

Marion

"A dour and doughty Scot." Scots have long been perceived as taciturn, stalwart in resistance to adversity, tight-lipped, and stoic. Their contributions as warriors, rulers, physicians, scientists, and engineers are formidable.

This month a member of the Clan McFarland died. In league with his countrymen, the McEwans, James M. "Marion" McFarland wrought considerable change to the physical landscape of Cannon Beach. Known to most of us simply as "Marion," the ageless man on the John Deere 350C caterpillar moved the obstacles, excavated the dirt, and fastened the water and sewer pipes that serve our town. Far from sour, Marion's mild manner and soft smile let grumblers like myself know the redemption immanent in honest physical work. Marion tackled an excavation job like a hobo hauled off the street for a Thanksgiving dinner.

I first encountered Marion in the spring of 1976. My brother Tim and I built our first house together that year and we were green as the alder saplings at the job site. Bob McEwan Construction promised to send a man with a cat' over to scoop out the house's foundation footprint. To my dismay, an elderly gentleman stepped down from the cab of a McEwan Construction dumptruck and approached me near a pile of green timber I'd been trying to burn for days.

"Tires," he said to me in a slow drawl. "Best way to burn wet logs. You've got 'em spread too far apart, too. Closer together, the heat will get 'em going better. Here, give me a hand."

He helped me manhandle the logs together, brought his cat' to the site, and mesmerized me for the next three days with his grit and savvy. Twenty years ago that short stocky gentleman with the shocks of gray hair under his baseball cap, an old Levi jacket on his stout shoulders, and a Camel straight cigarette in his mouth taught me the value of work and the application of steady energy to a task.

Last year I watched Marion, then in his early 80's, shepherd that same John Deere caterpillar around another job site, slowly, inexorably bringing the dirt to grade, sure and steady. He was a marvel.

His accomplishments are numerous. Marion singlehandedly cut the timber and ran cat' the length of the high tension line easement that brings power to our substation from the valley. He "pioneered" the Spruce Street Road and roads to the watershed. The public works department indicates that Marion has opened up the earth and installed water and sewer pipes on every street in the municipality of Cannon Beach during his tenure here. His "seventh sense" in locating pipes and mains is legendary and will be sorely missed. He possessed an uncanny sense when assessing substrate consistency. If Marion felt a boggy area demanded more pit-run fill, one ignored his advice at peril.

Bob McEwan, his long-time friend and employer, shared his recollections regarding Marion:

"He was an old-time worker. Didn't take more than a dozen sick days in 25 years. Never signed up for unemployment during the winter slack. He loved his work. He didn't waste time and he believed in doing a job once, the right way. He used his senses to "eyeball" a piece of ground level to grade and perfection. He liked to work slow and steady. Hundreds of brambled and mushy lots in Cannon Beach were transformed by Marion into level building sites. Good fill, bad fill. Marion knew the difference. He had a knack for identifying "true people" -- people honest in their appearance and their dealings with others. He never praised people who didn't deserve it. And he loved to dance."

I reflect on how fortunate we are to have people like Marion among us to show us the way. He will be missed greatly by his many friends and his family.



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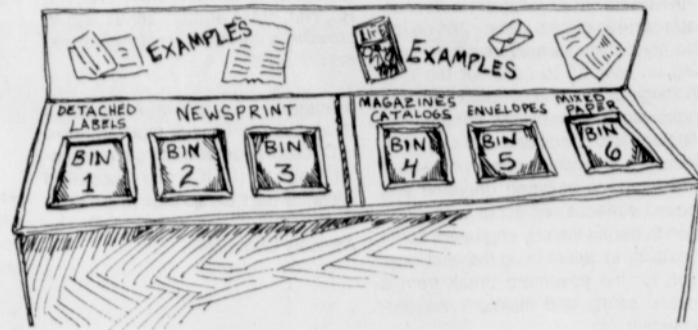
(503) 965-6722 PACIFIC CITY, OREGON

HAZARDOUS WASTE COLLECTION JUNE 17, 1995

Bring your household hazardous waste to the City Hall Parking Lot on Saturday June 17, 1995 between 10 AM & 4 PM. The City of Cannon Beach in conjunction with the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) and Clatsop County is sponsoring the event. Household hazardous waste is defined as any toxic &/or chemical materials that are not biodegradable. Please do not bring containers larger than 5 gallons, explosive materials, ammunition, radioactive waste, or biological waste. For detailed information on what will be accepted call City Hall at 436-1581. Once again leftover paint will be mixed and given away.

NEW POST OFFICE RECYCLING DEPOT

To help you process all the recyclable stuff you receive in your postal box a new sorting system was installed in the post office in May. The City of Cannon Beach, Postal Employees, the Energy Committee and local businesses worked together to implement this new system. Please be thoughtful in your use of this recycling site and recycle only materials you receive in the mail.



WHAT DOES IT ALL MEAN???

BIN #1. DETACHED LABELS

Those index card size labels that we receive with the Safeway newspaper ads & coupons can not be recycled with newsprint. If they are accidentally put in the newspaper bins they are considered contamination and have to be sorted out by hand. To remedy the situation, we have created a separate bin just for detached labels.

BIN #2 & 3. NEWSPRINT

Any newsprint may be placed in with newspapers whether it has a glossy or mat finish.

BIN #4. MAGAZINES & CATALOGS

All magazines & catalogs may be recycled. Please place glossy newsprint in the newspaper bins.

BIN #5. ENVELOPES

White and colored envelopes of any size may be recycled.

BIN #6. MIXED PAPER

Whites and coloreds can be recycled in this bin. Please do not place envelopes in here.

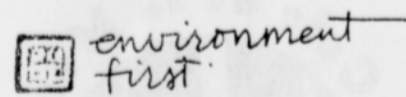
BULLETIN BOARD

As soon as I get my act together we will be placing a bulletin board above the recycling bins that will have recycling information, brochures, city and energy committee reports, and misc. information on conservation projects.

SPECIAL NOTE: This project would not be possible without the enthusiastic help of our Postal Employees. Cannon Beach is the only site in the United States that I could find with this type of a partnership between a City, Post Office, & volunteers to house a full recycling program. Next time you are in the P.O. be sure to thank Karen, Pat and Sally. If you have any suggestions or complaints address them to me at; P.O. Box 283.

HOW MUCH IS OUR RECYCLED STUFF WORTH?

The other day a very wise man in town informed me that the latest New York City theft trend was... stealing curbside recycling. Good grief, these big city folks are sure strange. So when I read an article in the Oregonian the next day about thieves stealing old newspapers from recycling trucks in Portland, I had to scoff at human nature. Now that recyclable materials are a valuable commodity, they too are being exploited by opportunistic people. What next an organized blackmarket recycling trade. You don't think Cannon Beach could be next??? Just for your trivia information bank the current price for cardboard is \$210 per ton, magazines: \$ 115 per ton, newspaper: \$120 per ton, white paper: \$400 per ton and gray board: \$95 per ton.



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