



OldSmokeys Newsletter

Newsletter of the Pacific Northwest Forest Service Retirees—Winter 2010

President's Message—Bruce Hendrickson

OldSmokey **John D. Berry** has allowed the Board of Directors to place his name in nomination for the office of President-elect of the PNWFSA. Membership approval of John's nomination will put him in line to succeed current President-elect **Bill Shenk**, who will succeed me and be installed as President at the May 16, 2010, Spring Banquet, and to succeed Bill as President in 2011.

John's biography and an official ballot are on page 3 of this issue. Please show John your support by returning a ballot (or by voting online) before February 15, 2010. You may, of course, vote for another person in the ballot space for a "write-in" candidate's name.

To prepare for this changeover, the Board of Directors will meet with the new President and President-elect at its January 2010 meeting, weather permitting. At that meeting, Board members will share the benefits of their long experience and make suggestions about the current and future needs of the OldSmokeys.

This issue of your *OldSmokeys Newsletter* contains a review of and ordering information for OldSmokey **Jerry Williams'** new book, *The U.S. Forest Service in the Pacific Northwest: A History*, sponsored by your Pacific Northwest Forest Service Association and the Pacific Northwest Region, U.S. Forest Service, and just published by Oregon State University Press. As an OldSmokey, you have the opportunity to purchase one or more copies of this important new book at a 15 percent discount if you order that copy or those copies before March 31, 2010. Information about how to do that has been promulgated by OldSmokey **Vern Clapp** in an OldSmokey e-Note. Ordering information and an order form are also found on the PNWFSA website at <www.oldsmokeys.org> maintained by OldSmokey **Don Nearhood**. Ordering information is found in the review on page 17 of this issue of your *OldSmokeys Newsletter*.

All of us should thank Jerry and the OldSmokey Book Committee chaired by **Dave Scott** and comprising **Ron Walters, Phil Hirl, Wendall Jones, and Rolf Anderson** for all they did to complete this monumental task on behalf of Forest Service history. Thanks are also due the Forest Service for the major financing it provided to this project.

The Board of Directors has created two working groups: one to research and recommend which historic OldSmokey records and documents to collect and how and where to store them, and another to research and recommend means of backing up and storing current PNWFSA financial records and other sensitive information—the stuff on computers that requires secure backup. These groups will report early in the new year.

Bruce Hendrickson

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Visit the Pacific Northwest Forest Service Association website at: www.oldsmokeys.org

Forum

Of Gray Ships and Green Rigs

You don't have to write a master's degree thesis on suasion theory—which, by the way, I did at the University of Colorado in 1974—to know why U.S. Navy ships are gray and U.S. Forest Service rigs were and should be green.

There is a single, one-word reason why: *presence*. Just as the mere presence of a gray naval ship on the horizon can send a signal of support or deterrence, so a green Forest Service pickup—a distinctive and visible symbol that the Forest Service is there—can persuade the citizen-owners of the National Forest System that the Forest Service cares and is on the job for them and can dissuade those who might act contrary to their interests.

Half the rigs in the woods are white, so it's hard to tell a Forest Service rig from many others in today's post-green rig era. Thus the Outfit's presence—its availability and influence in the field—is diminished.

It's a moot point, of course. The decision has been made and implemented. But it merits future consideration.

-- Les Joslin

Don't Close Rager Ranger Station

As one of the original "Rager Rats" and starter of bringing [the Paulina Ranger District of the Ochoco National Forest] out of the "old custodial" phase, I totally disagree with closing out Rager Ranger Station. It is needed as it has been a part of the Paulina-Izee community since 1951.

While I was Ranger there for only four years, it became my favorite district and we (my wife and three kids) became a part of the Paulina community. If we were writers, we could write a book about the [station and district] from the beginning of Rager in 1906 on as I knew Ranger Charley Congleton [the first district ranger on the Paulina Ranger District] real well and his early life there.

-- V. Jay Hughes, Pendleton, Oregon

I agree with Jay that it truly would be a great loss to the whole area to close Rager Ranger Station.

We were the first to live year-round at Rager. We had only gravel roads at best. Now they are all surfaced, so traveling is easy. The first winter we were snowed in for three months when I home schooled Ray. The twins were pre-school, but anxious to learn.

Jay's philosophy was always to be a service to the community as well as protector and custodian to the land and the forest. We realize times and situations change, but service and helping people never change.

-- Marie Hughes, Pendleton, Oregon

Editor's Note. OldSmokeys Jay and Marie Hughes both wrote in response to the article "Ochoco National Forest Struggles with Proposed Reorganization That Could Close Historic Rager Ranger Station" in the Fall 2009 OldSmokeys Newsletter.

An OldSmokey Colloquy: Whither the U.S. Forest Service?

OldSmokey **Jerry Wojack** set off a spate of absolutely fascinating thinking and writing by fellow OldSmokeys about a subject on many minds these days—the future of the Outfit to which they have devoted careers—when he suggested in an October 31, 2009, OldSmokeys e-Forum piece that the "only logical place" for the beleaguered U.S. Forest Service and the National Forest System "to go" within the structure of the U.S. Government's executive branch is to the National Park Service.

The responses of many OldSmokeys, published during the following two weeks in the OldSmokeys e-Forum, were so compelling I decided to edit and publish them in this issue of the *OldSmokeys Newsletter* for those who may not have read or had access to all of them and for the historical record. After getting what amounts to a very significant and intelligent OldSmokey conversation on this very important topic ready to publish, I reevaluated and decided not to publish this colloquy *in this newsletter* but to make it available as an attachment to an e-mail I will send to any reader who may request it by e-mailing me at <lesjoslin@aol.com>.

Why? Most who take on this editorship probably wonder, as I did, how to fill this quarterly newsletter with a balance of news and features of interest to OldSmokeys, only to discover that there is much more than can be published. They probably discover, as I have, that an editor has to make difficult choices to strike that balance between news about the OldSmokeys themselves found in most newsletter sections—*OldSmokeys News, Changes, New Members, Memories, and Letters*; updating news about current agency affairs found in the *Forest Service News* section; and items of interest offered in the various feature departments such as *Features, Books, Uncle Sam's Cabins, The Way We Were, and Out of the Past*.

When it came time to put this issue to bed, allocating seven pages of another 24-page issue—one third of the internal pages of another outsized issue—to that colloquy just did not meet the content and interest balance tests. Making tough decisions goes with the territory.

-- Les Joslin

"I may disapprove of what you say, but I will defend to the death your right to say it."

—Attributed to Voltaire

OldSmokeys News

OldSmokeys Set 2010 Banquet and Picnic Dates

The dates for two annual Pacific Northwest Forest Service Association events, the Spring Banquet and the Summer Picnic, were announced at the October 30, 2009, Board of Directors meeting.

The Spring Banquet is set for Sunday, May 16, at the Charbonneau Country Club in Wilsonville. Complete information and registration form will be in the Spring 2010 *OldSmokeys Newsletter*. OldSmokeys **Don** and **Jean Loff** are in charge of arrangements.

The Summer Picnic will be held on Friday, August 13, at the Wildwood Recreation Area on U.S. Highway 26 between Brightwood and Zigzag. OldSmokey **Rick Larson** is picnic chair.

Be sure to reserve both these dates now!

Election 2010

OldSmokeys Are Asked to Approve John D. Berry as PNWFSA President-elect

The PNWFSA Board of Directors has nominated OldSmokey **John D. Berry** to serve as its new President-elect. If approved, John will begin service in that office this spring and become President in the spring of 2011.

So, to show John how much we appreciate his willingness to lead the OldSmokeys in 2010 as President-elect and in 2011 as President, let's send in lots of votes (one per member, please) to approve this nomination.

John graduated from Oregon State University in 1973 with degrees in forest management and forest engineering, and in 1974 received a master's degree in forest hydrology. John served as a line officer in the U.S. Forest Service for 24 years of a 32-year career. John's first career assignment was as the first forest hydrologist on the Nicolet National Forest in Wisconsin. Subsequent assignments took him to the Salmon National Forest in Idaho and then in Region 6 to the Siuslaw National Forest before he served as district ranger on the Powers Ranger District of the Siskiyou National Forest and the Clackamas and Clackamas River ranger districts of the Mt. Hood National Forest. He served long-term details on the Olympic National Forest as deputy forest supervisor and in the WO as assistant director of engineering. John served the last six years of his career as forest supervisor of the Eldorado National Forest in California.

John's career interests were fire, safety, and civil rights. He began in fire with the State of Oregon and became a Redmond Air Center-based smokejumper. He was a division group leader on the Mt. Hood Area Incident Team and a single resource air tactical group leader. As a forest supervisor, he led regional and national cost review teams and served as team leader on a burn-over incident in Nevada and on a fire fatality review in California.

John and Glenda live in Happy Valley, Oregon, and also have a home near Sunriver where they relax and enjoy the river, hiking, and biking. John enjoys gardening, international travel, and genealogy. He and Glenda also enjoy time with their two daughters and three grandchildren.

John is a member of the National Smokejumper Association and has been an OldSmokey for more than 10 years.

Clip or copy the ballot below or just use a plain piece of paper or even an e-mail to cast your ballot to approve your Board's nomination of John D. Berry to serve as President-elect. Vote not later than February 15, 2010. E-mail ballots may be sent to Secretary Bev Pratt.

Pacific Northwest Forest Service Association
Winter 2010 Ballot for Election of New President-elect

The PNWFSA Board of Directors has nominated **John D. Berry** to serve as its new President-elect. Send in this Ballot to show John how much you support him and his willingness to serve as President-elect in 2010 and as President in 2011. The alternative is to write in the name of another member you would like to serve in these positions.

I cast my ballot for **John D. Berry** to serve as PNWFSA President-elect _____ (check here), or

I cast my ballot for _____ (write-in here) to serve as PNWFSA President-elect.

*Mail your ballot to PNWFSA, P.O. Box 5583, Portland, Oregon 97228 by February 15, 2010,
or cast your ballot by e-mail addressed to Secretary Bev Pratt .*

OldSmokeys News

OldSmokeys Recognized as 50-Year Society of American Foresters Members

OldSmokeys **Dick Buscher**, **Kent Mays**, and **Bob Tokarczyk** have recently been recognized as 50-year members of the Society of American Foresters at meetings of the Portland Chapter held at the World Forestry Center in Portland.

Bob was first. He received his 50-year award at the August meeting. Dick and Kent both received theirs at the October meeting. Congratulations to these three outstanding foresters and U.S. Forest Service veterans!

OldSmokey Ben Carson Honored at Commissioning of USS Makin Island

OldSmokey **Ben Carson** was one of six surviving members of the U.S. Marine Corps' famed Carlson's Raiders who stormed enemy-held Makin Island on August 17, 1942, honored at the commissioning of USS *Makin Island* (LHD-8) in San Diego on October 24, 2009.

Designed to carry marines into battle, the U.S. Navy's newest amphibious assault ship was named for that raid in which Ben fought. Nineteen-year-old Ben was one of a force of 221 marines of the 2nd Raider Battalion landed from two submarines to secure Makin Island from Japanese control. Led by Lieutenant Colonel Evans Fordyce Carlson, Ben and the other raiders routed the enemy forces based there, destroyed their installations, and acquired valuable intelligence before they were evacuated the next day by the same two submarines. Thirty marines were lost.

Sixty-seven years later Ben and the five other surviving members of that raid spent four days from October 22 to 25 in San Diego as special guests of the Navy. They were given a special tour of the ship on October 23, and were individually recognized by Admiral Patrick Walsh, principal speaker at the October 24 commissioning ceremony, for their courageous action on Makin Island.

Captain Robert G. Kopas, commanding officer of USS *Makin Island*, wrote to each of the Makin Island raid survivors: "You can be proud of this ship and the crew that will carry forward the name of Makin Island. Your contributions to this country and to the name Makin Island will never be forgotten. We are grateful to you for the 'Gung Ho' spirit that embodies everything we do here on board."

Ben served in the Marine Corps for 49 months, and spent 40 of those months overseas. His combat service didn't end with the Makin Island raid. He also saw action at Guadalcanal, Iwo Jima, and Bougainville, and received the Purple Heart for a wound suffered at Iwo Jima.

Seven thousand people attended the commissioning of USS *Makin Island*.

Prepared from multiple sources including the article "Hillsboro veteran, member of Carlson's Raiders, attends commissioning of USS Makin Island" by Gary Stutzman in the November 11, 2009, issue of The Hillsboro Argus.

OldSmokey Dick Spray Leads Successful Effort to List Santiam Wagon Road on National Register of Historic Places

Years of effort led by OldSmokey **Dick Spray** to preserve the historic Santiam Wagon Road have begun to pay off. The nomination to list the historic route across the Cascade Range on the National Register of Historic Places was approved by the Oregon Advisory Committee on Historic Preservation on October 22, 2009.

"Some of the committee members said it was the best nomination they had ever read," Dick said of the document prepared by the U.S. Forest Service enterprise team Heritage Stewardship Group based in Bend led by former Deschutes National Forest archaeologist Paul Claeysens. "The nomination was a year in preparation by this team of four archaeologists and historians. After a few minor edits, it will be submitted to the Keeper of the National Register."

"This National Register status will help immeasurably to protect the wagon road," continued Dick, whose op-ed pieces advocating protection of the route on the Deschutes and Willamette National Forests from certain recreational uses have appeared in the *OldSmokeys Newsletter*

"We won a partial victory in the ORV battle in the Santiam Pass area last year. These vehicles are now restricted to designated roads, and the roads open to them are considerably fewer than before." The historic route, which forms the southern boundary of the ORV play area in the pass vicinity, remains open to ORV use for about three miles with a posted 15 mile per hour speed limit. The Forest Service has installed barriers along the road, and a law enforcement officer is on duty most days. The lookout on Sand Mountain provides an additional deterrent to illegal or destructive use.

"The wagon road also won a matching grant of \$21,000 from the Oregon Historic Trails Fund that provides a total of \$42,000 to install kiosks along the route at Fish Lake and Cache Creek Toll Station; prepare interpretive materials, signs, maps, and brochures; and to obtain route markers for the road throughout its length," Dick added.

"All these things are helping to glue the various segments of the wagon road together into one continuous historic experience. The next step is to work toward designation of the route as a National Historic Trail under the National Trails Act of 1968. That will require Congressional action, first to study the eligibility of the wagon road, and then to designate it."

Prepared from an interview with and an e-mail from Dick Spray.

OldSmokey Karen Shimamoto Retires on 30 Years, Last Seven as Supervisor of Fremont-Winema National Forests

OldSmokey **Karen Shimamoto** retired from the U.S. Forest Service on December 31, 2009, after seven years as forest supervisor of the Fremont-Winema National Forests and 30 years of service in the Outfit.

Karen's career assignments have included deputy forest supervisor of the Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest, district ranger of the Sisters Ranger District and community relations staff officer on the Deschutes National Forest, and district ranger of the Warner Mountain Ranger District on the Modoc National Forest.

Karen and her husband Dick Mackey will spend time at their ranch in Alturas, California, and their home in Reno, Nevada, enjoying the company of family and friends. A lot more time will be spent traveling, hiking, skiing, quilting, and riding horses. Company is always welcome. Contact Karen at <Karen@shima.us>.

Prepared from Kathy Bowman's November 17, 2009, BottomLine, a November 29, 2009, e-mail from Karen, and the editor's memory.

OldSmokey Debra Mafera Named Region 6 Invasive Plant Manager of Year

OldSmokey **Debra Mafera** was named the Region 6 Invasive Plant Manager of the Year at the recent Region 6 Botany Program Manager's Meeting. Debra manages the invasive plant program on both the Deschutes and Ochoco National Forests and the Crooked River National Grassland.

The RO instituted this annual award to recognize the outstanding work the program's personnel are doing to manage a very difficult and complex problem. According to her nomination, Debra instituted the first "cross-forest" training program for both permanent and seasonal employees to standardize inventory data collection and management, greatly improved and increased communication with state and county weed managers, developed the first invasive plant management plan for Western Federal Highway Administration (WFHA) revegetation now being used on all WFHA projects, and greatly improved the timing and accuracy of treatment data entered into the FACTS data base.

"Of the many natural resource professionals I have worked with, I can honestly say that Deb is exceptional in her skills, knowledge, dedication, and commitment," said Katie Grenier, Deschutes National Forest botanist.

Prepared from an article by Shawna Bautista in the November 19, 2009, edition of The Thursday R6 Update.

OldSmokey Tom Mafera's Heppner Ranger District Conducted Third Annual High School Fire and Fuels Career Camp in October 2009

For the third year in a row, high school seniors from Morrow and Umatilla county high schools in Oregon spent five days learning about the U.S. Forest Service and potential careers in natural resources at the Heppner Ranger District's week-long residential Fire and Fuels Career Camp at Tupper Work Center.

The camp curriculum provides broad exposure to career and educational opportunities, map reading and orienteering, fire ecology and natural resource management, hazardous fuels reduction, fire suppression techniques, and Forest Service hiring processes.

Of the 30 students who completed the 2007 and 2008 camps, 14 have been offered summer seasonal temporary positions as firefighters, survey crew members, recreation and trails technicians, and incident dispatch operators.

OldSmokey **Tom Mafera**, district ranger on the Heppner Ranger District, initiated the first Tupper Fire and Fuels Career Camp in October 2007. This year, six students from Riverside High School in Boardman, six from Heppner High School, four from Echo High School, and one from Irrigon High School attended.

"This group of students started the week with a high level of interest and their enthusiasm grew throughout the week," Ranger Mafera said of the students who had nothing but good things to say about the camp. "They gave us an A minus. It appears they would prefer a little less classroom instruction."

Tom attributed the camp's success to "the efforts put forth by the employees of the Heppner Ranger District, Umatilla National Forest, and our many partners" whom he thanked.

Prepared from the article "Tupper Fire and Fuels Career Camp" by Joani Bosworth, Public Affairs Officer, Umatilla National Forest, published in the December 2, 2009, edition of The Thursday R6 Update.

OldSmokey Rolf Anderson Speaks on CCC for Linn County Historical Society

OldSmokey **Rolf Anderson** is scheduled to speak on "The CCC in Linn County" at 2:00 p.m. on Sunday, January 17, 2010, at the Lakeside Center of the Mennonite Village retirement community in southeastern Albany, Oregon. Rolf's talk is one in a series sponsored by the Linn County Historical Society and is free and open to the public.

Rolf, as all OldSmokeys know, edited the centennial history *We Had An Objective In Mind: The U.S. Forest Service in the Pacific Northwest 1905 to 2005* published by the Pacific Northwest Forest Service Association and now sold out. Rolf's 40-year U.S. Forest Service career included service as area ranger for the Oregon Dunes National Recreation Area from 1975 to 1976, long range planning staff officer for the Willamette National Forest from 1981 to 1992, and district ranger on the Sweet Home Ranger District from 1993 until he retired in 1998.

OldSmokey Emil Sabol Announces Disbanding of Oregon Chapter 4 of National Association of CCC Alumni

OldSmokey **Emil Sabol**, President of Oregon's Chapter 4 of the National Association of Civilian Conservation Corps Alumni (NACCCA) for the past 10 years, has announced the disbandment of the chapter and assumption of its work by CCC Legacy, NACCCA's successor organization.

"There just aren't many of us left," Emil said recently. Fifteen years ago, 50 people would attend the chapter's annual meetings. "Now we're lucky to draw half a dozen."

A major purpose of NACCCA and its chapters was to preserve the history of the CCC, President Franklin D. Roosevelt's so-called "Tree Army" that enrolled more than 3.5 million men

between 1933 and 1941 to perform conservation work on federal and state lands and projects. Each was paid \$30 a month, \$25 of which was sent home to their families to help them survive the Great Depression.

Emil was one of these, enrolling in the CCC in 1941 and serving at Camp Norrie, Michigan, before enlisting and serving in the U.S. Army Air Corps during World War II, earning a forestry degree, and serving 40 years in the U.S. Forest Service.

“For the past 20 years, the mission of Chapter 4 has been the erection of commemorative signs and plaques at former CCC camp and project sites in Oregon in cooperation with the U.S. Forest Service and the Oregon Department of Forestry,” Emil explained. “Our most important achievement, we feel, is the erection of a life size bronze statue of a CCC worker on the Oregon Department of Forestry headquarters campus in Salem” This project was planned and carried out with the ODF. Oregon timber industry and individual contributions funded it.

Chapter 4 has worked with Oregon’s legislature to have March 31—the date in 1933 on which Congress passed and President Roosevelt signed into law the act establishing the CCC—declared Oregon’s annual Civilian Conservation Corps Day. Unanimous passage by both houses and the governor’s signature on March 31, 2010, are expected.

Emil informed CCC Legacy in a November 16, 2009, letter that Chapter 4 had closed its accounts and donated the balance in equal amounts to the National Museum of Forest Service history in Missoula, Montana, and the CCC Museum in Salem.

Picking up where NACCCA chapters are leaving off, CCC Legacy will continue to preserve the CCC heritage.

Prepared from various sources including information provided by and an interview with Emil Sabol, NACCCA and CCC Legacy web sites, and an article “CCC changed ‘God’s country’” by Clarice Keating published in the December 7, 2009, Catholic Sentinel.

OldSmokeys Investigate Archiving of PNWFSA Historical Documents

OldSmokeys President **Bruce Hendrickson** at the October 30 Board of Directors meeting appointed President-Elect **Bill Shenk**, Archivist **Ray Steiger**, and member **Phil Hirl** as a committee of three to investigate appropriate alternatives for archiving Pacific Northwest Forest Service Association documents. These include, but are not limited to, such items as old 30-Year Club newsletters and copies of *Timber-Lines* as well as the more recent *OldSmokeys Newsletter* that preserve Thirty-Year Club and Association history as well as the Region 6 Forest Service history they contain.

“A large amount of archive materials stored in various places—members’ basements, bedroom closets, and so forth—need safe and accessible storage,” one Board member opened the discussion at the meeting. These materials, the Board agreed, need long-term curatorial care in a central, secure, accessible location. The committee is charged with recommending such a location.

“Some of these materials stored at the Gifford Pinchot National Forest SO have been used to do Forest Service history research,” Ray pointed out to emphasize their significance.

Pacific Northwest Forest Service Association

Who Are We? OldSmokeys Facts 2010

By Vern Clapp

Treasurer, Data Base Manager, and e-Mail Editor



How Many. At the start of 2010 our membership stands at 906. Last year at this time we were at 911. On the plus side, 24 new members signed up. This gain was offset by the deaths of 17 members (some of whom were replaced by their spouses). We also had to let go 12 members for unpaid dues, and three requested to be dropped. Two members are currently lost due to an inadequate address.

Age. Our membership keeps getting a little older. Our average age has crept up to 73.2 years, up 0.6 years from last year. (It has increased almost 4.0 years in the past 10 years.) This is in spite of the 2009 new members whose average age is 62.3. There are 35 in our ranks (members and/or spouses) who are nonagenarians (between 90 and 100). Four are over 100; three are spouses.

Where. We are all over the U.S. Most of us are in the Pacific Northwest: 565 in Oregon and 179 in Washington. There are 25 in Arizona, 20 in Montana, 19 Californians, 17 in Idaho, and 14 Virginians. The balance is spread through another 30 states. We keep moving, but less than in the past; there were only 36 address changes recorded this year. There were so many e-mail address changes we lost count.

Dues Status. Currently, 359 members pay their dues annually, and \$6,090 have been paid so far in 2009. The balance has elected lifetime memberships, paying in \$42,143 over the years. (We still have 163 older members who paid out just \$50 for lifetime dues. Quite a deal!) As noted above, we lost 12 members this year because of delinquent dues.

Donations. This year, PNWFSA received \$480 in donations. This was lower than last year, and is still considerably less than average.

Finances. Our largest operating expense in 2009 was \$8,300 for the newsletter and directory. This is down considerably from the past thanks to 186 members electing to go paperless with newsletter and directory. The complete PNWFSA financial statement will be published in the summer 2010 newsletter.

OldSmokeys Donations in 2009

As noted above, this year 14 members donated \$480 to our Association. One member contributed \$100.

This is still lower than in past years (five-year average is \$998). Don’t forget that one of the big advantages of our Association gaining non-profit 501(c)(3) status is that members can take a tax deduction when contributing to the OldSmokeys. Donors in 2009 are: **Chester Bennett, Ray Connelly, Allan Cosand, Duane Ecker, Ted Gump, Fred Hall, Annette Heintzelman, Phil Jasper, Vicki Keeney, Karl Kellner, Jim McLean, Richard Pomeroy, John Sandor, and Ted Stubblefield.**

Forest Service News

Pioneer Smokejumper Earl Cooley's Death at Age 98 Gets Worldwide Notice

Earl Cooley, who with Rufus Robinson on July 12, 1940, made the first operational jump on a forest fire near Marten Creek in the Nez Perce National Forest, died in Missoula, Montana, on November 9, 2009. He was 98.

“Considering that his chute nearly failed to open and he landed 140 feet up in a spruce tree on the Forest Service’s first-ever jump on a wildfire, it’s fair to wonder why the practice of smokejumping ever got a second chance,” Rob Cheney of the *Missoulian* wrote on November 12, 2009.

“But Cooley and fellow jumper Rufus Robinson had their fire under control by the next day when a team of ground-pounders finally arrived. Then they all hiked back to the ranger station.”

Earl continued his U.S. Forest Service career in smokejumping—he was the spotter for the 12 who jumped on the fatal Mann Gulch Fire in 1949 chronicled in Norman Maclean’s classic *Young Men and Fire*, and later served as smokejumper base superintendent in Missoula—and later as a district ranger. He retired in 1975 and went into the real estate business.

Earl helped found the National Smokejumper Association and served as its president for three years. His 1984 book *Trimotor and Trail* chronicled much of the Forest Service’s early smokejumping history.

It is significant, indeed, that this true Forest Service legend’s life and death received worldwide notice in a major obituary published in the November 28-December 4, 2009, issue of *The Economist*, the world’s leading weekly newsmagazine, that recognized Earl’s “pivotal place both in smokejumping’s worst disaster, and its tough beginnings” that “made him a living symbol of the program.”

Prepared from the article “Smokejumping trailblazer Earl Cooley dies at age 98” by Rob Cheney in the November 12, 2009, issue of the Missoulian, the Obituary in the November 28-December 4 issue of The Economist, and other sources including Cooley’s 1984 book Trimotor and Trail and Norman Maclean’s 1992 book Young Men and Fire.

Interior and Environmental Appropriations Act for 2010 Includes FLAME, Forest Health, Road Funding

The \$32 billion Department of the Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act for Fiscal Year 2010, passed by Congress on October 29, 2009, and signed into law by President Barack Obama on October 30, 2009, created the long-sought FLAME Wildfire Suppression Reserve Fund and included other forest health and road restoration funding for national forests.

Wildland Fire Management

The act appropriates about \$2.1 billion to the Forest Service and \$795 million to the Department of the Interior for wildland

fire management. In addition, the act creates the Federal Land Assistance, Management, and Enhancement (FLAME) Wildfire Suppression Reserve Fund that provides an additional \$413 million to the U.S. Forest Service and \$61 million to the U.S. Department of the Interior to cover costs of suppressing large, complex wildfires that meet certain criteria and to replenish wildland fire management funds if they are depleted.

This new FLAME funding will help the Forest Service and Interior Department land management agencies manage wildland fires safely and effectively while diminishing the need to transfer funds from other important programs and services, according to a November 6, 2009, U.S. Department of Agriculture news release.

Since 2002, the Forest Service has transferred more than \$2 billion from other programs to help cover the costs of suppressing wildfires. While the transfers enabled the agency to continue wildfire operations, fund transfers had detrimental effects on other agency programs even when the transfer funds were repaid through supplemental appropriations.

“We are grateful for Congress’ work to create a stable means to fund wildland fire management,” Secretary of Agriculture Tom Vilsack said.

Forest Health Restoration

The act also provided for \$10 million in funding for the Collaborative Forest Landscape Restoration Program, a new Forest Service program that will enable sustainable solutions to the critical forest health problems facing the nation. This funding will enable the Forest Service to act at landscape scale to restore ecological balance to our unnaturally dense forests at risk of catastrophic wildfires.

The restoration program was designed to increase the scale and scope of efforts to thin small trees, reduce fuels, and restore ecological conditions in federally managed forests. Previous land management practices have resulted in a build-up of vegetation that hinders tree growth and regeneration, leaves the forests vulnerable to pests and pathogens, and puts them at risk of catastrophic wildfires.

Under the program, established by Congress in April 2009, the Forest Service will select several landscapes annually to receive forest health treatments. Sites will be selected based on demonstrated ecological need, sound science, the existence of multi-stakeholder collaborative planning, private investment and other key criteria that focus on identifying those landscapes of at least 50,000 acres with the greatest likelihood of success.

Forest Roads and Trails

Also under the act, the Forest Service’s Legacy Road and Trail Remediation Program will receive \$90 million, up from \$50 million in 2009, to repair and decommission failing logging roads and trails throughout the nation.

Prepared from multiple sources including U.S. Department of Agriculture News Release No. 0555.09 “Secretary of Agriculture and Interior Praise Creation of ‘FLAME’ Wildfire Suppression Reserve Fund” of November 6, 2009; Christopher Dunagan’s article “Congress Approves Money for Puget Sound, National Forests” in the October 29, 2009, edition of the Kitsap Sun; and the Nature Conservancy’s October 30, 2009, press release “Congress Funds Forest Restoration.”

Los Angeles County Fire Department Report Criticizes U.S. Forest Service Station Fire Suppression Effort

Just days after a Los Angeles County Fire Department report on the Station Fire—the largest wildfire in Los Angeles County history—called for a “vastly different approach” in the way the U.S. Forest Service fights fires, the agency that found little fault with its approach announced it may reconsider some of its wildfire suppression policies.

The Station Fire

On August 26, 2009, the Angeles National Forest received a call for initial attack on a fire that ignited on the forest near the Angeles Crest Fire Station—hence the name of the fire—on the Angeles Crest Highway. The terrain below the highway is rugged and steep, incised by narrow ravines, and covered by extremely flammable mature chaparral. This fire ultimately grew in size to over 160,000 acres, leading to the loss of forest resources, private property, and human life.

At the direction of the Chief of the Forest Service, a review was undertaken for the period from initiation of initial attack on August 26 to August 28, 2009, when the fire was placed under the command of a Type I incident command team.

The Forest Service report

In its November 13, 2009, report, the Forest Service review board concluded that “during the initial attack phase of the Station Fire, incident managers on the Angeles National Forest acted in accordance with accepted wildland firefighting practices. They had clear leader’s intent and deployed suppression resources only in those conditions where they would be safe and effective. In light of the extremely challenging topography encountered during initial attack, the highly volatile fire, and dense, dry brush, incident commanders were reasonable and prudent in their response and in not exposing firefighters to conditions that would have compromised their safety.”

The Los Angeles County reaction

Area politicians took exception to what one called the “fairly superficial” report released by the Forest Service on November 13, and praised a Los Angeles County Fire Department report of the incident for raising questions about the way the Forest Service handles wildfires. “I thought the county did a very good analysis and raised some important issues,” Representative Adam Schiff, Democrat of Pasadena, told the *San Gabriel Valley Tribune*. “We may need to take action to implement some of the recommendations they made.”

The county report “recommended the Forest Service take an approach similar to the county’s when it comes to fighting blazes in the Angeles National Forest,” the *Tribune* reported on November 18. “The report includes some instructive and helpful lessons in fighting future fires,” Jo Manley, press secretary for Representative David Drier, Republican of San Dimas, told the newspaper.

County recommendations included Forest Service night helicopter drops Los Angeles County Supervisor Michael Antonovich believes “would have prevented the Station Fire’s rapid

growth and mitigated its catastrophic toll,” improved county and federal cooperation in attacking fires, and increasing national forest brush-clearance guidelines from 30 feet to the county requirement of 200 feet around structures.

The Forest Service response

Jim Hubbard, Forest Service Deputy Chief for State and Private Forestry, said the Forest Service may consider reviewing one of the county report’s key recommendations: lifting the agency’s 20-year ban on overnight aerial water drops not allowed since an accident in the Angeles National Forest in which two helicopters collided during night operations. Hubbard added that the regional forester in Vallejo has the authority to reassess the agency’s current brush-clearance guidelines.

Just how much Forest Service wildfire suppression policies and practices may be affected by Station Fire fallout remains to be seen.

Prepared from the U.S. Forest Service Station Fire Initial Attack Review of November 13, 2009, and the article “Area politicians support recommendations in county’s Station Fire report” by Emma Gallegos in the November 18, 2009, issue of the San Gabriel Valley Tribune.

U.S. Forest Service is “Dramatically Reshaping” Plans in Response to Climate Change Challenge

U.S. Forest Service Chief Tom Tidwell has directed his agency’s regions and research stations to produce draft “landscape conservation action plans” by March 1, 2010, to guide its day-to-day response to climate change.

According to Tidwell, climate change is “dramatically reshaping” how the Forest Service will deliver on its mission of sustaining the health and diversity of the nation’s forests. He focused particularly on water management.

“Responding to the challenges of climate change in providing water and water-related ecosystem services is one of the most urgent tasks facing us as an agency,” Tidwell wrote. “History will judge us by how well we respond to these challenges.”

Tidwell said the Forest Service’s task is to translate the overall strategic framework for responding to climate change, released last month, into its daily operations. He directed regional foresters and station directors to work together to prepare “aggressive and well-coordinated” area-specific action plans for landscape conservation focused especially on water.

“The plans...should become blueprints for integrating climate change and watershed management,” Tidwell wrote. “They should use climate change as a theme under which to integrate and streamline existing national and regional strategies for ecological restoration, fire and fuels, forest health, biomass utilization, and others.”

Tidwell said he will soon name a “climate change executive” to guide the effort.

“This issue is certainly another significant argument for active management of our national forests,” said OldSmokey **Jim Golden**, Chair of the National Association of Forest Service Retirees. “Improving resiliency through management and pro-

tecting forests from catastrophic wildfire should lead the list of the actions needed to respond to climate change *and* protect watersheds. These actions also create the added benefit of increased carbon sequestration.”

“I believe this is another opportunity for the public to get behind active forest management,” Jim concluded, encouraging Forest Service retirees to “add our voice in support of active management of our forests.”

Prepared from an article by Jim Peterson and Chris West and an e-mail from Jim Golden.

Pacific Northwest Research Station Aligns to Maintain Future Science Capability

The U.S. Forest Service’s Pacific Northwest Research Station has realigned its organizational structure to focus on science themes found in its updated strategic business plan. The station now has six research programs:

- Ecological Process and Function
- Forest Resources Monitoring and Assessment
- Goods, Services, and Values
- Land and Watershed Management
- Threat Characterization and Management
- Focused Science Delivery

No positions were eliminated as scientists and technicians were reassigned to programs or teams that are, in some cases, different from those with which they were previously affiliated but that better align with the new programs.

Central to the alignment are the newly defined “four pillars”—relevance, quality, performance, and stakeholder support—which Station Director and OldSmokey **Bov Eav** and the leadership team will use to guide and measure the station’s success as it demonstrates its value to constituents.

The alignment process began in spring 2008 when the leadership team conducted a review to reevaluate if the station were optimally structured to address future opportunities and challenges. The review also sought to determine if the station were responsive, flexible, efficient, and capable of fully implementing its strategic business plan.

The review determined that realignment was necessary. The net effect was elimination of one research program and the revision of the six that remained to correspond directly with the foundational science themes established in the strategic business plan.

The station, headquartered in Portland, has 11 laboratories and centers located in Alaska, Oregon, and Washington, and about 425 personnel.

Prepared from a November 5, 2009, Pacific Northwest Research Station press release.

**OldSmokeys Join and Support the
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*The past belongs to the future,
but only the present can preserve it.*

U.S. Forest Service Assumes Operation of Six More Job Corps Centers

The January 17, 2010, transfer of six Job Corps Civilian Conservation Centers (JCCCCs) from the U.S. Department of the Interior’s Bureau of Reclamation to the U.S. Forest Service increased the Outfit’s JCCCC operations to 28 such centers. This makes the Forest Service, a major operator of Job Corps centers for over 45 years, the only federal land management agency managing civilian conservation centers. The majority of the 123 Job Corps centers nationwide is managed by private contractors and non-profit organizations.

This transfer reflects the Forest Service leadership decision that the Job Corps is and will continue to be a part of the agency’s core mission. Operation of JCCCCs directly contributes to accomplishing the Forest Service’s conservation of national forests and grasslands as well as to preparing disconnected, economically depressed youth for productive careers and fulfilling lives. The transfer also reflects recent recognition that the Forest Service is the federal land management agency best equipped to manage such centers and that is the basis for transfer of Interior Department agency JCCCCs. The Forest Service operates these centers in partnership with the U.S. Department of Labor.

The January 17 transfer expands the Forest Service JCCCC capacity from 4,800 to 6,200 students at 28 co-educational JCCCCs that span seven Forest Service regions, 22 national forests and national grasslands, and 18 states. Approximately 380 employees will be transferred from the Bureau of Reclamation to the Forest Service, and these personnel are being trained in Forest Service administrative functions.

Meeting a Major Challenge

One of the nation’s major challenges is youth who have dropped out of school and have little or no opportunities to move into the workplace, military service, or institutions of higher learning. Job Corps serves the most severely disadvantaged youth of any federal training program. “As a residential training program with a service-based learning model, Job Corps teaches students teamwork and self-discipline as they study and gain experience in independent living,” according to Larry J. Dawson, Director, U.S. Forest Service Job Corps.

“The talents of Job Corps students are enlisted in a wide array of forest health and habitat improvement projects, including conservation, business administration, facilities, and construction maintenance projects, many of which can lay the path for a career in the Forest Service,” Dawson continued in a May 2009 JCCCC brochure. “Job Corps CCC students also are first responders during local, state, and national disasters.”

“Job Corps is planning to implement a comprehensive environmental literacy curriculum that will enhance its occupational training. These classes will prepare students for careers in energy efficiency, renewable energy, and environmental protection industries. The curriculum will prepare students for innovative, well paying jobs in growth industries, providing graduates with solid opportunities for career advancement, in addition to greening the American economy.”

“Dating back to the Civilian Conservation Corps of the 1930s, the Forest Service has a rich history of involvement with employment programs. Most of our students come from low-income communities, both urban and rural, [and] are seeking pathways to prosperity. By incorporating the youth and knowledge of the next generation, who are trained in ‘green’ skills, the Forest Service can secure its reputation as a leader in vocational training and education. The Forest Service Job Corps can help lead the way to a healthy environment, a green economy, and a cleaner, more prosperous and sustainable future. Working together, we can train and instill a new generation with the desire to seek careers in natural resource stewardship.” Dawson concluded.

Prepared from a draft article by Alicia D. Bennett, Public Affairs Officer, Forest Service Job Corps, and the “Job Corps Civilian Conservation Centers” brochure published in May 2009 by the U.S. Forest Service.

U.S. Forest Service Proposal to Change Concession Campground Policy Stirs Controversy

U.S. Forest Service Chief Tom Tidwell early in December 2010 invited public comment “on a proposed new policy for acceptance of Interagency Passes at concession-operated campgrounds and day use recreation sites on National Forests and Grasslands. The policy would provide for coordination with concessioners to promote sustainable operations,” according to a Forest Service statement forwarded to the *OldSmokeys Newsletter* for OldSmokey **Darrel Kenops**, Executive Director, National Association of Forest Service Retirees (NAFSR), by John A. Combes, NAFSR Secretary-Treasurer.

“The Forest Service is committed to ensuring that the American public can continue to fully enjoy the recreation opportunities on National Forests and Grasslands, and passes and discounts at concession operated campgrounds and day use sites are an important part of achieving this goal,” Chief Tidwell said. “To this end, the Forest Service is inviting comments on proposed changes to pass-related discounts that are designed to ensure that all Americans can continue to enjoy our National Forests and Grasslands while protecting the viability of the small businesses providing the important concession services our visitors rely upon.”

“Under the proposed new policy, the Forest Service would offer a 10% discount at concession run campgrounds and standard amenity day use sites to holders of Golden Age and Golden Access Passports and Senior Passes and Access Passes,” the statement continued. That includes most OldSmokeys. “Further, concessioners would offer free usage of these day use sites to holders of an Annual or Volunteer Pass.”

What the Forest Service statement didn’t say, according to press coverage, is that the proposal reduces the discount afforded senior citizens who hold the Golden Age Passport from 50 percent to 10 percent and reduces “similar benefits” accorded “permanently disabled people” who hold Golden Access Passports “to 10 percent.”

One concessioner, which operates 150 campgrounds in Oregon and Washington, pointed out that the current discount for

senior citizens “means that other groups that use campgrounds have to pay higher prices to make up the difference.” This concessioner “believes a reduction in the senior discount will make prices at concessioner-operated campgrounds more family-friendly. As seniors pay more, families will pay less.”

This proposal is open to a 60-day public notice and comment period which started on December 3, 2009, and ends on February 1, 2010. Readers may review the proposed policy in the Federal Register (Vol. 229, No. 74, December 1, 2009) or at <<http://www.fs.fed.us/specialuses>>. Comments may be filed on line at <<http://www.regulations.gov>> (search for Notice ID FS-2009-0001). Comments can also be mailed to: U.S. Forest Service, Attn: Carolyn Holbrook, Recreation and Heritage Resources Staff, 1400 Independence Ave., S.W., Stop 1125, Washington, D.C. 20250-1125.

Prepared from the U.S. Forest Service statement mentioned in the article and the article “Seniors may have to pay more to use USFS camps” by Hillary Borrud in the December 8, 2009, issue of The Bulletin, Bend, Oregon’s daily newspaper.

Historic Wallowa Ranger Station Listed in National Register of Historic Places

The historic Wallowa Ranger Station, a former U.S. Forest Service ranger district headquarters on the Wallowa-Whitman National Forest, is one of Oregon’s newest entries in the National Register of Historic Places.

The Wallowa Ranger Station is an example of Depression-era planning and construction by the Forest Service and Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) during the late 1930s. Remarkably intact, the ranger station complex has not been significantly altered and demonstrates the Forest Service’s planning principles and involvement in the city of Wallowa and the Wallowa Valley. The ranger station is important not just for its association with the Forest Service and the CCC, but also for the rustic style of architecture employed by the Forest Service during the 1930s that emphasized the use of simple forms and natural materials.

Oregon’s State Advisory Committee on Historic Preservation recommended the station’s nomination in June 2009. The National Register is maintained by the National Park Service under the authority of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966.

On May 21, 2009, Senator Ron Wyden (Democrat, Oregon) introduced a bill to transfer the ranger station complex to the city of Wallowa. The city agreed to allow it to be used to house the Maxville Heritage Interpretive Center, a cultural interpretive center and museum that celebrates the multi-ethnic culture of the railroad and timber industry of Maxville, Oregon, and similar communities in the Pacific Northwest.

Prepared from multiple sources including a November 20, 2009, Oregon Heritage News e-mail provided by OldSmokey Jim Bull; an article “Wallowa Ranger Station now on national historic register” in the November 19, 2009, Wallowa County Chieftian; a November 16, 2009, Oregon Parks and Recreation Department news release “Wallowa Ranger Station listed in National Register of Historic Places;” and the Maxville Heritage Interpretive Center web site.

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Features

Forester Gifford Pinchot Fired by President William Howard Taft 100 Years Ago

On January 7, 1910, a messenger delivered a letter from President William Howard Taft to Gifford Pinchot at the family home in Washington, D.C.

In this letter, Taft had written: “By your own conduct you have betrayed your usefulness as a helpful subordinate of the government.” Pinchot’s official leadership of the U.S. Forest Service he and President Theodore Roosevelt founded five years before was over.

The founding Forester read the letter, turned to his mother.

“I’m fired.”

“Hurrah!” she exclaimed, the suspense over at last.

Pinchot’s enemies celebrated. His rangers mourned. And his partner in conservation, former President Theodore Roosevelt on safari in Africa, was angered.

Pinchot’s crime? Insubordination. He’d spoken out publicly against corruption in the administration that President Taft’s weak leadership had allowed to flourish.

“Always do right. This will gratify some and astonish the rest.”

--Mark Twain

-- Les Joslin



Pendulum in Motion: The Forest Service and Politics

By Hank Hays

*Editor’s Note: OldSmokey **Hank Hays’** September 2001 Journal of Forestry “perspective” article, reprinted with Society of American Foresters permission, remains of moment. Indeed, as Hank said in his October 20, 2009, forwarding note: “My last paragraph sums up what is even worse today. The U.S. Forest Service is, in part, the victim of a dysfunctional society. Some of the personnel ‘running’ the Forest Service today would never have qualified.” Hank was not pleased that, in the first paragraph of his article, the name “U.S. Forest Service” was edited to “USDA Forest Service.”*

When asked, “What is the long-term effect of the French Revolution?” the Chinese scholar replied, “It is really too early to tell.” So it really is too early to tell what the effects will be of the relatively radical changes in direction of the USDA Forest Service over the past 30 years.

I began my career with the Forest Service in 1947, at the tail end of what you might call the “founding phase.” This phase, from its beginning in 1905, involved establishing a Forest Service presence on national forests to regulate their use, establish boundaries, and protect them from fires. The rangers usually were native to their respective locales, and total dedication and lots of overtime, often unpaid, were the norm. Taxpayers certainly got their money’s worth in this phase.

The second phase, which could be called the “timber phase,” began around 1950 as housing demand grew following World War II. The Forest Service obtained large budget increases for timber sales and roads, particularly in the western national forests, to supply lumber for housing construction. The timber phase appealed to the top echelon of the Forest Service because the ideal at the time was still the Pinchot vision—a complete network of forest roads for the protection of the forest and the

practice of silviculture. A large influx of forestry graduates soon swelled the lean ranks of the Forest Service. The agency’s high standards attracted dedicated people: the downside was that some rangers, forest supervisors, and regional foresters were perceived as arbitrary and blunt.

It was during the timber phase that the Forest Service began to encounter some opposition to the expanded timber program. Since the public typically resists change, the appearance of more roads and extensive clearcutting in western forests generated antilogging feelings. This situation eventually became political enough to create the next phase: the “environmental phase.”

Propelled by the National Environmental Policy Act in 1969, the environmental phase ushered in environmental assessments, environmental statements, and formalized public participation in national forest policy. This phase had the favorable effect of slowing the timber program and forcing the Forest Service to pay more attention to wildlife and other values as it converted old-growth forests. Thus the pendulum had swung from timber dominance to what in some cases amounted to an attempt to eliminate wood production.

Today we seem to be at the start of yet another phase. I don’t know what to call it except the “political phase.” As evidenced by recent federal legislation, forestry has been superseded by politics. It seems that forest science now takes a back seat to enviro-political goals, such as the elimination of roads and harvesting on national forests. Foresters are now merely bit players in this scenario and, as noted earlier, it is too early to tell where it will end up. But I don’t like a lot of what I see. And as for the now-politicized Forest Service, it bears little resemblance to the productive outfit it once was.

So what does this all mean? It means that forestry and the Forest Service respond to social pressures by changing, although slowly. Whether this change is desirable is a matter for debate. I’ve heard it said that if you go down the wrong road too far, you can’t get back. I’ve also heard it said that if you

must do good, consider first the harm you might do. I believe the Forest Service went too far with the timber aspect of multiple use during the timber phase, and we are all a part of it. But now the pendulum has swung too far in the other direction, and politics and zeal have usurped good sense, science, and a century of learning.

There is a saving grace—trees grow. Maybe we should slow down to a more biological rhythm and become truly conservative. This idea applies to all over-the-edge thinking. None of us can “save the earth” or pass laws to halt the march of time or the universe. What some believe is imminent doom, such as global warming, does not impress me because there is little we can do about it. There is a natural order to things and our meager efforts to go against it are futile. But practicing sound forestry and gaining insight into how things naturally function are things we *can* do. In this scenario, zealotry, junk science, dogma, and overreaction have no place.

Forest Service News continued from page 10

Washington Office to Address U.S. Forest Service Morale Issues

As part of a multi-faceted effort to better understand U.S. Forest Service morale issues, the agency’s executive leadership has commissioned a multi-step analysis to identify trends and provide recommendations for improvement, the Chief’s Office announced on November 20, 2009.

Over the next few months, Business Operations staff will be working with consultants at CI International to analyze recent survey data, benchmark rankings with other federal agencies, conduct interviews, and hold up to ten focus groups with agency employees. A final report on findings and recommendations will further inform leadership of steps to take in light of these findings.

Prepared from the item “Addressing Employee Morale” in “The Chief’s Desk” of November 20, 2009.

U.S. Forest Service Launches New “Wilderness.net” Social Networking Site

A new social networking site targeted toward U.S. Forest Service employees was launched on December 1, 2009. The “Wilderness.net” social networking site <<http://connect.wilderness.net>> connects wilderness professionals to better serve and manage public wilderness lands. Since nearly 90 percent of the national forests and grasslands administer wilderness, the launch of this site is expected to be useful to all agency personnel.

Prepared from an item in “The Chief’s Desk” of November 20, 2009.

*Many thanks to my wife,
Pat Joslin,
for supporting production of the OldSmokeys Newsletter
with her technical expertise.
— Les Joslin, Editor*

Changes *Compiled by Bev Pratt and Vern Clapp*

This issue’s *Changes* section includes no changes. All changes received since the Fall 2009 *OldSmokeys Newsletter* are included in the new *OldSmokeys Membership Directory 2010* enclosed with this newsletter and available online. Changes received after the December 15, 2009, deadline for this new *Membership Directory* will appear in the Spring 2010 *OldSmokeys Newsletter*.

This year the *Membership Directory* has a peach cover. Pull it out and save it for a reference. Please review your listing and let us know of any errors or corrections.

An electronic version of the *Membership Directory*, updated quarterly, is also available to members. It is in PDF format, and can be searched. We distribute by e-mail. If you want a copy, e-mail a request to <vcclapp@ykwk.net>.

New Members *Compiled by Secretary Bev Pratt*

Welcome to these new OldSmokeys who have joined since the Fall 2009 *OldSmokeys Newsletter* went to press.

David Caswell of Portland, Oregon, retired from the U.S. Forest Service on September 30, 2009, at Headquarters, Pacific Northwest Research Station, in Portland. His 30-plus years of federal service included 26 years in the Forest Service, seven of which were in Region 6 and 11 of which were at the Research Station.

Wesley E. and Chris L. Hughes of Canyonville, Oregon, are both U.S. Forest Service retirees. Wes retired from engineering on the Tiller Ranger District, Umpqua National Forest, on December 29, 2004, after 37 years in the Forest Service, and Chris retired as administrative officer on the Tiller Ranger District after 33 years in the Forest Service. Wes and Chris both spent their entire careers at Tiller.

Joan Landsberg, Ph.D. of Bend, Oregon, retired from the U.S. Forest Service at the Wenatchee Forestry Sciences Laboratory in Wenatchee, Washington, in 2000 after 25 years of federal service of which 23 years were in the Forest Service. Joan’s research career also included many years at and several years as project leader at the Bend Silviculture Laboratory in Bend, Oregon.

Phillip A. and Carol Raab of Springfield, Oregon. Phil retired from the U.S. Forest Service as the Willamette National Forest hydropower program coordinator on August 2, 2009, after 41 years of federal service. He was stationed on the McKenzie River Ranger District where he also served as the district resource assistant and later as the recreation assistant. Phil had also held positions on the Mt. Hood, Siuslaw, and Rogue River National Forests.

This New Members section needs more new OldSmokeys. You can help. Recruit an OldSmokey in 2010!

Memories

Harold E. “Andy” Andersen died August 26, 2009, at age 93. He was a PNWFSA member. Andy was born to Norwegian immigrants on August 13, 1916, in Seattle, Washington, and was the oldest of five siblings who grew up on the family farm during the Great Depression. After seven years of intermittent fishing and trapping in Alaska to put himself through college, Andy graduated from the University of Washington with a B.S. degree in forestry. Upon graduation, he joined the U.S. Navy and served as a motor torpedo boat (PT boat) commanding officer during World War II. At the end of the war, while stationed on Long Island in New York, Lieutenant Andersen met and on November 4, 1945, married Sibyl Richardson. Released from active duty, Andy joined the U.S. Forest Service and he and Sibyl moved to Alaska where he worked in research forestry. Their three sons and one daughter were born in Alaska. Andy’s 29-year Forest Service career included serving as forest supervisor of the Bitterroot National Forest in Montana, the Kaniksu National Forest in northern Idaho, and the Superior National Forest in northern Minnesota. On the Kaniksu, Andy was in charge of fighting the tragic Sundance Fire of 1967. On the Superior, he was supervisor during the contentious 1970s when logging and fire suppression were hotly debated topics in the beetle-infested Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness. After retiring from the Forest Service in 1974, Andy taught forestry at Yale University, where he’d earned a master’s degree, for several years. He also opened his own consulting forester practice before retiring to Mount Vernon, Washington, where he and Sibyl farmed 30 acres along the Skagit River. Andy moved to Baker, Oregon, in 1998, and in 2001 relocated to Sandpoint, Idaho. Survivors include sons Craig and Arvid, daughter Karlen McBirney, and seven grandchildren.

Editor’s Note: Thanks to Caroline Lobsinger, Managing Editor, Bonner County Daily Bee, for this information on Andy Anderson.

Russell Marion “Russ” Betts died December 6, 2009. Russ, who worked on several national forests including the Winema, Deschutes, and Fremont, retired from the U.S. Forest Service on the Umatilla National Forest in April 1994.

Editor’s Note: Thanks to OldSmokey Phil Kline who provided this notification.

Merci Ann Bones died May 24, 2008. She was a PNWFSA member and wife of the late James Bones. After Jim retired from the Forest Service in the WO, he and Merci Ann settled in Yachats, Oregon, and traveled often. Survivors include daughter Susan Hudson and sons Richard, Thomas, and Robert.

Editor’s Note: Thanks to OldSmokey Loyd Collett who provided this notification..

Curtis Morton “Curt” Eells died September 19, 2009, at age 77. Curt was born in Seattle, Washington, served in the U.S. Forest Service in timber sales and layout on the Cottage Grove Ranger District, Umpqua National Forest, and retired in Cuba, Missouri. He and his first wife, Marilyn Hager, whom he married in 1954, had four children. Marilyn died, and Curt married

Irene Frances Sindelar in 1995. Survivors include Irene; children of their combined families Peter Eells, Jennifer Barnhart, Suzanne Ruhl, Timothy Eells, Marilee Linton, Geralyn spears, Jackie Wahl, Mark Sindelar, Joe Sindelar, Christy Peglinowan, David Sindelar, Francis Sindelar, and Toni Vaiaso; 27 grandchildren; and 10 great-grandchildren.

Malvin Charles “Chuck” Eldred died October 30, 2009, at age 84. Chuck was born December 31, 1924, in Twin Falls, Idaho. He grew up and attended school in Portland, Oregon, and enlisted in the U.S. Army during World War II. Chuck was a forward observer while serving in North Africa and Italy from 1943 through 1945. Chuck served a 30-year career in the U.S. Forest Service. During that career he married Grace Peck of Portland where they lived until he was transferred to Olympia, Washington, where they lived for two years before he was transferred to Bend, Oregon. Chuck was Deschutes National Forest administrative officer when he retired. Grace died five weeks before Chuck died. Survivors include their sons Duane, Steve, and Kevin; five grandchildren; and a great-granddaughter.

Grace Eldred died September 23, 2009, at age 83. She was the wife of Malvin Charles “Chuck” Eldred, above, who died five weeks later. Grace was born July 17, 1926, in North Bend, Oregon. She grew up in White Salmon, Washington, moved to Portland, and attended Oregon State College in Corvallis in 1948 and 1949. She worked for the Bonneville Power Administration and the U.S. Forest Service. Her marriage to Chuck and their life together are described above.

Bea Guerrero died November 16, 2009, at age 61. Bea was very well known throughout Region 6 in which she served as a U.S. Forest Service dispatcher.

Houston Hanson died November 9, 2009, probably in his early 60s, while hunting outside Libby, Montana. Houston served more than 30 years in U.S. Forest Service engineering. He began his career on the Plumas National Forest in fire and engineering in the 1960s, and probably was best known as “Mr. Pacific Crest Trail” for the planning, layout, and construction of the many beautiful miles of that National Recreation Trail that cross the Plumas. Houston transferred to the Kootenai National Forest in 1979 to work out of the Troy Engineering Zone in forest road and trail design and construction. He transferred in 1987 to the Mt. Hood National Forest to work out of the Parkdale engineering office, again in road and trail engineering as well as in special projects. Houston was an avid hunter and fisherman who made it his mission to teach, educate, and mentor others to be responsible in hunting and fishing. He donated many hours to Mt. Hood National Forest youth fishing programs. In 1998, Houston and his wife Norma retired and moved to Libby to be closer to the fishing and hunting that were so much a part of his life. Survivors include his wife.

Editor’s Note: Thanks to OldSmokey Doug Porter who provided this notification.

Bill Locke died December 4, 2009, at age 62, in an accident while working on the White Salmon, Washington, water filtration plant project. Bill worked in engineering and transportation

planning on the Mt. Adams Ranger District of the Gifford Pinchot National Forest. He resigned about 1982 or 1983.

Editor's Note: Thanks to OldSmokey Jim Bull who provided this notification.

Rosalie Mayer died July 3, 2007. She was a PNWFSA member and wife of the late Carl Mayer who died April 7, 2007.

Editor's Note: This news appears to have been slow in coming. No additional information is available.

Dale Delbert Myers died September 29, 2009, at age 66. Dale was born April 13, 1943, in Roseburg. Formerly of the Cottage Grove Ranger District, Umpqua National Forest, he served in the U.S. Forest Service from 1961 to 2001. Dale married Erma Jean Rogers in 1974, and they had two sons and three daughters; two of the daughters are deceased. Survivors include Irma, sons Steve and Jonathan, daughter Shelley Beecroft, eight grandchildren, and four great-grandchildren.

Erma Lee Oard died September 25, 2009, at age 83. She was a PNWFSA member and wife of the late Albert "Al" Oard. Erma was born December 1, 1925, in Burns, Oregon. She grew up on several ranches in Harney and Grant counties, was educated in one-room schools, and graduated from Burns High School. After graduation, she worked during World War II as a civilian at Fort Lewis, Washington. She married Al in Burns on December 9, 1943. Al was in the U.S. Forest Service, and they lived in several Oregon locations. In 1975, when Al was named forest supervisor of the Wallowa-Whitman National Forest, they moved to Baker City. After Al retired, she and Al moved to Colorado for five years but kept a home in Baker City to which they returned. She also loved wintering with Al in Yuma, Arizona, for 12 of those retirement years. Survivors include sons Michael and James, daughter Jane Lee Case, three grandchildren, and five great-grandchildren.

Merle Fleming Pugh died November 24, 2009, at age 85. He was a PNWFSA member. Merle was born April 1, 1924, on a farm near Trumbull, Adams County, Nebraska. He moved to Oregon in 1935 at age 11 with his parents, settling in Parkdale, and attended grade school in Trumbull, Mount Hood, and Parkdale. Merle graduated from Parkdale High School in 1941 and from the University of Oregon School of Journalism in 1948. He enlisted in the U.S. Army Air Corps in 1942 and was called to active duty in February 1943. He served as a private at Lincoln Army Air Base and the college training detachment at the University of Nebraska, then as an aviation cadet in pilot training at several Arizona and California air bases. Commissioned a second lieutenant and awarded pilot's wings on April 15, 1944, Merle served as a pilot-instructor at Marana Army Air Field near Tucson, Arizona. In August 1945, he was transferred to Hobbs Army Air Base, New Mexico, for B-29 training, but World War II ended and he went to Portland, Oregon, for release from active duty in November 1945. Merle remained a reserve officer, and served in the Army Air Force and Air Force Reserve for 41 years before retiring at the rank of lieutenant colonel in 1984. After college, he worked in journalism for the *Albany Democrat-Herald*, *Eugene Register-Guard*, *Roseburg News-Review*, and the *Oregon Journal* in Portland. In 1952 he

married Donna Tozer; they later divorced. Merle joined the U.S. Forest Service in 1960 and retired in 1982 as public information officer in charge of current information for the Pacific Northwest Region. Merle was a member since 1947 of the Society of professional Journalists (formerly Sigma Delta Chi) and the Oregon Journal Alumni Breakfast Club. Survivors include daughters Deborah Bach and Gail Downing; son Eric; stepson Dr. Richard Harkins; stepdaughter Carol Fleming; eight grandchildren; and six great-grandchildren.

William E. "Bill" Selby died October 10, 2009, at age 74. He was a PNWFSA member. Bill was born August 4, 1935, in Baltimore, Maryland, and raised in West Friendship, Maryland. He attended Utah State University, where he met and married Anona Bevan, and graduated in 1958 with a B.S. degree in range management. He began his 40-year government career with a summer position at the U.S. Department of Agriculture Research Station in Beltsville, Maryland, before joining the U.S. Forest Service as a range analysis technician on the Condon Ranger District, Okanogan National Forest, and a smokejumper at the North Cascades Smokejumper Base in Winthrop, Washington. Bill transferred in 1962 to John Day, Oregon, where he served as assistant district ranger on the Long Creek Ranger District, and then as assistant range and wildlife staff officer on the Malheur National Forest. In 1970, Bill transferred to the Fremont National Forest on which he served as resource assistant and acting district ranger on the Paisley Ranger District, and fire management officer at the SO in Lakeview, Oregon. While living in Lakeview, he was a member of the Warner Canyon Ski Patrol and active in civic affairs. Bill transferred to the Region 6 RO in Portland, Oregon, in 1992, where he was an employee development specialist until he retired in July 1998. During his Forest Service career, he worked over 80 large fires; on many of these fires he served in overhead positions from division and group supervisor to incident commander. After retirement, he continued with the Forest Service as a contract member of the Pacific Northwest Interagency Incident Management Team, responding to fires from Alaska to Texas to North Dakota until last year when his health began to fail. Survivors include his wife Anona; children Barbara Brutsch, Patricia Gray, William R. "Bill" Selby, and Cathleen Selby; and six grandchildren.

Kermit Glantz Thomas died November 1, 2009, at age 71. Kermit was born October 26, 1938, in Portland, Oregon. He married in Reno, Nevada, in 1962, but later divorced. He enlisted in the U.S. Army and served three years in Germany, then joined the Army National Guard and served in Ketchikan, Alaska, for 20 years. Kermit served in the U.S. Forest Service for 35 years, working on the Tongass National Forest in Alaska and on the Rogue River National Forest. He retired from the Forest Service in 1995 and worked for a Rogue Valley engineering firm. Kermit loved the outdoors, and enjoyed hunting and fishing, boating, golfing, and any kind of card game. Survivors include his mother Gwen Thomas, daughters Tonya Keck and Michelle Stoop, and several grandchildren.

Editor's Note: Thanks to OldSmokey Jerry Womack who provided this notification.

Letters

Jim Conibear *remembers Andy Andersen*

In the spring of 1967 I was a young whippersnapper administrative officer on the Fishlake National Forest in Region 4 and our forest supervisor, Bill Fallis, talked me into applying for the administrative officer position on the Kaniksu National Forest in Region 1.

I got the job and landed in Sandpoint, Idaho, in mid-August during the North Idaho Firestorm of 1967. My new forest supervisor, Andy Andersen, greeted me, gave me an orientation, and immediately sent me off to do my job. I thought “Wow! Here is a straight-forward, bald-headed Scandinavian who is really dedicated to the Forest Service and the job at hand.” It all turned out to be true. Andy was relentless in doing his job as forest supervisor and was known during the North Idaho Firestorm of 1967 to literally work around the clock.

I have little doubt that Andy really believed in people, and if you think John McCain originated the “straight talk express” [you] did not know Harold E. “Andy” Anderson. Andy would “call you out” in a constructive way, only to help you in doing your job and your journey along your Forest Service career. He would take risks with you only after a bunch of questions and answers; however, I do remember many things that we ended up doing “Andy’s Way.” I have many memories and gained an awful lot of knowledge and experience working with Andy Andersen on the Kaniksu National Forest.

Dave Graham *remembers Andy Andersen*

My last major contact with Andy Andersen was during the Sundance and Trapper Creek fires. The Sundance was a Priest Lake Forest Protection (State of Idaho and private industrial forest landowners) fire. I was the Forest Service liaison with the State of Idaho during those hectic days. This involved many on-the-ground meetings with Andy and other Forest Service staff, the Idaho state forester, and the governor. Andy was one of the best I have ever worked with—clear, concise, and prompt decision making, etc. Andy also participated in some of our earlier Blister Rust Control Program Retiree get-togethers.

Hank Hays *remembers Andy Andersen*

I went to Juneau [at the] end of 1955 to forest survey, which was quartered in the research building at the subport. Andy was in research there, and had his PT boat photo on the wall. We were a close family in those days and Jon Hall was ranger there, Art Greely was regional forester, etc. Everybody knew everybody, of course. I knew Andy’s wife Sibyl. Last time I encountered Andy was on the Trapper Creek Fire in Idaho. All I had time to do was hello, then off to the fire.

John Sandor *remembers Andy Andersen*

Harold E. “Andy” Andersen, veteran of World War II (PT boat skipper), had an extraordinary career with U.S. Forest Service Research and National Forest System organizations in Regions 1, 9, 10, and the PNW Experiment Station.

I first met Andy in March 1953 when I began working for him as a forest survey crew leader on the (TRR) Tongass and Chugach National Forest Surveys in Alaska which he headed as

a project of PNW’s Alaska Forest Research Center headquartered in Juneau. Andy was an outstanding professional forester, a graduate of the University of Washington and Yale University, personally committing himself and “motivating” others to “getting the job done right” whether in research or in management of the national forests. Andy was also an outstanding “mentor” who became a friend and professional colleague as he and others organized the Alaska Chapter of the Society of American Foresters in November 1954.

Andy, along with other Research and National Forest System personnel, pioneered studies of the effects of timber harvesting on southeastern Alaska’s incredible salmon streams. Andy loved working on Alaska’s coastal waters, was an excellent boat skipper, and even helped design the Forest Service research vessel *Maybeso*. Andy could easily have continued with an outstanding research career within the Forest Service or at a university, and for a short time taught at Yale University.

However, Andy was also a very practical and “hands on” person who was very interested in applying “research results” on-the-ground and in-the-forest, and thus his extraordinary career “led him to” high-profile leadership positions on the Kaniksu and Bitterroot National Forests in Region 1 and the Superior National Forest in Region 9.

I shall forever be grateful for Andy’s “mentoring” in the 1950s and four our long-term professional associations and friendship.

Loyd Collett *remembers Merci Ann Bones and comments on PNWFSA Membership Directory challenge*

It must be a never ending task to keep the PNWFSA Membership Directory current and accurate. I noticed the October 2009 issue included the name of Merci Ann Bones, wife of the late James Bones. Merci Ann died May 24, 2008, at her summer home in Yachats, Oregon. Her personal attire was always decorated with a colorful scarf. The tables in the Fellowship Hall of the Yachats Community Presbyterian Church, at her memorial service, were decorated with hundreds of these personal items. The Bones family shared the scarves with Merci Ann’s friends. After retiring from the WO, Jim and Merci Ann settled in Yachats and traveled often.

Lee Boeckstiegal *remembers Ray Crist*

I was trying to think back as to if Ray had arrived on the Detroit Ranger District while I was district ranger there. I say this because it seems as though each time I visited the Detroit Ranger District, Ray was there to be of help. He became very knowledgeable of the district and was pleasant every time we met and at those times I observed his meeting with other publics. He was a true and true Forest Service employee. I am sure he will be missed by the district and the communities he served. He always had a smile for you.

Tom Harlan *remembers Merle Pugh*

Merle was a good friend and mentor. I knew him for nearly 50 years, and he was always the consummate professional in his dedication to the Forest Service and to the field of journalism. He was instrumental in helping a host of public affairs folks during their careers. Everyone had the highest regard for Merle.

He was a “class act” and will be sorely missed. We corresponded through the years. I received his last letter five days before he died.

John Marker *remembers Merle Pugh*

Merle, when he was in better health, was a regular at the OldSmokeys lunches, even on days when it would have been superb to be on the golf course. He was a journalist of the old school and at one time a writer for *The Oregonian* and a reporter for the old *Oregon Journal*.

I first met Merle when I did my first tour in Region 6 as public affairs officer for the Rogue River National Forest in the mid 1970s. He was the regional press officer in Portland, and a good one. He knew most of the key reporters in Oregon and Washington. In my case, he helped me work with the Medford-Ashland media by making some phone calls to his news contacts and telling them that even though I was arriving from Southern California I could talk in full sentences. His introductions helped me work effectively with the Rogue Valley and later the Grants Pass print and electronic media.

Merle did a professional job of working with the news people throughout the region and was able to straighten out a number of misinformed people about what the facts really were before their “facts” became page one or lead story at 6 on the tube. He served the Forest Service well, and I am pleased I was privileged to know and work with him.

Zane Smith *remembers Merle Pugh*

Merle Pugh was a favorite of mine. As a young ranger on the Oaknogan National Forest in the early ‘60s and later the center director at Cispus Job Corps Conservation Center on the Gifford Pinchot National Forest, Merle gave me and our unit a lot of support and encouragement. He always immersed himself in the issues and offered friendly and pertinent advice. I considered him a valued colleague and friend. Sorry to lose him!

Sylvia Brucchi *remembers Merle Pugh*

Tom, John, and Zane express my thoughts about Merle extremely well. He was a tremendous help to me as I began my public affairs career in Region 6 on the Siskiyou National Forest and later on the Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest. He was always so encouraging, in his warm and affable way.

Unfortunately, by the time I got to the RO as director, Merle had retired. However, he left well-trained and enthusiastic successors behind him and I was grateful to him for that. His long career was remarkable and distinguished. I was so sorry to hear of his death.

Ed Whitmore *remembers Omer Riehl*

I never had any direct association with Omer Riehl, but I do remember him giving a talk about the need for fiscal integrity when I went to Regional Orientation in 1962. As a new forester who had been on the job slightly less than a year, it was amazing to have the mighty regional directors each give us a spiel, then invite questions from the lowly underlings. This gave us an opportunity to put a face to the memos that came from the RO, and to learn how policy was interpreted in the field. I remember Omer saying “That behavior which is rewarded tends to be repeated, and that behavior which is penalized tends not to be

repeated.” Those were good words for us newcomers.

Jim Craig *remembers Haven Stanaway*

The comment of **Stan Rapp** in the Fall 2009 *OldSmokeys Newsletter* about Haven Stanaway reminded me that I have been silent since retiring. Haven was a “giant” as Stan states, and I have not seen enough about him in the *OldSmokeys Newsletter*.

When I was appointed ranger at Entiat, Washington, Haven was acting ranger. I was sent there because the forest supervisors involved—Lloyd Gilmore and Ken Blair—judged that I was strong enough to assume supervision of Haven. It was never a problem. Haven could easily have been a forest supervisor, but he never attempted to be anything but helpful to me. I owe much of my future success to wisdom learned from Haven.

Haven participated in creation of new innovations and training of many people. A “giant” in his chosen areas, indeed.

Ken Drahos *reports move to Walla Walla and death of OldSmokey Andy Andersen*

In browsing through the 2009 membership directory I noticed that I failed to notify you folks of our change of address when we left Milton-Freewater. Due to my wife’s health we moved to the Washington Odd Fellows apartments. It’s a great place to live. Great administrator. Rental reasonable.

The other reason for writing is to notify your office of the death of one of our members. Harold (Andy) Andersen. Andy died on August 25 at age 93. I met Andy years ago when the Forest Service transferred me to Cordova, Alaska. We kept track of each other over the years. His wife [Sibyl] died a couple years ago.

I’m looking forward to the 2010 directory.

Editor’s Note: Thanks to Ken for this “heads up” on Andy Andersen that led to the information provided by the Bonner County Daily Bee that was the basis for the “Memories” section entry.

Temple Hahn *enjoyed the Missoula reunion*

It was great to see many OldSmokeys at the Missoula Reunion and it was an excellent program.

Hank De Bruin *enjoys OldSmokeys Newsletter*

Martha and I greatly enjoy your outstanding newsletter.

Elva Joy *enjoys newsletter and enjoyed Missoula reunion*

The newsletter is great! We enjoyed the reunion in Missoula this year. So much fun to see so many Region 6 retirees there.

Jim Overbay *enjoyed the Missoula reunion*

It was great to see so many old friends in Missoula. Ardette and I really enjoyed our time there.

Mack Moore *likes news of old friends*

I enjoy hearing about old Forest Service friends, although after 23 years the list is growing shorter.

Letters is a section of your *OldSmokeys Newsletter* in which you may share thoughts and feelings with other OldSmokeys. You may send your letters to Secretary Bev Pratt at P.O. Box 5583, Portland, Oregon 97228, or directly to Editor Les Joslin at 2356 NW Great Place, Bend, Oregon 97701.

Books

The U.S. Forest Service in the Pacific Northwest: A History

By Gerald W. Williams with Forward by Mike Dombeck

The Pacific Northwest has been at the forefront of forest management and research in the United States for more than one hundred years. In *The U.S. Forest Service in the Pacific Northwest: A History*, OldSmokey **Jerry Williams** provides an historical overview of the part the Forest Service has played.

Emphasizing changes in management policy over the years, Jerry chronicles establishment of national forests in Oregon and Washington, timber management and grazing on public land, the Great Depression, World War II, and the rise of multiple-use management policies. He draws on extensive documentation of the post-war development boom to explore effects on the national forests and Forest Service personnel. Addressing such controversial issues as roadless areas and wilderness designation, timber harvesting, forest planning, ecosystems, and spotted owls, he demonstrates the impacts of 1970s environmental laws on national forest management.

Chronicling a century of the agency's management of almost 25 million acres of national forests and grasslands for the people of the United States, *The U.S. Forest Service in the Pacific Northwest* is a welcome and overdue resource. Jerry's book was sponsored by the Pacific Northwest Forest Service Association and the Pacific Northwest Region of the U.S. Forest Service.

The U.S. Forest Service in the Pacific Northwest costs \$29.95 plus \$3.00 shipping for the first book and \$2.00 for each additional book inside the United States. Oregon State University, the publisher, offers OldSmokeys a 15 percent discount price of \$25.46 per copy plus \$3.00 shipping for the first book and \$2.00 for each additional copy ordered before March 31, 2010. To order by telephone, call toll-free at 1-800-426-3797. Phone orders must be prepaid using a credit card. To order by mail, send order with check for the total amount due made out to "University of Arizona Press" to The University of Arizona Press, 355 S. Euclid Avenue, Suite 103, Tucson, Arizona 85719. Use order form on OldSmokeys website if you wish.

Prepared from an Oregon State University Press news release and information provided by Tom Booth, Associate Director, Oregon State University Press..

James G. Cayton: Pioneer Forest Ranger

By David W. Cayton and Caroline E. Metzler

James G. Cayton: Pioneer Forest Ranger is a magnificent new contribution to U.S. Forest Service history—history of the personal kind evocative of time, place, and circumstance. Billed as "a pictorial history honoring the lives of Ranger James G. Cayton and his wife Birdie Miller Cayton," this book also honors the early Forest Service and the early rangers and their wives who braved the elements to make it all work.

A masterful blending of words and images, this leather-bound, gold-stamped, large-format, 230-page volume—some would call it a "coffee-table book"—is as credible and compelling as it is colorful.

"While this is the story of Forest Ranger James Grimshaw Cayton," the book begins, it perceives that "his life is better understood in the context of the emerging Forest Service ..." of "...intense struggle between the rights of the individual and the common good..." that pioneer rangers mediated daily, and acts on that perception. Call it "pine tree politics" if you want, and you'd be right. Politics boils down to sorting out who gets what, and sorting out who got legal access to national forest resources was part and parcel of rangers then as it is now.

The evidence on which this book is based shows that Ranger Cayton did that job and did it well from day one—he was one of the keepers from the General Land Office ranger force that Gifford Pinchot allowed into his new Forest Service in 1905—on ranger districts on two national forests in Colorado until he retired in 1939. Known for his diplomacy and integrity as well as toughness when necessary, he was able to convince local ranchers and miners of the wisdom of land stewardship. That same evidence shows he did another part of the early ranger's job well, too. That was the job of building up his district—literally building the infrastructure he needed to do his job. This meant building his ranger station and constructing and maintaining a telephone system as well as roads and trails. That's what being a pioneer ranger was about.

When, on September 26, 1909, Ranger Cayton married Adelaide Dorothea Miller, he got much more than a wife. "Birdie," as she was known, was a young school teacher and the daughter of a local rancher. As the oldest of nine children and a cowhand at an early age, she had the grit and the learning necessary for a life in the new Forest Service.

Soon dubbed "Sweetheart of the Forest Service," Birdie packed the gear to be a real ranger's wife in a time rangers' wives acted as unpaid assistant rangers. She also packed the trunks that told the amazing story of her life with Ranger Jim Cayton whom she survived by twenty years. He died in 1956, she in 1976. The content of the book mostly came from an "historic treasure trove" known as "Birdie's trunks" that contained the myriad artifacts and documents—especially diaries and letters and photographs—that enabled the authors to tell Ranger Cayton's story so well. David W. Cayton is Ranger Cayton's grand-nephew, and this volume is the result of his vision and financial support. Caroline E. Metzler provided professional expertise to researching, writing, and designing the book.

There was nothing easy about serving as a U.S. Forest Service ranger or being a ranger's wife in those days. It was a hard life. But it was a good life. And whoever reads *James G. Cayton: Pioneer Forest Ranger* and relives Jim's and Birdie's years together will come away knowing that Ranger Jim Cayton was a good man who lived a good life with a good wife as he did good work for his country.

James G. Cayton: Pioneer Forest Ranger is available from Cayton Ranger Station Foundation in Rifle, Colorado, for \$64.95 per copy plus \$7.50 for postage and handling. Order online at <www.caytonrangerstation.org>. A portion of book sale proceeds supports historic Cayton Ranger Station on the White River National Forest in Colorado.

— Les Joslin

Uncle Sam's Cabins



Paulina Lake Guard Station, Fort Rock Ranger District, Deschutes National Forest, Oregon, in July 1950

Paulina Lake Guard Station Deschutes National Forest, Oregon

By Les Joslin

Early in the afternoon of June 15, 1942, school teacher John P. Robins—with his wife Helen and their sons Dick, 7, and Dave, 4—drove his 1939 Packard coupe into the yard of the Paulina Lake Guard Station on the south shore of the larger of the two lakes within the Newberry Caldera on the Deschutes National Forest. For the next 17 summers he'd work for District Ranger Henry Tonseth as forest guard in the beautiful caldera that in 1990 would become the centerpiece of the Newberry National Volcanic Monument.

Paulina Lake Guard Station, into which the Robins family moved, had just been built by the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) during the snow-free months of 1941 and the spring of 1942. Designed in the Pacific Northwest Region's distinctive Cascadian Rustic style, the three-room residence had a large living room with wood stove, a large bedroom with a small closet, and an eat-in kitchen with a large wood cook stove. It also had the luxury of an indoor bathroom with shower.

As Robins discharged his many and varied forest guard duties and his wife kept house and staffed the station, their sons Dick and Dave experienced the adventure of growing up at the station—except, of course, during the school year, when the family was at home in Albany, California. The station remains in use. Years later, Dick and Dave Robins shared their family's adventures in the slim, 40-page book *Seventeen Summers at Paulina Lake Guard Station* published in 2006 by Wilderness Associates, P.O. Box 5822, Bend, Oregon 97708, from which it can be ordered for \$5.00 per copy including postage.

Editor's Note: Sorry about two Deschutes National Forest stations—even on the same ranger district—in a row, but I'm starting to run out! Please send in your favorite historic Region 6 station and its story to help keep this feature going.

The Way We Were



Silver Lake Ranger Station, Fremont National Forest, Oregon, as Ollie Peters first saw it across the sagebrush sea in 1945.

“Wait ‘Til You See Silver Lake.”

By Ollie Peters

Photographs courtesy of the author

Don Peters and I married in 1937 when he was a junior at Washington State University and I was one year out of high school. He had known since he was six years old that he wanted to be a forest ranger. He had summer jobs with the U.S. Forest Service out of a couple ranger stations before he graduated in 1939. When I was at all critical of any of those stations, he would say “Wait ‘til you see Silver Lake.”

Don was assistant district ranger on the Warner Ranger District, Fremont National Forest, in Lakeview, Oregon, when, in 1945, we were transferred to the Silver Lake Ranger District. Silver Lake [the lake] was mostly a grassy meadow and the evergreen trees were miles away. It was unlike any ranger station I had ever seen. Don was right about that.

Our house was the only residence at the station. The office and a few other buildings made up the whole compound. People went to their own homes after the day's work. After a time, Orville Cary and his wife came and a living quarters was built for them. In the summer a brush crew of mostly college students was housed in a tent over a wooden frame. The warehouseman's wife cooked for them.

There was no electricity except for a light plant we could run for only a few hours at a time. I used sad irons heated on our wood stove to iron our clothes. Our hot water came from coils in the stove. We had a well with a pump powered by a one-cylinder Poppin' Johnny. The water was pumped up to a 40-foot water tower. The pump broke down often. When it did, we had no water so could not use the stove because of the coils. That pump gave Don the back problem he had for the rest of his life. Water for possible fires on the compound was collected in barrels from rainwater off the roofs. I believe alkali dust was added in the winter to keep it from freezing.

When the Rural Electrification Administration brought electricity to the area, I could finally use my electrical appliances. On weekends, Don climbed poles and helped many ranchers install their lines. Also, besides his regular duties, Don helped with cattle drives, was often called to go with the disaster car to help with accidents on the highway and to administer first aid. He had a ham radio and, because there were no telephones except for the Forest Service ones, during fire seasons used his radio to get messages to other ham operators in Bend and Lakeview for doctor and other appointments for us and many of the ranchers.

I had a horse for a short time, but she had not really been broken when I started to ride her and she loved to buck me off in the sagebrush. I quit riding her when I became pregnant with our second son.

Jon was born in Bend on June 5, 1946. Our older son Donny was four at the time. Once, when I was busy with the baby, the cook for the crew came to the door. She was white as a sheet and could hardly talk. She pointed to the 40-foot water tower and mumbled “Donny.” Then I saw him. He had climbed the ladder and was two-thirds of the way up.

Fortunately, Don was in the office that day. He went to the bottom of the tower and call to Donny to say he would come up and they could climb the rest of the tower together. They did, looked around, and came down. Don removed several of the rungs in the latter and told Donny to see if he could climb now. “Sure, Daddy,” Donny said, stuck the toes of his shoes in the holes left by the rungs, and started up. We had to make the tower off-limits.

World War II and rationing were our main concerns. It was

80 miles to Bend for supplies except for a few things we could order and have the stage deliver to the little store in the town. We had frequent people from the regional office in Portland and other government people stop by for meals. This was a problem because of all the food items that were rationed. We ate a lot of deer meat which Don was able to shoot during hunting season. I used some Karo syrup I had been saving to make Jon’s first birthday cake. My mom showed me how to make soap, and we managed to get by without things a person thinks they can’t do without.

A live Japanese balloon bomb landed intact on the district but did not explode or start a fire. An article about that was published in *The Bend Bulletin*. I won’t go into that except to say that Don helped dismantle it and I had to get dinner for the three officers and two enlisted men who flew from Washington state to retrieve it. It may be in the Smithsonian now.

There was little social life except for listening to the radio and attending a few Forest Service parties in Paisley and Lakeview after gas was easier to come by. We did attend a dance in a grange hall fairly close to Silver Lake, but it got really rough after a cowboy rode his horse up the steps and almost into the hall. So we left early.

I was more aware of the coyote noises and other sounds when Don was away at night, and particularly in the winter when there were no other people around. The ranger before us used to say that, at Silver Lake, you could look the farthest, see the least, and it took 40 acres of moisture to rust a shingle nail.

There were things I learned to love about Silver Lake before we were transferred back to Lakeview in 1948. It is a part of my life in which I experienced a lot and also learned a lot.



Silver Lake Ranger Station, Fremont National Forest, when District Ranger Don Peters and his family lived there.



District Ranger Don Peters, Ollie, and their sons Jon and Donny at Silver Lake Ranger Station in the late 1940s.

And that’s the way it was for Ollie and Don Peters and their young family at Silver Lake Ranger Station on the Fremont National Forest in the latter 1940s—about 65 years ago. Things have changed there.

How was it for you other OldSmokeys wherever the U.S. Forest Service planted you during the latter half of the Twentieth Century—or even before? Our readers—your fellow OldSmokeys—want to know.

Share your “The Way We Were” story with OldSmokeys Newsletter readers. Write it up and send it in!



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Winter 2010

Note: Your mailing label shows the year through which your dues are paid. For example, if your label shows “10” your dues are paid through December 31, 2010. If it shows “LT” you are a lifetime member and owe no further dues.

Join your fellow OldSmokeys for lunch on the last Friday of every month at the Beaverton Elks Club, 3500 SW 104th Avenue, off Canyon Road, just east of Highway 217, at 11:00 a.m.

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

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