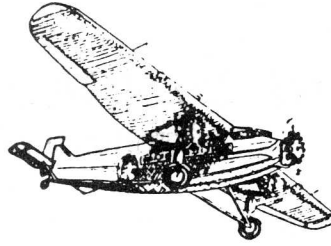




National Smokejumper Association

1622 South Avenue West

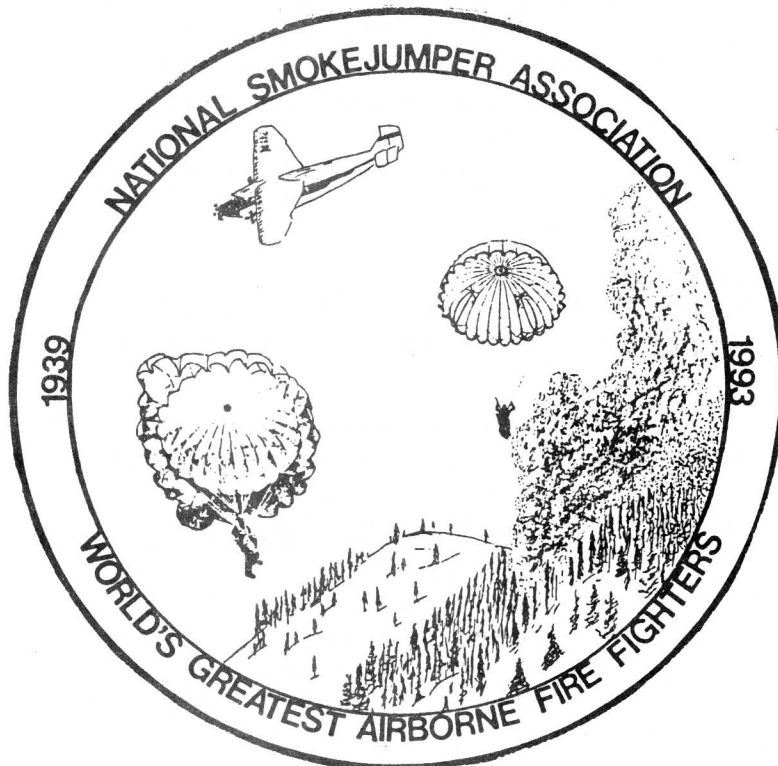


Missoula, Montana 59801

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National Smokejumper Association

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Name _____
Last First

Address _____
Street

City State

Zip

Year Trained Base



Membership category
Check one:
Smokejumper _____
Associate _____

Dues category

1 year \$15.00 _____
5 years \$60.00 _____
10 years \$100.00 _____

Make check payable
to: National
Smokejumper Assoc.

Return to:
Nat'l Smokejumper
Assoc.
1622 South Ave. West
Missoula, Montana
59801

NEWSLETTER

We plan on mailing out 4 newsletters during 1994. The first one will be distributed around April 1.

At this time, we do not have a name for the newsletter. The Executive Committee has proposed that we have some competition. We are asking for suggestions for a name. The cutoff date for submitting ideas will be Jan. 30. The competition is open to all past and present Jumpers as well as associate members, such as Pilots. The Executive Committee will decide on a winner prior to April 1. That individual will receive a one-year free membership in the Association. (If you have paid for one year for example, you will be awarded an extra one. If you have a 5 or 10 year membership, an extra year will be added on.)

With each newsletter, there will be a listing of members who have joined since the issuance of the previous letter. The cutoff for listing of names this time was November 22. Since that date we have had an additional 20 memberships.

Jump stories will be published each time. We would appreciate receiving more of them. If your articles should be a little exaggerated, that will be fine.

Our historian and treasurer, Jack Demmons, was watching some training jumps this Spring in the Nine Mile country not far from the old training camp at Menard. Wayne Williams (WW), a squad leader and the one in charge of the Visitors' Center at the Missoula base, was giving a talk to Jumpers who had just landed. Jack said 2 whitetail deer were standing nearby. They cocked their heads to one side and gave him their rapt attention as Wayne expounded like a good Shakespearian actor. They (the deer) were quite impressed. WW is a great fellow. He has pockets sewn inside his shirts for carrying extra sandwiches. (A true story without exaggeration.)



National Smokejumper Association

1622 South Avenue West



Missoula, Montana 59801

(406) 549-9933

PRESIDENT'S OPINION

Happy Holidays to all of our members. We hope you have one of the finest and most memorable seasons of your life.

The National Smokejumper Association has come a long ways in less than one year's time. As of today, December 7, 1993, we have 548 members, with more applications coming in each week. The Internal Revenue Service has granted us a nonprofit status, which means that individuals, firms and corporations can contribute to the association and write the donations off as tax-deductible.

A prime objective is to collect as much Smokejumper history as possible, which includes not only Jumpers, but aircraft, equipment, parachutes, etc. We have made good progress in this area too. One day we hope to have a display set up in the National Forst Service Museum, once it is established in the Missoula area near the airport. (Each member of our Executive Committee belongs to that organization.)

I hope to one day see a National Resource Management Task Force set up to outline a "wildfire management plan" for every square foot of our natural resources, and then turn the specifics of the plan over to local governmental agencies, such as State, United States Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management, National Park Service, and the Fish and Wildlife Services for consideration and implementation.

We certainly want to see that the practice of keeping a nucleus of highly trained and experienced Smokejumpers continues, and that they be integrated into an outstanding national fire fighting organization, with all of our modern fire fighting equipment and expertise. Also, that they be able to go where the action is, regardless of state lines, regional boundaries, and fire protected agency lands.

I think it is only good "horse sense" to go into any of these management areas, whether they be wilderness, scenic, roadless, mining, timber, etc, and harvest all of the over-mature, bug-killed, dead and dying timber, not only from an economic standpoint, but as a fire preventative measure as well.

It is hard for me to conceive that we can let 988,000 acres of good, merchantable timber and critical watershed go up in smoke, like we did in Yellowstone National Park in 1988, and keep our natural resources on a sustained basis for generations down the line.

I have always dreaded the thought, that in years to come, we will get into one of those critical fire seasons, like 1910 and 1988, where all of our airborne fire fighters and equipment will be held at a standstill, because of smoke, wind, and adverse flying conditions, where we will have to stand by and watch thousands of acres of good merchantable timber and valuable watershed go up in smoke. I sincerely hope that we don't wait for that time to come before we formalize some kind of "wildfire management plan" to help prevent, and protect from, the ravages of critical fire seasons.

Again, best wishes, and keep your eye on the "Jump Spot."

Earl E. Cooley

EARL COOLEY,
President

MEMBERSHIP

NOTE: This listing includes those members who sent in paid applications between July 2 and November 23, 1993. Members who became members prior to July 2 were listed in the first newsletter.

Renewal Date	Name	Address	Base & 1st Year
9/7/98	Anderson, Jim	1821 Hayden Germantown, TN 38138	MSO 58
11/12/98	Bayden, William J.	160 Burkhall ST #607 Weymouth, MA 02190	MYC 59
9/3/98	Brown, Larry	P.O. Box 1673 Tonopah, NV 89049	MSO 48
11/20/94	Burgett, Richard	406 S 1st 3A Brewster, WA 98812	NCSB74
11/18/94	Butler, Tom E.	3387 S 137th E AV Tulsa, OK 74134-4219	MSO 61
10/7/94	Carlson, Steve	10211 Kopachuck Gig Harbor, WA 98335	MSO 62
9/28/94	Case, Edward T.	811 Ben Lomond Ogden, UT 84403	MYC 46
9/18/94	Clarke, Philip	4230 Folker A203 Anchorage, AK 99508	CJ 51
11/18/94	Cook, James E.	RT 9 Box 17D Charlottesville, VA 22902	NCSB60
7/7/94	Cook, Pierce	5430 Wintercrest LN Charlotte, NC 28209	MSO 48
9/9/94	Courson, Richard J.	Box 820 Pendleton, OR 97801	CJ 46
9/20/94	Cravens, Arlen	2920 Lake Redding DR Redding, CA 96003	CAN 77
10/2/98	Cummings, Harry L.	P.O. Box 591 Orofino, ID 83544	MSO 46
10/14/94	Daly, Michael T	4173 Indigo CT N E Salem, OR 97305	MYC 57
10/30/94	Davis, DeWayne C.	P.O. Box 6154 Ridgecrest, CA 93555-6154	MYC 53
11/15/98	Dibble, Stephen E.	26825 Salinas LN Mission Viejo, CA 92691	NCSB53
8/3/94	Dobbins, Jeff	2866 E. Sylvia Tucson, AZ 85704	BLM 78
8/3/94	Dobbins, Wallace (Wally)	6140 N Panorama CR Tucson, AZ 85704	MSO 47
8/6/94	Engle, Robert	2544 Mtn View Sch RD Marietta, GA 30066	MSO 79
10/4/98	Entwistle, Dale A.	43 111 N. Aquila ST Nokomis, FL 34275	MSO 43
7/15/98	Falcon, Hank	Box 1754 Clovis, CA 93613-1754	RAC 83
10/1/94	Fellows, Larry A.	12200 SW 116th Tigard, OR 97223	MYC 56
9/7/94	Fowler, Harold (Ken)	P.O. Box 422 Burlington, WA 98233	MSO 63
8/12/94	Gerlach, Fred	76 Marilyn DR Missoula, MT 59801	MSO Pilot
7/7/94	Grenager, Lyle	13855 Lolo Creek RD Lolo, MT 59847	MSO 47
7/19/94	Gillmore, Duane	1426 159th AV SE Bellevue, WA 98008	MSO 46
9/28/94	Hensley, Dannie M.	8414 Faust AV Canoga Park, CA 91304-2232	MSO 57
10/20/94	Hickman, Jim	3309 Blackhills RD NE Albuquerque, NM 87111	MSO 52
10/9/94	Hinkle, Dane	RT 1 Box 305 Midway, TN 37809	AK 85
11/19/98	Horner, Clarence (C.J.)	P.O. Box 873324 Wasilla, AK 99687	MYC 65
9/17/98	Jukkala, Art	7720 Parkwood DR Missoula, MT 59802	MSO 56
7/19/94	Klies, David	3711 20th AV SE Puyallup, WA 98372-4202	MSO 61
9/30/94	Lee, Joseph	N 9407 Atlantic ST Spokane, WA 99218	MSO 49
11/19/94	Lowę, Lester	Box 368 Riggins, ID 83549	MYC 66
9/7/94	Lowman, Ben J.	3917 Spurgin RD Missoula, MT 59801	MSO 68
10/25/2003	Lufkin, Ronald F	1055 Arnold ST Aberdeen, WA 98520	CJ 60
10/22/2003	Lugtenaar, Trooper Tom	P.O. Box 117 Galena, AK 99741	CJ 66
8/14/94	Lyons, John	2010 Blaine Way Boise, ID 83702	AK 90
9/25/98	Malone, Michael E.	1715 E. Oakcrest DR Meridian, ID 83642	MSO 53
7/3/94	Maynard, Kimberly	2137 N Court House RD Arlington, VA 22201	MSO 82
11/4/94	McCracken, Michael A.	82 Stony Hill RD Brookfield, CT 06804	CJ 60
11/22/94	McDevitt, Lester	209 Settlers Row N Ponte Vedra Beach, FL 32082	NCSB48
8/9/94	Miller, Leland	N 8001 Starr RD Newman Lake, CA 99025	MSO 44
8/9/94	Nelson, Larry	RT 2 Evaro 5300 Mercer LN Missoula, MT 59802	MSO 56
8/6/94	Provencio, David	12371 N Little Tujunga Canyon RD San Fernando, CA 91342	MSO 77
7/10/94	Ratzlaff, Leon	P.O. Box A Henderson, NE 68371-0236	MSO 43
9/13/98	Rost, Maynard	14 Tanglewood Silver City, NM 88061	MSO 58

Cushing, Robert missed. Should have been placed in this position. See name at end of roster.

MEMBERSHIP CONTINUED

Renewal Date	Name	Address	Base & 1st Year
11/94	Sholty, Jeff	P.O. Box 5690 Missoula, MT 59806	Associate
9/13/98	Silks, Christopher	P.O. Box 183 Gardner, CO 81040	AK 91
9/19/98	Sundstrom, Charles	P.O. Box 125 Alberton, MT 59820	MSO 57
7/2/94	Swenson, Ron	3207 15th AV S Great Falls, MT 59405	MSO 57
8/26/2003	Taylor, Murray	P.O. Box 42 Greenview, CA 96032	RED 65
8/14/98	Thompson, Thomas (T.J.)	7820 Covey Roost Boerne, TX 78006	MSO 55
7/7/94	Wall, Jack	17 W Suffolk DR Tucson, AZ 85704	MSO 48
9/13/98	Weeden, Dean J.	P.O. Box 257 Petersburg, AK 99833	MSO 57
8/6/2004	Wenger, Roy	333 North AV W Missoula, MT 59801	MSO Supt. 43
9/18/94	West, Joe T.	RT 4 Box 850 Marshfield, MO 65706	MSO 56
11/12/94	Westhoff, James R.	2501 E Mountain View Phoenix, AZ 85028	NCSB58
8/12/94	Whipple, Greg	P.O. Box 1808 Silver City, NM 88062	MSO 59
8/12/94	Whipple, Morgan	P.O. Box 1808 Silver City, NM 88062	MSO 89
11/17/94	Wilson, Robert	133 Redona Way Campbell River, B.C. Canada V9H 1J4	MSO 57
11/22/94	Cushing, Robert	6L Cambridge Tower 1801 Lavaca, Austin (Bob's name should have been on page 1.) TX 78701	MSO 59

If a name has been left out, or a base and location of first jump be incorrect, please contact us as soon as possible and corrections will be made in our Master Roster, which contains more than 4,600 names. If addresses have been changed, or are incorrect, please notify us also.

We have been continually updating the Master Roster as new information is received. We are still in need of more addresses, and up-to-date ones.

The 1st newsletter specified that address corrections be made by receiving post offices. Consequently, even a change of box number resulted in a newsletter being returned so updating could be accomplished. The revised newsletter is sent back the same day it arrives with changes noted. This same procedure will apply for the 2d newsletter.

Four newsletters were returned earlier with the notation, "Temporarily Away." These will be sent out again shortly.

We had a newsletter addressed to John C. Scott, Fort Wayne Indiana, returned--with membership card attached. So far we have not been able to find his new address.

Renewal notices will be sent out by postcards, beginning this month. The following examples illustrate renewal dates:

- a. If a member paid \$15.00 on 10/10/93 for a 1 year membership, it is good through 10/10/94. If you paid \$60.00 for a 5 year membership on 10/10/93, it is good through 10/10/98. For those who have paid \$100.00, say on 10/10/93, renewal will not be needed until 2003.
- b. Presently, we have a number of renewals on hand for forthcoming years, and new membership cards for those folks will be mailed out shortly.

Should you know of any former Jumper, Pilot, or individual who was associated with the Smokejumper Program, and is not a member of our Association, please send them the attached membership form. Thanks.

SMOKEJUMPER DEATHS AND TRAGEDIES

While trying to find addresses of former Jumpers, we have come across the names of a number of them who are deceased. Our official listing at this time contains the names of 203 former Jumpers and Pilots. We know that there are others that we do not know about. Should you know of such names, we would appreciate hearing from you.

This summer Jack Mathes (Missoula Base 1948), residing at Santa Barbara, California, notified us that Reed Harrison (Missoula Base 1960) was missing on a flight in his aircraft from Roosevelt, Utah to his home base at Camarillo, California. Also on-board the aircraft was his wife Judith and youngest daughter Julie. They disappeared on July 25. They had been at a family reunion. Jack sent us newspaper clippings relating to the disappearance. One said in part: "...the Civil Air Patrol continues to search thousands of square miles of rugged mountainous terrain in Nevada and Utah, as well as the high desert areas of Arizona and California." We have been keeping in contact with Jack by letter and telephone. As of this date there has not been a trace of the missing aircraft. Reed was a 5-year member of our association.

Starr Jenkins (CJ 48), now residing at San Luis Obispo, California had a brother Hugh (MSO 49) who was killed in action in Korea with the 3rd Division north of Seoul near Chorwon in April 1953. For his actions that day he received the Silver Star. A number of us did not know about that until we were talking to Jack Mathes. We then talked to Starr over the telephone about his brother. Starr has written a pamphlet Some of the Men of Mann Gulch. He talks about 6 of those who died at Mann Gulch, to include their pasts. We did not have space in the last pages of the newsletter to advertise it. You can order this excellent softbound pamphlet for \$1.00 (That price includes postage.) from the Smokejumper Welfare Fund, c/o Aerial Fire Depot, USFS, Airport, Missoula, Montana 59802. Starr did an excellent job.

Through the years, a number of Jumpers have died in plane crashes here in the United States and in Southeast Asia. Walter Rumsey, who had been one of the survivors of the Mann Gulch Fire, died in a commercial plane crash in Nebraska in 1978. Bob Sallee is the sole remaining survivor of that tragedy and now lives in Spokane. He is a member of our association.

On June 28, 1949 Missoula Jumpers Homer "Skip" Stratton, Ed Eggen, Bill Dratz and Bill Hellman made a jump at Washington, D.C. in a salute to American businesses that were supporting the U.S. Forest Service's fire prevention campaign. Al Cramer went along as the spotter, and Jim Waite flew with them in his role as Asst. Supervisor in charge of Parachute Training. Skip, Ed and Jim are the only ones alive of that group. Skip lives here in Missoula and Ed resides at Colfax, Wisconsin. Jim and his wife recently moved from El Centro, California to Walla Walla, Washington because of his health. Skip and Ed both belong to the association.

Jack Nash, a long-time rigger with the Missoula base, and well known by Jumpers throughout the United States, passed away in Missoula on 12/20/90. He had been a parachute rigger in the U.S. Navy during WW II. His son recently gave us a number of his father's mementos.

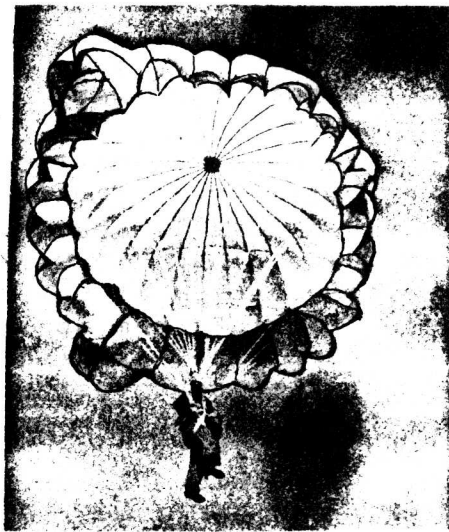
Folks at Winthrop and McCall have sent us news clippings about plane crashes that have killed both Jumpers and Pilots. There will be more about these accidents in the next newsletter, as well as the crash at Redding's base. We will also mention in April the crash at Moose Creek in the Nez Perce Forest on August 3, 1959 which killed 2 Smokejumpers and the Nez Perce National Forest Supervisor.

THE BEGINNINGS

The Eagle Parachute

Most of this material is taken from the pamphlet "Smokejumpers," CPS Camp 103, December 1944.

Some information came from "History of Smokejumping," U.S. Dept. of Ag., Forest Service, Northern Region, Missoula, Montana 1965.



"UNBALANCED & CRAZY"

A portion of a letter from Evan W. Kelley, Regional Forester, to Earl W. Loveridge, Forest Service, Washington, D.C. dated July 19, 1935, reads as follows:

"...in the first place, the best information I can get from experienced fliers is that all parachute jumpers are more or less crazy - just a bit unbalanced, otherwise they wouldn't be engaged in such a dangerous undertaking..."

During the beginning of the 1939 season, the Aerial Experimental Project, which had been set up in the Washington Office of the Forest Service in Dec., 1935 was transferred from California, where experimentation in the use of water and chemical bombs had been conducted, to the North Pacific Region (Region 6).

It was during the summer of a 1939 that the Forest Service decided to abandon the bombing tests and use the unexpended balance of experimental funds for a contract for carrying on a parachute jumping experiment. Bids were asked for, which involved a contract for parachutes, the services of professional riggers and protective clothing. The successful bidder was the Eagle Parachute Company at Lancaster, Pennsylvania.

Experimentation was conducted at Winthrop, Washington on the Chelan National Forest from October 5 to November 15. Frank Derry was in charge of a small group of professional jumpers. Dummy tests were conducted, followed by 60 live jumps, most of which were made by employees of the Eagle Parachute Company. Near the end of this experimental phase, several Forest Service employees were permitted to jump into both open fields and timbered areas (rip cords were used).

The equipment and parachutes used during the experiments were thought to be satisfactory. The Eagle main was 30' in diameter, and the emergency chest-pack was 27'.

At the conclusion of the tests, it was felt that Smokejumpers would be able to land safely in all types of timber common to the Chelan National Forest at altitudes ranging from 2,000 to 6,000 feet.

The Eagle parachute was cut round in front and square in back. The square corners formed "ears" (see picture) through which the air was jettied out and gave the jumper a forward speed from 5 to 6 miles an hour, which also permitted steering. There were 24 load lines, with secondary lines attached from these primary lines to the perimeter, which formed a skirt around the lower edge of the parachute. Once the chute opened, the wind would catch the loose folds of the skirt and cause the parachute to open with a bang. The jumpers were usually well shaken up by the extremely sudden opening. The Eagle chutes did not have slots in back, like the Derry Slotted Irvin Parachutes that were used later. Eagle chutes were used until 1944.

When WW II began, the manufacture of the Eagle chute was discontinued. The Smokejumpers managed to pick up some military rejects, and through experimentation, the Derry Slotted Chute was invented and approved by the CAA in 1942. (Parachute development will be continued in the April newsletter.)

THE FIRST FIRE JUMPS

Many people know that Rufus Robinson and Earl Cooley were the first two individuals in the history of the United States Forest Service to parachute to a fire. The men were part of a squad that had been stationed at Moose Creek in the Nez Perce National Forest of Idaho along the Selway River. That first fire came on Friday, July 12, 1940. Dick Johnson of the Johnson Flying Service at Missoula flew in with a Travel Air to pick them up.

The drop took place in the Marten Creek (some accounts erroneously spelled it Martin Creek) drainage about 12 miles southwest of the Moose Creek Ranger Station, and approximately 2½ miles west of Square Rock and 1 mile south of Rock Pillar. Earl Cooley came close to being killed in that jump, a free fall, without the use of a static line. His shroud lines had been severely tangled, but they unwound in time to get a fully inflated chute. He then landed 100 feet up in a large spruce tree. He was able to get down safely through the use of his 100' rope, which was carried in the right pocket of his jump suit.

Today Earl is the President of the National Smokejumper Association. Rufus Robinson passed away a short while ago at Orofino, Idaho. His widow still resides there.

During that first year, 4 Smokejumpers were stationed at Winthrop, Washington, and while it was a wet season in that area, each made 1 fire jump. Francis Lufkin and Glenn Smith made the first jumps for Region 6 on August 10th at Little Bridge Creek. Lufkin lives in the Winthrop area today. Smith (Smitty) passed away in the Tucson, Arizona locality not many years ago.

In June, 1940 four U.S. Army staff officers were sent to Missoula to observe Smokejumper parachute training, which took place at Seeley Lake, about 50 miles northeast of Missoula. One of the officers was Major William Cary Lee, who later commanded the 101st Airborne Division for awhile in Europe during WW II. These men took back to Fort Benning, Georgia ideas and techniques which were used in training paratroopers.

The U.S. Army had authorized a Test Platoon on June 25, 1940, which would train and jump from aircraft to prove the potential of paratroopers. It so happened that 6 days after Lufkin and Smith made the first jumps in Region 6, Lieutenant William T. Taylor, the leader of the original Test Platoon, made the first paratrooper jump in the history of the U.S. Army, becoming the Army's first official paratrooper.

Three days after Cooley and Robinson jumped at Marten Creek, the first Smokejumper rescue jump (the first of many that would follow through the years) took place in the Nez Perce National Forest near Cub Point Lookout when one of Bob Johnson's pilots, Bob Maricich, crashed into a shallow lake while making a cargo drop. Chet Derry, who was with the Smokejumper squad at the Moose Creek Ranger Station, parachuted in and rescued Del Claybough, the cargo dropper. Maricich had been killed on impact in the Travel Air after it had hit a tree.

On July 12, 1990, there was a gathering at Grangeville, Idaho to celebrate the 50th year of Smokejumping. A stone had been engraved, telling about the first fire jumps on July 12, 1940. We checked with the Moose Creek Ranger Station to see where it is today. Lois Geary, Program Assistant in Engineering there, called us to state that the stone is sitting by the cookhouse. We have a picture of it in our archives.

SMOKEJUMPER HISTORY CONTINUED

Tragedy Out of McCall

The first Smokejumper fatality in the history of this elite organization did not take place at Mann Gulch north of Helena, Montana on August 5, 1949. Instead, the scene was in the Payette National Forest of Idaho. The accounts of that tragedy were recalled from the recollections of John P. Ferguson and Wayne R. Webb, who were with the McCall Smokejumper unit at the time. They remembered that of July 3 1946, a lookout had reported a fire started by lightning, burning on Fall Creek Ridge, near the Middle Fork of the Weiser River. Three Jumpers, Lester Lyclama, John L. Hennessey and Coston T. Aguirre, were dropped on it. Bob Fogg was the pilot. Lloyd Johnson did the spotting and John Ferguson assisted in dropping cargo.

The following day, on July 4th, the Smokejumper base at McCall received a call, which reported that one of the men who had jumped on the Fall Creek Ridge fire was seriously injured. John Ferguson and Lloyd Johnson were the leaders of a rescue squad, that included Jumpers Wayne Webb, Edward Case and Bruce Froman. Bob Fogg piloted the rescue ship, which landed first at Council, Idaho southwest of McCall, to meet with Dr. Alvin Thurston, who gave them emergency instructions. They picked up a more complete medical kit, which included blood plasma. Dr. Thurston was to meet the rescue team along a road leading to the trail where the injured Jumper would be carried out.

From the time of the initial call until the rescue team parachuted to the scene of the injury had been only 38 minutes. Lester Lyclama was the injured Jumper. He and John Hennessey had been falling a ponderosa pine tree with a crosscut saw when the top third of the tree broke loose and fell, almost in an upright position. Aguirre had shouted a warning and the sawyers started running, but Lyclama tripped on a root and was struck on the head by a limb from the falling tree. He was knocked unconscious.

The accident had happened around 9:30 P.M. on July 3d. Hennessey had taken off cross-country 8 miles to a road on the Middle Fork of the Weiser River for help, while Aguirre stayed with Lyclama. A passing motorist picked up Hennessey and took him to Council where he called the Forest Dispatcher at McCall, requesting help.

The Smokejumper rescue team carried Lyclama 4 miles on a stretcher to a trail, and had started down a road leading to it when they were met by Dr. Thurston who was heading a ground party. (Kenny Roth, former Smokejumper and pilot for the Johnson Flying Service--now living in Missoula--was in the ground unit.) Johnson, Ferguson and Aguirre continued on with the group to the hospital, while Webb, Case and Froman went back to the fire and completed putting it out.

Lester Lyclama died at 5:30 A.M. on July 5th on the operating table. He had never regained consciousness. Lester Lyclama became the first Smokejumper to die in the line of duty.

It is now a little more than 47 years since the accident happened. Costan Aguirre is now deceased. Ed Case and John Ferguson live in Ogden, Utah today and Wayne Webb resides at Yuma, Arizona. Each is a member of the Association. We do not know where Bruce Froman, Lloyd Johnson, John Hennessey or Bob Fogg might be. We would appreciate any information one might have concerning these ex-Jumpers and Pilot. Hopefully, they are still alive.

SMOKEJUMPER HISTORY & GENERAL INFORMATION

555th Parachute Infantry: Many people do not know that this elite paratroop unit once served as Smokejumpers during WW II--during the very hot fire season of 1945. That story will be in the April newsletter. The Association extended an invitation to those who served as Smokejumpers to join our organization. On 11/29/93 we received Pat A. Daugherty's application. He is currently living in California. The 555th was called the "Triple Nickles" and was the only all-black paratrooper unit in the world. Wayne (WW) Williams of the Missoula base has also been in contact with them at Washington, D.C.

Second Parachute Drop at Washington, D.C. It is very possible that a second drop of Smokejumpers will take place there in August, 1994, commemorating the 50th anniversary of "Smokey the Bear." We will have more information about it in April.

National Forest Service Museum: This organization wishes to extend an invitation to all present and former Jumpers to join its ranks. Its address is P.O. Box 2772, Missoula, MT 59806-2772. This will be the only National Forest Service Museum in the nation. Smokejumping is tied in very closely with it. Each member of our Executive Committee belongs to the N.F.S.M. group.

Contributions: A number of ex-Jumpers have given the Association memorabilia ranging from old Jumper T-shirts, to pictures, to old film footage. We greatly appreciate receiving such material for our archives.

Aircraft: A Travel Air is once again back in Montana. Hank Galpin of Kalispell owns one, which he is repairing--a former Johnson Flying Service ship. There are 2 Tri-motors sitting at Caldwell, Idaho and we will have more information about them in April. Our historian, Jack Demmons, recently visited the site of a crash of a B-17G 4-engine retardant bomber. The ship went down on July 21, 1979 about 6 air miles south of Superior, Montana. Smokejumpers were in the air nearby when it crashed and parachuted to the scene almost immediately. Both pilots were killed on impact.

Smokejumper Memorial Site at the Missoula Fire Depot: Wayne (WW) Williams mentioned that they are looking for contributions for the construction of a walkway from the Visitors' Center to the Memorial Site where stones with the names of the men who died at Mann Gulch are located. Donations are tax-exempt and the Federal account number to use when making donations is 236106. More information can be obtained from WW at the Aerial Fire Depot, USFS, Airport, Missoula, MT 59802.

Videos: The Executive Committee of the N.S.A. has taken the initial steps in anticipating the production of a video on the history of Smokejumping. We will keep you informed about this project in the months ahead. We have received videos on the Mongolian Smokejumpers, and one with the title "Smokejumper Pilot." They are excellent. We have placed an order for one called "Those Fantastic Ford Trimotors" from a Florida firm. Paul Nicholas of Dayton, Ohio, (MSO 42) has given the Association a video with outstanding footage of early Smokejumping scenes.

Change of Command: Rodger Vorce notified us that he is no longer the Base Manager for the Alaska Smokejumpers. He accepted a position with the Inter-agency Fire Center at Boise. Tom Boatner is the new Alaska manager.

Russian Smokejumpers We mailed a letter to one of the Russian Jump bases & hope to have a reply shortly. It was written in the Russian language.

Conference Call: Directors of the N.S.A. will be tied in with the Exec. Com. on Tuesday, Dec. 14, beginning at 7:00 P.M. M.S.T. This will be a first.

A Letter from Galena, Alaska: "Trooper Tom" Lugtenaar has written to us twice from Galena on the Yukon River. In April we will recount his adventures some time ago with Chinese Smokejumpers--a program no longer in existence. (CJ 66.)

Museum Of Mountain Flying: This is a new organization founded in Missoula. N.S.A. is involved. We will cover this group in April.



Master Roster
by National Smokejumper Assoc.
1993

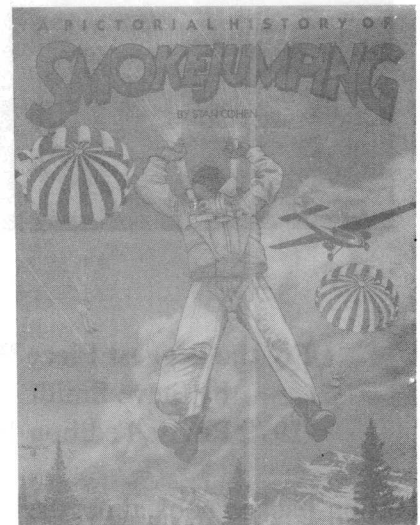
This roster, started some years ago by Earl Cooley, contains more than 4,600 names of present and ex-smokejumpers. Addresses are not complete in many instances. It is being updated every 4 months.

76 pages Softbound \$3.50 includes shipping costs. Order through National Smokejumpers Assoc., 1644 South Ave. W., Missoula, MT 59801

A Pictorial History of Smokejumping
by Stan Cohen
1983

This is an interesting pictorial history about the contributions of some of the pioneers in aerial fire detection and suppression. The book illustrates the tremendous impact smokejumpers have had in reducing losses from forest fires. It is a pictorial history of an elite group within the U.S. Forest Service & Bureau of Land Management

172 pages Softbound \$10.95 plus \$1.00 for shipping & handling. Order through Smokejumper Welfare Fund, c/o Aerial Fire Depot, USFS, Airport, Missoula, MT 59802



Trimotor and Trail
by Earl Cooley
1984

This is more than the adventures of Earl Cooley, pioneer smokejumper and forest ranger. It is a chronicle of an America vibrant with frontier vigor and freedom as well as a testament to what men can do when confronted with an extraordinary challenge. Earl also gives a first-hand account of the Mann Gulch Fire tragedy.

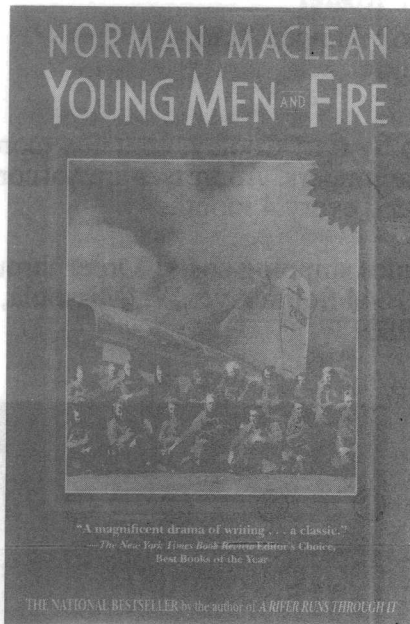
203 pages Hardcover \$14.95, includes postage. Place orders through Earl at 1622 South Ave. W., Missoula, MT 59801
(His books are also available at the different Smokejumper bases.)

Smokejumper Calendar-McCall Smokejumpers
50th Anniversary 1943-1993
by the McCall Smokejumpers, Brad Sanders, ed.

This is a very outstanding calendar with 18 pictures of smokejumpers and smokejumper activities. The McCall staff has included many pertinent dates about smokejumping in this calendar. The calendar months are June 1993 - May 1994. This will be a welcome souvenir for jumpers past and present, their families and friends. A truly unique project about elite units.

28 pages Paperback \$10.00, includes shipping. Order from McCall Smokejumpers Welfare Fund, P.O. Box 1026, McCall ID 83638





Young Men and Fire

by Norman Maclean

1992

This is the story about Mann Gulch and the tragedy that befell smokejumpers in August, 1949. Bill Marvel of American Way said: "Maclean's prose achieves a poetic intensity, moving easily back and forth in time and up and down the slopes of Mann Gulch as flames and the young men race along their intersecting paths."

328 pages Hardbound \$20.00 (\$15.00 for present & past smokejumpers) Softbound \$10.95

(\$8.00 for present & past smokejumpers).

Add \$1.00 for shipping costs. Order through Smokejumper Welfare Fund, c/o Aerial Fire Depot, USFS, Airport, Missoula, MT 59802

Fly the Biggest Piece Back

by Steve Smith

1979 Revised edition 1988

This is an action-packed book about the history of Bob Johnson and the growth and decline of his flying operation that was based in Missoula, MT. His pilots are included, and they are among the finest mountain pilots in the world. There is a chapter on smokejumpers.

302 pages Hardcover \$22.00, plus \$2.00 for shipping & handling. Order through Steve Smith, 6907 Siesta Dr., Missoula, MT 59802



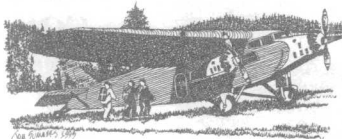
STATIC LINES AND CANOPIES

Static Lines and Canopies
Stories from the Smokejumpers of 1943-1945.
Civilian Public Service Camp 103

Missoula, Montana

by Asa Mundell, Editor

1993



STORIES FROM THE SMOKEJUMPERS OF 1943-1945
CIVILIAN PUBLIC SERVICE CAMP 103
MISSOULA, MONTANA

This is a compilation of 77 stories told by former smokejumpers. There is humor and high drama. The stories center around the smokejumper bases in the western United States during that period of history. Asa mentions that the anecdotes are not copyrighted and can be told and retold.

78 pages Softbound \$13.00, which includes shipping and handling. Order from Asa Mundell, 5420 S.W. Erickson Ave, Beaverton, OR 97005-3847