



The Dixie Ranger

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SRFSRA HONORS THE BRAYS

The Bray's dedication to the Southern Region Forest Service Retirees Association and to *The Dixie Ranger* began in 1983 when the Regional Office was running the newsletter off on their mimeograph machine, and Betty volunteered to deliver it to the Editor, Tom Hunt, on her way home from work. Again in 1988, when Editor Rip Williams asked for typing help, Betty volunteered. Beginning in May 1989, the Brays became the Editors, and, for fifteen years, they have sat down at their typewriter, and later their computer, and put together our newsletter.

Betty and Bert, in our notes and letters to you, we have tried to express how much *The Dixie Ranger* has meant to us, and, all the while, we could not really appreciate how much plain-ole-hard work was involved. Putting together a data base with all our names and addresses, phone numbers and e-mail addresses - keeping track of our dues - trips to the printers - sticking on the address labels and sorting the copies for bulk mail - trips to the Post Office - panicking when the computer decided to be contrary or the printer messed up the labels; and all this, after you had gathered up the information you needed to have something to write about. Your dedication to the task, and to us, showed every time we found *The Dixie Ranger* in our mailbox.

SRFSRA's gift of the Swarovski crystals, a rose for you, Betty and the train for you, Bert, along with the gift certificate for dinner at a Longhorn Steak House, are but small tokens of our enormous appreciation for the way you have kept us informed and closer together through the years of our retirement. Your dedication is remembered with warm feelings from all of us.

2005 Officers

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YEARLY DUES and **CHANGES** to your mailing address (please use nine-digit zip codes), telephone numbers and/or e-mail address should be sent to:

Peggy Jolly
SFSRA
128 Wind Trace
Alexander City, AL 35010

Please check your mailing label on this newsletter - a red mark indicates you owe 2004 dues.

2005 LUNCHEON DATES

JUNE 9, 2005

and

DECEMBER 8, 2005

Our June luncheon is at the Petite Auberge restaurant in the Toco Hills Shopping Center on North Druid Hills Road. Reservations are required. The cost of the meal is \$15.00 per person; we gather at 11:30 a.m. for fellowship and lunch is served at 12:00 noon. Reservations should be made no later than **June 6th** by calling Nancy Sorrells at (770)469-5799 or Joyce Keith at (770) 277-5841 - leave a message on the answering machine if you do not reach one of them. We look forward to seeing everyone, so please join us.

Almost all our faults are more pardonable than the methods we think up to hide them.

Francois de al Rochefoucauld

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Wallace Graham (Linda)

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Changes to the Directory

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Jack Wengert

4597 Partridge Road
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Don Strode - change from Lexington, GA to Lexington, VA

Letters from Members

J Dean McAlister, Tennessee - In my letter to you that appeared in the February 2004 Issue, I said that Bertha and I finally made the decision to move home to TN and build a house on my homeplace.

We moved into our new house in August. It has been a long and stressful year and a half getting to where we are now, but we are happy. Our house is on the homeplace where my dad and I both were born. My grandfather purchased the farm from his brother in 1904 and lived on it until his death, so I guess I am back to my roots.

We live at the end of a county road and 10 miles from Cleveland. No neighbors can be seen from our house, but we do see a lot of deer and wild turkey. In fact, they are coming up into our yard. I don't believe we will think they are so cute next spring when they begin eating our garden before we do.

We look forward to hearing from our friends so give us a call and stop by and visit. We sure enjoy reading *The Dixie Ranger*. Congratulations to the new editors.

Bob and Laverne Raisch, Florida - First, thanks to you and Betty for all the years of service to our association. Enclosed are dues to cover 2 years. Hope this catches us up to date.

You will note that we have a new address. We moved here to FL just one week before the 4 hurricanes struck! Fortunately we escaped without any damage to our new home. Lots of prayers were answered. We

are enjoying FL but we do miss our friends in GA.

I will keep my mind, if not my hands, busy managing our tree farms in MO and VA.

Frank Farrelli, California - Enclosed are dues for a couple of years so I won't have to worry about forgetting dues next year. Today is the anniversary (1st) of being in our new home here in Pleasant Grove, CA.

Been busy putting our own little touches on the house & landscaping the yard. It has been a design-build project. Joyce buys plants almost every time she goes to the store, then directs the placement & planting. Guess who digs the holes. It is going to look like a botanical garden at this rate. There are a lot more things to grow here than what we could grow in Reno & she is taking advantage of that. Keep up the great job on the newsletter - sure enjoy keeping up with old friends & stories.

Richard Ames, Georgia - Thanks for taking on the big job of the newsletter and treasurer. Enclosed a check for 04 (it's almost over so thought I better pay up), 05 and 06. I worked with Dave way back when he was doing on-site log measurements in R-6. It was only for a short time so doubt if he remembers even doing the work let alone my name. My memories of R-6 are ones of being cold as I have ever been from walking to the job site in "tin" rainsuits, working up a good sweat and then freezing the rest of the day even tho the temperature might only be in the mid-forties. Days and days of drizzle, slippery logs and vine maple. When

you did slip on a wet log the first thing you would grab to hold balance would be a devils club. Ouch! Good people, big trees and steel-head fishing were the pluses. Then moved from R-6 to dry R-3. Boy that felt good!

Pat Int-Hout, Washington - I see a big number 3 by my address on the last issue of *The Dixie Ranger*, so I found I have been free loading for this year. That is not my character, so "I'm going to tell you two what I'm a going to do". I'm sending a check for the present year, next year, and a tad more for you good people to use for any needed funds for *The Dixie Ranger* and it's programs. Now I feel a mite better.

I keep in contact with several FS retirees here in Region 6 where I spent the last half of my FS career. A fair share of our contacts are out on the links. I also have one son who works for the outfit, so I keep fairly well tuned in to the goings on with the outfit. I live in the middle of one National Forest and spend some time on it, as well as several others in Oregon and Washington. My observations are: There has been some very radical changes with the Forest Service over the last 24 years since I retired, including laws, policy, regulations, civil rights laws and policy, great loss due to retirement of some very special people, special interest group efforts, funding levels, few permanent employees working out in the forest, and lastly mass use of computers where I see a great share of our full-time people spending inordinate time doing something with them that doesn't seem to show any improvement out on the ground. In conclusion, I'm just so happy that I spent well over half of my career with the outfit that it was in the 50's, 60's, and half of the 70's.

So much for the old and new Forest Service. I look forward to receiving each issue of *The Dixie Ranger* and read it from cover to cover. I did overlook the big 3 on the front cover however all this year. I'm going to try to improve my observational powers so that this doesn't occur again.

Carl Davis, California - First off - Best wishes to you and Dave in taking over as Editors of *The Dixie Ranger* - Enclosed is my check for \$38 to cover my delinquent '04 dues and sign up for another 3 yrs. Again, best of luck with your new undertaking.

Joanne Webb, Florida - The "04" on my address label tells me time to send some dues - Sure do appreciate all the hard work you and Bert have put into the newsletters - the last several years.

OK-Betty-Just looked at my last issue and see I'm supposed to send dues to Peggy-so you may read this in the next newsletter.

Dave-good to hear you are being put to work !! Please be sure the notice on our "Old Smokies" next meeting gets in the March issue. We will be meeting on April 9th at Ocean Pond on the Osceola Ranger District. Contact Johnnie Craft @ P.O. Box 34, Olustee, FL 32072 if you want to get on the mailing list. We have a great time - good food - and a great crowd.

Ed and Edna Littlehales, FL/NY - Here are our past dues for 04 and new ones for 05. With sincere thanks for the many years of hard work and devotion by Betty and Bert, our long time friends, and equal thanks for Peggy and Dave Jolly for taking over *The Dixie Ranger* job.

Peggy and Dave, we have strong ties to R-8 even though we ran away to R-

2 41 years ago. But with so many years with the USFS in both research and NFA, our ties are still strong. Thanks again to you all.

Monte Seehorn, Georgia - My subscription runs out in 2005, so I'm enclosing a check for \$30 to extend it for an additional three years. I really appreciate the effort you folks have expended in making this newsletter available to us oldtimers. It stirs more memories than you could imagine. I've included a little excerpt from my career that illustrates the significant difference in Forest Service operations of 30 years ago, and its current political stance today. That little incident helped solidify my belief in standing firm and fighting political expediency when you've done your homework, and are assured that your stance is correct.

(See Monte's article on page 8.)

Don and Bobbie Hughes, Alabama - Thanks Dave and Peggy for taking on the Editor job. You guys make Bobbie and me feel guilty for not doing more for others like you. Enjoyed the stories in the latest issue but would also like to see more letters from Retirees - to keep up with how they are doing and what they are doing. Unlike many of you, we are not in a location to have personal contact with many "old" Forest Service friends.

After 47 years of wandering around with the Navy, the Forest Service and as Retirees, Bobbie and I finally moved back to our home state in Fairhope, Alabama, where Bobbie was born. If you guys have never been to Fairhope, you have missed seeing a pretty, quaint little village. The welcome mat is out (when we're home) and we would like to see you. Bobbie and I are still traveling in our motorhome here and there and by Military Space A cargo planes to other countries. We

celebrated our 50th with trips to Hawaii, Japan and, this fall, back to Europe where we did a great 16 day River Cruise on the Rhine and Danube from Amsterdam to Vienna. Hopefully, we will make a Turkish trip in the Spring which includes 6 days on a sailboat up the historic Turkish Coast. Our sailboat (which we no longer have) was named "Nomad" and I guess that name also applied to us as a couple as well. We know you will keep up with the good work so us retirees can keep in touch...again many thanks.

John and Sue Chaffin, Arizona -

Glad to see you two taking over as Editors. Bert & Betty did a great job and you two will no doubt continue.

Dave it's been a long time since our paths crossed and it's nice to get back in touch through *The Dixie Ranger*.

Robin Shaddox, Arkansas - Here are my dues for a couple of years. I'm late but hope to catch the next issue of the DR. Things are going well with Linda & I. The Ozark-St. Francis has a lot of new faces. Also a lot of changes taking place...so I'm told. I appreciate you much for taking over the DR job. I wish you well.

Gerald Ward, Arkansas - Here are my dues for another year. I notice on my address label they expired at the end of last year. I enjoy getting the newsletter and read it through and through a couple of times. Seems like friends pass away each issue. However, I enjoy reading all the stories as they bring back memories of similar incidents.

Joe Bennett, North Carolina - Don't know if you remember meeting Pat and me in McClellanville many years ago in the little white house that you and then we lived in. I followed Dave on the Wambaw. Some of our best

memories are of "the village" and the Wambaw which is no more since the three districts on the Francis Marion were merged into one district. More's the pity. Our only contact with Mc'ville is with Theresa Penninger and that only Christmas cards. She now lives in Charleston. Boots died several years ago. Do you ever hear from Denny Holland? I haven't heard from him in a couple years. He never was the best letter-writer. (Any FS employees who lived in McClellanville would have known Teresa and Boots who ran a (THE) restaurant and service station and Denny Holland who was with the Fish & Wildlife Service on the Bulls Island Wildlife Refuge. DJ)

I am delighted and very appreciative of your taking over the newsletter. I know it's a lot of work. I'll try to remember to send you a few tidbits once in a while to fill in some space. We now have a great grandson. How's that for making you feel your age? Pat and I will celebrate our 52nd anniversary in June. I know some of you will wonder how she put up with me so long. Sometimes I wonder myself.

Enclosed is a check for \$20 for another 2 years. At my age I don't usually join anything nor subscribe to anything for more than a year. Good luck with *The Dixie Ranger*.

Louise Morell, Arkansas - Here are my dues for 2005. We moved in March from Arizona back to Arkansas and I guess my change of address fell thru the cracks somewhere. We are now in NW Arkansas in the fast growing corridor from Fayetteville to the Missouri border. However we are close enough to get back to Russellville occasionally. Lake Wedington is just a short distance. We loved living in the desert but the trees just don't grow there. (They might now after all the

rain they had) We did get to see Gladys Henson occasionally and still communicate via e-mail.

Fred Foster, North Carolina -

Thanks for taking on these jobs for *The Dixie Ranger*. I am enclosing \$40.00 for the 2005 - 2008 dues (I hope this is still the right amount for dues. If not, let me know the correct amount.) Dave will probably not remember giving me rides from Raleigh (NCSU) to Statesville during his tour at NCSU. I hitch-hiked from Statesville on in to North Wilkesboro. I really appreciated those rides but probably never let him know how grateful I was. Just in case I didn't tell him then, please pass my thanks along to him.

Richard Fitzgerald, Virginia - In looking at the Nov. *The Dixie Ranger*, I see that I owe my dues. So enclosed is \$20.00 to take care of '05 and '06. Hope you and Dave are doing well and that things are OK down there. I'm still working and find things just as challenging as in the past. One seems to see the same old problems again and again. Say hello to folks for me.

Don Strobe, Virginia - Belatedly, our dues for 2005. We're gradually getting settled here at Kendal-at-Lexington at the southern end of the Shenandoah Valley not far from Natural Bridge and home of Washington & Lee and Virginia Military Universities.

Briscoe Price, Mississippi - All is well with Ms Tommye and me. Time just has a way of getting by us. Already March! Appreciate reading all the news, updates and articles in the "Ranger".

Betty Bray, Georgia - Bert and I want to tell you how much we appreciated the "retirement" portion of the Christmas Luncheon.

The kindness of the gift certificate and crystal train and rose was also appreciated and a huge surprise.

WHEN MEN WERE MEN

by Monte Seehorn

It was the early seventies, and Ted Schlapfer was Regional Forester. I was the Regional Fishery Biologist (the only fishery biologist in R-8) and one of my primary tasks was to evaluate and make recommendations in regard to the myriad of SCS PL 566 flood control projects throughout the Region. The Forest Service, at the time, had a written policy of not allowing impoundments on free flowing natural trout streams in the Region, including 566 impoundments.

Political shenanigans were just as evident in those days, as in the present. The difference was that political expediency didn't always trump science and common sense back then. One particular case illustrating this involved a proposed impoundment on the Etowah River on the Chattahoochee N.F. The impoundment site was partially on government land and partially on private lands, with the justification for impoundment based upon protecting downstream farmland. The problem was that 90% of the farmland had reverted to forest cover, and the primary "behind the scenes" push for the project was from realtors and politicians interested in selling building sites around or close to the lake. Based upon my analysis of the justification for flood control, I recommended against the project.

Shortly thereafter, while working in the office, someone came flying in the door telling me to get my a-- down to the Regional Forester's office. They said that the Secretary of Agriculture (Phil Campbell from Georgia) had called Schlapfer and told him to issue

the d---- permit for the Etowah impoundment immediately, and that Ted was holding the phone to find out why the h-- I had recommended against the dam (the language was exactly as I remember it and illustrates the tone of the situation). Having a short fuse, and knowing the political situation, I burst in upon Ted (he was still holding the phone), and explained the situation in short blunt (probably salty) language. Ted listened without saying a word, dismissed me and told the Secretary NO! Can you imagine one of our current leaders having guts enough to make such a stand, right or wrong?

A little later that day, he sent for me again, and said that Phil Campbell and Chief Cliff were coming down the next week, and that I would have to take them out to the site and convince them that our stance was correct.

When the scheduled day arrived, Campbell had cancelled due to an emergency, but Chief Ed Cliff showed up right on time. We headed for the field, with me doing my best to explain the entire situation to him. He rode me and gouged me all day long until I was so mad that I could hardly talk. I didn't realize it at the time, but he was simply playing "devil's advocate" to make sure that I had done my homework and had a justifiable reason for opposing the project. District personnel took the Chief back to the SO late that afternoon, leaving me with a truck with a broken axle. With Jack Vines (Asst. Ranger under Ranger George Biskey) help I got home about 9:00 P.M., leaving me to stew about my "failure" to convince the Chief to support our position.

Early the next morning, I tromped into Ted's office apologizing for what I thought was a failed effort. Ted just grinned like an opossum, and said that

the Chief had already called and told him that he was backing us "all the way"! He was true to his word, and the impoundment has not been constructed to this day.

Can you imagine the Chief and a Regional Forester making such a stand today, simply because they were doing the right thing? The actions and backbone" of these two Forest Service line officers had a major lasting effect on this old boy, in helping me weather innumerable future controversies. I wish we had more dedicated tough individuals like them taking stands for what is right today.

LIFE IS STILL EXCITING

by Don Ashworth

November 10 of this year (2004), I will be 71 years of age. The twenty eight years spent in the Forest Service was split almost in half; 15 years on the National Forests and 13 years in State and Private. I retired in 1985, thinking all the excitement was behind; WRONG.

After fighting high school kids as substitute teacher for a year, I visited an old friend, Joe (Eli) Giaquinto, who was Executive Director for the Lawrenceville Housing Authority. He offered me a job as Maintenance Supervisor. I took it and was immediately introduced into a new world; a world most people only hear about. About a year and a half later, Eli developed cancer and retired. I followed him as Executive Director. I could tell dozens of stories related to my next 5 years as Director. Your time and my space won't allow it so I'll relate just one.

The Housing Authority was having major problems with drugs. I worked with the local police to catch and get rid of the guilty parties. We were sure

of one kingpin and I began to work with the undercover agents. They staked out an apartment from which the drugs were being sold. A "snitch" was sent to the apartment in the dark of night. He returned with drugs he had purchased. DRUG DEALING CONFIRMED.

About a week later, I was called to police headquarters. As I entered the assembly room, I saw GBI, DEA, local police, state troopers and county police armed to the teeth with flack jackets and helmets. I was asked to diagram the apartment to be entered. Emotions were high, adrenalin was flowing and an air of pending battle prevailed. I was not permitted to be near when the battle erupted, but I could hear the commotion from a block away.

The law enforcement agents had blocked all entrances and exits to the 20 apartment cluster. One helicopter landed on the basketball court and another hovered overhead. Every law enforcement agent involved was screaming at the top of his lungs to "get down". Four or five agents battered down the front and back doors and rushed in. They quickly dragged the dealers and buyers from the apartment and onto the lawn, face down. Each was handcuffed. Except for the noise, I was not witness to any of this until that night on the local TV stations. I saw a ring leader (a woman) being placed into a paddy wagon. I thought to myself, "At last, I am rid of that little bitch and her friends." It didn't turn out that way.

About a week later I was in court with my drug enforcement friends. We were sure we were rid of Ms. Turner. This occurred shortly after Jack Kemp had become head of H.U.D. He had stated that we would rid Public Housing of drug activities.

Two of my drug enforcement buddies and I were on the stand for over thirty minutes each. I was wrung out after my cross examination by the legal aid attorney, but I was sure we had these druggiest, "OUT OF HERE".

The legal aid lawyer asked for the name and appearance of the "snitch". The prosecuting attorney said we could not give his identity because he was to be used on the federal criminal case. (My case was simply a civil case to evict the "lady".) The judge supported the defending attorney because we had no eye witness. Our attorney argued vehemently, but was overridden. I asked the judge if I could speak "off the record". He said yes. I told him that he had put me in a real bad spot. (This was Friday.) I told him that on Monday morning this ruling would be all over the Housing Authority project and I would be made to look like a fool with no power to evict. The judge sympathized, but would not reverse his decision. Sure enough, Monday the story was all over the place and I was placed on the "wimp" list. Ah, but do not dismay!!

I went to Ms Turner and told her I would evict her in thirty days. She laughed in my face. She said that if I couldn't get her out on drug charges I surely wouldn't be able to get her out on any other charges. I began to record every event in the next thirty days of her life. On day thirty-one, I filed an eviction notice for failure to pay forty-four dollars in rent. In court, the judge asked Ms Turner if she was behind on her rent as I had documented. She confirmed that she was behind, but would be happy to pay at this time. The judge asked me if I would accept her rent, to which I said, "No". He then asked me when I wanted her out. (I usually gave people a week to move.) I told the judge I wanted her out the next day.

So here it is. I could not get this jerk out on drug charges, but dumped her for failure to pay forty-four dollars in rent. Eli and I had different attitudes about our tenants. He chose to work with them much longer than I. My feeling was that good tenants were suffering for what bad tenants did. (Note: This is not to say that Eli wasn't tough, he was and he got good results. Maybe I just did it a little quicker.)

TRUE SNAKE STORIES

by Charlie Huppuch

Most of us in our Forest Service career, in the south, had exciting experiences with snakes and many stories can be told. In past issues I tried to generate some interest among our readers with a couple of my true experiences. I'll try again.

Many of you will remember the late Len McNeil. He was once District Ranger on the George Washington and Daniel Boone N.F.s He told many a great story—most of them were true. One day Len and a new forester (forgot his name) were cruising timber in the swamps of the Osceola N.F. in Florida. The new forester was concerned about snakes and asked about them. To help the fellow out, Len spotted a cottonmouth moccasin, which he pinned to the ground and grabbed it behind the head and with the other hand picked up the rest of the body. He began to show the new forester what this snake looked like up close. The poor guy ducked away and didn't want anything to do with Len's teasing. But as Len held the snake he noticed the snake had coiled around his arm that held the snake's body and he was beginning to lose his grip on that cottonmouth's head. This was not good to have a poisonous snake wrapped tightly around your arm with a loose head.

After a few embarrassing moments, Len lost his pride and pleaded with the reluctant forester to come to his aid and help him pull that damn snake off his arm. Fortunately, he did and both learned a lesson that day.

IN MEMORIAM

F. L. "Roy" Bond, 83, died on October 8, 2004, in Albuquerque, NM. Roy was born in Junction City, Oregon. After graduation from high school, he worked for the US Forest and attended Oregon State Forestry School. He entered the Army in 1942 and served as a Field Artillery Officer in Europe, ending up in Czechoslovakia. After WW2, Roy returned to the Forest Service and completed his degree, graduating from Oregon State with a BS in Forestry. His first professional assignment was on the Umpqua NF at Tiller, Oregon. His career took him to New Mexico, Georgia, where he was Regional Forester, and Washington, DC where he served as Deputy Chief of Resources until his retirement in 1979. He is survived by his wife Thelma; sons Bill and Bob; daughters Linda and Jerry; 6 grandchildren; 3 step-grandchildren; and 1 great-grandchild.

Kathryn M. Cliff, 94, widow of former Forest Service Chief Edward P. Cliff, died peacefully of natural causes at her home in Alexandria, VA, on August 7, 2004. She was born in Salt Lake City, UT, and grew up in Logan and Hansel Valley, UT. She graduated from Utah Agricultural College (now Utah State University) with a BS degree in Chemistry. She met Ed in her early days at college, and they were married in April, 1931. Kathryn was an active and supportive partner with Ed in his many Forest Service jobs, which took them to Portland, Grants Pass and Lakeview, OR; Washington, DC; Ogden, UT; Denver, CO; and back to Washington, DC, where Ed was Chief

from 1962 - 1972. She is survived by daughters Carolyn and Jane and granddaughter Sarah.

Joe Weldon Hightower, Jr. - died in Lufkin, TX, on January 16, 2005. He was a veteran of the Korean War and a graduate of Stephen F. Austin State University. No Forest Service career information was available.

Mary Cecile Montgomery, 95, died on February 5, 2005. She was a long-time resident of the Atlanta area. Mary's career with the Forest Service included many years as the Regional Forester's secretary.

Lillian M. Post died on December 3, 2004, in Asheville, NC, after an extended illness. Lil was Business Management Assistant on the Seminole Ranger District, Ocala National Forest, for 30 years. She is survived by her husband Rex of Mount Dora, FL.

Thomas "Tom" Vanderpool, 67, of Hayden, ID, died at home on February 12, 2005, after a long struggle with emphysema. Tom was born in Madill, OK. He graduated from Madill High School and went on to earn an engineering degree from Oklahoma State University. He worked for two years with the State of Oklahoma, then chose a career in engineering with the Forest Service where he worked for 30 years. (Specific career information was not provided.) He is survived by his wife Valerie; daughters Nikki and Ginger; stepdaughter Shawna; stepson Allen and 15 grandchildren.

Robert F. "Bob" Williams, 72, died December 6, 2004, at his home in Kennesaw, GA. He attended the University of Georgia where he earned Bachelors and Masters degrees in

Forest Management. Bob joined the Forest Service in 1960 as a forester on the Chattahoochee NF. During his career, he was also assigned to the Savanna River Project; the Sumter NF, where he was District Ranger; the Tennessee Valley Authority, in an exchange for 10 months; and the Regional Office in Atlanta. He served as Group Leader in Planning and Budget until retiring in 1986. Bob spent his retirement years growing and selling Christmas trees and boarding and breeding horses. He is survived by his wife Jean; daughters Carla Carmean, Teri Vermilya and Robin Pittman; and 8 grandchildren.

Julie Brandau, 46, of Snellville, GA, died on March 11, 2005. Julie, a Court Reporter, was a victim of the Fulton County Courthouse shootings. Her father, the late Bill Brandeau was working in S&PF in the RO when he retired in the late 1970s. Julie is survived by her daughter Christina Elise Scholte and her sister Trudy Brandau.

Pete Hanlon — Remembered by

Charlie Huppuch

Many of you will remember Pete Hanlon who died at the age of 98 in July. He was a graduate of New York State College of Forestry in 1929 and began his Forest Service career in the mid 1930's on the Allegheny NF. You may have served under Pete when he was Supervisor of the North Carolina National Forests in the 1970's. He had a long and distinguished career in the Forest Service.

I talked with Pete on the telephone when he was about 96 years old. He could remember memories of my father, Matt Huppuch, when they had good times in forestry school and in months of summer camp in the Adirondack Mountains.

ATTITUDE

The 92-year-old, petite, well-poised and proud lady, who is fully dressed each morning by 8:00, with her hair fashionably coiffed and makeup perfectly applied, even though she is legally blind, moved to a nursing home today. Her husband of 70 years recently passed away, making the move necessary.

After many hours of waiting patiently in the lobby of the nursing home, she smiled sweetly when told her room was ready. As she maneuvered her walker to the elevator, I provided a visual description of her tiny room, including the eyelet sheets that had been hung on her window. "I love it," she stated with the enthusiasm of an 8-year-old having just been presented with a new puppy. "Mrs. Jones, you haven't seen the room....just wait."

"That doesn't have anything to do with it," she replied. "Happiness is something you decide on ahead of time. Whether I like my room or not doesn't depend on how the furniture is arranged... it's how I arrange my mind. I already decided to love it..." It's a decision I make every morning when I wake up. I have a choice; I can spend the day in bed recounting the difficulty I have with the parts of my body that no longer work, or get out of bed and be thankful for the ones that do. Each day is a gift, and as long as my eyes are open I'll focus on the new day and all the happy memories I've stored away...just for this time in my life."

Old age is like a bank account...you withdraw from what you've put in...So, my advice to you would be to deposit a lot of happiness in the bank account of memories. Thank you for your part in filling my memory bank. I am still depositing.

Remember these simple rules to be happy:

Free your heart from hatred.
Free your mind from worries.
Live simply.
Give more.
Expect less.

From the Internet

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

National Honor Day

Letter from the Chief

To: All Employees and Retirees

Sometimes in planning an event like the 2005 centennial, we gloss over the very thing that made the Forest Service what it is today and what will shape it tomorrow – the people of the agency, both past and present. With that in mind I have designated Tuesday, May 3, 2005, as National Honor Day for the Forest Service. I chose this date to coincide with Public Employee Appreciation Week.

Honor Day has a three-fold purpose. It is a time when every unit of the Forest Service will set aside a part of that day to reflect on the contributions that employees and volunteers have made to conservation over the past 100 years. We will also take time to honor those employees who have given their lives in the line of duty, a moment of silence across the nation. Honor Day is also a time to recognize the contributions of community members and other partners we work with on a regular basis by inviting them to join us. I know that a lot has been asked of us over the past few years. Our jobs have become tougher as budgets tighten. Our work is under increasing scrutiny. Knowing this, it is difficult for me to ask you to set aside a few hours on this day. Yet, I believe it is important to pause, reflect, and

honor the contributions and sacrifices Forest Service employees and our partners have made over the past 100 years in serving the people and caring for the land.

In the coming months, the New Century of Service field representatives will be producing an electronic Honor Day kit to help with your efforts to commemorate the day. If you have ideas or questions, please contact team leader Denise Tomlin in Communication & Legislative Affairs, Region 2 (dtomlin@fs.fed.us) if you have any questions. I encourage all Forest Service offices to commemorate the people of the Forest Service – past, and present – by observing Honor Day appropriately.

We spend our lives taking care of the great legacy of public lands that are the birthright of all Americans. I believe it is important to honor the contributions and sacrifices we have made in this effort over the past 100 years of service.

/s/Dale N. Bosworth, Chief

"OLD SMOKIES REUNION"

The Fifteenth Annual Reunion of the "Old Smokies" National Forests in Florida will be held on **April 9, 2005**, at Ocean Pond Recreation Area, located on the south side of the lake near Olustee. Please contact Johnnie Croft at P.O. Box 34, Olustee, FL 32702, if you would like to attend and get your name on the mailing list.

Joanne Webb

Your Personal Support
For our Brave
Men and Women In Uniform
is just a click away

www.rdsoldier.com

CELEBRATION FOR RETIREES Southern Region

Southern Region to host Retirees Centennial Celebration at the Cradle of Forestry — As part of the national celebration of the Forest Service's 100 year anniversary, Southern Region leaders have launched plans to host a Centennial Retiree Celebration at the Cradle of Forestry in North Carolina in **mid-July**. All retirees are invited to participate in the festivities, which will feature tours of the Cradle—known nationally as the birthplace of forestry in the US. Other events will include an interpretative musical presentation, forest exhibits and a video presentation of "The Greatest Good," the newly-released movie on the history of the Forest Service.

"This celebration will be our way of thanking retirees for the rich legacy of the Forest Service - particularly in the South," said Regional Forester Bob Jacobs. "The centennial of the Forest Service is a great time to reflect on our history, recognize the contributions of our retirees and renew our commitment to resource conservation. We hope retirees will choose to share the day with us at the Cradle."

If you would like to participate, please contact Angela Coleman, at acoleman@fs.fed.us or (404)347-7226 for more information.

CAUTION !!!

While driving in Pennsylvania, a family caught up to an Amish carriage. The owner of the carriage obviously had a sense of humor, because attached to the back of the carriage was a hand-printed sign..."Energy efficient vehicle. Runs on oats and grass. Caution: Do not step in exhaust." *America Online*

A WELL PLANNED LIFE ???

Two women met for the first time since graduating from high school. One asked the other, "You were always so well organized in school. Did you manage to live a well planned life?" "Yes," said her friend. "My first marriage was to a millionaire; my second marriage was to an actor; my third marriage was to a preacher; and now I'm married to an undertaker". Her friend asked, "What do those marriages have to do with a well planned life?" "One for the money, two for the show, three to get ready, and four to go." *America Online*

Long ago when men cursed and beat the ground with sticks it was called witchcraft. Today it's called golf!

IDIOT SIGHTING

I live in a semi-rural area. We recently had a new neighbor call the local township administrative office to request the removal of the Deer Crossing sign on our road. The reason: cars were hitting too many deer and he didn't want them to cross there anymore. *America Online*

BREAKING NEWS !!!

As we go to press...Region 6 has called to say that the rooms that they reserved at the Doubletree Hotel are **going fast**. So, if you are planning to go to the Reunion, it would be a good idea to make a reservation soon. There will be other rooms available close-by, but they won't be quite as convenient, and the price won't be guaranteed. *DJ*

REUNION 2005

Portland, Oregon - September 4 - 9

The Pacific Northwest Forest Service Association is ready to welcome the Retirees from the US Forest Service, present US Forest Service personnel, and friends. The reunion committee has worked to provide programs and events that will interest all attendees. Tours have been planned to show you the best of the Northwest.

We have included here the entire schedule and brief descriptions of the exciting tours they have planned for us. If you would like a registration package or need additional information, see the form at the bottom of the (next) (preceding) page.

Reunion Schedule

Sunday, September 4

7:00am

Lewis & Clark Two Day Tour Departs

Monday, September 5

9:00am-6:00pm

Reunion Registration

9:00am-5:00pm

Exhibitors Set up

1:00pm-5:30pm

Store and Silent Auction Open

5:00pm-9:00pm

No-Host Welcome Reception

Entertainment: **Riders in the Dirt Band**

Tuesday, September 6

8:00am-9:00am

Tours Depart Hotel

Registration & Hospitality Desk Open

1:00pm-9:00pm

Store and Silent Auction Open

4:00pm-6:00pm

No-Host Exhibitor Reception

Wednesday, September 7

7:30am

Registration & Hospitality Desk Open

8:00am-5:00pm

Exhibits Open

8:00am-5:00pm

Store & Silent Auction Open

8:30am-11:30am

General Session

Welcome by **Bob Tokarczyk**

1:00pm-4:00pm

Mini-Session (Historical Portrayals and Legacies of the Past)

5:00pm-6:30pm

No-Host Social

6:30pm

Banquet

Keynote speaker: **Char Miller, Ph.D.**

Thursday, September 8

8:00am

Registration & Hospitality Desk Open

8:00am-3:00pm

Silent Auction Open

8:00am-5:00pm

Store Open

Exhibits Open

8:30am-11:30am

General Session

1:30pm-4:15pm

Breakout Session for Regional Meetings

5:00pm-6:00pm

No-Host Social

6:00pm

Recognition Banquet

Entertainment: **Region 2 Fiddlin' Foresters**

Friday, September 9

7:00am

Lewis & Clark Tour Departs (overflow from 1st tour)

8:00am

Buffet Send-off Breakfast

Entertainment: **The Four Get Ables**

Brief Tour Descriptions

Sunday and Monday, September 4 and 5

Lewis and Clark Tour (7:00am September 4 to 5:00pm September 5)* Astoria, the oldest American settlement west of the Rocky Mountains, is near the mouth of the Columbia River and is in the center of the area explored by Lewis & Clark and the Corps of Discovery. Special sites will be visited on the Washington side including Station Point, Cape Disappointment, Dismal Nitch and the Lewis & Clark Interpretive Center. On the Oregon side we will visit the Astoria Column with its spectacular 360 degree view of the Pacific Ocean. The Columbia River, Washington and Saddle Mountain. On the second day a speaker will describe interactions between the Indian tribes and the Corps of Discovery. People will then be on their own for lunch and exploring historic Astoria - its museums, historic homes, antique shops and galleries.

**Tour will also be offered on September 9 and 10 if Sunday's tour becomes full.*

Tuesday, September 6

Timberline Lodge at Mount Hood Tour (9:00am-4:30pm) This will include an escorted tour of the historic Timberline Lodge built by the WPA, as well as a film showing the lodge construction. You may choose to take the chair lift for a sightseeing view of the valley or just enjoy sitting in front of the massive rock fireplace in the lodge. A stop at Multnomah Falls will highlight the trip back to the hotel.

Mount St. Helens Westside Tour (8:00am to 5:00pm) This begins with a stop at the Visitor Center to view the movie detailing the 1980 eruption, and you will be treated to a spectacular view of the mountain and interactive ecological exhibits. You will get to within 5 miles of the crater. At the Forest Learning Center, exhibits will show the recovery, reforestation and the management of a working forest.

Mount St. Helens Southside Tour (8:00am to 5:00pm) This tour is suggested for those who have visited the monument and want a different and more adventurous experience. You will visit the longest lava tube in the United States, hike along a breathtaking canyon of rushing waterfalls, visit the Trail of Two Forests and walk on a 2,000 year old lava flow.

Columbia River Gorge Tour (8:00am to 5:00pm or 9:00am to 6:00pm) Travel will be along the Columbia River and up to a scenic viewpoint that will show a breathtaking view of the Columbia River Gorge, looking down upon the historic Crown Point/Vista House high above the river. You will drop down onto the scenic highway where you can view several tumbling waterfalls, stopping at Multnomah Falls, the second highest waterfall in the US. You may walk up to the observation bridge for an optimum view of the falls cascading 625 feet into a shimmering pool.

Evergreen Aviation Museum Tour (9:00am to 4:00pm) This museum is home to Howard Hughes' legendary Spruce Goose, and over 40 other historic aircraft. The museum is a huge hangar allowing you to get close to the aircraft and in some cases, inside them. Some have had a special place in Forest Service history- the Ford Tri-Motor, the DC-3, the TBM, and the B-17.

Oregon Wine Tour (8:45am to 5:00pm) The Willamette Valley is home to more than 80 wineries and 200 vineyards. Yamhill County is recognized as one of the premier Pinot Noir producing areas in the world. Other wines include: Pinot Gris, Pinot Blanc, Chardonnay, Riesling, Gewurztraminer, Cabernet Sauvignon, and Merlot. There will be wine tasting at two wineries.

This form was submitted by the organizers of Reunion 2005.

-----clip here-----

Want to have a registration package mailed to you? Clip this form and send it to Liz Kraiter, Registrar, 2337 Miller Court, Woodburn, OR 97071.
Questions? Call Liz at 503/981-4200 or e-mail: lkraiter@easystreet.com

Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

e-mail: _____

Are you interested in the Lewis and Clark overnight trip? _____

Add any questions or comments, if you wish: _____

-----clip here-----

From the Editors

We appreciate all the good words of encouragement expressed in your letters, and, **computer willing**, will try to follow the outstanding example of our former Editors. Betty and Bert have been of great assistance in helping us get started with this first newsletter. However, **HELP**...being new at this, we are really counting on **you**!

As we visit with some of you, it seems that perhaps the main thing that makes getting *The Dixie Ranger* so special, and something we all look forward to, is the letters from our members. We need those letters, whether they tell about

something that happened in your work career, current news and activities, a family experience, or whatever, the information will be interesting to your fellow retirees and will bring back good memories. Please take a minute or two while it is fresh on your mind and drop us a few lines that we can put in a future issue. We would also welcome your suggestions for the newsletter, and we will make every effort to continue the high standards set by the Brays. We look forward to hearing from all of you.

Dave and Peggy Jolly

FINANCIAL STATEMENT FOR 2004
Submitted by Betty Bray

PROPOSED		ACTUAL
Printing	\$1,950.00	\$1,376.16
Postage	600.00	553.47
Door Prizes	223.00	219.08
Miscellaneous	300.00	2,636.89*
Interviews	<u>250.00</u>	<u>58.01</u>
TOTAL	\$3,323.00	\$4,843.61

*Miscellaneous expenses: National Forest Service Museum \$100; guest speaker lunch; outgoing President's gift and \$2,500 to new Treasurer to open bank account in Alabama.

Carryover from 2003	\$6,019.01	
Income for 2004	<u>2,742.90</u>	
TOTAL	\$8,761.91	
Less Expenses	<u>4,843.61</u>	
BALANCE	\$3,918.30	Account Closed
Open Account in Alabama	\$6,418.30	Carryover from 2004
Carryover from 2004	\$6,418.30	
Estimated Dues for 2005	<u>1,060.00</u>	
Operating Balance 2005	\$7,478.30	

BUDGET FOR 2005 WILL BE THE SAME AS 2004. New Budget for 2006 will be based on expenditures and income for 2005.

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP
SOUTHERN FOREST SERVICE RETIREES ASSOCIATION

Date: _____

Name: _____

Spouse: _____

Address: _____ Apt. # _____

City: _____ State: _____ 7-Digit Zip Code: _____

Phone: (Optional) Area Code: _____

E-mail Address: _____

Retired From (Unit): _____

Membership Dues are \$10.00 per year. Amount Enclosed: _____

Membership in the SFSRA includes:

Three issues per year of *The Dixie Ranger*, issued in March, July and November.

Directory of Membership, issued every two years.

The opportunity to become published as an author when articles are submitted to *The Dixie Ranger*.

The most economical way to stay in touch with friends and co-workers through *The Dixie Ranger*.

Notification of what's happening in the Forest Service through *The Dixie Ranger*.

Mail application, with payment to:

Peggy Jolly, Treasurer
SFSRA
128 Wind Trace
Alexander City, AL 35010-8772

Southern Forest Service
Retirees Association
128 Wind Trace
Alexander City, AL 35010-8772

Prst Std
Postage Paid
Permit #30
Alexander City, AL

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

A REMINDER - PHONE IN LUNCHEON RESERVATION BY June 6th - POST LUNCHEON DATES ON
YOUR CALENDAR - see page 2.

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Published in March, July and November. Dues are \$10 per year, payable in January. Mailing address:
Southern Forest Service Retirees Association, 128 Wind Trace, Alexander City, AL 35010-8772.