



Newsletter
of the
Pacific Northwest
Forest Service
Retirees

Annual Dues Payers: Are your dues paid for 2006? Dues coupon is on page 19

Portland, Oregon

Winter 2006

President's Message - Marlin Plank

Visit our website at: www.oldsmokeys.org

As we enter the year 2006 the question in my mind is, "How do we beat the accomplishments attained in 2005"? We again had a successful Spring Banquet and picnic. The Reunion was a huge success and the sale of the book We Had an Objective in Mind exceeded all expectations. Membership in the Pacific Northwest Forest Service Association is at an all time high. None of these could have been attained without the hard work of many people. If I started naming them I'd be in trouble because, undoubtedly, I would forget someone. There are so many that there isn't room here to name them anyway. Most of you know who they are.

We again are working on the Participating Agreement we have with the RO and PNW. **Phil Hirl** has been spearheading this effort and many thanks go to him for keeping this relationship going. We so appreciate the cooperation we have received from Regional Forester **Linda Goodman** and Station Director **Tom Quigley**. The opportunity to share the experience and knowledge of the many retirees with those still employed is an obligation those in PNWFSA must not take lightly. The Participating Agreement allows us to become involved in a number of worthwhile projects that the understaffed units cannot do by themselves.

Arrangements have been made to have the OldSmokeys receive a financial review this year. This will include a review of the Reunion finances. The review will provide us with assurance that our procedures are current and are being done according to proper standards. You can rest assured that our funds are in the capable hands of 'moneybags' **Vern Clapp**.

Thanks to the efforts of **Bob Williams**, PNWFSA now has liability insurance. I won't go into its details here, but it should provide protection for the Association in any approved activity. If you want details on the coverage, contact any board

(Cont'd. next column)

(Cont'd.)

member and we will get you a brief on the policy.

Doug Porter leaves the Board this year after going through the three "presidential chairs". Doug has given many hours to OldSmokeys as a prime assistant to Bob Williams for the reunion, active in USFS related projects, and generally a very positive factor in the PNWFSA. Special thanks to Doug, and I hope we have not seen the last of you.

I wish you all a happy and productive new year in 2006. I will do my best to make it another great year for the Association. The Forest Service is in good hands but we need to be ready to provide any help that we can. If there are projects that you think need to be done in your local Ranger District or Forest, don't hesitate to present them to the Board for consideration. Some funding may be available.

Plan to attend the Spring Banquet scheduled for May 21, a little later than in past years due to conflicts in schedule at the Charbonneau facility.

Before I close, I want to thank **Wendall Jones** for all he has done as Editor of the newsletter. This will be his last newsletter, turning the job over to **Les Joslin** for the spring issue. I'm sure that Wendall will be available, as always, for any advice we need and I look forward to his continued involvement in the organizations affairs.

Marlin Plank

P.S. - As of the date this newsletter went to the printer, there were still over 100 annual dues payers that had not paid dues for 2006. Please check your mail label on the back of this newsletter—if you don't see '06' somewhere near your name and address, you have not paid your dues for 2006. That is your dues notice.

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Who Are We? – OldSmokeys Facts 2005

Our member roster has just gone over 900, an all time high. Last year at this time we were 879 strong. During the year, we had 66 new members sign up. However, this gain was offset with the death of 16 members (in addition 7 spouses passed on); and 26 members were dropped due to unpaid dues. Three have requested to be dropped. We also will lose 4 more due to inadequate addresses. Did they forget to send us an address change? See Membership Changes for names. Help us update if you can.

Our membership keeps getting a little older. Our age now averages 71.6 years, up a half-year from last year (no wonder we all keep having "senior moments"). This is in spite of the new members in 2005 whose ages average 66.3 years. There are now 31 in our ranks who are nonagenarians (between 90 and 100).

We reside all over. Obviously, most of us live in the Pacific Northwest – 562 in OR, and 185 in WA. There are 22 in AZ, 21 in CA, 16 in MT, 11 in ID and 10 in VA. The balance is spread through another 29 states. We keep moving – there were 51 address changes recorded this year. There were so many e-mail address changes that we lost count.

Currently, 552 members have elected Lifetime membership, paying \$39,272 over the years. We still have a number of older members who paid out just \$50 for lifetime dues, but many of those have made donations recognizing the actual worth. The balance of the membership paid annual dues worth over \$4,200 last year. Our group has many generous members. In 2005, 31 members donated \$1,545 to the PNWFS Association. Our biggest expenditure this past year was for the newsletter, which cost over \$7,350. (Note that the complete 2005 Annual Financial Statement for the PNWFSA, showing all income and expenses, will be printed in the Summer Newsletter.) *Vern Clapp*

OldSmokeys E-Notes

For those of you online with us, you now have received about 600 OldSmokeys E-Notes. We find this is an efficient way to timely get the word out to members, covering subjects such as a member's sickness or death, various FS issues, association announcements, locating individuals and other items that are of interest to the membership. If you want something promptly sent to all the online members, e-mail it to me and we will forward it out to all.

Our Member's e-mail address listings are up to almost 500, a gain of about 36 in the past year. We again encourage all of you online to give us your e-address, so that you then will receive the OLDSMOKEYS E-NOTES. Send to vclapp@teleport.com.
Vern Clapp

Attention!! Annual Dues Payers

Check your mailing label on the back of this newsletter. If it still shows '2005', your dues are **past due!** There is a coupon for submitting your check for dues elsewhere in this newsletter that contains more information about **Late dues.**

Editors Swan Song

This issue of the newsletter will mark 5 ¾ years of me and your newsletter. My first issue was Summer 2000, and I know that **Bob McQuown** helped me a lot with that one. **Les Joslin** will take over the Spring 2006 issue, with me adding some aid and comfort where he needs. Les is an accomplished writer and publisher, so I don't think he will need help with that. He just needs to hone his skills with MS Publishers software, so perhaps I can reduce his frustrations with Bill Gates. Les and I actually started discussions about the newsletter last summer, and have kept in touch via email since then.

I have enjoyed the years of doing the newsletter, with a high concern that the newsletter gives the members what they want, especially those members that don't have access to the OldSmokeys website, or to email. The newsletter is their only way of keeping in touch with what is going on with many life-long friends and fellow retirees. We get our share of praises but many members are never heard from, so we really don't have a good statistically viable poll on what the membership would (1) like to see in the newsletter, nor (2) what they don't want to see in the newsletter. So we assume that since you maintain membership, you must be OK with the newsletter.

In the past year, I have grown less enamored with the editor job. It has lots of challenges, but I think I need a change of scenery. I have some other priorities I would like to have more time for. One is to complete a personal biography, which I started over five years ago. Each issue of the newsletter occupies about three weeks of my time, a total of about three months in a year. I can put that time to very good use.

I also plan to step back a bit in involvement with Association business. We need some fresh horses to step up to the plate. Several members very active in the Association are stable mates of mine and have been active with the board for five years or more. If you have never been on the board or headed up an event, or did not get involved much with the reunion, you are definitely a candidate to go to bat. It is a great way to serve those fellow retirees that helped make your career more valued. You can carry a major role in the Association without being a resident of the Portland area: Vern Clapp and Les Joslin live in Bend.

I do plan to participate in the upcoming projects to help the District Rangers get some needed, but un-funded work done out there in the Region. We would like to see the retirees association become a major factor in this effort. You can start by visiting your local Ranger(s) and have them give you a job list of things we might be able to do. No, we do not want to sit at a computer, gather data, or push a pencil. We may be able to help scrounge some funding, but our aim is to do hands-on needed work.

Enough lecture. If you want to thank me, do so by filling Les Joslin's in-basket with lots of letters about yourself, your family, your stories---for the newsletters of the future. *Wendall Jones*

Passing the Reunion Torch

The following letter is being sent out to all those who attended the 2005 Reunion to thank folks for their participation and to formalize the offer PNWFSA is making for passing on funds from the 2005 reunion to the next reunion organization. As of this printing, there has been no pitch from any group to lead the next retirees reunion.

Dear Forest Service Friends,

As 2005 draws to a close, the members of the Pacific Northwest Forest Service Association, (aka OldSmokeys), remember with pleasure the 2005 Reunion. Your participation was an important part of making the reunion a fitting celebration of the Forest Service's first century of serving the people of the United States. It was an honor and a privilege for us to host the event. Thank you for participating and helping to make it such a rousing success.

One special way you contributed to the success was your fine donations to the silent auction and then your purchase of auction items. Because of your support we are able to make the following commitment to the next reunion sponsors. OldSmokeys will provide a "seed" money grant of \$5000 to the next reunion sponsors, and will also make available an additional \$5000 in the form of a no interest loan. The loan is to be paid back after the next reunion. If for some unforeseen reason the reunion sponsor is unable to repay the loan, it will be forgiven.

We are confident another group of retirees will step forward to host the fifth reunion. There is no established way of determining where or when the next reunion will occur. In our case, we offered up a time and place and asked if it conflicted with anyone else's plans. When no one objected, we got to work. We assume it will work about the same for the next one. Once another group of retirees makes a commitment, the grant and loan will be available to them.

We have had several inquiries about obtaining video of portions of the event. We are exploring availability of video and options for reproducing it. It will be a few weeks before we have answers. Please watch our website, www.oldsmokeys.org, for future announcements. We will also supply the same information to your retiree organizations, so watch for it in your newsletters.

Thank you again for being a part of Reunion 2005. We wish you a happy and healthy new year.

Marlin Plank	Bob Williams	Bob Tokarczyk
President,	Chair,	Past-President,
PNWFSA	Reunion 2005	PNWFSA

OldSmokeys Directory Included

The 2006 PNWFSA Assn. Membership Directory is included in the center of this newsletter. This year it has a blue cover. Pull it out and save for a reference. Please, review your listing and let us know of any errors or corrections.

An electronic version of the PNWFSA directory is also available to members. It is in PDF format, which can be searched and printed. We distributed it by e-mail as an attached file. This version is updated quarterly. If you want a copy, e-mail a request to vclapp@teleport.com. Vern Clapp

Chief Directs Job Corps Support & Coordination

Many USFS retirees have voiced concern about the outfit losing its close ties with the Job Corps program. This letter should ease your concern. Following is the text of Chief Dale Bosworth's Nov. 18, 2005 letter to RFs, Station Directors, Job Corps National Field Office, WO Staff, and Area Director:

"As most of you know, the Job Corps Program continues to celebrate its 40th Anniversary of administering Job Corps Civilian Conservation Centers (JCCCC) in the Forest Service (1964-2004). I view this as an excellent opportunity to say "thank you" to the thousands of individuals who have dedicated so much of their lives toward the success of this invaluable program. This Program has literally saved the lives of hundreds of thousands of youth throughout our nation over the past 40 years; has also changed the lives of so many of you who have had the opportunity to work with this very special population of young citizens; and has accomplished millions of dollars in conservation work on national forest lands. I applaud your efforts.

While we continue to enjoy a very successful Job Corps Program, I am concerned that there is a growing disconnection between the Job Corps Centers and the Agency. When we realigned Job Corps to report directly to the National Office a few years ago, it was never our intent that the rest of the Forest Service organization would separate itself from the Job Corps Centers and vice versa. We still believe that National reporting for the Job Corp Program is the best direction for the Agency to take. However, we did not fully anticipate the negative impacts this move would have on Job Corps visibility and internal collaboration. We must now look for ways to mitigate those impacts and strengthen the relationships at each level of the Forest Service with the Job Corps Centers.

In this regard, I am requesting each Region, Station and the Area make special effort to communicate, collaborate, and cooperate with the Job Corps Centers within your jurisdiction, and for the Centers to make a similar effort with the Regions, Stations, and Area. Forests and Ranger Districts should also remember to include their local Job Corps Center in the management of those units as well. We applaud the Fire and Aviation community for the outstanding job it continues to do in training, developing, and utilizing students at many of our Job Corps Centers.

There are many additional opportunities to exchange skills and expertise across Centers, Forests and District organizations. For example, Center Directors could be invited to attend Stations and Forests Leadership Team meetings. These leaders could in turn be invited to attend appropriate meetings at Job Corps Centers as well. In addition, Job Corps Center employees should be considered for acting and detail assignments at the Regions, Stations, Forests, and District offices where appropriate. Conversely, employees from these units of the Forest Service should equally be considered to fill key Job Corps vacancies, including acting and detail assignments.

Chief Supports Job Corps (Cont'd. pg. 4)

Old Ranger Station Preserves Forest Service Heritage

Editor's Note: Les Joslin, introduced in our Summer 2005 newsletter as our next editor, was profiled in the November 29 edition of The Bulletin, Bend's newspaper, as a "recent retiree... passionate... about Forest Service history" and concerned for the future of America's public lands heritage. One way his passion emerged, inside and outside the Forest Service, is restoration and interpretation of historic ranger and guard stations. He's spearheaded two Deschutes NF projects – Elk Lake Guard Station, now a staffed summer information center on the Cascade Lakes National Scenic Byway, and Fall River Guard Station, planned for recreation rental use. He writes below about a special project.

Don Franks, an OldSmokey in Bend, this fall pumped new life into Deschutes NF plans to rescue historic Cabin Lake Ranger Station, about 40 miles south of Bend, through renovation and adaptive reuse as a recreation rental. Headquarters of the Fort Rock RD (lumped with the Bend RD about 10 years ago) from 1921 to 1945, this pre-CCC era compound was later used as a guard station but has not been used for several years. With facilities maintenance funds gone, conversion of the ranger residence and two smaller residences to self-supporting recreation rentals is the only way to save this historic site. On the edge of the ponderosa pine forest overlooking the vast Fort Rock Basin, this station is at the center of an area favored by many recreational users. Current plans call for work to begin this spring when the first of several two-week Passport in Time (PIT) projects will tackle rehabilitation of the ranger residence. District Archaeologist Janine McFarland is in charge. *Les Joslin (Ed. Note: If you are interested in participating in this or other PIT projects, contact the Deschutes NF or your local Forest or RD office.)*

High Desert Museum Continues with USFS History

(Ed. Note: Les Joslin writes of another important USFS history project.)

Just south of Bend, The High Desert Museum's long-range *New Horizon* plan is guided by two commitments: "that every visit will be a new experience, and that every visitor will become a steward of the [Intermountain West's] natural resources and cultural heritage." A focal point is a planned historic ranger station at which the role of the Forest Service and other public land management agencies will be interpreted by OldSmokeys and other volunteers who know and can tell the story. Bob Boyd, Curator of Western History at the Museum, has identified an attractive and available 1933 one-room district ranger's office now located 40 miles south of Austin, Nevada, as the centerpiece of this historic station. It's the Toiyabe National Forest building in which I began my "career" in 1962! Tax-deductible donations to the fund to move and install this building at the Museum may be sent to: The High Desert Museum, Attn: Bob Boyd, 59800 South U.S. Highway 97, Bend, OR 97702. *Les Joslin*

Marker Reports on NAFSR

NAFSR members are working for the passage of the Walden-Baird legislative proposal (HR4200) for accelerated rehabilitation of federal forests damaged by fire or other catastrophic events. We are encouraging members and associates to support this legislation. Hearings will take place during the next session of Congress. Senator Gordon Smith (R-OR) has introduced similar legislation and his proposal will also start through the legislative process when the Senate reconvenes in January 2006. Currently over 1 million acres of National Forest land across the US is in need of reforestation and rehab work because of damage from fire and other causes that have occurred in the last decade.

Recently, as Congress tried to complete legislation so members could leave Washington, an addition was made to the Deficit Reduction Act dealing with mining claims and how they could be converted to private ownership. Congressional watchers alerted the public to the proposal, which allegedly would allow thousands of acres of public land to be sold to private interests and open to a variety of development. Public opposition to the proposal started building in the Rocky Mountain States, and soon spread around the country. Bottom line, enough political opposition was generated to pull the mining provisions from the proposed act.

However, the idea of selling off public land isn't dead. Another proposal floating around the Nation's Capitol is to sell "low value" federal lands, up to 15% of the Nation's public lands, to pay for 2005 hurricane damage. Cecil Andrus, former Secretary of Interior, alerted the public to this idea in an article carried by *Headwaters News*, an email newsletter published by University of Montana. It is just one thing after another.

During the next session of Congress there will be several legislative proposals affecting the national forests and their management. The Endangered Species Act will be on the agenda along with consideration of changes to the National Environmental Quality Act, and HR 4200, as previously mentioned, will be on the agenda.

In early 2006 NAFSR will launch a printed newsletter to be issued three times a year as a supplement to the email exchange of information, and to help keep members without computers stay current on forest management issues and NAFSR activities.

John Marker

Remember This Next Christmas

According to the Alaska Department of Fish and Game, while both male and female reindeer grow antlers in the summer each year, male reindeer drop their antlers at the beginning of winter, usually late November to mid-December. Female reindeer retain their antlers till after they give birth in the spring.

Therefore, according to EVERY historical rendition depicting Santa's reindeer, EVERY single one of them, from Rudolph to Blitzen, has to be a girl.

We should've known...ONLY women would be able to drag a fat-ass man in a red velvet suit all around the world in one night and not get lost.

PNWFSA Budget for 2006 (see hardcopy for specifics)

Expenses		Income	
Admin. Expenses		Dues	
Office Supplies	\$ ***	Annual	\$*,***
2005 Financial Review	\$*,***	Lifetime	\$*,***
Liability Insurance	\$ ***	Total	\$*,***
Postage	\$ ***	Events Payments	
Total	\$*,***	Banquet	\$*,***
Events		Picnic	\$*,***
Banquet	\$*,***	Total	\$*,***
Picnic	\$*,***	Gifts & Donations	
Projects	\$*,***	PNWFSA	\$*,***
Total	\$*,***	Total	\$*,***
Fees & Charges		Interest Income	
Checks, etc.	\$ **	check.	\$ **
Total	\$ **	mkt.	\$ **
Gifts & Donations		Total	\$ **
BPOE Lodge	\$ ***	Investment Income	
Total	\$ ***	Interest	\$*,***
Newsletter		(*.%	
Directory	\$*,***	\$***,***)	
Postage	\$ ***	Total	\$*,***
Printing	\$*,***	Other Income	
Total	\$*,***	Partners	\$*,***
Other Expenses		Total	\$*,***
Meeting expenses	\$ ***	Publication Sales	
Printing (brochures, etc)	\$ ***	Postage for books	\$ *** (reimb. by buyer)
Satellite internet	\$ ***	Books	\$*,***
Total	\$*,***	Total	\$*,***
Publication Exp.		Total Expected Income	\$**,***
Book Postage	\$ *** (reimb. by buyer)		
Books	\$*,***		
Total	\$*,***		
Website Operation	\$ ***		
Total Expected Expense	\$**,***		

New Faces in New Places in R6

Karen Mollander has accepted the Deputy Forest Supervisor position on the Okanogan/Wenatchee NFs.

Shari Blakey is the new Director of Human Resources, replacing Roy Roosevelt, who is now working out of Albuquerque.

Cecilia Romero Seesholtz is new Deschutes NF Deputy Forest Supervisor. Cecilia was District Ranger on the Camino Real RD, Carson NF, R4. Cecilia's husband, **David**, has also accepted a position with the PNW Research Station in Bend. Cecilia reports in mid-January.

Jeff Walter is new Ochoco NF Forest Supervisor. A report date is pending.

Scott Fitzwilliams is new Willamette NF Deputy Forest Supervisor. Scott is the Rec, Lands and Minerals Staff Officer on the Tongass National Forest. He reports in mid February.

Farmer wisdom: Don't name a pig you plan to eat. Life is simpler when you plow around the stumps. A yellow jacket is faster than a John Deere tractor.

2006 Spring Banquet

Be sure to note the date of the banquet for this year is May 21. This is 15-20 days later than in the past. This is due to a conflict of scheduling at Charbonneau. We have had such positive response to this location for the banquet that we did not look for any other location earlier in May. Due to this date for the banquet, the Spring newsletter will not be coming to you until late in April, to get you the Banquet reservation slips a little closer to the Banquet date. Think about attending the Banquet this year---a great place to meet old friends. Emil & Dorine Sabol will again be hosting the banquet. Right now they are soaking up rays in Arizona, getting rested up to take on this big job. *Wendall Jones*

Long ago when men cursed and beat the ground with sticks, it was called witchcraft- -Today, it is called golf.

Membership Data Changes

Since all of the changes in membership information appear in the new directory enclosed with this Newsletter, we are showing only the names of members with information changes. Refer to your new directory for the new information.

Changes in USPS address which might also include change in phone and/or email:

Jim Amann	John Berry	Erma Brown	Bill & Julie Carpenter
Don & Joan Dell	Phil & Carroll Dodd	Helen Dunlap	Roscoe & Dorothy Files
Carol Ford	Bill & Joann Geurds	Mildred Gillmor	Helen Hawkes
Joe & Charlene Heller	Al & Peggy Hessel	Mary Jo Higgins	Ellen Hornbeck
Art & Susie Lyons	Chuck & Judy Malcolm	Hubert & Maureen Mapes	Bill & Sonja McLaughlin
Russel & Evie Mitchell	Shirley Mills	Robert & Mary Novy	Chad & Toni Olsen
Vince & Lillian Olson	Tom & Kay Ortman	Helen J. Paulson	Ralph & Peg Peter
Ollie Peters	Ralph & Sara Reeves	Keith & Dolores Shea	Gary & Judy Shirley
Kathy & Othell Virgin			

Changed or added e-mail address or phone:

Vince Cegelka	Bev Colosky	Jay Christensen
Ray & Maxine Connelly	Ned Davis	Alan Fox
Allen & Monica Groven	John Hammond	Tom & Marylee Harlan
Bruce & Mary Jane Hendrickson	Bruce & Wanda Kaufman	Ron & Eileen Lewis
Doug MacWilliams	Leonard Mei	Bob & Derene Meurisse
Bill & Donna Morden	Howard & Carolyn Rondthaler	Tom Sayre
Tom & Kitty Thompson	Dave & Pam Trask	Marion 'Bud' Unruh
Tony Vanderheide	Fred Weber	Carl & Linda Wofford
	Jerry & Mary Wojack	

USFS address changes:

Ochoco NF – 3160 NE 3rd St, Prineville, OR 97754
Willamette NF – 211 E 7th Ave, Ste 119, Eugene, OR 97401

Losses: Member deaths since last newsletter

Winifred Fink – died 9/29/05 – husband Cliff survives
Mary Fitzgerald – died 12/08/05 – LT member, husband Dick survives
Elvera Gano – died 10/08/05 – LT member, no surviving spouse
Margaret Harlan – died 10/06/05 – LT member, no surviving spouse
Cleve 'Red' Ketcham – died 11/24/05 – LT member, wife Vernelle survives
Joyce 'Jiggs' Pederson – died 10/30/05 – LT member, no surviving spouse
William Ronayne – died 10/24/05 – LT member, wife Connie survives
LaDonna Woodfin – died 12/10/05 – LT member, husband Dick survives

See page 4 for list of New Members since last newsletter that appear in new directory

PNWFSA Now Has "Official" Photographer

Paul Enberg says, "I still plan to continue on as your unofficial photographer. If anyone wants a CD of past pictures, call or email me." Paul can probably send you pictures electronically (via email attachment) also, but you should plan on saying "please". With this great an offer from Paul, the Board will pronounce him "Official PNWFSA Photographer" at the next meeting. We love these members that love to volunteer. Thanks from all of us, Paul. *Wendall Jones*

Gardening Rule: When weeding, the best way to make sure you are removing a weed not a valuable plant is to pull on it. If it comes out of the ground easily, it was a valuable plant.

'25 Dodge Goes on Parade

When Tom Kuhn and Tom Hooker left the Reunion on Friday Sept. 9, with the '25 Dodge, I am not sure if they had an itinerary or a plan, but they ended up that eve in Burns, OR. After they arrived in Burns to spend the night, I am not sure whether they were hi-jacked or cut a deal with the local Burns folks, but the next day, Sept. 10, they ended up in a good old western town parade. My gut feeling is that the two Toms could not say no, and it might even have been done at their urging. These two guys carry a great image for the Forest Service wherever they go. Thanks, Tom and Tom. And some thanks for the folks of Burns, OR, also. There may be more on this in a future issue. *Wendall*

Members Corner

Letters from Members

Notes with Dues Payments:

Bill & Betty Taylor – A note of thanks to the many that prepare and send the newsletter. It is always interesting and informative, and one way to keep in touch.

Darlene Sprinkel – Here are my dues for 2006. May it be a healthy and happy for all of us!

Elva Jay – The 2005 Reunion was a Class Act by a group of people with a “can do” attitude. I haven’t heard a negative comment from anyone who attended.

Jay Christensen – Sorry I missed the Reunion. I guess I have not been reading my mail close. Was shocked to hear it was over.

Richard Blashill – Although I am not an active member, I enjoy reading the newsletters and keeping up with the old outfit.

George Kansky - George says, “I’m looking to outliving it, at 90 years,” in a note sending 5 years of dues to carry him through 2010.

Tom & Alice Strassmaier – Tom continues cancer free 14 months after surgeries and chemotherapy. We continue to fly to New York every 3 months for the scans. Thanks for all your prayers. Miracles do happen! (*Editors Note: Hip-hip hooray!!!*)

Tom & Kitty Thompson – Thank you for all the hard work to make this a strong, fun group and newsletter.

Ken Drahos – Thought I had paid my 2005 dues, but can’t find the check. Enclosed is my dues plus. (*Editors Note: I thought we had lost you, Ken---good to have you back.*)

Frank Lewis - The reunion was a busy, fun time. Bob Williams and the whole crew did a great job. Didn’t get to visit with nearly enough of the 1200 there, however.

R. Gordon Smith

Bill Ronayne gave me a big break in my career in the early ‘70s. If it weren’t for Bill, I may never have finished my FS career of 32 years. He was a real gentleman and not afraid to listen. I will drop his wife a note. I enjoyed my time on the Siskiyou NF with Bill. I am saddened by his passing, but a better person because I knew Bill.

Patricia Kampmann Spada

I want to thank you for the information (Chief’s statement re USFS involvement in hurricane efforts). It’s so good to know our Forest Service was and is there for the victims of the disaster. I kept wondering why planes were not dropping water and ice--good to hear FS planes did respond. As a child and wife of lifetime foresters, I am glad to spread this good news and be proud of USDA Forest Service.

Letters (Cont’d. next column)

Politics is supposed to be the second oldest profession. I have come to realize that it bears a very close resemblance to the first.

Letters (Cont’d.)

Dick Swartzlender

Just a note to say all is well with us. Staying reasonably busy with volunteer work. I made another trip to Alaska to fish—still able to land the big ones. Still active with the City Park board, the County Parks commission and American Legion baseball. Spend time traveling around the state to watch the grandsons’ activities. They are involved in football, baseball and wrestling. Also in school bands and plays. Keeps the wife and I hopping. Another activity I’m involved in is a member of a FS Resource Action Committee. The County, thru the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act of 2000, gets funds that are in lieu of the previous 25% funds. Better known as roads and school funding. A bulk of the funding goes to roads and schools, but funding is also available to supplement employment by doing work on federal lands. What work projects are selected is the task of the RACs from projects proposed by the FS. This keeps me in contact with the working groups of the FS. Unfortunately, the Act is in jeopardy of being reauthorized—this will be a major blow to school districts.

Dale Stadtmueller (new member)

It is nice to connect with the Oldsmokeys’ group thanks to Dave Trask. I still keep in touch with several R6 folks even though I left the Umpqua in 1973. I worked on the Coconino NF from 1977-80 with Mike Kerrick, and the Boise NF with Jack Lavin and Jim Conibear from 1980-84. I worked for the Army in Stuttgart, Germany and Sierra Vista, AZ from 1984-1990 and finished my career with the Interior Office of Aircraft Services in Boise from 1990-2000. My entire career was in the Personnel/HR function. I retired in May 2000. My wife Lori and I currently live in Eagle, ID.

Phil Kline

I know the cost of doing business has increased since I paid my Lifetime membership, so here is my small contribution. Sharon and I were unable to attend the reunion because of family needs in Iowa. It was great event and really wanted to attend. Thanks to all the officers and volunteers who do an excellent job.

Zane & Betty Smith

A real highlight of our USFS family affairs this year was the Reunion in Portland! Thanks to all of you, FS retirees and spouses, who worked so hard to make this such a memorable event. It reminds me of how fortunate it has been for the Smith family to have been a part of such a magnificent organization for three generations. The friends and colleagues of such an association are unequalled. The event also reinforced my observations that the active FS folks are as capable and dedicated as ever, but under considerably more difficult circumstances. The leadership attending the Reunion demonstrated again that the FS is in good hands. They deserve our unending support as do all the fine professionals throughout the agency.

Nick McDonough

We are back and getting over jet lag! Spent over two weeks in the Tuscany region of Italy where we traveled by car, rail and bus. We rented a villa on a grape and olive tree plantation and

Letters-McDonough (Cont’d page 9)

Letters-McDonough (Cont'd. from page 8)

either drove from there or caught a near by train to various places including Assisi and Loreto. We visited the small village and home where Michelangelo was born, (a medieval festival was going on at the time), and the Basilica Di Santa Croce where his burial site is. We followed the footsteps of Saint Francis in both Assisi and his Monastery in LaVerna where he received the stigmata. Within the large Basilica in Loreto is the small masonry home, the birth place of the Blessed Mother as well as the annunciation and where the incarnation took place. It was transported from Nazareth during the 1200's. Spent 3 to 4 days in Florence, where we toured many sites and Cherie bought a leather coat. Outside the walls of Assisi is one of the most meaningful sites. It is the large church of Aanta Marie degli Angeli, which encloses the small church St. Francis worshiped in and also holds his remains. We had sunny weather most of the time with the exception of two days of light warm rain. Had hoped to travel to the Village of Marostica, where the Marostica relative roots are, but it would have involved a 3 day trip and we were running out of time. We will do it on the next visit. My new e-mail address is mcdonough@isp.com and Cherie's is cheriemc@isp.com . Look forward to hearing from you.

John Poppino - Two letters

Jiggs Peterson was a great guy. We've kept in contact since I left the Estacada District in '62. Always had a smile and a good word. I learned one very valuable lesson from him. Don't move until you have all the paper work! Jiggs and Kathryn were transferred from Parkdale to Estacada. This had been in the works for months. Jiggs was coming to the Clackamas as the Road Patrol (First law enforcement person on the Mt. Hood?) and Kathryn was to be District Clerk. They moved and had a real time getting reimbursed because the travel authorization had not been issued. They eventually got paid, but were in limbo for quite a while. Jiggs also liked to dig razor clams. Every spring they would head for the Washington coast in the Copalis area on the first good low tide.

Dick Bryant was a great guy. I have many memories of him. He was the first person to show me how to read a contour map for slope stability. At a Ranger meeting on the Mt. Hood NF, he gave a presentation that scared the socks off me. With slides and topog maps he identified the clues. The year before we had had a presentation on the Collawash river slide and I thought, "Those guys have a real problem." When Dick got done, I thought, "Fish Creek is headed down stream". When trying to develop a report or statement about something, he would look at what ever was on the flip chart and say, "I agree with that, but how about changing it this way." He would then cross out everything except an "and" or a "the" and go from there!

Bud Unruh

Your recent comments on Dick Bryant brought back a few good memories for me. Dick was a good friend "way back when." He was a very smart guy (brilliant, really). You may be aware, in 1961, he wrote a very comprehensive article that was

Letters-Unruh (Cont'd. next column)

Letters-Unruh (Cont'd.)

published in the Logger's Handbook. It was extremely well timed, relating to recognizing instability potential for land management projects, especially road building. Dick was ahead of his time. His words, in my opinion, are still very applicable to this day. I saved the Loggers Handbook issue because I was so impressed by Dick's article. I have it recorded on PDF format in case you are interested in reading it. It takes up about two MB of space on your computer. Let me know.

Ann Leuthauser

Thank you for passing on all the e-notes to me. For some reason the East county Oregonian has not had these obits, and I knew so many of the people involved. I see the passing of Al's Forest Service Generation, and as the book about " the Grand Generation" and all the World War Vets that are leaving. I see the one by one forest Generation leaving. They did a fantastic job and worked hard for years. I hope their work and involvement won't be forgotten. Those forests look as beautiful as they did in 1953 when we arrived in Oakridge, and they served the needs of America well and gave us homes, minerals, water, wildlife and a place to have fun. The Forest Service was a family and the departing of those members hurts, but thankful for the days that we had.

Warren Olney

Enclosed is my order for We Had an Objective in Mind. Really look forward to receiving and reading it. With all who helped put it together, it must be a classic. Am very sorry I was unable to make the reunion. Have responsibilities caring for my father, which keeps me busy. He has had several strokes since mid-summer, changing my travel. Enjoyed reading the accounts, and viewing the pictures in the fall bulletin. Looks like time has been kind to the OldSmokeys. Best wishes to all.

George Berscheid

I am enclosing a check for a copy of (the Book). Please use the rest of the check for dues as I have long ago reaped the benefits of the Lifetime Membership. I also want to thank all of the folks who helped on the reunion. Being a resident of Arizona, I was not able to lend a hand. I want to add my thoughts also about Herb Rudolph, who I had the pleasure of "Rangering" for at Walla Walla. They certainly were some of my most favorite years in the Forest Service. My fondest memory was when I asked Herb for the month of July off in 1971. Her nearly bit the stem off his pipe. I had spent nearly all of the summer of 1970 on fires and had told my wife I would see if we could get away to Europe. When I told Herb this he got a far away look in his eyes, signed the leave slip and asked who would be Acting Ranger. Although I enjoy the sunny southwest, I will always be an Oregonian at heart. Should any of you who want a break from the rain venture into the Phoenix area, there is room at the inn. Thanks again to all of you who make the Association such a great organization. (Thanks for the invite George. Can you handle a bus-load?)

Letters (Cont'd. on page 10)

Those who jump off a bridge in Paris are in Seine.
Local Area Network in Australia—the LAN down under.
Santa's helpers are subordinate clauses.

Letters (*Cont'd. from page 9*)

Al Gano

I want to express my appreciation for the fine job you are doing in keeping us up to date on current events. Betty and I celebrated our 61st wedding anniversary on Oct. 20, and I reached my 83rd birthday on the 22nd. We retired here in 1978 from the Colville NF, in Colville, known as God's Country. We started with the USFS in 1946 on the Clackamas River RD of the Mt. Hood NF. It was a great place to start, way up in the mountains 29 miles from Estacada, and shared the compound with at least 8 other couples plus pack stock. We had a bunkhouse a short distance away for our maintenance crews, etc.

This past year we journeyed back to see this area and particularly the place we lived, but LO & BEHOLD! We had a difficult time finding the Station due to the large amount of trees and brush now hiding the compound. When we did find it, all houses but 2, and the barn, plus two old maintenance buildings were all that remain. What a shock!! To say the least. We were extremely disappointed, but try to understand why it was necessary.

In any event, we continue to stay active and play golf weekly plus take short trips, two days to two weeks. Keep up the good work.

Ethel Jennings

I regret missing the reunion, but having reached the chronological age summit (90), I have to miss a few events. My first memory concerning the Forest Service was to overhear a discussion with Ranger Beers, and my father, using language not much for my ears. Subject concerned grazing and fences no doubt. This occurred long before I became an employee in the Portland office of Personnel Mgmt. We all love our timbered property that we call Raddue Place, which is timbered land that has been in the family a long, long time. It is adjacent to the Malheur NF, near John Day, OR. We built a cabin, but never enough time to spend there. We follow good forestry practices that include selective logging, eliminating noxious weeds, etc. The family enjoys riding horses, hiking, building and repairing fences. Daughter and son return from the cities to their roots whenever possible for R & R. In my father's day it was a hunting haven. Now it's a retreat for animals, but hunters intrude. I am a tree hugger and very selective logging has been done (have had some crash courses in forestry!)

Bob Strombom

I could not let this day pass without adding my own remembrances of Don Boyer. We became coworkers of mutual respect and friends while doing fire rehab assessment and planning on the Wenatchee fires. We quickly began seeing many ways in which our jobs fit well together and developed and presented a series of training sessions aimed at reducing roadside erosion by soil stabilization and maintenance. We were invited to the first annual erosion control conference to make a joint presentation to the emerging assemblage. While some were seemingly surprised, we proved many times that an engineer and a soil scientist were capable of not only working together productively but enjoying doing it.

To say I will miss Don would be redundant. I have missed him since his retirement. Yet, as is all so often the case, good

Letters-Strombom (*Cont'd. next Column*)

Letters-Strombom (*Cont'd.*)

intentions at retirement time yielded to the realities of our lives going separate ways and we simply lost touch with each other. He put his roots into the soil and I moved to new grounds elsewhere. 'Tis a sad commentary and a poor way to recall good days with a darned good man who knew his business well and helped me mind mine!

I must admit that at times like this, life seems to have been all too short and distracting. Still, at this point I can do no more than wish I had popped in and had a cup of coffee with him some times during these intervening years!

Steve Howes (*currently Regional Soils guy*)

I was notified Sunday morning that Don Boyer, former Regional Office Soil Scientist, had passed away the previous night. Don had been battling lung cancer for several years and, as was his character, he put up quite a fight.

Don came to the Region in the early to mid-1960's (not sure of exact date). He was the first soil scientist in the Region to deal strictly with soil management issues rather than inventory. He was an expert in soil management in nurseries and seed orchards. He also worked closely with silviculturists, logging engineers, and sale administrators to get them to consider soils as they carried out their work. He is probably best known for his work with the fire staff to produce "Fire Effects on Pacific Northwest Forest Soils", a publication that is still used today. Don retired in 1983. He was highly respected by all who knew and worked with him. I was fortunate to have worked directly with Don from 1980 until he retired. We remained friends and got together for lunch periodically for lunch along with other "soil and water" retirees. If I was going to list the people who had the most influence on my career, Don would be right there at the top.

Ed Whitmore

The thing I remember most about Don Boyer was the inventory work he and his team did for the Oregon Dunes National Recreation Area when it was established. Don and his team put together the most comprehensive integrated resource inventory that had ever been done in the region up until that time. Not only did they put it together, but they packaged it in such a manner that made it readily understandable. But they didn't stop there. When the planning team was established, Don brought his inventory team down and we spent several days in the field identifying geomorphic units and their management implications. As planners, we knew exactly what wildlife and plant species, geography, soil, etc. were to be found in each geomorphic unit, and what the impact would be if we planned roads, campgrounds etc. Inventories were becoming pretty common in the region in the early 70's, but integrated resource inventories were almost unheard of. It was Don's insistence as team leader that this inventory be integrated if it was to be useful to planners and managers. My guess is it is still as useful today as it was thirty years ago. Don's work helped to usher in a new era on how resource decisions were made. I wish I could be at the wake. Thank you Don, you were one of the best resource specialists I have known.

Letters (*Cont'd. page 11*)

Letters (Cont'd. from page 10)

Jack Grubb

I'll echo the praises spoken by so many others on this book. Really enjoyed reading it. Your (*Wendall's*) account of the flooding in '64 brought back memories of my experience then. I was Ranger at Hoodspport RD then. In '63 & '64 the Forest built 3 new houses on the Hoodspport north hill. The Bob Nesbitt, Ron Koenig and Grubb families moved into these houses in spring of '64. Our houses were on the east side of the access road with one house to the west of us. This house burned during the summer. These folks (total of 5) were living in a trailer, on site, until their home could be rebuilt.

In December the Hoodspport area experienced 3 snowfalls each depositing 2' of snow. Each storm was 10 days apart, with the last storm on 12/31/64. The entire Puget Sound area suffered from similar snowfall. Being in new houses, we did not know what the roof snow loading was. Because of the region wide snow the SO was closed, so we shoveled the roofs. The houses had a daylight basement to the east. After shoveling what amounted to 6' of snow none of 3 families could use their front door until melting, which was in February.

During these snowfalls we lost electric power on our level of the hill, but the folks on the level below us had power. The folks living in the trailer had propane heat, so during the day the adults congregated in the trailer, while the kids played in the snow and we men shoveled the roofs. When the kids' clothes got wet, the wives used the driers of the folks on the level below us. All total there were 19 folks using the trailer for meals and getting warm. At night we all went home and piled on the blankets.

A great time to remember.

Jerry Wojack

Well Mary and I have finally advanced to the new world, so we want to add our Email address to the directory. All is great in Southern Oregon and going well. I want to bring Dick Marlega's friends up to date on his health. Dick is now in a fulltime care facility. He is in the mid-stages of Alzheimer's. I see him often and he is still the same old Dick on a lot of days. I know that he still can appreciate and enjoy cards or notes from his friends. His address is Dick Marlega, c/o Farmington Square, 1530 Poplar Drive, Medford, OR 97504.

Sherrie Ashcraft

(Ed. Note: this note was sent with a book order; some may remember Sherrie's father)

My dad, Glenn Smith, started his career with the USFS in 1949 (I believe it was). I have many wonderful memories of life at Rager Ranger Station (Ochoco NF). When I was six, Dad was transferred to California, where he remained for the rest of his career until retirement. I think it was the best life possible for us kids. I'm sure Dad will enjoy this book for Christmas. Please send it to him: Glenn Smith, 2303 Oregon Ave. South Lake Tahoe, CA 96150.

Stan Aufderheide (Ed. Note: This is in reply to a question I raised with Stan about his possible family connection with Bob Aufderheide, former Forest Supervisor of the Willamette NF.) Robert Aufderheide was my father's cousin. We didn't know

Letters-Aufderheide Cont'd. next column)

Letters-Aufderheide (Cont'd.)

about Robert until my wife picked up a list of names only a native Oregonian could pronounce correctly-- words like "Willamette". Lo and behold one of the words was "The Aufderheide Memorial Drive." So my wife called the Forest Service and they excitedly sent us a bunch of info about it. My father was an Air Force fighter pilot who passed away at age 85. My mother now lives with us. My father's brother is a well-known pathologist who now in retirement spends his time unearthing mummies around the world. I am glad to learn that Bob had such a positive influence on those he worked with. I believe he had two daughters, that is about all we know of him.

Evan Jones

(Ed. Note: Dick Pfilf ordered a copy of *We Had an Objective for Evan*. This is Evan's response.) I just called Dick Pfilf and thanked him for the book. Dick worked for me on the Collawash RD, Mt. Hood NF. Thanks for sending the book. I am sure I will enjoy reading it. The name Jones is important in FS history. There is 105 years or so of FS experience in my immediate history: Ira E. Jones, Forrest Woodrow and myself with all over 33 years each and then there is John Paul and Charlie Franklin with short term time. We Joneses have to hang together. (Ed. Note: Ira Jones was Evan's dad and wrote much about his early Rangering days in Sumpter, OR; Forrest was Evan's brother and well-known by many old Willamette NF folks; and I don't have the least idea who John Paul or Charlie Franklin were unless they were really famous. Perhaps Evan will let us know.)

Elton Thomas

Dear friends: Many of you have inquired as to my future, and it looks like I can retire on January 3, 2006. So, that is what I'm planning to do. There are ongoing investigations and lawsuits around the Thirtymile fire. We'll just have to deal with them as the situation dictates. It is the right time for me to leave the agency and the work that I love to other capable hands. Thank you so much for the support and friendship. It has been a wonderful ride, and I am filled with gratitude for being able to enjoy 42 years of the best career one could want. I am particularly grateful for these past 8 months. They have been wonderful.

Terry and I are contemplating building a new home and moving to Camano Island next year. That will be full of its own adventures. Until then, we will be in Wenatchee, and hope we can stay in contact with many of you. I hope to work some in fire and emergency management, as opportunities present themselves.

Ted Yarosh

It was good to see you at the reunion. There was a question recently in OldSmokeys E-notes about whether or not Bob Metlen was still living. I received a letter from Ruth Metlen the other day. Bob is alive but has been suffering from Parkinson's disease since 1980. And more recently he's come down with macular degeneration of his eyes. He's holding up as well as can be expected. Their address in the directory is still good. You can share this with others.

MEMORIES

By Dave & Jane Kolb

Dorothy Bergstrom

Dorothy Bergstrom died 10/20/2005, at age 91. She was born 3/20/1914, in Ashland, OR. Dorothy graduated from the U of O. After moving to Portland she worked for several doctors; then signed on with the USFS as a technical writer for PNW where she spent most of her career. She enjoyed hiking and traveling and did a lot of both. After retiring she volunteered at the Oregon Historical Society for more than 10 years writing up oral histories and assisting in publishing the newsletter.

Survivors include: sister, Katherine Broemmer; brother, Harvey; and several nieces and nephews.

Donald Eugene Boyer

Donald E. Boyer died 11/26/2005, at age 77. He was born 11/13/1928, in Highland Park, IL. Don graduated from Colorado State U. and served 19 years as a soil scientist for the U. S. Soil Conservation Service and the USFS. He was an expert in soil management in tree nurseries and seed orchards. He retired in 1982 and was a private consultant and filbert farmer. He married Mary Ellen Dickens in 1950.

Survivors include: his wife; daughters, Shelley G. Boyer, and Robin J. Nielson; son, Scott D.; 6 grandchildren; 1 great-grandchild; and one sister.

Harry Richard Bryant

Harry Richard "Dick" Bryant died 10/27/2005, at age 79. He was born 1/30/1926, in Portland and raised in Sherwood, OR. Dick served in the Navy in WWII in the Pacific and after the war he received bachelor and masters degrees from Oregon State. He was a forest engineer with the FS for 30 years. He married Patricia Erben in 1946. They lived in Lake Grove and Washington, D.C. before moving to St. Paul in 1971.

Survivors include: his wife; sons, Andrew and David; and 8 grandchildren.

Frederick Milan Chugg

Frederick "Fred" M. Chugg died 11/15/2005, at age 69. He was born 4/04/1936, at Acequia, ID. And graduated from Rupert HS in 1954. Fred married Carol Munson 10/03/1954, in Twin Falls, ID. After serving in the Army, he graduated from Idaho U. with a degree in forestry. Fred worked 30 years for the FS and retired from the Silver Lake RD on the Fremont NF as the timber sales representative.

Survivors include: his wife; daughters, Kelly Underhill and Janell Warkentin; son, Fred; sisters, Alene Orvik, Naomi Price, and Donna Sager; brother, Jack, and 7 grandchildren.

Jerry L. Edwards

The death of Jerry Edwards on 6/22/2005, was reported by his wife, Diana, in a Christmas card to Larry Matson. Jerry was a Mechanical Engineer and replaced Larry as an assistant to Bud Waggener, RO Engineering, when Larry moved to the WO in 1967.

Memories (Cont'd.)

Philip E. Fellows

Philip E. Fellows died 11/14/2005, at age 55. He was born 8/18/1950, in Memphis, TN. He grew up in Brazil and Mexico City and later moved to California. Philip was the zone engineer at Paisley on the Fremont NF and was very active in community service organizations. He married Sheila Kennon 9/22/1975, in Escondido, CA. Phil retired early because of poor health.

Survivors include: his wife; mother, Lois Steele; sons, Kennon, John, and Bob; daughters, Jessifer Kessinger, Sarah, Rebecca, and Rachel Simonson, and Jacilin Baker; and 11 grandchildren.

Winnifred (Winnie) C. Fink

Winnifred C. Fink died 9/29/2005, one day before her 86th birthday. She was a member of PNWFSA and wife of Clifford, a long time R-6 employee. At various times they served on the Mt. Hood, Willamette, Siskiyou, Wenatchee, and Olympic NF's and the RO. No information on survivors.

Mary R. Fitzgerald

Mary R. Fitzgerald died 12/08/2005, in Fairfax, VA. She was a Lifetime member of PNWFSA and wife of Richard O., a current FS employee in TM in the WO. She was pre-deceased by her son John A. Fitzgerald and daughter, Judith Ann Fitzgerald Brooke.

Survivors include: her husband; sons, David R., and Timothy J.; brother, William E. Richardson; and 2 grandchildren.

Myrna German

Myrna German worked in fleet management for several years in the Wallowa-Whitman SO in the 1970's. She died 11/18/2005 at age 66.

Elvera Sophia Gano

Elvera S. Gano died 10/08/2005, at age 93. She was the wife of Ward Gano, deceased R-6 Regional Engineer and was a Lifetime member of PNWFSA. Elvera Peterson was born 3/15/1912, in Portland. She married Ward in 1936. They lived in Montana and Virginia where he worked for the FS and returned to Portland in 1962.

Survivors include: her daughters, Janice Worthington, Carolyn Stoianoff, Jeanne Crispin and Becky Nichols; 11 grandchildren, and 14 great-grandchildren.

Margaret Harlan

Margaret Harlan died 10/06/2005, at age 82. She was a Lifetime member of PNWFSA and widow of Richard N. Harlan, a long time FS employee. Margaret was born 11/25/1922, in Fresno, CA. The family moved to Fort Rock, OR where she graduated from Silver Lake HS and attended OSU for one year. She married Richard 6/09/1941 in Lewiston, ID. They lived in Fort Rock, Bend, and Lakeview.

Survivors include: sons, Raymond and Ronald; daughters, Kathryn Harlan, and Sidney Reynolds; 8 grandchildren; and 12 great-grandchildren.

Memories (Cont'd. on page 13)

How is it that one careless match can start a forest fire, but it takes a whole box to start a campfire.

Memories (Cont'd. from page 12)

Virginia L. "Boe" Karren

Virginia "Boe" Karren died 11/08/2005, at age 81. She was born 3/27/1924, in Blackfoot, ID and graduated from HS and Business College in Baker, OR. She married Lester B. Karren in 1943. While she was not an "Old Smokey", she had been a regular attendee of our meetings and other functions with her companion "Mort" Lauridsen, who celebrated his 95th birthday at our Spring Banquet this year.

Survivors include; brother, Bill Childers; nephew, John Childers; and niece, Tari McDowell.

Cleve Colbert "Red" Ketcham

Cleve C. "Red" Ketcham died 11/24/2005, at age 80. He was a Lifetime member of PNWFSA. Cleve was born on the family homestead near Clayton, NM, 12/12/1924, and served in the Navy during WWII. Red graduated from the U. of NM in 1949 with a degree in Civil Engineering. He worked for the FS for 32 years in five regions and the WO, retiring as Director of Engineering in R-8 in Atlanta. After retiring he moved to Sequim, WA.

Survivors include: his wife, Katherine Vernelle; sons, Dennis and Raymond; 4 grandsons; 5 sisters; and 2 brothers.

Janet Ann Nicholson

Janet A. Nicholson died 12/26/2005, at age 72. She was born in Minneapolis, MN, 3/9/1933. Janet married Lewis Nicholson 12/27/1952. They moved to Oregon where Lew worked on the Mt. Hood NF and the RO in Timber Management. Jan was active in many artistic activities and earned a BA and teaching certificate in metal smithing.

She is survived by her husband; son Alan; and many friends.

Joyce D. "Jiggs" Pederson

Joyce "Jiggs" Pederson died 10/30/2005, at age 96. He was a Lifetime member of PNWFSA. Jiggs was born 12/25/1908, in Portland, OR and moved to Estacada area as a child. He was a forester on the Mt. Hood NF for 42 years and lived at Bear Springs and Parkdale as well as Estacada. He married Kathryn McConnel in 1942. She died in 1998 as did his daughter Alice, in 2000.

Survivors include: his sisters, Marjorie Huffman, and Beamie Brening; 3 grandchildren; 8 great-grandchildren; 3 great-grandchildren.

Robert Matthew Randall

Robert M. Randall died 9/23/2005, in Springfield, VA, at age 72. He was a forest economist and policy analyst for FS Research at PNW and WO. He was born in Aberdeen, WA, 12/11/1932. Bob served in the Navy 1952 to 1956, graduated from Utah State U. and earned a PhD in forest economics at OSU. He was a member of the Finlandia Foundation and the FS Retirees Club of DC.

Survivors include: his wife, Linda; sons, Carl and Scott; daughter, Debra Randall-Fleming; step-son Paul Landis; and 8 grandchildren.

Memories (Cont;d.)

William Patrick Ronayne

William P. "Bill" Ronayne died 10/24/2005, at age 83. He was a Lifetime member of PNWFSA. Bill was born 5/15/1922, in Denver, CO. He graduated from the U. of C. at Berkeley, CA, and was a forester for the USFS for 32 years retiring as Forest Supervisor on the Siskiyou NF in 1977. After retiring he built a low-income retirement complex in Gold Beach, OR. He married Constance McManis in 1945. They moved to Vancouver, WA, in 1998.

Survivors include: his wife, Connie; son, Mark; daughter, Kathleen Ann Lyons; 6 grandchildren and 5 great-grandchildren.

Donald Francis Rotell

Donald F. Rotell died 10/12/2005, at age 68. Don was born 1/03/1937, in Farrell, PA and graduated from Penn State U. in 1960. His FS career covered 35 years on the Siskiyou, Willamette, Siuslaw, W-W, Malheur, and Wenatchee Forests. He retired as District Ranger on the Naches RD of the Wenatchee NF. He married Denise Steburg at Blue River, OR in 1965. Survivors include: his wife; son, Donald; daughter, Christina Marie; grandsons, Sawyer and Sam; granddaughters, Elyse and Avery; and brothers, Tony and John.

Diane Eilene Smith

Diane Eilene Smith died 12/10/2005, at age 57. She was a FS employee on the Mt. Hood NF and PNW Station. Her husband Bernard retired from the RO. Diane Adams was born 9/19/1948, in McKeesport, PA. She married Bernard Smith in Logan, UT, in 1967 and has lived in Beaverton for 15 years. Diane worked in Fire and Aviation Mgmt. on the Mt. Hood before moving to PNW as a writer and editor. Survivors include: her husband; daughters, Shannon Dencer and Dayna Smith; father, J. Robert Adams; 2 sisters; and 2 grandchildren.

Frank Walisch

Frank Walisch died 10/8/2005, at age 90. He was born 12/30/1914, and was a lifelong resident of Vancouver, WA. He graduated from Vancouver Business College and worked for the USFS in Portland. He retired as Director of R-6 Administrative Services.

Survivors include; his wife of 72 years, Lillian; daughters, Deanna McDonnal, and Linda McCarthy; 3 grandchildren; 6 great-grandchildren; and 1 great-great-grandchild.

Martha Rhoda Mayo Warren

Martha R. M. Warren died 12/22/2005, in Roseburg, OR at age 85. She was the widow of Al, and a Lifetime member of PNWFSA. Martha was born 3/19/1920, in St. Louis, MO. She attended Bessie Tift College in Georgia and Missouri U. She married Al 6/20/1947. They lived in Vancouver, WA and Lowell, Oakridge, and Roseburg, OR, where Al retired as TM staff for the Umpqua NF. Al died in 1979, but Martha continued to live in Roseburg where she was active in many community service organizations.

Survivors include: son Allen Dale Warren; daughters Carol DeGroot, and Barbara Hofford; 4 grandsons; and 3 sisters. (Ed. Note: The Roseburg News-Review carried an extensive article on Martha)

Memories (Cont'd. on page 14)

Memories (Cont'd. from page 13)

LaDonna Jean (Egner) Woodfin

LaDonna Jean Woodfin died 12/10/2005, at age 68. She was the wife of Richard, and a Lifetime member of PNWFSA. LaDonna was born 4/12/1937, in Colville, WA. She grew up on a ranch and was an accomplished horse rider. She had a varied career with the US Immigration Service, educational organizations, and as office manager for the Kaiser Nurses Union. She married Dick O., Jr., a PNW scientist in 1978.

Survivors include: her husband; son, Kenneth Toney; step-son Richard Woodfin; daughters, Trudy Toney and Lori Blasdel; step-daughter, Cathi Sehorn; 2 sisters; one brother; 13 grandchildren; and 12 great-grandchildren.

R6 Updates

Kathy Bowman, Editor

(Excerpts from the R6 employees electronic weekly newsletter)

May 26, '05

Iron Goat Trail production premieres

"Back to Life: The Iron Goat Trail" is a half hour production documenting three years of construction of the nine-mile-long Iron Goat Trail along the west side of Stevens Pass, 60 miles northeast of Seattle. Organized by Volunteers for Outdoor Washington, thousands of volunteers have contributed thousands of hours since 1990 to turn the long-abandoned Great Northern Railway bed into a universally accessible interpretive trail that dramatizes the story of Great Northern and the Wellington disaster of 1910, the deadliest avalanche in American history. The trail takes its name from Great Northern Railway's corporate symbol, a mountain goat standing on a rock. (Courtesy Tom Davis and Betty Blodgett, MBS)

June 2, '05

Dedication at Devil's Churn, Cape Perpetua

Saturday, May 21 marked the dedication of the new Devil's Churn information center at the Cape Perpetua Scenic Area on the Siuslaw NF. Devil's Churn is a popular stop along Highway 101 on the central Oregon coast. Visitors to the area can experience a variety of the natural wonders including exploring tide-pools, witnessing the power of the Pacific Ocean, or watching gray whales migrate.

June 16, '05

Honored

Steve Johnson from the Ashland RD, Rogue River NF, was named the PNW Ski Areas Assn. 2005 Forest Service Partner of the Year. The Association bestows this honor on USFS employees who make noteworthy contributions to operations of Northwest winter sports facilities. Johnson has been involved with the administration of the Mt. Ashland Ski Area special use permit for the last 14 years. During the last decade, Johnson has administered two revisions to Mt. Ashland's site-specific ski area expansion plan; and fostered a working relationship of mutual respect with ski area management. (Rogue River NF)

R6 Updates (Cont'd. next column)

R6 Updates (Cont'd.)

July 7, '05

100 years ago

In June 1905 Dwight Huss drove "Old Scout", a 1904 Oldsmobile Curved Dash Runabout, over Santiam Wagon Road. He called its 7-Mile Hill section the most difficult part of the race from New York to Portland. In 1993 the Forest Service and a dedicated crew of volunteers began restoring the Old Santiam Wagon Road. Over 16 miles of the road have been restored and it was officially opened on July 7, 1995. A ceremony celebrating the centennial of the 44-day transcontinental race, the wagon road restoration, and the first 100 years of the Forest Service was held this July at historic Fish Lake Remount Station, Willamette NF. (Courtesy of Joanne West)

July 14, '05

Emigrant Creek cattle allotment: lessons from 30 years of photo monitoring. a 2005 publication by Frederick C. Hall, is the title of a 37-page General Technical Report from PNW Research Station. It features photo sampling at nine original sites, starting in 1975. Photos were taken three times per year: June 15 prior to cattle grazing, August 1 at pasture rotation, and October 1 at the end of grazing season. An additional four photo points were established following disturbance from flooding and beavers. Results reported cover 30 years, 1975 to 2005.

Sept 1, '05

Trail honors Lewis Roth

Twenty friends, former students, colleagues, and Forest Service officials gathered August 29 to see Lewis F. "Lew" Roth, Ph.D., professor emeritus of plant pathology at Oregon State U. and pioneer western dwarf mistletoe researcher on the Pringle Falls Experimental Forest, open the Lewis Roth Dwarf Mistletoe Trail in Deschutes NF. After several shared their memories of studying and working with the honored guest, Professor Roth took charge of the event by sharing his own thoughts and cutting the ribbon to officially open the trail. The 92-year old pathologist then led the group on a trip up the new interpretive trail named for him. Professor Roth's long-term dwarf mistletoe research began at Pringle Falls Experimental Forest in 1952 and continued long after his 1979 retirement from Oregon State. The trail interprets dwarf mistletoe biology, and the genetic and other means Roth and his colleagues developed to limit the damage caused by this parasite to ponderosa pine forests. Les Joslin, Deschutes NF)

Sept. 15, '05

Cody Horse Camp

The horse camp, 29 miles SE of Randle, WA, was originally the idea of Harry Cody, a former district ranger who loved hunting, fishing, and horseback riding. Harry died in a 2002 boating accident while waterfowl hunting. The camp, now named in his honor, has 16 pull-through campsites, each with picnic tables, fire rings and highlines, a stock watering trough, hand pump, vault toilet, large day-use area and mounting assist ramp. Cody Horse Camp was built with help from the state Interagency Committee for Outdoor Recreation, Lewis County chapter of Backcountry Horsemen of Washington, and White Pass School District Discovery Team. (Roger Peterson, Gifford Pinchot NF)

R6 Updates (Cont'd. on page 15)

R6 Updates (Cont'd. from page 14)

1942 Plane Crash

A memorial service and memorial plaque for four bomber crewmembers, whose B18-A Bolo crashed in a 1942 winter snowstorm over the Ochoco Mountains, was held in August. Honored were crew members Richard Heiderstadt, Walter McShane, Michael Bittner, and Donald Kirtland who died in the crash, according to Kathleen Martin, Paulina RD, Ochoco NF.

Sept. 29, '05

Fighting Spotted Knapweed

To prevent the return of spotted knapweed, botanist Laura Potash and colleagues are spreading seed and mulching with certified weed-free straw this week (late September) at Ranger Creek airstrip, MBS NF, near Crystal Mountain Ski area. The work follows a 9.4-acre treatment of spotted knapweed in the area earlier this August. Knapweed, a state-listed noxious weed, is of particular concern at this site, as it could be so easily spread to uninfested areas by all the planes, motorcycles, ORVs, and other people that visit the area. (Betty Blodgett, MBS NF)

Restoring Camas Prairie

Twelve students of U of O's *Fire as a Tool for Landscape Designers, Planners and Managers*, Grand Ronde Tribal members, and Forest Service natural resource specialists came together to observe a recent controlled burn to promote the production of camas and other native species in Camas Prairie. This is the fourth time Camas Prairie in Central Cascades Adaptive Management Area at Sweet Home RD, Willamette NF has been burned for restoration purposes since 1998. The work promotes production of camas and other native species while reducing rodent populations, restoring a degraded wetland, and helping to keep Oregon ash from encroaching on the prairie. In about a month, Sweet Home RD botanist Alice Smith, other Forest Service employees, and volunteers will further the work by planting camas seed collected during early summer. The land is responding to the continuing restoration efforts with a 260% increase in number of camas plants since the project started in 1998. Partners in the effort are BLM's Eugene District, Confederated Tribes of the Grand Ronde, Confederated Tribes of the Siletz Indians, private contractors, OSU, and Lane Community College. (Patti Rodgers & Joanne West, Willamette NF)

Oct. 6, '05

FMO of the Year Elton Thomas

Acting Deputy Forest Supervisor Elton Thomas, and Fire and Protection Group Leader for Okanogan and Wenatchee NFs recently received a national Forest Fire Management Officer of the Year award for his accomplishments in 2004, says Deputy Regional Forester Jim Golden. "Elton is a wonderful guy," added Golden, whom he notes is very deserving of these honors. "Elton Thomas' actions in 2004 are in the finest traditions of the Fire Management Officer of the Year award," noted Forest Supervisor Jim Boynton, in nominating him for the award.

Elton Thomas is known regionally and nationally for leadership in wildland fire suppression and the use of fire for fuels reduction and restoring natural ecosystems. He displays a consistent commitment to safety and a passion for landscape level fuel treatment. Elton is also known for efforts to develop leadership skills in the fire organization. Elton retired at the end of 2005.

R6 Updates (Cont'd. next column)

R6 Updates (Cont'd.)

Celebrating Camp Mill Creek CCC

Sept. 10, Ochoco NF hosted about 60 people at a Forest Service Centennial Picnic for retirees at the Log Picnic Pavilion at Ochoco Forest Camp. A sign honoring three companies of Camp Mill Creek Civilian Conservation Corp (CCC) was placed in front of the Old CCC campsite behind the Ochoco RS bunkhouses. Later this fall, a commemorative brass plaque honoring the CCCs contributions there from 1933-42 will be installed on a large boulder next to the sign this fall. Lookout Mountain archaeologist Terry Holtzapple, Forest Service retiree (and president of the NW CCC Alumni Association) Emil Sabol, Denise Reinhart, Lynn Roby and the Ochoco NF YCC crew, and Deschutes NF archaeologist Paul Claeysens are among many who made the commemoration possible. (Virginia Gibbons, Ochoco NF)

Nov. 10, '05

Honored by her Peers

Ruth Seeger, area mining geologist for Willamette NF, was honored for outstanding service recently when she received the *Liz Mathews Award for Excellence in Minerals and Geology*, presented by Skip Underwood, WO Director of Lands and Minerals, and Kimberly Bown, R6 Director of Recreation, Land and Mineral Resources at the recent National Minerals and Geology Workshop Awards Banquet. This is the second time in a row a member of the R6 Minerals and Geology program has received this auspicious award from their peers, Ruth joins John Simmons (R6 Regional mining engineer) as a recipient of this award. Both have helped the R6 Minerals and Geology command the respect of our peers nationally and are acknowledged role models for others who work in this field.

Conservation education

More than 40 teachers attended the "*Celebrating Washington's Wildflowers and Wildlife*," funded by an R6 Centennial challenge grant and hosted by MBS NF in partnership with North Cascades Institute, the Washington Native Plant Society, and the Woodland Park Zoo. The workshop for 4th-8th grade teachers is one of many being offered this year to area teachers in western Washington under a 2005 R6 Centennial Challenge Grant received by the Forest. The program trains educators and students about native plants, plant communities, ecosystems, threats to native plants, and ways we can preserve and protect native plants. This project brings together children, school districts, natural resource agencies, environmental organizations, and business communities to focus on the lasting value of education in ensuring the health of Washington's native plant communities, and connects the curriculum to Washington State's Essential Academic Learning Requirements. (Courtesy of Betty Blodgett, MBS NF)

New Rules for OHVs

Increases in the popularity and capability of off-highway vehicles (OHVs) have led to adapted policies to address the effects of unmanaged cross-country travel, which has resulted in a proliferation of unauthorized routes, soil erosion, and impacts to wetlands, cultural resources, wildlife habitat, and other forest

R6 Updates (Cont'd. on page 16)

R6 Updates (Cont'd. from page 15)

(OHV Rules cont'd)

users. This is addressed in the final rule revision of the Forest Service' final travel regulations, which becomes effective 30 days after appearing in the Federal register. It defines OHVs, applies to all classes of motor vehicles (not just OHVs) *except* aircraft, watercraft, and over-snow vehicles; addresses better opportunities for sustainable motorized recreation, addresses protection of the environment, public safety, access; and includes a revision process. It provides a consistent framework for motor vehicle use on national forests and grasslands. Local units will designate those roads, trails, and areas open to motor vehicle use, by class of vehicle and if appropriate by time of year. Once designation is complete, the rule prohibits use of motor vehicles inconsistent with those designations unless the process is revised. Local units retain the ability to allow, restrict, or prohibit snowmobiles and other over-snow vehicles at the local level. Some national forests and grasslands already have established systems of roads, trails and areas designed and managed for motorized use. This rule does not require those units to change existing plans. Field units may provide for limited cross-country travel for big game retrieval or dispersed camping, if appropriate, to respond to local situations. This authority will be used sparingly.

Nov. 25, '05

Caring for each other in Central Oregon: Geoff Babb had a brain stem stroke on Nov 10 that affects both sides of his body from the neck down. He requires life support and doctors are unsure about the extent of recovery, according to information on TheStatus.com, a web site for patients. According to his wife Yvonne, Geoff hasn't lost his intelligence or sense of humor, and small improvements continue. Expressions of support continue. A fund has been set up to help them with the expenses associated with the stroke. Donations may be made to account # 1964149009 to *Yvonne Babb for the medical benefit of FMBO, Geoff Babb*. Washington Mutual, Bend South Financial Center 289, 61535 S. Hwy. 97, Suite 1, Bend, OR 97702.

Dec. 12, '05

Middle Fork Campground Construction

Private contractors have worked hard this past year to finish up construction of the new Middle Fork Campground in Snoqualmie RD, MBS NF. The 46-unit campground will officially open in May 2006. It features two group camping areas, an adjacent day-use picnic area, and an accessible nature trail with interpretive signing. For decades, Middle Fork Valley had been a problem area that attracted illegal dumping, drug labs, and other environmentally dangerous activities. In 1995, a partnership to "take back" the valley and restore order to recreational activities, and the Forest Service, joined forces with local communities, Washington DNR, and King County to do so. Using \$2MM dollars secured by former Washington State Senator Slade Gorton, work on the new facility began. MBS employees did all of the contract preparation work, and supervised contracted work.

R6 Updates-Middle Fork CG (Cont'd. next column)

R6 Updates (Cont'd.)

(Middle Fork CG cont'd.)

"This is an exciting accomplishment that marks the first time that a new campground has been built from scratch on this Forest since the late 1970s," said Mike Miller, the Forest's landscape architect and contract coordinator for this project. "...part of the campground was constructed in an old clearcut, and the day-use picnic area was constructed in an abandoned rock quarry. The design process was made especially challenging because we knew we had to make the best use out of landscapes that had been previously ground disturbed." (Courtesy of Betty Blodgett, MBS)

LIDAR

Scientists at the Fire Chemistry Unit in Missoula are using the LIDAR (Light Detection and Ranging) remote sensing technology to gather data and provide meaningful maps of real-time satellite data about smoke concentrations, dynamics, dispersal conditions, and optical characteristics, particularly during a wildfire. LIDAR senses concentrations of particulates and uses computerized controls to direct satellite measurements of smoke levels over large areas. Mobile LIDAR units, to be mounted either on a van or an aircraft that flies over an area, are also being developed.

Dec. 29, '05

Snow events

Deschutes NF, Northwest Interpretive Association (NWIA) and Mount Bachelor Ski Area will begin free, hour-long natural history snowshoe tours December 31 through March 31 at Mount Bachelor's West Village. Snowshoes are provided and prior experience is unnecessary. Participants should be older than 10, and wear snow boots and warm winter clothing. Mount Bachelor and the (NWIA) support the snowshoe tours, and NWIA also accepts donations to support the event.

Also, naturalists will again lead students on Project SNOW (Studying Nature Outdoors in Winter) tours three days a week at Mount Bachelor January 10 through March 31. Project SNOW tours provide winter ecology field experience to fifth-grade students. Participating students learn about snow studies and watershed ecology while on snowshoes. Matt Andermann is the AmeriCorps volunteer program coordinator. Contact Pete Hatman, Deschutes NF, for info about Project SNOW school tours. (Roland Giller, Deschutes NF)

Info for Your Well-being

Paramedics will turn to a victim's cell phone for clues to that person's identity. You can make their job much easier with a simple idea that they are trying to get everyone to adopt: **ICE**.

ICE stands for 'In Case of Emergency'. If you add an entry in the contacts list in your cell phone under ICE, with the name and phone number of the person that the emergency services should call on your behalf, you can save them a lot of time and have your loved ones contacted quickly. It only takes a few moments of your time to do. Paramedics know what **ICE** means and they look for it immediately. **ICE** your cell phone NOW! *Melanie Potter, Telecommunications Manager, St. Joseph's Mercy Health Center* (Courtesy Norene Blair, FS Pathfinders employee group chair)

Retirees Katrina Fund

At the 2005 Reunion, a spontaneous Hurricane Katrina Fund was established. The Forest Service family there donated most of this money on-the spot. NAFSR banked the funds and then deposited the money with the National Forest Foundation, who will oversee the distribution of the funds working with the FS folks in Region 8. The NFF expresses thanks for these donations in the following letter:

“On behalf of the National Forest Foundation (NFF) and the Forest Service employees who have experienced loss due to the devastation caused by Hurricane Katrina. Thank you for your generous \$6007 contribution to the Hurricane Katrina Fund. The NFF is pleased to establish this dedicated fund with one-hundred percent of your donation being used to help victims rebuild their lives.

The most severe loss to Forest Service employees is in Mississippi, where homes have been destroyed and possessions lost. These are rural areas where the needs for clothing, food, supplies, power and communication capability are high. Your support will enable the NFF to provide rapid response to help with immediate needs and temporary housing.

Working with Forest Service leadership, the NFF is currently establishing criteria to aid those families most in need. We expect to have more information coming through official channels in the near future and will provide you with a report as to how the funds were dispersed.

In this time, Forest Service employees, retirees and friends have demonstrated how much they care about the greater Forest Service “family”. We at the NFF are proud to do our part and sincerely appreciate your generous contribution.

William J. Possiel

President, National Forest Foundation

How To Recognize A Stroke

Sometimes symptoms of a stroke are difficult to identify. Unfortunately, the lack of awareness spells disaster. The stroke victim may suffer brain damage when people nearby fail to recognize the symptoms of a stroke. Now doctors say that a bystander can recognize a stroke by asking three simple questions:

Ask the individual to SMILE.

Ask them to RAISE BOTH ARMS.

Ask the person to SPEAK A SIMPLE SENTENCE.

If he or she has trouble with any of these tasks, call 9-1-1 immediately and describe the symptoms to the dispatcher.

After discovering that a group of non-medical volunteers could identify facial weakness, arm weakness and speech problems, researchers urged the general public to learn the three questions. They presented their conclusions at the American Stroke Association's annual meeting. Widespread use of this test could result in prompt diagnosis and treatment of the stroke and prevent brain damage. *(This has come from many sources via email)*

Chief Urges Participation in Professional Societies

Following is Chief Bosworth's letter urging participation in professional societies and states his rationale. This letter was dated Nov. 7, 2005. I think most of us retirees will strongly stand behind Dale in putting forth this direction. Following are Dale's unedited words:

“As stewards of the Nation's forests and rangelands, it is imperative that we constructively respond to the many challenges of understanding, protecting, and managing a wide variety of resources and values. To meet these various challenges, we must have a diverse and highly qualified cadre of natural resource, social science, and other professionals to assure that our management approaches are based on the best science. Over the last few years, the focus on threats to forest and range conservation that cross property boundaries has prompted tremendous changes in the basic framework of resource management principles. More than ever, it is important for professionals to continue to learn, enhance our resource knowledge, and develop innovative approaches to cooperatively conserve this Nation's natural resources.

I believe that membership, involvement, and participation in professional societies are more important now than ever before in keeping abreast of the ever-changing demands that we all face. Professional societies provide an excellent opportunity for us to come together with professionals from other agencies, organizations, and interests. They provide a forum to discuss evolving resource issues, learn from others, and cooperatively develop solutions to common problems. All of us are looking for ways to work more in a collaborative spirit and it is obvious that the wide array of professional societies offer a ready-made answer.

There are as many choices of societies as there are disciplines and interests in the Forest Service. I support your involvement in professional societies and encourage you not only to belong, but also to be proactive in your involvement. Forest Service employees are viewed as leaders within our professions. Through participation and involvement with professionals from other federal and state agencies, tribes, and the private sector, we will be more adept in continuing the essential resource leadership role in managing the Nation's forests and rangelands.

With supervisor approval, I support the reasonable use of official time and resources for participation by Forest Service employees in local, state, and national activities of professional societies. It is important to remind you that membership and participation in non-federal organizations must comply with ethics laws and regulations, i.e., the Forest Service cannot pay membership dues and employees interested in serving as an officer of a non-Federal organization cannot do so in an official capacity. Contact your Primary Ethics Advisor for assistance. If you are active in a professional society, I applaud your commitment and dedication. If you are not, I hope you will consider the importance of society membership in your continued professional growth.” *Signed by Chief Bosworth.*

The R6 Flat Cabs

(This story is from a R6 Updates story last November. Especially for you lookout buffs.)

Thanks to Mark Swift, Fremont and Winema NFs, and Keith Argow, president of the Forest Fire Lookout Association, for comments on last week's story about the reconstruction of a north central Washington lookout on Mt. Bonaparte, and specifically about change from the original authentic "flat top" design to a hipped roof design installed with the intention to prevent leaks.

"The flat top roof style lookout (known as the R-6 Flat, since it was developed in Region 6) was first used around 1957 and built in several variations into the late 1980s. It is a significant lookout style as it was the replacement cab for many 1920s and 1930s era lookouts that eventually could no longer cope with the extreme weather on these lofty summits," explains Mark Swift, a zone archaeologist who is working on a lookout style guide and an evolutionary history of lookouts. He notes that in heritage terms the work is an alteration rather than a restoration.

"The R-6 Flat was used on many peaks in Region 6, 1, 4, 2, and at least one location in Region 5. I have also seen photos of R-6 Flat cabs in eastern forests. Many of the R-6 Flat style cabs have been abandoned and removed as lookout use has been curtailed. Luckily a few are now used as recreation rentals on various forests in Regions 6 and 1, and a number are still used for fire detection."

Mark notes that he has seen other "R-6 Flat cabs" capped with peaked roofs "under the assumption that the alterations were believed to be a restoration" [in the heritage sense of the term] to the original style, "however that assumption was incorrect," he writes. "Peaked roof cabs may have been on earlier cabs on these summits, but not attached to the bottom half of the R-6 Flat," he notes, commenting that "misinformation leads to misunderstanding of our history."

"The R-6 Flat was an invention of Region 6. We should be proud of this fact and proud that it was so widely adapted by other regions and other agencies. The D-6 Cupola style lookout (the two story lookout with a small 2nd story cupola watching station) was a 1920s Region 6 design (Regions were known as Districts at that time so D-6 instead of R-6). It also received wide usage throughout the nation including eastern forests," he writes.

Regional lookout styles were sources of pride for the Regions and the Regional Architects. For instance, the 1930s era L-4 was first designed in Region 1. "It was a good design, and eventually used nationally as a standard style."

The original Region 1 design -- the hip roof L-4 of 1932 -- had nine panes of glass per window. Region 6 changed this to 4 panes of glass per window when they adopted the L-4 design; and Region 5 used 2 panes of glass per window. These were strict regional standards, only a few 9-pane hip roof L-4 were built in Region 6 prior to the Region 6 alteration. They may have been based on the back country nature of Region 1 lookouts (a long way to pack a pane of glass to replace a broken one on mule back) but even those with road access at time of construction had 9 panes of glass."

R6 Flat Cabs (Cont'd. next column)

R6 Flat Cabs (Cont'd.)

These regional variations were based more on competition between Regions and the pride in a style stamped with a Regional mark, he notes.

HJ Andrews Experimental Forest Beginnings

Phil Breiglieb related this story to me a few years before he passed away:

There was a proposal in the mid-1940's to create an experimental forest in the area of Blue River on the McKenzie River RD, Willamette NF. Walt Lund had voiced much resistance to such an idea because it would take away from allowable cut calculations for the Eugene area timber industry. A trip to view and discuss the proposed experimental forest was scheduled and both Phil Breiglieb and Walt Lund were on this trip. (I'm sorry to say that I did not get all the names of the participants.) The McKenzie Ranger provided the horses and other arrangements for 6 or 8 participants. They planned a loop horseback trip through the area on existing forest trails, leaving from one road and ending up on another road. According to Phil Breiglieb, the group listened carefully to Walt's strong opinion that the experimental forest was not a good idea. However, apparently Walt received no strong support for his position from any of the participants. This was planned as a daylong trip, so toward the end of the day they were nearing the forest boundary where the trail would go down through private land to road access where a vehicle would be waiting for them. When they reached the property line, they faced about 40 acres of felled and bucked timber where the trail used to be. There was no way to get the horses around this blockade. So the Ranger took the horses back the way they came, and the rest of the party crawled their way through the down timber to the road. I believe the party made its way to the road before dark, but the Ranger was long into the night backtracking over the trail system to where they started, leading his string of horses back to the stock truck. It was not much later that the H. J. Andrews Experimental Forest was officially established. *Wendall Jones*

Gail Baker's Career

Gail Baker was born on January 3, 1907. Gail Baker graduated from Oregon State in 1933. Gail and Adeline were also married in 1933. His first job with the Forest Service was as a summer employee on the Shasta NF, R5 (not yet the Shasta-Trinity NF) in 1933. He was a fire patrolman on a railroad running through the Forest. Later that year he was re-assigned to the Plumas NF.

In 1934, he passed the Ranger exam and was hired by the Siskiyou NF, R6, at Cave Junction. He supervised a crew out of Grayback CCC Camp, located near the Oregon Caves. This crew constructed and maintained campgrounds in the area. He also was assigned to jobs at Galice and Powers RDs at that time.

His next assignment was on the Malheur NF at John Day, OR. Then he went back to the Siskiyou NF as District Ranger at Gasquet, CA, then a part of R6.

From the Siskiyou NF he went to the Columbia Gorge RD as District Ranger at Cascade Locks, OR in 1941.

Gail Baker (Cont'd. page 19)

Bill for Collection for Annual Dues Payers

This is your Bill for Collection for 2006 Annual Dues. The dues are presently \$10 per year, and you can pay for one or more years at this time. If you do not pay before March 1, the dues rise to \$15 per year for 2006. The penalty is to cover costs of the Association in dealing with late dues payers. If not paid by March 15, your name will be removed from the mailing list for the Spring newsletter. After April 1, if dues remain unpaid, member will be placed in 'Inactive' status. Reinstatement will require a \$20 fee for the remainder of the calendar year, but no back newsletters or directories will be sent without a \$2.50 fee per issue.

Look at the backside of this notice to see if your dues have been paid for 2006. If not, you are now past due!

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Gail Baker (Cont'd. from page 18)

During WWII he was assigned to the "Synthetic Rubber Project" in Texas, experimenting with raising a plant that could be used to make synthetic rubber for the war effort.

In about 1943, Gail went to the Deschutes NF, and spent 12 years there. One of his jobs on the Deschutes was overseeing work crews at a prisoner of war camp at Camp Abbott (German and Italian soldiers).

Gail Baker Cont'd. ⇨⇨⇨⇨⇨⇨

In 1956 he moved into Fire Control (yep, that's what they called it then) in the R6 RO, where he remained as Regional Dispatcher until he retired in 1970.

Adeline and Gail raised three adopted children, two boys and one girl. The whole family was there for Adeline's services when she passed away in 2002. The Bakers had been married for 65 years.

Gail still regularly attends PNWFSA luncheons, and turned 99 years old Jan. 3, 2006. He is almost as old as the Forest Service.

Pacific Northwest
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Address changed? Please let the Association be one of the first you notify. A few weeks delay can result in you not getting your newsletter.

Coming Events

Banquet– May 21, 2006
Picnic– August 11, 2006
Visit High Desert Museum to see the USFS Exhibit