

The Transition

Of and For Former N.C. State Park Employees

July, 2010

Issue No. 19

Included in this issue is the notice of the passing of Cedric Squires. I only knew Cedric, for a few years when he was still working for parks. He had a great sense of humor. For those of you who didn't know Cedric or who didn't know him very long, you may wish to read some of the early Transitions which contain a lot of Cedric's humor. Check out the early Transitions in the I Recall web site <http://149.168.1.195/irecall/index.html> .

Mark your calendars now! The Eighth Annual Former Employee Reunion will be held at **Jones Lake State Park**. It will be on the second weekend in November, Saturday, **November 13**. Be there or be...remembered as not being there!

Get in Touch and Stay in Touch!

John L. Sharpe

News Updates

From Leon Carter

3-15-10

Received word yesterday that Fran, wife of Jim Stevens, died yesterday morning. Funeral will be next Saturday, have got to get all members of family to NC. Do not have final arrangements yet, will pass them on as soon as possible. Leon

3-16-10

Frances Stevens, wife of, Jim Stevens, a Former Director of State Parks.

Service will be held at Fairmont United Methodist Church, 2501 Clark Ave, Raleigh, NC 27607. 11:00 AM Saturday March 20. Family will receive friends at the Church one hour before the service.

Cards may be sent to daughter, Carolyn Hobgood, 108 Covey Lane, Clayton, NC 27520.

Contributions may be made to The Fairmont United Church or to the Friends of State Parks.

Fran was one of the sweetest people I have ever known. I have heard many times, "If you have met Fran, you Love her."

6-10-10

Where is Todd, NC

On June 8th my son Rodney stopped by asking if I knew where Todd, NC is, it was not on his NC Map. He has to haul some construction equipment for a NEW bridge, there. Told him it was in NW corner of state between Boone and W. Jefferson. Got my NC map out and there it was. He asked if I had ever been there, Told him NO, but one of our former employee's Cecil Widener lives up there on Railroad Grade Road, which is on the old roadbed of a abandon railroad.

Night of June 9th he called and said he was on the way home. He said Railroad Grade Road must have been a narrow gauge RR. He had travel several miles on it, and it was so narrow, cars meeting had to slow down to pass, he had an 11 foot wide load on the trailer, thank goodness there wasn't much traffic.

He said after leaving US 421, every time he turned the road was narrower The bridge to be constructed was not RR Grade Rd. The old bridge was so narrow his load would have been to wide to cross it. He said the load limit of the old bridge was so low, he would not have tried it anyway.

I ask? Cecil how far up that hollow do you live?

From Becky Haygood (3-9-10)

Dear John,

Wanted to thank you so much for the writings from Janet and Scott about their adventures in Haiti. You were so kind to include me. I smile sometimes and I cry sometimes as I read every word. I am sure Janet will write a book someday about these adventures. How brave they are. Amazing.

THANKS AGAIN -

Becky

[You are welcome Becky. Good to hear from you. JLS]

From Nelson Chadwick (3-09-10)

Hi John,

I'm doing OK. My hand is still "iffy", at least part of the graft has died. So long as the rest of the bone does not collapse the Dr. tells me it will be all right. He said it could even grow back in say 10 to 20 years. I'm not holding my breath that long. Susan was in the hospital this fall. She had liver infection. It actually stemmed from a problem with the muscle that controls gall storage in the gall bladder. On top of that (right after surgery on her gall duct) she got a kidney stone. Her back still bothers her a lot.

It's great that Ginger is teaching, Susan taught 8th grade English one year, and hated it. Kids in that grade have a bit too much attitude to suit her. Susan quit teaching, this fall she is staying home to watch our new grand daughter. Our oldest daughter and her husband had been trying to get a baby for a year or so. September 5th they finally got their dream girl. She just turned 6 months this week.

We got three snow storms back to back. 2 ft, 1 ft, 2 ft. We had 4 and 5 foot snow banks that came up over the top of the porch floors. PS I hate snow.

Mom is doing well for an 86 year old. Still mows her own yard does 2 vegetable gardens. She only lets me mow if she's sick. We'll probably have to help her with the gardens this year as she is having some problems with the strength in her legs.

I'd love to see all the old park friends to, but I am on the road so much I rarely travel outside of work. As a matter of fact I haven't even been able to take a real vacation in the last 19 years. The plants I work on "CAN'T" go down, so I'm on call 24/7/365. Fortunately though I do like my job; most of the time anyway. I haven't even been going with Susan to visit her mom. That changed recently because her mom is having vision problems and can't drive. So I went down to get and take her for both Thanksgiving and Christmas. The first trip was in that blizzard on Dec 18th. Fun trip, took over 15 hours to go from here to Raleigh.

I just turned 60 the end of last year. My back, legs and neck hurt most of the time, can't see without glasses, have all kinds of cholesterol and blood pressure problems in addition to the bum hand. Isn't old age great!

Cumberland is about 200 miles (one way) from Greensboro. We are on the opposite side of the Chesapeake Bay over near Delaware. In fact, I could walk to Delaware in about 40 minutes from my house, not that I WOULD walk it, it's just that close.

Anyway, we are enjoying being grandparents, and I'm also enjoying no more college payments. All 3 kids out of college with no debt, that's a great feeling to have all that paid for.

Tell everyone hi for me to.

Nelson

[Good to hear from you and I hope things improve. Sounds like a vacation would really help! JLS]

From Linda Milton (3-11-10)

Just thought I'd let you know that Larry has broken his ankle and laid up for a while. He was going around the house and slipped in a wet spot in the yard, one foot went north and the other went south. I'll take him next week for x rays again and if everything is doing well I hope they will take the cast off and put him in a boot. Him and crutches is not a good thing. This is bad on old bones.

Linda

[Larry, I hope that those "old bones" have healed by now. JLS]

From Judy Warren (3-12-10)

Thanks so much John. I was able to read this. It sounds like everyone had a great time at the reunion. I'm sorry that I couldn't be there. Hopefully, I can make this year's. I've been pretty busy keeping up with the two granddaughters (ages 7 and 2). It seems that my time is not my own even now. But I wouldn't trade spending this time with them for anything. Love to all, Judy

[Judy, Good to hear from you! We'd really hope that you can make it to the reunion this year! JLS]

From Paul Donnelly (3-17-10)

John,

Thanks for your time and effort in putting together the Transition.

It was neat to read the letters from some of the retiree's and to see the pictures that Jay Wild and others sent in.

With all of the Coastal Cartel having retired and quite a few others that I know throughout the years, it nice to be able to keep up with how folks are doing.

Keep up the good work.

Thanks,

Paul Donnelly, Park Superintendent

Hammocks Beach

[Thanks for your interest in The Transition and it's good to hear an encouraging word!
JLS]

From Sue Phillips (3-18-10)

Here is the obit for Brownie Southerland's Mom, thought you may want to share:

Hazel Davis Southerland, 94, Beautancus Road, died early Tuesday morning (March 16) at home.

Funeral services will be held Friday at 2 p.m. at Bear Marsh Missionary Baptist Church, with the Rev. Robert Ellis and the Rev. Millard Bounds officiating. Burial will be in Maplewood Cemetery in Mount Olive.

Born in Duplin County, she was the daughter of the late William Emmett and Rena Butts Davis, wife of the late Leslie Brown Southerland and mother of the late Becky S. Kriger.

Mrs. Southerland is survived by three sons, Brownie Southerland of Seven Springs, Leonard Southerland of Mount Olive and Kent Southerland of Mount Olive; a foster daughter, Eva Sosnowski of Clarksdale Ariz.; seven grandchildren; 10 great grandchildren; and a great-great-grandchild.

The family will greet friends Thursday from 6 to 8 p.m. at Bear Marsh Missionary Baptist Church and at other times at the home.

Memorial gifts may be directed to the Bear Marsh Missionary Baptist Church, c/o Wanda Carter, 1649 Beautancus Road, Mount Olive, N.C., 28365.

The family would like to express its gratitude to all her caregivers, especially Sharon Hardy, Bessie Hollingsworth and Paulette Mitchell.

Shumate-Faulk Funeral Home is serving the family and online condolences may be directed to www.shumate-faulk.com.

[Thanks for sharing Sue. JLS]

From Sue Phillips (3-18-10)

Thought I would also let you know that our daughter, Leigh, has her 3rd child, and this one is a boy, born March 16th. Hopefully they will get home today, we have been keeping their 2 girls, Ava age 5 and Halli age 3--as you can guess, we have our hands full but loving every minute of it.

[Sue, great news! Cliff now has a boy to play with! JLS

New Additions

Alan Alligood , Maintenance Mechanic at Cliffs of the Neuse, celebrated his retirement on May 10. Congratulations Alan! I suspect that leaving the maintenance position with state Parks will NOT mean putting down the hammer and wrench for a long, enjoyable while! Let us know how things are going from time to time.

Ned Reynolds, Maintenance Mechanic at Lake Waccamaw, retired from State Parks on January 10. Congratulations Ned! Keep your State Parks friends in mind while you enjoy your retirement and let us know how things are going with you. I'm sure that you will not let the hammer and saw get rusty, however.

Those Who Will Be Missed

From Lewis Ledford (6-4-10)

Leon,

Toni Phillips let me know this evening of the recent death of **Cedric Squires**.

Attached is the obituary I found in the Stanly News and Press. He retired shortly before I started with parks. I regret that I will be unable to attend the service on Sunday.

<http://thesnaponline.com/obituaries/x1358971415/C-P-Squires>

And here's the one from Kansas City, MO.

<http://www.legacy.com/obituaries/kansascity/obituary.aspx?n=c-p-squires&pid=143267418&fhid=6339>

Toni also advised that there is picnic and gathering of family and friends planned on Sunday following the service at the picnic area at Morrow Mountain (shelter and area at the top of the mountain).

Please share with the retirees and others you think appropriate. I tried also to contact John Sharpe but did not reach him.

Good to talk with you tonight.

Lewis

June 4, 2010

C.P. Squires

By Jim Lisk, Editor

CNHI

Thursday, June 3, 2010 — C.P. (Cedric Pridgen) Squires, 86, a resident of the Missouri Veterans Home in Cameron, Mo., passed away May 31, 2010.

He was born May 1, 1924, in Wake Forest, the son of Dr. Reston Memory Squires and Ethel May (Carroll) Squires. C.P. became an Eagle Scout in 1938 and served in the U.S. Navy on the U.S.S. Boxer during World War II. C.P. retired in 1975 after serving 25 years as the superintendent at Morrow Mountain State Park in Albemarle. He was a former member of Stony Hill United Methodist Church, Albemarle.

He was preceded in death by his wife of 52 years, Emily Jane Bodenheimer.

Survivors include his children, Susannah Ravens-wing (husband — Eric) of Germanton, and Reid Squires (wife — Barbara) of Kansas City, Mo.; eight grandchildren, Chris, Blake, Morgan, Cameron, Chris, Jessica, Ryan and Megan; and two great-grandchildren, Tessalyn and Meredith.

A memorial service celebrating C.P.'s life will be held at 2 p.m. Sunday, June 6, at Hartsell Funeral Home's Lefler Memorial Chapel, 522 N. Second St., Albemarle. The Rev. Lanny Lancaster of Stony Hill United Methodist Church will officiate.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions are suggested to the Alzheimer's Association or the American Cancer Society.

Hartsell Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements: (704) 983-1188.

Online condolences at www.hartsellfh.com.

