



# RISTWATCH

RCVFD Quarterly Newsletter   P. O. Box 2, Bellvue, CO 80512   Issue No. 83   July, 2017

## **FUN FOR THE KIDS!**

## **FUN FOR YOU!**

**Climbing Wall**

**Food   Live Bands**

**Barrel Train   Pony Rides**

**Belly Dancers**

**Face Painting   Petting Zoo**

**Truck Show**

**Bake Sale**

**Bounce House**

**Raptors**

**Crafters**

**Obstacle Course**

**Ice Cream**

**Judy the Clown**

**HUGE Book Sale**

## **RIST CANYON VFD MOUNTAIN FESTIVAL**

**Sunday, September 3rd**

**10 am to 4 pm**

**Please join us to  
raise funds for our  
Volunteer Fire Fighters!**

## Letter from the President

**APPRECIATION:** THE ACT OF RECOGNIZING OR UNDERSTANDING THAT SOMETHING IS VALUABLE OR IMPORTANT.

On June 15, 2017, Comstock Fire & Rescue Chief Ed Switalski, along with other First Responders, responded to an auto accident call. After the crash victims had been transported to a local hospital near Kalamazoo, MI, the First Responders began cleaning up from the accident. While Chief Switalski was returning gear to the emergency vehicles a passing car went out of control, hitting the Chief and killing him. Life is the most valuable and important of all. Chief Switalski gave his life helping his community.

The VALUE and IMPORTANCE our community receives from the RCVFD volunteers is as good as it gets. When was the last time, we as individuals, expressed appreciation and gratitude to a First Responder personally?

When the alarm is sounded, they so unselfishly rise to the occasion, whatever it may be, without hesitation, 24/7. RCVFD First Responders show up at the scene, do what is required, what they are trained to do, disappearing as quickly as they appeared, like the SUPER HEROS that they are, not asking for any recognition for their great skills.

The following are those we need to express our APPRECIATION to:

**Carol Dollard Fire Chief**  
**Jeff Elsner Asst. Chief, EMT**  
**Ron Hall-Estand Medical Officer, EMT**  
**Terry Shetler Lieutenant**  
**Phil Benstein Lieutenant, EMT**  
**Norm Miller Lieutenant**  
**Jesse Ceplecha Lieutenant**

**Kim Workman**  
**Mark McCracken**  
**Jordy Levich**  
**Ruben Arrieta**  
**Erik Williams EMT**  
**Juana Jackson**  
**Jeff Stark**  
**Randy Starkey**  
**H J Seigel**

**Pedro Boscan**  
**Larry Sippel**  
**Claudia Benstein**  
**Kathryn Touran**  
**Vivian Burke**  
**Laurie Franklin**  
**Ed Franklin**  
**Ashton Croxton**  
**Luke Whitson EMT**

**Jeffrey Rulli EMT**  
**Matt Thompson**  
**Karen Steadman EMT**  
**Jim Terrell**  
**Larry Monesson EMT**  
**Eric Schaeland**  
**John Benshoof**  
**Joshua Hanson**  
**Paul Vanderslice**

**YOU call, they will be there.**

**Please let them know we support them by supporting RCVFD.**

*Dale Snyder*  
*President, RCVFD*

# Chief's Report

Well I am going to use the first part of this column to brag about our responders. It never ceases to amaze me how hard they work to support the RCVFD. Just some examples from the past few weeks:

- We had a call—dirt bike rider injured in a remote area of Crystal Mountain. The incident involved three RCVFD responders/EMTs and two Thompson Valley paramedics hiking in over a mile and a half to the scene, caring for the patient with a serious back injury, clearing an area for the helicopter to land, and getting all of them plus a half dozen bystanders back out safely in the dark. In parallel, other RCVFD responders were coordinating multiple agencies and transporting gear and personnel all over the mountain. Start to finish, the call took nearly six hours. Thanks to Terry, Jeff E., Phil, Mark & Juana.
- The pump on E313 has been giving us trouble when drafting. Without even having to ask, Eddie took on the job of tearing it apart and fixing the problems that had plagued that pump.
- Phil, Claudia, Laurie, Eddie, Ron and I visited a group of developmentally disabled children at the Buckhorn Church Camp to show them firefighting equipment, put on our fire gear in front of them and generally try to reduce their fear should they ever encounter a firefighter in an emergency. They were a very attentive group until the therapy dogs showed up. Hard to compete with cute dogs . . .
- There are many other stories: Phil, Jessie, Jeff E., and Josh putting on top notch training; Laurie keeping our responders properly outfitted with PPE; Terry reprogramming all the department radios when the County changed the call list; Norm always there to help keep our fleet of trucks running; Ron meticulously organizing and labeling the med kits so us non-EMTs can find things easily; Mark maintaining the website and doing all the IT support for the Department; Ruben replacing the brakes on E15; Jeff R. developing maps that will help streamline evacuation notices; Larry, Ron,

Karen, Phil, Jeff E., Erik and all the EMTs who have shown up time and again on all the medical calls in the past few weeks. OK, I am starting to sound like a proud parent who won't shut up about their kids, yet I am sure I left out someone. But one more thing . . .

- Erik, Ron, Jeff E. recently completed EMT training (2 nights/week and many Saturdays for four months). We recently learned that all three passed their National Registry exam! Congrats and thanks for your incredible dedication to the department.

Be sure to thank your neighbors who are RCVFD responders and help support the important work that we do in our community.

Now on a different topic: Drones have started to appear everywhere. They are great for photography and other uses. We have even seen other Departments use them to help locate fires. However, there is a downside. In a wildland fire, if there is a drone flying in the area, it will ground all air operations (safety requirement). So if there is a wildland fire, do not fly your drone to try and get a better look at what's going on, it will require us to shut down the helicopters and small air tankers that can help us extinguish the fire.

Finally, I want to take a moment to honor Bob Cunningham. We lost Bob on Memorial Day—RCVFD responded, but he was already gone. On scene a fellow responder noted that it was the "end of an era". Bob was an icon in the canyon and many of us knew him as a friend. While he was never an official responder, he earned the moniker "Rist Canyon Waldo" during the High Park fire—a long story best told over a beer or around a campfire. He has been a supporter of the RCVFD for years, most recently helping to build Station 1 after High Park. He always seemed to be there when folks needed him (he helped me on very short notice when my waterline sprung a leak), he always had a wild story, and of all the places he had lived and visited in the world he chose our community as his home—he knew best what a great place this was. We all miss him.

*Carol Dollard*  
*Chief, RCVFD*

# Get to Know Your Fire Fighters

This month, we'll meet

**Ronald Hall-Estand,  
RCVFD Medical Officer**



My position is Medical Officer (newly elected this year even though I was in EMT school). I have been on the department for almost five years. I wanted to join after the Crystal fire seeing what they did (they were based on our property for quite a few days). However, I wasn't living here quite full time yet so it wasn't until after the High Park fire and I moved up here that Bob Gann allowed me to join.

I live at the entrance of the upper Buckhorn in Moody Park. I have five cats, two great pyrenees, two horses and a goat. We have had cows, more goats and sheep as well in the past. I'm open to anything else I'm allowed to bring home. I live with my husband Andy and my in-laws. My in-laws built the log cabin 20 years ago and after health issues we moved up to take care of them and the 55 acre property.

My background in Medical/EMS/Fire is pretty minimal other than family lineage. My father, Doug Estand, was a volunteer firefighter in his home town of Orland Park, IL and so was his uncle and

grandfather, (my great uncle and great grandfather). I had no training or experience prior to joining the department and when I joined I attended both Medical and Fire training. I never saw myself getting heavy into Medical nor even becoming the Medical Officer. I realized early on that since our calls are 75-80 percent medical, my attitude on that would have to change. I just completed EMT school this spring. It was a great experience and gave me lots of tools and information for me to start this career with our department.

I have also become a BLS (Basic Life Support) Instructor and taught four classes to the department to get the department certified. BLS includes CPR, AED use (Automated Electronic Defibrillator), rescue breathing and the Heimlich maneuver.

I came from a Southside suburb of Chicago called Orland Park, and moved to Colorado ten and a half years ago. Hobbies and passions include it all. I am a hands on guy—I garden, work with and ride horses, knit and play music. I have a degree in Church Music and Organ Performance. I just got and am learning the Concertina, also called a squeeze box—similar to an accordion in a way.

I also like to cook and bake. For employment I am a Head Baker with Safeway. My favorite food is anything with bacon—I use bacon grease in almost everything I cook.

The best part of being on the department is the people, both on and off the department. All of us on the department have a passion and love for what we do and that's why, although we don't get paid in money, we get paid with the rewards and experiences we share together—it's a very eclectic group. I also enjoy meeting the patients and other people we help and protect.

It's a great community here and I am fortunate to have found this niche of heaven on earth. If I were a forest inhabitant I would have to be a chipmunk, just because of Karma.

*Congratulations on your new position, Ron, and thanks for the interview! Ed.*



## Special Requests

I started this column for special tasks that help keep the RCVFD strong. Not everyone can carry a pager, but many can do a special thing that can free up others for responses.

Last month I asked for help maintaining the grounds around our stations and we would like to say a big THANK YOU to Dennis Swenson who volunteered to take care of keeping the weeds down around Station 3. Dennis has been a longtime supporter of the department—his company built both Station 1 and Station 3.

We could still use a volunteer to take care of the grounds around Station 1. If you would like to help out, please contact me at [chief@rcvfd.org](mailto:chief@rcvfd.org).



Will RCVFD find you when they need to? Consider purchasing a reflective sign. Just \$15! All we need is your address. Order today! Call Louise Creager at 970.217.6843.



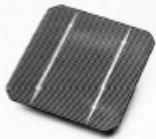
If you have an emergency, always

# CALL 9-1-1

### RCVFD Monthly Meeting Schedule: Meetings at Firehouse #1 on Rist Canyon Rd.

Operations – 1<sup>st</sup> Wed. @ 7:00 PM  
Fire Training – 2<sup>nd</sup> Wed. @ 7:00 PM  
Board Meeting – 3<sup>rd</sup> Wed. @ 7:00 PM  
Medical Training – 4<sup>th</sup> Wed. @ 7:00 PM

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## 2017 Mountain Festival News



The festival coordinators and chairs are hard at work, planning for another great fundraising festival for the Rist Canyon Volunteer Fire Department. Contact the festival coordinators or one of our festival activity chairs to find out how you can get involved!

### **Festival Coordinators [festivalcoordinators@rcvfd.org](mailto:festivalcoordinators@rcvfd.org)**

Jenn Nolte

Vicky Jordan

Karen Steadman

Bridget Tisthammer

### **Festival Chairs**

Advertising:	Leisa Taylor	taylorsle@msn.com
Bake Sale:	Lisa Diederich	diederich@toast.net
Book Sale:	Carolyn Stanley	cloud9sewing@gmail.com
Craft Booths:	<u>Position Open!</u>	
Firefighter's Tent:	RCVFD	chief@rcvfd.org
Food Trucks:	Bridget Tisthammer	bridget@friei.com
Gift Baskets:	Karen Steadman	houseofelk@yahoo.com
Ice Cream Tent:	Shane Downing	shane@tracydowning.org
Off-stage Entertainment:	Vicky Jordan	vjordan678@gmail.com
Onstage Entertainment:	Jennifer Nolte	jennifer.nolte@uchealth.org
Plant Sale:	Ann Nichols	chopin18@aol.com
Truck Show:	Chris Steadman	houseofelk@yahoo.com

### **Bake Sale News**

It's getting close to festival time and the Bake Sale Tent will need lots of your baked items to sell. Every year pies are our best selling item and every year we sell more! I believe we sold over 50 pies last year.

Baking your favorite treat and donating it to the Bake Sale Tent is one of the easiest ways to help raise money for our wonderful Volunteer Fire Department.

All proceeds go to the Fire Department. Cookies, brownies, bars and cupcakes are frequently requested. It is best if items are packaged to sell, either individually or in a small amount. Having the ingredients is very helpful too.

Please don't hesitate to email or call me if you have any questions. [diederich@toast.net](mailto:diederich@toast.net) 970/472-8426. See you at the festival! Lisa D.

### **CALLING ALL GARDENERS!**

We will have our popular PLANT BOOTH at the RCVFD Festival again this year, so please start rooting and planting your cuttings so they will be well established in time for the Festival. You can donate both indoor and outdoor plants.

If you would also like to help at the Plant Booth during the Festival you can volunteer for a 1 or 2-hour shift between 9 am and 5 pm. (9 am for set-up, 10 to 4 for helping with sales, and 4 pm for tear-down.) Call Ann Nichols at 416-8494.

## Area Representatives — Do You Know Yours?

Now that I am an area representative, I understand what it takes to maintain our amazing RCVFD. It takes an ENTIRE community to chip in financially as well as with their precious time. I am so proud to be a part of it.

*Jill Smith*  
*Stove Prairie Area Rep.*



Dale Snyder, Sue Stephens, Juana Jackson, Marilyn Snyder and Jill Smith stuffing envelopes for the Area Rep mailing. Did you get your magnet?

RCVFD is there for ALL 24/7.  
Let us hear your comments or concerns anytime!

*Louise Creager*  
*Stratton Park Area Rep.*

Just a reminder that the re-paving of Rist Canyon Road will be ongoing all the way through October. Please have patience and remember to drive safely.

*Juana Jackson*  
*Rist Canyon Rd Area Rep.*

**Rist Canyon VFD**

**Has Fire trucks and EMTs**

**Tires and Band Aids don't come free**

**Donate to the VFD**


All Buckhorn residents should feel free to drop in and discuss any RCVFD issues here at Mile Marker 31.

*Don Diemer*  
*Buckhorn Area Rep.*

The Ristwatch reserves the right to edit, refuse, reject or cancel any article or ad at any time. We base this decision on our responsibility to our readers. We will not knowingly print any article or ad that is misleading or untruthful. Articles submitted to the Ristwatch are a representation of the author and not necessarily an endorsement by the Rist Canyon Volunteer Fire Department.



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# 100 Million Volts

*With the onset of the July monsoon season, this seems like an appropriate article for this issue. (Edited for space):*

The electrical potential in a lightning strike can be as much as 100 million volts, and lightning strikes can occur over distances as great as 40 miles. Lightning travels both in front of and behind a thunderstorm, so strikes can occur before or after rain. Lightning can hit in the same place and often spreads out 60 feet over the soil around the strike point.

Thunder always accompanies lightning. When lightning occurs, the air through which it travels is instantaneously heated to a temperature in excess of 50,000°F. The air expands rapidly due to this heating, then quickly contracts as it cools. It is this contracting shock wave that we hear as thunder.

Despite the popular myth that being struck by lightning is an unlikely event, the statistics show that lightning strikes occur frequently. In many areas of the world, lightning strikes are second only to flooding as the greatest cause of storm related death and injury. Although only 10% of lightning strike victims are killed (virtually all from cardiac or respiratory arrest), over 70% of survivors suffer severe, life-long injury and disability including memory loss, fatigue, chronic pain, dizziness, sleeping difficulty and the inability to complete several tasks at one time.

The safest location during lightning activity is inside a fully enclosed and substantially constructed building such as a house, office, school or shopping area. These are safest because the electrical current from the lightning will travel through the wiring or plumbing of the building into the ground. When such a building is nearby, always seek shelter there first.

The second safest location during lightning activity is inside a fully enclosed car, van, truck or bus with a metal roof and metal sides. The

electrical energy of a lightning strike to these vehicles is carried to ground by the conducting outer metal surfaces. This is called the skin effect. Do not seek safety from lightning strikes in vehicles with fiberglass or plastic body shells or in convertible-top vehicles as they do not offer skin effect lightning protection.

**If you are already inside a building,** don't watch the storm from open windows or doorways. Stay in inner rooms. Stay well away from corded telephones, electrical appliances, lighting fixtures, radio microphones, electrical sockets and plumbing pipes and fixtures.

**If you are already inside a motor vehicle, stay inside.** Don't step outside of the vehicle to move to another shelter. Very dangerous electrical pathways to ground may go through you. Turn off the engine and close the doors and windows. Sit squarely in the seat with your hands in your lap and feet flat on the floor mat. Do not touch any metallic objects, including door and window handles, control levers, foot pedals, the steering wheel or cab interior walls. Do not touch radios or telephones connected to an outside antenna.

**If you are caught outside and have nowhere else to go:**

1. Avoid wide-open areas where you project above the surrounding landscape.
2. Seek a low place, such as a ditch, ravine, valley, canyon or cave.
3. Get away from open water such as ponds or streams.
4. Do not take shelter under any isolated tall trees or small groups of trees.
5. Seek shelter amongst the dense, thick growth of the shortest trees.
6. Avoid entering any small enclosures or shelters.
7. Do not seek shelter under motor vehicles or heavy equipment.
8. Keep clear of any materials that can conduct electricity such as wire fences and gates, metal pipes, poles, rails and tools.

*Cont'd. on next page*

## 100 Million Volts, cont'd.

9. Stay at least 50 ft away from metal objects such as a fuel tank, vehicle or machinery.
10. Stay at least 16 ft apart from anyone else so that lightning won't travel between you.
11. Do not use a telephone except for emergencies.

**If you feel your skin tingling, your hair stands on end, if light metal objects vibrate or you hear a crackling sound, lightning is probably about to strike.** You only have a few seconds to act:

1. Put your feet together. Crouch down in a baseball catcher's position. Hold your head down. Cover your ears to protect them against the noise of the thunder.
2. Do not lie flat on the ground. By touching as little of the ground as possible, the lightning may not move across the ground to you.

### **What if someone you are with has been struck by lightning?**

1. You can touch the victim immediately; there is no residual electrical charge.
2. Call 911 immediately.
3. If the victim has no pulse, their heart has stopped or they have stopped breathing, start cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) or mouth-to-mouth resuscitation immediately. Use a portable defibrillator if one is available.
4. If possible, move the victim to a building as soon as possible. Remember, you can get hit by lightning too.

*Reprinted with permission  
from the Tree Farmer Alert,  
July 3, 2017*



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## Community Correspondence

I would like to thank Kent Cope, of Cope Construction, for his great work in repairing the leaking water storage tank behind Station 1, only 5 hours.

*Dale Snyder*

### **"Advertise in the Ristwatch"**

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Full Page - \$75

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Quarter Page - \$35

Business Card - \$15

Carol,

As you know, I ride the canyon on a regular basis. It was a good reminder to see the signs encouraging bike riders to support RCVFD so I made my donation today. I suggest that RCVFD expand its outreach to the biking community. Perhaps a flyer to distribute to bike shops and a larger sign in the canyon targeting bike riders. Providing a way for donating bike riders to identify their donations would also encourage participation and provide a venue for the biking community to show its support for the RCVFD and the Rist Canyon community.

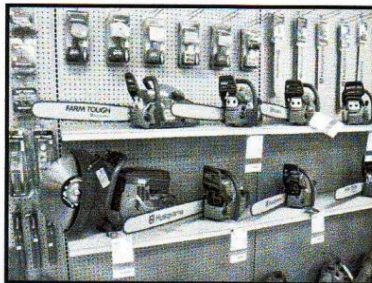
It is great to see folks wave at me as I ride up the canyon, especially this year when so many people have. Thank you to the RCVFD for all you do for the canyon's extended family, including the many bike riders who get to enjoy it safely.

*Jim Volpa*

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SOLD!

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Wolf Roofing

Rist Canyon

Roofing  
All Types

References  
493-7472



## Moving On

After 16 years with Colorado Parks and Wildlife, I will be moving on to a new chapter in my life. My last day with CPW was June 18<sup>th</sup>. I have been in this district for almost 10 years and wanted to say thank you to everyone. I really appreciated how everyone made me feel welcome and a part of the community, even though I did not live there. I enjoyed all of the meetings and one on one time I was able to spend with all of you. Not being able to work with you and be a part of these things will be one of the things I miss most. I also appreciate all of the help and support with the variety of wildlife issues. Without everyone working hard, these issues would have been even more extreme and made my job even more difficult.

I am not sure when my position will be filled, but my guess is that it won't take too long. If there are no interests for lateral transfers, our new officers will be assigned districts in December and I am guessing one of them will be assigned up here. I am guessing that the cell phone number will stay the same, but until someone is in the district, nobody will be checking messages. Therefore, the best number to use if you have wildlife concerns or questions will be the Ft. Collins office at 970/472-4300.

Thank you again for everything!

*Chad Morgan*

*Former District Wildlife Manager, Poudre District*



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### Buckhorn ~ Stove Prairie ~ Rist Canyon



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# Notes from Stove Prairie School

From Debra Randol

## Important Dates for 2017-2018 School Year

**New K-5 Student Registration: Tuesday, August 9, 8:00-3:00** at the school, 3891 Stove Prairie Road. Stove Prairie's attendance area extends west from Davis Ranch Road in Rist Canyon; Buckhorn Canyon from mile marker 19 and west; and north to Poudre Canyon on Stove Prairie Road.

### **First day of school:**

**Wednesday, August 23, for K-5 students**

### **First day for Preschool:**

**Monday, August 28**

### **School hours:**

**8:10 a.m. -2:55 p.m.**

### **BBQ & Back to School Night:**

**Thursday, August 31st, 5:30-7:30**

### **Preschool**

Children ages 3-5 may attend BASE Camp preschool here at Stove Prairie.

Preschool will meet Monday-Thursday, 8:10-12:00

Families can bring their preschool children to visit and learn about our program by calling the Preschool Site Director at 488-6585, during school days. Call BASE Camp at 266-1734 for info.

### **Year-Round Fundraising in Partnership with Businesses**

Thank you to the community members who help the school every time you:

- Shop with a King Soopers Gift Card Program ~ an AWESOME fundraiser for Stove Prairie.
- Turn in General Mills Box Tops for Education ~ this sponsors volunteer celebrations.

*Thank you!*

*Debi Randol*

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# American Trees Are Moving West, and No One Knows Why

As the consequences of climate change strike across the United States, ecologists have a guiding principle about how they think plants will respond. Cold-adapted plants will survive if they move “up”—that is, as they move further north (away from the tropics) and higher in elevation (away from the warm ground).

A new survey of how tree populations have shifted over the past three decades finds that this effect is already in action. But there’s a twist: Even more than moving poleward, trees are moving west. About three-quarters of tree species common to eastern American forests—including white oaks, sugar maples, and American hollies—have shifted their population center west since 1980. More than half of the species studied also moved northward during the same period.

These results, among the first to use empirical data to look at how climate change is shaping eastern forests, were published in *Science Advances* on Wednesday. Trees, of course, don’t move themselves. But their populations can shift over time, and saplings can expand into a new region while older growth dies in another. The research team compared a tree population to a line of people stretching from Atlanta to Indianapolis: Even if everyone in the line stood still, if you added new people to the end of the line in Indiana and asked others in Georgia to leave, then the center of the line would move nonetheless.

The results are fascinating in part because they don’t immediately make sense. But the team has a hypothesis: While climate change has elevated temperatures across the eastern United States, it has significantly altered rainfall totals. The northeast has gotten a little more rain since 1980 than it did during the preceding century, while the southeast has gotten much less rain. The Great Plains,

especially in Oklahoma and Kansas, get much more than historically normal.

“Different species are responding to climate change differently. Most of the broad-leaf species—deciduous trees—are following moisture moving westward. The evergreen trees—the needle species—are primarily moving northward,” said Songlin Fei, a professor of forestry at Purdue University and one of the authors of the study.

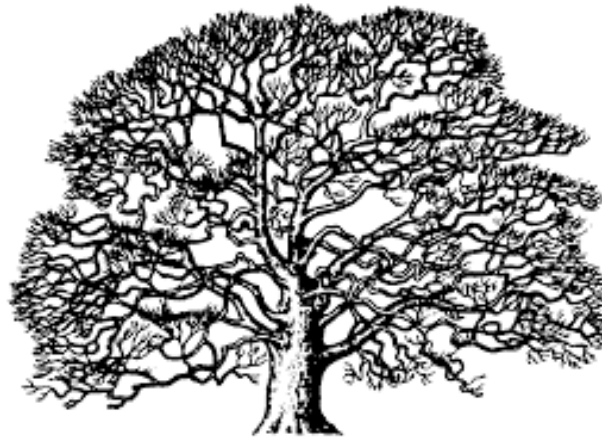
There are a patchwork of other forces which could cause tree populations to shift west, though. Changes in land use, wildfire frequency, and the arrival of pests and blights could be shifting the population. So might the success of conservation

efforts. But Fei and his colleagues argue that at least 20 percent of the change in population area is driven by changes in precipitation, which are heavily influenced by human-caused climate change.

“This is a very cool study, with results that seem to raise more questions than they can provide answers for,” said Loïc

D’Orangeville, an ecologist at the Quebec Forest Research Center who was not connected to the study, in an email. “West is usually drier in the study region, so although it’s been wetter in the recent decades, it’s still drier than the East.” “It can’t really make up [for] that moisture attractiveness for trees,” he added.

The movement of conifers and other needle trees north makes much more sense. Conifers are already more vulnerable to temperature than flowering, deciduous trees. They also already populate the boreal forest of eastern North America, so they’re well-adapted to the colder, drier conditions they will find as they expand north in the United States.



*Cont'd. on next page*

## American Trees, cont'd.

Fei and his colleagues don't know if the westward trend will continue. We may have already seen the peak of westward movement, and northward expansion may soon outrank it. "When the result came out that trees are moving westward, our eyeballs opened wide. Like, 'Wow, what's going on with this?' The results seem to show that moisture plays a much more significant role in the near-term, which is very intriguing."

The survey draws on the U.S. Forest Service's Forest Inventory and Analysis Program, a kind of continuously running census of the country's tree population. The program, which stepped up in 1978 but which has been conducted in some form since the 1930s, surveys the health, density, and species mix of forested areas across the country.

It examines not only the majestic, landmark tracts of untrammeled forest (like George Washington National Forest) but the humbler woods, as well: stands of trees near the highway, at the edge of housing developments, and in the middle of city parks "This is not a modeling exercise, there are no predictions, this is empirical data," said Fei. "This study is looking at everything everywhere in the eastern United States."

What concerns the team is that—if deciduous trees are moving westward while conifers move northward—important ecological communities of forests could start to break up in the east. Forests are defined as much by the mix of species, and the interaction between them, as by the simple presence of a lot of trees. If different species migrate in different directions, then communities could start to collapse.



"If you have a group of friends, and people move away to different places—some go to college in different places, and some move to Florida—the group is ... probably going to fall apart," Fei said. "We're interested in whether this tree community is falling apart."

"These results show contemporary proof of something we know has happened before and will happen again: that trees are highly dynamic organisms, constantly moving in response to climatic shifts like recent glaciations or other disturbances. Their actual range does not reflect conditions that are optimal for their growth," said D'Orangeville.

Any tree's range represents "a legacy of historical migrations and battles lost against other species or disturbances. With climate change however, their capacity to keep pace with the fast-changing climate is a major issue."

*Reprinted with permission from  
The Tree Farmer Alert  
June 12, 2017*

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*Cont'd on next page*



## **Treasurer's Notes**

Thanks to all of our RCVFD members who have given their support in 2017! Each and every donation received is equally important. Over the years your fire department has continued to grow with newer equipment and more medical staff.

In 2016 the annual budget was \$71,200. To give you somewhat of an idea what it takes to operate the fire department, in 2016 insurance costs were \$25,968 (36% of budget). The cost of utilities was \$2,746. Equipment repair, fuel and medical supplies was \$2,385.

The income from the annual drive and the festival was \$64,321. We can all see that with income at \$64,321 and a budget of \$71,200, we are left with a deficit. It is important that each of us give our support to the men and women who commit to 24/7 response.

The RCVFD has over 1,200 members on the mailing list of property owners. With over 1,200 property owners on our mailing list, if each gives support, RCVFD will continue to be the best they can be. Thanks again for all your support.

*Richard Lund*  
*RCVFD Treasurer*

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