All but Dombeck are OldSmokeys.

The chiefs join members of Congress and conservation groups critical of the scheme. Oregon Senator Ron Wyden vowed to do all he could to block the Bush administration’s plan.

Undersecretary of Agriculture Mark Rey, who oversees the Forest Service, said advice from the former chiefs is welcome, but added they must be “suffering from collective memory loss.” Contrary to their letter, the Forest Service has proposed – and Congress has passed – dozens of land conveyance bills, Rey said.

The Forest Service took public comments on the plan in March. OldSmokeys will be able to follow this story in the press.

### John Marker’s NAFSR Report

Major issues banging on the Forest Service and national forests keep coming in never-ending waves. So far in 2006, National Association of Forest Service Retirees (NAFSR) members have responded to national issues affecting the Forest Service roadless area debates, the Administration’s proposal to sell 300,000 acres of national forest land to finance federal forest impacted counties, and an Administration plan to study 15,000 or more Forest Service jobs for outsourcing. But there is one positive “wave,” the Walden-Baird forest restoration bill (HR4200).

Along with the Society of American Foresters (SAF) and other allies, NAFSR strongly supports the Walden-Baird bill to speed up restoration of damaged forests. Both NAFSR and SAF consider the legislation critical to the future of the federal forests. The bill would require use of proven science and professional experience, and support continuing research to find more effective rehabilitation treatments for damaged lands. The opposition is primarily from those not wanting active management of federal forests.

The roadless area debate continues on and on and on. In Colorado, the state legislature established a task force to de-

velop recommendations for future use of the roadless areas based on public comments from statewide hearings. The governor will forward the accepted recommendations to the Forest Service. NAFSR Rocky Mountain Area Director Bob Averill testified at the Denver hearing that the regular national forest planning process is the most viable method for resolving the future of these lands. He reminded people that the national forest’s roadless areas are the nation’s capital reserve of renewable natural resources for future generations, and require a level of management that maintains these resources.

The Secure Rural Schools and Community Act is up for renewal. The Administration supports the renewal at a reduced federal funding level with the provision that 300,000 acres of “low value” national forest land be sold to finance the measure as called for in House of Representatives bill HR517. NAFSR is taking a strong stand against the proposal, and communicating its objections to the media and members of Congress. While there is little public support for sale of public land, we want to be on record with strong arguments against such actions as this idea continues to return periodically.

The “Green Plan” to study outsourcing of Forest Service jobs is the latest of continuing efforts to reduce costs and increase efficiency. Since 1990 the Outfit has been dealing with declining budgets through downsizing, program realignment, facilities reduction, consolidation, and other belt-tightening measures. NAFSR will look closely at this latest study, and comment later. One concern is there may not be much more room for cinching in the belt.

Meanwhile, here in the Northwest, members of NAFSR have gotten involved in the recent controversy over Oregon State University graduate student research on the Siskiyou National Forest’s Biscuit burn, and have critiqued the recent study authored by OSU graduate students and professors. This narrowly-focused study of seedling survival in and out of salvage areas morphed into inaccurate headlines and a media circus condemning salvage logging. NAFSR members sent a letter to *The Oregonian* and other media objecting to the conclusions media people reached from this generalized study. We pointed out that the study ignored the purpose of the national forests, existing restoration science, restoration successes of the past century, and the forest management direction for the study area.

*A comment:* Since the first of 2006, I have had the opportunity to talk with a number of Forest Service field people in Oregon and California. They are not “happy campers” as they endure one assault after another on the forests and their organization. But, and this is important, the “can do” attitude still exists amongst most of them. The people I met are good dedicated people with whom I would be proud to work. They deserve our appreciation and support. While they are dealing with a world much different from the one we dealt with, they still care about the forests and the Forest Service.

**“Public support of acts affecting public rights is absolutely required.”**

-- Gifford Pinchot

## **News Feature: What's in a Name?**

*Central Oregon foresters and forest visitors who thought they knew the place names in their woods are going back to place name school. As the following articles adapted from the February 2, February 9, and February 16 issues of R6 Updates tell us, the Central Oregon national forests have helped erase 16 “derogatory” names from the landscape.*

### **Old Names and New Names**

The U.S. Board on Geographic Names (BGN) has given final approval to 16 name changes – including one new name – for Central Oregon landscape features. Most of the names changed included the word “squaw,” a term considered derogatory by many Native Americans.

This derogatory term (sometimes called “the ‘s’ word”) is used for 180 place names in Oregon. The Central Oregon effort takes about a 9 percent bite out of that number, and furthers compliance with State law and Forest Service policy to eliminate use of derogatory place names. The 16 name changes resulting from the Forest Service effort is the largest number of name changes at once in Oregon, according to Champ Vaughn, Oregon Geographic Names Board (GNB) president.

To meet State law and agency regulations concerning derogatory place names, Deschutes and Ochoco national forest staff proposed new ones that draw on Native American and English languages.

The changes are the result of several years of consultation with the Confederated Tribes of the Warm Springs Reservation and with the state and national names boards. The Oregon GNB supervises the naming of all geographic features within Oregon, and the approval of the U.S. BGN was required to make the name changes final.

The new names now apply to five creeks, four buttes, four canyons, two meadows, and two waterfalls in Central Oregon. The best know of these was Squaw Creek, a Wild and Scenic River Act federally-designated stream that flows out of the Three Sisters Wilderness through the Deschutes National Forest and Crooked River National Grasslands as well as private lands into the Deschutes River. It now bears the name **Whychus Creek**, the original name documented for it in 1855 by Pacific Railroad Survey explorers. Pronounced “why choose,” the name is derived from the Sahaptin language word that means “The place we cross the water.”

Other features remained with native American words include: **Akawa**, a Wasco word for badger; **Tai**, a Sahaptin word for meadow; **Poddo**, a Paiute word for digging stick; **Hoona**, a Paiute word for badger; and **Moohoo’oo** (pronounced “m’hoohoo”), a Paiute word for owl. In addition, a previously unnamed waterfall on newly-renamed Whychus – no cheatin’ now, gotta use the new name – is now **Chush Falls**. The word (pronounced “choosh”) is a Sahaptin word for water.

Features renamed in English include: **Carcass Canyon**, an informal local name about 30 years old; **Congleton Creek**, named for the first Paulina District ranger; **Three Sisters Irrigation District Dam**; **Three Sisters Canal**; and **Watson Reservoir**.

*For more information on names and name changes generally, see the USGS Geographic Names Information System at <<http://geonames.usgs.gov>>.*

*Thanks to Roland Giller of the Deschutes National Forest and Maret Pajutee of the Sisters Ranger District, Deschutes National Forest, for the articles adapted above, and to Wendall Jones and Dick Spray for their contributions on Whychus Creek.*

### **Congleton Creek**

Congleton Creek in Central Oregon was recently named for the first district ranger on the Paulina Ranger District of the Ochoco National Forest.

District Ranger Charles Sheldon Congleton was born in Slade, Kentucky, on October 26, 1884, and moved west at the age of 20. He worked six months on a dairy farm in Colorado before moving to the Paulina, Oregon, area, in 1904 to work for his older cousin who had homesteaded the Paulina Creek area in 1880. He arrived in Prineville by stagecoach from Shaniko on Christmas Eve, 1905, and then went on to the homestead.

In 1906, the Blue Mountain Forest reserve was established, and proved instrumental in ending the sheep and cattle “range wars” that plagued the area by regulating grazing on public lands through allotments. Congleton and his brother Billy helped pacify the violence. Congleton was endorsed by his neighbors and accepted into the Forest Service in 1907 as a forest guard. He was stationed at Rager Creek (now Rager) Ranger Station, Beaver Creek (now Paulina) Ranger District, Blue Mountain Forest Reserve (now Ochoco National Forest). He married Dora Glee Laughlin in 1910 in John Day, and his new wife joined him at the ranger station.

“During 1907,” he wrote, “the work consisted mostly in searching out section corners, running out and marking forest boundary, counting sheep and working out allotment boundaries between sheep permittees.... Frequently when the map boundaries were located on the ground they were found impractical and adjustments had to be made. This was further complicated by misunderstanding by the permittees on where the lines were and the fact that there were more sheep permitted than the area could accommodate.”

Congleton was instrumental in constructing the Summit Trail in 1908, the first Forest Service trail across the Ochoco Mountains from McKay Creek east to the South Fork John Day River. This early day travel route, first for horse and rider, opened up the high country to livestock herders and gave the Forest Service a way to patrol for fires. The trail was later developed into a motor way

when automobiles began to make their way into the national forests in the late 1920s. Traces of this historic route can still be found in the forest.

After Congleton retired in 1927, he moved to a ranch he had bought in 1914 two miles north of the town of Paulina. In December 1928, his ranch house caught fire and was consumed by flames. Congleton related to friends that he rushed into the burning building, running past his brand new \$120 milk separator, to grab his 20 years worth of Forest Service work journals. The journals were recently discovered at the Oregon Historical Society in Portland and are being transcribed.

Congleton stayed on the ranch after the fire, raising two sons and a daughter before moving to Prineville in 1946. He was named Crook County Cattleman of the Year in 1956. He died in 1963 at age 79 and is buried in Prineville.

*Thanks to Kathleen Martin, Paulina Ranger District, Ochoco National Forest, who wrote the article adapted above.*

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## Region Six Passport in Time (PIT) Projects Attract OldSmokeys

OldSmokeys don't need to be told that Passport in time (PIT) is a volunteer heritage resources program the Forest Service runs on national forests throughout the United States. Many may be surprised, however, that recent changes in the program include no more hardcopy *PIT Traveler*. From now on, volunteers will depend solely on the <[www.passportintime.com](http://www.passportintime.com)> website for project notification. The good news is project leaders will be able to submit projects any time and as far in advance as possible. Signup is also done via the website.

At press time, five Pacific Northwest Region projects await volunteers. Two projects on the Deschutes National Forest are at historic ranger and guard stations. **Don Franks** and **Les Joslin** of Bend are already signed up for the June 2-9 project to help document, stabilize, and refurbish the historic Cabin Lake Ranger Station ranger residence. Plans call for it and two other station residences to be used as recreation rentals. And, as **Jim Bull** and **Dave Kolb** have in the past, uniformed PIT volunteers will interpret and provide visitor information at Historic Elk Lake Guard Station along the Cascade Lakes National Scenic Byway during a dozen week-long sessions from June 20-September 12.

Other projects include June 12-16 and June 19-23 archaeological testing of "what appears to have been a favorite camping site of the original inhabitants of the Umpqua Basin" on the Umpqua National Forest, June 26-30 locating of undocumented portions of the Oregon Trail on the Wallowa-Whitman National Forest, and July 17-21 testing and excavating of Native American tool manufacturing and hunting sites on the Malheur National Forest. Two volunteers with artifact and archive management skills are needed for 40 days each between November 15, 2006, and March 31, 2007, to help with the Rogue River-Siskiyou National Forest collection.

To learn more about and apply for these PIT opportunities, others that may pop up after press time, and still others around the nation, check the PIT website.

## Medical Screening for Federal Employees Assigned to September 11, 2001, World Trade Center Incident

Since the World Trade Center (WTC) disaster in 2001, many people have expressed concerns about the possibility of health

effects associated with the events of that day that include exposure to the resultant smoke and debris.

In response to these concerns, the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) provided funds to the Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Public Health Emergency Preparedness (OPHEP) to medically screen federal employees who responded to the WTC site or Staten Island recovery operation. The WTC Federal Responder Screening Program is designed to detect adverse health effects and will allow federal workers to receive a comprehensive, confidential medical screening and test results..

You are eligible for the program if you are a current, former, or retired federal employee and were involved in rescue, recovery, or cleanup operations in or around the WTC site or at any of the debris handling operations on Staten Island for at least one shift any time between September 11, 2001, and September 10, 2002.

In order to enroll, simply log on to the program's website at <<https://wtcophep.rti.org>> and select "Enroll in Program." A form will appear where you will answer a few eligibility questions and then fill in your name and contact information. After you register on-line, you will be contacted to schedule an examination at a location convenient for you.

While each individual's participation is voluntary, the Forest Service strongly supports this important public health initiative and encourages members who were WTC responders to enroll

## Traveling Exhibit Comes to Northwest

The traveling *Inspirations from the Forest* exhibition, a partnership with the Smithsonian Institution and the National Endowment for the Humanities that will appear in over 30 places around the country, will be in the Pacific Northwest a number of times in 2006, including:

**May 22-June 8:** Mt Saint Helens Visitor Center at Silver Lake, Castle Rock, WA.

**August 29-September 7:** McKenzie Arts Festival, McKenzie River Ranger District, Willamette National Forest, McKenzie Bridge, OR.

**September 28-October 2:** Wenatchee River Salmon Festival, Wenatchee River RD, Okanogan and Wenatchee National Forests, Leavenworth, WA.

**November 6-24:** World Forestry Center Discovery Museum, Portland, OR.

## Opportunities

In addition to our luncheons on the last Friday of every month at the Beaverton Elks Club, we OldSmokeys gather for the Spring Banquet on May 21 and the Summer Picnic on August 11. Passport in Time (PIT) projects offer us opportunities to get back on the districts and do some great National Forest System heritage resource jobs.

### Reserve Now for May 21 Spring Banquet!

Plan now to visit with your friends, get updates on their lives, and enjoy an excellent meal at the PNWFSA Spring Banquet. Send in the form below (or a copy if you don't want to cut up this beautiful newsletter) to make your reservations. Last call for reservations is May 1.

The banquet will again be held at the Charbonneau Country Club in Wilsonville with a beautiful view of the golf course. The social hour and no-host bar begin at 3:00 p.m. An appetizer table with vegetables, dips, and cheese and crackers will get you started. Dinner is served at 4:00 p.m. The main course of the buffet-style meal will be your choice of Prime Rib Roast or Halibut Oscar, or some of each if you do desire. This will be complemented by a strawberry spinach salad, baked potato, rice pilaf, vegetable, rolls, and dessert. The price for this feast will be \$21.00 per person, gratuities included. Our old friend Dave Dalton will cater the meal again this year.

We are asking for donations for door prizes. Please notify the co-hosts **Dorine** or **Emil Sabol** if you are able to help. Telephone them at 503-694-1397, e-mail them at EDSabe@att.net, or write them at 31460 SW Village Green Court, Wilsonville, OR 97070.

To get to the Charbonneau Country Club from Portland or other points north, exit I-5 at exit 282B (Charbonneau District) just after crossing the Willamette River bridge. Turn left (east) at first stop sign onto NE Miley Rd., and go .4 mile to French Prairie Rd. Then turn left on French Prairie Rd., and go .7 mile to Charbonneau Dr. Turn right onto Charbonneau Drive and proceed to the Charbonneau Country Club, Building 3200. From Salem or points south, use exit 282 (Canby) just north of the rest stop. Turn right (east) at stop sign onto NE Miley Rd., and go .3 mile to French Prairie Rd. Then turn left and go .7 mile to Charbonneau Dr. Turn right onto Charbonneau Drive and proceed to the Charbonneau Country Club, Building 3200.

Pacific Northwest Forest Service Association  
**SPRING BANQUET – MAY 21, 2006**  
Charbonneau Country Club

#### RESERVATION FORM

**Social Hour 3:00 p.m. (No Host Bar) -- Dinner 4:00 p.m.**

*Mail this reservation form and a check for \$21.00 per person (payable to PNWFSA) to:  
PNWFSA, P.O. Box 5583, Portland, OR 97228-5583*

Please reserve \_\_\_\_\_ dinners at \$21.00 each for (names exactly as they will appear on name tags):

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

My check for \$\_\_\_\_\_ is enclosed. Please print your name here: \_\_\_\_\_

*Send your reservation form in no later than May 1, 2006*

\_\_\_\_\_

## OldSmokeys Summer Picnic In The Woods Scheduled for Friday, August 11

This summer's OldSmokeys picnic is set for Friday, August 11, 2006, at the **BLM Wildwood Recreation Area's** beautiful **Pioneer Shelter**. Mountain View picnic area, where the picnic has been held for many years, was booked, so, as Bev Pratt put it, "We are inked in at Pioneer Shelter, east and west ends."

Wildwood, as those who've attended the previous picnics there know, is about 40 miles east of Portland on U.S. Highway 26 between Brightwood and Zigzag. Watch for the BLM sign on the south side of the highway, and follow the signs to the Pioneer Shelter.

Anyone who needs a ride should contact **Elmer Moyer** at 503-254-7302 or **Phil Hirl** at 503-590-3881, and transportation will be located for you. If you have questions, call **Elmer or Mary Moyer** at 503-254-7302 or email them at EEMoyer@webtv.net. Carpooling will save on parking fees, gasoline, and limited parking space.

Socializing will begin at 11:30 a.m., and lunch will be served at 12:30 p.m. As usual, you'll enjoy a good lunch catered by Dave Dalton and great companionship. Old friends will meet and hash over old times and new happenings. You'll see people you haven't seen in years. You might even meet somebody new.

Who knows what else might happen? Maybe you'll start your Christmas shopping early by buying a few copies of *We Had An Objective In Mind* from **Rolf Anderson** or one of his book peddlers to give to those relatives and friends who still don't know what you did all those Forest Service years.

Don't miss it! Make your plans and your reservations soon. Reserve your picnic place or places by [need reservation information]. The whole shebang costs **only \$21.00 a plate**.

Speaking of cost, this year BLM booked this site for the OldSmokeys at no cost. *Thank you, BLM!* There is, however, the \$3.00 per vehicle parking fee that helps BLM maintain this area as the special place it is. The Northwest Forest Pass, now replaced by the Interagency Oregon-Washington Pass, is no longer accepted at this BLM site. So, if you want to pay by pass, you can use that Oregon-Washington Pass or a Golden Age Passport (for which virtually all OldSmokeys qualify!), a Golden Access Pass (for disabled persons), or a Golden Eagle Pass (for everybody else). If you use one of these, either display your pass or write your pass number on the payment envelope and place on your dash. Truth be told, BLM sure could use your three bucks!

*(Editor's Note: I thought I was through explaining those recreation passes when I finished that recreation staff job. Some things never end!)*

Pacific Northwest Forest Service Association  
**SUMMER PICNIC – AUGUST 11, 2006**  
**BLM Wildwood Recreation Area**

### RESERVATION FORM

**Social Time 11:30 a.m. -- Lunch 12:30 p.m.**

*Mail this reservation form and a check for \$21.00 per person (payable to PNWFSA) to:  
PNWFSA, P.O. Box 5583, Portland, OR 97228-5583*

Please reserve \_\_\_\_\_ picnic lunches at \$21.00 each for (names exactly as they will appear on name tags):

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

My check for \$\_\_\_\_\_ is enclosed. Please print your name here: \_\_\_\_\_

*Please send your reservation form in no later than July 25, 2006*

## Letters

### **Walt Furen** remembers Red Ketcham...

Sure sorry to lose Red this past year. [He was] a very dear friend who hired me to [the] Forest Service on the Fremont in 1958. Special guy!

### **V. Jay Hughes** recalls people and places...

We were surprised to read Sherri Ashcroft's note [in the Winter 2006 issue] as her dad (Glenn Smith) worked for me three different times. [The]first [was] at Lakeview when he was 16 and came down from Portland to work on the Bly District. He let it be known that when he graduated from high school he was going to college to take forestry. I needed a scaler that summer so I got him and made him a scaler.

Next, after high school, military service, and college, he contacted me when I was Ranger at Unity and asked if I had a job for him. I said the only thing I had was a lookout. He was just married, and said they would take it. They lasted until late August when the military service called him back for a year.

Then when he graduated from OSU he contacted me again and I said I could get him a permanent appointment as a timber management assistant as my K.V. man. He and his wife Shirley and newly born Sherrie moved out to Rager on the Ochocho in June. Glenn was there for several years after I came to Pendleton before he transferred as Ranger to R5.

We have stayed in contact throughout the many years. In fact, after he got the book [*We Had An Objective In Mind* ordered for him by Sherri as a Christmas present], he contacted me and told me about it. So I wrote back and said I'd gotten it, read it....

The other interesting note was...from Evan Jones about the Jones. I came down from the Mt. Hood National Forest in the fall of 1941 to be Forrest Jones's compass man and I worked with him prior to going to Shevlin to work on the land exchanges with Shevlin-Hixon....

I enjoy the newsletter very much, but there are fewer and fewer each time that I know.

I will be ninety in early February. Enclosed is my check.  
*Editor's Note: Jay's check was returned. Members over 90 don't pay dues.*

### **Harold C. Chriswell** tries to pay dues after 90...

I thought I had paid my 2006 dues. Must be getting forgetful? Will be 95 in April and that's been a long time since joining the CCC in 1933.

*Editor's Note: Chris's check was returned, too.*

### **Jack Price** celebrates 90<sup>th</sup> birthday...

Seems like 2005 went by very fast. Feel very much a survivor with much to be thankful for.

Celebrated my ninetieth birthday by being taken on a cruise through the inside passage of Alaska with Mike and Jan! Was very enjoyable.

*Recalling a World War II experience, Jack continued with...*  
Gordon Smith, head of the NWLCI Association, sent pictures which I didn't know existed. Gordon's ship, the LCI 43, was

alongside unloading troops, as we were when German dive bombers destroyed our ship, LCI 20.

*Editor's Note: Jack will pay no more dues.*

### **G. Elton Thomas** retires as Acting Deputy Forest Supervisor, Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forests...

Well, a light snow is falling and the sun has set on the day and my Forest Service career. I have had a wonderful time and I wanted to pass a short note on to you as I walk out the door for the last time.

A pastor friend of mine wrote a book he titled *A Few Things I Learned Since I Knew It All*. I thought that was a great title and wanted to borrow from it to share a few things I picked up over the years. I learned:

-- the characters attracted to...the Forest Service are the stuff about which fiction writers could only dream.

-- if you buy a Rolex watch on the streets of New York city, it probably isn't.

-- as a staff officer, be wary of a gang of district rangers who want to "talk to you"!

-- some advice from a local fire chief affirming it is better to make your friends before you need them, and the men and women of the Washington State Department of Natural Resources and Fire Service are some of the best friends around.

-- a Goodman is also a Good Woman!

-- friends should never let friends light prescribed fires without adequate holding forces (especially if I am the prescribed burn boss).

-- success is a team sport and we all need mentors, coaches, and friends in life, and one of the greatest rewards is being there for others.

-- if people really concentrated on the important things in life, there'd be a shortage of good fishing poles.

This year the Forest Service celebrated its 100<sup>th</sup> birthday. That is an event worth noting in itself. Lately I've been impressed with the daunting challenges faced by the early pioneers of natural resource conservation.

The film *The Greatest Good* does an excellent job documenting the life and time of these leaders. The challenges they faced were overcome by dedicated men and women with a vision that guided their hard work and diligence. As a result, the American public is blessed with this outstanding treasure we call our National Forest System.

The current challenges facing the men and women of the Forest Service are no less intense, and I even heard the unspeakable question raised at a meeting a while back: "Will there be a National Forest System to celebrate in the next century?" If there is one thing I've found throughout my career, the final answer to that question will depend in large part on the men and women who choose to make the Forest Service their vocation collaborating with an informed public. It will take a combined effort from the citizen-owners who cherish and value their national forests and dedicated agency personnel who earn their respect each and every day.

You can do it! My great-great-great grandchildren are counting on you...and so am I. Thank you for all the memories and I wish you the very best.

**Ed Elliott retires...**

On February 3, 2006, I retired from the Forest Service. I was the purchasing agent for the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area and the Mt. Hood National Forest (including some purchasing for the Timber Lake Job Corps Center) when I retired.

**Don Franks on historic Cabin Lake Ranger Station...**

Sure glad to see some interest in Cabin Lake.

Remember, I live most of the year in Fort Rock, so I am close by and can show anyone the ranger station if you are out that way. If you call ahead, I will try to get access to each building.

What a great place to camp if members want to come out and work when the project starts. Lots of wildlife in winter and a great birding spot in summer. Lots of deer close by now, also elk. Antelope still bunched up and feeding on alfalfa fields. No water in campground until we get project up and running, but camping in travel trailers would be fine.

*(Editor's Note: Restoration of historic Cabin Lake Ranger Station on the Deschutes National Forest is scheduled to start with a June 2-9 June Passport in Time project. See page 5 for more information.)*

**Connie Ronayne on the newsletter...**

My family and I would like you to know how much we appreciated you getting out the news of Bill's passing last October.

The presence of many of his old Forest Service friends at Bill's funeral mass meant a great deal to us, and I'm only sorry I didn't get a chance to talk with all of you there.

We continue to be comforted and edified by the many warm cards and personal recollections of Bill's influence in the development of individuals' Forest Service careers.

I continue to enjoy reading the interesting articles in the PNWFSA newsletters, and hunting for familiar names and their news. Your publication is great.

**Dan Abraham on the newsletter editor...**

Congratulations, I think, on volunteering (?) to become newsletter editor.

Enjoyed your book, *Uncle Sam's Cabins*. I lived in two of those places. Gold Beach ranger house 1955-61, and yes, I did get all that jungle cut back and make the place look like someone really lived there. Also, office log cabin at Fish Lake, summer of 1948, when I was foreman of the 14-man fire crew stationed there at the remount. ... Sending along a blurb about getting out of the Army and back into the Forest Service that you may be able to use.

*(Editor's Note: Thanks, Dan. See pages 14-15.)*

**Bill & Pat Ciesla on the Reunion in Portland...**

Good seeing everyone during the big reunion in Portland. On our trip home [to Fort Collins, Colorado] we had another nice reunion with Forest Service friends in Missoula.

**Rita Glazebrook on the Reunion...**

Thank you [PNWFSA] for your letter re the distribution of auction funds from the 2006 Reunion. Whatever distribution is

made, I'm sure the participants...are assured that the excellent planning...will produce good planning in the future.

You all did such a great job.... Down to the smallest detail you covered all aspects of Forest Service hospitality as a family. I was thrilled to be there.

People who had known Tom – some of whom I had heard but never had met – greeted me and told me of past meetings with him. One group from Alaska asked me to lunch with them. It was all so heartwarming.

Thanks again for all your efforts.

**George Goddard on the Reunion...**

The 2005 reunion was superb! I wish I could have helped more. Thank you all.

**Carl Berntsen on the Reunion...**

I hope I get to attend future meetings such as you guys produced last September.

**John W. Nielsen of Region 4 to "Bob, Marlin, and Bob W." on the Reunion...**

You guys did a great job on putting [the Reunion] together and making it work.

We had a great time, got to visit with a lot of old friends. And it was a real pleasure to go on the little boat [ranger boat *Chugach* down from Alaska] ride. We learn about this way of doing work but never really got close to it until now.

Again, just a great job well done and a really good get together.

**Art Carroll on the Reunion...**

Super job on the Reunion! [It was] most memorable, so well organized and implemented, and a lot of fun. Saw many long time friends and had many laughs. Thank you PNW OldSmokeys who made this all happen. Will be hard to better this Reunion.

**Temple Hahn on the Reunion...**

Just a quick note to say how much Britta and I enjoyed the 2005 Forest Service Reunion.

The PNWFSA is commended for planning and conducting an outstanding event. The program was well structured and moved well. It was very meaningful to have Chief Bosworth and his Leadership Team participating, which kept us up-to-date with current issues facing the Forest Service – not just a program of remembering the "good old days." The previous Chiefs panel was fun. Also, there was ample time allowed to visit old friends.

It's a long way to come from Virginia, but we had other family visits in Oregon and decided [to] schedule the trip to coincide with the reunion – figured we would know at least a few folks. Wow, we did not realize we knew so many people. Britta teased me that she could not let me out of the hotel room since I might not make it back – there was so much visiting to do! One of the highlights was talking with Bob Tokarczyk, who was my team leader on and engineering survey crew out of the Gifford Pinchot SO in 1955 and later my boss when I was a JF on Mt. Adams RD on the GP. A great event.

**Marylou Wood** *on the Reunion...*

Congratulations to everyone who worked so hard on the Reunion. You all did a superb job, and I really was impressed and proud to belong to the Forest Service family.

**Emil & Dorene Sabol** *on an OldSmokeys reunion in Arizona...*

Some of us who served at Oakridge, on the Willamette National Forest, have an annual reunion in early September each year. It's held at various places on the Willamette such as Waldo Lake, Packard Creek, Foster Lake, etc.

This year, a number of ex-Oakridgers who snowbird in Arizona got together in February at our house in Surprise, Arizona, near the Sun Cities. Dorine made lunch for Bob and Judy Hetzer, Lloyd and Betty Soule, John and Bonna Wilson, John and Penne Devereaux, and Hank and Renee (Kopecky) Warnecke. (Hank and renee aren't ex-Oakridgers, but were a welcome addition to the group.)

As you would expect, there was a lot of slash burned, fires fought, and timber cut as we remembered the "good old days."

**Hank Hays** *to Marlin on Region 10...*

Have you discussed adding R-10 to the PNWFSA? I was in R-6, R-1, but most years in R-10 (Tongass).

**Vincent Puleo** *on life in Eugene...*

I was married to my high school sweetheart Rosemary in August of 2004 and continue to live in Eugene. I would love to hear from any of you.

**Jim Abernathy** *on moving to Federal Way...*

We have moved to Federal Way, Washington, so that we will be closer to our daughters and grandchildren. We welcome anyone that gets up this way to look us up.

**Russ Mitchell** *on life in Bend...*

Not much new here. Play golf in the summer, tennis in the winter, have dinner with friends, and watch the kids and grandkids grow up. Retirement has been good.

**Art & Suzy Lyons** *on life in Alaska...*

We are short-term missionaries here with Village Missions. If anyone is interested I have a "blog" with photos at <yukonart.blogspot.com>.

**Claude Elton** *on life in Arizona...*

All is well with us and we are enjoying our retirement here in Sun City. We are starting out 11<sup>th</sup> year here so I guess we will just stay here.

**Jon Stewart** *on the Pacific Crest Trail...*

I was too busy hiking the Pacific Crest National Scenic Trail last year to participate. Now that I have [almost] finished, I'll have a little more time.

*(Editor's Note: A new lifetime member, Jon walked the Washington stretch of the PCT a couple summers ago, the Oregon stretch the next summer, and most of the California stretch in 2005. He will finish off the High Sierra part this summer.)*

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## Memories

**Arlyn Duane Beck**

Arlyn D. Beck died December 28, 2005, at age 89 in Baker City, Oregon. He was a PNWFSA member. Arlyn was born August 14, 1916, in Molalla, Oregon. His family moved to La Grande when he was 12. He joined the CCC in 1936 where he did his first work for the Forest Service; that led to his 34 year Forest Service career. He retired in 1972 as an assistant forest engineer on the Wallowa-Whitman National Forest. He married Jeanette Delepierre on November 27, 1939.

Survivors include his wife; son Walter; daughters Kay Beck, Arlyne Sater, and Barbara Higgins; plus grand, great, and great-great-grand children.

**Constance Brady**

Constance Brady died March 6, 2006, at age 76. She was a PNWFSA member and wife of Paul. Constance Teed was born on January 6, 1930, in Boise, Idaho, and graduated from the University of Idaho. She married Paul in 1951. They moved to West Linn, Oregon, in 1977. Paul worked in R-6 Lands and Minerals.

Survivors include her husband, daughters Lenora Westbrook and Joan Brady, son Stephen, one brother, and four grandchildren.

**Cable, LaVone**

LaVone Cable died March 18, 2006, at age 86. She was a

PNWFSA lifetime member who worked for the Research Station, for several Regional Office divisions, and as secretary for regional foresters Herb Stone, Charlie Connaughton, and Ted Schlapfer.

*Please watch for "Remembering LaVone Cable" in the Summer 2006 newsletter.*

**Barrett Michael Coughlan**

Barret M. Coughlan died December 27, 2005, at age 83. He was born December 4, 1922, in New York City. Barrett served in the Army during World War II. Later he received a degree in forestry and started a career with the Forest Service. He retired as TM Staff on the Gifford Pinchot National Forest.

Survivors include his daughters Cathy Murphy and Laurie Batterson; step-daughters Lara Ferguson, Janet Sanders, and Connie Zlatkos; step-sons Willie Drumond, Burwood Turpin, and Joseph Turpin; sister Constance Barron; and grand children and great-grandchildren.

**Mary Kathryn Crawford**

Mary K. Crawford died December 23, 2005, at age 94. She was a PNWFSA member and widow of Ralph Crawford, Supervisor of the Deschutes National Forest in the 1950s. Mary was born in Indianapolis, Indiana, February 10, 1911, and moved to Roseburg with her family in 1925. She married Ralph on August 29, 1932. They lived in Bend from 1939 to 1956 and then moved to Prescott, Arizona. After Ralph died in 1987, she moved to Salem.

Survivors include her daughters Barbara Payseno, Patricia

Mackey, and Teri Jones, and seven grand and 11 great-grand children.

### **JoAnn Dodge**

JoAnn Dodge died February 9, 2006, at age 74. She was born November 8, 1931, in Ashland, Oregon, and spent most of her life in the Rogue Valley. She married Steven J. Dodge on August 20, 1953. He died in 1987. JoAnn began working for the Forest Service in 1974 and retired in 1994. She was active in many organizations in the Medford area.

Survivors include two daughters, Ginny Hinrichs and Paula Chapman; sister Patti Johnson; brother Pete Gosnell; and six grand and eight great-grand children.

### **Vida "Vi" Marie Fields**

Vida M. Fields of Union, OR, died December 25, 2005 at age 95. She was born April 5, 1910, in Crystal Valley, Michigan. She married Millard J. Buffum on July 9, 1927, and they raised six children. Millard died in 1963. Vi married William F. Fields on April 23, 1965, and they moved to Oregon. Vi worked for the Forest Service as a Recreation Forestry Technician for a number of years. She was the first woman host for the new Union Creek Campground in the late 1960s and worked at the Anthony Lakes Campground on the Wallowa-Whitman National Forest.

Survivors include three daughters, Lois Magnuson and Bev Riggs of Michigan, and Jan Hull of Union; step-son Kenneth Fields of Bend; one sister; and 13 grand, 30 great-grand, and eight great-great-grandchildren.

### **Warren Samuel Miller**

Warren S. Miller died January 3, 2006, at age 88. He was born in Independence, Iowa, on January 19, 1917. Warren served in the Army Air Corps and flew B-26 medium bombers in Europe during World War II. After the war, he graduated from Utah State University and started his Forest Service career on the Ochoco National Forest in 1951 as a junior forester and later assistant ranger on the Snow Mountain District. He was district ranger at both Dale and Heppner on the Umatilla National Forest, and moved to Dallas after retiring in 1977. In 1945 he married Pauline Belle Engelman. She died in 2004.

Survivors include his daughter, Sara, and two grandchildren.

### **Lawrence E. Olpin**

Lawrence E. Olpin died January 18, 2006, at age 93. Larry was a PNWFSA member. He was born April 11, 1912, in Nephi, Utah. He enrolled in the CCC in July 1933 and left in February 1935 to accept employment with the Forest Service. Larry served in a number of positions in R-4 and became the R-4 Assistant Regional Accountant. Later he moved to the WO as Accountant and Fiscal Inspector for Internal Audit, then to R-6 as Regional Budget Officer. He retired in July 1970. Larry served in World War II with the Army Air Corps in Panama and the Galapagos Islands to protect the Panama Canal. He married Florence Chase in Nephi in September 1933. She died in 1990.

Survivors include two sons, David L. of Provo, Utah, and Jon D. of St. Anthony, Idaho, and six grand and eight great-

grand children.

### **Stephen J. Paulson**

Stephen Paulson died February 15, 2006, at age 60. He was a PNWFSA member. Steve was born July 15, 1945, at Devil's Lake, North Dakota. He graduated from Humboldt State with a forestry degree, and worked in California, Washington DC, and Oregon. Steve retired from R-6 T.M. in 2002 after 37 years in the Forest Service and settled in Lincoln, California. He served in the U.S. Army in Vietnam.

Survivors include his wife Mary, son Kevin, daughter Shannon Howe, mother Pearl Paulson; sister Edie Paulson, and grandchildren Larry, Dylan, and Melody Howe and Tristan, Audrey, and Madison Paulson.

### **Florence Mardell Quam**

Florence M. Quam died January 12, 2006, at age 95. She was a PNWFSA member, and widow of Clyde, a long-time AO on the Willamette National Forest. Florence M. Herman was born October 21, 1910, in Harrisburg, Oregon, graduated from high school there, and earned a B.S. degree in education at the University of Oregon. She married Clyde on September 19, 1932, in Corvallis. He died August 6, 2000.

Survivors include two sons, Milton and Lynn; daughter Martha Bennett; and six grand and 11 great-grand children.

### **Lowell E. Smith, Jr.**

Lowell E. Smith died January 8, 2006, at age 56. He was born in Olympia, Washington, on February 21, 1949. He graduated from North Thurston High School in 1967 and Centralia Community College in 1970, and worked for the Forest Service for 34 years. He spent many years at the Dennie Ahl Seed Orchard on the Olympic National Forest. Lowell married Truene Stohl on February 21, 1970.

Survivors include his wife, sons Chad and Torrie, daughter Patti, two grandchildren, mother, and one sister.

### **Janet Speight**

Janet Speight died February 19, 2006, at age 63. She was the wife of Hugh, retired Law Enforcement Special Agent for R-6. Janet Butterfield was born July 18, 1942, in Utah. She married Hugh in 1961 and moved to Portland in 1972.

Survivors include her husband, daughters Melanie Ijams and Merrilee Koppes, son Jody D., father, four brothers, one sister, and seven grandchildren.

### **John Charles Sprenger**

John C. Sprenger died February 17, 2006, at age 41. He was the son of Fred and Carole Sprenger, PNWFSA members. John was born in John Day, Oregon, on February 4, 1965, and had been diabetic since age seven. He received B.S. and M.S. degrees from Oregon State University and taught inmates for GED preparations through the Oregon Department of Corrections in Salem.

Survivors include his wife Mary, daughter, Allison K., brothers James and David, parents Fred and Carole, and two grandmothers.

## Changes

The following membership changes have occurred since publication of the *Membership Directory 2006*.

**Abernathy, Laurence K. (Jim) & Carole** – Change address:

**Amann, Jim** -- Change phone & email:

**Anderson, June T.** -- Change address:

**Beck, Arlyn D.** -- Deceased, December 28, 2005: Jeanette survives

**Bennett, Chester A. (Chet)** -- Change addresses:

**Bowman, Larry & Karen** -- New members:

**Brady, Connie** -- Deceased, March 6, 2006: Paul survives

**Burgess, Carolyn** -- Change phone:

**Cable, LaVone** -- Deceased, March 18, 2006

**Canutt, Paul (Rod)** -- Add email:

**Cardin, Phil & Susan** -- New members:

**Cavin, Mike & Susan** -- New members:

**Crawford, Mary K.** -- Deceased, December 23, 2005: widow of Ralph Crawford

**Davis, Ned & Barbara** -- Change email:

**Elliott, Edwin** -- Add email:

**Elton, Claude R. & Shirley** -- Change email:

**Fickes, Dwight & Fran** -- New members:

**Frost, Ray W. & Wanita** -- Change phone:

**Goddard, George** -- Add email:

**Hastie, Toby & Dee** -- New members:

**Healy, Bob** -- Change email:

**Kentner, Edwin D. & Marilyn** -- Add spouse:  
Marilyn

**Lee, Esther Davis** -- Change email:

**Leuthauser, Ann** -- Change email:

**Lowe, John E. & Deltha** -- Change email:

**MacWilliams, John D. (Doug) & Melodee** -- New members:

**Miller, Frank** -- Add email:

**Novy, Robert L. & Mary** -- Change phone & email:

**Paulson, Stephen J.** -- Deceased, February 15, 2006:  
Mary survives

**Puleo, Vincint S.** -- Change phone:

**Quam, Mardell L.** -- Deceased, January 12, 2006

**Schramek, Robert W. & Dorothy** -- Change email:

**Sommerfeld, Kay & Leon Greene** -- New members:

**Stewart, Jonathan L. (Jon) & Marty** -- New members:

**Tower, Pauline R.** -- Membership cancelled on request.

**Virgin, Katherine & Othell** -- Correct address:

**Wick, Herb & Sharon** -- New members:

### *Change, or not*



*Photo by Les Joslin*

Historic Star Ranger Station on the Rogue River National Forest is, according to Forest Service archaeologist Jeff LaLande, “one of the oldest remaining Forest Service structures in the nation still in use.”

This building, a 12-foot by 20-foot wood-frame structure with shiplap siding and a wood shingle roof, was built in 1911 by two local carpenters hired by the Forest Service to build a ranger station on an Applegate River site. After 1914, the building was used to store horse tack, and became known as “the old tack room” around the station. Later still, it was used to store tree marking paint and other supplies. It’s been moved to at least three locations within the Star Ranger Station complex over the years. Restored during the 1990s, it now sits in the front yard of the modern Star Ranger Station.

# Books

## New Books about the Forest Service for Spring and Summer Reading

Many periodicals review and recommend books for summer reading, and this spring your *OldSmokeys Newsletter* is no exception. But, instead of the books all the fancy magazines review and recommend, your newsletter focuses on new books about the Forest Service.

In addition to our own *We Had An Objective In Mind* that Rolf Anderson reports on below and that most of you have read by now, many of the recent Forest Service books were stimulated by last year's centennial celebration.

Leading the pack of Forest Service centennial books is James G. Lewis's *The Forest Service and the Greatest Good*, the companion book to the documentary film *The Greatest Good*. Published by the Forest History Society, this lavishly illustrated book provides an engaging look at the Forest Service's first 100 years as it enters its second century of service. For more information or to order visit the Forest History Society website at <[www.ForestHistory.org](http://www.ForestHistory.org)> or call 919-682-9319.

The centennial edition of Harold K. Steen's classic *The U.S. Forest Service: A History* remains the definitive history of the Outfit. Published in 2004 by the Forest History Society in association with the University of Washington Press, this book (originally published in 1976) provides a broad perspective on the Service's administrative and policy controversies and successes. Steen's updated book addresses a number of recent concerns including the spotted owl issue, wilderness and roadless areas, new research, timber sales, and workplace diversity in a male-oriented field. To order, contact the University of Washington Press at <[www.washington.edu/uwpress](http://www.washington.edu/uwpress)> or call 1-800-441-4115, or call the Forest History Society at 919-682-9319.

Another contribution to recent Forest Service history is *Jack Ward Thomas: The Journals of a Forest Service Chief* (edited by Harold K. Steen) in which the reader experiences the challenges and controversies that confronted the 13<sup>th</sup> Chief of the Forest Service during his 1993-1996 tenure. Also published in 2004 by the Forest History Society in association with the University of Washington Press, it is available from both via the websites and telephone numbers above.

On the lighter side is Stan Tixier's *The Badge With A Tree*, the 2005 prequel to Stan's 2001 novel *Green Underwear*. In the words of Dale Robertson, 12<sup>th</sup> Chief of the Forest Service, Stan "has done a great job of capturing the exciting life of a Forest Ranger and his family working and living on a western National Forest. Reading this book, you can experience the excitement and adventure of a Ranger's career." Stan has worked at every level of the Forest Service, and retired as regional forester of the Intermountain Region. Both are available from Western Heritage Company at <[www.westernheritage.com](http://www.westernheritage.com)> or call 800-303-5703.

In a similar vein, Gil Davies' 2003 novel *The Forest Ranger Who Could* tells the story of fictitious Ranger Buck Stonewall's 1905-1912 service on a fictitious national forest somewhere in the West. Gil is a retired Klamath National Forest administrative officer, and his book is also available from the Western Heritage Company.

Hot off the press this spring is Les Joslin's new *Toiyabe Patrol: Five U.S. Forest Service Summers East of the High Sierra in the 1960s*. Les served five summers as a Toiyabe National Forest fire guard. This book is about those summers. After a naval officer career, he returned to the Forest Service as a volunteer, forestry technician, and district staff officer on the Deschutes National Forest. To order this or other Wilderness Associates books visit the publisher's website at <[www.wildernessheritage.com](http://www.wildernessheritage.com)> or write to Wilderness Associates, P.O. Box 5822, Bend, OR 97708.

### Speaking of books

## Rolf Anderson Reports on Our *We Had An Objective In Mind* Book Project

*We Had An Objective In Mind* continues to be popular and in demand. The first printing of 1,100 books sold out before the end of 2005, and about 200 copies of the second printing of 750 books had been sold through February. That left about 550 copies on hand on March 1.

The sales strategy has been to make the book available to PNWFSA members, family, and friends first, then to current Forest Service employees, and then to the general public. That strategy has been very successful. The book continues to be available at PNWFSA meetings as well as by via newsletter coupons and the OldSmokeys website. The focus now is selling to Forest Service employees at supervisors' offices and ranger stations. The book sellers have their own techniques. A very successful one is to talk at all-employee meetings about how and why the book was published, read a few selections from the book, and then offer the book for sale.

The employees love these stories, and always ask for more. And they buy lots of books! After one reading, Kathy Harbick, administrative staff leader on the McKenzie River Ranger District, Willamette National Forest, wrote: "That is great Rolf. I have enjoyed the book. It was a nice touch having you read passages. With all the change the Forest Service is going through right now, this is a such a good perspective and grounding opportunity for all of us.

The direct sales strategy has worked so well, the book hasn't yet been placed in retail outlets. At least 23 members have sold or currently are selling books at the local level throughout Oregon and Washington. A list of their names would take up too much space, so will be saved for later this year when sales of our current inventory wind down. If you know of a group that would like a book presentation and reading, or if you want to do a reading yourself, please contact me, Rolf Anderson, by telephone or email.

***We Had An Objective In Mind – Book Order Form***

Mail this order form and check to: PNWFSA, P.O. Box 5583, Portland, Oregon 97228-5583

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Address \_\_\_\_\_

I wish to order \_\_\_\_\_ copy/copies of the book *We Had An Objective In Mind: The U.S. Forest Service in the Pacific Northwest 1905 to 2005, A Centennial Anthology*

Check one of the two following options:

I wish to pick my book(s) up at a Friday luncheon in Beaverton. \_\_\_\_\_

I wish to have my book(s) mailed to the address above. \_\_\_\_\_

The book price is \$16 per copy. Add \$3 per copy for shipping and handling if you choose to have your book(s) mailed to you.

Enclosed is a check for \$\_\_\_\_\_ made out to PNWFS Association.

*If you don't want to cut up your copy of the OldSmokeys Newsletter, photocopy this book order form!*

## ***The Way We Were***

**Memoir, 1946** *By Dan Abraham*

Sixty years ago, on February 19, 1946, I walked out the front gate at Fort Lewis, a Ruptured Duck on my uniform, some mustering-out pay in my pocket, and a big smile on my face. Back home in Portland, I wrote to the Willamette National Forest, telling them I was now available to continue my interrupted career, which to that date consisted of the summer of 1942 on a Colville National Forest fire crew. Jack Saubert, the newly-appointed ranger at Cascadia, responded, offering a lookout job with the chance of some maintenance work before fire season, depending on funds. Sound familiar? In late April the word came to come on down and start work on a trail crew by May 6.

I blew a whole ten bucks at the Army-Navy surplus store for a down mummy bag and showed up on the magic date. The pay was \$73.15 per pay period. The others on the crew were Otis King, Al Mason, and Joe Hoskins. We were all new vets, two Army, two Navy. We camped first at the Canyon Creek shelter, smack dab in number-one peeler country. Not much trail work had been done during the war, and a lot of those beauties were on the ground. Some took most of a day to make two cuts through. It was pre-chainsaw times, and the only tools we had were misery whips, peavies, hodags, and other such maximum-exercise devices.

Later, we moved up to the Black Creek shelter, and then on to Bear Pass, just below Twin Buttes Lookout, on the water divide between the South Santiam River and the Blue River. When it came to move again, we had to work the six miles over to the Tidbits shelter, and the packer was to come in and move our camp along behind us. Half way to Tidbits, we ran into snow on the ground, but kept going, and by the time we got to Tidbits it was three feet deep. Overly naïve as we were about horses and snow, we just built up the fire and figured the packer would show up soon. By the time he did show up, next morning, we had burned our way through a two-year supply of firewood. The packer was on foot, and somewhat angry. Nothing a packer hates worse than having to walk – must have something to do with those funny shoes they wear?

Toward the end of June we went to guard school at the old Belknap CCC camp, upriver from McKenzie Bridge. Forest Supervisor J.R. Bruckart took a photo of the Cascadia crew, 24 in all. Future OldSmokeys **Al Sorseth** and **Dick Swartzlender** were in that group. I guess the woods that summer, 60 years ago, were full of ex-GIs, swabbies, jarheads, etc., happy to be back in their more native element.

### **First Quarter 2006 OldSmokey Donors**

*January 1-March 31*

Chester Bennett, Jr.	Jill McLean	Claude McLean	Richard Pomeroy
John Butruille	Walt Furen	Ray Schaaf	Mervin Schouten
Duane Ecker	Kathleen Higginbotham	Gene Pong	Donald Strong
Robert Harris	Raymond Crist	Robert Jacobs	Robert Williams



*Cascadia Ranger District personnel at Willamette National Forest guard school in 1946. District Ranger Jack Saubert, third from left, front row. Future OldSmokeys Dick Swartzlander and Al Sorseth, sixth and seventh from left in back row, and Dan Abraham on right end of back row.*

*Photo by Forest Supervisor J.R. Bruckart*



*Willamette National Forest district rangers at 1946 guard school. Left to right: Fred Brien, West Boundary Ranger District; Tenny Moore, Detroit Ranger District; C.B. McFarland, Oakridge Ranger District; Brit Ash, McKenzie Ranger District; Jack Saubert, Cascadia Ranger District.*

*Photo by Forest Supervisor J.R. Bruckart*

## Keep Those Handles Red

Red paint is pleasing to the eye – in the proper place – which is on the handles of Forest Service tools, from six inches to a foot above the ferrule.

“I have never yet seen District Ranger Bramhall on an extended field trip over his district,” says Supervisor Durbin, “but that he had a small can of red (tool handle) paint, wrapped up together with a rag and kept in the bottom of his buggy or buckboard. Any tool handle on which the paint was worn off was repainted then and there as found, without being put off till some future time. A little thing, perhaps, but such things develop the habit of care with property, and a trip to Bramhall’s district will disclose that all Government property is in the proper place and secure from exposure and theft.”

-- From *The Ranger Digest*: California District, January 30, 1920

## Out of the Past

On August 8, 1960, young forester Wendall Jones taught Girl Scouts from all over the United States and around the world how to use map and compasses at the Girl Scouts All-States Encampment at Todd Lake on the Deschutes National Forest.

*U.S. Forest Service photograph by Leland Prater.*

*Got interesting pictures of and short stories about yourself or your friends during the old days of the Forest Service? Send 'em in and share 'em with other OldSmokeys in this **Out of the Past** feature! If I don't get any, I'll find pictures and make up the stories myself!*

— Editor



**Pacific Northwest  
Forest Service Association  
P.O. Box 5583  
Portland, OR 97228-5583**

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## Spring 2006

*Join us for lunch on the last Friday of every month at the Beaverton Elks Club, 3500 SW 104<sup>th</sup> Avenue, off Canyon Road, just east of Highway 217, at 11:00 a.m.*

### Area Representatives

**Regional Office:** vacant  
**Colville:** Kermit Link  
**Deschutes:** Arlie Holm  
**Fremont:** Richard "Buck"  
Woodward  
**Gifford Pinchot (east):**  
Jim Bull  
**Gifford Pinchot (west):**  
Ray Scharpf  
**Malheur:** vacant  
**Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie:**  
Lee Boecksteigel  
**Mt. Hood:** Doug Porter  
**Ochoco:** Duane Ecker  
**Okanogan:** Bill Krell

**Willamette:** Al Sorseth  
**Winema:** Ted Yarosh  
**Olympic:** Dave Yates  
**Rogue River:** Ron Ketchum  
**Siskiyou:** Ron McCormick  
**Siuslaw:** Ted Gump  
**Umatilla:** Gil Davis  
**Umpqua:**  
Dick Schwartzlender  
**Wallowa-Whitman:**  
Art Schimke  
**Wenatchee:** Kjell Bakke

### Officers

**President:** Marlin Plank  
**President-Elect:** John Poppino  
**Past President:** Bob Tokarczyk  
**Secretary:** Bev Pratt  
**Treasurer/Data Base Mgr:**  
Vern Clapp  
**Archivist:** Dave Kolb  
**Newsletter Editor:** Les Joslin  
**Website Manager:**  
Don Nearhood  
**Membership Chair:** vacant  
**Banquet Chair:**  
Emil & Dorine Sabol  
**Picnic Chair:** Jim List  
**NAFSR Representative:**  
John Marker  
**Legal Advisor:** Smoke Lewis

### Coming Events

**Banquet – May 21, 2006**  
**Picnic – August 11, 2006**

**Next time you're in Bend, visit The High Desert Museum to see the exhibit "Century of Service: The U.S. Forest Service in the High Desert" currently showing in the *Spirit of the West* gallery.**

*Address Changes? Please let PNWFSA know. A few weeks delay can result in you not getting your newsletter.*

This newsletter is published quarterly by the Pacific Northwest Forest Service Association (PNWFSA) for the benefit of its members and various offices of the U.S. Forest Service in Region 6. Copies are also made available to all other Forest Service retiree organizations. Annual PNWFSA membership is \$10. Lifetime membership is \$125. Specific requirements for membership eligibility and a membership application are available from the PNWFSA, P.O. Box 5583, Portland, Oregon 97228-5583.