



OldSmokeys Newsletter

Newsletter of the Pacific Northwest Forest Service Retirees— Fall 2018

President's Message—Kent Connaughton

Congratulations to the Friends of Fish Lake who were recognized by the National Museum of Forest Service History for restoration of the Fish Lake Historic Site on the Willamette! **Mike Ash** accepted the award during the Forest Service Retirees National Reunion in Asheville, North Carolina. Your Association has supported the Fish Lake restoration through our grants program, and there is substantial overlap in membership of the Friends and the OldSmokeys.

The August picnic, catered by the Job Corps, was delightful. The arrangements were flawless, the food delicious, and the weather dazzling. Friendships were renewed, stories related, and plans for the future made.

Your Association enters the fall with optimism and purpose. We are targeting at least \$10,000 for grants around the region; we remain ready to financially assist employees who have suffered losses during emergencies; **Bill Funk** is working on a Web-based arrangement to streamline our digital capabilities; **Bev Pratt** and **Linda Goodman** are working on a higher education scholarship; we will refresh our Participation Agreement with the Region and the Station; and we welcome **Debra Warren** and **Joan Barbour** as our new *OldSmokeys Newsletter* co-editors.

The national “Reunion at the Cradle” was outstanding. The Cradle of Forestry, Biltmore Estate, and Weeks Act forests provided the setting. Interim Chief Vicki Christiansen conveyed an impressive breadth of understanding of contemporary conservation needs and Forest Service priorities. I was inspired by her strong resolve to ensure a safe, respectful, and productive agency culture that is free of harassment and retaliation. The next national reunion is set for September 13-17, 2021, at South Lake Tahoe.

During the reunion, Vicki Christiansen asserted that she will see that all retiring employees receive information to help them connect with their regional retiree associations. I ask each of you to encourage employees to join us whether or not retirement is imminent. The Forest Service and our Association will benefit from your initiative and their involvement.

Best to all of you!

Kent Connaughton

In This Issue...

Forum: “New Editorial Team Takes OldSmokeys Newsletter Reins”... “Silence is Complicity”.....	2
OldSmokeys News: 100 OldSmokeys Enjoyed August 10 “Picnic in the Woods”...OldSmokeys Attended “Reunion at the Cradle” in Asheville, North Carolina...Grant Applications Due...High Desert Ranger Station Decade...Fish Lake Work... Rex Holloway...Jon Stewart...Sandy Sharp...Lookout Tree...Randy Dunbar.....	2
Forest Service News: Jim Hubbard Confirmed Undersecretary...Interim Chief All-Employee Call...New Senior Executive Named...Regional Forester Glenn Casamassa...Shared Stewardship...Wildfires 2018...Chief’s Award for Deschutes National Forest...Conconully Ranger Station	6
Memories: Remembrances of Recently Deceased.....	11
Books: “OldSmokeys Contributed to ‘193 Million Acres: Toward a More Healthy and Resilient U.S. Forest Service’ Edited by Steve Wilent and Published by the Society of American Foresters” Reviewed by Les Joslin	14
Out of the Past: “World War II WOOFs Proudly Wore U.S. Forest Service Guard Badge” By Dave Govatski	14
Uncle Sam’s Cabins: “Sisters Ranger Station, Deschutes National Forest” By Les Joslin	15
My First Forest Service Job: “My Prescribed Fire Adventure” By Joan Landsberg	15

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

Annual Dues for 2019 are Due on January 1. See Page 4!

Forum

New Editorial Team Takes OldSmokeys Newsletter Reins

Little did we know when we met in the first grade in Woodburn, Oregon, that we would become co-editors of your *OldSmokeys Newsletter* all these decades later. So there you are, here we are, and here's our first issue—with Les doing 99.9 percent of the work!

A little information about us: Joan worked at the Forest Research Laboratory at Oregon State University from 1975 to 1980, where she met her husband, Rob Mangold (who worked for the U.S. Forest Service for 27 years in Washington, D.C., and Portland). Joan worked as a graphic artist her whole career. Deb started at the Pacific Northwest Research Station in 1969 and retired as an economist there in 2011. She was best known for authoring "Production, Prices, Employment, and Trade in Northwest Forest Industries."

We'd like to invite all our readers to contribute to this endeavor of ours. Remember, this is your newsletter, too! Please send suggestions our way, either by e-mails addressed to Joan at <barbourmangold@hotmail.com> or Debra at <debra warren69@gmail.com> or regular mail addressed to us at: OldSmokeys, P.O. Box 5583, Portland, Oregon 97228-5583.

We realize we have big shoes to fill with Les being the ultimate PRO! He has promised to continue his contributions, so we haven't seen the last of him yet. Please be patient with us, and we'll do our best. A great "thank-you" to Les for accomplishing this amazing feat all these years.

—Joan Barbour and Debra Warren

Silence is Complicity

Back in the Spring of 2006, when I took on your *OldSmokeys Newsletter* editorship, I adopted a "bully pulpit" approach to provide readers and their editor a voice to address issues of concern. That worked for me—and I hope it worked for you.

This issue marks a transition to a new editorial team, and I am pleased to welcome co-editors Joan Barbour and Debra Warren whom I wish the very best as they chart their course for continued success of your quarterly newsletter.

I offer one more editorial observation.

Two institutions these days are beloved by many and bedeviled by dilemmas that threaten their viability. These devils are somewhat similar. In the case of the institution shared by the readers of this newsletter, there are fine women out there to whom leadership should come, hat in hand, begging forgiveness, and offering resolution, restitution, and reinstatement.

Such action likely transcends standard HR protocols, practices, and procedures. Success of a new initiative to address this dilemma, to right past wrongs and prevent future wrongs, will require more than front office platitudes, programs, and pronouncements. It will require action, not just words. It may well require individual pursuit on a case-by-case basis by officials who can take real action and make real differences.

If I didn't say so, I'd be part of the problem.

—Les Joslin

"Silence is complicity."

—Joe Biden, former Vice President of the United States, and many others of conscience

OldSmokeys News

OldSmokeys One Hundred-Strong Enjoyed August 10 Picnic in the Woods

An even 100 OldSmokeys gathered on August 10, 2018, at the Wildwood Recreation Area near Mt. Hood for the Pacific Northwest Forest Service Association (PNWFSA) annual Picnic in the Woods. Many of them braved the heat and smoke which increasingly characterize wildfire season in the West to be there, and others—including a few regulars—showed good judgement by avoiding exposure to adverse conditions.

The hot weather wasn't quite so oppressive at Wildwood Recreation Area where OldSmokeys met and enjoyed a picnic lunch catered by Timber Lake Job Corps Center culinary arts students. Pictures always tell a better picnic story than words, so here are some pictures of this summer's picnic by veteran OldSmokey photographer **Paul Enberg** and others who recorded the scene to remind you of the fun you had—or enable a little vicarious enjoyment if you didn't make it.



OldSmokeys were greeted by Mary Moyer, Bev Pratt, new OldSmokeys Newsletter co-editor Deb Warren (standing), and Karen Pong (left) as Gene Pong (right) stood by.



Bob Tokarczyk and Paul Enberg (left), Pat and Tom Nygren.



Ron and Carol McCormick (left). Sue and Bill Funk (right).

The editors thank Paul Enberg for his outstanding picnic photographs and regret there is not room for all of them. More may be seen online at <www.oldsmokeys.org>.

—Deb, Joan, and Les



Timber Lake Job Corps Center culinary arts students ready to serve lunch (left) and new OldSmokeys Newsletter co-editor Joan Barbour making her lunch selections (right).



Jon Stewart (left), Bob Walker and Ranotta McNair (center), and John Berry (right).



Mary Marker with Walt and Pat Knapp (left), Sue Little with PNWFSA President-elect Rob Mangold (right).



Mt. Hood National Forest Supervisor Jim DeMaagd joined PNWFSA President Kent Connaughton in updating the group.

OldSmokeys Were Among Many Who Attended “Reunion at the Cradle” in Asheville, North Carolina

About fifty OldSmokeys were among the several hundred who enjoyed the September 24-28 U.S. Forest Service “Reunion at the Cradle” hosted by the Southern Forest Service Retirees Association (SFRA) at the Crown Plaza Hotel in beautiful Asheville, North Carolina. The reunion involved a lot of fun as well as some serious work.

As the reunion kicked off on Monday, the National Association of Forest Service Retirees (NAFSR) met with Secretary of Agriculture Sonny Perdue, Undersecretary of Agriculture for National Forests and Environment Jim Hubbard, and Interim Chief of the Forest Service Vicki Christiansen. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss NAFSR’s recommendations to Secretary Perdue regarding sustaining the Forest Service, revitalizing the culture, and streamlining the processes.



Secretary Perdue and NAFSR’s Region 6 Rep. Ranotta McNair.

After outlining NAFSR goals, Chair Jim Caswell told these three leaders: “To achieve those will require your direct involvement. Without your intervention, support, and active involvement, I don’t think this has a chance. The resistance to this is going to be pretty fierce.”

“I am serious about what you are talking about!” Secretary Perdue began his reply. “We’re going to be intimately, personally, and aggressively involved in order to restore the prestige and functionality of the U.S. Forest Service to a working lands model. It is a valued natural resource and asset.”

“The meeting lasted an hour and was well received by those attending,” former NAFSR Chair and OldSmokey **Jim Golden** told your *OldSmokeys Newsletter*. “I think most members found Secretary Perdue very well informed about the challenges facing the Forest Service, and sincere in looking for solutions.”

Tuesday could be termed “Heritage Day” at the reunion. The morning’s first speaker was Bibi Gaston, great-grandniece of Gifford Pinchot and author of the 2016 book *Gifford Pinchot and the First Foresters*. Next, Executive Director Lisa Tate of the National Museum of Forest Service History provided an update on the museum’s progress and programs.

Just before lunch, the Museum presented three awards. A well-deserved heritage preservation award was accepted by OldSmokey **Mike Ash** on behalf of the McKenzie Ranger District and the Friends of Fish Lake for their outstanding contribution to the legacy of the Forest Service in the restoration of the historic ranger station and remount depot that comprise the Fish Lake Historic Site on the Willamette National Forest. “I am honored to accept this wonderful award on behalf of the roughly 100 members of the Friends of Fish Lake,” Mike said. “All of us from FFL give credit to **Mike Kerrick**’s long term vision and leadership for the success of this great project.” The National Museum of Forest Service History will feature a detailed article about this award in the fall issue of its newsletter.

Continued on page 13



OldSmokeys Annual Dues for 2019 are Due and Payable on January 1, 2019

It's the time of year in which OldSmokeys who pay Pacific Northwest Forest Service Association (PNWFSA) dues on an annual basis pay those **Annual Dues** due on January 1, 2019. Again this year, you may pay your \$20.00 annual dues by PayPal by logging on to the OldSmokeys website at <www.oldsmokeys.org> and clicking on the "Renew to 01/01/2020" button in your profile and following the procedure.

Or, you may use the Bill of Collection coupon below to pay your \$20.00 annual dues, convert to a Lifetime Membership for a one-time payment of \$250.00 that frees you from paying annual dues ever again, and/or donate to one or more PNWFSA funds.

Pacific Northwest Forest Service Association
Bill for Collection
for 2019 Annual Dues
or Conversion to Lifetime Membership
and/or PNWFSA Fund Donation

Please make your check(s) for \$20 Annual Membership Dues or \$250 Lifetime Membership Dues and/or any amounts you may wish to contribute to any of the PNWFSA funds listed below payable to **PNWFSA** and mail to:
PNWFSA, P.O. Box 5583, Portland, Oregon 97228-5583

Please check all that apply:

First year of PNWFSA Membership—\$0 (Free)

Annual Membership Renewal — \$20.00

Lifetime Membership — \$250.00

Elmer Moyer Memorial
Emergency Fund Donation — \$ _____

Project/Grant Fund Donation — \$ _____

General Fund Donation — \$ _____

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Any changes to your contact information? _____

Any comments to share? _____

OldSmokeys Grant Application Deadline is December 31, 2018

OldSmokey **Charlie Krebs**, Chair of the Pacific Northwest Forest Service Association (PNWFSA) Grants Committee, reminds all who know an organization interested in applying for a grant to be awarded in 2019 that the deadline for grant application submission is December 21, 2018.

About \$10,000 will be available for 2019 grants. Applications to fund projects that further PNWFSA goals may be submitted by private, non-profit, or non-governmental organizations. Grants are not made directly to the U.S. Forest Service, but may be made to partnering organizations pursuing appropriate projects with the Forest Service on National Forest System lands.

Complete information about PNWFSA grants was provided in the Summer 2018 *OldSmokeys Newsletter*.

OldSmokeys Competed a Decade of High Desert Ranger Station Service

OldSmokeys completed their tenth year of telling the U.S. Forest Service story to visitors at the Pacific Northwest Forest Service Association (PNWFSA)-sponsored High Desert Ranger Station, which flies the flag in front of the world-class High Desert Museum south of Bend, Oregon, on Labor Day.

This summer, during 73 five-hour duty days, OldSmokeys **John Bambe, Bill Fish, Stan Kunzman, Joan Landsberg, Doug Ridley, Ray Romero, Jon Stewart, and Desi Zamudio**, along with OldSmokey **Les Joslin**, who has led the volunteer project since it began, and a few other Museum volunteers, welcomed 1,536 High Desert Museum visitors to the historic restored Forest Service ranger station.

OldSmokeys and Friends of Fish Lake Accomplished Much at Work Week, Otherwise During Summer 2018

Forty-one volunteers—many of them OldSmokeys—gathered for the productive Friends of Fish Lake (FFL) June 24-30 work week at the Fish Lake Historic Site on the Willamette National Forest, FFL President and OldSmokey **Rolf Anderson** reported to your *OldSmokeys Newsletter* on August 9, 2018. During this annual event, these volunteers accomplished "some routine and some extensive" maintenance and repair work. Jobs on the "extensive" list included "replacing a load-bearing sill under the CCC-built barn." They also took care of FFL business and had a lot of fun during this annual work week.

Additional accomplishments during the summer included replacement of the shake roof on the 1924 Hall House. "This project spanned three years, from the production and storing of custom-sized shakes, to locating a contractor, to scheduling the job," Rolf reported. "Shakes and work were financed by grants from the OldSmokeys and the Kinsman Foundation and funds from the Friends."

"A local videographer visited several times over the summer, filming with hand-held and drone cameras," Rolf added. "Some scenes recreated historic activities, such as loading and trailing pack stock, and included Sweet Home Ranger District performer Tony Farque in period Forest Service uniforms. The resulting videos will be used for interpretation at four sites. This, also, is financed by an OldSmokey grant."

OldSmokey Rex Holloway is Serving with National Science Foundation in Antarctica

With the goal of experiencing all seven of Earth's continents, how do you get to Antarctica? OldSmokey **Rex Holloway** knows: "Apply to work there during their 'summer season.'"

It took two tries, but Rex left Bend, Oregon, for McMurdo Station, one of three U.S. sponsored research stations in Antarctica, at the end of September. There he is working as a shuttle driver for a National Science Foundation contractor, transporting scientists and support personnel to and from the ice landing strip and around the station.

McMurdo sits on the bare volcanic rock of Hut Point Peninsula on Ross Island, the solid ground farthest south that is accessible by ship. A ship brings fuel and other supplies to the station each January. People working at the station and all other supplies are flown in, usually on military transport aircraft. During the height of the summer season there are a bit over a thousand people working out of McMurdo. Scott Base, a New Zealand research facility, is about a mile from McMurdo.

Even though it will be summer—lovingly known as "the ice"—during Rex's stay in Antarctica, personnel have Extreme Cold Weather (ECW) clothing. Daily temperatures from October to February run -3 to 16 degrees Fahrenheit. Rex shares a "dorm" room with two other people. Cell phones are useless, but there is satellite phone service to the United States as well as internet access.

Rex's flight time from Redmond, Oregon, to Christchurch, New Zealand, was about 14 or 15 hours, and the flight on to McMurdo was another five hours. He is tentatively scheduled to return to Christchurch in the middle of February and plans to travel in New Zealand and Australia before returning to Oregon in March.

Editor's Note: Thanks to Rex for this article!

OldSmokey Jon Stewart Spoke on Carbon Pricing and Working Lands at Spring Pinchot Institute Conference

OldSmokey **Jon Stewart**, who manages a 120-acre woodland property east of Portland, Oregon, owned by his family for over a century, spoke on small woodland owners' carbon set-asides at a June 12, 2018, Pinchot Institute conference at the World Forestry Center in Portland. Jon's and his sister Janice's pioneering of small tree farm carbon sequestration was reported in the Summer 2018 *OldSmokeys Newsletter*.

After explaining the rationale for carbon sequestration and summarizing the process of certifying his family's Raincloud Tree Farm as a carbon bank—a process once limited to large timber outfits but now available to small woodland owners—Jon described the "new kind of forestry" the process requires. "We recognize we are the guinea pigs in this process and are willing to accept the financial risk to help make carbon sequestration a viable option for small woodland owners," he told the audience.

"At both ends of the [timber production] spectrum, as more States, provinces, and nations invest in the carbon market and as more woodland owners join to help fight global warming, the market should get more competitive. We hope in five years, when we renegotiate our carbon offset payments, our share of the reimbursements will increase.

"Growing timber to match the requirements of the carbon market is a new challenge that demands a multigenerational commitment and a new kind of forestry. Most small woodland owners recognize the danger of climate change and wish to do something about it, but rarely do they have the time and economic means to do so. The challenge will be providing them with a bridge to the future with a clear vision of both the short-term and long-term ecological opportunities that this approach provides."

For information, contact <www.forestcarbonworks.org>.

OldSmokey Sandy Sharp Snares Skeeters for Science

OldSmokey **Sandy Sharp** of Bend, Oregon, is on a team of volunteers assisting federal and state agencies (the U.S. Forest Service, the Bureau of Land Management, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife) and a private organization (East Cascades Audubon Society) determine the degree to which the mosquito-borne West Nile virus is responsible for sage-grouse population declines in the Brothers/North Wagontire Priority Area of Central Oregon. Both laboratory and field data suggest sage-grouse exhibit a very low resistance to the virus.

Sandy and other East Cascades Audubon Society volunteers this spring and summer trapped mosquitoes at four specific guzzlers (watering places for wildlife) in that area. The mosquitoes are ultimately tested for West Nile virus which has taken quite a toll on sage-grouse populations in parts of the West.

"Mosquito trapping is comparatively solitary," Sandy says. "I always have a friend along to help with navigation as all those roads tend to look alike! Having an extra set of hands helps keep the mosquitoes from escaping during transfer from trap to carrying box. I can be a bit clumsy and don't relish the thought of potential virus-carrying skeeters free-flying around in my car."

The first cases of domestically-acquired West Nile virus in the Western Hemisphere were diagnosed in New York in 1999. Originating in the West Nile sub-region of Uganda, the virus historically occurred throughout the temperate and tropical climates of Africa, Asia, and the Middle East. Now endemic to the United States, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention classifies West Nile virus as a reemerging pathogen that poses a threat to both human and animal health.

Prepared from information provided by Sandy Sharp and "West Nile Virus Monitoring in Central Oregon Conducted by BLM, East Cascades Audubon Society, Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and U.S. Forest Service" available online.

José "Joe" Cruz

U.S. Forest Service retiree José "Joe" Cruz died August 6, 2018, at home in Bend, Oregon, after a long struggle with Parkinson's disease. Joe was 77.

A native of Fontana, California, Joe married Glenda in 1964 and earned a Humboldt State College forestry degree in 1966. During his 34-year Forest Service career, Joe served as forest supervisor of the Deschutes National Forest, Director of Fire and Aviation Management for the Pacific Southwest Region in San Francisco, and ultimately as National Director of Fire and Aviation Management in Washington, D.C. Joe was remembered at an October 6 memorial service in Bend.

OldSmokeys Visited Historic Lookout Tree

July 12, 2018, found OldSmokey **Dave Govakski**, the only OldSmokey who lives in New Hampshire on his annual visit to Bend, Oregon, and OldSmokey **Les Joslin** of Bend taking one of their U.S. Forest Service history field trips to see the Black Mountain Lookout Tree on the old Big Summit Ranger District of the Ochoco National Forest.

As reported on page 38 of the Spring 2015 *OldSmokeys Newsletter*, they'd visited the Black Mountain Lookout Cabin built for the lookout tree lookout in 1934, moved to the Cold Springs Guard Station in 1951, and moved to its current location at the now-decommissioned Ochoco Ranger Station, during a summer 2014 field trip. It was time to see the lookout itself.

A couple hours after leaving Bend for the location east of Big Summit Prairie and a couple miles north of Cold Spring Guard Station, they parked off Forest Road 30, took a 270-degree bearing, and walked up to the broad, flat top of Black Mountain at 5,306 feet above mean sea level in about 10 minutes.

There it was: a crude wooden platform atop a large and now dead ponderosa pine. They wondered what it might have been like to ride out a thunderstorm up in that crow's nest, then contented themselves with making photographs. Dave, whose first Forest Service job was as a lookout, decided this one wasn't for him.



Dave and Les took the long route on a good road—Forest Road 42—through the Ochoco to Prineville, stopping to see the depressing “ghost town” that was Rager Ranger Station, headquarters of Paulina Ranger District, from 1908 until 2012.



The lookout platform in the top of the dead ponderosa pine (above) was contemplated by Les (below).

Dave Govakski photographs

OldSmokey Randy Dunbar Caught a Big Fish!

OldSmokey **Randy Dunbar** of Bend, Oregon, caught this 25-pound King Salmon—aka in Oregon as a Chinook Salmon—on September 7, 2018, in Barkley Sound while fishing out of the small hamlet of Bamfield Inlet, Vancouver Island, British Columbia. “Not huge, but respectable,” Randy commented.



Forest Service News

U.S. Forest Service Veteran Jim Hubbard Confirmed Undersecretary of Agriculture for Natural Resources and Environment

James Hubbard was confirmed by the U.S. Senate as Undersecretary of Agriculture for Natural Resources and Environment on August 22, 2018, almost four and one-half months after his April 14, 2018, nomination by President Donald J. Trump for the post. In this position, Undersecretary Hubbard's primary responsibility is overseeing the U.S. Forest Service.



James Hubbard

On that same day, U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Sonny Perdue applauded Hubbard's nomination. “I am very excited by the selection of Jim Hubbard for this leadership role at USDA,” he said. “Congress passed and President Trump signed into law meaningful reforms and forest management tools that will help us better maintain our national forests. Under Jim Hubbard's leadership, we will put these tools to use, restore our forests to health, and get them back to work for the taxpayers. Jim's service with the Forest Service and the Department of Interior makes him exceptionally qualified for this post, and I am eager to have Jim join the team.”

But, in testimony before the Senate Agriculture, Nutrition and Forestry Committee, Hubbard on July 24, 2018, promised to make fighting sexual harassment in the Forest Service his first priority if confirmed. “It'd be my first briefing,” he told the committee at his confirmation hearing. He said he would quickly call officials together for an update on the Forest Service's progress on the issue and would protect people who make complaints.

Hubbard also told the committee that he endorses “active” management of forests that would speed tree-thinning projects aimed at reducing wildfire risks. That work, he said, should be done in cooperation with state forestry officials. As undersecretary, Hubbard said he would consult with regional foresters and state officials—then move forward on those programs—knowing the Forest Service can't treat all the millions of acres in need of attention.

Jim Hubbard worked for the Colorado Forest Service for 35 years, serving as State Forester for the final 20 of those years, 1984-2004. In 2004, Hubbard accepted the position of Director of the Office of Wildland Fire Coordination in the U.S. Department of the Interior. In January 2006, he was appointed Deputy Chief for State and Private Forestry in the U.S. Forest Service. During that service, he guided the agency through years of catastrophic wildfires and worked closely with state foresters to promote a comprehensive, landscape-scale approach to forest management. In 2011, he received the National Association of State Foresters (NASF) Lifetime Achievement Award.

Prepared from multiple sources including “Secretary Perdue Applauds President Trump’s Selection for USDA’s Under Secretary for Natural Resources and Environment,” U.S. Department of Agriculture Press Release No. 0084.18 of April 14, 2018; “Jim Hubbard Nominated for Under Secretary for NRE” posted by Sharon Friedman in the A New Century of Forest Planning blog on April 15, 2018; “Undersecretary Nominee Hubbard Promises that Fighting Sexual Harassment Will Be First Priority” posted by Sharon Friedman quoting E&E News in the A New Century of Forest Planning blog on July 25, 2018.

U.S. Forest Service Interim Chief Held August All-Employee Call on Workplace Environment, Safety, Shared Stewardship

Interim Chief of the U.S. Forest Service Vicki Christiansen and her Acting Associate Chief Lenise Lago on August 22, 2018, held a long-awaited “all-employee call” on the workplace environment and, specifically, the challenge of addressing sexual misconduct issues reported in the Summer 2018 issue of your *OldSmokeys Newsletter*.

“We can fulfill our mission only if we have a work environment that is safe, respectful, rewarding and free from harassment and retaliation of any kind,” she said on August 24. “Our ‘Stand Up for Each Other’ training event was part of our journey together toward a better future. This is mission-critical work, as important as everything else we do.” Interim Chief Christiansen then listed a few themes—core values, people skills, rewards for resilient workplaces—resulting from that event, summarized steps taken “for years to improve our work environment—amending agency anti-harassment policy, opening an anti-harassment call center, reporting on how people have been held accountable—before listing further possible actions.

“This issue is so important that we are appointing a member of the Executive Leadership Team to focus exclusively on improving our work environment,” she said as she announced that recent Deputy Chief for the National Forest System Leslie Weldon would take on that role.

The remainder of the all-employee call addressed workplace safety and shared stewardship.

Prepared from U.S. Forest Service “Leadership Corner” blog “All Hands: Workplace environment, shared stewardship, and safety” of August 24, 2018.

U.S. Forest Service Former Deputy Chief Leslie Weldon is Senior Executive for Work Environment and Performance

Former Deputy Chief for the National Forest System and OldSmokey **Leslie Weldon** began serving in the U.S. Forest Service’s newly-established position of Senior Executive for Work Environment and Performance on August 22, 2018. In this position, she continues as a member of the Executive Leadership Team focused exclusively on improving the agency’s work environment.

Weldon was named Deputy Chief for the National Forest System in November 2011. She has served as a regional forester, a forest supervisor, and a district ranger.

Chris French, formerly Associate Deputy Chief for the National Forest System, is serving as Acting Deputy Chief for the National Forest System, and Allen Rowley is acting associate deputy chief. Rowley had been Director of Forest Management, Range Management, and Vegetation Ecology in the WO.

Prepared from National Association of Forest Service Retirees (NAFSR) News Updates of August 24, 2018.

U.S. Forest Service’s Glenn Casamassa is Pacific Northwest Regional Forester

U.S. Forest Service Interim Chief Vicki Christiansen on August 17, 2018, announced the appointment of Glenn Casamassa as regional forester for the Pacific Northwest Region effective September 17, 2018. He has assumed his new position from Dianne Guidry who has been acting regional forester since OldSmokey **Jim Peña** retired as regional forester in July.

“As a Forest Service veteran [of] more than 30 years, Glenn brings with him tremendous land management and conservation leadership experiences from a ranger district to the Washington Office,” Interim Chief Christiansen said. “He, among other achievements, has played a leading role in the ongoing national regulatory reform efforts.”

Regional Forester Casamassa launched his Forest Service career as a forestry technician serving as a firefighter on the Tonto National Forest in Arizona. He served in several temporary positions after that before he landed his first permanent job on the Tongass National Forest in Alaska. He later served as a forester on the Wasatch-Cache National Forest in Utah and as Regional Environmental Coordinator for the Intermountain Region. He has served as district ranger on the Moab and Monticello ranger districts of the Manti-La Sal National Forest in Utah, a legislative affairs specialist in the WO, and forest supervisor of the Arapaho and Roosevelt National Forests and Pawnee National Grassland in Colorado.

Regional Forester Casamassa earned a bachelor’s degree in forest ecology at Utah State University and completed post-graduate work in logging system engineering at Oregon State University’s College of Forestry in Corvallis.

Prepared from U.S. Forest Service News Release “Forest Service Interim Chief announces New Regional Forester for Pacific Northwest Region” on August 17, 2018.

U.S. Forest Service Launches “Shared Stewardship” Initiative

The U.S. Forest Service and its state partners on August 16, 2018, announced an initiative called “Toward Shared Stewardship Across Landscapes: An Outcome-based Investment Strategy” through which the Forest Service “plans to work more closely with the states to identify landscape-scale priorities for targeted treatments in areas with the highest payoffs.”

According to the Forest Service press release, “A key component of the new strategy is to prioritize investment decisions on forest treatments in direct coordination with states using the most advanced science tools. This allows the [Forest Service] to increase the scope and scale of critical forest treatments that protect communities and create resilient forests.”

The Forest Service “will also build upon the authorities created by the 2018 Omnibus bill, including new categorical exclusions for land treatments to improve forest conditions, new road maintenance authorities, and longer stewardship contracting in strategic areas. The agency will continue streamlining its internal processes to make environmental analysis more efficient and timber sale contracts more flexible.”

Prepared from U.S. Forest Service August 16, 2018, press release “USFS Initiative: Toward Shared Stewardship Across Landscapes.”

U.S. Forest Service 2018 Wildfires Extend into Autumn Months

Wildfires, which have become a year-round threat in some parts of the western United States, continued to burn on national forests in the Pacific Northwest and in other parts of the West as your Fall 2018 *OldSmokeys Newsletter* went to press. As a result, any real accounting of 2018 wildfires awaits the Winter 2019 issue.

As a result of climate change largely attributable to human activity, higher temperatures, declining snowpacks and rainfall, increased drought, and longer warm seasons, western forests and rangelands are increasingly fire prone. And, with continuing urban and suburban expansion into the wildland-urban interface, wildfires pose an ever-increasing threat to life and property.

Fire years

The record wildfires of 2017 were barely mopped up before the wildfires of 2018 flared. Indeed, wildfire experts don't refer to "fire seasons anymore but rather to fire years," according to National Interagency Fire Center (NIFC) spokesperson Jennifer Jones.

From 1980 to 2010, there was a fourfold increase in the number of large and long-duration wildfires in the West as the length of the wildfire season expanded by two and one-half months and the size of wildfires increased severalfold. By mid-August this year, wildfires had burned more than 5.6 million acres, about 27 percent above the average since 2008, 15 states from Alaska to New Mexico were battling large wildfires, and several firefighters had lost their lives

By mid-September, in the Pacific Northwest Region, the U.S. Forest Service was battling 17 large wildfires on national forest lands, five in Oregon totaling over 17,000 acres and 12 in Washington totaling over 127,000 acres.

Prepared from multiple sources including NIFC online reports and "The West in on fire...again" by Umair Ifran in the August 14, 2018, Vox.

U.S. Forest Service Slates Partial Rager Ranger Station Decommissioning

"The Ochoco National Forest received funding this year from the Washington Office to complete a partial decommission of facilities at Rager Ranger Station," Ochoco National Forest Public Affairs Officer Patrick Lair told your *OldSmokeys Newsletter* on July 23.

"We expect to solicit bids this summer for a contract to remove around 20 of the 33 facilities still standing at Rager Ranger Station. The expectation is that this work would be completed sometime before the end of calendar year 2019. This contract does not decommission the three historic buildings, nor any of the other facilities in use at the ranger station."

Headquarters of the Paulina Ranger District since 1908, the historic ranger station "was administratively closed in 2012 due to a lack of use by the Forest Service because most employees and services have been consolidated in Prineville and Madras," Lair explained. "There is an estimated four million dollar backlog of maintenance needs at Rager" which is 75 miles from Prineville. Years of efforts to keep the ranger station—home of many proud "Rager Rats" who served there—eventually came to naught.

A Missed Big Story!

U.S. Forest Service Recognized Deschutes National Forest with Prestigious Chief's Award



District Ranger Kevin Larkin, Bend-Fort Rock Ranger District, Deschutes National Forest (lower center), flanked by then-Chief of the Forest Service Tony Tooke (lower left) and now-retired Pacific Northwest Regional Forester and OldSmokey Jim Peña (lower right), received the award for the Deschutes National Forest. Also pictured is former Associate Chief for the National Forest System and OldSmokey Leslie Weldon (sixth from left), a former forest supervisor of the Deschutes National Forest.

U.S. Forest Service photograph

District Ranger Kevin Larkin, Bend-Fort Rock Ranger District, Deschutes National Forest, accepted the Chief's Award for Sustaining Our Nation's Forests and Grasslands for the Deschutes National Forest on December 7, 2017, in Washington, D.C.

This most prestigious award given by the U.S. Forest Service was awarded to the Deschutes National Forest and the Deschutes Collaborative Forest Project (DCFP) for the work undertaken to restore 26,000 acres of national forest land adjacent to the city of Bend, Oregon, to improve forest health, create a diversity of plant and wildlife habitat, and protect the area's communities and way of life.

"This is a great honor, and we could not do the work without the tremendous partnership we have forged with DCFP," said Forest Supervisor and OldSmokey **John Allen**. "Thanks to all of the partners and individuals who have participated in the collaborative—we share this award with you!"

Editor's Note: Your editor just plain missed this important story which should have run in the Winter 2017 OldSmokeys Newsletter.

Your OldSmokeys Newsletter depends on you as a source of news items of interest!



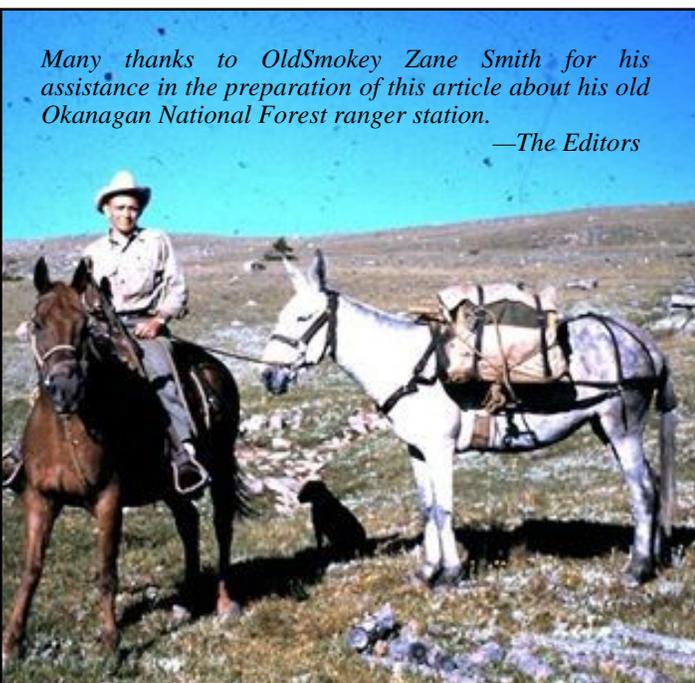
U.S. Forest Service Auctioned off Historic Conconully Ranger Station

As advertised on the poster at right, the U.S. Forest Service auctioned off the Conconully Work Center—formerly the Conconully Ranger Station—located on a .78-acre site within the town of Conconully, Washington. Bids were accepted between September 1 and October 1, 2018.

The former Okanogan National Forest ranger station included six buildings: the ranger station office, a bunkhouse, a warehouse, a barn with adjoined corral and loading chute, a gas and oil house, and a paint storage shed. The land on which the historic ranger station was built was acquired by the Forest Service in 1928. The buildings on the site at the time of the auction were built by the Civilian Conservation Corps in the 1930s.

“Conconully Ranger Station was a going place when I was there,” OldSmokey **Zane Smith**, Conconully district ranger from 1961 to 1965, recalled. “All our crews, livestock, and warehousing were headquartered at Conconully. My office was in Okanogan, but the work was out of Conconully.”

In 1982, the Conconully Ranger District on the Okanogan National Forest was absorbed by the Tonasket Ranger District and the ranger station became a work center. Conconully Work Center ceased being staffed in the mid-1990s but remained in Forest Service use as a warehouse and bunkhouse facility until it was determined underutilized.



Many thanks to OldSmokey Zane Smith for his assistance in the preparation of this article about his old Okanogan National Forest ranger station.

—The Editors

New Members

Welcome to these new OldSmokeys who have joined the Pacific Northwest Forest Service Association since the Summer 2018 *OldSmokeys Newsletter* went to press.

Rod Bonacker of Sisters, Oregon. Rod retired from the U.S. Forest Service in April 2016 as special projects coordinator on the Deschutes and Ochoco national forests after 45 years of service. Rod began his Forest Service career in 1974 on a ten-person Bend Ranger District, Deschutes National Forest, crew, and continued his career with fire management assignments on that forest's Fort Rock and Sisters ranger districts, on the Wine-ma National Forest, and on the Carson Ranger District of the Toiyabe National Forest. He moved into planning in 1990, and served Deschutes and Ochoco national forest details as district ranger on the Sisters and Crescent districts as well as forest-level positions as fire staff officer/Central Oregon Fire Management System lead and recreation, heritage, lands and minerals staff officer. He married Maret Pajutee of the Sisters Ranger District in 1994. In "retirement" Rod continues to serve as operations section chief on Northwest Incident Management Team 8 and as a contract instructor with the River Management Society. In time off, he travels extensively, rides his bike, and fishes.

Lee G. & Laurie J. Bowers of Silver Lake, Oregon. With 46 years of service in the U.S. Forest Service—all those years in Region 6, Lee is the timber contracting officer for the Fremont-Winema National Forest. In his spare time, Lee is "constructing a building for a local woman and trying to keep ahead of the weeds."

Roxi J. Lovell of Pendleton, Oregon, retired from the U.S. Forest Service as an administrative officer on the Umatilla National Forest after 42 years in the Forest Service in Region 6 during which she served in budget and finance positions as a budget analyst, budget officer, and administrative officer. In retirement, Roxie enjoys spending time with family, reconnecting with old friends, and remodeling her house.

Maret Pajutee of Sisters, Oregon, retired from the U.S. Forest Service as botanist and ecologist on the Sisters Ranger District, Deschutes National Forest, in May 2016 after 30 years of service. Maret began her Forest Service career in 1984 as fire lookout on the Black Butte Lookout on that district, and subsequently became the district's first full-time botanist and rare plant coordinator. She held temporary positions as Sisters Ranger District natural resources team leader and Deschutes National Forest botanist. In retirement, Maret continues to work on national forests around the country as a member of the WO National Collaboration Cadre. She has traveled extensively to visit her extended family in Estonia. At home in Sisters, she rides, skis, and teaches yoga.

E. Delane & Lennard H. Sholes of Bend, Oregon. Delane retired from the U.S. Forest Service in 1994, having spent most of her 22 years in the Deschutes National Forest SO in data processing positions. An active advocate of the National Association of Retired Federal Employees (NARFE), she urges active involvement of others.

Paul E. Steenberg of Poulsbo, Washington, retired from the U.S. Forest Service as forest economist/operations research analyst on the Modoc National Forest in Region 5. He also served as forest economist in the Clearwater National Forest SO

in Orofino, Idaho; as certified silviculturist and pre-sale forester on the Pierce Ranger District in Kamiah, Idaho; and as reforestation forester on the Pierce Ranger District in Pierce, Idaho. In retirement, Paul is heavily involved in local environmental issues.

Joe E. Stutler of Bend, Oregon, retired from the U.S. Forest Service in 2003 as fire operations specialist on the Region 6 Fire and Aviation Staff. Joe's 35-year career began on the Fulton Hotshots in 1969 and 1970 and continued as a Missoula smokejumper from 1971 to 1973; a fire prevention technician on the Los Padres National Forest from 1974 to 1976; a helitack foreman on the Los Padres in 1976 and 1977; deputy fire management officer on the Tahoe National Forest in 1977 and 1978 and on the Modoc National Forest in 1978 to 1981; a district resource officer on the Los Padres from 1981 to 1985; a district ranger on the Six Rivers National Forest in 1985 and 1986 and on the Inyo National Forest from 1986 to 1988; forest fire management officer on the Inyo from 1988 to 1995; and Region 5 Fire Safety Officer from 1995 to 1997 before moving to the Region 6 RO. From 1978 on, Joe had fire assignments of increasing responsibility at the forest and regional levels on significant incidents that included the Marble Cone, Yellowstone, and Biscuit fires, and the World Trade Center disaster. In retirement, Joe remains active with incident management and area command teams into his fiftieth fire season. Also, after retiring from the Forest Service, Joe served as county forester of Deschutes County, and now serves that county as senior advisor for natural resources and emergency response primarily focused on implementation of the National Wildland Fire Cohesive Strategy in Central Oregon. When not working, Joe pursues outdoor activities including hunting and fishing and enjoys time with his three daughters and five grandkids.

Janet L. "Jan" Wold of Poulsbo, Washington, retired from the U.S. Forest Service on June 2, 1997, as forest supervisor of the Stanislaus National Forest in California. Her 25 years of federal service included 22+ years in the Forest Service of which 14+ were spent in Region 6, and one was spent with the Pacific Northwest Research Station. She also spent two years working on U.S. Department of Agriculture research grants and one year with the Environmental Protection Agency. In the Forest Service, Janet was deputy forest supervisor on the Idaho Panhandle National Forests, and in Region 6 she served as the regional appeals and litigation coordinator, as a district ranger in Dale on the Umatilla National Forest and in Estacada on the Mt. Hood National Forest, and as the resource assistant on the Prospect Ranger District of the Rogue River National Forest. Janet worked in fisheries, hydrology, and aquatic entomology on the Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie and Siuslaw national forests, at the Pacific Northwest Forestry Sciences Laboratory, and at Oregon State University. Janet, who is involved in local environmental issues, also enjoys gardening, water color and acrylic painting, and genealogy.

Recruit a new OldSmokey today!

**New members help keep our
Pacific Northwest Forest Service
Association strong, viable, and
relevant!**



Memories

Farewell to these recently deceased Pacific Northwest Forest Service Association (PNWFSA) members who live on in our memories. Among these are five whose deaths have only recently been determined.

Julie Carpenter died September 14, 2018, at age 75. Julie Illo-na Rae was born April 27, 1943. Julie met William V. “Bill” Carpenter while she served as lookout on the Aeneas Mountain Lookout operated by the Washington Department of Natural Resources and he was timber staff officer on the Conconully Ranger District of the Okanogan National Forest. During their 55 years of marriage, Julie followed Bill’s career assignments in Regions 1, 5, and 6, until he retired as deputy forest supervisor of the Shasta-Trinity National Forest and they ultimately resettled in Dallas, Oregon, north of Sweet Home where he had served as district ranger.

Giles Douglas “Doug” Coon died June 27, 2018, at age 75. Doug was born March 2, 1943, in St. Johns, Michigan, and grew up on his family’s dairy farm. After graduating from Ashely High School, Doug worked for Michigan Milk making various milk products before he joined the U.S. Army in March 1963. After three years of service in the U.S. Army Security Agency—mostly in Germany—from which he was honorably discharged, Doug returned to Michigan and in 1971 earned a B.S. degree in forestry at Michigan State University. In December of that year, Doug joined the U.S. Forest Service and moved west to work as a forester on the Blairsden Ranger District, Plumas National Forest, in northern California. In 1976 he moved to the Oak Knoll Ranger District, Klamath National Forest, where he met Mary Ellen Coon who, on January 12, 1980, in South Lake Tahoe, Nevada, became his wife. That same year, Jack and Mary moved to the Hebo Ranger District, Siuslaw National Forest, and in 1989 moved to the Fremont National Forest in Lakeview, Oregon. In 2006, Doug took his final Forest Service assignment as program leader for timber sale administration for the Pacific Southwest Region at the RO in Vallejo, California, where he retired in 2010 after 38 years of service and moved to Lakeview. Active in community affairs, he spent several years on the Lakeview Community Water District. Doug enjoyed hunting on the Oregon coast and in Montana and Canada, and occasionally fished off the Oregon coast. He participated in a bowling league, was a member of the Order of the Antelope and the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation, kept in touch with former Forest Service colleagues through the Pacific Northwest Forest Service Association and was a devout OSU Beaver fan. Survivors include his wife Mary; daughters Erika Cox and Natalie Shields; son Ace Ariaz; and two grandsons.

Richard G. “Dick” Deleissegues died September 9, 2018, at age 81. Dick was born December 7, 1936, in Santa Maria, California, and moved with his family to Alturas, California, in 1946. There he became an Eagle Scout, was captain of the Alturas High School track team, and played three years of varsity football for the Modoc Braves. As a high school student, he worked summers at the local sawmill and continued to do so throughout his college years at the University of Nevada and Reno to which he’d earned a football scholarship. Dick graduated from the University of Nevada with a degree in civil engineering in 1956. Commissioned a second lieutenant through the

Army ROTC, he served two and one-half years on active duty in the U.S. Army in an air defense unit at Dyess Air Force Base in Abilene, Texas; he remained in the Army Reserve, attended the Army War College, and retired at the rank of colonel in 1994. Dick served for more than 30 years in the U.S. Forest Service. After working on the Modoc, Angeles, and Shasta-Trinity national forests, and serving as forest engineer on the San Bernardino National Forest, Dick and Becky moved in the early 1970s to Washington, D.C., where he served on the WO engineering staff. The latter 1970s found Dick at the Region 1 RO in Missoula, Montana, as assistant director of engineering for plans and operations, and the 1980s took him to the RO in San Francisco where he retired from the Forest Service in 1994 as director of engineering for Region 5. He and Becky moved to Vancouver, Washington, in 1994, and later settled in Brush Prairie. In retirement, fire experience Dick obtained in the Forest Service prepared him well to serve his community as Clark County Fire District 3 fire commissioner which he became on January 1, 2000. He also served on the Clark County Planning Commission. Survivors include his wife, Becky, and their grown children Melissa and Richard who live in California with their families.

Lucretia Elnor “Lu E.” Dyck died September 5, 2017, at age 96. Lucretia Goff was born September 10, 1920, on a family farm near Oakland, Douglas County, Oregon, where she graduated from Oakland High School and lived her entire life, her last 56 years on the Ross Ranch in Umpqua, Oregon. Her 39-year marriage to Floyd W. Ross produced two daughters; she later married Vern Dyck who died in 1999. Lu worked for the U.S. Forest Service for many years. She was an elder in the Oakland Presbyterian Church and for 66 years a member of the Oakland chapter of the Order of the Eastern Star. She also volunteered at the Oakland Museum. She traveled a good portion of the world, and learned there was no place she’d rather be than at home. Survivors include her daughters Connie Terry and Kitty Grauf; step-daughters Lori Kelly, Liane Lawrence, and Kelly Dusenbury; two grandchildren, nine step-grandchildren, and 17 great-grandchildren.

V. Jay Hughes died April 25, 2015, at age 99. V. Jay was born February 13, 1916, and grew up in southwestern Oregon. In his early teens, while living with grandparents, he herded sheep in the southwestern Oregon and northern California mountains. At 17, Jay began falling timber with his stepfather. After two years at Southern Oregon Normal School (now Southern Oregon University) in Ashland, where he played county major league baseball, Jay entered Oregon State College (now Oregon State University) to study forestry. His studies interrupted by baseball and World War II work—from which he was granted a brief May 1942 leave to attend his OSC graduation with a B.S. degree in forestry and to marry Marie Loosely—Jay returned to work in Tillamook, Oregon. On July 4, 1942, Jay and Marie arrived in Lakeview, Oregon, where he began his U.S. Forest Service career on a summer four-man timber cruising crew and Marie was hired as crew cook. That fall, as Jay continued with the crew, Marie taught at Lakeview High School. In the spring of 1943, Jay’s career took them to the Deschutes National Forest; in May 1944 their son Ray was born in Bend. Jay returned to the Fremont National Forest to timber and fire control on the Bly Ranger District, then to assistant district ranger on the Lakeview Ranger District. In April 1946, Marie gave birth to twins Rose Marie and Rosa Lee. In 1949, Jay became district ranger

on the Unity Ranger District, Wallowa-Whitman National Forest, where he and Marie quickly became part of the Unity community. In 1951, Jay and family arrived on the Paulina Ranger District, Ochoco National Forest, where Jay was the first “year-round” district ranger at Rager Ranger Station and became deeply involved with local ranchers. In 1954, Jay transferred to the position of district ranger on the Pendleton Ranger District, Umatilla National Forest. Their fourth child and third daughter, Martha, was born. Jay’s next assignment was in the Umatilla National Forest SO leading fire control, lands, and recreation. There he remained until his December 31, 1972, retirement. Jay, as family and friends attest, was a man of faith focused on service to others. Living of his “servant attitude” ensured every rancher, permittee, or logger on his district was there “at first smoke” to help contain a spark or with equipment to help control a large fire or see to other forest needs. Survivors included Marie, his wife of 73 years (see below); their son Raymond; and their daughter Rosa Lee Pfeiffer.

Marie L. Hughes died February 16, 2017, at age 96. Marie Loosely was born March 30, 1920, in Fort Klamath, Oregon, grew up on the family dairy farm, graduated with a high school class of eight, and at 17 was off to Oregon State College (now Oregon State University) in Corvallis where she graduated in May 1942 with a B.S. degree in home economics and married V. Jay Hughes. For the next 73 years she and Jay served together during his U.S. Forest Service career and their Pendleton, Oregon, retirement (see Jay’s memorial above). In Pendleton, Marie taught as a substitute at the junior high and high school, and taught remedial reading and counseled in a special program at Blue Mountain Community College. She also taught Bible in Sunday school and ladies’ bible studies classes, and started the Christian Women’s Club in 1963 which continues as the Christian Business Women’s Club.

Donald Hubert “Don” James died August 29, 2018, at age 89. Don was born March 20, 1929, in Longview, Washington, and grew up and attended schools in Kelso, Washington. After graduating from Kelso High School, he attended Lower Columbia Community College and graduated from Washington State College (now Washington State University) in 1952 with a degree in forestry. In an interview a month before he died, Don recalled the August 10, 1950, Umpqua National Forest lightning fire that began his 65 years of U.S. Forest Service fire-fighting. On the last day of 1950, he married Dawn A. Grocott of Longview, Washington; they raised their four children—two boys and two girls—on ranger stations around Oregon. Don began his Forest Service career as a forester in Prineville, Oregon, then served as a district ranger on the Ochoco National Forest based at Ochoco Ranger Station and from 1966 on the Malheur National Forest based at Bear Valley Ranger Station. Five years later, he and his family moved to Corvallis, Oregon, where Don took on the job of fire and recreation staff officer on the Siuslaw National Forest from which he retired in June 1985 and soon moved to Prineville, Oregon. Don continued to fight fires as a service chief on national fire teams until 2014. “I am the only guy that has been involved in fire suppression for 65 years,” Don told the interviewer in July 2018. Those 65 years were recognized by the Forest Service with a certificate of appreciation presented in July 2018 by former coworkers OldSmokey **Dale Gardner** and Carl West at his Powell Butte home. Throughout his life Don enjoyed hunting, fishing, and working in his woodshop. In retirement, Don and Dawn trav-

eled to Europe twice, enjoyed several trips to the East Coast and the Southwest, and volunteered each spring for 21 years as hosts and caretakers of Kirkwood Historic Ranch in the Hells Canyon National Recreation Area on the Snake River. Dawn died in 2015 after 64 years of marriage, and in February 2016, Don married OldSmokey **Maxine F. Looney** of Powell Butte, Oregon, retired from the Forest Service after 30 years in finance, whom he and Dawn had met at church in 2009. Their blended family included seven children. Survivors include Maxine; his children Steve James, Sandra McConnaughey, Gary James, and Joni Goode; stepchildren Daniel Looney, Gayland Looney, and Alice Thurman; 16 grandchildren, 35 great-grandchildren, 12 step-grandchildren, and 10 step-great-grandchildren.

Lloyd H. Larson died August 20, 2005, at age 78. Lloyd was born February 6, 1927, in Coeur d’Alene, Idaho. He graduated from Oregon State University with a B.S. degree in forestry and married Audrey. No further information is available.

Louis Piha died April 5, 2018, at age 97. Louis was born November 11, 1920, in Portland, Oregon. After his mother became very ill at a very early age, Louis, his sister Vicky and brother Bill were placed in a children’s home. He graduated from Benson High School at age 16, served a hitch in the Civilian Conservation Corps, and worked for two mines in Alaska before he enlisted in the U.S. Navy to serve in World War II and the Korean War and completed service in the U.S. Naval Reserve at the rank of lieutenant commander. After a year at Penn State, Louis enrolled at Oregon State College (now Oregon State University) in Corvallis where he was on the Pacific Coast championship wrestling team in 1948 and invited to try out for the U.S. Olympic team, an offer he declined to graduate with a B.S. degree in forestry in 1948. He worked as a timber cruiser for the Wren Mill in Wren, Oregon, earned a pilot’s license and flew his own small plane for several years, and while living in Corvallis met Eleanor Hanley, a teacher at Harding School in Corvallis. Louis and Eleanor married on June 19, 1955. In 1957, their son Lynn was born, the family moved to Coburg, Oregon, and Louis began his U.S. Forest Service career in Eugene, Oregon, as a Willamette National Forest civil engineering technician locating and designing roads. He also started Fernhopper Forest Nursery, growing Christmas trees from seed. Working seven days a week with the Forest Service and the nursery and serving in the Naval Reserve kept Louis a very busy man. When he was transferred to the Sweet Home Ranger District in 1972, the family moved to Lebanon, Oregon, where Louis and Eleanor lived thereafter. Louis retired from the Forest Service in 1985. In retirement, the couple became longtime Oregon State University football and men’s and women’s basketball fans and also attended wrestling and gymnastic events. They also attended plays and concerts and traveled within the United States and overseas. Louis was active in many community efforts and a member of the Elks and the American Legion. Survivors include his wife, Eleanor, and their son, Lynn.

Cecelia Rose Riehl died September 23, 2010, at age 83. She was the widow of Omer Eugene Riehl who died September 11, 2009. Cecelia Rose Moll was born February 14, 1927, in Portland, Oregon, and grew up on her family’s farm in Estacada, Oregon. She graduated from the University of Portland with a B.S. degree in nursing and served many years as an R.N. at the Veterans Administration hospital in Portland and later at the

Vancouver Clinic. She married Omer Eugene Riehl of the U.S. Forest Service in 1952.

Thomas “Edd” Robson died March 6, 2017, at age 85. Edd was born July 8, 1928, and served 38 years in the U.S Forest Service from which he retired in Lakeview, Oregon. He and Margaret “Peg” in the 1970s moved to Bonanza, Oregon, Klamath Falls, Oregon, and then to Bend, Oregon. Survivors include Margaret, his wife of 43 years; their sons Thomas and Paul; their daughters Mary Gotshall, Ruth Stephens, and Grace Hawkins; four grandchildren, and eight great-grandchildren.

Natalie Noreen Simes died September 2, 2015, at age 85. She was the widow of Harold Lee “Hal” Simes who died September 16, 2011. Natalie Tillery was born October 5, 1929, in Lawton, Oklahoma, and graduated from El Reno High School where she met Hal who earned a B.S. degree in forest management at Oregon State College. They married on June 5, 1949, in El Reno, and had four children. Natalie often referred to herself as a “Forest Service wife” because her husband’s U.S. Forest Service career offered her a variety of employment which included switchboard operator and court clerk and enabled her to make treasured friends in many towns in Oregon and Washington. She had fond memories of Waldport, Oregon, where Hal was timber management assistant; she was a teacher’s aide in Powers, Oregon, where Hal was district ranger; she cherished their years in an old yellow farmhouse surrounded by orchards on the Entiat River, when Hal was district ranger there. Hal retired from the Forest Service in 1983, and they lived much of his retirement in Vancouver, Washington, where she succeeded in the real estate business, enjoyed music and reading, and rooted for the Seattle Seahawks and Oregon State Beavers. She was survived by their children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren.

Joseph W. “Joe” TerLouw died June 12, 2018, at age 84. Joe was born August 31, 1933, in University Park, Iowa, and grew up with his three older sisters on the family dairy farm where his job was to make the milk deliveries. Joe graduated from Iowa State University before he joined the U.S. Army which stationed him at a Nike missile site in Lannon, Wisconsin. While in Wisconsin, Joe met Ruth Anderson. Joe and Ruth married and, after completing his Army service, Joe joined the U.S. Forest Service which assigned him to the Willamette National Forest on which he served on the McKenzie, Oakridge, Mill City, and Detroit ranger districts. During these Oregon assignments Joe and Ruth began their family by having their sons Joseph, Erick, and Matthew. Joe transferred to the Snoqualmie National Forest in 1969 (before it was consolidated with the Mt. Baker National Forest) where the family settled in Buckley, Washington, and he retired on the White River Ranger District in 1988. Joe was a man of many interests. His passion for nature and the outdoors began early in life when he began watching birds at the age of 10. Joe also loved hunting, fishing, wildflowers, mountains, and the ocean. Joe, Ruth, and the boys traveled often by car to Wisconsin, Iowa, Utah, and New Jersey to visit family and see the country. After he retired, Joe and Ruth travelled domestically and internationally in pursuit of his passion for birds. Survivors include his wife Ruth, their three sons, and two grandsons.

Editors’ Note: Your editors appreciate any information you may contribute to ensure these remembrances are as factual, complete, and up-to-date as possible.

OldSmokeys News continued from page 3

Heritage day continued after lunch when Chase Pickering, a great-great-grandson of George Vanderbilt, explained the preservation and operation of the Biltmore Estate on which Gifford Pinchot cut his forest management teeth and other notables contributed to the evolution of American forestry, and Dr. Jamie Lewis introduced the Forest History Society’s new film “America’s First Forest.”

Before a delicious dinner designed to mix attendees from the various regions, Region 5 and Region 6 retirees joined forces to treat attendees to OldSmokey **Dick Ferraro**’s wine and yummy treats at a shared hospitality suite.



OldSmokeys were among these happy “Reunion at the Cradle” field-trippers off to enjoy some aspect of Forest Service history.

Wednesday was “Tour Day” during which all who signed up for tours visited such heritage sites as the magnificent Biltmore Estate outside Asheville or the Cradle of Forestry on the Pisgah National Forest or a Southern Research Station facility.

It was back to business on Thursday with presentations by Acting Regional Forester Ken Arney and Research Station Director Dr. Rob Doudrick explaining the evolution and management of Southern Region national forests and research.

Their presentations were followed by what one OldSmokey described as an “intense and passionate” talk by Interim Chief of the Forest Service Vicki Christiansen focused on current national goals and priorities for the agency. “She was quite powerful and impressed everyone,” that OldSmokey observed. “She received a standing ovation. I also found her to be very personable. We are in good hands with her at the helm.”

As the reunion wrapped up on Friday, the Southern Forest Service Retirees Association presented a check for \$5,000 to OldSmokey **Nancy Gibson**, also a member of the Pacific Southwest FSX Club, as “seed money” for the next national Forest Service reunion—the “Golden State Gathering”—to be held September 13-17, 2021, at Lake Tahoe—specifically at Harrah’s Lake Tahoe in Stateline, Nevada.

Editors’ Note: Many thanks to OldSmokeys Mike Ash, Jim Golden, Ranotta McNair, Erin Newman, Steve Ricketts, and Sue Triplett for the reports and photographs which made compilation of this article possible. Any errors which may have resulted from this necessarily limited summary report are attributable to the writer who did not attend the reunion.

Books

Six OldSmokeys Contributed to the Book *193 Million Acres: Toward a More Healthy and Resilient U.S. Forest Service* Edited by Steve Wilent

Reviewed by Les Joslin

Six OldSmokeys are among 40 authors who have contributed 31 peer-reviewed essays to *193 Million Acres: Toward a More Healthy and Resilient U.S. Forest Service*, a timely new book edited by Steve Wilent and just published by the Society of American Foresters.

“The purpose of the book is not to criticize the agency, but to offer concrete proposals for how, ultimately, the agency’s operations might be made more efficient and effective and its land management activities maintained, expanded, and improved,” Wilent emphasizes.

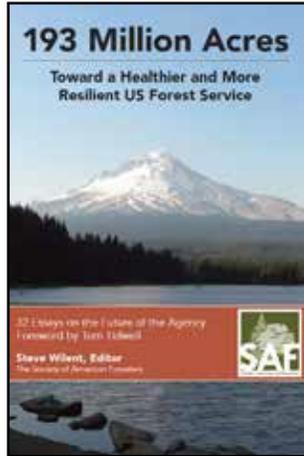
To this end, six thematic sections present essays which develop aspects of those themes. “Section 1: Proud Legacy, Uncertain Future,” for example, begins and ends with OldSmokey essays. The late Chief Emeritus and OldSmokey **Jack Ward Thomas**’ poignant “The Future of National Forests: Who Will Answer an Uncertain Trumpet?” leads off, and OldSmokey **Tom L. Thompson**’s “A Tale of Two Forest Services and Hope for a Third” wraps it up. Sandwiched between them are perspectives on the Outfit’s storied past and cloudy future offered by Keith Argow, Al Sample, Char Miller, Bruce Courtright, and Jim Petersen.

Subsequent sections address “Fire and Fire Management,” “Leadership and Management Challenges,” “The Legal and Regulatory Framework,” and the timely topic “Dealing with Discrimination and Sexual Harassment.”

OldSmokeys **Lyle Laverty**, **Rich Stem**, **Roger Deaver**, and **Les Joslin** teamed up to round out Pacific Northwest Forest Service Association members’ contributions to the book with their compelling essay “An Agency to Match the Mountains: A Proposal for a U.S. Forest Service Academy to Prepare Entering Professional and Technical Personnel to Serve Effectively as Forest Officers in a Structurally and Culturally Transformed Forest Service.”

You get the drift. The hope of these contributors is that the ideas presented in *193 Million Acres* add up to a vital set of concrete and plausible proposals that will guide improving and modernizing the Forest Service in a way that evolves it into the “Agency to Match the Mountains” the citizen-owners of the National Forest System and its effective resource management and stewardship need it to be.

Just published by the Society of American Foresters at \$39.95, *193 Million Acres: Toward a More Healthy and Resilient U.S. Forest Service* (ISBN-13 978-0-939970-28-5), 694 pages, is available for that price from the SAF Store at <www.eforester.org/store>.



Out of the Past

World War II WOOFs Proudly Wore the U.S. Forest Service Guard Badge

By Dave Govatski

World War II brought double tasking of U.S. Forest Service fire lookouts in national forests on both the East Coast and the West Coast. Lookouts not only watched for smoke to detect forest fires but observed aircraft to detect possible enemy attacks on the American mainland. A lack of manpower meant women staffed many of these lookouts.

On the White Mountain National Forest in New Hampshire, the Forest Service recruited five affectionately nicknamed Women Observers of the Forest Service (WOOFs) to staff its fire lookouts. These women were appointed and trained as forest guards and, as shown in Office of War Information photographs of Barbara Mortensen who staffed the Pine Mountain Lookout, were recognized as such by the forest guard badge they wore.

That historic nickel-plated badge, no longer in use, seems to have been commissioned by Gifford Pinchot to differentiate the seasonally-appointed forest guards from the permanently-appointed ranks of assistant forest rangers, forest rangers, and others on up the scale in the early days of the Forest Service.

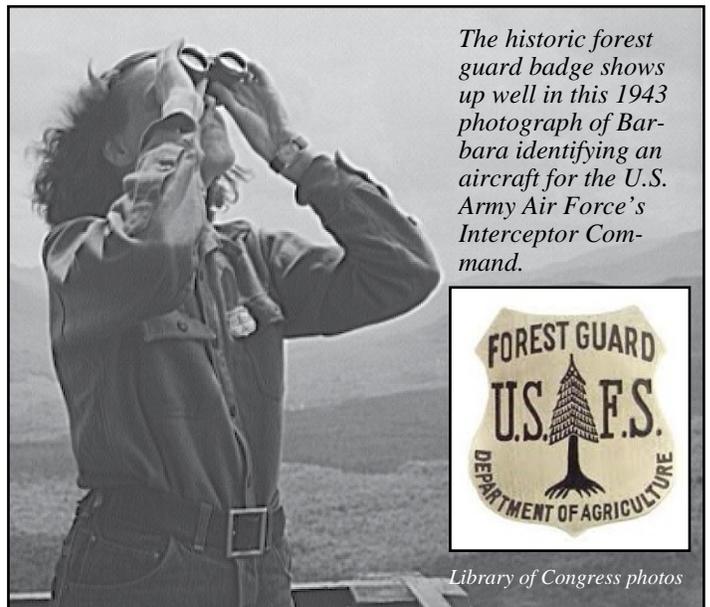
As her husband, a champion skier named Robert “Red” Mortensen, served “somewhere at sea” as a machinist’s mate in the U.S. Navy, Barbara served on the home front by watching for forest fires and enemy aircraft.



Barbara Mortensen raised the flag over the Pine Mountain Lookout in 1943.



Barbara and her dog walked half a mile down Pine Mountain to a spring for water.



The historic forest guard badge shows up well in this 1943 photograph of Barbara identifying an aircraft for the U.S. Army Air Force’s Interceptor Command.

Library of Congress photos

Uncle Sam's Cabins

Sisters Ranger Station Deschutes National Forest, Oregon

By Les Joslin

The fourth Sisters Ranger Station, shown with the Three Sisters behind, was built in 1924 on a site now well within the town of Sisters.

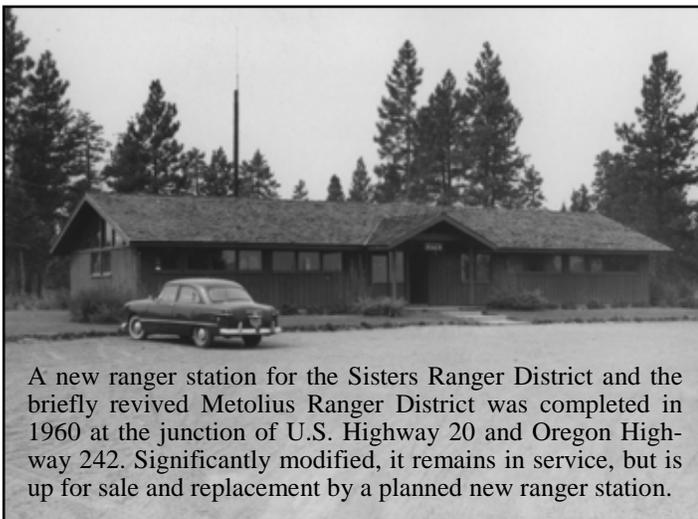
U.S. Forest Service photographs

There have been six ranger stations on the Sisters Ranger District of the Deschutes National Forest. The old Allingham Ranch house, along the Metolius River about 13 miles north of Sisters, was the first. It was occupied by Ranger Perry A. South in 1906 and later used as a guard station.

Other Sisters Ranger District offices were on the north bank of Squaw Creek (renamed Wychus Creek) from 1909 to 1918, then over George Aitken's store in Sisters until it burned to the ground in 1923.

When a new Sisters Ranger Station compound was built on land purchased by the Forest Service in 1936, the 1924 combination office and residence at right was sold, moved to another location in town, and is now a private residence.

The fifth Sisters Ranger Station, a compound built in the 1930s on the site of the current Sisters-Camp Sherman Fire Department station and Sisters' Village Green City Park, included an office building, a warehouse, this ranger's residence, and three other residences.



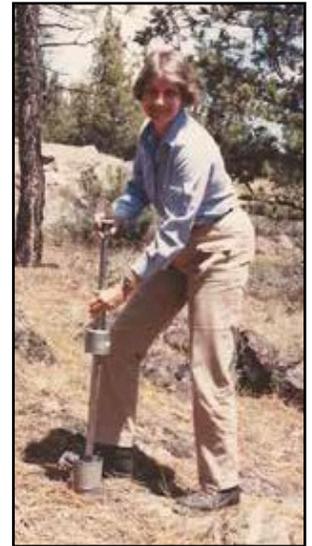
A new ranger station for the Sisters Ranger District and the briefly revived Metolius Ranger District was completed in 1960 at the junction of U.S. Highway 20 and Oregon Highway 242. Significantly modified, it remains in service, but is up for sale and replacement by a planned new ranger station.

My First Forest Service Job

My Prescribed Fire Adventure

By Joan Landsberg, Ph.D.

My first job in the U.S. Forest Service began in 1979 when the Bend Silviculture Laboratory, a unit of the Pacific Northwest Forest and Range Experiment Station—the Pacific Northwest Research Station since 1985—in Bend, Oregon, was charged with introducing prescribed fire on the east side of the Cascades in Oregon and Washington. I was brought on to do the laboratory chemistry analysis documenting changes in soil and foliar nutrients. I was also expected to participate—fully—in prescribed fires to be conducted for either research or teaching uses.



Joan taking soil samples.

It was the first prescribed fire of the season and my first prescribed fire ever. We were on the Deschutes National Forest south of Bend and east of Lava Butte. As the newbie on the crew, I had the least challenging assignment: to walk the far outside perimeter of the burn units to make certain no fire jumped the line. We lit off about dusk and burned through the night.

About 1:30 a.m., I was walking alone, as assigned, on the far side of the first unit, which had been burned earlier that night. My job was to look for spot fires outside the fireline. I had a shovel as my only tool. "Wow!" My heart skipped a beat and sped up. At an unknown distance and outside the fireline was a small, glowing, red-orange...spot fire?

Knowing it would be foolish to go into the dense ceanothus, manzanita, and bitterbrush understory and the jackstraw lodgepole slash hidden within it from the area's 1960s thinning to tackle a fire by myself, I headed back to inform Dr. Bob Martin, the fire boss and project leader who also was my supervisor.

I crashed through the already-burned part of the unit, high-stepping over the lodgepole trunks and branches that I could see and barking my shins on the many I couldn't, hoping to reach the crew before my spot fire might get too far out of control. Arriving back where the crew was working, I breathlessly told Bob "There's a spot fire out beyond the..." and turned and pointed at the rising moon.

After my "initiation by (prescribed) fire," the Lab successfully introduced prescribed fire, installing research plots on the Fort Rock and Sisters ranger districts of the Deschutes as well as Ochoco, and Mt. Hood national forests. Additionally, prescribed fire was introduced at Lava Beds National Monument and to the Yakima Nation. From those beginnings, prescribed fire became another valuable tool used by forest managers.

Editor's Note: Dr. Bob Martin went on to teach at the University of California. Joan became Bend Silviculture Laboratory project leader in 1986. In 1992, she completed a Ph.D. program and transferred to the Forestry Sciences Laboratory in Wenatchee, Washington, where she retired in 2000.



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



www.oldsmokeys.org

NONPROFIT ORG
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
PORTLAND, OR
PERMIT NO. 1

Change Service Requested

Fall 2018

Note: Your mailing label shows the year through which your dues are paid. For example, if your label shows "18" your dues are paid through December 31, 2018. If it shows "LT" you are a lifetime member and owe no further dues.

Join us for lunch on the last Friday of every month at The Old Spaghetti Factory, 715 S.W. Bancroft Street off Macadam Avenue, just south of downtown Portland, Oregon, at 11:00 a.m.

Officers

President, Kent Connaughton; **President-elect**, Bob Mangold; **Past President**, Tom Mulder; **Secretary**, Debra Warren; **Recording Secretary**, Susan Triplett; **Treasurer**, Dick Bennett; **Archivist**, Ray Steiger; **Newsletter Editors**, Debra Warren & Joan Barbour; **E-Mail Editor**, Carol Cushing; **Membership Database & Website Manager**, Bill Funk; **Membership Chair**, Doug MacDonald; **Grants Chair**: Charlie Krebs; **Community Outreach Chair**: Bev Pratt; **Banquet Chair**, Jean Loff; **Picnic Chair**, Rick Larson; **National Association of Forest Service Retirees Representative**, Ranotta McNair.

Area Representatives

Regional Office, Al Matecko; **Research Station**, Cindy Miner, Debra Warren; **Colville NF**, Al Garr; **Deschutes NF**, Dennis Dietrich; **Fremont NF**, Richard "Buck" Woodward; **Gifford Pinchot NF**, Phil Dodd; **Gifford Pinchot NF (east)**, Jim Bull; **Gifford Pinchot NF (west)**, vacant; **Malheur NF** (vacant); **Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie NF**, Lee Boecksteigel; **Mt. Hood NF**, Jim Tierney; **Ochoco NF & Crooked River NG**, Carrie Gordon; **Okanogan NF**, vacant; **Olympic NF**, Chris Anderson, Dave Yates; **Rogue River NF**, Jerry Wojack, Tom Lupes; **Siskiyou NF**, Eileen Blakely, Joel King; **Siuslaw NF**, vacant; **Umatilla NF**, Phil Kline; **Umpqua NF**, Bill Blackwell; **Wallowa-Whitman NF**, vacant; **Wenatchee NF**, Kjell Bakke, Fred Walk; **Willamette NF**, Doug MacDonald; **Winema NF**, Ted Yarosh, Mike Gouette.

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

The *OldSmokeys Newsletter* is published quarterly by the Pacific Northwest Forest Service Association (PNWFSA) for the benefit of its members and various offices of the U.S. Forest Service in Region 6. Copies are also made available to all other U.S. Forest Service retiree organizations. Annual PNWFSA membership is \$20. Lifetime membership is \$250. Specific requirements for membership eligibility and a membership application are available from the PNWFSA, P.O. Box 5583, Portland, Oregon 97228-5583.