Job Corps
The Highest Forest Service Priority

By Richard M. Pomeroy

Dick was born in 1926 in South Gate, California. He graduated from the School of Forestry at the University of California in Berkeley. Following his marriage to Olive Thompson they moved to Verlot Ranger Station, in Granite Falls, Washington, where Dick served his first Forest Service assignment. Then Dick served in various districts in the state of Washington as a district ranger and in 1963 the Forest Service returned him to school in Berkeley where he earned a MS degree in Forest Fire Management. His next assignment Director at Wolf Creek Job Corps Conservation Center, Glide, Oregon. Dick's final assignment was Regional Director of Personnel, Region 5. Today, Dick is living in Portland, OR.

Selecting the First Job Corps Conservation Center Directors

The U.S. Forest Service, Department of Agriculture, was a natural agency to be assigned responsibility for those Job Corps centers to be located on National Forest land. At the time of the War On Poverty legislation it was known as an agency who could "get the job done." Whether, in fact, the Forest Service, as well as other federal land management agencies, were to have the opportunity depended on Sargent Shriver, Peace Corps director, and first director of the Office of Economic Opportunity (OEO) which was charged with administering the War On Poverty. Initially, unbeknownst to the Forest Service, Sargent Shriver was not at all convinced that a bureaucratic federal agency could produce high caliber directors to run individual Job Corps centers.

The U.S. Forest Service received word in mid-1964, that the agency would administer a large part of the Job Corps program. Within a month following word regarding the Forest Service participation in the Job Corps program, the Regional Personnel in Region 6 called me into his office, briefed me on the program, suggesting that I would make a good director. Would I become a candidate? He indicated that my education and work experience fit the criteria with my degrees in forestry, education, and public administration. I also had management and supervisory experience having served for five years as a district forest ranger, managing some 212,000 acres of land with a staff of 20 permanent employees.

He also stressed that the Chief of the Forest Service and the Regional Forester in charge of Region 6, placed the highest possible priority on the need to successfully fulfill the mission of those Job Corps centers that would be located on National Forest land. At the same time, he stressed that the Chief and the Regional Forester wanted all director candidates to know that they, the Chief and the Regional Forester, understood that Job Corps was a new program with a mission never before addressed by the Forest Service, one of high political exposure and consequent risk, and though it was most important to succeed, in the case of individual "failure" by a director, it would in no way effect the director's career in the Forest Service. The following day, after consulting with
Museum News

By Gray Reynolds, President

Museum Affiliates Support Forest Service Programs

The Museum Affiliate program supports small nonprofit organizations that work to support Forest Service programs and provide services. Donations received by Affiliates are tax deductible because of the Museum’s 501(C)3 status. The Affiliates report income and expenses to the Museum office.

Friends of Ninemile and Darby support Forest Service visitor displays and exhibits at the Ninemile and Darby Ranger Stations. The Friends of the OTO Ranch and Upper Rock support maintenance of historic buildings. OTO volunteers will be working in August and Ninemile volunteers will be working in September.

The Friends of Upper Rock assist the Missoula District, Lolo National Forest, with the preservation maintenance of the three historic properties in Rock Creek. Two of the properties may be rented by the public. The Friends volunteers gather every May for one week completing annual maintenance and improvements. The Friends recently received a major donation that will result in greater accomplishments in 2014.

The 2009, 2012 and the 2015 Forest Service Reunion Committees are or were Museum affiliates.

Forest Products Retention Roundtable — Executive Director Dave Stack met with the group on August 2, 2013 at the Montana State Forester’s Office in Missoula. Group members included representatives of the Forest Products industry, Montana Congressional Staff, State Forester, Forest Service and University of Montana. Dave’s goal was to spread awareness of the Museum’s plans, programs and accomplishments with the Forest Products industry and to ask for their help in telling the timber management story.

Artifact Loan to Siskiyou Smokejumpers Base Museum --- Three different types of radios were loaned to the Cave Junction, Oregon Museum.

Museum Site Clean Up — On August 24, 2013, Executive Committee members Mike Paterni, John Drake, Beryl Johnston and Dave Stack loaded junk from a Hobo’s Camp and rotted wood building panels into John Drake’s trailer. Last winter hobos made a shelter in the gulch that was furnished with a couch and several chairs. The junk was hauled to the land fill. Larry Corona, Larry’s Tractor, Trailer and More, donated his time and fork lift to load the junk. The Larry’s company is located near the museum site. Dick Bacon helped earlier in the spring.
my wife Olive, I told the regional personnel officer that, yes, we would accept the candidacy.

Immediately following my declaration of candidacy, I was assigned to full-time liaison duties in the region charged with: (1) working closely with the Forest Service's Job Corps office in Washington D.C., (2) providing the leadership within the region needed to identify additional center directors, (3) selecting sites for Job Corps centers to be constructed, and (4) communicating internally to the Forest Service, and externally to the public regarding Job Corps plans.

Within a few weeks we had 10 or 15 potential director candidates identified who were then invited to a Job Corps orientation meeting for candidates in Portland. The regional forester led the orientation, explained the essence of the program, answered questions and then asked those at the orientation to let him know within the next few days whether they wished to be a candidate. Most replied in the affirmative. This commitment on the part of the regional forester was very important in securing the candidacies of some of the very best people we had in the region. It became evident during the initial phases of the program that the quality of these candidates was a critical factor in the success of the program realized in the region.

The Screening Process -- There were eight or ten of us from the Forest Service's Region 6 who went to Washington D.C. in early August 1964 to be screened by a panel of federal executives from the Departments of Agriculture, Interior, and the Office of Economic Opportunity. We were joined there by candidates from other Forest Service regions and other federal agencies, around 40 candidates in all.

Upon arriving, those of us from the Forest Service met with the chief and his staff who reinforced the need to do a top notch job in administering this important program. He personally assured us of his backing to those of us willing to take the risk of managing a new program with its many uncertainties. There was no specific word at this point regarding when and where we would be interviewed. After some days in Washington D.C.'s August heat, we finally received a schedule of interviews.

The interview panels were made up of five or so people who sat around an oval table. There were no introductions, no attempt to make the interviewees comfortable, and no invitation to sit down. The panel began to ask questions immediately, firing one question after the other with little time to think or to even respond before the next question was asked. It was obvious that what they were doing was testing one's reaction to pressure, posing many unseemly scenarios that could possibly occur at a center or in an adjacent community. Though a short half-hour long, the interview seemed even shorter as the hypothetical situations came one after another. After the interview was concluded, the interviewee was escorted from the room.

When reporting back to the Washington Office of the Forest Service, those interviewed were told not to head for home unless and until they were told that they had not passed the interview. This word would come relatively soon. Those who passed the panel interview were to stay in Washington D.C. as there was a possibility that there might be a need for interview follow up by Sargent Shriver personally. It was uncertain whether this would occur, however, as a decision had not yet been made.

An Interview with Sargent Shriver, director of the War On Poverty (OEO) - After what seemed a very long time, measured only in days, however, the chief's office called indicating that Sargent Shriver wanted to see me only. At a later time he might want to see other candidates. There was no other explanation given and I had no idea as to why I was selected. Nevertheless, I was to immediately come in to the chief's office to be briefed on the importance of the interview.

At the chief's office, I found that more was at stake than simply passing the interview. The real issue was the
uncertainty that Mr. Shriver had regarding the ability of the Forest Service, and other federal agencies, to provide the leadership necessary to run a Job Corps center, the key being the quality of the candidates being proposed by the respective agencies.

It was at this time that I was told that if Sargent Shriver was not satisfied with the nominees for director, he would simply establish centers on federal land and operate them directly from his office in Washington D.C. without any reference to the agency charged with managing the natural resources (i.e., National Forests) on which the center was established. This was his alternative to having each land management agency supply administrative support, work projects, and personnel recruitment services (other than education and counseling) to the centers, with the Office of Economic Opportunity to provide the overall policies, recruit the education and counseling staff, the enrollees, and provide job placement services to those enrollees completing the program.

The Forest Service was adamantly opposed to the centers being run entirely by Shriver’s Office of Economic Opportunity (OEO). I was counseled on how I might best respond to questions put to me by Mr. Shriver. As an example, I was coached to tell Mr. Shriver that at one point in my career I was in charge of forest fire suppression in the northwest portion of the state of Washington, rather than having been the fire management officer on the Mt. Baker National Forest. Both responses were correct, the first, however, much more impressive.

My interview with Sargent Shriver was at 10:00 A.M. the day following my "coaching" by the chief’s office. At this time Mr. Shriver's office was still located in the Peace Corps building as he was not only the director of the Office of Economic Opportunity but was the director of the Peace Corps as well.

I arrived at his office promptly at 10:00 A.M. and was greeted by his secretary who made me quite comfortable, indicating that it would be a little while before Mr. Shriver could see me. As I entered the room, Mr. Shriver was facing the window, watching a helicopter take off from the White House grounds, murmuring out loud, "d---, he was suppose to call me before he left this morning." He then turned away from the window, shook my hand warmly, inviting me to sit down across the desk from him.

The interview was not anything like I had anticipated. We began with a little friendly conversation, and a brief relating of my background. All was low-key and friendly, not like the panel interview that I had gone through previously. After five or ten minutes, he began to talk about the importance of the new War On Poverty program and Job Corps and how important the first directors were in making sure that the program succeeded. In a way I felt that I was being anointed. After 15 or 20 minutes the interview was concluded and I left. There was no mention regarding my "acceptability," though I had the distinct feeling that he liked me.

Following this, I called the chiefs office, briefed them on what had taken place, and was told to go back to my hotel room, take care of whatever personal business I might have, but stay close to a telephone for further instructions. Later that day, I was called by chief’s office and told that I had passed the interview and was free to return home to Oregon. All the other candidates were being scheduled for interviews by members of Shriver’s staff.

### Annual Museum Meeting

Plan to attend the Museum’s Annual Membership Meeting on September 26, 2013, 12 noon at the City Life Center, 1515 Fairview Ave, Missoula, MT. The noon luncheon is open to museum members and all interested persons. Luncheon cost $12. RSVP Please to the Museum office 406-541-6374 or nationalforest@montana.com

#### AGENDA
- Welcome, Vice President Dave Stack
- Report on Museum Programs and accomplishments, Dave Stack
- Guest Speaker, Mayor John Engen
- Buck Knife Drawing
- Unveiling the “Ranger Carving”

### Member Biographies Add to Conservation History

The Museum desires to collect member biographies. Your biography is a record of your service to the Forest Service and conservation. Biographies add to Forest Service history by recording career paths and your personal involvement in programs and persons you worked with.

Consider writing and sending your biography to the Museum for archiving. This is an opportunity to tell your story. You have the most accurate information on your biography. The Museum will accept all biographies of members without charge. A biography format is available, if needed, on the Museum webpage for downloading. [www.nmfs-history.net/involved/memorial.html](http://www.nmfs-history.net/involved/memorial.html)

The Museum is also interested in receiving nominations to the Honor Roll. If you wish to formerly nominate a person or yourself to the Honor Roll, a $100 donation supports Museum work. Honor Roll member names are listed on the Museum web pages. In the future we may be able to make the Honor Roll biographies internet accessible.

### Members Are Very Important

#### Members support:
- Preserving Forest Service heritage
- The Museum sharing Forest Service and conservation history with the public.
- The Museum’s role as an advocate for the Forest Service History Program that preserves the history, culture and traditions of the U.S. Forest Service.
- Collection and Care for historic objects and papers
- Traveling Exhibit

#### Members
- Serve as Volunteers on the Board, Committees, National Council, and local projects.
- Spread the word about the Museum’s work with their peers
- Donate dues and gifts support 45% of all operating expenses in 2012. The funds pay for Administrative Assistant to the Executive Director, newsletter, insurance, utilities, office supplies, etc.
- Donate historic objects, papers and photographs

### Online Gift Shop Discounts

Members receive a discount when ordering from the Museum’s online gift shop. Call the Museum Office for the discount code (406-541-6374). Click on Gift Shop on the home page. Available from the Gift Shop: Shirts, Hats and other apparel, Books, Jewelry, Blankets, Knives and Posters.
## Capital Campaign Donations
05/11/2013 To 8/6/2013

- Stan & Judy Dempsey
- Andy Leven
- Del Radtke
- 2012 Rocky Mountain Reunion Association
- Bell Helicopter

## Unrestricted Donations
05/11/2013 To 8/6/2013

- Richard Baldwin
- Dick Flannelly
- Richard Hauff
- Leslie E. Hendry
- Charles R. Joy
- Peg Mullen
- Paula Nelson
- Del Radtke
- Ronald A. Schaufler

## New Members
05/11/2013 To 8/6/2013

- Mark Blankensop
- Art & Liz Currier
- Pete Griffin
- Rosemary Guttridge
- Bruce Hendrickson
- Phil Johnson
- Russ Miller
- Edward Monnig
- Joyce O'Neal

## New Life Member
05/11/2013 To 8/6/2013

- John Emerson
- Bruce T. Mateer

## Honor Roll Names
05/11/2013 To 8/6/2013

- Clarence E. Almen
- Lynn R. Biddison
- Gary G. Brown
- William C. Fischer
- John C. Sherrod
- James R. "Bits" Stephenson
- Bayard R. 'Bob' Van Gieson
- Jack Williams
- Charles W. Bloom
- Sue & Tom Blunn
- Claudia Brown
- Caroline Buckner
- Teri Fahn
- Pete Griffin
- Virginia Lutz
- Don & Mary Nelson

## Honor Roll Donations
05/11/2013 To 8/6/2013

- John Sandor
- Joseph R. Schlechten
- John & Hazel Standeven
- Charles P. Teague, Jr.
- Cheryl Westover
- Archer W. Wirth
- Sitka Alaska
- USFS Employees

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**Rattle Creek Fire, Camp Kitchen, 1973**
Kaniksu National Forest, Idaho
Bob Graham Collection

**Gila Aerial Fire Base, 1974**
Gila National Forest, Silver City, NM
Bob Graham Collection
Repository News

USFS Service Bulletins Donated by William Herbolsheimer

The Museum has received forty-seven Service Bulletins, 1924 - 1929 --- The Bulletins were weekly newsletters to Forest Service field personnel. Bulletin articles cover a wide range of news and information. Issues and suggestions from the field were included. Examples of articles:

- Merits and demerits of slash disposal, Chelan National Forest.
- Fourth Deerlodge National Forest Smelter Smoke Land Exchange is ready for review, 28,000 acres.
- T. D. Woodbury, District 5, a Yale 1905 graduate writes about his Forest Service career.
- Two fire fighters lose their lives on the Unaka National Forest near Damascus, Virginia.
- 1929 -- the White House said no new oil and gas prospecting permits would be issued.
- General Exchange Act now applies to all Spanish land grants contiguous to National Forests in New Mexico.
- Forester (Chief) William B. Greeley’s letter on his resignation from the Forest Service.
- Federal Court issued a injunction restraining Apache County Arizona from criminally prosecuting Ranger Jess T. Fears for shooting horses belonging to a private person.

Where is this Ranger Station?

This Ranger Station is believed to be located in the Eastern Region, R9. Date: 1940s. There was a large antenna in front of the Station. Email your suggestions to the Museum Office nationalforest@montana.com

Craftsmen Tools and the Forest Service

The first Craftsman power tools were featured in the 1929 Sears catalog. These power tools were recognized in 1938 for helping to build the largest adobe building which was the Rocky Mountain offices of the U.S. Forestry Service. After this, the Chief Forestry Engineer declared Craftsman tools as a permanent part of the Service's shop equipment.

Article Source: http://EzineArticles.com/4445556

Identify this Metal Box

What was this metal box used for? The box measures 10" X 4" X 4". Blue writing on the box: “SEIAD CCC CAMP.” Email your suggestions to the Museum Office: nationalforest@montana.com

Hand Lens, ca. 1903

Lorne Calvert Collection
Note: Your mailing label shows the date your membership expires. Please mail dues payment, 1 month prior to the date listed above. This space is blank for complementary copies of the newsletter. Please renew EXPIRED memberships as soon as possible to continue support of the Museum program.

**Membership Application**

Fill out, detach, and mail to: National Museum of Forest Service History, P.O. Box 2772
Missoula, MT 59806-2772

Mr. ___ Ms. ___ Dr. ___ Name: _____________________________ Address _______________________________

City/State/Zip: __________________________________________ Daytime Ph.: _____________________

E-mail: ____________________________ □ New □ Renewal □ GIFT

**Membership Categories**

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**Missoula Volunteers Needed**

Missoula area volunteers are needed to care for the Bungalow Cabin. This involves monitoring the irrigation system and mowing the small lawn.

Authors for newsletter articles. Do you have an interesting story, call Executive Director Dave Stack, 541-6374 to discuss your idea.