



DIXIE RANGER

SOUTHERN FOREST SERVICE RETIREE ASSOCIATION

Suite 800-1720 Peachtree Rd. N.W. Atlanta, Georgia 30309

NEWSLETTER #1 - 1977

NEWSLETTER EDITOR
TOM HUNT

VOLUME VII, NUMBER I
FEBRUARY - 1977

OFFICERS FOR CALENDAR YEAR 1977

President. W. W. (Bill) Huber
Alternate. Douglas Craig
Secretary. Robert (Bob) Johns
Treasurer. James (Jim) Carroll

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Jim Cartwright....(1979)-3-year term
Dorothy R. Smith..(1978)-2-year term
Clint Herrick.....(1977)-1-year term
Paul H. Russell.....-Ex-officio

OUR LAST MEETING

It was at the Petite Auberge Restaurant on December 15 and was attended by about 83 members and guests. All Committee Chairmen reported on their activities; the above officers were announced for Calendar Year 1977 and a good time was had by all. While there were several new members present and introduced, because of the fact that I've either lost or someone stole my notes, I will have to report by memory. Lack of space is also why this report will be short. One of the new members was Remer H. Crum and his wife Emily. Because of the large crowd, Remer and Emily occupied a special table set up in the center of the "U". Door prizes were distributed and the C. Joe Galloways must have a special Patron Saint in charge of door prizes, since they've won for the last two years.

OUR NEXT MEETING

Will be on March 16 at the Petite Auberge Restaurant in the Tocco Hills Shopping Center. This is a good place to lunch and there is ample parking space for everyone who attends. The price will be about the same as the last two meetings (\$6.00 a head) and the menu, while not finalized, will be along the same delicious lines as our past meetings at the same place. See the reservation blank for information as to how to make reservations.

BOARD OF DIRECTOR'S MEETING

Was held at Bill Huber's house on Feb. 1, with the following present: Huber, Evenson, Johns, Russell, Burnett, Carroll, Cartwright, Dorothy Smith & Vedene Smith, and ye-ed. Much discussion on our contributions to the Cradle of Forestry and Blanchard Springs Caverns. Since the \$\$\$ we could contribute so small, in accordance with what is needed, it was the general consensus that no contributions would be made to either organization until such time as they work out projects worthy of our contributions. Discussed the project of sponsoring scholarships for grandchildren of retired Forest Service employees. Decided that the amount involved was way above what the Association could contribute, and this project was dropped for the present time. Treasurer's report showed a balance of \$1171.20. Budget Officer submitted the following budget for 1977 which was approved:

Stationery, Postage etc.	\$200.00
Reproduction of Newsletter	200.00
Luncheons (Guests-door prizes)	80.00
Picnic (Pavilion & misc. exp.)	80.00
	<u>\$560.00</u>
Reserve for donations	300.00
	<u>\$860.00</u>

TO FILL IN THIS SPACE

I have finally, through the influence of John Chaffin or someone else in the Washington Office, gotten on the mailing list of the FRIDAY NEWSLETTER. It is a good publication and well worth reading once a week. If any of you are not on the mailing list, refer to the address shown in VOL. VI, #3, August 1976, or send your request to
Office of Information,
Forest Service, U.S.D.A.,
South Building,
Washington, D. C. 20250

COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN 1977

Budget	F. Grady Burnett
Membership-Sympathy Cards	C. M. Evenson
Newsletter-Information	Tom Hunt
Program	H.C. Eriksson
Arrangements	Paul H. Russell
Nominations	Vedene Smith
History	Jim Cartwright
Legislation liaison with)	Doug Craig &
Region, Area & Research)	Sid Weitzman
Telephone	Lucille Isbell
Chapter Organization	Ham Miller - Red
	Strange
Constitution-By-laws	Dorothy Smith

FUTURE MEETINGS

In June - trying to work out something like a picnic on Brasstown Bald or a 1-day tour through the Chattahoochee N. F.

September will be the annual golf tournament and picnic at Stone Mountain Park.

December will be the annual meeting at which time the new officers for 1978 will be announced, plus Committee reports from the various chairmen.

Another Dixie Ranger will be published in May, August and November to give you the details of the June-September-December get-togethers.

NEW MEMBERS

✓ Madison Gordon, 65 Forestwood Lane, Atlanta, Ga. 30328.

Gladys McMitchen, 3689 Canadian Way, Tucker, Ga. 30084.

Mrs. Effie Stone, 423 Clairmont Ave., Apt. 17, Decatur, Ga. 30030.

✓ Perry C. Davis, Potts Camp, Miss. 38659.

✓ Mrs. F. S. Browder, New Waverly, Tex. 27358

Remer H. Crum, 4274 Paces Ferry Rd., Atlanta, Ga. 30339

✓ George Morgan, #60 Hanover, W. Asheville, NC.

With the above and those reported in the November 1976 newsletter, we have acquired twenty five members to add to our ever-growing list of members.

✓ NEW MEMBER: Mary Frances Pullium, 1232 Vista Trail, NE, Atlanta, Ga. 30324

OBITUARIES

H. O. MILLS, died around the first of February and his remains sent to Baldwin City, Kansas. He is survived by his wife Grace, 1717 Hill Hedge Dr., Montgomery, Ala. 36106, and a son Richard who is a Forest Ranger in North Carolina. They ask that any donations be made to the local Heart Fund or American Forestry Association.

JAMES F. (JIM) BROOKS: Died on December 19, 1976. He is survived by his widow, the former Thelma Spring and two daughters Mrs. Marianne Mallory of Hartford, Conn & Mrs. Margaret Wright of Charleston, S. c., grandchildren and great grandchildren. Jim was 82 years old. A good number of Forest Service employees visited the funeral home and attended the funeral.

HERBERT P. RICE, 69, a resident of Jackson, Mississippi died on November 25 at home. Herb was a District Ranger on the Miss. Delta area and had retired in 1970. He is survived by his wife, two sons Don of Nederland, Tex. and Percy of Florence, Miss. two sisters Emily Cheek and Dorothy Rice, both of Cleveland, Tenn., and three grand children.

ERNEST R. DeSILVIA, 69, 2812 Bancroft St., Missoula, Mont, died on January 3 in Missoula. Ernie served his R-8 time in Fla., Arkansas, Georgia, Mississippi and Alabama. He is survived by his wife Wanda, Missoula, a son Craig, Boise, Idaho, a daughter Sandra Kennerson, Gales Ferry, Conn., a sister Lorraine Weiger, Santa Rosa, Cal. and five grandchildren.

Our sympathy is extended to the survivors of the above former Forest Service employees and members of our Association.

A REMINDER

That dues are still \$2.00 per year per family and were due as of January 1, '77. Make checks payable to Southern Forest Service Retiree Association, and mail your check to the Association at the address shown on the first sheet of the D-R. If you send cash-PLEASE-identify yourself.

BIRTHDAY GREETINGS: To all those who celebrate birthdays during the months of January-March, 1977, inclusive. May you all have - or had - a happy birthday. And may all of you have many more of them. To those who have not sent in the information on their birthday-we urge you to do so, so you can be recognized and, probably, some of your friends will remember!!!

JANUARY

1 - C. Joe Galloway
2 - R. E. Pidgeon
4 - Spence Palmer
4 - W. D. Patterson
9 - Russ Vance
9 - John W. Cooper
10 - Clem J. Wyers
14 - Al Shaddock
18 - Joe McPherson
19 - Rose M. Milot
20 - H. C. Eriksson
24 - Elca Friedrich
26 - E. O. Powers
26 - Jean Seely
27 - Del W. Thorsen
16 - Bea Cagle
10 - Fanny Lane
26 - Helen Wellhoner
22 - Marie Eriksson
9 - Lib Collins
10 - Caroline R. Taylor
15 - Ray W. Phillips
22 - H. E. (Hob) Howard

FEBRUARY

1 - Mrs. Roy W. Bierbaum
4 - John Addington
8 - Mildred Wilkinson
11 - Viola Meltz
13 - Lois Burris
9 - Louise Scherer
14 - Eve Welch
14 - Dorothy M. Wyers
16 - William E. Snyder
18 - Vedene Smith
19 - Mary C. Montgomery
19 - Mrs. Tom B. Allen
22 - Emmett C. Gibson
23 - Sam Whaley
8 - Mrs. Ralph (Mary) Moyle
7 - Clint Johnson
12 - Mariam L. Davis
26 - Bitsy Lamb
24 - Lesene Mays
12 - Roy Howell
2 - Bill Nicholls
4 - Evelyn Antonie
1 - George (Jim) James
11 - Remer H. Crum

MARCH

2 - Velma Dunn
2 - Charles Shea
2 - Lloyd J. Kimery
6 - ~~xxx~~ Ivan J. Nicholas
7 - Mrs. Lester P. Schaap
7 - C. R. Moore
14 - Florence Johnson
16 - William P. Allen
18 - Clarence M. Covington
22 - Guy M. Wilkinson
30 - Ruth Boston
30 - Lucy Moore
30 - Mrs. Kathryn Rhymes
28 - Gola Mae Eaton
23 - Sam Greenwood
9 - Bryan Sipe
9 - Lena Belle Morriss
17 - Willa Carswell
17 - Sid Weitzman
9 - Saranell Wright
19 - Bruce Merrill
7 - Mary F. Merrill
24 - Jim Carroll
4 - Elizabeth H.P. Lowndes
10 - Mary W. Hutchins

I'M SORRY but, because of the many letters included in this -almost eight pages of them - there is material that I just do not have space for, but will summarize:

(4) Quite a few other items from the various publications I receive - but here's one from Russ Daley of the Division of I&E, RO.

(1) A clipping from the Cleveland Daily Banner, with a picture of Russell H. Eaton, telling about his work with the Civil Defense organization in Cleveland, Tennessee.

(2) A letter from Adm Officer of the Chattahoochee-Oconee N.F. asking for volunteers to man the various residential camps, recreation areas etc. to help out with the youth program, visitors etc. Anyone interested, please get in touch with the Forest Supervisor at Gainesville, Georgia.

(3) A clipping from the Cleveland Daily Banner about a hand carved Totem Pole at Red Clay, with a picture of Raymond McKinley, the carver. The picture was not good enough to print in the newsletter. However, Mac says "I plan on carving a cigar store Indian, near life-size for Bradford next". Sorry Mac - no room for it.

NATIONAL FOREST MANAGEMENT ACT: President Ford signed the NFMA of 1976 which repeals the language of the 1897 Organic Act relating to the sale and cutting of timber. That was the language which brought on the Monongahela and other suits. The bill, as approved, deals mainly with policy and leaves management practices primarily with the Forest Service. The even flow-non-declining yield policy was retained and the Forest Service given some flexibility in varying from the policy if the need can be demonstrated. The bill also contains a modified version of the Church Subcommittee guidelines on clear cutting. (Those who get the Friday Letter and the R8 news will have more information on this)

LETTERS FROM OUR MEMBERS

W. R. (BIG ANDY) ANDERSON: I wish you would extend my greetings and best wishes to my co-workers of the period 1944-1957. I enjoy reading about them in the Dixie-Ranger. I met some of them while assigned to Texas Timber Salvage; others while on T.P.W.P. but most of them while District Ranger on the Watauga District of the Cherokee N.F. Writing this recalls many good memories, some humorous and, thankfully, very few bad ones. Your organization is performing an outstanding service in enabling those who are not there with you, to retain precious connection with the past. The Dixie-Ranger performs a great service for all of us.

JAMES A. (ABBY) ABERCROMBIE: May I tell you what a fine service the Dixie-Ranger performs for all of us. Marge and I did a little traveling this past summer. Went to Hawaii for two months; visited our daughter and attended graduation exercises of one of our grand-daughters, also was able to visit with some of our old friends in military service. We toured Pearl Harbor and was able to see first hand what the Japs did to our fleet in December 1941. Here is \$4.00 to cover my '77 dues and to pay for a membership for Mrs. F. S. Browder, New Waverly, Texas 77358. I had planned to give F. S. Browder a membership, knowing how much he liked those in the Forest Service. However, "Fritz" died in November 1975 and his death was quite sudden. Please send Mrs. Browder the latest directory and some back issues of the Dixie-Ranger. (This has been done.)

JOHNNIE E. DAVIS: Enjoy reading all the news in the Dixie Ranger..please continue. Here's \$4.00, please add Perry C. Davis, Potts Camp, Mississippi to our growing list of members. He is an old timer-mostly having served in Mississippi.

SIDNEY WEITZMAN: Since my retirement 4-months ago, have been on the move-also took a special assignment for the Service. Between the two have been kept a little busier than I would like to be. However, my colleagues who have retired years ago tell me that retirees never seem to have enough time to do all the things they would like to do. Guess I'll start setting up priorities and do the important things first. I thought priority setting was behind me when I retired. Guess not. A vote of thanks for a great job-here's dues..

JOHN W. CHAFFIN: Here's my \$2 for contributing membership, or whatever you call us people who are too young to retire but old enough to know most of the people mentioned in the Dixie Ranger. Here's a change of address too. We load up and head out to a new job come January 10. We weren't ready to leave Washington, D.C., but are looking forward to San Francisco and the nearby Napa Valley. Still would like to spend a couple of hours in the City Hotel Bar in Hurley with you. (John: If you had anything to do with getting me the Friday Newsletter-thanks).

ED ELLENBERG: Here are '77 dues. Glad this bargain rolls around once a year-it keeps me from procrastinating about dropping you a note. I retired 3/27 and on 3/28 came to Fairfield Glade (Crossville, Tenn.) and started building a house. By 8/8 it was finished enough-but far from complete-so Marge and I could move in. We have guest rooms in usable condition so at last the door latch is open for anyone traveling I-40 across the Cumberland Plateau in E. Tenn. Get off I-40 at Crossville Peavine Road exit; stop at the Bean Pot tourist trap and give me a call for further info. Y'all come. POBox 1583, 916 Meadowview Dr., Fairfield Glad, Tenn. 38555.

BILL NICHOLIS: Here's a check for \$4. We don't write much but appreciate what you all are doing. I stay pretty close to my garden but did take a two week trip out West in Oct. The way the weather is, I think I'll hibernate 'till spring. Have happy holidays. My new address is 2599 Hickory Tr.

GUY WILKINSON: Encl. is check for \$2 for dues, also ballot for election of officers. We enjoy news items about old friends and other retirees. Although the news is not always good, it keeps us in touch and that is what is important. Just to read a familiar name on a birthday list can bring back fond memories. Retired life is treating us fine. Plan to spend Christmas with daughter Joan and family, including our first great-grandson in La. Happy New Year.

EMORY HUNNICUTT: The "red stamp" on my last Dixie Ranger says I am delinquent, so here is \$4 for '76-'77. Read the D-R from cover to cover, so keep it coming.

DOT ROBINSON: Here is my check for \$4, I didnt know my dues were past due. My husband passed away during 1975 and I had so much on my mind, I must have overlooked dues. I enjoyed going to the picnic with George & Mary Hoffman and am sorry a lot of my friends werent there.

OLENE WOODY: Enclosed you will find Clyne's ballot, also check for dues. This is just in case I forget in my planning for the holidays.. Clyne and I were again delegates to Jekyll Island for Farm Bureau Convention. We were privileged to hear our National President speak, as well as a dynamic lady Mrs. Sizemore, who is a legislator in our state. We found we had not forgotten how to dance a step or two. The banquet was attended by 902 people. I believe with the slogan "It's great to be a farmer" or must I say a retiree of such. It is always a treat to get the D-R and read of our friends. Speaking of friends, we enjoyed having Harry Rossoll visit our school for a chalk talk as well as being with us for a chat.

NYRA J. RENSHAW: Hi-glad to receive the D-R and directory. Your news on the activities sounds great. About mid-January, I wish I was in Atlanta again and away from icy roads and cold North winds. (Nyra-if you could read the Atlanta papers today-1/25/77) you'd see where we had 2" of snow and it has been cold here). Enclosed is check for dues, and D-R. - I wouldnt be without it. By the way, I read "The Face On The Bar-room Floor" long before 1966 and in Blatche, Colorado, my home state.

LUCILE & MILTON SCOTT: We're sure we owe some dues, so here is his check. He gets worse and worse about writing and no one would ever hear from us if it wasnt for me. This finds us quite well and glad the temperature is getting nice again. It wasnt a bad summer, but all our summers are now - in November we are comfortable in long sleeves and a sweater. We hear through May Daugherty, Russ Vance's sister in law, that Russ and his wife will spend the winter down here. It will be nice to see them. We keep busy with this and that and at the minute, I'm Youngstown's Librarian (a volunteer job and a busy one). Best wishes to everyone.

FRANK FULMER: Attached is my check. The D-R keeps me going, since it informs me of my many friends; it makes me feel that I am still part of the team. Some pass on and new ones join us - but the family stays in contact.

VIOLA MELTZ: Here is my \$2 for the D-R, which I enjoy very much. This has been a very bad year for our family. We lost our mother in June. In September my brother in law was very sick and still is and I just came out of the hospital after an operation. Wish I had more cheerful news to write, but it's just not there. Best wishes to all of you.

CLIFFORD ADDINGTON: Another year has rolled around and it is time to pay dues again. I enjoy the Dixie Ranger-please keep it coming. Hope the coming year brings health and happiness to all.

GEORGE W. CABANISS: Here is \$4-hope someone gets to pay my '76 & '77 dues. Couldnt tell if to use address on front or back of D-R. (Ed's note-wonder what the trouble was?) From looks of Lost & Found column, there must have been some strong drinks served at the September picnic? Thelma and I are doing fine. She's teaching and I'm loafing, hunting, fishing etc. Did two special jobs for Wood Industries this year and might do some more but has to be at slack time. I enjoy seeing the names of folks I know. Do miss the W/O and R/O inspection teams that used to call on retirees-guess they are busy or dont know me. Did fix some steaks for APMustian a year back. Larry Henson is pretty generous with current info when I see him at bridge club once a month. Hope I can get the news sheet for 20 or more years. Having written this to Paul Russell, he says: "I hunt some of those H.W. thinning, conversions and H.W. generations. Yes, there is something growing on all of them - 30 years - and folks will think they are virgin forest areas, especially those with the road closing program. I still go about a mile down hill, but it sure is tougher getting back to the top. Those Ozark bluff lines are showing through the tree tops now that leaves are off. Had a good snow in the middle of color season-it was a pretty contrast. Take care."

DON MORRISS: While we're having our annual cold north wind and drizzle, I'm catching up on my cluttered desk - so enclosed is a dues payment and a ballot. The weather was lots colder in N. C. where I was last week watching the places where the deer normally roam. This year, acorns are thick on the ground and the critters were filling their little bellies right where they bedded. The latch strings still out down this way. P.S. I've been to Ironwood too, but I don't often admit it. (Don-I am sure you'd have enjoyed Hurley a whole lot better-check with John Chaffin).

RUSS EATON: Time passes too quick-thanks for reminding me that my '76 dues were not paid. Enclosing check-dont want to miss a copy of the newsletter-it keeps me up with friends, but am sorry to read about those who passed on. Still helping the local Civil Defense and enjoy it. We have our aches and pains and don't go too far from home, except Florida once a year and Arkansas a couple of times to visit our folks. Gola Mae lost her father a year ago last summer-he was 95 (I'll never make it). Tell Tom Hunt he puts out a good newsletter-merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all my friends.

ED LITTLEHALES: Here's \$2 and my ballot. As for the libelous comments in the latest D-R: my attorney instructs me to file suit unless you publish a full retraction. As you well know, I have witnesses to prove that I had nothing to do with putting your house up for sale while you were on vacation. I list them as A.Z.Owen; Ned Strange, Al Fredrich; Jack Logan and that fine gentlemen Bryan Sipe - and with you and me - that makes seven in our car-pool. (Ed's note: I'd still have your son as a witness for me-he admitted it!)(I've also left out other remarks about the house selling because I know the truth-also about the prize peanut tree-that is libel in Georgia Ed?) Retirement is great-especially here in Venice. Run for Dog catcher - no way- don't have time, especially in keeping up with all the cocktail parties, Forest Service retirees functions and our neighborhood five o'clockers for first drink time. Thanks for a super newsletter. (Ed's note* I see you were elected in spite of my protest-no retraction is called for!)

SIMON A. PINTADO: Here's dues and thanks for reminder-D-R is fine. Sorry to read about Harwell Adams since I went with him to a land surveyor's school at Gulfport -he was a nice guy. Best wishes.

RALPH H. MORGAN: For the record - main artery from the heart ruptured below the kidneys. Lost 6-pints of blood before getting to hospital. Lost all vital signs of life during 5-hour operation. Survived and now wear dacron tubing in place of artery. Found out that I made a medical history by being the first man to survive the operation and loss of blood. Answer to that was really simple - I'd survive anything to get back to home to my TEXAS. Flying back to get a physical around 15th of December. Here's \$2. P.S. Heart was never affected, and no problem.

W. J. WELSH: So - we are old Wisconsin neighbors. How about that? Charlie Evans was from Wisconsin too.

MARY W. HUTCHINS: Maybe one of these days I will sit down and write to you. I had hoped to visit Atlanta but there again - I'm still putting it off. Maybe some day. By the way, just because I failed to tell you the year of my birth, you didn't have to "age" me. My birthday is March 10 instead of March 1. Want to get my vote in and it is time for the Postman - so, so long.....

CARL E. BENSON: Here is my \$2 for 1977 for the cheapest and best publication we get. I see you got Bill & Della Cranston on your rolls. You should get Phil & Velma Newton, formerly of the S. C., then I can get their correct address. Sent them a card last Christmas to Columbia and it was returned (Carl, I am sure they're back to Velma's home town of Franklin, N. C.) Have any of you visited a Supervisor's office lately where you recently used to work? Except for a couple of clerks and technicians, everyone is new. The F. S. sure changes personnel rapidly. I was fortunate to have a short visit with Jim Sabin and Frank Finnison a week ago, just before they flew back home for Thanksgiving. Both look young and chipper. I made a list of things to get done when I retired 6-years ago and I did a lot of them and crossed them off, but new jobs keep popping up and the list is longer than ever. These are non-pay jobs you know. Our 570 acre tree farm is paying off a little. I sold 60 acres of marked pine last year and about 110 acres this winter at \$7 a ton for tree length trees 5" DBH and larger. There is practically no slash left in the woods and grass returns for stumpage were about \$150 per acre on this cutting. Of course, I could have marked the timber, but I hired a professional forester to mark it for me at \$100 a day.

I got a real good job done. Our son Harvey was the professional forester and he did it on vacation time-a postman's holiday. I re-invest part of the loot and hire boys to get aa good TSI job and plant improved loblolly for a fully stocked stand. We are having fun now while Marian and I are still young.

IRENE (MRS. ED L.) REFSE: Sorry I failed to pay dues for '76 and here is check to include '77 too. Enjoy the D-R and it is nice to hear where friends are. Have a happy Christmas and New Year 1977.

JULIAN C. SAXON: I cannot begin to express how much I look forward to getting the D-R nor can I find words to tell you what a great job all the members of the Association are doing to keep us retirees in communication with our former workers. I have so wanted to attend the picnics, but the sad part of it and for the next four years, I will have the same problem, working for the city as building director. I am planning on hanging up my work clothes if I can make it the next four years, but the sad part will be that I will clock up my 76th birthday and too old to drive. I have an experience I would like to pass on to younger men: Married 1930 at age 25; 1942 my daughter was born, I was 38; In 1965 my grand-daughter was born-I was 65; 2 years later my grandson was born-I was 67; and I retired from the F. S. at age 67. Who could ask for a better time for grand children to arrive. Check enclosed for dues.

Bill Clarke: Here is my check for \$4. Enjoy reading the D-R-keep at that good job. We live on the Ouachita river-our home overlooks the river and it is God's country. we are only 1/2 mile from the heart of downtown Oden. Have a few riding horses and some cattle. The farm keeps us busy but it is fun. Tell everyone to come and see us.

M. B. JONES: Here are dues-regret I was delinquent. I dont know how many of my friends have heard of my illness. Had a brain hemmorrhage (stroke) 11/4/75. Have been paralyzed on my left side ever since, but getting along much better now. Have been getting therapy from Easter Seal clinic here in Tallahassee and can really say they have a wonderful program for many types of disabled people-including children. Best wishes to all.

ROY B. RAYWORTH: (Ray I might have to condense this-I just dont have the room-sorry): Here's \$6-the Dixie Ranger is the one and only FS newsletter for old retirees. "Red" Harkins said he would probably get more out of the Toyko Gazette insofar as interesting news is concerned-than other publications. For the first time in my life, I agree with what "Red" says. We (Jessie & I) are enjoying reasonably good health and still living in the rut that some 70-years plus oldsters find themselves in. The years 75-76 were rough-I developed severe pains in my ears and throat and confined to baby food. Went through a delicate Vascular surgery and found I had 100% blockage in the left femoral artery and 50% blockage in the right femoral artery. Surgery was reasonably successful. Am on therapy, long walks and hope to beat the use of a walker, cane or crutches for quite some time yet. Meantime the pain in my throat got so severe a group of specialists got together to conduct a "Laryngoscopy & Esophagoscopy, resulting in they found a cancerous tumor located at the base of the tongue. A series of cobalt treatments and I was able to eat without pain. Then in 1976 I went through another "L&E treatment examination and the results were all negative and I hope that everything is okeh now. To close on a happier note, we traded the old Caprice in on a 1977 Buick Skylark and look forward to several more years to enjoy it. Our best wishes for the holiday season to all other F. S. retirees and the best of everything for 1977 to all.

AL HAYS: Here's dues for a couple of years. Enjoy the D-R and it is great to hear about people you know. Johnnie Olsen, Hank Swank and I get together every week for coffee. regards to all.

W. C. (BILL) LEE: Here's my check for '76-77. How time flies. Please correct my address to 12000 Trim Lane-our street only one block long and 12000 is the lowest number. I get static from my mailmen. Getting organized for tax season and will start working 1/17. Just finished another 10-week course. Hay, it is winter up here-just put a dose of salt on walks. Took 15-minutes to get snow off Agnes' car this morning-just the windows. Stuff sure is hard and cold. As ever. (Bill-we'll get your address straightened out)

HERBERT (Hank) SCHEKER: Rec'd the D-R today (12/4) and was wondering how you could expect to get the ballot back by 12/6. You are aware by now that the PO does not function as well as when they used horses on the Pony Express - as a matter of fact, I don't think they function as well as when they carried the mail afoot. Ballot enclosed and hope I meet the deadline. Sorry my dues are delinquent-thought I was paid up for 3-years, but here is my check to cover through 1978. This has not been a vintage year. Had pneumonia in July; prostritis in September and terminites in Oct. and that's not counting roaches in November when the cold set in. Survived all that and expect to make it through 1977. Don't know what will happen during the "Peanut Administration". We may all go "nuts" one way or another, since the only things up are taxes and prices. Thank goodness fishing is good as was shrimping this fall, so all is not lost. Sorry we missed the picnic-it sounded great and maybe we can make it next year. Have a happy Christmas and holiday season.

ERNIE deSILVIA: ENCLOSED is check to cover my dues that are required for me. This is to cover dues and not any beer ye-ed might imbibe. Wanda and I spent about 3-weeks in Florida and Gulf Coast by way of our tree farm. Took in the national S.A.F. meeting in New Orleans. Saw a number of R-8 retirees there but was surprised at the number staying away. Probably saving money for their old age. Best wishes.

LEW MIELKE: It is too late to cast my vote but I'd have a hard time choosing anyway. Here are my dues for '77 and also for George Morgan, who ran the Biltmore Shop & Sign Shop. He has been in poor health for some years. He is able to get around with a cane and still drives. Also manages to work some in his basement shop, but must sit down to do so. Still retains his sense of humor and his mind is still of genius quality on mechanical things. Don & Lena Belle Morris were here in August and we went to see him. You may know this, but Wayne Higdon had lung surgery early this fall and is now undergoing treatments at the Memorial Mission Hospital here (Asheville). I'm sure Wayne's many friends will want to send him greetings. You might also know that Bill Nothstein lost his wife this summer. Bill is well and still loves to tramp the woods, hunt, fish and "botanize". Sorry to have had news (if it is news).

LEW MIELKE (Continued): Many thanks for your work on the Dixie Ranger. Must take a lot of time. Bottoms up for a good '77.

LEON R. THOMAS: Here is check for '76-'77. Keep up the fine work on the Dixie Ranger. I enjoy it.

MILTON M. BRYAN: Here's dues for '77. Enjoyed the November D-R; it is full of news, some of it sad. Sorry Carolyn and I missed the picnic-am sure it was tops as usual. I think the SFSRA is doing what a Retiree Association ought to do: keeping folks in touch. In 1945 I left the R.O. for a year of training in the W.O. and never to return to R8. However, once an R-8er, always an R-8 retiree. Best wishes to you all for a happy holiday season.

E. B. LOCH: You probably don't even remember me, but I want to report to you that my birth date is September 26, and if you don't wish me a happy birthday in the Dixie Ranger some months from now, you'll be in danger of having some of that red hair (what hair) snatched out-assuming you still have it, of course. Joking aside, did want to let you know there is a member in San Antonio who reads every issue of the Dixie Ranger with great interest. Have sent my dues last week to the Association as requested. Best wishes to you and Yvonne. (Ed's note: Yest I remember you Miss Elizabeth-and I took your card over and let Clint Herrick read it over the holidays-thanks for it-your birthday is 9/26 and mine is 9/9 - I guess a couple who were born under the sign of Virgo can fuss at each other?)

MILDRED (MRS. TRUMAN) PRICE: How glad I am that Jim Cheek told me about the Dixie Ranger last year. I have thoroughly enjoyed them. There are many new names but many others of people I know. Here is my birthdate and thanks for giving us news of retirees. Don't know if you know about Herb Rice's death. He was Ranger at Holling Fork Miss. for years.

OPAL MCKINLEY: Here's another obit (Herb Rice) It has just been printed in our paper, so might be old news to you. We knew him and his family who lived near Riceville, Tenn. Got the Dixie Ranger today and always enjoy it. Will send dues soon. Mac is still bragging about his trophy from the annual picnic golf tournament. His buddy in golf checked with a pro to be sure he hadn't cheated to get it. Have had lots of fun about the trophy. (Opal: Since John Spring ran the tournament, I assure you Mac didn't cheat to win the trophy)

GLENN A. THOMPSON: Almost had a good reason to not pay my dues this year, which you so tactfully reminded us was overdue with the red stamp. I hope you use any and everything to get your letters to all Southern F. S. retirees. All is well with us again after a problem year: My large brain tumor was discovered and removed at the Virginia Mason Clinic-Hospital in Seattle the first week in June. It was benign. Released from hospital June 22 - home on July 7 with certain "No-No" things, which had us pinned down for the summer, with driving, high elevation and shooting taboo. After 3-month checkup in October the doctors were very much pleased with their job and my recovery. All bans lifted and they told me to get out and get going. Of all the accomplishment records I submitted to them though, a golf score card showing 2-pars and a birdie caught their attention more than anything else. So this experience taught me convincingly what Fred Newnham and you guys in the Association tried to on the Bobby Jones hills and North Fulton lakes many times in those past years e. g. golf is a very special kind of business. Am not advocating that anyone resort to brain surgery to improve a golf score or learn to appreciate the game more. This chopping holes in live skulls is much more drastic and expensive than getting a ball across Peachtree Creek-even if you dont use a "water ball". I am most thankful for a loyal wife who stood by all the way through the ordeal even to helping the doctors look for the tumor. My record of no headaches had them baffled and still does, especially so, since they felt it had been there for as long as 15 years. The Doctor wouldnt listen to me about there not being anything in the skull to hurt. He said it took him 6-hours to remove the tumor from a bunch of brains. Am thankful to get into a first class clinic and hospital with top doctors on all medical matters and, finally, for the good Lord who did not have my number up yet. Have put the camper to bed for the winter, but may take a suitcase trip around the southwest visiting friends and relatives-weather and road conditions being favorable. This dictating to ones-self doesnt work as well as to a good F. S. stenographer. The \$10 enclosed should pay us up to 1980-hope I am correct. Fondest regards and memories-Merry Xmas too.

CHRIS THOMPSON: While grocery shopping at a new shopping center, I had the pleasant surprise of running into Remer Crum and we had a nice long chit-chat. I was surprised to find he is not a member of our retirees' group, so I promptly told him what he was missing and he wants to join (mark one up for me) and if you will, please send him our most recent issue of the D-R and a directory. (This was done and he attended the 12/15 luncheon and had a special seat and a good time, along with his wife Emily)

ETHEL (MRS. ARTHUR D.) READ. Please excuse the typing-since my eye injury it is easier and I know easier for you to read. Just want to try and tell you how much I enjoy the Dixie Ranger and the news of very dear old friends. Will visit my daughter Lois in Houston for the holidays-there will be grand children there, of course, so it will be pure joy. This comes with the very best wishes for you and yours for the coming year.

J. FRANK PALMER, JR.: Enclosed \$4 and thanks for the Dixie Ranger. I visited Maurice Outz in 12/76. He is in very poor health and has spent considerable time in the hospital this past year. Maurice worked for a number of years on the Long Cane District in S. C. I have many pleasant memories of working with him during my time. We visited our son in Shreveport, La. in 12/76. He works for International Paper Company in Shreveport.

EVELYN PARTEE: Her telephone number is 404-477-8017.

RUTH WEAVER: Good luck and best wishes always.

WILLA CARSWELL: Here I sit on Fort Lauderdale Beach and have been here for a couple of weeks and plan to stay a few more days. Sorry I am late with dues-have carried the check all over Florida since January 1. We've had some cold weather but it is in the 70s today. We are in a 30-foot motor coach just moving around and trying to stay with the sun. Might have to go to Nassau to catch up with the warm weather. Hope all F. S. retirees have a good year. We plan to be on Hiwassee Lake at Murphy, N. C. quite a bit this summer. Saw the Pete Hanlons, Del Thorsen, Elbert Wilkey, Alex Setser and others during the Christmas season. Enjoy the D-R.

WILBUR BERRY: Here are dues. Didn't do anything exciting in 1976. In August we took a trip to Denver and returned via Albuquerque, N.M. While there we played bridge with F. S. retirees Ed Massie, Larry Mar, Bill Bayer and their lovely wives. Thanksgiving & Christmas we spent in Kerrville, Texas with my youngest sister. On New Years Eve we went to the Astro Blue-bonnet football game and watched Nebraska play Texas Tech. It was a good game.

LOUIS B. ANDERSON: Just noticed on the Nov. D-R a stamp stating "dues not paid 1976". Maybe "1977" was intended because I paid '76 dues last March. Oh, well, no matter—even \$4 a year would be a bargain in this time of inflation, so here's a check for \$4.00. (Louie - all I go on is what the record shows—it showed you owed 1976 dues—thanks for the \$4). Last August I had a "total hip" operation at George Washington U. Medical Center. It involved the removal of the old joint and implantation of a plastic socket and a stainless steel ball. The outcome has been gratifying. No more pain and I have hopes of discarding the cane one of these days. Retirees who live near Washington or visit the area might be interested in learning of the F. S. X group. We meet about once a quarter on the 2nd Tuesday at 12 noon at the Roma Restaurant, 3419 Conn. Ave. The next meeting is March 8. Thanks for your fine effort over the years in spreading the word around. I'm one of the lucky ones who receives the W. O. "Friday Letter". (So am I Louie now).

PORTER C. (SLEEPY) BURRIS: Wanda & Ernie deSilvia came by for a visit this fall and had a real nice visit with them. Lola and I celebrated our 50th wedding anniversary Oct. 1 with all our five children at home for the first time in several years. We had a wonderful reunion with Bill & family, Lake Tahoe, Cal., Jim and family, Jackson, Miss; Virginia and family, Cape Kennedy; Bob & family here in Hattiesburg and Shirley Burris Maddox, Atlanta, Ga. Enjoy reading the news of all the "old timers". Our hope and prayer is that all will have a happy and a good 1977. We plan too.

IVAN J. NICHOLAS: Here are my dues—take me off the 25%. The D-R is well worth \$2. The main news for me at least is that they removed the cataracts from both my eyes last March and a few months later, I passed my driver's test with no trouble.

SIDNEY McLAUGHLIN: Greetings and may 1977 be a great year for all of you good folks. We are doing ok and keep busy or occupied with inside and outside home projects. We are both active in Senior Citizens activities—play a little golf and my score continues to give me plenty of exercise. Enjoyed our trip to Atlanta via the SW & Gulf Coast last spring and it was great to be in Atlanta again. A trip to Savannah and a week with the "flu" prevented us from seeing as many folks as we had hoped. Returned home via the Ozarks with a short stop; a good visit and a couple of rounds of golf with the Wyers. Then on north through Iowa; west across South Dakota, Montana and home. 2½ months and 9100 miles of car travel. I enjoyed 2-days with Southern Forest School Deans; Western School Deans, R1 & R8 F. S. representatives when they toured Coeur d'Alene N. F. last July. Was like old times. Several of the Deans were there who was on our first R-8 tour in '58. Since July I believe four of them have retired. It is always good to meet former associates. Verla joins me in wishing all SFSA members much joy and good health. Am thankful for the good work you all do and the time and effort spent in getting the news distributed to all of us. The quality of the work doesn't deteriorate as the years roll by. Atlanta is a beautiful city and we miss it and all of you.

J. N. VAN ALSTINE: Here's dues. It is interesting that you put Carl G. Krueger's letter next to mine in the August D-R. 50 years ago we were classmates—room mates at the School of Forestry, U. of Minn. in St. Paul. Bill Fischer was in the same class and his wife Rose was in Home Economics. Carl and I were transfer students. In 1924-25 I was at the S. D. State School of Mines in Rapid City; the summer of 1925 I worked a month in Butte, Montana copper mines. Nearly got hurt a couple of times and quit, knowing mining was not for me. Enrolled in the School of Forestry at Minnesota in the fall of 1925 and was the 216th Forestry graduate at that school in 1928. My brother Charlie a '25 graduate of S. D. S. S. of Mines and worked at mining engineering much of his life. He died of silicosis last July 1976.

SYLVIA BRYAN: Here is my check for dues. Since Phil always took care of this before, I'm not sure. I do enjoy the D-R so much, having been in this region for so many years and there are so many names familiar to me.

CHARLES T. SHEA: To keep from being delinquent, here's my check. The most exciting thing around our home, which very few people get to experience, is my mother. She celebrated her Centennial birthday last April. She is truly the "Queen Bee" of the clan. All of the family is subject to her beck and call. Although with sight and hearing impairment, she keeps abreast of events by reading the morning and afternoon papers with a large magnifying glass and, on TV, with a special hearing aid. She is an avid fan of all the soap operas. During Centennial activities last year, she was honored at a banquet as being the oldest person in Hardeman Co. Tennessee. Regards to all retirees.

MILFORD C. (Milf) HOWARD: 1976 was our first year with a winter home in Florida and a summer cabin in Virginia. Here we are on Longboat Key facing Sarasota Bay. In Va. we are in the Shenandoah Valley on the river. The towns are Longboat Key 33548 and Mt. Crawford 22841, PO Boxes 43 & 37. In our 200 unit horizontal condominium, known as the Spanish Main Yacht Club, there are many avid golfers and Edna plays about twice a week with "The Ladies of Spain". I keep busy about the grounds; on the beach and in the tropical jungle next door. 12-acres of river bank keep me very well occupied in the summer. There are many environmental and land use problems demanding attention in Fla. & Va. I am trying to keep our river clean and assure water supplies. Here the phosphate strip miners want to turn central Florida into another Appalachia. Phosphate and coal are our only abundant mineral resources and the fast buck artists are exporting them by the shipload. Our Manatee county new water and new sewer plant give us the best water in Fla. and an opportunity to demonstrate the use of waste water for fish culture and golf course irrigation. In my time, America's population has increased about 2-1/2 times and our arable land is less than 3-acres per person. We Americans are 1/6 of the world people but use 1/3 of the resources. Hardwood at \$50 a cord is the cheapest fuel today. At Ocala in 1932, fireplaces were our only heat. Here we often miss our Virginia fireplace and wood. THE OLDSTERS PLAY IN FLORIDA AND GET YOUNGER EVERY DAY. Hurrah for 1977. Best wishes to all MC also sent an article on FAMILY RESOURCE PLANNING (Wish I had room to print it).

RUSS VANCE (Ed's note: Thanks for sending in the "obit" on Ernie DeSilvia). I am sure you have had word of Ernie's death, but for your publication here is a copy of the obit. I will miss him greatly. Not only were we fishing and hunting companions, but we were close friends. He died from complications resulting from heart surgery.

DEL THORSEN: You will never know much I appreciated your Christmas card with that great note. To have that great bunch of retirees concerned every brought tears to this hard-hearted %\$\$\$##!!'s eyes. Am sorry that we missed the December luncheon had planned to be there. However, the most important thing is that I missed seeing Jim Brooks and just heard that he passed away. He was one of the finest gentlemen I have ever known. He was so kind, gentle, thoughtful and a real great man. He will be missed. We'll be at the next luncheon. (Remember is is March 16, 1977) Got out of the hospital before Christmas, but have to continue taking my Coumzidin for about three months. Get my blood tested every week-supposed to exercise my leg, but prop it up while sitting and I wear an elastic bandage on it. Still doing some consulting - got a job Thursday if it doesn't snow again. We have been having a tough winter, but better than Minn. & Wis. I'll be at the next luncheon and want to talk to you about McElroy and the change in him?

HARVEY BOSTON: (Ed's note: This was a personal letter to me and should not be quoted. Just so all of his friends will know that he is okeh, he wrote me 5-page letter by hand and, while he writes small as usual, I could read every bit of it without using a magnifying glass. From all he wrote about, he is doing fine and has a memory like an elephant, since he even remembered Don Pigeon and E. W. Hadley, in commenting on them from what I had previously written to him. So, friends of Harvey, he is ok.)

When all of you read the 57 letters in this section, you'll understand why I ran out of space and I hope the powers that be in the R. O. will not hold us to the average eight pages limitation. I'll promise them I'll only have about six or so next time and will appease them in that manner. I hope!

RESERVATION APPLICATION FOR LUNCHEON AT PETITE AUBERGE
RESTAURANT FRANCAIS, for Wednesday, March 16, 1977

Mrs. Shirley Herbert,
U. S. Forest Service,
1720 Peachtree Rd. NW
Atlanta, Ga. 30309
Phone #881 - 4191

PLEASE MAKE RESERVATIONS NOT LATER THAN
MONDAY - March 14, 1977. YOU MAY MAIL
THIS OR CALL #881-4191

I will attend the March 16, 1977 luncheon at Petite Auberge Restaurant Francais,
Tooco Hills Shopping Center, sponsored by the Southern Forest Service Retiree Assoc.

Please reserve _____ places for my party (Indicate the number in your party). A negative response is not necessary. Cost of the luncheon is approximately \$6.00 per person, including tax and tip. It is REQUESTED that no payment be included in your reservation request. Arrange to make payment at the door. In making payment by check, make it payable to Southern Forest Service Retiree Association. As indicated above, you may call your reservation in by phone to Shirley Herbert at the number shown above.

(Please sign above)

OBITUARIES **FEBRUARY 13, 1977**
Services Sunday
For J. W. Cooper
The Atlanta Journal
Covers Dixie Like the Dew
★ AND ★
THE ATLANTA CONSTITUTION

John W. Cooper, 66, of 57 Lakeshore Drive, Avondale Estates, died on February 11, 1977. Services were held at 1 p.m. on February 13 at Turner & Sons, with Reverend Wayne Smith officiating. Burial was at Oconee Hill Cemetery in Athens at 3. p. m. Cooper, retired assistant chief in charge of I&E for the U. S. Forest Service. He was a member of the Decatur Presbyterian Church and was a Lieutenant Commander in the US Naval Reserve. He was also a member of the Georgia Forestry Hall of Fame and of the Society of American Foresters. He was a member of the Decatur Lodge #1602 BPOE. He had held supervisory positions with the Forest Service in Mississippi, Georgia and Texas. Survivors include the widow, Mrs. Ruby Davis Cooper, son Tommy Spencer of Augusta; daughter, Mrs. John Campbell of Jackson, Miss, brothers, Edward N. Cooper of Fargo, Ga., and James W. Cooper of Savannah; sister, Mrs. Aubrey Martin of Fayetteville, N. C. and five grandchildren. The pallbearers were: Jim Cartwright, Doug Craig, Bill Huber, Dick Millar, Larry Newcomb and Red Strange.