



The Dixie Ranger

Editors: Bert & Betty Bray

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MEET REGIONAL FORESTER JOSLIN

Bob Joslin of Ogden, Utah, has been named Regional Forester for the 13-state Southern Region.

Prior to his assignment to Region 8, Joslin was Deputy Regional Forester for the Intermountain Region. He is a 29-year veteran with the Forest Service and has had extensive experience in the South, having served as Deputy Forest Supervisor on the Daniel Boone National Forest in Kentucky from 1980 to 1983, and as Forest Supervisor on the Kisatchie National Forest in Louisiana from 1983 to 1987.

In making the announcement, Chief Thomas noted, "Bob has handled his assignment in Ogden with finesse, working with many conflicting interests without ever losing sight of the need to protect and improve the National Forests. He's made many friends while handling really tough issues."

A native of Palo Verde, Arizona, Joslin graduated from Northern Arizona University in 1964 with a bachelor's degree in forest management. He also completed the Senior Executive Fellowship program at the John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University in 1987.

Joslin began his Forest Service career as a temporary employee on the Kaibab National Forest in Arizona. Prior to his service in Kentucky, Joslin held resource management positions in Wyoming and Colorado. Joslin left the Kisatchie National Forest in 1987 to become Deputy Director of Timber Management in the Washington Office. He assumed his position in Ogden in 1989.

Southern Forest Service Retirees Association, 1720 Peachtree Road, N.W., Suite 850, Atlanta, GA 30367-9102. Printed in February, June, and September. 'Dues' are \$8.00 per year.



LETTERS FROM OUR MEMBERS—

Bill Paddock, Pauma Valley, CA. Some time ago I had a letter from Hanna Anderson, Waldemar Anderson's wife. She said that Andy had died on July 26, 1993, due to injuries suffered in a fall a day or two earlier.

Wally Anderson was transferred from Region 6 to the Florida T.P.W.P. project during World War II. When the war was over he became ranger on the Watauga District of the Cherokee Forest and was stationed at Elizabethton, Tenn. As I recall, he remained there until about 1954 when he transferred to the Ottawa Forest in Michigan.

The Anderson's had two sons and a daughter, all are living in the St. Paul, Minnesota area where the Anderson's lived after retirement.

Blanche and I are a bit past the age for traveling but still take care of ourselves in our own home quite well.

The February issue of the DR. was a good one. In spite of our many years away from R-8, we found a number of items of news that were of interest to us.

George Gibbs, Montgomery, AL. We're still hanging around Montgomery, AL and have enjoyed the last several years of retired life. Tried skiing and had to leave the tennis courts during the winter months. Almost make Colorado home in winter.

Last September, we discovered Mary has cancer so is undergoing treatment in hopes of some improvement. Needless to say, we're not moving around much this winter.

Enjoyed hearing from friends so look forward to new issues of DR. Keep up the good work. I do miss the old gang and to some degree the rat-race that brought us all together.

Have every intention of looking up Lucille Prater real soon.

Bert Cox, Norcross, GA. Way back there, sometime around nineteen-ought-six I used to snicker and chortle about the old duffers who would forget to pay their dues and now by the lord Harry I discover I am one of them. Here is some money that I hope will get me off the black list. *The Dixie Ranger* is a highlight in my life.

To all the Y-LT alumni if any are left, know that Sid Monk is alive and able to sit up and take nourishment.

Carolyn Taylor, Asheville, NC. *The Dixie Ranger* came the other day, and you can tell by the enclosed that I did see the little red mark by the address. Here's for another two years. I don't want to miss an issue. You all do a super job. Even though I am now among the senior-seniors I enjoy all the news and the

reminiscing; even see a name once in awhile that I recognize. Of course the obits hurt, but that's life.

In regard to stories of "how things were", I fear I am a bit short in that area. I remember how proud I was, when asked about my new (1943) job with the Forest Service, to say that "WE", the Forest Service, was teaching the Army how to train paratroopers. Also, it was about then I recall being so touched by the story of the rescue of a poor little bear cub orphaned by a forest fire.

I believe it would take up too much space here to tell about W.W.II rationing and getting stamps for sugar and bacon to include in meals for firefighters. Maybe some other time.

Of course the gals in the Supervisor's Office were not sent to the field much in those days. One A.O., when I showed interest in an assignment that included property inventory, remarked that surely I would not want to be out there with "just those men", have to climb a lookout tower, and probably have to wear pants!! Wow!! I could wisecrack about that, but I won't.

Before the Supervisor's Office got so big, the Rangers came to Asheville for a week of annual planning. Everybody from the Supervisor down to the least man and their families took one evening for a blast of a picnic—plenty of good food, happy conversations, and getting to know each other. It made for a fine working relationship, and a spirit of family that lasted for years.

As for me now that Belton has gone, I keep busy with church and club work plus a little gardening and writing. Every now and then I fly out to Arkansas and Texas to visit with kin folks; and of course there are welcome visitors who love our mountains.

Best wishes to you and to any who may remember me.

Dan Hile, Stearns, KY. Thanks for the reminder and push to have us folks say a little something besides just enclosing a dues check.

Although I don't know all the folks that write articles you publish in *The Dixie Ranger*, I read every word with interest.

I'm a Forest Service BRAT (second generation Forest Service employee—now retired). I have noticed several of our members have had old Region 7 experience. I'd like to take you back to the 40's. My Dad ("Spud" Hile) was assigned to the White Mountain NF at Conway, N.H. after working on the Timber Production War Board for the USFS in Manchester Center, VT. While Dad was working at Conway we lived in the Guard Station at Passaconway for about a year. The Guard Station was located near Swift River. We didn't have any electricity or indoor plumbing. Our nearest neighbor was a mile from us and we were over 10 miles from Conway. BUT, what a tremendous healthy experience that time in our lives was—swimming in that clear cold Swift River water and fishing every day for native brook trout in those many side brooks—and everything done as a family.

Later Dad moved to South Paris, Maine, as District Ranger. I was in high school then. On my vacations, Dad used to take me with him and the timber marking crew and use me as a tally man (we'd often stay 2 or 3 nights at various guard stations)—District Rangers marked timber back in those days. I didn't realize it at the time, but when I became District Ranger at the Somerset district on the Cumberland/Daniel Boone NF and on the Pisgah District on the NFs in NC, I figured out Dad was trying to get more production for his limited budget—not really, but Dad gave me exposure to the real Forest Service and I loved it and the folks that worked for the outfit. By the way, there were many days we marked timber wearing snow shoes.

It might interest some folks to know that my Mother and Dad were married 30 years before Dad's "early passing" and they moved 31 times (some moves were to another house in the same town, but just the same that's a lot of picking up and going). Those were great days and so were my 31 years with the Forest Service.

John Moser, Cleveland, TN. I continue to receive and enjoy *The Dixie Ranger*. Thanks for your dedication to the cause.

Leoan and I are celebrating our 43rd wedding anniversary tonight (March 10) at a district Scout banquet. After 25 years of Scouting I am beginning to phase down.

Good luck to Bill Hess in his leading role as President. I know he will work hard to continue the Association success. Perhaps we can get down for one of the luncheons in '94.

Jack Welsh, Tucker, GA. Here are dues for 2 years and as you always are looking for some interesting stories that happened in the old days, I submit the following:

When I was working on the Womble RD. under Ranger Loopy Lane as a J.F. in 1954, I took Bobby McLane, a brand new For. Aide, to Norman, AR, to train him in scaling logs at the sawmill. Just before quitting time Bob Dodson, Asst. DR., rode up to the sawmill yard in a log truck and told us that he had stuck the jeep in a creek and needed us to pull him out.

We borrowed a chain from one of the loggers and went to get the jeep. We pulled it out with a Chevy P.U. and started back to the Work Center with the jeep in tow. I told Bob to keep the chain taught while I was pulling him because the gravel road was a series of short ups and downs.

On one of these downs, Bob was blowing the horn and blinking his lights and was closing on our P.U. I realized that he had lost his brakes and I had to speed up to keep from being hit in the rear!

Well, sir, at the bottom of this hill the road turned to the left and in the curve was a large oak tree. I turned left and Bob tried to turn to the right to miss the tree. When the chain hit the tree with the P.U. on one end and the jeep on the other end, we both came to an abrupt halt!

Luckily, no one was hurt but the jeep suffered a bent front bumper. I got out and removed the chain and said that we'll leave the jeep for some one else to get it to the Work Center.

Max Peterson, Fairfax, VA. For some months now I've been planning to send you a note and with the red mark showing the need to pay dues—well it provided the needed impetus!

Jan and I are both fine but still working. Jan works 3 days a week at the CIA and I work full time as Executive V.P. of the International Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies which for 92 years has represented the 50 State Fish and Wildlife agencies as well as provinces of Canada, Mexico, etc.

Working with the Association keeps me involved with natural resources and resource agencies including the Forest Service. I also do a fair amount of participating in a variety of training programs for State and Federal people in natural resource. I was recently in Atlanta in a Fish and Wildlife Service training session which gave me a change to have dinner with Mary Maher and also spend a couple of hours in the Regional Office. I just came back today from a management policy seminar at Pinchot's ancestral home in Milford, PA. Thirty eight people including 35 Forest Service and 3 State Foresters participated.

With both of us still working and with 4 children and 10 grandchildren scattered from Florida to Seattle, Washington, we sometimes feel run down and look more seriously at retiring again.

We enjoy the newsletter and the news of F.S. friends. The obit info brings back pleasant memories and also sadness. We have "threatened" when we retire to visit old friends so please pass along our best wishes and anyone visiting here—the latch string is out—if we are home!

Odom McDaniel, Jr., Edmond, OK. I'd like to comment on the recent passing of Mrs. Ruth Schaap at age 92, as reported in the last issue of *The Dixie Ranger*.

Dona and I had been married three weeks when we were transferred to Walhalla, SC in June, 1956.

As I recall, Ranger Lester P. Schaap was a NY Ranger School graduate. I served about two years as Mr. Schaap's assistant until he retired, then stayed on a few more months until Don Thornton came as Ranger and Dave Ketchum came as assistant ranger.

During those 2 1/2 years Mrs. Schaap described to Dona many of the difficulties FS wives experienced during the acquisition and custodial days of R-8. She also helped prepare Dona for her role as a FS spouse.

Out here in OK there is a statue dedicated to the "pioneer woman". To me, Mrs. Schaap was the epitome of the "pioneer R-8 ranger's wife". We saw her last several years ago at a gathering in the RO in Atlanta, still a wonderful lady you hated to leave when the time came. We're so grateful we experienced the link to the early days of R-8 through the Schaaps and many others unnamed here.

Insofar as the two of us are concerned, we're happily situated in the same city (Edmond) as our daughter, her husband and our two OK grandsons. We get back to the Atlanta area occasionally to see our son and his wife and their two children (a grandson and a redheaded granddaughter).

OK is the last state still playing six on six girl's basketball. We got to see some of our niece play and now we're watching grandniece play. The state high school tournament is going on this week in Oklahoma City, so we saw a couple of 6 on 6 games last night.

Patrick Higginbotham, Atlanta, GA. Glad you threw my name in the hopper, I didn't think to contact you.

Hope everything is going fine, I just have one question Betty—does Bert's desk in Newnan look like the one he had while working? I always wondered who had the worst desk—Bert or Duff Holbrook! Duff won because of the tobacco juice in the top right hand desk drawer.

Hope to see you at one of the luncheons.

Don Eng, Columbia, SC. You are doing a good job of keeping us retirees in touch. Jean and I keep active in volunteer projects and traveling. We are spending most of our summers in Minnesota. I continue to teach at U-SC Adult Education program and at an elementary school. Also our men's church group are beginning our second house for Habitat for Humanity.

Greet our friends for us. Our SC retirees group meets 2 to 3 times a year. We average 20-25 for luncheons. Thanks for doing a good job.

Robert Pearl, Orleans, MA. I have just returned from a 10-day trip through Mississippi. Spent 3 days on the Bienville with Jim Barnes. Spent a day with Roy Shill on the Homochitto. Roy is 83 and still kicking. Didn't get to see Ralph Posey and others but expect to go back again. Saw Vic MacNaughton for about three hours in Jackson. Vic and I compared old memories. He started on the Bienville in 1934.

I went to Oxford and call Don Gerred and met with Chandler Carr, 94 years old. He ran the store at Taylor, MS. Chandler's store was headquarters for the Flood control Project around Taylor. I took Don down there one day. Don was wearing Forest Service greens. One of the fellows sitting on the verandah said "Bob, those gully plugs you fellows (SCS) build, hold back the water

and the ducks fly in there. I sneak up on the dam, the ducks go back against the walls of the gully and I get every one."

I introduced Don and told the fellow this is the head game warden from Jackson. The fellow laughed and said "Bob, that was Sears, Roebuck talk, if it doesn't fit, I'll take it back" and we had a good laugh.

Roy Stalnaker, Elkins, WV. Here's a check to cover a couple of years - you all do a great job and we enjoy reading about people in the South.

We've had a severe winter—coldest in many years along with more snow than usual—even for West Virginia.

Seems there are more retirements—saw a couple on the Mississippi that I worked with for several years. The Monongahela has a fairly active retiree groups, so we stay abreast of the news.

Thanks for all you do.

Clifford Faulkner, Lake Placid, FL. There must be a special place in heaven for people like you two who devote so much time to such a fine cause. I hope all the "Association" members appreciate this as much as I do.

Last Jan. witnessed my fourteenth year of retirement from the FS and tomorrow, March 6, is the 14th anniversary of my beginning work with the Florida Division of Forestry as Supervisor, Blackwater River State Forest, Munson, FL. I will have been retired from the Division nine years in April.

Surely, my membership must be about to expire. The enclosure is to save you the trouble of dunning me! *(Clifford, you are paid up through the year 2000! The last time I tried to return a check to a member because I thought he wouldn't want to be paid up that far, he returned it to me the second time—so, I kept yours and recorded it accordingly. Thanks...Betty)*

I still sing in the Bass Section of First Presbyterian Choir. My avocation is wood turning. During the past year I attended a four-day workshop in wood turning conducted by Rude Osolnik, Berea, KY. Rude is the Grand Old Man of wood turning in the US.

Don Morriss' memoriam was the source of much nostalgia. One of the fires Lou Mielke mentioned was on the slopes above Valley River in Cherokee Co., NC. Lou came to the fire and relieved me. I went by the fire tower where Hollis Clark was the lookout and had a belated supper. While there Hollis spotted the beginning of the Turn Gap fire. The arsonists used a box of kitchen matches and created the beginning of a 6700-acre fire, possibly the biggest ever for the Tusquitee RD.

But I digress; several years earlier an eager beaver sub-District Ranger on the Blue Ridge Parkway had built a trail across NF land and established an overlook—going the usual permitting procedure. A permit was issued for 8 or 9 acres for the special

use and things settled back to normal. About this same time the marking crew prepared a sale adjacent to the Parkway on the old Mt. Mitchell District. Property lines had been neglected since before W.W.II and the marking crew, working in a snow storm, strayed across the line. The following summer the Park Service marked the property line and discovered that the timber had been sold and cut. The Park Supervisor came to Don Morriss breathing fire. Don calmly said "You built a trail on us, we cut your timber. Looks like we're even, doesn't it?".

I think Elaine Schaap McConnell may appreciate the following. It was related to me by Ben Phillips, Fire Warden on Tusquitee Creek. Lester Schaap discovered a moonshine still on the Tusquitee RD and told Ben of the experience. When he approached the still, the moonshiners disappeared and left the still in operation. Ranger Schaap saw that a half gallon jar placed under the worm was about to run over so he moved it and put an empty in its place then proceeded to write a note telling them to move the still off the Forest. Ben said, "Ranger you should be more careful. If the law saw you they would arrest you for aidin' and abettin'".

I recall numerous such anecdotes told to me by Grady Waldroop. Some printable and some not, but all of them amusing!

Fred Newnham, Gainesville, GA. Here is a check for 3 years dues. We may be a year behind but at least this should carry us awhile.

This time last year I had double pneumonia following open heart surgery and for a bit I thought maybe I had paid my dues—period!

But I seem to be doing ok now and we have taken 22 trips to Pennsylvania and one to Florida. Our next will probably be to Arizona and New Mexico to check on people and places we knew 50 years ago! We enjoy the DR. You are doing a great job.

Vera Thorsen, Asheville, NC. Sorry I am late in my dues—time does fly when you are older. I am enclosing money for 2 years plus some for expenses.

I am still here in Asheville and this time seriously thinking of getting rid of my big house and letting somebody else do all the work.

I am still bowling and today rec'd two awards. One for high game 172—62 pins over my average and also a total of 432—102 points over my overall average. Very good for me. I see Bob Thatcher quite often because we belong to several of the same organizations. I play bridge with Betty Hanlon, Rachel Joyner and several other FS wives. I plan to go to Minneapolis to my 57th high school class reunion in June.

My son Jim is still Ranger on the Ocala NF in FL. We were together during the holidays. I had a nice trip to Branson, MO., last fall. Del and I were there 50 years ago when Del attended a school in Mountain View, AR. At that time it was "God's Country" It sure isn't now! Fred Ames was Ranger at Mountain View then.

I did not last long in Mountain View. I went home to Mpls. for 2 weeks and when the session was over, Del met me in Springfield, MO, and we went back to Mena, AR.

Enjoy getting my *Dixie Ranger*. You all do such a fine job in keeping us informed. I want to say hello to Harry Rossoli and tell him I still have his painting he did for me of the "Blond Girl on the Beach". I love it.

Ruba M. Allen, Cleveland, TN. Here is my check for 1994 dues. Never remember how much dues are, or to send a check until your reminder arrives. Surely do enjoy *The Dixie Ranger*. Still see letters from and names mentioned of quite a few people I worked with on the Cherokee in SO and others I knew in the RO.

I stay busy all of the time. My husband, Carl, passed away August 11, 1993, and am still involved in taking care of rental property and all that is involved with passing of a spouse.

We had four children and three of them live in Cleveland, for which I am very thankful. One son lives in Knoxville and gets home as often as possible. The three here in Cleveland teach school and the son in Knoxville works for Knoxville Symphony Orchestra.

Those of you who remember Clodene Whaley in Personnel on the Cherokee may not know she hasn't been well. She is doing better now. Also, her husband, Sam, passed away 2 1/2 or 3 months ago. She has someone with her day and night.

Appreciate hearing the news from retirees. I attend the NARFE meetings here and visit occasionally in the Supervisor's Office.

Gerald D. Scott, Kennesaw, GA. I noticed the little red mark on my address label so was reminded that my dues were overdue. Here is my check for another year. I enjoy reading the news in *The Dixie Ranger* and especially letters written by people I have worked with such as Bill Bryan and his wife Bobby; Bob Neelands and Barry Nehr. I first knew Bill Bryan in Arkansas where he was District Ranger on the Ozark-St. Francis NFs. Then also in the Regional Office along with Bob and Barry. I am saddened when I get the word that someone I worked with in the Forest Service had passed away but, of course, that is only natural and something we can all expect at some time.

I add my appreciation for the work you do on *The Dixie Ranger*. Thanks and good luck to you and others who have contributed.

Arthur G. Steedley, McRae, GA. This is to bring you up-to-date on turpentine production. Telfair County, Georgia, has only one producer whereas the date of my retirement, 1965, there existed 434 gum farmers. Sawtimber was selling for \$30 per thousand Bd. Ft. Today, to my knowledge, only five area foresters are living. The oldest one is E. O. Powers and I rank second, 84 in June. Began my career with Capt. Eldridge in 1933. Am blessed with these many years.

Heidi Wright, Jackson, MS. Thanks so much for reminding me (gently!) that my dues are due again. Now that I'm among the ranks of the 'officially' retired FS folks, I most surely don't want to miss a single issue of *The Dixie Ranger*. I enjoy it so very much. You guys really do a great job.

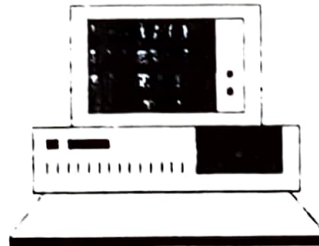
With all the re-inventing of Government and retirement incentives being offered, I expect your subscribers will be (if not already) increasing rapidly! Four of us on the NFs in MS took advantage of it in January and at least 2 more I know of are leaving the end of this month. Expect a lot more will be gone by the end of this year.

Here's some dues for a couple of years—please keep those issues coming. Love to hear from and about so many old (no double meaning here!) friends. I love retirement. Funny—but I don't feel old! It's the world's best kept secret that you start getting younger the minute you retire. I love it! Looking forward to the next issue.

A note from your Editors:

Many, many thanks to all of you for writing. I am especially pleased with the letters recalling incidents in your life with the Forest Service. You may notice some clip art in this *Dixie Ranger*. I upgraded my computer and am still learning all the features of neat things I can do with it. I hope to have more than just plain typing in our newsletters in the future. I love this computer and all the various programs associated with it. It is a pleasure to get *The Dixie Ranger* ready for the printer. If you don't see your article that you sent in for this issue printed, don't worry. I am saving it for the next issue. This one has the new 1994 Directory attached and I needed space to enclose it with this issue.

Your response to our Questionnaire was excellent! I plan to recap some of the comments and suggestions and will have them in the next issue of *The Dixie Ranger*.





Welcome New Members

Dick Bonyata, 13 Caroline Ave, Lake City, FL 32055

Mrs. Jackie Gregory, 111 Long Point Drive, St. Simons Island, GA 31522

Harvey B. Mack, 1235 Bridgeport Rd, Corona, CA 91720

John A. McLemore, 578 Buena Vista, Hot Springs, AR 71913

David G. Oates, 1402 Sleepy Hollow, Lufkin, TX 75901

E. F. (Al) Peffer, 35 Chelsea Ct., Avondale Estates, GA 30002



BUYOUT PLAN PASSES SENATE—The buyout bill, the Clinton Administration's plan to reduce the Federal work force by 252,000 without resorting to "reductions in force", passed both Houses. The legislation offers up to \$25,000 to employees who resign or retire early before March 31, 1995. (*The Washington Post, The Washington Times* 3/25/94).

The question, asks Mike Causey in his column "Federal Diary", is whether most of the departures will come from the 50-somethings or the 20-to-30 age group and whether the retirees will be a large enough number to achieve the reduction goal. Agencies will decide which workers get or are excluded from early retirement offers, made on a first-come, first-served basis. (*The Washington Post, Federal Diary*, 3/25/94).



Can You Believe This?—The Federal Personnel Manual, basic reference relied on by government managers or personnel specialists for 50 years, was tossed in the trash January 27, 1994. The manual, ridiculed by vice President Gore, included instructions on how to label file folders and a system to register Federal employees after a thermonuclear war. The Office of Personnel Management Director declared, "This dinosaur is officially fossilized and is going away." (*The Washington Post, The Washington Times* 1/28/94).

In Memoriam

ROBERT A. (BOB) CAMPBELL, 83, died on June 15, 1993, in Michigan and was interred there. Mr. Campbell was a 1932 graduate of Michigan State and began his career on the Chippewa NF. He went to work with the Tennessee Valley Authority in 1935 and moved to the Southeastern Experiment Station in 1945. He retired in early 1970 and lived in Pisgah Forest, NC since that time.

He is survived by his wife, Arline.

ROSEMARY JAMES, 82, wife of retiree, George S. James, died January 19, 1994 in Sonora, CA. Mrs. James was a native of Ferndale, Humboldt, County, and for 23 years made her home in Sonora. She is survived by her husband of 61 years; a son, Jerry of Santa Cruz; a daughter, Patricia Hollingsworth of Tulare; a brother and two sisters and three grandchildren.

LELAND J. PRATER, retired Forest Service photographer, died April 1, 1993. Upon retirement, Mr. Prater worked for 20 years as a volunteer to index a half-million agency photographs. For recognition of his contribution to American forest history, he was elected a Fellow of the Forest History Society.

Charlie Sebesta, retiree from the Lake George Ranger District, Ocala NF. Mr. Sebesta passed away in Arkansas in February 1994.

EDWARD A. SMITH, 70, Marietta, GA., died as a result of injuries from an auto accident on March 16. Before his retirement, he specialized in timber management of tropical forests for the Forest Service. He is survived by five children; two grandchildren; and one great-grandchild.

GEORGE SMATHERS, retired B&F Section Head from the Southeastern Station passed away on February 23, 1994. During his career he worked on the Francis Marion & Sumter NFs, NFs in Ala, and Schenck CCC in NC.

GEORGE VITAS, retiree from the WO, died on April 1, 1994. He is survived by his wife, Betty; two daughters; one son and five grandchildren.

GUY M. WILKINSON, 92, died January 26, 1994, in Lake Charles, LA. A native of Warrensburg, NY, he lived in Hot Springs for 20 years before moving to Lake Charles 10 years ago. He worked for the U. S. Forest Service and U. S. Indian Services for 30 years. Survivors include his wife, Mildred of Lake Charles; one daughter; two grandchildren; and six great-grandchildren.

✓ ALVA B. WILLIAMS, died February 12, 1994, at home after a long battle with cancer. He is survived by his wife, Evelyn, and four daughters.

FRANCES K. CHRISTENSEN, 85, died on December 16, 1993, following emergency surgery. She is survived by her husband of 57 years, John I. Christensen.

Our deepest sympathy to these families.

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RECENT RETIREMENTS THROUGHOUT THE SERVICE:

National Forests in Alabama: Jim Covington
Don Kight

Regional Office: Johnny Rogers

Washington Office: Jeff Sirmon, Deputy Chief
International Forestry

Southwestern Region: Larry Henson, Regional Forester
Albuquerque, NM

There are many more but at press time, this is all we had.

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THEY CALLED 'EM "WORKSHOPS"

Some of the strongest memories I have of my Forest Service days are of the so-called "Training Workshops", mysteriously scheduled to somehow coincide with either (1) the migration habits of lemmings or (2) rating times for supervisors. The objective of these workshops seemed to be that the unqualified should attempt to instill the irrelevant into the unwilling. The memories become so vivid, sometimes, that I have to go lie down for awhile.

Prime planning consideration for these meetings was site selection (Ha!! You just THOUGHT this had something to do with trees). Those in charge of this vital function gave great attention to the technical training services available, such as the presence and quality of swimming pools, palm trees, beaches, and floor shows. Nearness to good seafood was essential. And DISTANCE was a crucial element. A place too close to the home office ("wives") was bad because of possible interruptions to concentration ("where's the hospitality room?"). If the chosen spot was far enough away, it became a "Retreat", and automatically attracted many GS-14's.

The particular meeting of which I will report was located after much in-depth study (nine feet at the deep end). The purpose was for training in what used to be I&E. Of course, it is now "Public Affairs Office," a name that disconcerts me (we tried to keep 'em QUIET, for Heaven's sakes!). Anyway all things basic to successful training were available, including the "Fisherman's Platter at \$7.95 at the nearby restaurant.

This Workshop was to focus on effective ways to publicize the current Forest Service message ("Shut up out there!") to ALL areas of the public, regardless of how disinterested they THOUGHT they were. In charge of the session was Jack Kelly who, at the time, was at the PEAK of a mediocre career (his words, not mine). His task was to convince us to simplify, simplify, SIMPLIFY everything we did.

We first identified our various "audiences." Class members called out names to Jack of all the various groups in our society, and he would scribble them down on a huge chalkboard (the size of the chalkboard is computed as a direct function of the importance of the meeting). Soon, almost every square inch of the board was covered with chalkwords. But one last concern was voiced. It was for the "financially disenfranchised." Jack searched for a space—up, and down, left, right, diagonally. None left! There just wasn't a spot to be found. The quest was in vain, and it went on for considerable time that grew embarrassing. Jack was completely stymied and ready to give up on salvaging this precious gem when a voice from the rear said, "Jack, just write in 'Poor'." Aha!! There WAS room for THAT, and Jack bravely stuck it into one tiny spot left as the class erupted into howls of laughter.

And so another meaningful workshop draws to a close. I believe it's time to go lie down.

Submitted by Bob Neelands

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If you are going to go looking for evidence of life on other celestial bodies, you need special instruments with delicate sensors for detecting the presence of committees.

From The Medusa and the Snail by Lewis Thomas



WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

George Blomstrom
105 Abbott Circle
Harrisonburg, VA 22801

Leon A. Cambree
14796 County Road 3200
Rolla, MO 65401

Anton Decker
607 Lincoln Ave
Marion, VA 11747

Jean Emery
3633 Colony Lane, SW
Roanoke, VA 24018

Jim Flanders
145 Bayou Lane
Russellville, AR 72801

Ed Fraser
Rt. 1, Box 780
Sanderson, FL 32087

Marvin Hoover
212 Iowa Avenue South
East Wenatchee, WA 98802-5441

Lewis Kearney
933 Old Charleston Rd.
Cleveland, TN 37312

John Kech
Rt 2, Box 1340
Warren, TX 77664

Walt Robillard
1601 Berkeley Lane NE
Atlanta, GA 30329

Chester A. Robinson
1431 Northside Dr.
Conyers, GA 30207

Daniel H. Sims
3779 Meadow Wood Dr.
Lawrenceville, GA 30244

George P. Stevens
1475 Mecaslin St NW # 7111
Atlanta, GA 30309-2286

Kie Vining
1101 NE 145 Ave Rd
Silver Springs, FL 34488

PLEASE MAKE THE FOLLOWING CHANGES TO THE DIRECTORY:

Dorotha Banville from Canton, NC to: 5312 Circle Dr., Spring Hill, FL 34607

William V. Cranston from Ft. Lauderdale, FL to: St. Martin's-in-the-Pines, Room 951, 4941 Montevallo Road, Birmingham, AL 35210

Walt Gray's zip code to 30033

Ray Hall from Conley, GA to: 190 Balfour Dr., Winter Park, FL 32792

Dan Hile from Stearns, KY to: 4256 Tamargo Dr., New Port Richey, FL 34652

Robert Hitt from Marietta, GA to: P. O. Box 719, Boulder Junction, WI 54512

Charles Hunnicutt from 10 Hunnicutt Lane to 152 Hunnicutt Lane, Franklin, NC 28734

Owen Jamison from Rt. 2, Box 203 to 743 Chateau Est. Rd., Lavonia, GA 30553

Robert J. Lentz, from Tucker, GA to 13477 Evans Farm Lane, Pungoteague, VA 23422-0387

Ed Littlehales add 3301 to zip code—34285-3301

Clyde D. McDonald from RR 6, Box 337 to: 14121 NE 14th St Rd, Silver Springs, FL 34488-9806

Jim Morphew from Rt 1, Box 199 to Route 1, Box 799, Glenwood, AR 71943-9138

Fred Newnham from 3598 Thompson Bend to: 729 Simmons St., Gainesville, GA 30501

Philip Newton from 122 Maple St to 104 Maple St. Franklin, NC 28734

Hazel R. Olson from 75901 to 75902-1542

Mrs. James R. Padgett from Rt 2, Box 105E to: 103 Hemlock Farms Rd., Highlands, NC 28741

Max Peterson, from Fairfax, VA to: 209 Colleen Ct.NE, Leesburg, VA 22075-6045



For your information:

John W. Mixon retired as Director of Georgia Forestry Commissioner on August 1, 1995. David L. Westmoreland has taken his place.

Mike Curran, Ouachita Forest Supervisor, retired on September 23, 1995. Al Newman, formerly Forest Supervisor of the National Forests in Texas, became the Supervisor of the Ouachita in November.



You know you've become a Senior Citizen when the doctor and Mother Nature both begin to let you know in no uncertain terms that you can no longer do what you always DID.