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Maine Department of Conservation

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PILOT DOUSES FIREMEN

Maine Forest Service Pilot Otis Gray demonstrated his skill in dropping water on forest fires out of a bucket attached to his helicopter by accurately dumping 250 gallons of water on a group of firefighters at a recent meeting of the Western Firemen's Association at the Norway Fire Station. According to Assistant District Ranger Harry Doughty, the MFS uses 3 helicopters of this type, one based in Greenville, one in Old Town, and one in Portage as well as a smaller helicopter with a 50-gallon capacity which is based in Portland. The firefighters from Oxford and Northern Cumberland County appeared quite impressed with the various patterns in which the water was dropped in the three demonstration runs made by Gray.

FORESTRY & WILDLIFE WORKSHOP

On September 17, a workshop featuring wildlife experts from throughout New England will be held at the Moosehorn National Wildlife Refuge Center in Calais. The classroom topic is to be forestry and wildlife management. The workshop's goal will be organizing and planning the use of land to grow trees and wildlife, with special emphasis on forest management of deer. In the day-long program will be a field trip to Moosehorn, where panelists will demonstrate how forest management can improve wildlife habitat. The workshop is sponsored by the Downeast International Chapter, Ruffed Grouse Society, the Small Woodlot Owners Association of Maine, UMO, Orono, the Downeast Resource Conservation and Development Committee, Georgia Pacific Corporation, and the Maine Forest Service. Chuck Hulsey, Forester for the M.F.S. in Jonesboro will be speaking. Pre-registration is required and the class is limited to 100, so act soon. Contact Greg Sepik, Moosehorn National Wildlife Refuge, Box X, Calais, 04619 or call 454-3521.

SOFTBALL NEWS

A 29-7 shelling of DEP extended the "Force's" winning streak to 6 games. DEP literally raised the white flag as darkness closed in with the DOC still at bat and threatening to score even more runs in the 6th inning. Earlier victories over the Bureau of Health and the Rehabilitation Loons by identical 14-11 scores have now boosted the team's record to 11 wins, 6 losses and 1 tie. The August 20 outing at Bang's Beach was a tremendous success, with everyone enjoying the fine weather and lobster bake ala chefs Tom Radsky and Don Moen. In the softball doubleheader, age and experience won out over youth and enthusiasm as the "over 30's" defeated the "under the hill" gang in both games. No one remembered the score, but the gray hairs proved that it's not important whether you win or lose, but whether or not you can go 14 innings on a hot day. To conclude the day's festivities, Dick Anderson and Tom Rumpf gave a demonstration of backwards canoeing on windy Messalonskee Lake.

PERSONNEL

Richard Marvin and Enid Jones are returning to the University of Rochester and the University of Maine at Orono respectively. Their help at the Maine Geological Survey this summer was greatly appreciated...Irene Hall has resigned to take a job with the Federal Government. Good luck Irene... Tambra Mulholland has resigned and will be working with her husband at the Augusta House of Pancakes...Doris Campbell and Louise Page have both returned temporarily to DOC to help out Administrative Services...Maureen Doyon has returned to work after a leave of absence...WELCOME BACK! Brenda Clowes has moved into the payroll office and will be working with Jo-Ann Choate on payrolls and Ron Burke has moved into the Bookkeeping office.

WEDDINGS - Eric Smith, Park Manager I at Eagle Island, and the former Laurie Johnson were married on August 20th. After a week in Bermuda, they have returned to their home on Bailey Island...Bob Webber, Laborer II at the Entomology Lab, was married on August 19 to Kim Bechard. They were married at the St. Andrews Church in Augusta and will be honeymooning in Florida in January.

ELECTION - Tim Hall, Lifeguard Coordinator for Parks & Recreation, has been elected as National Secretary of the United States Lifesaving Association, a professional organization of open-water Lifeguards with a current membership of about 7,000. Tim was elected by the Board of Directors of the USLA at its meeting in Long Beach, New York this August. The Maine State Lifesaving Association, a chapter of the USLA sponsors the State of Maine Lifesaving Championships each year. Lifeguards interested in membership may contact Tim at Bolton Hill in Augusta.

REMEMBER WHEN - The following stories appeared in past DOC NEWS and are sure to bring back a few memories:

SPORTS - 9/76 - The DOC softball team ended their 1976 season with only two losses. The team roster included Thomas (Shades) Radsky, who received the team's Most Coordinated Player Award, for his ability to hit, catch, run and slide while keeping hat, shades and cigarette in place; Charlie (Duck'em) Atwater who was awarded for his ability to avoid direct hits at the pitchers mound while preventing spillage of his beer; Gloria (Wind-Up) LeVasseur was awarded for receiving the most injuries which were unrelated to the game; Melanie (Fiddleheads) Lanctot, most enthusiasm before, during and after the games, and Clark (The Hustler) Granger who received the award for using the most energy... Roscoe Ryan returned from an eight-day hunting expedition in Alaska where he nabbed a 300 pound Alaskan goat, the average weight of which is 250 pounds...

LEFT BEHIND - 7/76 - Lew Allen was stranded alone in a northern Maine town while traveling to a public hearing with other LURC staff including Tom Radsky, Fred Todd and Brian Kent. It seems that after they had stopped for lunch, Lew disappeared from sight and the driver, Tom Radsky, assumed he had gotten into another one of the cars, so he drove away and headed towards Rangeley for the hearing. A short while later, the Augusta office received a frantic call from Lew asking for assistance in contacting the LURC car by radio. This radio message sparked a lot of interest from radio operators in the area and word traveled quickly that LURC "had lost its man".

BOMB SCARE - 9/79 - What turned out to be a WW II practice bomb threw quite a scare into employees at Popham Beach. The bomb washed ashore at Popham and was discovered by Park Manager, Ben Kreiton. It was removed by a demolition detachment from the Brunswick Naval Air Station.

RESCUES - 6/80 - Tom Skolfield and co-workers rescued a yearling doe from the cold waters of Sebago Lake when the doe had collapsed after swimming across one of the widest sections of the lake...Dan Bell and Bruce Hilton of Bradbury Mountain carefully assisted a skunk whose head had become stuck in a plastic yogurt container.

UNUSUAL FIRE REPORT - 1/76 - Ed Holman, Forest Ranger at Waldo, Southern Region, sent in a fire report which read, "It seems that they had a loose goose and were chasing it and one of the people involved may have been smoking and might have dropped a cigarette." The official cause of the fire was listed as "Smoking hunter".

AWARDS & WINNERS 7/76 - Fred Todd was given the Distinguished Service Award for his work and contribution to LURC based on a recommendation by the Department of Conservation.. 3/79 - George Bourassa won \$25 for his cost-saving suggestion that a commuter shuttle be established along with an Augusta-based inter-agency car pool.