



The Rendezvous

The Newsletter of the Rocky Mountain Forest Service Association

Volume 6 - Number 1

Thank You Rocky Mountaineers

By Frank Roth, Scholarship Coordinator

In this Issue

Scholarship Winners for 2022	3
Membership	6
Memorial Grove 2022	10
The Time Machine	12
Museum News	13
National Reunion	16
What's a Pando?	21
What's Funny?	24
Mr. Don Heiser	25
Remembrances	30
The Last Word	35

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



Sadie Hogan - 2018

Editor's Note

We contacted some of our previous Rocky Mountaineers Scholarship recipients and asked them how their college career is progressing and what kind of an impact the financial aid had on their journey.

This reply is from Sadie Hogan, a 2018 scholarship winner from Powell, Wyoming.

"This scholarship changed my entire life path. With it I was able to graduate with my Associates Degree in Paramedic Technology in May of 2020.

Before I even graduated, I was offered a full-time position as a paramedic at Wyoming Medical Center in Casper. I have been there since and am also working on my Bachelor's degree at the University of Wyoming in Organizational Leadership.

Because this scholarship allowed me to afford college, I actually met my husband at Casper College when we were Resident Assistants together. We happily got married last summer.

(continued on Page 2)

(continued from Page 2)

Last year I was invited back to Casper College to become an adjunct teacher in the paramedic program there. My husband and I are also the owners of a rental business and recently became foster parents.

Without your generous scholarship and investment in my future I would have never gotten to where I am today. Thank you guys so much!! I am forever grateful.”

Sincerely,

Sadie McKinley (maiden Hogan)

Rocky Mountaineers Memorial Scholarship Fund

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

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

The inspiration of the Memorial Scholarship was to honor Clint Kyhl who passed in February of 2015. One of Clint's core values, as a steward of public land, was to provide for quality and diverse education experiences for families.

We presented our first scholarship of \$1,500 in 2015 and awarded two scholarships in 2016 through 2018. In 2019 we awarded three scholarships. In 2020, 2021 and now in 2022 we awarded four

scholarships. Two of these scholarships are earmarked for natural resource majors.

The Rocky Mountaineers are dedicated to supporting the many avenues of natural resource careers and to the development of promising young people who are related or connected to the Rocky Mountaineers.

Donors play a significant role in achieving this goal. Please consider supporting this program.

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

All of you make the growth of this program possible.

How To Contact Rocky Mountaineers

Website - www.rockymountaineers.us

E-mail - rmountaineers@gmail.com

Editor of Newsletter - Dave Steinke, dave.steinke@gmail.com, 720-289-7621

Website Manager - Bill Disbrow, bdisbrow@aol.com, 303-548-7501

E-Mail Manager - Johnny Hodges, rmountaineers@gmail.com, 970-226-6890

Memorial Grove - Steve Deitemeyer, sdeitemeyer@msn.com, 303-456-0799 or

TomThompson, thom46pson@gmail.com, 303-933-2135

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

2022 Rocky Mountaineers Scholarship Winners

Your Generosity is Changing Lives

The Rocky Mountaineers are proud to announce the winners of the 2022 Mountaineers Memorial Scholarships! We had 24 applications this year and as usual, it was difficult to decide on the winners.

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

We had four applicants who were natural resource majors. The natural resource winners were **Alaina Wray** and **Micah Thompson**.



Alaina Wray, Durango, Colorado.

Alaina is graduating from Animas High School in Durango, Colorado. She plans to study wildlife biology at Colorado State University. Alaina is very active in her school, church, and community. She has volunteered locally and in Costa Rica.

Alaina's comments: "I am so grateful to be a recipient of the Rocky Mountaineers Scholarship! This scholarship is assisting me in my pursuit of a fish, wildlife, and conservation biology degree! I can't wait to get into the field of natural resources and work to protect animals and the habitats they live in!"

She is sponsored by Bob Sieger.



Micah Thompson, Longmont, Colorado.

Micah Thompson is graduating from Silver Creek High School in Longmont, Colorado. He plans to study zoology, with a focus on fish biology, at Colorado State University. Micah is very active in boy scouts and is very connected to the outdoors. He is an Eagle Scout.

Micah's comments: "The Rocky Mountaineer Scholarship means so much to me. It will allow me to move through my first year of college at Colorado State University without as much worry about my financial situation. I will be able to fund my zoology major so that I can work to preserve wildlife and the outdoors for future generations. Thank you so much for giving me this amazing opportunity."

He is sponsored by Tom Thompson.

(continued on Page 4)

(continued from Page 3)

2022 Rocky Mountaineers Scholarship Winners

We had twenty eight applicants who had other studies for their majors.
The winners were **Emily Leane** and **Amy Murdock**.



Emily Leane, Fruita, Colorado.

Emily Leane is graduating Fruita Monument High School in Fruita, Colorado. She plans to study Environmental Engineering. She has not finalized her college as of yet. She is very active in her school, church, and community. She volunteers in the first grade Spanish classroom at the dual immersion academy.

Emily's comments: "I am honored to have received this scholarship and am so grateful to have help paying for my college education! I look forward to pursuing a degree in Environmental Engineering, and it wouldn't be possible without this generous contribution from the Rocky Mountaineers. My degree will help me learn how to improve the environment and implement practical ways for average consumers to be more sustainable so that future generations can enjoy nature as much as I have. Thank you again!"

She is sponsored by Karen Bergethon.



Amy Murdock, Sheridan, Wyoming.

Amy is graduating from Sheridan High School in Sheridan, Wyoming. She plans to study biology at Purdue University and later to become a physician. She is very active in her school and community. She has volunteered for the past 5 years at the Trail End State Historic Site.

Amy's comments: "Receiving a scholarship from the Rocky Mountaineers Scholarship Fund is a huge blessing to me. It means not only financial support, but support for my dreams. I have had a passion for biology since I was little, always doing experiments, collecting flowers, rocks, and observing animals. I hope to obtain a bachelor's degree in biology from Purdue University, and the Rocky Mountaineers have helped bring me closer to my goal. I am so thankful for the Rocky Mountaineer's scholarship."

She is sponsored by Bill Bass.

Hello from the Chair

Back In the Saddle Again



Brent Botts - chair of the Rocky Mountaineers.

Welcome to the spring issue of the Rendezvous Newsletter. I have titled my chairman's message "Back in the Saddle Again." The focus of events this summer is on getting acquainted again. Your Board has been working hard to award scholarships and grants, planning the Annual Gathering, and arranging great travel opportunities for our members.

In April, I attended the PSICC retirees' luncheon along with twenty other retirees. We had not met for over two years. It was nice to reacquaint with friends and find out what they had been up to. I learned they too had been isolating within very small circles of friends and family, but now, after having received their Covid vaccinations and being boosted, were once again ready to get out and enjoy retirement to its fullest.

My travel plans are vast this summer with a trip to Lake McConaughy with the kids and grandkids, an RV camping trip to Bogan Flats on the White River NF, a trip to Lake Tahoe, Nevada for the National

Forest Service Retirees meeting; back to Glenwood Springs for the Annual Gathering, and finally rounding out the summer with a long-postponed trip to Greece. Now that is what I remembered retirement should be.

Despite the different variants and still-high cases of infection, Americans are planning to continue to travel from now to the end of the year. According to AAA, it is estimated that more than 50% of American adults plan to take a domestic vacation before the end of 2022. Domestic air travel is nearly back to pre-Covid levels. A strong desire to travel again has driven new trends with not only me but many others; RVing, glamping, VRBO and Airbnb rentals, to name a few. Travelers are also showing a greater desire to visit nature and participate in outdoor activities.

I hope all of you are in that 50% who can once again get out and enjoy the great outdoors with friends and family. Maybe I will see you on the trail, at the campsite or at a luncheon; better yet, at the National Retirees meeting or the Annual Gathering.

Here is hoping you have a great summer and as Gene Autry would sing, "Out where a friend is a friend."

Speaking of Travel

*by Jim Thinnies, Rocky Mountaineers
Travel Coordinator*

Travel is a passion of mine. I've been to all 50 states, traveled in over 50 countries, and set foot on all seven continents. There is so much to see and do, I'll never run out of places to explore and enjoy. Travel has improved my perspective and understanding of cultures, geography, and history while providing incredible experiences. I highly recommend it - whether you travel alone or with family and friends; whether you travel independently or with a guide; and whether you travel domestically or internationally.

Traveling with the Rocky Mountaineers is easy and varied. We've taken a dozen trips to Europe, South America, Australia and Africa since 2010 with groups as large as 42 and as small as eight. There's no time like the present to gain new perspectives and enjoy new experiences. Our Nordic Coastal Voyage in June/July, 2022 still has availability for four more travelers. If the timing or location of our upcoming trip don't work for you, we'll be traveling the Dalmatian Coast and Greece in 2023. Trip details are on our website <https://rockymountaineers.us/>.

Don't let apprehension stop you from exploring what the world has to offer. Take appropriate precautions and have fun. Feel free to contact me at jimthinnies2@gmail.com for information regarding Rocky Mountaineer trips or other travel recommendations. And I'm always open to travel suggestions.

Bon Voyage!

Membership and Finance Report

By Ellen and Johnny Hodges

We want to thank all of you that have made donations to the Rocky Mountaineers this year in either our Scholarship, Memorial Grove, or General Funds.

Our donation totals to date –

Scholarship - \$1,575

Memorial Grove - \$3,250

General - \$905

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.

For those members that made donations in memory of someone, we have included the name of the honoree.

Friend (\$1 - \$49)

Terry and Joy Armbruster
Lakewood, CO

John and Mary Ellen Barber
Loveland, CO

Jim and Andrea Bedwell
Golden, CO

Patty and Dean Beyer
Marquette, MI

Marilee Bobzien
Hamilton, MT

Lee and Dottie Carr
Cedaredge, CO

Dave and Jan Cook
Greeley, CO

Dick and Judy Coose
Ketchikan, AK

Steve and Susy Coupal
Kalispell, MT

Phil and Leann Cruz
Washougal, WA

Bob Dettmann and Chris Buckman
Durango, CO

Ronald Decker and Becca Smith
Pagosa Springs, CO

Linda and Rick Deuell
Laramie, WY

Ed and Jeannie Fischer
Custer, SD

Marv Froistad and Shelley Amicone
Loveland, CO

Bob and Shelley Frye
Colorado Springs, CO
In Memory of Emilio Lujan

Tim Garvey and Liz Mauch
Montrose, CO

Dyce Gayton and Jan Bergman
Ft. Collins, CO

Evelyn and Steve Gross
Conifer, CO

Don and Eunice Heiser
Laramie, WY

Carol and Mike Hindman
Gypsum, CO

Rick and Patricia Hudson
Custer, SD

Jack Infanger and Bonnie Watson
Glenwood Springs, CO

Jim and Lisa Jaminet
Saguache, CO

Tommy and Camille John
Lakewood, CO

Steve and Michele Johnson
Ft. Collins, CO

Susan and Matt Kay
Laramie, WY

Peech Keller and Dan Fairbanks
Idaho Springs, CO

Steve and Karen Kelly
Cortez, CO

Lyle and Pam Laverty
Arvada, CO

Bob and Mary Lillie
Green Valley, AZ

Mark and Mindy Martin
Loveland, CO

Bill and Barb Nelson
Peyton, CO

(continued on Page 7)

(continued from Page 6)

Lloyd and Donna Newland
Littleton, CO

Bob and Jan Newlin
Durango

Mary Peterson
East Wenatchee, WA

John and Margie Quenoy
Dolores, CO

Chuck Quimby
Littleton, CO

Jim Reid and Betty Toczek
Missoula, MT

Dale and Margie Robertson
Broomfield, CO

Gary and Janie Roper
Pueblo West, CO

Kirby Self

Bob and Gail Sprentall
Hot Springs, SD

Dave Steinke and Sue Robinson
Littleton, CO

Larry and Nancy Thoney
Wickenburg, AZ

Art and Sharon Tidemann
Greeley, CO

Barb Timock
Pueblo, CO

Bruce Ungari and Kathy Hardy-Ungari
El Dorado Hills, CA

Daniel and Marilyn Anne Wagner
Glenwood Springs, CO

Jack and Kathy Walton
Missoula, MT

Craig and Lynn Whittekiend
Lakewood, CO

Patron (\$50 - \$199)

John and Patricia Ayer
Yachats, OR

Bev Baker
Louisville, CO

Bill and Lois Bass
Sheridan, WY

Don and Carol Campbell
Grand Junction, CO

Carl and Maryann Chambers
Ft. Collins, CO

Janice Chapman and Edward Mauch
Gunnison, CO

Pete and Leah Clark
Monte Vista, CO

Mike and Marjorie Clinton
Evergreen, CO

Steve and Patricia Deitemeyer
Wheat Ridge, CO

Bill and Laura Disbrow
Rhineland, WI

Mary Lu Eilers
Golden, CO

Jim and Barbara Ficke
Steamboat Springs, CO

Mike and Marla Foley
Ft. Collins, CO

Emmett Foster
Pueblo West, CO

Wallace Gallaher
Arvada, CO

Tom Healy and Sue Miller
Colorado Springs, CO

Patricia Hesch and Dan Fairbanks
Grand Lake, CO
In Memory of Jeff Hovermale

Bruce Holmlund
Delta, CO
In Memory of Gaines Bearden and Paul Senteney

Tom and Donna King
Thornton, CO

Monica and Jevon Klingler
Collbran, CO

John and Sally Korb
Lakewood, CO

Kathy Kurtz
Lakewood, CO

Paul and Robin Langowski
Ft. Collins, CO

Cristie Lee
Ft. Collins, CO

Laura Mark
Durango, CO

Colleen and Rob Oquist
La Junta, CO

Lois Pfeffer
Bemidji, MN

Mark Tucker
Dolores, CO

Joshua and Keely Voorhis
Fairplay, CO

Dave and Margaret Wolf
Lakewood, CO

(continued on Page 8)

(continued from Page 7)

Sponsor (\$200 +)**Joe and Lindy Hartman**

Nevada, MO

*In Memory of Don Rogers and Ted LaMay***Ellen and Johnny Hodges**

Ft. Collins, CO

Deb Jensen

Wenatchee, WA

John and Peggy Morrison

Lakewood, CO

*In Memory of Bob Rhodes and Gordon Erskine***Greg Thompson and Shirley McCabe**

Monte Vista, CO

Denise Tomlin

Lakewood, CO

*In Memory of Larry Simmons***Non-Member Donations****Kathleen Twomey Schroeder***In Memory of Sam Schroeder***Jeanne Seibert***In Memory of Jeff Hovermale***Jake Elksworth***In Memory of Jeff Hovermale***Kathleen Nelson***In Memory of Jeff Hovermale***Mary Wordham***In Memory of Jeff Hovermale***Pikes Peak Hill Climb***In Memory of Jeff Hovermale***Our Newest
Members****Sam Barone**

Alamogordo, NM

Denny and Cheryl Bschor

Carefree, AZ

Nathan and Korena Hallam

Ft. Collins, CO

Gayle and Rick Laurent

Sheridan, WY

Carla and Steve Loop

Tilden, NE

Sara Mayben and Jeff Varis

Vaughn, MT

Scott and Veronica Mitchell

Lakewood, CO

Mark R. and Joyce Nelson

Nemo, SD

Randy Spiering

Cody, WY

**And our Newest
Lifetime Members****Jeff Hogenson**

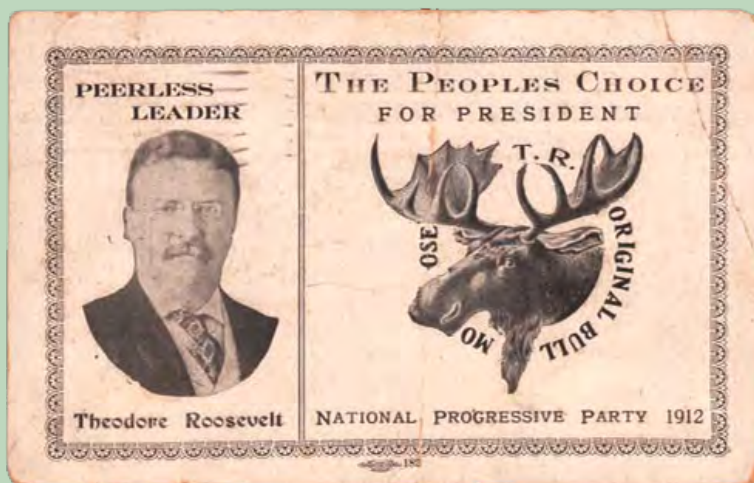
Driggs, ID

Darrel and Lynn Kenops

Meridian, ID

Joshua and Keely Voorhis

Fairplay, CO

**110 Years Ago**

The Progressive Party was a third party in the United States formed in 1912 by former president Theodore Roosevelt after he lost the presidential nomination of the Republican Party to his former protégé rival, incumbent president William Howard Taft. The new party was known for taking advanced positions on progressive reforms and attracting leading national reformers.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/1912_United_States_presidential_election

Memorial Grove 2022

Saturday, May 7th ~ Monument, Colorado



The evening before the ceremony was calm and peaceful.



Ellie Townes and Florence Navarro were present.



Donna and Lloyd Newland were at the ceremony.



244 people attended. There were 42 honorees (39 from 2021 and 3 not forgotten). We had an estimated 140 family members in attendance from as far away as North Carolina and Virginia.



Family members were invited to speak about their loved ones and to remember public service and the strong sense of Forest Service family.



Memorial Grove 2022

Saturday, May 7th ~ Monument, Colorado



Regional Forester Frank Beum welcomed everyone to the ceremony.



Former District Rangers Bill Nelson and Brent Botts attached this year's plaques.



Tom Thompson was the honor speaker.

Memorial Grove Consideration

The Memorial Grove Committee will ensure every effort is made to include all eligible honorees each year. Deceased individuals to be honored have to meet one of the following criteria:

- The person had to have been a current employee, or
- Have retired from Forest Service employment in Region 2, or
- Have worked in Region 2 and chosen to retire in the Region, or
- Otherwise be determined to deserve recognition by decision of the Memorial Grove committee.



Memorial Grove 2022

Saturday, May 7th ~ Monument, Colorado



Former Pikes Peak Ranger Oscar Martinez helped family members plant this year's tree.



Jennifer DeWoody, Acting Ranger on the Pikes Peak Ranger District walked the riderless horse around the memorial grove.



The Honor Guard from Wakefield High School NJROTC.



Wearing the Colorado Plaid, bagpiper Scott Beach.

*The oldest honoree
was 98 and the
youngest was 35.*



*The new memorial bell rang
out 42 times.*



*Jane Leche led the gathered
in song.*

*Photos by
Lee Carr
and
Dave Steinke*

Take Me Back to 1992



July 1992

USDA Forest Service Employees' and Retirees' Newsletter

Issue No. 2

RUSSIANS VISIT THE COMANCHE NATIONAL GRASSLANDS

■ Dan Jiron
Pike & San Isabel NFs

Oxy USA, a permittee on the Cimarron National Grassland, contacted District Ranger Joe Hartman, to bring, then Soviet Citizens, to visit the Cimarron National Grassland on December 13, 1991. The visiting Russians operated an oilfield in western Siberia for a government owned and operated organization called Chernogorneft, in the Tumen Region of the Russian Federation, part of what is now called the Confederation of Independent States (CIS). They were interested in the interaction between industry and the U.S. Forest Service and how National Forest System Lands were managed for Oil and Gas development.

During their visit, they got a first hand look at U.S. methods in deep well drilling and environmental clean-up. Their interest in the Forest Service was what environmental issues were considered when drilling occurs on National Forest System Lands.

District Ranger Hartman and Mineral Staff Dick Benin were able to emphasize that Oil and Gas Development could occur with high production in an environmentally responsible way. Ranger Hartman said "I found it interesting they focused on environmental issues and not just oil production."

The Russian visit to the Cimarron National Grassland coincided with historic changes in their homeland. One Russian visitor indicated "they were looking forward to returning home and starting something new." Victor N. Sergeev, the Director of Economy for Chernogorneft, told Ranger Hartman "we want to stop making war and start making oil and peace."

July, 1992 - R-2 Rendezvous Highlights:

- **Gary Cargill** announced his retirement after 6 years as Regional Forester for the Rocky Mountain Region and 34 years with the USFS.
- The Holy Cross Ranger District cut the ribbon on their new Office near Minturn, Colorado
- The Nebraska National forest thanked **Della Mooney** for her 50 years of seasonal service at the Bessey Nursery.

- The Regional Office sponsored an Interpretive Training session at Pingree Park, Colorado. More than 70 interpreters throughout the region participated in this America's Great Outdoors (AGO) funded workshop.

In employee news - employees coming/moving into/out of R-2 of note:

- **Frank Beum**, Forester, Yampa RD, Routt NF
- **Charlie Richmond** moved from the Comanche NG to the RO

- **Melissa Martin**, student trainee from the Routt to the Bighorn
- **Ralph Swain** and **Pat Thrasher** and **Terri Liestman** all got pay increases.
- Retirement announcements - **Helen Seidle**, San Juan NF, and **Bob Newlin** retired from the San Juan NF after 36 years of service.
- **Chuck McConnell's** obituary was noted - a 1957 CSU grad - Bob was 60 years old - he retired as the Regional Recreation Planner in 1990 with over 35 years of federal service.

National Museum of Forest Service History

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



The Museum continues to move full steam ahead! We want you to know how much we appreciate our volunteers! If you are interested in volunteering, please let us know. In this article you will learn about some of those opportunities.

THANKS to our Regional Director Cadres, now 80+ members and growing!

The Museum has had a volunteer director in each USFS region for many years; however, it was truly an impossible task for that one individual to stay connected with all the people in so many communities across these vast areas. About three years ago, Board member Lynn Sprague proposed the idea of establishing cadres of volunteers in each region

whose primary purpose would be to increase awareness of the Museum programs and activities among retirees, current agency employees, and other communities of interest. Each regional director cadre (RDC) consists of at least one director and 4 – 13 cadre members – primarily USFS retirees who worked on national forests/grasslands, in research, and/or state & private forestry. California has north and south directors and in the Eastern Region the director position rotates monthly between three cadre members. The work of the RDCs is invaluable to the Museum! Helping with the Ranger Roll Call is just one example. And the RDCs continually bring up ideas to

improve our programs and activities. Our RDCs continue to grow and now total 81 members. Additionally, we are recruiting one state forestry agency retiree to serve on each RDC, which for the Rocky Mountain Cadre is Phil Hoefer, retiree from Colorado State Forest Service (CSFS). It is important to note that the Museum's primary founder was former Montana State Forester Gary G. Brown (our Founder's Award is named in his honor).

The Rocky Mountain Cadre (Region 2, Rocky Mtn. Research Station) members are: Dan Nolan (Director), Steve Ambrose, Bill Bass, Brent Botts, Dave Cawrse, Brad Exton, Jim Free, Phil Hoefer (CSFS retiree), Kathy Kurtz, Elaine Langstaff, Sig Palm, Bruce Short, Jerry Schmidt, and Dave Steinke. Pat Lynch serves as the Board liaison to the RM cadre.



The replica L-4 fire lookout is ready for summer visitors on our Museum campus in Missoula. THANKS to the great work of our super-duper volunteers!

Museum Campus open to visitors, Memorial Day to Labor Day – Interested in Volunteering?

We are thankful to be back in full operation and staffing our visitor center, which will be open every day, May 30 to September 5, from 10:00 am – 4:00 pm. Located on our beautiful 31-acre campus in Missoula, 6305 Highway 10 West (one mile past the Missoula Int'l airport), our campus was first opened to the public in the summer of 2017. Many improvements have been made in recent years to improve the visitor experience, including an extension of the Forest Discovery Trail, restoration of our replica L-4 fire lookout, construction of the James B. Yule Pavilion (beautiful timber frame stage and seating area), paving of roads, sidewalks, and other amenities. Our visitor center is the beautifully restored ranger's cabin from the Clearwater NF's Bungalow Ranger District (Idaho), which itself has exhibits. **Please let us know if you are interested in volunteering at the visitor center or in another capacity in the Museum office (e.g., collections, transcribing oral histories).**

(continued on Page 14)

(continued from Page 13)

Conservation Legacy Center – Our Highest Priority!

Our highest priority continues to be completing the Capital Campaign for the Conservation Legacy Center (CLC), the flagship building on our Missoula campus. Work continues both to raise funds and secure in-kind donations of materials and services that are necessary to build the CLC. Rich Stem, our Forest Products Sector lead and his committee, have been successful in securing cash and in-kind donations (e.g., lumber) from 12 forest product companies in ID, MT, MN, OR, SD, and WA. As of this update, Rich reports we have firm commitments for over 80% of the lumber needed and hope to be close to 100% soon. The CLC requires a lot of wood because the building design is based on mass timber technology. Concurrently, the Museum's exhibition core team (Executive Director **Lisa Tate**; President **Tom Thompson**; Vice President **Dave Stack**; Board members **Liz Agpaoa**, **Dale Bosworth**, **Fred Cooper**, **Andy Mason**, **Lynn Sprague**, **John Steffenson**; and **Dave Steinke**) are developing historical narratives around "sectors" (forest management, fire, wildlife & fish, research, state & private forestry, etc.) that we believe are the most important and compelling stories of the Forest Service and its partners since the earliest years of conservation in America. Next, the core team will work closely with our contractor, Art Processors, to utilize some of the content in these narratives (as well as artifacts and other media) to complete the schematic design phase of the CLC's first exhibition. If you have personal contacts with potential donors of materials, services (or cash!), to support the CLC building and/or our exhibition, please contact Lisa at lisa.tate@forestservicemuseum.org or ph. 406-541-6374.

Spring 2022 Online Auction and FS Retiree Reunion In-person Auction

We look forward to the results from our second online auction, which was held May 1-15, 2022. We hope you took the opportunity to bid on a wide variety of great items, which included many vacation rentals, a fishing trip, a pack trip, artwork, musical performances, books, and more. The 2022 Forest Service Reunion at So. Lake Tahoe (Aug. 29 – Sept. 2) is also a major fundraiser for the Museum. There will be an in-person silent auction at the Reunion, so if you have items that are suitable for that event, please go to <https://2022fsretireereunion.org>, click on Menu; then, Silent Auction, for instructions. The Museum's online auction will be an annual event so please look forward to donating and bidding again in 2023! If you have items to donate or questions about any of these auctions, please contact the Museum or Andy Mason, acmason1954@gmail.com, (571-214-5536).



Early USFS wife with her husband, the Forest Supervisor. Circa 1908, location unknown

Oral History Update "What Did We Get Ourselves Into?"

The *Oral History Program of the National Museum of Forest Service History* is producing a podcast that centers around the stories of those intrepid women who gave their lives to "the outfit" without any expectation of notoriety or reward. Over the course of several episodes, listeners will hear stories of rugged terrain, unforgiving dirt roads, spartan housing accommodations, difficult childbirths, wild animal encounters, and much more. The Museum's Oral Historian, Dr. James Wall, has nearly completed the interviews for this first-of-its kind Museum program. **"What Did We Get Ourselves Into?"**, premiering in late summer/fall 2022, will be essential listening that acknowledges those ordinary families who made extraordinary efforts to achieve "The Greatest Good." Regarding other oral histories, James will be interviewing retired USFS hydrologists at their May 2022 conference in Denver, and then interviewing smokejumpers at their August 2022 reunion in Boise. Please visit the Museum's oral history web page (<https://forestservicemuseum.org/oral-history-program/>) and consider completing one or both of the electronic forms. You may also contact James directly by email at james.wall@forestservicemuseum.org or by phone at 406-541-6374.



NAFSR Report

*by Sharon Friedman,
Rocky Mountain Region NAFSR representative*

At the recent NAFSR Board meeting, Nora Rasure, the lead on the Recreation Committee, shared some news. As always, recreation faces a number of challenges, including Covid-enhanced numbers of people thronging the National Forests.

Some of us elders may remember when some were worried about not enough people in the woods to be able to advocate for the National Forests. So the tide turns. Here is Nora's update:

- 1.) The NAFSR Recreation Team is developing a position paper focused on recreation.
- 2) The Recreation Team is responsible for the Recreation Panel at the National Retirees Reunion. They are inviting speakers and shaping presentation.
- 3) The Forest Service launched a new dashboard for Great American Outdoors Act projects. <https://www.fs.usda.gov/features/forest-service-launches-dashboard-great-american-outdoors-act-projects>
- 4) The Forest Service issued guidance to manage future use of E-Bikes on National forests and grasslands. <https://www.fs.usda.gov/news/releases/usda-forest-service-issues-guidance-manage-future-e-bike-use-national-forests-and>
- 5) The Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee advanced the America's Outdoor Recreation Act of 2022. <https://www.energy.senate.gov/2022/5/energy-and-natural-resources-committee-advances-manchin-and-barrasso-s-historic-outdoor-recreation-bill>



President Theodore Roosevelt Jr.

"The 'greatest good for the greatest number' applies to the number within the womb of time, compared to which those now alive form but an insignificant fraction. Our duty to the whole, including the unborn generations, bids us restrain an unprincipled present-day minority from wasting the heritage of these unborn generations. The movement for the conservation of wild life and the larger movement for the conservation of all our natural resources are essentially democratic in spirit, purpose, and method."

See You at The National Reunion

May 3, 2022 Reunion Update



If you haven't yet registered for the 2022 Forest Service Retiree Reunion, now is the time to do so! Harrah's Lake Tahoe has notified us that August reservations are filling up quickly. Sunday and Friday nights are no longer available at our reduced rates, and the other nights are selling out as well. To take advantage of our great rates, register as soon as possible for the Reunion and for your hotel rooms. Make your hotel reservations through our webpage for the best rates and be sure to pay attention to how much you are paying for each night. 2022fsretireereunion.org/registration/index.php.

Once Harrah's fills up, there may be rooms available at Harveys Lake Tahoe (across the street) or at other nearby hotels. Standard rates for rooms at Lake Tahoe in August are \$300+ dollars per night. Other options include finding a South Lake Tahoe VRBO (www.vrbo.com/), airbnb (www.airbnb.com/) or Vacasa (www.vacasa.com/so-lake-tahoe/california) rental unit for you and your friends to share.

We are still seeking items for the Silent Auction and Volunteers to assist in a variety of ways during the event. Let us know of your interest in the Silent Auction by sending an email to: retireesilentauction@gmail.com; and your interest to support this effort as a volunteer or in other ways to: 2022fsretireereunion.org/contactus/index.php.

Let us know if you can help us make this a great Reunion for everyone.

Nancy Gibson, Event Chair



Retirees are Getting Out and About



Luncheon at Cafe Jordano in Lakewood with Regional Forester, Frank Beum providing an update - left to right: Joy Armbruster, Frank Beum, Terry Armbruster, Jace Ratzlaff, Denise Tomlin, Mike Clinton, Marjorie Clinton, waiter, Donna Newland, Lloyd Newland, Tommy John, Cami John, and Cindy Dean. Not pictured: Bob Thompson, Denise Thompson, Melanie Woolever, Michele O'Connell, Dick Dieckman, Ed Ryberg, Lynn Larsen, Jim Thinnes



Loveland Ski Area left to right: Andy Kratz, Lynn Larsen, Susan Gray, Ed Ryberg, Nancy Warren, Jim Thinnes, Cindy Dean, and Randy Francl.



Morning coffee at Main Reservoir in Lakewood - left to right: Jon Skeels, Cindy Dean, Nancy Warren, Polly Hays, and Tommy John. Not pictured: Jim Thinnes.

PSICC Retirees Meet in Pueblo

April 21, 2022

Barb Timock



Back Row (L-R): Tom Healy, Dave Crumley, Karl Tameler, Mark Varbus, John Brown, Don Lira (future retiree), Emmet Foster, Larry Klock and Lance Tyler

Center Row (L-R): Gail Tameler (spouse), Darlene Mattson, Barb Timock, Al Pearson and Ron Myers

Seated (L-R): Gail Tyler (spouse), Lori Houg, Richard Roth, Debbie Gardunio, Jan Myers and Sheryl Klock (spouse) - Photo by Brent Botts

We had a great time getting reacquainted and welcoming new faces. Highlights included: Mark traveled from Salida and would've won the "Longest Drive" award (if we had one). This was the 1st retiree luncheon for Debbie and she jumped in with an offer to plan a future luncheon during 2022. Gayle and Lance are hopeful for a strong apple season at their orchard, Third Street Apples in Penrose. Barb mentioned the health club discount available for Blue Cross/Blue Shield members (Prime). Also, Brent updated the retirees on Rocky Mountaineer business: Memorial Grove, scholarships, grant opportunities and more.

We'd love to include you when we meet in June, August, October and December (dates and locations to be determined).



Arthur Carhart resigned from the Forest Service in December, 1922.

While no one person can be called "Father of the Wilderness Concept," Arthur Hawthorne Carhart has been referred to as "the chief cook in the kitchen during the critical first years." Throughout his life he wrestled with issues that still resonate with environmentally aware Americans today, such as the tensions between modernism and anti-modernism and the problem of defining and delineating "wilderness."

After his first winter with the U.S. Forest Service in 1919, Carhart was assigned to spend the summer laying out plans for summer cabins

around Trapper's Lake in Colorado's White River National Forest. One evening, after a long day of surveying, as the story goes, Carhart sat by the fire outside the tent of Paul J. Rainey, a well-known outdoorsman who ran the camp where he was staying. After several diplomatic attempts to ascertain Carhart's goal in surveying the lake, Rainey and a hunter buddy finally decided to speak their minds. "Do you have to circle every lake with a road?" they asked. "Can't you bureaucrats keep just one superb mountain lake as God made it?" Carhart realized that these two men echoed his own feelings about his mission. Convinced that the plan to build a road and cabins should be abandoned, he returned to Denver with a new perspective on land management. Impressed by Carhart's reasoning, his boss, C.J. Stahl, accepted the plan and agreed to leave Trapper's Lake as it was.

Workday at the Grove

April 28th, 2022



Mike Clinton repaired the sign and checked that it was plumb..



A couple of yards of mulch was delivered to all the recent transplants. Vic Baer did most of the transportation.



A new drip irrigation system was completed and buried.



The ceremony site looked good at the end of the work day.



About a dozen volunteers and some Pikes Peak District folks showed up to help out.

(continued on Page 20)

(continued from Page 19)



The Workday Crew. Back row: Mike Clinton, Unidentified, Steve Deitemeyer, Brent Botts, (arm on sign) - Rick Ellsworth, Tom Thompson, Samantha Gooch, Bill Nelson, Gary Roper, Tom Healy, Dave Steinke, Tommy John.. Front row: Josh VonLoh, Jenn DeWoody, Vic Baer, Jim Thinnies, Dominique Lira, Rachael Gardner and Serena Gagnon.



Rangerpaloosa! All four of these gentlemen served time as the District Ranger on the Pikes Peak Ranger District. L-R: Bill Nelson, Brent Botts, Oscar Martinez, Steve Deitemeyer.



Bill Nelson, Tom Thompson and Steve Deitemeyer pose in front of the newly installed Memorial Bell that made its debut at the Memorial Grove in 2022.

The World's Largest Organism is Being Eaten by Deer

Pando, which is Latin for "I spread" is a single organism spanning some 106 acres

In the Wasatch Mountains of the western United States on the slopes above a spring-fed lake, there dwells a single giant organism that provides an entire ecosystem on which plants and animals have relied for thousands of years. Found in the state of Utah on the Fishlake National Forest "Pando" is a 106-acre stand of quaking aspen clones.

Although it looks like a woodland of individual trees with striking white bark and small leaves that flutter in the slightest breeze, Pando (Latin for "I spread") is actually 47,000 genetically identical stems that arise from an interconnected root network. This single genetic individual weighs around 6,000 tons. By mass, it is the largest single organism on Earth.



Sweeping across 107 acres of Utah's Fishlake National Forest is one of the world's largest organisms: a forest of some 47,000 genetically identical quaking aspen trees, which all stem from a single root system.

Aspen trees do tend to form clonal stands elsewhere, but what makes Pando interesting is its enormous size. Most clonal aspen stands in North America are much smaller, with those in the western U.S. averaging just three acres.

Pando has been around for thousands of years, potentially up to 14,000 years, despite most stems only living for about 130 years. Its longevity and remoteness mean a whole ecosystem of 68 plant species and many animals have evolved and been supported under its shade. This entire ecosystem relies on the aspen remaining healthy and upright. But, although Pando is protected by the U.S. Forest Service and is not in danger of being cut down, it is in danger of disappearing due to several other factors.

Deer are eating the youngest trees

Overgrazing by deer and elk is one of the biggest worries. Wolves and cougars once kept their numbers in check, but herds are now much larger because of the loss of these predators. Deer and elk also tend to congregate in Pando as the protection the woodland receives means they are not in danger of being hunted there.

As older trees die or fall down, light reaches the woodland floor which stimulates new clonal stems to start growing, but when these animals eat the tops off newly forming stems, they die. This means in large portions of Pando there is little new growth. The exception is one area that was fenced off a few decades ago to remove dying trees. This fenced-off area has excluded elk and deer and has seen successful regeneration of new clonal stems, with dense growth referred to as the "bamboo garden."

(continued on Page 22)

(continued from Page 21)

Older stems in Pando are also being affected by at least three diseases: sooty bark canker, leaf spot and conk fungal disease. While plant diseases have developed and thrived in aspen stands for millennia, it is unknown what the long-term effect on the ecosystem may be, given that there is a lack of new growth and an ever-growing list of other pressures on the clonal giant.

The fastest-growing threat is that of climate change. Pando arose after the last ice age had passed and has dealt with a largely stable climate ever since. To be sure, it inhabits an alpine region surrounded by desert, meaning it is



A green outline shows about 80% of the tree's 106 acres in Fish Lake Utah. / Lance Oditt, Friends of Pando / CC BY-SA 4.0

no stranger to warm temperatures or drought. But climate change threatens the size and lifespan of the tree, as well as the whole ecosystem it hosts. Although no scientific studies have focused specifically on Pando, aspen stands have been struggling with climate change-related pressures, such as reduced water supply and warmer weather earlier in the year, making it harder for trees to form new leaves, which have led to declines in coverage. With more competition for ever-dwindling water resources (the nearby Fish Lake is just out of reach of the tree's root system), temperatures expected to continue soaring to record highs in summer, and the threat of more intense wildfires, Pando will certainly struggle to adjust to these fast-changing conditions while maintaining its size.

Yet Pando is resilient and has already survived rapid environmental changes, especially when European settlers began inhabiting the area in the 19th century or after the rise of 20th-century recreational activities. It has dealt with disease, wildfire, and grazing before and remains the world's largest scientifically documented organism.

Despite every cause for concern, there is hope as scientists are helping us unlock the secrets to Pando's resilience, while conservation groups and the U.S. Forest Service are working to protect this tree and its associated ecosystem. And a new group called the Friends of Pando aims to make the tree accessible to virtually everyone through 360 video recordings.

Last summer, when I was visiting my family in Utah, I took the chance to visit Pando. I spent two amazing days walking under towering mature stems swaying and "quaking" in the gentle breeze, between the thick new growth in the "bamboo garden," and even into charming meadows that puncture portions of the otherwise-enclosed centre. I marvelled at the wildflowers and other plants thriving under the dappled shade canopy, and I was able to take delight in spotting pollinating insects, birds, fox, beaver and deer, all using some part of the ecosystem created by Pando.

It's these moments that remind us that we have plants, animals and ecosystems worth protecting. In Pando, we get the rare chance to protect all three.

*This article is republished from **The Conversation** under a Creative Commons license.*

Want to learn more?

<https://www.nationalforests.org/blog/unforgettable-experiences-pando-aspen-clone>

Drone Academy



The USDA Forest Service is highly interested in new technologies and believes there is potential to fly Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS) to support a host of natural resource management activities, including forest health protection, wildfire suppression, research, recreational impacts, and law enforcement.

In addition, other federal, state, and local agencies; researchers; businesses; members of the public; and others are interested in flying UAS on National Forest System lands for a variety of purposes.

The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) as regulatory authority over all airspace. The U.S. Forest Service is working to integrate UAS in furthering the agency's mission and to provide for UAS flights by other entities on National Forest System lands in alignment with FAA regulations.

The FAA and the U.S. Forest Service consider all UAS, regardless of size or weight, to be aircraft. All UAS flown on National Forest System lands must comply with FAA and U.S. Forest Service laws, regulations and policies.

Firefighting aircraft - such as air attack aircraft, lead planes, airtankers and helicopters - typically fly in smoky, windy and turbulent conditions. Safety depends on knowing what other aircraft are operating in the airspace and where they are at all times. This is compromised by the presence of unauthorized UAS.



Check out Fire Aviation - News and Opinion since 2012 - a newsletter by Bill Gabbert.

<https://fireaviation.com/2022/04/29/introduction-to-the-drone-academy/>

Unmanned Aerial System Aerial Ignition Academy is Forest Service training on drone usage during fire events such as prescribed fires. The drones are also used for fire reconnaissance.

The Unmanned Aerial System Aerial Ignition Academy trains personnel in the use of drones on prescribed fires and wildfires. The video below is a brief description of the academy.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7AVotlkYEnU>

What's Funny?



Smokey Bear assaults another unsuspecting tourist at Timberline Lodge in Region 6.



Man at public meeting uses image of Smokey Bear to protest fracking policies..



[redbubble.com](https://www.redbubble.com)



“That’s the Way I Remember it”

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



Don Heiser

*Retired in 1994
35 years of service*

The Rendezvous: Well let’s start with the important stuff right up front...you have two daughters that work for the Forest Service – tell us about that?

Don Heiser: Yes, my oldest daughter, Dawn, is currently the Leader for the South Zone Timber Sales Accounting Group with her office in Delta, Colorado (Grand Mesa, Uncompahgre, & Gunnison National Forests). She is planning retirement at the end of this Fiscal Year (Sept. 30, 2022).

My youngest daughter, Lisa, is a Forester and just retired (Dec. 31, 2021) as Administrative Officer on the Tongass National Forest in Juneau, Alaska.

Damn that makes me feel old.....because I am ???



Dawn, Don and Lisa, 1992.

TR: Where were you born and raised?

DH: I was born in Davenport, Iowa on July 12, 1939 but my folks moved (when I was three) to Danville, Illinois. I lived there until the fall of 1957 when I left for college.

TR: Tell us a little about your family.

DH: My dad was a display designer for a company that sold their advertising displays all over the United States. Mom was a dedicated housewife who had her hands full raising my brother and I. I am the only remaining male on this family line. My parents and brother have all passed away.



Don and Eunice Heiser, 1962.

I met my wife, Eunice, while I was a seasonal employee on the Clarks Fork Ranger District working in Sunlight Basin, northwest of Cody, Wyoming. She and another girl were fire lookouts on the old Windy Mountain Lookout for two seasons and one of my jobs was to pack supplies on horse/mule power to these gals. Eunice worked on the Warm Springs Lookout near Dubois, Wyoming for her third season and we were married in Lander, Wyoming in 1962 where I was a forester. My daughters were both born in Lander, Wyoming as this was the closest hospital to Dubois.

(continued on Page 26)

(continued from Page 25)

TR: Where did you go to school – early school and college - and what was your favorite subject?

DH: I attended grade school in Danville, IL, high school in Danville and attended Forestry School at the University of Montana in Missoula, Montana. Favorite subjects were football and wrestling, the other classes were normal.

TR: How did you get interested in a job with the U.S. Forest Service and what were some of your first duties?

DH: My folks traveled nearly every summer to South Dakota (where they were raised) and other parts of the western United States. My Dad had a cousin living in Laramie, Wyoming (he was an owner of the Bighorn Lumber Company) and we made several trips there to fish and camp.

I was just finishing my junior year in high school when my Dad asked me an earth-shaking question, "What are you going to do when you graduate from High School?" I had given absolutely no thought about the future! We spent a lot of time in the outdoors so I began to think of a forestry career. I looked up a catalog for the University of Wyoming, but they did not have a forestry program. My choices were Colorado State University or Montana State University and I chose Montana because the fees were less.



Sunlight Ranger Station looking at new and old means of transportation. August, 1980.

TR: What was your first job with the FS?

DH: My first job with the FS was a seasonal on a brush piling crew on the Wallace Ranger District,

Couer d' Alene National Forest stationed at Shoshone Camp 25 miles north of Wallace, Idaho. My duties were primarily piling slash along logging roads along with breaks of fire fighting, trail maintenance and telephone line removal.

TR: Tell us a little about your career and the different jobs you've held.

DH: After my job in Idaho, I spent the next three summers and part of the winter as a seasonal on the Clarks Fork Ranger District, Shoshone National Forest. My duties included timber sale layout, range analysis, and fire control.

My first permanent job was a forester in timber sale layout and administration. On the Wind River Ranger District, Shoshone NF in Dubois, Wyoming. My primary job was in timber, but had assigned duties in Special Uses, exposure to Wilderness administration, and the obligatory fire assignments. I worked there from December 1961 to October 1966 and raised my family in Dubois.

In 1966 I was transferred to an Asst. Ranger position on the South Platte RD, Pike NF. This was when the District Ranger Tom Dix was moved from Buffalo Creek Ranger Station to Denver. I was fortunate to be able to live at the Station in Buffalo Creek. The job here was primarily recreation and was like moving from calm Wyoming to an area where Denver came to the woods on weekends. It was a distinct change in duties, along with an increased load of fire fighting. I stayed there for nearly three years and moved in July 1969.

TR: So your next move was to the Routt National Forest?

DH: My next assignment was in Walden, Colorado as a Timber Management Assistant on the North Park Ranger District on the Routt NF. I worked in this position for seven years before moving in July of 1976. My time in Walden was great. I worked for four rangers, all of whom were different but gave me a lot of opportunity for learning more and more about people I worked with and public input. My job was timber, but I had a great deal of exposure to all of the multiple uses.

(continued on Page 27)

(continued from Page 26)

In 1976 I was transferred to Saguache, Colorado as the District Ranger of the Saguache Ranger District on the Rio Grande NF. This was my first District and I was very excited to reach this level. In fact, I believe the District Ranger job is the best job in the Forest



A ranger on the Ouray Ranger District trying to get on his horse. Circa 1983.

Service, and always will be! The District Ranger job broadened my experience and involved work in all phases of multiple use. I spent about five years here.

TR: Where was your next assignment after Saguache?

DH: My next job was as District Ranger on the Ouray Ranger District, on the Grand Mesa, Uncompahgre and Gunnison NFs in Montrose, Colorado. This was a move to a completely different vegetative zone that varied from desert to 13,000+ feet. It was a tremendous opportunity for increased learning in all types of multiple use, including minerals. I truly enjoyed the five years I spent here.

Next came a move in 1985 as I moved to the Supervisor's Office as a Timber Staff Officer and timber sale contracting officer for the Medicine Bow/Routt NF in Laramie, Wyoming. This was my first assignment at the forest staff level. It was an easy transition for me. I really enjoyed my tour there working with the district folks and helping them accomplish their targets. I learned a lot about

working with people and enjoying the successes with them.

In 1991 the DR job at Douglas on the Douglas RD, Medicine Bow/Routt NF and Thunder Basin National Grassland came open and I immediately put in my application to return to the District Ranger level. With luck I was selected and entered another challenge with Grassland Management. It was a tremendous move for me and working with Nat'l Forest regulations and Grassland regulations on the same District was very rewarding. Six major coal mines and three grazing associations made life interesting. I would encourage anyone to spend a tour on the Grasslands for a wonderful experience.

My final move was retirement in May of 1994.

TR: Who were some of your early bosses that gave you good advice in your career?

DH: There were many folks who gave good advice in my career. The first one that comes to mind was Bob Case, the Ranger on the Clarks Fork RD in my seasonal days. Bob helped a dumb forestry student develop into a seasoned forester. Later on there was Stew Adams, Assistant Ranger on the Wind River RD. Stew was a pleasure to work with on any project.

Others were Gary Heath, Supervisor on the Medicine Bow/Routt and Thunder Basin Grasslands, Dave Hessel, Assistant Ranger on the Wind River RD, Tom Dix DR on the South Platte RD, Jack Wolf DR on the North Park RD, Jim Mathers Forest Supervisor on the Rio Grande, Jimmy Wilkins Forest Supervisor on the GM, Unc, and Gunn., Tom Quinn and many, many others that were co-workers and the several District Clerks that tried to keep me straight!!!

TR: What were the best and worst parts of your jobs?

DH: The best parts were the resource management work and related decisions made at all levels. The worst part was having to help a clerk overcome personal family decisions that affected her job; and helping a good friend and employee try to overcome alcoholism.

(continued on Page 28)

(continued from Page 27)

TR: How much time did you spend in R-2, and why did you decide to stay here after retirement?

DH: I spent one summer in R1 and 33 years in R2. We built a home when we first came to Laramie and it was nearly paid for when I retired.

Laramie was a mid-size town with good people and great weather (in spite of stories about the weather here), access via Interstate was easy, our kids were grown and gone, medical assistance was readily available, and there just wasn't anyplace else that appealed to Eunice and I.

TR: What was the most rewarding part of your job?

DH: Working with great people, FS employees, permittees, and town people and living in various parts of this beautiful country, and accomplishing many successful resource projects.

TR: Do you have a funny story or two from your career you can share with us?

DH: Yes, I have several but many are not appropriate to repeat! When I arrived in Dubois, WY the Ranger (Art Martin) said I could stay in a camp trailer parked behind the office until I found a place. The first night there (in December of 1961) the temp dropped to -44 below and the propane quit flowing to the heater. I spent the rest of the night trying to sleep and keep from freezing in my pickup. I will have to think of more later.



*Some of the Good Old Boyz in 1981 on the GM, UNC & Gunnison NFs!
(Back Row) Don Heiser, Ouray DR; Dick Cook, Norwood DR; Dale Schanholtzer, Cebolla DR; Bernie Weisgerber, Collbran DR. (Kneeling) Mike Curran, Taylor River DR; Jimmy Wilkins, Forest Supervisor; Steve Pierce, Grand Junction DR; and Butch Ellis, Paonia DR.*

TR: You are a member of the Rocky Mountaineers? Why did you join and do you think it's important for folks to join?

DH: I joined as it was important to me to try to keep track of old friends and stay tuned to current FS thinking.

TR: How do you think the current Forest Service is doing? Any thoughts?

DH: It's hard to be critical of an outfit that I spent most my life supporting, but my daughters keep me

posted about some of the things that are different now.

One thing that bothers me most is the apparent loss of personal contact with our users and the seemingly "inside" effort to pull authority for simple tasks back to higher levels from the Ranger Districts. Examples are contracting recreation management in our camping areas, personnel decisions on district seasonals being made in New Mexico, the broadening of job applications to all federal agencies, budget decisions being made in Washington in an untimely manner. There are more, but I am risking being called "an old dinosaur"!!

TR: What advice would you have for a young person – who is not your daughter - looking to start a career with the U.S. Forest Service?

DH: If you are a starting employee look at your job as a career, not just another job where you jump from agency to agency or are always looking for something better.

(continued on Page 29)

*(continued from Page 28)***TR: What do you fill your free time with?**

DH: What “free” time? There are a million tasks of owning and maintaining your living quarters and home. Actually, my hobbies are wood working (making sawdust), genealogy, and watching the Broncos and Avalanche games. I am a Freemason (for nearly 60 years) and belong to several Masonic groups. Keeping up with their activities also takes up a lot of “free time.”



Left to right - Standing - Don, Dawn and Tristan Fluharty.

Seated - Eunice and Lisa.

TR: Any final words of wisdom?

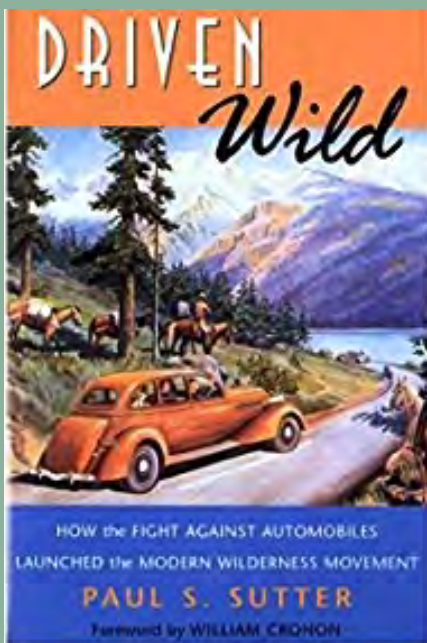
DH: No, if I had more “wisdom” I would be rich and famous and enjoying more fishing trips.

TR: Anything we didn’t ask you about?

DH: Just a final family note: Not only did my wife and I and our two daughters work for the Forest Service, but my youngest daughter’s husband (Tristan Fluharty) is now the District Ranger

on the Juneau RD, Tongass NF. We are truly a Forest Service family and I wouldn’t change a minute of our time in the FS.

Essential Reading



*An excerpt from **From Prairies to Peaks - a history of the Rocky Mountain Region of the U.S. Forest Service 1905-2012**, by Anthony Godfrey (page 134 - note #4)*

The Good Roads Movement occurred in the United States between the late 1870s and the 1920s. Initially founded by bicycle enthusiasts and riding clubs, by the early twentieth century gained greater momentum and focused on the improvement of roads for automobiles.

In 1913, the movement inspired projects like the coast-to-coast Lincoln Highway - with portions becoming today’s U.S. Route 40 and 50 through the Rocky Mountain Region.

Roots of the wilderness movement can also be traced to the fear of what growing numbers of automobiles and aggressive road building might mean to the country’s wild places. For this argument see Paul Sutter’s **Driven Wild: How the Fight Against Automobiles Launched the Modern Wilderness Movement** (Seattle University of Washington Press, 2002)

Remembrances



Wes Carlson

G.W. (Wes) Carlson, 100, died April 25, 2022. He was born April 15, 1922, in Eaton, Colorado.

After graduating from College High in Greeley, Colorado in 1939, Wes pursued a course in Forestry at Colorado State University. He was a varsity gymnast in his years at CSU. Also,

CSU was where he met Dorothy Davis, the love of his life. They were married on Christmas day, 1943. In the fullest sense they remained partners until Dorothy's death in 2006.

With degree in hand, Wes almost was immediately inducted into the Army, specifically, the Tenth Mountain Division. This unit was just forming and undergoing winter training at Camp Hale, Colorado. By war's end the Tenth Mountain Division would be known as the legendary "ski troops." Wes experienced horrendous combat, as the 10th fought its way over Italy's Appenine Mountains and up to the Italian Alps. That was where war's end found him. Throughout his life Wes maintained his membership in the Tenth Mountain Division Association and frequently attended their annual meetings in Colorado. At the 2012 Reunion Wes gave a personal on-site account of his time at Camp Hale.

After returning home from Italy, Wes was eager to get to work as a forester. A 34-year career with the U.S.

Forest Service began with an assignment on the Medicine Bow National Forest in Wyoming. That career took Wes and his family on quite a tour of the intermountain west: Wyoming, Utah, Idaho, Utah again, Idaho again, Virginia, and one last time to Utah.

Wes and Dorothy were outdoor people, and they imbued their family with a life-long love of the outdoors. Outdoor activities included camping, hiking, rock climbing, back packing, hunting, and fishing. He was an avid duck hunter and devoted a great deal of time to the "duck club" west of Ogden. After Wes' retirement from the Forest Service, he and Dorothy spent summers on their boat exploring the coastal waters of Washington, British Columbia, and Alaska for a number of years. Wes lovingly quoted Dorothy in her assessment of that time as "The best years of our lives."

Those who were acquainted with Wes knew him as a fine woodworker. He built much of the furniture in their home. His workshop in the basement of his home often was the place where friends gathered for conversation. Wes was generous with his woodworking talents and freely shared his expertise.

Wes is survived by his sons: Douglas (Maryanne) East Lansing, Michigan; Jay (Millicent) Roseburg, Oregon; and Ken (Ellen) Rigby, Idaho; and their respective families.

(continued on Page 31)

(continued from Page 30)

Remembrances



Susan Dillie

Susan Flitcraft Dillie passed away Wednesday April 27th, 2022. Susan was born September 23, 1958 to Rosalie and Melvin Flitcraft in Bakersfield, California. Susan spent her early years in California with her

parents and siblings Jerry, Cindy, and Jeff.

In 1965 the family packed up and moved to Powell, Wyoming where Susan obtained her education and graduated high school. She went on to college and in 1979 she welcomed her first son, Andy, and in 1985 her second son, Daniel, the two brought so much love into her life. The trio lived in Cody, Wyoming where Susan began her career with the US Forest Service. Susan loved the outdoors, so working for the Forest Service was a perfect fit. Susan served 28 years with the Forest Service in Engineering, LEI, HR and retired in 2018. She worked as a Lead Human Resources Specialist for many years and had a huge impact to the Region. Her love for the Forest Service was amazing and she enjoyed every minute of it.

An amazing opportunity opened for her to move to Colorado with a promotion. It was in Delta,

Colorado where she fell in love with Dave Dillie. They were the perfect pair, and 2001 the two took a journey that stopped at a little chapel in Las Vegas. She gained two wonderful daughters, Heather and Kimberly, with this union. Susan loved camping, jeeping, a good campfire, hikes, a gin and tonic, and being around friends and family; however, her greatest joy was her grandkids. Biological or not they were hers to spoil. Then came great-grandkids. Oh, the pride and joy she had showing off her grandbabies and great-grandbabies.

Susan loved with every ounce of her soul, and had a wonderful way of making everyone feel special and important in their own unique way. Her bond was her word, and her word was her bond. Susan is preceded in death by parents Melvin Flitcraft, Rosalie Williams, her brother-in-law Charles Norris. She is survived by her loving husband Dave Dillie, sons Andy (Megan) Miller, Daniel Orr, bonus daughters Heather and Kimberly Dillie, 11 grandchildren, 4 great grandchildren, brothers Jerry (Lee) Flitcraft, Jeffery (Sheri) Flitcraft, sister Cindy Norris, along with many nieces, nephews, and lifelong friends. She will be greatly missed by many.



Jerry Freeouf

Jerry Freeouf died April 23, 2022. He was born on November 15, 1942 in Nebraska. He attended schools in several states and graduated from Texas A&M and first worked for the Forest Service in east Texas. He was a Forest Soils Scientist on the Shawnee N. F. in southern Illinois

and married Joanne Grace Dahm. He then worked on the Superior NF in Minnesota before moving to the Rocky Mountain Region in 1989. He worked closely

with hydrologist Jim Maxwell and fish biologist Gordon Sloane and often said "what happens to my soil gets in Jim's water and kills Gordon's fish." The threesome gained quite a reputation as a team, so much so that the great range conservationist, Floyd Reed called them Huey, Dewey, and Louie.

Jerry played a big role on the R2 RipCord (riparian coordination) team and in developing the Watershed Conservation Practices handbook for the region.

(continued on Page 32)

(continued from Page 31)

Remembrances

(Jerry Freeouf continued)

He was also a national leader in the terrestrial ecomap project, and led the region's BAER (burned-area emergency rehabilitation) program. He enriched the quality of natural resource management and made all that he worked with better professionals in their work and positions. He had a wonderful sense of humor

and was always part of the solution. He is keenly missed by a bunch of us.

Jerry's wife Joanne passed away in 2016. He is survived by a sister.



Angie Hinker

Angie Hinker passed away May 7, 2022. She was born on August 30, 1974, in Casper, WY. Angie spent many years at the Great Plains Dispatch as the Assistant Center Manager and most recently as a Project Manager with the US Forest

Service S&PF WO Fire and Aviation Management. Her specialty was enhancing wildfire dispatch programs nationwide. She is survived by her parents Denny and Patricia Gering and her husband Brandon Hinker, brother Steve and Jordin, Jorden Blanchard, Maddison, Mike Cushway, and Courtney Gering.



Dan Kaufenberg

Dan Kaufenberg, District Fuels AFMO on the Dolores Ranger District of the San Juan National Forest unexpectedly died last Thursday evening, March 31st.

Dan's fire career started in 2007 as an engine crewmember with the US Forest Service in

Region 1 on the Beaverhead-Deerlodge National Forest. During his time in Region 1, he worked 6 seasons for the B-D, working his way to a seasonal Senior Firefighter and 2 Seasons for the Lolo as a permanent Senior Firefighter. In 2014 he accepted a position with the US Forest Service in Region 2 as an Assistant Engine Captain on the San Juan National Forest. He remained with the San Juan until the spring of 2018 when he accepted an Engine Captain position with the Bureau of Land Management Southwest

Colorado District. Early in the summer of 2019, he accepted an Engine Captain position and returned to the San Juan National Forest in Dolores, CO. His last assignment was as District Fuels Assistant Fire Management Officer on the San Juan National Forest, Dolores Ranger District.

He worked to ensure a safer, more efficient, accepting, and diverse workplace that provided superior service to the federal agencies, employees, coworkers, and public that he served throughout his career. He continually worked to achieve an environment that focuses on using every individual's strengths and coaching them on any possible deficiencies to turn them into strengths. Working within this environment helped him to promote stronger partnerships, individual talents, teamwork, and build successful future leaders.

He leaves behind his wife, Emily, and two children, a son and a daughter.

(continued on Page 33)

(continued from Page 32)

Remembrances



Mary Beth McGuire

Mary McGuire, age 65, of Skiatook, OK went to be with her Lord and Savior Sunday, December 5, 2021, in Tulsa, OK.

Mary was born June 15, 1956, in Edmond, Oklahoma to James Edward and Helen Louise (Rains) McGuire.

Mary grew up and received her education in Pawhuska where she graduated from high school in 1974. Mary also received her Associates Degree from Oklahoma State University. Mary married John Edward Shackelford on December 12, 2012, in California and have made their home in Skiatook since 2018. Mary was employed with the United State

Government where she was an Administration Officer. Mary McGuire was the purchasing agent on the Bighorn NF (for at least 5 years) before transferring to the US Fish & Wildlife in Oklahoma. Mary enjoyed her retirement, loved feeding the birds and watching NCIS.

Mary was preceded in death by her mother; Helen Louise Elzo and her father; James Edward McGuire.

Mary is survived by her husband; John Shackelford, children; Josh Williams and wife Annie, Jamie Shackelford and husband Lynn, sisters; Vickie Mashunkashey, Joyce Miller, Molly Snively and Peggy Surritte, brothers; Shannon McGuire and Sean McGuire, four grandchildren, several nieces and nephews and a host of other relatives and friends.



Kat Oropeza

Kat Oropeza, 59, passed away January 22, 2018, following a valiant battle with lung cancer.

Born March 18, 1958 in Helena, Montana, Kat grew up in Sheridan, graduated from Sheridan High School and returned to her hometown

following service in the United States Air Force. She worked for the United States Forest Service for nearly three decades, retiring in 2015. Her proudest professional accomplishment was her work with the fire program within the Forest Service.

Kat appreciated the beauty of the natural world, especially the Bighorn Mountains and the Medicine Wheel - which was a special place for her and her husband, Nick. She also loved music - both playing it and simply listening.

Kat cherished her six grandchildren, and loved spending time with them collectively, and one-on-one,

with special "Nana Saturdays."

She also was a focused and engaged spectator when any of her grandkids were playing sports.

Beyond a love for her family and friends, Kat loved animals - especially cats - and was a proud co-founder of the Sheridan Second Chance Cat Rescue.

Kat is survived by her husband, Nick and a son D.J. (Amy) Bowman of Idaho Falls, Idaho and daughter Cassie (Cory) Rehder of Dayton. She also leaves behind her mother, Dorcas Ward of Sheridan; sister Tamra (Dustin Whistler) Ward of Denver, Colorado and grandchildren Xander, Caydon, Zoe and Garen Bowman and Megan and Hailey Rehder. Kat's father, Jim Ward, passed away in 1999. Kat's heart was large, and her family extended beyond those who were directly related, including Wendy (Mike) Watts and her daughter Autumn Satterlee, and Jason (Kayla) Rodriguez and their children Anya, Jessie, Alex and Mia.

(continued on Page 34)

(continued from Page 33)

Remembrances



Tracy Lynn Serres

Tracy Lynn Serres, 55, resident of Big Horn, Wyoming passed away on April 3, 2022, surrounded by her family in Houston, Texas.

Tracy was diagnosed with Sarcoma of the Heart in 2020.

She then underwent two open heart surgeries and round after round of chemotherapy. She was the strongest woman you would have ever met until the day she lost her battle after a beautiful vacation with her husband, both children, and grandchildren in Costa Rica.

Tracy was born and raised in Worland, Wyoming on May 17, 1966, to Dennis Dunbar Yule and Irene Babette Yule. Tracy grew up with two brothers, Jim and Jeff Yule and a lot of friends that loved her.

Tracy joined the Forest Service in 1985 and had a long and distinguished career. Most recently, she was a senior project manager and investment manager in the Project Management Office of the Chief Information Office. Tracy was a mentor, friend, and coach to many on her team.

Tracy had two children whom she adored, Alyssa and Christopher Davis. Tracy was a dedicated mother first and foremost. She treasured her children and embraced every moment with them. She was truly the best mother her children could have ever asked for.

In 2012, Tracy met the love of her life Boyd Serres. They married on December 8, 2017, in Big Horn, Wyoming. As Tracy was nearing the end of her career, they enjoyed spending time with family, especially her grandchildren - Trevin, Adalynn, and Ella, golfing, various home improvement projects, and much more. Tracy was immensely proud of her family and leaves behind nothing but beautiful memories.

Tracy was preceded in death by her father, Dennis Dunbar Yule, and her grandson Tanner William Scheeler. She is survived by her husband, Boyd Serres of Big Horn, Wyoming; daughter Alyssa Davis (JB) of Big Horn, Wyoming, Son Christopher Davis (Priyanka) of Dickinson, North Dakota, grandchildren Trevin Christopher, Adalynn Mae, and Ella Raelynn; Mother Irene Yule, Brothers Jim and Jeff Yule, nieces and nephews and many other family and friends.

The Last Word

Reflections on the Rendezvous in the Rockies

by Tom L. Thompson



It has been ten years since a dedicated and amazing group of retirees from this Region worked tirelessly to bring together over 650 people at Vail for the 6th Forest Service Reunion. The Rendezvous in the Rockies reunion in September of 2012 was a wonderful experience for everyone who came. As I look back at how this came to be and how successful this event was, it was without question one of the most amazing groups of people who worked together for over two years to make it happen. The arrangements for program, lodging, registration, exhibits, special events, field trips, and fundraising all came together to create what I believe to be the most memorable and special reunions ever.

Reflecting on that week a decade later, there were some highlights that still define for me why it was such a special time. It was a week of smiles, reconnections, memories, and wonderful experiences. I will never forget the evening barbeque at the top of the gondola with Teddy Roosevelt on the stump, the mules ready to go, Dale Bosworth and Forest Supervisor Scott Fitzwilliams in the smokejumper gear, and the beautiful sunset looking down Eagle River valley as the evening came to a end.

The past Chief's forum with Teddy asking Max, F. Dale, Jack, Mike, Dale, and Gail what they could have done

better was a classic display of leadership at its best. The inspiration of having twenty students from Job Corps being there all week with us and helping us find our way to the gondola and then back to the hotel.

The Fiddlin' Foresters doing "one of their last performances" just reaffirmed what a great asset that had been for the outfit. A couple of train rides, a snowstorm on Independence pass and a visit to Maroon Bells; rafting on the Colorado River, time with a 10th Mountain soldier at Camp Hale 70 yrs. hence, biking on Vail Pass; a hike to Storm King Mountain with Mike da Luz, and a hike to an old mining camp gave us time to truly appreciate being together, learn, and remember why we loved our chosen path in life.



The Fiddlin' Foresters, the official old-time string band of the U.S. Forest Service. Jane Leche, Tom McFarland, Jim Maxwell and Lynn Young.

(continued on Page 36)

(continued from Page 35)



But perhaps the most remarkable thing about this reunion and others that I have attended is that it brings together people who have had such remarkable and varied careers with the Forest Service and

who are still engaged, still active, still care, still want to help the agency, and still have energy and passion for the outfit. There have now been eight unique reunions and the ninth will take place at Lake Tahoe from August 29-September 2. Kitty and I have attended most all of these and by far, Vail will understandably be our favorite. It was indeed a special time.

Of course, our planning committee did not stop working together when the reunion was over, we just kept going and decided to establish the Rocky Mountaineers the next year. That is perhaps the most important outcome of the 2012 Rendezvous in Rockies reunion that continues on.

To glance back at photos from the [2012 Vail reunion](#) look at the Rocky Mountaineers website click History and then Photo Gallery and the 2012 Reunion tab. It is so special to see the smiles and to reflect and remember those who are no longer with us today who were a part of that special time.

Reunions are all special and the upcoming one at Lake Tahoe will no doubt be a great one too; if you haven't been to one, think about coming to Lake Tahoe August 29 - September 2.



The 2012 Reunion Planning Committee with spouses in Vail, Colorado, 2011. Left to right: Arlene Lawrence, Steve Ambrose, Julie Ambrose, Jim Lawrence, Lyle Laverty, Dave Steinke, Dan Nolan, Skip Underwood, Alicia Bennett (JCCC), Johnny Hodges, Marilyn Hunter (Dan's wife), Ellen Hodges, Tom Thompson, Kitty Thompson, Martha Dahl, Bjorn Dahl.