



OldSmokeys Newsletter

Newsletter of the Pacific Northwest Forest Service Retirees – Summer 2012

President's Message—Mike Ash

This message kicks off my official tour as your president, and I feel humbled by this honor. This is a fantastic organization, with members who give much of themselves in carrying out our mission.

This past year, as President-elect, I gained first-hand experience about how our organization functions, the activities we engage in, and the leadership we have in place. I must say that it has been a pleasure to work with **John Berry** and **Bill Shenk** as president and past president, respectively, and to work with a very dedicated board of directors and various committee members. I am also quite happy that **Linda Goodman** has joined us in her new president-elect role.

I don't see a need to make any significant changes to our operations this next year. I think this ship is floating and cruising just fine. I believe my job is to keep it that way, and I'll appreciate your help in doing that!

As always, the spring, summer, and fall are full of activities for OldSmokeys, and I enjoy each opportunity to visit with many of you on a more personal basis. May 20 was our annual spring Banquet that was well attended and a real treat. And wasn't it fantastic to see Bill and Vickie Shenk there after all they have been through! Then, on June 7, we had a fun special meeting up at Government Camp to tour the Mt. Hood Cultural Center and Museum and Timberline Lodge. In the immediate future, I look forward to seeing you at the Summer Picnic on August 10 and at the national U.S. Forest Service Reunion the week of September 17-21 in Vail, Colorado.

Thank you so much for the honor to serve as your president this year. It should be a fun and rewarding year!

Mike Ash

In This Issue...

Forum: "Back to the Future: 'The Good Old Days' vs. 'The Greatest Good'" by Jeff LaLande... "Congressional Action is Essential to Fixing the U.S. Forest Service" by Ted Stubblefield.....	2
OldSmokeys News: Mike Ash is President...Picnic...Reunion 2012...OldSmokey Involvement...Nancy Lankford...much more.....	3
Forest Service News: Bob Cermak...Air Tankers...Green Mountain Lookout...Wilderness Management...Best Places...more.....	12
Feature: "We Were Trained and Put to the Test" by Virgil R. "Bus" Carrell.....	16
Changes: Updates to the OldSmokeys Membership Directory.....	18
New Members: Introductions of New OldSmokeys.....	18
Memories: Remembrances of the Recently Deceased.....	19
Letters: Sharing of Thoughts and News.....	21
Books: The Tinder Box by Christopher Burchfield; Public Lands, Public Debates by Char Miller; Introduction to Forests and Renewable Resources by Hendee et al; We Had an Objective in Mind by PNWFSA; Uncle Sam's Cabins by Les Joslin.....	26
Uncle Sam's Cabins: Tiller Ranger Station, Umpqua National Forest, Oregon.....	28
Out of the Past: "Memories of Ranger Nevan McCullough" by Ross Files and Gary Shirley.....	29
My First Forest Service Job: "Toiyabe Rookie, 1962" by Les Joslin.....	30

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

Sign Up By July 31 for the Summer Picnic on August 10!

Forum

Back to the Future: “The Good Old Days” vs. “The Greatest Good”

I enjoy receiving my copies of this newsletter. As a relatively new (late 2007) member of the OldSmokeys, I’ve noticed in its pages repeated critiques from its members about the U.S. Forest Service’s various current emphases. This includes criticisms of things like multiculturalism and other aspects of the current administration. Retirees have earned the right to be constructively critical, and it’s important to express such things. For example, I too find *that* particular topic’s often kind of “rah-rah” style of agency emphasis, after all these years of it, to be somewhat overdone; however, in a nation that’s becoming ever more diverse, it certainly needs to be incorporated into the outfit’s routine ways of doing business (albeit perhaps in a more intelligent and productive manner than formerly).

Although I often agree with some of the criticisms expressed in these pages, it does seem to me (and I may well be wrong) that on occasion a few of our fellow OldSmokeys’ criticisms seem to reflect a yearning for an impractical and impossible return to the (ever-mythical) “good old days” (something for which, alas, I also often yearn, but then my “good old days” date only to the 1970s-1980s). And, frankly, a bit of the criticism expressed has—*again, simply in me’ own ‘umble opinion*—verged on curmudgeonly belly-achin’ (kind of like what you can overhear from a group of old duffers grouching down at the donut shop in just about any town). Not to try to deny anyone’s right to speak their mind, but here’s a question: Is repeated venting of “old-timer displeasure” the best way to attract and keep new members?

I want to close on a related matter (one that I hope won’t provoke too much outrage): a suggestion that we keep in mind the potential implications of current politically charged challenges to our nation’s long-held basic idea of land stewardship, of “The Greatest Good.” That is, to the legitimacy of Uncle Sam’s long-term land-and-natural-resource management. During this year’s presidential primary campaign, for example, the two front runners of the political-party-in-question had some interesting things to say about our public lands while campaigning for votes out West. One of them, speaking in Nevada, admitted that he really didn’t “know what the purpose was” of the public lands, and hinted that privatization was to be preferred: “Unless there’s a valid, legitimate, and compelling purpose, I don’t know why the government owns so much of this land.” Validity and legitimacy are in the eye of the beholder, of course, but that’s still quite a revealing statement coming from a candidate for national office. Not to be outdone, the other fellow, while speaking in Boise, opined that “the federal bureaucrats” just aren’t much concerned about the West’s public lands, that “they don’t live here, they don’t care about it...it’s flyover country for [them]....” (He might want to tell that to the hundreds of “federal bureaucrats” working in the forests and rangelands of Oregon and Washington, operating out of U.S. Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management, and other agency field units.)

Turning back the clock can sometimes seem appealing. But maybe let’s try to keep our eyes on the main prize: Given that this is an election year (and no matter what our personal politics may be), it may be good for all of us who love the national forests (and the Forest Service) to consider just how far back the clock might be turned.

—Jeff LaLande

Editor’s Note: I agree with OldSmokey Jeff LaLande that we can’t just turn the clock back to “the good old days.” I think he would agree that the Forest Service of the future would do well to adapt and capitalize on aspects of its unique history and tradition—the mystique of the forest ranger in the field, for example—as it does what it can to retool itself structurally and culturally to meet the challenges of the future. I recognize with OldSmokey Ted Stubblefield that the Forest Service cannot successfully prepare itself for the future without the absolutely essential action by Congress for which he calls.

Congressional Action is Essential to Fixing the U.S. Forest Service

The U.S. Forest Service is fixable, but not just from within. Trying to cut through **Jack Ward Thomas’** “Gordian knot” of conflicting laws that leaves the Forest Service with no clear mandate from within is like pushing a wet noodle. With all due respect for **Les Joslin’s** Spring 2012 *OldSmokeys Newsletter* editorial about the Forest Service learning from others about organizational restoration and transformation, this is not just about finding a “general” for the times we’re in.

It’s also about Congress “getting” just how seriously flawed and damaging the combined multiple directions are to the Forest Service and the National Forest System. It’s about creating a new mandate that removes the existing conflicts largely brought about by the Endangered Species Act and other laws. When this nonsense of laws is combined with the Equal Access to Justice Act allowing environmentalists to basically “get paid for their efforts in court,” the madness surrounding national forest management in today’s climate is exacerbated. No matter how diligent they are and how hard they try, the Forest Service’s district rangers are doomed to failure from appeals and lawsuits. No wonder they’re depressed. What’s to be happy about? We all found happiness in achievement; that doesn’t exist today.

What is truly sad, if not pathetic, is that Congress (1) doesn’t care, (2) doesn’t see the total failure clearly, or (3) lacks the courage or will to do anything about it. When I say “Congress,” I mean a sufficient critical mass among senators and representatives to make a constructive difference.

Bottom line: Let’s not fix the symptoms, but rather the causal agents of this mess we’re all in. I know of a few dedicated Members of Congress who are willing, but they do not have the critical mass to make it happen. They need our help.

—Ted Stubblefield

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

—Attributed to Voltaire

OldSmokeys News

OldSmokey Mike Ash Assumes 2012-13 PNWFSA Presidency at Spring Banquet

Seventy OldSmokeys gathered at Charbonneau Country Club near Wilsonville, Oregon, on May 20, 2012, for a super annual Spring Banquet at which **Mike Ash** relieved **John Berry** as President of the Pacific Northwest Forest Service Association (PNWFSA).

Mike, in turn, was relieved by former Regional Forester **Linda Goodman** as President-elect, and all were cheered when **Bill Shenk**, just recovered from a serious bout with cancer, arrived to be relieved by John as Past President.

All those reliefs happened after attending members enjoyed drinks and a delicious dinner, a lucky winner took the Mike Ash wooden bowl raffle grand prize that raised \$295 for the PNWFSA, about a dozen others won door prizes, and Regional Forester and OldSmokey **Kent Connaughton** spoke on current happenings in and challenges faced by the Outfit.

As he ended his very successful presidency, John celebrated the fact of the PNWFSA's growing membership—which that day stood at 918, including about 40 “new recruits” so far in 2012—and complimented the board of directors with which he had served.

OldSmokeys Enjoyed Gathering at Mt. Hood Cultural Center and Museum in Government Camp on June 7, 2012

OldSmokey **Lloyd Musser** welcomed a contingent of fellow Pacific Northwest Forest Service Association (PNWFSA) members who, undaunted by cool and rainy weather, arrived at the Mt. Hood Cultural Center and Museum he curates in Government Camp, Oregon, on June 7, 2012.

There, following the monthly PNWFSA Board of Directors meeting, they swapped stories, repatriated U.S. Forest Service artifacts, and toured the Museum's exhibits before enjoying lunch and a special tour of Timberline Lodge.

At the board meeting, the first at which OldSmokey **Mike Ash** presided, board members considered member “feedback” on the May 20 Spring Banquet—which all thought an outstanding banquet in every other respect—and voted to schedule the May 2013 Spring Banquet to start at 2:00 p.m. to permit time for both socializing and the semi-annual silent auction before dinner is served at 3:30 p.m. This will enable attendees to leave for home after the banquet at a better time.

Monthly PNWFSA board meetings and luncheons returned to their usual meeting time and place—the Beaverton Elks Club—on June 29. All who attended the special Government Camp luncheon thanked Lloyd for a great time in a great place.

OldSmokeys Welcomed Smokey Bear and Woodsy Owl to High Desert Museum

Several OldSmokeys were on hand for the May 10, 2012, reception at which High Desert Museum members welcomed the Smokey Bear and Woodsy Owl exhibit that opened to the public on May 11 and continues through September 16.

Smokey's and Woodsy's messages ring true in the child-oriented *Smokey Bear & Woodsy Owl: Home Sweet Home* exhibit

at the High Desert Museum south of Bend, Oregon, that has already attracted thousands of children and their parents.

This interactive exhibit for children was created by the Betty Brinn Children's Museum in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, in collaboration with the U.S. Forest Service Region 9 RO—when Regional Forester and OldSmokey **Kent Connaughton** was regional forester there—and the WO, and shows at museums all over the country.

OldSmokey **Les Joslin**, in conjunction with this exhibit, presented his illustrated talk “The Bear and I” about his personal experiences with Smokey at the Museum on Saturday afternoon, June 9. After the talk, he led interested attendees—adults and kids alike—on a visit to the High Desert Ranger Station exhibit at the Museum that is staffed daily by OldSmokeys from July 1 through September 3 (*please see “OldSmokeys Staff High Desert Ranger Station” on page 8*).

This special Smokey Bear and Woodsy Owl exhibit, along with the Pacific Northwest Forest Service Association-sponsored High Desert Ranger Station staffed by OldSmokeys, are two of many good reasons for OldSmokeys—especially those with young grandchildren in tow who would especially enjoy the Smokey-Woodsy exhibit—to visit the High Desert Museum this summer.

Editor's Note: Five miles south of Bend on U.S. Highway 97, the world-class High Desert Museum is open from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. daily from May 1 through October 31. Admission is \$15 for adults, \$12 for seniors (65 plus), \$9 for youths, (5-12), and free for children under five.



OldSmokeys **Linda Goodman** (left) and **John & Mary Marker** (right) helped open the Smokey Bear and Woodsy Owl exhibit for a five-month run at the High Desert Museum south of Bend, Oregon, on May 10, 2012. Photograph by Les Joslin



Register Before July 31 for OldSmokeys Summer Picnic on Friday, August 10!

OldSmokeys will gather for their annual Summer Picnic in the Woods on Friday, August 10, 2012, at the BLM Wildwood Recreation Area on U.S. Highway 26 between Brightwood and Zigzag, Oregon.

So, if you haven't already, please use the form below to sign up before July 31 to be sure you don't miss it!

Socializing will begin—officially, at least—at 11:00 a.m., and barbeque buffet service will begin at 12:30 p.m.. You'll enjoy a good lunch catered by Dave Dalton along with great OldSmokey companionship. You may well see folks you haven't seen in many years, and you should meet many new Pacific Northwest Forest Service Association members.

The menu is fresh barbeque Oregon chicken, hot carved beef, baked beans, fresh green salad, fresh fruits, biscuits and corn bread, coffee, iced tea, lemonade, soft drinks, beer, wine—all topped off by an ice cream sundae and all for just **\$25.00** a plate.

Wildwood Recreation Area is about 40 miles east of Portland on U.S. Highway 26 between Brightwood and Zigzag. Watch for the BLM Wildwood Recreation Area sign on the south side of the highway, and follow the signs to the area reserved for the picnic.

Carpooling will save on gasoline, parking fees, and limited parking space.

There's a \$5.00 per vehicle fee that helps BLM maintain the Wildwood Recreation Area as the special place it is. A variety of federal recreation passes—the America the Beautiful-National Parks and Federal Recreation Lands Pass (the \$10.00 lifetime senior version, for which most OldSmokeys qualify, or the regular annual version, the free lifetime version for citizens with permanent disabilities, the free annual volunteer pass) or other valid existing federal passes such as the Golden Eagle, Golden Age, and Golden Access passports will do the parking fee trick. If you use one of these, please either display your pass or write your pass number on the payment envelope and place it on the dashboard of your car.

If you have any questions, please call PNWFSA Picnic Chair **Rick Larson** at 541-386-5175 or e-mail Rick at <rlarson@gorge.net>.

Send in this reservation form (or a copy of it) now! Remember, reservations are due not later than July 31!

**Pacific Northwest Forest Service Association
SUMMER PICNIC—AUGUST 10, 2012
BLM Wildwood Picnic Area**

RESERVATION FORM

Socializing at 11:00—Lunch at 12:30

*Mail this reservation form and a check for \$25.00 per person (payable to PNWFSA) to:
PNWFSA, P.O. Box 5583, Portland, Oregon 97228-5583*

Please reserve _____ picnic lunches at \$25.00 each for (names exactly as they will appear on name tags):

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

Please send your reservation form in to be received no later than July 31, 2012!

U.S. Forest Service Reunion 2012 OldSmokeys Eagerly Anticipate September “Rendezvous in the Rockies” in Vail, Colorado

OldSmokeys know that a U.S. Forest Service career goes far beyond just “having a job.” The friendships made and the satisfaction gained “caring for the land and serving people” carry over into retirement. And, fortunately for all of us—retirees and current personnel alike, Forest Service retirees put on a heck of a gathering every few years.

The U.S. Forest Service Reunion 2012—the “Reunion in the Rockies” at Vail, Colorado, this September 17-21—will prove that point! This is a chance not to be missed, to renew old friendships, share stories of great adventures in the woods as well as in the public arena, to gain insights into our Outfit’s continuing work, and to help build its future.

That’s why, if you haven’t already, it’s time to register to attend and reserve your accommodation for U.S. Forest Service Reunion 2012 in Vail, Colorado, this September 17-21—just two short months from now!

Register and Reserve!

There’s still time to register and reserve for “Rendezvous in the Rockies” and enjoy U.S. Forest Service Reunion 2012 in beautiful Vail, Colorado, this coming September 17-21!

Although “early bird” registration ended on June 15 and the registration fees have gone up just a tad (to \$195 for retirees, \$155 for companions, and \$405 for non-retirees), it’s still well worth going to Vail this September. There won’t be another Forest Service reunion until September 2015 in Albuquerque, New Mexico. So don’t put off what you can do this fall for three whole years.

Complete registration and reservation information is available on the “Rendezvous in the Rockies” website at <<http://fsreunion2012.com>> so get with it! Pronto!

Participate in the Program!

The “Rendezvous in the Rockies” program—including all general sessions, the evening events, field trips, and breakfasts—is designed first and foremost to provide all participants time to reconnect with Forest Service friends and associates from all across the country.

The reunion team has put together what promises to be an interesting, thought-provoking, and reflective program with outstanding speakers, panels, and presentations devoted to the simple theme “We cared for the land and served the people, and we still care.”

The keynote address will be given by Professor Patty Limerick, Faculty Director and Chair of the Board of the Center for the American West at the University of Colorado where she is a professor of history. Professor Limerick has dedicated her career to bridging the gap between academics and the general public and to demonstrating the benefits of applying historical perspective to contemporary dilemmas and conflicts. She will offer a reflective perspective on who we are and why we should be proud of what we have done in our years of service.

There will be opportunities to hear from our former chiefs as

well as from a group of young leaders who will share their ideas and hopes for the Forest Service. Panels will discuss the changing realities facing the agency and reflect on “How good were the good old days?” You will be able to choose between eight different sessions on Thursday afternoon.

You won’t want to miss the trip to the “Top of the Mountain” on Wednesday evening after the field trips for a barbeque and amazing views of Mount Holy Cross and the Gore Range.

There will be entertainers at the receptions, breakfasts, banquet. You’ll be busy, but have free time, too.

Many of the events above are included in your registration fee; for some such as the field trips there is an additional cost. See the website for complete details.

OldSmokeys Can Tell Their Stories for The History Room Oral Interview Project at the September 17-21 Vail Reunion

Got a story to tell? Sure you have! And the Forest Service Reunion 2012 Team wants you to tell it for the Oral Interview Project while you enjoy “Rendezvous in the Rockies,” the September 17-21 Forest Service Reunion 2012 in Vail, Colorado.

Colorado State University graduate students working with Lincoln Bramwell, Ph.D., the U.S. Forest Service’s national historian, want to hear your story in The History Room at the Reunion. They’re looking for all kinds of stories—old ones, new ones, tall ones and especially those that help tell future generations about the proud history of the Forest Service. Yep, they really want to hear about those days when you entered the Forest Service. They want to know where you started and what it was like. They want to hear the good, the bad, and even a little bit of the ugly.

If you haven’t already reserved a time in The History Room that fits your Reunion 2012 schedule—as invited in the May 5 Forest Service Reunion 2012 Information Update sent online to all who plan to attend—you can sign up when you sign in at the Reunion or just find The History Room in the Marriott Hotel where CSU students will be waiting to talk with you.

Most oral history interviews will take only a half hour or so. OldSmokeys who have already responded to the *OldSmokeys Newsletter* request for a *My First Forest Service Job* story will be way ahead of the game, and might just want to bring a copy of their submission with them. All should put on their thinking caps, show up at The History Room, and become a documented part of Forest Service history.

OldSmokey Bev Pratt’s Reunion Bus Plan Has Been Downsized to a Van Plan

OldSmokey **Bev Pratt** hasn’t filled the bus to take PNWFSA members from Portland, Oregon, to Vail, Colorado, for Forest Service Reunion 2012 as she proposed, but she has organized a group to share the economies and fun of a round-trip by van. The size of the van will depend on the final passenger list.

If you are interested in joining this van group, get in touch with Bev soon by phone at 503-255-3265 or send her an e-mail at <prattpratt@aol.com>.

OldSmokeys Who Are CCC Alumni and Others May Attend September 2012 CCC Legacy Gathering in Missoula

Missoula, Montana, has been selected for the annual CCC Legacy Gathering scheduled for September 27 to 30, 2012. “Everyone is welcome,” according to the May-June 2012 *CCC Legacy Journal*. Members and other interested folks may “enjoy an event that is a combination [of] history and entertainment [as well as] “the required annual business meeting” of the organization.

The gathering includes receptions and a banquet; extensive programming still being developed; field trips to historic Nine-mile Ranger Station and Remount Depot, the National Museum of Forest Service History, the Smokejumpers Visitor Center, the Mountain Flying Museum, and historic Fort Missoula that served as district headquarters for the CCC; and plenty of time to renew old friendships.

For information and registration, see page 5 of the May-June 2012 *CCC Legacy Journal* at <www.ccclegacy.org> or contact organizer Stan Cohen at 713 South 3rd Street West, Missoula, Montana 59803, by telephone at 406-549-8488, or by e-mail at <phpc@montana.com>.

Prepared from “Plans for CCC Legacy Annual Gathering Underway in Montana” and “2012 CCC Legacy Gathering” on pages 4 and 5 of the May-June 2012 CCC Legacy Journal.

OldSmokeys’ Perspectives on National Forests and Forest Service Got Front Page Attention in SAF’s May 2012 *The Forestry Source*

The views of two OldSmokeys—U.S. Forest Service Chief Emeritus **Dr. Jack Ward Thomas** and *OldSmokeys Newsletter* Editor **Les Joslin**—were shared with the national forestry community when they appeared in tandem on the front page of the May 2012 issue of *The Forestry Source* published by the Society of American Foresters for forest resources professionals.

“Managing the National Forests: Challenges and Opportunities” included articles that Editor Steve Wiant subtitled as “Two Commentaries Offering Hard Looks at the Past, Present, and Future of the U.S. Forest Service.”

Chief Thomas’ “The Future of the National Forests: Who Will Answer an Uncertain Trumpet?” was excerpted from a lengthy two-part essay that appeared in the Fall and Winter 2011 editions of *Fast Chase*, the magazine of the Boone and Crockett Club (www.boone-crockett.org).

Les’ “The Forest Service Can Learn from Others about Restoration and Transformation” was originally published as an editorial in the Spring 2012 *OldSmokeys Newsletter*.

The paired articles focused on what many consider the two essentials of the National Forest System’s and the Forest Service’s futures: a clear National Forest System management mandate in law and a restored and revitalized Forest Service to carry out that mandate.

OldSmokeys Testified at May 21 U.S. House of Representatives Field Hearing in Longview

OldSmokeys were among eight who offered testimony at the May 21, 2012, U.S. House of Representatives’ Subcommittee on National Parks, Forests and Public Lands oversight field hearing in Longview, Washington, on “Failed Federal Forest Policies: Endangering Jobs, Forests and Species.” Chaired by Representative Doc Hastings (Republican-Washington), the powerful chairman of the House Natural Resources Committee, the hearing examined how federal implementation of the Northwest Forest Plan and Endangered Species Act has affected local economies, forest health, and the Northern Spotted Owl.

Background of the hearing

“In 1990, the Northern Spotted Owl was listed under the Endangered Species Act and, as a result, the Northwest Forest Plan was established,” the committee’s May 21 press release explained. “The Obama Administration recently released a new critical habitat proposal for the Northern Spotted Owl that would modify current management and place huge portions of Washington, Oregon and California off limits to economic development.”

“To put it simply, the Northwest Forest Plan has failed,” said Chairman Hastings. “It has failed the health of national forests. It has failed the economic well-being of rural counties and schools, has cost tens of thousands of Northwest timber-related jobs and the closure of hundreds of mills and affected wood-products industries. And it has failed to recover the Spotted Owl. Action must be taken now to protect rural communities and private property from these burdensome regulations.”

“If the current path is endangering jobs, forests, and species, why would we double down on the policies in place?” asked Representative Jaime Herrera Beutler (Republican-Washington). “That’s precisely what the Administration’s current critical habitat proposal would do by locking off more public and private forest land from economic activity. The science and stories from today’s hearing revealed the need for a much better solution. We’ve got to balance our forest health and economy, otherwise spotted owls and jobs will continue to disappear.”

Testimony at the hearing

Testimony generally supported “the need for a much better solution.”

OldSmokey **Steve Mealey**, Vice President of Conservation for the Boone and Crockett Club, stressed the need for an independent review of the current management practices prior to the creation and implementation of a new, more restrictive management plan. “Recent assessments of uncharacteristic wildfire risks indicate that the absence of active management to mitigate fire risks in such areas may be the greater risk to vulnerable species. Ironically, continuation of highly restrictive precautionary, principle-driven, short-term, risk-averse protection measures will likely lead to the continued deterioration of the very resources the environmental laws were intended to protect.”

Steve noted that, without the steady creation of early habitat for deer and elk through logging, populations of these game species have dropped, resulting in a corresponding drop in hunting in Oregon.

In written testimony, OldSmokey **Ted Stubblefield**, former forest supervisor of the Olympic and Gifford Pinchot national forests and an independent natural resource consultant, stressed “it is time to move on to 21st century national forest management using wildlife terminology and outcomes as the driver of the process and co-determiner of priority treatments and system balance” perhaps best achieved by “forest ecosystem management by seral stages.” This “form of forest vegetation type arrangement [would] serve the greatest number of species in the long run, while providing a moderate sustainable supply of wood to meet national needs and provide receipts to the dependent counties.”

For any such positive change, Stub noted, “Congress must initiate varying levels of modification and change to” a range of environmental laws.

OldSmokey and Regional Forester **Kent Connaughton** represented the U.S. Department of Agriculture and the Forest Service.

Most testimony reflected witness concern that, as the committee’s press release summed it up, “the Obama Administration’s proposed Spotted Owl critical habitat proposal [would] cause further economic harm to already struggling Northwest economies with little to no benefit to the Spotted Owl.

Editor’s Note: This brief article reflects the general tenor of a complex field hearing, summarizes the participation and opinions of Pacific Northwest Forest Service Association members, and takes no position on the issue.

Prepared from multiple sources including U.S. House of Representatives Press Release “Northwest Federal Forest Regulations Have Devastated Forest Health, Local Economies With Little Benefit to Northern Spotted Owl” of May 21, 2012; “OSU dean criticizes how forests are handled” by Andrew Clevenger in the May 22, 2012, edition of The Bulletin (Bend, Oregon); “Comments to the U.S. House Committee on Natural Resources’ Subcommittee on National Parks, Forests and Public Lands ‘Failed Federal Forest Policies: Endangering Jobs, Forests & Species’ of May 21, 2012, submitted by Ted Stubblefield; and e-mail communications between Ted Stubblefield and Editor Les Joslin.

OldSmokeys Participate in July 2012 “Revitalizing the National Forest System” Strategic Planning Meeting in Sacramento

Just about the time you get this Summer 2012 edition of your *OldSmokeys Newsletter* several Pacific Northwest Forest Service Association (PNWFSA) members will be attending a July 17-18 “Revitalizing the National Forest System” strategic planning meeting in Sacramento, California.

The purpose of this meeting is to develop a strategy for approaching and encouraging Congress to initiate a comprehensive review of the National Forest System and the laws governing its management to ensure this valuable national resource is protected and managed in a manner consistent with Congress’s intent when it established these lands.

Why is such action needed? Enabling acts for the national forests date from 1891, but political pressures and extreme en-

vironmental actions have kept the U.S. Forest Service from fulfilling their intended management of the national forests to the detriment of the National Forest System.

The objectives of the strategic planning meeting are to:

- Understand the history and current condition of the National Forest System
- Understand the goals of revitalizing the National Forest System
- Identify roadblocks and challenges to the goals
- Identify strategies to accomplish the goals
- Detail the criteria needed to create the coalitions to implement those strategies and accomplish those goals

Governor Jerry Brown of California is invited to kick off the meeting by speaking about the key role of the national forests in achieving resilient landscapes, increasing jobs in local communities, and working together to improve forest and rangeland health.

Then U.S. Forest Service Chief Emeritus and OldSmokey **Dr. Jack Ward Thomas** will share key points from his 2011 article series “The Future of National Forests” in which he assessed future challenges to the National Forest System and possible solutions.

After lunch, Dr. Hal Salwasser, Executive Dean, Oregon State University, will speak on challenges to the western forests’ resources, communities, and future possibilities.

Dean Salwasser was to be followed by Governor C.L. “Butch” Otter of Idaho—who has had to cancel and for whom a replacement was to be scheduled—and Ann Walker, Program Director of Forest Health for the Western Governors’ Association, who will address the reality and results of wildfires in the western forests and emerging fire management strategies.

Todd Jones, Field Representative for Congressman Wally Heger of California’s Second Congressional District, will share what it takes to make productive legislative change and the development of legislation HR 1485 and HR 1996.

With that background, conferees will create the coalition’s teams and task directions before adjourning for dinner.

The second day of the meeting will begin with team meetings at which teams will develop plans, schedules, and processes for accomplishment of assigned action items.

Hosted by the National Institute for the Elimination of Catastrophic Wildfire, this strategic planning mission is sponsored by the Northern California Resource Center and the National Association of Forest Service Retirees.

The results of this meeting will be reported in your Fall 2012 *OldSmokeys Newsletter*.

Prepared from the strategic planning meeting announcement and agenda.

OldSmokeys stay
INVOLVED!





Smokey, America's "wildfire preventin' bear" for 68 years, puts in daily appearances at the High Desert Ranger Station this summer. High Desert Museum photograph by Todd Cary

OldSmokeys Staff High Desert Museum's High Desert Ranger Station for Fourth Consecutive Summer

Daily appearances of Smokey Bear, who ambles out from the High Desert Museum's popular May 11 through September 16 Smokey Bear-Woodsy Owl exhibit, are assisting nine OldSmokeys and two non-OldSmokey volunteers greet visitors at the Museum's High Desert Ranger Station this summer.

OldSmokeys **Carl Anderson, Rico Burgess, George Chesley, Dick Connelly, Don Doyle, Les Joslin, Stan Kunzman, Jon Stewart, and Desi Zamudio**, along with Museum volunteers Dave Gilbert and Donna Noyes, are splitting the 65 days from July 1 through September 3 to keep the Pacific Northwest Forest Service Association-sponsored ranger station exhibit up and running again this summer.

In addition to telling the National Forest System and U.S. Forest Service stories to visitors, OldSmokeys walk visitors through a couple interactive activities during which they learn time-honored fire management techniques and skills and from which they take a fire prevention message.

At the newly restored and installed fire danger measurement station, visitors learn to take readings of temperature, relative humidity, wind speed and direction, precipitation, and fuel moisture from which fire danger is calculated.

And, after being told the Osborne fire finder is found in a fire lookout and not at a ranger station, they are invited to spot simulated smokes, shoot a couple azimuths from two lookouts (simulated with the one fire finder), report those azimuths to a dispatcher, and locate the simulated fire location on a map.

Visitors are often surprised to learn that some lookouts were lookout-smokechasers sent from their stations to suppress nearby fires they detected. Some are surprised that many fires are put out without water.

At the end of their ranger station visits, visitors are given a colorful new "take-away" card with the ranger station story on one side and the story of the ponderosa pine forest on the other.

OldSmokey Nancy Lankford Has Benefitted from Her Own Work on Taxol as U.S. Forest Service Silviculturist

Twenty years ago, as Mt. Hood National Forest silviculturist, OldSmokey **Nancy Lankford** took part in a life changing project harvesting the bark of yew trees for medical research and development. She knew that the tremendous effort she was exerting could have significant benefits for others, but she had no idea that one day she would benefit as well.

At that time, research was indicating that Taxol, a chemical extracted from the bark of the Pacific yew tree (*Taxus brevifolia*), was an extremely effective anti-cancer drug. Patients with ovarian and breast cancer, treated with Taxol, showed high response rates (tumor shrinking) when no other chemical provided patients with any results. The Mt. Hood National Forest, along with other national forests in Regions 1, 4, 5 and 6, agreed to do their part and provide bark from the yew tree in an unprecedented and expedited way. Between 1991 and 1993, over two million pounds of dry yew bark were harvested from



Silviculturist Nancy Lankford and the life-saving Pacific yew. Photograph by Michael Ellis

national forest lands for the development of Taxol!

As the Mt. Hood National Forest tree improvement coordinator at the time, Nancy led the project because she knew how to “sex a tree,” or tell the difference between male and female yew trees. Nancy became the designated Pacific yew coordinator and was involved in a large range of efforts from working with harvest contractors in the woods, assisting in the development of Pacific yew conservation and management guidelines, serving as a technical witness at a congressional hearing in Washington, D.C., and even speaking at a medical convention.

“It was exciting, intense and important work—work that could save lives—and it felt good to be a bridge between forestry and medicine,” Nancy says. “It was also another important reminder not to take for granted the biodiversity that our forests provide.”

The program was meant to be phased out as more sustainable sources of Taxol were developed and an alternative, semi-synthetic source of Taxol was developed from yew twigs and needles in 1993. Nancy moved on to other work.

Last fall, Nancy’s life was turned around after she was diagnosed with early stage breast cancer. She underwent surgery in December 2011, and in January 2012 started chemotherapy with Taxotere, a semi-synthetic compound similar to Taxol. She finished her last chemotherapy treatment at the end of March. Since the cancer was found early and these treatments are now available, Nancy will be just fine—and an OldSmokey—for a long time to come.

“I still can’t quite believe that the most important work I’ve done in my Forest Service career to help others in their fight against cancer has also helped save my own life,” Nancy observed recently. “What goes around, comes around.”

Editor’s Note: This article is adapted almost verbatim from “Good Work Comes Full Circle” by Rick Acosta, Nancy Lankford, and Sarah Levy published in the April 12, 2012, issue of The BiWeekly R6 Update, the newsletter of the Pacific Northwest Region of the U.S. Forest Service edited by Katie Isacksen.

OldSmokey Duane Mallams Featured in Medford Newspaper Firefighter Article

OldSmokey **Duane Mallams**, who with his wife Katy joined the Pacific Northwest Forest Service Association just this February (see *New Members* on page 20 of the Spring 2012 *OldSmokeys Newsletter*), was featured in Medford *Mail Tribune* reporter Paul Fattig’s April 2, 2012 article “Veterans cherish years as firefighting special forces.”

Those special forces are the interagency hotshot crews deployed all over the country to particularly challenging wildfire suppression jobs. Duane got his start in 1965 as a member of the Star Inter-Regional Fire Suppression Crew based at Star Ranger Station on the Rogue River National Forest. That crew moved to Prospect, Oregon, in 1970, where it was renamed the Rogue River Inter-Regional Fire Suppression Crew and in 1980 the Prospect Interagency Hotshots, and to the Klamath Ranger District on the Winema National Forest in 1982 where it became today’s Winema Interagency Hotshots.

A 1965 fire Fattig termed “a stubborn blaze in the Umpqua National Forest” was Duane’s trial by fire. “We were only halfway through the first day.” Fattig quoted Duane. “And I was utterly exhausted from building a hot line.” But Duane “gutted it our like the rest of the Star [crew]...and would spend four full seasons with the crew, building countless more hot lines—fire lines hard against a fire—and rising to squad boss in 1969.”

“For a young kid from Medford, it was a great way to see the country,” Fattig quoted Duane. “We flew all over the Western states and got to go into backcountry few people ever see. It was extremely grueling work, but very rewarding. We had great teamwork.”

And now Duane, who retired from the Rogue River National Forest in 1997, is an OldSmokey.

Prepared from Paul Fattig’s article “Veterans cherish years as firefighting special forces” published in The Bulletin (Bend, Oregon) on April 2, 2012.

OldSmokey Bob Deal Honored With Oregon SAF Lifetime Achievement Award

The Oregon Society of American Foresters presented its Lifetime Achievement Award for sustained service to the Society and lifetime achievement in the forestry profession at the local, state, and national levels to OldSmokey **Bob Deal** at its April 26-27, 2012, annual meeting in Seaside, Oregon.

Bob is a research silviculturist at the Pacific Northwest Research Station.

Congratulations, Bob!

Prepared from the April 13, 2012, The Chief’s Desk and the Oregon SAF website.

PNWFSA Membership Update

OldSmokeys Over 90 Are Entitled to Free PNWFSA Lifetime Membership

OldSmokeys who are 90 years old or older and who are not already lifetime members of the Pacific Northwest Forest Service Association (PNWFSA) are entitled to free lifetime membership.

This free lifetime membership (in place of annual membership and paying of annual dues) is *automatic* at age 90 for those members who have their birthdates in the database. OldSmokeys who have not provided a birth date should request free lifetime membership by writing or calling the database manager.

This process can be facilitated by OldSmokeys sending in their birthdates to be added to the database. PNWFSA lacks birthdates for 200 of its 900-plus members.

The average age of PNWFSA members is 75, and many members are already lifetime members.

Membership Requirements

Membership in the PNWFSA is open to: (1) any retiree of the U.S. Forest Service, (2) any current employee of the Forest Service with at least 20 years of government service (including military service) who works in or has worked in the Pacific Northwest, and (3) any retiree who has worked for the U.S. Forest Service in the Pacific Northwest. The PNWFSA Board of Directors may also grant special memberships in individual

cases.

Membership will be granted upon submission of a membership application and payment of dues. Lifetime memberships are \$250 and no further dues are paid. Annual membership dues are \$20.

All new Region 6 and Pacific Northwest Research Station retirees will be given a one-year complimentary membership.

Membership applications are available from the PNWFSA, P.O. Box 5583, Portland, Oregon 97228, or online at <www.oldsmokeys.org> click on “membership.”

Membership Benefits

Membership in the PNWFSA entitles the member to attend a monthly luncheon currently held on the last Friday of each month in Beaverton, Oregon, as well as the annual Spring Banquet in May and the annual Summer Picnic in August and occasional special events or trips.

Members receive the quarterly *OldSmokeys Newsletter* that keeps them up to speed on PNWFSA happenings and Forest Service news as well as a range of feature articles and sections and complete membership information; an annual *Membership Directory*; frequent *E-Notes* that routinely forward items of immediate interest to all members with Internet access; and access to the OldSmokeys web site that contains the quarterly newsletter, a bulletin board, membership information, and other items of general interest.

OldSmokeys Significantly Boost Emergency Relief Fund

OldSmokey donations so far this year have increased the Pacific Northwest Forest Service Association (PNWFSA) Emergency Assistance Fund from \$3,712 at the end of 2011 to a current total of \$4,597 available to provide emergency assistance to U.S. Forest Service folks—active duty or retired—in need.

Donors to the fund since January 1, 2012, include (in alphabetical order): **Doug Barton, Chet Bennett, John Butruille, Andrew Cainion, Bus Carrell, Allen Garr, Don Graham, Bruce Hendrickson, Walt Kerr, Henry Johnson, Barbara McDonald, Keith McGonagill, Robert Nesbitt, Louis Piha, Bob Schramek, James Stapleton, William Stein, Betty Taylor, Tony VanderHeide, and Desi Zamudio.**

OldSmokeys Donate Generously to PNWFSA Grant/Project Fund in 2012

OldSmokeys **James Amman, Chester Bennett, Jean Brady, Bus Carrell, Ross Files, Walt Furen, Philip Jaspers, Russell Kahre, Robert Larse, Richard Lemmon, Steven Lenius, Jill McLean, Ray Schaaf, and Ron Thompson** have contributed \$515 to the Pacific Northwest Forest Service Association (PNWFSA) General Fund since January 1, 2012.

That fund, which now stands at \$7,092, is used to fund grants for projects that accomplish educational, natural, and heritage resource objective that meet OldSmokey criteria.

The OldSmokeys awarded grants totaling \$6,100 to three projects last year, and accepted grant proposals for this year through June 15.

OldSmokeys Have Reissued the 2005 U.S. Forest Service Centennial Anthology *We Had an Objective in Mind*

The Pacific Northwest Forest Service Association (PNWFSA) has reissued *We Had an Objective in Mind*, an anthology of stories that trace the history of the U.S. Forest Service in the Pacific Northwest it published in 2005 to mark the Forest Service Centennial.

In five years the book sold 1,750 copies. Revenues these sales raised benefitted PNWFSA’s Grants/Projects Fund that has supported many good works.

When the PNWFSA Board of Directors decided there was still revenue potential in the book, OldSmokey **Don Nearhood** determined a “print-on-demand” approach preferable to investing a lot of time and money in printing and marketing a large inventory of books. As a result, *We Had an Objective in Mind* is available from <Lulu.com> as a quality paperback book for \$20.00 per copy plus postage or as an e-book for \$10.00.

We Had an Objective in Mind is full of stories that track the evolution of the Forest Service in the Pacific Northwest. These stories begin with the early rangers, men who began with not much more than a badge, a horse, a meager camp outfit, a *Use Book*, and orders to protect and preserve the new National Forest System for “the greatest good, to the greatest number, in the long run.”

The stories progress from tales of the hardships and difficulties of starting a new venture through the decades of World War I, the Great Depression and the Civilian Conservation Corps, the advent of smokejumping and other aspects of firefighting, and the evolution of multiple-use management from World War II to the present. Readers experience the beginnings, the growth spurts, and everyday life as told by the Forest Service folks who lived them—many of whom OldSmokeys know.

There are three ways to get a copy of this book: order a copy from <Lulu.com> for \$20.00 plus postage; download an e-reader version from <Lulu.com> for \$10.00; buy a copy at the September 17 through 21 U.S. Forest Service Reunion “Rendezvous in the Rockies: in Vail, Colorado, for \$20.00 and pay no postage.

OldSmokey Ball Cap Revenues Benefit the PNWFSA Grant/ Project Fund

Every OldSmokey needs a Pacific Northwest Forest Service Association (PNWFSA) baseball cap like the one OldSmokey **Jack Smith** makes look so dapper.

Revenues benefit the PNWFSA Grant/Project Fund that supports good works around the region

Please contact OldSmokey **Bob Williams** at <rwwms35@comcast.net> to order one or more for just \$10.00 each plus a small charge for postage.



OldSmokey Jack Smith Wears the cap well!

OldSmokeys Treasurer Bill Funk Presents PNWFSA Financial Report for 2011

First, I'd like to thank OldSmokey **Vern Clapp** for his 15-plus years of service as the Pacific Northwest Forest Service Association (PNWFSA) treasurer (among all the other roles he has taken on) and OldSmokey **Bev Pratt** for her lengthy service as PNWFSA's secretary and money collector.

Vern brought the PNWFSA into the computer age in terms of managing our financial resources as well as leaving us in great financial shape. Bev tracked and documented "who paid for what" and made all our deposits, a time-consuming and extremely important job.

The year 2011 was highlighted by an independent financial review which showed the PNWFSA doing well at following our by-laws and procedures, in documenting our transactions, and in minimizing risks of fraud. There were a couple recommendations, the main one being to look into requiring two signatures on checks. After consideration, the Board of Directors set up a requirement for two signatures for items not included in the budget.

The PNWFSA stayed in sound financial shape during 2011. As you can see at right, our General Operating Income and Expenses finished well in the black.

With the sponsorship of then-President **John Berry** the PNWFSA started a new Emergency Relief fund to provide assistance in unexpected crises such as the July 11, 2010, fire that destroyed the Wallowa-Whitman National Forest visitor center and administrative offices in Enterprise, Oregon. When the OldSmokeys as an organization from its general operating fund and as individuals provided \$1,050 to help affected Forest Service folks replace lost personal items, the Emergency Relief Fund was born. Now its there to help in such cases.

From its Grant/Project Fund (formerly known as the "Book Fund" for the source of much of its revenue), the PNWFSA granted \$1,150 to the Friends of Fish Lake for Fish Lake Historic Area projects, \$1,000 to Forests Forever, and \$2,000 to the Siskiyou Smokejumper Museum.

During the latter part of 2011, the PNWFSA began an analysis of its Lifetime Fund to determine the balance needed to cover future costs associated with lifetime memberships. As of December 31, 2011, out of approximately 900-plus members, about 530 were lifetime members with an average age of 76. The analysis, completed in January 2012, indicated the PNWFSA needed to maintain around \$100,000 in the Lifetime Fund. Maintaining this balance was approved by the Board of Directors at its January 2012 meeting.

The Lifetime fund investments earned \$4,458 during 2011. This included interest, dividends, and realized capital gains. The Statement of Financial Position at right shows the market value of PNWFSA's investments as of December 31, 2011, which includes unrealized capital gains.

Please feel free to contact me if you have questions about this report or if you would like to see a more detailed version of this report.

—Bill Funk, Treasurer

Pacific Northwest Forest Service Association, Inc. Statement of Revenue & Expenses January 1 through December 31, 2011

GENERAL OPERATING INCOME/EXPENSE

Income

Dues Collections for 2011	6,480
Dues Collections for Outyears	2,845
Banquet/Picnic Receipts	6,636
Gifts & Donations Received	365
Forest Service Participating Agreement	3,000
OldSmokeys Cap Sales	400*
Lifetime Trust Income	0

Total Income **19,726**

* As of late July, 2011, cap sales receipts went to the Grant/Project Fund

Expenses

Total Administrative Expenses	779
Bank and State Fees	77
Professional Fees (Financial Review)	800
Insurance	553
Newsletter and Directory	8,838
Banquet and Picnic Expenses	5,805
Total Other Expenses	760

Total Expenses **17,612**

Net: Income Less Expense **2,114**

RESTRICTED FUNDS INCOME & DISBURSEMENTS

Grant/Project Fund Disbursements

Friends of Fish Lake	1,150
Forests Forever	1,000
Siskiyou Smokejumper Museum	2,000

Total Grants Made **4,150**

Emergency Relief Fund Donations **3,721**

(No distributions made)

Lifetime Fund Investments

Income (Interest, Dividends, etc.)	3,551
Realized Capital Gain/(Loss)	907

Total Lifetime Investment Income **4,458**

Statement of Financial Position

December 31, 2011

ASSETS

Checking	4,239.95
Investments	115,357.20

Total Assets **119,651.15**

EQUITY

Operating Fund	4,293.95
Raffle/Auction Fund	3,291.28
Lifetime Trust Fund	103,641.95
Grant/Project Fund	4,783.97
Emergency Relief Fund	3,712.00

Total Equity **119,651.15**

—Bill Funk, Treasurer

Forest Service News

U.S. Forest Service Loses Forester and Fire Historian Robert W. Cermak

Robert W. “Bob” Cermak died in Oroville, California, on April 14, 2012, at age 84. In addition to his distinguished U.S. Forest Service career, Bob was known for his authorship of *Fire in the Forest: A History of Forest Fire Control in the National Forests of California, 1898-1956* published by the U.S. Forest Service, Pacific Southwest Region, as R5-FR-003 in July 2005, and also printed by the U.S. Government Printing Office for public sale.

Bob was born in 1927 in San Diego, California, and served in the U.S. Navy during World War II. He received a B.S. degree in forestry from the University of California, Berkeley, in 1950, and then worked three seasons for lumber companies in California and Alaska. On August 9, 1952, Bob and Ethel Close were married. Bob joined the U.S. Forest Service in 1953 and first served on the Tonasket Ranger District of the old Chelan National Forest that became the Okanogan National Forest, and then transferred to Region 5. He served on seven national forests in four Forest Service regions during his 30-year career. During nine years on the Plumas National Forest he was involved in many large forest fires and a major fire prevention project.

Bob was forest supervisor of the San Isabel National Forest in Colorado, the George Washington National Forest in Virginia, and the North Carolina National Forests before returning in 1977 to Region 5 as Deputy Regional Forester for Resources. He retired in 1982, built a home, and earned an M.A. degree in history from California State University in Chico in 1986. His master’s thesis was the basis for *Fire in the Forest*. Also after retirement he restored the family forest, consulted in fire-safe planning, and researched and wrote natural resource history.

Bob is survived by his wife Ethel and their children.

Prepared from an April 13, 2012, announcement from the Cermak family; an April 17, 2012, e-mail from OldSmokey Dale Farley; and a biographical sketch in Bob’s 2005 book Fire in the Forest.

U.S. Forest Service, Other Agencies Said Ready for 2012 Wildfires

Secretary of Agriculture Tom Vilsack and Secretary of the Interior Ken Salazar announced on April 26, 2012, the federal government’s readiness for the coming wildland fire season “to ensure protection for communities and restoration of forests and public lands across the country.”

The secretaries described federal capability to respond to wildfires that are becoming more complex, particularly in areas where urban populations are situated near forested and rangeland areas. Firefighting capabilities are available to handle the fire season, they declared, with more than 15,000 firefighters available. These include permanent and seasonal federal and state employees, crews from tribal and local governments, contract crews, and temporary hires.

“We are ready to meet the challenge,” said Secretary Vilsack. “The National Cohesive Wildland Fire Management Strategy provides a strong, new blueprint to ensure community safety and the restoration of ecosystems to benefit all Americans, especially those who live in the urban-wildland interface areas. Our concern does not stop at the border of federal lands, but rather a strategy that is an all-lands approach for safety and wildfire management.”

On average, U.S. Forest Service and Department of the Interior firefighters respond to more than 20,000 wildfires per year, suppressing all but a small percentage on initial attack.

“Regions across the country face serious risks of extreme wildfires this year because of the mild winter and low precipitation levels in many areas,” said Secretary Salazar. Forecasters at the National Interagency Fire Center (NIFC) in Boise, Idaho, said an exceptional drought across much of the Southwest and into the Great Basin increases the possibility of an above normal fire season in those areas this year. Also of concern are the western slopes of the Rockies in Colorado, parts of the Southeast, northern Wisconsin and Minnesota, and parts of Hawaii.

“Federal firefighters, aircraft, and ground equipment are strategically assigned to parts of the country as the fire season shifts across the nation. Firefighting experts will continuously monitor conditions and move these assets as necessary to be best positioned and increase initial attack capabilities,” said U.S. Forest Service Chief Tom Tidwell. “In addition, we are... conducting accelerated restoration activities nationwide that will result in healthier forests and will lessen fire risks in years to come.”

From U.S. Department of Agriculture News Release “Secretaries Vilsack and Salazar Announce Readiness for Wildfire Season” of April 26, 2012.

U.S. Forest Service Began 2012 Fire Season Short of Air Tankers, Lost Two P-2V Neptunes on June 3

As the current fire season got under way, the U.S. Forest Service and the Bureau of Land Management had access to only a quarter of the air tanker fleet they had six years ago.

The two federal agencies had 44 large air tankers under contract in 2006, but began the current fire season with only 11. Most are old converted P-2V Neptune anti-submarine warfare planes that date from the 1950s and face retirement by 2021. One is a BAe-146 jet tanker approved on May 28, 2012, for service from June 2 through October 5.

At the beginning of June, the federal government was finalizing contracts for two additional air tankers, according to Jim Hubbard, Deputy Chief of the Forest Service for State & Private Forestry. He said the possibility of adding four more could bring the fleet to 17 air tankers.

The Forest Service may also call on eight military cargo planes fitted with temporary retardant tanks and eight Convair 580 air tankers from Canada if necessary, said Tom Harbour, Director, Fire & Aviation Management, U.S. Forest Service. “We’ve got more than 20 available if we need them.”

Then, on June 3, two P-2Vs were lost. One crashed, killing both crew members, while dropping retardant on the BLM’s

remote White Rock Fire in pinion-juniper woodlands along the Utah-Nevada state line. Another, unable to lower its landing gear, sustained significant damage after it slid off the runway at Minden-Tahoe Airport about 50 miles south of Reno. Nine of the 11 air tankers remained in service.

That nine increased to 13 within a few days with availability of two Convair CV-580 converted twin-engine airliners from Alaska and Canada and two Grumman S-2T Tracker converted antisubmarine warfare aircraft from the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection. All four of those aircraft are also about 50 years old.

In March, Senator Ron Wyden (Democrat-Oregon) and other western senators had asked the Government Accountability Office to evaluate whether the Forest Service has done a good job of analyzing the types and numbers of aircraft needed, the cheapest way to get them, new technologies, and where the planes might be based.

Prepared from multiple sources including KULR-8 News (Missoula) article "U.S. Forest Service approves jet retardant bomber" of May 28, 2012; "Are there enough planes to fight fires?" by Dylan J. Darling in the June 1, 2012, and "Forest Service adds to air tanker fleet in the June 7 editions of Bend, Oregon's daily The Bulletin; and Associated Press report "Air tanker crash kills 2 at Utah wildfire site" by Martin Griffith on June 4, 2012.

U.S. Forest Service Ordered to Remove Green Mountain Lookout from Glacier Peak Wilderness

U.S. District Judge John Coughenour has ordered the Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest to remove a controversial "restored" or "reconstructed" fire lookout from Green Mountain in the Glacier Peak Wilderness.

Built in 1933, the Green Mountain Lookout, which is on the National Register of Historic Places, was used for decades to detect fires on the old Mt. Baker National Forest—the northern part of the Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest since the 1973 merger—for decades. Since the mid-1980s, the lookout has been a popular destination for hikers approaching the wilderness via the Suiattle River Road (closed since 2006 floods).

Judge Coughenour, on March 27, 2012, decided in favor of a lawsuit, filed in 2010 by Wilderness Watch, alleging the U.S. Forest Service violated the Wilderness Act of 1964 that prohibits most use of motorized vehicles and new construction in congressionally-designated wilderness. "The Forest Service erred egregiously by not conducting the required necessity analysis before embarking on such an aggressive course of action," the judge wrote of the Forest Service's decision "to fully disassemble the lookout, transport the pieces off-site by helicopter, construct a new foundation on site, fly new and restored lookout pieces back in to the site, and reassemble the lookout."

The Forest Service maintained that the lookout was restored, not reconstructed, and that its historical significance made its restoration allowable. A failed 2002 attempt to repair the foundation led the Forest Service to air lift the structure to the Darrington Ranger Station where volunteers restored it. Seventy-five percent of the original structure's materials were used in the restoration project, and in 2009 it was flown back to its Green Mountain perch.

Wilderness Watch claimed the project violated the Wilderness Act's ban on structures and motorized equipment and did not comply with National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 procedural requirements.

Judge Coughenour's ruling gave the Forest Service "60 days to review the decision and determine whether to appeal, as well as how to [comply] with the Court's decision," Darrington District Ranger Peter Forbes said.

Pleased with Judge Coughenour's decision, the plaintiffs and their supporters claimed "vindication" of the Wilderness Act. Supporters of the Green Mountain Lookout claimed to be "devastated" by the news. Among the latter, Joel Connelly of the *Seattle Post-Intelligencer* took Judge Coughenour's "dumb decision" to task with this quotation: "What an awful decision!" said writer-conservationist Peter Jackson, whose father Sen. Henry Jackson wrote legislation that created the Glacier Peak Wilderness."

Editor's Note: It appears that an apparent conflict in interpreting the Wilderness Act of 1964 and the Historic Preservation Act of 1966 regarding historic structures in wilderness remains to be resolved.

Prepared from multiple sources including a copy of the United States District Court Western District of Washington at Seattle's Summary Judgment in Wilderness Watch v. Y Robert Iwamoto and United States Forest Service (Case No. C10-1797-JCC) of March 27, 2012; "Distinguished judge makes dumb decision: Mountain lookout has to go" by Joel Connelly, Seattle Post-Intelligencer, March 29, 2012; "Judge orders removal of historic lookout in wilderness" by Gale Fiege, in the Everett Herald of March 29, 2012; "Federal Judge Orders Removal of Green Mountain Lookout" by Jonathan Guzzo posted on March 29, 2012, in Trail-News website of Washington Trails Association; and communications with involved parties.

U.S. Forest Service Wilderness Effort Could Change if Sportsmen's Heritage Act Gets Senate and Presidential Approval

The U.S. House of Representatives on April 17, 2012, passed HR 4089, the so-called Sportsmen's Heritage Act of 2012, proponents say is needed "to protect and enhance opportunities for recreational hunting, fishing, and shooting." Opponents say the proposed act, if passed by the Senate and signed into law by President Obama, "would effectively repeal" the Wilderness Act of 1964 and "gut protections" for the National Wilderness Preservation System.

The National Wilderness Preservation System—almost 110 million acres designated by Congress as wilderness—is administered by four U.S. Government agencies. The largest number of wildernesses is on National Forest System lands administered by the U.S. Forest Service and comprise 33 percent of that total acreage; the National Park Service administers 40 percent, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife 19 percent, and the Bureau of Land Management eight percent of the congressionally-designated wilderness acreage.

Opponents of the proposed act claim passage would "give hunting, fishing, recreational shooting, and fish and wildlife management top priority in Wilderness, rather than protecting the areas' wilderness character, as has been the case for nearly 50 years" as managed by the Forest Service and the other three

agencies. “This bill would allow...extensive habitat manipulations in Wilderness under the guise of ‘wildlife conservation’” to enhance hunting and fishing opportunities already available to these lands to the detriment of other wilderness values. “It would allow the construction of roads to facilitate such uses... [and] would remove Wilderness Act prohibitions against motor vehicle use for fishing, hunting, or recreational shooting, or for wildlife conservation measures.”

According to some sources, Senator Jon Tester (Democrat-Montana) is the person the National Rifle Association and Safari Club hope will sponsor the bill in the Senate to gain the Democratic Party support it would need for passage.

Passage of the proposed Sportsmen’s Heritage Act of 2102 would significantly change management of congressionally-designated wilderness by the Forest Service, long noted for its balanced management of wilderness values.

Editor’s Note: Your OldSmokeys Newsletter will keep you apprised of how this proposed act fares.

Prepared from “Analysis: How HR 4089 Would Effectively Repeal the Wilderness Act” by Matthew Koehler posted on the A New Century of Forest Planning on May 22, 2012, and several other sources.

U.S. Forest Service Targets \$40.6 Million to Purchase, Restore Lands in 15 States

Secretary of Agriculture Tom Vilsack announced on April 6, 2012, that the U.S. Forest Service will dedicate \$40.6 million for 27 exceptional land acquisition projects in 15 states that will help safeguard clean water, provide recreational access, provide wildlife habitat, enhance scenic vistas, and protect historic and wilderness areas.

Four of the projects for which \$5,417,500 are targeted are on Pacific Northwest Region National Forests:

- *Pacific Crest National Scenic Trail, multiple national forests in California, Oregon, and Washington: \$1 million.* The acquisitions will help protect critical portions of the 2,650-mile trail that stretches from Mexico to Canada. The land will help protect key wildlife corridors that support migration of the grey wolf, grizzly bear, elk, deer, coyote, and moose as well as protect the trail from encroaching development.
- *Hells Canyon National Recreation Area, Wallowa-Whitman National Forest, Oregon: \$1,417,500.* The properties acquired will serve as public gateways to thousands of acres of public lands and are home to 14 key fish and wildlife species including Oregon’s largest Rocky Mountain bighorn sheep herd. The land also contains habitat for rare plants and at-risk bird species.
- *Pacific Northwest Streams, multiple national forests in Oregon and Washington: \$1.1 million.* Lands selected for acquisition include habitat for at-risk fish stocks. Immediate public benefit will be secured public access, increased recreation opportunities, and more efficient long-term management of key stream, riparian areas, tidal marsh, and estuary needed for bird and wildlife recovery.
- *Washington Cascade Ecosystem, Wenatchee National Forest: \$1.5 million.* The acquisition is part of a larger, land-

scape-scale effort to resolve the fragmented land ownership pattern blanketing Washington’s Central Cascades to help protect and restore several significant north-south wildlife corridors.

“The pristine wildernesses, flowing waters, and majestic vistas help define what makes this country great,” said U.S. Forest Service Chief Tom Tidwell of the land acquisitions projects. “These projects will help ensure a long future of quality open space for those hunters and anglers, hikers, campers, and other nature lovers who enjoy America’s great outdoors. The funding will also reduce administrative costs and provide us increased flexibility in how we restore lands across the country.”

The money is made available through the Land and Water Conservation Fund created by Congress in 1964 to provide funding to federal, state, and local governments to purchase land, water, and wetlands. The fund receives the majority of its money through royalty payments from offshore oil and gas revenues to mitigate the environmental impacts of those activities. Those funds are augmented by additional money or in-kind services of a variety of partnerships.

Prepared from U.S. Forest Service News Release “U.S. Forest Service targets \$40.6M to purchase, restore lands in 15 states” on April 6, 2012.

U.S. Forest Service Participated in 2012 OPM “Best Places to Work” Survey

The Office of Personnel Management’s (OPM’s) 2012 “Federal Employee Viewpoint Survey: Best Places to Work in the Federal Government” (FedView) was sent by e-mail to 80,000 permanent full- and part-time U.S. Department of Agriculture employees on May 1, 2012.

U.S. Forest Service Chief Tom Tidwell has encouraged Forest Service personnel to participate in this annual FedView survey.

The results of the FedView are used by the Department and the Forest Service in developing programs, amending policies, and guiding human resource decisions. In addition, the Forest Service Partnership Council (FSPC) of the National Federation of Federal Employees-Forest Service Council (NFFE-FSC) “uses the results of this survey to collaboratively identify problems and develop and implement solutions to better accomplish the mission of the Forest Service, enhance the quality of employee work life, and improve the labor-management relations climate.”

Survey SNAFU

Some may have encountered participation problems. Forest Service and union leadership became aware after OPM distributed the survey that it was not easy to find and select “Forest Service” in response to the questions “Where Do You Work” and additional direction from the Deputy Chief, Business Operations, and the President, NFFE-FSC, was provided.

They recognized that some “who took the survey before this direction was issued did not successfully navigate to identify the Forest Service as their employing agency. A number of employees who didn’t see Forest Service listed navigated to ‘Other’ in response. We are working with the USDA and OPM

to capture these ‘lost’ survey responses and have them included in the compiled results for the Forest Service.”

Editor’s Note: The results for the Forest Service of this annual “Best Places to Work” survey will be published in your OldSmokeys Newsletter when available.

“New Staffing Solution”

U.S. Forest Service is Phasing Out AVUE, Phasing in “eRecruit” Application System

The U.S. Forest Service is changing its hiring system from the issue-laden AVUE automated employment application process, reported on in the Summer 2012 *OldSmokeys Newsletter*, to a “new staffing solution” called “eRecruit” according to a June 15, 2012, letter from Deputy Chief for Business Operations J. Lenise Lago.

The agency’s contract with Avue Technologies Corporation of Tacoma, Washington, which provided the problematic job application system will end on September 30, 2012.

“Since the data in the current AVUE system will not be transferrable to eRecruit, each Human Resources Service Team (HRST) is responsible for developing and communicating a detailed regional transition timeline to minimize disruption,” Deputy Chief Lago’s guideline letter stated.

“Human Capital”

U.S. Forest Service Awards \$1.4 Million to Concurrent Technologies Corporation to Help “Reengineer Human Resources Business Processes”

In a possibly related development (to the AVUE article above) Edward J. Sheehan, Jr., President and CEO of Concurrent Technologies Corporation (CTC) announced in a May 24, 2012, news release that “CTC has been awarded an additional \$1.4 million to continue to support the U.S. Forest Service Human Capital Management (HCM) Technology Branch. CTC has been supporting the U.S. Forest Service since 2008. This brings the total contract value to more than \$8 million and extends the period of performance through November 2012.”

“Under this contract,” the release explained, “CTC will provide business and information systems to support HCM efforts to reengineer its Human Resources business processes. Key HCM objectives include reduction in redundant systems, increasing collaboration and information sharing among employees, decreasing time spent on HR support functions deployed Department-wide using technology; decreasing redundant support systems across agencies and/or mission; and increasing the consistent delivery of accurate and valid management reports and analysis.”

Editor’s Note: What does all this mean in terms of mission accomplishment? I guess it means we’ve come a long way since people (now called “human capital”) applied to serve in the Forest Service on the Standard Form 57.

Planning Rule Advisory Group

U.S. Forest Service Planning Rule Advisory Group Named

Secretary of Agriculture Tom Vilsack announced on June 5, 2012, the names of 21 members selected to serve on the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA) mandated committee for implementation of the National Forest System Land Management Planning Rule approved on March 23 of this year.

This committee will advise and give recommendations to the Secretary of Agriculture and the Chief of the U.S. Forest Service on implementation of the new planning rule.

“The large number of talented applicants made for a very difficult selection process, but the Forest Service and the Department are extremely pleased with the number, quality, and diversity of applications received,” the Forest Service news release about the selections said. “Over 220 people from 34 states applied to serve on the committee. Members selected represent diverse backgrounds, the full range of public interests in management of the National Forest System lands, and geographically diverse locations and communities. Public involvement has been instrumental in developing the rule, and the FACA committee will help us keep the collaborative momentum going as we being (*sic*) rule implementation.”

Conspicuous by their absence from the FACA committee members selected are any OldSmokeys or other apparent Forest Service retirees.

Prepared from the U.S. Forest Service News Release “Secretary Vilsack Names Members of Planning Rule Advisory Group” of June 5, 2012.

You Can’t Keep a Good Bear Down!

Smokey Bear Reaches New Heights as International Space Station Mascot

“An American astronaut heading to the International Space Station has chosen Smokey Bear as his crew’s mascot,” according to an April 25, 2012, Associated Press report from the Russian Space Training Center at Star City, Russia, outside Moscow.

“NASA astronaut Joseph Acaba said that he hopes Smokey, the mascot of the United States Forest Service, would help raise public awareness about the dangers posed by forest fires,” the report continued.

Smokey, as all OldSmokeys know, is not specifically “the mascot of the United States Forest Service” but the national symbol of wildfire prevention administered by the Forest Service in cooperation with the Ad Council and state foresters—and, of course, our PNWFSA’s namesake!

Acaba and his Russian crewmates Gennady Padalka and Sergei Revin blasted off for the space station on May 15 from the Russian-leased Baikonur Cosmodrome in Kazakhstan. The retirement of the U.S. space shuttle fleet has left Russia’s Soyuz spacecraft as the only means to deliver crews to the space outpost. Recent cargo transport events indicate this task may soon be outsourced to private contractors.

Prepared from CBS News report “Smokey Bear picked as next space crew’s mascot” of April 25, 2012.

Feature

“Many of us got a chance to learn what it was all about before we were given professional assignments.”

We Were Trained and Put to the Test

By Virgil R. “Bus” Carrell

It was in 1931. I was 16 years old. I had just graduated from high school. My mother said the ranger wanted me to be on the Co-op Crew. Better to see what it was all about.

I went to the Easton Ranger Station on the Wenatchee National Forest in Washington. The ranger was Grover Burch, who began his U.S. Forest Service career in 1908. That’s another story.

I asked Ranger Burch when I could go to work. “My mother said that you wanted me for the Co-op Crew.” He explained that the Co-op Crew was in case there was a forest fire. “When a fire starts I will call on you to help fight fire, so no job now.”

A fire job

A few days later, a fire broke out from a clearing operation on Lake Kachess (kacheeze). He called to hire my three horses to haul fire hose up a mountainside to a large spring to establish a gravity system. I agreed, and he loaded the horses into a truck and we went to the fire.

Over a crude trail, I packed hose up there and did other jobs where horses were needed.

I put the horses in a corral at the nearby guard station and they put me to work running a Fairbanks Morse fire pump. It was down in a hole that was made to catch backwater from the lake. Fire Boss Andy Norris came by to check on me. I saw him up on the bank, but I couldn’t move. He could see that something was wrong, so he reached down and grabbed me by the shirt and pulled me to the top. The exhaust had begun to get to me. I was taken to the mess tent and told to rest.

Later that evening, a lightning storm came up and Ranger Burch gave me a fire pack and told me to go up to the peak of Mt. Margaret and watch for strikes that set fires. He said Mt. Margaret was about one-quarter mile above Lake Margaret.

There were no phone lines or anything on the peak anymore. He showed me how to use the compass and how to record fire locations. My instructions were to record the azimuth and distance from Mt. Margaret in a small notebook in the pack. I was told if I could put the fires out to do so, but if not, bring all the information back down to camp and he would send crews up there.

In the pack there were three days rations, three tools, a water bag, fire spray pump, and the compass and notebook. I really studied that compass. As I left the camp, I picked up a hunk of baloney and stuck it in my shirt. The cook said I might as well take some Italian bread to go with it. I stuck both in my shirt.

Ranger Burch showed me the trail and I took off to go 11 miles. It got dark soon. In the kit was a Stonebridge lantern. (It was a lantern that would unfold and you could put a candle in it. It had a string to carry it. I still have it among my keepsakes.) Someone forgot to put candles in the pack.



Bus Carrell and buddy at Salmon La Sac Guard Station, Cle Elum Ranger District, Wenatchee National Forest, Washington, in 1935, just before leaving to locate and clear a stock driveway for sheep.
Photograph courtesy of Bus Carrell

Lightning had come and gone a couple times and it was still going cloud to cloud when I got to Mt. Margaret. It was kind of a long day, so I slept well on the rocky ground propped against a boulder after the storm had gone by for sure. When I woke up early in the morning, I couldn’t be sure if what I saw was smoke or fog from the slight rain.

By mid morning I was sure that there were seven small smokes. I tried to record them as instructed. Then I remembered Ranger Burch had said to put them out if I could. So I took my pack and started along Rampart Ridge.

Fortunately, the fires were high on the ridge, so the soil was fairly thin and the vegetation was small. I figured I had them out for sure after three days, so I started back to Mt. Margaret.

The fourth day was over when I got there. I recorded everything I thought I was supposed to in the little yellow-brown book notebook. I was quite tired and wondered about a career of doing things like this. I sort of liked it. I saw lots of beautiful country, game, goats, springs, and mountains everywhere from high on Mt. Margaret, but I was inexperienced and unsure if I was doing things right. I looked back carefully to see if all was quiet and went to sleep.

I got up early in the morning, stretched, yelled “Yahoo!” and grabbed my pack to start down when I heard “yahoos” from the lake area. When I got there, three men offered me food and began asking lots of questions. Ranger Burch had sent Glenn Black, the Kachess Lake guard, and two others to look for me.

I told them I had put out seven small fires. Blackie questioned what I reported. It surprised me that he wouldn’t take my word for my story. So I confronted him. I said I never lied to anybody, “so come on and we will go back and I will show you.” He backed down but I said we had to go, now. We went to the first one and he looked it over and grinned. He sent his two men to check on the others. I could show them where they were. He told me to go down to the fire camp and report to the ranger.

When I got down, Ranger Burch asked where I had been and I told him my story and *he* questioned me! I told him to stick his pack, give me my horses, and I would get out of there. He chuckled and put his arm around and told me to wait a minute. After going over my notes, he laughed again and asked if I could drive a truck. “Sure,” I said.

He had assigned the truck driver, an experienced forest guard, to supervise burning and the contract of the clearing, and hired me. I fed my horses, turned them into the pasture, and reported for work. It was the fire truck. It was a big old outfit, rigged to haul horses, too. I really checked it out and washed it twice.

District Forest Guard and Fire Boss Andy Norris came back from the fire and said he would drive it if I didn’t get there quickly when it was needed. He was trying to pressure me, a kid.

Ranger Burch told me there was another truck that he wanted to get to Rocky Run Guard Station. It was an Army issue and had hard rubber tires. I took off for Rocky run at about ten miles per hour. About half way there, the state patrol officer stopped me and asked what the hell I was doing running a hard rubber tired rig on the highway. He told me in no uncertain terms to “get it off the highway now!” I had a long walk until a logging truck whose driver knew me took me back to the ranger station.

A series of seasonal jobs

I was hired back every spring while a college student for seasonal work. I learned to fight fire, trained 40-man crews to build and maintain firelines.

When the CCCs arrived and camps were formed at Cle Elum and Leavenworth, Washington, I was asked to drive the new Indiana fire truck to Leavenworth to pick up blasting powder for use in road building. I met an assistant ranger by the name of Ed Cliff who became Chief of the Forest Service. I supervised CCC crews on trail maintenance, building telephone lines from Easton to Cle Elum Ranger Station. I taught CCCs how to climb poles and trees.

I was assigned to the Entiat Ranger District of the Wenatchee National Forest as foreman in their camp. We built road by hand—that is, with wheelbarrows, shovels, and hoes. We built a campground with 12 tables and six stoves and two hole toilets, and a place to clean fish. We planted a million trees (that I learned later were burned in the Entiat Fire of the late 1960s).

Back on the Cle Elum Ranger District, Ranger Burch asked me to figure out a system to drop food, tools, and bedding to small crews on backcountry fires as an experiment with aircraft. I made a deal with a local restaurant to make up scrambled eggs and ground-up bacon to be put into a ten-gallon milk can and we dropped it with a can of water and bedding.

Pilot Larry Solar came down from Canada in a plane that was high-winged and strongly powered so it could use small runways. Larry crossed me up when I dropped the bedrolls bunched in a packet of four. With the heavy drops, I just shoved them out the open door. With the bedrolls, he counted “One, two...” and then the engine revved up considerably and as he said “three” he tipped the plane over until I was facing horizon-

tally with the earth—at the end of a one-quarter inch rope around my waist and tied to a water pipe fastened to the plane’s floor and roof. I froze and we had to do it again. That pipe and rope system needed some improvements, as far as I was concerned. The system worked well but was not used often.

A greenhorn on the range

Ranger Burch asked me to take a new Junior Range Examiner (JRE) out to a sheep grazing allotment to introduce him to what things looked like in real life. Ranger Burch felt the JRE was a greenhorn. We rigged up two saddle horses and a packhorse and headed out early the next morning.

We got to the shepherders’ camp and the packer was there, too, but both were out with the sheep. Their tent was up and had a fly over it. While I was unpacking the horses, the JRE went into the tent and found a pot of stew on the stove. It was still warm, so he found a bowl and was eating as he walked out of the tent. I went in to see what he had got into. He had found a pot of dog stew.

The packer came into camp and greeted us. I introduced the JRE and he told the packer he had eaten a bowl of stew that was on the stove. The packer looked at me and winked. I nodded “yes,” so the packer told him it was dog food made from a ewe that had died. The JRE “lost it.”

We were trained and put to the test...

All this is to emphasize that, in the early days of the Forest Service, most of us were trained and put to the test before we became professionals. These backgrounds gave insights applied to professional tasks.

In my case, I passed the Civil Service exam and continued as assistant ranger handling timber sales and directing crews. I was transferred to the Clackamas River Ranger District on the Mt. Hood National Forest as timber sales assistant and later district ranger—then to an information and education job in the Mt. Hood SO—then back to the Clackamas as district ranger again.

From there, I went to the Denver RO in timber management, the San Juan National Forest as forest supervisor, the WO as Chief of Internal Audit Resources, then to modify the Forest Service national sign system, then as liaison to the Public Land Law Commission, and finally as liaison to Congress until I retired in 1970.

I returned to the West Coast and taught at Green River Community College. When the opportunity arose, I told my students that [a Forest Service career was the] most important, exciting, satisfying career one could have. It was.

I look back with pride that I was a small part of a major era of the U.S. Forest Service.

*Editor’s Note: Many thanks to OldSmokey **Bus Carrell** for this remembrance of how careers in the Forest Service began in the 1930s and evolved through the 1960s.*

*This could have been a **My First Forest Service Job** series article, but seemed to work better as a **Feature** article.*

Bus has submitted a few other short stories that will be published in future issues of your OldSmokeys Newsletter.

Your OldSmokeys Newsletter needs your stories!

Changes *Compiled by Secretary Deb Warren*

Agpaoa, Liz & Dan Crittenden – Change address: 5494 Highland Preserve Dr, Mableton, GA 30126

Anderson, Carl F. – Change telephone number: 541-504-3181.
Add e-mail: Swedeanderson1@gmail.com

Cooper, Glenn A. “Coop” – Deceased April 8, 2012; Dorothy survives

Cunningham, William E. “Bill” – Deceased May 23, 2012

Dean, Terry R. & Debbie – Change telephone: 541-505-8875

Durdan, James H. & Doris – New members: W151N7050

Plainview Dr, Menomonee Falls, WI 53051

Telephone: 262-251-1380 e-mail: jdurdan@sbcglobal.net

Fellows, Larry A. & Kathie – Change e-mail: 12kfell@gmail.com

Forsman, John S. – Deceased June 8, 2012; Betty survives

Hamell, Michael & Catherine – New members: P.O. Box 282,
Estacada, OR 97023

Telephone: 503-834-2351 E-mail: cmhammell@aol.com

Hanna, Stewart P. “Stu” – Deceased May 23, 2012; Barbara survives

Hays, Karen F. – Change e-mail: karenhays248@gmail.com

Hughes, Dallas R. & Sharon – Correct e-mail: dallashughes@q.com

Kleidosty, Wayne – Correct e-mail: wkleidosty@gmail.com

Lacy, Sharon & Jim – New members: P.O. Box 643, Roseburg, OR 97470

Telephone: 541-359-5792 E-mail: jamesandsharon@hotmail.com

Lenius, Steven C. – New member: 25800 SE Eagle Creek Rd,
No. 52, Eagle Creek, OR 97022

Telephone: 503-637-6811

Lewis, Frank E. – Deceased May 18, 2012; Geraldine survives

Lowery, Bill & Shirley – Correct e-mail: Bill.kb7xg@gmail.com

Meisenheimer, Ernest W. – New member: 1700 NE 140th
Ave, Brush Prairie, WA 98606

Telephone: 360-896-4282 E-mail: ewm44@q.com

Mohla, David G. “Dave” – Deceased May 4, 2012; Marilyn survives

Morrow, David G. “Dave” – Deceased March 18, 2012;
Sandra survives

Oakes, Jacquelyn C. – Change e-mail: joakes@peak.org

Polichio, Peggy A. & Charlie Johnson – New members:
16525 Paisley Ave, Beaverton, OR 97006

Telephone: 503-808-2304 E-mail: ppolichio@fs.fed.us

Reneau, Gerald W. & Patricia – New members: 31998 SE
Judd Rd, Eagle Creek, OR 97022

Telephone: 503-637-6853 E-mail: reneaup@rconnects.com

Stauffer, Norm & Janice – New members: 122 N Broadway,
Estacada, OR 97023

Telephone: 503-630-3736

Steinblums, Ivars J. & Dace – Change e-mail: ivarss@yahoo.com

Stratton, Ann & Jerry – Change address: 1430 Willamette St,
No. 406, Eugene, OR 97401

Talbur, Jim B. & Eileen – Change e-mail: jim@jimscrosscut-

saws.com

Waterbury, William C. “Bill” & Elaine – New members:

11225 Sharnthorn Ct, Boise, ID 83709

Telephone: 208-629-8673 E-mail: elwaterbury@aol.com

Webb, Della – Change address: P.O. Box 428, Walterville, OR
97489

New Members *Compiled by Secretary Deb Warren*

Welcome to these new OldSmokeys who have joined the Pacific Northwest Forest Service Association since the Spring 2012 *OldSmokeys Newsletter* went to press.

James & Doris Durdan of Menomonee Falls, Wisconsin, joined May 21, 2012. James retired from the U.S. Forest Service at the Region 9 RO in Milwaukie, Wisconsin, after 34.5 years of federal service, 31 in the Forest Service and 13 of those in Region 6.

Michael & Catherine Hamell of Estacada, Oregon, joined April 23, 2012. Michael retired from the U.S. Forest Service from the Mt. Hood National Forest on September 30, 2005, after 30 years of federal service, 27 in the Forest Service and three in the U.S. Army.

Sharon & Jim Lacy of Roseburg, Oregon, joined March 22, 2012. Sharon retired from the U.S. Forest Service at the Umpqua National Forest SO after 25 years in the Forest Service in Region 6.

Steven C. Lenius of Eagle Creek, Oregon, joined recently. Steve retired from the U.S. Forest Service on September 26, 2005, from the Clackamas River Ranger District, Mt. Hood National Forest.

Ernest W. Meisenheimer of Brush Prairie, Washington, joined March 30, 2012, as a lifetime member. Ernie retired from the U.S. Forest Service on February 27, 1999, after 33.5 years of federal service. Ernie served 28.5 of those years in the Forest Service, all in Region 6, where his last assignment was Information Management Leader, Natural Resources Staff, in the Region 6 RO. Those other five years were two in the U.S. Army, and three in the Office of the Inspector General, U.S. Department of Agriculture.

Peggy A. Polichio & Charlie Johnson of Beaverton, Oregon, joined November 10, 2011. Peggy is still on the job as Director, State and Private Forestry, at the RO in Portland after over 33 years of federal service, all but six months of which have been in the U.S. Forest Service in Region 6.

Gerald W. & Patricia Reneau of Eagle Creek, Oregon, joined May 15. Gerald retired from the U.S. Forest Service at the Ripplebrook Ranger Station on the Mt. Hood National Forest after 32 years of federal service, 30 of those with the Forest Service in Region 6 and two in the U.S. Army.

Norm & Janice Stauffer of Estacada, Oregon, joined recently. Norm retired from the U.S. Forest Service from an engineering position at Estacada on January 1, 2002, after 42 years of service in the Outfit.

William C. “Bill” & Elaine Waterbury of Boise, Idaho, joined March 20, 2012. Currently assigned to a WO Fire & Aviation Management position at the National Interagency Fire Center in Boise, Bill plans to retire from the U.S. Forest Service on December 31, 2012, with 40+ years of federal service: 38 in the Forest Service, 29 of those in Region 6 where his last job was on the Malheur National Forest, and 2 other years of federal service.

Memories Compiled by Archivist Ray Steiger

Gerald L. “Jerry” Ames died March 18, 2012, at age 75. Jerry was born April 17, 1936, in a small cabin two miles north of Twisp, Washington, and attended schools in Seattle and Twisp before graduating from high school in Winthrop in 1955. After service in the U.S. Air Force, Jerry returned to the Methow Valley and farmed before he joined the U.S. Forest Service to work in road engineering on the Okanogan National Forest and retired after 25 years of federal service. Survivors include his first wife, Elaine Omachi; daughter Debra Reynolds; and son Gerald Ames, Jr.

LaVerne “Curly” Behrens died May 6, 2012, at age 87. Curly was born September 3, 1924, in Kennewick, Washington, left home at 14 to ride the rails and work at different trades, entered the U.S. Merchant Marine at 16, joined the U.S. Navy in 1944 to serve in World War II, and worked at the Freres logging camp where he met Wahnetta Wagner, his first wife, all before joining the U.S. Forest Service. Curly eventually became the timber sales officer on the Detroit Ranger District, Willamette National Forest, and worked at the Detroit Ranger Station until he retired in 1986. Curly and Wahnetta lived in Lyons, Oregon, for 52 years. After Wahnetta died in 2002, Curly met and married Mary Ann Nydegger in 2003. Survivors include his wife Mary Ann; two of his three children, Michelle Behrens-Webb and Terry R. Behrens; four step-children; 18 step-grandchildren, six great-grandchildren, and six step-great grandchildren.

Glenn A. “Coop” Cooper died April 8, 2012, at age 80. He was a PNWFSA member. Glenn was born August 17, 1931, in Chicago, Illinois. He graduated from New Trier High School, where he met his future wife Dorothy Holmes, in 1949, served in the U.S. Army in Germany, graduated from college, married Dorothy in 1956, began his U.S. Forest Service career as a forester in Randall, Washington, from 1956 to 1958, and then spent the next 22 years of his 30-year career as a wood scientist and administrator in the Forest Service research branch trying to get back to the Pacific Northwest he loved so much. Glen worked at the North Central Research Station’s Carbondale, Illinois, laboratory as a forest products technologist from 1959-1971—earning a Ph.D. at the University of Minnesota in 1968—and project leader from 1972 to 1974, where he developed new products and processing systems for utilizing low grade hardwoods. As a scientist, he produced more than 70 scientific and popular papers and was awarded patents for the design of a wooden culvert and a chemical and freezing pretreatment for drying wood. He then spent five years in the WO,

first as a member of the Forest Products and Engineering Research staff and then as staff assistant to the Deputy Chief for Research. Glenn retired from the Forest Service in 1986 as Deputy Director of the Pacific Northwest Research Station. His most interesting assignment there was as coordinator of the unique research opportunities offered by the 1980 eruptions of Mount St. Helens. Coop excelled in wood carvings of birds and Native American masks. Coop retained a great pride in the Forest Service after retirement and enjoyed meeting with other OldSmokeys. All his children pursued natural resource careers. His oldest, Brian Cooper, is an ornithologist and owner of AB R, Inc., Environmental Research Services. His other two children serve in the Forest Service; his son Kevin Cooper is Los Padres National Forest, California, wildlife biologist, and his daughter Heather Provencio is district ranger, Red Rock Ranger District, Coconino National Forest, Arizona.

William E. “Bill” Cunningham died May 23, 2012, at age 81. He was a PNWFSA member. Bill was born on August 16, 1930. Bill spent his career in the U.S. Forest Service as a management systems analyst. Survivors include his ex-wife yet still best friend Mary Lou Simard, son John, daughter Diane Hale, and one grandson.

Calvin W. “Cal” Dunnell died April 2, 2012, at age 86. Cal was born June 3, 1925, in Brainerd, Minnesota, joined the U.S. Navy during World War II and served as gunnery officer in a destroyer escort in the Atlantic, then earned a B.S. degree in forestry at the University of Minnesota and in 1949 began a 30-year career in the U.S. Forest Service. Early in that career he met and married Ruth Billings. During that career Cal helped pioneer Forest Service recreation programs and, while on the Mt. Baker National Forest, helped plan the scenic North Cross State Highway route. Cal also fought 67 forest fires, starting out as a fire crew member and serving later as plans chief and fire boss. Cal and Ruth moved to Wenatchee in 1974 where Cal, as Wenatchee National Forest recreation staff officer, greatly expanded the forest’s recreation program before he retired. Survivors include his and Ruth’s daughter Carol Horen; sons David and William; and five grandchildren.

John S. Forsman died June 8, 2012, at age 95. He was a PNWFSA member. Survivors include his wife, Betty.

Editor’s Note: Thanks to Zane Smith for this notification. A memorial will be published in the Fall 2012 OldSmokeys Newsletter when additional information is available.

Stewart P. “Stu” Hanna died May 23, 2012, at age 83. He was a PNWFSA member. A native of Vinton, Iowa, Stu graduated from Iowa State University and joined the U.S. Forest Service in 1952. He began his career on the Fremont National Forest and served as a district ranger on the Malheur National Forest, as recreation staff officer on the Wallowa-Whitman National Forest, as recreation officer in the Region 6 RO, and as deputy forest supervisor of the Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest from which he retired in 1984. Survivors include his wife Barbara.

Editor’s Note: Thanks to Ron Walters for this memorial.

Claude Clarence Kincaid died April 7, 2012, at age 97. Claude was born October 3, 1914, in Yakima, Washington, and lived in eastern Washington until he moved to Vancouver, Washington, in 1936. He married Annetta Miller in 1938; she died in 1982. Claude served in the European Theatre during World War II, and joined the U.S. Forest Service in John Day, Oregon, in 1947 to work on the Malheur National Forest. Claude transferred to the Wallowa-Whitman National Forest in 1961, then to the Gifford Pinchot National Forest in 1969 on which he served until he retired in 1974. Claude enjoyed the outdoors, was a member of the Elks Lodge and the American Legion, and was commodore of the Vancouver Yacht Club in 1973. He married Elizabeth Galt in 1988. Survivors include his wife Elizabeth; son Jerrel; daughter Lynette Halverson; three grandchildren; four great-grandchildren; three step-children; four step-grandchildren; one step-great-grandchild; and many nieces and nephews.

Frank Edward Lewis died May 18, 2012, at age 87. He was a PNWFSA member. Frank was born on May 6, 1925, in Grants Pass, Oregon, and raised in Randle, Washington, where his father served in the U.S. Forest Service. Frank fought his first forest fire at age 12, graduated as valedictorian of his Randle High School class of 13, and entered the University of Washington. He interrupted his education during World War II to serve as an officer in the U.S. Naval Reserve from 1943 to 1946 in USS *Block Island*, then returned to the University of Washington to earn a B.S. degree in forestry in 1949. Frank later earned a master's degree in forestry at the University of California, Berkeley. He served 34 years in the Forest Service throughout the Pacific Northwest and in Montana and Washington, D.C., retiring in 1979 as Assistant Director of Aviation and Fire Management for the Pacific Northwest Region. Although he retired as an administrator, Frank always regarded his years in the field as a ranger to have been most rewarding. On retirement, Frank and his wife Geraldine Waite Lewis moved with their three daughters to Harstine Island in Washington. Shortly after retiring he served in India with the U.S. State Department for several months. Frank was active in the PNWFSA and other retired forester organizations. He loved history and travel, and during retirement saw much of the world. Survivors include his wife Gerri; their daughters Nancy O'Dair, Mary Hoeksema, and Barbara Morrison; and five grandchildren.

Terence "Terry" McCabe died May 15, 2012, at age 72. Terry was born on April 3, 1940, in Tonasket, Washington. He was raised in the Okanogan Valley and graduated from Omak High School in 1958. His long career in the U.S. Forest Service began as a smokejumper at the North Cascades Smokejumper Base, Winthrop, Washington, in 1958. After serving in the U.S. Army in 1962 and 1963 in Berlin, Germany, where he met and married Barbara Wiewiorra, he continued his Forest Service career until he retired as fire management officer on the Twisp Ranger District, Okanogan National Forest, in 1994, after which he worked for the Forest Service as an air attack supervisor for an additional 10 summers. Terry and Barbara traveled all over Europe and walked across England and some parts of Spain and Germany. Their longest walk was the Washington

and Oregon stretches of the Pacific Crest Trail. Survivors include Barbara, their daughter Teresa and son Patrick, and three grandsons.

David G. "Dave" Mohla died May 4, 2012, at age 77. He was a PNWFSA member. Dave was born on March 27, 1935, in Wakefield, Massachusetts. He graduated from Wakefield High School in 1952 and attended the University of Georgia in Athens where he earned a B.S. degree in forest management in 1956. Dave began his U.S. Forest Service career in California in 1956 on the Mendocino National Forest. While there he met Marilyn D. Christensen and they married at Lakeport, California, in 1957. Dave served in various positions on the Mendocino until 1965 when he was transferred to the Truckee Ranger District, Tahoe National Forest, as district ranger. Dave moved on to the San Bernardino National Forest in southern California in 1977 as deputy forest supervisor, and in 1981 transferred to the Deschutes National Forest in Oregon as forest supervisor. In 1986 he became forest supervisor of the Mt. Hood National Forest where he retired from the Forest Service in 1990 after 34 years of service. Dave also served in the U.S. Army Reserve and the National Guard. Dave was a member of the Society of American Foresters for over 50 years. To those who worked with and for him, Dave will always be remembered as the consummate forester and true supporter of his co-workers. He was always there, also, for his family and friends. He loved the outdoors and relished exploring out of the way places. Survivors include his wife Marilyn, daughters Kathleen and Mary Anne, and two grandchildren.

Editor's Note: Many thanks to Marilyn and Mary Anne who wrote the remembrance from which this memorial was prepared.

David G. "Dave" Morrow died March 18, 2012, at age 71. He was a PNWFSA member. Dave was born on August 7, 1940, in Malin, Oregon, grew up in Klamath Falls, and became a civil engineer in the U.S. Forest Service. Survivors include his wife Sandra, daughter Tonya, and two grandchildren.

Joseph Junior "Joe" Schmeller died April 11, 2012, at age 84. Joe was born on April 4, 1928, in Spokane, Washington, grew up on the family ranch in Chewelah, Washington, graduated from Jenkins High School in 1948, and married Delores McCormack in 1950. After earning a degree in forestry at Washington State College in Pullman in 1953, Joe worked as a log scaler for Potlach Forests, Inc., until he joined the U.S. Forest Service later that year as a forester on the Mt. Baker National Forest on which he served until 1958. After that Region 6 start, Joe moved to Region 5 where he served as assistant district ranger and district ranger on the Sierra National Forest in North Fork and Oakhurst, respectively; as district ranger, Yolla Bolla Ranger District, Shasta-Trinity National Forest, and in the RO in San Francisco. Joe retired from the Forest Service in 1983, and he and Dolores returned to Chewelah where they settled on his grandparents' old homestead and she died in 2002. Survivors include their daughter Kathy Jenson, sons Dave and Randy, daughter Eileen Sheufeldt; eight grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

Editor's Note: Thanks to Phil Hirl for this memorial.

Dorothy Louise Turnbull died January 23, 2012, at age 91. Dorothy Louise Asam was born on June 5, 1920, in Buck Fork, Oregon, and soon moved with her U.S. Forest Service father Fred Asam (1883-1977) and mother Louise to Glide, Oregon, where Fred was district ranger from 1921 to 1945 (the longest tenure of any district ranger on the Umpqua National Forest). Dorothy graduated from Glide High School and, before leaving at age 19 to attend Westmont Bible College in California, met Harry Turnbull in Roseburg, Oregon. She and Harry married in 1939; he died in 1972. Following in her father's footsteps, Dorothy began an 18-year Forest Service career from which she retired in the Region 6 Budget & Finance Office. Dorothy was known by her friends and family as a "sacrificial giver" who was very selfless and generous to everyone around her, always putting others before herself. Survivors include her son John, six grandchildren, and four great-grandchildren.

Editor's Note: Thanks to Connie Franz for this memorial. Connie notes Dorothy "was not a member of the OldSmokeys because she was too sick to attend any gatherings. She was a very sweet lady who I am missing a lot."

Letters

Walt Tokarczyk remembers Chuck Banko

When Chuck Banko arrived on the old Tieton Ranger District, Wenatchee National Forest, I was the fire management officer. He let you run your shop. Later on, I was safety officer on his forest fire team. His favorite saying was "Never fear, Tokarczyk's here!" While he was at Tieton, we would go bird hunting, fishing, boating. I enjoyed working with Chuck.

Dale Farley remembers Bob Cermak

Bob started his career on the Tonasket Ranger District of the then Chelan National Forest soon to become the Okanogan National Forest. He transferred to Region 5 and continued an exemplary career in four regions serving as forest supervisor on three forests before becoming deputy regional forester (in Region 5) without a tour in the WO. I might add that [OldSmokey] **Pete Foiles** was the district ranger at the time Bob was at Tonasket and is still a PNWFSA member.

*Editor's Note: Robert W. "Bob" Cermak, who died April 4, 2012, is remembered in a **Forest Service News** section article on page 12.*

Mack Moore remembers Bob Cermak

Bob Cermak was an extraordinary leader! He was always sharply focused on the desired outcomes, and led by example. It was impossible to be pessimistic in his presence. He had boundless energy and those around him were compelled to stay connected. At the same time he cared deeply about others and sought answers to the most difficult issues facing the workforce.

Here are two examples of his leadership.

When he arrived in North Carolina as the new forest supervisor, he personally visited every employee on the forests in their work stations. That took some doing because [he] had 10 ranger districts and two Job Corps centers. When he had finished (which didn't take all that long) every employee knew

their new leader and appreciated his personal attention.

As deputy regional forester in Region 5, he visited every ranger district and joined in the priorities, projects, and objectives of the moment. Once again, the workforce highly valued his presence and personal involvement.

His memory will live on!

Gene Smith remembers Bob Cermak

My memory of Bob Cermak will always be of the time the meat lab over our Region 5 RO dripped acid on our floor and on my office mate John's head. I believe it was Jerry Wooten who tried to get them to deal with it, but only got the response that it wasn't any big deal and we should just sprinkle some soda on the floor. Bob came up to inspect the situation and he was so angry he could hardly speak. After that, the lab folks got busy and took care of the problem. I have always been impressed by his concern for us and his insistence that the problem be fixed promptly and correctly.

Zane Smith remembers Bob Cermak

I had the distinct pleasure of serving with Bob Cermak when he was deputy regional forester in San Francisco. As regional forester, I was part of an unusually competent leadership team of three deputies, forest supervisors, and staff directors. Bob was essentially a partner in every respect. He had the usual credentials for his position, but much more. A caring and very moral person, Bob had an exceptional outlook on how best to manage a huge program and a diverse and scattered workforce. Articulate and an excellent writer, he conveyed long term objectives and goals to the region and kept track of progress along the way. He inspired all of us to not become preoccupied with the day-to-day issues at the expense of achieving long-term goals. This was and is an unusual characteristic for most of us and one that had enormous benefit to the region. We all miss having his point of reference even though he has been retired for some time. He still serves as a model.

Bob Ethington remembers Glenn Cooper

'Tis sad that Glenn Cooper has passed on. I have known him for about 55 years—initially crossing paths at Iowa State. For about ten years he was involved in research at Carbondale, me at Madison. Our research activities were dissimilar, and we rarely saw each other except at occasional professional meetings. But in 1976, when I transferred to the WO, he was handling the budget desk for the Deputy Chief for Research. Then I got to know him much more (both professionally and socially), and Dot and their kids as well.

When I arrived at the Pacific Northwest Research Station (PNW) in January 1980, he was there as Deputy Director. In fact, he always claimed that he arranged significant performance from Mount St. Helens that May to usher me into the station. At PNW, we worked side-by-side for about six years until he retired. He was always available to take on timely responsibilities for the good of the station, and decisive on anything he touched. As a matter of fact, when St. Helens had its big belch, I was out of state and he quickly took charge of cutting the red tape necessary to get a team of scientists into (actually over) the devastated area. Glenn was active in the administrative aspects of a whole host of station programs and problems—research

natural areas, community ecology (read spotted owl concerns), and many more my aging memory hides from me.

Once he retired, I saw too little of him, and I suspect that is a common problem for OldSmokeys.

Denny Caird *remembers Cal Dunnell*

Cal was the recreation staff officer on the Mt. Baker National Forest when I was transportation planner in the late 1960s and early 1970s. When I reflect on all the good people I've worked with (and I was blessed!), Cal was probably the happiest of them all. The obit has the right picture!

Editor's Note: Denny's reference to "the right picture" notes the photograph published with Cal's obituary in the April 6, 2012, issue of The Wenatchee World.

John Hargrove *remembers Cal Dunnell*

Cal was district ranger at Marblemount on the Mt. Baker National Forest when I was appointed the first Mt. Baker transportation planner, a newfangled and unnecessary position to almost all on the forest. Cal had to deal with me when I undertook to plan and justify development of the Diabsod drainage and the Illabot drainage with "economical" direct roadways into those unlogged drainages. After Cal's first-hand, on-the-ground introductions to those dramatic drainages, I wound up justifying the purchase of an old, indirect Scott Paper Company logging road into the higher but gentler ground of the Illabot, and totally abandoning any effort to find a direct route into the Diabsod.

I came to appreciate Cal's amazing and easy-going way of knowing and doing his work and his responsibilities. I'm wiser for having known Cal Dunnell.

Bob Hetzer *remembers Cal Dunnell*

Cal Dunnell was a class act. I had the honor and pleasure to work with Cal on both the Mt. Baker and Wenatchee national forests. There are great memories of Cal's ranger district visits, whether it be on the slopes of Mt. Baker Ski Area, climbing Glacier Peak, or hiking wilderness and back-country trails. He was certainly a leader in recreation and wilderness management and believed strongly in "serving" the public.

Ron Ketchum *remembers Cal Dunnell*

Cal Dunnell came to the Mt. Baker National Forest when I was still a GS-7 at Darrington, so I became acquainted with him then. Little did I know that I would someday be working for him. He came as district ranger on the old Tieton Ranger District, then on the Snoqualmie National Forest and later combined with the Naches Ranger District to become part of the Wenatchee National Forest. I was TMA there.

He was a joy to be around, and introduced me to the game of golf. I never became proficient [at golf], but enjoyed the camaraderie with him and many other people over the years through it. It took dedication to be a golfer at Tieton, since we were 30 miles from the course [and had to get] up at the crack of dawn to avoid the heat of the Yakima Valley.

I always got a kick out of his sense of humor. Although he was a workaholic, he complained when he and Ruth were in Wenatchee, and owned at least one fruit orchard, that he was labor and she was management. He had to do the "3 ps"—prune, prop, and pick.

Another good man gone.

Dick Pfilf *remembers Cal Dunnell*

Sad to hear about Cal. He was a good one. I lived next door to him and Ruth briefly at Ripplebrook Ranger Station when he was TMA on the old Lakes Ranger District on the Mt. Hood National Forest. His district ranger at the time, [OldSmokey] **Dick Worthington**, once gave him an "outstanding" performance rating, which was almost unheard of in those days. He shortly then went up to Marblemount as district ranger and then to the Wenatchee National Forest as [a] district ranger and then to the staff job in the SO. He and [the late OldSmokey] Chris Criswell, who was forest supervisor on both forests, were a great team, working together for many years.

Zane Smith *remembers John Forsman*

I was sad to hear of John Forsman's passing. John was a pillar of strength as an Assistant Regional Forester for Range Management. Although our career paths crossed only one time, he remained a friend and valued colleague for many years. We had some memorable pack trips together, learning a great deal from him and having a good time as well. We have lost a wonderful person from our ranks.

Mike Cooley *remembers Stu Hanna*

I was very saddened to hear that Stu Hanna had passed away. I first met Stu in 1980 when he and Forest Supervisor Don Campbell interviewed me for my first district ranger position on the Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest. Stu was a real gentleman and always eager to help anyone, particularly a new green ranger. Once we discovered a mutual interest in deep sea fishing, our friendship blossomed off the job as well as on. I enjoyed many adventures with him on the Pacific Ocean and out in Puget Sound on our boats. After Stu retired and I moved on, we stayed in contact thru e-mail. He was a great guy and a great friend. I will miss him, his sound advice, his sense of humor, and his friendship.

Phil Hirl *remembers Stu Hanna*

Stu was one of my favorite people. He was Burns district ranger when I went to the Malheur National Forest. He was one of two rangers I worked with that supposedly said "You don't come on my district without my permission." I made darn sure he knew I was there, usually stopped in his office for a minute if he was there. Later Stu was assistant director in Recreation. I had a similar job in engineering. We worked a lot together. I was glad he got deputy forest supervisor job but was sorry to see him go.

Elton Thomas *remembers Stu Hanna*

I first met Stu Hanna when I started as a new JF on the Baker Ranger District. I was given the district recreation program and Stu was the recreation staff officer on the Wallowa-Whitman National Forest. He may have had the fire program as well.

The Bureau of Reclamation had built a new dam on the Powder River and created Phillips Reservoir. The Forest Service had built a new campground and Stu came out to visit it one day. We took a boat ride around and looked at a number of dispersed sites. It was a grand day.

Shortly after that I took a transfer to the Fremont National

Forest SO and lost contact with him. Several years later he transferred to the RO in Recreation as branch chief for Wilderness and Developed Recreation. By that time I was district resources assistant on the Diamond Lake Ranger District of the Umpqua National Forest. One day out of the blue, I was called by the deputy forest supervisor and told that Stu had selected me as group leader for Wilderness and Developed Recreation. I worked for most of 1976 with Stu and other fine folks in the Recreation unit.

Stu was an excellent mentor and I will always treasure his counsel and advice. He enjoyed working with people and led from the front. I learned a good deal that year and appreciate the opportunity to have worked closely with him.

Ron Walters *remembers Stu Hanna*

Stu was a good friend and a hardworking R6er.

Dave Jay *remembers Frank Lewis*

It was a jolt to hear of Frank's passing, especially after just seeing him at the Tokeland gathering. Frank and my father Jim, who died in 2001 at age 89, knew each other through common fire management activities. Frank would often comment to me about working with Dad.

Frank, when he was in the Region 6 RO, helped influence a major career move for me. When I was a district ranger on the Gifford Pinchot National Forest, I replied to a national announcement for a year at the University of Washington studying fire science. I then received a master's degree in wildland fire science (calculus was a challenge).

Frank along with Ken Wilson, Director of Fire and Aviation Management in Region 6, Bob Bjornsen in the WO, and Wayne Maxwell, fire staff officer on the GP, were instrumental in getting me selected. I have thanked Frank on several occasions.

I echo Bill Shenk's comments about Frank. He was a great asset to the development of fire management in the country. We are sorry you are gone, Frank.

Wendall Jones *remembers Frank Lewis*

Frank Lewis probably had a greater influence than any other on my generation coming up through the wildland fire business. He kept things moving and then stayed out of the way of fire team activities and needs.

Some of us will remember him as the proprietor of the best oysters in the Northwest.

Just a great guy when you get right down to it.

Bill Shenk *remembers Frank Lewis*

Frank Lewis was a good friend to me. We met in the 1970s on the job when I entered fire positions and Frank was established. He was always a gentleman and ready and willing to assist in any way he could. I found his advice and counsel to be sound and helpful. As fire staff officer on the Deschutes National Forest, I was very involved with RO activity, particularly [at] the Redmond Air Center. Frank always went out of his way to assist. Frank was pleasant, able, empathetic, and more than willing to follow the course that was right, most cost effective, and accomplished the mission.

I'll miss Frank. He was a lot of fun to be around, too, and I

now refer to Tokeland clam digs and OldSmokeys activities. His oysters were darn good, too. So, goodbye to one of the best. There has to be a niche awaiting him. It'll be a good one.

Dave Trask *remembers Frank Lewis*

Frank was quite a guy with many unique qualities! He and Gerri have been treasured friends over many years. We first met when he and I were in the WO and later worked together on the Gifford Pinchot National Forest and in the Region 6 RO as well. His passing leaves a real void for Pam and me as well as for so many of his Forest Service friends. As Frank said of each of his beloved pets he buried over the years in their special pet cemetery, "We're sure going to miss 'em!"

Cal von Weissenfluh *remembers Frank Lewis*

I met Frank at Trout Lake, Washington, in June 1950. He was district assistant for the storied District Ranger K.C. Langfield on the Mt. Adams Ranger District of the freshly renamed Gifford Pinchot National Forest, nee Columbia National Forest. I was fresh out of Oregon State and served at Trout Lake only two months as district clerk before getting my JF appointment with the Bureau of Indian Affairs in Klamath Agency, Oregon.

After a bit over a year with the Indian Service I moved to the Ochoco National Forest. My second exposure to Frank's good nature and skills came in 1952 on the Prineville Ranger District where he was temporarily appointed acting district ranger. I was his TMA. He was a good and even-handed boss. So far as I know those few months at Prineville were his only exposure to the east side in Region 6.

This was all prior to his taking on the responsibilities of a family man. I remember well the young Forest Service wives in Prineville trying to match him up with their single gal friends, but they were unsuccessful. He escaped Prineville to carry on his career and his family later elsewhere,

Good man, and well remembered.

Dave Yates *remembers Terry McCabe*

Terry was my FMO during my ranger years on the Twisp Ranger District. He took pride in breaking in a new ranger, was excellent counsel on many issues, and wouldn't hesitate to let me know if I was getting "off course." He was a local boy and loved the Methow-Okanogan country, and a devoted husband and family man. Elaine and I have many great memories of Terry and his wife Barbara. Right now I want to believe he is chasing down another smoke, and you can bet it will be out or under control by 10 a.m.!

George Bercheid *remembers Dave Mohla*

Dave was one of the nicest men I ever worked for or with.

Wendall Jones *remembers Dave Mohla*

Dave was a very good friend of mine. I never worked for him, but a number of my close retiree friends did work for Mohla. Without exception, these folks had great admiration and respect for Dave as their "boss" or "co-worker."

After retirement I became a close friend of Dave's. We spent several years together cutting firewood together on the Mt. Hood National Forest. Dave ran the power saw and I was the splitter. So we had lots of time to share career histories (most of this I am sure was true). Mutual friends, Doug Porter

and Delmer Grant, joined us as a once a month lunch group for several years. We all consumed our share of beer, and again shared a lot of stories (yes, most were true or partially so). Dave's talent as an artist was shared by Dave seeing that most of us received some of his work as a gift. I will treasure those forever, and they remain hanging on the wall in our home.

I also know that Dave was a great family man. He enjoyed grandchildren as most of us do. His love for Marilyn showed up particularly when she fell and broke her hip.

Those of us who knew Dave well know that he will end up on the right hand of God.

Ron Ketchum *remembers Dave Mohla*

Dave Mohla's passing is a cause for me to stop and think about what a good life working for the Forest Service was. It was filled with guys like Dave, and [that] made it a fun place to work.

I never worked for Dave, but he and I had an unsuccessful business, called TSB Consulting, for a few years after we retired. Our business plan was to offer our services as management review consultants to the Forest Service, which had started its long drawn-out reduction in personnel.

Our theory was we could provide reviews of forest or district operations that the outfit no longer had people to carry out. We did four or five, including a couple of districts within Region 6 and a regional review of the Challis National Forest in Region 4, on an expenses only basis. We never got paid for our time, so after these few demonstration projects we waited for offers to pay both a fee and expenses. None came, so we disbanded, but had enjoyed our brief sojourn into private business. By the way, TSB stood for The Sunshine Boys.

Dave was a joy to be around and I will miss him.

John Nesbitt *remembers Dave Mohla*

I was never fortunate enough to have worked on a "Dave Forest," but I was lucky enough to have known him through other occasions. A very good and kind man, he leaves a real hole in the gang of retirees.

Don Porter *remembers Dave Mohla*

To say the least, the news of Dave's death was a shock. I had just spent a weekend with Dave and Marilyn at a gathering on the Washington coast where he made his famous oyster stew.

I worked with Dave on both the Deschutes National Forest from 1982 to 1986 and the Mt. Hood National Forest from 1987 to 1990, and have known him for over 30 years. Besides being a good friend, having lunch together at least once a month, he also attended every one of my Super Bowl parties starting in 1996. His specialty was stuffed mushrooms; he was known for them and was expected to bring them every year.

We also had a number of things in common. We liked to hunt, fish, clam, etc., and both loved woodworking. We liked to show each other our woodworking projects and, during the last couple of years, some intarsia projects. Dave became very good at that, made many beautiful projects (scroll saw work), and got me started a couple years ago. I have a few of his intarsia projects on my wall, and they have become even more special.

We didn't live far apart and talked to each other often. I

enjoy remodeling things and I even helped him with a few projects around his house. When he was making beer, he would invite me over to test it. Either I was a poor tester or maybe too much (volume) of a tester, and I may have been the cause for him to give it up.

Dave was a great supporter for me over the years and I will always be grateful. I loved being around Dave and last year, when I had a little health fixing going on, he was always calling to check up on me. That always picked up my day and I, for one, will miss him, a close and longtime friend.

We lost another good one.

Gordon Schmidt *remembers Dave Mohla*

Dave hired me 30 years ago on the Deschutes National Forest as his fire staff officer. I had a choice of working there or another forest and thought I would learn my "fire staffing" under Dave. What a good choice that turned out to be and what a great guy to work for. Dave and I grew pretty close on the Deschutes, as employee-supervisor, co-workers, and friends. I really enjoyed my three years working for him there. I left the Deschutes for the Mt. Hood National Forest fire staff. It wasn't a year later that Dave transferred to the Mt. Hood and I got to work for him for another five years. I was one lucky young man. I will never forget him. He was the best, and he even knew a lot about fire! We walked several fire lines together and I would love to do it again!

Dave Scott *remembers Dave Mohla*

As district ranger at Truckee, California, Dave took on the State of California, Alex Cushing, the U.S. Olympic Committee, and others to save the U.S. Forest Service millions of dollars after the 1960 Winter Olympics. Not many others could have done it. Goodbye to another old friend.

Ron Skrip *remembers Dave Mohla*

I was saddened [by] word that Dave Mohla had passed. Never worked with Dave, but we spent many [a] good time together and had fun sharing similar stories, values, etc. He was fun just to be around and share "tit for tat"! Dave is a gentleman and will be missed.

Rich Stem *remembers Dave Mohla*

I was a district ranger on the Mt. Hood National Forest when Dave was the forest supervisor. Being a new ranger, I watched how Dave tried to manage what could be called a diverse group of people on his forest leadership team. His biggest challenge was the ranger group which could best be described as a bunch of independent warlords—but Dave would just rein us in (with the help of his staff officers) with grace and a smile (usually).

He was a delight to work for and had a good sense of humor when needed. I don't think we ever doubted what Dave wanted or where he wanted to go. I watched carefully how Dave would work his staff officers and rangers to make the forest better. More importantly, however, I personally learned some valuable lessons for my future career in terms of how important those relationships are and how they can be used effectively.

Another legend leaves our earthly bonds.

Jerry Wojack *remembers Dave Morrow*

Dave was a preconstruction engineer on the Rogue River National Forest. Dave and I worked together on road and timber

sale road location projects. Dave was good to work with and knowledgeable about road location and environmental needs.

Mike Ash *remembers Ted Schlapfer*

I didn't have the long relationship with Ted Schlapfer that some others had; however, I have some memories that I will share.

The first story is that during the 2005 Forest Service reunion, I was stuck at the front desk checking participants in, and during a slow period Ted came up and sat down to chat with me. He had an absolutely incredible memory and I enjoyed all of his stories. Of particular mention was that he was the first Governor of Alaska. The story is that when Alaska achieved statehood in 1959, an interim governor was needed until there were elections. Ted was the highest ranking government official up there at that time, so he was appointed the first Governor of Alaska!

The second story comes from a Region 6 Leadership Team meeting where we asked several retired regional foresters to be on a discussion panel. Ted, of course, was on the panel, and we all valued the five or ten minutes of his wisdom. He was thus set up to receive a number of questions from the audience. A common issue that I shared with Ted is that our hearing was not as good as it once was. Ted didn't let this little inconvenience hinder him. When a question was addressed to Ted, he would just start talking about very interesting stuff. It wasn't until he was through that we realized that he most likely didn't hear the question, but still had incredibly valuable leadership points to share with us. I am certain that he was telling us that we should have asked the question that he had just answered!

His knowledge and leadership skills were remarkable. What a great man he was...and we all knew it.

Susan Butruille *remembers Ted and Beth Schlapfer*

Ted and Beth were a class act. We enjoyed so many good times with them.

John Butruille *remembers Ted and Beth Schlapfer*

Ted and Beth welcomed Susan, Frank, Tony, and me to Region 6 when we came to the Siuslaw National Forest in 1974. We were good friends with them thereafter. Ted always gave good advice and counsel. We and many others enjoyed the cider squeezing each year at Sun Showers. Ted and I made two trips to Russia together as volunteers to work with Russian foresters and politicians to address management needs on their lands in and near the Ural Mountains. Ted was a great traveling and working partner on those trips. Our thoughts are with his family and we will miss both Ted and Beth.

Phil Hirl *remembers Ted Schlapfer*

Ted was a great regional forester. He had touch with [the] full range of our activities in Region 6. I really felt he had more interest in what we engineers did than most. Think I spent more time with him than any regional forester.

Walt Tokarczyk *remembers Roy Sines*

I had the honor to be safety chief on Roy's regional fire team. I had the fortune to be safety officer on his spray team using DDT eradicating tussock moths on the Wallowa-Whitman National Forest and area. Roy was great to work with!

Ollie Peters *remembers the Civilian Conservation Corps*

Don was in charge of a CCC group when we were at Eagle Creek on the Mt. Hood National Forest. I remember that the young men were all very thin and hungry when they arrived. They had different names for common things. For instance, they called tires "shoes." Most of them knew nothing about the work they were there to do and their safety was a big concern. As I remember this was in the very early forties.

Zane Smith *remembers the Civilian Conservation Corps*

Thanks to John for sharing the latest *CCC Legacy Journal*. Brings back sweet memories [of] growing up on two ranger districts. Dad was ranger and benefited from a CCC camp on each. The CCC boys were all my friends in locations where there were no kids my age. They played with me, made toys like stilts for me, and treated me like their younger brothers. In the 1960s I had the good fortune to serve as director of the Cis-pus Job Corps Center, a former CCC camp.

Editor's Note: Zane refers to the May-June 2012 CCC Legacy Journal sent by U.S. Forest Service retiree John Irish, Vice President, Civilian Conservation Corps Legacy, and attached to OldSmokeys eNote 1492. CCC Legacy may be contacted at P.O. Box 341, Edinburg, Virginia 22824, or by e-mail at <ccc@ccclegacy.org>. CCC Legacy website is at <www.ccclegacy.org>.

Vince Puelo *comments on Reunion 2012 location*

If it were up to me we would hold our reunions at a more economically challenged location, spread our wealth around where it would be more appreciated.

Ross Files *remembers Silver Creek Ranger Station*

Your article and photos of Silver Creek Ranger Station [in the Winter 2012 *OldSmokeys* Newsletter] bring back memories of the start of my U.S. Forest Service career of thirty-five years.

Thanks for the memories. Keep up the good work.

Editor's Note: Ross's brief remembrance of historic Silver Creek Ranger Station and District Ranger Nevan McCullough are combined with the memories submitted by OldSmokey Gary Shirley in the Out of the Past section article "Memories of Ranger Nevan McCullough" on page 29 of this issue.

Frank Ferrarelli *checks in from Pleasant Grove, California*

Ever since I went "paperless" with the *OldSmokeys Newsletter* I've had trouble keeping up with knowing when my dues are due. I am enclosing a check for a couple more years, being optimistic, besides, an actuarial test I took on the internet said I should live another 17 years, good news when you are 81!

Our motor home is parked in the barn; haven't gone anywhere with it this year. My left knee was acting up since a year ago last November when I went to the doctor for my two-year checkup on the right knee. He told me it was time to get the left knee replaced so it would match the right knee. I procrastinated until October last and decided surgery was better than limping around. All went well with the surgery but then I had an embolism which ended up in my lung, so they had to treat that. Anyway, after 18 days of laying around in the hospital and a few weeks of physical therapy I am back to taking care of our little "ranchette" with cows, goats, and weeds.

I'm thinking about spring coming and waiting for nicer weather to start planting the garden for this year.

Have a good year and keep up the good work.

Letters continues on page 29

Books

Editor's Note: A diverse surfeit of books currently commands the attention of OldSmokeys. One, of dubious value, cannot be ignored simply because it and its claims are "out there." Two are significant contributions to natural resource management. Two by OldSmokeys address our U.S. Forest Service heritage.

Christopher Burchfield Raises a Ruckus with *The Tinder Box: How Politically Correct Ideology Destroyed the U.S. Forest Service*

Christopher Burchfield's *The Tinder Box* is painful to read and a challenge to review. Indeed, a review of this book is a challenge this reader is both unqualified to attempt and unwilling to accept; therefore, this is not a review but an acknowledgement of the existence of this already too-notorious-to-ignore book and the ruckus it has raised among those who have read it.

Burchfield claims to describe "how the U.S. Forest Service set about destroying itself from within" by its implementation of the 1977 Bernardi Consent Decree that resulted from a successful sexual discrimination lawsuit and in a Region 5 effort to bring its workforce into line—in terms of male-female employment structure—with that of the state of California. He characterizes that effort as one which "broke the morale and backbone" of the Forest Service workforce, and left it "incapable of carrying out its mission." Burchfield bases his claims on 15 years of research of "an enormous stash of documents located at a federal records center [in San Bruno, California] and numerous interviews held with former employees."

Response to Burchfield's book has ranged from "the premise of his theory on how and why the Forest Service has so badly faltered in the last 30 years...is very close to dead on" even if his facts and stories may not be, to "Burchfield missed the mark. His zeal to make his own political and ideological statements by twisting facts has destroyed any credibility his book may have had." His research, writing, and editing also left much to be desired. "Poorly written, poorly researched, jumping to conclusions are a few of my criticisms..." commented one reader. Another expressed "some concern when I saw how he incorrectly used titles of the folks he was referencing. You have to have the simple stuff correct."

The verdict seems to be that Burchfield's zealotry and clumsiness have led to an opportunity lost; that if there is a legitimate "where there's smoke there's fire" story to be told, Burchfield has failed to focus on it in a constructive and comprehensive way. "I wasted the price of the book," was the response of one who bought it and read it and reached that verdict.

The Tinder Box: How Politically Correct Ideology Destroyed the U.S. Forest Service by Christopher Burchfield (ISBN 978-0-9827734-8-2), 474 pages, paperback, was published in 2012 by Stairway Press, 1500A East College Way, No. 554, Mountain Vernon, Washington 98273, at \$27.95.

--Les Joslin

Char Miller's *Public Lands, Public Debates: A Century of Controversy Inspires and Informs Public Lands Conversations*

"Watching democracy at work can be bewildering, even frustrating, but the only way individuals and organizations can sift through the often messy business of public deliberation is to deliberate...." So writes Professor Char Miller in the introduction to *Public Lands, Public Debates: A Century of Controversy* published in April 2012 by Oregon State University Press.

"The subject of historic struggle and contemporary dispute, public lands in the United States are treasured spaces," the OSU Press says of this new book in which "environmental historian Char Miller explores the history of conservation thinking and the development of a government agency with stewardship as its mission.

"Owned in common, our national forests, monuments, parks, and preserves are funded through federal tax receipts, making these public lands national in scope and significance. Their controversial histories demonstrate their vulnerability to shifting tides of public opinion, alterations in fiscal support, and overlapping authorities for their management—including federal, state, and local mandates, as well as critical tribal prerogatives and military claims.

"Miller takes the U.S. Forest Service as a gauge of the broader debates in which Americans have engaged since the late nineteenth century. In nineteen essays, he examines critical moments of public and private negotiation to help explain the particular, and occasionally peculiar, tensions that have shaped administration of public lands in the United States."

The relevance of Professor Miller's book to the current debate over federal public lands in general and the National Forest System and the U.S. Forest Service in particular is obvious. "Specifically written to appeal to a broad audience, Miller hopes this work will inspire readers to engage in public lands conversations, for such discourse is the heart of democratic decision-making," environmental historian Jen A. Huntley wrote in *New Books Network* on April 9. "With themes ranging from the role of science in land-use power struggles to the relationships between multiple public lands agencies, *Public Lands, Public Debates* will surely inspire and inform many such conversations."

Professor Miller travels familiar territory when he writes about the Forest Service. Formerly chair of the History Department at Trinity University in San Antonio, Texas, he now directs the environmental analysis program and teaches environmental analysis at Pomona College in southern California. A distinguished historian, he authored the definitive 2001 biography *Gifford Pinchot and the Making of Modern Environmentalism*, and served as Centennial Lecturer for the U.S. Forest Service in 2005.

Public Lands, Public Debates: A Century of Controversy by Char Miller (ISBN 978-0-87071-659-1), 176 pages, paperback, was published in April 2012 by Oregon State University Press at \$21.95.

--Les Joslin

John C. Hendee, Chad P. Dawson, and Wenonah F. Sharpe Publish 8th Edition of Venerable Textbook *Introduction to Forests and Renewable Resources*

“For 75 years, few textbooks have served a topic as well as *Introduction to Forests and Renewable Resources*,” according to publisher Waveland Press, Inc.’s, website. “Widely recognized for its comprehensive yet engaging coverage, this major revision provides an outstanding, up to date overview of management issues, conservation policies and practices related to forests and renewable resources, and an authoritative perspective on how these topics are evolving.”

The authors are certainly up to producing such a book. John C. Hendee began his career in 1961 in timber management on the Siuslaw National Forest and served 25 years in U.S. Forest Service field, research, and legislative affairs positions before, in 1985, he became dean of the University of Idaho’s College of Forestry, Wildlife, and Range Sciences (now College of Natural Resources) of which he is professor emeritus and retired dean. Chad P. Dawson is professor emeritus and former chair of the Department of Forestry and Natural Resources Management, College of Environmental Science and Forestry at the State University of New York, Syracuse, where he specialized in recreation and wilderness management. Wenonah F. Sharpe, wife of the late Professor Grant W. Sharpe of the College of Forestry at the University of Washington and a renowned scholar in her own right, has been closely associated with several editions of this book.

Their new textbook is “for forestry, natural resource, and environmental science students, involved citizens, and resource users and professionals.” A complete table of contents may be viewed by logging on to <www.waveland.com>.

Introduction to Forests and Renewable Resources (ISBN 978-1-57766-9), 480 pages, paperback, was published in 2012 by Waveland Press, Inc., 4180 Illinois Route 83, Suite 101, Long Grove, Illinois 80047, at \$69.95. The book is also available in an e-book version from VitalSource at <<http://store.vital-source.com/show/9781577668046>>.

Editor’s Note: Thanks to Professor John Hendee for corresponding with me about this new edition.

--Les Joslin

OldSmokeys Have Reissued 2005 Book *We Had an Objective in Mind*

The Pacific Northwest Forest Service Association (PNWFSA) has reissued *We Had an Objective in Mind*, an anthology of U.S. Forest Service stories the OldSmokeys published in 2005 to mark the Forest Service Centennial.

In five years the book sold 1,750 copies. Sales benefitted PNWFSA’s Grants/Projects Fund and many good works.

When the PNWFSA Board of Directors decided the book retained revenue potential, OldSmokey **Don Nearhood** deemed a “print-on-demand” approach preferable to investing in and marketing a large number of books. As a result, *We Had an*

Objective in Mind is available from Lulu.com as a paperback book for \$20.00 plus postage or as an e-book for \$10.00.

We Had an Objective in Mind tracks the growth and change of the Forest Service in the Pacific Northwest. Its stories begin with the early rangers, men who began with not much more than a badge, a horse, a meager camp outfit, and orders to protect and preserve the new National Forest System, and progress to their successors who managed the national forests for “the greatest good. to the greatest number, in the long run.”

There are three ways to get a copy of this book: order a paperback from <lulu.com> for \$20.00 plus postage; download an e-reader version from <lulu.com> for \$10.00; buy a paperback copy at the September 17-21 Forest Service Reunion in Vail, Colorado, for \$20.00 and pay no postage.

—Les Joslin

OldSmokey Les Joslin’s Revised-Enlarged *Uncle Sam’s Cabins Profiles 95 Historic U.S. Forest Service Ranger Stations*

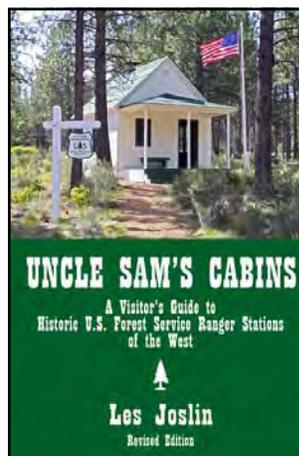
Twenty-two of the 92 historic ranger stations profiled in the revised and enlarged edition of OldSmokey **Les Joslin’s** *Uncle Sam’s Cabins: A Visitor’s Guide to Historic U.S. Forest Service Ranger Stations of the West*, just published by Wilderness Associates of Bend, Oregon, are in the Pacific Northwest Region. The others are in the six other western regions of the National Forest System. All were built between 1899 and World War II. Some are still in use, some are interpreted historic sites, and many are recreation rentals. All have fascinating stories.

That’s 95 historic ranger stations if you count the well-traveled old Bridgeport and Reese River ranger stations’ office building that inspired Les’ lifelong love affair with historic ranger stations expressed yet again in this major revision of his 1995 *Uncle Sam’s Cabins*. That’s the old district ranger’s office building the OldSmokeys moved to the High Desert Museum in 2008 and now in its third location. Still inspiring the public and Forest Service folk alike, that historic structure’s story is shared in this revision’s epilogue.

This revised edition of *Uncle Sam’s Cabins* (ISBN 978-0-9647167-8-0)—a softcover book, its 333 pages illustrated by eight maps and over 250 photographs—is available for \$20.00 postpaid from Wilderness Associates, P.O. Box 5822, Bend,

Oregon 97708, online from the Wilderness Associates website at <www.wildernessheritage.com>, for \$20.00 including postage, or from Amazon.com for the same price plus an additional charge for postage.

Editor’s Note: This is a publication announcement, not a review. Should a review be submitted by an OldSmokey or another reviewer, it would be published in a future issue of your OldSmokeys Newsletter.



Uncle Sam's Cabins



Fireplace smoke curled from the then-new, now-historic Tiller Ranger Station buildings in 1941.

U.S. Forest Service photograph

Tiller Ranger Station

Umpqua National Forest, Oregon

By Les Joslin

Photographs by the U.S. Forest Service and Les Joslin

Tiller Ranger Station has been headquarters of five Umpqua National Forest ranger districts since 1918, and remains headquarters of the Tiller Ranger District. Nine historic buildings of the station's 27 structures comprise the station's 12-acre historic district listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1991. These nine were built in the Pacific Northwest Region's characteristic Great Depression era Cascadian Rustic style by the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) between 1935 and 1942.

In 1935, the old buildings of the Archangeau Ranch upon which much of the Tiller Ranger Station compound was located were razed to make way for a new office, new residences, an equipment warehouse, a vehicle repair shop, a barn, and two garages—all built mainly of weatherboard, wood shingles, native lava stone, and concrete. Many of the gables and shutters sport the open pine tree logo common to Forest Service structures built during the 1930s. All nine except the barn are located in close proximity to one another. All are in good condition and still in use.

The 1935 house that long served as the district ranger's residence has been restored and furnished as the History House dedicated to district rangers who have served at Tiller since the station was founded. As a result of 50 years of district lumping and splitting, there have been a lot of them!

Beginning in 1918, Tiller Ranger Station was headquarters for the three district rangers who ran the old Summit, Deadman, and South Umpqua ranger districts. In 1920, the district ranger head count went from three to one when the Summit and Deadman ranger districts were merged into the large South Umpqua Ranger District.

Then, in 1946, the Cow Creek Ranger District was carved out of the South Umpqua Ranger District and two district rang-

ers were based at Tiller. Two years later, the districts were recombined into a single South Umpqua Ranger District. Six years later, in 1954, the South Umpqua Ranger district was again divided into a new Cow Creek district and a smaller South Umpqua district and the district ranger count at Tiller was back up to two.

And then, in 1956, the Cow Creek Ranger District was reduced in size when many thousands of acres of Oregon and California Railroad (O&C) lands were administratively transferred from the Umpqua National Forest to the Bureau of Land Management and what remained was renamed the Tiller Ranger District in 1964. Finally, in 1968, the South Umpqua Ranger District was consolidated with the Tiller Ranger District. The new district kept the Tiller name because the remaining district ranger was headquartered at Tiller Ranger Station.

Forty-four years later, Tiller Ranger Station continues in service as the administrative headquarters for the 325,106-acre Tiller Ranger District.

Tiller Ranger Station is identified by this historic U.S. Forest Service sign.

Photograph by Les Joslin

Tiller Ranger Station's former district ranger's residence is now the History House and is open to visitors.

Photograph by Les Joslin



Editor's Note: Tiller Ranger Station is 17 miles east of Canyonville, Oregon, on Oregon Highway 227. The district ranger's office and the historic district are on the north side of the highway.

Prepared from information gathered at Tiller Ranger Station and a well-documented Wikipedia article.

Out of the Past

Memories of Ranger Nevan McCullough

The *Uncle Sam's Cabins* article on Silver Creek Ranger Station in the Winter 2012 *OldSmokeys Newsletter* evoked *OldSmokeys Ross Files'* and *Gary Shirley's* memories of Ranger R. Nevan McCullough (1904-1983), legendary district ranger of the White River Ranger District, Snoqualmie National Forest, from 1928 to 1959. Both were impressed with their district ranger, but don't agree if the ranger in the 1931 photograph of the station (reprinted above) is Ranger McCullough.



Ross Remembers...

On a bright spring day in 1941 my wife Alma and I drove to Silver Creek Ranger Station to meet District Ranger R. Nevan McCullough. That log office building nestled in a thrifty forest was enough to make the young newlyweds a little nervous as they waited for a job interview with the district ranger.

The office interior was very bright and impressive with telephone switchboard's bells and black "howler horns" for each of five or six lines and the fire dispatch board and map. A tall kid, in uniform and tie, came to the counter and said "I am Al Peterson, can I help you?" Al "Pete" Peterson introduced us to Nevan McCullough and the career was started. We spent the next ten years connected to that ranger station.

I am sure that is Nevan standing in front of the office in the top photo. I saw Nevan, wearing the old "choke-bore" uniform pants, one time at a summer home meeting. He usually wore a less formal uniform [with] straight leg trousers, but always started the day with a tie. The tie would last until about 10:00 a.m. or the first sign of physical labor, then [was] jerked off and flung aside. We all quickly learned to quietly retrieve the tie and take it back to the office.

--Ross Files

Gary Remembers...

My introduction to Ranger McCullough was in 1952. After completing my first year at the University of Washington, College of Forestry, I accepted a summer job on the Granite Mountain Lookout on the North Bend Ranger District. A week-long guard school introduced me to many members of the forest staff.

My most vivid memory is of our training on fire suppression. The class was led by this well-seasoned Ranger Nevan McCullough. One of the things he stressed was the importance of taking care of our tools and keeping them in good working order—especially the ax. Nevan demonstrated the correct way to sharpen an ax, and then proceeded to shave his arm hair with his ax!

Upon graduation in 1955, I began my U.S. Forest Service career working for the forest engineer on the Snoqualmie National Forest, and I encountered Nevan on occasion. But shortly I was away on U.S. Army active duty for three years. Upon my return, I was assigned to the White River Ranger District, only to learn that Nevan had retired just two weeks earlier.

One of my duties as district engineer was to inspect logging road construction. One operation was just getting started, and right away I found a major problem. Stumps were being buried in fills. The operation was shut down until this problem could be corrected. This brought the timber sale purchaser's representative out to the construction site to protest my action. And who was the representative? None other than retired Ranger Nevan McCullough! Needless to say, I was a little nervous. But after a little conversation, Nevan said I was correct and that he would take care of the problem. And, of course, he did.

As a former employee of [the White River Ranger District] who knew Ranger McCullough, I questioned the photo identification of Nevan [in the Winter 2012 *OldSmokeys Newsletter* article on Silver Creek Ranger Station]. So I made a copy of pages 24 and 25 and sent them to his son Tom saying I thought the picture on page 24 was Nevan and not the one on page 25. Tom agrees.

--Gary Shirley

Letters continued from page 25

Ted Stubblefield reminds *OldSmokey Pete Peterson* of their Siskiyou National Forest days.

Pete Peterson wrote [in the Spring 2012 *OldSmokeys Newsletter Letters* section], in describing his recovery over the last several years from a heart attack and some brain damage, [that] he could not recall his days on the Siskiyou National Forest at Powers Ranger District very well, so I thought I would fill in a few of those years for him.

When I came to the Siskiyou in 1979 as the timber staff officer, Pete was presale forester at Powers Ranger District and also an FEI (Forest Engineering Institute at Oregon State University) grad doing long span logging analysis on the typical steep hillsides of the northwest portion of the forest. When I say "long span" I mean 3000 feet to 4000 feet.

Pete used to love to get me out to review the presale work by hiking those 70-90 percent slopes into the draws below, checking what level of streamside protection they had applied. We referred to those hard days as "one, two, or three-holers" (dropping into the hole and climbing back out). More than your legs, it wore your arms out pulling yourself back up those hills through the brush understory. I can't recall if Pete ever broke a sweat as he stood there in his hickory shirt and black Friscos, while I looked like I rolled in the stream before coming out. That's where a good set of cork boots really paid off.

Pete had mentioned that I should drop by the local café (only one) "in town" and grab a "logger lunch" before hitting the fields, and you had to see one of these lunches to believe what was in them: two or three sandwiches, fruit, chips, large piece of pie, and a drink and candy bar. They usually lasted me two days.

Pete never stopped smiling, and always looked forward to bringing me out again to wear me out, wear my corks down a bit, and he knew when he was getting to me because I wasn't able to do much talking because I was too busy gasping for air.

I loved those days out of the office and especially spending them with Pete. Keep healin', old friend. You've made a great comeback so far and I know you'll continue to get better because you have an unmatched fighting spirit!

My First Forest Service Job

Toiyabe Rookie 1962

By Les Joslin

*The time has passed so quick,
the years all run together now
Did I [join the Outfit] yesterday,
or was it fifty years ago?*

--Apologies to Ian Tyson

Fifty years ago!

One afternoon in June 1962, I tossed my sea bag ahead of me and stumbled off the Greyhound bus stopped along U.S. Highway 395 some 110 miles south of Reno and four miles north of Bridgeport, California. The bus left, the dust cleared, and a small brown sign across the highway promised I'd find the Bridgeport Ranger Station just over the rise. I shouldered my sea bag to follow an unpaved road toward my first U.S. Forest Service job.

About fifty yards along I topped that rise and saw it. The ranger station was a cluster of half a dozen green-roofed white frame buildings nestled in a grove of poplars, cottonwoods, and willows. Except for a green Forest Service pickup and a gray government Jeep wagon dating from the 1950s, the scene was more of the 1920s or 1930s than 1962. And, to my way of thinking then, more of a ranch than a ranger station.

Gravel crunched beneath my boots as I strode toward a building marked "office" and flanked by an antenna. A forestry aide named Dick was manning the office. He welcomed me and pointed me toward the bunkhouse. My long-awaited Forest Service career was about to begin.

In the spring of my freshman year at Berkeley I'd had a call from Mr. Paul Casamajor of the School of Forestry faculty. Some of my Standard Form 57s had been referred to him, and he invited me to his office to talk about jobs. I could have my pick of three. The choker-setter job in northern California was out. I wanted to be a ranger, not a logger! I'd picked the Toiyabe National Forest fire control aide job over the Wasatch National Forest recreation aide job.

A firefighter

About six o'clock, two dusty Forest Service pickups rolled into the yard. A short time later, Dick and two others, who introduced themselves as Pete and John, ambled into the bunkhouse. They were Nevadans, and full of good-natured jokes about Californians. Dick and Pete, both second-year men on the district, also regaled me with stories about the district's fire control officer, one H. Marion Hysell, soon to return from a Wyoming "bug job" to be my—our—immediate boss. They invited me to ride into town with them. On the way, Dick informed me I'd start work in the morning. As a GS-3 I'd earn \$1.83 an hour.

District Ranger Robert F. Hoag, Jr., a World War II veteran and Syracuse University forester who'd rangered an Ashley



Les Joslin in 1962

National Forest district before coming to Bridgeport in 1959, knew how to get summer crews—and greenhorns—lined out. Until the fire season began, the three-man fire crew maintained trails, cleaned campgrounds, and did project work. This helped everyone get in shape and new men learn the country. Once the fire danger increased, our crew would have to stay closer to the station. I worked hard and learned a lot about the job, the forest, and the agency.

I also learned that, as a "Cal Co-op" fire crew funded by the California Division of Forestry as well as the Forest Service because CDF didn't have a crew in that part of the state, we'd take action on "state" fires as well as fires on national forest land. And, since the nearest Bureau of Land Management fire crew was 85 miles north in Carson City, we suppressed BLM fires, too. That was a lot of country for Ranger Hoag's small fire organization—an FCO, a fire prevention guard, and a three-man fire crew backed up by a three-man trail crew and a few other district personnel—to cover. But cover it we did.

A first fire

I chased my first smoke on June 23, with the district's veteran forestry aide Maurice Crawford and the other two fire crewmen, before the FCO returned from Wyoming. About 40 miles from the ranger station, it was a lightning-caused BLM fire burning in the open pinyon-juniper woodland of the Mono Basin.

Not long after we arrived and started building a fireline, an air tanker from Carson City dropped a load of pink slurry on the fire and the firefighters. Since the district lacked a fire rig, that air drop proved a great supplement to the milk cans of water we hauled in the pickup. The pink slurry also proved very difficult to wash off the pickup.

It really wasn't much of a fire. But it was my first fire!

A district clerk

One morning, soon after that first fire, Ranger Hoag assembled the fire crew in the yard to line us out for the next several days. Mrs. Hoag, he explained, had her hands full with their new baby and could no longer be the district clerk. "Can any of you guys type?" he asked.

"I can," I responded, before I realized what I was doing.

"Good. You are now also the district clerk." And that was that. In addition to my fire crew duties, I would staff the office from time to time. I would type and file, greet visitors, take and report daily fire weather readings, and maintain radio contact with crews in the field.

An FCO

"I'm gonna work the holy hell outta you," Marion Hysell greeted me when I was introduced to him on his first morning back from the Wyoming bug job. His handshake was firm as he appraised his new firefighter.

"That's what I came for," I managed in return, half wondering if all I'd done so far added up to no more than resting up for the FCO's return. Then the twinkle in his eyes and his good-natured grin allayed my apprehensions.

True to his word, the FCO worked me—and the rest of the crew—hard at learning to fight fires, fighting fires, and project work. But nobody worked harder than he did. Much more

leader than boss, he led by example. His easy but effective leadership helped us work, enjoy the work, and appreciate what we accomplished.

A challenging fire

That summer afforded several opportunities to put my new firefighter skills to use. Most challenging was an early evening fire in the crags above Devil's Gate Summit. Dick and I were dispatched to the fire in a pickup into which we'd loaded two smokechaser packs and two water packs.

It didn't take us long to spot the smoke and size up the climb ahead of us. We parked the truck on the south side of U.S. Highway 395, put on our hard hats, strapped on our smokechaser packs, and began the climb—which often involved crawling up steep sliderock slopes—toward the fire. I soon realized how well six weeks of hard work had conditioned me.

About forty minutes of climbing later we reached the fire. It wasn't much as fires go—a large Jeffrey pine snag, a few smaller pines and junipers, and some mountain mahogany burning here, smoldering there, smoking everywhere. But it had potential, and we attacked it with all the vigor our steep climb had left us.

Once we had a line around the fire, Dick advised the ranger station by the handi-talkie we'd lugged up there that we had it contained and controlled. As we began mopping up, Dick commented on some real hot spots and allowed as how "We sure could use some water on this job before it gets dark."

Knowing *we* meant *me*, I gazed at the pickup far below. "I'll go get it."

"Right," Dick agreed, and added as I started down the mountain, "Bring both of 'em."

Both of them! Water weighs eight pounds a gallon! Ten gallons of water weigh eighty pounds, twice as much as a smokechaser pack. I knew I was in for a long crawl back up the mountain with those two water packs.

It was dark by the time this firefighter had scrambled back to the fire with those ten gallons of water. It was cold by the time the two firefighters had used that water to cool off the last of the hot spots. It was darn cold by the time the two firefighters, who knew better than to try to get off those crags at night, had kindled a small fire inside the fireline to heat their rations, boil water for coffee, and warm their hands. And it was colder still when, at first light, they declared the fire out, shouldered their gear, and made their way off the crags toward the pickup, Bridgeport, and a hot two-dollar breakfast Uncle Sam bought them at the Sportsman's Inn as it opened for the day.

A puppy and a porcupine

I particularly enjoyed the public contact aspect of my part-time district clerk work. Most ranger station visitors genuinely appreciated my assistance. Sometimes that assistance involved more than information, directions, and permits.

Late in the morning on one of my clerk days, a worried-looking man drove in and asked if I could help him with his dog.

"What's wrong with your dog?" I asked.

"Porcupine quills," the man responded as he produced a whimpering half-grown beagle with a face full. "Got 'em at

the campground a little while ago."

Fortunately for me, I wasn't alone at the station that day. Marion Hysell was getting ready to shoe Old Blue.

"Let me get some help," I said, not committing myself further as I walked toward the barn. "I'll be right back."

I knew Marion would know what to do, and he did. We must have made quite a picture, sitting there on the front porch of the little office. As the beagle's master looked on, Marion skillfully extracted each quill as I held the squirming puppy.

"Thanks a lot!" the man exclaimed as he climbed into his car with the dog. "I knew I'd come to the right place!"

The right place. That squared with my idea of what a Forest Service ranger station should be—and should always strive to be—the right place to go for help and get it.

And so the summer wore on. All in all, it added up to a few fires, a lot of work, and not much time off. I worked every day but three that summer.

A meaningful summer

The summer of 1962 ended all too soon, and it was time to return to Berkeley and a second year of college.

I boarded the Greyhound bus in Bridgeport on a cool September evening. Five minutes after pulling out of town, the bus sped past the Bridgeport Ranger Station. It was dusk, and lights burned in some of the windows. My eyes stung, and I quickly wiped away unexpected tears. It had been a more meaningful summer than I could begin to understand then or explain now. I had done something I had always wanted to do. And, without knowing it, I had been assessing that summer and myself. I realized then that I had lived up to some of my expectations of myself, but not to others.

I guess I had lived up to the Forest Service's expectations. Ranger Hoag had asked me to come back the next summer as the district fire prevention guard. It was a job I couldn't know then I would keep through the 1966 fire season.

Adapted from Les Joslin, Toiyabe Patrol: Five U.S. Forest Service Summers East of the High Sierra in the 1960s, published in Bend, Oregon, by Wilderness Associates in 2006. The little, one-room Bridgeport Ranger Station office building to which Les reported for work in June 1962 now sits in front of the High Desert Museum in Bend, restored as the PNWFSA-sponsored High Desert Ranger Station.

This *My First Forest Service Job* section in the Fall 2012 *OldSmokeys Newsletter* will feature OldSmokey **R. Gordon Schmidt's** brief reflection on how he began to become "The Product of a Federal Agency I Knew Nothing About, Until..." the summer of 1966.

In the Winter 2013 *OldSmokey's Newsletter* OldSmokey **Kathy Manning Geyer** will share her 1971 answer to the question "How Much Can You Learn in Two Months?" on the Ochoco National Forest, and in the Spring 2013 issue you'll spend a summer with OldSmokey **Jack Inman** through his memoir "Pogue Point Lookout, 1955."

Many others are in the queue, and more are welcome. All should be published eventually in your *OldSmokeys Newsletter* and/or in a planned book that would be entitled *My First U.S. Forest Service Job*.



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

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

www.oldsmokeys.org

Summer 2012

Note: Your mailing label shows the year through which your dues are paid. For example, if your label shows “08” your dues are paid through December 31, 2012. If it shows “LT” you are a lifetime member and owe no further dues.

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

Officers

President, Mike Ash; **President-elect**, Linda Goodman; **Past President**, John Berry; **Secretary**, Debra Warren; **Recording Secretary**, Susan Triplett; **Treasurer**, Bill Funk; **Archivist**, Ray Steiger; **Newsletter Editor**, Les Joslin; **E-Mail Editor & Interim Database Manager**, Vern Clapp; **Website Manager**, Don Nearhood; **Membership Chair**, Bob Devlin; **Community Outreach Chair**, Bev Pratt; **Banquet Chair**, Don & Jean Loff; **Picnic Chair**, Rick Larson; **National Association of Forest Service Retirees Representative**, John Marker.

Area Representatives

Regional Office, Al Matecko; **Research Station**, Cindy Miner, Debra Warren; **Colville**, Kermit Link, Al Garr; **Deschutes**, Arlie Holm; **Fremont**, Richard “Buck” Woodward; **Gifford Pinchot**, Phil Dodd; **Gifford Pinchot (east)**, Jim Bull; **Gifford Pinchot (west)**, Ray Scharpf; **Malheur** (vacant); **Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie**, Lee Boecksteigel; **Mt. Hood**, Jim Tierney; **Ochoco**, Denise Reinhart, Dave Zalunardo; **Okanogan**, Bill Krell; **Olympic**, Chris Anderson, Dave Yates; **Rogue River**, Jerry Wojack, Tom Lupes; **Siskiyou**, Eileen Blakely, Joel King; **Siuslaw**, Ted Gump; **Umatilla**, Phil Kline; **Umpqua**, Mary & Joe Brennan, John Sloan; **Wallowa-Whitman**, Art Schimke; **Wenatchee**, Kjell Bakke, Fred Walk; **Willamette**, Al Sorseth; Doug MacDonald; **Winema**, Ted Yarosh, Mike Gouette.

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

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