



# OldSmokeys Newsletter

Newsletter of the Pacific Northwest Forest Service Retirees— Summer 2019

## *President's Message—Rob Mangold*

I am pleased to become the new president of the Pacific Northwest Forest Service Association. I want to thank **Tom Mulder** and **Kent Connaughton** for their service to our group. They made my job easy!

I am looking forward to a prosperous year for the OldSmokeys. Some of the things on my mind are continuing to make the changes we need as an organization to stay vibrant and current. We've overhauled our website with regard to membership, making it much easier for **Bill Funk** to track changes in members. Our grant program continues to deliver high-value grants to nongovernmental organizations which partner with U.S. Forest Service units. I'd like to see more grant applications in the future, including more from the Pacific Northwest Research Station, in addition to the Pacific Northwest Region.

I also plan to work more with the organization's area representatives to entice current Forest Service employees, especially those nearing retirement, to consider joining our group. With demographics shifting in the agency, some change in membership is inevitable, but I don't think we've reached enough of the current Forest Service employees to get them more interested in what we do.

If you have any concerns or comments, please don't hesitate to send me an email at:

[<robertdmangold@gmail.com>](mailto:robertdmangold@gmail.com)

I look forward to a great year for you and our organization. Get outside this summer and enjoy our beautiful forests and rangelands. Also, please consider coming to our annual Summer Picnic in the Woods on August 9 at the Wildwood Recreation Area.

*Rob Mangold*

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Visit the Pacific Northwest Forest Service Association website at: [www.oldsmokeys.org](http://www.oldsmokeys.org)

*See Page 3 to Sign Up for August 9 Picnic!*

## Forum

### U.S. Forest Service Hip Hop Trucker Hat?

Call me an old curmudgeon unwilling to accept change if you will, but here's something I hope never to see in the field! Available in black with green, blue, red, pink, or white bill, I saw it advertised for \$14.55 plus shipping from Amazon. How can this be?

As well as—in my opinion—damaging to the U.S. Forest Service image, I cannot imagine that it is legal. According to the Code of Federal Regulations, 36 CFR 264.2: “The Forest Service insignia is reserved for the official use of the Forest Service. Such use will be primarily for identification purposes.”

“The Chief of the Forest Service may authorize other uses for the insignia,” the regulation states, for approved public service uses which “contribute to public knowledge and understanding of the Forest Service, its mission, and objectives” and for licensed commercial uses which “(1) contribute to the public recognition of the Forest Service...or (2) promote employee esprit de corps or pride in the organization.... Such use must be consistent with the status of a national insignia.”

Such use may be revoked “by the Chief at any time the Chief finds that the use involved is offensive to decency and good taste or injurious to the image of the Forest Service...” or “...when there is a failure to comply with the terms and conditions of the license or authorization.”

I find it hard to believe this use of the Forest Service shield is authorized. “Whoever manufactures, sells, or possesses the insignia, except under 36 CFR 264.2, is subject to criminal penalty under 18 U.S.C. 701.”

Again, I may be out of step with the times, but as one once proud to wear the Pine Tree Shield and represent all the good it stood for, I find this use “offensive...to good taste” and “injurious to the image of the Forest Service.” I wonder if other OldSmokeys think likewise.

—Les Joslin

### Still Striving for a Typo-free Newsletter!

Typographical errors are the bane of writers and editors! For 13 years of producing 52 issues of our *OldSmokeys Newsletter*, I had striven for perfection—in terms of no typographical errors, or “typos”—to no avail.

I was sure I had a typo-free issue in the Spring 2019 *OldSmokeys Newsletter*, which I had proofread until my eyes ached before I submitted it for printing and mailing. But no! As always, as soon as my copy arrived in my mailbox, I sat down to admire it cover-to-cover. This went well until I hit page 14.

And there it was, the typo that robbed me of my holy grail—a typo-free issue! Oh, it wasn't a big typo. But it was there, at the bottom of the “Uncle Sam's Cabins” article on Rager Ranger Station, in an eight-point type photo credit. After getting his name right in the photo credit at the top of the page, I misspelled OldSmokey **Dave Govatski's** name—ending it with a “y” rather than an “i” at the bottom of the page. A tiny, eight-point typo, sure, but still a typo. Rats!

Perhaps, just perhaps, this 54th issue will be typo-free.

—Les Joslin



## OldSmokeys News



*New Past President Kent Connaughton (left), new President Rob Mangold (center), and new President-Elect Steve Ellis (right) assumed those Pacific Northwest Forest Service Association offices for 2019-2020 at the May 19, 2019, banquet.*

*Photograph by Tom Mulder*

### OldSmokey Robert Mangold Relieved Kent Connaughton as PNWFSA President at May 19 Banquet; Steve Ellis is New President-Elect

“Another smooth transition in power” is how outgoing Past President OldSmokey **Tom Mulder** characterized the May 19 Pacific Northwest Forest Service Association (PNWFSA) annual Spring Banquet at which the leadership changes indicated in the photo caption and headline above took place. “We're in good hands with the new execs,” Tom added.

Forty-six OldSmokeys—which Tom characterized as “fewer in number but mighty in spirit”—“enjoyed a nice banquet” at beautiful Charbonneau Country Club near Wilsonville, Oregon. Five of the 51 who had signed up to attend were unable to do so.

### OldSmokeys Must Reserve for August 9 PNWFSA Summer Picnic in the Woods Not Later Than August 1

All OldSmokeys planning to attend the August 9 Pacific Northwest Forest Service Association (PNWFSA) Summer Picnic in the Woods scheduled for Friday, August 9, at the BLM Wildwood Recreation Area on U.S. Highway 26 near Welches, Oregon, must sign up not later than August 1.

You can use the clip-out Reservation Form on page 3 of this newsletter or sign up online as indicated on that form to make sure you don't miss this great event.

Again this summer, this always fun picnic will cost you just **\$15.00 per person**, and just **\$7.50 for kids 12 years old and under**.

### Old Smokey Says...

**Don't miss this summer's great Picnic in the Woods! OldSmokeys from around the Pacific Northwest will be there!**





## OldSmokeys to Accept Grant Applications for Projects Meeting PNWFSA Criteria through December 31, 2019

The Pacific Northwest Forest Service Association (PNWFSA) Grants Committee will accept applications for grants to help fund projects in 2020 that will further PNWFSA goals within the Pacific Northwest Region.

Applications for PNWFSA grants to be awarded in 2020 are invited from private, non-profit, or non-governmental organizations pursuing such goals. Grants are not made directly to the U.S. Forest Service.

About \$10,000 will be available for 2020 grants, and applications are due December 31, 2019, according to OldSmokey **Charlie Krebs**, chair of the committee, which also includes OldSmokeys **Bob Tokarczyk**, **Kent Mays**, and **Phil Cruz**.

### Grant Criteria

Grants are awarded to organizations that satisfy the donation policy adopted by the PNWFSA Board of Directors on February 27, 2009. This policy specifies “Grants or gift proposals will be judged according to the following criteria:

- Does it further the OldSmokeys mission?
- Will the project have a lasting influence on national forest management, natural resource management, and help sell the public on the importance of these resources?
- Will it reach large numbers of people?
- Can OldSmokeys funds be leveraged with other funds?
- Will a restoration or improvement project help sustain our Forest Service legacy?
- Will the PNWFSA receive visible and lasting credit for participation?
- Is it a project that “feels good” to us and reminds us of why we chose to throw in with the Outfit for our careers?

### Grant Applications

If you know of a worthy potential recipient of a PNWFSA grant, please let that party know of this opportunity. Grant applications should be prepared as letters that describe the proposed project and enumerate how its accomplishment would satisfy the above criteria.

Additionally, for grant requests supporting U.S. Forest Service projects, a statement of support for and commitment to the project signed by the cognizant line officer (e.g., forest supervisor or district ranger) must be submitted with the application.

Grant applications should be submitted electronically to the Grants Committee via the <Grants@oldsmokeys.org> mailbox not later than December 31, 2019. Questions and comments are welcome via this mailbox.

### Grant Significance

Grants are one way the PNWFSA satisfies the requirements for Internal Revenue Code 501(c)(3) non-profit organization status while accomplishing important Forest Service heritage and National Forest System resource management tasks.

Since its grants program began in 2009, the OldSmokeys have awarded a total of \$78,564 in grants to 39 projects. A listing of grants approved from 2014 through 2019 is available on the OldSmokeys website at <www.oldsmokeys.org>.

Pacific Northwest Forest Service Association

## SUMMER PICNIC IN THE WOODS AUGUST 9, 2019

### RESERVATION FORM

**Socializing at 11:00 a.m. followed by  
Lunch at 12:00 noon.**

**Mail this reservation form and check for  
\$15.00 per person\*  
(payable to PNWFSA) to**

**PNWFSA  
P.O. Box 5583  
Portland, Oregon 97228-5583**

Please reserve \_\_\_\_\_ picnic lunches  
at **\$15.00** each for  
(names exactly as they will appear on name tags):

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My check for \$ \_\_\_\_\_ is enclosed.

Please print your name here:

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**Please send your reservation form and your check  
to be received not later than August 1, 2019!**

**If you'd rather sign up for the Summer Picnic  
online, go to <www.oldsmokeys.org/events>,  
scroll down to find Picnic event, click on that  
event and find the “Register” button,  
and follow the instructions.**

\*Grandchildren 12 years old and younger cost \$7.50 each.

## OldSmokeys Contribute to NAFSR’s Forest Service Budget Capacity Effort

The National Association of Forest Service Retirees (NAFSR) on April 8, 2019, sent Secretary of Agriculture Sonny Perdue a letter of support and a position paper regarding President Donald Trump’s Executive Order (EO) of December 21, 2018, entitled “EO on Promoting Management of America’s Forests, Rangelands, and other Federal Lands to Improve Conditions and Reduce Wildfire Risk.” While endorsing the objectives of the EO, NAFSR told Secretary Perdue that “the current level of funding provided to...the Forest Service is not enough to accomplish the ambitious and desperately needed objectives of the EO.” NAFSR emphasized that “the capacity of the Forest Service must be increased...through program efficiencies, legislative changes, and a focus on efficiencies” to achieve EO goals.

Given “today’s budgetary environment,” NAFSR realistically recommended that Secretary Perdue “support increased funding of \$600 million to \$900 million for critical programs that directly affect EO accomplishment,” OldSmokey **Rich Stem**, the Region 1 NAFSR board representative, told your *OldSmokeys Newsletter*. NAFSR believes that “including hazardous fuels reduction, increasing the production of traditional and innovative new forest products, restoring eroded land/preventing future erosion, reducing the impacts of invasive species, reducing the backlog in critically needed reforestation, and improvement and increased maintenance of road and bridge infrastructure” are essential.

“Unfortunately, the president’s proposed FY2020 budget merely maintains a relative ‘status quo’ level of funding, which is insufficient to accomplish the EO objectives,” NAFSR’s letter stated before making specific recommendations. Other OldSmokeys on NAFSR’s board are **Tom Thompson** representing Region 3 and **Ranotta McNair** representing Region 6.

*Prepared from an interview with Rich Stem, coordination with Ranotta McNair, and the cited April 8, 2019, letter and position paper.*

## OldSmokeys and Other Volunteers Staff High Desert Ranger Station for Eleventh Consecutive Summer

A strong team of nine OldSmokeys—**John Bambe, Dick Connelly, Bill Fish, Les Joslin, Stan Kunzman, Joan Landsberg, Ray Romero, Jon Stewart, and Desi Zamudio**—reinforced by four other High Desert Museum volunteers is staffing the Pacific Northwest Forest Service Association-sponsored High Desert Ranger Station’s eleventh summer of operation at this world-class natural and cultural history museum south of Bend, Oregon.

OldSmokeys living in or visiting Central Oregon this summer are encouraged to drop by the High Desert Museum to see this successful PNWFSA-initiated project. Open from 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. on Saturdays and Sundays in June and daily from July 1 through Labor Day (except for the Fourth of July), it is the only High Desert Museum exhibit accessible for free.



## OldSmokeys and Friends of Fish Lake To Begin Annual Work Week on June 25

The Friends of Fish Lake (FFL)—many of whom are also OldSmokeys—will begin their annual work week at the Fish Lake Historic Site on the Willamette National Forest on Sunday, June 23, to wrap up on Friday, June 28, FFL President and OldSmokey **Rolf Anderson** announced in the Spring 2019 *OldSmokeys Newsletter*.

To get in on this spring’s work week, focused on renovation of the Fish Lake bunkhouse, contact FFL founder and OldSmokey **Mike Kerrick** at <makerrick@q.com>. “Our annual FFL luncheon and membership meeting will be on Tuesday, June 25, Rolf added.

## OldSmokey Ben Carson is Last Survivor of U.S. Marine Corps Makin Island Raid

OldSmokey **Ben Carson** of Hillsboro, Oregon, became the last survivor of the Second Marine Raider Battalion’s historic August 1942 “Makin Island Raid” when Kenneth M. Merrill of Mesa, Arizona, died November 12, 2018.

Ben joined the U.S. Marine Corps on December 26, 1941, and on completion of boot camp in San Diego volunteered for service in the new raider battalion with which he took part in the June 1942 defense of Midway before Lieutenant Colonel Evan F. Carlson led the battalion’s legendary raid on the island of Butaritari in the Japanese-held Makin Atoll. Many other Western Pacific actions followed before World War II ended in 1945 and Ben was honorably discharged in 1946.

On October 29, 2009, as reported in the Winter 2010 *OldSmokeys Newsletter*, retired forester Ben was one of five Makin Island Raid survivors who, as guests of the U.S. Navy, attended the commissioning of the new amphibious assault ship *USS Makin Island* (LHD-8) in San Diego, California.

*Prepared from multiple sources including an online obituary of Kenneth M. Merrill © 2019 Legacy.com.*

## OldSmokey John Allen Retires as Deschutes National Forest Supervisor

OldSmokey **John Allen**, forest supervisor of the Deschutes National Forest for the past 12 years, retired from the U.S. Forest Service on June 21, 2019, after 40 years of service.

John’s career began with a degree in forest management earned at the University of California, Berkeley, and a summer 1978 seasonal position on the Bly Ranger District, Fremont National Forest, where he got a career appointment as a forestry technician and worked until 1984.

He went on to the Chiloquin Ranger District, Winema National Forest, for three years as a silviculture forester; he became a certified silviculturist during those years. From 1987 to 1992, John was district silviculturist on the Tiller Ranger District, Umpqua National Forest. From there he moved on to the Willamette National Forest where he served as district ranger, McKenzie Ranger District, from 1992 to the end of 2003. He briefly left Region 6 for about three and one-half years in Bozeman, Montana, as deputy forest supervisor of the Gallatin National Forest.

In August 2007, John returned to Region 6 as forest supervisor of the Deschutes National Forest based in Bend, Oregon.

During his twelve years on the Deschutes, John and his staff, along with the Bend-Fort Rock Ranger District ranger and his staff, occupied a new headquarters facility in northeast Bend on the site of the Forest Service's former Bend Pine Nursery. Among the Deschutes' many accomplishments during his tenure were development of a collaborative forest management program which produced timber from as it reduced wildfire danger on thousands of acres of national forest lands; construction and occupation of the new Crescent Ranger Station in Crescent, Oregon; construction and occupation of the new Cascade Lakes Welcome Station which serves visitors accessing the national forest's most heavily used recreation areas; and development and occupation of the new Interagency Dispatch Center in Redmond, Oregon.

"I learned so much over the years," John reflected on his Forest Service career, "but the one lesson that has made the biggest impression on me is described by the old African proverb, "If you want to go fast, go alone. If you want to go far, go together." John and his wife Julie plan to stay in Bend where their son Conor graduated from high school this month.

*Prepared from an online interview with John.*

## OldSmokey Joan Landsberg Assisted Central American Refugees in El Paso

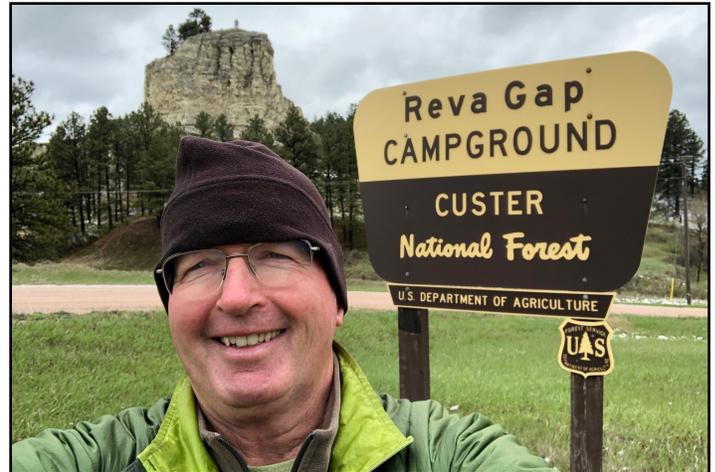
OldSmokey **Joan Landsberg, Ph.D.**, a Peace Corps volunteer in Costa Rica in the 1960s, returned to her Bend, Oregon, home on May 8, 2019, after three weeks of volunteer service at an El Paso, Texas, hospitality center for asylum-seekers crossing the border from Mexico into the United States.

This spring, the flow of refugees arriving at the El Paso border increased dramatically to about 400 to 700 per day. These refugees—primarily from Guatemala, El Salvador, and Honduras as well as from Mexico and Brazil—arrive in Juarez, Mexico, across the Rio Grande from El Paso. They cross the border in one of two ways. Some climb the border fences separating the two countries and are detained by the Border Patrol. Others walk into ports of entry, turn themselves in, and request asylum. All are processed and turned over to Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE). Those deemed asylum-seekers are released by ICE to leave El Paso to reunite with family or friends in other parts of the U.S. pending adjudication of their cases.

Joan, who is fluent in Spanish, volunteered with Annunciation House, a Catholic charity which oversees a network of temporary hospitality centers for asylum seekers. "All they had was the clothes on their backs," she said of most who were provided some clothing. "One man of about 30, who had a six-to-eight-year-old boy with him, asked where to put the clothes we gave him to use while at the shelter. I was stunned. I responded that those clothes were his to wear while with us at the shelter and during his onward travels. His to keep. He almost cried in disbelief." Joan had many such experiences during three weeks of long shifts.

Joan returned home with an "upper respiratory infection" which "began as 'migrant flu' which everyone had even though it is not influenza. Almost everyone coming to the shelters was sick, probably due to confinement in close quarters, lack of sleep from sleeping on floors with only space blankets to protect them and crying children all night, and anxiety and fear of what was going to happen to them."

*Prepared from an interview with Joan and multiple sources.*



*OldSmokey Dave Govatski snapped this "selfie" at Reva Gap on the Custer National Forest as he closed in on his goal.*

## OldSmokey Dave Govatski Achieves Goal of Visiting Every U.S. National Forest and National Grassland

On Sunday, May 19, 2019, OldSmokey **Dave Govatski** achieved his goal of visiting every national forest in the United States when he visited the Custer National Forest in South Dakota. "My first national forest was the White Mountain in 1963, and the Custer was my last 56 years later," Dave wrote to your *OldSmokeys Newsletter*. "Geez, time flies!"

"I worked on six forests, and had fire assignments on 22 others," Dave explained. "The rest I visited over the years." What qualified as a visit? "I had to spend a day on each forest. The Tuskegee is less than 12,000 acres, and that involved a few hours of hiking, visiting the district office with a staff of five, and walking some of the roads to look at reforestation. The largest is the Tongass at over 16 million acres, and I have visited that forest several times. Some forests have been combined, like the Gallatin-Custer, but my rule is to visit and enjoy each one. That's 154 national forests."

Then, on Wednesday, May 22, Dave visited the Grand River National Grasslands near Lemmon, South Dakota, and the tiny Cedar River National Grassland just over the state line in North Dakota, the final two of the 20 national grasslands. Add in the Midewin National Tallgrass Prairie in Illinois he's visited, also administered by the Forest Service, and that's 175 administrative units under his belt.

"Throughout this quest, I have learned a lot about geography, history, and the culture of each national forest and national grassland," Dave said.

But the purposeful peregrinations of this only OldSmokey who calls New Hampshire home aren't yet finished. "My next crazy endeavor is to see all the native pine species in the United States. I have only the Monterey pine and the foxtail pine to see later this year in California."



## OldSmokey Robin Vora is Co-Author of “Conserving Dry Old-Growth Forest in Central Oregon” in *Journal of Forestry*

“Logging and fire suppression have reduced the number of large old trees, increased the density of small shade-tolerant trees, and decreased forest resistance to fire, drought, insects, and disease in the interior Pacific Northwest,” OldSmokey **Robin Vora** and co-authors Andrew Merschel of the College of Forestry, Oregon State University, and Tom Spies, retired from the Pacific Northwest Research Station, report in “Conserving Dry Old-Growth Forest in Central Oregon” in the March 2019 *Journal of Forestry*.

“In Central Oregon, interim Old-growth definitions, the Deschutes Large Tree Layer, and the Gradient Nearest Neighbor (GNN) mapping tool are used to identify dry old-growth forests and guide forest planning,” the article’s abstract explains. “We used a recent characterization of dry old forests to evaluate interim old-growth definitions and GNN mapping. Historical old tree species composition should be used in old-growth definitions. The 21-inch-diameter harvest limitation maintains large trees but fails to protect smaller old individuals; it does not allow for removal of younger large shade-tolerant species more prevalent since fire suppression. GNN mapping accurately identified old forest based on abundance of large trees and a coarse landscape scale but was less accurate at a finer stand scale.”

OldSmokeys may read the entire paper on pages 128-135 of the March 2019 *Journal of Forestry*.

## OldSmokeys May Visit New Smokey Bear 75th Birthday Exhibit at National Zoo

In memory of the real Smokey Bear who lived at the National Zoo in Washington, D.C., from 1950 to 1976—after his May 1950 rescue from the Capitan Gap Fire on the Lincoln National Forest in New Mexico and being nursed back to health—the zoo is honoring Smokey with an exhibit for his 75th Birthday!

Called the Smokey Bear Zone, the exhibit opened May 23 and is free to the public. As visitors stroll through the exhibit, they see the rich stories of how Smokey Bear the character and Smokey Bear the zoo resident took shape. The exhibit was made possible by the U.S. Forest Service.

So, this summer, return to your thrilling days in Washington, D.C., and visit the Smokey Zone while you’re there!



Smokey welcomes you!

U.S. Forest Service photograph



OldSmokey Jon Stewart described the merits of carbon sequestration on small woodlands at the annual Oregon Woodland Cooperative meeting on April 13, 2019. OWC photograph

## OldSmokey Jon Stewart Advanced Carbon Sequestration at OWC Meeting

Carbon sequestration on small woodlands was a featured topic when OldSmokey **Jon Stewart** and his sister Janice hosted the 2019 Oregon Woodland Cooperative (OWC) annual meeting at their Raincloud Tree Farm near Corbett, Oregon, on April 13.

During an afternoon session, Jon explained why he and his family decided to enroll their 120-acre tree farm in a carbon storage program. Throughout his U.S. Forest Service career and on numerous long-distance hikes throughout the West (recounted in his three books reviewed in your *OldSmokeys Newsletter* over the years), Jon has witnessed and documented—through before and after photographs—the loss of high-elevation forest cover. “Our planet is burning off from the top down,” Jon said as he showed examples of western forests dying off as a result of rising annual temperatures, drought, insects, wildfire, and storms.

Stressing that Pacific Northwest forests “contain the highest carbon density worldwide,” Jon explained how and why his family enrolled their tree farm as the nation’s first small woodland to contract for carbon storage as their way of putting their tree farm to work “to help offset carbon dioxide emissions that are changing our climate” with cascading negative consequences even as they continue to manage it for forest health and associated timber production.

Jon described the assistance this effort has received from the Natural Resources Conservation Service, the Pinchot Institute, and Forest Carbon Works to implement this project and conduct ongoing stand inventories. Benefits from the program that he values most are taking concrete action against global warming, carbon storage as an income source in addition to timber harvest, recognition as a pioneer in the program for small woodland owners, and access to technical assistance.

“There are now over 700 small woodlands signing up behind us to be part of this carbon sequestration effort,” Jon told your *OldSmokeys Newsletter*.

Prepared from interviews with Jon Stewart and “Highlights of the 2019 OWC Annual Meeting” published on April 16, 2019, by the Oregon Woodland Cooperative, P.O. Box 144, Banks, Oregon 97106.

## OldSmokeys Treasurer Dick Bennett Presents 2018 PNWFSA Financial Report

The year 2018 was another good financial year for the Pacific Northwest Forest Service Association (PNWFSA). In addition to payments of annual dues, the PNWFSA added eight new lifetime memberships. Donations to the Grant/Project Fund and the Elmer Moyer Memorial Emergency Fund were made.

Even though the Pacific Northwest Region experienced a very active wildfire season, none of the region’s employees or retirees experienced losses from fires. But the Pacific Southwest Region was a different story. The late-season Camp Fire, which virtually destroyed the city of Paradise, California, destroyed the homes of a number of U.S. Forest Service employees and retirees. We learned of these losses, and the PNWFSA Board of directors approved allocation of \$1,600 from the Elmer Moyer Memorial Emergency Relief Fund to the Plumas National Forest Fire Victim Relief Fund.

The increase in the value of our investments enabled the PNWFSA to increase funding for its 2018 grant program. With the availability of this increased funding, we were able to increase the number and amount of grants in 2018 to the \$20,550 reported in the Spring 2018 *OldSmokeys Newsletter*. This included \$3,000 to Discover Your Forest for renovation of historic Deschutes Bridge Guard Station, \$2,200 to Cascade Pacific RC&D for the Oregon Dunes Restoration Collaborative, \$5,000 to the Mt. Hood Cultural Center and Museum for emergency exits, \$1,000 to the High Desert Museum for maintenance of the historic High Desert Ranger Station; \$2,350 to the Douglas County Museum Foundation for the Colliding Rivers Exploration Station Viewpoint, and \$7,000 to Friends of Fish Lake for replacement of the Hall House roof and production of a series of Fish Lake Historic Site interpretive videos.

— Dick Bennett

### Pacific Northwest Forest Service Association, Inc. Statement of Financial Position as of December 31, 2018 (in dollars)

<i>Assets</i>	
Checking	3,611
Investments	129,586
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>133,197</b>
<i>Equity</i>	
General Fund	7,923
Auction Fund	2,457
Grant Fund	829
Moyer Memorial Fund	12,437
Lifetime Trust Fund	109,551
<b>Total Equity</b>	<b>133,197</b>

### Old Smokey Says...

As Dick Bennett's financial report shows, our Pacific Northwest Forest Service Association continues to benefit its members as well as "the greatest good" in so many ways!



### Pacific Northwest Forest Service Association Statement of Revenues & Expenses January 1 through December 31, 2018 (in dollars)

#### General Operating Income/Expense

<b>Income</b>	
Dues Collected for 2018	6,540
Banquet Receipts	1,375
Picnic Receipts	1,867
Gifts and Donations	371
Forest Service Participating Agreement	4,000
Fund Transfer Income	3,028
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>17,181</b>

<b>Expenses</b>	
Administration	277
Fees and Charges	709
Liability Insurance	525
Newsletter and Directory	4,455
Technology Expenses	2,196
Gifts and Donations	40
Outreach Expenses	1,145
Banquet Expenses	1,850
Picnic Expenses	1,836
Fund Transfer Expense	31
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>13,064</b>

**Net Income Less Expenses 4,117**

#### Restricted Fund Income/Expense

<b>Grant/Project Fund Income</b>	
Gifts and Donations	600
Raffle Income	504
Fund Transfer Income	11,473
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>12,577</b>

<b>Grant/Project Fund Expenses</b>	
High Desert Museum	1,000
Friends of Fish Lake	7,000
Discover Your Forest	3,000
Cascade Pacific RC&D	2,200
Mt. Hood Cultural Center & Museum	5,000
Douglas County Museum	2,350
<b>Total Grants Made</b>	<b>20,550</b>

**Net Income Less Expenses -7,973**

#### Elmer Moyer Memorial Emergency Fund

<b>Income</b>	
Donations	690

<b>Expenses</b>	
Plumas National Forest Fire Victim Relief Fund	1,600

**Net Income Less Expenses -910**

#### Lifetime Fund

<b>Income</b>	
Lifetime Dues	2,530
Interest/Dividends	3,729
Net Capital Gain	-5,512
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>747</b>

<b>Expenses</b>	
Fund Transfer Expense	11,473

**Net Income Less Expenses -10,726**

Respectfully submitted by Dick Bennett

## Forest Service News

### U.S. Forest Service in Pacific Northwest “Evolving Toward Shared Stewardship”

“Recently, our Pacific Northwest regional leadership team had the amazing opportunity to learn side-by-side in an interactive forum with our district rangers, research and Washington Office colleagues, state partners, and some tribal representatives what Shared Stewardship means, where it came from, and how it will apply to our work all the way down to the district level,” Pacific Northwest Regional Forester Glenn Casamassa wrote in the April 10, 2019, *Inside the Forest Service* “Leadership Corner” blog.

“One of the things we explored was how Shared Stewardship may be a new term for many, but it is certainly not a new concept. The evolution toward Shared Stewardship represents the convergence of several factors over the last decades—new authorities and policies that govern our work, new and expanded science that informs it, and our own internal exploration and discovery of Who We Are and how we need to show up in community.

“We explored how our Shared Stewardship approach will build on the strength of our existing partnerships and collaborative groups in the region that have matured over this same time period. And we are clear that we will need to embrace new ways of doing business and different ways of being.

“Together we heard from our state partners directly and learned how they are uniquely positioned to convene stakeholders across communities to evaluate the needs and agree on cross-jurisdictional planning areas. We started to lay out the vision for our Oregon and Washington Shared Stewardship agreements that will be signed with the states this spring, and we discussed how to share decision space with governors’ offices and state agencies to set broad priorities together based on the holistic needs and values of our communities, state forest action plans, and other tools. We also worked in small groups to workshop project ideas at the same scale to not only meet our essential timber volume and fuels acres treated goals, but also to integrate them with other priorities that our states, tribes, and communities are telling us are important, like recreation, access, and infrastructure.

“Given the strong history of collaboration in our region and the strength of our existing Good Neighbor Authority agreements, we also spent some time exploring how Shared Stewardship is different and here’s what I would offer on that account:

- Shared Stewardship with the States will elevate planning and decision-making from the national forest level to the state level when appropriate.
- Together Forest Service and the states will use scenario planning tools to assess opportunities, risks and alternatives for managing the risk, and set priorities for investments that will bring the most bang for the buck.
- It will use new and existing science to do the right work in the right places at the right scale. Instead of random acts of restoration, we will share decisions and place treatments where they can produce desired outcomes at a meaningful scale.
- It will take advantage of our capacity for shared stewardship across shared landscapes using all of our tools and

authorities for active management. We will work with the states and other partners, including local communities, to choose the most appropriate tools tailored to local conditions.

- As we embrace Shared Stewardship, we are also being intentional in creating a safe, supportive, and resilient work environment because it is a determining factor in our ability to invite others into shared stewardship work with us—and as the Chief says, that’s what Shared Stewardship is—an invitation.
- Once the agreements are signed this spring, the region is exploring how to develop more forums and workshops alongside our state partners and with our on-the-ground workforce to start sharing the priorities and planning projects across boundaries, at a scale that leads to real progress. So...stay tuned for more!”

*Editor’s Note: This article is quoted almost verbatim except for (1) exclusion of an opening sentence, (2) revised use of commas to enhance clarity, and (3) bulleting of items in the final paragraph.*

### U.S. Forest Service, State of Washington Sign Shared Stewardship Agreement

U.S. Forest Service Chief Vicki Christiansen, Regional Forester Glenn Casamassa, State of Washington Commissioner of Public Lands Hilary Franz, and Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife Director Kelly Susewind on May 8, 2019, signed a “Shared Stewardship” Memorandum of Understanding (MOU), calling it a model for other states to follow.

The MOU, only the second of its kind in the nation. Establishes a framework for Washington state and the U.S. Forest Service to work collaboratively toward mutual goals and effectively respond to the increasing suite of challenges facing communities, landscapes, and natural resources across the state. The partnership will work together to improve forest health—a cornerstone of clean water and abundant wildlife habitat—and create exceptional recreational and outdoor opportunities across the state.

“The challenges we face transcend boundaries,” said Chief Christiansen. “This agreement strengthens and advances an already strong partnership between federal and state agencies in Washington state. Working together, we can ensure that we’re doing the right work at the right scale to improve forest health, reduce wildfire risk, and benefit local communities.”

*Prepared from Washington State Department of Natural Resources News Release “State, Federal Agencies Align for Historic Partnership to Reduce Wildfire Risk and Improve Forests, Water and Habitat” of May 8, 2019.*

### U.S. Forest Service Mission Benefits from Passage of Dingell Act

“A wide-ranging bill that revives a popular conservation program, adds 1.3 million acres of new wilderness, expands several national parks, and creates five new national monuments”—as Matthew Daly of the Associated Press characterized it—was signed into law by President Donald J. Trump during a quiet White House ceremony on March 12, 2019.

The bill that became the John D. Dingell, Jr. Conservation Management and Recreation Act with that signing had passed

the Senate by a 92-8 vote on February 12, 2019, and the House of Representatives by a 363-62 vote on February 26.

The act, which made a law that combined more than 100 separate public land bills, permanently reauthorized the federal Land and Water Conservation Fund which has supported more than 42,000 federal, state, and local projects throughout the United States since its creation in 1964. Among the most popular and effective programs Congress has ever created, this program uses federal royalties from offshore oil and gas drilling to fund conservation and recreation projects.

Among the act's significant features for Pacific Northwest Region national forests was designation of the Devil's Staircase Wilderness on the Siuslaw National Forest and adjacent lands managed by the Bureau of Land Management (see story below).

In the wake of this act, Oregon Senators Ron Wyden and Jeff Merkley have introduced the Oregon Recreation Enhancement Act which would expand the 35,818-acre Wild Rogue Wilderness on the Rogue River-Siskiyou National Forest by about 60,000 acres, establish a 98,000-acre Rogue Canyon Recreation Area on the banks of the Rogue River next to the Wild Rogue Wilderness, and establish a 30,000-acre Molalla Recreation Area on the banks of the Molalla River next to the Table Rocks Wilderness.

*Prepared from multiple sources including "Congress easily approves major public lands conservation bill" by Matthew Daly of The Associated Press in the February 27, 2019, issue of The (Bend, Oregon) Bulletin; "Trump signs major conservation bill to open lands for sportsmen" by Dave Boyer in the March 12, 2019, issue of The Washington Times; and "New wilderness bill seeks protection of Rogue and Molalla" by the Associated press in the May 4, 2019, issue of The Bulletin.*

## U.S. Forest Service Gets New Devils Staircase Wilderness to Manage

On March 12, 2019, President Donald J. Trump signed the John D. Dingell, Jr. Conservation, Management, and Recreation Act which, among many other things, designated the Devil's Staircase Wilderness on the Siuslaw National Forest and adjacent lands managed by the Bureau of Land Management. At over 30,000 acres, Devil's Staircase is the largest National Wilderness Preservation System unit in Oregon's Coast Range. The name of the new wilderness derives from a terraced waterfall on Wassen Creek.

The new Devil's Staircase Wilderness is just east of Reed-sport on the southern end of the Siuslaw National Forest, between the Smith and Umpqua Rivers and north of Oregon Highway 38. To the south of the highway is Elliott State Forest. In the heart of timber country, it was called "one of the last—and largest—old growth forests in the coastal mountains" by advocates of wilderness designation. "Hemlocks and Douglas-firs, hundreds of feet high, form the rain forests' vast canopy" over an "almost impenetrable landscape" that is "home to bears, otters, and spotted owls."

"In the 1960s, the Forest Service imposed a moratorium on logging between these rivers pending completion of a soil erosion study," according to an article by Andy Stahl. "Although the study was inconclusive, the logging moratorium was lifted in 1980. In 1984, when the Forest Service tried to resume logging, a federal district judge ruled the agency had violated the National Environmental Policy Act. The so-called 'Mapleton (named after the affected ranger district) injunction' [stopped] 700 million board feet of logging" and the future wilderness remained unlogged.

The act of March 12 also added 256 miles of Oregon waterways teeming with steelhead and trout—including segments of the Molalla, Elk, and Chetco rivers—to the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System. Oregon's entire congressional delegation voted in favor of the act, the state provisions of which were championed by Senator Ron Wyden, a Democrat and senior member of the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources. The proposed Devil's Staircase Wilderness had a long-time champion in Democratic Representative Peter DeFazio, and Republican Representative Greg Walden attended the White House signing ceremony.

*Prepared from multiple sources including "Trump signs bill to create Oregon's Devil's Staircase Wilderness" by Shane Dixon Cavanaugh in The Oregonian on March 12, 2019; "Trump Designates Largest Wilderness Area in Oregon's Coast Range" by Andy Stahl posted in The Smokey Wire on March 12, 2019; and "Lost in one of Oregon's wildest places in search of Devil's Staircase, a bit of panic begins to set in" by Shane Dixon Cavanaugh in The Oregonian on December 30, 2018.*

## U.S. Forest Service Loses Job Corps

Secretary of Agriculture Sonny Perdue on May 24, 2019, sent Secretary of Labor Alexander Acosta a letter to request transfer of operation of all U.S. Forest Service Job Corps Civilian Conservation Centers (CCCs) to the Department of Labor.

This move, to be completed this year, will end more than 50 years of Forest Service operation of Job Corps centers.

The Department of Labor intends to continue the Job Corps program under a different operator at most Forest Service Job Corps CCCs. Sixteen CCCs will continue under a new contract operator or partnership. In Region 6, those are Angell CCC in Yachats, Oregon; Columbia Basin CCC in Moses Lake, Washington; Curlew CCC in Curlew, Washington; and Wolf Creek CCC in Glide, Oregon.

Nine CCCs will be proposed for deactivation through a Federal Register Notice. In Region 6 these are Fort Simcoe CCC in White Swan, Washington, and Timber Lake CCC in Estacada, Oregon.

"This transfer of operations will mostly impact the employees who work in 24 of our Job Corps centers across the country," Forest Service Chief Vicki Christiansen said on the day of the announcement. "We will need to permanently transition the Forest Service Job Corps work force and will seek reduction in force authority to do so." According to the National Federation of Federal Employees, up to 1,065 workers could be let go.

"There are reasons why the secretary made this decision," Chief Christiansen said just before the Department of Labor announced it. "Perdue has a goal of efficient and effective government," and believes the Job Corps mission better aligns with the Labor Department. The Forest Service's CCCs is the only Labor Department Job Corps initiative operated by federal employees. "This was a high-level policy discussion and decision. It in no way reflects on [Forest Service Job Corps personnel] excellent work and dedication."

Secretary Perdue, in a letter to Secretary Acosta, wrote the move would help the Forest Service prioritize its "core natural resource mission to improve the condition and resilience of our nation's forests, and step away from activities and programs that are not essential to that core mission."

*Prepared from U.S. Forest Service Leadership Corner article "USDA transfers Forest Service Job Corps Civilian Conservation Centers to DOL" of May 24, 2019, and "USDA ends long-standing Forest Service job training program for at-risk youth" by Catherine Boudreau in May 24, 2019, Politico.*

**Forest Service News continues on Page 15**

## Feature

### Two Early-Day Forest Rangers of the North Pacific District

By Les Joslin

Back before and during the early days of the North Pacific District—now the Pacific Northwest Region—of the National Forest System, two very different gents were among Uncle Sam’s pioneer forest rangers. Both became forest supervisors, and both answered other callings, as well.

#### Cy Bingham: Forest Ranger, Forest Supervisor, and County Sheriff

Cyrus James “Cy” Bingham, an early U.S. forest ranger, served in Oregon’s Cascade Range Forest Reserve from 1903 to 1907, the years when



the forest reserves administered by the U.S. Department of the Interior were becoming national forests under the newly established U.S. Forest Service in the Department of Agriculture. A folk artist and a poet, Bingham first worked on lands that were later included in the Deschutes, Umpqua, and Willamette national forests, and later served on the Malheur National Forest.

Born in 1870 in Oakland County, Michigan, Bingham was working as a cowboy in Asotin County, Washington, by the time he was twenty. He married Connie Boggan, and the couple moved to Idaho and southern Oregon, where he worked in mining. In 1900, the Bingham family settled in Lane County, and Cy ran stamp mills—which crushed ore for processing—in the Bohemia Mining District.

In June 1903, the Department of the Interior hired Bingham as one of the first rangers in the Cascade Range Forest Reserve. A large and powerful man, Cy was reportedly the first to penetrate the high country to patrol the part of the reserve that stretched from the Three Sisters country in the north to Crater Lake in the south. As with many early rangers, Bingham lacked formal training in land management, but he had outdoor skills and an ability to persuade others.



Ranger Cy Bingham in the field. U.S. Forest Service photograph

As one of the few federal administrative officers assigned to the Cascade crest area, Bingham’s duties included detecting and suppression forest fires, locating and constructing trails, and arbitrating grazing rights disputes between cattle ranchers and sheepherders. Bingham’s pay was \$75 a month, out of which he paid for his own saddle and pack stock, tools, and food.

Connie and Cy Bingham spent the winters in McKenzie Bridge or Oakridge, and Connie often joined her husband in the mountains during the summer seasons. After two years of wearing the nickel-plated badge that identified him as a Forest Reserve Ranger, Bingham pinned on the bronze shield of the U.S. Forest Service to continue his work on the forest reserves, which were renamed national forests in 1907.

Aside from official government papers and his poetry, Bingham left few accounts of his service except for the tree carvings that helped make him famous. The carvings, which documented his travels through the Cascades, included his name, title, date, and remarks on twenty or more trees. Known as Cy Bingham Trees, some can still be found in the woods, while others are preserved in museums. Bingham used the carvings, which were also used by some Native Americans and Basque sheepherders, to leave an enduring record of his presence and peregrinations.

In November 1907, Bingham was promoted to forest supervisor of the newly created Malheur National Forest and was transferred to its headquarters in John Day, Oregon. He resigned from that post in 1920 and was elected sheriff of Grant County, Oregon, in which office he served until 1932. He and Connie retired to California, where he died in Pomona in 1937.

*Reprinted from the Oregon Encyclopedia entry by Les Joslin with permission.*

#### Scott Leavitt: Forest Ranger, Forest Supervisor, and U.S. Congressman

Scott Leavitt began his distinguished U.S. Forest Service career—interrupted by other public service—serving as a forest ranger on the Goose Lake Forest Reserve, established in southeastern Oregon in 1906 and renamed Fremont National Forest in 1908, from 1907 to 1909.

Born into a prominent Elk Rapids, Michigan, family on July 16, 1879, he left high school at the onset of the Spanish-American War to serve in Cuba with Company L, Thirty-third Regiment, Michigan Volunteer Infantry, and saw action at Santiago. After the war, he attended the University of Michigan, but left for Oregon without earning a degree.

Leavitt passed the U.S. Forest Service ranger examination at Lakeview, Oregon, in the spring of 1907. His first assignment was on the new Thomas Creek Ranger District, Fremont National Forest, where with his wife and two babies he lived in a cabin obtained from a stockman who moved stored salt out so Ranger Leavitt and family could move in. He spent the summer of 1907 patrolling, posting forest boundaries, and working with stockmen. In the fall he moved back to forest headquarters in Lakeview.

“In the spring of 1908,” Leavitt wrote, “was put in charge of a road crew.... We lived in a tent. When the road money ran



out, took the family back to Lakeview, kept the tent and spent much of the time with saddle and pack-horse. Stockmen were getting located and boundaries agreed upon, and the work became varied and interesting. No timber sales yet but fire patrol was constant.”

“Was in the Lakeview office again that winter, and diphtheria came to Lakeview. Far from a railroad, there was no serum, only old-time methods, and we lost our little four-and-a-half year old girl. Our son, Roswell, then two, recovered and became supervisor of the Lolo National Forest in Montana.

“Assigned to the west side district in the spring of 1909, I hardly got started there until, effective April 21, 1909, I was transferred to the Superior National Forest in Minnesota as an experienced ranger to help put that forest under administration. That ended my service on the Fremont.”

In 1912, Leavitt became supervisor of the Lewis and Clark National Forest in Montana, and in 1913 was transferred to the Jefferson National Forest headquarters at Great Falls. In 1918 he resigned from the Forest Service and, after being denied military service on technical physical grounds, served as Federal-State Director of War Emergency Employment Service and of the Public Service Reserve.

In 1922, when Montana’s incumbent 2<sup>nd</sup> congressional district representative opted to run for the Senate rather than seek reelection to the House of Representatives, respected Republican Leavitt was elected to the U.S. House of Representatives in which he served five terms until 1932. During his final three terms, he served as Chairman of the House Committee on Indian Affairs.

After he lost that seat in the 1932 election and lost a bid for the Senate in 1934, Leavitt returned to the Forest Service in 1935 at the regional office in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. He retired as assistant regional forester for information and education on June 30, 1942. He and his wife moved to Newberg, Oregon, where Scott Leavitt died on October 19, 1966. Scott Leavitt Park in Newberg is named for him.

*Prepared from History of the Fremont National Forest by Melva Bach, edited by Ward Tonsfeldt, and published by the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service, Fremont National Forest, in 1990, and from Wikipedia entries on Scott Leavitt and Fremont National Forest.*



*Scott Leavitt is second from left, top row, along with Fremont National Forest rangers (top row, left to right) Jason S. Elder, Mark Musgrave, Nelson J. Billings, Frank Pettit, and James Brady, and (bottom row, left to right) Gilbert D. Brown and Greg Ingrave in 1907. Photograph from collection of Beth Olin, daughter of Nelson J. Billings who became supervisor of Wallowa National Forest, courtesy of Dave Stack at the National Museum of Forest Service History.*

## New Members

Welcome to these new OldSmokeys who have joined the Pacific Northwest Forest Service Association since the Spring 2019 *OldSmokeys Newsletter* went to press.

**Jeffrey H. & Cheryl L. Bloom** of Walla Walla, Washington. Jeff retired from the U.S. Forest Service on December 31, 2016, on the Walla Walla Ranger District, Umatilla National Forest, after 44 years of federal service, 40 years in the Forest Service in Region 6 and four years in the U.S. Navy.

**Kathleen Read** of Roseburg, Oregon. Kathy retired June 1, 2012, from the Roseburg District Office, Bureau of Land Management, after 41 years of federal service of which 22 years were with the U.S. Forest Service. She served in acquisition management on the Deschutes National Forest from 1977 to 1989, the Colville National Forest from 1989 to 1990, and the Modoc National Forest from 1990 to 1999. Her career began in 1971 as a Department of Defense civilian employee. In retirement, Kathy volunteers with Court Assigned Special Advocates (CASA) assisting children in foster care in Douglas County, Oregon, and with Start Making a Reader Today (SMART) in a Head Start program.

**George H. Starbuck & Carolee S. Kawer** of Oregon City, Oregon. George’s 1956 to 1968 federal service included two years in the U.S. Navy, three years in the U.S. Forest Service, four years in the U.S. Coast Guard, and two more years in the Forest Service before going to college on the G.I. Bill to earn an engineering degree. “The best of the Forest Service, ski lift safety patrol!” George says. He enjoys travel, woodworking, and art.

## Memories

Farewell to these recently deceased Pacific Northwest Forest Service Association (PNWFSA) members who live on in our memories.

**James Willis “Jim” Barrett III** died April 2, 2019, at age 96. Jim was born June 26, 1922, in Independence, Iowa, the son of Dr. and Mrs. J.W. Barrett, and graduated from Independence High School in June 1940. He volunteered for military service during World War II but, at the U.S. Marine Corps officer training school at the University of Notre Dame, was determined not physically qualified for service and honorably discharged. Jim earned a B.S. degree in forestry in 1945 and an M.S. degree in forest management and forest pathology in 1947, both at Iowa State University in Ames, Iowa. Jim married into a South Dakota ranch family, but after ranching for several years—managing a 2,000-acre operation that included cattle, a cottonwood sawmill, and 800 acres of row crops, half of which was wiped out by an early 1950s Missouri River flood—he and his wife divorced, and he moved to Oregon in 1956. There he joined the U.S. Forest Service and worked as a Deschutes National Forest timber marker and cruiser. Jim began his Pacific Northwest Forest and Range Experiment Station—later Pacific Northwest Research Station—career in 1958 at the Pringle Falls Experimental Forest—of which he was put in charge that year—within the Deschutes National Forest. He spent the ensuing 24 years there and at the Bend Silviculture Laboratory in research focused on ponderosa pine growth and yield. On June

30, 1973, Jim married Deschutes Research Center clerk-stenographer Helen Rastovich, who'd graduated from Bend High School in 1941 and joined the Forest Service in 1943. In December 1979, the Research Station published Jim's landmark *Ponderosa Pine in the Pacific Northwest: The State of Our Knowledge* as a reference for forest managers. To many, the fact that most of his research and the 37 publications he authored or co-authored emphasized ponderosa pine silviculture entitled Jim to the sobriquet "Mr. Ponderosa Pine." Jim was a member of the Society of American Foresters. After he retired from the Forest Service in 1982, Jim and Helen continued to reside in Bend, raise sheep on a small ranch east of town, and travel extensively throughout the United States, including Alaska and Hawaii, and abroad to Fiji, Australia, and New Zealand. Helen died December 20, 2017, at age 92. Survivors include Jim's and his first wife's three daughters Jody Turcott, Nicki Brainard, and Peggy Freund, five grandchildren, and five great-grandchildren.

*Editor's Note: Prepared from an oral history written by the editor pursuant to a Pacific Northwest Research Station project completed in 2007.*

**Ruby Gene Covey** died November 9, 2018, at age 91. Ruby was the wife of William "Bill" Covey throughout his long and distinguished career. Ruby Gene Smith was born September 21, 1927, in Missoula, Montana, grew up in the Rattlesnake area of Missoula and attended Missoula County High School before she graduated from Alberton High School in 1945. Gene married Bill Covey, her husband of 65 years, whom she met in the Rattlesnake area as neighbors while attending Lincoln Grade School. They raised two children, Michael and Carmel, as Bill's career took them to assignments in Montana, California, and Oregon before he retired in 1985 and they moved to Flathead Lake and Kalispell, Montana. Gene enjoyed everything life in Montana offered and spent summers fishing, camping, and taking RV trips with her family. She enjoyed crafting, knitting, sewing, and quilting, and was a professional stained-glass artist who produced commissioned pieces for the Catholic Church as well as private homes. Survivors included her husband, Bill (see below), their son Michael, their daughter Carmel Knowles, five grandchildren, and one great-grandchild.

**William H. "Bill" Covey** died January 13, 2019, at age 90. Bill was born January 18, 1928, in Missoula, Montana, where he grew up and graduated from Missoula County High School in 1946. Bill first joined the U.S. Forest Service in 1944 at the age of 16, working for three seasons as a fire lookout on Kenelty Peak between Kalispell and Libby. In the fall of 1946, he joined the U.S. Army and served in Japan with the occupying forces. Honorably discharged from the Army in 1947, Bill returned to the Forest Service as a Missoula-based smokejumper. As a smokejumper for six seasons from 1947 to 1952, he attended forestry school at the University of Montana on the GI Bill where he earned a bachelor's degree in forestry in 1952. He rejoined the Army as a counterintelligence officer in Washington, D.C., married Ruby Gene Smith in 1953, and after he was discharged in 1955, returned to the University of Montana where he earned a master's degree in forestry. After working for a logging outfit and running a Christmas tree business, Bill returned to the Forest Service in 1959. After a first job as a forester on the Seeley Lake Ranger District of the Lolo National Forest, his 25-year career included assignments as district ranger on the Superior Ranger District of the Lolo in the late 1960s,

service in the Region 1 RO in Missoula, a mid-1970s stint as deputy forest supervisor on the Klamath National Forest in California, a late-1970s and early 1980s tenure as forest supervisor of the Siskiyou National Forest in Oregon, a return to the Missoula RO as director of timber management and retirement in 1985. Bill and Gene then moved to Flathead Lake where they built a home, and later moved to Kalispell where they lived the last 20 years of their married lives. "Bill spent his entire life pursuing outdoor activities including hunting, fishing, and camping at every opportunity," the local newspaper reported. "He was a passionate supporter of the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation as a volunteer and seldom missed an elk foundation banquet. Until the age of 89, he camped every hunting season in a wall tent with his son Mike." A family man, Bill was cherished and admired by his grandchildren. His grandson Charlie wrote: "We lost a legend. My Grandpa was one of my first heroes and a shining example of integrity and dignity in this world." Ruby Gene, his wife of 65 years, died just two months before he did, and their survivors are listed in her memorial above.

**Kirk Hays** died April 20, 2019, at age 71. Kirk was the husband of Karen Hays, retired executive assistant to the forest supervisor of the Deschutes National Forest. Kirk was born December 21, 1947, and served in the Vietnam War as a U.S. Navy hospital corpsman. He retired from the U.S. Postal Service in Bend, Oregon, in 2003, and moved with Karen from Bend to Spring Creek, Nevada. He loved Nevada and the Ruby Mountains. Survivors include his wife Karen, their daughter Kari, and two grandchildren.

**Richard M. "Dick" Pomeroy** died March 16, 2019, at age 93. Dick was born in 1926 in Southgate, California. He attended Compton Junior College and then the School of Forestry at the University of California, Berkeley, where he earned a B.S. degree in forestry in 1949. He and Olive Thompson, whom he had met in high school, married in June 1949. Dick began his U.S. Forest Service career serving a dozen years on the Mt. Baker National Forest, first in 1951 on the Verlot Ranger District in Granite Falls, Washington, were his and Olive's first son, Jeff, was born. Dick transferred to the Darrington Ranger District in 1953, where their sons John in 1954 and Jim in 1956 were born. Dick was promoted to district ranger of the Suiattle Ranger District on which their son Joel, also now a Forest Service retiree, was born in 1958 to complete the family. In 1961, Dick was promoted to fire staff officer at the Mt. Baker National Forest SO in Bellingham, Washington. In 1963, Dick returned to study fire science at the University of California, Berkeley, where he earned an M.S. degree in forestry. When, in 1964, the Forest Service took on the Job Corps program, Dick was among the first Region 6 candidates interviewed personally by Job Corps founder R. Sargent Shriver; as a result, he became director of the Wolf Creek Job Corps Center on the Umpqua National Forest, Oregon, which he considered one of his most challenging assignments. In 1966, Dick moved to the Pacific Northwest Region RO in Portland where he worked in personnel management and helped lead Region 6's original civil rights work. Transferred to the Pacific Southwest Region RO in 1971 as Region 5 personnel officer reporting to regional foresters Doug Leitz and then Zane Smith, Dick was known for his combination of compassion and insistence on work accomplishment. Dick retired from the Forest Service in 1981. For the remainder of his years he spoke with pride in having served as a district

ranger, a fire boss, and a Job Corps center director, assignments especially important to him. In retirement, Dick immediately entered the Pacific School of Religion in Berkeley, California, where he earned an M.A. degree in theology. Olive had by then completed a degree at Portland State University and was an Oakland, California, elementary school teacher until she retired in 1985. In 1986, Dick and Olive volunteered for the Peace Corps, learned Spanish, and served two years in the Dominican Republic on various conservation projects in eight different communities. In 1990 they moved into a condo overlooking Portland and the Willamette River to be close to their sons, and for years were world travelers. They then turned their attention to their church, and this led to opening a shelter for homeless families that they managed for several years. Olive died in 2013 at age 83 after 64 years of marriage, and Dick stayed in the Portland area at a residential facility enjoying family and friends for the rest of his life. Survivors include their four sons.

*Editor's Note: Thanks to OldSmokey Mac Moore for this remembrance of his friend.*

**Carolyn Jo Pottorff** died January 21, 2018, at age 80. Carolyn Jo Silveria was born November 2, 1937, in Lakeview, Oregon. Carolyn grew up in Paisley, Oregon, and graduated from Paisley High School in 1954. She then attended Southern Oregon College in Ashland, Oregon, and Marylhurst College in Portland, Oregon, on the Daly Fund established in 1922 for the benefit of students graduating from high school in Lake County, Oregon. Carolyn had a long U.S. Forest Service career as a budget analyst at the Pacific Northwest Region RO in Portland, where she retired after 35 years of service. Her marriage to Gordon Pottorff ended in divorce, but together they were able to thoroughly enjoy their grandchildren. Survivors include her daughter Neva Jo May and two grandsons.

**Earl Tuininga** died March 23, 2019, at age 79. Earl was born May 4, 1939, in Everett, Washington. After he graduated from high school in 1957, Earl joined the U.S. Navy in which he served as a jet mechanic aboard aircraft carriers. Following his honorable discharge from the Navy, and with the support of loving wife, the former Diane Clymer, Earl earned a degree in forest management and joined the U.S. Forest Service to begin a 33-year career focused on timber management and fire management on the Chetco and Illinois Valley ranger districts of the Siskiyou National Forest and on other national forests. During his Forest Service years, he served with the U.S. Coast Guard Reserve and as a Brookings, Oregon, volunteer fireman. After he retired from the Forest Service in 1991, Earl worked for Hewlett-Packard and pursued volunteer service at hospitals and clinics in Washington state and at a hospital in Tanzania, Africa. Earl was devoted to his Lutheran faith and to his family and friends. His favorite hobbies included hunting and fishing; in their pursuit, he demonstrated his respect for animals and all living things. Survivors include his daughter Joyce Belnap and two grandchildren.

### CORRECTIONS

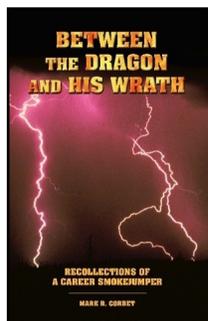
The memorial for Emil Sabol in the Spring 2019 *OldSmokeys Newsletter* erred in stating that Emil died at age 92; he died at age 94. Additionally, that memorial omitted mention of Emil's early 1980s Washington Office service as assistant director of timber management. The editor deeply regrets these errors.

## Books

### Two New Books Offer Different Looks at Pacific Northwest Wildland Firefighting

By Les Joslin

Two writers with different backgrounds in wildland firefighting share their experiences and perspectives on the challenges shared by so many OldSmokeys who have fought fire.

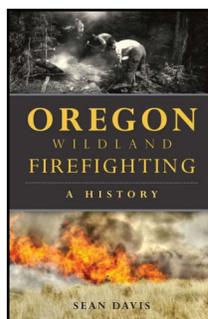


In his 2017 book *Between the Dragon and His Wrath: Recollections of a Career Smokejumper* Mark R. Corbett of Central Oregon shares smokejumping as he lived it for 31 seasons in 37 narratives titled with lines from Shakespeare. I have read this book, and have found it as credible as anyone who chose means other than jumping out of airplanes to get to the wildfires he has fought could find it. It is, of course, the jumping out of airplanes that sets smokejumping apart from other wildland

firefighting jobs. Reading this book provides insight into why so many smokejumpers consider it the best job they ever had. Corbet obviously did. In his 31 seasons at it he helped train hundreds of rookie smokejumpers and made 305 jumps to remote wildfires.

“Two things stand out for me,” another reader—with whom I completely agree—wrote to Corbet of his book. “The first is your clarity. Your choice of vocabulary and diction leaves no mysteries and does it with a satisfying absence of arcane and esoteric language. The second [is] your tasteful lack of hyperbole. You are writing about events that most people have never seen and can’t even imagine. Danger, excitement, trauma, and tragedy are omnipresent. They are the ingredients of hyperbole and many authors can’t resist the temptation to capitalize on them to add drama to their story. In my opinion that only cheapens the presentation. What adds quality is when all of the ingredients for hyperbole are dispassionately illuminated by the facts alone. You have done a masterful job with that.”

Mark Corbet’s 193-page masterful job (ISBN 978-0-692-98717-9) can be ordered for \$20.00 (that includes shipping and handling) from the author at <mcorbet97756@gmail.com>.



In the second book, *Oregon Wildland Firefighting: A History*, which I have not yet read, veteran wildland firefighter Sean Davis surveys “some of the world’s largest wildland fires” that occurred in Oregon and some of the state’s more recent blazes he has fought. Purple Heart recipient Davis is the author of *The Wax Bullet War*, which chronicles his experiences in the Iraq War and the Hurricane Katrina clean-up. Davis teaches college writing and literature courses around the Portland, Oregon, area, and spends his summers fighting wildfires.

Published in 2019 by The History Press, an imprint of Arcadia Publishing, *Oregon Wildland Firefighting: A History* (ISBN 978-1-4671-3850-5), 144 pages, 100-plus photographs, is available for \$21.95 from Arcadia Publishing’s website at <https://www.arcadiapublishing.com/Products/9781467138505>.

## Out of the Past

### A True Bear Story

By J. Roy Mitchell

During the summer of 1922, Ranger Fred Wehmeyer had what seemed to be a potentially bad fire on Chelan National Forest near the divide between Gold Creek and Lake Chelan.

He was sent to the fire with a good crew (six to eight men). Ranger Grantham, who was then stationed at Squaw Creek, was sent in with a similar crew to help. He packed in a good supply of food by pack horse, arriving after dark. Wehmeyer and his crew had no food supplies so they went to Grantham's camp for supper and the night.

There was a shortage of beds, so all the blankets were used in a row. The fire fighters slept together in the one bed where it had been made in the dark. The horses were tied up nearby for the night. A candle was placed in a little chopped notch in a tree.

When everyone was comfortably covered, George Dean, the Wyatt Earp of Brewster and George Wright's brother-in-law, shot out the candle light with a revolver and everyone settled down hoping for a good night of sleep.

About 1 a.m., Mr. Gray, a sleep-walker, got up and walked across the bed with a blanket half around him. The dog went into hysterics. Jess Miller of Pateros woke up and hollered "whoa" as one of the horses snorted. Jess' hollering, the dog's barking, and all the commotion taking place frightened the horses and they broke loose. In the confusion, Gray half woke up as someone hollered. "Bear!", and he climbed 10 or 15 feet up a tree.

George Dean reached for his revolver under the pillow (his coat) but reached too far and grabbed the cinch rope hook which had been dropped there in the dark. It felt like a revolver so he tugged and pulled. Everyone in the outfit was sure there was one or more bears in camp. At least the outline of one could be seen in a tree.

Grantham, half awake, thought Dean, who was nearest him, was a bear so he socked him on the head. Fred Wehmeyer was frozen stiff. He may or may not have had his head under the covers. The second blow from Grantham brought the loud protest from Dean, "Quit hitting me."

All were awake by this time and it was discovered that there were no bears in camp and none had been there during the night.

The fact that Dean couldn't find his revolver in the darkness and pandemonium, is all that kept an hilarious episode from becoming a tragedy.

The fire was controlled by 9 a.m., but none of the horses were found until the next day.

*J. Roy Mitchell was with the Chelan National Forest at Twisp at the time of this incident. He later became assistant supervisor with offices in Okanogan. Part of the Chelan Forest became Okanogan National Forest. Mitchell died in 1974.*

*Editor's Note: This story was passed to your OldSmokeys Newsletter by OldSmokey Fred Cooper via OldSmokey Mike Ash. It was published in the Fall 1988 Heritage magazine of the Okanogan County Historical Society, and is reprinted with that society's permission.*



*Beargrass blooms in front of historic Musick Guard Station, nestled in a western hemlock and Douglas-fir forest on the Umpqua National Forest, Oregon.*

*U.S. Forest Service photographs*

## Uncle Sam's Cabins

### Musick Guard Station

Umpqua National Forest, Oregon

By Les Joslin

Musick Guard Station was built on the Umpqua National Forest's old Bohemia Ranger District—now the Cottage Grove Ranger District—by the Civilian Conservation Corps in 1934. At about 5,000 feet above sea level atop a narrow, forested ridge, the guard station was named after the nearby Musick Mine, a major gold producing mine in the late 1800s and early 1900s. Most of this ore, which had to be extracted from the rock by machinery rather than panned from the area's many streambeds, had played out by 1910; however, some mining continues.

About 38 miles east of Cottage Grove, Musick Guard Station was originally used as a home base for U.S. Forest Service fire guards who patrolled the forestlands around the Bohemia mining area. It continued to be used as a summer barracks for fire patrols and trail crews until the early 1960s when it was abandoned. Today, this rustic two-story cabin—stained a deep, dark brown, it almost blends in with the tall timbers that surround it—served as a recreation rental for a maximum of ten occupants. It's available from mid-June or early July through October. Rental fees are used for the maintenance and preservation of the historic structure.

As reported in the Spring 2019 *OldSmokeys Newsletter*, the continuing renovation of historic Musick Guard Station is benefitting from a \$4,000 grant from the Pacific Northwest Forest Service Association.



## *My First Forest Service Job*

### **Summer 1922 on the Umatilla Led to My U.S. Forest Service Career**

By John G. Clouston

I first started work for the Forest Service in 1922. Being fed up on pitching hay, shocking oats and milking cows for 12 to 14 hours a day and working only about three quarters time, I was looking for some steady job that would pay as well, keep me out of doors and in a place where the flesh pots would not be a temptation. I was then a college student, a junior.

After writing several letters of application to various forests in Region (then District) Six, I had an offer of work from the Columbia (now Gifford Pinchot) and from the Umatilla. Because the job on the Columbia would require a horse and riding outfit which I could no more buy than I could a new Pierce-Arrow or Stutz Bearcat, I chose the Umatilla.

When the semester was over at Washington State College, I packed some bedding, a few clothes and a book of poetry in my old Navy seabag, shipped it off to Pendleton by parcel post, bought a twenty-cent rail ticket to Colfax and started out. At Colfax, I waited for the Union Pacific night passenger train running between Spokane and Portland and grabbed the blind baggage as she pulled out of the station.

Enveloped in coal smoke cinders and steam vapor, I clung to the space between the engine tender and the baggage car through the dropping off in the yards at Umatilla just as gray-dawn was breaking. A short wait ensued until eastbound number 24 came through. Using the same tactics, I arrived in Pendleton about 7:00 a.m. I used fifty cents of my remaining (borrowed) three dollars for a bath in a barber shop, twenty cents for hot cakes and coffee, a nickel for a sack of Durham (paper free) and reported to the Supervisor's office promptly at 8:00 a.m. I had to await the arrival of John Kuhns—something I was to become accustomed to in the ensuing years.

John and I talked work prospects. The road construction crew sounded better to me than a lonely lookout, so that afternoon I was dispatched to Corporation Ranger Station to do hand work on the last few hundred yards of rock bluff barring the access of automobiles. Thus I was embarked on a life career, but had anyone told me so that night I'd have laughed at the joke.

At the end of the season, after I had been shifted to driving tractor on the Ukiah District, R.A. Bottcher (father of Dick), who was then Deputy Supervisor, asked me to return the next summer. I agreed provided some permanent job hadn't opened up meantime. Consequently, the next June 1923, after graduation, I again headed for Pendleton, this time riding on the luggage rack of an Indian motorcycle driven by one E.E. Birksmaier. Neither of us had the slightest suspicion that either of us was going to any other than a good summer job.

However, during the summer both Al Bottcher and John Kuhns "worked on us" telling us of the advantages and opportunities in the offing. Al gave us as much instruction and training as he had time for with the result that we both decided to try the ranger exam. I took it that fall and Ed the following year. Much to my surprise I passed. I received an appointment as assistant ranger in the spring of 1924 and on April 17 assumed the duties at Heppner, Oregon, succeeding Fred Groom, father

of Jack who [at the 1957 writing of this memoir was] on the Fremont staff.

*Editor's Note: This piece is quoted from the first couple pages of the writer's five-page memoir of his Forest Service career attached to a February 18, 1957, office memorandum forwarding it to Regional Forester J. Herbert Stone "In reply to your request for a letter recounting some of my experiences during my Forest Service career." John Clouston, who graduated from Washington State College in animal husbandry in 1923, served 34 years in the Forest Service, starting in 1924—after the above summer experiences—on the Umatilla National Forest on which he served in several capacities, including the job of central dispatcher for that forest from 1927 through the fall of 1934. A year later he was transferred to the Fremont National Forest staff where he served "in all activities, fire control again and more to my liking, grazing activities" for six years. He returned to the Umatilla as grazing staff officer, and eventually moved to the RO in Portland, Oregon, where he served in personnel management and range and wildlife management. He retired in 1957. Much of the rest of his memoir is quoted as several brief segments in the Pacific Northwest Forest Service Association's centennial anthology We Had an Objective in Mind: The U.S. Forest Service in the Pacific Northwest 1905 to 2005 edited by OldSmokey Rolf Anderson.*

*Forest Service News continued from Page 9*

### **U.S. Forest Service Moves to Restart Blue Mountains Forest Plan Revision**

Pacific Northwest Regional Forester Glen Casamassa in early March 2019 announced that the U.S. Forest Service would scrap the proposed June 2018 Blue Mountains Forest Plan Revision, submitted pursuant to the National Forest Management Act of 1976 (NFMA), because it does not adequately address the concerns of affected residential, industrial, and environmental groups.

Required by the NFMA to guide sound management of individual national forests, forest plans are revised every 10 to 15 years to account for changes in the landscape and to keep up with the latest science. This proposed plan, prepared to meet that need for the Umatilla, Wallowa-Whitman, and Malheur national forests, does not seem to have withstood scrutiny, including that of more than 300 citizens who spoke against it at meetings held across Eastern Oregon late in 2018. "Objections mostly centered on road closures, forest access, and restoring landscapes to improve wildfire resilience, while also providing economic benefits to communities. Environmental groups [voiced concerns] about the increasing fragmentation of forest habitat for vulnerable wildlife species," George Plaven reported in the *Capital Press* on March 15, 2019.

"These lands are important. They mean a lot to a lot of different people," Plaven quoted Regional Forester Casamassa. "We need to get it right. If it means taking (more) time to do that, that's what we are going to do."

*Prepared from multiple sources including "Forest Service withdraws Blue Mountain Forest Plan revision" by George Paven in the March 15, 2019, Capital Press; "Management plans rejected for Malheur, Umatilla and Wallowa-Whitman national forests" published on March 20, 2019, by the Associated Press; and "Forest Service rejects plans for 3 forests" by Eric Barker of the Lewiston (Idaho) Tribune in the March 21, 2019, The (Bend) Bulletin. The editor consulted Land and Resource Planning in the National Forests (1987) by Charles F. Wilkinson and H. Michael Anderson on NFMA requirements.*



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