



DIXIE RANGER

SOUTHERN FOREST SERVICE RETIREE ASSOCIATION

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

NEWSLETTER #2 - 1976

NEWSLETTER EDITOR

VOLUME VI, NUMBER 2

- T O M H U N T

MAY 1976

OFFICERS FOR CALENDAR YEAR 1976

President. Paul H. Russell
Alternate. W. W. (Bill) Huber
Secretary. Shirley McNelly
Treasurer. F. Grady Burnett

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Dorothy R. Smith.....(1978). . 3-year term
C. S. Herrick.....(1977). . 2-year term
L. S. Newcomb.....(1976). . 1-year term
H. C. Eriksson..... Ex-officio

OUR LAST MEETING

Was held as announced on March 18, 1976,
at the Petite Auberge Restaurant in the
Tocco Hills Shopping Center.

Invocation was by Bryan W. Sipe, who asked
everyone to stand in a silent tribute to
Flloyd Cossitt, whose death was announced
on March 17.

There were about 55 members present at
this meeting and a good time was had by
all.

Several new members were introduced, as
well as a few who were attending their
first meeting. Jane Prather was introduced
and Walter Woody and Willie Luncford were
announced as new members, also Don Swiger.
Other introductions went to Harwell &
Wanda Adams; Mary Black; Roger Huff, Martha
Goler; Doug Craig and Jim & Evelyn Carroll.
Grumbine won the center-piece door prize.
Meeting turned over to Grumbine, Program
Chairman, who introduced R. F. Roy Bond.
Bond tricked Harry Rossoll to the head table
and presented him with a Certificate of
Merit for carrying the message of the
Forest Service to the school children of
Georgia. Bond gave an interesting talk on
the plans they have for working up the
history of the F. S. with distribution to
all who are interested. He also commented
on the Bo Calloway controversy and branded
it

it (as should be-Ed's opinion) as political
in order to hurt Callaway, Ford, the Forest
Service. This was a good meeting and, to
those who missed it, please don't miss the
next one. See below-or later on.

PRESIDENT'S PARAGRAPH

To quote the obvious "time does fly". Our
second 1976 newsletter is going to press.
Hopefully, the USMail will get it to you
in time for our June luncheon. The Petite
Auberge at Tocco Hills was so enthu-
siastically praised at our March luncheon, we
decided to go back on Wednesday, June 23,
1976 from 11:30 A.M. 'til??? Good food,
good fellowship, good program and the Mgr.
says he likes us-we are a fun group
probably based on patronage of his bar.
By that time we hope to have a new direct-
ory, since Shirley McNelly started on it
on May 12. Also we may be able to report
on your Association's Cradle of Forestry
project. The Directors will have met with
Dave Scott, Director, Div. of Rec., who is
the Regional Coordinator for the Cradle.
As I write this, Jane Prather called to
say Phil "Ryan passed away on Tuesday 5/11.
Although he had faded out of the active
scene for most of us, all of us who knew
him over the years will feel that deep sad-
ness for a friend that is now no more than
a memory. According to what our Treasurer
Grady Burnett tells me, we may have to est-
ablish "life membership status", since he
reports that Herb and Alberta Stone are
paid up to somewhere around the year 2000!
There are others second only to the Stones
in paid up dues. How glad we are to have
all of you supporting the Association. It
is not too early to plan to attend the
September picnic-golf tournament at Stone
Mountain on Thursday, 9/16/76!!!!!!!!!!

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

Held on May 5 at Russell's house. All board members in attendance, plus Grumbine, Treasurer and ye-ed. We have a bank balance of \$980. and membership of approximately 325. Most of discussion was about postage and whether our members were getting their newsletter within a reasonable time after mailing; also Cradle of Forestry Project. The Board, plus others interested and having something to contribute, will meet in the Regional Office on May 17 to discuss the Cradle's problems and to see what the Association can do to shake things loose and try and help out with contacts, ramroding, writing letters and contributions. Will do the same in connection with Blanchard Cavern project, if we are called on for help. Appointed Bill Huber as Arrangement Committee Chairman. Set the September meeting as September 16, with a picnic and golf tournament at Stone Mountain and the December meeting on the 8th with election of officers and final meeting of the year.

WE GOOFED

In the President's Paragraph of the Feb. '76 newsletter, VOL. VI, NUMBER I, we listed membership by areas and organization from which retired - BUT - as called to our attention most impressively by Gil Stradt - WE LEFT OUT TEXAS. Our humble apologies to Gil and to the members in Texas. We acknowledge they have approximately 16 members of our Association in that great state of Texas, most of whom have retired from National Forests or Regional Office. Are we forgiven? (Ed's note: As one who spent from 1934-1941 in Houston, Texas, when the Supervisor's Office was there, I am (as L. L. Bishop would say) "embarrassed, chagrined and not a little bit disappointed" in my failure of omitting Texas on the list of our membership scattered throughout this great land of ours). Gil - and you other Texas folks - forgive us and make an effort to recruit more members and h-u-r-r-y because Arkansas; Florida; North Carolina, Mississippi and Georgia have you beat by a mile and a half!

LETTERS - LETTERS - LETTERS - LETTERS...

You will note herein 7-pages and 48 letters from the faithful letterwriters. Why couldn't two more have written to make it an even 50? We appreciate your letters. I've tried to publish them verbatim, but had to condense some of them. I'm sorry, but we are limited as to space and a cooperative agreement. PLEASE KEEP THE LETTERS COMING TO US.

MAIL - RECEIPT OF NEWSLETTER ETC.

Refer to subject on left. Will some of you folks in Louisiana, Texas, California, Virginia, or any other place, PLEASE write and tell us the date on which you receive THIS DIXIE RANGER. We will record the date it was put in the postoffice for mailing; check on when our Georgia members received it and then determine whether our bulk mailing procedure or delivery at destination is the culprit, which results in complaints, such as Bob Lee's, about Pony Express delivery. Please help on this - any and everyone, wherever you live.

NEW MEMBERS

Alex Setser - reported last time. His address is: Box 625, Clyde, N.C. 28721.

John E. Hamer, 906 N. Chambliss St., Alexandria, Va.

Russell E. Rea, 202 Bosque St., Tularosa, New Mexico. 88352

Julius B. Saxon, 104 College St., Moulton, Ala. 35650

Walter W. Woody & Willie Lunsford. I don't have their addresses, but I think they're of record and on the mailing list.

RETIREMENTS

The only one I have of record in writing is:

Edward G. Ellenburg, retired as of March 27. Ed and his wife are building a new home in Fairfield Glade, Tenn. Their address is 741 Smithstone Rd., Marietta, Ga. 30062 - they will move to Tenn. later this summer.

I hear through the grapevine that Betty Croke Williams has retired and has joined the Association. Will find out more about this later and will report accordingly.

Another new member is Don Swiger, 604 Richard Ave., Hot Springs, Ark. 71901.

Also: Glenn O. Antonie, Box 128, Orrville, Alabama 36767. (Must be a brother of Alrick Antonie.

ORGIZATIONAL DIRECTORIES-SETS I,II,III:

This project has been popular way beyond our expectations. Much of the credit should go to our HISTORICAL COMMITTEE and to George Schaeffer, who compiled the data, along with his source of friends and accomplices. A big pat on the back to you George for the fine job you did on compilation of this record. To begin with, the Regional Office reproduced 75-sets of the Organizational Directory. A copy - or a set - was sent to each Division in the RO; Each National Forest Unit; each of the other Regions in the Forest Service and to the Washington Office and Exp. Stations. That left the Association with 55 to sell. As of March 17, 1976, fifty-one sets had been sold and, before the April 15 deadline for orders, our Secretary had checks for approximately 15-20 more. So we have ordered an additional 25 sets reproduced. If you are late in getting your set, blame it on the fact that this project was a COMPLETE AND OUTSTANDING SUCCESS.....

DUES

As a result from our last newsletter and the red-stamp "DUES NOT PAID" notice, a whole lot of you have paid up - but a lot of you are still in arrears for '75-'76. Dues are still \$2.00 per individual or family. Make check payable to Southern Forest Service Retiree Association and mail them to the Association at the address shown on the first page of the newsletter. DO NOT SEND CASH, unless you direct your letter with dues to the SFSRA for the reason that letters, with cash enclosed addressed to the Forest Service, go direct to the Fiscal Agent for deposit in the U. S. Treasury. We have evidence that a good portion of our Association money is on deposit in the Treasury as "misc. contributions". Please send your dues to us - the Treasury will get it in the long run anyway.

OBITUARIES

D. E. BRADFIELD: Died 2/11/76 in Sonoma, California. "Brad" was 73 years of age. Survived by his wife Rebecca, 216 Andrieux St., Sonoma, Cal. 95476. A son Jim and a daughter Rosemary. In writing to me, Rebecca reported "he was in the hospital 2-weeks with a heart attack. Thought he was better. Jim had flown home to help me bring him home, then he had a massive heart attack and that was it.

WILLIAM P. DALE: Age 90, died about April 9 in Hot Springs. Resident of Hot Springs, Ark. for 52 years, a retired forester, having been a Forest Ranger for many years on the Ouachita N. F. Survived by his wife Mrs. Elsie Dale; daughter Bonita (Mrs. E. T.) Hawes; a son Sanford Dale; a sister, four grandchildren and five great grandchildren.

HAROLD CHRISTEN: Died Feb. 8. Apparently worked for the Forest Service on the Ouachita. This is all the information I have - furnished by Jerry Welch.

PRICE, MRS. TISH: Of Tellico Plains, Tenn., died 3/16/76. Survived by husband Harvey R. (Cap) Price; three daughters; mother and two grandsons. (Thanks to whoever sent this clipping from the Knoxville Journal).

COSSITT, FLOYD M. Died March 16, 1976. Survived by wife Zula P. Cossitt; two daughters; two sisters; five grandchildren and three great grandchildren. Quite a few of our retirees attended the funeral on March 18 after our luncheon.

PHILIP H. BRYAN: Phil, age 76, died Tuesday May 11 in Hot Springs hospital. Born in St. Paul, Minn. Veteran of WWI and served 36 years with the Forest Service. Survivors his wife Sylvia G. Bryan of Hot Springs; a sister; two nephews and one niece. (Thanks to Ed Hawes and Jerry Welch for the clippings.

On behalf of the Southern Forest Service Retiree Association, I wish to extend our sympathy to the survivors of our associates. May they rest in peace.

LETTERS FROM OUR MEMBERS

HARRY ROSSOLL: I've been informed by Bill Huber that a good article to read on the controversial Bill - Senate S-2926 introduced by Senator Randolph -vs- the Humphrey Bill S-3091, can be found in FORBES MAGAZINE April 15, 1976 issue, titled "NOT NO CLEAR CUT". According to all accounts the Randolph Bill is disastrous to the U. S. F. S. Thought you might get this information in the Dixie-Ranger. Spent 4-days on the Island of San Andres, Columbia, near the coast of Nicaragua. Bob Neelands, Bob Johns and I went on a Sky-lands trip March 26-29. It was a great party at Petite Auberge Restaurant. Of course, great day for me with Regional Forester Roy Bond presenting the Certificate of Merit. Thought mention of this might be of interest to my friends in the Forest Service and retirees. (Harry also sent a copy of letter he wrote to Representative Elliott H. Levitas in opposition to the Randolph Bill S-2926).

MILDRED (MRS. ERBY) WAGNER: My Dixie Ranger came last week and has been read from "kiver to kiver" and enjoyed very much. Enclosed you will find my dues for 1976-sorry I was late. (The little red stamp "dues not paid" on the front of my D-R indicates that I owe for '75 too, but my bank check book tells me that I sent a check for \$2 on 2/15/75. (Am sure this has been straightened out Mildred). I finally got in touch with Ralph Morgan and he told me he had sent in his dues just a few days before. He is in consultant work and travels all over the U. S. Hope you are all well and happy - each day I thank the Lord for my good health.

WALTON R. SMITH: As you can see, something went haywire and I had to read this part of the D-R through a mirror. Anyway, it appears that \$2 dues are in order, so enclosed with an order for the directories. Sam Greenwood is a little scant on retirees up here, but maybe he is thinking of Franklin City limits, where-as most of us are in the surrounding hills. Always enjoy the news in the D-R and occasional visits from has-beens and now visits to Atlanta and vicinity.

TOM B. ALLEN: Enclosed find dues for \$4.00. Enjoy the D-R and news about retirees and their letters. With best wishes to all.

HARRIET HUCKEY: Thank you for the nudge on dues. What happened to those two years when I enjoyed the D-R for free? Please accept my apologies for the oversight and the dues for '77/ "Tempus fugits". Have enjoyed Colorado's erratic weather this winter to the point I made no travel plans to go to warmer climes. Even tried snow-shoeing in Estes Park for awhile, along with nine other Seniors. Best wishes to you in your endeavors.

JERRY WELCH: I got word that Harold Christen died 2/8/76 of a cardiac arrest. He was not sick long-approximately a month and his death was quite sudden. Don Swiger, 604 Richard Ave., Hot Springs, is on sick leave pending retirement. He worked on the Ouachita about 40-years. Send him the next Dixie Ranger. I think he will join the herd. Nothing going on except politics and the ball players sit out. Wish they would run the Union off and settle the thing. Relax and think what fun it is to cut the grass!

HARVEY BOSTON: Doesn't seem possible that it has been three months since I got your last letter. After your "chewing out" I ought to find a blank back on one of your newsletters and write on that. Suppose you remember the days when the RO used old forms for scratch pads (They still do Harvey - also fancy ones). Had a letter from Jack Logan as a combination birthday greeting and personal note. Among things he said were "you are doing a good job on the Dixie Ranger! Lots of other people feel that way, but just don't tell you. Cobb's wife told us that he was feeling better since retirement. You mentioned your 40th wedding anniversary - we celebrated our 47th on November 11. I got a new electric saw and I gave the "Redhead" a couple of brooms to clean up after me. She got cheated. Arthritis was mean to me this past summer and I got no painting done. I developed something which restricts motion in my right hand and left shoulder. Don't see any F. S. people and haven't seen Jerry Welch in about 3-years. We have an active grand-daughter and she provides us with a lot of exercise. Here's my check for dues-please endorse it to the proper officer.

DOROTHY JOSEPH: I was horrified when I found out I hadn't paid my '75-'76 dues. Thanks for calling it to my attention.

BERMINE P. LOVE: Nothing much to say of interest except I had a delightful tour of Colonial Mexico late last year. I climbed the Pyramid of the Sun at San Juan Teotihuacan. From Mexico City the trip ended in Acapulco. Traveling is a delight with a friend (another widow) from Jax, Fla. I lunch with Musette (Susie) Adams Smith often. She's doing all right. Best wishes.

HERB KNOCH: Sorry I cant be with you for the March 18 luncheon. My daughters are taking me to Florida so I can see my great-grandson and I leave very early on that day. In thinking about St. Patrick's Day, I often think of the two Irishmen (you and George O'Connor) who once worked for me. Best wishes

DON POMERENING: Sure enjoy the D-R. My interest in former associates continues at a high level and, surprisingly, a lot of my friends are "young" retirees. Audry and I are in good health. We both work and keep busy-get a lot of rest during our frequent trips and now we're thinking Hawaii, so should be there sometime within a year. Then we will have visited all fifty states.

MARY P. JOYNER: Please extend my subscription for another year with attached \$2. Come up to Helen and enjoy the mountains with us. I think you'll enjoy it. Enjoy the "Ranger" I find out where my old friends are and what they have done and doing. Best wishes.

JOE T. McCULLOUGH: Enclosed two checks, one for Dixie Ranger and one for set of directories. 11/7-74 -1-27-75 - via Australia around the world with a 2-week tour in New Zealand - beautiful land of beautiful people. Our grandson Mike, who loves to wear the kilt and carry the Mac Rae sign in the Parade of Tartans, accompanied them to Grandfather Mountain Games in '75. M. C. and I attended Scottish games and dinners in Charleston, S. C. Dunedin and Stuart, Fla. The McCulloughs enjoyed seeing Dick & Sara Millar when they were in Ocala for the antique show.

LEWIS GROSENBAUGH: Enclosed check for dues through 1977. We very much enjoy receiving the Dixie Ranger and I think that you all are doing a swell job with it.

JACK W. McELROY: Here's my check for '76 dues. Editor Hunt's instructions for paying up in the Vol. VI, #1 issue were good. It is difficult up on payment status and, since no "rubber stamp" I assume this makes me current. Believe Tom's experience as D-R editor is the best thing that ever happened to him. He's writing with clarity and the Feb. '76 issue was outstanding.

SAM K. GREENWOOD: I certainly hope the enclosed check brings my dues up to date. Was sorry not to have told you about Neville Sloan's death in more detail. He just died of old age. We, the local chapter of NARFE gave him a very nice and beautiful plaque granting him a life time membership in the local chapter about a month before his death. I am still mean - healthy and busy as a bee in local affairs - all non-paid, of course. Come up to see us when you can - regards to all in the Association and you too.

ALBERT SHADDUCK: Enclosed dues for '76. I have very little to write about. We have done little traveling this year, due to Cherrie's health-she just wasn't up to it. Seems to be getting better and we hope to jet around more the coming year. Hope we can make one of the Atlanta meetings. Just to keep in touch with the N. F. I get a permit and cut wood for my fireplace. When I got my first permit, some of the local boys said "why bother about a permit" but, after fighting trespassers most of my life I didn't want to turn into one at this late date. In the summer I work in my yard like everyone else.

OLENE WOODY: (Ed: I wish we had more Olene Woodys) I have succeeded in getting Walter Woody and Willie Lunsford as members. Enclosed you will find dues. At this time, Clyne is again recuperating after major surgery and ten days hospitalized. Seems that comes pretty often-he's doing wonderful. Do believe in the old saying "Spring has sprung and winter has went". Willie Lunsford would like to receive the R8 news-please give his name to the right one. Here are birthdays too (they've been noted - about R8 news, I hope Shirley has made a note on it.)

TO FILL IN THIS SPACE

We've lost William "Bill" Cranston. Does anyone have his address? If so, please send it to me, so we can get him on the mailing list for the Dixie-Ranger. Bill has missed hearing from his friends and co-workers for too long. H E L P!!!!!!you who know him.

HARRY R. WRIGHT: I havent received a retiree news letter (hope you mean the Dixie Ranger) in several months. Will you kindly check on this for me? I am sure my dues are paid. P.S. If I have been dropped from your mailing list through error, would you please correct this - please send me back copies. (Ed's note: Harry's note was dated March 10, I am sure I sent him back copies, along with the Feb. '76 issue of the newsletter, since I havent had any protest since then. Recently I had a call from our able secretary, Shirley McNelly, and she told me "Mr. Tom we have a letter from Harry Wright and you know what that means - he's raising H.....about something.)(Take it easy Harry - we'll listen, provixedd we've done you wrong).

GLADYS C (MRS. BRANTLEY) FRASER: It is time for dues again. We enjoy the D-R, as it lets us hear from some of our friends. Brantley and I are in poor health, but with a handfull of pills for me and some good doctors, I manage to stay up. Brantley only has diabetis and manages it pretty well. As for our traveling, we visit our son Edwin once or twice a year. He's a ranger in Winnfield, La. We fly out, stay two weeks. Our daughter and her family live in Macclenny and we have one great grand baby, by Linda, Mary Louise's daughter. All our grand children are grown. Brantley stays pretty busy with his Kar-wash.

HARRY R. TOMLINSON: Here's a little item that is late because I thought someone else would send it in. This is what happens to other procrastinating correspondents. Last July eight of us SFSRA folks joined a W. Canada tour for a wonderful 2-week trip. Mary and I flew from Orlando to Toronto. The Grosenbaughs got on the same plane. We met Sara and Dick Millar and Vernetice-Cecil Clapp at the Royal York Hotel in Toronto. Next day met 28 other people, our escort, boarded a train and headed for the Canadian Rockies. Two nights on the train, skirted the north shore of Lake Superior and across to Banff. Three nights there, bus trip to Lake Louise and bus ride to Jasper with a stop at the Columbia Icefield. Two nights at Jasper Park Lodge; overnight train across the divide to Vancouver; ferry trip to Victoria; Butchard Gardens, back to Victoria. Plane Vancouver to Toronto-night there-flew back to Orlando. Our first such tour-hard to beat-well recommended to anyone. Canadian rockies have it all over ours for sheer beauty. - All of you - try it.

DON MORRISS: In D-R V-II of May 1975, you ran the names of the great group attending the 2/20/75 picnic of the F.S.-X Club. Most of them made it back to the 2/24/76 picnic. The new faces wereas follows: From NORTH PORT: Lillian Butterfield, Bill and Chick Bennett; Harold & Marty Hansen. VENICE: Betty Sherry, Ed & Edna Little-hales. SARASOTA: Elanore Bevan. ST. PETE: Elmer & Dorothy Kelso. SEMINOLE: Griff and Betty Adams. FT. LAUDERDALE: Bill & Della Cranston (finally found out where Bill is-someone send me his address). FALLS CHURCH, VA.: Walker & Dorothy Newman, Paul & Flonnie Swarthout. MONTGOMERY, ALA: Kitty Pollard. VIENNA, VA: George Pollard (no kin). MINNEAPOLIS, MINN: Helen Dietrich. OGDEN UTAH: Bill & Dorothy Bacon. All told, there were 54 of us. Due to the worst weather in years, we switched from the picnic area to our house. You should have seen the garbage we put out next day! Among our visitors prior to this, were Paul & Flonnie, Ira & Betty Wells, Ike & Dottie Martin, Russ & Phyllis Rea. Russ would like to join our estimatable association. To start him off-and to keep myself in the black) the small check is enclosed. Am also enclosing copy of the FS-X letter written by Bill Irby and mailed by Allice Bomberg, who is our house mother. She plans to compile a list of members, a copy of which should be available to you within the year. The Dixie Ranger Newsletter-YOU'RE DOING GREAT! Regards!!!!!!!

To brief Bill Irby's letter mentioned above: "Your entertainment Committee has decided it's been too long since our last get-together-so-o-o-o-o let's have another picnic - swap a few lies; sip a little brew - or whatever." (Ed's note: Since Bill's letter was dated 2/9/76, it is too late for any of you to do anything about it. If you're interested check with Don Morriss-Bill Irby (address in directory) and, perhaps you - or a lot of us - might join them for their next picnic. Are we invited?)

HARRY ROSSOLL: Wrote and told about giving a chalk talk to Over 400 students at Clayton Elementary School and 400 students at Blairsville school in April. Sent a copy of a thank you letter from Ranger at Clayton for his contribution as these schools.

C.A.BLANKENSHIP, Rec. Staff Officer, Jeff. N. F., with a news release introducing a new camping opportunity under the Volunteers in the N. F. program. It provides free camp site etc. to a limited number of camper volunteers for the season.(Wish I had time to quote it all).

GEORGE S. JAMES: His salutation is "My Dear Gentle Ladies & Men": Last issue of bulletin (George you know it's the Dixie Ranger-respect it!) included no red flag of unpaid dues, but to be safe and not discarded, here is \$4 for whatever years are appropriate - for what you do this is very reasonable at \$4 for any period. You people handling the D-R are doing an unusual job - always newsy - and always look forward to it as to what goes on with other retirees, their comments, travels etc. No change, dramatic at least with us. Fully occupied-dont know where time goes. A very nice winter here (Sonora, Cal.) Sure wish we could be at "just one" of your functions and check the performance of the "leadership" and to say hello to everyone. Who knows-maybe we will sometime. My best wishes to everyone.

BOB LEE: You will note from the attached newspaper clipping, the Pony Express rode again in Cenla last year. I remember writing you a couple of years ago about sending the voting ballot by pony express. As I recall, it was because of insufficient postage. Anyway, the mail still moves slow to Louisiana as we just received (3/12/76) your February issue of Dixie Ranger. What date do you go to press? (Bob: read under "Postage, Mail"etc.) February issue contained sad news in the obit column - old friends passing on, along with Fathers, Mothers, Wives and children of friends and members of the Association. Paul Russell's statistical results on Louisiana is terrible. My term as President of local chapter of NARFE is over, and I plan to do some contacting of retirees in an effort to increase membership in Louisiana in SFSRA. (I think the other two members in La. are Angie Mule & George Tannehill-you're right Bob) I wonder if N. C. retirees are the only members of the Association who are or have been in the political arena? Sam Greenwood is a former Mayor of Franklin and now, His Honor Harry Wright, of Highlands. Congratulations!!!! The rubber stamp notice "dues not paid" did not appear on my copy of D-R. In case there was an oversight, I am attaching a check for \$2-if already paid for '76, apply to '77. Lou and I enjoy the Dixie Ranger and look forward to seeing some more pictures in future issues. Have ordered a set of the Organizational Directory to help identify some old timers in the '74 picnic picture. Only three I can identify are Art, Sid & Bill. (Bob: How about Lucille Isbell; Geo. Hoffman; Rose Fischer; Jeannette Russell; Judy Grumbine; Bruce Alter; Clyne Woody; Vedeon Smith? You're slipping Bob!)

(And who's the "Sid" you mentioned? If Sid McLaughlin - he wasn't there-so there). Bob also added: "HOW ONE CAN TELL WHEN A MAN IS OLD? Answer: (1) Forgets Faces (2) Forgets Names (3) Forgets to zip up his pants (4) Forgets to zip them down. He adds: "As Elvin Brasher used to say "That's all she wrote".

ALEX SETSER: My wife Sophia and I just returned from a couple of weeks in Florida. While there we visited Dixie Howell and his wife at their home in Ocala. Dixie gave me his last copy of the Dixie Ranger for 10/75. He also suggested that I write you and send a check for membership dues to SFSRA. I neglected to ask him what the tax was, but I assume that it is \$4 per year, based on your reprint of George Gledenning's letter. We had a very nice visit with the Howells and did a little reminiscing about Forest Service people and times. We didnt get to Port Charlotte but had a telephone conversation with Don Morris, who had invited us to stop and visit. I also tried to get in touch with Joe Yensco, but couldnt make it. Don made inquiry about several people and wanted to be remembered to his friends. I see Del Thorsen, Pete Hanlon, Willa Carswell, Elbert Wilkie, Lou Mielke, Wayne Higdon and others occasionally when I get to Asheville or Franklin, or when I attend the Appalachian Lumberman's Club and Pisgah Chapter of SAF meetings. I also see Rufus Poge and Nelson Taylor. They both work at Haywood Technical Institute which is in sight of where I live in Clyde. I saw a lot of names of my friends in the Dixie Ranger and I observed that Red Strange is still playing politics. As for me, I retired from the Forest Service in June '74. Since that time I have been serving as Forester for Canton Hardwood Co. Inc. at Canton, N. C. I also have a N. C. "eal Estate Broker's license and am becoming engaged in this. I have a substantial acreage of my own, which is suitable for summer or retirement homes, plus a lot of very desirable listings of good property. If any of the Florida retirees have friends who would like a little property in Macon County near Franklin and the Nantahala, I will consider a trade for a small plot on or near the Gulf Coast for winter use. Here is my \$4. Please remember me to all my friends in Atlanta area and to your wife. Sophia joins me in wishing all our F. S. friends a Happy New Year.

ALEX SETSER (Continued): (Ed's Note: A nice, interesting letter Alex. As you will read in this, or future letters when we dun you for dues, you'll find that the dues are \$2.00 per year, per individual or family, so you should be paid up through '77.) Your letter, along with quite a few others, arrived too late to be included in our VOL. VI, #1, of February 1976.

JOHNNY J. OLSON: I know I must be behind with my dues-check enclosed. Enjoy the D-R very much, especially the news about so many of my friends. There are getting to be quite a few retirees in Lufkin. Al Hays, Harry Swank and I get together once a week to have fellowship over a cup of java. See Paul Vincent and Mandeville occasionally (John: why dont you get their membership fee?), also see Mildred Wagner, Mary Welch and Hazel Finley at NARFE meetings. Havent seen Gil Stradt in some time, which is as much my fault as his. Enjoying retirement-keep busy all the time. Regards.

PETE J. HANLON: Here is the wherewith to get and keep me in good standing, in appreciation to you guys and gals who do all the work. Betty is retiring come the end of May and we sure want to join you in some of your get togethers. (YOU'RE welcome any time Pete & Betty).

NYRA RENSHAW: I am sending my \$2 for the D-R. Really enjoy reading it, although, after so many years, too many of the names are new to me. I receive so many fine Christmas cards and letters each year, so I do keep in contact with old friends.

IVAN J. NICHOLAS: Here's \$4, dont believe I paid in 1975. Judy is now in Austin where Babak is doing research at the U. of Texas. They have a girl Clilly who was one years old last Oct. Needless to say that LaVerne and I see them quite often. Was quite elated when Larry Walker dedicated his book "Axes, Oxen & Men" to the Professional Foresters of the East Texas Timberlands, of whom Ranger Ivan J. Nicholas holds the especial respect of the author. Am taking treatments for cataracts. The doctor thinks he might save my left eye without an operation. The right eye will require an operation. LaVerne does all the driving now. The garden last year was good with asparagus, snap beans, lettuce and blackberry to give away, also figs. Regards.

JOHN CHRISTENSEN: It was nice to talk to both of you in passing through Atlanta. We had a very enjoyable time in Scottsbluff, Nebr. over Christmas and the weather cooperated. We left in time to miss their last blizzard by one day, with eleven inches of snow with 40-mile an hour winds. Our '76 dues enclosed.

JULIUS C. SAXON: A guy by the name of H.O. Mills wrote and asked me to join the Dixie Ranger group. I wondered if I was eligible and after hearing on TV that AARP stood for American Association of Retarded people, I figured I could join your group. Here's a short resume of my work with the F. S.: Hired by Ranger Bill Silcox as blacksmith. Was at Camp 7 near Chandler Springs, which was a CCC camp for colored enrollees; I helped survey roads; built furniture; blacksmithed; built bridges; worked on dams; in the zone repair shop and finally foreman of the paint and body shop. Was an instructor teaching soldiers the auto mechanic trade. Resigned in '46 and operated a service station. In 1948 I went to see John P. Nolan; cried on his shoulder and told him I was ready to come back to the Forest Service. Bless his heart - he got me reinstated and, after a variety of jobs, I retired 11/29/67.

(Ed's note: Julius I remember you from having visited in Alabama on contract problems. If you want me to do so, I will send you some of the back issues of the Dixie Ranger, which will bring you up to date on where some of your friends are. The next directory will also help too.)

JACK LOGAN: Enjoy every issue of the D-R. Appreciate the work by all of you and it is always good to hear about old friends and we look forward to attending one of your meetings. Here are dues of \$4. The Littlehales visited us enroute to Fla in February. It was fun to recall memories of the car pool. Our daughter, her husband and grandchildren live near by in Siloam Springs. My mother is also there. We continue to be loyal Razorback fans and enjoy many events at the University. Have seen Fay Meade, Ed Ferguson and Russ LeBarron, retirees, and will invite them to join the Association. I've rejoined the Lions Club and that, along with church and other activities keep me busy most of the time.

CLINT JOHNSON: Sorry I forgot to send check. Hope I'm not too late. I manage to keep busy so my days do not drag. Arthritis has slowed me down, but not out. Thanks for keeping me on the list. Sincerely.....

GIL STRADT: The Feb. '76 issue of the D-R was most interesting and informative. Keep the news coming-everything looks good. In addition to mailing in the \$3 for the directories, I wanted to know what happened to TEXAS in the membership location tabulation (Page 2-President's Para.). As far as I know, Texas is still in the Southern Region and has at least 16 members. (Ed's Note: Gil, you're right as usual. See comments under "WeGoofed" later on in this letter)

W. E. "BILL" SNYDER: Enjoyed, as usual, the Feb. '76 issue of D-R when many pleasant memories were rekindled of old friends and colleagues. I wonder if all of us appreciate the time and effort the Editor, Officers, etc. put into this publication? It was good to see the names of "Big" Andy; the Woodys, Paddock, Bill Lee, Ed Ellenburg, Mrs. Whaley; Wally Prater and others. "Big Andy" and I exchange greetings at Christmas time. My health is good for one who just observed a 78th birthday. My activities involve the usual: 8-10 hours daily at crafts, Community Club work; Senior Citizens; church, widows and neighbors' needs, plus the maintenance of car, house etc. Our travel is confined to short trips and overnight bus tours. The big event for the near future is a 50th wedding anniversary celebration. Our son-daughter are giving a dinner party at the U. Tenn. Faculty Club on April 16, though April 14 is the actual date, with 35 guests invited. Am sending check for \$3 for the Organizational Directory and for \$2 for '76. "Tom", you are doing a superb job with the D-R!

H. O. MILLS: Here are dues, late because in Feb. had an infected eustachian tube with middle ear complications, operation, slow recovery, but ok. Three interesting trips in '75: Plane to Denver; car to Central and West Colo; back to Front Range near Estes Park. Good mountain hiking and camera shots. In Oct. to E. N. C. visiting Croatan with son and friends and Atlantic Beach. To Tulsa for Christmas holidays with daughter. Rayworth has had major surgery -trouble with circulatory trouble He would appreciate a card from his friends. "Spence" Palmer had major surgery last year, but is now the most "spry" of our bunch. Kitty (Wofford) Conway had a hip transplant last year and still has some trouble. Dot Joseph is staying quite active. Enjoy the D-R.

W. I. STEVENS: Encl. check for Org. Directory. I know that George Schaeffer did his usual good work. Alice and I enjoy the D-R and read every word in it, although we note more and more names we do not recognize. We are both quite well with nerves and high blood pressure but medication takes care of it. Regards.

"Vic" McNAUGHTON: Encl. dues. Since retirement I've taught at Miss. State; did some consulting for Miss. For. Comm. and am now teaching at Hinds Jr. College. Still raise English Setters and run in a few field trials. After retirement, Kay went on a junket to Europe, Greece, South America, a year ago went back to work for the Council on Aging. Hope to make one of your meetings in the near future. Enjoy the Dixie Ranger and work involved.

E.B. McNEELY: Really enjoy the D-R - I never write except at dues time, but accept my thanks for a job well done. The news letter is my only way of keeping in touch.

W. R. (BIG ANDY) ANDERSON: Today I received the 2/76 newsletter. A notation (apparently by a Leprechaun) in red indicated it was behind in dues-couldnt believe it, but if it said so in the Dixie Ranger, it must be true. Encl. is \$6 for '75-'77 incl. and have also sent a check for \$3 for the Org. Directories. Glad to be back in good standing. (Ed's note: Andy sent me a St. Patrick's book of poems, plus a letter, which I couldnt read, and if, everyone was as faithful about writing as Big Andy - Olene Woody - HOMills and so many others, we'd have a newsletter consisting of nothing but letters. Being limited to six pages in our cooperative agreement - we'd be in a h--- of a mess!)

RALPH H. MORGAN: (We finally located him). Your Vol. VI, #I, of 2/76 makes me feel like one of the ten most wanted. It's nice to be remembered. My address is Box 59, Lufkin, Tex. 75901. I have some historical trivia George Shaeffer might want. (Ralph-send it to him-you have a directory)

BILL NICHOLS: Sorry I missed the 3/18 luncheon. The D-R helps keep me in touch. Have been busy -enjoyable time on 2-week tour of Israel. Interesting to see the blending of the old Biblical times and the modern part. / Enjoy the D-R.

BOB COLLINS: Red stamp on '76 newsletter reminded me - "send dues" here they are, with \$6 to cover through '77. I do not want to miss one issue. Sorry I live too far away to make your meetings. When people ask me how I like retirement, I tell them, I can't find time to try it yet!

JOHN H. (HERB) STONE: D-R #1 '76 reminded me that I owe dues and have not been a good contributor of news. We see many R-8 people and, in spite of many vows - we're going to make a meeting one of these days. Attended the SAF meeting in Hot Springs several years ago and saw old friends and marveled at the way the forests have improved under protection and good management. At the SAF meeting in Washington, DC I met the Grumbines, Newcombs, Erikssons and others - to N. C. where my wife has relatives, saw Mielke and the parkway through the Pisgah R. D. Have a son in Dallas, Texas - get there twice a year; a daughter in Medford, Ore. Any of you remember Bob Evans - Chief tm in old R7? When region was split in '34 he was RF of new R7. He is now 92 and still in good health and living in Medford - I see him - he drives a car and interested in forestry and politics. Larry Mays has been out here working on a history project for R6. But he is back in Atlanta selling his house. We'll be in Dallas in late April - then to Connecticut and home. Wish I could come to Atlanta, but must get back to continue my logging activity here - also helping my logging partner to cruise some of his tree farm. Your D-R indicates an active group of retirees in "8". Hope to join you sometimes. Greetings to Tom and all my old friends in the area.

GEORGE M. TANNEHILL: Since Ray is not here anymore, I guess I will have to pay my own dues. You're doing a good job with the Dixie Ranger. I live within 50-miles of Alexandria and didn't know that Ruby Harper had died until I got the D-R. She was a great person and did a lot of good work for the F. S. as well as the other girls who worked there in the old days. Am trying to buy a little land and timber around here, but it's a pretty hard job now. Have to do something to keep the doctor going. We still catch a few fish around here - come by and we'll cook up some - and come to see us.

BRUCE MERRILL: Here's my dues and check for the organizational directories. Thanks for taking care of us. Our house in Englewood, Fla. is almost finished, but we are not planning any immediate move. May go this fall. Hello to all the gang around Atlanta.

LEVA K. MELTON: Thanks for the gentle "red stamp" reminder. Here's dues thru '77. Haden and I are still on the go - California twice; Florida; Smokies; shorter trips and want to go to Las Vegas and LA. Went to Gladys Lewis' retirement luncheon - almost as many retired folks as active employees. The Ranger (Jim Hutchins) told the Supervisor he was going to have to hire two people to replace Gladys. We'll miss her. Look forward to the Dixie-Ranger to see where people are and what they're doing.

JOHN E. HAMER: Thel and I had a ball with Del and Vera Thorsen at the F. S. retirees golf tournament at Jekyll Island last week. (Ed's note - IN JANUARY???) As promised, Del sent me a copy of the Dixie Ranger and, here are my dues for '76 and for the Organizational Directories. Am taking the D-R over to Ira Wilmoth (how I remember him). He is retired from the Dept - we play bridge with Alice and Ira two times a week and golf every so often. Next time you see them, give my best to Rik Eriksson (best Supervisor I ever worked for) and Tom Hunt. (Glad you're in the Association Johnny - remember the afternoon at Bill Fischer's house, after golf and horse-shoe?)

DICK ELLIOTT: Here's dues. Retirement good for us. Went to Russia; back from a trip to Powell River, B. C.; leaving for Hawaii 4/20. When not traveling spent time marking or cruising timber and administering sales on private land and getting paid. No pay for curator of the Lumberman's Museum in Patten, Maine. A real job and we love it. Regards to all. Sorry we cannot attend meetings.

JULIUS SAXON: Look forward to getting the D-R. Find quite a number of names I recall with whom I worked about up to forty years ago. I ordered the Org. Directories and see I was lost for 19-years. I'm joining the birthday group too - here are dates. Am working for City of Moulton as building director. Hope we can attend some of the meetings. (Julius - how about the one on Wednesday June 23 - you'll have a ball. If you can't find your way, call me 325-4684 and I'll will lead you in to Tocco Hills at Petite Auberge).

OUR NEXT MEETING

Because of the many remarks, compliments received on the selection of the place for the last meeting, with the good food, good service etc., we decided to return to the Petite Auberge Restaurant Francais, Tocco Hills Shopping Center, on Wednesday, June 23, 1976. The arrangements will be about the same as the last meeting, as to food, price etc. A reservation blank is included on this page. Program Chairman, A. A. Grumbine, informed me, since we havent been able to go to Blanchard Caverns on the Ozark N. F., they are bringing the Caverns to us. This will be in the form of a slide lecture and will be delivered in person by Forest Supervisor, Larry Henson of the Ozark N. F. Those who have seen this lecture all agree that it is a fine program and consumes only about a half an hour. So come enjoy the luncheon and the fine program to follow.

A LATE NEWS ITEM: (From Mik Eriksson): On 3/26, while vacationing in Florida, I dropped in on a retiree luncheon at Ft. Meyer with some 20 people in attendance from the Venice, Port Charlotte-Ft. Meyers area. Don Morris and Ed Littlehales were the other Southern Region alumni at the gathering. Don reported that there are some 50 F. S. retirees still living in this delightful part of Florida and, from time to time, get together for picnics etc. We should get some recruits from this group, as they're all eligible for membership and reside in the Southern Region. I met folks I hadnt seen or heard from in years from the W. O. and several Western Regions. In addition to Regional Forester Bonds, Area Director Weitzman and S. E. Station Director Hilmon, Jack Dienema, Deputy Chief was there to clue us in on the recent trials and tribulations of the Forest Service. One item brought up for discussion was the loss of contact between the W. O. active Forest Service and the retirees. Some one decided it was unlawful for the F. S. to send out news letters to retirees. A very sad state of affairs. Maybe if they'd send the news to OUR EDITOR he could glean out some news-worthy items to pass on to our some 325+ members. Just a thought!

RESERVATION APPLICATION FOR LUNCHEON AT PETITE AUBERGE RESTAURANT FRANCAIS, for Wednesday, June 23, 1976

Miss Shirley McNelly,
U. S. Forest Service,
1720 Peachtree Rd. NW
Atlanta, Ga. 30309
Phone #526-5191

PLEASE MAKE RESERVATIONS NOT LATER
THAN MONDAY - June 21, 1976

I will attend the June 23, 1976 luncheon at Petite Auberge Restaurant Francais, Tocco Hills Shopping Center, sponsored by the Southern Forest Service Retiree Association. Please reserve _____ places for my party (Indicate the number in your party). A negative response is not necessary. Cost of luncheon is \$6.00 per person, including tax-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. You may call in your reservation by phone to Shirley McNelly at the number shown.

(Signature Please)

HAPPY BIRTHDAY to all those who celebrate birthdays during the months of April, May and June, incl. May all of you have many more of HAPPY BIRTHDAYS.

APRIL

2 - Clodene O. Whaley
3 - Allan M. Friedrich
4 - Paul H. Russell
6 - Martha Erambert
8 - Lorene Kauffman
9 - Mussette Adams Smith
16 - Virginia Shea
18 - Roy Bierbaum
21 - Louise Caldwell
22 - Allen J. Logan
23 - Elizabeth Mason
25 - Ruth B. Gray
26 - Ruth Anderson
30 - Clyne Woody
?? - Mrs. Carl G. Krueger
30 - Millie Henshaw
9 - Harry Wright
30 - Evelyn D. Carroll
30 - Tom Swofford
?? - Lucile Prater
?? - PFW-Wally-Prater

MAY

2 - Mildred Harkins
4 - Eunice M. Chipman
6 - Russell L. Chipman
8 - Glenn Thompson
9 - Yvonne L. Hunt
10 - Arthur B. Collins, Jr.
17 - John Kauffman
24 - Lois Galloway
12 - Sylvia Bryan
31 - Claudia Logan
?? - R. B. Rayworth
17 - Ruby Cheek
27 - Jack Wellhoner
25 - Frances Dennis
23 - Johnnie Davis
18 - Elsie Hicks
29 - Audrey Pomerene
4 - F. Grady Burnett
8 - Rosella Wolf
5 - Milt Bryan
29 - Alrick Antonie
14 - Glenn O. Antonie
17 - Russ Rea
3 - W. I. Stevens

JUNE

1 - J. N. Van Alstein
7 - Robert U. Cobb
10 - Jenny Irby
10 - Mrs. Henry Sipe
13 - Harry R. Tomlinson
21 - Dorothy Joseph
21 - Louis B. Anderson
21 - Mary D. Black
20 - John T. King
22 - Harriett Huckey
22 - Edna Palmer
22 - Mrs. Charley M. Arnold
23 - Grace Mills
25 - Arthur G. Steedly
26 - Blanche Paddock
28 - Alva B. Williams
30 - Mrs. Marion W. Ruffin
28 - Helen Mielke
20 - Hazel Leinart
?? - Pete Hanlon
29 - Russ Eaton
14 - Marian Fortin
25 - Lou Lee
18 - Jack Hicks
5 - Evelyn Partee
7 - Irene Heese
20 - Johnnie Smith
8 - Rosemary James
7 - Pauline Roth
23 - Eugene R. Coleman
9 - Agnes Lee

And to those whose name has been added since February:

2/4 - Evelyn Antonie

FROM OTHER MEDIA

R8-Newsletter-See where T.W. Green retired. Sorry I didnt get him under the proper heading-bald head and all.....

OLD TIMERS (R-4) NEWS: Note where Mrs. Lorean W. Cloward 83 years of age, died 9-19-75. One of her sons WAYNE J. CLOWARD, lives in Ogden, Utah, formerly in R-8 and retired therefrom.

OTHER MEDIA (Continued)

R-9 -CONTACT: John A. Sandor, former personnel chief in R-8, named as Alaska's new Regional Forester, as of March 13.

Mrs. Ralph "Snick" Freeman, accepted the Don Neal Award for 1975, presented posthumously to her deceased husband Ralph H. Freeman. The award is presented annually to an individual who has contributed in an outstanding way to Kinzua Country and is an award by Kinzua Dam Vacation Bureau (KDVB).

R-9 also put out a complete directory of all retired persons in R9 and distributed a copy to all retirees.

The question is raised whether R-8 has ever compiled a directory of retirees? May I, as Editor of the Dixie Ranger, call this item to the attention of the Regional Forester, LeRoy Bond and suggest that a complete directory of all retirees would be appreciated by all retirees.

FOREST FARMER: Bill Huber has a good article in this April '76 edition of the magazine titled A TRIP TO YESTERYEAR, which is a history of the Cradle of Forestry. If anyone wants a copy, I'm sure Bill can tell you where to obtain one.

A LATE OBIT

Bob Cooper died on May 15, on the 9th hole of the Gainesville, Fla. golf course. He was buried in Macon on May 18. Bob was 54 years of age. All of his golfing friends extend sympathy to his wife and others who survive him.