



National Museum of Forest Service History Newsletter

Volume 20, Number 4

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Four Generations of Service

By Irl Everest

Irl graduated from Oregon State in 1966 with a bachelors in Entomology and Forestry. Then he served on five forests in Region 5: Shasta-Trinity, Tahoe, San Bernardino, Sequoia, and Sierra. He had positions as Forester, Timber Management Officer, Rights-of-Way Forester, Resource Officer and District Ranger. He retired in 1998 in Weaverville, CA.. He now lives in Weaverville, CA.

This story of two families spans four generations of working for the U.S. Forest Service. It started in 1906 with Wilbur Huestis who eventually becomes a Forest Supervisor and continues today with his great grand nephew, Loren Everest (Fig. 2), a Fishery Program Manager. It's a story of personal dedication and family tragedy associated with the Forest Service way of life. During this time span technology has gone from the diamond hitch to the Global Positioning System (GPS).

Our story starts with Wilbur Huestis, the grandson of a miner on the Trinity River in northern California. Wilbur began his career in 1906 at the age of 36, on the Trinity National Forest, District [Region] 5 as a Forest Guard. He was a District Ranger on the Big Bar District in 1907. The 1910 census lists him as Deputy Forest Supervisor on the Trinity. He became Supervisor on the Trinity in 1911. In 1918 he transferred to the Klamath Forest where he was stationed in Yreka as Forest Supervisor. By 1922 he moved to the Regional office in San Francisco with a position in roads management. He retired from the regional office in 1940.

Harry Everest (Fig. 1 and Fig. 3) had come over from England seeking his fortune in the Trinity County gold mines. He met Wilbur's sister, Ida, at a dance in Junction City and he was never the same again. Wilbur approached his brother-in-law, Harry Everest, and said "Harry, this Forest Service looks like a good outfit to work for. You ought to join." So Harry took the Forest Ranger examine at the age of 34 in April of 1908. The ranger's exam was divided into three parts: practical questions, field tests, and experience. For an applicant to qualify they had to obtain an average percentage of 70. Harry scored 82.5 on practical questions, 88 on the field test, and 65 on experience for an average of 77.15 passing the exam. After passing his ranger's exam he was appointed Forest Guard on May 1, 1908 in



Fig. 1. Harry Everest, District Ranger, Hayfork, Trinity National Forest, CA. circa 1930

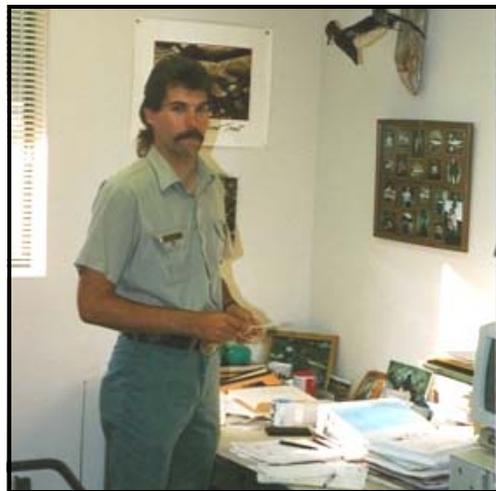


Fig. 2. Loren Everest, Fisheries Biologist, Mount Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest, WA. 2008



National Museum of Forest Service History

A Nonprofit Corporation

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The President's Report

By Gray Reynolds

The museum co-chairmen Max Peterson and Bob Model initiated our capital campaign in Portland, Oregon in September, 2004 with a goal of \$6 million. Since then, the goal has been increased to \$10 million to accommodate the escalating construction costs to build the museum building, to fund the exhibits, and to provide a \$2 million endowment for maintenance and operations of the museum. Currently the campaign has raised \$1,164,959 .

The campaign organization was increased in 2008 by establishing a National Director-Larry Gadt and Regional Coordinators Dave Wright R-1, Bjorn Dahl R-2, Dick Smith R-4, Jerry Gause R-5, Steve Mealey R-6, Dave Jolly R-8, Tom Hamilton R-9, and John Sandor R-10. They will be making contacts with potential donors in their areas of responsibility and coordinating with Larry Gadt on national contacts.

The short term effort is to raise \$2.8 million by March 2009 so construction can begin on the museum building. The water and sewer infrastructure construction was completed in 2006. The national economic situation is bringing hardship to everyone, but we are contacting business and individuals who have a long history with the Forest Service and hoping they will help fund this important project.

I ask all who have worked for the Forest Service, state and private forestry organizations and other national resource agencies to become members of the museum and to make a donation to the museum. Any contribution is helpful and will go a long way towards making this museum dream a reality.

I was invited by Chief Kimball to attend a reception in the chief's office with the National Leadership Team in early September. This provided me the opportunity to speak to members of the Forest Service leadership about the museum and request their membership in this national campaign. R-1 Regional Forester Tom Tidwell is providing strong support in Region 1.

Jim Bedwell, Director of Recreation, Heritage and Wilderness Resources has been named the Washington Office contact for the museum. He was recently in Missoula and spent time with Dave Stack becoming familiar with the museum and the capital campaign. We look forward to Jim's assistance.

In summary, memberships and potential donors are necessary to make this project successful. If you are not a member, please give it serious consideration and understand that it is your agency's history that will be on display when this museum opens to the public. Your support is welcomed.

While the campaign proceeds, major progress continues to be made in finalizing the conceptual exhibit plan with the objective of the museum being affiliated with the Smithsonian organization.

Museum Booth at Reno Meeting

Larry Cabodi and Elise Tuma (right) and Dick Smith and Dave Stack spent time during the Nov. 5-7 Society of American Foresters Convention talking with people about the museum and asking them to become members.

Many people stopped by the booth to visit and pickup brochures.





Fig. 3. Ranger Harry Everest at site of DeHavilland plane crash, Trinity National Forest, CA. 1925

Harrison Gulch on the Yolla Bolla District, Trinity National Forest. He became Assistant Forest Ranger Jan. 1, 1909 with a salary of \$900 per year. In May of 1913 he and the family moved from Harrison Gulch to Hayfork where he was promoted to District Ranger. He remained there until poor health in 1934 forced him to retire.

As District Ranger of the Hayfork District on the Trinity National Forest, Harry Everest had a large responsibility of implementing a grazing program. It would take about a week for him and his assistant to cover the district on horseback. During his travels he would also evaluate the applications for homesteads. Forest fires were a constant challenge and he was eager to use any of the latest tools in detection and suppression of fires. After World War I the Army Air Corps was willing to do aerial surveys. On Oct. 3, 1925 an Army reconnaissance flight was underway with the pilot P.A. Andert, mechanic Ben Torey, and Harry Everest aboard. As the plane, a DeHavilland, was gaining speed for the takeoff some local cows ran out of a draw in the path of the airplane. The pilot swerved and tried a premature takeoff. The plane was six feet off the ground when it hit an oak tree, but all survived with minor injuries (Fig. 3). The plane was taken apart, put in a truck and taken to San Diego for repairs.

Harry and Ida entertained several guests associated with Forest Service business. Ida (Fig 5 page 5) was not only a gracious host and mother she was also the first Civil Service switchboard operator on the Trinity Forest. She continued in that capacity until she was directed to retire. She was directed by A.G. Brenneis to retire because at the age of 70 it was a government requirement for employees of her classification. She enjoyed the responsibility and power of the switchboard and she didn't want to quit.

One of the guests of Harry and Ida's was William B. Greeley, the third Chief of the Forest Service from 1920-1928. Ida saved some hand written notes from Chief Greeley thanking her for her hospitality. Ida and Wilbur's brother,

Charles was an unemployed gold miner from Alaska so Ida wrote a personal note to Chief Greeley seeking employment for Charles. In a pencil written note Chief Greeley assured her he would keep the matter confidential and follow up on it. Charles later got a job on a road crew working for the Klamath Forest in Happy Camp.

Part of Wilbur Huestis' responsibilities for roads management in the Regional Office was the oversight of bridge construction. A bridge had been constructed across the Trinity River at Hawkins Bar. On March 7, 1931, Wilbur went to look at this newly completed plank bridge with his son Harry. Some heavy equipment was crossing the bridge to be used for constructing a road on the other side of bridge. It was a truck carrying part of a 30-ton gas shovel. Wilbur's son, Harry, being a little impetuous at the age of 29 jumped onto the back of the truck. Wilbur with a camera in hand was taking pictures of the proceedings when the truck reached the middle of the bridge the planking gave way and cables snapped and the truck crashed through the bridge into the river. When workers rushed down to the scene of the disaster, they found Harry pinned under the wreckage. He had been killed instantly.

Both Wilbur Huestis and Harry Everest had four sons each. Wilbur's sons were Harry, the oldest, who was killed in the tragic bridge accident, then Kenneth, George and Edward all of whom worked for the Forest Service at one time or another. Edward had a career of 34 years as an engineer. Harry and Ida raised their four sons in Harrison Gulch and Hayfork. All four sons worked for the Forest Service at one time or another. James (Fig. 4) a carpenter and worked with the Civilian Conservation Corps. Charles had a variety of jobs as a fireman, and trail crewman, a



Fig. 4. James Everest, carpenter, (second from right) working on CCC construction project, Trinity National Forest, circa 1935.

Timber Framing Posts Coming from Tree Farms

By **Matt Bacon**

Currently a student of history, University of Montana and former Forest Service Firefighter.

Good progress is being made in acquiring many of the posts that will be used in the timber frame constructed lobby of the museum. Our objective is to acquire posts that come from lands with ties to the Forest Service. Each post will come with a story that can be shared with museum visitors to give them an understanding of the history of the species and the place it came from. As a part of this effort two private tree farms have responded by donating posts. They will help us tell the important story about the Forest Service State and Private Program and its relationship with State Foresters.

The **Hughes Tree Farm** in California will be donating a Sugar Pine and an Incense Cedar post. John Hughes, retired Deputy Regional Forester for the Northern Region, is currently managing the family tree farm. The Hughes tree farm has been in Hughes family ownership since 1942. John's father and brothers operated a sawmill that produced finished lumber in Placer County, California for many years. His father sold part of the business in 1968 but kept some of the timberland.

The Hughes Tree Farm has had several State/Federal cost-share projects, starting in 1980 with a reforestation project. They are presently completing a Federal/State/Local fuels reduction grant to prepare a fuel break that will cover 100 acres on a major ridge.

The **Thomson Tree Farm** in Orford, New Hampshire will be donating both a Sugar Maple and a Red Spruce post to our efforts. The Sugar Maple will show the marks left from the historical production of maple sugar and syrup. This combined with some antique taps and sap



Tapping Sugar Maple Tree, Monterey, VA, 1979

Tree Farms A Cooperative Relationship

By **Glenn Rosenholm**

Public affairs specialist for the U.S. Forest Service State & Private Forestry, Northeastern Area, Durham, NH.

Editors Note: *In working on various museum projects we often find ourselves facing questions. One such question we recently encountered regarded the historical connections between the Forest Service and the American Tree Farm System. We asked ourselves this question as we began working with a couple of private tree farmers in our effort to acquire posts for the timber frame portion of the museum. In order to answer this question we turned to Glenn Rosenholm.*

After a contentious and bumpy start together in the early 1940s, the U.S. Forest Service and the American Tree Farm System (ATFS) have since enjoyed a long-standing cooperative relationship for more than half a century.



During the early years following its founding in 1941, the ATFS people asked whether the public sector, private sector or industry should take charge of the country's privately owned forests. "The government favored a regulatory approach, while industry preferred cooperation," said American Tree Farm System Former Director (1982-1992) Lester DeCoster. The same people who squabbled for years eventually realized that nobody was winning the argument and they needed to work together, he added.

Their mutually supportive efforts began with the goal of preventing forest fires in the 1950s. Eventually their collaboration, made in conjunction with state foresters, moved into building state forestry programs, and eventually forest stewardship.

Retired Forest Service State and Private Forestry Landowner Assistance Specialist Chris Holmes said landowner assistance programs have changed throughout the decades. "There have been a number of title changes over the years, but that relationship between the state forestry agencies and Forest Service State and Private Forestry in support of tree farmers and forest landowners has remained pretty solid," he said.

Today, there are a few Forest Service programs that are helpful for Tree Farmers. "The Timber Tax Program is the number one service that stands out in value and importance, and also because no one else is doing anything in that arena," said University of Wisconsin Forestry Out-

buckets will allow us to tell an interesting story of the American Forest Industry.

Tom Thomson and his wife Sheila own 2,800 acres of timberland in Vermont and New Hampshire. Tom and his two brothers purchased 125 acres of timberland in 1956. Tom was eleven years old at the time. The Thomson tree farm is a show place for good forest stewardship practices. He has hosted visitors from around the world and has worked closely with The New Hampshire State Forester and Forest Service State and Private Program managers to achieve mutual interest objectives. His efforts as a lifetime leader and advocate for conservation and sustainable forestry earned him a National Arbor Day Foundation Good Steward Award in 2006

The Thompson Tree Farm has benefited from state and federal assistance. A federal grant was received through the State Forester to do a new Forest management plan after an ice storm damaged 900 acres of the tree farm in 1998. Arlyn Perkey, who retired from the US Forest Service (State and Private Forestry) in Morgantown, West Virginia, visited the tree farm to view the ice damage, leading him to write the article, *Dealing with Loss on your Tree Farm*.

These posts will give museum visitors a unique way to explore the history and uses of a wide spectrum of timber species from across the United States. They will provide the visitors a glimpse of the role the Forest Service has played in the development of these species and in supplying them to a growing nation. Finally, they will give us another way to demonstrate the many contributions and services the Forest Service has provided across the coun-



Fig. 5. Ida Everest, first telephone switchboard operator, Trinity National Forest, CA. circa 1930s.

reach Specialist John Duplissis. The timber tax program helps forest landowners to understand how to deal with income expenses, and to a lesser degree, estate planning, he added. "Part of it is the tech transfer side, another part is the publications, as well as programs that we develop at a local level," he said. Many Tree Farmers also participate in the Forest Stewardship Program. This Forest Service program is administered by State Forestry Agencies and offers forest landowners assistance for managing their forests for multiple benefits over the long term.

Now the Forest Service and the American Tree Farm System are working on a memorandum of understanding. The interagency agreement would establish mutual recognition between Stewardship and Tree Farm certifications. "Many States, such as Washington and Wisconsin already have such agreements in place," said Forest Stewardship Program Manager Karl R. Dalla Rosa. "Our intention is to support this cooperation at a national level so that landowner participants can derive maximum benefit from having a Forest Stewardship or Tree Farm plan."

lookout and telephone line repairman. Fred worked in fire prevention and with the CCC's, Wilbur was a fire guard.

Harry and Ida had six grandchildren who worked for the Forest Service in various capacities. Their son James had three sons, the oldest James, was a surveyor, then Jack and Richard worked on trail crews. Their second son Charles had two boys, Irl who worked in various capacities from Forester to District Ranger on five forests in Region 5 for 34 years and Glen who is currently working for the Pacific Southwest Range and Experiment station. Harry and Ida's third son Fred, whose son was also named Fred had a distinguished career first as a Fishery Biologist in Region 6 and then was a Fishery Scientist with Pacific Northwest Research Station retiring in 1999 after 27 years.

The tradition continues with Loren Everest, (Fig. 2, page 1) son of Irl. Loren started with a summer job as a Biological Technician in Hoonah, Alaska, in 1992, then working his way up to the current Fisheries Program Manager position for the Mount Baker - Snoqualmie National Forest in Region 6.

Welcome New Members

08/09/2008 to 11/14/2008

Robert A. Baker
Bill Bustin
Franklin Close
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Scott H. Phillips
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Members may now receive their newsletters electronically. Just email nationalforest@montana.com and ask to receive your newsletter via email. This is a cost savings to the museum. **Remember** — please notify the Museum when your email address changes.

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Bill Hagenstein
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James W. Payne
Wyman Schmidt
Robert P. Spivey
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Capital Campaign Donations

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Lewis Kearney
Mike Kerrick
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Duane Packer
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Marshall E. Spencer
Robert P. Spivey

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DJ&A Engineers, In-Kind
Forestry Suppliers, Inc., John R. Gwaltney
National Ski Areas Assn., Michael Berry
Robwen, Inc, John Grindley
Wildfire, Juhee Cha



Volunteers Complete History Display

Dale Petersen, a museum member from Ferndale, WA, and other volunteers have completed an interesting poster on the history of the Beartooth Highway in Montana and Wyoming.

To the left is a thumbnail picture of the 4-foot x 7-foot poster. It contains maps, photos, old literature and nine text blocks that interpret the history and what there is to see along the scenic drive. Volunteers gathered the materials and with a graphics designer prepared the attractive poster. One item on the poster explains the work of the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) on the road during the 1930s. A half-size poster was given to the Beartooth Ranger District in Red Lodge, MT at the eastern end of the Beartooth Highway. The full size poster was on display in the Regional Office in Missoula.

If you have passion about Forest Service history or have a collection of materials (or know where they are), make known your idea through the Newsletter and perhaps other volunteers will want to join you. Follow some museum guidelines and you can be off and running. The Museum office can provide helpful suggestions about how to proceed with your Forest Service history idea.

Capital Campaign Donation and Pledge Card
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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, 2009

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

**New Addition of Museum's
Repository**

The carbide lamp (below), donated by Jack Godden of Milwaukee, WI, is an example of recently donated artifacts. The lamps, customarily used by coal miners, were used by early Forest Service firefighters in the southern Appalachian Mountains.

Cataloging is current for items donated directly to the museum since the early 1990s. More than 20,000 items we have cataloged to date. We have a big job ahead to catalog the large Harvey Mack Collection, Forest Service property under the Museum's care.



**Capital Campaign
Gifts**

As of 10/31/2008

\$10 Million Goal

<i>CATEGORY</i>	<i>AMOUNT</i>
Members & Friends	\$ 376,161
Pledge Balance	69,620
Organizations	113,500
Foundations	20,000
Government	525,000
In-Kind Gifts	28,489
Endowments	32,189
TOTAL	\$ 1,164,959



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Family	\$55 or more	Organization	\$100 or more
Student	\$15 or more	Life	\$1000 or more
Contributing	\$150 or more		



CCC Boys with fire tools and packs, Bridger-Teton National Forest, WY, 1930s. Forest Service photograph from Camp Cooking, 100 Years, page 131.