

Greetings to all STARS

I hope you are all in good health and enjoying retirement. - Thanks to all of you who attended the **PSC luncheon** and to those who attended one of the **Regional Employee Appreciation** meetings throughout the state in April and May.

The **State Retiree's Association**, through W.C. West, continues to keep us updated on cost of living increases and other items concerning retirees. Please check out the Web site at www.srasc.org for more information.

Thanks

To all of the **STARS** who have volunteered over the past few months with **Harry Hampton** events, **The Palmetto Sportsmen's Classic** and other projects throughout the agency. Contact me if you would like to volunteer to help in any area.

Sympathy

We wish to extend our **deepest sympathy** to the families of:

Dennis Waddell, OSS (Computer Room)

Mark Trapp, LE from Kershaw County

C.R. Murray, LE Captain from Region 4

Link Uldrick, LE from Abbeville County

Rodney Cherry, Land, Water, & Conservation

Buster Fort, LE Sergeant from McClellanville

Jimmy Sanders, LE from Barnwell

Mrs. Rubye Webb, wife of former Director James Webb also passed away late last year at the age of 93.

If I have omitted any **STAR** who has passed away, please let me know so I can include them in the next newsletter.

New STARS

We have had a good many **STARS** added in 2007 and early 2008. They include: Richard Christie, Raymond Stivender, Betty Snipes, Joel O'Quinn, Athena Irland, Val Nash, Ed Duncan, Foster Folsom, Garland Riddle, Richard Stewart, Robert Joyner, Tommy Haile, Steve Twitty, Isaac White, Priscilla Wright, Danny Johnson,

Joe Lucas, Gregory McDaniel, Bill Pace, Mary Pugh, Emily Schroeder, David Sease, George Sedberry, Joan Seithel, James Singleton, Glenn Ulrich, Anthony Walker, Chris Burnett, Stuart Greeter, Hank Stallworth, Judean Cobb, Robert Low, Paul Nystrom and Robert Schwarz. - I would like to **welcome** you all to the **STARS** program-!

Lost STARS

I have had some of the newsletters and mail -outs returned and I'm trying to get **updated** addresses on the following **STARS**: - Donald Arnold, Frank Holmes, Charles Bearden, Rodney McGlade, Jennice Wright, Donald Taylor, James Sorrow and Curt Gainey. - If any of you have an up- to- date address for any of these individuals, please let me know so I can update my records.

Shining STARS

I am going to begin **spotlighting** one or more of the **STARS** in each newsletter to let you know what they have been up to since retirement. If you would like to **nominate someone (or yourself)**, call or email me with the information you would like to include in the spotlight. Here are short updates on three Shining **STARS**:

Linda Campbell: - Linda continues to stay extremely busy driving from Columbia to Chester to be with her granddaughters for their school and sporting events and just to visit. - When she is not in Chester, she can be found in Maiden either handling business or visiting with friends and relatives. - It is hard to catch her in Columbia. - She is also enjoying being the mother of the National Wild Turkey Federation, Southeastern Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies and South Carolina State Wildlife Officer of the Year for 2007!

B.R. Hook: - B.R. continues to buy boats to add to his fleet. - Every once in a while he will actually take one of the boats out on a fishing trip. - He always knows where the fish are biting, and if you are lucky, he may ask you to go along with him on one of his fishing excursions. - B.R. also likes to spend time with his only grandson. - I am sure he is waiting for the day he is old enough to take fishing. - He has probably already taught him how to

cast a fishing rod. - B.R. probably has a larger collection of fishing gear and tackle than Wal-Mart or Sportsman's Warehouse. -B.R. is always willing to help out when DNR needs extra help. Thanks B.R.!

Jean Bradford: -Jean is one of our oldest **STARS** but don't let her age fool you. She can put us all to shame - She has enjoyed her retirement for close to 30 years. - If you want to know about the old Wildlife Department days, Jean is one of the people to go to for information. - She is not only a delight to talk to; she has a wealth of knowledge and information. - She and Brad retreat to their nice lake home at Wateree as much as possible. -They reside in what use to be an old farm house owned by some of Brad's relatives located right on Devine Street in Columbia. - Stop by sometime and they will give you a tour of the house and garden. -Jean truly amazes me with her attitude especially after undergoing surgery to have her left leg amputated from the knee down. -She continues to improve and learn to walk again.-She appreciates the calls and cards she has received. It was nice to see her out and about for the **STARS** luncheon at the Palmetto Sportsmen's Classic in March.

Upcoming Events

Be sure to mark your calendars for the first **Harry Hampton Hunting & Fishing EXPO in the Upstate**. It will be held August 22nd through 24th 2008 at the Spartanburg Expo Center. **Harry Hampton** has offered to provide **STARS** with complimentary tickets. Call or email me if you are planning to attend and would like tickets. I will have your tickets waiting for you at the ticket sales area upon your arrival.

I would like to schedule some **STARS lunches** in early October if there is enough interest, one possibly at Shealy's Barbeque in Leesville, one somewhere in the Low country area and one in Piedmont area. (I am open for suggestions as to where you all would like to meet so just let me know). Everyone will be responsible for their own check but the opportunity to socialize and catch up with fellow **STARS** will be worth the price of a meal. - I will send more details on this at a later date if there is enough interest.

Help Wanted

It will soon be time to start lining up help for the 25th annual **Palmetto Sportsmen's Classic**. - Go ahead and mark your calendar for **March 27 through 29, 2009**.

General Information

Don't forget **The Wildlife Shop** for your shopping needs. The shop offers a 20% discount to **STARS** all year and special **25% discount days** are planned several times a year.

I am still trying to make sure the subscription list for **S.C. Wildlife** magazine is up to date. If you are not receiving the magazine at this time, please let me know. Also remember that award winning **S.C. Wildlife** magazine makes a great gift! Visit **www.scwildlife.com** for more information or to send a gift subscription.

I am still building my email base for **STARS** retirees. - It is the best way to keep everyone informed on a frequent basis. - If you are not on my distribution list, all I need you to do is send me an e-mail and I will make sure that you are added. - If you change e-mail providers or your mailing address or phone number, be sure to send me updated information so I can change my records.

You can access information on the **STARS** program and newsletters through the DNR home page at **www.dnr.sc.gov**. Once you reach the home page, click on Working with DNR to find the **STARS**.

CONTACT

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STARS