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COURIER
The National Park Service Newsletter

Bear Valley Visitor Center opens



Photo by Gregory Gnesios.

Bear Valley Visitor Center, Point Reyes NS, Calif.

By Gregory Gnesios
Park Technician
Point Reyes NS, Calif.

There are more than Morgan horses in the pastures of Point Reyes National Seashore, Calif. A new barnlike structure has appeared. Taking its place among the historic barns and ranch buildings of the Bear Valley area, this imposing structure was not built for holding livestock or for storing feed. Rather, it is the new Bear Valley Interpretive Center, which opened its doors to the public last November. On a sunny fall afternoon, the building was officially dedicated by Director Russ Dickenson and Assistant Secretary Ray Arnett, and the big sliding doors were opened to reveal a spacious interior where the story of Point Reyes unfolds in a series of natural and cultural exhibits.

Made possible by a generous gift from the William Field Charitable Fund and a matching grant from The San Francisco Foundation, the 1.5-million-dollar center was built entirely with private monies—a gift to NPS and nearly two million visitors who come each year to Point Reyes.

Exhibits within the Bear Valley Center reflect what is just outside its doors. Surrounded by high walls of natural wood, park visitors may wander from "grassland" to "open ocean" via a series of ramps and walkways, each habitat scene utilizing native flora and fauna to tell a story. More than 250 exhibits and 140 specimens of native plants and wildlife are on display, including two 25-foot trees—a Douglas Fir and a Bishop Pine—that have been specially preserved for exhibit. An osprey nest rests atop the fir.

Most of the wildlife specimens were victims of automobile accidents or winter storms before becoming permanent parts of the visitor center display. Specimens include bobcats, foxes, deer, seals, numerous birds and tidepool creatures, and the skull of a California Gray Whale.

Emerging from the "open ocean," the visitor travels through historic time

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from the Coast Miwok Indians, through the Spanish Exploration period, past shipwrecks and lighthouses, into the era of dairy ranching on the Point Reyes peninsula. Other exhibits include a working seismograph that measures earth movement along the nearby San Andreas Fault (as well as other areas), and a raised observation platform where one can get an overview of the entire exhibit.

Included within the center are an auditorium for film and slide programs, and a sales area, with books and other interpretive materials. A park library and museum collections, also housed within the building, are available for those who wish to study further the wonders of Point Reyes.

Perhaps the most important aspect of the Bear Valley Interpretive Center is what surrounds it—the vast geological and historical time span represented just beyond its doors—from Earthquake Trail beyond the parking area, to the Miwok Indian Village-replica on a nearby hill, to the Morgan Horse Ranch whose pastures surround the new building. It is hoped that the Interpretive Center will entice visitors to discover their own special relationship with the park, whether it be in primeval forests of Inverness Ridge, ethereal fog of the Point Reyes Lighthouse, tranquility of coastal marshes, or that intangible feeling of mystery and exhilaration at the edges of the sea.



Photo by Gregory Gnesios.

Exhibits in new Bear Valley Visitor Center, Point Reyes NS, Calif.

At Great Falls Park history and recreation go hand-in-hand

By Paul D. Gardner
NPS Park Volunteer
George Washington Memorial Parkway, Md.-Va.

Great Falls Park, Va., part of the George Washington Memorial Parkway, offers a rich historical story in an exciting recreational setting. The park is well known for the scenic beauty of the Great Falls and Mather Gorge of the Potomac River and for outstanding recreational opportunities. As important, but much less well known, is the varied human use of the Great Falls area and the ruins and artifacts that remain to tell this story.

The earliest human activity begins with Native American use dating back 10,000 years and continuing until European colonial settlements forced these inhabitants out of the area. Several Native American settlement sites have been identified and await further study and interpretation. Active use of the area by European settlers began during the mid-1700s and private ownership continued until 1966, when the National Park Service assumed administrative control of the 800-acre site.

Of particular note is the close association of George Washington with the Great Falls area. As a young adventurer, surveyor, and businessman George Washington travelled extensively throughout the western territories of Virginia and believed that the Ohio Valley could be profitably settled if an efficient means of travel and transportation could be established. After the War of Independence, Washington was deeply interested in protecting and securing the Nation's borders and binding the separate states together.

The Patowmack Canal Company, established in 1785 under Washington's direction and leadership, was an early attempt to unite the country through economic interest. The canal project was of lifelong interest to Washington and remained so through his Presidency until his death in 1799.

The canal system consisted of five by-pass canals along the Potomac River with the largest construction project at Great Falls. The Great Falls skirting canal contained five locks and was nearly a mile long. The canal operated from 1802 to 1828. This project at Great Falls is regarded as the greatest American engineering achievement of the 18th century. Yet the canal company was an economic failure. However, the combination of young states in mutual interest and the advances in canal engineering cannot go unnoticed. The importance of the area resources was recognized in 1930 when the park was authorized and was confirmed 50 years later when the Patowmack Canal and its associated structures were placed on the National Register of Historic Places.

In the last decade much has been accomplished in identifying and protecting the historical resources associated with the canal. Preliminary surveys and studies have been completed and vegetation causing further deterioration of canal structures has been removed.

Much of this work has been completed by the enrollees of the

yearly YCC Camp. In addition, the walls of two locks have been stabilized to prevent further collapse until final preservation treatment can be determined. Archeological surveys have also been conducted resulting in the unearthing of 30,000 artifacts.

Under the direction of regional and parkway staff, Park Technician James E. Putnam and his active crew of volunteers are in the process of finishing the long project of identifying, cleaning, culling, and cataloging the park's artifacts. The task has taken 3 years.

The park staff has also assumed responsibility for preserving the 1820s lock gates and mitre sill recovered in 1982 by the University of Maryland under contract to the Park Service. Professor of Archeology R. Joseph Dent and four of his students spent 8 weeks in 3 to 5 feet of mud uncovering and retrieving the lower 4 feet of a set of lock gates discovered during stabilization work.

Preservation of these artifacts is being accomplished through treatment with polyethylene glycol in a specially built room in the park's visitor center. A window built into this room presents an interesting interpretive opportunity as it not only allows visitors to view these artifacts during the treatment process but also to see preservation treatment being performed by park staff.

Preserving and interpreting cultural values in a park primarily known for its natural and recreational resources is a great challenge. On any day, hiking, boating, fishing, rock climbing and picnicking are the main visitor interests. Yet through the combined efforts of service personnel, volunteers and local historical societies, more visitors are leaving Great Falls Park with an awareness of the park's rich and important human history. In the future we hope to see the timely development of a Management Plan for the park's historic resources, and the final preservation of the resources of the Canal, including the development and construction of a museum exhibit interpreting the interrelated human and natural history of the park. Through what has been accomplished in the past and what will be accomplished in the future, we will be able to send our visitors home with an appreciation of the park's values as more than just a place to picnic or hike. They will know Great Falls Park as a place rich in history and worth protecting and preserving for its cultural resources.



Great Falls of the Potomac River.

Curecanti surveys fishing waters

By Roger Andrascik, Sam Kunkle and Gary Smillie, Water Resources Branch, Ft. Collins, Colo.

Curecanti National Recreation Area, Colo., lies in the heart of one of the most scenic areas of the Central Rockies, well known for its outdoor recreation. The scenery, water conditions, and resources vary considerably within the recreation area, providing visitors with a wide range of experiences. The big attractions at Curecanti have always been superb trout fishing and boating. The area's streams and chain of three reservoirs—Blue Mesa, Morrow Point, and Crystal—stretching along for about 43 miles through high mesas and mountains are famous among fishermen.

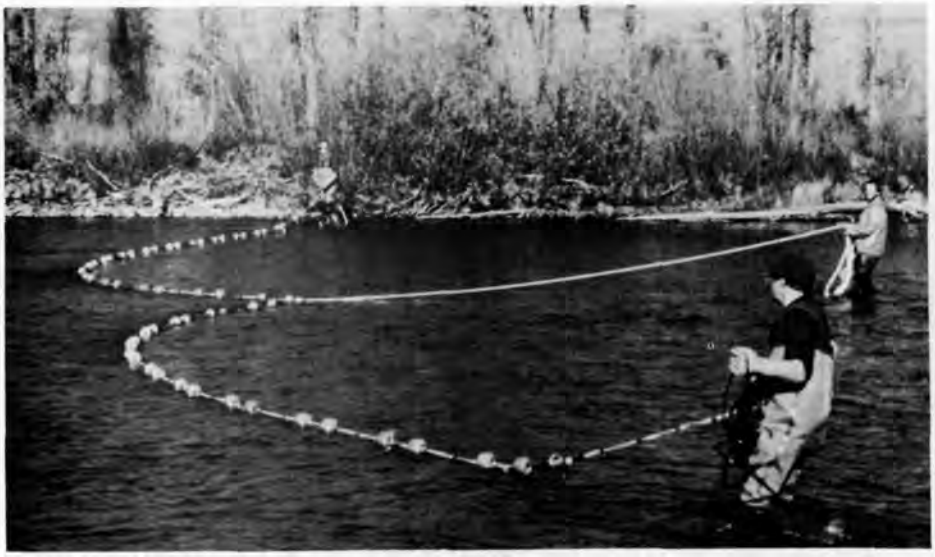
Knowing that such a valuable resource as clean water must be protected, the Curecanti staff has started a program of aquatic surveys. These are an essential first step toward protecting the water and water-related resources of the reservoirs. Measurements of water chemistry, algae and insects were initiated in 1982 and 1983. Sport fish have been caught and analyzed for any metal contamination that they may have accumulated.

The fish study in 1981 examined the levels of heavy metals found in four species of Curecanti fish collected from the Gunnison River: rainbow trout, kokanee salmon, brown trout, and white suckers. The first three are sports species that attract fishing enthusiasts, while the white sucker is primarily of interest to scientists, since it feeds along the bottom and therefore will help indicate if contaminants are accumulating in the depths.

Analyses were done for 18 metals, but interest was greatest in those that are toxic to humans. Two of these, mercury and cadmium, can cause food poisoning even if present in only a few parts per million. The analyses also examined zinc, lead, copper, aluminum, nickel, chromium, cobalt, molybdenum, and strontium—all of which can be toxic in certain amounts. Questions about the levels of toxicity, and the related health and safety issues, were among the reasons for doing the study.

Five parts of each fish were analyzed: the liver, kidneys, gut

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Aquatic Survey Team at Curecanti NRA, Colo.

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content, scales, and edible flesh. The flesh obviously was of greatest interest from the fishing viewpoint. The liver and other internal organs are valuable warning indicators since they accumulate many of the metals. They can be used to indicate pollution that may be present in the waters of the reservoirs during a long period of time, whereas a water sample taken from the reservoirs can only show the pollution that is present at the particular moment it is sampled.

The fish study's findings will please lovers of fried Curecanti trout, since the analyses of metals in the fish flesh look good at this point. In other words, none of the metal

Old Swedes' Church preserved for future generations

By Naomi L. Hunt

A national shrine, the Gloria Dei (Old Swedes') Church in Philadelphia is an affiliated area of the National Park System. It is a splendid example of early Swedish church architecture; and because of its historical significance, Congress in 1958 designated it a national historic site. Also authorized at that time was the acquisition, development and landscaping of surrounding properties to provide a dignified open setting for Gloria Dei. The church is owned and administered by the Corporation of Gloria Dei (Old Swedes') Church. The surrounding grounds are under the jurisdiction of Independence National Historical Park, and the unit is known as the Gloria Dei (Old Swedes') Church National Historic Site.

In 1973, an NPS study team prepared a Development Concept for the area. Participants on that team were Landscape Architect Donald M. Fox of Denver Service Center; Interpretive Planner Dr. Alan Kent of Harpers Ferry Center; and Chester Brooks, who was then superintendent of Independence National Historical Park.

Primary consideration for the site was to provide the visitor to this "island of history," with safe and easy access, parking and circulation. The planning team recommended treating the federally owned land in accordance with its early wooded character. An existing brick wall was extended to surround the structures and a dense grouping of evergreen and deciduous plants was added to screen out visual and aural intrusions of the Delaware Expressway.

The city planners of Philadelphia, in preparation for the Bicentennial observances in 1976, elected to restore the city's historic past so that the many Americans and visitors from other lands might see that the Founders and Forefathers had built well. The city had made gigantic strides since the Swedish colonists settled on the shores of the Delaware—in the area then known as Wicaco.

It was here that the congregation of Gloria Dei built a place of worship. Thus, Gloria Dei with adjoining buildings and grounds became part of and was inspired by the spirit of renewal and restoration engendered throughout the city—most notably along the Delaware River.

And so a comprehensive program of restoration was begun. The steeple of the historic edifice, which had guided early sailors, continued to point with pride, though now it led those who journey more swiftly by land, sea and air. But the steeple and structure it surmounts had been buffeted by centuries of winter winds and storms



Gloria Dei "Old Swedes" Church in Philadelphia.

and endured blistering summer suns. It needed restoring and strengthening, as did the Church, the Rectory, the Parish House, the Roak Assembly Hall and the Sexton's dwelling, together with other appurtenances.

The Church and the steeple now stand firm and strengthened. The bell in the steeple, dating from 1642, still rings out with freedom. The old organ again vibrates to the stirring hymns. The Parish House and the Roak

concentrations in the flesh appeared excessively high compared to those that humans normally consume or to levels that are considered acceptable for human consumption.

Some periodic follow-up surveys of fish, water, and other environmental parameters will be a good investment to help protect the natural resources against possible future contamination. In particular, there could be threats from mining, from residential and industrial developments, or from waste dumping and other activities that may take place upstream. At this stage it is essential to have some background measurements of metal concentrations, water chemistry, algae blooms, and other characteristics as a baseline for future reference. By having this information, Curecanti can hope to be in position to take corrective action should pollution problems arise.

Curecanti presently is also developing a data-handling program for use with their Datapoint computer. This will make it easy to track trends from year to year, to perform the needed statistical analyses, and to spot problems if they come along.

The Curecanti surveys have been carried out in cooperation with the staff of the Water Resources Field Support Laboratory (WRFSL) of NPS. A copy of the fish report (33 pp.) may be obtained by writing to: National Park Service, WRFSL, Natural Resources Building, CSU, Fort Collins, CO 80523.

(Editor's Note: Roger Andrascik is natural resources management specialist, Curecanti National Recreation Area. Sam Kunkle, water resources specialist, is with the Water Resources Field Support Laboratory (WRFSL) in Fort Collins. Gary Smillie, hydrologist, is a Colorado State University-WRFSL affiliate.

Personnel from the Colorado Division of Wildlife cooperated by electroshocking fish in the Gunnison River for collection and later tissue analysis.)

Assembly Hall have received careful study and have been properly repaired and enhanced. The smallest of the buildings on the grounds, the Sexton's dwelling, is now being most painstakingly restored. This quaint house, with one room above the other, is known in architectural annals as a "Father, Son and Holy Ghost" dwelling. It will provide a comfortable home for the Sexton, who has a significant role in the general maintenance and functional services at Gloria Dei (Old Swedes') Church National Historic Site.

Individuals and groups who have come to view the progress of the program of renewal have been inspired with what they have heard and seen. As they wander throughout the churchyard, following the old brick walks, they study the inscriptions on the gravestones. Truly this is a walk through history. Here lie colonists and early clergy, the founders of this shrine. Here lie Revolutionary soldiers and officers of the War for Independence, and subsequent struggles in which our Nation has been involved. Here lie those with well-known names, and those from all walks of life.

Monuments speak of their achievements and contributions. Many visitors stop to read the inscriptions on the "Seven Johns' Monument." This is a Swedish-American tribute to seven distinguished men—John Hanson, John Morton, John Ericsson, John Dahlgren, Johan (John) Printz, John Nystrom, and John (Johan) Risingh. Their contributions to our Nation, in many fields of endeavor, are recorded hereon. Within the church, the most noteworthy artifacts are those dating from 1642—originally in the Chapel of Tinicum. They are the baptism font presented by Queen Christina, the bell, and the wooden carving of cherubims flanking the open Bible with Swedish text. Suspended above the alter is the Angel Gabriel, hand-carved in linden wood, with the golden trumpet, and the traditional symbolic votive ships—all from the land of the Forefathers. On display also are rare Bibles and hymnals and letters from those who have worshipped in Gloria Dei (Old Swedes') Church throughout the years. In the Roak Assembly Hall is a most unique work of art by the sculptor Carl Milles—his model for the Sweden-American Monument with its more than 100 figures in miniature, each significant to the history of the two countries.



Roak Assembly Hall (on left) and Parish House (on right) are on the grounds of the historic site, administered as part of Independence NHP, Pa.

All of the buildings comprising the

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Gloria Dei enclave are part of the restoration program—so, too, are the grounds. This spring and summer will see expanded effort of beautification of the surroundings.

From Gloria Dei (Old Swedes') Church National Historic Site one has a broad and open view of the Delaware River, with its ocean-going tankers loaded with goods in great containers bound for distribution in far away lands—a striking contrast to the small ships that sailed these waters and brought worshippers to the Sunday services here long ago.

Recently the City of Philadelphia purchased the lots on Water Street along the shore of the Delaware River—opposite the historic site—for the purpose of developing a park-like mall and walk-way along the river front. This will further enhance the neighboring scene.



Seven Johns' Monument on grounds of the Gloria Dei (Old Swedes') Church National Historic Site, Pa.



At the Old Swedes' church entrance, a bronze plaque displays the Swedish coat of arms with the three crowns.

The most exciting thing about Gloria Dei is that it is a "living church," not a relic of times past, but a vital, active entity that already sums up more than 300 years of history. In addition to regular church services and concerts held throughout the year, the site features a Lucia Fest in mid-December and a Mid-Summer's Colonial Fair in June. Visitors, many from Sweden, participate in these traditional festivals of old Sweden. These events add life to the scene and tie the past to the present.

One Sunday in April, a television crew from Sweden recorded the monthly Swedish services at the church in their entirety. The congregations in the churches of Sweden would have living proof that Queen Christina's instructions of 1642 were still being carried out at Gloria Dei (Old Swedes') Church in Philadelphia.

As a devoted individual who was the principal inspiration for the 7-year program of restoration and preservation exclaimed, "We must not hesitate. We must work for the future—continue the efforts of preservation for future generations."

CHICKAMAUGA & CHATTANOOGA NMP, Ga.-Tenn.—The combined qualities of utility, effectiveness and historic integrity have resulted in creation of an attractive and well-received donation box display at the park.

Park maintenance and interpretive personnel constructed this donation box and exhibit from a reproduction "12-pounder" artillery Limber Chest. The donation box was designed to fit into one side of the chest and in the other were placed reproduction artifact materials mirroring those actually stored in the Civil War chest and used by artillerists of the period. Included are friction primer, a lanyard, a 12-pound solid shot cannonball, shell fragments, and a round of reproduction canister. A short narrative printed inside the chest explains its uses, and a "Table of Fire" completes the interpretive display.

The chest fulfills a dual purpose, both as an effective means of acquiring monies, and as a creative instrument for delivery of an interpretive message.



Reproduction 12-pounder artillery Limber Chest used for a "donation" box at Chickamauga & Chattanooga NMP, Ga.

Park Briefs



GREAT SMOKY MTS. NP—North Carolina Governor James Hunt staged a whirlwind tour to five counties adjacent to the park in February to kick off the Golden Anniversary celebration in his State.

Hunt met with county officials and interested citizens at Fontana Dam, Deep Creek Campground, Oconaluftee Pioneer Farmstead and the Cataloochee Ranch and Ski Resort. The Governor formally presented his proclamation declaring 1984 as "The Year of the Smokies" to Superintendent John Cook at ceremonies held at the Pioneer Farmstead. Cherokee Chief Robert Youngdeer added his words of praise for the park as a special neighbor, providing clear waters, clean air and beautiful vistas for millions of visitors and the adjacent reservation lands.

The day's activities were concluded with a special symphony concert held at The Folk Arts Center on the Blue Ridge Parkway near Asheville, N.C. The Asheville Symphony Orchestra performed "The Wilderness Suite," by Richard Adler—a lengthy orchestral work inspired by the composer's experiences in the National Park System. One movement reflects his impressions of the Great Smokies.

Superintendent Cook graciously invited the Blue Ridge Parkway to stage a kick-off event in the Smokies for their golden anniversary in 1985.



Photo by Tracy Chernault.

Confederate soldiers watch as the flag is placed on stacked arms. Appomattox Court House NHP, Va.

APPOMATTOX COURT HOUSE NHP, Va.—On Sunday, April 8, the quiet streets of this old town once again echoed with the clang of sabers, the shouted commands of officers and the roll of drums. Once again, the sun flashed from glistening bayonets and rifles as the Army of Northern Virginia stacked its arms and marched away.

To commemorate the 119th anniversary of the actual surrender of General Robert E. Lee, NPS and the Sayler's Creek Committee with its 800 members held a special ceremony. Much as in 1865, blue clad Union troops lined both sides of the Richmond-Lynchburg Stage Road while Confederates in grey and butternut formed in the river bottom below, marched up the hill and between the blue ranks, stacked their arms and equipment, and marched away.

Unlike the original event which was witnessed by only a handful of civilians, the commemorative ceremony was watched by 2,500 people from all over southern Virginia and surrounding States on a beautiful afternoon. Many of those watching or participating had grandfathers or great-grandfathers who were in Lee's army and who were paroled here. In 1865, as the flags were folded for the last time and placed on the stacked arms, tears streaked the faces of Lee's veterans as a way of life and a dream ended. This year history repeated itself; tear stained faces as the flags were folded and the arms stacked were not an unusual sight.

LYNDON B. JOHNSON NHP, Texas—The wagon transportation system at the park has delighted visitors for years. Picking visitors up at the Boyhood Home of President Lyndon B. Johnson, a wagon driver (park technician/interpreter) transports them 114 years back into the past to the site of Grandfather Johnson's log cabin. Often visitors meet rangers, dressed in frontier period clothing at the cabin, performing historic chores or activities.

Over the years, an insignificant by-product of the wagon system has been a growing pile of used horseshoes—obviously destined for nothing special.

Nothing special, that is, until a Marble Falls, Texas, fifth grade class asked for a donation of some of the horseshoes. With them they constructed "Mustang Spirit" plaques for the Marble Falls High School homecoming weekend. The wooden plaques with horseshoes mounted on them had a school spirit slogan painted below.

Sale of the decorative plaques resulted in receipts of $309. In turn the fifth graders donated the money to the Statue of Liberty restoration fund. Now, thanks to the Marble Falls fifth graders the pile of horseshoes at Lyndon B. Johnson National Historical Park is a little smaller and the Statue of Liberty restoration fund is a bit larger.

NPS people in the news

Sholly named chief of NPS Ranger Activities

Dan R. Sholly, 38, has been named chief of Ranger Activities in Washington, D.C. He began his new assignment in February and brings to the position 20 years of field experience. Sholly had been chief ranger of Hawaii Volcanoes National Park since 1981 and served as chief of Resources Management and Visitor Protection at Crater Lake National Park, Oreg., from 1976 to 1981. From 1971 to 1976 he was a supervisory park ranger in Yosemite National Park. While at Hawaii Volcanoes he developed and directed a successful marijuana cultivation eradication program that ensured the protection of visitors and the natural resource. At Crater Lake he developed and implemented a progressive fire management program.

Beginning his National Park Service career in 1963 as a laborer at Yellowstone National Park, he has also seen duty at Saguaro National Monument, Ariz., White Sands National Monument, N. Mex., Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks, Calif., and served on special assignments in Alaska. He has received numerous awards, including the Department of the Interior's Superior Service Award in 1979.

As chief of Ranger Activities for the National Park Service, Sholly will be responsible for Servicewide programs involving law enforcement, regulation promulgation, jurisdiction, fee collection, search and rescue, structural fire management, emergency medical service, health and physical fitness, and other matters concerning the Service.

Sholly was born in Fresno, Calif., and is a 1968 graduate of New Mexico State University.

A former Marine Corps officer, Sholly served in Viet Nam and in the Mediterranean. He and his wife Tana have four children.



Photo by Rick Lewis.

Director Dickenson shakes the hand of Dan Sholly, welcoming him to his new assignment as chief, Ranger Activities for NPS.

Benton, new super for Crater Lake

Robert E. Benton, 48, career NPS executive, has been named to the superintendency of Crater Lake National Park, Oreg. He succeeds James Rouse who has been appointed assistant superintendent of North Cascades National Park, Wash. Benton has managed Bryce Canyon National Park in southern Utah as superintendent since 1980.

A native of Hill City, S. Dak., Benton graduated from Black Hills State College with a B.S. in biology. He first joined the Park Service as a seasonal ranger and naturalist at Devils Tower National Monument, Wyo., in 1960.

Benton's first permanent career assignment began in 1962 at Everglades National Park, where he served as a park ranger. In 1965, he was transferred to Fire Island National Seashore, N.Y., where he was placed in charge of all field operations for the West District.

In 1967, he was selected for the Department of the Interior's Departmental Management Training Program in Washington, D.C. Subsequent to completion of this program, Benton remained in Washington as a member of the Division of Master Plans and Wilderness Studies. From 1969 to 1972, he was chief of Interpretation and Resource Management at Theodore Roosevelt National Park, N. Dak. He then served as superintendent of Colorado National Monument, until his appointment to Bryce Canyon in 1980.

Benton and his wife, Julie, a native of Ekalaka, Mont., have three children, Tina, Tracie and Lance.

Fuller named site manager for Muir Woods



Glenn Fuller.

Glenn Fuller has been named Supervisory Park Ranger/Site Manager for Muir Woods National Monument, Golden Gate National Recreation Area. He succeeds Marvin Hershey who retired from the position over a year ago.

Glenn Fuller began working for Park Service in 1976. His service time has included work at Grand Canyon National Park, Cape Cod National Seashore, Mass., Rocky Mountain National Park, and Alcatraz Island. At Grand Canyon, Fuller was Inner Canyon District Ranger and managed the backcountry district. He holds a degree from Sacramento State University in environmental resources.

Last year over a million people visited Muir Woods. The stand of redwood, *Sequoia sempervirens*, became a national monument in 1908 by proclamation of President Theodore Roosevelt.

"We look forward to a busy summer season this year," said Fuller, "and have been able to hire two extra naturalists to give walks and talks on a regularly scheduled basis."

Fuller and his wife, Susan, will reside in park quarters at Muir Woods.

Whitesell now super for three Massachusetts sites

Stephen E. Whitesell, a 7-year career employee of the Park Service, has been named superintendent of Longfellow, John F. Kennedy, and Frederick Law Olmsted National Historic Sites in Massachusetts.

As of April 1 Whitesell succeeded Acting Superintendent Shary Berg, who will continue as manager of the Olmsted site.

A 1977 graduate of Harvard University Graduate School of Design with a Masters degree in Landscape Architecture, Whitesell pursued undergraduate studies at California Polytechnic State University at San Luis Obispo and California State University at Sacramento. As a professional park planner, he has worked for both public and private sectors including the U.S. Department of Agriculture Soil Conservation Service in Massachusetts, where he assisted in preparing natural resource plans for Ipswich, Danvers, and Methuen.

In 1977 Whitesell joined the National Park Service as a landscape architect at the Denver Service Center where he worked on projects for Yellowstone National Park; Zion National Park, Utah; Bighorn Canyon National Recreation Area, Mont.-Wyo.; Glen Canyon National Recreation Areas, Utah-Ariz., and Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore. In 1980 he became park planner at Indiana Dunes and in 1983 was appointed chief of Maintenance at Apostle Islands National Lakeshore in Wisconsin.

Neckels named Deputy Director Rocky Mountain Region

John W. "Jack" Neckels, 45, a North Dakota rancher's son with 21 years of career service has been named Deputy Director of the Rocky Mountain Region. Formerly Associate Regional Director for Park Operations in the Southwest Region, he assumed his new duties April 29.

Neckels has a variety of experience in States of the Rocky Mountain Region. He was assistant superintendent at Grand Teton National Park, from 1975 to 1980; served as seasonal ranger at Theodore Roosevelt National Park, N. Dak., in 1960-1962, and was Director of the State of North Dakota's Planning Division from 1973 to 1975.

Earlier in his career, Neckels was selected in 1971 as a Department of the Interior management trainee in Washington, D.C., and served in 1972-73 with the National Park Service's Division of Legislation in Washington.

Neckels' first permanent position with NPS was that of park ranger at Blue Ridge Parkway, N.C.-Va., from 1963-66. He was a district ranger at Fire Island National Seashore, N.Y., from 1966-67, and was management assistant at Sagamore Hill National Historic Site, N.Y., from 1967-71. Neckels is a graduate of Dickenson State College, N. Dak., with a degree in biology.



Jack Neckels.

He and his wife, Jolene, are the parents of three children.

Awards

Public Inquiries chief cited for superior performance



Photo by Rick Lewis.

Barbara Payne with NPS publications display, WASO.

In recognition of her sustained superior performance in her work as head of the NPS Public Inquiries Office, WASO, **Barbara A. Payne** has been granted a Quality Increase by Director Dickenson.

Barbara, a native Washingtonian, joined the Park Service about 10 years ago as a clerk-typist in the Photo Library and assumed the operational management of the Public Inquiries Office in September 1979, where she had worked the three previous years.

Aided by a staff of only two public inquiries clerks, Barbara responds to approximately 70,000 inquiries annually, maintaining a stock of brochures on more than 400 separate park sites and a vast array of other publications and reference materials, providing information and service to individuals, organizations, Government offices, private sector groups and corporate organizations from all parts of the United States and many foreign countries.

The Public Inquiries Office is busiet from January to August, when people are planning vacation trips to the national parks. Also, the office is equipped with a Ticketron terminal to place campsite reservations for nine separate national parks.

The award citation signed by the Director stated that "operation of the *Public Inquiries Office is a diverse task* involving the dispensing of information, supervising and training of the support staff, meeting the public, maintaining literature stock and working with management in the development of information materials . . ."

The Director noted that the Public Inquiries Office is often the first point of contact that the public has with the National Park Service, and "Barbara has expertly accomplished all these tasks in a manner that has enhanced the image of the Service and reflected very favorably upon herself."

Robert Utley-Ross Holland Award announced

On April 13, Director Dickenson and Paul C. Pritchard, President National Parks and Conservation Association, announced the establishment of the Robert M. Utley-F. Ross Holland Award, an honorary award for senior staff and park managers of the National Park Service. The award will recognize outstanding contributions to the advancement, preservation, and knowledge of the cultural resources of the National Park System. Many significant achievements by senior staff and park managers have remained unrecognized in the past. While the award will remedy this situation, it will do even more to ensure that the Nation's cultural heritage managed by NPS will receive wider publicity both inside and outside the Service.

The annual recipients of the Utley-Holland Award, who will be determined by an award selection committee, must have demonstrated that they have contributed significantly to furtherance of the management of the Service's cultural resources.

It is highly appropriate that Bob Utley and Ross Holland are honored in this way. Each has demonstrated during his years with NPS the kind of dedicated service that would justify the receipt of this award. They left behind a greater understanding, appreciation, and respect for these diverse and ubiquitous resources. The public has benefited also by their work through carefully researched interpretive programs and professionally managed resources. Their high standards remain as an inspiration to those that follow them.

The National Parks and Conservation Association, a strong advocate for greater recognition of the System's cultural resources, will help to administer this award. Contributions to the award should be made to: The Utley-Holland Award, % National Parks and Conservation Association, 1701 18th Street NW, Washington, D.C. 20009.

Contributions are tax deductible.

Funds will be used to offset the costs associated with the presentation of the award, and the acquisition of a large plaque that will be permanently displayed at the Department of the Interior on which the awardee's names will be inscribed. Additionally, small, individual plaques will be presented to each awardee.

Support will help to create an incentive for excellence among NPS senior staff and park managers, whose influence on the System's cultural resources could benefit future generations of park visitors.

Shirley Luikens granted Superior Service Award

Recently, **Shirley Luikens** was the recipient of an award in recognition of her dedication and high calibre performance in managing the activities of the Advisory Boards and Commissions. Director Dickenson presented the award to her.

Quoting from the citation:

"From September 1973 until March 1978, Ms. Shirley M. Luikens provided invaluable assistance to the former Advisory Boards and Commissions Program Manager, Mr. Robert M. Landau.

"From March 1978 to the present time, Ms. Luikens has independently and superbly executed the wide range of activities necessary to manage the Advisory Boards and Commissions. Acting without support staff, she has produced an extraordinariiy large volume of work that has been consistently accurate, technically correct and completed in advance of deadlines. She has prepared all of the material necessary to establish advisory boards and ensured that special assignments for subcommittees and individual board members have been executed in accordance with the Federal Advisory Committee Act. Moreover, she has independently instituted the selection procedures for the various committees and prepared the documentation necessary for the various boards and committees to meet charter renewal requirements.

"In recognition of her dedication, high calibre performance and professional standards of excellence in managing the prestigious work of the Advisory Boards and Commissions, Ms. Shirley M. Luikens is granted the Superior Service Award of the Department of the Interor."



Shirley Luikens is congratulated by Director Dickenson upon her receipt of the Superior Service Award of the Department of the Interior.

Curecanti employees recognized

Superintendent Glen D. Alexander recognized two employees at Curecanti National Recreation Area, Colo., for their special contributions to park operations.

Water and Wastewater Technician **Frank Cory** was presented a Special Achievement Award. Instructor for a 40-hour course on basic water treatment, Cory organized the training schedule, individual lessons, student handouts and tests. He also planned a special tour of the water treatment facilities in Montrose, Colo.

Chief Ranger **Arnold Simmons** was recognized for his renovation of the park radio system, supervising and coordinating a complete radio replacement program for Curecanti and two adjoining parks—Black Canyon of the Gunnison National Monument and Colorado National Monument. The new installation required frequency changes, repeater changes both in equipment and location, and replacement of old equipment.

In presenting the awards to Cory and Simmons, Superintendent Alexander said, "We are pleased to be able to recognize this kind of superior work performance. We are able to work more effectively and efficiently because of the support and dedication of our employees."

Edison Ranger Bartell wins education award

Park Technician **Richard A. Bartell,** who also is a teacher at Glenfield Middle School in Montclair, N.J., recently received the Black Alliance for Survival in Education annual award to an educator who exemplifies the "quality of dedication to teaching."

Ranger Bartell was chiefly responsible for the exceptional Black History Month exhibit at Edison National Historic Site, N.J., on the life of Lewis Latimer. Latimer, a black scientist-poet-civil rights advocate, was an associate of Thomas A. Edison and worked for years at the Edison laboratory facility.

The exhibit was comprised of photographs of Latimer, some of his inventions, books of his poetry and narratives on the working relationship between Latimer and Edison. NAR Director Herbert S. Cables, Jr., saw the project and commented, "The Edison exhibit produced by Ranger Bartell is one of the most informative and interesting such exhibits on a black historical figure, that anyone in NARO has ever done."

Awards presented at Grand Canyon



Joe Evans.



Dave Stimson.



Kim Johnson, Curt Sauer, Malcolm Fogleman and Stan Steck.

Joe Evans, night shift supervisor for Grand Canyon South Rim Patrol, was presented an employee suggestion award in February. His suggestion improved the safety at the park's statistically most dangerous T intersection.

Joe's suggestion was to implement an old idea in a new location, by installing two patterns of slightly elevated discs on the roadway at a sufficient distance from the intersection to alert drivers and to refocus their attention to the road.

The problem intersection was the junction of the South Entrance Road and Highway 64 East. Three to five serious accidents involving injury have occurred at the intersection each year. In addition, two to four vehicles a year have failed to stop, crossing the intersection at a high rate of speed, and becoming stuck in the dirt on the opposite side of the roadway.

Drivers are usually driving too fast, drowsy from the extended straight roads, or not paying attention. Acting on Joe's suggestion, and installing the discs, the park has been able to reduce accidents, injuries, and property damage.

River Subdistrict Rangers **Curt Sauer, Kim Johnson,** and **Stan Steck,** were recently presented Special Achievement Awards for their outstanding contributions toward the conversion of 20 river outfitter concession permits to concession contracts.

According to Malcolm Fogleman, chief of Concessions Management, Grand Canyon National Park, this is the first award of long-term concession contracts to river outfitters in NPS.

These contracts are granted for a 10-year period subject to yearly review of annual operating requirements. The change to contracts eliminates the yearly permit renewal process previously required.

This change offers advantages to both NPS and concessioners. Because contracts are concessioner-specific and provide detailed operating plans, NPS can exercise a greater degree of influence on an operator's business within the confines of the park. The park also now offers a greater continuity of river trip service to visitors. For concessioners, this long-term commitment from NPS allows them a greater sense of security in their seasonal white water river trip operations, enabling them to upgrade their business operations and invest in new equipment.

The Special Achievement Awards were specifically granted for Curt, Kim and Stan's work in developing and drafting of each concessioner's operating requirements. They provided technical expertise based on their river skills, knowledge of river trip requirements, and yearly evaluations of each concessioner. They developed extensive and comprehensive operating plans that should be sufficient to guide all aspects of day-to-day operations of concessioners for the next 10 years. Based on the dynamic nature of river trip operations, this exercise required significant foresight. According to Fogleman, "The completion of the permit-to-contract conversion helps fulfill Grand Canyon's professional responsibilities to the concessioners and park visitors for river experiences within park boundaries."

Dave Stimson, seasonal ranger for the Corridor Subdistrict at Grand Canyon, received in February an incentive award for his outstanding work.

Although Dave's primary responsibilities are law enforcement and emergency response, he provided valuable services in building construction and rehabilitation. During his spare time and in the evenings, Dave constructed a working-dining booth, bookshelves, and other furniture, which enhanced the space utilization of the Indian Gardens Ranger Station. This project, valued at $600, was completed for less than $100. Dave also rehabilitated and painted the exteriors of the Indian Gardens bunkhouse and ranger station buildings.

Dave established an agreement with a local hospital to save plastic sterile water bottles, which rangers could give to poorly equipped hikers. This preventative Search and Rescue method eliminated the probability of heat exhaustion and dehydration in hundreds of canyon hikers.

In addition, Dave served as acting supervisor of Indian Gardens while the permanent GS-7 ranger was away for 3 months' training. He supervised and trained new employees, organized work projects, and reported all events.

'Special People' communicate with sign language



Bobby Eakins, (right) tractor operator on the grounds crew at Jefferson NEM, teaches American Sign Language to a group of coworkers, John Patterson and Dewey Henderson, at a recent workshop. Ula Williams, the workshop instructor provided by OPM, looks on. Lester B. Lucas, custodial worker, works with another group in the background while Carl Smith, landscape gardener, taught other signs to the third group.

Three of the maintenance men at Jefferson National Expansion Memorial National Historic Site, Mo., do not speak English. They cannot hear it either. Bobby Eakins and Lester Lucas have been totally deaf since birth and Carl Smith has less than 10 percent of his hearing. Their disabilities do not affect their work. Bobby is a tractor operator and is as tuned in to the feel and mechanical condition of his machines as anyone. Lester is a custodial worker—and a good one. He is currently responsible for floor care at the Gateway Arch and you can tell where he's been by the shine. Carl is a landscape gardener responsible for irrigating the 60-acre Arch grounds, pruning trees, etc. His eye for form and pride in his work help keep the grounds up in spite of rowdy visitors, ash borers, urban weeds and summer drought.

But, it is tough to visit, travel or live in a country where no one speaks your language. It is tough not to be able to share a joke, pass the time, say good morning, or tell your coworker he is doing a good job. Bobby, Carl and Lester have a good excuse for not being bilingual—their coworkers and supervisors aren't.

Last March the Jefferson staff scheduled an intensive 40-hour linguistics workshop so 18 of Lester's, Bobby's and Carl's colleagues could begin to learn American Sign Language (AMISLAN). The course, one offered through OPM, was taught by Ula Williams, a contract consultant whose own parents were totally deaf. She grew up bilingual and is an outstanding instructor. One of the highlights of the week was the 4-hour session when Carl, Bobby and Lester came into the class to teach us specific terms related to our work and community. (Lester doesn't mince "signs" when a commode is stopped up!)

When asked why he took the time to attend the entire 40 hours, Assistant Superintendent Messinger said, "When I am with a group of deaf people who are talking AMISLAN and laughing, it really makes me uncomfortable. I think they are talking and laughing about me. Now, the shoe isn't on the other foot." Messinger says he and his classmates still are not fluent in AMISLAN but everyone is a lot closer than we've been able to be in the past: "Coffee breaks are scheduled when 'AMISLAN ONLY SPOKEN HERE' is enforced and it is really heartwarming to see the positive impact this has had on all of us."

'Life at Chaco Canyon has rewards,' says Ranger Herriman

(Editor's Note: The following article was written for AP by David Carlson and published in The New Mexican *of Santa Fe, N. Mex. It is reprinted with their permission.)*

Walt Herriman has something very unusual in common with the Anasazi, the ancient society that once occupied what is now Chaco Canyon National Historical Park, N. Mex. He actually likes living here.

This is not a real hospitable kind of place. The living is so tough that Navajos tell a joke that says it takes two rattlesnakes just to make a hatband.

Jackrabbits, lizards, rattlesnakes and Herriman are about the only things that find Chaco Canyon hospitable.

This land of sagebrush and squawbush is baked by a relentless summer sun and frozen by icey winters. There are no native trees and the water wells are 3,000 feet deep. The nearest paved road to the national park is 21 miles away. The nearest town is 70 miles and high school students have to go 56 miles each way.

The fact that the canyon does not lend itself to human habitation has puzzled archaeologists for years. The ruins of a highly evolved ancient society are located here, a society that more than 900 years ago built stone buildings with 600 rooms and they built them so well that large sections still are standing. Then, sometime around 600 years ago, the Anasazi up and left.

Herriman has lived here for 11 years—11 winters of roads knee-deep in mud and 11 summers of egg-frying sun—but retirement stares him in the face.

He is a vigorous man of 61. He says most of his life has been spent in one sort of uniform or another. First it was the olive green of the U.S. Army in World War II; now it's the gray and green of the National Park Service and has been for 31 years.

Chaco Canyon is his place. He's been the park superintendent here ever since it was a sleepy little national monument few people ever heard of. It's doubled in size since then and the number of visitors has increased by 50 percent to about 75,000 a year.

It's also become a national park and if Herriman has his way, it'll become a lot more before he hangs up his campaign hat.

He's been eligible for retirement for more than a year but he's in no hurry.



Walt Herriman, Chaco Canyon NHP, N. Mex.

There are things he still wants to accomplish, like seeing a paved road built to Chaco Canyon.

"It's just been exciting," he said. "I hate to turn my back and leave here, but I guess I'm going to have to."

He sits at his desk in the park's visitor center, talking about life in Chaco Canyon, its tolls and rewards.

"People say, 'You live in this God-forsaken place?' Sure I do. I've enjoyed it, really.

"My advice to anyone who comes out here is to find something, an outlet. I think this is one of the things that has helped me endure this here. It takes a psychological toll—this chair, this job, this way of life. You need a release valve. Mine's a strenuous physical program. I run 3 miles every night."

Life in the remote outpost of the National Park Service is even tougher on the wives, he said.

"The wife of the family has got to be someone who is enterprising, who can latch onto something," he said.

There aren't any jobs within 60 miles, so spouses have to find another way to occupy themselves.

"If they don't find something, I've seen them almost carried out of here," Herriman said.

His wife, Elinore, is an artist. Her work surrounds Herriman's government-gray desk with colorful depictions of the Chaco area and out in the visitor's center they sell a Chaco Canyon poster created from one of her paintings. She works one day a week in a Farmington gallery in which she is part owner.

After the war, Herriman got a job at Yellowstone as a summer employee delivering supplies to firefighting teams. In the winter, he worked as a high school guidance counselor. After 16 summers at Yellowstone, he decided the National Park Service was for him, so he went fulltime and worked his way up from there doing stints as an interpreter at Grand Canyon, Virgin Islands National Park and a few others.

Nowadays, he said, it's a lot harder to get a job in a national park. Most Service employees are specialists, college-trained for a particular nitch like resource management, law enforcement or administration.

"In the old days, we did it all," Herriman said.

He recalled a time years ago at Yellowstone when somebody woke him up in the middle of the night because a bear was ravaging the campground. He went to get the ranger who was supposed to take care of such things and the ranger handed him a rifle. "Take care of it until I get there," the ranger told him. "If he's dangerous, shoot him."

These days, things are much more departmentalized, Herriman said. A ranger is the only one who can shoot, tranquilize or otherwise deal with a wild animal.

The Herrimans expect to retire in October 1984. They have purchased a home in Las Cruces, N. Mex., and are looking forward to another adventure. They both intend to stay active by attending classes at New Mexico State University and becoming engaged in community activities.

Helen Dixon retired

Helen R. Dixon, administrative officer of George Washington Carver National Monument, Mo., since 1960, retired March 31 after more than 30 years of Federal service.

She began her Federal career in 1944 with the Department of Agriculture. From 1951-58 she served with the Department of the Army.

Mrs. Dixon will continue living in Joplin, Mo., where she has resided the past 40 years. She was honored during a retirement party on March 20.

E&AA news and notes

The 'Connie Wirth' story of NPS

Parks, Politics and the People by Conrad L. Wirth. Foreword by Melville B. Grosvenor. 450 pp illustrations, appendixes and index. $15.

This volume is an eyewitness account of an exciting period in the growth and development of the National Park System. The author shares his noteworthy experience in planning and administering parks, with major focus on the period 1928-64. The paucity of materials on the history of the National Park Service makes this book especially valuable as it is an addition to the biographical studies covering the administrations of Mather and Albright already on the market.

He sketches briefly his early youth in Connecticut and Minneapolis with his father, Theodore Wirth, a distinguished pioneer in park planning. He enjoyed a happy family life and greatly admired his father, which induced him to follow in his footsteps and become a landscape architect.

He graduated from the University of Massachusetts and worked for several years in private employment before coming to Washington, D.C., in 1928 to work for the National Capital Park and Planning Commission. During this stimulating assignment he associated with U. S. Grant III, Charles W. Eliot II, Frederick Law Olmsted, Jr., and others. This brought him in touch with Horace M. Albright who asked him to join the NPS in 1931 as assistant director for Land Planning.

In 1933 Wirth took a leadership role in the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) State Parks Program and later became Interior's representative on the CCC Advisory Council. He recalls events such as the development of Shangri-La (now Camp David, Md.) in which President Franklin Delano Roosevelt was personally involved that make for interesting reading.

During the war years (1941-45) NPS was placed on a custodial basis which necessitated drastic action be taken to draw the attention of the Department, the President and the Congress to the sad plight of the parks.

When Wirth assumed the directorship in 1951 he appointed a Task Force to carry out his preconceived idea of a comprehensive and integrated 10-year plan to upgrade the parks to 1966 standards, the golden anniversary of the establishment of the National Park Service. He called his plan MISSION 66.

MISSION 66 was highly successful and Wirth regards it as the beginning of a "park renaissance." Secretary Seaton felt it provided the conservation movement of the entire Nation and inspired similar long-range programs by other agencies at all levels.

With utmost candor Wirth expresses his views on issues and the persons with whom he was dealing, and describes the techniques in finding his way through the Federal maze, listing the battles lost as well as those won.

His message and methods of presentation bear a relationship to his personality, the age and circumstances of the time and these are the important ingredients in the book.

To conservationists and park people this is an invaluable source on park activities from 1928-1964. It is part history and part manual and will be useful to those who will eventually write a definitive history of the NPS. It is a chronicle that not only emerges into the living present but is helpful in tracing the roots of issues facing the NPS today.

(Editor's Note: The foregoing was excerpted from a review of Connie's book written by Herbert E. Kahler, former chief historian for NPS, and published in May 1980 COURIER.)

NOTE: Special offer to all E&AA members for copies of Conrad L. Wirth's *Parks, Politics and the People*, the "Connie Wirth" story

Conrad L. Wirth, former Director of the National Park Service, has generously offered to the E&AA a substantial number of autographed hardbound editions of his story, *Parks, Politics and the People* at a reduced price which enables us to offer them to our members for $15 a copy, postage and handling included.

As a service to our members, E&AA has these copies on hand awaiting shipment to you. All E&AA members may receive an autographed copy by Connie Wirth of his story by completing the order blank below and sending it along with your check to Harry M. Elsey, Treasurer, Employees and Alumni Association of the National Park Service, 3830 Pinewood Terrace, Falls Church, VA 22041.

Those of you who are not members of E&AA but wish to take advantage of this special offer, may do so by completing the order blank, completing the application form below and sending it along with your membership dues and cost of the book(s) ordered ($15 a copy) in a check made payable to E&AA, Harry M. Elsey, Treasurer.

Please send to:

_____

Name Address

_____ copy(ies) of

City State Zip Number

Parks, Politics and the People by Conrad L. Wirth. I am a member of E&AA and enclose a check made payable to E&AA, Harry M. Elsey, Treasurer, in the amount of $_____ for _____ copy(ies), postage and handling included.

Because I am not a member of E&AA I also remit $_____ which represents my dues for membership in E&AA. (Annual membership is $10, Life is $100. Life can be paid in a lump sum, $25 a year for 4 years or $20 a year for 5 years.)

National Park Women

Alaska's Park Women



Alaska NPW Conference at Denali NP during a demonstration of sled-dogs of Denali.

The first weekend of March, a group of National Park Women (NPW) met at Denali National Park to discuss National, State and local projects. The twelve women who participated represented a good cross-section — office women and wives, from park areas and the regional office. They were viable and responsive, and worked out a projects-and-goals list, which will be sent on for ratification by the other Alaska NPW areas ranging from Sitka to Kozebue and from Eagle to King Salmon.

We took advantage of the balmy 35 degree (yes, that's above zero) weather to get outside for cross-country skiing and a nature hike. We all enjoyed an amusing and informative demonstration of the sled-dogs of Denali (there are 30) by Kathy Loux. We had a great sunny, pleasant 2 days.

The highlight of our meeting was a Saturday evening program of slide presentations and speakers. Bob Cunningham, Superintendent of Denali National Park, welcomed us and reiterated his support of our organization. He also gave us a brief glimpse of the future of NPS, and development at Denali. Ranger Naturalist Paulette Hedeen presented a memorable slide and music program on the Denali area.

We were privileged to have with us during Alaska Women's History Month, Katie Hurley, a woman who has actively participated in the history of Alaska. She ventured up to our snowy domain on the Alaska Railroad, and along with the almost idealic weather for her trip, Mt. McKinley was visible in all its splendor.

Ms. Hurley, former Executive Director of the Alaska Commission on the Status of Women, spoke to us on several issues of interest to women in Alaska and brought us a wealth of information from the Legislative Affairs Office and the Commission. Our group greatly appreciated Ms. Hurley's suggestions and comments relating specifically to our organization. We wish her well in her upcoming bid for a State House seat.

We closed the evening with an informative slide program on Gates of the Arctic National Park, which Gates Superintendent Dick Ring shared with us.

We are all looking forward to a fall meeting in Fairbanks to be hosted by the women of Gates of the Arctic.

ORGANIZATION OF NPW

PURPOSE

- To promote friendship and understanding
- To provide opportunities to communicate and discuss common areas of interest
- To undertake projects to benefit its members, the local communities, NPW and our environment.

CONFERENCE — MARCH 1984

PROPOSED GOALS — Alaska Region

- Promote incentives for greater participation of all National Park Women — membership cards, newsletter, roster of active members, t-shirts as I.D., fund-raisers and status symbol.
- Improve communication with national organization and other regions — list of active groups, organizational chart, teleconference for National Board.
- Promote participation in the VIP program — have regional VIP Coordinator speak to groups regarding policies, encourage parks to make known areas of need, suggest improved program with evaluations, references, review, supervision.
- Develop better working relationship with NPS and establish ways in which we can be made aware of how we can be of assistance at all levels.
- Meet with Regional Director and request guidance and direction for projects and priorities from NPS.
- Develop ways to make NPW effective, efficient and productive — NPW information booklet, Certificate of Appreciation for spouses, fund raising, implementation and follow through of projects

Judy O'Neale
Regional Chairman
Alaska National Park Women

Great Smokies' CCC reunion set for August 18

A special event, part of the Golden Anniversary, will be a homecoming for former Park employees, with special emphasis on a CCC Reunion for those men who made a major contribution to the development of the Park between 1933 and 1942.

This event will be Saturday August 18 at the Job Corps Center near the Oconaluftee Visitor Center, Cherokee, N.C. The festivities will begin at 10:00 a.m., followed by a lunch at the Center, with a continuing program in the afternoon. There will be exhibits of CCC memorabilia and a movie of CCC activities.

During the CCC days there were 23 Camps in the park. Early day park employees, CCC enrollees, supervisory and military personnel who served in these camps, and their families are invited to come, meet their old buddies and meet new friends.

For more information and to make reservations please contact Mr. George W. Fry, P.O. Box 947, Gatlinburg, TN 37738, phone 615/436-7543.

Mount Rushmore seeks VIP stone sculptor

After the splendid success the Sculptor-In-Residence program enjoyed last summer, Mount Rushmore National Memorial will continue it this year.

The Park Service is seeking a sculptor to work for about 3 months at the memorial this summer. The sculptor will work on his/her own materials in Gutzon Borglum's Studio, demonstrating sculpture to the public and answering a wide variety of questions on sculpture—especially those relating to Borglum's techniques and methods.

Interested sculptors should contact Mount Rushmore National Memorial at Keystone, SD 57751-0268.

Failure is nothing but success trying to be born in a bigger way. Most seeming failures are just installments toward victory.

Is your E&AA membership delinquent?

Please check your COURIER label to determine the expiration date of your membership in the Employees and Alumni Association of the National Park Service (E&AA).

If you are a member of E&AA paying your dues on an annual basis, your expiration date will show in the upper right hand corner of your label. Please remit your dues promptly to relieve E&AA of the cost of sending a reminder.

(Example)

Mr. National P. Service 6-84
1000 Monument Avenue
Recreation Area, VA 22204

If you are paying for Life or Second Century membership on the partial payment plan, your label will reflect the initials "LMP" or "SCP" in the upper right hand corner. Life Members show as "LM," Second Century as "SCC," Supporting Donor as "SD" and Founder as "F."

If there is the initial "A" after your name, our files show you as an alumnus; if not we are carrying you on our rolls as an employee.

If there are the initials "NWC" after your name we are carrying you as a member of the National Writers Club and your E&AA membership must be kept current to qualify you for continuing membership in the NWC.

If your label does not reflect your membership correctly, please advise our Treasurer, Harry M. Elsey, 3830 Pinewood Terrace, Falls Church, VA 22041.

FINAL CALL FOR ALUMNI DIRECTORY INFORMATION

As noted in the February COURIER, your E&AA is compiling information for an update of a Directory of National Park Service Alumni.

We have received numerous responses and plan to have the Directory in the hands of those included before the 1984 Holiday Season.

Please send your information for inclusion in the Directory to Harry M. Elsey, Treasurer, Employees and Alumni Association, 3830 Pinewood Terrace, Falls Church, VA 22041 before July 31, 1984.

Remember that if you are not a member of the E&AA but are a NPS alumnus and wish to be included in the Directory you may do so by joining the E&AA and completing the application form below.

_____ _____
Name—Please Print Date

_____
Present address—P.O. Box or Street Address

_____ _____ _____
City State Zip

_____
Year joined NPS alumni ranks Title and location of last NPS position

CHECK APPROPRIATE BOX BELOW:

☐ I am currently a member in good standing in the Employees and Alumni Association and when prepared I would appreciate receiving a copy of the Alumni Directory.

☐ I am not a member of the E&AA but wish to receive a copy of the Alumni Directory when it is prepared. I enclose my check in the amount of $_____ to cover membership in the E&AA.

(Annual membership is $10. Life Member is $100. Life can be paid in a lump sum, $25 a year for 4 years or $20 a year for 5 years. SECOND CENTURY CLUB—$200. SUPPORTING DONOR—$500. FOUNDER—$1,000.)

Go for Gold in '84

By John Mohlhenrich
Chief Park Interpreter
Lake Mead NRA, Ariz.-Nev.

Nevada Governor Richard Bryan proclaimed March 21, 1984 as "Sheila Fava 'Go For Gold Day' " throughout the State.

The honor was in recognition of Fava's determination to overcome physical handicaps resulting from complicated surgery in 1981 which left her partially paralyzed. The surgery was necessary to correct a lifelong neurological condition.

Sheila is the wife of Paul Fava who retired from the U.S. Park Police in December 1983; his last assignment was as Criminal Investigator at Lake Mead National Recreation Area, Ariz.-Nev. Paul and Sheila live in Boulder City, Nev., with their three children.

After the surgery Sheila decided to rebuild her strength through therapeutic swimming, which led to training in earnest for competitive swimming. With help from professional coaches she developed enough ability to enter the Fourth Annual Cerebral Palsy Games held in Fort Worth, Texas in July 1983.

She was the only Nevada representative and her efforts brought her a coveted Gold Medal in the backstroke competition and fourth place in freestyle.



Sheila Fava, wife of former U.S. Park Policeman Fava, on her way to swim practice for the Fourth Annual Cerebral Palsy Games held in Fort Worth, Texas, in July 1983.

As a result of her success she was invited to participate as a member of the U.S. swim team at the International Olympics for the Disabled competition in New York State from June 16 through 30. Teams from 61 foreign countries were represented.

Once again Sheila was the only person from Nevada invited to participate in the games. The official proclamation recognizes her courage and positive attitude in successfully fighting severe odds.

Your E&AA Representatives

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Harpers Ferry Center
David Nathanson—Employees

Denver Service Center
R. T. Giamberdine—Employees
Robert L. Steenhagen—Alumni

Alaska
Bailey Breedlove—Employees

Retired Ranger Anderson reminisces on the 'good life'—then and now

There comes a time in everyone's life when they must choose between joining the rat race for better homes and salaries and leaving it all behind for the "good life."

For Jack Anderson, that time came after World War II when he came home and started looking for a career.

He didn't look long. The confusing maze of city streets and office buildings was a death sentence to a young man whose heart was in the backlands.

So, Jack turned his back on what seemed like the land of opportunity and became a ranger for the National Park Service. Years later, he eventually did land behind a desk piled with paperwork, but this time it was as superintendent of Yellowstone National Park.

For 9 years, Jack Anderson rode herd over a wildlife preserve that covers 2 million acres and overlaps into three States. It was a job that he says was fascinating, as well as in one of the most beautiful parts of the world.

"Yellowstone is an ecosystem with many elements of life that are dependent on each other and have to be balanced in order for the park to survive," Anderson says.

Protected within the park are such animals as elk, deer, antelope, mountain sheep, buffalo, moose, water-fowl, trout and grizzly bears.

To show their interdependence, Anderson tells of a program that was created by his staff called the "catch-and-release" system.

In the 1960s, Anderson says biologists determined that the fish population—especially that of the native cutthroat trout—was in danger of being overfished. They estimated that between 300,000 and 400,000 were taken annually from the park's streams by visitors. An additional 400,000 were fished by wildlife for food.

"The park is set up to preserve wildlife, but it's also there for the pleasure of the public," Anderson says. "We realized we had to stop the impact, but still allow fishing."

So, in 1968, the park established the catch-and-release program that is still in effect today. All but a few streams containing cutthroat trout can be fished, but once caught, the fish must be returned to the waters. On a few streams, people are allowed to keep two trout.



Former Superintendent of Yellowstone NP, Jack Anderson.

Two other programs to protect fish established during Anderson's tenure were installation of cameras at Fishing Bridge, which allowed visitors to watch large trout underwater, and the VIP program. The latter was made up of first- and second-year college students who explained the park's policies to the 2 million visitors who passed through each year.

According to recent studies, the number and size of trout in Yellowstone's streams has returned to what biologists believe they were before the year 1900. Eagle, osprey, beaver and otter populations also have grown, possibly because of the abundant fish.

Since retiring in 1975 and moving to Oregon, Anderson has visited Yellowstone twice. He's still an outdoorsman at heart and fish still play a dominant role in his iife, but now they're on the end of his flyrod on his frequent visits to the Oregon Coast.

Ask him and he'll probably tell you he's found the "good life." But you can tell by his smile that he's had it all along.

(Editor's Note: The above article by Terrie Claflin is reprinted with permission of the Mail Tribune, *Medford, Oreg.)*

FYI

Compiling visitor data 'easier said than done'

By Ken Hornback
Chief, NPS Statistical Office
Denver Service Center

The poster on the front door of the NPS Statistical Office shows the numberless stars of our universe with a tiny arrow in the middle pointing out "You are here."

To the statisticians of the Denver Service Center, knowing where you are means having the right numbers to solve a problem and knowing the numbers are correct. As with many information management jobs, that of keeping visitation data is easier said than done. It all starts with how parks make their counts of visitors.



Sharon Shinn, geographer, NPS Statistical Office, Denver.

Field Audits

"Job one," says field survey statistician Ed Newlin, "is controlling the counting procedures." Ed charges off to nine or ten parks a year to audit counting procedures, brief the staff on definitions of counts that are reportable, and in other ways tries to help establish a reliable method of taking counts of visits and overnight stays.

"Some parks function like Swiss clocks," observes Newlin. "Others are more like sundials . . . they're okay when the sun shines." The problem, it seems, is the physical complexity of counting within extensive and often discontinuous park boundaries. Using traffic counters and survey sampling techniques, counting or estimating procedures are established for each park and recorded in a document called a "Supplement One." Every park has a unique "Supplement One," which contains a detailed description of what, when, where, and how counts are made and reported on the Monthly Public Use Report.

Data Processing

More than 300 parks send their monthly counts to Denver during the second week of the month. As the data are keyed into the computer, the problems multiply. A database designed by programmer Tom Wade requires new data to pass through an editing gate that detects data entry, mathematical and clerical errors. The computer monitors the data being entered and throws a fit when numbers don't add up.

"We can't assume," says statistician Lee Heideman, "that we have the right answer in the computer because a mistake may be in either the augend (1st number) or addend (2nd number)." So it's back to the parks to check the records. Errors can result when numbers get turned around, get placed in the wrong boxes, get typed but not proofed, or when they find ways to get added that cannot be explained by mathematical theory.



Al Galipeau, statistician, NPS Statistical Office, Denver.

Statistical Diagnosis

Once the data are accepted by the computer, a series of internal quality control checks are made. Al Galipeau, mathematical statistician and forecaster, runs statistical tests of the new data against predetermined norms for parks of certain types, in certain areas, and during certain times. The tests establish "expectations" for each park. If a park reports data that are significantly different from the expectations, an inquiry is launched and an explanation is identified and, if appropriate, footnoted on the various Statistical Office publications. The data are summarized, graphed, and categorized into dozens of reports that are aimed at numerous specialized interests from budget analysts to interpretive specialists.



Ken Hornback, chief, NPS Statistical Office, Denver.



(From left) Programmer Tom Wade, Statistician Al Galipeu, Statistician Ed Newlin, Sociologist Ken Hornback, Geographer Sharon Shin, Economist George Nez. (Not shown in the photo is Computer Assistant Lee Heideman.) All are members of the NPS Statistical Office for Information Management, Denver.



Tom Wade, computer programmer, checking program for "bug."

Clients

Users of visitation data range from NPS employees to university students, from conservation groups to market research firms. Government uses include monthly and annual reproduction of the data by the "Survey of Current Business" (Department of Commerce, Bureau of Economic Analysis) and Statistical Abstract of the United States (Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census). The data are important parts of regional reports put out by most Federal Reserve Banks as well as monthly newsletters of the U.S. Travel Data Center. Geographic analyst Sharon Shin points out that inquiries come from both domestic and international organizations specializing in recreation land management and environmental protection professions.

Applications

The timeliness of data and the widely regarded validity and reliability of the counts make NPS public use reports unique among Federal statistical programs. No other agency of Government has a program of such quality. NPS visitation data are used directly and indirectly by public and private organizations. They are a direct measure of public vacation travel and outdoor recreation activity. Indirectly, they have been used as a measure of quality of life and indicator of the price of travel. Statistical Office economist George Nez points out that "these data are often used as the variable that drives community economic impact models," equations that redefine visits in terms of the jobs, wages, and profits they make for local people.

Statistical Interpretations

The Statistical Office must do more than publish counts of visitors; it is also called upon to account for why there are differences between counts. Interpreting the differences in counts can involve a variety or combination of factors. Sometimes important differences are simply due to procedural or methodological changes. A few of the causes that can account for changes in counts: Changes can often be traced to environmental factors, like highways closing for construction, storms, celebrations, high water, low water, etc. During the past decade park attendance has pitched up and down with gasoline prices, public perception of gasoline availability, the Bicentennial celebration, and national weather conditions. Many questions about attendance at NPS areas need to be answered in the context of how visitation relates to other signs of travel and tourism conditions. The Statistical Office maintains a variety of travel, tourism, weather, economic, and demographic data to help address some of the more complicated problems planners and managers face.

Whether the question is when will the 10 millionth visitor come or how many visitors will come in 10 years, this information management system is geared to find the answer quickly and correctly.

Maintenance training in Navajo language given at Canyon de Chelly

By Dale Ditmanson
Interpretive Specialist
Canyon de Chelly NM, Ariz.

From the first Yah'te'hey' on Monday you realized this was not your average National Park Service training session. Sure the skills discussed were basic to any maintenance course, but how many other sessions have been presented entirely in the Navajo language!

This unique course evolved from identifying the need for basic maintenance training for employees of areas once covered by the Navajo Lands Group Office. It became apparent that the majority of these employees were Navajo and that they would benefit greatly from instruction in their native language.

Instructors for each session were identified from the staffs of the Navajo Lands area. They included John Laughter, Navajo National Monument, Ariz.; Teddy Halwood, Canyon de Chelly National Monument, Ariz.; Hernal Shandi, Hubbell Trading Post National Historic Site, Ariz.; Archie Werrito, Chaco Cultural National Historical Park, N. Mex.; and James Brown, Aztec Ruins National Monument, N. Mex.

The Basic Maintenance Course was held April 2-6, 1984 at Canyon de Chelly. Items on the agenda included basic electricity, small engine repair, basic carpentry, ruins stabilization, basic plumbing and concrete work.

Plans are to continue this type of training and to move the training site to a different Navajo Lands area each time. A more advanced maintenance course is in the works for FY 1985.



(From left) John Laughter and Teddy Halwood direct a session on Small Engine Repair.



(From left, back row) Harrison John, Keith Natoni, Hernal Shandi, Teddy Dempsey, Floyd Laughter, James Brown and Johnson Hunter.

(From left, front row) Thomas Bia, Deswood Bitsoi, Archie Werito, John Laughter and Teddy Halwood.

'Boat people' train at North Cascades

Training sponsored by the Skagit District, North Cascades National Park, Wash., brought Coast Guard, County, State and National Park Service people together for a 2-day session in March. Topics included new State boating laws, numbering, safety, commercial operations, standards, accidents, thefts and boarding.

Park rangers in the Northwest Region work in a wide range of waters with a multitude of jurisdictions and uses. With this training, they will be better prepared to assist boaters who get into trouble in the very changeable weather and cold waters of the area. With an emphasis on promoting proper equipment, knowledge of local conditions and safe operations, it is hoped that park personnel can help visitors enjoy park waters with a greater margin of safety.



Boating management class at North Cascades National Park, Wash. Kneeling, left to right: Warren Rigby, Bill Lester, Darrel Wilsey, Gordon Boyd, Robert Beauchamp (in rear), Steve Frye, Christie Fairchild. Standing: Gary Mason, Mike Butler, Dick Thomas, Jerry Lee, Steve Castro-Shrader, Jim Harris, Chief Warrant Officer Jesse Rowe, U.S. Coast Guard, and Kevin MacCartney.

Advisory Board meets in Midwest Region

Members of the Midwest Regional Advisory Committee received a behind-the-scenes review of National Park Service operations February 20-22 during a tour of four parks.

The committee, whose chairman is Harold Andersen of Omaha, Neb., visited Harry S Truman National Historic Site, George Washington Carver National Memorial, and Wilson's Creek National Battlefield in Missouri, and Fort Scott National Historic Site in Kansas.

Members of the committee said they were impressed by the magnitude of the issues and concerns each site has to deal with, and with the caliber and quality of NPS employees.

Regional Director Charles H. Odegaard, Deputy Regional Director Randall R. Pope and Al Hutchings, Chief of the Division of External Affairs, presented briefings on budget, legislative, and management efficiency issues during the committee's official meeting. The group also discussed programs and policies concerning which the committee could most effectively assist and advise the Regional Director.

Book

On Interpretation: Sociology for Interpreters of Natural and Cultural History. Gary E. Machlis and Donald R. Field, editors, take a sociological approach to the basic element of successful interpretation—namely, how people behave toward one another, how they live, how they work, how they enjoy themselves.

This 176-page paperback book, with Foreword by NPS Director Russell E. Dickenson, was published in 1984 by the Oregon State University Press in Corvallis. The book is divided into three sections: Toward Theory and Technique, Case Studies, and Essays, and even includes a "radical" (and dissenting) view—the paper by Kenneth L. Nyberg based on his 1977 presentation to the Association of Interpretive Naturalists.

Various authors look at a wide range of interpretive situations and examine them for useful strategies and approaches to interpretation. Children, family camping, the elderly, the Japanese tourist, cruise ship travelers—these are just a few of the facets of interpretation covered in this collection. The overall thesis is that sociology and interpretation can be useful partners.

Machlis is an assistant professor in the departments of forest resources and sociology at the University of Idaho and is sociology project leader for the NPS Cooperative Park Studies Unit there. He co-edits the "Journal of Interpretation." Field is senior scientist (sociology) for the NPS/CPSU at Oregon State University, a professor of resource recreation management there, and co-editor of the journal *Leisure Sciences*.

On Interpretation is available from the Oregon State University Press, 101 Waldo Hall, Corvallis, OR 97331. The price is $11.95.

Death

Mary Kane Greene, of Richmond, Va., reports the death of **Donald B. Alexander,** whose last NPS employment was as an assistant regional director in the old Region Two office in Omaha under Regional Directors Tom Allen and Lawrence Merriam. He came into the National Park Service early in the days of the Civilian Conservation Corps after having been an employee of the Akron Metropolitan Parks under H. S. Wagner.

His first job was on my staff in Washington; when Assistant Director Wirth, in charge of State Park Emergency Work, upped the number of State Park ECW regions to eight. Don headed the one in Springfield, Mass., covering New England.

His service in Omaha began in 1938 and ended in 1943 when he transferred to the Veterans Administration. He worked for that agency in Washington, Richmond, and Atlanta. He was on the rolls of the CIA when he retired more than 20 years ago. In retirement he served as Executive Secretary of the National Conference on State Parks, following the late Harlean James.

Don was married while in Akron to an Italian woman whose name was Netta; they had one son, Donald P., who is a civilian employee with the Navy. During Netta's illness over a period of years, Don took complete care of her.

Mary Greene reports that Don played a lot of golf and a good game of bridge. I remember him also as a great devotee of grand opera; he was thoroughly familiar with all the great operas and never missed an opportunity to hear a live performance.

— Herb Evison

NOTICE

As a result of a Federal court decision, illegitimate children of deceased civil service employees are now eligible for survivor annuity benefits on the same basis as other surviving children.

Persons who think they may be eligible for benefits or who know about children who may be eligible for benefits should write to the Office of Personnel Management, P.O. Box 16, Washington, D.C. 20004.

RUSSELL E. DICKENSON, Director
National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior
Washington, D.C. 20240

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National Park Service Founders Day Celebration—August 25

Plans are moving ahead for the 1984 Founder's Day Celebration in the Washington Metropolitan area. Regional Director Jack Fish has appointed Jim Gross to work with the 1916 Society group on arrangements. Plans as of now are to have a catered picnic supper for the families of employees and alumni of the National Park Service, beginning in mid-afternoon, Saturday, August 25. Definite plans will be announced in the July COURIER; and a flyer giving details will be sent to all employees and alumni of the National Capital Region, the Mid-Atlantic Region, Harpers Ferry Center, and the Washington Office.

Smokies' files produce 'old-timey' photos of NPS Alumni



M. David Beal, a former superintendent of Great Smoky Mountains NP, Tenn.-N.C.,



(From left) Elbert Cox, Governor Clement and former Director George Hartzog, at 30th Anniversary of Great Smokies.

Group photo of Superintendents' Conference held in 1965 at Great Smokies.



Photos courtesy of *The Daily Times*.

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