Pacific Northwest Forest Service Association

Old Smokeys Newsletter

Newsletter of the Pacific Northwest Forest Service Retirees
www.oldsmokeys.org

Winter 2024

In this issue

Photo credit: The Burnt Cabin Trail Bridge on the Umatilla National Forest, USDA Forest Service Pacific Northwest Region

President's Message

Welcome to the 2024 winter edition of the *Old Smokeys Newsletter*. A special welcome to all new members to the PNW Forest Service Association. We are very glad that you are part of an association that connects us to one another as retirees and employees of the U.S. Forest Service.

The board is happy to announce the new president-elect Tom Montoya and new secretary Dawn Heutte. We are very grateful for your willingness to serve the association with the excellent experience of both your exemplary careers. I have found it very gratifying to serve on the board and hope you do too. Those who have served on the board for a dozen years plus know the instrumental role Debra Warren has played in the success of our association. She has stepped down as secretary but will continue to help with a few tasks. On behalf of Old Smokeys, thank you Deb!

This issue focuses on water. I am amazed to see how well the winter issue, through its articles and stories, provides a comprehensive view of the more-than-considerable role the agency plays in quick response to water events and in providing management and science services in the water arena.

As a retiree of the PNW Research Station, interviews on the Northwest Water Initiative got me up to speed on what was just nascent when I retired, and I am happy to know that 30 current and future projects have come together strategically through strong partnership among the PNW Research Station, Region 6, and others. I enjoyed reading indoors the light-hearted stories of water events. This issue reminds me that the stories we share bring us together. Thank you to everyone who contributed to this issue and to Andrea Watts who deftly pulls together our newsletter quarterly.

Please mark you calendars for the spring banquet on Sunday, May 19. Plans are in the works for the summer picnic on August 9. I hope you can join us for these events or get together with Old Smokeys wherever you are or in your travels.

Warm wishes,

Cindy Miner

Managing Roads and Water in Region 6

A national forest is akin to a city, having administrative buildings, housing, roads, bridges, and even wastewater treatment plants that must be managed, repaired, and upgraded. While foresters and the 'ologists manage the natural environment, engineers manage the infrastructure that safely facilitates the movement of people and water throughout the forest.

Roads, roads, and more roads

Of the nine regions within the Forest Service, Region 6 has the largest road network. With just under 90,000 miles in the region, it's comparable to what some state departments of transportation manage. To put this mileage into context, "it is enough to go around the Earth three times if we were to line them all back-to-back," says Christy Darden, director of Engineering and Fleet for Region 6.

Christy Darden, director of Engineering and Fleet for Region 6

Maintaining this extensive road network is expensive: gravel wears out, roads need regraded, bridges repaired, and signs replaced. Many of the roads and accompanying infrastructure of culverts and bridges were constructed during the 1960s-1980s and designed with a 50-year lifespan. "Regardless which decade they came in, Region 6 currently has about a billion dollars of deferred maintenance across all infrastructure," explains Darden. "And the agency is nearly 8 billion, with a b."

A contributing factor for why the cost of deferred maintenance is so high is due to a lack of available funding. The National Park Service receives nearly a quarter billion to manage their roads while the Forest Service receives around $20 million. "The National Park Service has around 10,000-12,000 miles [they manage], and our Fremont-Winema National Forest has a similar number of miles," Darden says.

Over the past 10 years, the region has leveraged Federal Highway Administration (FHA) funding, around $75 million, through the Emergency Relief for Federally Owned (ERFO) program to pay for roads damaged by floods and wildfires instead of using agency funds. Additionally, FHA staff are taking the lead more often in designing and carrying out the projects being funded through ERFO. "With Federal Highways doing some of this [repair] work, we have the capacity in-house to do other priority work and projects," she explains. "This way we can get more work done on the ground and keep up the skills of our engineers, engineering technicians, and road crews across the region."

Forests that have received a significant portion of ERFO funding include the Mount Baker-Snoqualmie, the Rogue River-Siskiyou, the Umpqua, and the Gifford Pinchot.

Funding has also been provided through Burned Area Emergency Response (BAER) to replace infrastructure damaged by fire. Darden says that her team works with Angie Elam, the assistant director overseeing Post Disaster Recovery for the Natural Resources Directorate in Region 6, and her team to identify the best funding source for the priority projects. County and state partners have also been crucial in assisting in road maintenance.

When roads and culverts are repaired or replaced, they are upgraded to meet environmental regulations or future environmental conditions due to climate change. However, this does come with an additional cost, says Darden. "When you upgrade infrastructure, you increase costs. Additionally, in the last couple of years, we've seen great increases in costs since COVID started."

For retirees who oversaw the closure of roads during their career, they may wonder if the 90,000 miles of roads include closed roads, to which Darden says no. Another caveat to those road closures is that she says the easy roads have been closed. "The ones that don't take a lot of work to pull out big culverts or bridges or they were already being taken over" have already been closed, Darden explains. "There needs to be an investment of funds to be able to close some of the more complicated and controversial miles."

Another growing transportation management challenge is illegal dumps along roads. Employees can come in contact with hazardous material like 55-gallon drums, abandoned cars, totes of unknown liquids, etc., which are deposited off Forest Service roads. Because safety of employees, the public, and the environment when addressing this issue is paramount, employees must understand the requirements for doing so safely and are responsible

for procuring hazmat professionals to help transport and dispose of hazmat or hazardous waste.

Keeping the water moving

It's the scenic waterways that are most associated with the water that the agency manages, but there's also the hidden wastewater produced by staff and the recreating public that must be managed. In Region 6, there are 640 drinking water systems and about 850 wastewater treatment systems in addition to almost 3000 toilets. These systems range in size from supporting a ranger station or campground to Multnomah Falls that has 2.5 million visitors annually. Unfortunately, these systems too need repairs and upgrades. "They're part of that larger infrastructure deferred maintenance number," says Darden. "We're working on it with GAOA (Great American Outdoors Act) money, the limited construction money we get from the Washington Office, and what we can set aside regionally. We also work with our partners or concessionaires trying to [get the work done.]"

(Above) A section of the Wallowa Whitman National Forest Elkhorn Byway in need of repair and (Below) a newly chip and sealed portion of the Blue Mountain Byway that runs through the Umatilla National Forest
Photo credits: USDA Forest Service Pacific Northwest Region

How the projects are prioritized depends on a number of factors. Forests submit their priority infrastructure proposed projects lists and Regional Office staff use regional and national criteria to rank the projects. The highest ranked regional projects receive funding first. The funding source can also dictate priority, as can health and safety, internal and external politics. As Darden poses, "What's more important: a road, a dam, or a water system?" As everyone who works or has worked with the agency knows, there's isn't a clear answer.

But what Darden does know: "Every engineer and I'll have job security until I can retire."*ON*

Update on Road to Mount St. Helens

On Sunday, May 14, 2023, the weekend before the anniversary of Mount St. Helens' eruption, the two-lane state highway that goes up to Johnston Ridge Observatory washed out in the vicinity of the Spirit Lake Outlet. A significant rain event earlier in the month is attributed to why the landslide occurred. Since the road is managed by Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT), they took the lead in repairing the road. It was a great example of coordination and collaboration.

"We need to be at the table but not always leading the table," Darden says, adding, "We have to be creative and do our work different." The state's contracting methods allowed the repair crews to begin the repair work faster, and within three months the road was reopened. Unfortunately, two months later, another washout occurred.

Like many Forest Service locations, the slide area is inaccessible for approximately six months of any given year due to its high elevation and harsh winter weather. WSDOT has estimated a road opening based on the necessary phases of project planning, designs, and implementation or construction for late 2026. While Johnston Ridge Observatory is inaccessible, there are lots of quality visitor experiences opportunities that are open and accessible in the area and across the Mount Saint Helens National Volcanic Monument and the Gifford Pinchot National Forest.

Old Smokeys Financial Outlook for 2024

By Lesley Kelly, PNW Forest Service Association Treasurer

Old Smokeys is entering 2024 in a great position to achieve the goals the Board approved at the annual budget meeting in November 2023; at this meeting, a review of the books was conducted and budget goals set forth. The board agreed to allocate the following amounts for programs: $3,000 for scholarships and $2,700 for grants.

We are working with a nonprofit that helps groups, such as Old Smokeys, complete the process to create an account in the System for Award Management (SAM) so that we can receive funding through an agreement with Region 6 and PNW Research Station for both 2023 and 2024. We hope to have the process completed by the end of January. Once it is completed, we will receive approximately $8,500 that will go into the general fund for 2024. This will allow us to fund both the scholarships and grants, as well as the 2024 spring banquet, the summer picnic, and the newsletter.

The response to the request for donations to fund the cost of newsletter postage has been noteworthy and we have already received $340 from five members. Thank you very much to all who have contributed so that we can continue to mail out copies to those who want them.

Dues payments are coming in at a fairly steady rate and are being processed for the 2024 general fund. These, combined with increases in the Vanguard accounts in December 2023 and as of this writing in January 2024, point to a great year in 2024 for funding our programs and supporting activities that allow us to continue our commitments to our members. *ON*

Volunteer at Historic High Desert Ranger Station This Summer

By Les Joslin

Again this summer, as they have since the summer of 2009 (except, of course, the COVID-19 pandemic summers of 2020 and 2021), Old Smokeys and other volunteers will share the U.S. Forest Service story daily at the historic High Desert Ranger Station at the High Desert Museum on U.S. Highway 97 just south of Bend, Oregon.

You can be one of them!

Old Smokeys are invited to join the small team of U.S. Forest Service retirees and other High Desert Museum volunteers trained and scheduled to interpret this important U.S. Forest Service history exhibit from 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. daily from July 1 through Labor Day.

Clad in forest green uniform polo shirts, blue jeans, and boots, these volunteers welcome visitors to this historic one-room district ranger's office building—the first thing High Desert Museum visitors see as they arrive—with whom they share the story of the Forest Service and the National Forest System, which is an important aspect of the natural and cultural history of the American West.

That's the story of how the Old West and its economy based on natural resource exploitation became the New West based on sustainable use and stewardship of natural resources—the U.S. Forest Service story! Volunteers are signed up as High Desert Museum volunteers, individually trained and scheduled based on each volunteer's availability and convenience, and do the job. Volunteers pay for their own uniform polo shirts that are worn with regular blue jeans, proper belts, and footwear.

Martha Henderson, PhD, a retired college professor with seasonal Forest Service experience, leads this volunteer program. For more information about how to volunteer for this unique and rewarding experience, contact Martha at (360) 789-1512 or geowildfire@msn.com. *ON*

Meet the Northwest Water Initiative

In 2023, the PNW Research Station launched the Northwest Water Initiative, the third initiative that represents a new approach to "strengthen collaboration with the National Forest System and other partners." The initiatives are described as "2- to 5-year coproduction efforts" that includes both research and development (R&D) and the National Forest System, are interdisciplinary, and multi-partnered with Tribes, federal, state, and local agencies, and non-governmental organizations involved in developing the research themes and conducting the research. The Carbon Dynamics for Land and Watershed Managers and West-Side Fire and Climate Adaption initiatives were launched in 2019.

Why was an initiative focused on water warranted? "Water touches everything; it's a very big, really important topic with lots of dimensions," says Brian Staab, regional hydrologist with the U.S. Forest Service Pacific Northwest Region. For a nine-month detail assignment, he served as the acting project manager and led efforts to develop the initiative's strategic plan, *Northwest Water: New Knowledge for Expanding Extremes.*

Brian Staab, regional hydrologist with the U.S. Forest Service Pacific Northwest Region

To learn more about the five-year Northwest Water Initiative, the Old Smokeys editorial board spoke with Staab, Gordon Grant, a research hydrologist with the PNW Research Station, and Steve Wondzell, a research ecologist with the PNW Research Station. What follows is the conversation edited for length and clarity.

Can you describe the focus of the Northwest Water Initiative and how the strategic plan was developed?

Staab – The initiative deals with the physical processes of water in watersheds and also its biological and chemical processes. We had a good interdisciplinary team that helped shape the initiative, including its goals and objectives, and a process to solicit and select a portfolio of the projects that will make progress toward them. We documented this in a problem analysis, which I refer to as a strategic science plan for the initiative.

Wondzell – One important element about the initiative is we made real efforts to show linkages of our work with both the National Forest System and other federal agencies, states, and Tribes. The station's research and development is really emphasizing the importance of coproduction of our science. The initiative really benefited by Brian's involvement as a detailer [and with his] strong links with all our partners in the region and with research.

Grant – There are several major components of the initiative. One arena is looking at water availability, quantity, and quality, and how that plays out at the landscape scale. The second arena are the issues surrounding aquatic habitat, diversity, and utilization of water by fish and other species. And the third arena focuses primarily on restoration activities intended to increase the resilience of pieces of the landscape where water issues are especially important.

There was a tension in producing this document and a similar tension in moving forward. Which projects were already underway but could readily find a home under this umbrella called the Northwest Water Initiative? And what of new projects?

We were mindful of building a process whereby people could identify work they wanted to do that was consistent with the overall goals of the Northwest Water Initiative. There would be mechanisms by which that work would be brought in and vetted and presumably funded, at least for some of it.

Wondzell – This initiative did a survey of all the people at the research station, asking about their recently completed or currently underway water-related projects. That created a foundation of the work the station is already doing and, as a strategic document, takes into account where the station was at the time we started and where we would like to go.

So, the initiative adopted a holistic approach to research?

Wondzell – Holistic is really a good idea, but it's holistic across disciplines; we don't want it siloed into a particular place. Think of the diversity of our region: from the corner of Southeast Oregon to the northwest corner of Alaska and everything that's in between. We have people with disciplinary expertise that spans a huge range, so we wanted to capture that and make

sure people feel there is a place for them within the initiative.

How does the initiative fit within the Station's greater mission?

Grant – If you go back to the original Congressional language that established the Forest Service, the Organic Act of 1897, the national forests were set aside for a couple of reasons: One was to provide continued supply of timber; and the other was to maintain favorable conditions of water flow. It's always been easier to figure out what managing for a continuous supply of timber means than managing for "favorable conditions or flow."

This initiative is in some ways aspirational in that it's trying to bring water issues more into focus, not just at a station but also at the national level. For example, there's a new effort to build a strategic plan for water and aquatic resources within the agency. Both Brian and I have promoted using this water initiative as a window into the range of issues that might be surfaced in a national-level water initiative.

How many projects are under the Northwest Water Initiative?

Staab – We have roughly 30 projects that are housed under the initiative. We did a lot of work identifying the projects that aligned in the ways Gordon mentioned, some that were underway and some we built in. We are moving forward with implementation and project-level engagements that are happening in various ways depending on the type of the project. For example, Brooke Penaluna has a substantial project looking at the upper extent of fishes in stream networks. We did very direct stakeholder engagements around shaping what that work looks like and who wants to participate, which includes a lot of state agencies, Tribal nations, and NGOs [non-governmental organizations].

One of the key projects was on summer low flows and stream temperatures, which our partners with the Bureau of Land Management helped catalyze initially. Another project is Meadow Creek, which was selected through the National Forest System under the Collaborative Aquatic Landscape Restoration Program through the Bipartisan Infrastructure bill. There's a whole suite of restoration actions that are being done both in an experimental forest and in an experimental context, with a focus on potential changes in streamflows, water temperatures, and riverine foodscapes.

There are other high-profile projects that are actionable from an applied perspective, which includes getting a better handle on the basic water data the National Forest System needs. For example, having much better representation of the location of our streams and their spatial extent, and also having a better idea of whether those streams flow year-round and whether they support fish. We now have solutions through high-resolution data, such as Lidar, to map these things accurately, which we're doing across huge landscapes. Then, we're coupling this work with strong R&D partnerships, where the National Forest System and other partners collect field data in a very structured and organized way. Using state-of-the-art tools, station scientists can build on those point observations and build entire river network predictions around those important characteristics: Do they flow year-round, and do they have fishes in them?

Are there any specific projects that Old Smokeys should be aware of?

Staab – We are developing and applying some novel techniques on environmental DNA (eDNA). We can collect a water sample from a stream and get a sense of its biological diversity because organisms are constantly shedding their DNA. The station has been a leader in developing methods for interpreting those data across multiple species and then we're applying it in a very applied context to understand the distribution of key organisms and also the invasive organisms that may pose risks. We can also track how organisms respond to river restoration treatments.

Any closing thoughts?

Grant– One of the consequences of the initiative has been to encourage people at the station who have not previously worked together, to do so. It's one of the most readily achieved goals. Just in the course of putting this together, there's been more interaction among station scientists than I certainly recall in recent memory. *ON*

Interested in learning more about the Northwest Water Initiative?
Visit https://www.fs.usda.gov/research/pnw/centers/nwri.

Frontline and Personal Reflections

For this Frontline and Personal Reflections column, the Old Smokeys editorial team invited Daina Bambe and Mike Ash to share their experience dealing with water-related disasters during their career with the Forest Service.


Daina Bambe

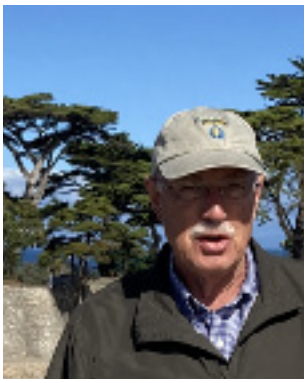
Bambe comes from a family of foresters: her grandfather, father, uncle, two cousins, and brother had careers in natural resources. After graduating from Oregon State University in 1981 with a degree in forest management, she started her Forest Service career on a brush disposal crew on the Dale Ranger District. After working briefly as a resource clerk in Pendleton, Bambe was hired as a forester trainee in Walla Walla, Washington.

Wanting to gain experience in timber sale contract administration, Bambe accepted a timber sale contract administrator position on the Mt. Adams Ranger District; she credits this position for preparing her for a district ranger position, which was a career goal she achieved in 1998 when becoming the district ranger on the Lincoln Ranger District on the Helena National Forest.

In 2002, Bambe returned to Oregon as the district ranger for the Hood River Ranger District. In 2006, she served as district ranger for both the Hood River and Zigzag Ranger Districts when the agency experimented with a three-district configuration for the Mt. Hood National Forest. In January 2007, Bambe returned as district ranger full-time at Hood River, and four years later, she spent three months as the acting scenic area manager for the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area. Since retiring in 2013, she is a Trout Lake community council member and one of the founding members of Fire Adapted Community Trout Lake.

Through the President's Youth Corps program, Ash began his engineering career in 1965 as an engineering surveyor for the Bureau of Land Management. He then transferred to the Forest Service as a surveyor on the Plumas National Forest's Milford District and then to the Lassen National Forest as surveyor/draftsperson. A three-year tour with the U.S. Army, where he served in Vietnam, interrupted Ash's career.

In 1971, he returned to the Forest Service as a survey technician on the Lassen National Forest before transferring to the Modoc National Forest in facilities design and construction. The following year he was offered an opportunity to study civil engineering at California State University, Chico. Over the next two decades, Ash worked on the Plumas, Willamette, and Siskiyou National Forests, moving his way from road and bridge design to assistant forest engineer on the Siskiyou. From 1986-1997, while on the Mt. Hood National Forest, he was the forest engineer and later both acting district ranger and forest supervisor.


Mike Ash

After spending four years in the Washington Office as the assistant and deputy director of engineering, Ash returned to Region 5 as the team leader to review the Sierra Nevada Forest Plan Amendments, which had received the most appeals of any Forest Service decision to date. He moved to Region 6 and from 2003-2006 was the deputy regional forester before retiring. Ash pursues woodworking, primarily lathe work, and often donates wooden bowls to retirees and charities.

Our first and subsequent water disasters

Ash – When I was on the Willamette National Forest, I saw a bridge lying across the river from the current road. I couldn't believe how that whole bridge ended up there and was told it was a result of the 1964 flood. I came away realizing the incredible power of hydraulics. You can't imagine the power and energy that's involved there.

My next significant flood experience was on the Mt. Hood National Forest at the end of 1995. There was snow on the ground, but the ground was already saturated when we had a warm period of heavy rains. On the western side of the Cascades, there are a lot of drainages and high road densities, coupled with areas that were logged. Fish Creek was probably hit the hardest of any drainage in the Cascades. It alone had 236 landslides, and of the 153 miles of roads in the drainage, only six miles were accessible after that flood. Fortunately, in the area between the Timberlake Jobs Corps and the PG&E Green Lakes Power Station, people had been evacuated so when the road

was closed, we didn't have people landlocked.

I was fortunate enough to go up in a helicopter the night of the Clackamas River flood, and it was incredible. It looked like somebody turned the sprinkler on in the entire drainage. The power that came from those floods was absolutely amazing. We had $30-50 million worth damage that occurred over a week-and-a-half period.

Bambe – My first experience was in 2006 while the acting district ranger of Zigzag. After eight months of being ranger of both districts I volunteered to continue at Zigzag until that position was filled. Gary Asbridge served as acting district ranger at Hood River. After several days of heavy rainfall, a debris torrent came off the White River glacier and took out Highway 35, which landlocked the Mt. Hood Meadows Ski area. Newton Clark Creek blew out the highway to the north and White River blew out the highway to the south. The Sandy River also flooded on the Zigzag side. On the Hood River District, Eliot Creek took out the bridge on the northeast side of Mt. Hood, the one that accesses Lawrence Lake, a reservoir built by Middle Fork Irrigation District. Although the original White River bridge was intact, all the approaches blew out.

We didn't have a whole lot of landslides because the main force behind this event was it being a rain-on-snow event and the effects on the unconsolidated material that those mountains are comprised of. It's just amazing when you see it: a Volkswagen-sized rock sitting in the middle of the White River bridge. That was my indoctrination to the force of "hydropower" in a different context other than power generation.

The Volkswagen-sized rock moved by the 2006 flood. Photo courtesy of Daina Bambe

The state of Oregon had a contractor who worked 24-7 for five weeks to undo what Mother Nature did in the space of probably 12 hours. The Eliot bridge on the Lawrence Lake Road provided access to Lawrence Lake and its dam, which serves as an irrigation source for the Middle Fork irrigation district. The priority was repairing the road so they could monitor the dam and replace the damaged infrastructure. They also lost a massive amount of power generation because of the flood damage.

Preparing for water disasters and prioritizing disaster response

Bambe – At Hood River, I credit folks that include Stuart Fletcher, Gary Asbridge and Mark Kreiter for preparing the staff. Every year they would review and update our FERM plan (Federal Emergency Road Management). In the event we received a lot of rain, we had people or departments assigned to different areas of the district to monitor certain areas. Those guys put into my mind the dynamics that's coming off the mountain.

Ash – Safety is going to be number one. You're concerned for the public who might be trapped because of the floods,and employees when they're out inventorying in the dark. I remember being on flood patrols and standing on a road when suddenly, I heard a roar and looked down—the road is about to wash out. And it isn't just a water issue either. When the ground is saturated, for some reason the trees just want to fall over!

After the disaster, you start looking at the short-term needs. Daina talked about having a FERM plan. Part of that FERM plan is how you're going to move equipment and having contracts you might need to respond to clean-up. You want to make sure all your paperwork is lined up.

Bambe – We kept our activities (both on Hood River and Zigzag Districts) during the daylight hours because it was too hazardous with how quickly things can turn. Additionally, we put out public safety announcements saying it's not safe to go out.

During a disaster, everybody watched out for one another, and people tried to pace themselves. I was so fortunate on both districts to have phenomenal staff since a ranger can't watch out for everybody.

With the Forest Service having so much turnover and many folks retiring, we have a lot of young folks who have energy. It's probably a big challenge for rangers if they're faced with such an emergency, to try to rein in the younger staff and teach them to pace themselves. Experience has a lot to do with people managing that; when you're young, you think you can conquer the world.

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Welcome New OldSmokeys Members

Welcome to these new Old Smokeys who have joined the Pacific Northwest Forest Service Association since the fall 2023 *Old Smokeys Newsletter* went to press

Shawna and Boyette Bautista of Newberg Oregon. Shawna was the Region 6 Invasive Plant & Pesticide Use coordinator. Prior to role, she was the wildlife biologist on the Region 6 2005 Invasive Plant EIS and a zone wildlife biologist on the Angeles National Forest in Region 5.

During retirement, she spends her days traveling, camping, and helping to raise her grandkids.

Carol Boyd of Beaverton, Oregon. Throughout her career with the agency, Carol worked in rangeland management and held the titles of district ranger, resources staff officer, and administrative officer. In Region 3, she served as the deputy director for Forestry and State and Private Forestry and in Region 6 was the assistant director of Natural Resources for Forestry and Vegetation Management.

Now retired, Carol spends her time woodworking.

Richard Burnette. Richard is an archaeologist with the agency, and as a result, has amazed many stories that are useful for historical research.

Dawn Heutte of Portland, Oregon. During her career, Dawn worked in accounting, budget, and drafting policies.

Upon retiring, Dawn traded the office for adventuring in forests and deserts.

Randy and Christina Ghormley of Del Norte, Colorado. While with the Forest Service, Randy was a wildlife biologist, a Forest Wildlife/Fisheries/Ecology program lead, and an independent regional enterprise biologist.

During retirement, Randy enjoys spending time outdoors. Along with traveling, he volunteers as a science advisor with a local nonprofit conservation organization. He is also a member with the national, state and section of The Wildlife Society.

Noel and Laura Livingston of Baker City, Oregon. While attending Oregon State University where he pursued a degree in forestry, Noel started his career on the Fremont National Forest in its Fire/Fuels program. He and Laura made a dual career move to the Umatilla National Forest where he worked in the genetics program, served as a pre-sale forester, fuels forester, and eventually district fuels management officer. While on the Wallowa-Whitman National Forest, Noel also served as the district fuels management officer and eventually the fire staff, a position he retired from in 2021. Throughout his career, Noel has been very involved in fuels management, both implementation and teaching. He also spent many a summer day on a fire assignment with a Pacific Northwest overhead team, working his way up to incident commander of a national incident management team.

Now retired, Noel enjoys the ability to pick and choose how to spend time. Fishing, hunting, and time with grandkids and in the wood shop rapidly fills his days. Noel continues to teach command/general staff and fire behavior sessions each winter and stays involved with PNW Incident Command Teams during the summer. He's also involved with the Klamath-Lake Forest Health Partnership, supporting development of a template to assist private forest landowners in application of prescribed fire. Traveling is next on his agenda with locations to be determined.

Jim Quiring of Salem, Oregon. Throughout his career with the Forest Service, Jim had a variety of job titles that included fire fighter, tree planter, recreation guard, fire information, interpretive naturalist, and interpretive center director.

During retirement, he is writing a book on the history and conservation along the Little North Santa River in the Willamette Nation Forest.

Charlie and Patti Phenix of Grants Pass, Oregon. Charlie worked in wildland fire management in Regions 5 and 6, serving on Type 1 Incident Command Teams and Emergency Support Function #4. He retired on the Rogue River National Forest as deputy fire staff.

Charlie continues working during retirement as a wildland fire service instructor at Rogue Community College. He also served as a community service officer with Rural Metro Fire from 2006-2023.

Becky Bittner of Vancouver, Washington. Becky began her Forest Service career as an Oregon State University co-op ed student working on the Siuslaw National Forest at the Supervisor's Office and on the

Alsea Ranger District. After graduation she worked as an assistant planning officer on the Los Padres National Forest. Two years later, Becky transferred to the Mammoth Ranger District as the recreation officer and later to the Inyo National Forest Supervisor's Office as a wilderness planner. Following a move to northern Arizona, she was picked up by the Coconino National Forest for part-time work with their landscape architect. Upon settling in the Pacific Northwest, Becky was hired by PNW Research Station as the technology transfer and conservation education specialist. Currently, she is an ACES contractor doing conservation education for the station.

Since retirement, Becky and her husband have traveled a lot! They also spend time at their beach house in Ocean Park, Washington, and hanging out with family. She loves to snow board, xc ski, stand-up paddle board, kayak, body surf, hike, and competes in rowing.

Bov Eav of Lakewood, California. While with the Forest Service, Bov was a research administrator.

Now retired, he spends his time traveling.

Thomas and Daria Mills of Fort Collins, Colorado. During his career with the Forest Service, Thomas conducted research, led research programs, and performed administrative duties that included strategic planning and budgeting.

Thomas spends his retirement doing woodworking, pottery, and enjoying the mountains around Fort Collins.

Andrea and Daniel Pollock of Halfway, Oregon. While in college, Andrea started at the PNW Forestry and Range Sciences Lab in La Grande, Oregon, as a 30-day appointee. She was asked to keep working throughout the school year to help the scientists with admin tasks. Later, she went the La Grande Ranger District as a fire clerk and received a permanent appointment in that position. After finishing her degree in 2004, Andrea was hired by the Blue Mountain Acquisition Management (AQM) group on the Wallowa Whitman National Forest as a trainee 5/7/9/11. She received her 12 and is still working in AQM, which is now called Procurement and Property Services.

David Powell of Pendleton, Oregon. David was a silviculturist for the Forest Service in both Region 2 and Region 6, the latter where he worked for about 30 years on both the Malheur National Forest and Umatilla National Forest. Of these 30 years, about 25 years were as a forest silviculturist for the Umatilla National Forest. Currently, David works part-time for the Umatilla National Forest as an ACES enrollee.

In addition to his ACES work, he helps manage a 231-acre forested church camp in the Blue Mountains that is owned and operated by First Presbyterian Church of Pendleton. He is heavily involved in eastern Oregon's only climate change group, the Eastern Oregon Climate Change Coalition, as well as the Umatilla-Morrow chapter of the Oregon Small Woodlands Association. David is also an active member of the Blue Mountains chapter of the Society of American Foresters. Additionally, he is a member of the city of Pendleton's Tree Commission, working with their Arbor Day program and consulting on urban forestry issues.

Ian Reid of Sisters, Oregon. Ian is currently the Sisters district ranger and has worked on many national forests in Region 6 during his career.

Continued on page 13

Save the Date

Mark your calendars for these upcoming Old Smokeys' events.

March 29, April 26 - Old Smokeys Luncheon

Membership luncheons are held on the last Friday of each month at the Old Spaghetti Factory in Portland.

Sign in/menu selection begins at 11:30 a.m. and all guests will complete their meal and be on their way home by 1:30 p.m.

The cost is $20.00 for each guest (cash or check only). This cost includes entrée, beverage, ice cream, and gratuity.

- The entrée will be limited to: Soup and Salad; BLT Salad w/Soup; choice of three (3) Pastas: Rich Meat Sauce, Mushroom Sauce, or Mizthra Cheese & Browned Butter Sauce-w/salad.
- Beverages: Coffee, Hot or Iced tea. (Beer & Wine are ordered and paid for by the guest).

May 19 - Spring Banquet

The annual Spring Banquet and annual meeting will be held at the Charbonneau Golf Club from 12:00-3:00 p.m. There will be a buffet luncheon, installation of our new President, and a fun silent auction.

Tickets are $35 per person. Donations for the silent auction are welcome. Please contact Rutholdsmokey@gmail.com or (503) 481-8820 and thank you in advance!

Water for a Growing Nation

By Tom Thompson, Museum President

Water is vital and essential to human life for drinking, but far more is used and has value for agricultural irrigation and other uses. Water provides recreation and opportunities, a means of transportation, a source of power for industry, and habitat for fish and wildlife. From the earliest of times, these uses have been recognized by man. Early explorers in America, like Lewis and Clark and later John Wesley Powell, followed rivers and watersheds not only for transportation and exploration choices, but also to understand opportunities for settlement and commerce.

As our country developed land, the connection between forest and range condition and the quality and quantity of water produced was gradually recognized and soil conservation ideas and practices started to be seen as important. The Organic Act of 1897 specifically stated that the forest reserves were to be managed 'to secure favorable conditions of water flows.' Some reserves were set aside specifically because of their watershed value, like the Bull Run Reserve in Oregon and the Angeles in California. When authority was provided to create National Forests in the east through the Weeks Act of 1911, it specified that these designations should be 'land within the watersheds of navigable streams… as may be necessary to the regulation of flow of navigable streams…' which in effect meant to protect rivers and watersheds.

From 1900 to 1950, the population of the United States doubled, and total water use of the nation quadrupled. It was apparent that time water would become increasingly more important and more emphasis was placed on how to manage lands to protect our country's watersheds. The Forest Service developed watershed programs, conducted watershed research and studies, and worked to ensure watershed values were maintained. From 1950 to today, the population of the country has again more than doubled with increasing demands for water. After World War II, maintaining favorable watershed conditions continued to be a prime national forest management concern as timber harvest, including road building and recreation increased significantly. Conservation of our nation's water is essential to meet the demands of today and tomorrow.

Water use is largely regulated by state and federal agencies other than the Forest Service, but the Forest Service has a critical role in ensuring that watersheds are managed responsibly and continue to produce water for a growing nation. Overall, the nation's forests are an important source of clean drinking water for millions of people in the United States. Over 700 million acres of forested lands provide over half the national water supply. National Forests and Grasslands are the largest source of fresh water in the U.S. under a single manager, with about 20 percent of our nation's water originating from these 193 million acres of land. They are the largest source of municipal water supply in the Nation, serving over 60 million people in 3,400 communities in 33 states. Today, there are over 1,700 dams and reservoirs on Forest Service lands, contributing to flood control, agriculture, and human water consumption.

Watershed management's principal focus is to prevent damage through best practices and progressive conservation approaches; however, much of the work concentrates on projects to rehabilitate watersheds damaged by wildland fires, overgrazing, and other causes of damage. By the 1950s, there were up to 90 active watershed rehabilitation projects. By the 1970s in response to NEPA and the Clean Water Act of 1972, soil and water management efforts intensified greatly. The emerging clearcutting issue at that time brought more attention to watershed impacts. Watershed issues have continued to increase in importance and with changes in climate and the drastic increases in damage to forests from larger and more destructive fires, watershed restoration has become more and more challenging and urgent. Increasing private and public partnerships (Forests to Faucets, etc.) continues to play an important part of ensuring our watersheds are managed to provide our nation's water needs.

Capital Campaign Update by Andy Mason

BIG NEWS! A donor has offered us up to $500,000. IF WE CAN MATCH IT! First, THANK YOU Old Smokeys for your unwavering support to the Museum. Our highest priority continues to be completing the Capital Campaign for the National Conservation Legacy Center (CLC), the flagship building on our Missoula campus. We will break ground this spring but still need to raise funds to ensure all costs are covered for both the building and exhibition.

More on the Big News

At the end of December, one of our long-time

donors, offered to help us finish the capital campaign. He and his wife will donate up to $500,000 by matching every new cash donation (both individual and corporate) we can raise by June 2024. In essence, any new capital campaign cash donation we receive by June 2024 will be doubled! Our very generous donor has provided us a tremendous opportunity to complete the capital campaign!

Can you help us with individual donation(s) and/or connect us with companies that are donor-prospects? Here are some ideas for your consideration:

- Through your USFS retiree networks, ask for a donation of $100 each from 20 or more of your colleagues, which total up to one or more 1905 CIRCLES ($1,905). See Campaign Closers Circle brochure at https://forestservicemuseum.org/campaign- closers-circle/. The Museum's Region 4/Intermountain regional director Dick Smith and his cadre have taken this approach. They completed two 1905 Circles and are working on the next one. Part of this was accomplished by former Regional Forester Jack Troyer contacting former members of his Region 4 regional leadership team. Feel free to contact Dick (dicksandy01@gmail.com) or Jack (jctroyer1@gmail.com) for more information.
- Of course, we welcome larger donations from individual donors or groups of donors that meet the requirements for the FOUNDER'S CIRCLE ($10,000), CURATOR'S CIRCLE ($25,000), DIRECTOR'S CIRCLE ($50,000), or PRESIDENT'S ROUNDTABLE ($100,000)
- We welcome any connections you may have (or people you know that do) to companies that may have an interest in becoming a donor-investor in the CLC.

If you have ideas for potential donors and/or know people that have connections to those prospects, please contact:

- Lisa Tate, lisa.tate@forestservicemuseum.org,
- Tom Petersen, tom.petersen@forestservicemuseum, or
- Call the Museum at (406) 541-6374. You may also call Lisa at (208) 484-6667 (mobile). *ON*

New Members continued from page 9

On his off-hours, Ian supports his daughters by watching their sporting events and trying to stay in shape through trail running and upland bird hunting.

Tom and Peg Reilly of Battle Ground, Washington. Early career in his career, Tom worked as a geologist on the Olympic and Gifford Pinchot in the late '70s-mid '80s, after which he was a westside zone engineer on the Siskiyou National Forest in the late '80s. In the '90s, he accepted the position of district ranger in Walla Walla on the Umatilla National Forest. After several long-term acting gigs, Tom moved to deputy forest supervisor on the newly forming Rogue River-Siskiyou National Forest in 1999. After managing to burn half the Siskiyou in the 2002 Biscuit Fire, he fled to the Northern Region where he was the forest supervisor on the Beaverhead-Deerlodge National Forest in Dillon, Montana. In 2005, Tom moved to become the forest supervisor on the Clearwater National Forest and in 2008 was assigned to be the forest supervisor for the Nez Perce National Forest, which is where he began to form the administrative unit for the new Nez Perce-Clearwater National Forests. Tom retired on Independence Day 2009 and settled in Walla Walla for 13 years. In January 2023, he and Peg moved to Battle Ground to be closer to extended family.

Following retirement from the Forest Service, from 2012-2016 Tom worked as conservation director and executive director of the Blue Mountain land trust in Walla Walla. Since Peg retired in 2016, they have mostly traveled, camped, engaged in hobbies, and generally goofed off. They find being grandparents awesome!

Glenn and Rosemary Casamassa of Portland, Oregon. During his career, Glenn worked as a forest ecologist/pre-sale forester, sale administrator, pre-sale forester, regional environmental coordinator, legislative affairs specialists, district ranger, forest supervisor, associate deputy chief, and regional forester. These positions took him to Regions 2, 4, 6, and 10, as well as the Washington Office.

Now retired, Glenn spends time with the grandkids, traveling with Rosemary, working to receive his dual citizenship for Italy, playing guitar, and going to the gym.

Glenn Geiger of Battle Ground, Washington. From 1977-1989, Glenn was the Oregon Department of Forestry forest office for the Sisters unit and was stationed in the LaPine/Sunriver area.

In 2016, Glenn retired from Portland Fire & Rescue. In spite of having a 47-year career, he is still going and currently works for the Oregon State Fire Marshal. *ON*

Old Smokeys Memories: When Water Takes Control

It's easy to take for granted our ability to control the flow of water, whether through house plumbing or engineered stream channels. There are academic programs devoted to researching and teaching the science of water and harnessing it for our purposes. Yet there are times when the power of water overwhelms our infrastructure, resulting in burst pipes, washed-out bridges, and landslides, that we are reminded of our temporary control of its power.

For this issue, we invited Old Smokeys to share memorable water-related events.

Editor's note: The following stories are the personal opinions and recollections of the writer and may not reflect the Old Smokeys as an organization.

Gary F. Shirley – It was mid-November 1959 when an early storm dumped a couple feet of snow on the central Cascades, just north of Mt. Rainier. The area was part of the White River Ranger District on the Snoqualmie National Forest; now it's called the Snoqualmie Ranger District on the Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest. At this time much of the district's road system was just under development. I was the new, and first, district engineer although my degree was in forest management.

Then a so-called Pineapple Express hit, bringing with it several days of warm rain, and all hell broke loose! Several streams overran their banks, damaging many roads. Huckelberry Creek Road, now Road #73, suffered heavy damage with about a half-mile or more of roadway turned into a boulder field.

Even worse was the situation on the west fork of the White River Road, now Road #74. This road was the most important road on the district. On its upper reaches, this road, just short of Mt. Rainier National Park boundary, crossed over the west fork of the White River on a concrete bridge about 90 feet long. The river had completely washed out the near-shore approach. Not only that, but the near shore pier was damaged, as the river had undercut it, and it was about a foot lower with a twist in the bridge! Beyond the bridge there was a major ongoing road construction project that was now inaccessible.

Forest Engineer Mr. James E. Mallonee arranged for a concrete pumping company to come and attempt to raise the sunken pier by pressure pumping concrete beneath the pier. After several days of failure, it was decided the only way to repair the bridge was to cut the pier and then jack the bridge into place. This worked, and other repairs to the entire road system on the district were completed during the summer of 1960.

Su (Blumenthal) Rolle – In late spring of 1983, I was a ranger district management assistant on the Ashland Ranger District of the Rogue River National Forest. I don't recall the exact date in late May when I answered a phone call from a very angry woman. She began yelling at me about how despicable it was that the Forest Service was logging with so little regard for Little Applegate Creek that was running "thick with mud and tree parts." I assured her we were not logging in the area but that I'd try to find out what was going on and get back to her. The stretch of Little Applegate Creek above her property (south of Talent, Oregon) had numerous landowners—private, timber companies, and Bureau of Land Management. Hers was not the only call we got that day and many days after.

Howard Lyman was the range conservationist at the time, a brilliant man with strong values about protecting the land and high capacity for getting things done right. We hopped in a rig and drove up the roads for as far as we could, but the low snow level that year blocked us from getting very high. There was no doubt that the creek was also an angry thing roiling high and carrying thick debris. In all my years as a former soil scientist and watershed specialist, I'd never seen any creek or river looking like that.

We figured the only way to see what was happening was to get up in a small plane and have a look. The next morning, we flew above Little Applegate Creek and didn't see anything startling. We asked the pilot to fly up higher to the Siskiyou Crest and then ease down closer to Wagner Butte. That's when Howard spotted a gnarly mass of earth and trees that had gutted a wide strip down through the snow on the west side of Wagner Butte. At over 7200', the mountain used to have a stunning lookout but it was torn down like so many were years earlier. We could also see that the slide not only made it to Wagner Cr Road, but it ripped down the road for quite a bit before veering downhill toward the Little Applegate. We knew there had been a big rainstorm a few days earlier in town, and instead of snowing in the high country, there was significant rainfall apparently at least at this

location. This rain-on-snow event saturated the soil under the snow triggering the debris avalanche.

PNW scientists visited the site and some articles were written about what became known as the Sheep Creek Slide. Alas! I wish I'd saved some of those as well as searched for photos to include here.

I will always be grateful that Howard fast-tracked an excellent restoration plan and accomplished a massive seeding project preventing what could have been terrible erosion for years. His work is still evident today with a HUGE meadow in grass and wildflowers and scattered trees. Visit if you can the Wagner Butte Trail. And, if anyone knows where Howard is, let me know!

Dave Heller – My experience with Forest Service management of water-related disasters over a long career in Region 6 has generally shown an agency that responds quickly to avoid damage where possible and to generally assess and repair it promptly, usually a result of cooperation between multiple departments within the agency, particularly Natural Resources, Engineering, and Recreation. I will offer a few of the high points from more than 30 years of involvement.

My first experience with floods, landslides and road washouts began early in my career. As the first district fisheries biologist in Region 6 at the Mapleton Ranger District on the Siuslaw National Forest I witnessed major devastation of roads, campgrounds and even a few houses as a result of major flooding in the winter of 1974-75. Of particular note was the damage to two residences on private land located in the run-out zone of steep draws downslope of National Forest System land. District response included an assessment of damage and repair needs to most of the district road system and ultimately a comprehensive assessment of landsliding during the storm. This assessment found more than 250 landslides and led to findings that loss of root strength in clearcut areas accelerated the frequency of landslides. I can recall my pleasant surprise, as a newly hired employee, at the quick response by the Forest (Dale Robertson, forest supervisor and Phil Wickham, district ranger) and support for timely damage assessment and repairs generally designed to prevent or reduce future damage during storm events.

My next major encounter was as forest fish biologist on the Mt. Hood National Forest. In the mid-1980s, a major storm caused extensive damage forest-wide. A major landslide/debris torrent, which originated in a wilderness area on Polallie Creek (the west side of the Hood River) caused fatalities of two campers and washed out a large section of Highway 35 on the Hood River Ranger District. Forest involvement of resource and engineering personnel to examine the damage and review potential fixes, resulted in a recommendation to state highway personnel, to relocate most of the damaged section of highway to an area upslope from the Hood River. This was contrary to their proposed repair of using more and bigger riprap. Ultimately, the strong support from Forest Supervisor Dick Pfilf resulted in Oregon Department of Transportation realigning this section of highway as recommended. It has not washed out since.

There was also major storm and flood damage on the Estacada Ranger District, especially in the Fish Cr-Wash Cr drainages. Road failures, landslides and damage to in-stream restoration work was extensive. In addition to large-scale repair work, including decommissioning of numerous roads in unstable areas, this flood event started a multi-year effort to assess watershed and road conditions and future management on a whole watershed scale. A number of years later, this work culminated in huge changes to the management of the area. I won't go into the details. That's a story for John Berry, Estacada district ranger and Dan Shively, district fish biologist, to share.

Finally, I ended my career with the pleasure of helping to implement a major, national program called Legacy Roads and Trails. This program provided substantial, multi-year funding to support major progress in reducing flood and storm damage to the Region's extensive road and trail system. A team of regional personnel from engineering, recreation, contracting and natural resources was charged with coordinated implementation of the program in Region 6. Accomplishments were impressive over several years and are documented in a series of annual accomplishment reports. To support project identification and priority setting, extensive transportation system planning, regional assessment of the need to improve fish passage at road-stream crossings, road and trial condition assessment were completed. Multi-year accomplishments were impressive and included road and trail storm proofing, extensive decommissioning of roads and aggressive replacement of road-stream crossings, especially those not providing adequate fish and aquatic organism passage. Each year, completion of project work was provided through a series of annual, Regional Accomplishment Reports.

Looking back, the coordination, partnerships, and teamwork with folks in other departments to implement the Legacy Roads and Trails Program was remarkable. It was gratifying to see the work really made a difference on the ground at a regional

scale. Although not appreciated by a lot of folks, the assessment and restoration work done by the Region was and continues to be world-class. Participation in all of this was one of the high points in my career.

Johanna D. "Joan" Landsberg – Here's my water-related disaster. This could have been career ending, but you'll see how it ended when you read it.

I was at Oregon State University working in a second-floor lab as I sought my master's. It was Friday evening and already after dinner time. Finally, all the glassware was in the deep sink to soak until Monday. The water was on and the sink was filling slowly as I cleaned the lab bench, organized what I needed to take home, and departed for the night. About half an hour later, I couldn't remember if I had turned off the water or not. I did a quick turnaround and set an Olympic record for climbing the stairs only to find water creeping out from under the door. Yikes!

Quickly I sloshed to the far end of the lab, turned off the water, and began the cleanup. I used a large squeegee to corral the water and send it down the closest floor drain, which was out in the hall and the floor was NOT sloped to the drain! It appeared no serious damage had been done. Whew!

Next stop, check the lab immediately below me on the first floor. Oh! No! Water was dripping out of the ceiling and running down the ubiquitous pipes that populate every lab. What had I done? I didn't even work with these people. How could I explain what had happened? The lab bench was wet, but the water was not yet on the floor. I cleaned and dried the lab bench and everything on it and hoped that by Monday things would be drier.

On Sunday night, fearing the worst, I returned and checked the first-floor lab to see how much damage I had done. The ceiling had dried without staining, there was no more water running down the outside of the pipes from above, and everything that I had dried on Friday night looked fine. Next, I checked my lab on the second floor. The glassware was still soaking in the sink, but there was no evidence of the flood I had created on Friday night.

You are the first people I've ever told this to. Please don't report it to the Department Head.

Jurgen Hess – A big beefy man, Hershel Royse thumped his finger on my chest, "I want your god-dammed rocks out of my living room." I was representing the US Forest Service at a public meeting at the boulder surrounded Bonneville Grade School at Dodson, Oregon. The school and the Forest Service were hosting a public meeting to hear residents' concerns a week after a February 8, 1996, giant slide brought thousands of tons of rocks and mud crashing down on this tiny Oregon community along I-84 just above the Columbia River, 25 miles east of Portland.

The Tumalt Creek slide pushed several Union Pacific Railroad cars into the Columbia River and buried I-84 with 3' of mud and rocks shoved two semitrucks off the highway. The adjoining communities of Dodson and Warrendale were evacuated by the Multnomah County Sheriff's Department.

Carol Royse took this photo of their house two months after the slide. Photo courtesy of Jurgen Hess

And yes, the Royse house' living room was filled with large rocks from the slide. Mr. Royce felt the rocks came from Forest Service land above and adjacent to his house, ergo they were "our" rocks. Per Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area Act direction, we had purchased that land in the Dodson/Warrendale Special Purchase Unit. The audience looked at me to respond to Mr. Royce. I said we would put together a team to try to figure out what had happened. I called Regional Forester John Lowe and told him we needed the regional geologist to help.

As I drove home the night of the meeting, I reflected that I had just made it home to Hood River the morning of February 8 ahead of the slide. I had been to a Portland Regional Leadership Team meeting representing the National Scenic Area, a new unit similar to a national forest.

A week later the team of an Oregon Department of Transportation geologist, a Forest Service geologist, and I scrambled a mile up Tumalt Creek to the top of Nesmith Ridge along the gouged-out unstable streambed. Tumalt Creek and Bucher Creek are joined a short distance above the Royce's house. The geologists figured that runoff from four days of record rainfall created a series of small dams that held back water in small ponds all the way to the ridge top. Then starting at the top, the dams broke, and jumbled debris cascaded downhill gathering rocks, mud, and

trees, gaining speed and eventually dropping all the material at the drainage bottom on the Dodson community. The geologists said this type of process had been going on for thousands of years and that the Dodson houses had been built on a gravel outwash plain hundreds of feet thick. They predicted the slides would continue until the steep Nesmith Ridge had been laid back to its natural angle of repose, hundreds of years in the future.

Susan, my writer wife interviewed Carol Royse for a story she was doing about the landslide for a Columbia Gorge magazine. Carol told Susan that as a young girl in 1918 she had played on the smokestack of a steam locomotive below her house. The locomotive and train cars had been buried by a landslide, leaving only the smokestack visible.

Carol said that on the morning of February 8, 1996, she and "Hersh" saw their horses acting strangely. Then they heard a loud rumbling sound and looked out of the house's north windows. At 12:30 p.m. a wall of rock, mud and trees was roaring toward their house. They ran out of the house. A moment later they went back and got their dog and horses to safety.

Responding to the slide, Multnomah County zoned Dodson a Geologic Hazard Area. FEMA came in and bought a number of properties and removed those houses. The Royse family moved to a home east of the slide. The Bonneville School was closed.

Over the years trees grew up around the Royse house's remains. Twenty-one years later the 2017 Eagle Creek Fire burned those trees and what was left of the Royse's home.

Large slides have been recorded in the area in 1918, 1987, 1996, 1997, 2001, and 2021.

The most recent slide in 2021 went down Bucher Creek drainage covering the site of the Royse house and once again closing I-84. Tragically a woman got trapped and killed as her car was buried by that slide.

…And the rocks will keep tumbling down.

Keith Clinton – I started my permanent Forest Service career at Hebo Ranger Station on the Siuslaw National Forest in 1977. There was not a lot of housing in or around the little burg of Hebo so most of the employees and their families were scattered in homes up and down the Oregon Coast from Tillamook to the north on down south to Lincoln City.

The one thing we all had in common was water. The bays and rivers were great for fishing and crabbing. There was rarely a shortage of water; the Hebo District received on average 100 inches of precipitation annually. And, according to learned hydrologists, our forests also contributed another 10 inches of precipitation annually via condensation in the form of fog-drip.

So, rain gear and rubber cork boots were essential tools of the trade in that neck of the woods where the leaders on the young trees of our plantations would often put on six feet of new growth annually. And one relatively young Sitka spruce growing right next to a creek that I bored to get an age on ewas 36 years old and 36 inches DBH. Not much for lumber but that was some fast-growing fiber!

Sometimes though, water-wise, we would get too much of a good thing. Culverts would get plugged and roads washed out. One time on Highway 6, up Wilson River just above tide-water, a large crane was on a bridge plucking debris out of a high-running creek that was threatening the bridge. But they could not get the job done fast enough. Before long there was a washout that sent the crane tumbling down into the ravine. No one was hurt but traffic between Tillamook and Portland was disrupted for quite some time.

Seasonally extreme weather caused other forms of traffic disruptions. When Sou'westers came blowing in, the combination of rain, wind and high tides in the bays would sometimes flood Highway 101, making it impassable. More than once it was announced over the Forest Service radio and throughout the office, "If you live in Tillamook or Lincoln City, you'd better head for home now or you won't make it today."

Jerry Wojack – In 1962, I started my career with the Forest Service as a junior forester on the Umpqua National Forest, stationed at the Tiller Ranger Station in Tiller, Oregon. District Ranger was John O Wilson and Lee Redding was assistant ranger at that time and I was the reforestation/timber stand improvement forester.

In early December, western Oregon received severe/heavy rain for several days in a row and weather predicts were not showing a dry spell for several days. One morning Ranger Wilson had an all-hands on-deck meeting to assign all personnel for culvert patrol. I was assigned the Beaver Creek drainage above the South Umpqua River. Heavy showers occurred all day. That afternoon we were ordered to return to the station as the South Umpqua River neared flood stage. We were told to gather at Jackson Creek and the South Umpqua Road, which put all Tiller people patrolling across the Jackson Creek bridge spanning the river. After all the personal were accounted for, we started down the South Umpqua Road where within a half mile was a low spot in the terrain that our scale station and a CCC duplex house were located.

The river had flooded at this spot but was low enough that trucks could drive through it. I was

following the district's Sliver Eagle 2-ton with crew box mounted on the bed driven by Jack Utley. He got too close to the ditch and became stuck. When I stopped to help him, I found my pickup being raised up and the river current was moving it toward the river. Jack and several other patrollers got to me and climbed into the bed to provide the weight I needed to drive to the high point. We all returned to the Silver Eagle to get to high ground.

Gathering together again we proceeded to the station and came to Coffee Creek that had flooded and left a log jam blocking the road. A rope was stretched over the jam and stream that we used to get to safety. Trucks were left on the road, and we finally got to the station. The next morning from the office windows we could watch the river and logs piling up on the Tiller Bridge across the Tiller/Trail highway.

By God's grace, we did not lose any lives or vehicles we left behind the log jam or the highway bridge. We did lose several small bridges and numerous sections of forest roads. The worst part of this flood adventure was the fact that it extended my travel time to visit my girlfriend, Mary, (wife now) who was living in Jacksonville, Oregon.

Carrie Gordon – Many of us remember the eruption of Mount St. Helens in 1980. Unfortunately, it's quickly faded into the past for a lot of people. We've also forgotten about the rain-on-snow events in the 1980s and 1990s that paralyzed forest road systems when many landslides reactivated.

We do remember large fires. The 2000 Hash Rock fire blasted through the Mill Creek Wilderness on the Ochoco National Forest. A totally unrelated landslide reactivation was discovered in late November 2000, lower down in the same drainage. Short story: The reactivation of the dormant landslide terrain is linked to 40-million-year-old caldera walls failing. We didn't discover the reason until Oregon Department of Geology and Mineral Industries geologists mapped the area in 2005.

After completing a slope stability investigation on the slide in 2001, we learned that the last time the landslide was active predated the eruption of Mt. Mazama, 7,700 years ago. To learn more about what the geologists found, visit https://pubs.oregon.gov/dogami/B/B108/p-B-108.htm.

We followed the movement of the slide mass for another 14 years. The in-situ section of Mazama Ash encountered in one of the drill cores is of interest to current studies of volcanic ash being conducted by the University of Oregon. They are looking at ways to figure out when a volcano is about to erupt. Geologic hazards are part of our lives in the Pacific Northwest.

Jim Peña – My first exposure to how the Forest Service approached water was winter flood patrols on the Applegate Ranger District in the early 1980s. We would send out two-person teams to check road culverts on the district. Each team was assigned a road system, and we went out to make sure the culverts were open or opened them if they were collecting debris as the water level started to rise. This was kind of a "fun" activity until you encountered a debris plug too big for your shovel.

My second experience was as a district ranger at Naches on the Wenatchee National Forest. I think it was December 1996 when there was widespread flooding across the region. All of the major drainages on the district experienced flooding that damaged most of our level 1 and 2 roads and took out portions of US Hwy 12 and State Hwy 410, the main access routes upriver. Lots of Emergency Relief for Federally Owned Roads (ERFO) funding requests, coordination with the state county to coordinate emergency response and working to support our employees stranded in government housing at the two work centers upriver. We were working on ERFO repairs for the next year. We were able to improve road alignment to reduce negative impact to Rattlesnake Creek and other rivers where road was impacting watershed function. The South Engineering Zone did a fantastic job getting the ERFO repairs accomplished.

Bill Martin – In the early 1970s, I was stationed in Alaska on the Tongass National Forest. To harvest trees, we built logging roads on top of muskeg (an Alaskan swamp with extremely objectionable engineering properties.) We needed large quantities of rock to dump on the muskeg, which meant developing large rock quarries for each logging area. On Mitkof Island, the loggers used a blast of explosives to open a new quarry on a steep mountain side. This blast triggered a landslide. The slide peeled off the side of the mountain, right down to bedrock, trees and all. The slide went across a small river about 20 feet wide and continued across the land for several yards past the river, creating an instant dam of mud and trees that completely stopped the flow of water. Downstream, all the salmon smolt were flopping around, dying. At my direction, the logger tried blowing up the dam with more explosives. This approach did not work. Water started to back up through the forest; and after a day or two the water overtopped the dam and washed it away. We were all horrified since nothing like this had ever happened before.

Within a couple weeks, the loggers did the same

thing again. We stopped all quarry operations, and I asked the Forest Service Research Center for help. These people are geniuses; at least most of them are. They worked at full speed to find a rational method for setting off the explosives. Their solution consisted of keeping track of the rainfall, so that we could determine how saturated the soil was and designing methods for controlling the force of the blast. Their solution worked.

In Southeast Alaska, all the cut trees must be moved to the mills by floating them in the ocean. Transferring the trees from land to water causes quite a bit of environmental impact as the bark gets rubbed off as the logs are dropped into the water. The bark settles around the transfer point and suppresses the marine growth. Trying to minimize the environmental impact of getting the logs into the water, I developed the concept of rigging a railroad flatbed car that would be loaded with logs on land and pulled by a cable along the railroad tracks into the water, where the logs would float off.

This idea got the State Fish and Game guys so excited that they wanted to get the governor to declare by law that this would be the only way the logs could be put into the water. The timber salespeople dubbed my idea as "Martin's Choo, Choo, Blub, Blub, Over and Under Railroad."

This underwater railroad was put into the next logging sale as an alternative method, but the logger thought this new idea had too many unknown risk factors. However, a few years later the Canadians actually built such a system.

Back in the 1980s the Deschutes National Forest hosted an Oregon Nation Guard Engineering Battalion Summer Camp. Ideally, the projects that met the National Guard training goals would also benefit the Forest Service. For example, the National Guard could build cross-country ski shelters, calling them Forward Bunkers.

However, one training goal of the National Guard was executed in a slightly flawed way. The National Guard asked one of our engineers overseeing their work where they could set off Bangalore torpedoes, which are filled with high explosives. They don't look too bad; they are just a four-inch diameter pipe about five feet long. They are connected to each other at their ends, and they are meant to clear a path through a mine field.

The Forest Service engineer spontaneously directed the National Guard, "How about on top of the dam over there." I guess he thought it would be a low fire risk. Well, it blew a trench about two feet deep that was 50 feet long on top of the dam. Luckily, it did not liquify the dam and cause a complete collapse. Nevertheless, a hasty patch job was in order.

Vickie Dunaway – Here is one for leaks in a building. I worked at the Bend/Fort Rock Ranger District on the Deschutes National Forest in the late 1990s. For those who never visited there, the district office was located on the second floor of a concrete office building in the middle of town. It did not have that Forest Service district feel, you know? The building was over 25 years old and leaked like a sieve.

After a torrential downpour the night before, folks placed wastebaskets in the usual drippy spots when we looked in the ranger's office. The water was pouring down the back concrete walls like a waterfall with a good four inches of water now flowing into the hall. Somebody piped up, "Looks like Walt is going on a beach vacation."

We all ran back to our desks and appeared with items to enhance his stay including a beach chair, towel, pink flamingo, rubber duck, beach ball, assorted potted palms and sunscreen. A banner saying "Welcome to the Beach" was placed above the door. Walt Schloer, our ranger, came in a short time later, noticed the leaks, asked if building maintenance had been called (it had) and walked to his office. The look on his face was precious. He chuckled, then turned around and said, "Don't just stand there, get my files out!" I always wondered, where did all those beach toys come from?

I always wondered, where did all those beach toys come from?

Steve Johnson – I have memories from January 1974, May 1983, and New Years Day 1997. I worked on the Ashland Ranger District, Rogue River National Forest as a firefighter and later as a snow ranger/recreation specialist. The 1974 and 1997 floods were especially damaging to the City of Ashland, the Ashland Watershed, and the forest as a whole.

I directly witnessed the 1974 flood in Lithia Park and the Ashland Plaza. My only Forest Service involvement was when I came back to work in May to assist in hand piling debris throughout the watershed that had only been cleared by heavy equipment in a few locations. We also walked in, sometime for miles to begin roadside cleanup and piling. Many of the roads were not yet open due to slides and cuts in

the drainages that were comprised of decomposed granitic soils. (An estimated 130,000 cubic yards of sediment flowed into Reeder Reservoir, Ashland's water source, from Forest Service lands.

One memory that sticks out is that a popular Ashland pub on the Plaza, the Log Cabin, remained open throughout the flood while every other business was closed. They just kept their door open with a couple of feet of sandbags and people waded through the waters to gain entrance and drink beer at the window seats.

A number of roads in and around Ashland were damaged by the 1974 floods. Photo courtesy of Steve Johnson

On May 28, 1983, a major debris flow occurred on the west side of Wagner Butte. It was caused by near record high temperatures for the preceding week over a record snowpack and then heavy rains. I think thunderstorms were involved with the rain, but I cannot remember for sure. My initial work was to accompany engineers and forest geologists to document the damage. I later was involved in reestablishing the Wagner Butte Trail through the slide area. The trail now passes through a verdant meadow.

On January 1, 1997, there were two of us working on the entire Forest, myself and John McKelligott on the adjoining Applegate Ranger District. It was obvious the day before that we were in for some serious flood issues. Why the Forest Service gets "all-hands on-deck" for a fire situation but not a flood situation is beyond comprehension to me.

Anyway, John and I communicated throughout the day. He focused his efforts around Applegate Lake, which had overtopped, while I focused on the Dead Indian Plateau area east of Ashland and especially the Little Butte Creek area. In the canyon of Little Butte there was a Methodist camp with permanent caretakers (a husband-and-wife team). The bridge to their facility was completely washed out. In fact, it was gone. I took a few quick pictures and really wanted to get out of there as I was afraid the hillside above me was going to slide. I was getting ready to leave when I saw the couple on the other side of the creek. They were obviously in distress, but we could not hear each other due to the noise.

I pulled out a large cardboard box and wrote with a very large felt pen, "We will get you." Through hand gestures I could tell they felt relieved. Two days later four of us hiked a historic trail that dropped down a couple thousand vertical feet to their location from the Plateau. They were in good shape with plenty of food and hiked out with us. Later the Forest Service was sued for in-stream fish structures that had allegedly made their way downstream causing damage to homes and structures. I think the agency prevailed in that litigation. All I know is that hundreds of logs and debris piles roiled by me for the short time I was in the canyon.

Steve Ellis – In 1986, the Forest Service (Ketchum, Idaho Ranger District), Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Shoshone District, Baine County, Idaho Fish & Game, Friends of the Big Wood River, Idaho Department of Transportation (IDT), and other partners worked collaboratively to address the growing problem of riprapping along the river. Reinforcing the riverbanks with concrete or stone, primarily to protect expensive homes and other infrastructure was essentially channelizing the river piece-by-piece and diverting the river's erosive force downstream and eliminating fish habitat. It also was also displeasing from a visual standpoint. I was working at the time as BLM's Field Manager for the Wood River Valley and John Phipps was the Ketchum District Ranger. It was the first time in my career I had the privilege of working with John. We all decided to work together to alleviate the problem…. find a cure so to speak.

The Big Wood River, like other rivers, naturally meanders and floods. Flooding tends to deposit silts that provide "flood plain" soils with valuable nutrients. Sheet flooding also helps dissipate energy, as to river meanders. Flooding can also result in rivers shifting channels. The Big Wood River had a history of meandering throughout the river valley. Old meanders could easily be seen in aerial photos. When homes and other infrastructure were constructed along the Big Wood River, there was a tendency to riprap and armor the banks to protect such investments from damage resulting from floods or channel changes. Our primary prescription was to install a series of large rock drop structures to slow the river's flow, raise the water table, dissipate energy, and enhance fisheries habitat. The goal was not to prevent flooding, but to minimize the high peak impact. If flooding could be more confined to the uninhabited areas, such as

public lands in the Ketchum/Sunn Valley corridor, then perhaps the theory would successfully work.

As I recall, another issue in the mix at that time was a proposed Idaho Highway 75 realignment project. At one time, IDT had proposed riprap along the river to protect the highway from erosion. The options included moving the highway east away from the river by excavating out a roadcut. A goal was to have sufficient mitigation for the areas disturbed by the highway project such that there would be a no net loss of wetlands.

To help address the issues, rows of large rocks (drop structures) were carefully and strategically placed across the Big Wood River to angle/steer the flow an intended direction. Controlling the river's flow and result in more healthy flooding, so to speak. Unlike bank riprap, they looked natural, dissipated energy, and improved fisheries habitat. An extensive amount of native willow planting was also part of the mix. The project wasn't without its controversy. I remember the partners taking many opportunities to listen to various public opinions. The results I saw when I left Idaho in 1992 for a position in Washington, D.C. were positive. I left believing we had helped the river. It has been more than 30 years since we initiated the project and I look forward to returning someday to see if our collaborative prescription was a long-term success. *ON*

Frontline and Personal Reflections
Continued from page 11

What we learned from these water disasters

Bambe – One of my biggest lessons from the 2006 event was that the Federal Highway Administration (FHA) does NEPA a lot different than we do. After we got the highway reopened, Oregon received funding through FHA to build a new White River bridge that allowed the natural processes to continue without taking out the highway. It was an extensive project that involved not only replacing the bridge but also devising a relief system along Highway 35 heading north from Meadows to allow for material coming down Newton and Clark creeks to pass underneath.

I was on the steering committee monitoring the project design. It wasn't until almost the 11th hour, while I was working with FHA's NEPA team, that I reviewed the project plans. There was nothing in NEPA of building an adjacent two-lane temporary highway while they were doing this work. I pointed out that it wasn't in NEPA and was told, "Well, we always do this."

If you are familiar with that part of Highway 35, it would have ended up with a quarter-mile-wide strip clearcut along the highway!

Ash – In a scenic corridor.

Bambe – Scenic area, visual corridor, that whole thing. They had not analyzed the effects to spotted owl habitat–we had several documented nesting sites–or that it was a big spring and summer range for elk during calving.. I was not only thinking about wildlife habitat but how vulnerable the area will be to future events because of the vegetation being removed. We ended up with a single lane highway with traffic control while they built the perforated highway.

I became known as the Owl Ranger, and I'm thankful that attention to detail was one of my valuable lessons as a ranger. Being a timber sale contract administrator was one of the best training jobs I had a ranger. It's that training to really look at the details and make sure that something isn't going to bite you.

Ash – The professionalism of our people out there when responding to disasters is what I learned. There are about 90,000 miles of road in this region. Our people know the problem areas and they come together and make things happen. The floods bring out the professionalism and dedication of our people.

Bambe – It's just amazing how people step up.

Advice when dealing with water-related disasters

Bambe – This has always been my recommendation to rangers: Nothing is such an emergency that you can't step back and think first before acting. Sometimes you can get overwhelmed by the "all-of-sudden" and taking a five-minute pause and really thinking through the process can save you a lot of energy and maybe save your life.

Ash – Wise advice from a line officer, right there! When a flood happens, there's not engineers or foresters, or any other discipline–we all become one team. When winter starts rolling around, it would be a good idea to throw that FERM plan on the table with the unit and review where the problem areas are, who's assigned where, and the safety issues so you're not on a Sunday night trying to figure out what you're doing the next morning. *ON*

Memories

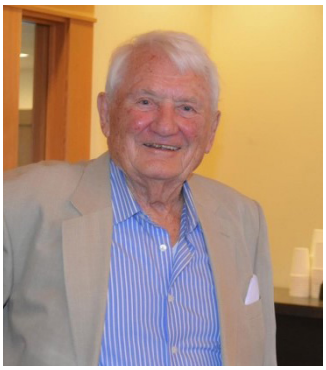
Farewell to these recently deceased Pacific Northwest Forest Service Association members who live in on our memories.

Susie M. Van Vliet passed away on November 3, 2023.

Lucille 'Lu' Trowbridge passed away December 21, 2023, at her home in Medford, Oregon. She was born February 9,1927, in Detroit, Michigan, and married the love of her life, Ira Trowbridge in 1946. Ira joined the Air Force, and Lu and Ira raised their four children while moving all over the country from base to base.

After Ira retired from the Air force in1966, the family moved to Oregon. Lu worked for the Army Corps of Engineers in Alaska and the U.S. Forest Service in Bend and Sisters. When Lu retired, they bought a trailer and traveled, checking out the West and Southwest (especially Las Vegas) for a few years then settled in Medford in 1991.

Lu was fun, funny, feisty, and hardworking, a loving mother, grandmother and great-grandmother. She is survived by her children and their families, and we will never stop missing her.



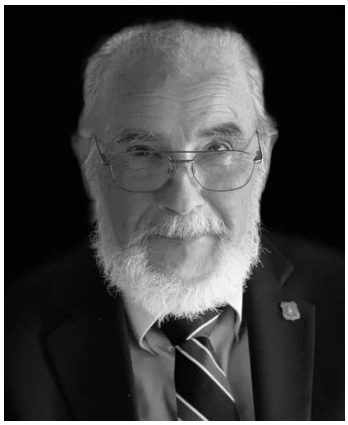
Kenneth Lee Evans passed away peacefully in Bend, Oregon on was November 11, 2023. He was born March 31, 1931, in Toppenish, Washington to Lee Roy and Valborg Evans.

Kenny spent his childhood growing up on an apple orchard along the Columbia River where he graduated from Mosier High School in 1948. That summer after graduating, Ken's family moved to Bend, and he started a career with the U.S. Forest Service. He attended Oregon State College, earning his degree in forest engineering and spending a short amount of time in the Marines. Shortly after being discharged, he met and married Claudia Lou Haner, and they would go on to have two daughters.

Kenny was very proud of his career with the Forest Service, and he was able to showcase his talents and work ethic across the country. He spent time in his career in Crescent, Fort Rock, Sisters, and Redmond, Oregon; Temple, Texas; Alamogordo, New Mexico; Albuquerque, New Mexico; Fairfax, Virginia; and John Day, Oregon. After spending 37 years with the Forest Service, he finally retired.

Dedicated, Kenny lived every meaning of that word. His life was very full. His family was everything, and as long as you got your work done first, there was a lot of fun to be had. Kenny found his fun traveling to rodeos in the southwest with his fifth wheel trailer, scuba diving in tropical countries with his granddaughter, trail rides on horseback with STR, hunting, fishing, good food, good friends, and a glass of scotch.

Ken was a Republican, a member of the BPOE, the Rotary club, the NRA, the American Legion, Old Smokeys, and the Society of American Foresters. He is survived by his two daughters, Jennifer Medico and Juliann Evans, both of John Day. His granddaughter, Whitney Moore, and great-granddaughter, Emma Voigt of Redmond; his brother Dale Evans of Eugene, and numerous nieces, nephews, and so many cousins.



John Anthony Rosenberger sprouted in St. Paul, Minnesota, but became deeply rooted in Roseburg, Oregon, and the Umpqua Valley.

Born on Sept. 25, 1938, to John and Leona Rosenberger, he was joined by a sister Gail, two years later. As a family, they enjoyed many camping trips, including road trips out west to visit relatives in Colorado and several national parks. These experiences sparked a taste for exploration.

After graduating from Cretin Catholic High School, John joined the U.S. Coast Guard. He served from 1957 to 1961 at several stations in New York and

the Great Lakes, before transferring west to the Lifeboat Station at the mouth of Humboldt Bay near Eureka, California. He was immensely proud of his service with the Coast Guard.

John earned a BS in forestry from the University of Minnesota. In addition to his studies, he also enjoyed hiking, skiing and canoeing with the outdoor group, The Fussgangers, among other friends. Lore has it that as a ski jumper he once lost a ski in mid-air and successfully landed on one ski–and there was a photo to prove it!

He married Carole Hallen in 1964, in St. Paul. The Pacific Northwest pulled them and they moved to Oregon where he earned an MLA in landscape architecture at the University of Oregon. In Eugene he started what would become a growing family, with daughter Karin and son Karl. They lived briefly in Portland, where John started his career with the U.S. Forest Service.

In 1972, the family moved to Roseburg, where he resided for the rest of his life. Following John and Carole's divorce, he left the Forest Service and had his own private landscape practice for a time before returning to the Forest Service. In 1977, John married Nada Gohn and added five stepchildren: Jeff, Mike, Cathi, Chris and Carol.

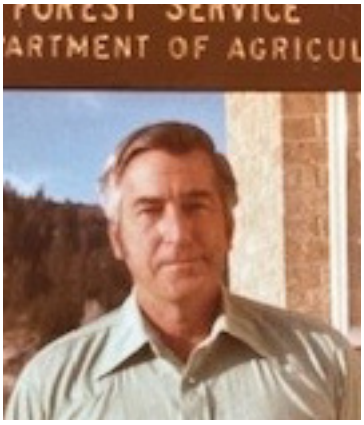
John's landscape design projects through his private practice and the Umpqua National Forest in the Roseburg area included countless local residences, city parks or municipal/commercial grounds and around many regional forest service facilities. Notably, he designed the current Diamond Lake Campground and landscape for the Steamboat Inn and Umpqua Valley Arts Association. The red oak trees in the boulevard on Jackson and Commercial streets, where he lived, are a result of John's suggestion to the city. In his own words, he described himself as a generalist, "concerned with the relationship between people and their natural and man-made environment."

Once retired, he made frequent drives from Oregon to Minnesota to visit his parents and family and to explore the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness where he introduced his children, nieces and nephews (and their kids) to canoeing and camping ethics, including freeze-dried "astronaut food." Another retirement focus for John was the Motley Crew, a group of retired Forest Service employees who maintained many of the trails through the Umpqua National Forest. During this time, John lived for his Thursdays that took him into the forest.

After Nada passed in 2010, he met and enjoyed a deep and special relationship with Joy Price until his end. With Joy, John was blessed to grow his family yet again and to be occasionally immersed with young ones that he could "terrorize" with his beard (a prominent facial feature since 1964) and "bunny-nose" twitches. Among other large and small adventures, he and Joy had fun traveling and landscaping her yard, then (finally) his yard.

John was prim and proper, a deep and stoic man of very few words, who carried a large presence. In his later years, his gooey heart seeped out and he was full of laughter and childish giggles. Blessed were those who were fortunate to know him.

Thaddeus "Ted" Yarosh passed away February 4, 2024, in Klamath Falls, Oregon, at the age of 94. He was born November 21, 1929, in Aliquippa, Pennsylvania, to Francis and Bertha (Bieszczad) Yarosh. Ted served in the U.S. Army in the Korean War and worked many years as a forester for the U.S. Forest Service. He leaves behind his wife, Lillian (Lil).



William Conklin passed away in his home in Wittmann, Arizona, at the age of 91.

Bill was a Sergeant First Class in the US Army. He served on the front lines in the Korean War. After returning from the war, he completed his degree from Iowa State University in forestry. He worked for the U.S. Forest Service for 31 years.

His career started in Kremling, Colorado, where he met his wife, Donna Conklin. She was a waitress at his favorite café, Jerry's Café. They married in 1962 and later moved to Dillon, Colorado, where he continued his Forest Service career. Donna got her teaching degree and became an elementary school teacher. They moved to Gunninson, Colorado, and started a family that grew to include Cindy and Scott Conklin.

Bill then transferred to Steamboat Springs, Colorado. He was the district ranger for Hahns Peak Ranger District before moving to Portland, Oregon, in 1980 to work in the regional office. His last stint with the Forest Service was in Grants Pass, Oregon, with the Siskiyou National Forest. He was in charge of Lands and Recreation.

Bill's love of the outdoors continued until the day he died. He is survived by his wife Donna and daughter Cindy. *ON*

Pacific Northwest Forest Service Association

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