



National Museum of Forest Service History Newsletter

Volume 18, Number 2

May 2006

Museum Plans Move Forward

Members Invited To Submit Interpretive Theme Ideas

The Board of Directors need YOUR help in developing museum goals, objectives, messages and themes we'll communicate to museum visitors through our exhibits. Remember the museum is just one part of the comprehensive museum program. Before responding, read the articles on the interpretive planning process and the over-all organizational goals on page 3.

We are at the CONCEPT stage. How messages and themes will be communicated will be decided later.

The core messages should reflect the wide scope of Forest Service history, spanning more than one hundred years. Major subject areas include: Research, Forest Products Laboratory, Equipment Development Centers, State and Private Forestry, National Forest Systems and International Programs. There are a wide variety of cooperators who have assisted in developing and delivery of programs. They range from Universities and State Forestry organizations to recreation providers and commodity industries. In a separate category are the human resource programs ranging from Civilian Conservation Corps to Youth Conservation Corps.

1. What should be our museum goals and quantifiable objectives for the museum exhibits?
2. Who are the audiences for the museum exhibits?
3. What should be the core messages and themes for the museum displays?

Send us your ideas by July 1, 2006. To: NMFSH, PO Box 2772, Missoula, MT 59806, or nationalforest@montana.com or FAX 406-541-8733.

Range Reconnaissance Early 1900s to 1960s

By George B. Chaffee

The author worked for the Forest Service early in his career as a forester / range conservationist on the Ochoco and the Helena National Forests. He then worked for the Bureau of Land Management, USDI in Miles City Montana as Party Chief Missouri River Basin Studies. George then worked for the Soil Conservation Service, USDA in Baker City Oregon and then as a Resource Consultant with the Montana Public Land Council on range surveys. George remains involved in range management issues and lives in Corvallis, MT

Editors Note: Forest Reserves were heavily overgrazed when Congress passed the Organic Act of 1897. Immediately after management responsibilities were transferred to the Forest Service, regulation of grazing through a system of permits and grazing fees were implemented.

This story is presented to commemorate a specialized unit of range examiners employed by the Forest Service who participated in western rangeland surveys from near the turn of the century to the late 1950s. Their mission was to map in the field range conditions and vegetative types, classify topographic features, soil types and erosion, water resources and wild-life species/habitat.

Continued on page 4



Northern Region Range Survey Crew 1941

Front Row: Muchmore, Venrick, Unknown, Maier. Back Row: Haller, Kalitowski, DeNio, Larson

George Chaffee Collection, Mrs. Fred Haller Photograph



National Museum of Forest Service History

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The *Newsletter* is published quarterly for the members and supporters of the National Museum of Forest Service History, a non-profit corporation dedicated to preserving the history of the USDA Forest Service.

Individual	\$30
Family	\$45
Contributing	\$150
Sustaining	\$300
Organization	\$100
Lifetime	\$1,000

Membership Categories

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From The President

This month's newsletter contains information explaining the importance for members and contributors to become involved in development of the museums long term goals, objectives, and in the interpretive planning progress. The objective of the interpretive planning process is to reach agreement on the major conservative success stories of the last 100 years. I hope that we can conduct an active communication process with museum members so that we have strong support for the results of the Interpretive Planning Process. Thank you in advance for your assistance.

Best Wishes,
Gray Reynolds

Museum Financial Audit Completed

Junkermier, Clark, Campanella, Stevens, P. C., independent auditors, have audited the financial position of the National Museum of Forest Service History, as of December 31, 2005, and the related statements of activities, functional expenses, and cash flows for the year. The audit was conducted in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America.

In the opinion of the auditor, the financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the National Museum of Forest Service History, as of December 31, 2005 and the changes in its net assets and its cash flows for the year in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

The Board of Directors arranged for the audit to assure donors and members that the financial affairs of the Museum were in order and to prepare the organization managing a large capital campaign and construction program. Considerable time was required by the Museum staff to assemble the financial records for the auditors. Additional time was required to dig out past financial records of the capitalized museum site investments (Bungalow cabin, site planning etc.) to establish a solid beginning point. Part-time Museum Administrative Assistant Dale Fears accounting skills are a great asset as we move ahead.

In 2005, only 12% was spent on administrative and fundraising, a low figure for non-profits. The Combined Federal Campaign guideline is 25% or less. Volunteers in Missoula made the Museum's 12% level possible.

An electronic copy of the auditors report is available upon request.

Current Assets	\$ 118,858
Non-Current Assets	\$ 204,102
Total Assets	\$ 322,960
Current Liabilities	\$ 4,912
Net Assets	\$ 318,048
Total Liabilities & Net Assets	\$ 322,960

Bids Opened for Sewer & Water Project

Three bids for construction of 1,600 feet of sewer and water lines and a lift station to serve the museum site were opened May 11th. The apparent low bid was \$398,152.

Museum Interpretive Planning Process

The plan identifies the museum's core messages and themes. The plan describes different methods used to tell the story. The plan includes the planned museum building and Bungalow Cabin, Memorial Grove and trails linking them to the adjacent Forest Service Smokejumper Center and Fire Sciences Laboratory. The plan describes how objects can contribute to the story and where objects are placed. It provides conceptual sketches of museum layout and exhibits for the initial phase of museum construction and beyond. It provides information needed to plan the museum building design.

Board of Directors Goal:

Complete a conceptual interpretive plan for the museum in 2006. The Board plans to hire an experienced consultant to work with us.

The Building:

The initial museum building will be approximately 10,000 square feet. About one-third to one-half of the building museum will be devoted to exhibits and visitor information. The remaining area will also house the museum's national headquarters and a conservation education center. We will have a small meeting room, library and research area, museum shop, storage facilities and administrative offices. Outside exhibits are also planned.

The Process:

Step 1 – Gather ideas and suggestions for core messages from Museum members, Forest Service employees, and friends. Summarize information for review by the Board of Directors.

Step 2 – A focus group or Charette to further refine potential themes, objects to display, exhibits ideas, etc. The group will be diverse – active employees, retirees, different management specialties, geographical, independent historians. A list of objects and images we want to display and stories to tell will be developed.

Step 3 – Consultant submits a report summarizing what they learned during the planning meeting and makes recommendations for interpretive options. This step should involve conceptual bubble diagrams and approaches rather than detailed drawings. Very preliminary ideas of what to do in initial development phase and what to defer to later phases.

Step 4 – Board of Directors review consultant's report and makes decisions to prioritize conceptual ideas into a preferred option.

Step 5 – Consultant submits refined preferred option with rough themes and storyline, space allocation inside and outside buildings, very rough quick sketches of major exhibit ideas, preliminary cost schedules, and important architectural considerations (i.e. One gallery, three galleries, extra high ceiling, etc.)

Step 6 – Final Report containing --- a) Refined themes and storyline; b) Conceptual exhibit ideas with sketches; c) Con-

ceptual floor plan for phase I and future expansion; d) Walk-thru narrative report— what the visitor sees entering and touring through the museum; e) Rough budget for the exhibits and first expansion; and f) Identify logical growth options.

What will be achieved?

The conceptual museum interpretive plan will provide the interpretive themes, museum layout options and exhibit concept. The plan will provide the building design requirements and the basis for detailed exhibit design and construction. The plan will also direct collection of specific historic objects needed for display or interpretation.

National Museum of Forest Service History Goals

- 1) **Build a Museum** to serve as a headquarters for staff and volunteers working to preserve Forest Service history on a national scale.
- 2) **Preserve Historical Objects & Documents** — Expand the existing facility to a national repository for artifacts, records, publications, documents, and memorabilia relating to the history, programs, activities and culture of the Forest Service. All information is accessible.
- 3) **Provide Conservation Education** — Increase understanding of conservation past accomplishments and lessons learned. The Internet and traveling displays will be used to tell the history of conservation across the country.
- 4) **Link with other Forest Service History Sites** — The Museum will actively cooperate with other forest history sites across the country for the purpose of exchanging information, sharing artifacts and providing technical advice.
- 5) **Honor People** — History comes alive through the experiences of people. Personal papers and biographies tell the history of conservation. We continue to accept donations to the Forest Service History Memorial. Individuals, living or deceased, and groups who have contributed to the mission of the Forest Service are eligible.
- 6) **Advocates for the Forest Service history program** — Assist the Forest Service to carry out an on-going in-service effort to recover past agency history and record current history.



Early Season Grazing Harms Idaho Fescue Production. Plant on left was protected. May 7, 1926 near Eagle Creek Ranger Station, Helena National Forest

Deterioration of western rangelands during the era of pre- and post-settlement generated a whole host of public land policies and programs to attack

naissance teams were out in 1915 on the Helena National Forest and probably other forests.

During this period of national concern over rangeland conditions, other agencies also became involved in developing policies and regulations to properly protect and manage western grassland resources. Good examples of other agency involvement was the implementation of the Taylor Grazing Act of 1934 by the Grazing Service, USDI (part of the future Bureau of Land Management in 1946) and by the U.S. Geological Survey that conducted studies and comprehensive mapping and classifications which provided information on land capability classes for potential farming or grazing agricul-

this major conservation problem of livestock overgrazing.

Paramount among government agencies concerned with the public land-overgrazing problem was the Forest Service and Grazing Service (later Bureau of Land Management). In 1919 the USFS developed rules governing the granting of grazing privileges on National Forest lands.

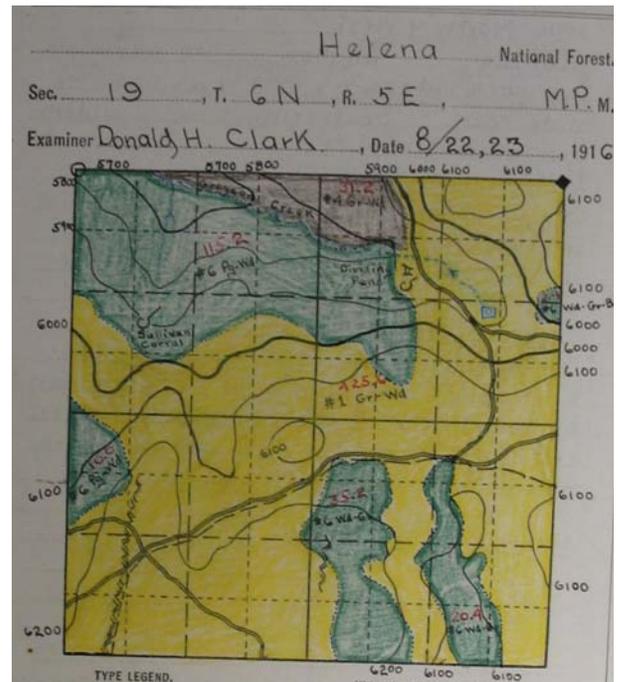
Dr. James Jardine and Mark Anderson condensed what was then known on range management into their publication "Range Management on the National Forests, USDA Bulletin No. 790, August 6, 1919." This became the bible for range managers. The bulletin "... summarized the basic principles of management in terms of a simple guideline; the proper number of livestock, of the proper kind, grazed at the proper season, under adequate handling methods."¹ Jardine was Forest Service chief of range research.

Jardine worked with the Bureau of Plant Industry and with colleges and universities, on range studies and experiments. This experience enabled Jardine to develop a range reconnaissance method of making inventories (surveys) on rangelands to fit local climatic, moisture and ecotypes across the western states.

Criteria and standards for surveys were developed from numerous studies and experiments for improving disturbed and deteriorated public rangelands. The problem of allocating range forage production, watershed protection and wildlife habitat values were emphasized in the whole sequence of range reconnaissance surveys from the early years to later periods.

Collection of a sound baseline from the reconnaissance grazing surveys set the stage for range improvement programs to the present time. The information collected provided a foundation for preparing range management plans to control overgrazing on critical watershed areas.

Jardine and others completed the first range reconnaissance on the Coconino National Forest, Arizona (R-3) in 1911. In the Northern Region (R-1) range recon-



Helena National Forest Range Survey 1916
Portion of Grazing Reconnaissance Form 765 Revised
Feb. 1913

ture use.

Another important landmark and contribution to the conservation movement was made by ranchers who formed grazing associations to control livestock numbers and to promote better livestock regulations and organize opposition to destructive grazing practices through the process of rules and regulations.

The key range examiner/training officer for the Northern Region in the late 1940s was Tom Lommason. He was a highly experienced, highly respected and was well known in range scientific and administrative fields inside and outside the Forest Service. In the 1960s A. L. (Gus) Hormay, Pacific Southwest Forest and Range Experiment Station, was a key person who developed an intensive training course with training

(Continued on page 5)



Range Survey Crew 1959
Gates Park, Lewis & Clark National Forest
George Chaffee Collection, Mrs. Fred Haller Photograph

aids, charts, slides, illustrations, lesson plans for a complete training program in range management.

An intensive training program, almost military style, was developed and implemented for all crewmembers for the new Range Reconnaissance Program. Formal course work and hands-on-field training was received by crewmembers in: mapping botany, surveying, soils/erosion, taxonomy/herbarium collection, wildlife habitat and plant ecology. A range management handbook edited by the Forest Service provided the trainees with text and reference material during their on the job training

Range examiner candidates qualifications were required to be in good physical condition and able to withstand strenuous hiking and outdoor work. Crewmembers resided in tent camps and with improvised bathing needs. The men should have leadership ability and interest in understanding grazing administration and planning as they may ultimately have the opportunity to use grazing survey data in range management planning as District Rangers or Forest Supervisors.

Range reconnaissance of earlier years, i.e. 1915, continued to the 1930s and 1950s. A Forest Service range inventory and management program known as Range Analysis evolved from the range reconnaissance surveys with new concepts and a philosophy of proper use determination and grazing capacity estimates. The key components of this system included mapping range types, condition and trend, production and utilization and management plan preparation. The traditional survey data offered a baseline from which to integrate experienced grazing information into a developed plan to be compatible and consistent with other needs and resources of a range allotment without deterioration to vegetative cover types, soil, water, wildlife and recreational values.

Various National Forests in the west and southwest regions selected well-experienced range examiners to supervise, administer and formulate training curricula and sched-

Forest Service Reunion

The Museum and the Northern Rocky Mountain Retirees Association have submitted a proposal to the Pacific Northwest Forest Service Association to host the next national reunion in Missoula, MT in 2009. This would give us the opportunity to hold the dedication of the new museum during the reunion.

ules for daily and monthly work programs.

Agencies cooperating with range reconnaissance surveys in the Northern Region included: Agricultural Experiment Stations and Soil Conservation Service, USDA; Bureau of Plant Industry; USDA, State University research stations and Extension Service; Montana Fish and Game Commission; U.S. Geological Survey; Grazing Service/BLM and Stockgrowers Association and Wool Growers.

¹—Society of Range Management Vol. 14, No. 2 1961

Recruit One New Member

Members, we need your help to recruit new members to support our efforts to preserve over 100 years history of the Forest Service and conservation. Use the membership brochure included with this newsletter. Ask a friend to join. Ask several to join. We need to increase our membership to 1,400.

Increased membership increases our ability to support cataloging and caring for historic items at the Missoula repository and aiding Forest Service units around the country in their history program.

Annual Membership Meeting Notice

The annual membership meeting will be held July 13th, 2006, 9:30 AM in Missoula, MT. We will meet at a local hotel. See the Museum website or call the Museum office for the name and address of the hotel.

Welcome New Members

2/4/06 to 4/30/06

Bruce H. Blevins
Stanley E. Blinks
Larry Blocker
Michael J. Burnside
Frank Elder
Wayne & Judith Ellington
Dean Graham
H Fred Kaiser
Steven Lamar
George Matejko
Ronald F. Roginske
Henry Sixkiller
Byron and Mary Williams

Unrestricted Donations

2/4/06 to 4/30/06

Chester A. Bennett, Jr.
John Bushfield
James W. Fears
Katrina B. Housley
Forest Service Women, Washington DC
H Fred Kaiser

Capital Campaign Donations

2/4/06 to 4/30/06

William M. Cannon
George D. Carlisle
Dick & Carole Carson
John P. Case
Glenn A. Cooper
Jay H. Cravens
Roberta S. Fowler
Mr. & Mrs. Norman E. Gould
Fred Haeussler
Hank Hays
Myles R. Howlett
Mike Kerrick
Vernon LaBau
Scollay & Anna Parker
Del Radtke
Ronald A. Schaufler
George N. Semmens
David Stack
Archer W. Wirth
National Smokejumper Association

New Forest Service History Memorials

In Honor of Dallard Johnson donation by Northern Rocky Mountain retirees Assoc.

In Honor of Warren Doolittle donation by Warren Doolittle

Memorial for Don K. Porter donation by Konrad and Betty Reinke

The National Museum of Forest Service History offers Forest Service History Memorials for those wishing to honor or memorialize people who worked for or with the Forest Service, living or deceased.

For a minimum \$100.00 donation, we will collect the biography and a photo and maintain that record in our Forest Service History Memorial Book and on our web site. The Memorial Grove of trees at the National Museum of Forest Service History has also been planted in honor and memory of the people listed in the Forest Service History Memorial.

For more information contact the Museum: (406) 541-6374 or nationalforest@montana.com

Northern Region employees participating in range reconnaissance in the late 1930s and 1940s included: Bob Cooney, Reginald DeNio, George Engler, Anthony Evanko, John Forsman, Geoffrey Green, Fred Haller, Jack Hinman, Burt Hurwitz, Rolf Jorgensen, Clem Kalitowski, Eugene Larson, Al Muchmore, Don Nelson, Sr., Barry Park, Karl Parker, Curly Robbins, George Roski, E. D. Sandvig, Phil VanCleave, John Venrick, and George Wolstad. This list of personnel is likely incomplete, we apologize for names not mentioned.

Museum Books and Posters For Sale

Visit the Museum Webpage to view books and posters and print order form.

Or Telephone 406-541-6374

Membership Application

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

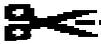
Mr. __Ms. __Dr. __ Name: _____ Address _____

City/State/Zip: _____ Daytime Ph.: _____

E-mail: _____ New Renewal GIFT

Membership Categories Annual Dues

Individual	\$30 or more	Sustaining	\$300 or more
Family	\$55 or more	Organization	\$100 or more
Contributing	\$150 or more	Life	\$1000 or more



Museum Cataloging Program

More Than 13,500 Items and Growing

Curator Beth Humble, with assistance from volunteers, has carefully cataloged historic papers, books, photographs and objects given to the Museum. For two years we have been entering data into Past Perfect Museum computer software. Search functions built into the software allow users to locate desired historical information. The “People” search function is especially useful.

We have cataloged almost all of the material donated directly to the museum since the early 1990s. We have a big job ahead to catalog the large Harvey Mack Collection, Forest Service property under the Museum’s care. The number of items we have cataloged to date are: Objects 2,859; Photographs 3,516, Archive Folders 2,511 and Library (published books, Research reports etc.) 4,777.

Our largest Museum operating expense is caring for and cataloging historical items. In 2005 we spent a total of \$23,738 for curation (28% of all expenses). Of the total, \$21,700 was for salary and \$2,050 was for supplies.

We purchase acid free file folders for the archives (\$ 13.35 / 100); archive boxes (\$3.85 each) and library boxes (\$3.47 each). In addition we place each photograph and slide into a protective sleeve.



One Section of the Missoula Repository

Your unrestricted donations and dues support our work of caring for and cataloging historic papers, books, photographs and historical objects in the repository.

Missing Address:

The current address of Jim Brewer is needed. His last address was Parachute, Colorado. Members — Please contact the Museum office if you know Mr. Brewer’s address.



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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 on complementary issues of the newsletter.



Capital Campaign Donation and Pledge Card

National Museum of Forest Service History, P.O. Box 2772
Missoula, MT 59806-2772

Donor Name(s): _____ Address _____

City: _____ State: ____ Zip: _____ Daytime Ph.: _____

I / We enclose a gift of \$ _____

I / We pledge a total gift of \$ _____

Pledge Payment Schedule:

1) Date _____ \$ _____ 3) Date _____ \$ _____

2) Date _____ \$ _____ 4) Date _____ \$ _____

Please pay pledges by December 31, 2008

Gifts and pledges may be paid by cash/check or by gifting securities (Stocks and bonds). For securities, please call the Museum Office (406 541-6374) or write the Museum Office for transfer instructions. In accordance with IRS regulations, **your gift is fully tax-deductible.**

All donators will be recognized in a commemorative booklet available at the Museum. Donors giving \$1,000 or more will be recognized on the Wall of Honor in the Museum lobby.