



DIXIE RANGER

SOUTHERN FOREST SERVICE RETIREE ASSOCIATION

Suite 850 1720 Peachtree Road, N.W., Atlanta, GA 30367-9102

Editors - Bert & Betty Bray Vol. XXIII No. 1 February 1993

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OFFICERS 1993

President Leroy Jones
President Elect Bill Hess
Secretary-Treasurer Betty Bray

BOARD OF DIRECTORS 1993

Lee Cromley (1993)
Margaret Stephens (1994)
Keith Grest (1995)
Tom Smith Ex-Officio

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DECEMBER LUNCHEON

We had excellent attendance at the Christmas luncheon on December 3. Those from out of town attending were:

Sara Millar, (Mrs. Richard), Huntsville, AL
Agnes Lee, (Mrs. W. C.), Bowie, MD
Jim and Jeanne Webb, Fairview, NC
Betty Weatheral, England
Dorothea Banville, Candler, NC

The Nominating Committee, chaired by Bill Bryan, presented the slate of officers for 1993 as follows:

Bill Hess, President-Elect
Betty Bray, Secretary-Treasurer
Keith Grest, Board of Directors, (1995)

The recommendations by the Nominating Committee were accepted.

The President, Tom Smith, asked for an amendment to the Constitution to increase dues from \$5 to \$8 per year. He explained that printing costs more than doubled in August. Those members present at the meeting approved the increase. An amendment to the Constitution is enclosed with this newsletter.

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NEW OFFICERS

By way of a brief introduction of our new officers --

President - Elect Bill Hess " My wife, Cheryl, and I built a new home and live in the country near Buford, Georgia. We have 3 children who live and work in the Atlanta vicinity and 4 grandsons with another grandson expected this Spring. I do volunteer work for handicapped and aged people, enjoy fishing, hiking, traveling, camping and the family."

Keith Grest, Director, 1995. "Retired from the Forest Service in January 1992 after 36+ years of federal service, of which 30 were with the FS.

Began my career with the FS on the Jefferson NF as an Engineering Aid. Then moved to the Florence RD, Nicolet NF in R-9 after graduating from Virginia Tech with degree in Forestry & Wildlife. Worked on the Mark Twain NF and then moved into the Northeastern Area the day it was formed in 1966.

Spent nearly 20 years in the Southeastern Area & Region 8.

Twenty-six of the 30 years in the FS were with State & Private. My last job was as Director of Soil, Water & Air in R-8 where I had responsibility for NFS & S&PF activities. In addition was responsible for the Research activities at the Center for Forest Environmental Studies at Macon, GA.

When I retired it brought to a close 100 years of Federal Forestry Service by my Grandfather James McLean (Canadian Forestry Service), my father Ed Grest (USFS) and myself. Ninety-six of the 100 was spent in State and Private Forestry related activities."

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DATES TO REMEMBER

Dates for the luncheons in 1993 are: March 18, June 17, September 16 and December 2. All will be held at the Petite Auberge Restaurant at 2935 No. Druid Hills Road, N.E. in the Toco Hills Shopping Center. Please note that there are now four luncheons per year. We are not having a picnic and special emphasis is on the September 16 luncheon. We especially urge all of our out of town members to try to make that luncheon. There are hotels in the area of Toco Hills Shopping Center. You don't have to worry about bringing food, etc., as everything is being done for us at the restaurant. Luncheons are still only \$9 per person and the time is 12 noon. Reservations for the luncheons are made with Andrea Csergei at 404 347-4178 and should be made by Tuesday before the luncheon on Thursday. It's always a pleasure to see those with whom we used to work at these gatherings. We urge you to become a part of the excitement. We're looking forward to seeing you there. Why not post your calendars now so you won't forget.

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The world is moving so fast these days that the man who says it can't be done is generally interrupted by someone doing it.

Elbert Hubbard

Amendment to Article IX - Dues

Article IX, Section 1, is hereby amended as follows: Dues for Membership and Associate Membership shall be \$8 per year, payable in advance upon application for membership and by January 1 each year thereafter.

Amendment #7 approved on December 3, 1992.

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FINANCIAL STATEMENT Thru December 1, 1992

1/1/92 Balance Forward	\$ 2216.17
Income (dues & donations)	<u>2083.00</u>
TOTAL	\$ 4299.17

Expenses through 12/01/92

Printing	\$ 1444.40*
Postage	468.78
Door Prizes	256.53
Misc.	<u>279.01**</u>
TOTAL	\$ 2448.72

PROPOSED BUDGET FOR 1993

Printing	\$ 2200.00
Postage	475.00
Door Prizes	200.00
Misc.	<u>165.00</u>
TOTAL	\$ 3040.00

Carry Over from 1992	\$ 1851.45
Projected Income 172 x \$8***	<u>1376.00</u>
TOTAL	\$ 3227.45

* Printing cost increased from \$200 per issue to \$522.20 per issue beginning in August 1992.

** Includes cost of picnic.

*** From total membership of 432, only 172 have not paid dues in advance. Many of our members paid 2-3 years in advance.

CELEBRATING WILDFLOWERS QUILT

In late October at a National Forest System family meeting, employees had the opportunity to view a wonderful piece of community artwork from the town of Darrington, Washington. The wildflower quilt, "Celebrating Wildflowers," has become a symbol of unity for this community.

This brightly colored, queen-sized quilt contains 25 squares depicting colorful wildflowers such as shooting star, columbine, buttercup, beargrass, lupine, paintbrush, and skunk cabbage that grow in the meadows of the snowcapped mountains of the Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest.

The idea of a quilt depicting wildflowers developed when the community wanted to participate in the observance of National Wildflower Week, which began on May 18. As the quilt project developed, 25 local groups came forward to contribute to the project. About 100 residents, ranging in age from 4 years to nearly 90, contributed their time and talents to this celebration that renewed the spirit of the people of this community.

This tiny town, population 1,200, for several years has watched its timber industry disappear. The quilt project helped bring the community together and rekindled the spirit of people who have watched as events surrounding timber and the Northern spotted owl unfolded. Judy Cox, a local resident, temporary employee of the forest, and coordinator of the project says, *"One of the hopes is that we can develop a tourist trade to replace at least some of the forest jobs we are losing."* And the quilt is helping in that endeavor as it is displayed in communities throughout the country.

After being displayed in the Chief's Conference Room, the quilt will go next to Portland to be displayed at R-6's Regional Office. Other sites for the display are being arranged.

Should the quilt be displayed in Region 8, we'll keep you informed.

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ANNUAL PICNIC IN FLORIDA

The usual annual picnic of Forest Service retirees living or visiting in Central Florida will be held at the Oscar Scherer State Park, US 41 between Venice and Sarasota, FL, at about noon of Thursday, April 1, 1993. All retirees and friends are welcome to the pot luck picnic and asked to bring own food; service and refreshments. Retirees wanting to be on the mailing list of notice may write: John S. Maslack, 2065 Oyster Creek Drive, Englewood, FL 34224. Tel.: 813/475-2223.



Letters from our members

Jack Logan, Fayetteville, AR - Claudia "Cricket" and I always enjoy the *Dixie Ranger* and appreciate the time and effort put forth by you and others to keep us informed and in touch with our old friends. Special thanks go to Paul Russell for compiling the Necrology. Along with the sadness involved, the list also causes us to recall the many happy times with many of those who have gone on before us. Sincere best wishes to all.

Bill Eaton, Swannanoa, NC - Thanks again and again for the way you publish the DR. It's about the only thing that comes in the mail that is pure news unlike everything else that is selling, begging, billing or more recently, politicing. How else could we keep up with friends and acquaintances scattered all over?

Another who needs to be in the know is Walter E. Smith. Please sign him in with enclosed dues. Also, I would like to see Bob Neelands added to the staff with quarterly gems like "The Little Datil" and "Green goes up, Brown goes Down". Those two have been added to my "grin, chuckle, and roll over laughing collection". (Bob - we'll gladly accept anything you would like to send to us - have missed hearing from you - Betty).

B. W. Chumney, Cleveland, TN - On Sunday morning, October 11, I got a call from Nadine Hopson, Clerk on the Nolichucky RD, Cherokee NF, to let me know that a very dear friend of mine, Luther B. (Luke) Colbaugh, had passed away. I asked her to send me a copy of his obit - here it is. (See In Memoriam section).

As I read this obit, I keep thinking of the many I have read in the *Dixie Ranger* over the years. The thing that worries me is there is nothing added from anyone about the deceased. Where are the people who knew and worked with these individuals over the years?

I have known and worked with Luke for more than 50 years and have yet failed to hear one word spoken against this man.

Luke enrolled in the CCC in April of 1934 at the Jacobs Creek camp on what was then the Unaka National Forest. He was sent to Holston High Know lookout where he served until the camp went out and then without missing a day was employed by the Forest Service. Here he served until 1955 when he became zone dispatcher for the three northern districts of the Cherokee. He was transferred to Erwin and worked as Zone Dispatcher, becoming Air Tanker Dispatcher in 1962. Later he transferred to Engineering and was stationed in Greeneville where he worked until he retired.

To give you an idea of how many lives Luke touched, here are the Rangers for whom he worked -- Watauga, Henry Sipe, A. W. Lindermuth, John W. Spring, John O'B Kirby, J. E. Tipton, W. R. Anderson, N. S. Kmecza, George R. Anderson, and Basil D. Barr. On the Unaka he worked for Johnnie Davis, Louis B. Davis, Clark Sell, George Blomstrom, Fred Foster and Basil D. Barr. On the Nolichucky he worked for Johnnie Davis, Bryce Ledford, John V. Orr, Donald Woods, Tom Fraser, Donald J. Antonson (Acting), Gilbert Massie and Jim Page.

Surely some of these people can find time to write something of what Luke has or did add to their lives. Luke had a saying: "Son...I'll tell you" and he did. I will never forget the things Luke told me.

Russ Daley, Norcross, GA - I can't let Lionel Johnson and Ken Henderson go without saying something about my relationship with them over the years.

Ed Corpe noted that Lionel was a survivor of the infamous Bataan death march in World War Two. I made it through about two years in a German prison camp after our B-17 went down over Frankfurt on our 20th mission, so we had something in common.

I knew and worked with Lionel for almost 30 years and we kept in touch after retirement. In all my dealings with him, he was kind, considerate and compassionate. He was active in Veterans affairs, especially those involving former POWs, and had a lot to do with getting them recognized in ceremonies honoring veterans.

A couple of years ago he called me and said he wanted to read me a list of names to see if I knew any of them. The names were those of our crew. A man in England was trying to locate the crew. He had been a little boy during the war and our plane, "Cat O Nine Tails", had crashed on his father's farm that was located next to our base at Molesworth. We had not flown that plane on our last mission, as it was in for repairs that day. Another crew was flying our "Cat O Nine Tails" when it crashed. The man in England was trying to locate the original crew. He had researched the records and had found our names. I wrote him and we have kept in touch.

Lionel will be missed.

Ken Henderson was one of the first people I worked with when I came to the Forest Service from the news business.

Bill Huber decided the best way for me to learn about the Forest Service was to get out on a Forest rather than sitting in Atlanta and reading material. He had fond memories of his time on the Cherokee and decided that would be a good place for me to start.

Ken and Dick Cottrell took me in hand and we covered the Forest from one end to the other. And that's a long way. We visited Ranger Districts, climbed fire towers, forded streams and looked at all the operations of a Forest.

I don't know what they call it now, but VIS was getting up momentum then and the Cherokee was one of the leaders.

Ken was an innovator and was always thinking about how the Forests could best serve the people. We had a part in the Start of the Outdoor Patterns for People project on the George Washington National Forest.

How that program got started and the influence behind it is another story, and Jim Beavers probably could tell some tales. Some careers were ruined and some made because of top level influence.

Ken was the type who could get along with everybody, even those who disagreed with Forest Service policy.

Lionel and Ken were two of the bright spots in my Forest Service career.

I always look forward to the *Dixie Ranger*.

Helen Sears Tyler, Decatur, GA - This is a sad follow-up to the tribute to John Tiller in the August 1992 *Dixie Ranger*.

Anyone who knew John loved his wife Connie.

Connie Tiller worked for my father, H. M. Sears, when he first moved to Charleston. His office was on the old Adgers Wharf. When he was transferred to Columbia, Connie went along.

John worked for the F.S. in Charleston and decided to make forestry his career. He attended the University of GA and graduated in Forestry and the rest is history.

Connie and John became great family friends. My sister Billie and I were in their wedding and attended their 50th wedding anniversary several years ago. We will miss them.

A. Z. Owen, Hot Springs, AR - Sorry I'm late with dues - I make no excuses. My wife's health isn't good - she has Parkinson's disease. We did go to California to visit Buddy Whitlock and Marge this past summer - had a good time. I went to Alaska in July - caught a 53 lb King Salmon - that was fun also.

Dolly Irwin, Raleigh, NC - Sorry I was so late with my payment of dues. Hope this covers it.

After Bob, Sr., died November 1987, I sold our home in Atlanta and came to live in Raleigh. Bob, Jr., has a home here. He's an artist, paints, designs business office furniture for "Images" a factory he and his father started after Bob, Sr., retired in 1972.

I live at Springmoor, a Life Care Retirement Community. Plenty of activity here all the time. I have been President of Springmoor Health Center Auxiliary for the past two years and I teach water aerobics in our enclosed dome covered pool.

I'd love to see or hear from our friends from the Forest Service.

John & Sue Chaffin, Green Valley, AZ - Here's my '93 dues and another change of address - 3772 Via Del Reyecuelo, Green Valley, AZ 85614-1011.

We spent most of September in northern Scotland. Took golf clubs and spinning rods along but daily rains halted all fishing and allowed one golf game. Nice people, pretty country and great pubs still made it all worth while.

Sue's rapidly mending from a cataract operation in early October and hopes to have the other one done soon. I watched the operation on closed-circuit TV. In at 7 a.m.; out at 10:00 a.m....and the technique, skill and instruments were totally fascinating.

Your usual good *Dixie Ranger* was particularly outstanding in August. Lots of familiar names brought back many fond memories!

P.S. The welcome mat's out if any of you come this way.

Marlin H. Bruner, Clemson, SC - The enclosed check is intended to keep the DR coming. Indeed, the November issue with the Directory, to me, is worth several times more than that included.

I received many intimate feelings while scanning the list of names on the Directory. It included some 60 names of those with whom I had close relationships since joining the Forest Service in 1934 in North Carolina, and later becoming extension forester in Arkansas and then South Carolina.

Now, at 83, I look back with fond memories on my many forester associates that helped to make my career so pleasant.

Julian D. Gay, Centreville, AL - I enjoy the *Dixie Ranger* very much as it helps me keep up with many of those I worked with.

Just the last issue let me know Bruce Alter, the one that hired me in 1937, is still going strong. I also see that Edward M. Harkins, better known as Red, is living in South Alabama. I was at his and Mildred's wedding. At the time it was his wife that I knew - she was from my home town.

Vaughn & Kay Hofeldt, Redding, CA - Enclosed dues for '93 with a 'well'done' to you for another year of faithful service. It looks like you need news items, and since I love to read them here goes.

A snapshot of our life in the West would just say 'travel' and that's about it. Nothing fancy, just in U. S. 1992 was typical: four Oregon trips, a big Hopi country tour in the SW, including the Sedona area, and monthly Elks Lodge outings with lots of going-ons at each. R.V.ing to Canada in July was the big trip (four rigs). Spectacular landscapes, wildlife everywhere, and Canada in general. Girls all complained that we missed the world's largest shopping center in Edmonton. As it was, the gas poured out of our 80 gallon tank like a water hose on full. Twice each to Reno and Las Vegas, and once to Lake Tahoe. Met Kris (Venice, Fl dtr.) in San Francisco, went to Crater Lake, etc., for two weeks.

Early November we were with Kim at the Witherbee R.S. in South Carolina. Hugo didn't leave much on the Forest, but a lot of hard work is reflected on the ground. Kim? She is asst. silviculturist and we're so proud, esp. ol'dad!

Next week we'll be in New Orleans for Christmas with Kathy and family. Gainesville, GA for New Years. Then to Venice to Kris' busy den. Fly back to New Orleans for ski trip to CO. Fly back home from Eagle-Vail airport (new). Back home for our February spring, and golf. Obvious: no garden, little yard, no pets, friends sometimes think we passed on.

The '92 windup was yesterday's FSX'er (NorCAL) Christmas luncheon in Redding. Most of this 300 member group are also members of the FSX R-5 FSX in San Francisco. Many of us are tied in with FS and FSX golf also.

Now, isn't that more than you ever wanted to know? I've waited for almost 20 years retirement to do it, and I credit your efforts, Betty, in getting me on the ball -- it's a wonder I can still type.

Cliff Comfort, Gulfport, MS - I enjoy reading the *Dixie Ranger* especially news from the Forest Service people I once knew. However, in the last issue I recognized only five names. Maybe, like I am, we don't have much news. So I'll contribute this time, the first in many years.

In January and February two years ago I suffered two strokes about six weeks apart. I'm not letting the strokes bother me too much. For the last two years I entered the Senior Sports Classic Organization in the 50 meter free style swim for my age group (80-84) and came in first. I must confess that I had no

competition in my age group in all of Mississippi for that event. I also walk and jog on our high school track and swim in our Natatorium.

For the Senior Sports Classic Organization information, write them at 14323 Outer 40 Rd, Suite N-300, Chesterfield, MO 63017. I think Jack Kirby might be interested. I recall that he did 100 push ups each morning before breakfast.

Harry Wright, Highlands, NC - Here is an obit on Asa Coleman who worked with/for the USFS, Osceola National Forest, at Lake City, FL, for several years in the 1930's and early 1940's. He was another Tom Hunt in many ways and was greatly admired by everyone who knew him. I have already sent a copy of this notice to several of Asa's friends for he was widely known in FL, the RO & Washington Office. Tom Hunt, Frank Albert, Paul Swarthout, Doug Craig, Hob Howard, Jack Kirby & others knew him very well.

Betty, someone asked me more than 30 years ago what 3 persons were my greatest friends in the F.S. and I quickly replied "Joseph T. McCullough, Tom Hunt and Charley Connaughton" without blinking an eye. That's where I stand today and all are dead.

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WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Allen, Peggy - 1808 Truman Street, Cleveland, TX 77327

Banville, Dorothea - Rt. 3, Box 500, Candler, NC 28715

Curtis, A. B. - 5211 Brookleigh Dr., Jackson, MS 39212

Dorman, Keith W. - 73 Gibson Road, Asheville, NC 28804

Dugger, Melvin - P. O. Box 104, Crawfordville, FL 32326-0104

Fitzgerald, Richard - 4311 Majestic Lane, Fairfax, VA 22033

McDonald, Clyde D. - RR 6, Box 337, Silver Springs, FL 34488

Smith, Walter E. - 240 St. Johns St., Arden, NC 28704

Swensen, Edmond I. - 2344 Leisure Lake Dr., Dunwoody, GA 30338

Taylor, Helen Sears - 522 Glendale Ave., Decatur, GA 30030

Wengert, Richard H. - 117 Windridge Dr., Winchester, KY 40391

Zweig, Richard L. - Rt 3, Box 3451-C, Cleveland, GA 30528

We're delighted to have you with us!

Please make the following changes to the Directory:

New addresses:

Barber, John C., Route 3, Box 1150, Warsaw, VA 22572

Chaffin, John & Sue - 3772 Via Del Reyecuelo, Green Valley, AZ 85614-1011.

Comfort, Cliff - add 1909 to zip code 39507-1909

Montgomery, Cecile - 1800 Clairmont Lake #418, Decatur, GA 30033
Phone: 404 315-0023

Morphew, Jim - Rt 1, Box 199, Glenwood, AR 71943

Please add these phone numbers to your list in Directory:

Hess, William - 404 271-0765

Kinney, Mary Elizabeth - 404 474-4059

Wright, Harry - 704 526-3428

Please change the area codes on the following:

Bray, Bert and Betty 404 253-0392

Thomas, Helen 404 535-7362

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NECROLOGY ADDITION --

A. R. "Russell" Kinney, February 3, 1982

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News from among the membership:

It was reported at the last luncheon that Jack Kirby has returned to Mississippi and I don't have a new address for him. If you know his new address, please let the editors know.

Dorotha Banville's husband, Arthur "Tony" Banville passed away in the spring of 1992. Dot and Tony were living in Florida at the time of his death. Dot is now living in Candler, NC with her mother.

It's been reported to the Editors that Fred Newnham has moved from Daytona Beach to Gainesville, GA. To date we have not received his new address. If you know his new address, please let the editors know.

SUGGESTION BOX

It has been suggested that we print a list of Charter members who are still active in the association.

The first newsletter was issued in April 1971. The association had a total of 104 applications for membership. Membership was extended until April 30. Then with the June 1971 issue, the membership for charter members was extended through December 1971. If you joined during 1971, then you are considered to be a charter member. May we hear from you? We would like to publish a list of Charter Members who are still active in the association.

Another suggestion is that the name of a member's spouse be published along with the member's name. This I can do when you write and will do my best to pick up on this from your letters. I'll also put this in the next directory - but I'll need your help to let me know the names. If you want your spouse's name in the next directory and don't want to write a letter, then just send in the information you want me to use for the directory. But we all sure would like to hear from you - especially if you have not written in some time.

If you have any suggestions you would like to make for consideration, please let us have them. We want the *Dixie Ranger* to be the best that it can be.

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GIFFORD PINCHOT FOREST OPENS AREA TO DISABLED HUNTERS

from *The Oregonian*, 10/8/92

Ranger Tom Linde knew it was a good idea the moment he heard it.

Local hunter Ken Baxter, who hunts deer and elk from a wheelchair, suggested last fall that the Gifford Pinchot National Forest establish a program to help disabled people like him have a higher quality hunt.

It sounded like a good idea to Linde, who manages recreation for the Gifford Pinchot's Wind River Ranger District. Linde took the idea and established, to his knowledge, the first disabled hunter area on U. S. Forest Service land.

"We were closing off an area to public access with motorized vehicles anyway because of vandalism," Linde said. "Ken's conversation last year got me thinking that this would be a perfect opportunity to allow access to disabled hunters." Less than a year after Baxter's suggestion, state-licensed disabled

hunters will have their own area near Carson in southwest Washington where they can hunt from their vehicles. Access to the Trout Creek Hill road system is controlled by locked gates and requires a free permit from the ranger station.

Hunters with special disabled permits are allowed by Washington law to hunt from their vehicle. Before shooting, they must turn off the engine and load their rifle. The process can take up to a minute. Often the animal has moved out of sight or a driver in another vehicle has already made the kill.

The Trout Creek Hill disabled hunting area will change all that. Baxter, and other hunters like him, can wait patiently in their vehicle - or drive slowly, stopping whenever they want and not worrying about getting stuck in a ditch when they pull over.

Disabled hunters are accompanied by a friend who can retrieve a kill or pursue a wounded animal.

The disabled hunting area is open on a trial basis this year, Linde said. Future availability will depend on user demand, especially during deer rifle season and elk rifle season.

"The program is brand new. We've never tried it and have no guidelines. A lot can be modified as we see how it works. This particular spot is easy to administer because it's so close to the ranger station. If we do have problems and need to change something, it's not a day's trip to reach it."

(Many thanks to Sam Johnson for sending this article to the Editors).

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PERSONNEL CHANGES

Walt Casto - Director, Ouachita Civilian Conservation Center. Walt comes to the Ouachita from the Timber Lake Job Corps Center near Estacada, Oregon. He began his job corps career in 1966. He's a native of West Virginia and has a bachelor's degree of science in secondary education at Southern Oregon State College in Ashland, Oregon.

Linda Jo Ellis - Forest Geologist for the National Forests in North Carolina, South Carolina and Tennessee. Linda comes from the Deerlodge National Forest in Montana. She has a bachelor's degree in geology from the University of Idaho.

RETIREMENTS

Jim McConnell - Regional Geneticist in Timber, Silviculture Group, RO, is retiring after 38 years of service, January 14.

Retirements, continued

Yvonne Knaebel - Environmental Affairs, Planning and Budget, RO.

Billy Booth - Budget, Planning and Budget, RO.

Jack Edwards - Program Development, Planning and Budget, RO.

The above were honored with an open house on January 19.

Jim Milner - Assistant Director, Engineering, January 28 after over 31 years of service.

Jerry Coutant - Interpretive Services Branch, Recreation, WO, after 30 years of service retired on January 1, 1993.

Richard H. Wengert - Supervisor, Daniel Boone NF, with 39 years of service retired after the first of the year. Dick was Forest Supervisor of the Daniel Boone for the past 18 years. His tenure with the Forest is longer than that of any current Forest Supervisor.

Dick and his wife, Pat, plan to remain in Winchester following his retirement.

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IN MEMORIAM

Luther B. Colbaugh, 78, Greenville, TN, died October 10, 1992. He retired from the Forest Service after 38 years of service. He is survived by his wife, Lela, five daughters and one son.

Elizabeth H. Plumb Lowndes, 92, widow of Richard I'On Lowndes, Jr., who worked for many years on the Cherokee NF. Mrs. Lowndes died on October 20, 1992.

Asa Coleman, Jr., 89, of Glen St. Mary, FL, died December 8, 1992. Survived by his wife, Era Belle Coleman.

Erma Miller, widow of Howard A. Miller, died November 6, 1992.

Constance B. Tiller, 78, widow of John R. Tiller, died June 18, 1992. Mrs. Tiller was a former employee of the Forest Service in Charleston and Columbia, S. C. She is survived by two sons and a daughter.

Maude P. Cartwright, 81, wife of James B. Cartwright died January 11, 1993. Besides her husband, she is also survived by a daughter and a sister.

Arthur B. Collins, Jr., 85, died January 29 in Atlanta. He is survived by his wife Elizabeth, two sons and a daughter.

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International Institute of Tropical Forestry - Opening ceremonies were held in San Juan, Puerto Rico, on December 7 for the formation of the new International Institute of Tropical Forestry. The inauguration of the Institute marks a new dimension to the Forest Service's international work emphasizing not only forest research, but sustainable ecosystem management, demonstration forests, technical transfer and partnerships.

This gateway to Latin America will enhance research opportunities and encourage the sharing of scientific information. For the first time, Central and Latin American resource managers will have a base to interact as colleagues to advance strategies for achieving the natural resource goals of their countries.

The newly established Institute sees its mission as: Serving the people of Puerto Rico and the tropics by sharing expertise for sustainable use of the land, and by developing, demonstrating, and communicating appropriate technologies. It unites the management of the Caribbean National Forest/Luquillo Experimental Forest and the conduct of research, training, educational activities, and cooperative efforts with other natural resource organizations.

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Letters from our members continued--

Frank & Ethel Hotard, Russellville, AR - We really enjoy the *Dixie Ranger* and do not want to miss an issue. Hope I'm not too late to get our dues in. Frank is slowly improving from his stroke but has rheumatoid arthritis and can't write very well so that is why we are late (I forget).

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A word about membership dues --

Because of the increase from \$5 to \$8 at the beginning of the year and this newsletter is not getting to you until around March 1, I should explain how I handled your check for dues. If you sent in \$10 at the beginning of the year for 2 years, I only gave you credit for one year. If you would like to pay for two years, just send in a six dollar payment and you'll get credit for the two years. If you sent in only a one year payment of \$5, I gave you credit for the one year but am asking that you send in the remainder of the dues - \$3. When you think about hearing from all these beloved old friends for the sum of \$8 per year, it's worth it, isn't it? So, for all of us to get our money's worth, please write to your friends through the newsletter. - Betty.

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The natural flights of the human mind are not from pleasure to pleasure, but from hope to hope.

Samuel Johnson

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A Reminder - Luncheon on March 18 at Petite Auberge at 11:30 a.m. for fellowship, lunch served at 12 noon. Please phone Andrea at 404 347-4178 to make reservations by no later than Tuesday, March 16.

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The *Dixie Ranger* is published 4 times a year - February, May, August and November. Dues are \$8.00 per year, payable in January. If moving, please notify Editors of your change of address.

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Dixie Ranger
So. F. S. Retirees Association
Suite 850, 1720 Peachtree Road, N.W.
Atlanta, GA 30367-9102

Bulk Rate
U. S. Postage Paid
Permit #259
Decatur, GA 30030

Dues Paid Thru '94

MCCONNELL, JAMES L.
3699 WENTWORTH LN
LILBURN, GA 30247

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