



# FOXIE RANGER

SOUTHERN FOREST SERVICE RETIREE ASSOCIATION

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

NEWSLETTER #1 - 1976

NEWSLETTER EDITOR  
TOM HUNT

VOLUME VI, NUMBER I  
FEBRUARY 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 at the Riveria-Hyatt House restaurant, with approximately 55 members in attendance. Because Eriksson had laryngitis Paul Russell was in charge of the meeting. Quite a few announcements were made involving deaths, illness etc. All Committee Chairmen made their reports for 1975. The Treasurer reported a total balance of \$739.08 in the bank account. Evenson reported membership of 302 as December 31, with four deaths, new members of 15, making a total membership of 315. Chris Thompson gave a short report on her arrangements committee and asked for a show of appreciation for Dorothy Smith, who handled arrangements for the Sept. picnic - to Lucille Isbell for her faithful work on the Telephone Committee and Lucille reported that her committee had made over 1000 calls during the year, working up interest in the several activities of the Association. Grumbine, representing the Nominating Committee, announced the results of the election - as indicated above - as the officers for 1976. Bryan Sipe advised his audit report would be conducted shortly after the first of the year. Harry Rossoll reported on the auction held by the Forest Service Wives' Club and their Christmas party scheduled for December 13, at which his band performed. Paul Russell announced that a painting had been donated as a door prize - Wally Gray - who had previously

been greeted with HAPPY BIRTHDAY greetings, was the winner of the door prize painting, donated, of course, by Harry Rossoll.

In connection with planned program for 1976, Russell pointed out that we were a social and friendly group and that program suggestions would be welcome. He wanted ideas from any and everyone about (1) how to utilize the funds which we have (2) how we could get more out of town members interested in attending our meetings (3) the Association arranging programs or other activities in the area in which a good many of them live.

He also announced that a Board of Directors meeting would be held shortly after the first of the year as an organization meeting for 1976.

This was a good meeting - sorry more of you couldn't have been there - you'd have had fun.

## OUR NEXT MEETING

Will be a luncheon meeting at Petite Auberge Restaurant Francias, in the Tocco Hills Shopping Center, right around the corner from Super X Drug Store.

The menu will be Sliced Steak au Poivre and coupe petite auberge for dessert.

The tab will be \$6.00 per person and a bar will be set up in the dining room. There will be a door prize too.

Please note the reservation slip at the end of this letter. Arrange to pay your "tab" at the door. Reservations must be in no later than Monday, March 15.

BY THE WAY - mark your calendar for this luncheon as MARCH 18, rather than March 17 as previously mentioned. (Guess I won't get to celebrate St. Pat's day after all at the luncheon).

## PRESIDENT'S PARAGRAPH

In assuming the presidency of our Association in January 1976, my thoughts ranged over many questions about the Southern Forest Service Retiree Association. One question was asked several times. Where are our members located? So I took out the 1975 membership list and here are the statistical results:

<u>Area</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Retired From</u>
Atlanta	90	R. O.
N. Ga.	12	Chatt.
S. Ga.	6	Naval Stores
Alabama	8	N. F.
Arkansas	20	Oua., Ozark & R. O.
S. Fla.	22	WO, RO, NF
W. Fla.	12	NF
W. N. C.	25	NF-Exp.Sta.
Mississippi	21	NF
Louisiana	3	NF
Kentucky	2	NF
S. C.	10	NF
Tennessee	10	NF
Va. W. Va.	12	NF-Exp.Sta.
Out of Region (16-States)	33	NF-Exp.Stat. RO.

In a public service, objective orientated organization, such a membership would create serious problems of association maintenance. But, since we have only one over riding constitutional purpose "to circulate among members information of interest to them generally - well accomplished it seems to me by our newsletter, the Dixie Ranger, no real problem seems to exist. It is true that we must depend on the Atlanta area (R. O. retirees) for administration, money-tending and program, but it was not ever thus. So the input to the Association from the scattered groups over the Region is up to the individuals. You all are invited to let us know your desires, concerns, ideas and how we can get more region-wide participation in fellowships, gatherings and events. How about some "drive-in" events in Western North Carolina, Arkansas, Mississippi, Alabama or Tennessee? Some of us Atlantans just might come and see you for such an occasion.

## TO FILL IN

Believe it or not, in spite of this being page #2, it is the last page typed and anything you read here is for the purpose of "putting this newsletter to bed".

While it was not mentioned herein, at the Board of Director's meeting, Russell read a January 19 letter from the RO (Rf-AD) relative to compiling a history of the NF & S&PF programs. Am sure most of our retirees received one of these 1/19 letters. Here is Russell's reply:

"Your letter of January 19, regarding history compilation, was discussed at the 1/26 SFSRA director's meeting. Continuing the Association's interest in documentation and preservation of F.S. history, particularly as a Bicentennial year project, a Historical Liaison Committee was appointed for 1976, with James F. Brooks as Chairman, along with Ed (Rip) Williams and George F. Schaeffer as members of the Committee. This Historical Liaison Committee will stand ready to assist the Region and Area in any reasonable way in furthering your 1976 historical compilation project. It is understood, of course, that the Association and the Committee would not endeavor to physically carry out the compilation project, but might provide coordination, suggestions, oversight and liaison with the many members of the Association, who carry around with them a vast store of historical knowledge. As President, and through the Committee, if I can be of service to your project, do not hesitate to let me know.

## RAMBLINGS

I wish you could enjoy it, as my wife and I do, hearing from all of you and reading what you've been doing -going-seeing - long before it appears in print in the D-R.

HOWEVER, THERE'S SOMETHING WRONG?????????? We have over 300 members and of all the letters shown in that section, everything over sixteen (5% of membership) were taken from Christmas cards and personal letters to ye-ed since the last (October 1975) newsletter. I wish everyone was as faithful about writing as Olene Woody. What must I do to some of you to SHAME YOU INTO WRITING?

## BOARD OF DIRECTOR'S MEETING

Was held at the home of Paul H. Russell on January 26, 1977, with the following members and Committee Chairmen present: George K. Schaeffer, Tom Hunt, Bill Fischer, Bill Huber, Art Grumbine, Clint Herrick, C. M. Evenson, Dorothy Smith, Lew Whipple, Grady Burnett, H. C. Eriksson and Paul Russell.

The purpose of the meeting was stated as an organizational meeting for 1976. The minutes of the previous meeting were not read, but accepted as published in Dixie-Ranger Vol. V NUMBER I, and most of those present had attended the previous meeting.

Treasurer reported a total balance of \$761.49 in the account and requested permission to switch money from the savings account, as needed, which request was approved. He reported that the balance of the account has dropped over the previous years and cited the reason for non-payment of dues.

The officers for 1976 were announced as shown on the first page of this newsletter.

Committee Chairmen for the year are as follows-with one exception: Chris Thompson declined chairmanship of the Arrangements Committee. Here are the others:

Program	-	Art Grumbine
Nominating		Fischer, D. Smith
		Jim Cartwright
Budget-Finance		Lew Whipple
Newsletter (Wasn't asked)		Tom Hunt
Historical (Liaison)		JFBrooks, George
		Schaeffer, E. B.
		Williams.
Membership		C. M. Evenson
Telephone		Lucille Isbell
Legislative		Huber-Miller &
		Eliz. Mason
Constitution-By-laws		C. S. Herrick
Audit		B. W. Sipe
Printing-Mailing		Hunt-D. Smith -
		McNelly

Question was raised as to whether we needed a Historical Committee. In view of what the R. O. and some of the National Forests are doing in trying to work up historical data for R-8 and individual forests, it was decided to continue the Committee as a liaison between the RO and NF's and everyone agreed that a good Committee has been appointed.

Eriksson brought the Board up to date on the contribution situation and we have contributed money to conservation orientated organizations. He suggested, however, that we confine our contributions in the future through the American Forestry Association for the benefit of the Cradle of Forestry - or to Blanchard Springs if it is needed. Our original contribution was to the Cradle to establish a souvenir shop which could not be financed from government funds.

Grumbine suggested that the Association encourage, recognize and reward scholastic achievement by offering and awarding scholarships to children, grandchildren and dependents of SFSRA members, setting up qualifications etc.

No action was taken on any contributions pending a review of finances between the Budget Officer- Treasurer.

A lot of discussion was had about our meetings for this year. The next one is planned for March 18\*\* St. Patrick's Day - wont ye-ed be featured, since my father was born in Ireland! A June meeting - the picnic-golf get-to-gether and the final meeting in December. \*Day after St. Pat's Day. See correct announcement herein.

Talked a lot about programs for the year - since the Ozark people offered to come and show their slide lecture on the Blanchard Spring Caverns - we might have them sometime. With no response to the plan to go and see the Caverns - no definite date was made for them to come and show what they have.

I AM GOING TO HAVE SOMETHING ABOUT OUR - and OUR Historical Committee's actions later on and YOU had better all read it and be willing to donate \$3 which - in my opinion - is worth a million to all of you!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

I hope we can also get our cooperative folks down in the RO to produce a picture which we have for you and on which you can "guess who"

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Another meeting of the Board is scheduled for the early part of March to iron out a few items that need to be taken care of.



## HISTORICAL COMMITTEE HISTORY

It is noted from VOL. I, #2, Dixie Ranger of June 1971, John Adams was appointed as Chairman of this Committee. John served on this Committee until he retired and moved West and Bill Fischer was named Chairman for 1975. From the beginning of this Committee in '71, a project was undertaken to collect historical data and George K. Schaeffer was placed in charge of this project. George did a lot of work - and a lot of hard work it was - and through his efforts collected old Forest Service directories from various offices and individuals and the project is now complete, to the extent that all the records were turned over to the Regional Office and the finished project consists of three volumes of complete directories of the entire region from 1934 - 1974 inclusive, as follows:

Volume I - Southern Region & SE Area (RO)  
Volume II - Southern Region Field Units (Pt. I)  
Volume III - Southern Region Field Units (Pt. II)

Volume III also contains proclamation dates for establishment of national forests in the South and the honor roll of R-8 Forest Service personnel in the armed forces-April 1945. This set (Vol. I-III incl) is for sale at \$3.00 per set. Order should be sent to Shirley McNelly, Secretary of the Southern Forest Service Retiree Assoc., 1720 Peachtree Rd. NW., Atlanta, Ga. 30309, with check payable to U. S. D. A. - Forest Service. The deadline for receipt of orders is April 15. When all orders have been received as of April 15, the entire amount submitted will be turned over to the Fiscal Agent for deposit and the complete sets will be mailed to each individual who has ordered one or more. (I hope to have an order blank included for convenience in ordering). (Ed's note - I already have a set of these directories and they are well worth the \$3.00 fee. Was hoping to have a sort of "Forest Service Trivia" column in this letter, in order to create interest in getting you to buy a set, but space does not permit it) However, if Ray McKinley, Gil Stradt, Clyne Woody, Harvey Boston, Clem Weyers, Harry Tomlinson, Joe McCullough, Joe McPherson and 300+ other members want to see their name in print and where they were located - anywhere between 1934-1974 - how about sending in \$3.00 to find out!!!!!!

These volumes are referred to as ORGANIZATIONAL DIRECTORY LISTINGS - from JULY 1934.

## OBITUARIES

Art Schilling died at his home in Albuquerque, New Mexico in November. Sorry but I have no other details.

Neville Sloan died at his home in Franklin, North Carolina. Sam Greenwood furnished this information, but no other details.

OUR SYMPATHY is extended to the following:

Elizabeth Mason on the death of her mother in December.

"Peaches" (Mrs. Howard W.) Sherman, on the death of her daughter, Mrs. Sherry Sherman Dollar, Age 24. Sherry died as the result of injuries suffered in an automobile accident.

Ralph Morgan, on the death of his wife "Myrtie". No other details on this.

Fred N. Newnham and his family, on the death of Fred's father, whose funeral was held on January 8.

## NEW MEMBERS

At our last meeting the Chairman of the Membership Committee reported fifteen new members. Of those not previously reported, here are a few of our new members and I hope to have more to report before this newsletter is "put to bed".

George Vitas, who is still employed in the Washington Office.

Ed Ellenberg, still employed in the R. O.

Jane Prather, the gal who worked up all of the retirement data for a lot of us who have retired.

Carl Hammarstrom, who seems a little reluctant to let anyone know he is about to retire!

Alex Setser, think he lives in N. C., but am not sure.



## LETTERS FROM OUR MEMBERS

MARY W. HUTCHINS: Still enjoying life in Houston, but get lonesome for Alexandria. It would never be the same again with Ruby (Harper) gone. Went over the weekend she died and again two weeks later. You can't possibly know how hard it hit me not to be able to go and see her as her place was always my first stop with I "hit" town. I lost three very dear friends this year - Ray Brandt, Ruby and June Terry. He had been on the Kisatchie since KNF took over the LU projects in N. La-more than 20 years. Didn't mean to get morbid-better stop = will see you one of these days-maybe!

WALLY EVERTON: Here is my ballot and check for dues. Thought I would be able to call some of my friends in Atlanta last month, but didn't have the time. Was on a plane going to Ft. Lauderdale and had to change in Atlanta. The plane I was on was 2-hours late getting in so it was a rush transfer. I did enjoy the cruise around the Caribbean, thru the Canal and up the west coast. One has to go through the Canal on a ship to appreciate that feat of engineering. Also to a most enjoyable cruise to Alaska in July - the third time I've gone up there in the past 5-years. Enjoy the newsletter and want to thank you for doing a good job on it.

STAN JOHNSON: Surely always happy to get the D-R and the news of our well removed (guess I am the "removed") friends. Enclosed are dues and the ballot. Enjoyed seeing the Erikssons, Hartmans, Newcombs, Russells, Sarah & Dick Millar, Lou Grosenbaugh at the SAF meeting. Larry & Rik were the first guys I worked with in R8 about 40-years ago. After the meeting we traveled to Boston, rented a car for our first visit to New England and the marvelous fall colors and our fill of fresh Mainelobsters. You mentioned Tom Croker and Chet Burnham in the last D-R. They should be members-please contact them. Plan to spend a month in Hawaii later in the winter. Also saw Herb Stone & Charlie Connaughton at the SAF meeting. Will write them later about joining up. (Ed's note: Stan: Herb is a member but Charlie isn't - please write him.) Hope John Cooper is improving.

OLENE WOODY: Really is it time for dues again? Very seldom forget obligations, but you can see I'm slipping. The news sheet told us many things this time - the death of a dear friend Ruby Harper - she was a fine person - I agree Tom. Then there were letters of interest-found out our friends of the Salvage Damage Days in Lufkin, Tex. I'on & Elizabeth Lowndes were still doing well - also Van Elliott - he was here for a long time during Mr. Woody's days. Our fall color has been one of the best. The leaves are just now showing their drab color. My 101-year old mother says she never saw a fall to compare with this one. Clyne being a few years younger says he has not. Have not succeeded in getting Walter or Willie Lunsford to join the Assoc. group and am still working on Preach Parsons. The McKinleys were by to see us last week. Thanks for the news sheet.

BILL & HONEY NICHOLLS: Here's check for \$4 I don't know exactly how I stand so this should bring me up to date. Sorry I missed the Fall meeting, but had an emergency call to go to Louisiana for family illness. All came out ok. This has been a good year. Had a bus trip to Niagara Falls and over to Washington. Our son Paul has moved back to Augusta to continue medical studies in orthopedic surgery. I've seen a few of the other retirees around. We keep busy with church work and improving our new house. You might add Honey's birthdate 11/25 and mine 2/2. Have a good holiday season.

J. C. ADDINGTON: Time has come again to pay my dues. Still enjoying the newsletter. It keeps us informed about how each and everyone are. As for me, I'm working a little when I want to. Fish and hunt some also. In fact, I'm deer hunting now, but it looks like I'm going to be unlucky again this year. sincerely yours.

WILBUR BERRY: While I have my pen in hand I'll send you dues. Enjoy the newsletter We had a lively summer-2 grandchildren spent two months with us. A house full of neighbor kids all day and evening. In August Louise took the grandchildren home by plane to N. C, visited and then went to Washintdon, D.C. area and saw the rest of our children. Thanksgiving in Kerrville and Christmas in Houston with relatives.

DR. JOHN LIPPERT: As usual I have had to wait until after Christmas to get to the joy of remembering old friends-have more time that way. Circumstances have brought me four new grandsons to add to the others, giving me 6 in all, who are a great joy. I do miss seeing my Atlanta friends. How strange it is that a Minnesota Chief Forester should spend all the money on shipping people around instead of training! The Dixie Ranger is a lot of fun though and helps me keep in touch with people. Since my connection there is a bit difficult, would you endorse this check as proper and pass it along. I'm sure I must be in arrears one way or another. Have a lovely year. (Ed's note: Dr. John Lippert is paid up thru the year of 1978. Doc make a note of this).

JOHN C. BARBER's Christmas message was: YOU have done it again - you've made 1975 another great year at the Southern Station. Thanks for the tremendous job and for your contributions to the public we serve. John is Director of the Southern Station-New Orleans.

VIOLA MELTZ: Hello everybody! Here is my dues. Am enjoying retirement, doing nothing, though my days are gone before I know it. Can't, for the life of me, see how I worked all day and did what I did at night. I do enjoy the D-R. Spent several weeks in Florida this summer with my grandchildren and had a good time. Regards to all my friends in the Forest Service (She also sent a Christmas card to us).

WILLA H. CARSWELL: Dues enclosed. Enjoy D-R-good to know about the retirees. In the process of building a new home-will be moving around January 1. Went to Fla this year and made several trips to our place on Hiwassee Lake. Retirement is great. I work some on various committees, especially on the board for Meals on Wheels for two counties; on credit committee for the Asheville Fed. Emp. CU-program chairman for Smokey Mt. Chapter of NAE. In spare time I canned over 500 cans of vegetables, fruits, jams, jellies and pickles. Going to Hawaii in the near future. Best wishes to all.

JAMES R. CHEEK: Ruby and I made two vacation trips this summer. One to Washington, D.C., to visit my sister - went through the White House, Capitol etc. The last was through the Smokies, Gatlinburg etc. The fall colors were beautiful. (Ed's note-as to dues-send them in-I enjoyed your call too.)

FRANK BAILEY: Here are dues for another year. We enjoyed our visit again to Atlanta to see our boy Brad married in August. Our whole family were there to be present. We received continued Southern hospitality. The JCFord's turned their home over to us while we were in Atlanta. We saw a few of you but-with a wedding-time went too fast to see all. Enjoyed having Bill Balmer, Jim McConnell, Bill Tuttle and one other from Mississippi at a meeting of silviculturists here in Coeur d Alene. We had a chance to tour there in my boat on the lake. Have had a successful year in real estate and it is interesting, really an extension of Forestry. Fishing was fair this year. Best of luck for New Year.

JERRY WELCH: Thanks for the clippings. I remember the old "Crackers" well and saw them play often when we lived in Gainesville. The items on Preach and Woody brought back memories also. Tell you one thing though - "Preach" was a snake hunter when in the woods and would have been the first one to take off had there been a copperhead near by. If a leaf rustled in the wind, he'd climb the nearest tree. I could tell some on Preach, but you wouldn't believe them. Always considered him the best and hardest worker we had in the outfit. Hadn't thought of Charles Elliot in years. Always liked the guy and found him reasonably easy to get along with. Got the crops all in and sitting around for winter to set in-had swell weather this fall so far. No reports on anyone so guess everybody over here struggle along as usual. Glad everyone in Atlanta are ok. Wilkinsons are square dancing up a storm. Keep in touch w/them and Bryans by way of Ma Bell's gadget. See Alvis (Owen) once in awhile-last time at a wedding of our neighbors. He has aches and pains-otherwise ok. Went to Mich. last summer and fed the mosquitoes. We keep fiddlin' around, taking it as easy as possible. Rooting for the Red's (you damned traitor) to win the Series. Hope the F.S. gets the wording of the Organic Act straightened out. Thought it was interpreted properly for the last 50-years, but one learns something new every day, especially from the actions of the courts. Best regards-tell Yvonne to feel happy.

DEL. W. THORSEN: Just a note to say many thanks for the Dixie Ranger and directory. I would have written sooner, but thought I might see you in person at Hard Labor Creek State Park for the golf tournament, where I could thank you in person. You missed a good golf tournament. I was teamed up with two of your ole buddies-Russell & Spring. I grabbed the honors on the first nine-but the 2nd-9 was horrible-they trounced me. Have read all the back issues of the D-R and your parties sound great. I sure remembered Richard Lowndes a fine gentleman, very distinguished looking. Be assured, if I get the time, I will take a ride over to Flat Rock to see him-he probably wont remember me and I look forward to the pleasure of meeting Mrs. Lowndes. Thanks again for the back issues of the Dixie Ranger.

HARRY R. WRIGHT: Many of my friends in R-8 might be interested to know that I am the new Mayor-elect for the Town of Highlands, N.C., having defeated a very worthy opponent in the municipal election on November 4. I will be sworn in as the new Mayor on December 2. I am very happy in retirement, but miss the Forest Service work greatly. About the only contact I have with the F. S. is through the Nantahala Chapter of the S. A. F. For your information, I enclose a copy of my platform which I sincerely believe in and which you might find of interest. I do not know where I stand as to dues, as I never get a bill from you. For this reason, I enclose a check for \$2-advise if I owe more.

(Ed's note: Harry also sent me a copy of a letter he addressed to the voters of Highlands and his platform. Am sorry there is not room to publish it since it was quite a platform and if he lives up to it, he will be the most popular Mayor that Highlands - or any other town - ever had. HARRY - we dont send bills for dues-they're due each year ON JANUARY 1)

ED LITTLEHALES: The magic date for my retirement was July 19 and I jumped at the chance to retire. We bought a house in Venice, Florida. Our address will be -June-Sept. each year 2540 Nunnery Road, Skaneateles, N. Y. 13152 Permanent address (March 1, 1976) 448 Baynard Drive, Venice, Fla. 33595. Come see us-North or South.

WALLY PRATER: 'Cille is much better and only uses a cane now when she goes out. Doesnt need it but it helps her get the right-of-way in crowds. Sorry we werent able to get to the picnic and to see y'all.

SYLVIA BRYAN: Sorry I'm late in answering your letter, but taking care of Phil uses up a lot of my time. Phil enjoyed the clippings -he never missed Ralph McGill's editorials and neither did I. He reads the sports now but never watches them on TV. I had a little heart trouble in August and he has had a muscle spasm in his leg-still cannot walk alone. My sister-Mrs. Jack Fortin-spent two weeks in October and that was a bright spot for us. Eve Welch told me about Art Schilling's death. He was such a good friend. John Tom Koen was by late this summer on his way to N. Arkansas. Sorry to hear about Myrtie Morgan and hope Ralph gets up to see us. Thanks again for the clippings and best wishes for holidays.

BILL LEE: Here are our birtdates. Wont tell you the year, but I was born the same year the volcano Katmai exploded and the Titanic sunk. Wasnt exactly a vintage year!

SAM GREENWOOD: Why dont you two come up to see us. Neville Sloan died last week - very few of us left here, including Norm Hawley. We both enjoy the Dixie Ranger.

JACK & "CRICKETT" LOGAN: Hope '75 has been a good year for you. We have enjoyed the football games here and happy the Razor-backs made it to the Cotton Bowl. If you hear a strange sound on January 1, it just might be the Arkansas fans calling the hogs allas. (Jack - I think they were cheering for Dooley's shoestring play???)

STON: Guess you can tell from the way that my hands are much better since weather cooled off. Gonna answer your letter soon. Got a project started-a concrete wall back of our property. Maybe by next year it will be finished. Our great grand-daughter sets with us once in awhile and provides us with plenty exercise. Moves fast and everything she wants she finds a way to get. Wish we had just a bit of her energy. Best for '76!

RUSS CHIPMAN: One nice thing about Christmas, it gives one a chance to get in touch with old friends. We remember you from way back in the '30s in Texas. We are going back to Texas for the holidays as most of Eunice's family lives there and we have a big get-together then. Would have enjoyed the Sept. picnic, but we went to Iowa.



MILDRED WAGNER: I flew to Seattle on July 10 and returned August 22. While there I had lunch with six of my girl friends that I went to school with in Seattle. Went on a bus trip to Eureka Springs, Arkansas the latter part of September. From there I went to Columbus Ohio to visit with son Dick. I keep busy with the usual church activities and attend AARP and NARFE meetings each month. My six pecan trees had a bumper crop this year. (Ed's note: Mildred please see if you can locate Ralph Morgan or his address and send it to me or have him get in touch.)

MRS. SAM WHALEY: Dont know whether we will ever get to a retirement party, but still hoping. I was quite sick for about 10-months but have been slowly improving. Sam is suffering with right arm and shoulder pains. Went to see the Van Wagner's one day-they are fairly well. If all goes well, we plan to go to Naples, Fla. on January 5-6. This 10-degree weather wants me to be there NOW! Take care and have a happy, happy time.

JIM VESSEY: It has been another good retirement year for us and the Dixie Ranger helps make it so. We continue to spend summer and fall in Pa. This year we went north the end of May, spent June going to my 50th reunion at Penn State and visiting the Montana Vesseys in Missoula. In July we took in the Shakespere Plays in Stratford, Ont. and ended the season late Oct. with a plane and ship tour to Yugoslavia and the islands of Corfu, Malta and Sicily. I know you kee busy - have a good year in 1976-all of you!

ANGIE MULE: Enjoy hearing from you. I still miss Ruby Harper - she was a good friend Still enjoying retirement. Dont do anythi exciting, or travel, as most retirees d but enjoy being at home without the pres of a job. My mother is now 88 years of and I have to regulate my life around hers. She's okeh-gets around slowly and does for herself. I am finally getting the R-8 Newsletter. Not much in it anymore. Hope to see the Ferrarelli's over the holidays.

W. R. (BIG ANDY-WATUAGA) ANDERSON: Have just written to Bill Paddock, John Rambo, Carroll Pierce, Jim Sabin, Harry MacCutcheon, Luke Colbaugh and I should go back two more days and we might find names endeabily written in the pages of our mutual book of memories. I still find time to remember the occasions and enjoy the memories as they were good years. I have a strong feeling that what we and so many others - tried to build is now

being destroyed by the diciples of a new order, which I shall refrain from naming . YOU are a hero in my eyes. As Editor of the Dixie Ranger you are doing an exemplary job. I look forward to read about the characters in the Acts of my past. I would make one suggestion. Would it be possible to enlist help from the local-yokels(from the Forests) in telling us something about the people who actually worked the forests? We could, at least, announce the passing of these people. How about it? I write annually to them, but some, I know, have passed on, but am sure the forest and district people would like to know about it. (Ed's note: Andy - I've tried and tried to get this information and have had no luck. But am going to try something else soon - going right to the top. Be sure to read my announcement here about the 3-vol. directory that we have for sale. It's worth \$3 to anyone - a million \$\$ to you). Please greet all those who knew Big Andy of the Wau-taga for me

RUSS VANCE: Here are some dues-I must owe something. The past year has been good. We took a freighter from Houston in December to East Africa and toured the Kenya Game Parks out of Mombassa. Spent several weeks in Corpus Christi on our return, waiting for the snow to go away-got to see the whooping cranes and the King Ranch. Best season for fishing the past summer-Ernie DeSilvia and I are fellow fishermen-yes, he is better than I, since he eats them and I dont. Plan to spend most of the winter in San Diego with a son and two grandchildren in Vancouver, B. C. Have a good year.

RY ROSSOLL: Small news note. Will go in Joseph's Hospital for hernia surgery on 27. Thought some of my friends would know. Olga doing fine after her major June of last year. Things kind of for making out the income tax. a copy of the R-8 Newsletter, showing the stage of one of the numerous schools at which he has appeared giving his famous and popular "chalk talk" on Smokey Bear. Harry has been quite active as guest of the Georgia forestry Commission and has appeared on TV explaining the activities of the Atlanta Chapter of the Isaak Walton League. He is also Art Director for the Forest Farmer magazine.





1974 Brasstown Bald Picnic. How many  
can you identify????????

HAPPY BIRTHDAY to all those who celebrated their birthdays during the months of  
JANUARY - MARCH, INCL. May you all have many more of them.

JANUARY

1 - C. Joe Galloway  
2 - R. E. Pidgeon  
4 - Spence Palmer  
4 - W. D. Patterson  
9 - Russ Vance  
9 - John W. Cooper  
10 - Clem J. Wyers  
14 - Al Shaddock  
18 - Joe McPherson  
19 - Rose Milot  
20 - H. C. Eriksson  
23 - Floyd Cossitt  
24 - Elva Friedrich  
26 - E. O. Powers  
26 - Jean Seely  
27 - Del W. Thorsen  
16 - Bea Cagle  
10 - Fanny Lane  
26 - Helen Wellhoner  
22 - Marie Eriksson  
9 - Elizabeth Collins  
10 - Caroline R. Taylor

FEBRUARY

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

MARCH

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

DUES

Your dues to the Southern Forest Service Retiree Association are due and payable at \$2.00 per year, on January 1 of each year.

Since the last newsletter was sent out in October 1975, and nothing was said about dues payable as of January 1, a lot of people around and waited for a bill or

At the Director's Meeting, the reported that approximately 75 not paid dues for 1975 and 1976 are not coming in very  
NOTE THE FRONT OF YOUR COPY OF THE NEWSLETTER. If there is a rubber-stamp DUES NOT PAID it will mean that you have not paid for the years indicated which, in the case of those who have this stamp on their copy of the newsletter, unless they have paid recently, will also owe dues for 1976. May fellows, how about sending in your \$2 or \$4 and get our Treasury looking healthy again!!!!!!!!!!!!!!