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Launching the Year of the Visitor



Director Bill Whalen and Chief of Public Affairs Priscilla Baker greet young visitors at the Liberty Bell, Independence NHP, Philadelphia.

By Bill Whalen

When I announced that the National Park Service would embark on a Year of the Visitor, I was reflecting the concern of millions of Americans that they be assured of the best possible return for every tax dollar paid. We in the National Park Service know that we have something to offer to park visitors of every age, size, shape and description. But does the public appreciate that? Does the public realize fully what it takes for us to protect and manage resources for their enjoyment?

As I have expressed it recently, the Year of the Visitor will be a time during which each and every one of us can help to "make the best better." We are the people who care for the places that matter in the United States and its Territories. What can we do that we are not already doing to help our park visitors to understand why these places matter and what we do to assure their protection for future generations?

It will be up to each employee and each park manager individually to determine what he or she can and will do. In some units of the System, the maintenance chiefs may decide to offer groups of visitors behind-the-scenes tours of maintenance facilities and equipment. Special events may be planned, such as open houses for local community groups and lectures by NPS specialists in wildlife management, archeology, or whatever.

The opportunities to be innovative are virtually limitless. For example, we have begun already to improve access to our national parks for the tens of millions of handicapped persons who live in the United States and elsewhere. More needs to be done.

Those of us whose NPS responsibilities require that we spend most of our time behind desks perhaps can consider how we can improve our efforts to inform and educate those people who for economic, health or other reasons cannot personally visit parks in which they may have an interest.

Because we are in a period of severe fiscal constraint nationally, NPS staff will need to use ingenuity rather than funds to implement this program. All of us can start with a smile and work from there.

A kick-off news conference will be held at the end of May. At that event, the results of a recent public opinion survey on national parks, sponsored by the National Park Foundation will be announced. A sneak preview of those results is presented elsewhere in this issue of the National Park COURIER for the benefit of our readers. (See page 3.)

Officially, the Year of the Visitor will continue over a period of at least 15 months—through fiscal year 1980. (Only the Government would think of that!) However, it is my hope that the spirit and enthusiasm

generated during the coming months will build upon itself and that this period will represent the beginning of new and renewed dedication to that portion of our mission which relates to the experience of visitors to national parks.

While park personnel are considering what they might do with and for visitors this year, we in Washington will devote serious thought to ways in which we may be able to be more supportive of our field personnel. What can we do that we now are not doing (other than supply more funds and personnel)? Associate Director for Management and Operations Jim Tobin and Office of Public Affairs Chief Priscilla Baker have offered to receive suggestions and bring them to my attention.

We shall not require long, bureaucratic reports on the special projects and programs that are undertaken in the field and elsewhere in connection with the Year of the Visitor. However, it will be helpful to personnel throughout the System to hear others' ideas and learn from others' experiences. Superintendents are encouraged to keep their Regional Public Information Officers posted. We, in turn, will issue the news through the COURIER and in other ways.

Superintendents also may want to alert their local papers, and radio and television stations that this special effort is being made. The fact that low-cost, pleasurable vacations and leisure time is available in the 320 units of the National Park System will be an especially newsworthy story this year, as the economic impact of energy crunch is felt.

I hope that this program will be as enjoyable for our employees as it is intended to be for our visitors. We are planning to issue special posters for NPS offices; and plans are underway to prepare a short videotape presentation on the subject of the Year of the Visitor for use throughout the System. A logo has been developed for correspondence and publications. Jim Tobin, chairman of the Year of the Visitor task force chose the logo (see upper right corner) from several designs prepared under the direction of Hank Drews by the Graphics Services of the Denver Service Center.

Any and all of these members of our NPS team want to receive suggestions and comments on this new program. All of us are eager to be helpful to field personnel as they develop their own projects for the Year of the Visitor.

At my request, a Year of the Visitor Committee has been formed with Associate Director Tobin as its chair. The committee includes as members: Boyd Evison, assistant director for Park Operations; John Bryant, executive director of the National Park

(Continued on page 15.)

Ticketron to reserve California campsites



Park Technician Karen Fong, left, and Visitor Protection Specialist Phil Ward observe as Park Technician Jerdine Green uses the campsite reservation terminal to make a reservation.

By Lawrence W. Quist
Public Information Officer, WRO

The Western Region will have a pilot program for campsite reservations at Yosemite, Grand Canyon and Sequoia National Parks this summer.

A one-year contract has been signed with Ticketron, a nationwide reservation company, to provide the service covering approximately 1,300 campsites at the three parks.

The contract is renewable at the option of both parties on a yearly basis for an additional 4 years and may be expanded to include campgrounds in other parks in the future.

"In the Year of the Visitor and at a time of energy and fuel conservation, a guaranteed campsite in one of the popular national parks will be an appreciated dual benefit," Western Regional Director Howard H. Chapman said.

Phil Ward, visitor protection specialist in the Western Regional Office deserves a lion's share of credit for getting the reservation system implemented, Chapman said.

Reservations may be made in person at over 150 Ticketron outlets in California, including department stores and sporting goods outlets, or by mail from throughout the United States to the Ticketron Reservation Office, P.O. Box 2715, San Francisco, Calif., 94126. Campsite reservations can not be made by telephone.

Reservations also may be made in person through computer terminals at five NPS locations—including the three parks concerned; the Los Angeles Field Office of the

Service, Room 2043, New Federal Building, 300 N. Los Angeles St., Los Angeles, and at the NPS Information Office on the 14th floor of the Federal Building, 450 Golden Gate Ave., San Francisco.

Campgrounds covered by the program for the summer of 1979 include the five Yosemite Valley campgrounds; Lower River (154 campsites); Lower Pines (179 sites); North Pines, (90 sites); Upper River (124) and Upper Pines, (240). Also included are Mather Campground on the South Rim of the Grand Canyon with 300 sites, and 200 sites at Lodgepole Campground, Sequoia.

Reservations may be made up to 8 weeks in advance for the period between the Memorial Day and Labor Day weekends for a particular campground, but not for specific campsites. A campsite is assigned when the visitor arrives at the campground for which he/she holds a reservation. Pets will be permitted only in Upper Pines Campground in Yosemite, and at both Mather in Grand Canyon and Lodgepole in Sequoia.

Mail orders must be received in Ticketron's San Francisco office at least 2 weeks in advance so that they can be processed and the reservation ticket returned. "Neither the Park Service nor Ticketron can be responsible for delays in postal service," Chapman cautioned. "Therefore, we suggest that when possible, reservations be made well in advance. Reservations forms may be picked up at Ticketron outlets throughout the United States.

The daily use charge for campsites at Yosemite is \$4; at Grand Canyon, \$3, and at Sequoia, \$2. In addition, there is a one-time fee of \$1.75 for each reservation made. Holders of a valid Golden Age Passport (for persons 62 or older) are entitled to a 50 percent reduction in daily campsite fees providing they present the Passport when making a reservation in person. On a mail request the Golden Age Passport number must be shown on the reservation form. It also must be in possession of the camper while occupying the campsite.

The length of stay at a reserved campsite is limited to 7 days at all Yosemite and Grand Canyon campgrounds under the system, and to 14 days at Lodgepole in Sequoia. Requests for consecutive reservations will not be honored. A maximum of one family or six persons may occupy any one family campsite.



Entrance to a campground at Yosemite National Park.



Tenting tonight—now with a reserved spot.

Gallup poll reports most Americans using parks

By Priscilla R. Baker
Chief, Office of Public Affairs, WASO

In 1978, the National Park Foundation commissioned the Gallup Organization to conduct the first nationwide poll since 1955 on attitudes and opinions about the National Park System. The polling was conducted using statistical techniques designed to measure opinions of Americans 18 years of age and older. A brief, "sneak preview" of the results of the poll follow:

- In 1978, 66 percent of the people surveyed reported that they had visited a national park. The 1955 figure was 37 percent. The poll also indicates that visitation to the parks is not likely to decline. Eighty-one percent of the respondents said that it is "very likely" that they will visit a national park in the next few years.
- Eighty-five percent of recent visitors to national parks said that their experiences were "very enjoyable," 12 percent said that their experiences were "fairly enjoyable," and only 2 percent said that their experiences were "not enjoyable."
- The few respondents who expressed concern about conditions in the parks found litter and overcrowding to be the major problems they encountered. Only 19 percent of the respondents who had visited parks said that there had been anything at all about their visits which had not come up to their expectations.
- In this day of concern about public spending, the response to a question about amounts of money devoted to our parks is of special note. Surely, one measure of the value of the parks is the public's willingness to see more public funds invested in them. In 1955, 21 percent of those surveyed said that "not enough" money was being invested in their parks. Last year, 51 percent of the respondents felt that "not enough" money is being spent.
- The question was asked "If someone asked you what good are the national parks, what would you say?" Seventy percent of those who were contacted chose the answer that parks are "for people to use for recreation and enjoyment." Thirty percent said that parks are primarily "for preservation of land."
- When asked how important the opinions and desires of conservation and environmental groups should be in planning future national parks and parklands, 65 percent said that conservation and environmental interests were very important. The public rated visitors' interests as being next in order of importance. Economic interests were rated least significant in the decision-making.
- Respondents who had visited national parks were asked what they did in those parks. Of those who had visited parks recently, the responses were as follows: 71 percent had visited museums and historic sites; 71 percent had made an auto tour of the park; 65 percent had visited displays at a visitor

center; 70 percent had picnicked; 63 percent had hiked short trails (2-3 miles); 45 percent had hiked in back country; 34 percent had camped; 28 percent had attended ranger talks; and 26 percent had gone on a ranger-guided walks.

- Most recent park visitors—90 percent—felt that their expenses for services at the national parks were about what they had expected the expenses should be. Respondents included entrance fees as part of their expenses.
- When asked what sort of information they found most useful in parks, a large majority indicated that they preferred traveler information, park literature and recreation information.

As this issue of the COURIER goes to press, these data remain confidential. The results of the Gallup Poll will be made public in full at a news conference to be held May 24 in Washington, D.C.

Already, the poll is helping to guide the National Park Service in its planning, however. For example, the Office of Public Affairs in Washington has begun to produce a series of public service announcements to discourage littering in the parks, to encourage the public to plan their park vacations carefully and to encourage visitation in the newer, lesser-known parks. These public service announcements will be made available to radio stations throughout the United States.

Again, we have cause to thank the National Park Foundation for its meaningful contribution to our work.

Going to a park—take a bus

By Richard B. Bowser
Transportation Coordinator, WASO

(Editor's Note: The following article is excerpted from one which appeared in the January 1979 issue of the ITE Journal.)

Transportation problems are not new to the National Park Service. John Ise's history, "Our National Park Policy," reported on the management of Yellowstone prior to 1900.

"As roads were built and improved, traffic increased rapidly, and transportation became a rather impressive business." In 1897 more than a thousand horses were used—just in Yellowstone.

"With hundreds of horses around, stabled near the hotels, it was inevitable that there should be a great deal of unpleasant litter and flies. As late as 1907, Secretary Garfield reported that the hotels were good, but around the barns and stables there were masses of manure, rubbish, waste materials and dump from the hotels, as there were also around the permanent camps. The 'horse and buggy days' lacked a few points in sanitation."

Stagecoaches were replaced by buses in the mid-to-late-teens or about 1920, when the

first visitors started to come to the parks in automobiles. The use of private vehicles in the park rapidly increased. This use was encouraged by both the Park Service and commercial interests within the parks and surrounding regions, because private vehicle access to and circulation within the parks greatly expanded the number of those who could have park experiences.

Railroad service to parks gradually disappeared. Since 1967, only three non-urban parks have had railroad access—Glacier National Park, Mont.; Mount McKinley National Park, Alaska, and Harpers Ferry National Historical Park, W. Va. Concessioners in several of the major parks have continued to provide limited transportation services from nearby interstate transportation terminals as well as package-tour bus service within the parks. Such transportation services are used by a very small percentage of park visitors.

In the 1960s, private vehicles, carrying the ever-increasing numbers of park visitors, began to exceed the capacity of the roads that were originally built for access, maintenance, and protection of the park resources. Within a

(Continued on page 4.)



Shuttlebus operator at Lyndon B. Johnson NHS, Tex.

few years, some of the more popular parks were frequently experiencing over-capacity demands during the summer season and it became apparent that it would be impossible to build enough roads and parking areas to accommodate all the visitors.

About 10 years ago the Park Service started a visitor transportation services study. An investigative phase was followed by a phase of designing conceptual plans using new unproven technologies. These conceptual plans usually included the removal of all existing facilities in the prime resource areas and the development of all new facilities near the entrance to the parks.

The conceptual plans attracted considerable interest until more accurate cost estimating was used. When proper consideration was given to the cost of carrying out these conceptual plans, the transportation program suddenly became more realistic, and we were then able to identify the following alternatives to be considered in planning public transportation services in recreational areas:

- Limit public use so that problem doesn't exist.
- Provide adequate facilities to accommodate public demand.
- Provide a service or program that will efficiently use the existing facilities and that can be adapted to the variations in public demand.

In 1971, the first visitor transportation service was implemented in Yosemite National Park. It consisted of special novelty vehicles, open double-deck buses and trailer trains of 25 and 30 passenger power units, each pulling two or three similarly designed trailers.

It was designed to give frequent service between campgrounds and lodging facilities and the village and to encourage visitors to leave their private vehicles at lodging and campground areas. This approach was very

successful. In fact, within 2 years we were able to close a 200-car parking lot in the village area and convert it into a pedestrian mall with picnic tables, benches, and so forth.

In 1972, a transportation service was implemented in Mount McKinley, where the construction of the new Anchorage to Fairbanks highway suddenly increased park visitation by a multiple of four.

The traffic had caused much of the wildlife to leave the road corridor and the dust from the road covered the tundra for several hundred feet. The park contracted with the concessioner to operate leased school buses. Private vehicle use was limited to campers with reservations for campsites that were beyond the developed area at the park entrance. The 1978 summer season was the seventh summer that the buses operated—with great success.

The buses (up to 35 per day) cause little, if any, environmental impact; they conserve energy; they require no resource damaging construction; and they greatly enhance the visitor experience through onboard interpretive programs, and they eliminate driver responsibilities for the visitors.

The use of school buses is probably considered the least innovative alternative for the Mount McKinley transportation service, but there are, however, many advantages.

The transportation service program continues to grow—1974, 14 systems in 11 parks; 1978, 23 systems in 17 parks; and plans are to increase the program by three or four systems each year in the future.

The systems now operating include two boat-access services to a national seashore and an historic fort. Also, a system using horse-drawn wagons, which due to slow speeds will be short trips, and have small capacity. This is the most expensive system now operated, on a per vehicle mile/per passenger mile. We have purchased one battery-powered bus and several types of smaller battery-powered vehicles for experimental

purposes. The battery-powered vehicles, especially the smaller vehicles, are quite satisfactory if used for a service that is within the 30-to 35-mile range of a battery charge. The vehicles are quiet, nonpolluting and, due to their light weight, are very desirable for limited shuttle services and maintenance use in pedestrian mall areas and on unpaved roads.

It is ironic that the most innovative, practical, and economical mode of transportation is a standard bus operating on existing roads. Except for the advances in vehicle design, we are using practically the same technology to reduce pollution, noise, and traffic congestion caused by excessive private vehicle use as was used 60 years ago to reduce manure, flies, and unpleasant odors caused by the excessive use of horse-drawn vehicles.

Few people realize that buses require only 15 percent as much energy per passenger as private vehicles. One of our greatest energy conservation potentials—public transit service—has not fully been realized. The continued increases in the costs of fossil fuels used for transportation services will force the public to reevaluate travel habits and ultimately will greatly increase their use of public transportation.

Our management and operation of the national parks could serve as an example of energy conservation. In 1977, the parks purchased over 200,000 gallons of gasoline, propane, and diesel fuel for visitor transportation systems that ultimately saved visitors approximately one million gallons of gasoline that they would have used for travel within the parks.

Public transportation services played a major role in establishing the authority and funding needed to acquire and manage park resources for public use. After 60 years of being phased out of national parks, new public transportation services are being implemented to protect these resources for the enjoyment of the people who will visit the parks hundreds of millions of times this year.

The alternate transportation system used in Yosemite NP.



Fifteenth anniversary for handicapped visitors

By Nicki Wilson
Public Affairs Office, WASO

This Year of the Visitor in the National Park System is also a 15th Anniversary. It was in 1965—15 years ago come 1980—that the National Park Service published its first guide for handicapped visitors to the national parks, and began to roll out its red carpet to those who are physically disadvantaged.

In his introduction to that guide, Senator Bob Bartlett of Alaska deplored the incongruity of the coexistence of the magnificent vacation opportunities in our national parks and the deficiencies of accessibility which prevented the enjoyment of those opportunities by so many.

However, long before the promulgation of laws requiring accessibility in all Federal facilities, the National Park Service was striving to provide comfortable, convenient and accessible facilities for visitors.

In his Foreword to "Access National Parks, a Guide for Handicapped Visitors," published in 1978, Secretary Andrus suggested that we stop to look back at how far we have come, and forward up the road to see how many miles we have to go.

Looking back, we see substantial evidence of progress. But as we look forward, we know that we have far to go before we reach the goal of maximum accessibility of facilities, services and programs throughout the System.

The most critical access problem in the National Park System is accessibility to structures and in related facilities such as parking areas. The Service is custodian of the Nation's treasury of our historic and prehistoric shrines and dwellings. Many of these are difficult of entry for some—impossible for others—because of narrow doors and corridors or steep flights of stairs. A task force is now at work to devise alternative entries, wherever this is possible without destroying the resources that it is the Service's mission to protect.

In some units of the System, touchable models of interior scenes and artifacts and a variety of audio and visual programs, and living history demonstrations help to meet the needs of handicapped as well as non-handicapped.

Few units of the System which are open to the public are not physically accessible to some degree. At a minimum, every park or monument has access to a vista or a short path to view a principal feature.

Special interpretive, educational and communications programs are being developed in the parks and in the regions with the guidance and assistance of the staff of the Division of Interpretation and Visitor Services in WASO.

For example, "Glowing Vibrations" based on a new lighting concept, is a program designed at the Fort Dupont Activity Center in Washington, D.C., for visually impaired as well as sighted visitors. Its main feature is ultraviolet—"black" fluorescent lighting that makes colors many times brighter. This brightness not only helps visually impaired persons to see colors they normally would not see, but also assists sighted visitors to become more sensitive to color.

The Children's Experimental Workshop at Glen Echo in Maryland is a year-round activity that helps children with multiple handicaps and learning disabilities to participate in performing and applied arts, theater arts (puppetry), music and pottery.

A "Five Senses Trail" built in 1975 by members of the Youth Conservation Corps at Rocky Mountain National Park is a special joy to Millie Davis, a YACC park worker. With its emphasis on the use of all available senses, the trail suggests a different way of "looking" at nature and natural forces and of savoring the wilderness. As Millie puts it, "... even though the wheelchair does limit me, there are areas that are available so that I can still experience the natural beauty... the grandeur and the solitude... of the park..."

Indicative of the National Park Service's

dedication to the principle of "full spectrum participation" in operations and programs is the establishment of a new office, the Division of Special Programs and Populations. The Division will develop policies, guidelines, and programs to fulfill the Service's responsibilities to the handicapped.

Already, park superintendents are seeking advice from handicapped persons and appropriate public agencies on how to improve accessibility of facilities and programs.

As our sensitivity to the needs of all members of society increases, the National Park Service is demonstrating its imaginative leadership in providing "full spectrum participation" in and enjoyment of our Nation's treasury of parks, monuments and recreation areas by all who wish to visit them.



The Children's Experimental Workshop at Great Falls Park, Va., is a year-round activity that helps children with multiple handicaps enjoy the parks.



Book review

As a tribute to the "INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF THE CHILD," Director Whalen has announced the publication of *Children's Experimental Workshop—Park Experience to Children With Special Needs*. The 195-page, broadly illustrated book details the 6-year history of the Children's Experimental Workshop, an innovative Federal program accessible to all children, both able-bodied and disabled as well as those from a variety of ethnic backgrounds, in experiencing the cultural, historical, and natural resources in park settings. Workshops in the performing and applied arts provided the vehicle for children to explore their own creative energies in "interpreting" their surroundings.

"The Children's Experimental Workshop has been an extraordinary program model, especially for our urban park areas," Whalen has said. "The program clearly demonstrates the ability of the Service to address diverse

populations, and to make our resources and programs more accessible. The use of the performing and visual arts as a vehicle for interpreting park resources makes our existing programs come alive."

Editor of the book is the program's founder and director, Wendy Ross, a professional artist, and permanent NPS employee since 1971. Ms. Ross has degrees from the University of Wisconsin and the Rhode Island School of Design. She was instrumental in the development of Glen Echo Park as a Living Arts Center and designed the park's Artist-in-Residence program.

In 1976, she was appointed to serve as a member of the Arts and Advisory Task Force to the first White House Conference on Handicapped Individuals, and she currently is WASO coordinator, Special Programs and Populations Division.

Urban initiative highlights year's activities

By Daniel S. Hughes
Assistant Editor

As part of the Year of the Visitor activities, some 42 park areas, primarily in or near urban centers, will have \$1.4 million in FY 1979 funds to present innovative interpretive programs.

Director Whalen hailed this "urban initiative" as "the continuation of, and increased attention to, the remarkable array of interpretation and visitor services offered to urbanites."

Also, the Director applauded the many interpretive ideas submitted that will not require new funds. And he offered this suggestion:

"Look closely, in every park, for opportunities to provide visitors with ways to enjoy the contemplative pleasures that are so often at the heart of park values."

Many of the new interpretive programs will serve special populations residing in the Nation's cities. These include blacks and other minority groups, the elderly, the poor and the handicapped.

For example, at the Seattle Unit of Klondike Gold Rush National Historical Park, a 20-minute dramatic production performed by two actors in period dress will depict activities based on the memoirs of a Gold Rush participant. The performance will be presented twice daily for 20 weeks. It is expected that the program will be enjoyed by organized senior citizen groups and handicapped adults and youth. School tours will reach areas with strong minority populations.

Pointing out that 70 percent of the American people live in urban areas, Deputy Director Ira Hutchison declared recently that "the importance of providing meaningful recreational opportunities to them is equal to or perhaps greater than in the national parks of the West. We may have some difficulty in realizing that the Holly Forest on Sandy Hook in the Gateway National Recreation Area is as precious and unique a natural resource as are the massive Redwood Groves in Redwood National Park. If we look without preconceptions, we shall see that the historic sites within Gateway have as much significance to the people of the New York City area and to the Nation as a whole as do the most famous of our national historic sites," Hutchison said.

At Gateway National Recreation Area, N.Y.-N.J., an Ecology Village will be set up in unused army barracks at Fort Tilden. For 3-day and 2-night sessions, participants will live in facilities that demonstrate the most important new ideas for preservation of the environment and conservation of energy. For each session the village will accommodate 120-150 people, in groups made up of school children,

community leaders, senior citizens and handicapped persons.

Ecology Village will include a complete food-producing, energy-producing and waste-disposal system. It will also offer amenities of community life—a theater at which visitors will produce their own entertainment, a crafts shop making use of recycled materials, a small library, a crafts and art exhibit center, classrooms, and a hall for discussion and dancing.

The program will reach 12,000 people a year.

At Fort Larned National Historic Site in Kansas, plans are afoot to give living history demonstrations of the activities of the black "Buffalo Soldiers" of the 16th Cavalry at Fort Larned in 1867-69. The black soldier's role in the settlement of the post-Civil War American West is a little-known story.

Now the Park Service will tell that story, not only to the usual summer visitors to Fort Larned, but to many residents of nearby communities, and those of Wichita, with its population of more than a quarter of a million.

Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore is

planning programs for groups of 50 elderly persons to visit the Bailly Homestead. They will observe crafts demonstrations from the early 1900s, and may ask question of the craftspeople. After lunch, the visitors will enjoy a relaxing afternoon at West Beach.

Examples of the many, many other projects are guided history and nature walks at Theodore Roosevelt Island, D.C., conducted in Spanish and Vietnamese, sign-language tours of the popular Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, D.C., an environmental living (sailing) program for inner city youth at Statue of Liberty National Monument, N.Y., overnight camping and hiking trips for school children and special populations at Point Reyes National Seashore, Calif., and the teaching of craft and pioneer skills at Jefferson National Expansion Memorial, Mo., to residents of nearby public housing projects.

In all of these, NPS people aim, in Director Whalen's words, to provide "enjoyment of unspoiled park resources for people whose needs we so urgently need to recognize and respond to."

Protecting the visitor takes training

By Thomas H. Wilson
Public Affairs Office, WASO

According to the police radio it was a very bad day.

A rape was reported at the picnic grounds. A dangerous felon was parked in the median strip on the highway. In the housing units, a suicide was in progress, a man had exposed himself to a park visitor, and a lost child was wandering dangerously close to a downed live wire.

And no sooner were these crimes and incidents settled by hard working—and sometimes nervous—Federal agents than the perpetrators were freed to begin their anti-social activities again.

But this crime wave was all in a day's work for the staff and students at the Treasury Department's Federal Law Enforcement Training Center (FLETC) at Glynco, Ga. And in keeping with the innovative professionalism so evident at the Center, both the perpetrators and victims of the crime wave are actors whose realistic performances often cause beads of sweat to form on the brows of young park rangers who are trying to maintain law and order and a positive attitude.

"The National Park Service is pleased to be a part of this operation," said recent FLETC visitor Director Bill Whalen. "Here we have a training program that is tailored specifically for the needs of people serving land managing agencies. In addition, it is an innovative and highly effective program that develops skills useful in enhancing the mission of the National Park Service," he said.

"In the 'Year of the Visitor' it should be especially important for us to realize that a visitor in trouble is an opportunity to be of service. It is obvious in the training provided at this Center that upholding the law while

protecting the resource and enhancing the visitor's experience can be the hallmark of a Park professional," Whalen said.

The Center constantly reviews agency needs and makes curriculum revisions accordingly. One of the more recent revisions resulted in development of a curriculum specifically for land management agencies. Here, the principles of law enforcement are put into the jurisdictional context according to the operational environment of the students.

"In the old law enforcement course the student had to absorb what was useful and try to ignore the rest, and it just wasn't working," said Andrew E. Hutchison, Park Service representative at Glynco.

"In addition, there is a basic difference in attitude and approach between an exclusive law enforcement responsibility in an urban setting and the ranger's responsibilities which are to help the visitor have a better park experience while protecting the resource," Hutchison said.

The FLETC staff soon "recognized that the Federal Government has a large number of special law enforcement applications outside standard police training," said Peter Philips, acting assistant director, police training division.

The Center is an interagency facility operated by the Department of Treasury with training policy established by an eight-member board of directors representing the Departments of Treasury, Justice and Interior, and General Services Administration, and a member who represents other participating agencies. Representatives of the U.S. Capitol Police, the Office of Personnel Management, and the Office of Management and Budget serve in a non-voting capacity. Personnel from 36 Federal law enforcement agencies

participate in the Center's training program.

The board authorized the development of new courses to meet the needs of the individual agencies. First off the drawing boards in October 1977 was the course for recreation land management now attended by employees of NPS, Fish and Wildlife Service, Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management and Tennessee Valley Authority.

Three other proposed special curricula may soon be developed for urban law enforcement, border management and physical (building) security. New Park Police will probably attend the urban law enforcement courses. In addition to the basic core curriculum, which gives graduates the appropriate training for law enforcement, the Center offers a number of equally specialized refresher and advanced training courses.

The NPS presently offers these courses to trainees: the basic 9-week law enforcement course, a 9-day advanced law enforcement refresher and a 1-week course in law enforcement for managers.

Innovations in training are not limited to super realistic crime scenes. The trainees also find themselves face to face with robed Federal judges who sternly test their knowledge of the law and the constitution in a courtroom situation.

In many of their encounters with people inadvertently or deliberately in trouble, the trainees' actions and reactions are videotaped for later playback.

"Sometimes trainees have trouble believing they actually did or said what is on the tape, but generally the trainees are their own toughest critics," Hutchison said.

Throughout their 9 weeks at the Center—a former Navy base now being extensively remodeled and rebuilt into an efficient and attractive campus—the students alternate classroom instruction in all phases of law enforcement, the Constitution and human rights with field work in defensive driving, use of weapons and other police tools and first aid.

Tests are given frequently during the training, and students must pass them (some don't) in order to graduate and receive a law enforcement commission.

The Park Service and U.S. Park Police maintain a ten person staff at the Center to instruct and to monitor the progress of NPS trainees. They also coordinate the Center's program with other NPS training activities at the Albright and Mather Training Centers. In addition other rangers and Park Police personnel are rotated through FLETC on instructional details.

Hutchison says the new course provides many benefits for NPS trainees.

"We are able to give them excellent instruction in a context that fits well with their actual work experiences. They train with people from other agencies with similar missions for a broadened experience. And they have a real opportunity to develop the special sensitivity that goes with the NPS mission to serve the American public in the parks," he said.

"We best protect the visitor and ourselves with professional handling of dangerous situations," Hutchison said, "provided the positive attitude reflected in National Park Service mission is a part of our every action."



Andrew E. Hutchison, NPS representative at the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center, Ga.

Parks tops with foreign visitors

By Joan M. Anzelmo
Supervisory Park Technician
National Visitor Center, NCR

The United States has never depended on tourism as a major aspect of its economy, and so unlike many other countries around the world, we do not have a national tourist office. It may be of interest to note that although the U.S. Travel Service (USTS) of the Department of Commerce encourages citizens of other Nations to visit our country, we in the National Park Service are the primary host for the largest proportion of all foreign guests.

Approximately seven out of the ten most visited sites by foreign travelers are the parks, memorials, and recreation areas in the National Park System. And the USTS promotes travel to the USA with posters and brochures displaying the natural wonders and historic sites of our country with information about the Statue of Liberty, the Lincoln Memorial, Everglades, the Gateway Arch in St. Louis, Yellowstone, the Grand Canyon and Yosemite—just to mention a few.

An increasing number of foreign tourists are coming to the United States—perhaps due to the general world economy and the devaluation of our dollar. In 1976, more than 17.5 million foreign tourists visited the United States. In 1978 the count exceeded 19 million. This year an estimated 21 million people from other countries will visit the United States.

We in the Park Service must make a greater effort in preparing to welcome and assist this increasing number of visitors.

The National Capital Region has always had a high percentage of foreign visitors and many of the sites in the Washington, D.C., area have specialized services to meet these needs. Such services include talks, tours, brochures and signs in foreign languages, as well as comprehensive lists of services in the metropolitan area such as emergency language assistance or money exchange.

Last November, NCR conducted the first NPS training program designed to improve services for the thousands of international travelers who visit the National Visitor Center and other sites in the National Capital Region. The workshop provided an introduction to cross-cultural communication, surveyed services already in existence such as availability of foreign language guides, and explored the impact that the Park Service as a whole could and should have in international relations through our face-to-face contacts with visitors from countries all over the world.

Finally, it is hoped that the National Park Service will recognize its unique role in the area of international relations and develop appropriate policy to best enable our parks to welcome and serve the increasing numbers of international visitors to the USA. After all, good foreign relations, like good manners, should begin at home.

To: Interior Secretary Cecil Andrus
Washington, D.C.

Over the past several months, I have visited several parks maintained by the Interior Department. In every instance, and without exception, the Park Service is doing a magnificent job in preserving our national heritage.

I am particularly interested in the War Between the States and have visited a number of battlefield parks. I would like to mention specifically Park Service employees who have been especially helpful: Robert Krick of Fredericksburg, Va.; Mrs. Otto at Antietam, Md.; a young ranger whose name I believe is Biddle at Gettysburg, and Mr. Price at Cowpens, S.C. Of course, there are others but they were courteous, well-informed and made my visits more enjoyable.

I truly appreciate the good job you do.

Dan A. Collins
Greenville, S.C.

To: Interior Secretary Cecil Andrus
Washington, D.C.

A "casual" visit to the Ford's Theatre in Washington, D.C., turned out to be the highlight of a sightseeing tour and indeed, one of the outstanding and rewarding experiences of "summer 1978" for my daughter and myself.

We were fortunate to arrive in time for the re-enactment of the Lincoln assassination and were overwhelmingly impressed by an outstanding performance on the part of the Ford Players.

Judging from the attentive and responsive audience, I feel that had I written this note to you at that time, many names would be added to the one below!

Thank you and all responsible for such an excellent program.

Marie (Mrs. R. P.) Hallion
Laurel, Md.

To: Congressman Ike Andrews
North Carolina

Recently my family had the opportunity for a vacation on the Outer Banks of North Carolina. It has been several years since I have been in the area and the first time for my wife and children.

We wish to commend the Park Service on the excellent job they have done in providing and maintaining a truly enjoyable vacation spot. Beginning with Fort Raleigh in Manteo, Kitty Hawk to Ocracoke, there was never a time with nothing to do. We often questioned how will we get it all in.

We commend, too, the historical and educational emphasis in a recreational environment. The programs offered by the National Park Service in each area—talks, tours, film and slide presentations—could be understood by children and adults alike.

We especially appreciated the family atmosphere, helpfulness of the rangers and staff, and the absence of commercialism as found in many resort areas.

L. P. McPherson
Asheboro, N.C.

To: Superintendent Donald A. Dayton
Carlsbad Caverns NP, N. Mex.

Last Sunday, I had the pleasure of visiting both the new and old caves at Carlsbad. Although I am rarely moved to write a note of appreciation, this is an exception.

Having traveled through many parks and monuments in the U.S., I have met a number of rangers, guides, etc. Never have I met—as a whole—such a friendly and helpful group of rangers as I did last Sunday. Every ranger we met along the trail had a smile and a "hello." All were most helpful in answering questions and giving very informative explanations. To say the least, the Caverns were one of the most spectacular sights I've ever seen. It made the long walk that much more enjoyable to meet your friendly rangers.

A special word of thanks to three rangers. Sunday morning myself and three friends took the 10:30 tour, led by Jim and Kevin. We were most impressed with their whole program. They were friendly, interesting, informative, etc. Unlike many guides, they were very down to earth, personable and approachable. They should be highly commended for a job well done. I met another ranger who was most helpful. Unfortunately, I cannot remember her name. Perhaps if I describe her you could thank her for me—she pointed out some things I would have missed on the tour and was, again, another example of your very friendly rangers. I met her by the Frustrated Lovers sometime around one or two o'clock. She is about 5'4", brown hair (I believe somewhat curly), attractive, married, and I think, originally from the West coast (not sure about the last point).

In any case, the above three rangers deserve special thanks.

Bill Weiss
Deerfield, Ill.

To: Director Bill Whalen
Washington, D.C.

Recently my wife and I made a 10-day trip around the Olympic Peninsula, down the Oregon and California coast and into Yosemite. It was a very thrilling and inspiring trip.

Although we can't give you credit for the beauty of the natural scenery—the rain forest, Hurricane Ridge, the great tall trees, the awesome precipitous faces of sheer granite in Yosemite—we can and do give you credit for the wonderful way you have preserved our national heritages. All the facilities are in fine condition, in spite of the great hordes of tourists swarming over them. The rangers and other employees in contact with the public were very courteous, knowledgeable, and helpful. There was a very nice young woman in the entrance gate at the El Portal entrance who spotted my rather obvious senior-citizen-age and gave me a Golden Age Passport. All in all, we had a very warm spot in our hearts for the folks who run our great parks and were most proud to be U.S. citizens.

Thank you all!!

Franklin Lounsbury, M.D.
River Forest, Ill.

Throughout the Park System we receive many, many letters from visitors. Those selected for printing in this issue of the

Dear National Park
I enjoyed seeing you
it was better then I tha
It was a lovely Place
very much especially lady
and the grave yard that
and the people wear ver
very nice to invite us



To: Reg'l Director Howard Chapman
NPS Western Regional Office

This has been my first chance to tell you of the wonderful weeks our family had this summer, touring the national parks of your region.

I wish I could fully convey to you how deeply impressed each member of the family was with the interest, intelligence and kindness of rangers. While we can imagine that we tourists become troublesome at times, we never saw one of your people lose their patience.

As beautiful and educational as was the topography of the parks themselves, the high point at each stop became the ranger activity, be it a lecture, a hike, a campfire event, or what. We often planned our day around these events!

You should know that we are aware of all your long-range concerns with overcrowding, ecological damage, camp and lodging shortages, etc. But all this was far overshadowed by the heightening of our pleasure for which your staff was responsible. We only feel badly that we did not take down the names of the many individual rangers who made this for us a summer to be truly remembered. Somehow, I hope you can convey our thoughts to each of them. To each, indeed, their particular interest in their particular park, seemed a part of each breath they took!

Again, our thanks, and our hope that your work may continue just so.

A. Stanley Brager, Jr.
Pikesville, Md.

get letters

COURIER illustrate the kind of service that is the hallmark of the National Park Service and our goal in the Year of the Visitor.

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and I enjoyed it
Birds house

LBj was bearyd
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To: Superintendent Bill Briggie
Mount Rainier NP, Wash.

On the morning of Saturday June 3, my husband and I returned to the parking area near the Shriner's Peak trailhead to find that our VW beetle had been thrown down a 70' embankment sometime during the previous night by vandals. We were, of course, stunned, disbelieving, and outraged by this act.

My husband hitched a ride to the Chanapocosh ranger station where he enlisted the help of Park Ranger Dan Dellinges. I am writing to let you know how very much I appreciate the degree of professionalism, compassion and helpfulness Mr. Dellinges displayed in coming to our aid. He was thorough in his investigation, extremely polite and friendly in his manner, and he immediately created an atmosphere which caused me to have confidence in his obvious abilities.

Sadly, as our car tumbled down the slope it sheared off a young cedar tree. It is to this park ranger's credit that he made certain no more trees had to be taken out in order to remove our car from the slope. I feel very strongly about preserving our beautiful park as is, and felt relief to know all efforts were made to do as little further damage as possible.

In spite of the violent act that caused me to meet Mr. Dellinges, I can honestly say it was a pleasure dealing with him. He is a definite asset to your park staff, and a credit to the Park Service.

Betty Rogers
Wilkeson, Wash.

To: Ranger Roger Stein
Catocin Mountain Park, Md.

On behalf of the League for the Handicapped and Camp Greentop, I would like to thank you for all of your help this summer. A special word of thanks for the tour of the fire station. Our deaf campers really enjoyed it.

Thanks also for the many times you went out of your way to take care of all our problems and special requests. I have enjoyed working with you this year and hope to see you again next summer. Have a good year.

Jeffrey Cole
Baltimore, Md.

To: Superintendent Bill Failor
C & O Canal NHP, Md.

On behalf of the Brunswick area Jaycees, I would like to wholeheartedly thank you and the Piedmont District Park Rangers for the outstanding service they provided us during the recent "Ride-a-Bike for the Retarded."

The rangers were most helpful in ensuring that the safety of our riders was their number one priority. They offered assistance in helping riders who were disabled by flat tires to reach a checkpoint where they could receive help and also to keep a watch over the towpath in general while the ride was being conducted.

They helped make our job a little bit easier and contributed significantly to helping make the "Ride-a-Bike" a financial success.

Thanks again for a job well done.

Alan R. Crowl
Ride-a-Bike Coordinator
Brunswick Area Jaycees, Md.

To: Interior Secretary Cecil Andrus
Washington, D.C.

A few weeks ago my family and I were aboard the M.S. Prinsendam, a Holland-America Lines ship, cruising the Inside Passage of Alaska.

On Aug. 19, we spent the day cruising one of your national parks, Glacier Bay. As part of the day's program, we were addressed and "guided" by two rangers from the Bartlett Cove station; I assume that this is a normal practice.

I regret that I did not note the full names of the two young men who were assigned to our ship (I believe that the first names were Pierre and Dan) because I would like to commend them very highly both for their extremely competent narration and for their patience and effort in answering endless questions, providing repeated explanations and offering a fine slide presentation on Alaska. For us, the day was a double delight—seeing Glacier Bay and being exposed to two people who were unabashedly enthusiastic about their jobs and prepared to offer whatever help and information they could. Their manner of meeting and dealing with people was both charming and effective.

In my opinion, those two men represented your Department's service and your country in a very positive manner. You may well be proud of the job they are doing!

Shannon A. Hogan
Agincourt, Ontario, Canada

To: Director Bill Whalen
Washington, D.C.

I am utterly remiss for not having written you and your Washington staff a most grateful "Thank You" for buoying off our Francis Bay.

The buoys have made Francis Bay a most delightful swimming beach area again. I use the beach most every day as our cottage is a 3-minute walk down a lovely path. I enjoy talking to the many visitors on the beach and those who have visited in past years have mentioned how lovely the beach is and especially not having to trip over anchor lines and anchors on the beach.

I might add also the sailboat people are happy not to have the powered boats on the beach in numbers.

If you come down to St. John, please do stop by and visit us at Francis Bay. Always have an ice tea or a rum.

Thank you again.
Mrs. Robert A. Michael
St. John, Virgin Islands

To: Director Bill Whalen
Washington, D.C.

This summer it was our privilege to visit six national parks and monuments—Colorado National Monument, Dinosaur National Monument, Grand Teton National Park, Yellowstone National Park, Jewel Cave National Monument and Devil's Tower National Monument.

Every park and monument was well run. All of the employees were efficient, knowledgeable, polite and helpful. They went out of their way to serve. The facilities were clean and well kept, and in areas where the Park Service was in charge, there were no rip-offs, garish signs or buildings, or unsightly messes. Museums, visitor centers, and tram rides were free, giving me the feeling that I was getting something for my tax dollar.

The National Park Service is to be congratulated heartily for providing me and my family such a beautiful and wholesome experience this summer.

I have only one suggestion. The whole Federal bureaucracy should be run by the National Park Service.
John Cazanias
Rockford, Ill.

To: Director Bill Whalen
Washington, D.C.

I would like to take this opportunity to tell you what a wonderful park you have on the edge of the South Carolina-North Carolina border, (better known as Kings Mountain National Military Park).

While visiting in South Carolina, we had the opportunity to visit this park last Aug. 17, and met one of the most courteous and friendly young ladies I have encountered in sometime. The secretary there, Mrs. Dot Duvall, was so very helpful in assisting us in every way.

She explained about the recently built visitor center, the walking trails, and also gave us information on the State park.

It is a pleasure to know that there are national park areas still available to the public and have people working there who take pride and pleasure in helping people.

I say orchids to Mrs. Duvall for her pleasing personality. NPS picked a winner when they hired her.

Jerry S. Lorey
Barnesville, Ohio



Basket weaver at work at Virgin Islands NP, St. John, Virgin Islands.

Donald L. Wyckoff, coordinator for CRAFTS IN THE PARKS selecting crafts for the project from craftspeople at Peters Valley, Delaware Water Gap NRA, N.J.—Pa.



Veep's wife pushes crafts in parks

By Jean C. Henderer
Chief, Office of Cooperative Activities, WASO

In some parks now and, hopefully, at more parks during the Year of the Visitor, visitors will get better quality souvenirs in the form of American made craft items in concessioner gift shops. This will be due in no small part to the efforts Mrs. Joan Mondale, wife of the Vice President, has made in furthering the work of craft people.

Early in 1977, Mrs. Mondale talked with Secretary Andrus and asked for suggestions on ways in which crafts people could find a market through NPS concessioners.

The Office of Cooperative Activities was assigned responsibility for the project and selected 10 different park sites representative of varied geographic and cultural areas to use in a pilot project. The purpose of the project was to encourage concessioners at each of the sites to meet with craftspeople and, if possible, purchase crafts that could be available in quantity and at the times and places needed by the concessioners.

Selected to coordinate the project because of his extensive knowledge of the crafts market, craftspeople, and retailing experience was Dr. Donald Wyckoff, former President of the American Crafts Council. The 10 sites were: Sagamore Hill National Historic Site, N.Y.; Ozark National Scenic Riverways, Mo.; Natchez Trace Parkway, Miss.-Tenn.-Ala.; Tuskegee Institute National Historic Site, Ala.; Muir Woods National Monument, Calif.; George Washington Birthplace National Monument, Va.; Mount McKinley National Park, Alaska; Acadia National Park, Maine; Badlands National Park, S. Dak.; and Bandelier National Monument, N. Mex.

For a variety of reasons, Bandelier, Ozark Riverways, and Tuskegee subsequently dropped participation.

The consultant's job for the first year of the project was to develop an awareness on the part of the concessioners of the craft industry; to encourage the participation of the concessioners; to develop an awareness on the parts of the craftspeople of the special nature of retail business in the parks; to bring together craftspeople and concessioners; assist with selection of products for sale in stores. Dr. Wyckoff has also made suggestions for displaying craft products, drawn plans for redesigning one gift store, and began collecting slides of works of American craftspeople.

In evaluating the first year of the project we have said it was a qualified success. One park greatly increased its inventory of American-made crafts items, showed a profit and quadrupled their order for craft products for the coming season. A few other parks also increased their crafts inventory.

Mrs. Mondale and her staff have maintained an ongoing interest in the project.

During the second and current year of the project, the consultant was asked to contact

additional park concessioners and report on expansion possibilities. He selected about 40 sites and will report this spring.

CRAFTS IN THE PARKS began as a project that would benefit the concessioner, the craftspeople, and the visitor. To too great an extent, it has been taken for granted that the visitor would buy anything the concessioners put out on the counter. "A souvenir to take back to Aunt Lou" is the way some concessioners think of their products. For years NPS employees have seen lines of visitors in the concessioner's gift shops buying mementos. And, during the school season, the buses unloading scores of school children clamoring, "what can I buy for (a quarter?) (50¢) (a dollar?)."

We were also aware at the beginning of the project that, for many concessioners, low cost, high mark-up gift items are an important part of their business. We were aware, too, that not all craftspeople can produce the quantity of craft products needed by many concessioners.

But we felt there should be a place for high quality but not necessarily high priced craft items in concessioner stores. We knew of several National Park concession operations buying and even commissioning excellent crafts, selling them at fair prices and making a profit both for themselves and the craftspeople.

One myth we wanted to dispel is that while some visitors may still be buying souvenirs for the family next door or Aunt Lou, many buy for themselves. The collector mentality is at a high point in America today. Visitors want to buy and keep quality mementos of their visit to Yellowstone or Mammoth Cave.

Contrary to some previous opinions, we found that visitors also like to buy products representing the geographic region of the park they're visiting. When they see ceramic bowls made by a New Mexico potter at Crater Lake, or Sioux moccasins at Castillo de San Marcos, they are understandably reluctant to make a big investment in crafts that seem out-of-place or inappropriate.

Realizing this, some concessioners have asked Dr. Wyckoff to recommend local craftspeople who can supply good items that will mesh with the park's interpretive theme.

During the second year, Dr. Wyckoff has met with NPS regional concessions specialists and held workshops to help them evaluate concession gift shop operations and become more familiar with the crafts market and community. This has been one of the most needed and successful elements he has brought to the program.

The response of the craftspeople has been extraordinary. Dr. Wyckoff estimates he's been contacted by over 5,000 people who are interested. He has kept on file about 2500 slides illustrating the best craft work being produced in America today. One woman wrote recently, "Even if my work is not accepted, I think this is the most tangible help that has ever been given to artists."

The CRAFTS IN THE PARKS project has generated many expressions of good will. While we can bask in this reflected glory, it's really the visitor who wins when more park concession shops make available attractive indigenous, fairly priced craft products. It's a worthy goal for the Year of the Visitor.



Work by American craftspeople displayed for sale at the Ansel Adams Gallery, Yosemite NP.

Ceramic pots typical of those sold at Acadia National Park. Pots by Laurie Adams, Maine.



Park Briefs

ISLE ROYALE NP, PICTURED ROCKS & APOSTLE ISLANDS NIs—These three park areas which are located on Lake Superior are under scrutiny by LANDSAT satellite. Robert Stottlemeyer, an NPS scientist on loan to Michigan Technological University, will spend the next 5 years interpreting the data and studying Lake Superior ecosystems and the influence of man's activities on their functioning. He is looking into pollution damage, including the inroads of asbestos, nutrient loading, sulphur dioxide, mine tailings, paper mill effluents, and other hostile elements. Another objective of his work is to study the effects of erosion on the three national park areas.

SLEEPING BEAR DUNES NL, MICH.—An assessment of alternatives to some aspects of the general management plan (GMP) will be completed this spring, according to Lakeshore Superintendent Donald R. Brown. "It includes alternatives identified as the result of public involvement." This summer, plans are afoot to discuss the GMP at open houses throughout the area. About 900 planning alternatives workbooks were distributed among people at public meetings last fall. Over 365 response sheets and 65 letters, including 15 resolutions from private interest groups and governmental entities have been received at park headquarters.

GOLDEN GATE NRA, CALIF.—Work began March 26 to turn the ruins of old Fort Mason into a beautiful bayside park. NPS recently signed a \$683,459-contract with Francis Construction, Inc., to remove the remaining foundations of 37 buildings on 20 acres of the old Army port of embarkation. The concrete will be buried to form new land-contours, then it will be covered with topsoil and planted with grass. The 6-month job is the first phase of a proposal that would include pathways, walls, trees, shrubbery, lighting and other amenities for the park which looks onto the Golden Gate Bridge.

CAPE HATTERAS NS, N.C.—NPS is planning to close certain stretches of the beaches temporarily in order to protect them and the animal life which thrives there. Areas to be closed temporarily to vehicle travel and walking are those where birds or turtles are rearing young or laying eggs, or where a section of beach is badly eroded and requires resting. An attempt will also be made to create a corridor between the ocean and the dunes that buggies can run on without destroying vegetation or the dunes. NPS also wants to issue free permits to people wishing to drive on the beach.

YOSEMITE NATIONAL PARK—Some bears here have fallen on hard times. Since the institution of the bear management program in 1974, in which visitors are encouraged not to feed bears, the number of bear vs. visitor incidents, including personal injuries and property damage, has dropped significantly, reports Richard Riegelhuth, park resource management officer—at least in the developed areas. In the backcountry, hungry bears still bother backpackers.

EVERGLADES NATIONAL PARK—At the annual meeting of the Everglades Natural History Association, earlier this year, members got a sneak preview of the \$500,000-renovations to the Royal Palm Visitor Center. One item is a three-dimensional painted aluminum mural that depicts the Everglades from various perspectives in several seasons. The mural was designed by Charles Harper. Interpretive Naturalist Doug Cuillard said the mural "will serve as a transition for the visitor who, having viewed the work, can then go out on Anhinga trail and see the real thing."

E&AA changes dues

At the April 17-18 E&AA Board of Directors' meeting, these changes were made relative to dues:

- After May 31, 1978, all members will pay \$10 per year.
- New permanent NPS employees will be given a 1-year free membership in E&AA.

Details will be published in COURIER.

Some upcoming events

May 19	Badlands NP, S. Dak.—Ceremony to celebrate change to "national park" status. Dedication of a new visitor center in the South Unit in cooperation with the Sioux Tribe.
May 26-28	Rocky Mountain NP, Colo.—Annual "Hands Across the Nation" ceremony held at the reopening of Trail Ridge Road.
June 2-3	East Potomac Park and George Washington Memorial Parkway, Washington, D.C., and Virginia shore—President's Cup Regatta.
June 4-Aug. 31	Jefferson Memorial, Washington, D.C.—Military Band Concerts: U.S. Marine Band, Sundays; U.S. Army Band, Tuesdays; U.S. Army, Old Guard, Torchlight Tattoo, Chorus, Wednesdays; U.S. Navy Band, Thursdays; and U.S. Air Force Band, Fridays. (All at 8:30 p.m.)
June 10	Ft. McHenry NM & HS, Md.—Flag Day Ceremony, sponsored by Star Spangled Banner Flag House and City of Baltimore.
June 10	Hopewell Village NHS, Pa.—Artists in the Park (raindate June 17).
June 17	Devils Tower NM, Wyo.—Annual Old Settlers Picnic.
June 23	Fort Clatsop NM, Oreg.—Dedication of Salt Cairn addition.
June 24	Hopewell Village NHS, Pa.—Recreation Concert (evening performance).
June 29-July 1	Pu'uhonau o Honaunau NHS, Hawaii—Establishment Day Cultural Festival.
June 30-July 1	Fort Necessity NB, Pa.—Annual commemorative program including military and craft demonstrations.

Morton dies at 64

Rogers C. B. Morton, Secretary of the Interior from 1971 to 1975, died of cancer April 19 at his home in Easton, Md. It was during Morton's administration that the first Alaska d-2 lands proposals were transmitted to Congress.



Alumni Notes

A visit with Horace M. Albright



Horace Albright and daughter Marian with Secretary of Commerce Herbert Hoover, 1927.

(Editor's Note: The following is an interview with former Director Horace M. Albright conducted in Sherman Oaks, Calif., by Priscilla R. Baker, Chief, Office of Public Affairs, WASO.)

Baker: Mr. Albright, would you please discuss your feelings about the extent to which the National Park Service should be administering parks for the benefit of visitors and the extent to which we should administer to protect resources. Is there a conflict in our mission?

Albright: In my judgment, there is a paradox inherent in the laws that have been passed, beginning with the Act creating Yellowstone in 1872. The laws all say that park areas must be kept in their natural condition for the benefit of future generations. But the laws also give permission to the Secretary of the Interior to grant privileges and leases for limited areas of land on which to erect facilities for services to the visiting public.

Beginning back in the 1870s, over 100 years ago, such privileges were granted and facilities of one kind or another were begun. They were very crude at first, but later developed into transportation, housing and food service facilities designed to take care of hundreds and even thousands of people. As the crowds have increased, there has been a need to expand these facilities.

In my opinion, during all these years, while literally millions of people have enjoyed the national parks, little or no damage of any kind has been done to the natural features of national park areas. This has been true especially of outstanding features which prompted the creation of a national park or national monument in the first place.

Since 1915, when Stephen T. Mather was appointed Assistant to the Secretary of the Interior to administer the Park System, there have been no impairments of park territory or park features, other than possibly some temporary abrasions of campground floors. These usually are restored naturally within a short time.

Mr. Mather was what might be called a public oriented conservationist. That is, he wanted just as fervently as anybody to see natural features of parks preserved. On the other hand, he realized that there had to be some facilities to care for the visiting public, particularly in the larger parks where provision for enjoyment of the parks could not be made outside their boundaries.

I'd like to challenge any thoughtful, fair person who is familiar with the operation of the Bureau all these years to find that any damage of any importance has been done in the national parks by the visiting public.

Baker: To what extent do you think we should encourage visitation of the parks?

Albright: That's a good question. I think we have reached the point in the administration of the national parks where their popularity is such that it is hardly necessary to encourage more travel openly. On the other hand, I see no reason for attempting to limit travel. I believe that park visitation is stabilizing. I don't expect to see enormous increases in numbers of visitors day-by-day or month-by-month in the parks in the future. Even if there should be these increases, the re-allocation of relatively few campgrounds and possibly the extension of some of the lodging facilities would suffice to handle the demand.

Baker: Do you think we should make plans

to extend services in areas that are presently overcrowded, or do you think we should let the supply limit the demand?

Albright: In general, I would let the supply limit the demand for visitor services. But I do not see why, with the vast territory that the Park Service has in many of these areas, there should not be more campgrounds. They need not be put in a relatively small area like Yosemite Valley, but they could be put along the Tiger Road and other places near the valley. There is a plan to restrict travel in one or more parks. I am opposed to that.

Baker: Do you consider the use of shuttle buses to be a restriction?

Albright: There are certain areas where shuttle buses are indicated. I think the use of them in Mount McKinley National Park is a very good move. The length and condition of the highway make the shuttle bus the answer to potential problems.

Baker: Mr. Albright, to tailor an old cliché to this discussion: "Which came first, the tourist or the parks?"

Albright: The parks were established so long ago that the economic value of the tourist trade, or tourism as it is called, did not count for much at even the military parks, such as Gettysburg. The intent was to protect some outstanding places. The tourism demand for national parks occurred after Americans got on wheels and travel became an important feature of our lives. Visitor demand increased as the use of automobiles increased. This was about the time that the National Park Service was created.

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Frederica: quarter million visitors a year

By Naomi L. Hunt

With its green and shaded streets quiet now, the fort's guns silent, and rows of houses outlined only by their foundations, it is difficult to imagine that Frederica, one of the earliest settlements on the Georgia coast, ever accommodated a population of almost 1,500 English settlers and soldiers.

During its heyday, between 1736 and 1748, the little community on the banks of the Frederica River was strategic as a defense against Spanish aggression. It was the hub of the colony's defense against the Spaniards to the south, and in 1742 it was the headquarters of the forces which decisively repulsed a Spanish invasion. With the threat from Spain then removed, the town began to decline and eventually fell into ruin.

It was not until two centuries after its founding by James Edwards Oglethorpe that the town and its environs were authorized by Congress as Fort Frederica National Monument, on May 26, 1936. Gradually the quaint old town has come alive, now attracting over a quarter-million visitors a year. Many are vacationers on St. Simons, Sea Island and Jekyll Island who take time out from the beaches and golf courses to walk down the historic street and view the old tabby ruins of the fort.

A vast green field, winding river, and huge, gnarled live oak trees are all part of the scene at Fort Frederica. Except for one building of the fort, a bit of the moat and the tower of the soldiers' barracks, Frederica had vanished when archaeologists first went to work there in 1952. Since then the excavations have located house sites, streets, wells, and additional fort buildings.

"The ruins of the town's fort and barracks, as well as the tabby foundations of the excavated houses cannot be altered," says Superintendent Janet Wolf. The reason, she says, is because "the Park Service prides itself on presenting to visitors an accurate picture of both past and present here. The past must be preserved as it was found and the present must perpetuate the past, but not alter nor detract from it. The houses will never be rebuilt because it is an NPS policy that when more than 50 percent of a building is deteriorated, it cannot be re-created from conjecture."

And so, with little of the physical features remaining to stir one's imagination, and in an effort to make the public's visits memorable and vivid experiences, living history demonstrations are given. During the summer months park interpreters, all wearing 18th-century period dress, present tours, craft demonstrations, and feast day celebrations. On July 25, a Thanksgiving is celebrated at Frederica followed by a candlelight tour of the townsite. Thanksgiving is observed in July rather than in November, as decreed by Oglethorpe, who felt it fitting to celebrate on that day "the end that is put to this Spanish invasion."

Later in the summer a limeburning is held. During the limeburning, oyster shells are burned to make tabby, a material used by the



Living history programs bring the past alive for visitors.

settlers for their buildings. This was one of the few festive occasions in Frederica days and so it remains. It is an evening of song, games, militia drills and refreshments. All of the demonstrations are intended to display the activities performed in day-to-day life by 18th-century inhabitants of Frederica. Superintendent Wolf also notes that these demonstrations are executed as authentically

as possible, well-substantiated with historical fact and thorough research.

In addition to the traditional living history programs, new programs help to explain the Frederica story. During a children's theater presentation, drama students entice the children to become involved in the participatory play. Local children are invited to a summer camp as well. A variety of techniques are used to teach the children about the history, archaeology, and environment of Frederica. One feature of the summer camp is a puppet show which eventually became an interpretive program all its own. A fourth interpretive tool, an above-ground archaeology tour gives visitors an opportunity to deduce information about the past from the ruins already uncovered.

Besides the various programs, the park offers a 25-minute movie entitled "This is Frederica." It supplements the park visit by portraying the lifestyle and series of historic events at Frederica. The film is shown in a small auditorium adjacent to the museum. Within the museum wall plaques and figures depict typical scenes of Frederica's past. Artifacts from the civilian and military segments of the population are also on display.

The film and museum displays can be viewed year round. In the warm weather months, a mixture of living history demonstrations and new interpretive programs are scheduled to assist the visitors in understanding Frederica. At other times of the year, visitors are welcomed to stroll through the quiet townsite on their own and imagine, if they can, a way of life so different from their own.

Visitors relax on the banks of the Georgia River.



From 5 thousand to 290 million visitors



Visitors at the White House (circa 1865).

By John R. Vosburgh
Public Information Officer, WASO

Visitors to the national parks once traveled by horseback, stagecoach and covered wagon. Today in this Year of the Visitor, some fly in from New Zealand and Africa. Others drive the family car or camper from New York, Atlanta and Peoria. Some fly and rent cars or take the train or bus.

Covered wagon visitors of the 19th century drove their horses or mules for days across the plains to reach Yellowstone National Park, says Horace Albright, second Director of the National Park Service in his book, "Oh, Ranger." Since the travelers camped at night in the sagebrush, they became known as "Sagebrushers."

Stagecoach visitors were known as "Dudes"—a term which became "one of distinction," Albright writes. Vacations in the early days at Yellowstone sometimes were filled with unexpected excitement. Summer stagecoaches ran frequently between Old Faithful and Yellowstone Lake. One day a bandit held up 28 successive coaches and robbed the passengers of \$4,000. The bandit was caught and sent to prison.

Hostile Indians were another peril to Yellowstone visitors. Indians captured one camping party in August 1877 and attacked another, killing one camper.

The identity of the first visitor to the National Park System is shrouded in the mists of history and Old Faithful. He or she probably arrived soon after President Grant affixed his signature on March 1, 1872, to the Act of Congress establishing Yellowstone "as a pleasuring-ground for the benefit and enjoyment of the people."

Between 1872 and 1895, Yellowstone attracted an estimated 1,000 to 5,000 visits a year. The park decided to start an annual count in 1895, reporting 5,438 visits. Attendance increased to 8,928 in 1900, 19,575 in 1910, and 2,623,100 in 1978.

The National Park System area with the oldest visitor program is the White House. Thomas Jefferson threw the doors of the Executive Mansion open to visitors shortly after taking office in 1804.

Not all Presidents were as visitor-minded as Jefferson, however. The White House

announced no attendance figures until 1954, when it reported 826,300 visits. After reaching a peak of 1,840,100 in 1964, White House visits generally leveled off in the 1970s, numbering 1,333,200 in 1978.

In 1978 Blue Ridge Parkway was the most heavily visited area in the National Park System with 15,351,600 visits; Great Smoky Mountains National Park was the most heavily visited national park with 11,555,300 visits.

For many years, NPS has realized that a substantial portion—possibly 10 to 20 percent—of all visits to the National Park System were not for recreation. Many people used park roads just to pass through the park. This was especially true on the NPS parkways. Thus, in 1973—retroactive to 1972—NPS began carrying two sets of figures—recreational and non-recreational. In 1977, 19.8 percent of the 262,603,433 visits were non-recreational.

A non-recreation visitor is as much a responsibility of NPS as recreation visitor—heavier responsibility if he is involved in an accident or requires ranger attention.

Public use of the National Park System increased annually from World War II to the Bicentennial observance in 1976, with the exception of a 4 percent decline in 1958. The 1978 total of 283,090,100 visits is up 6 percent over the record Bicentennial attendance.

This Year of the Visitor also may be the year of 290 million visits.

Yellowstone gysers

"The Geysers of Yellowstone," by Scott Bryan was recently published by the Colorado Associated University Press in both paperback and hardcover.

This is the first comprehensive book ever written about both the "tourist" geysers and those in the backcountry.

The 70,000-word text contains descriptions of all the geysers, along with maps showing their locations and tables summarizing their activity. Scott describes exactly what geysers are, what creates the different colors in the run-off channels and some history about the earthquakes of the park.

His appendix includes a brief rundown of geysers of the world.

The author has kept his explanations simple enough for the average visitor, while packing the work with thorough research material for old-time geyser-gazers.

Scott worked for 8 years at Yellowstone National Park as a seasonal at Canyon, Norris Geyser Basin and Old Faithful. He is now at Lake Powell in Glen Canyon National Recreation Area, Utah-Ariz.

Scott is currently planning his travels to gather material for his next book on all of the geysers of the world.

Year of the Visitor

(Continued from p.1.)

Foundation; Priscilla Baker, chief of Public Affairs; Jean Henderer, chief of the Office of Cooperative Activities; Les Arnberger, superintendent, Yosemite National Park; Frank Smith, superintendent, Chamizal National Memorial, Tex.; Dick Stanton, regional director, Mid-Atlantic Region; Marc Sagan, manager of the Harpers Ferry Center; Ross Holland, assistant director for Cultural Resources; Ann Bowman, assistant to the deputy director; and Dave Dame, chief of the Division of Interpretation and Visitor Services. Others who are helping out with advisory services and technical assistance are Hank Dews of the Denver Service Center and Marlo Acock, Jim Stewart and Pat Smith of WASO.

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