

New firewood permit law to go into effect

by MICHAEL P. JONES
Post Correspondent

A new firewood permit law, House Bill 3022, goes into effect Nov. 1.

The law is expected to help the State Police, the U.S. Forest Service, and the Bureau of Land Management, as well as timber companies and private landowners, with the growing problem of people illegally cutting firewood.

The new law requires that a written permit from the landowner, the Forest Service, or other authorized agents, be carried when cutting or transporting "minor forest products" over roads and highways in the state.

Cutters will have to carry a permit that has identifying data on both the landowner and the person to whom the permit is issued.

It also has to contain the amount and species that is to be cut and transported. In the case of private land, the legal description of the property

must be included.

Carla Jones, assistant fuels manager at the Zigzag Ranger Station, hailed the new law as a positive approach toward dealing with people who have illegally cut firewood on both national forest and private land.

Jones said that problems have developed in the Mt. Hood National Forest in recent years due to the skyrocketing demand for firewood. She said that from April to May of this year, the Zigzag station issued 3,000 permits. For a four-month period beginning in June and ending in September, 7,500 additional permits were issued. In the first weekend of October alone 500 were issued.

Jones said that commercial firewood has now become a big business. As a result, more and more people are cutting wood on a free use permit and selling it commercially. She said that it is "not legal to take something free (from the government) and sell it."

Jones said that she would not even want to guess how many people are cutting commercial wood illegally, but said that she does feel most of the violators are local residents who have easier access to the forests and don't have to pay the high gas prices to get to the area.

She said that in the Zigzag district alone, there are 25 to 30 persons known to be illegally cutting for profit.

Jones admits that it is difficult to catch most violators, but feels that the new law, and increased weekend patrols that are scheduled to saturate the forests soon, could have an impact.

She said that probably the best they can expect to do is "to help keep the honest people honest."

Last year only 10 persons were apprehended in the Zigzag district selling commercial wood illegally.

Jones said that people most people that get in trouble with the forest service patrols are cutting standing green

trees, not taking forest wood for commercial use. She said that they could be fined \$40, or else fined what the value of the tree would be in three years.

Jones said that the new law will assist authorities in stopping people who cut in the forest during high fire danger time, which is prohibited.

"In recent years," Jones said, "when

they were pulled over by the State Police, they would deny cutting in the National Forest and claim they had cut on a friend's land, whose name they didn't remember, or that lived down the road.

"It was just too hard to prove anything," Jones said. "But now this is a law that could solve some of our pro-

blems. No longer will the police have to take their word that they didn't cut illegally. Now they have to possess some documentation."

Major Kirby Harris, administrator of the State Police Traffic Division, recognized this problem and said that his department will exercise good judgment when enforcing the new law.

Senior Citizen Center to share van

The transportation problems that have placed a heavy burden on the staff at the Hoodland Senior Center is finally about to be solved.

The Center's steering committee has announced that the organization will be sharing a van with another center in Canby.

Maxine Worley, Senior Center direc-

tor, said that it has taken a year, but her organization has secured the use of a van that will enable them to provide better recreational activities for her clients. She said that they will be taking more field trips.

Worley added that the van would also be used in delivering more and better services for the clients that are shut-in, unable to get out because of health pro-

blems or physical disabilities.

She said that the only major drawback with sharing the van with the center in Canby is the travel involved in picking it up and returning it.

The van will be stored in Canby. She said that in spite of the drawback, she is positive that this is the first step toward eventually securing a vehicle on a full-time basis in order to expand services.

The Hoodland Senior Center is currently seeking volunteer drivers with good driving records to assist with transportation. All those interested should contact the center at 622-3331.

Special lunch program open to seniors

For the second year the Hoodland Senior Center will be participating in a special lunch program sponsored by Welches Grade School.

Maxine Worley, Senior Center director, said that the lunch program has begun its second successful year. The center started taking advantage of the program, offered by the school district, this past September.

Worley said that the program is serving about 20 elderly persons and is held every Monday and Thursday. The meals are served in the school's library.

She said that the program provides a vital service for the area's elderly since the meals-on-wheels program delivers only up to the city of Sandy.

Worley said that because there is a large population of elderly living on the mountain that would like to have hot meals delivered, that the program will probably be expanded eventually to include the Hoodland area.

In the meantime, the best alternative is the Welches School lunch program.



Loretta Miller, a student at Clackamas Community College from the Milwaukie area, uses a balling gun to give a worm pill to a Devon calf that belongs to Jack Travis, 34901 Skogan Road, who is pictured at left. A new livestock facility is being built on the CCC campus, with a tentative dedication date set for Nov. 31. In the past, and until the livestock facility is finished, students have used others' facilities for laboratory exercises.

Staff photo

Different approach is the key to photographer's success

by SCOTT NEWTON

For Sandi Poutala, the owner of Je Taime Photography Studio, the customer isn't the only one taking a risk by getting his portrait done.

"I think I have to make my own self vulnerable," she said recently. "A lot of photographers are unwilling to do that."

But Poutala isn't one to ask a subject to sit on a stool in front of bright lights, with maybe a projected background behind him.

"I think people are tired of being just a number to be shuffled in and out and

everybody photographed the same," Poutala said.

So, what she did was set up a studio on Lusted Road, near Roslyn Lake, where the natural settings are unlimited.

This, however, was after 13 years as a research associate at the University of Oregon Research Center in Portland, where she was often asked to use her camera.

She's also worked for two different photographers for about eight years.

She's been in business for herself for about two and a half years, and said that her setting up a studio in the coun-

try had people wondering.

"Everyone thought I was nuts for moving clear out here, because of the distance and inaccessibility," she said. And has it turned out to be a disadvantage?

"Absolutely not. It's been an advantage, because where can you go to get setting such as we have right here in our backyard?"

One of the recent trends, according to Poutala, is to have portraits done where that person, or those people, live.

"I think more and more people are wanting to have their portraits done in their own environments, in their own

backyards. Especially in this area, where people do have acreages, and farms and ranches. We'll go to them."

Right now business is good. "We're keeping very busy right now," said Poutala. She has two employees. Colleen McGuire, also a photographer, works for Poutala as well as taking on projects of her own. And Cindy Freeman, who has taken one of the all-day seminars Poutala offers in the summer, is also employed at the studio.

Poutala, of course, has done it all on her own.

But when she's not answering the telephone, doing all the lab work, or being the receptionist, she feels she does better work.

"I feel my own psyche allows me to do better photography when I don't have so many pressures from running the business."

Still, she plans on doing whatever it takes to keep things going. "Times are bad," she said. "I certainly do feel that the recession has hit everyone, every retail business. People are hanging on to their dollars a lot tighter than they were a year ago, or even six months ago."

"They're worried about the future. We thought at first, 'Well, this is going to be short-lived. Everybody's going to get back in the swing, get their jobs back.' It just hasn't happened."

Right now, with Christmas orders and senior pictures, Poutala isn't hurting for things to do.

And, when things slow down in the spring and summer, there are other activities that fill the void.

For example, she's been offering two one-day seminars on photography during the summers.

The people that take her classes range from those that've just purchased a camera to people with five or 10 years' experience.

Although some are apprehensive about the numbers on a camera, Poutala tells them not to worry about it.

"It's not all that technical. It doesn't have to be hard," she said.

"People say, 'Well, you're teaching all these people to go out and take your weddings away and do their own portraits.' Well, they come back and they're my best customers. They gain an appreciation, maybe, for some of the years of experience that I've had. Just the way I've learned to do things. It looks easy, but it's taken a lot of years

to develop."

And, she adds, "I've never felt that other photographers, even other professionals, were my competition. I think my competition is within my own self."

"The people that worry about other people taking their business away are a bit insecure, in my opinion."

Professional seminars have also helped keep her time occupied. Last March she spoke to a group in New York, and she spoke at the Western States Convention in Anaheim the year before that.

"Everyone wants to know, I guess, how women succeed in photography, run a small business and do so well," Poutala said, laughing, and perhaps considering how the first professional photographer she worked for had wondered "how people would react to a woman wedding photographer."

Poutala has been asked to put together a seminar to take to Manchester, England, and seminars in Canada and Hawaii are also being considered.

She won the Professional Photographers of Oregon sweepstakes in 1980, with the best children's portrait and the best women's portrait.

Poutala and her husband, Arnie, and Deedra, 15, and Heidi, 6, make their home in a house just a short distance from the studio. Arnie is an insurance underwriter for the Sandy Insurance Agency.

Personal attention, Poutala thinks, is the reason she's been successful. That, and not being afraid to take a risk.

"Some other photographers say, 'How can you spend that much time (with each individual customer). You can't make any money doing that.'

"And yet, by our orders, and by the happiness of our customers, I feel like we've been successful."

She doesn't own as much equipment as one might expect. She has two large format cameras, and a 35mm. "I own two lights," she jokes, "(and) one camera bag. That's it."

"I find that equipment slows me down. When I teach my seminars, I teach them how to make use of available light, window light, lamp light, flashlight light. Light is light."

The important thing, she said, is the expressions.

"My philosophy is to take the picture and focus later. You've got to have timing. You've got to be there when the ac-

tion's happening."

Poutala wants to be innovative, add pizzazz to portraits.

In one photograph on the wall of her studio there is a saxophone player, playing by a river while the sun sparkles off his horn.

Poutala has a montage with a couple standing by a bicycle, perhaps reminiscent of a scene from "Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid."

"A lot of people will have these fantasies of how they really want to be photographed, what their image is."

"But they won't always tell you, so it's a lot of drawing out."

"You have to be very sensitive to people's emotional status when you're photographing them. They have this very fine little shield, that everybody puts in front of them, you know."

"They don't want you to get too close, or unveil them too much."

"And for a photographer, that's exactly what you have to do. You have to instantly communicate. Good vibrations have to flow."

So what Poutala tries to do is get people to relax, to get them to allow her to photograph them as they would like to look.

"I think the nicest compliment that people can give me is to say, 'That looks just like Johnny. Or, that looks just like dad.'"

Perhaps she summed up her style best when she said, "I just like to put a little fun in people's lives."

Friends of Timberline dance Oct. 24

A Halloween dance, with the proceeds to benefit Friends of Timberline, will be held Oct. 24, beginning at 8 p.m.

It will be the first public event to be held in the new Wy'East Day Lodge.

The Friends of Timberline is a non-profit organization that is raising money to furnish the lodge with contemporary hand-crafted furniture by Oregon craft people.

There will be a costume contest Saturday night, and music will be provided by Even Steven.

Call 226-7979 for more information.



Sandi Poutala

Photo by Scott Newton