



Volume 10 — Number 2

Iconic Images of The Forest Service

What images do you think of when you're asked about working for the U.S. Forest Service? Fighting fires, planting trees, mule strings, Yale locks, lookouts, our logo, wilderness, recreation, grazing on public land, our oil and gas programs, the Albuquerque Service Center?

We'll start with the photo below and ask readers what image you have in your mind that answers the question of what is the U.S. Forest Service?



This is a photo composite of three images that retired graphic artist Judy Dersch compiled for The Greatest Good film to try and capture some of the history and drama of working for the Forest Service.

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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.

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Rest cabin constructed by Forest Service for comfort of travelers to Mt. Evans. Pike National Forest, Colorado. 1921 (Forest Service photo by W. R. Fraser)



Saddling horse reparatory to field trip. Uncompahgre National Forest, Colorado, 1915 (Forest Service photo by T. W. Venemann)



Forest officer heliographing from Black Butte lookout. Mendocino National Forest, California, 1923. (Forest Service photo by L. A. Barrett)



Ranger Griffin on fire patrol duty -patrolling the very highest ridges. Cabinet National Forest (now Lolo National Forest), Montana. 1909 (Forest Service photo by W. J. Lubken)



Specially staged photo showing fire equipment used in controlling forest fires – helicopter laying hose, motor equipment and pack horse for getting into back country, bulldozer, and Smokejumper in background. Shasta-Trinity-National Forest, California. 1955 (Forest Service photo by Donald J. Lewis)



Devil's Head Fire Lookout showing glassed-in observatory and Miss Helen Dowe, the lookout for the season 1919. Pike National Forest, Colorado. (Forest Service photo by F. E. Colburn)

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Ranger Griffin and Forest Guard Cameron on Fire Patrol duty making an observation for forest fire from the top of Mt. Silcox. Four miles NE of Thompson Falls, Montana. Cabinet National Forest (now Lolo National Forest) (Forest Service photo by W. J. Lubken) 1909.



Ranger Griffin and Forest Guard Cameron on Fire Patrol duty. (Forest Service artwork by Judy Dersch, 2004 for The Greatest Good film for the USFS Centennial Celebration). Format converted for High definition video, with color duotone and logo in Waters Tilting by Adobe font.

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A message from the Chair

By Dan Nolan



Dan Nolan, Chairman of the Board

Greetings everyone,

In our small town at 7,700 feet in the Colorado mountains, spring is struggling to convince us that it is really here. We're more than ready.

I just came from a meeting of one of two non-profit organizations I belong to that support Forest Service programs. One is devoted to wilderness area management and the other is focused on trails. Between the two, we staff information cabins at the entrances to the Indian Peaks Wilderness Area, maintain trailhead register boxes, serve as stewardship ambassadors at key locations to promote sustainable recreation practices, run the district's volunteer adopt-a-trail program (86 trails), and annually obtain hundreds of thousands of dollars in grants to implement trail improvement projects on the national forest.



Dan Nolan, Chairman of the Board and volunteer trail crew member - upper left of photo - with a volunteer trail crew.

In 2023, volunteers contributed 5,500 hours of work and made nearly 16,000 public education contacts. Our district ranger recently spoke to us explaining that while we may have times of reduced budgets and restrictions on hiring staff, "we still have our mission," and partnerships such as ours are especially valued in helping fulfill that public commitment.

And, speaking of partnerships, I attended the recent Memorial Grove ceremony where we celebrated the lives and honored 37 former Region 2 colleagues that passed away in 2023. Family members and friends attended the ceremony and shared their memories of the honorees. This is a special tradition that has been ongoing since 1921 and is unique in the Forest Service. The Rocky Mountaineers provide the leadership to continuing this tradition in partnership with the Pikes Peak Ranger District and the Pike and San Isabel National Forest. I thank all those involved in carrying out this event, once again. A story of this year's ceremony can be found in this issue of the Rendezvous.



2025 Forest Service Retiree Reunion
Monday, Sept. 22 - Friday Sept. 26, 2025
Missoula, Montana
A History Runs Through It
Celebrate the Dream in the Big Sky!

Join old friends and colleagues for a spectacular week of memories at the 10th Forest Service Retiree Reunion. This is your chance to reminisce with friends, rekindle past relationships, explore the spectacular scenery and fall colors of the Northern Rocky Mountains and tour the new, world class, National Conservation Legacy Center.

Go to <https://2025usfsreunion.org/> and follow along for emerging details.

2024 Rocky Mountaineers Annual Gathering

Ft. Collins, Colorado

October 1-2, 2024

By Steve Johnson

After visiting South Dakota for last year's Annual Gathering, the Rocky Mountaineers are heading west to the northern Front Range of Colorado in 2024.

This year's Annual Gathering will be held in Ft. Collins and surrounding areas on October 1-2, 2024. The theme of this year's Gathering will be "Water."

Carl Chambers, former forest hydrologist on the Arapaho/Roosevelt N.F., will lead this year's program. Discussions will focus on the "plumbing" involved in providing water to Front Range communities and the impacts to the Colorado River.

We will begin registration in late June. The cost of registration will be \$40 per person to cover meal expenses.

We are still finalizing details, but here are our current plans.

October 1

1:00 p.m. – For our golfers, we will play 9 holes at Southridge Golf Course in Ft. Collins.

1:00 p.m. – For non-golfers, we will lead a field trip a short way up the Poudre Canyon to Gateway Natural Area. This is the confluence of the North Fork and the main stem of the Poudre River. It is a flat one mile hike along the North Fork to Seaman Reservoir or you can hang out in the peaceful park or bring your fishing pole.

5:00 p.m. – Evening social at Mackenzie's Pub and Grill, located at the Southridge Golf Course in Fort Collins. Food will be served along with an open bar. There is a large patio to enjoy the evening sunset.



Beautiful Gateway Natural Area

October 2

9:00 a.m. – Meet at Northern Water Headquarters in Berthoud. We will visit the recently remodeled visitor center and listen to a presentation by one of the staff members on the Colorado-Big Thompson project, as well as other current and planned projects.

10:30 a.m. – Drive past Carter Lake to an overview of the Chimney Hollow

Reservoir which is currently under construction. We will then continue our drive through the "back country" to Sylvan Dale Guest Ranch outside of Loveland.

12:30 p.m. – Arrive at Sylvan Dale Guest Ranch for lunch. The ranch is located along the Big Thompson River a few miles west of Loveland. After lunch we will conduct our annual business meeting and other presentations.

3:00 p.m. – Head for home or travel further upstream to Estes Park or other "leaf peeping" areas. Aspen should be showing their fall colors by then.

Accommodations

There are plenty of places to stay in the Ft. Collins area. We will not set up a room block, but we will include a list of recommendations when we begin registration.

We hope you can join us for this year's Annual Gathering. Mark your calendar and save the dates!

Membership and Finance

By Ellen and Johnny Hodges

We want to thank all of you that have made donations to the Rocky Mountaineers so far this year in either our Scholarship, Memorial Grove, or General Funds. Our donations to date total **\$9,495**. As a reminder, you are welcome to make donations at any time throughout the year.

We are recognizing donors in the categories of **Friend**, **Patron**, and **Sponsor**. If we missed anyone, please let us know.

Some donations were made in the memory of someone. We have included the name of the honoree.

Friend (\$1 - \$49)

John and Mary Ellen Barber

Loveland, Colorado

Dan and Maggie Bishop

Dolores, Colorado

Pete and Debra Blume

Loveland, Colorado

Marilee Bobzien

Salt Lake City, Utah

Dave and Lois Cawrse,

Loveland, Colorado

Janice Chapman and Edward Mauch,

Gunnison, Colorado

Dick and Judy Coose

Ketchikan, Alaska

Steve and Susy Coupal

Kalispell, Montan

Phil and LeAnn Cruz

Washougal, Washington

Steve and Patricia Deitemeyer

Wheat Ridge, Colorado

Martha Delporte

Lakewood, Colorado

Bob Dettmann and Chris Buckman

Durango, Colorado

Linda and Rick Deuell

Laramie, Wyoming

Pam and Chad Devore

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Ed and Jeannie Fischer

Custer, South Dakota

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Marv Froistad and Shelley Amicone

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Wallace Gallaher,

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Tim Garvey and Liz Mauch,

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Linda Gerrans, Hot Sulphur

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Don and Eunice Heiser,

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In Memory of Robert M. Case

Jim and Cindy Hubbard,

Ft. Collins, Colorado

Clare Hydock,

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Steve and Michele Johnson,

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Susan and Matt Kay,

Laramie, Wyoming

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Gayle and Rick Laurent

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Jim Lawrence

Littleton, Colorado

David Loomis

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Dennis and Sheryl Lowry

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Susan Luthye

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Mark and Mindy Martin

Loveland, Colorado

John and Billie Mitchell

Ft. Collins, Colorado

Martha Moran and James Kirschvink

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Littleton, Colorado

John Rawinski

Monte Vista, Colorado

Jim Reid and Betty Toczek,

Missoula, Montana

Dale and Margie Robertson,

Broomfield, Colorado

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Membership and Finance

Friend (\$1 - \$49)

Gary and Janie Roper,
Pueblo West, Colorado

Wayne and Colleen Shepperd
Ft. Collins, Colorado

Chris and Gert Spori
Berkeley Lake, Georgia

**Dave Stark and Penny
Conyers**
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**Dave Steinke and Sue
Robinson**
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William and Sally Sutton
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Larry and Nancy Thoney
Wickenburg, Arizona

Barb Timock
Pueblo, Colorado

Bob and Catherine Van Aken
Fairfax, Virginia

Jack and Kathy Walton
Missoula, Montana

Non-member Donations

James Hagihara
Ft. Collins, Colorado
In Memory of Linda Austin

Patron (\$50 - \$199)

Steve and Julia Ambrose
Ft. Collins, Colorado

John and Patricia Ayer
Yachats, Oregon

Bev Baker
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Bill and Lois Bass
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Safranek,**
Canon City, Colorado

Lee and Dottie Carr
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Cindy Correll
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Richard and Candice Edwards
Timnath, Colorado

Mary Lu Eilers
Golden, Colorado

Mike and Marla Foley
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*In Memory of Linda Austin and
Chuck Alluisi*

**Dyce Gayton and Jan
Bergman**
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Dan Nolan and Marilyn Hunter
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Mark Tucker
Dolores, Colorado

Claire and Van Weaver
Littleton, Colorado

Craig and Lynn Whittekiend
Lakewood, Colorado

Dave and Margaret Wolf
Lakewood, Colorado

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Non member Donations

Edward Duran
Denver, Colorado

Patricia and Adam Livermore
Colorado

Jerry Davis
Colorado Springs, Colorado
In Memory of Clint Kyhl

Sponsor (\$200 +)

Ellen and Johnny Hodges
Ft. Collins, Colorado
*In Memory of Dick Dieckman,
Linda Austin, Chuck Alluisi,
Dennis Eckardt, Jerry Ryszka,
Robert Vaught*

Judy Hudson and Barney Lyons
Caldwell, Idaho

Deb Jensen
East Wenatchee, Washington

Sharon Kyhl
Wenatchee, Washington
In Memory of Clint Kyhl

Paul and Mary Peck
Greeley, Colorado

Michael and Nancy Picard
Nathrop, Colorado

Ed and Mae Schultz
Colfax, Washington

Greg Thompson and Shirley McCabe
Monte Vista, Colorado

Denise Tomlin
Lakewood, Colorado
In Memory of Jim Simonson

Non-member Donations

Christopher Kyhl
Des Moines, Iowa
In Memory of Clint Kyhl

Ralph and Elizabeth Lewis
Fredericksburg, Virginia
*In Memory of Rodney Lewis,
Thomas Lewis, and Robert Lewis*

Memorial Grove Ceremony Donations (cash and checks)

Lunch in Denver

Here are a couple of photos from our Denver area luncheon on April 23 at Cafe Jordano. We had 28 people attend the luncheon. GMUG Forest Supervisor, Chad Stewart, was Acting Deputy Regional Forester at the time and updated us on regional agency issues. Photos by Jace Ratzlaff.



A small back room makes a good place for lunch and presentations.



Denise Tomlin found a seat right across from Vihn Le.



Kitty Thompson and her plus-1.

Memorial Grove Work Day

April 25th, 2024



Tom Thompson trimmed and mulched.

It was another good workday at the Memorial Grove. Lots of trees to mulch and trim. We worked on the irrigation system, fixed a fence and painted a sign - even some work on the road leading to the Grove site. Borders along the trail are starting to rot so about 30-40 of those were dug out and replaced...and then we headed over to Monument for a delicious lunch at [Rosie's Diner](#).



Dan Nolan was on border replacement duty.



Pikes Peak District employee Daniel Bolderam did all the heavy lifting for us.



Bill Nelson prepped this year's plaque for the ceremony.



Tom Thompson holds the door for Steve Deitemeyer as the crew arrived at Rosie's for lunch.

Memorial Grove

Monument, Colorado May 4, 2024



On a beautiful - albeit a bit chilly in the early morning - 197 people came to the Memorial Grove.

We had twenty one members of the families come and many of them spoke about their loved ones and their lives in the Forest Service and what the agency meant to them.



(Continued from page 10)



As the morning clouds lifted we were blessed with an invocation from Pastor Diane Borden, Sig and Judi Palm's daughter. The colors were presented by the Forest Service Honor Guard. A welcome from Regional Forester Frank Beum, the Forest Supervisor of the Pike and San Isabel and Cimarron and Comanche National Grasslands, Ryan Nehl, as well as the District Ranger from the Pikes Peak Ranger District, Carl Bauer. The ceremony was emceed by Rio Grande NF Public Affairs Officer Gregg Goodland and the names were read by Tom Thompson.



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If you have attended before - you get it.

If you haven't come down to Monument for the Memorial Grove Ceremony - put it on your bucket list.

It's all about the family - the Forest Service Family!



“That’s the Way I Remember it”

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

*Interview by Rendezvous
Correspondent Steve Ambrose*



Jim Hubbard

Years of Service: 50

Retired: January 2021

Current Residence:
Ft. Collins, Colorado

The Rendezvous: Tell us a little about yourself. Where were you born and raised?

Jim Hubbard: I was born in a small Kansas town, Neodesha, a small farming community in eastern Kansas. Farming, ranching and oil production were the main economic drivers. Everybody knew everybody and kinda all got along.

I am an only child, (my wife tells me that’s what’s wrong with me today) my mother worked for Standard Oil refinery as the administrative assistant to the director of the chemical lab and my dad worked for Frisco Railroad as a brakeman. Neodesha was a post World War II town with a population of four thousand. It was a mix of blue collar workers and agriculture (wheat). It was a time when people came together in the late 40’s and early 50’s as a result of what the country had experienced in WW II. They had a lot of mutual respect for each other - a Republican town, but partisan politics never showed up. The scientists with the refinery chemical lab added to the mix of the population, especially schools, and raised the level of our exposure to things that matter. It was enjoyable...a good place to grow up.

TR: Tell us a little about your family now?

JH: I am married to my wife Cindy and have two daughters, one in Houston who has four grown children, and one in Colorado Springs who has four children at home.

TR: What made you decide to pursue a career in natural resources?

JH: That part of Kansas has a lot of wooded areas including high value hardwoods, pecan, oak and walnut. I enjoyed being in the woods be it hunting, fishing or exploring.

TR: What was the first job you had?

JH: Cruising old growth Douglas-fir in Roseburg, Oregon. That’s where I came to appreciate “real” forests and became convinced Bigfoot exists.

TR: Do you believe that Bigfoot exists?

JH: Yes!

TR: Do you have pictures?

JH: No, but I can tell you in that winter Oregon fog in the middle of an old growth forest, I was looking over my shoulder a lot and I came upon cave type structures in the middle of nowhere with all kinds of goings on inside I couldn’t explain except that must be where Bigfoot lives.



Bigfoot Country

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TR: Where did you go to school?

JH: I started in Kansas State which had a pre-forestry program. I then transferred to Colorado State and got my degree in 1969.

TR: Can you give us a summary of the other jobs you have had in your career?

JH: I started in Forest Inventory in Oregon and then in Colorado. I worked through a number of jobs with the Colorado State Forest Service and became State Forester for 20 years. After that I went to Washington D.C. with the Department of the Interior in the Department of Wildland Fire, then Deputy Chief for State and Private Forestry for the U.S. Forest Service and then finished off as Under Secretary for Natural Resources and the Environment in the Department of Agriculture.

TR: Which one was the most challenging? The most fun?

JH: Every job has its challenges in one way or another but I didn't have a job that I didn't have fun. I enjoyed them all, but the one big issue that hasn't been resolved is wildland fire.

TR: Talk a little about working your way up to the State forester's job...is that a normal path?

JH: The normal path to State Forester then was to work your way through the lower ranks. Once you got to that position it was pretty stable, Tom Borden (former Colorado State Forester) held the position for 25 years I was state forester for 20 years. In the South it was even more tenured. I doubt if the average length of service of a state forester today is more than 5 years. I started in Forest Inventory then moved into field operations management positions where our customers were mostly land owners. Being part of Colorado State University allowed us to get information to the landowners quickly and that was helpful and worked well. We were well received. I also occupied fiscal jobs and then deputy state forester

TR: What challenges did you have as the Colorado State Forester.

JH: We had insect and disease problems that popped up like Dutch elm disease which prompted the State to respond and they decided there was value in trees in the communities and we should be taking care of them. The Mountain Pine Beetle outbreak was dramatic. In the middle of my tenure

as State Forester we began to have large uncharacteristic wildfires that brought a whole host of problems like the size of the fires and the intensity of the fires as well as wildland interface. Mitigation, priorities and working together were other challenges. And then we had to adapt the fire response from small fires to large fires.

TR: How does state level politics differ from federal level politics?

JH: The more local the politics the more personal and more interaction you have. At the state level you pretty much knew what the issues were, who the players were and those affected by the decisions. At the national level you try to do that, but it is a bigger picture. You have to accommodate a whole bunch of different people with different issues and bigger issues than at the State level.



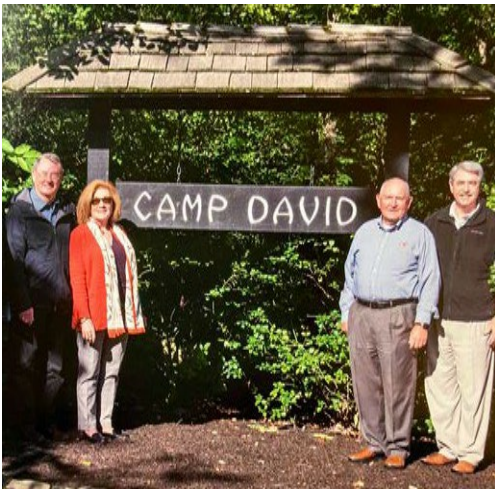
Tom Borden Colorado State Forester for twenty five years and Jim Hubbard Colorado State Forester twenty years.

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TR: You served as the Under Secretary of Agriculture for Natural Resources and the Environment, USDA, in Washington. Can you give us a little flavor of what that job was like? What were the main challenges?

JH: It was a different experience, it was constant. You never had any down time, and that's not just 8-5. It kept coming at you constantly. There were always people who had issues that you had to accommodate; they were people that you served. You took it all. There was constant back and forth with the Agency (FS) and there were always issues. Politically, members always wanted you in their districts so there was a lot of travel. For example once I visited Northern California to Southern California in a week visiting 17 different congressional districts with each member. Lots to absorb and react to.



Agriculture Secretary Sonny Perdue. Retreat. 2020.

TR: What was your relationship with the "Hill" like?

J H : Secretary of Agriculture S o n n y Perdue was a v e r y e n g a g e d individual and wanted you to be focused and g e t something done, not

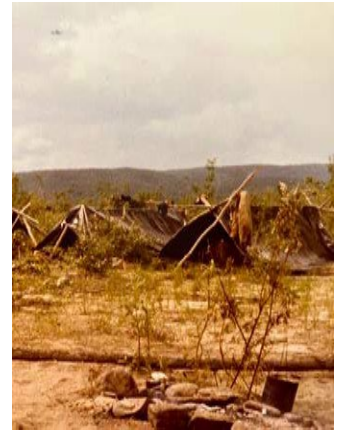
just chase rabbits but catch one once in a while. He was a former governor of Georgia and wanted to share land management decision making with governors. So we signed a "shared stewardship" agreement with most of the governors laying out how we wanted to operate; these are our priorities and this is how we want to accomplish them. He was a good person to work for but he expected results. Fire consumed about 50% of my time. I could have easily filled my time without fire but it was a national issue so it had to be addressed.

TR: You have been involved in fire much of your career one way or another. Can you elaborate?

JH: Wildfire is a big issue. Where we would have 10,000 acre fires, now fires over 100,000 acres are common and million acre fires are not unheard of. Policy, programs and practices have to be adjusted for today's environment. The system that was successful for a long time has to be revisited especially when it involves so many different voices that have a stake and they have to be a part of it, learning how to do that collaboratively and still maintain the kind of focus that system had, but apply it to a larger problem is a challenge.

TR: What do you see as the biggest challenges in wildfire in the US?

JH: I just finished a year participating in a congressionally chartered wildfire commission. Fifty members working on a consensus basis to produce recommendations on wildfire. We produced 140 recommendations. When we started I didn't think 50 expertise individuals working on a consensus basis was going to work out. Thanks to good facilitation it



Fire Camp. Arctic Circle. 1981.

worked out better that I would have thought. It covered the ground: pre-fire, response, recovery, public health, science, and technology.



Ag Sec Clayton Yeutter and wife Jeanne prior to planting of first tree.

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Initial launch of Smokey Balloon. Albuquerque, New Mexico. 1993

It is a good document and it suggests some things to consider, but it is so big and the problems raise their heads it is urgent, but there is little interest in trying to do something that complicated and to change that much of the system. We'll have to wait for the right opportunity. We can't do this a piece at a time; we have to do this as a package. We're not there right now. If you count funding about one half of the

recommendations would require legislative action. Selling the recommendations to the appropriation committees is a whole different issue.

TR: How did you handle the politics in Washington? You had the Democrats on one side of the aisle and the Republicans on the other.

JH: It wasn't so much Democrats and Republicans but rather more a matter of individuals, who the member was, their personality and how they interacted with their constituents. What you do in Southern California is different than what you do in South Dakota. That's legitimate. It wasn't so much partisan politics. I don't think I had many issues of partisan politics that weren't resolved. Members from both sides still know how to work together on issues.

TR: Anything you would like to add?

JH: In general I did a lot of different jobs, I liked them all, and I think it is important to find something you like to do and then go do it.



April Fools Day Post on the Stanislaus National Forest Facebook site.

SONORA, Calif.— (April 1, 2024) In a stunning move to protect the endangered Sierra Sasquatch, the Stanislaus National Forest will dedicate 3000 acres of the Emigrant Wilderness as a designated Sasquatch preserve.

“We’re really excited about the proposed wildlife preserve, while its main goal is to protect our ever-elusive Bigfoot population, this preserve will also serve as a habitat for local pollinators and other Sierra Nevada wildlife species,” said Benjamin Cossel, Stanislaus National Forest public affairs officer. “What we’re seeing is an encroachment of traditional Bigfoot territory by people, causing the shy animals to seek higher elevations in an attempt to avoid human contact,” said Aaron James, a local sasquatch enthusiast.

NAFSR Report



*by Sharon Friedman,
Rocky Mountain Region NAFSR representative*

NAFSR had a Board Meeting on May 7, 2024 and, as usual, Rocky Mountaineer Johnny Hodges took excellent notes posted here on the NAFSR website. I am moving on as the R-2 Representative on NAFSR, so the next Rendezvous should introduce a new R-2 Rep.

Perhaps of most interest is the FS Budget Discussion with Jaelith Hall River and Mark Lichtenstein from the WO. Here are the key points, what struck me was the statement:

50% of our current employees have less than 5 years of FS experience (wow!).

The FY24 Budget was six months late with some reductions. There are restrictions on the use of some funds. The Fire budget portion included temporary pay increases for firefighters. There was no funding included for pay increases for non-fire people. These had to be covered within the existing budget.

They have added 4,000 new employees to the non-fire workforce. This was the Chief's goal. There was never a goal to return to previous staffing. From FY23 to FY24 all fire funding was brought back into the normal appropriations process. It is no longer a supplement. A 3% loss of funds outside of fire will also apply to FY25 unless the budget structure is changed by Congress. There was also a question and answer session:

Are Fire vacancies going to be high? The current trend is they're ahead of last year. They were worried about being 40% below needs without increased pay.

Are budget issues affecting agreements with partners? Why did you hire anyone? The Chief's goal was to hire 4,000 new employees to replace lost capacity. He did not want to go higher.

What happened to all the money? IRA (Inflation Reduction Act) funds came all at one time. They would have preferred to ramp up, stabilize, ramp down. They had to ramp up obligations with partners. We are not taking funds away from agreements unless there is mutual agreement with the partner. Almost all the infrastructure money has now gone out ahead of the anticipated 5-year program and the 10-year strategy.

The current "hiring freeze" is a stand-down moment. They have already exceeded the Chief's goal of 4,000 for this year. They received less funding than we anticipated. Any additional hiring of people outside the agency will be focused. There will be new direction coming soon. The hiring surge has been successful.

Partners would offset part of the un-hired employees. What % internally and externally? 80% of IRA funds (not appropriated) has gone out to partners to build partner capacity. The other 20% was for internal or agency.

Since the discussion was about the Keystone Agreements, in which the Forest Service gave large sums of money to partners NGOs (e.g. \$ 50 Mill to the National Wild Turkey Federation), I thought I'd put [a link](#) to a Region 2 project of NWTf, where they describe highlights from the Rocky Mountain Restoration Initiative's 2023 efforts. Note that they are also working on the San Juan and the Rio Grande.

Happy Trails to all and hope to see you at the next Gathering!



National Museum's History Corner

Sharing the rich history and stories
of America's conservation legacy

By Andy Mason

NATIONAL CONSERVATION LEGACY CENTER – What's Going On?

Late June 2024 is the estimated ground breaking for the National Conservation Legacy Center, the flagship building on our Missoula campus. While we had thought construction would start sooner, a delay is necessary due to the extremely high bids we received from subcontractors. After discussion with our general contractor, architectural firm, and a third-party review of building plans & costs, we asked chief architect Tom Chung to redesign portions of the project to get our costs in line with our budget. This redesign will not in any way affect the visitor experience. We have every expectation the redesign will result in reduced bids from our subs and general contractor.

Regarding the Center's opening exhibition, our hard-working committee (Tom Thompson, Dave Stack, Liz Agpaoa, Lynn Sprague, Dave Steinke, Andy Mason, and Exec. Director Lisa Tate) has recently sent detailed feedback on the "90% script" to our exhibition contractor, Art Processors. This script identifies about 350 stories that will be told using a variety of media (e.g., text, photos, artifacts, video) throughout the exhibition. The exhibits are of course an essential part of the CLC, so we are looking there too for ways to reduce costs. We are fortunate that Lisa has expertise in fabricating exhibits, which could be very helpful in bringing down those costs.

RESULTS FROM OUR SPRING 2024 ONLINE AUCTION

First, THANKS AGAIN to the Rocky Mountaineers for your support to our 4th annual online auction! Pat & Patty Lynch once again donated a vacation stay at their replica USFS cabin near Encampment, WY. Moreover, Pat arranged for a vacation stay at the very exclusive Brush Creek Ranch, also in Wyoming. Total revenue received was \$36,142, including \$3,200 for the capital campaign. This is less revenue than past years, perhaps due to less people bidding? Were there other reasons? The online auction and

membership dues are the primary way the Museum raises money for our operations account, which funds staff salaries and all program and activities other than the capital campaign. We welcome your feedback on the 2024 auction. Please consider taking this brief survey (only five questions): [2024 Saving History Auction - National Museum of Forest Service History - Please respond Survey](https://survey.monkey.com/survey/organization/national-museum-of-forest-service-history-2024-saving-history-auction) (surveymonkey.com)



We have a new virtual "sneak peek fly-through" video, which gives you an even better sense of what it will be like to visit and walk through the Center and view the exhibits. To view, click here:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PGeV07oloxo>

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN FUNDRAISING – We Still Welcome Your Help!

Regarding the 1905 Campaign Closers Circle (each circle requires \$1,905), 13 individuals in your region have joined the 1905 Circle, resulting in almost \$25,000 towards our campaign. We certainly welcome more donors to the Campaign Closers Circles. Through your networks, we ask that you continue to make Museum supporters aware. More information at the end of this update or at: <https://forestservicemuseum.org/campaign-closers-circle/>

(continued on Page 20)

(Continued from page 19)

Thanks to the immense generosity of Bob Bibb and his wife, any new capital campaign donation we receive by June 30, 2024 – up to a total of \$500,000 – will be generously matched by the Bibbs. The Bibbs are very strong supporters of the Museum in so many ways. For example, their son-in-law, a construction cost expert, conducted the third-party review (pro bono) of our project. Just so you know, the Bibbs are not USFS retirees. They live in the Kansas City area, are long-time recreational users of national forests, and believe in what we are doing!

Thanks to you and so many others, we have done very well raising the match required by the Bibb Challenge; however, we are not done and need to

continue fundraising. As I'm sure you can appreciate, the costs of materials, labor, etc., have all jumped in the past few years. We continue to seek new corporate and individual donors through bi-weekly meetings with our sector leaders and a recent focus on four "mega" sectors: Fire-Fuels-Aviation, Recreation-Fish & Wildlife-Wilderness, Minerals & Energy, and Range & Water. On alternate weeks, our "Fast Track" team meets, led by Board member Nancy Gibson, to consider other companies and individuals and strategize ways to get an introduction. Once we have gotten an introduction and present our project to a company leader, we almost always get a positive response. Then we begin a discussion with them about options for forming a donor-investor partnership.

Can you help connect us with new donor-prospects?

We welcome any connections you may have (or people you know that do) that would facilitate an introduction to a company or individual that may have an interest in becoming a donor-investor in the National Conservation Legacy Center. If you have ideas for potential donors and know people that have connections to those prospects, please contact:

- Lisa Tate, lisa.tate@forestserviceuseum.org,
- Tom Petersen, tom.petersen@forestserviceuseum.org, or
- Call the Museum at (406) 541-6374. You may also call Lisa at (208) 484-6667 (mobile).

Campaign Closers Circle

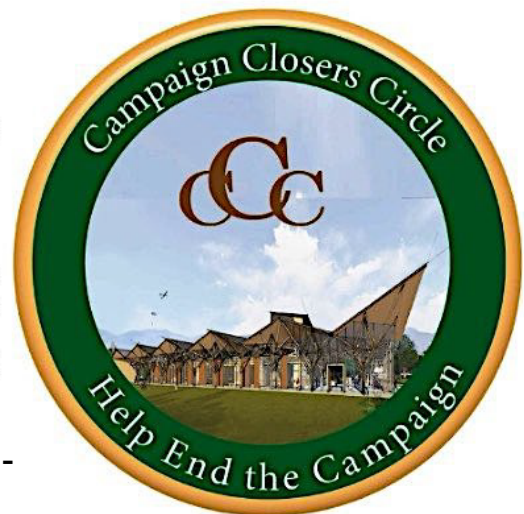
Join the CCC's

Hundreds of individual donors have made the Museum's mission and vision a reality over the past 35 years. Many have contributed to the Capital Campaign which has brought us so close to starting construction of the National Conservation Legacy Center. These supportive individuals and companies will be recognized on the Donor Wall at the Center.

Campaign Closers are individual donors who make Campaign-ending gifts between August 2023 and September 2025 specifically to help the Museum end the National Conservation Legacy Center Capital Campaign. Become a member of this elite, once-in-a-lifetime Giving Circle. This specific group will also be uniquely recognized on the Center's Donor Wall. An individual can be a part of both groups!

BECOME A MEMBER OF THIS ELITE, ONCE-IN-A-LIFETIME GIVING CIRCLE

<https://forestserviceuseum.org/campaign-closers-circle/>



Announcing the 2024 Rocky Mountaineer Scholarship Recipients

The Rocky Mountaineers are proud to announce the winners of the 2024 Memorial Scholarships! We had 15 applications this year and as usual, it was difficult to decide on the winners.

This was the fifth year we had two scholarships just for those studying in natural resources and the fifth year we offered four scholarships. Each scholarship is the same as last year which is \$1,500. We had three applicants who were natural resource majors. The natural resource winners were Ainsley Selle and Anthony Janowsky.



Ainsley Selle

Ainsley is graduating from Meeker High School in Meeker, Colorado. She moved to Meeker from Ft Collins when she was about ten years old. Since then, she developed a deep love for this small community and the area surrounding it. In sixth grade, she took the hunter's education class. No one in her family hunted, and she didn't plan on it either.

However, she was chosen for a guided turkey hunt. The turkey hunt proved to be life changing. It opened her eyes to the beautiful world of hunting. Since then, she became immersed in hunting, finally deciding to take up big game hunting, a development towards her passion for conservation. Through work with Colorado Parks and Wildlife and a research-based trip to Belize, she realized her passions were in conserving and protecting wildlife. She plans to attend Montana State University to pursue a degree in Fish and Wildlife Ecology and Management. Once she graduates, she will work as a wildlife biologist for a state or federal agency specializing in conservation and preservation.

"The Rocky Mountaineers Scholarship will provide me with crucial financial support to pay for my room and board. It will allow me to focus on my studies rather than obsess over financial costs. I am excited to see where the future takes me."

She is sponsored by Martha Moran



Anthony Janowsky

Anthony is graduating from Standley Lake High School in Westminster, Colorado. He is currently planning to attend Colorado State University and has enrolled in their biochemistry department. He has always had a passion for the outdoors and plan on finding a career that will help preserve our imperiled natural environment. He has participated in a wide variety of activities including hockey, high school marching band, hiking, skiing, fishing, and playing a variety of musical instruments. He is a huge music enthusiast and play both the tenor and alto sax in jazz and concert bands and has self-taught himself to play guitar for fun. He also enjoys trying new things and meeting new people.

"This scholarship is super important and a huge help to me and my family as it will help me continue my pursuit in higher education and allow me to figure out how I can help in preserving our natural environment for future generations."

He is sponsored by Nancy Warren

(Continued from page 20)

More Scholarship Winners



Benjamin Stewart

Benjamin is a senior at Cody High School in Cody, Wyoming. The Rocky Mountains have been his backyard since he was a child, and he has loved every moment spent there. He runs cross country and track and field in high school. Along with running all the time, he loves hiking, rock climbing, reading, and going to church. He is

reminded daily of how lucky he is to have public lands. Shoshone National Forest is to his West and Bighorn National Forest is to his East. He is blessed to be in such a beautiful, open area. Without public lands, his running would be contained to the pavement and his rock climbing to buildings. He will be studying accounting at the University of Wyoming.

“We are so fortunate in this country to have the Forest Service to maintain and uphold the land God has created. Thank you to them for their commitment to this country’s beautiful land and the people who appreciate it.

I am honored to have been chosen as a recipient of the Rocky Mountaineers Memorial Scholarship. I am so thankful for this award and for the people who found me deserving of it. This scholarship is so important to me, the money will be a reduction to a stressor in college. At this moment, college feels very ominous, and rapidly approaching. Money is often one of the biggest things college students struggle with and stress over. This award is an opportunity to lower my future stress and I am forever grateful.”

He is sponsored by Frank Roth



Oren Moore

Oren is graduating from Durango High School in Durango, Colorado. He is an avid enjoyer of the wonderful outdoors, finding great joy in hunting, fishing, hiking, and camping. He also loves weightlifting, racing his BMX bike and has found a new hobby in boxing. In the next six months he will be making a great leap in his life by going to college at the Colorado School of Mines to begin studying mechanical engineering, a field that he would like to pursue a degree in.

“Along with college comes a very large price tag, and that is why I am so thankful to the Rocky Mountaineers and their Rocky Mountaineers Scholarship. This scholarship will help to lighten the load on me and my family as we look to pay for my future education. Thank you, Rocky Mountaineers!”

He is sponsored by Bob Dettmann

Where in the World is Susan Gray?

*Story by Rendezvous Travel
Correspondent Susan Gray Ambros*



An adventurous group of 13 travelers made the very long trip to Japan. Thanks to Jim Thinner's precise calculations, we arrived just in time for Sakura, the annual cherry blossom celebration. It's a

major seasonal event and even if you can't speak Japanese, you can sense the excitement in the air and all the news channels have a daily update on when the prime blossom day will be. We missed it while we were in Tokyo, but it caught up to us in Kyoto and it was awesome.



Our trip began with 5 of us participating in a pre-trip which included an extra 4 days in Tokyo which allowed us more, but not enough, time to explore the city. It included a very rainy trip to Kamakura, an ancient city which was the

seat of the first Shogunate in Japan where we saw one of the country's Giant Buddas.

We visited one of the huge outdoor markets in Tokyo where we bought interesting things. We also opted to see a short Kabuki performance, and "yes", it's as weird as you would expect, but the costumes are amazing.

Japan is larger than you think it might be, about the size of California, so it's not possible to see everything the country has to offer during a 3-week

trip, but we did our best to take advantage of all we could. The formal tour started in Tokyo and the first lesson was how, when, and where to take your shoes off as it is a serious offense if you mess it up. After that lesson, the real tour commenced.

We were able to visit with a couple of former sumo wrestlers who told us the story of their careers and what it's like to be a professional wrestler while daring us to try and push them over (none of us succeeded). The following day we got Taiko Drum lessons from a young professional.

Hakone was our next destination where on the way, we stopped and spent a couple of hours in a village where we helped make lunch in a community kitchen, learned how to make rice balls, and were entertained by children who were home from school that day. Upon arriving at our hotel in Hakone, we were given lessons on how to wear traditional robes and the use of the communal hot baths. The next morning, the clouds gave way, and we got an unfettered view of Mt. Fuji! That day included a boat ride, a visit to a woodworking workshop, and a visit with an actual Geisha who described their history and traditions.



(Continued on page 23)

(Continued from page 22)



We left Hakone overland back to Tokyo and then onto the bullet train to Kanazawa. Kanazawa was spared much of the destruction of WWII and still serves as a cultural center of Japan. We

saw beautiful gardens, historic castles, learned the art of making gold leaf, made paper, pounded mochi and ate some great food. Here's where we had a home visit with a local family for tea. Our group was divided into groups of 3-4 and each of us had a different but enjoyable experience learning about their everyday life and also some of the traditions that are still important to them.

Back onto the train and we headed to Kyoto (previous capital of Japan before Tokyo), another major city and home of the 2020 Summer Olympic Games. The cherry blossoms finally caught up to us. Kyoto is known for many things, some of them are the abundance of Buddhist temples (1,700), Shinto shrines (400) and Shogun castles. During our 4 days there, we visited the UNESCO World Heritage Sites of the Temple of the Golden Pavilion (covered in gold leaf), Nijo Castle (home to the first Shogun of the Edo period), and the Todaiji Temple (known for its 52' Buddhist statue and free roaming deer that beg for crackers).

A truly memorable experience was taking a short

boat ride and then making a 200-step uphill trek to the 400-year-old Senjoji Zen temple where we were given a chance to learn about and practice Zen meditation with the resident monk. Three of us intrepid travelers navigated ourselves, via train and subway, to see a professional baseball game in Osaka. We also visited the Fushimi Inari Shrine famous for its 10,000 vermilion torii gates and finished up that day with a visit to a sushi chef and learned how to put together a sushi dish. That was a great way to end the trip, heading home the next day.



My lingering impressions of Japan are that the cities are immaculate; the people are kind; the perfect ice breaker is to mention Shonei Ohtani; the cities are intensely high density; and the country is steeped in tradition and yet is on the cutting edge of technology.



Upcoming International Trips

The Rocky Mountaineers have space available for two upcoming international trips.

- Morocco Sahara Odyssey November 6-21, 2024 - the base price is \$3,895 PP with available air transportation (from Denver) for \$1,450 PP.
- Sicily & Malta: Cultural Crossroads of the Mediterranean April 15 – May 1, 2025 - the base price is also \$3,895 PP with available air transportation (from Denver) for \$1,500 PP.
- Nepal & the Mystical Himalayas October 31 – November 16, 2025. There is currently a waiting list for this trip.

Go to our website for more information. Feel free to contact Jim Thinner at jimthinner2@gmail.com if you have any questions or suggestions.

Time to Visit a National Wildlife Refuge

Story by retiree Mary Ann Chambers

Arapaho National Wildlife Refuge (aka the Duck Farm) and Ding Darling National Wildlife Refuge

Back in ancient times, I got my first job in the Rocky Mountain Region on the North Park District, part of what is now the Parks District, on the Routt National Forest in Walden, Colorado. Walden is a small town surrounded by public land. The Routt National Forest corrals the North Park Valley with Walden in the middle. The Duck Farm, as the locals called the Arapaho National Wildlife Refuge sits south of Walden. You only had to talk to the refuge guys for a couple of minutes to understand that their job was all about the ducks and geese and other migratory birds and the habitat they provided for them. No one ever went there to hike, and it was closed for a good part of the summer to fishing. When I asked the refuge manager why his answer was simple, they were in the business of providing habitat for migratory birds, not recreation for people.

Fast forward forty years and I find myself living next to the Ding Darling National Wildlife Refuge, in Sanibel, Florida. The refuge seems to embrace people and invites them to see the many species of birds they provide habitat for. You can ride along Wildlife Drive during low tide and see multiple species of herons, egrets, pelicans, and plovers. There are prehistoric looking wood storks and beautiful roseate spoon bills.

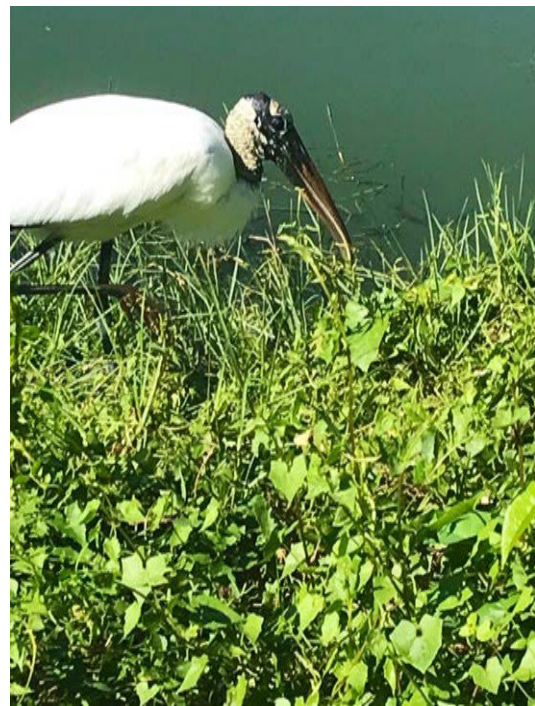
refuge bears his name. There are volunteers stationed along Wildlife Drive, answering questions and allowing people to look through their scopes to get the best views of these amazing birds.

It wasn't always like this here, either. Sanibel was a rural island only accessible by boat until the mid-1970s. Recreation was added to the Fish and Wildlife Service mission in the 60s, as long as recreation did not interfere with their wildlife



Mary Ann Chambers with "Ding" at the Ding Darling Visitor Center

The huge visitor center tells the story of how this place became a refuge and how a political cartoonist named Ding Darling became the first director of the Bureau of Biological Survey, the forerunner of the US Fish and Wildlife Service. Just like Gifford Pinchot was the father to the Forest Service, Ding Darling played a similar role for the USFWS. Ding created the first duck stamp and spent lots of time on Sanibel Island and so this



Wood Stork on Sanibel Island Florida

mission. The rural nature of many refuges, I believe, made recreation a minor part of their job. Now like the Forest Service, they need public support to accomplish their mission. The public in return not only helped the refuge recover from Hurricane Ian, but also provided funds to build a new outdoor interpretive facility and recently raised \$300,000 for their various programs. All this makes me wonder what is going on at the Duck Farm back in North Park. They have a website that shows a nice-looking visitor center, some trails and some roads to take a look around. Maybe the duck farm deserves another look.

10 Tips for Visiting Australia

Story by Johnny and Ellen Hodges

Last August, we completed a 27-day, 30,700-mile trip to Australia. On our first trip to Australia, we visited the east coast. This time, after a couple of days in Sydney, we headed west. It included a visit to Perth on the west coast, a 10-day cruise along the northwest coast in the Kimberley region, a few days in Darwin on the north coast, and an 1,800-mile train trip through the center of the country to Adelaide on the south coast.

Here are our 10 Tips

1. We saved several thousand dollars on business class airfare by flying through Manila, Philippines. Their airport is one of the worst in the world –



The major geologic formations of the Kimberley are various forms of sandstone, folded and uplifted in all directions.

everything is late, the terminal is a miserable place, no one seems to know what they are doing, and it adds at least 8-hours flying time. Beware.

2. The US dollar is very strong in Australia, and you will love the exchange rate. For anything priced in Australian dollars, you get a 33% discount when converted to US dollars.

3. Do not climb across the top of the Sydney Harbour Bridge if you are scared of heights.

4. Visit Australia in the winter (we did). It is the dry season in the north and temperatures in the interior are perfect.

5. We cruised 800 miles from Broome to Darwin on the National Geographic Orion with 65 passengers. There are no towns on the Kimberley coast and no shopping!

6. The entire northern coast of Australia is inhabited by saltwater crocodiles, making it off limits to swimmers and surfers. We were not allowed to step into the ocean except when hopping in or out of zodiacs. We had to stay 15 feet from the edge of the water when onshore.



The world's longest continuous fence stretches 3,100 miles. It was built to keep the dingoes on one side and domestic sheep on the other side. We didn't see any sheep or dingoes.

7. An estimated 70,000 humpback whales migrate to the northern coast in the wintertime. They don't eat – they just have babies and breed before migrating back to Antarctica in the summer. We saw lots of whales.

8. Trains in Australia are unbelievably popular (and expensive). You need to book a seat/cabin at least a year in advance.

9. Uluru (Ayers Rock) is hard to get to, but worth the effort. It is the largest monolith in the world.

10. Driving is on the wrong (left) side of the road. The steering wheel is on the wrong (right) side of the car. The turn signal and windshield wiper controls are switched. You can spot a tourist making a turn - they flip on their windshield wipers. Be careful.



The fearsome saltwater crocodile.

7 rec
hveJ- d a supply of these from Fred R. Johnson Acting) f
office for distribution

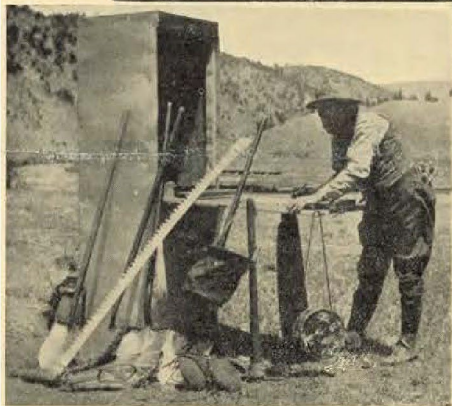
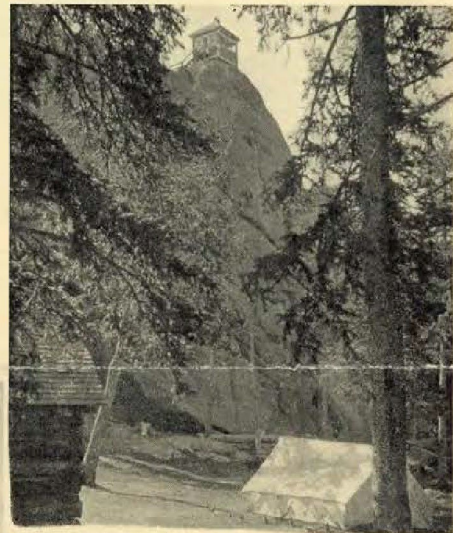


VOL. I

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No. 19

"Devil's Head with "Hell's Half Acre" at its base is the site of one of four important United States Forest Service Fire Lookout Stations along the eastern slope of the Rockies, protecting the Colorado and Wyoming forest country. To the right is a view of the Devil's Head Lookout Station and Camp. Center below is a bird's-eye view of the country to the north as seen from the station. Below to the left is pictured a Ranger "tuning up" the tools at one of the many equipment sheds located at strategic points throughout the forest region.



JOUR fire lookout stations of the United States Forest Service form an important part of the Forest Service's program of fire control in the forest country of Colorado and Wyoming. There is one such station on Medicine Bow Peak from which much of Wyoming and northern Colorado can be seen. Another is situated on Twin Sisters, near Estes Park. A third is high up on Squaw Peak, a short way off the Squaw Mountain road to Echo Lake and Mount Evans. The fourth, and probably the most prominent, is atop Devil's Head in the Pike National Forest between Denver and Colorado Springs.

The legend of Devil's Head dates back to the pioneer days when immigrants coming westward in prairie schooners could first
(Continued to Page 'Ehree)

HAPPY HOME CHATS

Safeguarding Colorado's Forests

Labor Day—the Last Big Summer Holiday

Let Your Happy Home Salesman Help You Plan Your Picnic Menus

Next Monday, September seventh, marks the last big summer holiday—Labor Day. It's another of those glorious three-day events that thousands of Denverites, Coloradans and their out-of-state visitors will be enjoying in Colorado's cool mountains. Thousands of picnics will be planned. To our friends who are planning picnics, your Happy Home salesman can be of help to you, for this week his basket will be filled with many tasty baked goods items that you will want to include in your picnic menus.

Beyond the point of aiding you in planning a delightful picnic menu, Happy Home wants to pass along a few important suggestions for meeting some common causes of automobile accidents—emergencies particularly common to our mountain country.

In case a tire blows out, which might occur to any of us at any time, do not apply the brakes nor throw out the clutch until the car has lost almost all its momentum. A front tire blowout may cause you to lose control of the steering wheel unless you are holding it firmly. In the case of a blowout of a rear tire, a sudden application of the brakes, at high speed, may cause the car to turn over.

If the right wheels should strike a soft shoulder, a fast-moving car is likely to swerve and turn over. The driver should hold the steering wheel tightly, remove his foot from the accelerator, and allow the engine to reduce the speed of the car to a safe point before applying the brakes, throwing out the clutch, or attempting to steer back onto hard surface.

Every time a curve is rushed, centrifugal force acts to push the car off the road. When realizing you are going too fast, the first thought is to apply the brakes. To do this is useless as well as dangerous. Braking cannot overcome centrifugal force and only makes the control of the car more difficult.

When going down a steep hill the car should be put into second or, if the hill is long and very steep, into low gear. Do this before starting down. If further retardation is necessary, apply the brakes intermittently.

HAT TROUBLE

Lady—Pardon me, sir! Does my hat bother you?

Gent in Back—No, but it bothers my wife. She wants one like it.

HIS OWN WAY

Big sister Betty was trying to comfort little Bill.

"I shouldn't cry like that," said Betty.

"You cry as you please," sobbed Bill; "this is my way."



A Pacific Marine Portable Fire Pump mounted on Saddle with Special Steel Frame in place on horse ready for action. Hose is run to creek and to fire from pump, making possible the use of a pressure stream of water on the blaze.

(Continued from Front Page)

see the "Front" or "Rampart" Range of the Rockies. The Devil's Head mountain, next to Pikes Peak, was one of its most prominent features.

Presenting a very rough, ragged outline, Devil's Head has two huge upthrusts of granite along its profile which are presumed to have indicated to someone a similarity to the devil's horns. Other events that may have influenced the naming of this prominent mountain were a murder and the accidental death of a young hunter. It is said that a murder was committed on the north side of the peak and the body, with ten head of horses, burned. Of the death of the young hunter it is said that he was killed on the south side of the mountain when, in his climbing, he became dizzy and confused and slipped from the ledge.

It was in 1909 that this mountain was first considered as a possible lookout station. Frank Sobey, old-time ranger, pointed it out to Supervisor Fitzgerald from the upper floor of the Majestic Building in Denver. In 1910 Ranger Sobey was detailed to investigate the utility of the Devil's Head. His report was favorable and work was started immediately clearing a lane for a telephone line from Saylor Park to the top, a distance of eleven miles.

Near the top of the mountain is a small park-like cove of about one-half acre which was dubbed "Hell's Half Acre" by W. I. Hutchinson, then Forest Examiner on the Pike Forest—probably because of the difficulties encountered at that time in reaching it.

At this place a large Engelmann spruce was felled in a crevice to be used as the

first ladder. To make it possible to climb the rest of the way with any degree of safety, it was necessary to cut footholds in the granite and use several ladders. The last climb is a dizzy one and even with the stairs which are there now one breathes easier when his feet strike the flat, solid rock.

The first lookout structure was 4'x6'x4' in which a telephone was installed. It was built of logs which had to be carried up the numerous ladders and toe holds in the rocks. The lookout lived in a tent down in "Hell's Half Acre." This arrangement was used until 1912, when Ranger Sobey built new ladders, placed pipe railings around the lookout rock and constructed a canopy under which the table and alidade, used by the lookout, were set. In 1914 and 1915 the present station was built by Ranger Sobey with the aid of his guard. This was considerable of a task, since the material had to be carried up the south side and the station had to be anchored securely on the top of the Devil's bald head. A year later a trail was built up the north side which, though steep in places, was far less precipitous.

With his alidade, protractor and a map, the lookout spots and fairly accurately determines the location of a fire. He calls the ranger nearest the scene and immediately smoke chasers, patrolmen and their crews go into action. A hundred supervisors and rangers are on the permanent payroll of the Forest Service, with hundreds of volunteers throughout the wide forest area in readiness at a moment's notice to take up the fight against fire. There were more fire lookout stations in the earlier days. However, in recent years the ranchers and local townspeople have become definitely fire conscious

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HAPPY HOME CHATS

Colorado's Fire Lookouts

(Continued from Page Three)

so that today the four major lookouts amply serve the need. An indication of this consciousness was recently displayed when over fifty calls came in from local people who had sighted smoke on the right of way of the old Moffat Road where crews were pulling the steel. In reality, the crews were burning debris well above timberline.

The first lookout on Devil's Head was a young man by the name of E. B. Miller. For the three years 1919-21, a young lady served as lookout. She was Miss Helen Dow, now Mrs. John Burgess of Denver. The present lookout, who has been stationed at Devil's Head for several years, is Harold Higginson, a native of that area who knows the territory. From 23 to 52 fires have been discovered and located each season during the past five years from Devil's Head.

There are many reasons why fire protection is an important part of the work of the Forest Service. There are, in Colorado alone, 14 national forests with an area of 13,520,906 acres. The Rocky Mountain Region as a whole contains about 45 billion feet of merchantable timber. It has been estimated that the annual growth in these forests amounts to 700,000,000 feet, whereas the annual cut during the past three years amounts to but 106,249,000 board feet of timber. At the present time the annual growth is almost seven times as much as the annual cut.

Of even greater importance than the production and marketing of timber in the value of these forests in protecting the region's watersheds. In Colorado 3,393,619 acres of irrigated land are dependent almost entirely on the water that comes from the National Forests. This improved and irrigated land is worth nearly \$125 per acre against its original value of a dollar to five dollars.

Volumes of interesting information could be written about the work of the Forest Service, which is under the direction of the United States Department of Agriculture. To this service we are indebted for much of the information contained in this short article as well as the pictures reproduced.

For the tourist and the people of metropolitan Denver, Devil's Head offers a splendid one-day outing. At the foot of the mountain is a Class A camp and fine picnic ground. From 5,000 to 10,000 tourists and Denver people visit the mountain annually. From the picnic ground it is a mile's hike to "Heff's Half Acre," and for the more adventurous a climb to the lookout station itself is in order. The welcome sign of the government's Forest Service hangs high at the fire lookout atop Devil's Head.

HOLIDAY WEEK SPECIALS

Aug. 31st to Sept. 5th

Did you know I,lu,t propel"ly bake-1 "Baked Goods" supply you with mo1•c in netnal food vn.1.110 fo1• the money spent than mLy other food commonly used"? "O pride ourselves in the fact that we offer om: customers "Baked Goods" made of th0 sam.0 high quality Ingredients you would use in your owu kitcilm.

This Is Assorted Cookie Week

The bargain assortment illustrated arie described on Page 2 can be had on any day during the current week.
1 Dozen Raisin Sugar, Coconut Sugar, Oatmeal and Fruit Rocks-per package.....25c

Features for the Week

MONDAY		Happy Home Tasties	
Solt Molasses Cookies		-3 in package.....	10c
-Per package.....	20c	THURSDAY	
Rich Chocolate Cup Cakes		Date Filled Bars-Per package.....	30c
-Package of Six.....	15c	Sally Brown Spice Cup Cakes	
TUESDAY		-6 inpackage.....	15c
Cocoanut Macaroons--2 dozen.....	20c	FRIDAY -Pie Day	
Tender Golden Cups		Fresh Strawberry (2 crust)-each..	25c
-Package of Six.....	15c	Lemon Meringue-each.....	25c
WEDNESDAY		Fresh Cherry (2 crust-deep)	
Bargain Assorted Cookies		--each	30c
-4 Doz. per package.....	25c	Blueberry Meringue--each.....	25c

SATURDAY-for "OVER THE HOLIDAY"

Monday, September 7th, being Labor Day, there will be no deliveries. We suggest that you check over the items listed below and place your order with your Happy Home salesman not later than Thursday. Your 3-day requirements will be delivered Saturday.

Date Filled Bars-per package.....	30c
Picnic Assorted Cookies (4 dozen--4 kinds)-per package.....	25c
Large Pecan Loaf Cake (no icing).....	35c
Angel Food Cake (Any variety-iced or plain)-Whole Cake.....	50 and 60c
-Half Cake.....	25 and 30c
Fruit Ring Cake (no icing).....	30c
Plain and Filled Coffee Cakes.....	20. 25 and 30c
Chocolate Fudge Cake-Large.....	51c
-Regular.....	35c

Sliced Sandwich and Large Pullman Club Bread-White, Whole Wheat or Rye.

SPECIAL

The new package of Sandwich Buns is of exceptionally fine quality. Wrapped 8 in an air-tight package. Include a few packages in your picnic lunch. Package.....toe
Cooley Island Weiner Buns-Per dozen.....15c

We Cordially Invite the Public to Inspect Our Bakery

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ALL BAKING Co.

600 W. 12th Ave.

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Denver, Colo.

Celebrating the 60th Anniversary of The Wilderness Act

Story by Dan Nolan

"If future generations are to remember us with gratitude rather than contempt, we must leave them something more than the miracles of technology. We must leave them a glimpse of the world as it was in the beginning, not just after we got through with it."

- President Lyndon Johnson

With these remarks, President Lyndon Johnson signed the Wilderness Act into law on September 3, 1964. This event was the culmination, over decades, of the evolving concept of wilderness in America. Early advocates for preserving natural places include George Perkins Marsh author of *Man and Nature* in 1864 and John Muir a founder of the Sierra Club in 1892. With the creation of national forests and national parks in the early 1900's, federal lands became a focus of attention for preservation. Efforts to preserve natural areas gained momentum with the desire to counter increased commercial exploitation of public land through logging and mining and the impacts of increased recreationists arriving by automobile.

In 1919 Forest Service landscape architect Arthur Carhart, in a memorandum to his Forest Service colleague Aldo Leopold, advanced the idea of setting aside areas of wildlands for protection from commercial exploitation. Aldo Leopold was also a promoter of the concept of wilderness protection. In 1924, on Leopold's urging, Forest Service Chief William Greeley designated 500,000 acres of the Gila National Forest in New Mexico to be the nation's first wilderness area. Another early leader in the movement for preservation and wilderness was Bob Marshall. Marshall was the first head of the Forest Service's Division of Recreation and Lands. He, along with Aldo Leopold and others, formed the Wilderness Society in 1935. While a



number of wilderness areas, primitive reserves and research reserves were eventually designated by the Forest Service, it was noted that they could just as easily be undesignated administratively. More permanent protection was needed to safeguard these areas from political policy shifts. In 1956, Howard Zahniser, the Executive Secretary of the Wilderness Society drafted the first legislative proposal for congressionally designated wilderness. After 65 revisions and nine years, Congress, with overwhelming bipartisan support,

passed the Wilderness Act of 1964. The vote in the House of Representatives was 373 to 1. The vote in the Senate was 73 to 12.

September 3, 2024 marks the 60th anniversary of the Wilderness Act. The Act defined wilderness as

"... an area where the earth and its community of life are untrammeled by man, where man himself is a visitor who does not remain."

The Act established Congressional authority for designating wilderness areas and created the National Wilderness Preservation System on lands under the jurisdiction of the Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management, US Fish and Wildlife Service, and the National Park Service. With passage of the Act in 1964, 9.1 million acres were immediately designated as wilderness. Today, congressionally designated wilderness areas encompass nearly 112 million acres. There are 60 wilderness areas in the states of Region 2 including 52 on national forest land.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_wilderness_areas_of_the_United_States

R2 Rendezvous August, 1994

Elizabeth Estill, Regional Forester Expresses Her Thoughts

It is difficult for me to express the deep sorrow of the Forest Service family and especially the firefighting organization over the loss of so many of our friends and co-workers. They will not be forgotten. Nor should we forget all those who survived, and all those who are on the lines now. Our thoughts and prayers are with them.

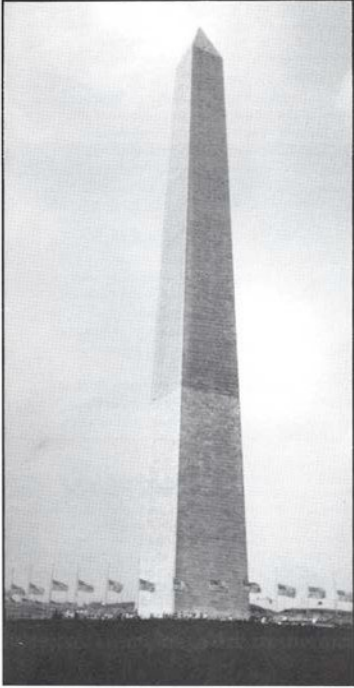
The South Canyon tragedy has received both regional and national attention. Many of our people are devoting a lot of time to working with the media and investigators because it is so important that we learn from this tragedy. Still, during the time immediately following the terrible loss, our major priority was to ensure that the wishes of the families and friends were respected. We tried to do everything possible to assure that notification, investigation, and the homeward trip for the fallen firefighters and their effects was handled with sensitivity and the dignity they deserved. I want to thank all the people of the Forest Service who helped make this happen-and all those who shoulder the work of several so we could enlist so many people from so many units to help.

An investigation team is working to determine the chronology of events as well as to determine the factors led to the fatalities. Initial reports from the investigation team will be released in 45 days. The investigative team, like most of our efforts, is interagency. Members are from the U.S. Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management, and the National Weather Service. The interagency cooperation and community support has been unprecedented.

Unfortunately, facing fire emergencies is our highest priority this summer. It is an effort we all share in. From those on the lines, to those supporting them, to those staying behind to carry the load of the rest of our work, to all, my deepest respect and thanks.


USDA Forest Service Employees' and Retirees' Newsletter August, 1994 Issue #2

R2 Rendezvous



Lost on Storm King Mountain:
 Kathi Beck
 Tammi Bickett
 Scott Blecha
 Levi Brinkley
 Robert Browning
 Douglas Dunbar
 Terri Hagen
 Bonnie Holtby
 Robert Johnson
 Jon Kelso
 Don Mackey
 Roger Roth
 James Thrash
 Richard Tyler

In memoriam - at the Washington Monument, fourteen flags were flown at half-mast in recognition of the fourteen firefighters who lost their lives fighting a wildfire on Storm King mountain July 6th.



Vice President Al Gore Visits Rocky Mountain Area Coordination Center

■ Dave Killebrew
Tonto National Forest

Vice President Al Gore toured the Rocky Mountain Area Interagency Fire Coordination Center (RMACC) in Broomfield, Colorado on Friday, July 15. The Vice President, accompanied by his wife, Tipper, Senator Ben Nighthorse Campbell (D-Colo.), and Representative Pat Schroeder (D-Colo.) participated in a memorial tree planting to commemorate the men and women who lost their lives fighting the South Canyon fire near Glenwood Springs on July 6. A pinon pine was planted on the grounds of RMACC honoring the firefighters who died in the blaze. A plaque with the names of the firefighters was placed near the tree.



Vice President Gore, accompanied by his wife Tipper, Senator Ben Nighthorse Campbell, Congresswoman Pat Schroeder, Regional Forester Elizabeth Estill, and Rocky Mountain Coordinator Dave Clement participate in a memorial tree planting.

Mann Gulch - 75th Memorial Tribute

On August 5th, 1949, Mann Gulch was the site of one of the most well-known forest fire incidents in history. Thirteen young men lost their lives, most of whom were part of an elite group of firefighters known as smokejumpers. Another life was lost when a U.S. Forest Service employee died while investigating the fire.

Seventy-five years later we have not forgotten the sacrifice of these men and the lesson learned from this tragedy. We have gained a better understanding of fire behavior and have developed enhanced safety precautions, equipment, and wildland firefighter training.

Please join us in honoring this transformational tragedy for the families and wildland firefighters across the country.

It has been 75 years since the tragedy at Mann Gulch resulting in the loss of 13 lives.

Please join us in honoring this transformational tragedy for the families and wildland firefighters across the country.

[CLICK HERE](#) for the full flyer details.

[CLICK HERE](#) for the description of this celebration, and how you can become a sponsor of this event.



<http://nrmra.org/media/videos/FiddlinForesters/Cold-Missouri-Wate.mp4>



Mann Gulch 75th Memorial Tribute

August 3-5, 2024
Helena, MT

On August 5th, 1949, Mann Gulch was the site of one of the most well-known forest fire incidents in history. Thirteen young men lost their lives, most of whom were part of an elite group of firefighters known as smokejumpers. Another life was lost when a U.S. Forest Service employee died while investigating the fire.

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To learn more about the Mann Gulch Fire, complete schedule of events, sponsorship information and more, please visit:
montanadiscoveryfoundation.org/manngulch75

In partnership with

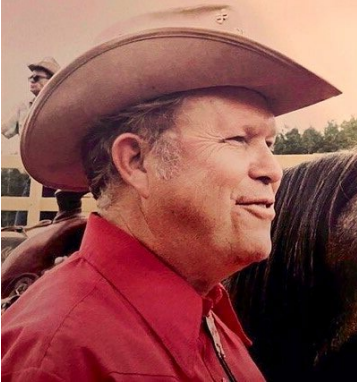


← The Fiddlin' Foresters presentation of "Cold Missouri Waters" can be used in conjunction with wildfire training. It's a non-traditional way of teaching firefighter safety.

This performance serves as a powerful reminder that lessons learned from Mann Gulch are the same messages that all firefighters should always carry with them.



Remembering Chief Max Peterson



R. Max Peterson, 11th Chief of the U.S. Forest Service

R. Max Peterson of Kure Beach, NC went to be with the Lord on 13 May 2024; he was 96 years old.

Max was born in Bennett, Missouri to Ralph and Pauline Peterson. The oldest son of four siblings, Max's older sister, Nettie Moore, his brother, Bob Peterson, and his two younger sisters, Mary

Williamson and Donna Thomas, all preceded him in death.

Max is survived by his wife, Janice Peterson, where she lives with her daughter and son-in-law, Paula Peterson and son-in-law David Roth. Their other children include Brenda, Marla, and Dana Mark Peterson, who is married to Cindy. Max and Jan have 14 grandchildren, 18 great grandchildren and two great-great grandchildren. One grandchild (Timothy Burt) preceded him in death.

Max lived an amazing life, a wonderful father, beloved by his family and friends. He lived a life of Service to his country and was dedicated to the environment. We fondly called him "smokey bear." He was raised on a modest farm in southern Missouri, joining the Navy at the age of 17 at the end of WW-II. He was in early flight training when the war ended; however, his service qualified him to use the GI Bill and he earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Civil Engineering from the University of Missouri.

It was his senior year of college when he met Jan and they subsequently married on 13 Nov 1949. November would have marked their 75th anniversary!

Max entered federal service with the U.S. Forest Service (USFS) where he eventually became the 11th Chief during the Carter and Reagan administrations. During his federal service he completed a Master of Public Administration from

Harvard University. President Reagan awarded Max the prestigious Presidential Rank Award for distinguished service. He was also honored as Chief emeritus after he retired.

Max stayed active with the Navy Reserve where he rose to the rank of Captain. He was proud to be a Seabee throughout military career. After retiring from the USFS, Max became the Executive Vice-President of the International Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies (IAFWA). When asked why he accepted this position, Max quipped with his dry wit, "how can I say 'no' to a job that pays me to hunt and fish?"

One accomplishment Max was especially proud of was his work with the Wonders of Wildlife (WOW) National Museum & Aquarium, in Springfield, Missouri. Max was hand-selected by the CEO (Johnny Morris) to restructure the establishment so it would continue to flourish for generations. WOW is noted as a premier conservation and educational facility; it is considered one of the nation's best national museums and aquariums.

Max and Jan were very active in their Christian faith. Max was the Chairman of the Deacons for many years, leading adult Sunday School classes throughout his life. He was known as a beloved and gifted teacher. He was also on the Board of Directors for the Boy Scouts of America. Max's favorite verse was Romans 8:28, "And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are called according to His purpose."

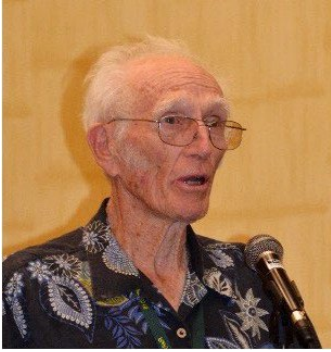
A celebration of life was held on Sunday, 19 May at 2:00 pm at the Andrews Valley Chapel Funeral home in Wilmington, NC (4108 S. College Road) with the family receiving friends beginning at 1:00 pm. A reception was held afterwards at Jack Mackerel's restaurant (by invitation only). Max will reach his final resting place in Fairfax, VA.

In lieu of flowers, please consider a donation to Johnny Morris' Wonders of Wildlife National Museum and Aquarium, www.wondersofwildlife.org.

Condolences may be shared with the family at www.andrewsmortuary.com.



Remembering Doug Leisz



Doug passed away on April 28, 2024. He was born on August 12, 1926, to George and Dorothy Leisz in Alameda, California. After serving in the Merchant Marines toward the end of World War II, he finished his degree in forestry from University

of California Berkley, and married Marian Agnes Trumley. He came to the Forest Service and after his initial positions in California, he served on the Sequoia and timber staff in the early 60's and then went to the Eldorado N. F. as Forest Supervisor in 1963. He transferred to Region 6 as the Asst. Regional Forester for Lands in 1968

and in 1973 became the Regional Forester in the Pacific Southwest Region in California. In 1978 he became Associate Chief. He retired from that position in 1982 and returned to Placerville, CA where he and Marian grew grapes in their vineyard.

Doug was a passionate and energetic leader in the Forest Service in every position he served and in retirement he continued as a leader. He was instrumental in establishment of the National Association of Forest Service Retirees (NAFSR) and served as its first chair. He was a member of Board for the National Museum of Forest Service History (NMFHS) from 1993 until 2015. In 2018 the Leisz Leadership Award, to recognize outstanding leadership in the Forest Service and as a Forest Service retiree, was founded jointly by NAFSR and NMFHS and awarded to him.



Remembering R.M. "Jim" Nelson

<https://www.rgj.com/obituaries/pnvs0766780>



Robert Moore "Jim" Nelson peacefully passed away on Friday, March 15, 2024 in Carson City, Nevada. He was born on October 29, 1940 to Edith Naomi Moore Nelson and William Thomas Nelson, and was raised on a dairy farm

in White Hall, Maryland.

When Jim was 20 years old, he moved to Colorado and lived with his beloved aunt and uncle, Ruth and James Moore. There he completed college at Colorado State University, majoring in Forestry and graduating Phi Beta Kappa and with distinction.

He married Delana Ewing, and together they had three children, Dana, James and Julie all while beginning his professional career with the U.S. Forest Service. As Jim excelled in the Forest Service, numerous promotions moved the family around Colorado, to South Dakota, back to Colorado, then on to Pennsylvania before finally landing in Reno, Nevada where Jim finished out his Forest Service Career as the Supervisor of the Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest, the largest national forest in the lower 48 states.

In Reno, Jim married his second wife, Ann Wilson, and together they had three children, Jennifer, Morgan and Kaitlyn. He loved his life, and his kids made him enjoy it even more. He was a devoted father and raised all of his children with love and humor. The four grandchildren that were added to his life made him even happier, and he adored Elsa, Ashlyn, Liam and Cali as well.

Jim was an avid runner in his younger days and was proud that he qualified for and completed the Boston Marathon. He loved the outdoors and was always at home on a hunting or horse-pack trip, or out back-packing and camping.

Jim was predeceased by his parents, his sister and brother-in-law, Lillian "Jackie" and Martin Hendrix, and his brother and sister-in-law, William and Beverly Nelson. He is survived by his wife, Ann Nelson and his six children: Dana Nelson, James Nelson (Kris Purcell), Julie Hayward (Daniel Hayward), Jennifer Nelson (Anthony Rose), Morgan Nelson (Tyler Schulz) and Kaitlyn Nelson. He is also survived by his four grandchildren: Elsa Ross, Ashlyn Nelson, Liam Hayward and Cali Rose.



Remembrances



Sandra Campbell

Sandy Campbell died peacefully at home on March 5, 2024, surrounded by family. She was born January 3, 1941, to Ross and Emma Kimsey of Breen, CO. She was raised in Breen with her brothers Roger (deceased) and Roy Horvath. Sandy

lived in Breen until her marriage in 1957, and then lived in Durango the rest of her life.

Sandy grew up with an early love of reading that dominated her life. She loved language and learning new words. Sandy married at the age of 16 and had three daughters by the age of 21. She worked for the U.S. Soil Conservation Service and the U.S. Forest Service. She participated in Jazzercise for many years and was always an avid walker. She worked part-time at Honeyville and Enterprise Rent-a-Car after her retirement. Sandy was a longtime member of First Presbyterian Church of Durango, where she and her husband faithfully served in several positions. Sandy received the 2022 Durango Library Champion Award after 26 years of faithfully shelving books. Sandy loved to cook and serve healthy meals to

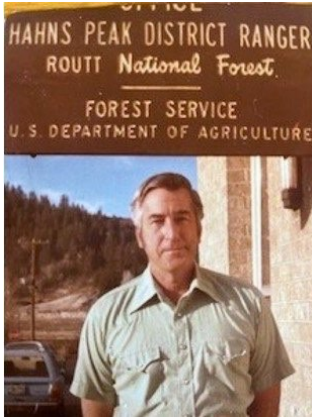
family and friends, and she relished stream fishing, especially in Hermosa Creek. She modeled for her family that anything was possible with enough gumption and hard work. Sandy did not like to be in the limelight, but she was frequently busy behind the scenes. She sewed clothes for herself and her daughters on a sewing machine that was her first major purchase after marriage. For many years Sandy and her family attended a rustic camp at X Lazy F Ranch near Crawford, CO, with her brother Roy and his family. This was always a highlight of her summer. In her later years she enjoyed many trips all over the world with church groups and the Road Scholar program. She also enjoyed local drives and visits to Durango Coffee on the weekends. Sandy was an avid learner her whole life. She loved to talk to people and learn about them and their lives.

Sandy was married to the love of her life, Lee Campbell, for 67 years. She is survived by her brother Roy (Suzy) Horvath of Breen, and her three daughters, Valerie Bagby of Fort Collins, CO, Sue (Chuck) Jerome of Grand Junction, CO, and Renee (Joe) Sebestyen of Durango. She is also survived by grandchildren Lisa (AJ) Jimenez of Nambe, NM, David (Melissa) Jerome of Houston, TX, Mike Jerome of Englewood, CO, Megan (Tim) Oppelt of Glendale, CA, Stephen (Mandy) Sebestyen of Montrose, CO, and four great-grandchildren (Ira, Loec, Matthew, and Hazel).

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Remembrances

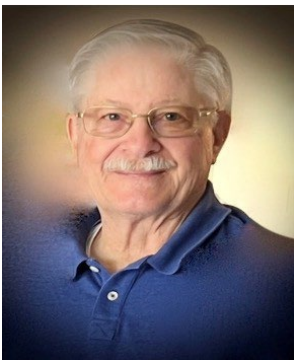


William Conklin

William Conklin passed away on February 5, 2024, in his home in Wittmann, Arizona, at the age of 91. Bill was a Sergeant First Class in the US Army. He served on the front lines in the Korean War. After returning from the war, he completed his degree from Iowa State University in forestry.

He worked for the U.S. Forest Service for 31 years. His career started on the Routt N. F. in Kremling, Colorado, where he met his wife, Donna Conklin.

She was a waitress at his favorite café, Jerry's Café. They married in 1962 and moved to the White River N. F. in Dillon, Colorado, where he continued his Forest Service career. Donna got her teaching degree and became an elementary school teacher. They moved to Gunnison N. F. and started a family that grew to include Cindy and Scott Conklin. Bill then transferred back to the Routt in Steamboat Springs where he was the district ranger for Hahns Peak Ranger District. They moved on to R-6 in 1980. His last stint with the Forest Service was in Grants Pass, Oregon, with the Siskiyou National Forest. He was in charge of Lands and Recreation. Bill's love of the outdoors continued until the day he died. He is survived by his wife Donna and daughter Cindy.



James Leigh Fischer

James Fischer passed away peacefully on June 22nd at his home in Meridian, Idaho.

Jim was born on December 30th, 1945, in Ft. Collins, Colorado to James H. Fischer and Virginia Fischer. He and his brother Dennis enjoyed growing up

in a small town, which Ft. Collins was at that time and riding their bikes around the town. Both sets of grandparents lived there so it was comfortable having many family members close by in their growing up years. He was active in Boy Scouts, earning his Eagle rank in 1964. He worked at Ben Delatour Boy Scout Ranch for 3 summers.

He graduated from Ft. Collins High School in 1964 and went to Colorado State to earn a degree in Civil Engineering. Jim was a member of the Sigma Alpha Epsilon fraternity. He was the third generation of the Fischer family to graduate from CSU. He worked for

the US Forest Service for 5 summers surveying roads and trails on the Arapahoe Roosevelt National Forest before he graduated.

After college, he married Norma Kenagy in Kansas City, Kansas on June 14th, 1969. They immediately headed to Springerville, Arizona where Jim had accepted a job as an engineer on the Apache National Forest. After four years in Springerville, he and Norma moved to Alamogordo, New Mexico, where he was a Forest Service Engineer on the Lincoln National Forest. He had input into the resting place of the original Smokey Bear. Mountain Home, Idaho was their next move from 1976-1979. Jim worked mainly in Pine and Featherville on the Boise National Forest. The next move was to Glenwood Springs, Colorado where he was the West Zone Engineer for the White River National Forest. He was very involved with the redesign and construction of the interstate highway through Glenwood Canyon.

(Continued on page 36)

(Continued from Page 35)


Remembrances

James Fischer (more)

He also enjoyed inspecting ski lifts at Aspen and Vail, along with many other ski areas. Moving to Cody, Wyoming in 1986 satisfied his goal of becoming a Forest Engineer on the Shoshone National Forest. Here he took part in grizzly bear patrols and represented the Forest Service on the reconstruction of the North Fork Highway into Yellowstone Park. After 15 years in Cody, Jim and Norma returned to his hometown of Ft. Collins, Colorado where he became Forest Engineer for the Arapaho-Roosevelt National Forest. He retired from there in 2004.

Jim was always involved in forest fires. He provided radio communications and logistic support to the National Fire Incident Management. After retirement, he became part of a team which would go on forest fires for three weeks at a time.

Jim's hobbies were many and varied. He was an avid fly fisherman, tying his own intricate flies. Jim enjoyed hunting and taught his boys all about it. He loved music and being outdoors. The family enjoyed many camping trips, including tent camping in grizzly bear country near Yellowstone. Tent camping eventually gave way to camping with a trailer. Soon Jim and Norma would be pulling their trailer all over, including a trip with friends all the way to Alaska. Playing the trombone was another hobby. He played for various groups including a Dixieland group in Colorado called the Defiance Jazz Band, the Capital City Mulligan Band and the Boise

Community Band. He has sung tenor in church choirs for over 40 years at various Presbyterian and Methodist churches. Jim was clerk of session for 10 years for the Cody, Wyoming Presbyterian Church. He also spent much of his time volunteering in his community, such as being part of the Optimist Club in Cody, and then working at Habitat for Humanity 3 days a week in Ft. Collins. He was also an active part of the Fifty-Year Club in Ft. Collins which held a reunion each August for those who had graduated from Ft. Collins High School 50 years or more.

Jim was the ultimate family man, always thinking of his family. He continually supported his two sons Jay and Lee whenever they needed him, whether in times of need or in times of celebration. He loved the outdoors, especially doing yard work and camping with friends and family. Jim was a perfectionist who could fix almost anything. He was curious and enjoyed learning. His sense of humor was remarkable, even being able to laugh at himself.

We will certainly miss him and his dedication to his Church, community, Forest Service, and most importantly, family. He was a patient, supportive and loving father, grandfather, and husband. He is survived by his wife Norma, sons Jay and Lee, their wives Brandi and Erin, grandchildren Ellie, Jackson, Cort and Emily, his brother, Dennis Fischer and wife Andrea, brother-in-law, Gary Kenagy and wife Sharon and numerous nieces and nephews.

**Kyle Jamison Jones**

Kyle Jones was involved in a tragic, fatal car accident on Dec. 16, 2023. Kyle was only 34 years old.

Kyle was born as the only child to Kevin and Ginger Jones in Tacoma, Sept. 5, 1989. Kyle attended Burley Glenwood Elementary and Cedar Heights Junior High in Port Orchard, Wash. until his family

decided to move back to their home roots in the small town of Orofino. Kyle then continued his education at Orofino High School.

Kyle had many friends back in Port Orchard and was quick to make more in Orofino, most of whom he kept in touch with right up until his untimely death.

None of these relationships compare to his life-long love, Victoria Cruz.

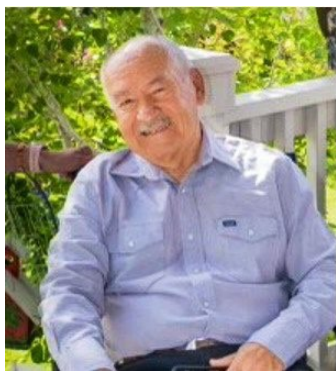
(Continued on page 37)

(Continued from Page 36)**Kyle Jones (more)**

They were the definition of high school sweethearts. Together they had two beautiful sons, Kendrix Evan Jones and Kellen Jamison Jones.

Kyle was a loving father, a well-loved son, and one of a kind friend. After high school graduation, Kyle attended Walla-Walla Community College, where he graduated with an Associate of Arts in 2016 and finished his education at Boise State University with his bachelor's in public relations in 2018.

Kyle started working for the Clearwater Potlatch Timber Protection Association (CPTPA) where he soon found his love for fighting fire. Once his education was complete, he decided to pursue his passion of wildland fire fighting for the United States Forest Service. This allowed him to do two of his favorite things, see new places and meet many new friends. Kyle is survived by Victoria Cruz and their sons, Kendrix and Kellen Jones; parents Kevin and Ginger Jones; many aunts, uncles, cousins, and numerous friends and co-workers.

**Eufracio Cornelio (E.C.) Quintana**

Eufracio Quintana, of New Castle passed away on March 21, 2024, after bravely battling Leukemia. He was born on May 2, 1939, to Jose Lino and Rose Quintana in El Cerrito, NM. E.C. spent his formative years on the family ranch in

Garita, New Mexico; graduated from Pueblo Catholic High School in 1959 and served in the US Air Force for 4 years. He pursued higher education at the University of Southern Colorado, where he earned his bachelor's degree in accounting and finance in 1974. E.C. dedicated 39 years of his life to serving the US government, beginning his career at the Pueblo Army Depot before transitioning to the US Forest Service as a budget and accounting analyst.

In a serendipitous moment while on leave, E.C. met the love of his life, Della Silva, in his mother's kitchen. They exchanged vows on May 1, 1965, and together embarked on a beautiful journey. The couple welcomed their son James in 1966 and daughter Emily in 1972. Over the years, they created cherished memories while residing in Pueblo, Fort Collins, Glenwood Springs, and finally settling in New Castle in 2007.

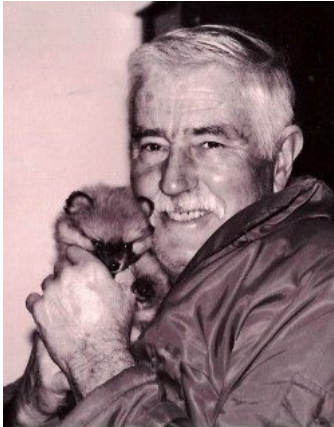
E.C. was renowned for his immense heart, finding true joy in the company of his family. He reveled in celebrating countless milestones, sharing family dinners, vacations, and cherishing holidays together. Those who had the privilege of knowing him will forever miss his wisdom, humor, calm demeanor, and cheerfulness. Each day, E.C. exemplified love, faith, and kindness to all fortunate enough to cross his path.

A devout follower of Jesus Christ and the Catholic Faith, E.C. dedicated his time to various charitable endeavors, including volunteering with Catholic Charities, Kiwanis, and the Knights of Columbus, where he was installed as a 4th-degree Knight. He found solace in activities such as camping, hunting, fishing, solving word puzzles, traveling alongside Della, and relishing quiet moments on their patio.

E.C. is survived by his devoted wife, Della; loving daughter, Emily (Kelly) Bates; daughter-in-law, Sheila Quintana; grandchildren, Brandon (Cassandra) Bates, Kristen Bates, Megan Quintana, Joel Quintana, and Lauren Quintana; great-grandchildren, Hadley and Bennett Bates; sisters, Esther (Fred) Rodriguez, Priscilla (predeceased by Rueben) Trujillo, and brother, Timothy (Patricia) Quintana; sisters-in-law, Joan (Isidor) Martinez and Susan Martin; Godchildren, Brian Martinez, Stephanie Amella, and Gary Trujillo, along with numerous nieces, nephews, cousins, and extended family.

(Continued from Page 37)


Remembrances



LeRoy Howard Self

Le Roy Self passed away Friday August 25th at his home, at 89 years old, from complications of congestive heart failure.

LeRoy was born January 23, 1934, to Howard C Self and Florence M. (Rea) Self at the Self Ranch in Falga, Colorado. He

dropped out of high school after completing the 10th grade so he could join the military and enlisted in the US Army's first armored division serving as a medic in Swinefort, Germany during the Korean conflict. While in Germany LeRoy met his wife of 67 years Gisela Lourke Self. After being honorably discharged in 1955 LeRoy began working for Scott Drilling company in Oklahoma as a driller's helper and later with his brother Ivan in construction in and around Pagosa Springs. Then he found work around Tularosa, New Mexico operating heavy equipment in the uranium mines. LeRoy received a free physical each year after that and was sent a letter just a couple years back that indicated he was one of the few men who had worked there that had not already died of cancer. LeRoy was never diagnosed with any cancer. Upon completion of the uranium work LeRoy applied for a job with the federal government as a heavy equipment operator and soon landed a job teaching Job Corps a federal government program that taught under privileged city kids how to run heavy equipment. The facility was north of Gallup, New Mexico at Mexican Springs. When the Job Corps program was officially ended, LeRoy got a job with the US Forest Service

running heavy equipment and learned how to use explosives, moving up through the ranks to become a supervisor and in charge of trails, roads, construction, and the vehicle fleet finally retiring in 1987. Despite not completing high school, LeRoy excelled at a job most often held by individuals with engineering degrees. He taught and certified trainees in dynamite blasting in Denver for many years. LeRoy retired back on his family ranch and along with Gisela began raising a few cattle and sold firewood while clearing sage brush and overgrowth and planting acres of grass. Using his experience with the Forest Service fighting summer fires LeRoy and Gisela cleared many acres on his ranch and has forever left his mark on the Self Ranch now located south of Allison, Colorado and by the Navajo lake in New Mexico. During retirement LeRoy would do part time jobs with Helmur Corporation and Hocker construction doing oilfield construction jobs.

LeRoy enjoyed Navajo Lake and spent many hours on his boat fishing and taking his family water skiing and camping for as many weekends as he could spare. He was a great horseman and packed into the San Juan mountains camped for days while inspecting and building trails for the Forest Service.

LeRoy is survived by his daughter, Dione Lee (husband, Tom Lee) and son, Howard Self (wife, Robyn Self) as well as four grandchildren, Cody Self (wife, Vanessa), Kenny Lee (wife, Lissa), Brittainy Garro (husband, Nick) and Ashley Self and 7 great grandchildren. He is preceded in death by his beloved wife, Gisela and their son Charles Roy Self, brothers Ivan Self, Charles D Self and Sisters Rose Smith and Elaine Palmer Gold.

The Last Word

The Sign of Memories

By Tom Thompson

As you travel across the country and come upon a National Forest or Grassland entrance sign, how does it make you feel? Especially, if it is a well-maintained sign. I get this warm feeling of being home where I belong. In a sense it is a feeling of welcome, of security, of pride, of gratitude, and of just plain old comfort.

Toward the end of World War II in 1945, my dad, who had worked at the Pueblo Air Base all through the war, was treated to a weekend fishing trip on the upper Rio Grande River by a grateful doctor who was indebted to my dad for all the neighbor-in-the-apartment next door mechanic work he had done on the doctor's Buick during the war years.

I have visited every national forest and grassland sometime in my 78 plus years, and from as early as I can remember to now, I have always had that same special feeling knowing that the Forest Service entrance sign signals a very



special place ahead and it belongs to all of us. It is not for sale, and it will always be there, just for us.

With this experience my dad came to love the Rio Grande country and thus began what became a lifetime of annual visits back there.

I don't have vivid memories of my first trip there in 1946 at six months of age, but I do have many, many wonderful memories of those early great adventures for our family on the Rio Grande National Forest as I grew up.

It is not for sale, and it will always be there, just for us.

The log cabins where we stayed were built in 1926 and surrounded by National Forest.

In reflecting back on my early years, I think to a large degree it was a Forest Service sign that probably led me to a career in the Forest Service. Growing up on the high plains of southeastern Colorado it was quite a distance to the mountains of Colorado. On a very clear day if you were on a high point, you could sometimes make out the tops of the mountains off to the west.

The cabins were one room with two beds, a wood stove, a table, a bench and a few chairs, no electricity, no running water, and the outhouse was shared with a few other cabins. There was fishing right out the door, clear crisp air at over 10,000 feet elevation, views of elk on the slopes every evening, and lots of space with aspen and spruce forests in every direction.

Every year our family set out on what I considered to be the most special week of the year and went off to the mountains. Like so many families the discovery of the National Forests started at the end of World War II.

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So early on I had a love for the Forest Service and at age 10, with the help of borrowed stencils from my uncle I made an official Forest Service sign for my room out of 4 x 11-inch piece of 3/8 inch plywood and even drew the Forest Service shield on the lower right corner. In looking at this sign today and the craftsmanship, the artistic touch, and the layout, I can see why I never did all that well in art classes. Even so the sign gave my room in our basement an identity and reminded me of a place off to the west where I yearned to be.

My own family continued with this tradition of making at least one trip to the Rio Grande as best



we could over the years. In the mid-nineties we decided to begin using cabins down river a way that had electricity and indoor plumbing.

There is a special spot on the ridge up near Spring Creek Pass in a open parklike meadow where I sat with my grandfather probably seventy years ago. I have sat there with my dad, my mom, my sons, and daughter, and now my grandchildren and every time I come to the Forest entrance sign for the Rio Grande there are memories, but there is also so much gratitude that these places are still there and will be there for my grandchildren's sons and daughters and their grandchildren.