

July 2004

The Transition

Issue No. 8

Of and For Former N. C. State Park Employees

With this issue we have another retirement celebration to report! When I began my career with N.C. State Parks, there were thirteen state parks, all listed on a book of State Park matches. I began my career during a period when many Superintendents and Rangers were retiring from the system and state parks were being added. Now my ?generation? of employees has reached or will soon reach retirement age and leave the system. A new generation of employees has begun to succeed us; I know that we all hope that they have as rewarding and enjoyable career as we have had.

Read all About It!!!

**The Second North Carolina State Parks Former Employee Reunion
(S.N.C.S.P. F.E.R.)**

remains scheduled for August 7

at the Falls Lake S.R.A. Rolling View Community Building.

See additional details and maps on the following pages!

[Click here for more information.](#)

Don?t forget that you can read all about it on the web at <http://www.luggage-and-leather.com/transition.htm> .

Let?s all thank Kevan Burnett for lending us his web page.

Thanks also to Nelson Chadwick for his assistance with The Transition photographs!

Also, don?t forget to check **your** information on the list of former employees.

I have noticed that some of the e-mail addresses and telephone numbers are incorrect.

And send in more names as you think of them. [Click here for list.](#)

As a reminder, a small donation to help with the cost of paper and postage continues to be much appreciated!

Get in touch and stay in touch!

John L. Sharpe

News Updates

Cedric Squires reports (3-15-04) that ?Although long trip riding is still my problem, I have gotten back to working out 3 hrs./week with light weights. Have not missed a workout since I started Dec. 1, 2003. Have improved my mobility and feel a lot more like I do now than I did in recent years.?

?I am enclosing some nonsense; maybe you can pick out a few that you like to include as page fillers if you need them. I figure us old timer need all the laughs we can get. As Clyde Miller used to say ?Life is hard-and then you die!?

?Have ?supervised? capitol improvements completed on my 160+ year old farm house--new guttering, new vinyl siding, all new thermal windows and all new 25 year bonded finish metal roofing. Most paid for from savings from wood carving sales for 20+ years. Was to have been for my wife to be comfy in her old age--no longer needed. Wish you all the best.?

Some selected truisms provided by Cedric:

- If you don?t pay your exorcist, you get repossessed!
- How do you make antifreeze in the winter? Steal her blankets!
- Show me a person in denial and I?ll show you a person in Egypt standing up to their necks in a river!
- A circus lion won?t eat a clown because they taste funny!
- A toothless termite went into a bar and asked ? Is the bartender here??

Thanks Cedric!

Jay Wild became a former employee on June 30 and enjoyed a terrific retirement celebration on June 27. Eighty-five to ninety people attended the get-together at the Hwy. 221 access community building. Wonderful live music and delicious food began the celebration. Lewis Ledford, Susan Tillotson, Walt Gravley, Phil McKnelly, and Tom Wells congratulated J. on doing such a fine job at New River/Mount Jefferson during his 24 year tenure there. Pam Lawrence, Jay?s Administrative Assistant and Jeff Matheson, one of Jay?s Rangers, roasted Jay with a very funny skit, portraying Jay as a very old Superintendent still waiting on his retirement papers to be approved.



Several alumni attended including Judy Warren, Robert Skinner, Tommy Wagoner, Joe Franklin, Tommy Johnson, David Kellum, Roy Rogers, Jim Hallsey, Leon Carter, and John Sharpe.O:P>

We all welcome Jay into the ranks of former state park employees and wish him the best of luck!

Those Who Will Be Missed:

Hazel Smith, former Administrative Assistant of Singletary Lake, died on June 17. Hazel was a very fine lady and a dear friend to many of us. She provided much needed guidance to me while I was Superintendent of Singletary Lake. I did not have any idea of how to begin dealing with the mountain of paperwork and the ornery, to put it mildly, pier owners of White Lake and Lake Waccamaw. She led me through the processes and the histories of the pier permits helping me with insight in to the personalities of the permittees. I don't think that any of us who knew Hazel will ever forget her.