



The Rendezvous

The Newsletter of the Rocky Mountain Forest Service Association

Volume 7 - Number 2

Good News!

Thanks to Rocky Mountaineers

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"The official newsletter of the Rocky Mountain Forest Service Association, the Rocky Mountaineers." Editions are published Fall, Winter, and Spring and posted on-line.

The Rocky Mountaineers have established a permanent memorial college scholarship fund to assist deserving high school students who are directly related to current Rocky Mountaineer members or are endorsed by a Rocky Mountaineer member.

One objective of the scholarship fund is to provide a donation opportunity for members and families, friends and associates of Rocky Mountaineers who wish to honor and pay tribute to a loved one.

The inspiration of the Memorial Scholarship was to honor **Clint Kyhl** who passed in February of 2015. One of Clint's core values, as a steward of public land, was to provide for quality and diverse education experiences for families. We presented our first scholarship of \$1500 in 2015 and awarded two additional scholarships in 2016, 2017, 2018 and 2019 respectively.

The Rocky Mountaineers are proud to announce the winners of the **2020 Memorial Scholarships!** We had 29 applications this year and as usual, it was difficult to decide on the winners.

This was the first year we had two scholarships just for those studying in natural resources and the first year we offered four scholarships. Each scholarship is the same as last year which is \$1,500.

We had eight applicants who were natural resource majors. The winners were **Karlee Nielsen** and **Dawn Russell**. We had twenty-one applicants who had other studies for their majors. The winners were **Matthew Mettler** and **Casen Allmon**.

We want to thank all the applicants and their sponsors for their interest and participation. And, again, many thanks to all of you who have generously donated to the Scholarship Fund. All of you make the growth of this program possible.

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(continued from Page 1)*Karlee Nielsen*

Karlee is graduating from Meeker High School in Meeker, CO. She plans to study Wildlife Management and Ecology at Montana State University.

Her interests are far-reaching and diverse. She has maintained high academics while also completing numerous college credits. She has a broad appreciation for the natural environment and the multiple use opportunities of the national forests.

"I am sincerely grateful and honored to be receiving this scholarship. I appreciate the committee's dedication to giving back to younger generations, especially for those who will be following in similar footsteps. This award will greatly reduce the personal burden of my college expenses as I begin to pursue my educational and career goals. I have grown very passionate about Wildlife Biology and with this scholarship I hope to make a positive impact on the wildlife community."

She is sponsored by Bob Sieger.

*Casen Allmon*

Casen is graduating from Montezuma-Cortez High School in Cortez, CO. He plans to study Mechanical Engineering at Colorado Mesa University.

"I plan on pursuing a degree in mechanical engineering through a partnership program with Colorado Mesa University and University of Colorado. I am so appreciative to receive the Rocky Mountaineers scholarship. As I reflect on my childhood the most fun I've ever been blessed to have was being with friends and family, shooting trap, fishing, hunting, and enjoying wildlife and nature. I will continue to honor the values that the Rocky Mountaineers represent because I share a passion for hunting, the environment, conservation, and the outdoors."

He is skilled as a great problem solver with a fun sense of humor. A community service advocate with 1,500 hours of volunteer service, he also maintained top academic scores. To quote one of his references, "he is dedicated to being a scholar and an important citizen to our community."

He is sponsored by Bob Sieger.

*Dawn Russell*

"I am very appreciative of this scholarship! I can't wait to start my adventure at Colorado State which was made possible with the help of this scholarship. Thank you for giving me this opportunity."

Dawn is graduating from Eagle Valley High School in Gypsum, CO. She plans to study Geology at Colorado State University.

Raised by her grandmother, a former Forest Service employee, Dawn worked consistently through high school to save for college. Dawn's employers recognize her as an outstanding individual and praising her work ethic and determination.

She is sponsored by Carol Hindman.

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Matthew Mettler

Matthew is graduating from Air Academy High School in Colorado Springs. He plans to study Chemical Engineering with a business minor at the Colorado School of Mines.

"I was very excited to hear that I received the Rocky Mountaineers scholarship! I am thankful to Bill and Linda Young for sponsoring me. This scholarship will help me tremendously next year to help buy books and pay for other fees. I'm extremely grateful and can't wait for college!"

The focus of his pursuit of a degree in mechanical engineering is the development of life saving pharmaceuticals and improved medical technology. A star cross country and track and field athlete, he is also dedicated to academic excellence, mentoring others, and enjoying recreational experiences in the national forests.

He is sponsored by William H. Young.

Save That Date - Maybe!

Registration for the Annual Gathering scheduled for September 8-9 in Woodland Park, CO is currently on hold. We expect to make a decision on this event by July 15. If we decide to proceed with this event, registration will open at that time.

How To Contact Rocky Mountaineers

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TomThompson, tommylthompson@comcast.net, 303-933-2135

Membership & Others - P.O. Box 270462, Fort Collins, CO 80527

Western Heritage Gives Back

Helping Us Say Thank You

Denver, TV - Channel 31
April 28th, 2020



Mike Lynch knows a little bit about serving on the front line. He is a West Point graduate, United States Army veteran and the president of [Western Heritage in Loveland](#), a metal casting company. “We started with belt buckles in the 70’s, when everyone who was anyone had a cool belt buckle. Today we have expanded into the casting of key chains, cuff links, tuxedo buttons, chess sets, lapel pins, golf bag tags, custom hardware, cast coasters, coins and anything you can imagine.”



*Mike Lynch,
President,
Western Heritage.*

These days, Lynch has a deep appreciation for front line workers. “In times like this, the people that never intended to be at risk are out there doing their daily job which is actually really essential to the rest of us,” Lynch said.

Lynch wanted to say thank you the best way he knows how. And it starts with a simple pewter coin with a simple message...**Colorado Strong** or **America Strong** and then on the back it’s just a simple **Thank you**, Lynch said.

The beauty is the simplicity. You simply give the coin to a front line worker, or anybody really, just to say, thank you. “We have to have cashiers, we have to have people that run out to the curbside to give us food, we got to have people that make sure the gas pump is working,” Lynch said.



Each coin is just \$3.00. Order a bunch right now to hand out.



All the thank you coins are made by hand in Loveland from solid pewter. “These are people that are doing a common every day job but the rest of us benefit from their service.” In times like these, Lynch says don’t underestimate the power and love of just two simple words: thank you.

Here’s a link to the story:

<https://kdvr.com/news/local/pewter-coins-made-in-loveland-show-appreciation-for-front-line-workers/>

Hello from the Chair



Bob Sprentall - chairman of the Rocky Mountaineers.

By now we have all been overwhelmed with the sayings, “Stay at Home,” “Safe at Home,” “Social Distancing” and on and on and on. But have we looked at what the new normal will be? I think back to 9-11 with the influx of additional security and the precautions we took. Now another type of precaution has become the new normal. What will

the new normal of the future be like? We all have taken great steps to flatten the curve of what has been called the COVID-19 Pandemic, yet life must go on. As far as the Rocky Mountaineers are concerned, the scholarship committee has met via teleconference and made outstanding selections for our scholarships. Even though we had to postpone the Memorial Grove ceremony we are still planning to hold this event later in the fall. The same is true for our annual gathering. The events may look different and will be conducted in a manner that meets CDC and State guidelines. I am hopeful these events will be able to continue to enable the gathering together of lifetime friends.

My wife and I have been fortunate to live in western South Dakota where we have not been placed under a state-ordered stay-in-place order. We have been

given the responsibility to take it upon ourselves to follow the guidelines set forth by CDC to flatten out the curve. We have the freedom to get out and experience life while exercising a respect for the rules. Not all of us have been that fortunate and there are some of our members who live in hot spots where the pandemic is overwhelming. It is rewarding to know that there is a focus to spend time outdoors and that we as a Forest Service organization are part of making that available to all.

Maybe it is time to reflect on small pleasures in life, such as waving to your neighbor from a distance. Spending time with family. Sitting on your porch or deck and enjoy what is around you. Take a hike, bike, or spend time on the lake. Is it time for us as a nation to evaluate our priorities in life and to join together as one family not thinking about ourselves but what is best for each other?

That is what has impressed me in my career with the Forest Service. No matter where I went, I was part of a Forest Service Family. We can rely on each other to help our communities come together for a common cause.

Thank you to all the folks who over the past several months have kept the Rocky Mountaineers in a functional state and moving forward. We still have some hard decisions to make, but I have confidence in this cohesive organization that we shall rally together to continue to improve, whatever life brings to us.

A saying I like comes from President John F Kennedy “Ask not what your country can do for you, ask what you can do for your country”. It is the same today as it was then.

Membership and Finance Report

Our membership is currently 447 members. We are still dancing around the 450-member mark which we have never reached. Help us recruit a few more members!

Our newest members

David Loomis - Littleton, CO
 Lee Ann Loupe and Monte Melanson – Delta, CO
 Jon Morrissey and Colleen Hannon – Granby, CO
 John Natvig and Lucinda Schuft – Hot Springs, SD
 Ronald and Stephanie Thibedeaux – Woodland Park, CO
 Mari von Hoffmann – Missoula, MT

We always appreciate donations to support our funds for Memorial Grove and Rocky Mountaineer Scholarships. You can make a donation at any time during the year.

The Memorial Grove fund is used to support the Memorial Grove site in Monument, Colorado and our ceremony in May of each year.

The Scholarship fund is used to award scholarships to graduating high school seniors for their first year of college. For the first time, we awarded four \$1,500 scholarships in 2020.

2020 Donors to the Memorial Grove Fund

Terry and Joy Armbruster – Lakewood, CO	Phil and LeAnn Cruz – Washougal, WA	Wallace Gallaher – Arvada, CO
John and Patricia Ayer – Yachats, OR	Steve and Patricia Deitemeyer – Wheat Ridge, CO	Barbara Goode, Paonia, CO
Bill and Lois Bass – Sheridan, WY	Judy and Rusty Dersch – Lakewood, CO	Sid and Wonda Hanks – Lakewood, CO
Lee and Dottie Carr – Cedaredge, CO	Karen Edstrom – Gunnison, CO - In Memory of Neil Edstrom	Janice Harbach – Custer, SD
Janice Chapman and Edward Mauch – Gunnison, CO	Mary Lu Eilers – Golden, CO	Cindy Hockelberg – Missoula, MT; In Memory of Robin Kay Inhelder
Teresa and Tom Ciapusci – Lakewood, CO	Ed and Jeannie Fischer – Custer, SD	Bruce Holmlund – Delta, CO; In Memory of Phyllis Goad
Mike and Marjorie Clinton – Evergreen, CO; In Memory of the Good FS Folks	Marvin Froistad and Shelley Amicone – Loveland, CO	Jo and Wayne Ives – Carbondale, CO
Dick and Judy Coose – Ketchikan, AK	Bob and Shelley Frye – Colorado Springs, CO	Lynn and Lyn Kolund – Custer, SD

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John and Sally Korb – Lakewood, CO	Donna Ripley – Montrose, CO	Greg Thompson and Shirley McCabe – Monte Vista, CO
Cristie Lee – Ft. Collins, CO; In Memory of Eric Jensen	Gary and Janie Roper – Pueblo West, CO	Daniel and Marilyn Anne Wagner – Glenwood Springs, CO
Pat and Patty Lynch – Encampment, WY; In Memory of Dr. Dennis “Denny” Lynch	Deb and Tom Ryon – Evergreen, CO	Jack and Kathy Walton – Missoula, MT
Barb and Bill Ott – Arvada, CO	Ed and Mae Schultz – Colfax, WA	Dawn Appleby – Covington, WA; In Memory of Clarence Joseph Simones
Sig and Judi Palm – Sheridan, WY	Glenn and Heidi Snyder – Lakewood, CO	
	Rich and Karen Stem – Alder, MT	

2020 Donors to the Scholarship Fund

Teresa and Tom Ciapusci – Lakewood, CO	Darrel and Lynn Kenops – Meridian, ID
Pete and Leah Clark – Monte Vista, CO	Monica and Jevon Klingler – Collbran, CO
Mike and Marjorie Clinton – Evergreen, CO	Paul and Robin Langowski – Ft. Collins, CO
Steve and Susy Coupal – Kalispell, MT	Cristie Lee – Ft. Collins, CO
Phil and LeAnn Cruz – Washougal, WA	John and Peggy Morrison – Lakewood, CO
Bjorn and Marty Dahl – Golden, CO	Bob and Jan Newlin – Durango, CO
Ed and Jeannie Fischer – Custer, SD	Lee and Bill Nightingale – Rolla, MO
Marvin Froistad and Shelley Amicone – Loveland, CO	Sig and Judi Palm – Sheridan, WY
Wallace Gallaher – Arvada, CO	Dave and Deb Pieper – Bismarck, ND
Linda Gerrans – Hot Sulphur Springs, CO	Neoma Quintana – Ignacio, CO
Ellen and Johnny Hodges – Ft. Collins, CO	Frank and Susan Roth – Powell, WY
Bruce Holmlund – Delta, CO	Jerry and Jeanetta Schmidt – Laramie, WY
Rick and Patricia Hudson – Custer, SD	Dave and Jan Thom – Custer, SD
Jack Infanger and Bonnie Watson – Glenwood Springs, CO	Nancy and Greg Warren – Golden, CO
Jim and Lisa Jaminet – Saguache, CO	Fred and Marianne Winkler – Ft. Collins, CO
Tommy and Camille John – Lakewood, CO	Dave and Margaret Wolf – Lakewood, CO
Susan and Matt Kay – Laramie, WY	Linda and William Young – Custer, SD

Rocky Mountaineers 2020 - by the Numbers

2013

The year Rocky Mountaineers are established

4

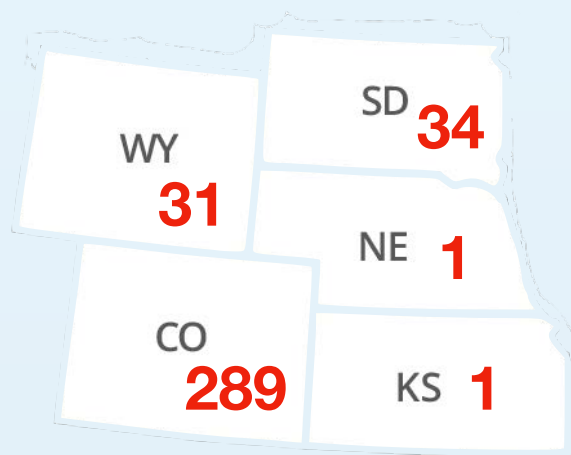
College Scholarships awarded this year

216

Different zip codes among members

26

States with members



Members by state in the Region

15

Members without e-mail

136

Members using e-mail with gmail.com

Donations to Memorial Grove Fund this year

\$2,235

131

Lifetime Members

Donations to Scholarship Fund this year

\$2,285

447

Members of the Rocky Mountaineers - 5.1.20

Rocky Mountain Region Memorial Grove Ceremony

Postponed - Update by July 15, 2020

As previously reported, the Memorial Grove was postponed because of the COVID 19 situation. Because of the continuing uncertainty we felt it best to wait and try to have the ceremony in September in close association with the Rocky Mountaineer Gathering which is scheduled to be held in Woodland Park. The "Gathering" is still scheduled to be held on September 8 and 9 and we are tentatively planning on having the Memorial Grove Ceremony on Thursday September 10. All families that indicated they

planned to attend have been notified that we will make a decision, confirm this date, and provide an update of our plans by July 15, 2020. Likewise, a decision on whether the "Gathering" will be held will also be made at the same time. So we will wait and see how things progress with the "new" reality of social distancing etc. before we make a decision. We also will be evaluating options and alternatives should we not be able to proceed as we have tentatively planned for September 10.

The names of all the 2019 Honorees and six "not forgottens" and their remembrances have been posted on the Rocky Mountaineers website under the tab entitled "In Memory." The final listing is shown below:

2019 Memorial Grove Honorees

Henry Emerson (Hank) Bond	Rio Grande, San Juan, Neb., Bighorn, Med. Bow
Clair William Brown	White River, Arapaho-Roosevelt N.F.s
Andrew Joseph (Andy) Cadenhead	PSICC, Med. Bow Routt NFs
Jack Douglas Cameron	Roosevelt, Bighorn, Black Hills, Med. Bow NF's.
Richard Peter (Rick) Caissie	Arapaho-Roosevelt N. F.
Frances Kathy Collins	White River NF
Patrick Collrin	PSICC, Pikes Peak and Leadville Districts
Stephen Edward (Steve) Curran	Medicine Bow N. F.
Harold Davis	Medicine Bow N.F.
Jacob Gary Diedtrich	Black Hills N. F.
Violet Louise Fitzpatrick	Bighorn N. F.
George H. Geiger	Nebraska and PSICC NF and NG
Phyllis Goad	Grand Mesa, Uncompahgre, Gunnison N. F.
Joseph Lee Goodge	Rio Grande N. F.
John Henry Hill	Regional Office, Engineering/Cartography

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Eric Jensen	Arapaho-Roosevelt NF
Donald Eugene (Don) Kistler	Black Hills NF
Ainsie Lee	Regional Office, Administration
Dennis L. (Denny) Lynch	Pike N. F., Roosevelt N. F.
Stanley Demond Mason	Regional Office, Soils
Robert McAtee	Regional Office, Cartography
Donald Paul Mecklenburg	San Juan, Shoshone, and PSICC
Billy Bonifacio Montaña	Rio Grande N. F., Del Norte R. D.
Alex-Cine Napolitano	Bighorn and San Juan NFs
Lois Statler Hooks Phillips	Regional Office, Administration
William J. (Bill) Piloni	Grand Mesa, Uncompahgre, Gunnison N. F.s
Donald George Rivers	R. O. Engineering also R-4, R-10, and W. O.
Ralph "Jerry" Stevenson III	PSICC, Bighorn, R-3, R-6
Myron Tjarks	R. O. Administration
Judy Lee Williams	R. O. S&PF, Area Planning and Coop For.
Jack Allison Wolfe	Routt, San Isabel, Medicine Bow N. F., R-9
Richard E. (Woody) Woodrow	White River N. F., R-5, 6, & 10

Not Forgotten

		Year Deceased
Argel H. Bury	Black Hills N. F.	2018
Ralph Leon Cockrell	San Juan, Medicine Bow N. F.	2012
George W. Darlington	Medicine Bow N. F.	2004
Daryle Eugene Gibson	Medicine Bow N. F.	2018
Harvey Peter (Hoot) Gibson	Shoshone, Black Hills N. F.	2015
Robert Prater Kelly	Shoshone, San Juan, FWS	2011

Saguaro Gigantea Luncheon for “Smokey”

R-2 Southern Bureau



Patty Lynch, Smokey Bear and Pat Lynch.

Nearly two dozen Rocky Mountaineers and former Region 2 retirees were part of a luncheon held in Carefree, AZ at the home of Andy and Debbie Mason on March 11 just days before things pretty much shutdown across the country. In total, fifty seven retirees showed up for a belated 75th Birthday tribute to Smokey Bear. A Dutch oven meal was served and even though the weather was a little drippy that day, everybody had a great time. A silent auction was held as a benefit for the National Museum of Forest Service History and nearly a thousand dollars was raised. Denny and Cheryl Bschor took the lead in singing “Smokey the Bear” and everybody joined in singing along.

If you would like to view a short side show of this very special gathering just click on the following link.

<https://www.facebook.com/CAZUSFSRetirees/videos/669694500270604/>

Eight Rocky Mountaineers took in a Colorado Rockies game the day before and were able to see all the starters play for most of seven innings....this was just about the last game played in the preseason. Rocky Mountaineers and other R-2ers in attendance included:

Debbie and Andy Mason

Sue and Frank Roth and Ben

Patty and Pat Lynch

Glenda and Bruce Wilson

Linda and Paul Reis

Mary and Bob Sieger

Kitty and Tom Thompson

Bill Wood

Other Region 2 retirees who are invited to join the Rocky Mountaineers:

Carolyn and Jack Troyer

Cheryl and Denny Bschor

Charlie Fudge & Judy Devenuti

Biff and Tess Stransky

Got Some Extra Time?

Great References from the Forest Service History Learning Library

Thanks to Rocky Mountaineer Jeff Hovermale for this hot tip and the work of Victoria Smith-Campbell, the Geographical Information Services Coordinator for Region 2.



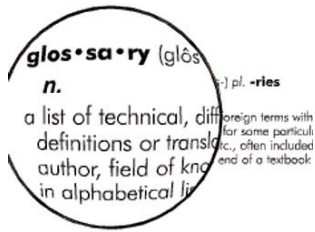
Learning Library

EXTENSIVE RESEARCH ON ADVANCED FORESTRY TOPICS

The National Museum of Forest Service History hosts an archive of extensive research related to forestry history. Browse our learning library below to increase your knowledge on a variety of Forest Service topics.

Interested in adding your research to our library? [Contact Us](#) today.

- **The National Museum of Forest Service History Learning Library:** <https://forestservicemuseum.org/learning-library/> has recently published the following relevant documents:
- **Rocky Mountain Region 2 – Historical Geography, Names, Boundaries and Maps** (288 pages) at : <https://forestservicemuseum.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/02/Rocky-Mountain-Region-Feb25-2020.pdf>
- **The Mapping of Our National Forests** (100 pages) at: <https://forestservicemuseum.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/02/Mapping-the-National-Forests-Feb2020.pdf>
- **Field Organization and Administrative History of the National Forest System** (58 pages) at: <https://forestservicemuseum.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/11/Field-Organization-Administrative-History-Nov19.pdf>



A Glossary

Both New and Old School

Editor's Note: This is part two of a "real" U.S. Forest Service Employee's Glossary. The genesis of this little project was over cocktails with Mike daLuz in a bar overlooking Washington, D.C. a number of years ago. He believed this would be a way to transfer that "old-timer" knowledge to the youngsters in the outfit and shortcut their transition time. Please

take a peek and send suggestions to the Rendezvous about acronyms and jargon you used during your time in the outfit. We gladly accept edits, comments, corrections and even notes to us on a speed memo. When we're done, we'll share Mikey's vision with the workin' folks at the USFS.

D.

DBH:

Diameter at Breast Height

DEIS:

Draft Environmental Impact Statement

Desired Future Condition:

A portrayal of the land or resource condition that is expected to result if goals and objectives are fully achieved.

Developed Recreation Site:

These are sites that provide for visitor comfort, convenience and/or educational opportunities.

DG:

Data General (former Forest Service computer system)...also abbreviated GD-DG when it was working poorly.

Directional Drilling:

The practice of drilling non-vertical wells.

Dispersed Recreation:

Dispersed means no services; such as trash removal, and little or no facilities; such as tables and fire pits.

DOA:

Dead on Arrival

DOB:

Date of Birth

DOI:

Department of Interior

DOJ:

Department of Justice

DOL:

Department of Labor

DOT:

Department of Transportation

DR:

District Ranger

DRF:

Deputy Regional Forester



Proper use of a drip torch.

Drip Torch:

A tool used in wildfire suppression, controlled burning, and other forestry applications to intentionally ignite fires.

Dwarf Mistletoe:

Mistletoes are parasitic flowering plants that can infect and damage many species of trees.

E.

EA:

External Affairs Staff Unit or Environmental Assessment or Environmental Analysis or Environmental Audit

Ecosystem:

A complete, interacting system of living organisms and the land and water that make up their environment; the home places of all living things, including humans.

EE:

Environmental Education

EEO:

Equal Employment Opportunity

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*(continued from Page 13)***Glossary continued****EIS:**

Environmental Impact Statement

ENG:

Engineering Staff Unit

EPA:

Environmental Protection Agency

F.**FACA:**

Federal Advisory Committee Act passed in 1972 to create an orderly procedure by which Federal agencies may seek advice and assistance from citizens and experts.

Also, the Florida Athletic Coaches Association

FAM:

Fiscal and Accounting Management

FAX:

Facsimile Transmission



*Hewlett-Packard
Model 1040 Fax
Machine.*

FEDSTRIP:

Federal Standard Requisitioning and Issue Procedures

FIO:

Fire Information Officer - possibly the most valuable person on a fire team.

FLT:

Forest Leadership Team

FMHA:

Farmers Home Administration

FOIA:

Freedom of Information Act

FONSI:

Finding of No Significant Impact. Has nothing to do with "Happy Days" television show.

Forb:

Broad-leafed, herbaceous, nongrass-like plant species other than true grasses, sedges, and non-woody plants; fleshy leafed plants; having little or no woody material.

FOUO:

For Official Use Only

FPO:

Forest Protection Officer or Fire Prevention Officer

FS:

Forest Service – also USFS

FSH:

Forest Service Handbook

FS-INFO:

Forest Service Information Library Service

FSM:

Forest Service Manual

FTE:

Full Time Equivalent

FWS:

Fish and Wildlife Service – also USFWS and F&WS

Fish Squeezer:

Slang term for a fisheries biologist.

G.**GA:**

Grants and Agreements Staff Unit or Graphics Artist

Gabion:

A cage, cylinder or box filled with rocks, concrete, or sometimes sand and soil for use in civil engineering, road building, military applications and landscaping.

*Wire
Gabion
Basket*

**GIS:**

Geographical Information System

GMUG:

Grand Mesa, Uncompaghre and Gunnison National Forests...also Gunny-Munk..Gee-Mug.

GPO:

Government Printing Office

GPS:

Global Positioning System

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Glossary continued

Green and Gray:

The color of the Forest Service vehicles back in the old days. Gray tops ended in the 1970s.

Green Underwear:

Slang for extreme loyalty to the Forest Service.

GSA:

General Services Administration

GSC:

Gunnison Service Center

H.

Henweigh:

About 2 pounds...in answer to the question; "What's a henweigh?"

Helispot:

A natural or improved takeoff and landing area intended for temporary or occasional helicopter use.

Hot Shot:

A member of an elite handcrew consisting of 20-22 wildland firefighters, with specific qualifications to provide leadership for initial-attack and extended-attack on wildland fires across the nation.

Hot Spot:

A particular active part of a fire.

HR:

Human Resources

HRP:

Human Resources Program

HUD:

Housing and Urban Development

I.

IC:

Incident Commander

ICP:

Incident Command Post

I & E:

Information and Education – (old school)

IDP:

Individual Development Plan

IDT:

Interdisciplinary Team

IF:

International Forestry

Indian:

An early firefighting metal backpack pump made by the Indian Company. Irreverent slang was/is "piss pump."



Indian Backpack Pump. "D. B. Smith & Company. Utica, N.Y., U.S.A." circa 1930s.

J.

Job code:

An accounting number that you write down on your Time and Attendance

JCCC:

Job Corps Civilian Conservation Center

*Pine Ridge
Civilian
Conservation
Center in
Chadron
Nebraska.*

**JHA:**

Job Hazard Analysis

J-Root:

An improperly planted seedling that takes a J-shaped configuration in the planting hole. Such seedlings often die prematurely, grow poorly, and are susceptible to windthrow.

*(continued in the next
edition of the Rendezvous)*

Jim Pringle is 6 degrees from Arnold!



An early shot of Jim Pringle (circa 1956) - before he worked for the Forest Service. (1980-2006)

He worked with **Kendall Jones** in the Regional Office's Information Resource Management from 1998 - 2005. (badly Photoshopped image of Jim and Kendall on a Hawaiian beach).



Smokey's 75th birthday was celebrated by many celebrities including **Arnold Schwarzenegger**.



Arnold!



Kendall Jones and his wife Marilyn, sons Michael (top) and Kyle. (2001) **Kyle** was born when Kendall worked on the Tonto National Forest from 1989 - 1993.



Alex Trebeck featured **Smokey Bear** as a category on Jeopardy to honor Smokey's 75th Birthday.



Kyle got real smart - Marilyn is a librarian - and went on the Jeopardy show and won \$141,000. He met **Alex Trebeck**.

Stay at Home Stories

Just a little sampler

Ellen and Johnny Hodges, Fort Collins

They are surviving but kinda stir crazy. They just want to eat at a real Mexican restaurant!

Ellen is walking daily miles but not Johnny who sprained his ankle snowboarding in February.

Ellen has made lots of face masks for friends and family including 8 year old Ellie. Johnny's is made out of cat print fabric and Ellen's has sharks.

Johnny's working on photo albums from their trips in 2013 and 2014. Time to catch up on those dusty projects!

Paul and Mary Peck, Greeley

Mary and Paul are pretty much staying at home. Paul has been doing a lot of postponed yard work, and helping with Church and HOA paperwork from home. Mary is sewing masks that go to frontline health providers. They are more fluent in Zoom events with their kids and grandkids, plus their Bible study group. They still do their own occasional grocery shopping, with masks of course. And they also stay connected by phone, letters, and email.



Carl Chambers

I've been filling fly boxes, working out, doing a few home improvement projects, and trying not to drive Mary Ann too crazy. Wishing we were still in New Zealand (not really, they're completely locked down, too).



Mary Ann Chambers



We just got back from New Zealand, where we mostly gawked at stuff saying, "Wow, that's cool!" We

kayaked, hiked and Carl fished too. It seems weird to be inside with occasional bike rides and neighborhood walks. I lift weights, not as often as I should. Been to a Zoom Cocktail Party with about 20 cousins. The sewing machine, bought with my first fire money is getting a workout making masks for family and friends and a cover for Carl's trailer.



Mike and Marla Foley, Fort Collins

They are complying with the Stay-At-Home orders which has resulted in the cancelation of two trips to Seattle to see the grandkids. They have been keeping in touch with family and friends via Facetime and Zoom. Mike continues to volunteer on Fridays for the Arapaho and Roosevelt NFs and Pawnee NG Visitor Information Center but it is being done remotely from home by retrieving messages from the office and returning calls using Google Voice.

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Chris Thomas

Chris retired from the Bighorn NF in January 2018 after 38 years with the USFS, and shortly thereafter folks convinced him to apply and became the Sheridan County Fire Warden.

Anticipating just a few hours a week on average, and an opportunity to keep his boots in fire and continue to work with landowners on fuel reduction projects. Then came the COVID19.

The County has set up an Incident Management Team to help coordinate their response and help keep folks informed on the actions being taken. Chris represents the First Responders on this team, calling into the meeting like many of the members.

A big issue is the availability of Person Protective Equipment (PPE). As elsewhere in the nation PPE is in very limited supply, and Chris helped first responders receive some to the limited supplies the County received from strategic reserves. Most of Wyoming has no "stay at home" order, but many service businesses are closed or limiting the number of customers inside, restaurants can only offer outside pick-up. There are plans to slowly start opening things up, and folks are looking forward to being able to get their hair cut. The big question is if the Sheridan Wyoming Rodeo will still be able to take place in July, and no one knows just yet.

Chris had a knee replacement done last winter so at home Physical Therapy and dog walks are a must during this time. He is also taking advantage of this time to listen in on webinars and Zoom conference calls. It is still some time before last frost so the garden has to wait. Most of the Big Horn Mountains is still under snow and Chris is anxious to get up there and get to work with landowners and do some fishing (maybe not in that order).

Brian Parker



I would be very happy to just stay put here in Overgaard, AZ but every three weeks we have to go down to Mayo for Sally's cancer treatments. During the intervening time I am able to practice social distancing on our local National Forest (the Black Mesa District of the Apache-Sitgreaves).

It is possible to get from the house (see attached) onto the Forest without seeing anyone. There I can hike or pedal around or just "hang out" (also attached).



I hope others are also able to find enjoyable ways to pass the time while complying with suggested or mandated "rules of engagement."

My Mom always told me that I would never accomplish anything if I just laid in bed all day, but look at me now!



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Bruce and Glenda Wilson

Glenda's cell phone chimed reminding us that we were supposed to be at Sky Harbor Airport to catch our flight to London for a 17 day trip. Sadly, she just dismissed it, the trip had been cancelled. The first indicator that the CoVID-19 virus had completely altered our spring plans. We were in Surprise, Arizona at our winter home and it became really clear that a significant event in the world had happened. Our favorite lunch spots, Culver's and Kneaders were no longer offering dining-in options and only doing take-out. Spring Training for major league baseball was cancelled and the visitors who came to Arizona to watch their favorite team, were leaving and there was noticeable reductions in the amount of traffic on the city streets. Residents in the Phoenix Metro area were starting to hoard. Besides the store shelves being devoid of paper and meat products, bottle water and food staples were almost completely bought out. We were coping by only going to the grocery store and pretty much stayed at home. We had originally planned to return to Cody in mid April after our overseas trip. After two weeks, with all the uncertainty in Arizona and potential state wide stay at home order, we decided to close up the house and head back to Cody on March 28.

Planning for the drive home was an interesting and stressful, not knowing what services would be available and whether hotels/motels would be open. Stuffed our vehicle full and left very early on the 28th. Drive-thru food purchases doesn't allow for retirees the opportunity to get out of your vehicle, stretch your legs and use the restroom. Traffic was light, a few personal cars and trucks, but the dominant traffic

was semi trucks, including a lot of Amazon Prime Semi's traveling to Phoenix and Las Vegas. We played leap frog with a number of vehicles for the trip. Notably, there were four vehicles that caught our attention as we watched vehicle license plates.

In our support of the truckers, we started waving to the drivers, most returned the gesture. Traveling through Las Vegas was quite a change from our previous visits; almost no traffic, casino parking lots vacant and few airplanes taking off or landing. Salt Lake City traffic was also very light for a Saturday.

We have self-quarantined ourselves for 14 days since we arrived back in Cody. Our

outings have been two trips to the grocery store. We have been catching up on our reading, continuing our exercising routine, texting and corresponding with friends and family, finishing craft projects and Glenda has been corresponding with Marilyn Hunter on making a number of homemade face masks, for future excursions once our self quarantine is over. So far, she has made 6 washable masks. Marilyn was a lot of help.

Take care of yourselves. We look forward to the time when we can again socialize with family and friends.



Models show off Ellen Hodges' mask making skills.

Can we uninstall 2020
and reinstall it again?...I
think it has a virus...

(continued on Page 20)

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Jim and Lisa Jaminet

Lisa and I are doing fine. As you well know, the valley is somewhat isolated; yet there are cases of the virus at Del Norte hospital. Saguache doesn't have any that we know of. I'm working full time with Area Command on helping GACC's realize their reduced capacity and new ways of doing business. Totally virtual job so very different. Lisa is not school bus driving but is delivering homework and meals out of town to her route kids. Some people say they are bored. Not here.

Lloyd and Donna Newland

They are doing just fine. Trying to stay close to home and only going out for trips to the drug store or to Safeway for groceries. They did venture out to wish a friend happy birthday 'through the window' at a rehabilitation center. They live on one and a half acres with nearly 200 trees to take care of, so there has been lots of yard work and cleanup during the pandemic. Lloyd hopes that the trash collectors don't hate him for all the debris he is getting rid of.

And their twenty-five chickens and three roosters get them up and going every morning. They said mostly they are just trying to stay out of trouble.

Johnny Hodges



Foresters plant trees in a global pandemic!



Some of the tools to combat the pandemic.

Barb Timock

Karen, will you please pass this note to our PSICC retirees?

As your Rocky Mountaineer Area Rep, please know that I would like to be helpful to you (whether you're a RM member, or not). If anyone is in need, they can call, text or email me.

Please don't hesitate - reach out with requests because helping is what friends do! Ideas might be picking up a prescription, food or specialty items (even chocolate delivery counts)!

Barb Timock, Area Rep.
Pueblo, CO

2020 is truly a unique Leap Year. It has 29 days in February, 200 days in March, 400 days in April and who knows how many in May.

Walking in a Pandemic

by Char Miller

I walk. A lot. I've always done so but now with a different kind of energy, an unsettling drive. Restless.

Clocking more miles due to the quarantine, its prohibitions have altered some of my normal routes through Claremont, this college town on the eastern edge of Los Angeles County. No longer possible are morning treks up into the chaparral-studded foothills of the San Gabriel Mountains or along dusty Thompson Creek Trail, which demarcates hill from dale. So I have been hugging closer to interior neighborhoods, from dawn to dusk, dry or wet, and one consequence has been to become more sharply attuned to small moments.

Like walking the chain-link perimeter of the Bernard Field Station and following behind a chattering convoy of Lesser Goldfinch. They flit through the diamond-shaped openings in the fence, a structure designed to keep us out: Private Property the signs read. For these avian acrobats, it is portal and playground and perch.

Daybreak at a Metrolink crossing: my eyes are struck not by the sun as it rises above snow-wreathed Mount San Gorgonio well to the east, but by the first rays as they slide along the curving steel rails turning them gold. Solar alchemy.

Or, at walk's end, to spot a pair of Western Fence lizards stretched out on the drive, luxuriating in the morning's warmth. The second my sneaker touches down, they dart under thick mounds of baccharis, showy penstemon, or buckwheat—indigenous plants we dug into the alluvial soil for our pleasure but



which they turned into habitat, home.

By narrowing the range of my roaming, COVID-19 has widened my perceptions; crimped by where I can wander, I've found myself listening more carefully, looking

more closely, and smelling more discriminatingly (or, to be honest, actually thinking about what I am inhaling).

On rainy mornings—and we have had many this spring—I have mapped my path so as to brush by the California Botanical Garden and its heaven-scent coastal sage biota. Transporting.

From there, a paradoxical quick-time veer north along rain-splatted macadam (while leaping over dimpled puddles) toward the nearest gash in the landscape: a hard-edged, straight-walled flood-control channel. Bandana mask on, glasses fogged: the ripple, wash, and sluice of water bring a clatter of pebbles.

That noon, the skies clear, the heat spikes, and steam drifts from dark bark and grey shingle. The thin, razor-thin yucca, silhouetted against a pitted concrete-block wall, offers a stiff shadow.

Pushing east, my slipstream rustles a cotton-candy lantana, and startlingly the bush seems to rise upward, till, Escher-like, it dissolves into a kaleidoscope of painted ladies; one butterfly lands on my brim, its wings pulsing.

Still.

(continued on Page 22)

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Then lift off, its jittery dance disappearing to the brightening day, though perhaps I'm just distracted by another set of aerial maneuvers, this time taking place above a friend's mid-century ranch. Slowly gaining elevation via a kettle of warm air, 10, maybe 12, no 17 turkey vultures lazily wheel. As they feel the lip of its apex, one by one feathered black wings tilt and glide away to the south.

By then I'm at the rounded corner where Stephens and Santa Clara intersect. Scrawled in rainbow-hued chalk, smudged but legible, the words of poet Ross Gay bend with the sidewalk like the curve of apian wings: "thank you to the bee's shadow, perusing these words as I write them."

This beguiling, humbling vision begs another. But first, look up. A rare admonition, because in Southern California, as elsewhere, that very possibility has been so clouded by the toxic emissions we daily have pumped into the air from tailpipes and smokestacks. Now, with many working from home, with cars parked, and trains, planes, and trucks idled, the sky has dazzled. By day, it's azure. By night, ebony.

So dark, that my evening stroll is more of a stumble, trying to put one foot in front of the other while craning my neck to pan the star-lit world above, anchored by a waxing moon and Venus bright.

Somewhere to my west, perhaps roosting in the upper story of the sentinel-like stone pine at the end of the block, a Great Horned Owl calls. Grounded.

Char Miller is the W.M. Keck Professor of Environmental Analysis at Pomona College. His recent books include *Not So Golden State: Sustainability vs. the California Dream*, *Hetch Hetchy: A History in Documents*, and *Theodore Roosevelt: Naturalist in the Arena*. This is an expanded version of article published in the *Claremont Courier*.

Courtesy of Trinity University Press - terra firma blog

After the Vaccine...



Welcome to the Golden State Gathering With a Silver Lining

Information Portal



Here is an update on the planning for the Reunion from our Agency Administrator/Incident Commander Nancy Gibson: Plans are underway for the 2021 Forest Service Retirees Reunion; the 9th to happen since the inaugural in 1991 and the first to be hosted by Region 5 retirees. Lake Tahoe, which straddles the California/Nevada State line is a National icon loved and admired by people from throughout the country and the world. Many friends, supporters, and planners are working to create events and activities in both States with a focus to *reconnect *explore *appreciate; not just these extraordinary surroundings but also the people and places Forest Service retirees and current employees have touched throughout their careers.

The venue, Harrah's Lake Tahoe, is located near Heavenly Village and is within walking distance of many shops, restaurants, beaches, and numerous attractions. The website is active and will be populated as event planning becomes firm (www.2021fsreunions.org). Donations will be gratefully accepted, beginning sometime in November 2019, at these sites, to help support this all-volunteer effort. Please mark your calendars for September 13-17, 2021, and plan to experience all that Lake Tahoe has to offer.

<https://2021fsreunions.org/>



NAFSR Report

by Tom L. Thompson, Rocky Mountain Region NAFSR representative

Even though the COVID-19 crisis has pretty much upset the apple cart as far as anything being close to normal, NAFSR has just recently reaffirmed our commitment to the basic program of work that was developed for this year at our meeting in February. Without question everything we do will be impacted and most certainly the priorities of the agency and of the Congress will and have been realigned in response to the daunting challenges we face as a nation.

The [Capacity Report](#) that was released by NAFSR last fall continues to be used as a source of information in discussions with partner organizations, members of Congress, and others who remain interested in the ability of the agency to meet expectations of the public. There is a myriad of legislative actions under consideration, but it is unclear how the various pieces will come together. These include the possibility of additional stimulus relief, infrastructure, works programs, reforestation, and other responsive actions.

We will continue to:

1. Do all we can to help the agency reduce unnecessary administrative burdens that impact the field even though we have not had much response from the Secretary of Agriculture.
2. Explore ways we can encourage more investment in reforestation especially with potential to increase the Reforestation Trust Fund by \$30 million.
3. Continue to work on efficiencies in analysis and review processes through reform of regulatory processes including new proposed CEQ regulations.
4. Partner with other entities in understanding and responding to natural resource impacts of climate change.
5. Provide input to discussions on other continuing issues such as fire management and the National Job Corps program, especially as it relates to legislative or administrative activities.
6. We will be monitoring the fire situation and encourage direct communication with the retiree community as we have in the past.

NAFSR continues to work closely with the Public Lands Foundation on issues. Sandra Holsten, who lives in Alaska, was welcomed as a new Board Member for NAFSR. Our membership stands at 695 and we have added 20 new lifetime members. If you are interested in keeping up on what NAFSR is doing or responding to, visit our website at www.nafsr.org. We welcome you to join if you want to help us as we work to sustain the heritage of the Forest Service.

National Museum of Forest Service History

Legacy Donation of \$2 Million

by Tom L. Thompson



A lot has been happened at the Museum this spring in spite of the very difficult time that we face across the country. In March we

announced that Bill Cannon has left a legacy donation of an estimated \$2 million after he passed away in Oregon in November. With nearly a half million in donations received in 2019, we are in our final push to complete our capital campaign to build our Conservation Legacy Center. We are almost there!

Our recent newsletter features stories about some of our most recent donors. We are truly thankful for the support we are receiving as we continue to move towards our long term goal of ensuring that the history of the Forest Service and stories of the people who “Cared for the Land and Served the People” are not lost. You can read these stories and view the most recent Museum newsletter by visiting our website at <https://forestservicemuseum.org/newsletters/>.

Our office remains open but we have not yet decided whether to have our campus site open this summer because of restrictions that will likely still be in place on distancing. We are working on replacement of the fire lookout on our site to meet ADA requirements and you can see how that was done by visiting our Facebook page that shows the crane doing its job on May 9th.



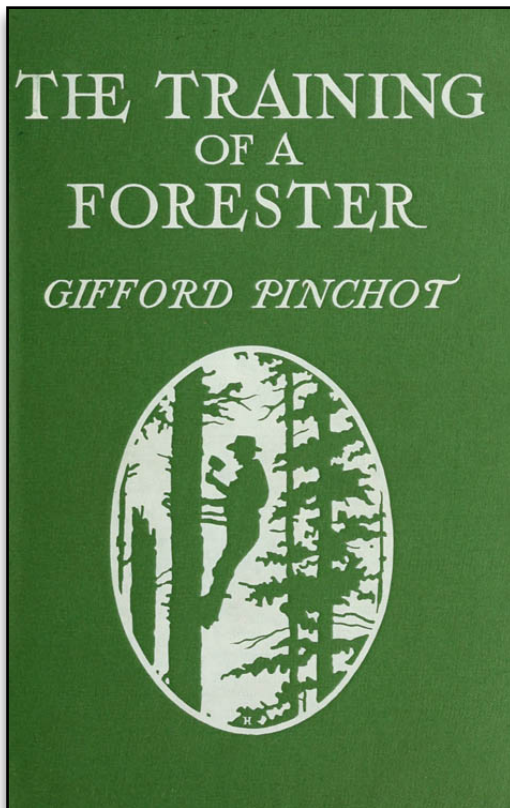
Our membership continues to grow and we have reached the 800 member level a few weeks ago. As we near our quest to build our Conservation Legacy Center we are intent on increasing our membership to well over a thousand members and perhaps as high as 2020 by years end.

If you are not a member we are offering a special membership rate for the rest of year of just \$20.20 for this year and details can be found on our website. Whether you are a retiree or a current employee we welcome you and now is the time to become a part of your Museum.

Bjorn Dahl is the Regional Representative for Region 2 and Board Members who live in the Region include **Larry Gadt** in Kansas, **Pat Lynch** in Wyoming, and from Colorado **Patty Limerick** from the University of Colorado and **Michelle Pearson** from Adams County School District.

The Training of a Forester

By Gifford Pinchot



**COPYRIGHT, 1914, BY J. B. LIPPINCOTT COMPANY
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PRINTED BY J. B. LIPPINCOTT COMPANY
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PHILADELPHIA, U. S. A.**

To

OVERTON W. PRICE

Friend and Fellow Worker

TO WHOM IS DUE, MORE THAN TO ANY OTHER MAN, THE
HIGH EFFICIENCY OF THE UNITED STATES FOREST
SERVICE

PREFACE

At one time or another, the largest question before every young man is, "What shall I do with my life?" Among the possible openings, which best suits his ambition, his tastes, and his capacities? Along what line shall he undertake to make a successful career? The search for a life work and the choice of one is surely as important business as can occupy a boy verging into manhood. It is to help in the decision of those who are considering forestry as a profession that this little book has been written.

To the young man who is attracted to forestry and begins to consider it as a possible profession, certain questions present themselves. What is forestry? If he takes it up, what will his work be, and where? Does it in fact offer the satisfying type of outdoor life which it appears to offer? What chance does it present for a successful career, for a career of genuine usefulness, and what is the chance to make a living? Is he fitted for it in character, mind, and body? If so, what training does he need? These questions deserve an answer.

To the men whom it really suits, forestry offers a career more attractive, it may be said in all fairness, than any other career whatsoever. I doubt if any other profession can show a membership so uniformly and enthusiastically in love with the work. The men who have taken it up, practiced it, and left it for other work are few. But to the man not fully adapted for it, forestry must be punishment, pure and simple. Those who have begun the study of forestry, and then have learned that it was not for them, have doubtless been more in number than those who have followed it through.

I urge no man to make forestry his profession, but rather to keep away from it if he can. In forestry a man is either altogether at home or very much out of place. Unless he has a compelling love for the Forester's life and the Forester's work, let him keep out of it.

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(continued from Page 26)*Forest rangers scaling timber.*

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This 149 page book was written by Gifford Pinchot in 1914 as a way to explain the defining characteristics of the profession he had done so much to introduce to American culture.

The genesis of this tome is well documented in Char Miller's book *Gifford Pinchot and the Making of Modern Environmentalism*.

"Since the 1890's, Pinchot had been searching for a way to publish a primer on forestry that was at once a technical handbook and a missionary tract, one that informed as it it proselytized." Pinchot believed that foresters were "missionaries in a very real sense" and that thought helped market the first edition of *The Training of a Forester* at \$1.00 a copy to reach a wide swath of the reading public.

- **1914 - First edition**
- **1917 - Second edition with minor revisions**
- **1933 - Third edition - facts and figures updated**
- **1937 - Fourth and final edition - a major rewrite of the original version**

This is a scarce old book on the training of a forester written for young men who might be considering making a career in the Forest Service. Illustrated with eight photographs. Bound in green cloth with white lettering, and a white silhouette scene of a forester in a tree on the front cover. A great addition for your collection of rare books!

*Stringing a forest telephone line.**(continued on Page 28)*

(continued from Page 27)



A forest examiner running a compass line.

getting things done than single men with clear-cut authority and equally clear-cut responsibility. Another principle, so well known that it has almost become a proverb, is to delegate everything you can, to do nothing that you can get someone else to do for you. But the wisdom of letting a good man alone is less commonly understood. It is sometimes as important for the superior officer not to worry his subordinate with useless orders as it is for the subordinate not to harass his superior with useless questions.

Let a good man alone.
Give him his head.
Nothing will hold him so rigidly to his work as the feeling that he is trusted.
Lead your men in their work, and above all make of your organization not

The principles of effective administrative work have never, so far as I know, been adequately classified and defined. When they come to be stated one of the most important will be found to be the exact assignment of responsibility, so that whatever goes wrong the administrative head will know clearly and at once upon whom the responsibility falls. This is one of the reasons why, [Pg 82] as a rule, boards and commissions are far less effective in



Western yellow pine seed collected by the Forest Service for planting up denuded lands.

a monarchy, limited or unlimited, but a democracy, in which the responsibility of each man for a particular piece of work shall not only be defined but recognized, in which the credit for each man's work, so far as possible, shall be attached to his own name, in which the opinions and advice of your subordinates are often sought before decisions are made; in a word, a democracy in which each man feels a personal responsibility for the success of the whole enterprise.

The young Forester may be years removed from the chance to apply these principles in practice, but since no superior officer can put them into fruitful effect without the coöperation of his subordinates, it is well that they should be known at both ends of the line.



Brush piling in a national forest timber sale.

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A PUBLIC SERVANT

I repeat that whether a Forester is engaged in private work or in public work, whether he is employed by a lumberman, an association of lumbermen, a fishing and shooting club, the owner of a great estate, or whether he is an officer of a State or of the Nation, by virtue of his profession he is a public servant. Because he deals with the forest, he has his hand upon the future welfare of his country. His point of view is that which must control its future welfare. He represents the planned and orderly development of its resources. He is the representative also of the forest school from which he graduates, and of his profession. Upon the standards which he helps to establish and maintain, the welfare of these, too, directly depends.



Forest rangers getting instruction in methods of work from a district forest officer.

The Project Gutenberg E-Book of *The Training of a Forester*, by Gifford Pinchot. This eBook is for the use of anyone anywhere at no cost and with almost no restrictions whatsoever. You may copy it, give it away or re-use it under the terms of the Project Gutenberg License included with this eBook or online at www.gutenberg.org

<http://www.gutenberg.org/files/31367/31367-h/31367-h.htm>

News from the Regional Forester



Jennifer Eberlien, Acting Regional Forester, Rocky Mountain Region.

Hello Rocky Mountaineers,

I hope this message finds you and your family to be well. The pandemic has created challenges for everyone, both personally and professionally, and I wanted to take a moment to update you on the status of the Rocky Mountain Region.

At the onset of the pandemic, regional leadership took swift action to move to maximum telework for all employees. We quickly transitioned to figure out how best to accomplish our work, and while not always easy, we are making it happen. We have proven to be agile and able to adapt. It is always my goal to keep employees, their families and visitors safe, and we are doing the very best we can.

Telework does not come without challenges though. For many of us, we are using new and different technology, and it has been an adventure, to say the least. It has been an interesting few months, and I am proud to lead such dedicated employees. The dedication and perseverance that they have shown is simply amazing. Collectively we have shown, once again, our interdependence with one another and our shared strength and resiliency. I have never been more proud of our employees.

As you can imagine, because you know the nature of our work, and because you know that we are rooted in customer service, we have experienced challenges and innovations in just about all that we do. We have had to rethink processes for on-boarding temporary and seasonal employees, implementing field work and timber sales, overseeing tree planting contracts, managing recreation sites/rentals/permits, issuing special use permits, and providing fire wood permits, to name a few. It is definitely a different “normal,” and not our usual course of business. We have been diligent, especially in aligning our work with the five states and a multitude of counties, and we have

maintained strong relationships with our partners and stakeholders.

A lot of questions are swirling about our response to wildland fire this year. We recognize that COVID-19 has impacts on all of our work, including wildfire response, however we are committed to the same level of responsibility and expertise for which we are known. Both nationally and regionally, we are working closely with other agencies, partners and our communities to determine how best to work with these added complexities. Most importantly, for our firefighters, we are looking at options to minimize exposure and transmission of the virus, to the extent possible. Bottom line is that we will plan, assess, and adapt as we go through this year’s fire season.

That goes for all of our work as we move into the next phase of this pandemic. This includes meeting the needs and desire of recreational activities on our forests and grasslands. We want to meet the demand while also adhering to health guidance to best ensure for employee and public safety. There simply is not a one-size-fits-all approach to this and local units will decide the status of recreation sites and fire restrictions within the context of Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) guidance, local health and safety guidelines, and local conditions.

Finally, I want you to know that throughout the pandemic there has still been a tremendous amount of work being done on our public lands. It is important that we meet the needs of the communities that we serve. We are in this together, and we will continue to demonstrate this in the work that we do.

If you are curious for more information on the Forest Service’s response to the pandemic, the agency has established a set of frequently asked questions and responses related to operations available at: <https://www.fs.usda.gov/about-agency/covid19-updates>. You may also reach out to our Retiree Liaison, Jace Ratzlaff, anytime for additional information.

Respectfully,
Jen

News from the Workin' Folks

The Forest Service is taking the risks presented by COVID-19 seriously and is following USDA and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) public health guidance as we continue to offer services to the public. Visitors to our National Forests and Grasslands are urged to take the precautions. There are three official, government-wide sources of up-to-date information about the coronavirus:

[Coronavirus.gov](https://www.coronavirus.gov), [CDC.gov/coronavirus](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus) and [USA.gov/coronavirus](https://www.usa.gov/coronavirus). [More](#)

White River NF News

Forest Supervisor, Scott Fitzwilliams said the U.S. Forest Service is working on plans to open some of the most popular spots in the White River National Forest, including the Maroon Bells and Hanging Lake, with some changes. "At least for the foreseeable future, there will be a lot less people up there," he said.

The Maroon Bells and Hanging Lake both rely on shuttle services, which will probably not run this summer because of social distancing guidelines that limit the number of passengers. If buses can't

run at capacity, it's not economically feasible to run them, Fitzwilliams said. "So what we're looking at — both for Hanging Lake and Maroon Bells — is some sort of reservation program where people can drive their own car there, but obviously it's limited by the amount of parking for both places," he said. "We won't have the numbers, but people will be able to have the experience." The Forest Service recently implemented a reservation and shuttle service at Hanging Lake, and Fitzwilliams said the agency is taking care now to avoid the kind of overcrowding that led to that program.

[More](#)

USDA Forest Service Rocky Mountain Region Status Updates and Information

The Story Map provides a one-stop resource for learning about current USDA Forest Service recreation site status updates, alerts, and other information for national forests and grasslands within the states of Colorado, Kansas, Nebraska, South Dakota, and Wyoming.

This information will vary for each national forest and grassland, so it is important to check on the specific area you are interested in.

[More](#)

Lakewood, Colorado - May 15, 2020

Acting Regional Forester Jennifer Eberlien announced today that she has signed termination orders to rescind the regional developed recreation site closure and fire restriction orders effective May 20, 2020.

Local units will decide the operational status of developed recreation sites and fire restrictions after assessing conditions and working closely with local, state and federal officials.

Decisions will carefully consider local, state, and federal public health guidance, established fire restriction criteria, and staffing levels. The USDA Forest Service's Rocky Mountain Region includes 24 national forests and grasslands across Colorado, Kansas, Nebraska, South Dakota and Wyoming.

[More](#)

Globetrotting Mountaineers

by Jim Thimmes

The COVID-19 pandemic has me reflecting on our recent travels. We have hiked in the **Alps** and **Andes**; cruised the **Danube**, **Rhine**, and **Rhone** Rivers; visited renowned sites in **Paris** and **London**; observed amazing wildlife in Africa and South America; and experienced different cultures in over a dozen countries. All while enjoying the company of our fellow Rocky Mountaineers.

The Rocky Mountaineers traveled to **Costa Rica** in February. Sixteen of us returned home just before travel restrictions were put in place. Costa Rica is a small country, but it is incredibly diverse. Monkeys, sloths, coatis, iguanas, and over 100 bird species were but a part of our wildlife viewing. Our boat trips on the Frío River, the Tárcoles River and Lake Arenal provided close-up views of all sorts of birds, reptiles, and mammals. We saw howler monkeys delicately eating the foliage along the riverbank near the Nicaraguan border, monster crocodiles sunning themselves with anglers wading into the river nearby, and a cormorant catching and swallowing an enormous fish. Watching birds was a regular treat at restaurants and shops, which provide feeding stations to attract the smallest hummingbirds to large toucans. Fortune was with us as we spotted rare resplendent quetzals in San Gerardo de Dota.

Our Costa Rican adventure included ziplining through the trees and walking through the forest canopy in the Montverde Cloud Forest, which was mostly sunny and cool during our visit. The mountains provided a sharp contrast with the toasty 90-degree days at Manuel Antonio National Park. We spotted both three and two-toed sloths in the park and had close encounters with capuchin monkeys along its famous beach. Back at the hotel we enjoyed a dip in the ocean, drinks, and conversation as the sun set over the Pacific.

A school visit and a home-hosted lunch gave us a flavor of the local culture. Along our journey, we interacted with the locals in the small towns as well as in the



A group shot near Arenal Volcano - from Cindy Dean's phone.

capital, San Jose. Our visit to a spice plantation ended with refreshments overlooking the rolling forest. And we visited a family-owned coffee plantation where we had some hands-on experience with the production process and enjoyed the fruits of our (and others) labor with some freshly brewed coffee.

The Rocky Mountaineers enjoyed two international trips in 2019. **Southern Africa** in May and **Great Britain** in September were vastly different

trips. Sixteen Rocky Mountaineers traveled through **South Africa**, **Zambia**, **Zimbabwe**, and **Botswana**. These developing countries still struggle to emerge from colonialism. The people are poor and often live without basic things we take for granted, such as homes with floors, electricity, and running water. Despite their hardships most appear to enjoy life. Our trip included sharing time with students at a primary school and visiting a community homestead. We also made an impromptu visit with a local family along our travels and stopped at a community water well on laundry day.

Southern Africa's wildlife is world renowned. Our adventure included open-air jeep rides through Kruger, Hwange, and Chobe National Parks. The animals were spectacular. Africa's Big Five (lion, leopard, rhinoceros, elephant, and Cape buffalo) did not disappoint. Impalas are by far the most common ungulate, but we also saw klipspringers, kudus, waterbucks, elands, and sables, gazelles, zebras, wildebeests, giraffes, and many more. The hippopotamuses in the Chobe River sounded like washing machines as they chewed the grass. Our boat took us within a few feet of huge crocodiles. And then there was the infamous monkey standoff during lunch. The birders among us tallied over 100 bird species.

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Our trip was during the high-water season when Victoria Falls is over a mile wide and 350 feet high. Mosi-oa-Tunya - 'The Smoke That Thunders' was magnificent as it creates a rainforest along its edge. The town of Victoria Falls provided gift shopping opportunities. And the nearby Wild Horizons Elephant Sanctuary and Orphanage allowed us to interact with the giant pachyderms.



*A resplendent quetzal -
photo by Cindy Dean.*

Great Britain, on the other hand, is much like the US aside from their accent and driving on the left. Thirty-eight Rocky Mountaineers traveled through much of England, Scotland, and Wales. We were immersed in their rich history from prehistoric structures, conquests by the Romans and Vikings, battles with the French, the British Empire, World Wars, to the European Union and Brexit. We learned much about the

Royals and their lineage too.

Our journey began with sight-seeing in London, including Westminster, Trafalgar Square and Buckingham Palace. After the Great Fire of London in 1666 destroyed most of Central London, Sir Christopher Wren designed new churches and supervised the reconstruction of some of London's most important buildings.

Bath with its famed hot springs, restored Roman Baths and Georgian architecture was our next stop. From there, we day tripped to Stonehenge and its iconic stone circle. It was then on to Snowdonia, the mountainous section of Wales. We attended a home-hosted dinner near the Irish Sea and learned about the area's historic slate industry. We traveled north to York where York Minster stands as the largest Gothic cathedral north of the Alps. Constantine the Great was proclaimed Roman Emperor here in 306 AD. Monastery ruins in the area were disbanded by Henry VIII when he appropriated their assets and separated the Church of England in 1534. From York, we headed to the Lake District. The area's rolling green hills and

lakes provided the inspiration for many English writers, including William Wordsworth, John Keats, and Beatrix Potter.



*A white-faced capuchin monkey -
photo by Kathy Aney.*

We saw the remnants of Hadrian's Wall built in 122 AD that marks the northern limit of the Roman Empire as we crossed into Scotland. We strolled along the Royal Mile that connects Edinburgh Castle and the Palace of Holyroodhouse and sampled the namesake Scotch whisky. Our farewell dinner was highlighted with Piper Major Andrew Alistair leading us in spectacular fashion to our dining room. Most of the Rocky Mountaineers remained for the Scottish Highlands post-trip. We visited the Culloden Moor Battlefield, the site of a bloody Jacobite defeat in 1746, where the uprising effectively ended. It was the last battle fought on British soil. Visits to the Isle of Skye and along

Loch Ness sans Nessie completed our journey before we reached Glasgow and returned home.

If international travel appeals to you, traveling with the Rocky Mountaineers offers great experiences and provides wonderful lasting memories. The Rocky Mountaineers' trip to the **Dalmatian Coast** and **Greece** has been postponed until October 2021 – there's



*A three toed sloth - photo by
Carlos Calvo.*

still room to join us for what will surely be another memorable experience. Visit <https://www.rockymountaineers.us/> or send a message to jimthinnes2@gmail.com for details.

"That's the Way I Remember it"

Each newsletter we will be featuring a story about retirees from R-2



Nona Dale

1977 - 2010

33 Years of Service

The Rendezvous: Tell us a little about your Mom and Dad.

Nona Dale: My Mom and Dad met after WWII ended as my Father who was in the Navy went home with her brother. She lived in Staten Island New York and my father was from Southwest Colorado. My father's family are pioneers of the area. There is a lot more to this story but they wound back up in Durango after my father got out of the hospital in Fitzsimmons and made Durango their home. I will say it was a learning experience due to the different cultures they came from. My relatives back East still thought Native Americans were still on the warpath. Water versus dry land.

TR: Tell us about your family.

ND: My father worked for the Postal Service, my Mother worked for Bureau of Reclamation, and my brother and sister in law worked for the Bureau of Reclamation. I vowed never to work for the government but as we all can see I got smarter.

TR: What were some of your first jobs?

ND: I worked as a short order cook at A&W Root Beer, and retail in different settings. I moved to Denver in 1973 and worked at a Savings and Loan as a bookkeeper.

As usual young love got in the way of logic and I became engaged to a man who worked in Carbondale, Colorado. Deciding that I needed to find a job in that area, I took the Civil Service test - clerical - and was offered a job in Glenwood Springs, Colorado as a GS-3 Clerk Typist for the USDA Forest Service. Quite a cut in pay and the engagement didn't work out but I have no regrets.

TR: Talk about the beginning years of your career. What jobs did you hold?

ND: I started as a clerk typist on the White River NF in August of 1977. I started on a Monday, and on Tuesday (the day Elvis died) I went to my first fire on West Elk. What an experience which led me to begin going out on fires.

Back then you couldn't refuse an assignment and sometimes that could mess up your personal life along with your boss not being too happy. I loved the rush and the people that I met.

I soon transferred up to Budget and Finance and held several positions and worked under a great mentor. The White River was a great forest to work on as I learned a lot because if we could do something wrong, we did. And I believe we were too close in driving distance to the Regional Office.

Any excuse and we saw them.

Spent the 80's going to fires on Type 1 and Type 2 teams. Not as nice as the fire camps are today, but I loved the experience.

In 1990 I took a job as Administrative Officer on the Dolores Ranger District on the San Juan National Forest. What a change that was, each level of the Forest Service performs different jobs, but on the District was where the real forest work gets done.



Nona hiking to Glacier Springs.

The San Juan went thru a lot of changes in the 90's - some good and some not so good, but at least we tried. We consolidated districts, forests and even joined the Bureau of Land Management.

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I use to laugh about all the divorces we had. During this time I held jobs as Administrative Officer, Visitor Information Specialist, Real Property Specialist and Purchasing Agent. I loved learning all the different jobs and never was I bored. The last job in purchasing was the hardest, as fires both year-end and last-minute purchasing always came at the same time.

TR: When did you retire and how many years did you have in?

ND: I retired in June, 2010 with 33 years of service. Luckily I chose not to take FERS when offered (more due to my procrastination than anything else) and was still in the old Civil Service system so I could retire early.

TR: Tell us about some of the detail job opportunities you had.

ND: I was on a lot of details throughout my career but some of the most memorable ones were concerning Environmental Education in the Washington Office.

What an experience. I spent four weeks seeing how the Washington level worked and afterwards saw them in a different light. I also realized what a disconnect can happen with personnel from the Washington Office to the Regional Office and on down to the District Office.

I learned in Washington that they thought all trails were paved just like they were in D.C. I went to several cities teaching Real Property concepts to all the property personnel. All my career I spent time avoiding property and now look here - I was teaching it. Go figure.

What I loved in my experience with the Forest Service were my bosses who were very generous in allowing me to travel to fires, details, training and such. I got to see the United States on the government!

TR: What were some of the biggest changes you saw throughout your career?

ND: When I started working, the Chief came up through the ranks and now they are a political appointment. That is not necessarily bad, but experiences count for a lot on how you run a land use agency. I saw timber that used to be king, now hardly

in business. I saw training and travel cut for the lower grades so you didn't get to meet your peers.

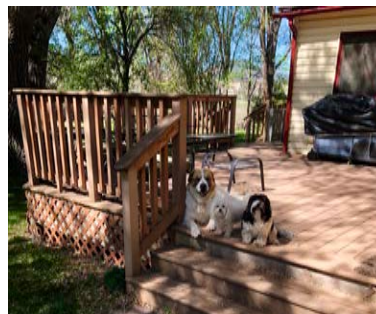
We began hiring personnel with a lot of education but no experience on the ground. The Forest Service entered the computer era with a bang and the biologists and technicians were spending more time in the office on computers, instead of working and protecting the land.

But...changes happen and we need to change with the times. We have good people that work in the organization and will help with the digital changes.

TR: Do you have any advice to retirees?

ND: A lot of retirees I know left the Forest Service unhappy and I'm not sure why. We had the best in medical, personal time, sick and family leave, and a retirement. That is more than most people that work in private industry. I would encourage retirees to get out and lunch or coffee with fellow retirees as you spent a huge part of your life working with these folks.

I always say that maybe you didn't like them while you were working with them, but we are definitely good people. Get to know them again.

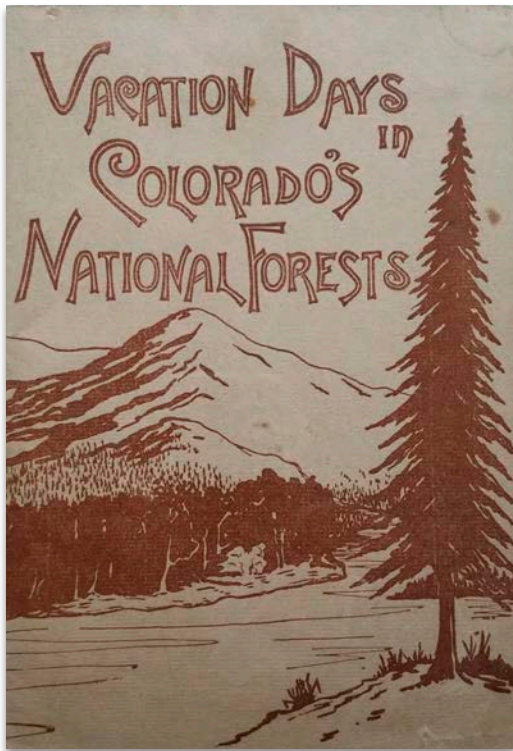


Josie, Rita and Lillie at home.

TR: What are you doing in retirement??

ND: I travel, visit friends, and volunteer at a local library. I live out in the country and that takes a lot of weeding and gardening. I can grow weeds. If anybody wants some I will send them to you.

I serve on a newly formed library district that a few of us help get on the 2019 ballot for a tax levy and it passed - yahoo! This takes up a lot of time due to starting fresh and working with the state and other local entities. I have learned a lot but not sure at my age that is what I want to do. I attend lots of meetings and conference calls that I thought I was done with ten years ago.



In addition to the 10 booklets on individual national forests of District 2, a 60 page booklet on just the National Forests of Colorado was issued in 1919 with a map of the state included behind page 60.

All 17 national forests of Colorado are given a place in the booklet along with a section on "Forest Fire Prevention and Camp Sanitation" the twin concerns of the Forest Service with regard to the general public entering the national forests.

The booklet was a part of the U.S. Department of Agriculture's "Department Circular, Contributions from the Forest Service" series.



Back in the day, Smokey the Bear had an unlikely ally in his perpetual fight to educate the public about the dangers of forest fires: None other than **The Twilight Zone** mastermind Rod Serling! Check out a PSA from 1968 that was recently added to the National Archives.

<https://catalog.archives.gov/OpaAPI/media/2304/content/arcmedia/mopix/016/p/16-P-4643-60.mp4>

Remembrances



David Barth

David Edward Barth, age 67, passed away on February 2nd, 2020 in Ft. Collins, CO, due to a heart attack. He was born December 22, 1952 to Clifford U. and Kathryn V. Barth in Alliance, Nebraska. From a young

age, David enjoyed being outdoors – skiing, hiking, golfing, fishing, hunting and horseback riding. He attended school in Alliance, NE, graduating in May of 1971. He was active in band and sports, with his favorite sport being football. He received an Associate Degree from Nebraska Western College. The joy of David's life was his daughter Stephanie and his granddaughter Ali. David worked in construction and in a factory in Scottsbluff before moving to Laramie, Wyoming where he worked in appliance repair. At the age of thirty three he suffered a cerebral bleed and was taken to Ft. Collins, Colorado where he began his fight to live. He was in a coma for several months. His family was by his side and wondered if he would recover. He persevered and began his recovery, relearning how to talk, how to take care of himself, and

how to get around in a wheelchair. No one thought he would be able to live on his own. He was very determined to be on his own and through much work on his part and help from his voice therapist, he was able to move into his own apartment and begin living independently and on his own – amazing everyone who knew him. David wanted to be able to support himself so he took computer classes in data entry, became quite proficient, and landed a job with the U.S. Forest Service where he worked till he retired in 2018. David's favorite past time was watching sports, especially Nebraska football, and always kept his brother and sister apprised of the games so they wouldn't miss any. He also enjoyed helping his mom run the family farm. David is survived by his daughter Stephanie Barth and granddaughter Ali of Hastings, Nebraska; his mother Kathryn Barth of Crawford, Nebraska; his brother James Barth (Jeanie) of Beaverton, Oregon; his sister Ellen Gartner (Bill) of Crawford, Nebraska; two nieces, one nephew, and several grand nieces and grand nephews. He was preceded in death by his father Clifford Barth of Alliance, Nebraska and his uncle Donald Barth of Rushville, Nebraska; and a baby niece. There will be a family service at a later date.

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Remembrances

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Steve Curran

Stephen Edward (Steve) Curran passed away on Wednesday, June 26, 2019 in Taos, NM. Steve was born on October 29, 1952 to Ed and Luella (Johnson) Curran in Lead, SD. Steve graduated from Lead-

Deadwood High School in 1971 and then from the University of South Dakota in Springfield, SD.

He began his Forest Service career working in Alaska in 1975 in radio and telecommunications. In 1979 he went to work for the Union Pacific railroad. In 1985 he came back to the Forest Service on the Carson and

then to R-8 on the National Forests of Texas. In 1991 he came back to Region 2 on the Medicine Bow. Forest restructuring caused him to leave the MBR and move to Santa Fe for his last assignment. He and his wife were moving back to Wyoming/South Dakota when Steve passed away. His favorite assignment was the time in Region 2 where he grew and where he considered home.

Steve married Kimberly Bruce in 1996. Steve didn't want to rush into something as serious as marriage without "getting to know" his bride, so Kim has been a part of Steve's life since 1984.

From the start of the marriage Kim enriched his life as after the ceremony, Steve won \$5,000 in the casino. He considered that a good sign!

Steve was known as a kind, generous, gentle soul. He loved his family, his friends, his pets, hunting, fishing and time on his Harley. He and Kim logged many miles on motorcycle trips and Steve could tell a story about each of those trips. Steve never met a stranger and most of all, enjoyed getting to know new friends and acquaintances. He always had a smile, a joke, a story or a hand to lend to those in need. His motto in life was Ride fast, take chances. Be free – like the wind. He is missed by many.

He is survived by his wife Kimberly.



Jacob Diedtrich

Jacob Gary Diedtrich, died on September 16, 2019 in Custer, SD. He was born to Gary & Jean Diedtrich on October 11, 1981. After a "hot" start working together on a fire engine for the Forest Service, sparks flew and he

married Jenny on September 8, 2012. This union was blessed by two beautiful daughters, Olivia Lynn and Sophia Rosalie.

Jake was a very passionate man. He was always ready to lend a hand to those in need no matter what the task. His laugh lit up the room and could always be picked out of a crowd. Jake graduated from the University of

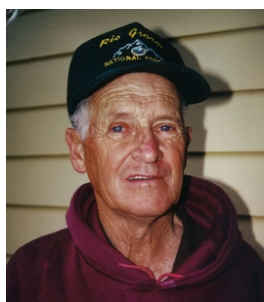
South Dakota with a Masters in Business Communication. He turned his summer firefighting days into a career with the Forest Service as a Fuels Technician. He loved spending time camping, fishing, hunting, golfing and just being outdoors where he could throw a ball for his two chocolate labs Jade and Jude, and occasionally Gunner the cat who thinks he is a dog.

Jake is survived by his wife Jenny and their two beautiful girls Olivia and Sophia, mother Jean, sisters Wendi and Hillary, six nieces and nephews along with other extended family, a very close family of co-workers and a sincerely loyal tribe of friends.

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Remembrances



Joe Goodge

Joseph Lee Goodge passed away on September 6, 2019. He was born on January 16, 1927 to Baylor Sanders Goodge and Irene Hicks Goodge in Fox Creek, Conejos, Colorado. Joe was one of 6 children, his mother died when he was nine

days old. Following her death, he was taken in by his mother's sister and her husband W.M. and Maggie Mae Darnall. He loved farming, ranching and being outdoors.. He was the Valedictorian of his class in 1945 and in 1948 left to serve as a Missionary in Argentina until 1950. In 1951 he married LaNella Richardson in the Salt Lake Temple and Joseph was then drafted into the Army and stationed at Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri. He was honorably discharged and the family moved back to Colorado. Upon his return home, Joseph went to work for E. Shundler Perlite Company

and he worked there until 1982. He also worked as a seasonal worker for the United States Forest Service on trail maintenance, until he finally decided to just spend the rest of his life taking care of his own yard, cutting s very proud of each and every one of them. He often considered himself the luckiest guy in the world.

He never met a stranger, every new person he met was his friend for life and he was blessed with many. He enjoyed going with Jim Horton, all over, playing music. He played guitar and Jim played the fiddle. Joseph loved his family and was very proud of each and every one of them. He often considered himself the luckiest guy in the world.

He is survived by his wife, his children, Terry, Susan, Jerry and Kenton, as well as numerous grandchildren, great grandchildren and great great grandchildren.



Ron Mertens

Ronald William Mertens Sr. passed away April 16, 2020, at his residence in Custer. He was born December 14, 1935, to William and Elina (Erbe) Mertens, in Thomastown Township Wadena County, MN. He graduated

from Staples High School in Staples, MN.

Ron entered the U.S. Air Force January 21, 1953 and began basic training at Parks AFB in CA, transferring to Ft. Warren AFB in Cheyenne, W, finally transferring to Ellsworth AFB in Rapid City, SD. Ron met the love of his life while at Ellsworth AFB and married Barbara on February 3, 1957, after being honorably discharged from the service. The two welcomed into the world four loving children, Diana; Ron Jr; Karen and Todd. These children blessed Ron and Barbara with eight grandchildren and six great grandchildren. Ron worked for the U.S. Forest Service for thirty years retiring on July 1, 1985 and then worked for Custer State Park for twenty-six years retiring on December 21, 2012.

Ron's passions were many including fishing, hunting, cooking, and self taught carpentry. But the passion that made his heart most full was spending time with his family, especially his grandchildren and great grandchildren. Ron's family meant everything to him.

Ronald is survived by his wife, Barbara of Custer; daughter, Diana (Douglas) Freeland of Wright, WY; son, Ronald W. (Bobbie) Mertens Jr. of Gillette, WY; daughter, Karen (Dean) Whitney of Custer; son, Todd Mertens of Belle Fourche, SD; brother, James Mertens of Salem, OR; sister, Ardy Baxter of Charles City, IA; grandchildren, Nicholas and Michael Freeland of Gillette; Sara Barrick and Casey Whitney of Custer; Sara Mertens Zimmerman of Gillette; Heather Mertens of Gillette; Paige and Jozey Mertens of Belle Fourche; great grandchildren, Jersey and Phoenix Barrick; Oaklie and Kaylie Whitney; Keeli and Syfina Zimmerman.

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Remembrances



Vince Parrino

Vincent (Vince) Parrino passed away Sunday, March 29, 2020, in Lakewood, Colorado. He was born in New Rochelle, New York on December 4, 1923 to Joseph Parrino and Mary Giuliano Parrino. Vince grew up in New Rochelle, and met the love of his life, Dorothy Mae Davidson, while they were both

students at Southwest Missouri State College in Springfield, Missouri. They were married nearly 71 years and had five children. Vince served in the Navy during World War II, from 1944-1946 as an Aviation Radioman.

A wise and life-long learner, Vince received a Master of Science degree from Columbia University, and his dream was to teach math and science at the junior and senior high school level. But married life, children and wanting to provide for his family, took him on a varied career path from a Communications Specialist with the Federal Aviation Administration, to Cartographer (map making) with the US Forest Service. There were several moves around the southwest including Wendover, Utah; Zuni & Albuquerque, New Mexico; and Casper, Wyoming. Once the family settled in the Denver area in 1961, Vince had a 20-year cartography career with the Forest Service, and he was able to retire in his early sixties. Vince and Dorothy enjoyed socializing with many friends, and once retired, they loved taking travel tours, cruises and seeing new places. Following in his father's footsteps, Vince was a

skilled carpenter and was always improving and building things around their homes wherever they lived. He also helped his adult children with their projects.

After being retired for a few years, Vince went back to his first love – teaching. He began volunteer tutoring at McLain Community High School's adult literacy program in Lakewood, working with students who needed math and science skills. He loved it so much (and they loved him), he went back to school at Metropolitan State College to get his teaching certificate. He then began another paid career, part-time teaching and tutoring. He taught his dream subjects of science and math, and even developed much of the curriculum for Astronomy, Physics, Solar Energy, and Map Use. At age 87, Vince was awarded the 2011 Senior Hero Award for his efforts. When he could no longer teach, he retired a second time in his late 80's from McLain. Even in retirement, he continued to find great joy in tutoring mathematics to adults and young people in his home until earlier this year.

Vince is survived by three daughters, Susan Parrino Hester (Bill), Mary Lisa Breakfield (Dave), Julia Parrino George (Richard), and one son, Joseph John Parrino (Beth). He is also survived by eight grandchildren: Katie Hester (Sia Christus), Julia Robison Talley (Tommy), Christina Robison (Kyle Colman), Michael Robison (Alysha), Alan George (Amelia Erlandson), Anna Grace George, Sarah Parrino (Daniel Escobar), and Benjamin Parrino (Tabatha Padilla); and one great-grandchild: Luke Vincent.



Bill Piloni

William J. (Bill) Piloni passed away April 29, 2019 after a kidney transplant and a short battle with cancer with renal failure. Bill was born April 25, 1953. Bill graduated from Gunnison High School and

matched the life the mountains had for him. Bill was very active and never gave up. Bill was fleet manager for the Grand Mesa Uncompahgre Gunnison National Forests before retirement. After retirement, he pursued raising hay, putting up hay, and raising cattle on a leased piece of property. The work ethic,

knowledge, and commonsense Bill used while working various jobs and skills he had would challenge any college education. Bill would always do his best to be fair and believed in an honest day of work striving to improve his skills.

Bill is survived by his wife Susan, father John, brothers Jim and Terry, sister, Twyla, and his faithful miniature Aussie, Scout, along with Scout's two companions, Colt and Tuff. None of them would let Bill out of their site.

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Remembrances

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Art Reeves

Arthur "Leigh" Reeves passed away peacefully at the Monument Health Care Center on Saturday, April 25, 2020 after a long battle with cancer. He was born February 07, 1934 in Rochester, NY to Albert Arthur Reeves, Jr and

Florence (Dickinson). Leigh received a B.S. Degree from SUNY College of Forestry, Syracuse University in 1956. He was a member of Delta Upsilon Fraternity. Upon return from serving the U.S. Army in Germany during the Korean War, Leigh and Sunny (Sundstrom) were married December 06, 1958 in Rochester, NY.

Leigh worked for the Forest Service in several locations before settling in Custer with his family and worked for the Black Hills National Forest Service until his retirement in 1983 where he made many lifelong friends. After retirement, Leigh worked for

Jorgenson Homes for several years learning the craft of building log homes. Leigh enjoyed nothing more than being in the great outdoors of the Black Hills fishing at a lake, hunting pheasant or deer, working on his land running irrigation or spending time at his beloved ranch on Carroll Creek Road followed by a cold beer with friends at the end of a day.

He is survived by his wife of 62 years, Sunny of Custer, their son Kevin (Ted) of Salt Lake City, UT and daughter Becki Clarke (Scott) of Rapid City, SD along with 4 Grandchildren Megan, Cassie Lynch (Jack), the twins Kendra (Austin) and Ryan as well as 2 Great Granddaughters Grace and Ella plus the first great grandson due in July. Leigh was preceded in death by his identical twin Roger Marcell "Moose", and his brothers Dickinson (Helen) and Herbert (Clare). Additionally, Leigh is survived by 8 nephews and 4 nieces along with numerous cousins.



Bill Starr

William Carroll (Bill) Starr, Jr. passed away on February 28, 2020. Bill was born in Pueblo on March 25, 1934 to William and Susan Starr. He met his wife when they were teenagers in Pueblo, and both attended the University of Colorado

Boulder. Bill's college career was put on hold for a few years while he served in the U.S. Army during the Korean War. Bill and Esther married in 1958 and moved to Honolulu, Hawaii for Esther's job at Queen's Hospital, and soon started their large family. Bill completed his college education in 1960 at the University of Hawaii.

Several years later, the Starrs returned to Colorado, and Bill began his long and fulfilling career with the U.S. Forest Service. The family relocated several times to Wyoming, South Dakota, and Nebraska with Bill's job and made lifelong friends in each location. Bill, Esther and their five girls settled back in Colorado (Denver) in 1976. The Starrs have been members of Phillips United Methodist Church in Lakewood for many years and Bill was an extremely loving, loyal and respected family man.

Bill is survived by his wife of 62 years Esther; his four daughters Carol (Roger) Hutchison, Nancy (Todd) Starr, Lisa (Ludwig) Lettau and Julie (Mark) Beeler; his 12 grandchildren; and his 13 great-grandchildren and his 13 great-grandchildren.

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Remembrances

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Walt Rule

Walt (Walter) Wright Rule, Jr. passed away on April 18 at his home in Montrose, with wife Nancy and son Walter III by his side. Walt was born May 30, 1931 in Plainfield, New Jersey to Walter W. Rule and Maud Renshaw and grew

up in New Jersey, and Pittsburgh and Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. He attended Upper Darby (PA) High School and St. James Episcopal School, Hagerstown, Maryland, graduating in 1950. He received his commission in the U.S. Army as 2nd Lieutenant upon graduation from the University of Maine in June of 1954 with a Bachelor of Science degree in Forestry. After their wedding in Maryland in April 1955, he and Nancy traveled to Columbus, Georgia where Walt completed basic training at Fort Benning, Georgia in September. He was posted to South Korea, where he served at first in the north on the DMZ with the 24th Infantry Division. After six months he was promoted to First Lieutenant and became a company commander at Inchon Harbor.

He returned to the states in April of 1957, and after a trip to Europe the couple headed west to begin his forestry career, first serving in positions on three different districts in the Black Hills, and as District Ranger on the Larimer River District, Roosevelt NF. He became the District Ranger of the Ouray District on the GMUG in June 1968 and served until they moved to Asheville, NC in January 1977 where he was the Public Information Officer for the four National

Forests of North Carolina. They returned to Colorado to retire in Ouray in September of 1986, to the 1880 home which they had purchased and begun rehab in 1972. In 2015 They moved permanently to Montrose.

Walt was very much involved in the Ouray County and western Colorado communities, and was one of the officers of the first Montrose County Historical Society Board. As a 29 year full time resident of Ouray he served many years on the Board of the Ouray County Historical Society, working up the original walking tour brochure of Ouray's historic buildings which was later incorporated into the annual Visitor Guide, the Red Mountain Project, the Yankee Boy Preservation Committee, the Ouray Trail Group, and Ouray Mountain Rescue Team. At one time he served as president of the Western Colorado Congress and was later honored by that group with the Chuck Worley Award for Citizenship. Walt had many interests, those relating to the environment, all things historical, but also collecting stamps, coins, antiques, an extensive book collection and especially classic cars.

Walt is survived by his wife Nancy of 65 years (April 16), his brother, Bruce (Jane) Rule, his son Walter III, four daughters, Linda R. (David) Lunsford, Karen and Melanie Rule and Julia R. (Fernando) Pinheiro, all in the Carolinas, along with grandchildren Sarah Lunsford, Andrea Blankenship (Garry Shackelford), Erika P. Sutton and Christina Pinheiro, D.J. and Breana Ward, and great-granddaughter Payton Shackelford. Bruce's children Jeffrey and Kristin, and their children (three nieces and two nephews in Maryland and Virginia).

The Last Word

A Different Springtime in the Rockies

by Tom L. Thompson

Every year as the winter wears on and days begin to get longer most all of us tend to yearn for spring. In February of this year those yearnings were beginning to appear. It is normally a time to look forward to many things: the early garden with the peas and lettuce, the tulips and daffodils, the Final Four, the azaleas at the Masters, spring training and the opening day at Coors Field, Easter services, grandkids soccer games, Mother's Day, graduations, spring skiing at A-Basin, a new fishing license, and even perhaps getting back out on the golf course. The garden is in and the tulips and daffodils have come and gone but it seems we've missed almost everything else the spring brings.



Sigurd F. Olson, Author and Woodsman

If you have read much of Sigurd Olson's writings of the north woods, you perhaps remember a few words in his book "The Singing Wilderness" about the coming of spring in the north woods: "To appreciate it, you must wait a long time, hope and dream about it, and go through considerable enduring."

Our country and indeed people all around the world have endured what the spring of 2020 has brought and it has been tough. Even after waiting and enduring, this spring is not coming back. We have been tested by unprecedented challenges that have without question changed the very fabric of our society and they tell us there is more testing to come. Dreams have been changed. What was so important just a couple months ago now seems much less so today. Our patterns of travel have been changed significantly.

Our priorities have shifted and our connections with others have been altered or changed in ways we could never have imagined on ground hog day.

Our economic foundation has been cracked and is in need of significant repair. How we walk, talk, touch, and even think have changed. For many, jobs and means of providing for basic needs have disappeared and families have been disrupted. I feel like I have known Dr. Fauci forever. We have observed tremendous sacrifice, heroism, dedication and commitment. We have learned how vulnerable we are and have learned how to turn a few pieces of fabric into a new piece of apparel that will probably be with us for some time.



It has also been a time when many of us have been forced to slow down, do more thinking, do some things we never get around to, watch more free movies, and perhaps even do somethings that we probably never would have done otherwise. It is also a time to be thankful and grateful for what we do have. We've made no trips to gas stations in almost three months. I think all of us realize how fortunate we have been as a society and how fortunate we are to have the dedicated doctors, nurses, first responders, grocery workers, farmers, truck drivers, and the other people who have kept us safe or provided for our essential needs during this trying time.

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As we have been challenged, I think it important to realize that in looking back at the history of our country and in many cases of our own families and recognize that it is during the tough times that we often have seen remarkable accomplishment and achievement. Today we still enjoy improvements and work that was done

during the Great Depression of the thirties. The "Greatest Generation" weren't born that way. They grew that way through their experiences, challenges, and struggles.

Even though there are differences in our politics, our values, and our interests, we have for the most part seen more coming together than we have seen in a long time. But of course, since this is an election year this trend will likely be one of the first things that gets back to normal fairly soon. Yes, we still seem to want to blame someone or something for what's happening but it seems like more often than not inside we understand that what we face is not all that particular

about which party we belong to or which church we go to or not go to.

I believe that we will endure this crisis and perhaps even be stronger because of it. Some of our leaders will take advantage of the challenges we face and become stronger leaders. Some of us will discover that

there are things we can do without just fine and some of us will discover new interests and talents.

New patterns of communication and travel will undoubtedly be shaped. We perhaps will be less wasteful of what we have and perhaps appreciate the simple things in life just a bit more. I am so thankful that our family and so many people that we know have stayed safe thus far and hope that trend continues. I know

that Kitty and I are looking forward with great anticipation the time when we can hug each of our six grandchildren and tell them how much they mean to us once again. We will proceed on and hope that next spring brings more joy and is easier to endure.



Harney Peak Lookout, Black Hills National Forest built by CCC's in late 30's.