

★ ★ ★ STARS FOREVER ★ ★ ★

Message from the Director

Hello Friends!

The past eight months have been very rewarding for me! Since the kick-off of the **DNR STARS** program, I have met many old friends, shared stories and heard from many others through our DNR STARS & DNR employees. You are truly a special part of our DNR family, and I appreciate all you have done for this program and the agency that you helped make as great as it is today.



The **July/August South Carolina WILDLIFE magazine issue** has an article about the **DNR STARS** program, so don't miss it. If you don't receive a magazine just call us and we will send you one!

This is our 1st STARS newsletter!

We will always have things that should be of interest to you, but, we would like your input of items to include in the newsletter. I have heard from many retirees that they hope the newsletter is easy to read, not too long, and things of interest only to STARS (everyone is bombarded with junk mail they said). The DNR STARS program has been an amazing success already, thanks to you. The STARS and the **"STARS FOREVER"** will be a success with your input!

I have 50 e-mail addresses of the more than **300 DNR STARS**. After you receive your **"STARS FOREVER"** in the US Mail, we will do a test e-mail of the newsletter the last week of July. So if you want to add your e-mail

or make sure your e-mail address is correct, just e-mail **CampbellL@dnr.sc.gov**.

SYMPATHY

We have lost three STARS since our program started and our deepest sympathy is extended to the families of:

- ★ **Walt Schrader** Wildlife Region 3, District Biologist (Rock Hill)
- ★ **Guy Williams** LE District 2, Lieutenant (Edgefield)
- ★ **Furman Green** LE, Range Operator (Pickens)

*Our apologies if we were not notified of any other passings.

I am requesting that if a STAR passes that we are notified immediately in order for us to send our condolences. We will make every effort to attend the funeral of a STAR who dies. Please e-mail Linda at CampbellL@dnr.sc.gov.

Look for the STARS program to be featured on the DNR Web page with a link to the "STARS FOREVER" newsletter for STARS and employees to access.

BUSY BEES STARS

Our STARS have been busy volunteering.

Palmetto Sportsmen Classic
★ **12 employees - (200 hours)**

License Renewal Project
★ **9 employees - (70 hours)**

If you want to volunteer for the Harry Hampton/Charleston Banquet August 13, 2005, please contact Terri Hallman at (843) 953-9169 in Charleston.

We now have an Official Logo which you see on the front of this mailing and we will use this on all **DNR STARS** related materials! We think you did a great job selecting the logo!

You voted to meet two times each year in the four regions. Since we have some very large regions, making travel impossible for some we can meet in two locations in those long regions on two different dates. Remember this is for you, the **STARS!**

I will be contacting some of you for suggested locations in the near future or you can let me know your suggestions now. You can attend as many as you wish. We will be glad to get together when we hit the road!

Don't be shy!! Just stick your thumb out and someone will pick you up – we want you to have fun, see each other and find out what's going on in the world of the **STARS!** Who knows we just might end up in a **STARS** back yard some day for a get-together!

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Watch for that special surprise just for our **DNR STARS** at the Palmetto Sportsmens Classic March 2006. Details will be in the next **STARS FOREVER** newsletter.

DID YOU HEAR???? RETIREES ARE GETTING A 3.4 PERCENT INCREASE IN YOUR RETIREMENT CHECKS!! PLEASE THANK YOUR LEGISLATORS!

How DNR STARS program was born!

★ **Carole Collins, Deputy Director Outreach & Support Services**, created the concept of a retirees program and took it to Director John Frampton not knowing what his reaction would be (He loved it)!

★ **Linda Amick** (a very shining STAR) and Carole had talked a lot about the possibility of such a program. Linda had a vision/dream and the name **"STAYING TOGETHER AFTER RETIREMENT STARTS - STARS"** came to Linda from the heavens!

★ **Director John Frampton & Deputy Director Collins** then chose Linda Campbell to coordinate this new program (he suggested that she probably was the only active employee who knew and had maintained a relationship with the retirees. She still wonders just how old he thinks she is but actually he and she started the same time and they are the same age).

★ **The DNR BOARD gave wholehearted endorsement to this wonderful program!**

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