



The Rendezvous

The Newsletter of the Rocky Mountain Forest Service Association

Fall 2014

"A Confluence of Retirees"

Annual Gathering of the Rocky Mountaineers in Delta, Colorado - August 20, 2014

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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.



Serving up the barbecue was Mary Lillie, Dottie Carr and Bob Lillie

Armentrout; Rocky Mountaineer chair Skip Underwood; past chair Tom Thompson; and membership chair Johnny Hodges.

A number of current Grand Mesa,

Nearly 125 retirees were at the Confluence Park in Delta, CO for the second annual gathering of the Rocky Mountaineers. After an evening of rain, the weather turned out beautiful for the picnic lunch on Wednesday, August 20. The food, beverage, and company were great. Lunch was served following a short program which featured: host and Rocky Mountaineer West Slope Area Representative, Lee Carr; Forest Supervisor Scott

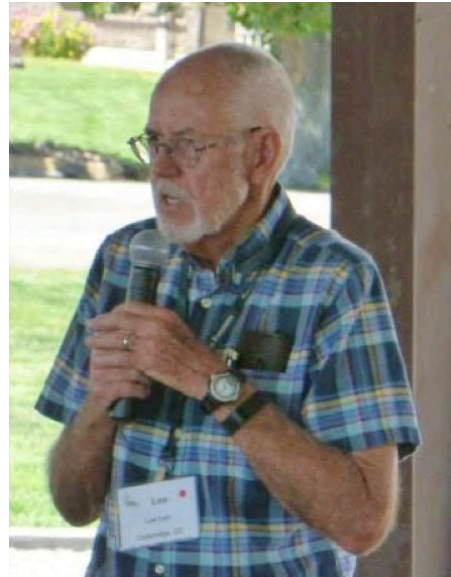
Uncompahgre, and Gunnison NF employees also joined us for lunch, which included barbecued brisket and chicken, beans, salads, and many desserts. No one went away hungry.

Western Heritage and the Regional Office contributed several books and various memorabilia for door prizes and chair-elect Kim Vogel from Steamboat, CO oversaw the drawing of the lucky winners.

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Don Campbell



Lee Carr, Rocky Mountaineer Western Colorado Representative

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Folks in attendance enjoyed visiting and reconnecting with old friends and associates. There was much laughter and many smiles as folks mingling under the shade of the shelter. One reconnection brought together two folks who had not seen each other since they worked together 50 years ago.

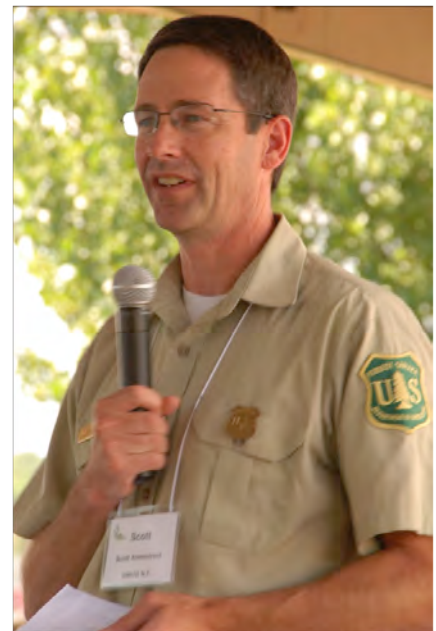
We had attendees from Delta, Grand Junction, Cedaredge,

Paonia, Gunnison, Montrose, Durango, Glenwood Springs, Steamboat, Fort Collins, Littleton and even Albuquerque, NM, as well as many other locations scattered out across the western part of Colorado.

Thanks to Lee and Dottie Carr for making the arrangements for the picnic and to Johnny and Ellen Hodges for doing the registration. There were a

number of other folks who helped with food serving, audio setup, and cleanup afterward. Special thanks to all of those who helped and made this gathering such a success.

The Rocky Mountaineers board met earlier in the day



Scot Armentrout, Forest Supervisor, GMUG

in Delta and had eight board members attend with several on the phone. We are hoping to have our next annual gathering next summer or early fall in either northern Wyoming or the Black Hills.



Tim Garvey, Cheryl and Jim Free



Special Hawaii Condo Offer for Rocky Mountaineers

Western Heritage Company announced that it is making a condo on the island of Molokai available for rent to Rocky Mountaineers at a very reduced rate. This large (1140 sq. ft.) one bedroom, two-bath condo normally rents for \$120/night, but for Rocky Mountaineer members the price is reduced to \$85/night, plus tax and a one-time maid fee of \$90. Minimum stay at this rate is 5 nights. (*Note: You must be a verifiable member to get this price.*) There are still some open dates for this winter season, so if you would like more information about this condo or Molokai, contact Pat Lynch at: pat@westernheritage.com or call him at 970-227-8744. Also, Western Heritage Company would like to remind FS folks, both current employees and retirees, that their log replica Guard Station Cabin located near Encampment, WY is available at no charge for one night stays. Contact Pat for more information on this.



Stories Wanted USFS Women Employees in the 1960s through Present

Sue Wight Sutherland is interested in networking with women who started Forest Service careers and became trailblazers that changed the culture of the Forest Service. Sue believes it is time to tell our stories in "Inadvertent Trailblazers" (name coined by Pam Herdrich).

Books such as What Did We Get Ourselves Into?, Ruth Freeman editor, and a Sampler of the Early Years by Forest Service Wives are fascinating reading and delightful glimpses of how the Forest Service was.

Sue is collecting women's stories before they are lost and forgotten and with intentions to publish the stories in a book. Will you help? Are you willing to share your story?

Please feel free to contact Sue by phone 435-630-0889 or email sue.sutherland2007@ymail.com. Sue is looking forward to exploring this adventure with you!

NAFSR REPORT

by Tom L. Thompson, Rocky Mountain Region NAFSA representative



The National Association of Forest Service Retirees will be holding its annual board and general membership meeting in Reno, Nevada from October 27-29, 2014. NAFSR hopes to be able to introduce our new Executive Director at that meeting as Darrel Kenops is retiring from that position after eight years of outstanding service to the Association. A major focus of this meeting in Reno will be to focus what we need to and can do to build our capacity, attract resources, serve current members and bring on new members in order to meet NAFSR's mission along with our partners in solving problems and acting on opportunities. The following are two updates on recent NAFSR activity that should be of interest to all Rocky Mountaineers.

McGuire Award for 2014

On July 17, 2014, NAFSR awarded its John R. McGuire Award to the Jicarilla Ranger District in Bloomfield, N.M., the most western district of the Carson National Forest. The Award was presented to the district employees by NAFSR

President Jim Golden. Chief Tom Tidwell and Regional Forest Cal Joyner were present for the award which recognizes the extraordinary and unprecedented accomplishments and innovations by the District in performing the oil and gas mission in the Four Corners region. The nomination states that the Jicarilla Ranger District is unique because of the heavy workload caused by oil and gas development. The ranger district is one of the busiest oil and gas producers in the nation. More than 1,000 oil and gas wells have been drilled, 835 wells are active and 198 have been plugged. The oldest well was drilled in 1951 and still produces natural gas.

NAFSR, through the McGuire Award, wants to provide recognition to outstanding examples of accomplishments of dedicated individuals and groups who are able to find ways through the complex processes, mobilize public support, and accomplish needed resource management activities in spite of the obstacles the agency faces in

today's changing world. The McGuire Award is just one way to recognize such accomplishments.

Forest Service employees or members of NAFSR may nominate candidates for the John R. McGuire Award. The nomination must identify the responsible Forest Service employee(s) or organizational unit. The nomination must describe the nature of the accomplishment, how it relates to the Forest Service mission, and why it should be recognized as outstanding. We encourage Rocky Mountaineers to consider submitting potential candidates for the 2015 award as it will be presented during the Forest Service Retiree 7th National Reunion in Albuquerque, New Mexico in October, 2015. For more information contact Tom L. Thompson at tommylthompson@comcast.net or visit the NAFSR website at www.fsxx.org

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*(continued from Page 4)***Wildfire Disaster Act**

Hank Kashdan, NAFSR Legislative Director, reports that the Fire Funding Partners, 230 organizations, continue their educational work with Members of Congress on why passage in 2014 of the Wildfire Disaster Act is essential. Fire borrowing is a hugely impactful practice on the quality of resource management on our public lands that can be resolved via the bipartisan Wildfire Disaster Funding Act. Each year, the federal government attempts to fund ever-increasing fire suppression costs through the regular appropriations

process, but enough dollars are never available to cover those costs. When the money runs out, the Forest Service is forced to borrow from other, non-fire accounts to pay for fire suppression. A considerable portion of this money often comes from wildfire prevention accounts, damaging our ability to take a proactive approach to reducing the risk of wildfires.

The current budget approach for funding fire suppression is seriously disrupting the essential programs of the Forest Service, including management of the National Forest System, Research, State and Private

Forestry, and International Forestry. It is reducing the capacity for cooperative programs with other agencies. The costs of suppressing wildfires should be separated from the regular budgets of the Forest Service and other land management agencies.

NAFSR encourages retirees to visit or write your local Congressional office staff and Members in support of this bill. - Wildfire Disaster Act Legislation-SB 1875 & HB 3992. For more information I encourage folks to go to the www.fsxx.org

Rocky Mountaineers 2016 Chair-elect



Dan Nolan

The Board of the Rocky Mountain Forest Service Association nominates Dan Nolan to be elected as Chair-elect for 2016. Dan retired in 2006 and resides in Hot Sulphur Springs, CO.

Further nominations for this Board position may be made by current members

of the Association by email to rmountaineers@gmail.com or mailed to Rocky Mountaineers, PO Box 270462, Fort Collins, CO 80527. Nominations must be received by October 17, 2014. After October 17, a ballot will be sent to current members of the Rocky Mountaineers for election of this position.

The Chair-elect for 2016 will serve in that capacity as a Board member in 2015, become Chair in 2016 and serve as Past Chair in 2017.

Trip to Ireland with the Rocky Mountaineers

The Rocky Mountaineers first international trip to Ireland in May, 2015 is sold out. We reached our limit of 40 travelers in early summer. Members and family and friends making the trip live in 8 states – Arkansas, Arizona, Colorado, Idaho, Kansas, South Dakota, Washington and Wyoming. If we have fun on this trip (and we think we will), maybe there is another international trip in our future. Where would you like to go? Let us know.

Write us at rmountaineers@gmail.com

Rally on the Rio

October 11-16, 2015



Marriott Pyramid, Albuquerque, New Mexico

You will be able to call Marriott Reservations at 1-877-622-3056 NOW and ask for the U.S. Forest Amigos Reunion room block to receive the discounted room rate of \$105 per night plus tax.

https://resweb.passkey.com/Resweb.do?mode=welcome_gi_new&groupID=24814252

You can make reservation NOW by using the web link:

<https://resweb.passkey.com/go/amigosreunion2015>

The next national Forest Service reunion is only one year away. The "Amigos" of our neighboring Southwest Forest Service Region are hosting this event in Albuquerque during October 11-16, 2015.

The site of the Forest Service Retiree 2015 National Reunion will be in Albuquerque, New Mexico at the Marriott Pyramid - the week after the Albuquerque International Balloon Fiesta! This is a wonderful facility and if you come early the skies will be filled with hot air balloons. All current and past Forest Service

employees are invited to the reunion. We are anticipating over 1,000 retirees from all over the United States to attend. Reunion events will feature cultural and historic presentations about the U.S. Forest Service. This is an opportunity for attendees to informally renew friendships. We will be recording oral histories of selected individuals.

Visit the Rally on the Rio website at 2015.fsreunions.org to see more details on what is planned and to register early.

This will be the first Reunion with a Facebook presence. We started the page right after the 2012 reunion in Vail, Colorado. If you are a member of Facebook and have "Liked" our page, you can make comments, upload photos and videos, and interact with other friends of the page. To find us while in Facebook search for: 'National Forest Service Retiree Reunions.

<https://www.facebook.com/fsreunions.org>

Want to be a Famous Writer?

Many folks have asked us how to submit an article to be published in the Rendezvous. The Rendezvous Staff is looking for articles on events in the History of the Region; Special People, News Events, Recognition, and Travel. To submit an article, send your story ideas to: rmountaineers@gmail.com. When sending us your ideas, provide us with your name, email address, and a summary of what the article(s) is about. Your ideas will be carefully reviewed and approved and a response will be sent congratulating you on your prose. If you want help, we'll help you write the article.

News from Around the Region

North Zone News

by Frank Cross



Several serious issues were addressed at the retirees breakfast held Friday September 12th at the Colonial House Restaurant in Rapid City, SD. Those attending were PJ Haar, Paul and Artie Ruder, Gary Heezen, Janice Harbach and Frank and Sue Cross.

Issues discussed included such things as how many Grandkids? Where are they located? What are they doing? Where are you going this winter? Where have you been and what have you been doing? Aches and pains were also discussed.

After all of this discussion a decision was made that we needed more discussion so another meeting is scheduled for 9:00 Am, October 22nd at the Wrangler Restaurant in Custer, SD.

Pictured below left to right are: Paul and Artie Ruder, Janice Harbach, Frank Cross, Gary Heezen, PJ Haar and not pictured is the picture taker; Sue Cross.

Welcome New Retirees

Pat Thornberry

Regional Office

Craig Beckner

Black Hills

Tom Condos

GMUG

Janis Fenner

GMUG

Warren Young

GMUG

Cheryl Chatham

Med Bow Routt

Phil Cruz

Med Bow Routt

Tom Florich

Med Bow Routt

Diana Hood

Med Bow Routt

Kent Miller

Med Bow Routt

Diana Rodocker

Nebraska

Leslie Stewart-Phelps

Nebraska

Carita Ginn

Rio Grande

Hal Gibbs

Arapaho Roosevelt

Kerry O'Brien

Arapaho Roosevelt

Gifford Martinez

Pike San Isabel

Norma Palider

Pike San Isabel

Frank Vallejos

Pike San Isabel

Susan Yager

San Juan

Carrie Christman

Shoshone

Joe Foreman

White River

The Manitou Experimental Forest:

serving as a world-class research facility for over 75 years

Paula Fornwalt

*Research Ecologist and Scientist-In-Charge of the Manitou Experimental Forest
Rocky Mountain Research Station, Fort Collins, Colorado*



Construction of the Main Lodge by the WPA/CCC

Manitou Experimental Forest is a 16,700 acre facility that has been serving as a world-class outdoor laboratory and classroom since 1938. It is located 30 miles northwest of Colorado Springs, Colorado. Manitou Experimental Forest straddles the Trout Creek Watershed, a tributary of the South Platte River. Vegetation is representative of the Colorado Front Range montane ecosystem, with extensive ponderosa pine and ponderosa pine – Douglas-fir forests. Manitou is located on the Pike's Peak Ranger District of the Pike National Forest, and the facilities are owned and managed by the Rocky Mountain Research Station.

Manitou Experimental Forest is one of 80 sites in the current Experimental Forest and Range system. These Experimental Forests and Ranges were established by the Forest Service to provide places for research in key ecosystems throughout the United States and Puerto Rico. The nation's first Experimental Forest, Fort Valley, was established in 1908 in Arizona, over 100 years ago. Many of the Experimental Forests and Ranges, including Manitou Experimental Forest, were established in the 1930s, although sites have been added to the system as recently as the 2000s.

Establishment of the Manitou Experimental Forest

The series of events that led to the establishment of the Manitou Experimental Forest was put in motion by a physician named William A. Bell. In 1872, Dr. Bell bought out several local homesteaders to purchase a large portion of an area historically known as Manitou Park. In 1873, he constructed a large resort hotel on his new land, as this area was developing into a center for tourism. Many people from the eastern United States came for Manitou Park's reputed health benefits due to the dry air and clean water. Old photographs show well-dressed visitors playing racquet games on the hotel lawn. Unfortunately, this hotel burned to the ground in 1888. In 1889, a new hotel was built, but in 1899, it too burned.

During this period of time, Dr. Bell attempted several other business ventures in and around Manitou Park.

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From 1874 to at least 1890, Dr. Bell ran a fish farm that was built off of a spring feeding Trout Creek. This operation was relatively successful, at least in comparison to the success of the hotels and the other business ventures described below. Dr. Bell raised eastern brook trout, which he sold to the Colorado Springs and Leadville markets. Dr. Bell tried his hand at logging during the 1880s. Eight or nine miles of narrow gauge railroad was laid in support of the logging venture; a wood burning Denver & Rio Grande locomotive ran on the rails.

The remains of part of the cross-ties for the railroad were found in 1980, three feet below the soil surface of the Trout Creek flood plain. Despite the fact that Dr. Bell cut approximately 70 million board feet of ponderosa pine and Douglas-fir timber, the logging venture was not financially successful. Also unsuccessful was the town of Torrington, which Dr. Bell founded in 1896.

Dr. Bell situated the town on the east side of a lake he made along Trout Creek. The town had a post office, saloon, general store, carpentry shop and livery. The town's establishment, and abandonment in 1903, corresponded with short-lived and unsuccessful mining activities.

By 1905, Dr. Bell had had enough of Manitou Park. Subsequently he deeded, along with American Civil War General and neighboring land owner William Jackson Palmer, 10,635 acres to Colorado College in Colorado Springs, with the stipulation that the land be used for forestry-related education and research. With this donation as a foundation, Colorado College created the Colorado School of Forestry, the fifth school of forestry in the United States. However, in 1935-36, Colorado College closed the Colorado School of Forestry due to declining enrollment and the Great Depression. Colorado College then donated the land to the US Forest Service.

Shortly thereafter, the Forest Service began the process of creating the Manitou Experimental Forest. Manitou's 16,700 acre land base was assembled from Dr. Bell's and

General Palmer's donated lands, surrounding National Forest lands, and from other purchased properties. Construction of six buildings began in 1937. The buildings, beautifully built by the Works Progress Administration out of red sandstone quarried from nearby Missouri Gulch, include a large lodge for housing seasonal research field crews, a residence for Manitou Experimental Forest's Manager, an office, two garages, and a pump house. The buildings are currently listed on the National and Colorado Register of Historic Places. In 1938, the paperwork establishing the Manitou Experimental Forest was signed.

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The residence at the Manitou Research Station.

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Watershed research project facility in 1950's.

Research, past and present

Early research at Manitou Experimental Forest focused on range management. Range management research conducted from the 1930s through the 1970s included studies of natural revegetation of abandoned croplands, and grazing intensity effects on forage production, native plant herbivory, and cattle weight gain. Additionally, early watershed studies examined water runoff and soil erosion, particularly in response to grazing and logging.

In the 1980s, the research emphasis shifted to studies on the management of ponderosa pine forests. Research examined topics such as patterns of ponderosa pine seed production and regeneration, the effects of tree spacing on tree growth and yield, and

characteristics of old growth Front Range ponderosa pine forests. Other studies were initiated that examined optimum thinning levels for dwarf mistletoe control in ponderosa pine

and that investigated the effects of stand density on understory plant growth and production.

Today, research at Manitou has broadened, and is giving us a better understanding of the basic ecology of ponderosa pine – dominated forests, their past and current disturbance regimes, and ways to best manage them. Dozens of research studies are currently ongoing at Manitou. One study is reconstructing historical forest structure across the



The Hayman Fire from the front porch of the Lodge in 2001

range of ponderosa pine in the Colorado Front Range, including within and surrounding Manitou. Another study is looking at the effects of the 2002 Hayman Fire, which burned 138,000 acres (including 1,200 acres of Manitou), on fuels, tree regeneration, and understory plants. Yet another study, initiated over 30 years ago, is examining flammulated owl habitat requirements, habitat use, and population dynamics. This, and other current research, is conducted by diverse partners from near and far. This year alone, Manitou has already logged nearly 1000 visitor use days by researchers from institutions such as the Rocky Mountain Research Station (from the Fort Collins, Colorado; Moscow, Idaho; and Missoula, Montana laboratories), the National Center for Atmospheric Research (Boulder, Colorado), Colorado College (Colorado Springs, Colorado), the University of Colorado (Boulder, Colorado), Colorado State University (Fort Collins, Colorado), the University of Wyoming (Laramie, Wyoming), the University of Montana (Missoula, Montana), and the University of Granada (Granada, Spain).

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A partner in land management, education, and outreach

Over the years, Manitou Experimental Forest has also been used by many agencies, institutions, and organizations. The character of Manitou's landscape and buildings provides a rich setting for productive thinking and dialogue. During the 1990s, the Rocky Mountain Regional Leadership Team met a number of times at Manitou and used the facilities to not only hold their meetings but also to provide lodging. Many wonderful meals were prepared in the lodge's kitchen, and many fruitful discussions and strategic plans originated around the

lodge's massive fireplace. In 1996, even the National Leadership Team, with Chief Jack Ward Thomas, met at Manitou. Since 2003, the Pike National Forest has used Manitou to stage tree planting activities within the Hayman Fire. Colorado College, Colorado State University, and local primary and secondary schools have long used Manitou for field trips and other educational activities. Organizations such as the Ridgewood Homeowner's Association (Ridgewood is a subdivision entirely within Manitou's borders) and the Coalition for the Upper South Platte also make regular use of Manitou's lodge and surrounding forests.

References

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Anonymous. 1906. A Colorado School of Forestry. Science 23: 276.

Anonymous. 2014. The Manitou Experimental Forest. <http://www.fs.usda.gov/efr/manitou>



National Museum of Forest Service History continues to work to preserve your history!

The NMFSH has reached 40 per cent of the goal of raising a little over \$14 million to construct the National Conservation Legacy Education Center (shown below) and develop exhibits, displays, and traveling exhibits to carry on the non-profits mission and purpose. We will break ground on the facility when 80% of the funds have been raised and the Board, the Directors, and the various committees are working hard to reach that goal soon. We continue to invite all Forest Service retirees to become members of the Museum and help support this combined effort. We've been working to fulfill this dream now for over twenty-five years and we won't rest until the job is done. We have over 50,000 artifacts and items of historic interest as a start to the Museum's collection and continually seek items that are important to telling the story of the "outfits" history. If you have items that you believe would be of value to this effort please let us our Executive Director Dave Stack know at 406-541-6374 or nationalforest@montana.com Now is a great to join in this effort by becoming a member!!

The NMFSH Annual Meeting and next Board meeting is October 7 in Salt Lake City. For information or to provide input to this meeting, let Tom L. Thompson know at 303-552-1711.



Membership Update

September 2014

The Rocky Mountaineers have grown to 322 members as of early September. We picked up 22 new members at the West Slope picnic in Delta in August.

We lost our first members this summer as Carolyn Peterson from Littleton died of cancer and Ruth Shields of Durango was killed in a car accident.

We have given a “tryout” to our list of potential members for the past year or so. On November 1, we will discontinue communications with this mailing list. If you

would like to continue with the Rocky Mountaineers, you must become a member.

A membership application is available in this edition of The Rendezvous, or you can find one on our website at <http://rockymountaineers.us>

Dues are free for the remainder of 2014. New retirees can also receive free dues for 1 year after retirement.

Beginning in 2015, we will begin collecting annual dues of \$20 per household. In January we

will send each member an invoice for your dues, and to make it easy for you, a stamped self-addressed envelope. Just put your check in the envelope and drop it in the mail.

Lifetime members and those members that have paid their 2015 dues in advance will not receive an invoice.

The Rocky Mountaineers are a 501 (c)(3) organization and all donations to us are tax deductible.

Lifetime Memberships

We gained 3 new lifetime memberships over the summer and we now total 27. Our new lifetime members are –

Maryanne Kurtinaitis, Boulder, CO

Paul and Linda Ries, Alexandria, VA

Chuck and June Simon, Sheridan, WY

Lifetime memberships are available for \$250 per household. We know how retirees like to do the math, so we'll do it for you. Assuming we keep

our annual dues at \$20/year, you and/or your spouse must live 12 ½ years to break even on a lifetime membership.

So if you think your ticker is good for another 12 ½ years, send us \$250 and we will never bother you to pay dues again.

We love all of our members, but we REALLY love our lifetime members! Thank you for your support.

Commemoration of Hubertus J. Mittmann

Written by Erik J. Martin, Landscape Architect, "Program Manager for Ski Area Planning and Administration", White River National Forest, Rocky Mountain Region, 1969-2003



Herb Mittmann, right, confers with Randy Sheffield - 1960. Photo taken on the east side of Building 46 on the Denver Federal Center.

This is the time to honor and commemorate the legacy of one of the Forest Service's most influential landscape architects. Hubertus J. Mittmann (1936-2013), Regional Landscape Architect, Rocky Mountain Region, Forest Service, USDA, was a national leader and pioneer in the emerging field of "Landscape Aesthetics". With 34 years of distinguished service as a landscape architect for the Forest Service, USDA, the land and forests of our great country are a better place where he walked.

Hubertus' contributions to the enhancement of National Forest landscapes and the preservation of natural scenic beauty will endure

for many generations. Herb was an artist and his canvas was National Forest scenery. He was a pioneer in developing scientific methods for simulating visible changes to the environment, evaluating land use alternatives, and mitigating the environmental effects of human-caused alterations to natural

landscapes. He promoted practical scientific methods for articulating and integrating principles of landscape design and human psychology with scientific methods of natural resource management - methods that could reliably produce consistent quantifiable results. He was a lecturer, counselor, trainer and a mentor to many young landscape architects. His ideas changed the way National Forests are managed and have been widely adopted by numerous federal and state agencies, universities, foreign countries, and private industries. The groundbreaking concepts he promoted evolved into an entirely new branch of landscape architecture, a unique niche that

dramatically increased the skills and palette of services provided by professional landscape architects. His dream became a reality when the systems he helped develop, and the methods for implementing them, were adopted as core principles of national environmental policy. The work that he pioneered is now integrated into mainstream policies, legal requirements, university curriculum, and private industry manuals and standards. "Why do we manage scenery?"

Herb was fond of saying with his slight German accent. "So that our children and grandchildren can enjoy the beauty and spirit of the national forests, just as we have enjoyed them. You might think that scenery is too subjective to manage because "beauty is in the eye of the beholder" but scenery management on National Forest System lands is a logical and orderly system based on research, which consistently shows that people need and appreciate natural-appearing landscapes, and dislike changes that contrast with or are out of character with these landscapes."

Hubertus had a great appreciation for the scenic, aesthetic and recreational value of forested landscapes.

During his childhood in Europe he learned to understand the value of landscapes composed of mixed ownership intermingled with natural appearing undisturbed areas; lands that were intensively managed for human purposes, including resource extraction, housing and transportation, while still retaining enclaves of naturalness and open space. He had a fond admiration for nature, well-managed sustainable lands uses, and the rights of the American people to retain a portion of the public lands for the common good.

He demonstrated a good understanding of physical geography, the evolutionary history of landscapes, the ephemeral nature of biological systems, and the potential effects of human use and occupation on natural ecosystems. He was a conservationist who believed that it was possible to allow human uses on public lands, if they retained the inherent scenic character of the natural landscape. He taught others that landscape appearance and functionally were compatible, as long as his methods and philosophy were applied correctly. He was a logical thinker; one of a small number of landscape pioneers to be able to quantify, analyze, and integrate abstract principles of art and human psychology into a logical, systematic and consistent method of landscape evaluation.

Always visualizing and speaking about the 'macro scale' of landscapes, Herb enhanced the reputations and heritage of several other famous landscape architects by bringing along some of their ideas for large-scale landscape design. The National Forest



Hubertus Mittmann, Regional Landscape Architect, 1985.

Landscape Management Program began, as a formal program, at a Service wide meeting in St. Louis in 1969 under the direction of Chief Landscape Architect, Edward H. Stone, in response to growing agency and public concern for the visual resource. Working within the federal bureaucracy to promote his ideals, Hubertus spent the majority of his career relentlessly pursuing his dream of creating a rational scientific method for analyzing and evaluating landscape scenery.

Through foresight, hard work, diligence, and the assistance of others, Hubertus' dream finally became a reality in 1974 when the Forest Service, USDA, officially began managing scenic resources, when the Visual Resource Management System was published. Landscape aesthetics, the visual management system, scenic beauty, landscape modeling, and landscape management eventually became widely accepted terms written into thousands of federal, state and provincial policies, regulations and documents. By the early 1980s "Visual Quality Objectives" were established as a requirement of national policy and adopted in Forest Plans throughout the nation.

One of the earliest applications of the new system was a study of spectacular Glenwood Canyon, Glenwood Springs, Colorado, surrounded by majestic 2,000-foot cliffs and transected by the powerful Colorado River, intended to disclose the appropriateness of building Interstate 70 within the narrow canyon. The Colorado Department of Highways under the direction of Regional Engineer Dick Prosenice worked closely with the Forest Service to incorporate Hubertus' planning strategies and mitigation techniques into the planning of I-70 through Glenwood Canyon and Vail Pass. Substantive changes were made to both corridor alignments in response to this effort. Both projects were judged to be of superior design. The public expressed overwhelmingly positive acceptance. Numerous landscape design awards, national commendations and international recognition followed.

Thanks to the ideals espoused by pioneer landscape architect Hubertus Mittmann a half a century ago, the American public is assured of high quality natural-appearing landscapes and the preservation of scenic beauty for the common good—lasting benefits to society through the enhancement of people's lives. Hats off to Hubertus for his unwavering enthusiasm for landscape conservation and his pioneering efforts to make his dream of a better America come to fruition. The entire nation is indebted and grateful. If there is a Hall of Fame for landscape architects, Hubertus J. Mittmann should be enshrined.

Retirees Traveling the World

Each newsletter we will be featuring a short story about retirees' whereabouts and travel

by Pam and Jon Skeels



Tortuga Beach

"Plant a tree under whose shade you never expect to sit." (Alexander, Costa Rica tour guide) We (Jon and Pam Skeels) went to Costa Rica with a group sponsored by the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI) of Denver (<http://universitycollege.du.edu/olli/>) in March. Not being good trip planners ourselves, we only had to pay our money, book our airplane tickets and arrive at the capital city San Jose where a taxi was waiting to take us to our hotel.

We spent a couple days in San Jose starting the trip with a visit to the US Embassy. The Embassy, like most, was a well-

guarded but very nicely kept fortress. Once inside we were provided an overview of the work done by the Embassy. The work they are doing focuses on: 1) border protection, 2) increasing recreational/pleasure reading, 3) infrastructure improvements (e.g. roads), energy, and citizen services. By the end of the trip, we had a good understanding of the need to focus on the road infrastructure.

The tour in San Jose continued with visits to the local University, Opera House, and several Museums. We took a day trip to the island of Tortuga where we explored inter-tidal

pools, reef ecology and had fun snorkeling and being pulled on a banana boat.

After leaving San Jose we headed out on the bus to the Poas Volcano, one of 6 active volcanos (61 inactive/dormant) in the country. The volcano had erupted the week prior to our visit. Unfortunately, the crater was totally obscured by fog. Much evidence of acid rain from the volcano could be seen in the area. After leaving the Poas Volcano, we passed a large wind farm, a developing energy source for Costa Rica. These windmills were built by a Colorado Company. Another volcano visited was Mt Arenal, a beautiful mountain located in the Cloud Forest area. This mountain is surrounded by lush rainforest. A beautiful waterfall near our hotel in La Fortuna provided for a fun hike. Our hotel (<http://www.greenlagoon.net>) was located in the heart of this beautiful area.

Our second day on the road in La Fortuna took us to the ASIS Wildlife Rescue Center (<http://www.institutoasis.com/animalrescuecenter.htm>). The Center's focus is on animal rehabilitation and education.



White-headed Capuchin at ASIS Wildlife Rescue Center

The 8 acre facility is home to a variety of native species including monkeys, birds, peccary, and kinkajous. One couple on our trip had pre-arranged to spend the week after the tour volunteering for the Center. They lived with locals and their week included Spanish lessons as well as building cages, cleaning cages and feeding the animals.

Upon arrival in Monteverde we visited Selvatura Park (<http://selvatura.com>). Rainforest vegetation and bird life was abundant. This park can be explored from a canopy top hike over hanging bridges or by the thrill of the zip line. The hotel in Monteverde was great (<http://arcoirislodge.com>); like most of our hotels, they had a large vegetable garden used to

provide excellent food to their guests.

The third day on the road took us over some of the roughest roads. As we departed Monteverde, we visited the El Trapiche Coffee Plantation (<http://www.eltrapichetour.com>). This plantation not only produces coffee, but also chocolate and cane liquor. Samples of all were enjoyed. We arrived back in San Jose to celebrations throughout the downtown area for the Under-17 Women's World Cup Soccer match.

We expected to have a wonderful time in Costa Rica and we did but we also found a deep affection for this country and its people. This was in large part due to the nature of our guide, Alexander who helped us

see beyond the obvious. Yes, the poverty in San Jose, and the surrounding countryside, was glaring. We saw the substandard housing; the low-tech farming; and the absence of industry and public services.

Alex helped us to see beyond, to a country that was developing past these limitations, and whose people could accept, without embracing, the circumstances of their lives. The people we met had dignity and we sensed their hope and optimism in the warmth of every smile. As Alex told us, "Pura Vida" or live the "pure life." Enjoying life slowly, celebrating good fortune and not taking anything for granted embodies the Pura Vida lifestyle.

"Welcome to Yellowstone!"

That's how I spend two mornings each week during the summer, volunteering at the Park's west gate. Since 2008, we have been "summering" in Montana, where we built a home on property Ed inherited from his grandfather. While I'm at the Park, Ed works on various "recreational construction" projects at our place. Since we are only 6 miles outside of West Yellowstone, MT, a typical National Park gateway town, my commute takes about 15 minutes, depending on tourist traffic.

The west entrance is the Park's busiest, less than 30 miles from Old Faithful, which is a must see for everyone. There are four entrance kiosks where visitors drive up to purchase entrance passes and receive maps & other handouts. I work at the express kiosk, open only in the mornings when it's most crowded, so those who already have passes can get into the Park more quickly. Lines for the pay kiosks (cash or credit card) can really get backed up with so many options available: weekly, yearly, senior citizen, military, etc. It can be especially time consuming with foreign tourists, who may struggle with English. Occasionally, not understanding the numerous signs up and down the traffic lanes, these folks end up in the express lane, waving money at me, as I try to explain they need to turn around and get in one of the other lines. Then, of course, there are always those who ask detailed questions, or fumble to find their entrance pass, but for



Lynn and Ed Ryberg

the most part folks move right along, and many express gratitude for the express lane. Sometimes I glance over at the next lane and see frustration on the faces of those waiting in one line while the next line moves more quickly.

Since I worked for the NPS before transferring to the USFS in 1980, it's just like home with typical government facilities, bureaucracy, lingo and uniforms. But beyond that, I really enjoy dealing so many happy people. Once in a while there will be a grouch, but 99% are excited to be here. Often whoops and hoorays echo back from vehicles driving on into the Park. Handing out maps and info, even answering the typical questions over & over, is a pleasure. It's especially fun to see kids perk up when I give them the wildlife identification checklist so they can keep track of all the

animals they see. Some already have their binoculars and cameras ready, and permission to take my photo is always granted. Coonskin caps are still quite popular with kids, although cowboy hats are more in vogue with adults, especially folks from Europe and Asia! But the highlight of my day is giving treats to dogs traveling with their people, their sweet smiles & wagging tails are really heartwarming.

Park brochures in various languages are quite a hit, especially more recent translations in Czech, Russian and Korean. It's really amusing to see the reaction of non-English speaking tourists when I send them on their way in their own language: au revoir, adios, ciao, auf wiedersehen, sbohem. Of course, American citizens always get to hear "enjoy your National Park".

Most of my co-workers are seasonals, coming back each summer (sound familiar?) The end-of-year pot luck is a fun opportunity to catch up with each other, since we have so little time to chit chat when tourists are anxiously waiting in line. I volunteer from early June til mid September. After Labor Day, the busy season is over, so there's no more need for the express lane. But I always look forward to coming back again next summer, greeting folks with "welcome to Yellowstone!"

Rocky Mountaineer Profiles

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

- from a phone interview on September 10, 2014 with Dave Steinke



Roy and Evelyn Thomson, circa 1985.

Roy Thomson was born in 1921 as the fifth child of seven in Hope, North Dakota. His father was a laborer and hauled loads of equipment and supplies by horse and cart from the railroad to the stores in town. His mother was Orabelle Knoblock, who was a cook in a local hotel. Ray says that his mom was a “master” both as a mom and as a cook, and one of her claims to fame was cooking for the famous David Rosenberg, of “Harry and David” mail order fame.

When Roy turned six months old, his family moved fifteen miles away to Luverne, North Dakota where his father passed

the Civil Service test and got a full time job as a rural mail carrier.

Roy graduated Luverne High School in 1939 with five other classmates – two boys and three girls. He then heard about President Roosevelt’s new program called the Civilian Conservation Corps. “There were just no jobs to be found, so I signed up. I heard they needed help with forests and trees,” Roy said for this interview.

He was assigned to Camp number 762, eight miles west of Custer, South Dakota. The camp needed cooks and Roy knew how to cook, so he ended up making three meals a day for the enrollees. “There was a sergeant who told us what to make, and we cooked it. Right out of the U.S. Army Cookbook,” Roy added.

Roy cooked for almost four years for the camp from 1939 until October of 1943. He got paid \$38.00 a month and \$30.00 of that was sent to his family back home. In between meals, Roy had a chance to attend a few local dances and meet and court his future wife, Evelyn, in Custer, South

Dakota where they dated for two years while he was a CCC enrollee.

Roy headed to Portland, Oregon to look for work, when World War II broke out. War was declared on Sunday and he enlisted in the U.S. Army on Monday. He was delayed getting in for a month because he was only 20 years old and the Army had to get permission from his dad to get in. He applied for lots of different assignments, but the Army needed cooks and he was experienced in cooking for large groups. He cooked a bit, was a ration clerk and drove trucks for the 62nd Armored Field Battalion.

***“You know there
is just no place to
go to get advice
anymore...
I can’t find anybody
older than me.”***

-Roy Thomson

(continued on Page 19)

(continued from Page 18)

They were deployed to Africa, and then into pup tents in Casablanca and then to Rabat, which was better duty living in big tents.

Then it was into combat in Tunisia where they received a daily shelling from the German Army's infamous 88 mm Flak gun which was one of the most highly publicized, famous and feared weapons of the Second World War. "Thanks to the 62nd Armored and the tough work we did, we don't speak German in the USA," quipped Roy who also noted that his World War II veteran hat he



often wears is quite a conversation starter.

The war ended and Roy headed back to see Evelyn in Custer and look for work. He talked with Leo Harbaugh who was a Forest Service foreman about a job and he signed on to work on a crew and drive trucks. He worked 10 months and then was laid off. Then he hired back in 1949 on a tree planting crew

working in the area after the big McVey Fire; and late on a Friday the Administrative Assistant for the Harney National Forest told him that they needed a typist. "I told him I knew how to type, but I wasn't a typist. Despite that, I started working in the office typing up statements for the ranchers and other documents.

Jock Hendry and a bunch of others in the office would get me out and show me how to mark timber and I got a chance to fly in airplanes after lightning storms," said Thomson.

After two or three years as a clerk/typist, Roy was sent to Steamboat Springs to work for the Administrative Assistant down there for a couple of years. Then he was asked to move to Laramie where he could work on the Forest and attend college at the University of Wyoming. Roy studied accounting for two years and then was promoted to the Administrative Officer's job on the Shoshone in Cody, Wyoming. After five years there was asked to move to Denver to the Regional Office to be a contracting officer where he worked with Keith Scobell and a bunch of others. He remained in the RO for thirteen years and retired in 1976.

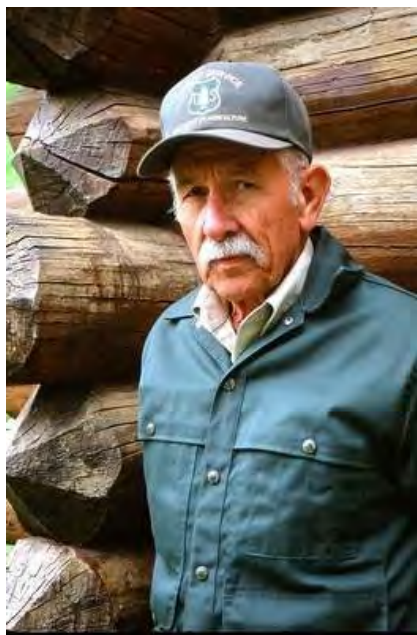
"I've been getting a check from Uncle Sam now for 38 years," he said and soon intends on taking a couple of more international trips before he settles down and relaxes a little in the retirement home in Oakdale, Minnesota where he currently lives.

His daughter, Lyn Foley lives nearby in Oakdale, Minnesota and his son Neil resides in Denver. He proudly noted that his two grandkids are both "doing great."

If you know someone you'd like to be featured in the "Rocky Mountaineer Profiles," drop a note to the Mountaineers and suggest the name of someone you think would be of interest to our readers. We'll give 'em a call or send someone over to conduct an interview and take a few pictures... better yet, grab a camera and a pen and paper and we'll make your pictures look like Ansel Adams and your writing like Shakespeare....we'd love the help, so get out there and get busy. Send your stories and pictures to:
rmountaineers@gmail.com

A tribute to Lloyd McNeil

- by Andrew Gulliford as written in the Durango Herald



Rarely, but sometimes, a man fits a job and the job fits the man. When that happens you can have decades of productive, meaningful work. Such is the legacy of Lloyd McNeil, a forestry technician who worked with the San Juan National Forest for 37 years and passed away this spring at 76 leaving ten children, 26 grandchildren and miles of developed trails for us to hike.

I had the pleasure of meeting Lloyd to discuss one of his favorite topics—the Jersey Jim Fire Lookout Tower on the Dolores Ranger District which he helped save in the 1980s. Firetowers have less value nowadays because of airplane surveillance. Forest fires can be detected in other ways than by having lookouts in a seven by

seven foot structure, 55 feet off the ground and 10,000 feet high on the alert for early smoke which “is almost always white and almost always lingers,” writes Philip Connors in his award-winning book *Fire Season: Field Notes from a Wilderness Lookout*.

Connors explains that 90% of American lookout towers have been decommissioned. In the prologue to his memoir Connors describes the Osborne Firefinder “a topographic map encircled by a rotating metal ring equipped with a sighting device. The sighting device allows you to discern the directional bearing of the fire from your location . . . once you have an azimuth, you must then judge the fire’s distance from your perch.”

Lloyd and I had climbed 70 steps to the top of the Jersey Jim and he turned his regulation U.S.F.S. ballcap around so he could squint down the line of the Osborne Firefinder to demonstrate it to me. If Phil Connors has written a modern classic about fire lookouts, in the rich vein of his predecessors Jack Kerouac, Gary Snyder, and Edward Abbey who wrote about their experiences, Lloyd McNeil had done Connors one better—Lloyd helped to save the Jersey Jim Fire Lookout Tower 14 miles

northeast of Mancos so that guests can spend the night in that lofty perch.

“Saving the firetower was his baby,” relates Clara McNeil as I sit in her large kitchen in Mancos. She says, “My husband heard that the Jersey Jim was going to be torn down and he didn’t want to see it happen. He got in hot water because he started to have meetings without asking the ranger. If that had been scrapped he would have grieved the rest of his life.” Instead, Lloyd and friends created the Jersey Jim Foundation, a legal non-profit, and Clara spent 18 years on the telephone as visitors made reservations to spend a night in the sky.

Lloyd was like that. He helped to maintain hundreds of miles of forest trails on the west side of the La Plata Mountains and he assisted with restoration and preservation of both the Aspen and Glade Guard Stations.



He worked with volunteers, Boy Scouts, Eagle Scouts, and according to Clara his goal was “to save money for the taxpayers and make the best use of his time.”

Always ready with a firm handshake, a smile, and a project to be accomplished, McNeil worked with the Back Country Horsemen though he himself did not own a horse. He used a U.S.F.S. mount named Willie. When it was time to put the steed out to pasture, the Forest Service gave Willie to Lloyd, “and he was Lloyd’s favorite ‘person’ on the forest. He used Willie to pack in gravel, culverts, and anything else a trail needed,” recalls his widow.

Many San Juan National Forest employees have fond memories of Lloyd. Public Information Officer Ann Bond remembers, “Lloyd on hunter patrol, patiently explaining to folks how not to damage the forest. Lloyd dropping by to visit every artist who stayed at the Aspen Guard Station. Lloyd at my desk to lament the latest vandalism to interpretive signs, historic buildings, and recreational facilities. He would shake his head; he just couldn’t fathom why anyone would hurt his beloved National Forest. I remember the hundreds of people, young and old, who came to his retirement party at the Mancos Opera House; Lloyd spending personal and quality time with

each and every one. Lloyd was the ultimate person to have at your campfire telling stories. Lloyd McNeil, always proudly in uniform, the heart and soul of the Forest Service.”

But if McNeil built and maintained trails and fences and kept some of the cleanest campgrounds anywhere, he also belonged to Mancos Grange 339 until it closed. In 1966 he won a national talent contest playing a ukulele. In the Mancos Valley Chorus he sang tenor. As a whistler he placed in the top 10 during an international competition. And he wore kilts.

From string instruments he switched to bass and snare drums for the West Wind Pipes and Drums, a Scottish bagpipe band he helped found. The band tartan or kilt pattern is McNeil of Bara, Scotland, Lloyd’s family. His band members note that Lloyd “could always be relied upon to keep a strong and steady beat.”

Warm, congenial, inquisitive, when McNeil learned that the Thompson Park Campground north of U.S. 160 had once been special to the Utes as a place for practicing with bows, arrows and later rifles, he sought a name change. Now known as Target Tree Campground, he consulted with both Southern Utes and Ute Mountain Utes to re-instate the spirit of Ivikukuch or target tree. A short interpretive walk lets visitors learn about the peeled ponderosa pines along the trail and the importance of the area to Ute hunters centuries ago.

“Affectionately referred to as ‘the Geezer’, Lloyd spent his entire career on the San Juan National Forest beginning on the old Mancos District in 1969 in Recreation, and finishing up as Trail Foreman for the Dolores Public Lands Office.





Lloyd adapted to several positions throughout his career including LEO (Law Enforcement Officer) and VIS (Visitor Information Services),” explains Toni Kelly of the SJNF. She adds that McNeil had “a remarkable career that tied the Forest Service to the local community in so many ways.”

“Known as the whistling cowboy, Lloyd would merrily pack in Southwest Conservation Corps trail crews to remote locations on the San Juan National Forest while whistling and leading a pack string, never faltering. Lloyd seemed happy and rarely troubled, immersed in the day to day tasks of caring for the resources he loved so dearly,” states Kevin Heiner, Regional Director of the Southwest Conservation Corps Four Corners Office. He continues,

“Many SCC crews and individuals gained a respect for hard work and stewardship of the land as they worked under Lloyd’s direction.”



Surely a life well lived, I am grateful to have met Lloyd and to have spent a night with my wife in the Jersey Jim Lookout Fire Tower watching a brilliant sunset reflect off Hesperus Peak and later the night lights of Cortez twinkling in the distance.

At his retirement party Lloyd McNeill offered advice to his fellow foresters. Advice we should all heed. He stated simply, “Take care of the land and serve the people.”

We’ll try, Lloyd. We’ll try.

Andrew Gulliford is a professor of history and Environmental Studies at Fort Lewis College. He can be reached at gulliford_a@fortlewis.edu

Remembrances

Raymond Roy Busby



Raymond Roy Busby died on July 24, 2014 in Denver. He was born on December 22, 1923. He worked for many years on

communications in Region 3 in engineering and operations sections and came to the Rocky Mountain Region in the late 70's in and was responsible for Communications and Electronics in Administrative Management in the Regional Office. He retired from the Forest Service on 2/23/1980.

He is survived by his children, Connie McLain, Randy Busby and Carla Busby, 10 grandchildren, 9 great grandchildren (with one on the way) and sister Carol (Richard) Shaver. Preceded in death by wife Gladys, his brother, sister and parents.

He volunteered at Meals on Wheels for 30 years, was a member of the ELKS and worked for the Forest Service for many years. He enjoyed playing senior softball and bowling.

He will be lovingly remembered. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Volunteers of America Meals on Wheels, 2660 Larimer St., Denver, CO 80205. Viewing Thurs, 7/31, 4-8pm and service Sat, 8/2, 3pm both at Olinger Crown Hill, 29th & Wadsworth.

Gary E. Rorvig



Gary E. Rorvig, 72, died June 1, 2014, surrounded by profound love. He succumbed after a long

battle with prostate cancer.

Gary was born Aug. 13, 1941, in Miles City, Montana, to Paul E. Rorvig and Gladys L. Sprandel Rorvig. He grew up in Denver, where he graduated from North High School in 1959. Gary received a degree in civil engineering from Colorado State University in 1963. He then served in the Coast and Geodetic Survey from 1964-1966.

In August 1966, Gary started a career with the United States Forest Service. His career enabled him to be immersed in his love of the mountains and the outdoors. He worked for the USFS throughout Colorado and Wyoming until his retirement in 1994.

Gary married Diane Moore on Jan. 15, 1977, creating a combined family of his two children and Diane's two children from previous marriages. Gary and Diane also had one child together. The family moved to Laramie in 1979, when Gary was transferred to work in the Medicine Bow National Forest. After retiring from the USFS, he started a second career as a property manager.

By 2000, Gary had several rental units throughout Laramie, and maintaining properties became a full-time job. Gary excelled as a landlord, and was well-liked and respected by his numerous tenants.

Gary was dedicated to family, and loved to spend time with his five children and six grandchildren. He loved walking, being outdoors and traveling. He traveled extensively to Hawaii, Norway, New Zealand and throughout the United States.

Gary is survived by Diane, his wife of 37 years; daughters, Michelle (Sherwood) Hoyt, of Austin, Texas, Becky (née Rorvig) Turner, of Jefferson City, Missouri, Molly Rorvig, of Cleveland, Ohio, Kristi (née Sherwood) Perryman, of Alvarado, Texas, and Carrie (née Rorvig) Illum, of Loveland, Colorado; grandchildren, Justin, Raelyn and Riley Sanchez, Megan and Morgan Turner and Loden Rorvig. Gary dearly loved his grandchildren and was proud of each of them. Gary is also survived by two sisters, Carole Metzger and Nancy Scott; two nieces; and numerous cousins.

Remembrances

David Girty



David Girty of Hayden, CO was killed in a work accident on August 11, 2014 on the Routt National Forest. He was a member of the road crew on the

Medicine Bow-Routt National Forest when the accident occurred.

David was born on October 21, 1951 and was raised in Cincinnati, OH. He enlisted in the army after graduating from high school in 1971 and was honorably discharged in 1979. After leaving the service he moved his family to Steamboat Springs, CO.

David was an easy going person that could talk your ears off. David never knew a stranger. He loved the outdoors, snowmobiling, camping, his horses & his pets.

David's favorite sport was football; both of his sons played for Steamboat Springs and David got involved with helping the coaches but mostly the kids. He was a devout Ohio State Buckeye fan. There was nothing better than watching Buckeye football & basketball on game days. He even became a closet Nebraska fan for his daughter-in-law but would never let her know that.

David is preceded in death by his son David Jr, and his parents Art and Ruth Girty. He is survived by his wife Diane, son & daughter-in-law, Jacob & Elly, his greatest blessing, his grandson, Nicholas Peter and his brother Paul.

John Charles Englebert



John Charles Englebert, born in Green Bay, WI on August 23, 1936, passed away at his home in Livermore, Colorado on July 22, 2014 with his dog, Cody, by his side.

John entered the Army shortly after graduating from high school in Green Bay. After his military stint, where he received several medals in Marksmanship, he worked in Colorado Springs as a machinist while attending CSU in Pueblo. He later moved to Fort Collins to work with the Colorado State Forest Service and to finish his college career, earning a double major in wildlife biology and forestry. John had hoped to become a game warden, but that was not his calling. After graduating from CSU, he went to work for the Larimer County Sheriff's Department in Fort Collins as Captain of the Search and Rescue Team. John thrived in the position becoming an advocate for the Hug a Tree and Whistle programs, aids in helping to find lost children which John found the most rewarding aspect of his career.

As part of the Search and Rescue team, John oversaw numerous wildland fires in conjunction with the State and U.S. Forest Service,

as well as searches for lost airplanes, lost and injured children, snowmobilers, rafters, mushroom pickers and hikers. One mushroom picker told John, after he and his team found her, that she didn't need a map because she knew if she got lost, he would find her!

He was extremely proud of the men and women who made up the Larimer County Search and Rescue Team, relying on them not to stop until the lost child was found or the last ember was extinguished. Of all the searches, fires or rescues that John oversaw, the Big Thompson Flood in 1976 was the largest.

When John left the Larimer County Sheriff's Office, he started a new career with the U.S. Forest Service on the Redfeather Ranger District, Arapaho-Roosevelt N.F. His skills as a firefighter and knowledge of resource management were highly valued by the Forest Service. He ended his career with the Forest Service as a Range Technician working with area ranchers making sure the cattle allotments were fully utilized. Throughout his career, he was able to save many acres of delicate grassland due to his continuous efforts. John's knowledge and experience with wildland fires took him to over 500 fires from Colorado to California during his career.

Remembrances

Carolyn J. Peterson

Carolyn J. Peterson died on August 8, 2014 in Denver. Carolyn was a Manpower Development Specialist for the Rocky Mountain Region and worked in the Regional Office on various manpower programs including, Job Corps, Youth Conservation Corps, and Young Americans Conservation Corps. She started her work with the Forest Service in September 1965 and retired in December 1984.

Carolyn was born in Canon City, CO on March 19, 1937. Carolyn was a graduate of North High School in Denver and had a Bachelor of Arts in Psychology from Metro State College where she attended classes from 1974 until 1981. She was preceded in death by her husband Lloyd.

David W. Molinaro



David Whitney Molinaro died on August 28, 2014. He was born on March 11, 1929 in New Jersey to Emil and Marion Molinaro.

"Following high school, at age 17, he joined the Navy. After several years in the Navy he went to college at Washington State University. After graduating in 1954 in forestry, he went to Alaska and worked in logging camps. In 1956 he was able to begin his career with the Forest Service in Alaska." Dave was a 1954 graduate of Washington State University and began his career in Alaska in 1956. He worked in the Alaska Region as District Ranger on the

Kasann Ranger District of the South Tongass National Forest until 1963. He then was District Ranger on the Delores Ranger District of the San Juan N.F. In 1968 he moved to the Black Forest and was the Recreation Staff on the Pike National Forest in Colorado Springs. In March of 1969 he moved to the Regional Office and was responsible for Visitor Information Service in the Information and Education staff group. In 1976, Dave moved over to Recreation and Lands and had responsibility for Special Uses and Land Uses until his retirement after thirty years on September 17, 1982.

He is survived by his children Nina, David, and Tony and by his grandchildren Brianna, Joseph, Elle, and Emme.

James Everett Jacobson

James Everett Jacobson died on May 29, 2014 in Grand Junction. He was born on October 25, 1940. Jim was a gentle man, quiet, unassuming, and loving.

He was cherished by his family and friends. He proudly served as an officer with the US Navy aboard the USS Bon Homme Richard.

He had a long career with the US Forest Service where he especially enjoyed his early days in Deadwood, SD. Jim was a lifelong model railroader. He enjoyed building his

layout and reading about the world's railway systems. He was a Master Gardener and was involved with the CSU extension office.

He leaves behind his wife Linda of Grand Junction, son Michael (Lori) grandsons Ethan and Luke of Williamsburg, VA, son Eric (Jackie) of Ocala, FL, step daughter Colleen Poling (Dan) grandchildren Marissa, Landon and Kylee of Camarillo, CA, step daughter-in-law Corrina Kiso of Grand Junction.

Remembrances

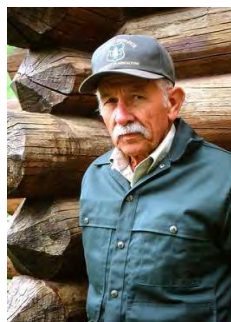
Leslie “Jock” Hendry



Leslie “Jock” Hendry died on June 18 in Lakewood, CO. Jock was born in St. Paul, Minnesota in 1925. His father was a golf pro from Scotland who immigrated to the U.S. after World War I. Jock got his degree in forestry from the University of Minnesota in 1947. Before he graduated, he worked a number of seasonal jobs for the Forest Service, including work on the St. Joe N.F., the Rocky Mountain Research Station, and the White River N.F., and then the Roosevelt N.F. He got his first permanent job on the Harney N.F. and then the Black Hills N.F. as ranger on the Spearfish District and then later to assistant land staff on the forest. He then went to the Pike N.F. in 1960 as a staff officer.

In 1962, Jock transferred to the Regional Office in V.I.S. and I & E. His last assignment before he retired in 1980 was the Director of Administrative Management in the R.O. Jock is survived by his wife Shirley and they were married over 65 years ago. They have two sons Gregg and John and five grandsons.

Lloyd McNeil



Lloyd McNeil, 76, died in Durango in the spring of 2014. Lloyd retired from the San Juan National Forest where he worked for 37 years as a forestry technician. He started his career on the Mancos Ranger District in 1969 and retired as trail foreman for the Delores Public Lands Office. Among his most noted accomplishments was his work to save the Jersey Jim Fire Lookout. He helped maintain hundreds of miles of trail on the west side of the La Plata Mountains and worked to restore both the Aspen and Glade ranger stations. The Durango Herald story reprinted in this edition of the Rendezvous chronicles his life and his contributions to the Forest Service on the San Juan National Forest. He is survived by his wife Clara of Mancos, CO and ten children and 26 grandchildren.

Susan T. Maholland



Susan T. Maholland of Highlands Ranch, Colo., died Thursday, Sept. 13, 2012. The daughter of Denver Blackburn and Jenny (Close) Tidball, she was born April 8, 1918, at home on a cattle ranch on Dry Creek, Monte Vista, Colo. After selling the ranch, the family moved to South Dakota on the Moreau River near Isabel and Faith, S.D.

Susan graduated from Isabel High School in 1937. After graduation, Susan married Elmer Carlson and moved to Audubon. She moved to Denver, Colo., in 1949.

Susan has been active in Eastern Star, White Shrine, Ladies' Oriental Shrine, Beaucient, Denver Toastmistress, International Right of Way Association, Newcomers, and the Red Hats. She was a member of God's Grace Community Church of Highlands Ranch. She enjoyed playing Bridge and Pinochle.

She is survived by her husband, Stephen Nitschneider; two daughters: a son; seven grandchildren; ten great grandchildren; three brothers; three sisters; other relatives and friends.

The Last Word

“A One Year Report Card”

by Tom Thompson

Just two years ago in September of 2012, a group of retirees from the Rocky Mountain Region were host to a very successful National Forest Service Reunion in Vail, CO. Over 650 folks from all around the country came to R-2 and were wowed by the gathering that was held in the beauty of the aspen and mountains of Colorado. The group that organized that reunion decided they wanted to use the momentum and energy generated by this special effort to work toward creating an organization for Rocky Mountain Region retirees.

By July of 2013, we were officially ready to create the Rocky Mountain Forest Service Association – informally – Rocky Mountaineers. Just a year ago in September, we published our first newsletter and now with this current edition, we have published our fourth. We have over 300 members and have just held our second annual gathering in Delta, CO on August 20. Over 125 folks attended this get together and picnic and it was such a fun way to get reconnected with old friends who for the most part have located themselves in the western part of Colorado.

The Rocky Mountaineers organization is off to a great start and after just a little over a year since we established our Bylaws and organization structure, it is gratifying to see how much support and



enthusiasm exists. We have yet to charge anyone for an annual membership in the Rocky Mountaineers. We have provided information through our website, newsletter, and emails that is of specific interest to our members. We have made a significant contribution to the Wildland Firefighters Foundation and to the National Museum of Forest Service History. We have strengthened the overall organization and long-term planning and management of the Memorial Grove at Monument, CO having updated honoree listings, initiated work aimed toward a permanent facility, developed a long-term partnership agreement with the Forest Service, greatly increased visibility and awareness of this

unique and special place, and made significant other improvements in this historic annual event in the Region.

We have sponsored several special events, including an annual Rocky Mountaineer Ski Day and two outstanding annual gatherings in just a little over one year. We are sponsoring a trip to Ireland in the spring of 2015 and the trip is already booked full with 40 participants. We have received our official non-profit organization classification and have established a strong financial foundation.

The folks who have volunteered to help guide the Rocky Mountaineers organization have done so because they believe strongly in our overall goals and objectives. We remind ourselves often that we have no intention of replacing any existing retiree group or organization.

Our purpose is solely intended to be a catalyst to improve communication and connectedness of folks in the Rocky Mountain Region.

We continue to work to do all we can to help folks all across the Region to feel welcome to participate no matter what their location in the Region or in other parts of the country or what their particular background or interests are. It is good for each of our members to remember our mission and to keep focused on that:

The overall mission of this Association is to enrich and add value to the lives of Forest Service retirees who care greatly about the agency and the Rocky Mountain Region by:

Enhancing the connectivity of retirees, spouses, and others who take pride in having been a part of the outfit in the Rocky Mountain Region.

Providing members timely updates of information about Association members, Regional and local happenings, meeting or special event specifics, special stories of historical significance, and other Association business.

Encouraging local groups to either initiate or continue ongoing efforts to connect informally for lunch or other opportunities and gatherings.

Ensuring there is opportunity for others who have special interest in the Rocky Mountain Region to also stay actively connected.

Helping retirees “give back” to the outfit through education, volunteering, and support to the resources and communities that defined their lives and to other retirees and F.S. families needing special support.

Improving the overall participation, ownership, and support of the Memorial Grove and ensuring that all R-2 folks deserving of remembrance are appropriately honored.

Keeping Association administration effective, simple, professional, and designed to ensure a sustainable vibrant organization that represents retirees throughout the entire region and keeps them connected regionally and nationally.

In taking a close look at what we said we wanted to do and what we have done, I think we have done well. If we had an annual report and were inclined to do an assessment of our first year’s effort, I believe we would clearly be able to declare that the Rocky Mountaineers is a success to this point. But as with any organization, especially a volunteer organization, keeping the energy flowing and the interest sustained requires a commitment and vision to keep moving forward and always focusing on what it is that our members want and need from

this organization. What can you do to help?

First, let us know how we are doing and what we could do better.

Second, let others know about the Rocky Mountaineers and encourage them to join.

Third, if you have some extra time on occasion and want to help with anything the Association is doing (like writing an article for the next newsletter or planning a specific work project in your area) just let us know directly at rmountaineers@gmail.com

There is a lot more we could do and that is the opportunity for other R-2 retirees to pitch in with ideas and participation. We welcome your efforts, locally and regionally, to continue to build on these successes. So most of all don’t let the Rocky Mountaineers drift from the standard or mark that we have attained in this our first year. Keep us energized by your feedback and involvement. We look forward to future generations of retirees keeping this great association going forward. Take care and happy anniversary to the Rocky Mountaineers newsletter, the Rendezvous!