



DIXIE RANGER

SOUTHERN FOREST SERVICE RETIREE ASSOCIATION

Suite 901 1720 Peachtree Road, N.W., Atlanta, GA 30367-9102

Editors: Bert and Betty Bray

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MARCH PROGRAM

President Tom Smith presented the program at the March luncheon. He presented information on The Living Will and the Durable Power of Attorney for Health Care. In Georgia, two laws permit residents to refuse in writing life-prolonging medical treatment. The Living Will allows residents to dictate their own wishes. Residents may also appoint an agent to make medical decisions for them under the Durable Power of Attorney for Health Care law. Most patient rights advocates say people should have both to ensure that their wishes are followed.

The Living Will is a written document which instructs your doctor to withhold or withdraw certain medical procedures which would merely postpone the death of a dying person. The Living Will becomes effective only if the patient has a terminal illness and is near death. The Living Will must be witnessed by two people not related to the patient or who have no claim on the estate.

The Durable Power of Attorney for Health Care gives a person you designate (your agent) broad powers to make health care decisions for you, including power to require, consent to, or withdraw any type of personal care or medical treatment for any physical or mental condition. The Durable Power of Attorney for Health Care is for future use, not imminent death. In the POA you have the option of indicating if you want your life prolonged or not. The most important thing regarding this document - trust the person whom you name to be your agent.

Copies of both of these forms may be obtained from local hospitals, many physicians' offices, or by writing the State Office of Aging, 878 Peachtree St., Room 642, Atlanta, GA. 30309 or The Medical Association of Georgia, 938 Peachtree St., N.E., Atlanta, GA 30309.

The Dixie Ranger is published in February, May, August, and November. Dues are \$5.00 per year payable at the beginning of the year. Please notify Editors of any changes in address.

JACK KIRBY RETIRES!



John O'Brien "Jack" Kirby, claims specialist in the Southern Region's Lands and Minerals Unit, retired on March 20 having completed an astounding 58-year career with the Forest Service. He had the longest career in the history of the agency.

Jack will be 80 years old on April 14. He was born in Grand Rapids, Michigan. He attended the University of Michigan at Ann Arbor and in 1933 he earned a bachelor of science degree in forestry. His first job and assignment with the Forest Service was in 1933 on the Pisgah National Forest's Grandfather Ranger District in North Carolina. He worked with the Civilian Conservation Corps for nine months for a yearly salary of \$2000.

Kirby later worked in various positions on the Ouachita National Forest in Arkansas, National Forests in Florida, and the Cherokee National Forest in Tennessee. He was Ranger on Mississippi's Homochitto District for nearly 20 years.

Kirby was drafted in WWII as a private in the Army in 1943. He served in General George Patton's Third Army in Europe where he spent seven months in actual combat. He was commanding officer for all medics in the 448th Automatic Weapons Battalion and was discharged from the Army after three years as a Captain with four battle stars.

For the past 25 years, Kirby has worked in the Regional Office's Lands and Minerals unit as group leader for claims, status and landlines. During this time the Southern Region won 149 land related lawsuits. "Kirby played significant roles in winning each lawsuit and was a key player in the planning and funding for the Landline Boundary Program from 1966 until 1987. Under his guidance, 33,054 miles of boundary line were surveyed and monumented in the Southern Region," said Regional Forester Jack Alcock.

"Kirby's experience, wealth of information and knowledge of the Forest Service have made him invaluable," said Chuck Steele, Director of the RO Lands and Mineral Unit. "We think of him as a kind of living history book."

Jack and his wife, Agnes, plan to stay in the Stone Mountain area.

Congratulations, Jack, from all of us. May you enjoy a long, healthy retirement!

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CORRECTION - In the February issue of the Dixie Ranger the Volume number was incorrectly typed as XXI. This should have been XXII. For those of you who may be keeping copies, please change your copy.

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While we are talking about corrections, do you remember seeing the empty space in the last issue? I meant to go back and put a brief paragraph about the dues. At the beginning of each year we plan to indicate on the first issue of the Dixie Ranger the year through which dues are paid. That way you will be able to keep up with your dues. Sometimes during the year if dues have not been paid I will write on the front of each issue the year through which dues are paid, and if by the end of the year (4 issues) dues have not been paid, then that name is dropped from the mailing list. All of you have been excellent in keeping your dues current and we appreciate your effort.

I am so excited about this issue, I must share this with you. I was given a computer with word processor capability. My neighbor who runs a business from her home uses a computer. Her brother is a consultant to businesses for data base programming. When he up-dated her computer, they gave me the old one. I was in shock for several days. But this is a fantastic machine and will make printing the Dixie Ranger so much more fun and readable. Of course, I haven't worked my way through my manual entirely, but could not wait to start typing the DR so I am learning on this as I go. So please let us hear from you. It's an absolute pleasure to get on this machine and type your letters. Everyone write! We want to hear from all of you - and so do your friends.

THE LITTLE DATIL

By Robert N. Neelands

One of the most pleasant things about working for the Forest Service in what now might be termed "the old days" was knowing the people who, taken together, made the organization the fine outfit it was. Gazing back down memory lane (a favorite pastime of some of us senior graduates), I recall glimpses of folks whom I knew a little or a lot -- like snapshots in an album.

Take Ted Lacher, for instance, who was in Timber Management in the RO. I didn't know a lot about Ted other than the fact that he was one heck of a nice guy. But I had heard that he had a passion for hot peppers, and seldom found any that were fiery enough to be worthy of serious consideration.

Now here in a very small area of northeast Florida grows an unimpressive-looking, thumb-sized light green pepper called "datil", each one of which can activate a Geiger counter at ten paces. Datils are always preserved in vinegar, presumably for the flavor. However I have always suspected that this liquid is essential for the same reason that water is required around the core of a nuclear reactor -- prevents complete meltdown. I tried one once, and haven't been able to whistle on-key since.

So it was only logical that Ted and the little datil should become acquainted. The meeting was in my cubbyhole office one noontime.

Ted opened the jar, took out a pepper, and delicately munched half of it. Now, one of the few things that I did know about Ted was that his expression seldom changed. There was a rumor that he had chuckled once, but that was not well documented, and not widely believed. While his expression was always pleasant, it seldom varied other than running the entire gamut between calm and unruffled. I watched carefully to see if this tranquillity would be affected.

But as he slowly and thoughtfully consumed the second half, there was not even the tiniest hint of reaction. Then on to the second pepper, nibbled appreciatively and completely unhurried. Again, not the slightest flicker of emotion. However, I did begin to notice a bit of a sheen appearing on his forehead as if he had just walked through fine mist. Daintily he savored the third pepper. Expression still placid, although now there were tiny droplets of moisture on his brow and upper lip. But no other effect could I detect. His was a contented, bemused look. I began to wonder if perhaps I had gotten a jar of duds.

I couldn't stand it any longer. "How are they, Ted?" I asked. What escaped from him was not words. What came out was more like steam being vented from under high pressure in a wheezy, whistling sound. He cleared his throat explosively and tried again. This time I could make out three words: "They're not bad," but these tortured noises weren't easy to understand. They were about halfway between a gurgle and a death rattle, about an octave higher than his usual voice, and gasped out as if he had a very large linebacker sitting on his chest.

Ted made a motion as if to pick out yet another pepper, but he and I both knew that this gesture was sheer bravado, and that he had enjoyed just about all the pleasure he could tolerate at one sitting.

As he left with his treasure, I noticed a tiny dark trickle of perspiration staining the back of his shirt. Only then did I know for sure that Ted had found a worthy opponent at last; only then did I realize that for a very brief splinter of time, I had been in the presence of true greatness.

(Thanks, Bob - B & B)

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Dan Hile
P. O. Box 711
Stearns, KY 42647

Leslie M. Oliphant
2701 Little Oak Lane
Rescue, CA 95672-9623

Billy & Cora Sue Page
105 Woodland Hills Dr.
Oxford, MS 38655

Ann Strauss
5385 Saffron Dr.
Dunwoody, GA 30338

Please change the following name in the directory from: Hayes, Orville - 824 Stracener St., Alexandria, LA 71301 (page 7) to: Haynes, J. Orville. (I'm sorry about that Mr. Haynes).

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Cliffs Closed to Protect Falcon

Some rock climbers, rappellers and hikers are being asked to make room for nesting peregrine falcons on the National Forests in North Carolina, since three recreation spots will be closed from February-July 15.

To protect the endangered peregrine falcon during its nesting period, the NFs in North Carolina will close Whiteside Mountain, the north face of Looking Glass Rock and the North Carolina Wall for rock climbing and rappelling. Hiking in the general area at the base of the North Carolina Wall in Linville Gorge Wilderness and the north face of Looking Glass Rock is also restricted.

"Hikers far above and below a nest site rarely bother the birds," said U.S.F.S. wildlife biologist, Lauren Hillman, "although rock climbers or hikers near the site disturb the nesting pair enough to cause nest abandonment or reproduction failure."

"These closures are the result of a team effort between area rock climbers and the Forest Service. They helped us determine the best management for these nesting sites, said Hillman. "The closures also protect rock climbers from being attacked by peregrines if the climbers come too close to the nest sites."

Since 1984, the Forest Service, North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission, USDI Fish and Wildlife Service, and The Peregrine Fund, Inc., have worked in cooperation to reintroduce the falcon into its former habitat.

Historically, the falcons nested in the forests' cliffs, but they were wiped out by DDT and related pesticides. These pesticides adversely affected their ability to reproduce.

Peregrine falcons, an endangered species, have returned to the National Forests in North Carolina after many years of absence. "In 1991, we had four nesting pairs on the National Forests. We hope the closure will speed the falcon's recovery," said the wildlife biologist.

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Six Point Agenda Award

The Six Point Agenda Focus Award honors an individual who by his or her efforts has emphasized one or more of the Chief's agenda points in carrying out program duties. The agenda areas of focus are: workforce diversity, partnerships, grass roots support, customer satisfaction, multiple-use framework, and innovative, people-oriented culture. This year's award was presented to Hoyt Abney, Assistant Director for Administration, Southeastern Forest Experiment Station, for his creativity, leadership, coordination, and hard work.

Over the past several years Abney has exhibited outstanding leadership in the development of cooperative education programs for black Americans at Alabama A and M University and Schenck Job Corps Center. The Schenck Job Corps program will feed selected candidates to pre-forestry and forestry education programs at Alabama A&M and graduates will have the opportunity to work at Forest Service locations throughout the country.

Abney has also made improvements in administrative expense accounting, hiring practices, awards programs for health and safety, and training. He strives to build support for all shared services programs that he administers, maintaining his philosophy of customer satisfaction.

Congratulations, Hoyt!

From Friday Newsletter, February 14, 1992



LETTERS FROM OUR MEMBERS

Leslie M. Oliphant, Rescue, CA. - Having noticed the retirees' address in the last Roster of the Pacific Southwest FSX Club, I am writing to try to join the Southern FS Retiree Assoc.

I retired in California after 10 years here, but I have spent the period from 1953 through 1969 in the Southern Region - on the Ouachita, Texas and NFs in North Carolina, and the S&PF, Timber Management, and Operation Divisions in the RO, both at Peachtree 7th and at Peachtree Road.

Not knowing what the dues are, I am enclosing a check for \$20 hoping that will pay this year's dues, and perhaps for a copy of the Roster and any back issues available. Should there be anything remaining, put it into "misc." which I'm sure is always needed.

Thomas H. Hooper, Ft. Smith, AR - Oops! The enclosed check is to pay 3 years dues for the Dixie Ranger.

I'm just as optimistic as Erma Miller, but a 71 year "teen" can't be expected to invest as soundly as the Mature Adult.

We enjoy every issue and appreciate the fine work of Editors Bray. Keep 'em coming. (Did you get your February issue, Tom? Your letter came at the same time we had just mailed the February issue. If you did not get your issue, please let me know - Betty).

Bill & Neva Williams, Jonesville, LA - Here is a check which should keep the Dixie Ranger coming for awhile. I sure do enjoy it. We live a long way out in the country (22 miles) and anything is welcome out here on the bayou. We don't get our morning paper until about 1 p.m. when the mail man runs. We do have telephones and for the directory our number is (318) 386-7621.

I saw a note from John & Sue Chaffin and it made me wonder if John is making home brew any better than he used to. When he lived at the old Evangeline Guard Station on the Kisatchie NF it was terrible.

Neva and I still fish a lot but not as much as we used to. We have kind of lost interest since we live on the bayou and it is connected to 3 lakes. We still keep plenty in the freezer so if anyone drops by and wants fish we have a plenty.

We are into our fourth motorhome (each one got larger) and travel about 7 months each year. We spend a lot of time in Arkansas going to Bluegrass Music Festivals. There is a large group of us that make several Festivals here in a 5 state area. When it gets hot about late June or early July we take a vacation until September and travel either to the West coast and

Northwest or to the Northeast and into Canada. We try to see a few of our old F.S. friends along the way. Maybe we will make it your way some day unless you live in Atlanta. We avoided it like the plague for 33 years and it certainly has too much traffic and people for us now.

Caroline Taylor, Asheville, NC - It's always good to get the DR and news about other retirees. Unfortunately there are fewer and fewer names that I recognize. The old guard seems to be passing on.

Here in Asheville I do have occasional chats with the Hanlons, Mielkes, Fanny Lane and Vera Thorsen. As for me - well, of course, nothing is the same since I lost Belton, but I'm chugging along. I keep busy - church historian, some extension work, and this year president of the Salvation Army Women's Auxiliary. Fortunately, I have a nephew next door who helps look after the place and keeps an eye on me.

Hope all is going well for everyone, and a very special hello to those who might remember me.

James "Bob" Padgett, Highlands, NC - Here is a check for dues 1993 to whatever it lasts. Gloria and I enjoy the Dixie Ranger and think you are doing an excellent job with it. As J. D. Gay said in the February DR, it helps us to keep up with many of our Forest Service friends. As to be expected at our ages, however, many of those old friends are gradually dropping out. I was saddened to read in the February DR about the passing of W.O. Stewart, Bob Wiese, and Tom Swofford, three with whom I shared my career. As we grow older I often recall part of a poem by William Wordsworth:

Though nothing can bring back the hour
Of splendor in the grass, of glory in the flower:
We will grieve not, rather find
Strength in what remains behind...

Gloria and I are involved in the American Chestnut Cooperators Foundation efforts to develop a blight-resistant American chestnut. Behind our homesite, on national forest land, we have grafted cuttings from blight-resistant trees onto the stumps of the sprouts which still arise from killed chestnuts. Of 25 grafts we have 5 survivors which we hope will grow and flower and cross-pollinate and perhaps one day produce a chestnut which can resist the Asian blight. We also have a small orchard of American chestnut seedlings, grown from seeds of such cross-pollinated blight-resistant trees. Other FS retirees might enjoy participating in efforts to restore the American chestnut.

Our best news is a national forest timber sale which extends from behind our house on Rich Mountain to the Georgia State line. This sale employs selection cutting, group selection, and irregular shelterwood and NO CLEARCUTTING. There will also be no burning, no herbicide use, and no system road construction. It is certainly a pleasure for me to finally support a Forest Service timber sale, and of course even this one has critics who wish to stop all cutting on national forest land.

Charles Aulds, Cleveland, TN - So sorry to be late with my dues. I enjoy the Dixie Ranger very much. You do an excellent job. Thanks for keeping me on your mailing list.

George Cabaniss, Russellville, AR - Keep it coming for 4 more years. Great job you folks doing.

Thanks to Joel Nitz for the write-up on Ozark NF and Carl Benson. Would you believe after 30+- years even age management is still there.

Hal Bush, Harrisonburg, VA - Check enclosed for more retiree news. Thanks for helping so much to keep the past and old friendships alive.

I continue to write stuff to help fight off the take-over of national forest management by non-professionals. Pete Hanlon says he likes my remarks, so if you can put up with them and/or need something to fill in, just let me know. (Mr. Bush, do send us articles from time to time - we'll use them, and thanks.)

Remer Crum, Atlanta, GA - Thanks so much for the work you and others do in publishing the Dixie Ranger. Emily and I keep busy with things. We travel whenever we can - both in good health - thank the Lord!!

Roy Stalnaker, Elkins, W.VA - Here is my check to keep the Dixie Ranger coming. We enjoy reading about all of our friends from Region 8. Margaret and I moved back "home" to West Virginia last year. I am an officer with a local bank - First State Bank Elkins - and enjoy something entirely different than my 33 years with the Forest Service. Margaret is still involved in the stock market and travels to Jackson frequently. I have attended the Forest Service Retirees function here with many friends from the Monongahela (where I began my career). Best wishes to all.

John and Harlowe Johnson, San Augustine, TX - Time really passes fast these days. The copy of the Dixie Ranger arrived with a note on the front saying "Your subscription expired 1991." We really enjoy reading about those friends that we knew in the years past. Our memories are refreshed and we love knowing that for many all is well.

For us, we are enjoying our golden years with the things we never had time to do while we were younger. We will be celebrating our 60th wedding anniversary on July 17th, along with our two daughters, our son, ten grandchildren, four great grandsons, and another one expected in October. Also, we love and enjoy our relationship with all of our "in-laws" that have added greatly to our family. Best wishes always.

Congratulations on your upcoming 60th wedding anniversary!

James and Ruby Cheek, Kennesaw, GA - Ruby and I took a trip to Santa Fe, New Mexico, to visit our son and his wife who presented us a grandson, our first. He came on January 24 and he was 3 weeks ahead of time. He's named Taylor James and he weighed in at 7 pounds and two ounces.

We arrived in Santa Fe on Wednesday, the fifth of February and Ruby ended up in the emergency room at the hospital the next morning. They

recognized her problem right away ALTITUDE sickness. Santa Fe is 7000 feet above sea level (Mt. Mitchell is just 6711). They told her to get back in familiar territory fast. So we had to cut our visit short, but we did hold on until the 17th of February.

Last year was not a good year for me; I had to have quintuple bypass surgery at St. Joseph Hospital the middle of September, but I recovered enough that I made the trip to New Mexico O.K.

I enjoy the Dixie Ranger and you are doing a wonderful job getting the news to us. Keep up the good work.

Bill Legrand, Blairsville, GA - Enclosed dues for a few years. Getting the Dixie Ranger and news is great - both the good and bad. Able to walk 9 holes golf just about every day. Hike some trails. See the highest mountain in Georgia every clear day.

Lucile Scott, Youngstown, AZ - I knew 3 people who were told about in the last issue, but I still enjoyed reading it.

It is over 32 years since Milton retired and so, of course, people have come to work and retired since then. He did enjoy retirement for 25 years.

I have moved to a new apartment (corner) M4 but if its too much work to change my address - I still get my mail.

You kids are doing a grand job with the Dixie Ranger.

Harry Tomlinson, Winter Park, FL - Thanks for the reminder about dues in the latest Dixie Ranger. We both enjoy reading the DR and wouldn't want to miss an issue.

Sarah C. Agent, Tioga, LA - I read that I have missed a lot since you do such a magnificent job of reporting in Dixie Ranger.

In 1975, Jim and I became world travelers. I wish I had the time and the energy to write about the places and things that we have done. We made every state in the "Good Ole USA" but 2, all the provinces of Canada and Nova Scotia and Alaska. I travelled to 15 countries in Europe also. This was quite (the trips to Europe) an experience since the group was from eleven states and Hawaii was represented. (Oh! for the good ole days when you bounce out of bed ready to face any and all tasks and whatever).

I wish that sometime all the personnel who were assigned and passed through (this includes from top to bottom class) the Evangeline Ranger District could stop by for a visit. We had Washington visitors once!!

I have seen many of my former students (Forestry majors) from college go on to make many successes. And I am just "jealous" enough to think that maybe, just maybe in some small way that I had a part in their success. As any of them would (or will maybe) tell you I drove a "hard" bargain with the forestry students - but it was their careers that I was molding

and believe me, they all came through with flying colors with one exception. May God continue to bless them all and the lives they touch.

There are so many I would like to hear from - so if you see this and feel inclined, please drop me a note to tell me about yourself.

The Nathan Byrd's were here a couple weeks ago -- glad to hear directly about and from them. Anyone know where Dean Wm Blackburn is?

Best regards to all who know me and good luck to everyone.

John F. King, Berea, KY - Enclosed is a check for my 1992 dues. Still keep my feet damp in forestry here at Berea College in Kentucky. Appeared in a documentary "Wilderness Road" produced by KET. You can now call me John "Wayne" King. Greetings to you all.

Lucile A. Isbell, Union City, GA - I'm so sorry I can't come to the club meeting this month (March). Seems like ever time it comes up something happens to me. Right now I'm recuperating from pneumonia and I'm still having trouble with my one and only eye. But I am better.

I'm sending my 1992 dues to you for I enjoy the newsletter so much. You and Bert do such a good job. I love everyone and when I get the newsletter I feel like I've had a visit with the members. Don't let me forget to keep up my dues.

Nancy P. Greenwood, Franklin, NC - The latest Dixie Ranger states that I owe dues for '92. Enclosed is my check. I was pleased to read the whereabouts of Yvonne Hunt. Am sending card to her today. We were good friends while living in Houston, Texas. The Hunts, Eriksson's, Greenwoods, Alcotts and several others had many good times together. I miss Tom's snappy remarks while editor of the Dixie Ranger.

Bruce Strickler, Fern Park, FL - Thanks for the reminder on the latest Dixie Ranger. I haven't ever been assigned to R-8, but I know many of the people whose names appear in your publication and am always interested in news of them as well as what your organization is doing. Some day I may even get to attend one of your luncheon parties.

Bill Bergoffen, Silver Springs, MD - Just back from the Fla. Keys (our 30th + year), stirring up the fish, warming up my aging hide, restoring vigor and a zest for life. In our first mail there was the Dixie Ranger and in it, joy and sorrow, and embarrassment in re: dues. (The enclosed check should remedy this). I "gobbled" up Bob Neeland's kind words, and agree that more of our fellow-retirees should take all of us back on the memory trail. We hold a great store of dramatic, interesting incidents and events in the "early days" that should be brought back into the light. My sadness is in learning that the "light" has gone out for some of our old comrades - men and women alike; Norm Weeden and Myrtle Connaughton among them.

Bill Bryan, Stone Mtn., GA - You two are real jewels - if the Dixie Ranger isn't the best retiree newsletter I'd like to see a better one!

Russ Daley's story about his introduction to John Tom struck a spark of memory. There never was any doubt about who ran the Ouachita after the initial contact with John Tom. If so, you were pretty dense!

The tribute to Carl Benson by Joel Nitz was wonderful. I first met Carl when I was assigned as the District Ranger on the Bayou R.D. in 1957. He was heading up timber in the S.O. at that time. He moved over to Land's Staff shortly afterwards. There was never a more dedicated person assigned land acquisition than Carl. If they had given Carl a blank check for acquisition on the Ozark he would have bought every available acre within the Forest Boundary - and at bargain prices. Carl didn't know an eight hour workday existed.

I'm not sure if Bert Cox reads the Dixie Ranger but Bert if you are there - do you remember our dusky dark trip with Carl on the North Fork of the Bayou - and the sinking feeling when the road crossing the stream disappeared on the other side?

The news of Bob Wiese's death shocked me. I thought Bob was tough as whetleather and would live forever. If memory serves me right (and it probably doesn't), Bob came to the Ouachita from a District Ranger job in North Carolina. He was also a Ranger in Florida.

Bobby and I attended a reunion of the Iwo Jima Survivors at the Marine Recruit Depot at Parris Island, S. C., during the week of February 19, 1992. It was our 47th anniversary of the landing at Iwo and it was a very moving experience.

I can report that the U. S. Marines are in good hands. The D.I.'s are just as kind and motherly as they were in the 1940's. I'll be forever thankful I went through Boot at San Diego rather than Parris Island.

Re the March luncheon - Tom Smith did his usual bang-up job in his presentation of the Durable Power of Attorney and Living Will. He's a real powerhouse! I've asked him to cover the subject at our South DeKalb NARFE Chapter in June. By the way, all of us should belong to NARFE - they are about the only organization really looking out for Retired Federal Employees.

You two keep up the good work - you are the glue that holds us together!

Bill Cranston, Ft. Lauderdale, FL - May I say that I considered it a privilege to have enjoyed a career with the U. S. Forest Service. It is my humble opinion that the integrity and devotion to their duties is not exceeded by any other government agency and not equaled by very many.

Keep up the good work! (Note: Mr. Cranston retired in 1965).

Lee and Dot Slade, Pineville, LA - We do look forward to getting the Dixie Ranger. We enjoy hearing or reading about our old friends. You both are doing such a great job and it is appreciated! Enclosed are my dues for this year and a couple of more years.

Our health, at this time of our life, is very well, for which we are thankful. We have done some traveling in Europe and Alaska. We are hoping to take a cruise to Hawaii soon.

Lee is still going strong, he's being written up in Who's Who at this time. I'm really enjoying my free time since retiring from the school system.

J.K. Vessey, Winter Park, FL - (On stationery depicting the entrance sign of the Allegheny National Forest, PA) This is where I started my forestry career in 1924, the year after I helped the loggers clear-cut the last of Penna ancient forest. Shame on me for being so tardy with my dues and support money. Use the enclosed check as you see fit. I promise to send more to keep my dues up to date in future.

My eye sight is failing fast, one eye already gone. Best wishes to all.

Mary Carolyn McCullough (Mrs. Joe), Ocala, FL - Many thanks for the beautiful and moving account by Bill Bergoffen entitled "Swing Low, Sweet Chariot."

Hob Howard's report of assistance he received from Gifford Pinchot is of great interest. The Joe McCulloughs and Hob Howards lived near to each other in Tallahassee, 1938 and later. Harry Wright's letter about Ed Howell's death, with Harry's mention of his wife Sara Nell, brought back memories of long ago. It is my impression that Joe and I called at Sara Nell's family home in downtown Lake City in the dim past.

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Here's What's Happening Among the Membership

Paul Russell was elected to Fellow in the Society of American Foresters for outstanding service to forestry and to SAF.

Bob Hitt and wife, Val, are managing a F. S. campground in Sitka, Alaska, this summer.

Shirley Herbert promised to look them up as she plans to be in the area in June.

Harry Rossoll is scheduled for cataract surgery.

Ruth Schaap, wife of Ranger Lester Schaap, resides in the Snellville Nursing & Rehabilitation Center, 3000 Lenora Church Rd, Snellville, GA 30278. Mrs. Schaap is 91 years young!

Deepest sympathy to Viola Meltz whose sister passed away in January.

Brooke Davis is a member of Volunteer Gainesville, a United Way agency, and was featured in *The Times* recently on his work as a Volunteer. Mr. Davis delivers meals as part of the Meal on Wheels program several times a month.

It was reported at the March luncheon that Ruth Gray suffered a fall in her home.

It was also reported at the luncheon that Tom Barron, a former pilot with the Forest Service, Aviation & Fire Unit, died in March.

RETIREMENTS

Bennett Foster, Economist, Planning & Budget Staff, RO, retired in January.

Charles Hilton, Francis Marion and Sumter NFs, retired January 3, 1992.

Dick Flannelly, WO, Land Management Planning Staff, retired February 28, after 31 years of service.

In Memoriam

Evelyn Partee, age 69, died February 14. Evelyn is survived by two sisters, Sara Gwin and Ruth Holloway. Evelyn retired in 1972 from State and Private Forestry.

Richard V. Bowman died March 1. Richard retired from the Civil Rights Staff Unit.

John R. Tiller, age 77, died in November 1991. Mr. Tiller was a former State Forester of South Carolina.

Lionel Johnson died April 15 during open heart surgery in Atlanta. At the time of this printing I was not able to obtain any other information about Lionel. He retired from S&PF Fire Management in the early 80's.

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ZIP CODES

The Post Office informs us that by 1995 all mail will be fully automated and 9-digit codes will be required. If you know yours, use it on correspondence when you write to us, and we'll get it in the system now, rather than having a rush later. This is also a good way for us to hear from you. Please write as you give us the extended zip code.

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The photograph of Jack Kirby was furnished by Max Silvera, Forest Service Public Affairs Office, Southern Region. Thanks, Max, for photo and news release.

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Dates to Remember

June 25 - luncheon, Petite Auberge Restaurant, 11 a.m. for fellowship, lunch at noon. Ken Henderson, Forest Supervisor, Chattahoochee NF will present a slide talk on "What's New on the Chattahoochee-Oconee."

September 26, Saturday picnic at Chastain Park, American Legion Hut, 12 noon, eat at 1 p.m.

December 3, Christmas luncheon, Petite Auberge Restaurant, 11 a.m., lunch at noon.

For luncheon dates, please call in reservation to Andrea at 347-4178 anytime before Tuesday the week of luncheon.

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Happiness is a perfume that you cannot pour on others without getting a few drops on yourself.

-- George Bernard Shaw

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Cleaning House for Earth Day

Even though we missed this issue for Earth Day, which was April 22, its use can be applied at all times of the year. The following Tips for a Green Home came from the National Wildlife, March issue.

Although cleanliness may be next to godliness, some household cleaners are environmental demons. This Earth Day resolve to make a clean sweep of your cleaning habits to help protect the environment.

Many common items such as cleaning products and bug spray contain ingredients that are toxic, corrosive or flammable. And when they are disposed of improperly they can act as pollutants, leaching into ground water. However, many household toxics can be replaced with safe, economical substitutes.

Here are ten easy ways you can make a fresh start when cleaning your home.

AIR FRESHENER Add spices, such as cinnamon stick, to a pot of simmering water. Mix aromatic flowers and herbs to create fragrant potpourri or keep houseplants to purify the air.

DRAIN OPENER Pour two handfuls of salt followed by boiling water into drain to clear pipes. Repeat twice a month to help avoid clogging.

INSECTICIDES Spray plants with soapy water to kill aphids, mites.

KITCHEN CLEANSER Use salt and baking soda as scouring agents for sinks, ovens and refrigerators.

LAUNDRY Replace detergents with washing soda or pure soap flakes. Check detergent labels and make sure that products are phosphate-free and are biodegradable. For a fabric softener, add one cup white vinegar of 1/4 cup baking soda to the final rinse.

METAL POLISH A mixture of lemon juice and salt or lemon juice and baking soda cleans brass and copper. Apple cider vinegar is good for polishing chrome surfaces. Soak silver in boiling water with baking soda, salt and a piece of aluminum foil.

MOTHBALLS Spread cedar chips on newspaper in closets.

STORAGE Use paper bags, paper wrapping and glass containers instead of plastic wrap, bags or containers.

WINDOW CLEANER Mix 2 tablespoons of vinegar in 1 quart of water. Use newspaper rather than paper towels.

WOOD POLISH Mix 1 part lemon juice to 2 parts vegetable or olive oil, or combine 1 tsp. lemon juice with 1 part mineral oil.

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A Reminder - please don't forget to call in your reservations for the luncheon on June 25. Reservations should be made no later than June 23.

Dixie Ranger
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