

Letters to the Editor

Dear Mr. Frasier (Gary),

Greetings from Olympia, Washington, in the rain belt, now turning to record snowfall for the ski resorts! I want to express my appreciation for the *Rangelands* magazine, a superior piece of literature with magnificent photography. My reason for writing you as an emeritus SRM member relates to my future subscription to *Rangelands* and membership status. I am not well, and the medical bills are being handled thanks to Federal Retirement and Medicare. I have resigned from 5 conservation organizations beginning with the Ecological Society of America. Memories flood in at this time! I reluctantly resign from our Society after reaching Emeritus status some years ago. It is a painful process but must be done to reduce stress as prescribed by an excellent internal medicine physician who has made a difference. I am limited in correction of a damaged left ventricle and the enlarged heart condition diagnosed by a cardiologist.

It's been a challenge and pleasure to serve the Society for Range Management as a former member in the Montana, New Mexico, Intermountain, and National Capitol Sections. Will continue in retirement to provide photography for monthly meetings of an SAF Chapter, as official photographer doing 3-panel displays. Hard to give up a love of photography. Believe that I remember seeing you in Boise, Idaho, at the February 2000 SRM National Convention. Dennis Phillipi and Jeff Mosley were other friends whom I met when active in the Intermountain Section in Montana. I will miss seeing them at future conventions.

Attended the University of Idaho Alumni reunion in Boise. Invited a former BIA forester from my staff at Rocky Boy's I. R. in Box Elder, Montana, who was serving as head of Fire Management for BIA in the Boise Interagency Fire Center. We enjoyed Joe and Agnes Helle's company and other former classmates. Dennis Child and Chuck Bonham, 2 good friends from National Capitol Section days (both were C.S.U. faculty), and I visited with students. I was the official photographer for the President's Breakfast at the Grove Hotel Ballroom. This honor was at the request of Dr. John Buckhouse, who was unable to attend that particular SRM Annual Convention due to family illness. While President of the Society for Range Management, John Buckhouse graciously consented in May 1997 to speak before a monthly meeting of my SW WA Chapter of the Society of American Foresters. I arranged his appearance. His topic was "Resolving Natural Resources Conflicts." I remember a great turnout of over 45 foresters, wildlife scientists, and a couple of range managers to hear John's message.

Back in February 1991, I completed my term as the Corresponding Secretary for the host National Capital Section of the SRM during the previous year. Our Host Section planning began at Reno, Nevada, during a snowstorm! After the Convention at the Marriott Hotel in Arlington, Virginia, I developed some photos for our National Headquarters staff. Some appeared in the Trailboss, I believe. Did you attend that Convention in Virginia Gary? Many photos taken on SRM Chapter field tours in the mid-80s while I was President of the Northern New Mexico Chapter are enjoyed today. We hosted the 1984 New Mexico State SRM Summer Meeting on the Jicarilla Apache Reservation in Dulce, New Mexico. On a field trip, the Conference attendees halted all vehicles to watch a mother grizzly bear and cub play on the other side of a forested ravine. Apache Mesa was the location. Today, I can enjoy subject matter in 51 albums, compiled in 5 western states, as I turn 76, and I regret very much the necessity to terminate my membership in an outstanding resources management and conservation organization internationally respected. Retirement isn't all bad, as I have resumed oil painting after a 30-year lapse. Good luck to SRM, to your staff, and to the dedicated membership practicing in all areas of range ecology and management. Will keep up correspondence with friends, as always.

Sincerely yours,

Henry W. Kipp
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