



# National Museum of Forest Service History

## Annual Report

July 1, 2003 – June 30, 2004

We are proud of our role in preserving the traditions and history of the U. S. Forest Service. We have accomplished important projects that position the Museum toward the future. Please review the Museum goals and accomplishments. A more detailed version is available upon request. We appreciate your thoughts and comments.

**Gray Reynolds**  
President

### Goals

- Advocate a strong Forest Service History program.
- Provide programs to preserve agency history.
- Conduct a Capital Fundraising Campaign.
- Membership Growth.
- Financial Support.
- Public and Agency Visibility.

### Program

1) Construct a museum and national headquarters on a 36 acre site in Missoula MT. Staff and volunteers use the building. The museum will be fun and educational for visitors. *Accomplishments:*

- ❖ Reconstruction of the historic Bungalow cabin was completed at the Museum site.
- ❖ Opened the Bungalow Cabin for the Aerial Fire Depot 50th Anniversary June 19th. Visitors saw the "*They Hired Out to be Tough*" exhibit.

2) Develop a national repository in Missoula to augment other Forest Service repositories across the country to care for Forest Service artifacts.

*Accomplishments:*

- ❖ The Museum repository has 2,097 historic objects and many archival records.
- ❖ Signed an agreement to transfer the Harvey Mack collection of historic objects from the Angeles National Forest to Missoula.
- ❖ Began cataloging the archives.
- ❖ Sent historical photographs for displays at the 40th Anniversary of Job Corps in North Carolina.
- ❖ Board members John Drake and Dave Stack met with Chief Dale Bosworth and Review Team to recommend improvements to the Forest Service history program and to increase the number of repositories nationally.



**Bungalow Cabin Completed**



**Volunteer Bill Fischer cataloging archives. A valuable but time intensive & expensive project**



**Historian Char Miller**



National  
Museum of  
Forest Service  
History

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**Board of Directors**

Steven Anderson  
Roger R Bay  
Gary G Brown  
Perry Brown  
Pat Corts  
Tom Coston  
John Drake  
Allen L. Hearst  
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Douglas R. Leisz  
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R. Max Peterson  
Jack Puckett  
Gray F. Reynolds  
John Sandor  
Lynn Sprague  
Dave Stack  
Jack Ward Thomas  
Robert D. Tokarczyk  
Roy Wenger

**Ex-Officio Directors**

Larry R. Payne  
Thomas Pettigrew, Jr.

**Financial Statement**

Jan.- Dec 2003

**Income**

Donations	28,918
Dues	22,580
Merchandise	1,681
Grants	17,862
Misc.	623
Total	71,663

**Expenses**

Artifacts	603
Capital Exp.	3,974
Exec Director	52,665
Misc.	3,496
Museum Site	2,063
Newsletter	2,549
Office	2,853
Utilities	3,232
Total	71,435

**Net Income** 228

**Program continued....**

3) Cooperate with other forest history sites across the country for the purpose of exchanging information, sharing artifacts and providing technical curation advice. Traveling exhibits, seminars and presentations of all types will be shared. *Accomplishments:*

❖ Signed an agreement with Region 4 to print and sell their cookbook, "Forest Service Camp Cooking 100 Years".

4) Offer conservation education to a national audience. *Accomplishments:*

❖ Cosponsoring with the Northern Region a lecture by the Gifford Pinchot historian Dr. Char Miller on September 29, 2004 at the University of Montana. This event is part of the 2005 centennial observance.

5) Honor people and groups who have contributed to the mission of the Forest Service. *Accomplishments:*

❖ 159 persons are now recognized in the Forest Service History Memorial.



Installing Memorial Grove Plaque

**Administration**

The Museum is a non-profit 501C(3) corporation. Current Membership is 619.

*Grants* – Received \$45,000 from the Forest Service to support care of artifacts, museum information and 2005 summer visitors program. We applied for a Max and Betty Swanson Foundation Grant of \$825 to support the Char Miller lecture.

*Capital Campaign* – President Gray Reynolds and Capital Campaign Committee co-chair Max Peterson and are developing plans to begin fundraising late 2004. The campaign goal is to raise \$3.0 million. We have asked the Montana Congressional delegation to sponsor a \$1.5 million appropriation for the museum. The Campaign Support Committee has a draft campaign information booklet ready for contracting and updated the museum site plan.

*Communications* – Established links with regional retiree groups around the country to exchange information. A quarterly newsletter is sent to members and friends

*Executive Director* – The Board of Directors did not renew Executive Director Frank McKinney's three-year employment contract that ended on August 6, 2004. The decision was based on the need to decrease administrative expenses and increase support for Museum programs. In the long-term the Board desires a position more focused on fundraising. Vice President Dave Stack will assume day-to-day management.

*Volunteers* – Volunteers are critical to the success of the Museum. Volunteers are working to catalog the archives, maintain the museum site and Bungalow Cabin, staff public displays, and write articles for the newsletter.