



OldSmokeys Newsletter

Newsletter of the Pacific Northwest Forest Service Retirees—Spring 2008

President's Message—John Nesbitt

We have been hearing about almost record snows in the Cascades, but I have also heard that our water year is around or below normal and I know it hasn't snowed much down here in stump town. Nevertheless, I eagerly await spring, and the new crocuses and daffodils have not disappointed me. The Spring Banquet is just around the corner, and Emil and Dorine tell us that "Everything is a go" for that event. Based on past years, we know it will be a top-notch event. Complete information and reservation coupon are on page 10.

You probably think at times, as I do, why we, individually, are active in organizations like the OldSmokeys. My answer to that question seems to always end up that I enjoy socializing with those people with whom I shared a career. In addition, I continue to have a strong interest in the outfit.

As I muse on these thoughts, I considered my Forest Service friends who can't make our monthly luncheon meetings due to travel distance. Recently, Bob Williams shared with me what another region's retirees are doing about this geographical problem. That region's retirees plan one or two events a year away from their main center of Forest Service population (in our case, of course, that's Portland).

From this fact, I wondered if we could and should do the same. One idea would be for the PNWFSA area representatives from a Forest Service area, such as Area Four in south-central Oregon, to jointly plan an event in their area and invite those of us living in the Portland locale to that event.

Do you think this is a good idea? Is there both the interest and energy to plan events in the areas? Would the PNWFSA area representatives take on this task?

My email address is nesbitt11@msn.com. Please let me know what you think about area events.

Thanks.

John Nesbitt

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

Forum

Your Pacific Northwest Forest Service Association Deserves Your Support!

Our outfit, the Pacific Northwest Forest Service Association, is growing and reaching higher quality every year. Here are some reasons you should be proud of our PNWFSA. We are almost a thousand-member organization. We have money in the bank. We have put on the best U.S. Forest Service reunion ever. We bring our membership together at two big events—a banquet and a picnic—every year. We have monthly luncheons. We sponsor efforts to preserve our Forest Service heritage and ensure its future. We work on National Forest System projects and get things done on the ground. We have published a book and are in the process of publishing another. We publish an outstanding quarterly newsletter. We have an outstanding website and email communications service. We keep informed and speak out when necessary. We have Region 6 behind us. We have a dedicated cadre of members who serve on our Board of Directors and do the key jobs that keep us going and growing.

We will keep going and growing as long as our membership pulls together to support our Association by serving in it, paying dues to it, donating to it, attending and enjoying its functions, and recruiting new members who will do likewise. So, please pay your dues on time, donate what more you can afford, step up to serve in key offices and positions as they become vacant—and even as understudies before they become vacant, serve on local membership projects on the national forests, and recruit eligible Forest Service members and retirees to join us.

We *are* the OldSmokeys, and justly proud of it!

-- *Bev Pratt, Secretary*

Mea Culpa

The plan was for the Winter 2008 issue of your *OldSmokeys Newsletter* to be my best issue yet. But, what was it Robert Burns wrote about the “best laid plans of mice and men”? Partly because of a “reproduction problem” at the printer’s, which resulted in some of you receiving newsletters with garbled text on some pages making some articles unreadable, and partly because of my lack of attention to detail, the issue fell short of the plan. Our printer made good by sending everyone a postcard apology for the error and an email address or telephone number (that, unfortunately, also were in error) to write or call to receive a correct copy of the newsletter free of charge.

Now it’s time for me to make amends for my errors. First, my apologies to **Marlin Plank** for listing him as “Marvin” Plank on the back pages of the winter, spring, summer, and fall 2007 issues of the newsletter. My apologies to all for any confusion I may have caused by printing a “Bill for Collection for 2007 Annual Dues” on page 12, and thanks to those of you who read what I meant and not what I typed and especially to those of you who crossed out “2007” and wrote in “2008” and used it to send in your 2008 annual dues. My apologies for not printing that bill for collection in the fall issue, instead of the winter issue, as I should have. You will find a “Bill for Collection for 2008 Annual Dues” on page 4 of this issue and can expect a “Bill for Collection for 2009 Annual Dues” in the Fall 2008 issue.

And, finally, my apologies to all, again, for neglecting to print “Change Services Requested” on the mailer section of page 20 of the Fall 2007 issue. This resulted in less-than-optimum revision of the *OldSmokeys Membership Directory 2008* and in additional work for already overworked Secretary **Bev Pratt** and Treasurer-Data Base Manager-eMail Editor **Vern Clapp** as well as for myself.

-- *Les Joslin, Editor*

The Disappearing Rangers

Forest Service retirees are rightly concerned about the low visibility of Forest Service personnel in their communities.

In Fiscal Year 2002, the Forest Service had 16,348 FTEs working in the National Forest System. In Fiscal Year 2008, it had 11,156 FTEs in the National Forest System. That’s a 32 percent reduction. For Fiscal Year 2009, President Bush proposes reducing the FTEs in the National Forest System by another 11 percent to 9,973. George Leonard shared this information.

Chris Pyron, who was part of the review team looking at unit consolidation efforts within the Forest Service, provided this example of the sad state of on-the-ground National Forest System staffing. A consolidation in one region created a district some two million acres in size staffed by 10 FTE positions. From a management standpoint, in my view, that is virtual abandonment of the land.

-- *John Marker, NAFSR Representative*

*This page is for expressing your opinions or sharing your ideas.
Send your Forum inputs to the editor: Les Joslin at lesjoslin@aol.com.*

“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 Linda Goodman Feels Good on Retirement as Regional Forester

“I feel good about where our region is and where we are headed,” said OldSmokey **Linda Goodman** in a January 15 “Dear R-6 Employees” announcement of her retirement from the Forest Service at the end of March. “Together we have made the region a good investment and we remain focused on the land.”

A native of Yakima, Washington, Linda began her Forest Service career 34 years ago as a front desk assistant on the Olympic National Forest and worked her way up through positions on the Mt. Hood, Siuslaw, and Deschutes national forests. She also served as director of the National Field Office of the Job Corps, overseeing 18 Job Corps centers around the country. She became Regional Forester, Pacific Northwest Region, just over five years ago.

A retirement party for Linda was scheduled for April 5 at the World Forestry Center in Portland.

Deputy Regional Forester **Liz Agpaoa**, also an OldSmokey, will serve as Acting Regional Forester through May.

OldSmokeys Help Cut Ribbon to Open New Mount St. Helens National Volcanic Monument Headquarters Building



Former Region 6 Regional Forester and Gifford Pinchot National Forest Supervisor Bob Williams, current Forest Supervisor Claire Lavendel, MSHNVM Manager Tom Mulder, and former forest supervisors Ted Stubblefield and Bob Tocarzyck cut the ribbon.

Photograph by Chris Streb, Gifford Pinchot National Forest

Three OldSmokeys who are former forest supervisors of the Gifford Pinchot National forest—**Bob Williams**, **Ted Stubblefield**, and **Bob Tocarzyck**—joined current Forest Supervisor Claire Lavendel and Mount St. Helens National Volcanic Monument Manager Tom Mulder to cut the ribbon at the

December 5, 2007, opening of the Monument’s new headquarters building in Amboy, Washington.

The national volcanic monument was established within the Gifford Pinchot National Forest after Mt. Saint Helens erupted in May 1980.

The modular trailers and sagging covered walkways that provided “temporary” office facilities since the eruption have been removed, and Monument personnel now operate from a modern, open-concept headquarters building.

Delay of the new building resulted from the 1998 firebombing of Oakridge Ranger Station, which required redirection of funds, among other reasons.

“It has been a long time coming, but it is great to have everyone together under one roof,” said Mulder. “In addition to the benefit of improved communications and better working conditions, we are also looking forward to a much more efficient operation with lower energy and maintenance costs.”

Adapted from the December 20, 2007, R6 Update

OldSmokeys Trained Washington State National Guard Firefighters in 2007

“I did not spend any time on fires during the 2007 wildfire season,” OldSmokey **Stan Kunzman** reported on January 6, “but I had the honor of training Washington National Guard troops in basic wildland firefighting and qualifying them for FF-2.”

Stan, along with OldSmokeys **Elton Thomas** and **Woody Williams**, was one of a dozen National Wildfire Suppression Association instructors under contract to Incident Management Systems and Training who put on a one-week training in June at the U.S. Military Reservation, Yakima Training Center.

“Without a doubt this was one of the finest groups of young, patriotic Americans I have taught,” Stan said. “At least 75 percent of these troops had seen action in either Iraq or Afghanistan, and once again volunteered to take training to protect our natural resources.”

OldSmokeys Schedule June 16-20 Work Week at Historic Fish Lake Remount Station

The McKenzie River Ranger District, Willamette National Forest, has scheduled another work week at historic Fish Lake Remount Station for June 16 through 20, 2008.

This will be the third annual work week during which OldSmokeys and other Forest Service retirees will work with Forest Service personnel to stabilize and maintain historic structures at Fish Lake, a station that has touched the lives of many OldSmokeys through the years. Jim Denny, based many summers at Fish Lake, is returning to help organize and direct the effort.

The welcome mat is out to all who want to help save this wonderful place. You can work the whole week or just a day or two. The District will furnish the tools, open the bunkhouse for overnight use, and provide electric and sewer hookups for RVs.

June is just around the corner. So check your calendars—better yet, *clear your calendars*—and pitch in. OldSmokey



Mike Kerrick, who will help coordinate the retiree turnout, can be contacted at <makerrick@q.com>. District contact Kathy Harbick can be contacted at <kharbick@fs.fed.us>. More information will be available from Mike or Kathy as the dates get nearer. Contact them now to get on the mailing list.

Rager Ranger Station Sets June 13-15 Centennial Celebration

Rager Ranger Station on the Paulina Ranger District, Ochoco National Forest, established in 1908 and still in service as the Forest Service’s most remote year-round district ranger’s headquarters, will celebrate its centennial the weekend of June 13-15, 2008.

This three-day event will include a reunion dinner and program on the evening of Saturday, June 14.

Rager Ranger Station’s centennial celebration is open to all past station personnel, their spouses and families, volunteers, Paulina Valley residents, and folks involved in partnerships with the ranger district.

The centennial celebration committee continues collecting the names of all people connected to the ranger station over the years in order to contact them with an information flyer and registration form. You can help by sending all the names, addresses, and telephone numbers if you have them to Renee Roufs at <rroufs@fe.fed.us>. For more information, contact OldSmokey **Kathleen Martin** at <ktmartin@.fs.fed.us>.

Prepared from information provided by Kathleen Martin, District Archaeologist, Paulina Ranger District, Ochoco National Forest

Oakridge OldSmokeys Met in Surprise, Arizona, on February 23

The southern contingent of the Oakridge retirees –from the old Oakridge, Rigdon, and Salt Creek rangers districts, all once headquartered in Oakridge—met once again at OldSmokeys **Emil and Dorine Sabol’s** place in Surprise, Arizona, on February 23, 2008, for lunch, the usual fire analyses, the usual comment on the future of the Forest Service, and so forth.

OldSmokeys **John and Pennie Devereaux, Bob and Judy Hetzer, Lloyd and Betty Soule, and John and Bonna Wilson**, attended. This year they were joined by OldSmokey **Dale Robertson** of Sedona, Arizona. Although not an ex-Oakridger, the retired Chief “certainly fit in well by virtue of his Deschutes, Mt. Hood, and Siuslaw time,” according to Emil, who judged that “a good time was had by all.”

Prepared from a submission from Emil and Dorine Sabol.

National Association of CCC Alumni Seeks Memorial Statue Funding During CCC 75th Anniversary Year

Founded in 1933, the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) celebrates its 75th anniversary in 2008. Bob Griffiths, who co-founded the National Association of Civilian Conservation Corps Alumni (NACCCA) over 30 years ago, asks all who are able and interested to help the NACCCA honor the CCC program and its contributions to the nation by sponsoring CCC

memorial statues at locations throughout the country where the CCC left its imprint.

“Three million young Americans served in 4,000 CCC camps throughout the nation during the decade 1933 to 1942,” according to Bob. “A large percentage of these young men served in our national and state forests as well as our national and state parks.”

There are already 45 CCC memorial statues in 28 states, and five more are being made. The 6-foot-tall bronze statues cost \$20,000 each. “We need all the donations, large and small, we can muster to cover the costs,” Bob said, inviting tax-deductible donations to be sent to:

COCC Memorial Statue Fund
c/o Bob Griffiths, Co-Founder, NACCCA
12415 Woods Road
Wilton, California 95693

Bob’s e-mail address is ffrig@frontiernet.net.

The NACCCA is an IRS 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, and all donations are tax deductible.

OldSmokeys Board of Directors to Meet May 21 at High Desert Museum

The PNWFSA Board of Directors will hold its May 2008 meeting on Wednesday, May 21, at the High Desert Museum on U.S. Highway 97 about five miles south of Bend, Oregon.

The meeting will begin at 10:30 in Classroom A. Lunch will be available after the meeting. All PNWFSA members are welcome, and will be admitted free to the Museum for the meeting. So, Central Oregon OldSmokeys, come meet your Board!

The monthly PNWFSA lunch at the Beaverton Elks Club will be held on Friday, May 30, as scheduled.

Some OldSmokeys Still Owe 2008 Dues

If you’re one of the OldSmokeys who have not paid his or her 2008 dues, please use the coupon below to pay without delay.

You might even consider the convenience of a \$250 lifetime membership so you won’t have to remember—and be reminded—to pay dues each year.

The bottom line is we don’t want to lose you and you don’t want to lose us!

Pacific Northwest Forest Service Association Bill for Collection for 2008 Annual Dues

Annual dues of \$20 were due and payable in January.

Please make your check for \$20 annual dues [or \$250 lifetime dues] payable to PNWFSA and mail to PNWFSA, P.O. Box 5583, Portland, OR 97228-5583.

Name _____

Address _____

Forest Service News

Chief Gail Kimbell Delivered a 2008 “State of the Forest Service” Message

Just a few days before President George W. Bush delivered the final State of the Union address of his administration on January 28, 2008, U.S. Forest Service Chief Gail Kimbell sent a “State of the Forest Service” message that reflects the view from the top.

“I can report that the state of the agency is sound,” Chief Kimbell began her message. “We continue to sustain and restore the national forests and grasslands. Our researchers continue to push back the frontiers of knowledge and thirteen have been recognized with a Nobel Prize for their efforts. Our partnerships with other Federal agencies, states, communities, and tribes have broadened and deepened as together we have faced growing threats from fire and other disturbances. The outstanding competence and professionalism of our employees is admired by forestry organizations around the world. As we enter our second century of service, we can reflect with pride on our accomplishments.

“Yet, for all these achievements, significant issues face us, and we can do better,” she continued. “The issues are every bit as challenging as those faced by our predecessors. America’s population will likely increase by 50 percent in the next 50 years and the pressures on the land will increase and change. In an era of globalization, the world is shrinking, our jobs are growing more complex, and the value of forests and grasslands will be greater than ever.”

Chief Kimbell focused on issues “internal to the Forest Service,” issues “bigger than our internal workings,” and issues “bigger than all of us together.”

Among internal issues are those associated with continuing *transformation* and *consolidation* efforts. “**Transformation** is about using advances in technology to update the way we conduct oversight, program leadership and program direction,” she explained. “We are already making progress where regions are sharing resources for better efficiency and where program direction is coordinated across organizational lines. And we must do more.”

Chief Kimbell focused on how “the success of the **Albuquerque Service Center** affects us all and many partners,” noting the good news that “in FY07 we passed our sixth consecutive annual audit” and the not so good news that “we have struggled with the implementation of Human Resources (HR) and our performance is not acceptable.” She asked all to “keep in mind that the people in HR are as unhappy about the performance of the systems as anyone” and that “they are working hard against seemingly impossible odds but we will improve those odds.”

And, in terms of human resources themselves, Chief Kimbell noted that 1,958 Forest Service retirements and resignations in 2007 reflected “a significant loss of skills, knowledge and friends.” She expressed excitement “about the skills and knowledge” the 2,119 new permanent employees hired last year

bring to the outfit, and emphasized the need for “mentoring and training” these “new recruits.”

In terms of “issues bigger than our internal workings” Chief Kimbell mentioned achievement of a “final **Planning Rule**” that “matches the dynamic world we live in today to provide for active, sustainable management of lands” and evolution of “**Travel Management** efforts [that] highlight how important National Forest System lands are to the recreating public.”

Among “issues bigger than all of us together” Chief Kimbell focused on the influence of **Climate Change** on “the restoration framework and its elements of forest health, biomass utilization, sustainability, invasive species, etc. [that] will soon be in our directive system.” She reiterated that “**water** is the issue we will work with for the rest of our careers.” And noted that “response to our ‘**Kids in the Woods**’ grant program is tremendous.”

“The dialogue around **fire** suppression and fire preparedness, and how we pay for it and how we plan for it, continues,” she observed. “There are some who see clearly the effects on all our programs and we are engaged in much discussion. We will continue to monitor and adjust how we suppress fires and their costs. We will continue to examine fire behavior and predictive models. Research will help us look forward to future needs and opportunities.”

With regard to former Chief Dale Bosworth’s Four Threats, Chief Kimbell claimed “We have made tremendous progress in treating hazardous fuels, in addressing invasive species, in unmanaged recreation and in our open space strategy. All of these have involved partners and all are there in the overarching themes of climate change, water, and kids. Certainly, there is more work to do on each of these and we will continue our efforts in the context of the whole.”

“Our work with the Forest Service is rich with opportunity and challenge [owing to many factors including] climate change and demographic change,” the Chief observed. “The Forest Service is about *sustaining the health, diversity and productivity of the nation’s forests and grasslands to meet the needs of present and future generations.*,” she concluded, stating her conviction that the Forest Service is “up to the task!”

U.S. Forest Service Faces Severe Budget Cuts for Fiscal Year 2009; NAFSR Weighs In

“A Bush administration spending plan that would slash money for the Forest Service [in fiscal year 2009] could lead to massive layoffs at the agency charged with managing 193 million acres of national forests,” Democratic lawmakers said on February 13, 2008, according to a report in the February 14 issue of *The Bulletin*, Bend, Oregon’s daily newspaper.

“Spending for the Forest Service would be cut by nearly 8 percent next year, to \$4.1 billion, in a budget plan submitted by President Bush. The plan could mean the loss of more than 2,700 jobs—nearly 10 percent of the agency’s work force—as well as reductions in dozens of non-fire related programs....” lawmakers said.

Representative Norm Dicks, D-Washington, chairman of the Interior Appropriations Subcommittee, called the budget plan “an unmitigated disaster” that “would cause real harm to our 193 million acre National Forest System.”

John Marker offers perspective

“We are now in the political fantasy season,” OldSmokey **John Marker**, Pacific Northwest Director of the National Association of Forest Service Retirees (NAFSR) observed. “The White House proposes a ridiculous budget which is dead on arrival since the administration is on its way out. The worst part is not the amount as much as the apparent lack of concern in the administration toward the national forests, forest research, and state and private forestry programs.”

“A key to the Forest Service budget is the [White House] Office of Management and Budget and the OMB budget examiners assigned to the Forest Service budget. This could be where at least part of the problem starts.”

“It’s early in the game yet. Hearings are next, and we’d do well to watch them closely.”

George Leonard prepared to testify

Retired Associate Chief **George Leonard**, NAFSR President, is prepared to testify before Congressman Dicks’ subcommittee. NAFSR is submitting an alternative budget it believes is much more realistic for Forest Service programs.

“We believe that base funding for all Forest Service programs should be the FY2008 appropriation level adjusted for pay act and other uncontrollable costs,” George said. NAFSR will recommend an alternative budget it believes is much more realistic for Forest Service programs. This includes full funding of the National Fire Plan and \$155 million in additions to that base funding level.

Fire funding issue is key

“The most critical issue that needs to be addressed in the Forest Service budget is the funding of fire suppression. The current procedure of including the rolling ten-year average cost of fire suppression within the agency’s discretionary budget is destroying the capability of the Forest Service to carry out the remainder of its statutory missions. From 25 percent of the budget in FY2000, fire funding is now approaching 50 percent of the budget. The suppression cost trend means the ten-year average is going to continue to grow, further cannibalizing funding for other programs,” according to George.

“While the overall Forest Service budget had remained relatively stable over the last six years, the diversion of funds to fire suppression has had a major impact on the workforce available to carry out the multiple-use mission of the agency. The number of foresters, biologists, and other resource specialists, along with technicians, is a good measure of the capability of a resource management agency to carry out its mission.” Between fiscal year 2002 and fiscal year 2008, he pointed out, Forest Service staff levels (FTE) have dropped 9 percent in Research from 2,494 to 2,283, 19 percent in State and Private Forestry from 909 to 739, and a whopping 35% in the National Forest System from 17,094 to 11,156.

The bottom line is that NAFSR “recommends that fire suppression costs be segregated from the other discretionary pro-

grams of the Forest Service.”

Prepared from a February 14, 2008, wire reports item in The Bulletin, and input from John Marker and George Leonard.

Editor’s Note: Your OldSmokeys Newsletter will try to keep you apprised of the fiscal year 2009 budget process.

Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007 Excludes National Forest Biomass

The Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007, signed into law by President Bush on December 19, 2007, to improve fuel economy and reduce oil dependence, includes definitions of biomass that exclude most materials from federal forests from use in the creation of biofuels. As several—including a senior U.S. Department of Agriculture official and Forest Service officials and retirees—have pointed out, this is inconsistent with the intent of the Act and adversely affects National Forest System and other federal public forest lands and communities.

Department of Agriculture cites bill flaws

Specifically, as pointed out by Melissa Simpson, Deputy Under Secretary, Natural Resources and Environment, U.S. Department of Agriculture, as early as December 7, 2007, before the House-passed bill reached the Senate, the definition found in Title II of the Act “excludes all materials from Federal Forests, with the exception of those obtained from the immediate vicinity of buildings or public infrastructure at risk from wildfire. This would presume that the majority of materials produced on federal lands would not be available for the creation of biofuels. This entirely contradicts the bipartisan efforts being made to reduce hazardous fuels on Federal lands for the purposes of protecting communities from catastrophic wildfire.”

And Title XIV of the Act “gives another definition of biomass for the Forest Service. For the purpose of the renewable electricity standard, biomass is limited to certain treatments (ecological forest restoration and pre-commercial thinning) and materials (brush, mill residue and slash). In addition, certain Federal lands are excluded from producing biomass for the purpose of generating renewable electricity.”

Deputy Under Secretary Simpson also pointed out that “The definition of biomass in Title XIV for cellulosic organic material will also impact non-federal forests negatively. The only plant materials allowed for the purpose of renewable electricity generation are those that are planted for the purpose of producing energy. This would preclude most private and public forests, which are grown for multiple purposes. Creating markets for low value material, such as biomass, gives forest owners many options for gaining value from their land. This definition of biomass would result in many of these forests being developed or converted for other purposes. While other countries... are attempting to increase their forest acreage because of the economic and environmental values that forests provide, this bill would actually create incentives for forest owners to convert their forests to other users.”

“Taken together, the definitions of biomass contained in this bill [since enacted into law] would preclude the Forest Service

and their partners from contributing to the national effort to increase use of biofuels and renewable electricity. These materials [would] be produced from projects designed to improve watersheds and wildlife habitat, decrease fuel loads and protect communities from wildfire. Throughout the United States, biomass from Federal lands should be used to produce biofuel and electricity.”

Forest Service retirees take up Act case

In a January 1, 2008, letter to Senator Ken Salazar (D-Colorado), Forest Service retiree Charles J. Hendricks of Lake-wood, Colorado, pointed out these shortcomings in the Act, emphasized that he does not “understand the logic of [excluding] the public land renewable biomass for eligibility under the provisions of” the Act, and expressed trust “that [Senator Salazar does] not support the exemption for federal lands from eligibility [under the Act] for Renewable Biomass, and that you will work to correct this misguided language in the Act.”

OldSmokey **John Marker**, writing as a National Association of Forest Service Retirees (NAFSR) director in a January 7 letter to Oregon’s congressional delegation, expressed dismay “that dead and dying material and thinnings on federal forest lands are not to be considered as renewable biomass,” noting that “to eliminate the use of woody material from federal lands for production of biofuels borders on the irrational. There is no scientific or social justification for a definition eliminating federal lands as a source of material for the production of alternate fuels.” Emphasizing that “the national forests and BLM managed forests are by statute charged with sustained production of renewable resources for the public welfare,” John observed “there are many valid scientific, economic and social reasons for aggressive utilization of dead material and forest thinning.”

“I urge you to take necessary legislative action to revise this misguided section of the [Act], and to encourage the use of federal forests as a source of alternate fuels,” John concluded his letter. “The utilization of forest biomass for biofuels will also improve forest health, protect watersheds, aid carbon control, reduce risk of fire damage, improve fish and wildlife habitat, and help improve the economic well being of rural communities in and adjacent to the federal forests.”

Another OldSmokey, **John Poppino**, remarked that, as he reads the Act, “federal forest biomass would not qualify to support a grant for proposed biomass utilization plants.” This could leave many communities short of otherwise available raw materials needed to support such plants. OldSmokey **Les Joslin** noted the effort “to convert woody fuels that need to be removed from the Deschutes National Forest and adjacent Upper Deschutes public lands...at a planned plant at La Pine into biomass-derived energy” as a specific example of the Act’s detrimental effects throughout the West. “With most of the rest of Central Oregon’s forest products infrastructure gone, biomass harvesting represents one of the few—if not the only—potential markets to support thinning the overstocked, mountain pine beetle-attacked lodgepole pine stands that represent an ever-increasing load of standing fuels for a major conflagration adjacent to large wildland-urban interface communities.”

Pacific Northwest Region National Forests Get \$16 Million Recreation Windfall

National forests in Oregon and Washington have been allocated \$16.1 million in recreation user fee monies that “had sat in a U.S. Treasury account for decades,” according to a front-page article by Keith Chu in the February 16, 2008, issue of *The Bulletin*, Bend, Oregon’s, daily newspaper.

“Before 1996,” according to the article, “most fees collected by the U.S. Forest Service at campsites and other selected recreation areas accumulated in an account at the U.S. Treasury, where the money sat, unspent”

“Last year, the White House Office of Management and Budget agreed to release the fund—which had grown to \$93 million—giving forests an unexpected windfall to perform long-overdue maintenance at popular recreation areas.”

The Recreation Fee Demonstration Program (Fee Demo) authorized in 1996 and the successor recreation fee program provided for by the Recreation Enhancement Act of 2004 increased the Forest Service’s collection of recreation fees and mandated that 80 percent of those fees be retained to support recreation services on the national forests on which they were collected.

“Before that, fees went to the U.S. Treasury, said Jocelyn Biro, developed sites program manager for the U.S. Forest Service Pacific Northwest Region.”

“That money just went to the Treasury, never to be seen again,” Biro said.”

“Last year, however, the Office of Management and Budget agreed to release the money to the Forest Service, to pay for backlogged maintenance at recreation sites based on planning by local forests to identify the areas in greatest need of upgrades.”

“Oregon and Washington forests have been allocated a combined total of \$16.1 million, according to Forest Service spokesman Tom Knappenberger” of the RO in Portland. Of the \$93 million available nationwide, \$4 million went to Region 6 for fiscal year 2008, and \$9 million will be available to the region in fiscal year 2009.

“Once the \$93 million runs out, forests will go back to relying on their regular budgets to fund recreation upgrades and maintenance,” the report concluded. That, of course, has been insufficient for years. “Most of our allocation barely allows us to operate, or in fact doesn’t allow us to operate, our facilities,” Biro said.

Prepared from a February 16, 2008, article in The Bulletin by Keith Chu.

National Interagency Fire Center Reports 2007 Wildfire Statistics

The Boise-based National Interagency Fire Center reported early in 2008 that almost 14,000 square miles—an area four times the size of Yellowstone National Park—and more than 5,200 buildings burned during the 2007 wildfire season, and that the U.S. Government spent more than \$1.8 billion fighting those fires.

That made 2007 the second costliest wildfire season on re-

cord. Only the 2006 season, when 15,500 square miles and 5,700 buildings burned, was costlier. The 2007 season also marked the fourth consecutive year that more than 12,500 square miles were burned, an expanse—based on records going back to 1960—not previously recorded until 2004.

Seven wildland firefighters died in 2007 as a result of activities related to wildfires, one on a fireline. In 2006, 24 firefighters died, 12 on firelines. About 15,000 wildland firefighters deployed during the 2007 season, and Canada chipped in five 20-person hand crews.

Prepared from an Associated Press article by Keith Ridler published in the January 6, 2008, issue of The Bulletin.

Alleged Arsonist Seeks Six Separate Trials

On February 22, 2008, Raymond Lee Oyler, charged with murder and arson for the late-October 2006 Esperanza Fire in Southern California that killed five U.S. Forest Service firefighters (see “*Esperanza Fire Claims Five Forest Service Firefighters*” on page 10 of the Winter 2007 OldSmokeys Newsletter and “*District Attorney Seeks Death Penalty in Esperanza Fire Arson Case*” on page 8 of Summer 2007 OldSmokeys Newsletter), asked that the charges filed against him be divided into six separate trials.

Oyler’s attorney said that putting all charges in one trial, particularly when some carry the death penalty, will prejudice him in his right to a fair trial. Oyler is charged with starting 23 fires in the Banning Pass area from May through October 2006. He also faces five murder charges and 17 counts of using a device to commit arson.

Prepared from an article in the March 1, 2008, “The Chief’s Desk” issued by the U.S. Forest Service, Washington Office.

GAO Studies U.S. Forest Service Transfer to Department of the Interior

The U.S. Government Accountability Office (GAO) “is beginning a study of alternatives to consolidate the U.S. Forest Service within the Department of the Interior in response to a request by the House Appropriations Committee, Subcommittee on Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies” according to a March 11, 2008, letter signed by GAO Director Robin M. Nazzaro.

The GAO is an independent, non-partisan agency that works for Congress. Often called the “congressional watchdog,” GAO investigates how the federal government spends taxpayer dollars.

The GAO plans to address the following objectives during the study: “(1) What options exist for consolidating the Forest Service into Interior? (2) What are the potential strengths and weaknesses of each option? (3) What challenges exist to implementing these options, and what are potential means for overcoming these options.”

Transferring the Forest Service to the Department of the Interior has been a recurring proposal ever since President William Harding Taft, who fired Gifford Pinchot in 1910, succeeded President Theodore Roosevelt. In 1911, Secretary of the Interior Walter A. Fisher “rather clearly stated his conviction

that the Forest Service should be in the Department of the Interior,” according to a 1911 issue of the *Forestry Quarterly* published by the New York State College of Forestry. Another effort moved Pinchot himself to pen an op-ed “Preserve Forest Service; Do Not Transfer It to Department of Interior” in the December 23, 1921, edition of *The New York Times*. H.H. Chapman published an editorial entitled “The Threatened Transfer of the Forest Service to the Department of the Interior” in the December 1934 *Journal of Forestry*. And so on and so on, administration after administration.

So, “watch this space.” Your *OldSmokeys Newsletter* will try to follow this story and keep you apprised.

Prepared from a Director Nazzaro’s March 11, 2008, letter provided by John Marker and other sources.

Editor’s Note: This will be a fascinating and important story to follow. Although it broke just days before deadline, it already has generated a range of OldSmokey comment. “It’s about damn time,” commented one, observing that, with a couple exceptions, “the Secretary of Agriculture of Agriculture has never had any interest in [or provided] support for the Forest Service.” Another allowed that “A few years ago I’d been absolutely against it. Now it doesn’t sound half bad.” At the other end of the spectrum, it’s “just another nail in the proposed coffin to destroy the Forest Service.” What’s your opinion? Share it with other concerned OldSmokeys through Vern Clapp’s eForum as well as on the Forum page of this newsletter.

Chief Kimbell Quashes Proposed NEPA Consolidation—For Now

U.S. Forest Service Chief Gail Kimbell on February 20, 2008, announced a decision “not to pursue” a proposal to consolidate work performed pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act of 1970 “at this time.” Under the proposal, NEPA functions would have been removed from individual national forests and assigned to six “service centers” where forest planning would be standardized.

“Rather, we will focus energies toward completing other efficiency-gaining efforts including Washington Office-Regional Office-Northeastern Area Transformation,” Chief Kimbell wrote. “These ongoing efforts will increase agency effectiveness in the near future.”

But the proposal, which alarmed many Forest Service retirees, isn’t dead. “At a later time, we will revisit recommendations from the NEPA Feasibility Study,” she continued. “We, however, expect local managers to consider the Feasibility Study as they seek to increase NEPA efficiencies.”

“Several significant factors prompted this decision,” the Chief explained. “Language in the recently-enacted Omnibus Appropriations Act directed that we not use any funds for further competitive sourcing activities. At a time when we are in the midst of ongoing Transformation efforts and the continuing transition to the Albuquerque Service Center, we want to avoid additional disruption and confusion that could come with overhauling our critical NEPA processes.”

Prepared from Chief Kimbell’s February 20, 2008, “NEPA Activities Business Process Reengineering” letter, a January 14, 2008, ENS article “Forest Service Plans to Relocate Jobs out of Forests” forwarded by Chuck Hendricks, an item in the January 17, 2008, edition of The Chief’s Desk, and the January 18, 2008, OldSmokeys eNote 918.



Feature

“What Every Forest Officer Should Know” (Part Two)

By Stuart Bevier “S.B.” Show

Herewith is Part Two of S.B. Show’s early 1930s “What Every Forest Officer Should Know” issued by the then-California Region’s regional forester for the edification of his rangers. This part consists of two chapters, Chapter II on “Passing the Buck” and Chapter III on “Manners.”

“The best thing I’ve seen—put across in the best fashion.”

— Walt Perry, U.S. Forest Service, 1910-1936

Chapter II: Passing the Buck

“Every tub must stand upon its own bottom.”

Naturally you will think that this title has to do with wildlife. But you are wrong. This buck has no horns and very little head, but it has a kick that is sometimes delivered a long distance. Bucks pass as all seasons and every season is the wrong one. Bucks pass up and down the line. When they pass up the line they may not be bucks at all. If someone asks a forest guard to sell him three million feet of timber and the guard refers the party to his superior, that isn’t passing the buck. But if a fire chief should ask the guard to stay with a certain part of a fire line and the guard told someone else to do it, that’s passing the buck.

When the bucks pass down the line they are usually received by a man named George. George is a sort of buck-goat and is supposed to do something about it. If the buck fails to hit George just square it gets crippled and has to be supported by a crutch. This crutch is called an alibi. An alibi is made, most of the time, from a bum excuse. Sometimes the buck can stand with it and sometimes it can’t. It all depends.

It is hard to stop a buck from passing but there is no closed season on alibis. They are liable to get shot to pieces anytime. When too many bucks pass in any game everybody loses. Once you’ve let a buck pass you can’t tell where it will stop.

When you pass the buck you lose an opportunity to do something for yourself. You might make a mistake, but if you are not all solid above the ears, the mistake will teach you something and you will be that much ahead. Every time you make a decision, take any action on your own responsibility, give an order, or use your bean, you are preparing yourself for greater opportunities. Every time you pass the buck you are getting a little lazier and a little more worthless. Know what your authority is, where it begins and where it ends, and know your responsibilities. Stand on your own feet, attend to your job, and you won’t ever pass a buck or need an alibi.

Chapter III: Good Manners

*“For a man by nothing is so well betrayed
As by his manners.”*

Manners imply contact with others. When you’re all by yourself in the moonlight they are of little value or effect be-

cause manners are the way we impress others by our words or actions.

Manners can be classified as public, domestic, and society. The last named has been commercialized under the title of “etiquette,” which is French for how to behave when you try to keep up with the Joneses. Domestic manners are how you act around the house to your wife, children, cat, dog, and mother-in-law after a hard day’s work. Fortunately or unfortunately, the personnel inspection field does not cover these items as yet. So this story can be whittled down to public or professional manners as applied to Forest officers.

There is one statement we always stress in describing all Forest Service work and that is: The National Forests belong to the people of the United States. The people pay for their administration and protection, and these items include our salaries. The citizen taxpayers contribute for services and “service” is our first and last name. The service that we are all called on to give, aside from the transaction of regular business of timber sales, grazing, land uses, etc., is mostly the giving of information and educating, directing, and advising the public.

The crux of good manners is your attitude. If you regard Mr. and Mrs. Tourist and all the little Tourists as a affliction to be endured and then gotten rid of as quickly as possible, if you cuss under your breath every time a wandering Forest visitor comes in and interrupts your thoughts with a silly question, if you look at the public as an asinine nuisance, you have the wrong slant on your job and are heading straight for trouble sooner or later. On the other hand, if you look on all this as just part of the day’s work and figure that you are just returning this service for the salary which these people are paying you, then it will be much easier. If you can do it with a smile it will be better than good manners; it will be courtesy.

Coming in Part Three next time...

Regional Forester Show writes to his rangers in Chapter IV on “Fire Conscience” and Chapter V on “Neatness.” Don’t miss it in the summer issue!

S.B. Show was District/Regional Forester, California District/Region, U.S. Forest Service, from 1926 to 1946. His passion for the professionalism of his ranger corps shines through in his early-1930s publication, “What Every Forest Officer Should Know,” which is being published in four installments in the 2008 issues of your OldSmokeys Newsletter.



Opportunities

It's time to mark your calendars and make reservation for the two main OldSmokeys social events of the year, the Spring Banquet scheduled for Sunday afternoon, May 18, at Charbonneau Country Club, and the Summer Picnic scheduled for Friday, August 22, at the Wildwood Recreation Area.

Reserve Now for May 18 Spring Banquet at Charbonneau Country Club

Next month, on Sunday afternoon, May 18, OldSmokeys from all over the Pacific Northwest will converge on the beautiful Charbonneau Country Club in Wilsonville, Oregon, for the annual PNWFSA Spring Banquet.

Use the form below to sign up now, if you haven't already, to be sure you don't miss it!

The banquet will begin at 3:00 p.m. with a social hour and no-host bar. An appetizer table with vegetables, dips, and cheese and crackers will get you started. Dinner will be served at 4:00 p.m. The main course of the buffet-style meal will be roast pork loin with applesauce and cordon bleu accompanied by a baby green salad, vegetables including mashed potatoes and wild rice, and fresh fruit. Assorted pies will be served for dessert. The price for this feast will be only \$22.00 per person, gratuities included. As usual, our old friend Dave Dalton will cater the event.

Donations for door prizes are requested. Please notify co-hosts **Dorine & Emil Sabol** if you will donate a door prize. E-mail them at EDSabe@att.net.

To get to the Charbonneau Country Club from Portland or other points north, exit I-5 at Exit 282B (Charbonneau District) just after crossing the Willamette River bridge. Turn left (east) at first stop sign onto NE Miley Road, and go .4 mile to French Prairie Road. Then turn left on French Prairie Road, and go .7 mile to Charbonneau Drive. Turn right onto Charbonneau Drive and proceed to the Charbonneau Country Club, Building 3200. From Salem or points south, use exit 282 (Canby) just north of the rest stop. Turn right (east) at stop sign onto NE Miley Road, and go .3 mile to French Prairie Road. Then turn left and go .7 mile to Charbonneau Drive. Turn right onto Charbonneau Drive and proceed to the Charbonneau Country Club, Building 3200.

Send in the reservation form below (or a copy to save cutting up your newsletter). **Reservations are due May 10.**

Pacific Northwest Forest Service Association
SPRING BANQUET—MAY 18, 2008
Charbonneau Country Club

RESERVATION FORM

Social Hour 3:00 p.m. (No Host Bar)—Dinner 4:00 p.m.

*Mail this reservation form and a check for \$22.00 per person (payable to PNWFSA) to:
PNWFSA, P.O. Box 5583, Portland, Oregon 97228-5583*

Please reserve _____ dinners at \$22.00 each for (names exactly as they will appear on name tags):

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

Send your reservation form in to be received no later than May 10, 2008!



OldSmokeys Summer Picnic in the Woods is Set for Friday, August 22

OldSmokeys will gather for their annual summer picnic at 11:30 a.m. on Friday, August 22, at the BLM Wildwood Recreation Area on U.S. Highway 26 between Brightwood and Zigzag, Oregon, according to **Jim List**, picnic chairman.

Use the form below to sign up now, early, to be sure you don't miss it!

Socializing will begin at 11:30 a.m. and barbeque buffet service will begin at 12:30 p.m.

The menu is barbeque chicken and hot carved beef brisket with tasty sauces, a great choice of salads and dressings, fresh baked biscuits with honey and jams, fresh homemade baked beans, a panoply of vegetables you won't believe, fruits, drinks (soft drinks, iced tea, lemonade, beer, wine, coffee)—all topped off by an ice cream sundae!

As usual, you'll enjoy a good lunch catered by Dave Dalton along with the very best in OldSmokeys companionship. You may well see folks you haven't seen in many years, and you should meet many new members.

So, mark you calendars and make your plans and reservations soon. Use the form below to reserve your picnic place or places by July 31, 2008. The cost per person is only **\$22.00 a plate**.

Wildwood, as most OldSmokeys know so well, is about 40 miles east of Portland on U.S. Highway 26 between Brightwood and Zigzag. Just like always, watch for the BLM sign on the south side of the highway, and follow the signs to the area reserved for the picnic.

Anyone who needs a ride should contact **Elmer Moyer** or **Phil Hirl** to locate transportation for you. Carpooling will save on parking fees, gasoline, and limited parking space. There's a \$5.00 per vehicle fee that helps BLM maintain this area as the special place it is. The America the Beautiful—National Parks and Federal Recreation Lands Pass in either the \$10 lifetime senior version, for which many OldSmokeys qualify, the 2008 annual version, the free lifetime version for citizens with permanent disabilities, the free annual volunteer pass, or other valid existing passes such as the Golden Eagle, Golden Age, and Golden Access passports will to 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, contact **Jim List** at <jim.pat@comcast.net>.

Send in the reservation form below. Reservations are due July 31.

Pacific Northwest Forest Service Association
SUMMER PICNIC—AUGUST 22, 2008
BLM Wildwood Recreation Area

RESERVATION FORM

Socializing at 11:30—Lunch at 12:30

*Mail this reservation form and a check for \$22.00 per person (payable to PNWFSA) to:
PNWFSA, P.O. Box, 5583, Portland, Oregon 97228-5583*

Please reserve _____ picnic lunches at \$22.00 each for (names exactly as they will appear on name tags):

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

Send your reservation form in to be received no later than July 31, 2008!

Changes *Compiled by Bev Pratt, Secretary, and Vern Clapp, Treasurer and Data Base Manager and eMail Editor*

The following changes to membership records have occurred since publication of the *OldSmokeys Membership Directory 2008* distributed with the Winter 2008 issue of this newsletter. Many of the address changes below do not appear in the new directory because they were received from the U.S. Postal Service, in response to the Winter 2008 newsletter “Change Services Requested” request that should have been made on the Fall 2007 newsletter to ensure receipt in time for publication in the new directory (your editor’s error that has caused Bev and Vern as well as your editor a lot more work, and which your editor truly regrets) but was not, and are not accompanied by corresponding telephone number changes and/or email address changes because the U.S. Postal Service provides only mailing address changes. Members whose directory entries should be updated by telephone number or email address changes should send those changes to Bev or Vern.

Allen, Genevieve B. – Deceased, January 30, 2008
Barton, Douglas N. – Add email:
Berry, John D. & Glenda – Change address:
Bigler, Gladys – Change email:
Blakey, Robert – Change address:
Blashill, Richard C. – Add email
Brown, Emma M. – Change address:
Burke, Richard E. – Change address:
Cainion, Andy – New member: Tumwater, WA
Clarke, Edward H. & Tee – Change address:
Collier, Linda & Tom – Change address:
Connelly, Bill & Sharon – Change address:
Criswell, Harold C. – Change address:
Crook, Betty M. – Change address:
Cummins, Helen – Deceased, January 2008
Davis, Gilbert A. – Deceased, February 25, 2008; Caroline survives
Drury, James A. – Deceased, December 18, 2007
Drury, Mary Jane – Deceased, December 14, 2007
Duffy, Linda L. & Thomas Dew – Change address:
Elliott, Ed – Change email:
Evans, Lew – Deceased, January 2008; Barbara survives
Finch, Richard B. & Margaret – Add email:
Franks, Don – Change email:
Gonzales, Orlando & Bonnie Jean – New members: Lakeview, OR
Hammond, John & Adina – Change zip code
Hanna, Stewart P. & Barbara – Add email:
Hathaway, Dick & Sherry – Change address:
Hazen, Jerry & Betty – Add telephone
Higgins, Mary Jo – Change address:
Horne, Delores E. – Change address:
Ivey, Carol A. & William “Ed” – New members: Tigard, OR
Jennings, Ethel S. – Deceased, February 2008
Jensen, Reg & Linda – Change email:
Jones, Lois – Change address:
Jones, Wendall L. & Jessie – Change address
Keeney, Hazel (H.M. Vicky) – Change address:
Klinger, Gene & Margaret – Change address:
LaLande, Jeff – Change address:
Leonard, Robert & Connie – Change email:
Lilligren, Theodora – Change address:
Lund, Sislin – Change address:
Mafera, Tom & Debra – New members: Prineville, OR



Malmsten, Ed & Helen – Change email:
Mayer, Rosalie – Change address:
McClellan, Grant & Wanda – Change address:
McIllhenny, John K. – Change address:
Neff, Paul & Bert – Change address:
Nichols, Earl & Phyllis – Change address:
Peterson, Charles J. – Change address
Porterie, Gaston – Change telephone and email:
Prigge, Paul E. & Joyce – Change email
Race, Robert F. & Shirley – Add email:
Rondthaler, Carolyn – Change email:
Seamans, Arthur L. & Joyce B – New members: Lewiston, ID
Skeele, John R. & Greta – Change address:
Sowa, Richard W. & Marilyn – New members: Alexandria, VA
Stem, Richard C. & Karen – New members: Littleton, CO
Stratton, Ann & Jerry – Add email:
Strong, Donald L. & Paulina – Change address:
Sutherland, Frances G. – Change address:
Torheim, Marjean – Change address:
Trotter, Marilen H. – Add email:
Usher, Jinny A. – Change address:
Walton, Lee & Dawn – Add email:
Wells, Julie & Bob – New members: Portland, OR
Wickerham, Terry & Roy – Change address:
Wilson, Michael T. & Nancy – Address change:
Wilt, Phillis – Change address:
Wood, Jack M. – Deceased late January 2008.
Wood, Karyn L. & Steven Chambers – New members, Meridian, ID
Wulf, Robert F. – Change email:
Young, H. Robert – Change email:

The actual changes are included in the printed edition of the Newsletter and an electronic PDF version of the updated Directory can be emailed to you from [Vern](#) upon member request. Specific personal information has been deleted from this website version of the Newsletter

New Members

Welcome to these new OldSmokeys who have joined since the Winter 2008 issue of the *OldSmokeys Newsletter* went to press.

Andrew “Andy” Cainion of Tumwater, Washington, retired as director of the Timber Lake Job Corps Center on December 31, 2005, after 30 years of federal service. Andy’s career in the Forest Service began at Pagosa Springs, Colorado, on the San Juan National Forest in Region 3, and continued on the Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie and Siuslaw national forests in Region 6 followed by a stop in Region 10, another stop on the Daniel Boone National Forest in Region 8, and finally back to Region 6 and the Mt. Hood National Forest. Joined in January.

Linda & Tom Collier of Halfway, Oregon. Linda retired back

in August 2000 on 24 years in the Forest Service, all in Region 6, while completing a detail as an assistant entomologist on the Tussock Moth Project. She was TMA on the Big Summit Ranger District, Ochoco National Forest. Before that she was presale forester on the Fort Rock Ranger District, Deschutes National Forest; planning forester on the Ukiah Ranger District, Umatilla National Forest; and reforestation forester on the Pine Ranger District, Wallowa-Whitman National Forest, right there in Halfway. Joined in January.

Orlando & Bonnie Jean Gonzales of Lakeview, Oregon. Orlando retired on January 3, 2007, as district ranger, Bly Ranger District, Fremont-Winema National Forest, after 36 years in the Forest Service, 31 of those in Region 6. Joined in May 2007.

Carol A. & William “Ed” Ivey of Tigard, Oregon. Carol re-

tired on September 2, 2005, from the Program & Budget Office in the WO after 39 years in the Forest Service, 34 of those years in Region 6. Carol worked in timber resources management in the Siuslaw, Rogue River, and Gifford Pinchot national forest SOs from 1966 until 1974 when she joined the timber management staff in the RO in Portland and she and Ed bought their first home in Tigard. She moved to the RO budget staff in 1978 and, after Ed had retired, transferred to the WO in 2000. “While we really enjoyed our time in Washington, D.C., we are very happy to be back home in Oregon. Joined in January.

Tom & Debra Mafera of Prineville, Oregon, are active Forest Service members. Tom is district ranger of the Heppner Ranger District, Umatilla National Forest, in Heppner, Oregon, and Deb is noxious weed coordinator for the Ochoco and Deschutes national forests stationed at the SO in Prineville. Tom and Deb started their Forest Service careers in Region 8 on the Kisatchie and Daniel Boone national forests before moving to the Pacific Northwest in 1990. since coming to Region 6, Deb has held positions in silviculture on the Willamette and Ochoco national forests, and until recently served as a district botanist on the Ochoco. Tom has held various positions on the Ochoco and Deschutes national forests. Joined in January.

Arthur L. & Joyce B. Seamans of Lewiston, Idaho. Art retired way back in 1992 from the Clarkson, Washington, office of the Hells Canyon National Recreation Area after 34 years in the Forest Service, 12 of those in Region 6. Joined in February.

Richard W. & Marilyn Sowa of Alexandria, Virginia. Richard, formerly Director of Engineering for Region 6, is Director of Engineering in the WO. “I joined the OldSmokeys so I could

Memories *compiled by Ray Steiger, Archivist, with the assistance of many other OldSmokeys*

Genevieve B. “Jimmy” Allen died January 30, 2008, at age 89. She was a PNWFSA member and widow of Donald “Don” Allen. Jimmy was born July 6, 1918, at Beaver Ranger Station, near Mitchell, Oregon, to Bertha and pioneer Ranger Grover Blake of the Ochoco National Forest, and grew up in the U.S. Forest Service. After graduating from Roseburg High School and attending the University of Oregon, Jimmy traveled throughout the West, served in the U.S. Coast Guard Reserve in Oakland, California, earned a pilot’s license in Reno, and drove a delivery truck in San Francisco. She joined the U.S. Navy in 1944, and as a WAVE logged over 50 round-trip flights between Honolulu and San Francisco during World War II. After the war, as a fire lookout on the Umpqua National Forest, she met Don Allen. They married on November 29, 1949, and were married nearly 50 years until Don’s death in 1999. After Forest Service assignments throughout the Northwest, Don and Jimmy settled in Bellingham, Washington, in 1963. Jimmy was a fixture in the community and on the slopes of Mt. Baker. She and Don traveled the world extensively after Don’s retirement from the Forest Service. Survivors include sons Blake, Scott, and Eric; daughters Terry Thalhofer, Cathy Baglio, and Alison; 12 grandchildren, and four great-grandchildren.

keep in touch with folks in the Northwest,” he wrote. “I plan on working for three or four [more] years and...moving back to the Northwest once my working days are over.” OldSmokey **Jinny Usher**, wife of the late OldSmokey Jim Usher, is Marilyn’s mother and recently moved from Portland to live with them in Alexandria (*see “Changes” on page XX*). “She is still pretty hale and hardy and enjoying life in the East.” Joined in January.

Richard C. & Karen Stem of Littleton, Colorado. Richard retired on December 7, 2007, as Deputy Regional Forester for Resources at the Rocky Mountain Region RO in Lakewood, Colorado, after 32 years of federal service, 28 of those in the Forest Service, and 16 of those in Region 6 in positions including deputy forest supervisor of the Willamette National Forest, staff officer on the Gifford Pinchot and Siskiyou national forests, district ranger on the Mt. Hood National Forest, and logging engineer on the Rogue River National Forest. Joined in January.

Julie & Bob Wells of Portland, Oregon. Julie retired on August 31, 2007, as Program Manager of the Human Relations Program in Human Resources in the RO in Portland after a 39-year Forest Service career served entirely in Region 6. That career started in the RO in Engineering as a photogrammetrist. She also worked on the Mt. Hood National Forest in human resources for about a year. Joined in December.

Karyn L. Wood & Steve Chambers of Meridian, Idaho. Karyn, who’s served 24 of her 31 years of federal service in Region 6, and her husband Steve, joined in February.

Raymond “Ray” Bennett died January 11, 2008, at age 92. Ray was born November 5, 1915, in Condon, Oregon. He attended Willamette College, graduated from Oregon State College in 1937, joined the U.S. Forest Service in 1938, and served in the U.S. Marine Corps in the South Pacific during World War II and with the U.S. Naval Research Laboratory in Washington, D.C. Ray married Elizabeth Veitl, on July 14, 1944, in San Diego. He resumed his Forest Service career, and in 1959 was transferred from Routt National Forest, Colorado, to the Deschutes National Forest where he served as district ranger, Bend Ranger District, for about three years, and in several positions on the forest supervisor’s staff until he retired in 1972. Survivors include his son Terrence; daughters Janice Wood, Lucinda Summerfield, and Jill; six grandchildren, and six great-grandchildren.

Lawrence A. “Larry” Chitwood died January 4, 2008, at age 65, while hiking up Pilot Butte on the eastern side of Bend, Oregon. Larry was born August 4, 1942, in Los Angeles, California, grew up in Mt. Shasta, graduated from high school in Klamath Falls, and earned degrees in music and education at Whitman College in Walla Walla, Washington. He met Karen Bergstrom of Yakima, Washington, at Whitman, and they married in 1965. After four years of teaching music at the La Grande, Oregon, junior high school, Larry earned a master’s degree in geology at Portland State University. From July 1972

until he retired in June 2007, Larry served in the U.S. Forest Service as Deschutes National Forest geologist and was a respected member of the Central Oregon community. He played an instrumental role in establishing the Newberry National Volcanic Monument. Survivors include his wife, son Peter, daughter Lisa, brother Don, and sister Nancy Kurie Campbell.

Helen Cummins died January 2008. She was a PNWFSA member and wife of the late William “Bill” Cummins, former district ranger, Oakridge Ranger district, Willamette National Forest. No other information was available at press time.

Gilbert A. “Gil” Davis died February 25, 2008, at age 71. He was a PNWFSA member and PNWFSA area representative for the Umatilla National Forest. Gil was born October 18, 1936, in Ponca City, Oklahoma, and moved at about age 1 to Kellogg, Idaho, where he was raised and went to school. He served in the U.S. Navy as an underwater demolition team member and worked in the assay office of a Kellogg mining company. He married Wanda Tanner in 1957 in Kellogg; they later divorced. Beginning as a summer U.S. Forest Service firefighter, Gil worked his way up to retire as district engineer, Dale Ranger District, Umatilla National Forest, in 1985. He married Caroline Montanic in 1985, and they moved to Pendleton. After retirement, he worked as a construction inspector for Anderson Perry of La Grande and Pioneer Construction in Pendleton. Survivors include his wife, eight children, 20 grandchildren, and 11 great-grandchildren.

William R. “Bill” Driver died February 26, 2008, at age 84. Bill was born September 26, 1923, in Altamont, Kansas, graduated from high school in Joplin, Missouri, in 1940, and served in the U.S. Army during World War II in the European Theater where he earned three Bronze Stars and a Purple Heart for wounds received in the Battle of the Bulge. He married Shirley Jean Sundstrom in Lewiston, Idaho, on November 18, 1950. Bill served on the Nez Perce, Gallatin, and Gifford Pinchot national forests as a timber staff officer until retirement in 1983. Survivors include Shirley, sons Daniel and Robert, a brother and two sisters.

James R. “Jim” Drury died December 18, 2007, at age 92. He was a PNWFSA member. Jim was born August 5, 1915, in Jasper, Oregon, moved with his family to McKenzie Bridge, Oregon, and graduated from the Blue River School in 1932. He worked at various logging and millwork jobs before he began seasonal work with the U.S. Forest Service in 1936 and forestry school at Oregon State College. Jim served in the U.S. Army during World War II, married Mary Jane Schulze of Blue River in 1943, and after his discharge from the Army in 1946 began full-time work on the McKenzie Ranger District, Willamette National Forest, from which he retired in 1970. Jim and Mary Jane had one son, Kenneth, born in April 1945 and now deceased. Jim was active in community affairs, provided financial support to The Blue River Library and Blue River Medical Clinic, and donated several acres of prime wildlife habitat to the McKenzie River Trust.

Mary Jane Drury died December 14, 2007, at age 89. She was a PNWFSA member and wife of Jim Drury, who died three

days later. Mary Jane Schulze was born June 25, 1918, in Dayton, Ohio, and moved with her family to Blue River, Oregon, when five years old. She graduated from Blue River School in 1935, and worked as a housekeeper in Eugene and at a resort on the McKenzie River. She married Jim of McKenzie Bridge, Oregon, in 1943, while he served in the U.S. Army. After World War II, they lived in McKenzie Bridge where Jim worked on the McKenzie Ranger District. A mother and homemaker, she enjoyed hunting and fishing trips with Jim and picking huckleberries. During their 64 years of marriage, the Drury's traveled the world. She was a well-known member of the McKenzie Bridge community. She is survived by her brother Forest Schulze, sister Barbara Schulze, niece Dianne Brown, and nephews Douglas and Richard Schulze.

Milton J. “Milt” Griffith died March 1, 2008, at age 89. He was a former PNWFSA member. Born on April 14, 1918, in Athens, Pennsylvania, Milt earned a degree in forestry at Pennsylvania State University in 1942, and served as a U.S. Navy officer during World War II in the Aleutian Islands and South Pacific. Milt joined the U.S. Forest Service after the war and worked as a forester on the Black Hills National Forest in South Dakota and served as a district ranger on the San Juan National Forest in Colorado and the Malheur and Ochoco national forests in Oregon. Milt moved to Bend, Oregon, in 1959, and for 15 years was Deschutes National Forest range and wildlife staff officer. In 1969 he was named most outstanding wildlife biologist in Oregon and subsequently in the nation for his work creating the Crane Prairie Reservoir osprey management area. From 1975 until 1984, Milt served in Kenya as a U.S. Agency for International Development range and wildlife specialist, then returned to Bend. An outdoor writer, he spoke Swahili. Survivors include his wife Alberta, daughter Sandra Brooke and son-in-law Henry Sayre, four grandchildren, and two great-grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his son Michael.

Ken Kangas died February 17, 2008, at age 69. Ken served his entire U.S. Forest Service career in timber management on the old Fort Rock Ranger District of the Deschutes National Forest. No other information was available at press time.

Gary Hart Keppen died February 17, 2008, at age 73 after being hit by a drunk driver while walking near his Klamath Falls, Oregon, home the evening before. Gary was born in Detroit, Michigan, on April 30, 1934, and served in the U.S. Army in Japan during the Korean War. He earned a B.S. degree in forestry at Michigan Technology University, and married Marlene Petkov on September 5, 1959. His U.S. Forest Service career included service as a district ranger on the Nicolet National Forest in Wisconsin, in timber management in the Eastern Region RO, on the Lassen National Forest, and on the Winema National Forest before retirement in 1992. Active in the community, Gary volunteered for 15 years as Klamath Union High School track and cross country coach. Survivors include Marlene and son Don. Another son Ken preceded him in death.

Reese “Pete” Meyers died January 4, 2008, at age 89. Born in August 1918 in Missouri, Pete served as a U.S. Forest Service

packer on the Darrington Ranger District on the old Mt. Baker National Forest, and then on the old Rigdon and Lowell ranger districts on the Willamette National Forest. An excellent horse-man, Pete took care of the mules as if they were his children. Pete served in the U.S. Army infantry during World War II, fighting in North Africa and landing at Normandy before being captured and spending time in a German POW camp. Wounded in action, he was awarded the Purple Heart. He resumed packing after the war. In 1957, when the Lowell Ranger District discontinued use of its pack string, Pete took charge of road maintenance.

Editor's Note: This information was provided by Mr. and Mrs. Brady Meyers, Pete's son and daughter-on-law, of Lowell, Oregon.

Robert "Bruce" Smith died January 4, 2008, at age 89. Born February 12, 1927, in Saskatchewan, Canada, Bruce served as a U.S. Army paratrooper in World War II, graduated from the School of Forestry at the University of Washington, and served in the U.S. Forest Service until retirement. He was an avid skier and an active member of the National Ski Patrol for many years. Survivors include his wife of 60 years Shirley, daughters Margaret and Anita, and five grandchildren. His son Mike preceded him in death.

David S. "Dave" Rasmussen died March 2, 2008, at age 74. Born September 30, 1933, in Bend, Oregon, Dave graduated from Bend High School in 1951 and earned a B.S. degree in park and recreation management from the University of Oregon. He served in the U.S. Air Force in Germany as a Russian language specialist. Dave worked in the U.S. Forest Service as a snow ranger at Mount Bachelor and a Deschutes National Forest firefighter, and until recently as a Central Oregon Inter-agency Dispatch Center dispatcher. Survivors include his son David, daughter Margaret Brooks, brother Clifford, and five grandchildren.

Jack M. Wood died late January 2008 at age 96. He was a PNWFSA member. Born in Seattle in 1911, Jack was a University of Washington forestry graduate who served 43 years in the U.S. Forest Service. He began as a summer employee on an Idaho national forest and retired as chief of information and education for the Pacific Northwest Region in 1974. Jack's professional career in the Forest Service began on the Wenatchee National Forest following his marriage to Charlotte Dale in 1934. Their daughter Charlotte was born during the Wenatchee tour, and their son David was born while they were at the Hemlock Ranger Station on the Columbia (now Gifford Pinchot) National Forest. Jack also served in John Day on the Malheur National Forest and in the RO in Portland before being named supervisor of the Rogue River National Forest. He then served in the WO before returning to the RO in Portland where he retired in 1974. Long time residents of Lake Oswego, Oregon, Jack and Charlotte moved to Charbonneau in 1978. Charlotte died in 2002. Jack moved to a retirement residence in Lake Oswego in 2005 where he remained until his death. Survivors include his daughter Charlotte Duncan, his son David, four grandchildren, and two great-grandsons.

Letters

Jim Overbay checks in from "north of Seattle"

Ardeth and I continue to live north of Seattle in the Mill Creek area where we enjoy getting together with family and friends. I was pleased to read in the last newsletter of Lyle Laverty's continued success. He and I worked together several times during our careers. I was also happy to learn of Carroll Brown's 100th birthday. I worked as a ranger for Carroll back in the '60s.

After four years of chemotherapy and a stem cell transplant at the Fred Hutchinson Cancer Center in 2005 I remain in remission from my lymphoma and am feeling great.

Ardeth and I plan to travel more this year and hope to get down to Portland more often to see old friends.

Joyce O'Neal thanks OldSmokeys for remembering her husband *Sonny O'Neal*

Thank you for your wonderful letters, cards, notes, e-mails and memorial gifts in honor of Sonny. We received over 600 living messages from all over the nation.

Sonny and I recognized our "Forest Service family." I had no idea how extensive it was. Thank you for sharing kind words and memories about "the love of my life."

We always talked about writing a book about our Forest Service adventures. Each chapter was to be a "his" point of view followed by "her" point of view. Now I'll endeavor to write the *Always Marry a Ranger* alone. Please send any stories for the book you'd like to share to Joyce O'Neal

Chuck Hill checks in from *Los Lunas, New Mexico*

I have survived a little stroke, a hip replacement, 25 years of retirement, and am now trying to survive wife Tina's retirement from U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. She had accumulated 26 years credit for federal service.

We're still squatting on our acre and two-thirds south of Albuquerque, feeding birds and watching weeds grow.

Son Mike, is about to receive a master's in biology from Texas A&M and hopes to work for USFWS. His wife, Debra, with master's in biology from New Mexico State University, is employed by USFWS in Albuquerque.

All's well with all of us. Come see us as do Dick Blashill and Dan Williams annually.

Don Franks remembers *Ray Bennett*

Ray came to the Bend Ranger District, Deschutes National Forest, from Colorado in 1959 as the new ranger following Ed Parker. I was his Fire Control Officer. I worked for him for about one year before I was transferred to the SO. I think he was ranger of the Bend District for about three years before he also came to the SO in a staff position. I believe it was recreation staff. Ray was loved by all who worked for him.

Bob Hetzer remembers *Jim and Mary Jane Drury*

I had the pleasure of working with Jim Drury during the 1960s on the McKenzie Ranger District. Jim was a wealth of practical knowledge as well as history of the McKenzie Valley. He, like many of the "old timers," helped us younger ones learn and get headed in the right direction. He and Mary Jane were a remark

Books

Two of Ivan Doig's 1980s Novels Make the Early Forest Service Live

By Les Joslin

Many OldSmokeys who have not already will want to read Ivan Doig's novels *English Creek* and *Dancing at the Rascal Fair*. Why? As he spins his yarns of the fictional McCaskills of northern Montana, Doig provides rare and nostalgic insights into the everyday lives and work of early U.S. Forest Service rangers and their families.

English Creek, published in 1984, introduces the McCaskill family and their Two Medicine country through the eyes of 14-year-old Jick, younger son of Varick McCaskill, a district ranger on the fictional Two Medicine National Forest. It's the summer of 1939—a summer of ranger station and ranch chores punctuated by a sheep counting trip, a Fourth of July picnic and rodeo, and a forest fire—during which Jick comes of age.

OldSmokeys will treasure this book for many reasons, but particularly for its evocation of the “one-man” ranger district days when, in Ranger McCaskill's words, anyone who was “going to get by in the Forest Service” had “better be able to fix anything but the break of day.”

In *Dancing at the Rascal Fair*, published in 1989, Doig flashed back to 1889 to follow Angus McCaskill, young Jick's grandfather, and another young Scotsman, Rob Barclay, from Glasgow by steerage to the United States and homesteads in the Two Medicine country. Narrated by Angus, this compelling tale chronicles their ups and downs as sheep ranchers through 1918,

by which time incorporation of their once open range into Two Medicine National Forest grazing allotments has marked the end of their pioneer era.

Although, as Doig put it to this reviewer in a February 26, 1987, post card response to the only “fan letter” this reviewer has ever written, “there's not as much Forest Service stuff” in this second book, the entry of “forest arranger” Stanley Meixell to “set up the Two Medicine forest” in 1907 brilliantly profiles the initial relationship between the Forest Service and the stockmen.

One of our finest Western writers, Doig's gifts are many. He grew up in Montana along the Rocky Mountain Front, and knows and loves the country—the geography of which he has “stretched” to include his Two Medicine country—of which he writes. A former ranch hand, newspaperman, and magazine writer and editor, he has earned a Ph.D. in history at the University of Washington, and is a meticulous researcher; at the back of both books he tells the reader how he mixed fact and fiction and who helped. Above all, his complete mastery of time, place, and dialogue transports the reader into his Two Medicine country and the OldSmokey onto his Two Medicine National Forest. You won't read Doig's novels, *you'll live them*.

Both of these books should be available at your public library, and both remain in print and available at bookstores. Both are available as audio books. If you have trouble finding them or prefer not to hunt, just Google up Ivan Doig's website by typing in either “ivan doig” or “ivan doig books” and clicking on “go” and you'll find several ordering sources.

Editor's Note: That February 26, 1987, postcard from Mr. Doig is still tucked inside the reviewer's copy of English Creek.

Mike Hudak's *Western Turf Wars* Addresses the Politics of Public Land Ranching

OldSmokey **Bob Phillips** has brought a new book by Mike Hudak, Ph.D., to the *OldSmokeys Newsletter's* attention and asked that it be mentioned. The book is *Western Turf Wars: The Politics of Public Land Ranching* by Mike Hudak, published in 2007 by Biome Press. Through the stories of 27 people with first-hand experience—including Bob and nine other current and retired U.S. Forest Service resource management professionals who have been critical of livestock grazing management practices on public lands, Hudak's book assesses public land grazing policy and practices and finds them lacking. “All condemn the current program as harmful to soil, water, native vegetation, and fish and wildlife,” Bob says.

This book has been extensively reviewed, and you can find those reviews by Googling up “Western Turf Wars by Mike Hudak” for a range of opinions and comments.

Hudak's 395-page book sells for \$30 plus \$4 postage for shipping. For additional information and to order, contact Mike Hudak, Biome Books, 38 Oliver Street, Binghamton, New York 13904-1516; phone 607-330-0351; fax 866-215-6589; or see the website at <http://biomebooks.com>.

Editor's Note: Thanks to Bob Phillips for bringing this book to our attention.

Letters *continued from page 16*

able couple. It was always a pleasure to be able to visit with them at the annual PNWFSA picnic and Willamette National Forest retiree dinners.

Ruth Metlen on the *OldSmokeys Newsletter* and Bob

Please keep the *OldSmokeys Newsletter* coming. Both of us have enjoyed the contact, through it, with people we knew and worked with.

Bob died of Parkinson's disease. His mind was sharp up to the end.

Editor's Note: Ruth's husband, Bob, died on October 31, 2007, and was remembered in the Winter 2008 issue of the newsletter.

Letters is for sharing thoughts and feelings with other OldSmokeys. We were tight on space this issue, but printed all we could. You may send your letters to Secretary Bev Pratt at P.O. Box 5583, Portland, Oregon 97228, or directly to editor Les Joslin.

Uncle Sam's Cabins

Bly Ranger Station

Fremont-Winema National Forest, Oregon

By Les Joslin

A rustic masterpiece in wood and stone, the Bly Ranger Station compound in Bly, Oregon, was built under U.S. Forest Service supervision by Civilian Conservation Corps enrollees and local experienced men between 1936 and 1942. Over 65 years later, this group of nine administrative and residential buildings—augmented by a 1960s office structure—remains in service as headquarters of the Bly Ranger District.

As the Roosevelt administration's so-called "second New Deal" got under way in 1935, a four-acre ranger station site in Bly was acquired from Anna Avery for \$625 in emergency relief funds. Before long, a team of experienced local workers and as many as 250 CCC workers stationed at Camp Bly were busy building the new ranger station as well as working on other jobs.

By 1942, when the CCC was disestablished and Camp Bly was closed, a new district office building, new houses for Ranger Perry Smith and his assistant ranger, a guard residence, a garage, a warehouse, and a gas and oil house graced the serene Bly landscape. All these Cascadian Rustic style buildings were of native stone and timber. Instead of the usual rough shake shingles associated with this style, the Bly buildings had sawn shingles. In addition to the CCC's signature "pine tree logo" on the buildings' gables and shutters, a pine tree symbol of green stone, incorporated in the stonework, gave the buildings a character all their own. A 400-foot-long stone wall separated the compound from the highway that connected the station with Klamath Falls, to the southwest, and Lakeview, to the southeast.

Over the years, as use of some buildings has changed, the compound has aged gracefully. As the district staff grew, more office space was needed. A new office building was added in the 1960s, and the original office as well as the guard residence and the garage were used for office space. But the two main residences are still available to house the district ranger and other personnel, and the warehouse and gas and oil house continue to serve their original purposes. The entire compound is well preserved and maintained.

Editor's Note: Bly Ranger Station is located on the south side of Oregon Highway 140 in the town of Bly, 53 miles northeast

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Region where I served in a variety of positions through district ranger and Job Corps center director. While serving on the Job Corps staff in the Chief's Office, I was selected for a year at Cornell University as a National Institute of Public Affairs fellow.

In 1968 I was back to serve as deputy forest supervisor and then supervisor of the Sierra National Forest, supervisor of the



The district ranger's residence (above) and former office (below) at Bly Ranger Station, Bly, Oregon, in 1994.

Photographs by Les Joslin



of Klamath Falls and 43 miles northwest of Lakeview. A self-guided tour folder, available at the Bly Ranger Station office, helps visitors tour the compound and appreciate its history as well as its current operations.

This article is adapted from Les Joslin, Uncle Sam's Cabins: A Visitor's Guide to Historic U.S. Forest Service Ranger Stations of the West (Bend, Oregon: Wilderness Associates, 1995).

*Do you have a favorite Region 6 historic ranger station or guard station with a good story? If so, please send in the pictures and the story for this **Uncle Sam's Cabins** feature.*

Willamette National Forest, and Director of Recreation and Wilderness Management in the Washington Office. I completed my career in 1988 as Regional Forester of the Pacific Southwest Region. I then worked a decade with the natural resource organizations of the former Soviet Union.

My son, Timothy Zane Smith, is the fourth generation of Smiths to follow a career in public land and resource management. He is Field Manager for BLM's Bakersfield Area.

The Way We Were



A Century of Service: Three Generations of Smiths in the U.S. Forest Service

By Zane Grey Smith, Jr.

The careers of the writer, his father, and his grandfather add up to a century of service in the U.S. Forest Service.

In northern Arizona in 1917, U.S. Biological Survey hunter and trapper Garvin Smith passed the U.S. Forest Service ranger exam. Assigned to the Mayhill Ranger District, Lincoln National Forest, New Mexico, he moved his wife Ola and young son Zane in a wagon to the Mayhill Ranger Station. They summered in Cloudcroft.

Garvin was reassigned to the OBarO Ranger District, Cibola National Forest, in 1919, stationed 90 miles from the nearest town. Young Zane was home schooled. In 1920, he became district ranger of the Magdalena Ranger District on the Cibola, until reassignment in 1933 as assistant forest supervisor of the Coronado National Forest in Tucson, Arizona. His specialties were range management and fire, and he advocated use of fire in land stewardship. The regional forester in Albuquerque cautioned Garvin that, unless and until he got that silly notion out of his head, he would never make forest supervisor. Garvin retired in 1943 as acting supervisor. He'd spent much more of his career on horseback than in the office or a motor vehicle.

Garvin's son, Zane Grey Smith, Sr., studied forestry at Colorado A&M in Fort Collins and joined the Forest Service in 1926. He and his wife Elsie moved to the Lincoln National Forest headquarters in Alamogordo, New Mexico, where he served on the timber survey team for two years. After four years as assistant ranger on the Tijeras Ranger District, Cibola National Forest, he planned recreation developments in the Regional Office in Albuquerque before appointment as district ranger on the Drake Ranger District, Prescott National Forest. Then, at Tijeras as district ranger, he worked closely with permittees to improve the grazing resource as he managed recreation and winter sports facilities frequented by nearby Albuquerque residents.

After World War II, in which he served in the U.S. Army as a technical sergeant, Zane returned to Albuquerque, with Elsie and young son Zane, Jr., assigned to the lands staff. The highlight of his career was five years as Supervisor of the Lewis & Clark National Forest at Great Falls, Montana. After service in the Chief's Office, Zane returned to Albuquerque as Assistant Regional Forester for Recreation and Lands. He retired in 1968 to take pride in his son's and grandson's forestry careers.

Zane Grey Smith, Jr., author of this article, served 34 years in the Forest Service at every level in the National Forest System and in the Chief's Office. After I graduated from the University of Montana, Betty and I moved to the Pacific Northwest

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Three Generations of Smiths in the U.S. Forest Service

Author and OldSmokey Zane Grey Smith, Jr., was Regional Forester, Pacific Southwest Region (top).

Zane Grey Smith, Sr., the author's father, was Assistant Regional Forester, Southwestern Region (right).

Ranger Garvin Smith, the author's grandfather, on the Cibola National Forest, New Mexico, in 1924 (bottom).

These photographs are part of a framed collection prepared by Betty that hangs in the Smith's home.





Pacific Northwest
Forest Service Association
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Spring 2008

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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.

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