

Meet Lloyd Pierre

By Kathryn H. Bogle

Lloyd Pierre loves the outdoor life. He loves it all; the land, the soil, the water, animals, birds.

For Lloyd, there had to be the right job. He prepared for it and the job hove into view. Lloyd Pierre is the District Conservationist for the Soil Conservation Service (SCS) for Multnomah County.

Born in Louisiana, in Cajun country, 36 years ago, Pierre finished his high school education there and went into the U.S. Air Force soon after. He stayed in the service for about 12 years, gained some additional education as a Medical Laboratory Technician, spent about two years in Germany and wound up his military service with a full year in Vietnam. Along the way, he learned how to handle the big sentry dogs, trained to assist in many dangerous tasks, involving security matters overseas.

Discharge time found Pierre ready to continue his formal education and he enrolled at Texas A & M. By this time, he had married his fiancée, Zenata, a political science graduate of Our Lady of the Lake College, in San Antonio.

The young couple chose to live in Oregon. They were ready to appreciate its climate, its freshness and its greenness. They moved here to complete their education.

Settling in Eugene, Zenata attended University of Oregon, while Lloyd commuted to Corvallis to attend Oregon State. She studied and won her masters degree in Library Science. Lloyd found he was happy in the school of wildlife science at Oregon State.

Commuting became entrenched as a way of life for them.

The SCS people hire when there is a background in agriculture such as Agronomy, Forestry, Geology, Engineering and such related disciplines. These various approaches help in making procedural decisions in soil conservation. Wildlife Science graduates are valued in the SCS as well since SCS is often concerned about conserving wildlife of an area. The saving of the habitat of the same wildlife may be a crucial part of the total plan under consideration.

Lloyd Pierre's first job after graduation from Oregon State was in McMinnville with the SCS which Pierre reminds, is a federal agency. Mrs. Pierre moved closer to her husband's work when the couple took an apartment in Salem. They kept their home in Salem well after Lloyd was transferred to Dallas, Oregon and was pronounced as a full fledged conservationist.

Pierre, as District Conservationist,

explains that he is conservationist for East Multnomah County with the Willamette river the dividing line between East and West. Under Pierres' direction, his office programs are primarily directed to urban problems such as finding a site for a sanitary landfill, or removing a hillside to make way for a building.

This office provides technical service to landowners and operators, large and small, with all the land being divided into soil and water districts. Soil erosion is the big concern, Pierre notes. He adds that they are endeavouring to keep the soil out of the water. Urban erosion problems arise sometimes when properties are redeveloped. Just now the Portland School District is planning to redevelop properties they own and Pierres' office staff is engaged in the planning.

Mr. Pierre accedes that even the small home owner might be calling SCS people saying, "my basement is flooded! what should I do?" Pierres' office may be able to guide in this situation.

The Conservation Education department sometimes works with the schools who ask them to help develop outdoor lesson plans. In this way, the Black Education Center will use some property they own to use as study for their classes. The classes may study plant life in relation to soil and water; they may learn about wildlife in the city such as squirrels, birds and insects. They could plant vegetation to attract and sustain songbirds which may have deserted the area. Classes may even learn to construct a sun dial; all with guidance from the SCS people.

Now that Lloyd is situated in Portland the family, which now includes a six month old daughter Breana, will be searching for a house in East Multnomah County.

Commuting days are not over, but the time spent in commuting is planned to be shorter. Mrs. Pierre has accepted a position as Childrens' Librarian for Corbett and Springdale elementary schools and hopefully driving time will be cut to a few minutes.

One more question was asked of Mr. Pierre. What is your hobby? His answer: He likes to hunt and fish! Likes to fish for sturgeon and steelhead. Likes to hunt deer and he bagged his deer last year, on opening day in Polk County. Likes to hunt and shoot doves! Doves? Yes. Doves. Seems Mrs. Pierre serves a delicious meal of doves breasts with wild rice...Pierre cooks too, and sometimes they have ham hocks and collar greens.



LLOYD PIERRE

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Warmth requires extra effort

As wet, chilly weather arrives, office workers throughout the northern United States are wondering how to stay comfortable at the federally mandated 65 degree maximum temperature.

The best way to stay warm in the office is "not to let yourself get cold or wet on the way to work in the morning," says Mel Jackson, an outdoor survival expert who currently is a continuing education program coordinator at the University of Oregon.

Many of the same strategies for staying warm outdoors can be used to stay comfortable in cooler offices, said Jackson, who also taught outdoor survival classes at Lane Community College here.

In the past, offices and homes usually were heated to 72 degrees, which was considered an ideally comfortable temperature. The lower temperature was mandated by President Jimmy Carter as an energy saving step.

"Even if you are just walking to the office from the parking lot, your feet and clothing below a raincoat can get wet. It is very important to have good protective footwear, Jackson said, noting there are several commercial products which can be used to waterproof shoes.

The stay-dry approach is even more important for people who walk or bike to work. An extra pair of dry shoes waiting at work can prevent a morning puddle disaster from causing an entire day of cold feet, he said.

Learning to adapt to cooler interior temperatures will require new strategies for dressing, he continued.

"If you can keep your inner core area warm--the chest and abdomen--then the blood supply can keep the

extremities warmer," he said. Vests, sweaters and suit jackets help insulate this vital inner core area.

"Wool fabrics have a much higher insulation value because there are dead air cells in the fabric which reduce air movements through the fabrics," as well as providing additional protection against dampness, he said.

"The blood flows very near the skin surface in the head and neck region, so it is important to keep the skin covered to conserve body heat," Jackson observed. Turtle Neck sweaters, dickies, scarves or hats will greatly reduce loss of body heat.

Many people complain of cold feet while sitting. Keeping the blood warm enroute to the feet can increase comfort, Jackson said. Wool pants, heavy socks and dancer's tights will keep the chill off the skin as well as insulating the blood enroute to the feet.

Office chairs that are too high and leave feet dangling in the air may be cutting off circulation to the legs and causing cold feet, Jackson said.

Desks located near doors may be exposed to constant air drafts. Constructing baffles of light plywood or cardboard around the desk could reduce heat loss from under the desk, he added.

"If your office is located on a basement level or on a concrete floor, the floor may be conducting heat away from the room, Jackson explained. Installation of a floor pad under the desk area will effectively reduce heat loss.

As the clothing manufacturers and designers get more pressure from the public, they will begin to change the styles and fabrics, making clothes more effective in cooler interior environments, Jackson said.

