



# COURIER

The National Park Service Newsletter

Volume 31, No. 10  
October 1986

Washington, DC

## From the Editor

### In the spirit of fall

October. A complicated month. A moody month. A month on the fence between winter and summer. Without warning, the days may swing from balmy and bright, to misty and chill—sweater weather. Up and down the eastern seaboard, the time for long walks and contemplation is here, for harvesting the

final profusion of the year's garden and weatherstripping windows against winter chill.

At the parks, the summer rush of visitors is dwindling to an end. What occupants there are enjoy their solitude. The others drive through on their way from one bright stand of autumn color to the next. Already in certain parts of the country the mountain passes are snow-covered and cold.

This is the time—when the sky is the color of slate and fallen leaves rasp across the road—that the traveller may discern something out of the ordinary, something unexpected, against the backdrop of sky or field. Perhaps it is a flash of color, vanishing as quickly as it came. Perhaps a lonely face in the underbrush where no one had stood before.

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*Cumberland Island—the real or the surreal?*

*Photo by Richard Frear*

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October, the witching month, the month when those sensitive to the energies of another dimension may glimpse what has gone unseen, witness the spectacle of other times and other places.

Not that these occurrences are limited to October. October simply helps some of us think in these terms; prepares the ground, so to speak, for the appearance of visions. It also provides the *Courier* with a reason to explore some of these park-related events. Yes, the parks have their share of unexplained phenomena, and because such things remain inexplicable, discussions concerning them occur only quietly, in whispers, with a glance back over the shoulder and a doubtful expression on the face.

So this month, the *Courier* invites you to explore the unexplored, to consider, if you will, the mysterious Peaks of Otter along the Blue Ridge Parkway where author Andy Kardos had an experience that altered his life. Or accompany Priscilla Baker to NPS sites where unseen guests sometimes make surprise appearances in the visible world. Pause to read Don Rickey's account of his work at Custer Battlefield where the energies of the dying have left their imprint on the objects of battle. And then, of course, there is Anne Gehman who has applied her psychic talents to everything from police work to corporate teambuilding.

Of course, like every issue of the *Courier*, this one offers articles on a variety of subjects, a practice especially important this month since psychic phenomena does not interest all readers. Nevertheless, autumn is a time when the cycle of the year plays itself out and when various cultures traditionally turn greater attention to ruminations on the "unseen." All Hallow's Eve—Halloween—is viewed by some historians as a merging of Celtic traditions with those of Roman Catholic Christianity, for example. So in keeping with this time of year, it seemed appropriate for the *Courier* to assemble an issue relating to such themes. While the views of some of the writers this month are unmistakable, their subject-matter is for information, not persuasion. The newsletter makes no judgement for you about the articles that follow.

Like October, this month's *Courier* tries to establish a mood, create an atmosphere, share a few stories, peer through the autumnal mists to discern whether, indeed, there is a shape

beyond. There are curious events discussed in this issue, events that beckon our inquisitiveness at the same time they may puzzle our 20th-century

minds. I hope you read them, enjoy them, think about them, and then walk outside to enjoy the mists on one of the fine fall mornings coming up.

## Spirits of the parks

Priscilla R. Baker  
Special Assistant to the Director  
WASO

National park areas are of interest both for the resources that visitors come to see as well as for the unseen guests who live within their boundaries.

Visitors and Park Service staff who have seen, heard or sensed spirits in national park areas will swear, unequivocally, that the presence of ghosts among us is very real.

Those who have not encountered spirits, in parks or elsewhere, tend either to laugh and poke fun at the very thought of such things or to patronize the misguided souls who have been brave enough to discuss the spirit world in the presence of the uninitiated.

But eminently reputable and respected people have sworn to the existence of spirits. The novelist William Makepeace Thackeray, the philosopher Immanuel Kant, and the architect and physicist Buckminster Fuller all tried to persuade their contemporaries that ghosts are very real. When asked to verify the presence of ghosts in the White House, the late President Harry S Truman said, "I'm sure they're here and I'm not so alarmed at meeting up with any of them as I am at

having to meet the live nuts I have to see every day . . ."

Harry S Truman has not been the only one to say that he has lived within the boundaries of a haunted national park area.

For example, when an assistant superintendent of Yellowstone National Park was promoted to superintendent of another park a few years ago, the park's administrative officer prepared two sets of transfer papers — one for the employee and one for a friendly ghost who had shared the employee's historic Fort Yellowstone officer's quarters house at the north end of the park.

Although the ghost's transfer was a joke, his presence was considered to have been very real by those who had heard and sensed him for many years. Indeed, the ghost had made himself known only when the assistant superintendent was outside of the park. At such times, his wife and children would hear mysterious footsteps in the attic of the house. The footsteps were too heavy and measured to be attributable to mice or other animals. And they stopped immediately when the assistant superintendent returned.

Although that Park Service family accepted their spirit "housemate" as a protective companion, it has not always been possible for park managers to make



Cumberland Island mansion is silent about its ghosts

Photo by Richard Frear

friends with such spirits. The site manager of the Old Stone House in the Georgetown section of Washington, D.C. has had a terrible time with a spirit who occupies a third floor bedroom in possibly the only surviving pre-Revolutionary War-era residence in the District of Columbia.

The male spirit, identified as such by psychic Howard Starkel, has tried to push women visitors and staff down the stairs. The ghost has been such a nuisance for so many years that a man who once performed maintenance work inside the house asked to be reassigned as the property's gardener. He did not want to have any further encounters with the spirit that all of the staff has come to know and dislike.

Needless to say, the site manager discourages any mention of the Old Stone House's resident ghost in the presence of park visitors. Nevertheless, visitors there and at other national parks continue to encounter spirits from time to time.

A few years ago, a taxi driver from Minneapolis was visiting the Custer Battlefield National Monument in Montana as a tourist. As he gazed out over the land where Lt. Col. George Custer and his troops had been killed, he began to see a battle raging before him. He saw troops in period uniforms and Indians in battle dress conducting what appeared to be a reenactment of the Battle of the Little Bighorn in 1876.

When the tourist checked with park staff and found that there had not been any activity in the park of the sort he had seen so vividly, he became very upset. He was beginning to believe that he had become mentally disturbed, until park staff and other Park Service employees (who have studied psychic phenomena and could be reached by telephone on that Sunday afternoon) could persuade the visitor that he was not disturbed, just psychically sensitive.

National Park Service staff people pitched in to provide that visitor with a bibliography and the names of some research organizations that he could use to improve his understanding of the experience he had undergone at the Custer Battlefield and could have again.

Although National Park Service staff tend to be rather close-mouthed about their own encounters with ghosts, others often are less so. At the Skagway, Alaska, unit of the Klondike Gold Rush National Historical Park, the proprietors of businesses occupying the restored, 19th-century gold rush-era structures have most to say about the spirits who have long been seen and/or sensed in the area, for example.

The ghost of a woman in a wedding dress has been observed in Room 24, on



*Would you travel alone through this grove at night?*

*Photo by Richard Frear*

the third floor of the Golden North Hotel on the main street of Skagway. Known as "Mary," the ghost has been seen by members of the hotel staff and guests. She is thought to be the spirit of a woman whose fiancé had struck it rich in the gold fields at the turn of the century. The man had sent for her to come to Skagway to marry him; but when she arrived, she waited in vain for his return from the gold fields. After she had died of consumption, alone, in Room 24 of the hotel, she was found in her bed, dressed in her wedding gown.

Employees of the Red Onion Saloon in Skagway have heard footsteps on the second story of the building when no one has been there. And once, a volunteer firefighter responded to a call where smoke was pouring out of a historic building, only to discover that there was no fire on the premises. She left precipitously.

Much farther south, in the Chalmette unit of the Jean Lafitte National Historical Park in New Orleans, members of the "Volunteer Colonels" who perform docent services to interpret the park to visitors have claimed that the park's Beauregard house is occupied by a ghost who bumps and thumps around in the night. Constructed 18 years after the Battle of New Orleans, the last battle of the War of 1812, the house is occupied as a country residence by a succession of wealthy people. The house is named for its last private owner, Judge René Beauregard. It may be the case that Judge Beauregard lives there still, although no

one has identified the house's resident spirit positively.

Many spirits who occupy national park areas have yet to be identified. The footsteps and moaning sounds that have been heard by workers in the lighthouse at the Cabrillo National Monument in San Diego, California, have never been identified, for example.

The Old Point Loma Lighthouse was built in the 1850s with local sandstone and floor tiles salvaged from the ruins of an old Spanish fort. Whether the footsteps and moans relate to former occupants of the lighthouse or Spanish troops who had been assigned to the fort may never be known.

When ghosts can be more readily identified, park interpreters occasionally have offered evening "ghost tours" to visitors.

Interpreters at the Harpers Ferry National Historical Park in West Virginia have been known to guide visitors through the town, using oil lanterns for light in the evening when ghost stories become all the more exciting.

They describe the ghost of Frederick Roeder who died in 1861. Although his house was vacated after his death, Roeder's ghost is said to occupy it still. Elsewhere among the historic structures and streets of the park, there are tales of the ghost of a crying child and a priest who walks through walls.

One Park Service person has reported that a man who resembles the Civil War-era figure John Brown has been seen from

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time to time wandering among tourists in the park. Tourists sometimes ask to have their pictures taken with him, it is said. Invariably, however, when the pictures are developed, the image of the John Brown look-alike is missing.

Most national-park-related ghosts are at least a century old, since most Park Service-managed historical structures relate to people and events of the 19th century or before. Although most of our ghosts represent the spirits of departed Americans, some foreign nationalities are represented, as well. For example, some years ago, a seasonal Park Service employee at the Golden Spike National Historic Site in Utah claimed to have heard hammering sounds and voices speaking the Chinese language on the plains near the park's headquarters. No living person was in sight.

The park staff person was aware that Chinese labor had been imported to help build the Central Pacific's portion—the western portion—of the nation's first transcontinental railroad line. Although the Central Pacific and Union Pacific lines were joined at what is now the Golden Spike National Historic Site to make the transcontinental link complete in May of 1869, it would appear that some Chinese laborers are still at work.

Similarly, when a group of students from Duke University visited the Gulf Islands National Seashore in Mississippi in the 1970s to search for evidence of the existence of spirits, their tape recorders picked up sounds of people speaking French. Although the students had not been aware of it before they visited the area, it is true that, at the very beginning of the eighteenth century, some French colonists had tried to establish settlements on the coast of what is now known as the State of Mississippi.

Who are all of these mysterious spirits? What do they mean?

Psychics agree that most ghosts are the spirits of people whose bodies have worn out and ceased to function. Spirits whose bodies have "died" of natural or predestined causes tend to come and go at will, appearing at various locations and for different reasons. Those who have died unexpectedly and violently often remain earth-bound, unable to free themselves from the trauma of earth-life experiences. Sometimes, too, such people cannot or will not believe that they have died and so tend to remain earth-bound in spirit life, as well.

Other ghosts can be explained as energy-based impressions of departed people or of past events involving people.

Each of us has an energy field, an energy level that is our own. A place that we frequent will contain an unseen impression of that field of energy long after



*Reflection at Independence*

*Photo by Richard Frear*

we have departed, much as our fingerprints remain on objects long after we have handled them. Another person whose energy field happens to be comparable to ours may well pick up the impression of our presence in an area that we have occupied even after we have left.

The ghosts that are energy impressions are those whose activities never change. The ghost of the woman in 19th-century costume who rides out of Fort Laramie NHS in the same direction every seven years, and the ghosts who light campfires periodically on the grounds of the Gettysburg NMP are examples of energy impressions rather than disembodied spirits.

But the ghosts whose activities change from sighting to sighting, those who convey messages to mediums who are able to receive them, represent thought-guided, earthbound spirits.

Spirits retain the personalities they had in their earth-lives. In other words, a pleasant person will make a pleasant ghost, and an obnoxious person will be obnoxious as a disembodied spirit. Most

spirits take instruction with good grace. If a ghost is making loud noises where people need quiet, then they have only to ask the ghost to keep still. He or she often will do so.

Ghosts tend to manifest themselves when they want people to know of their presence. Flickering lights and mysterious noises are among the most common signals that ghosts send when they want us to know that the spirit does live after the body—that there is no such thing as a final death.

Spirits help us to understand the continuum of the life-death cycle, just as natural national park areas help us to understand the natural relationships of one species to another. Ghosts teach us that death is not final. It is merely a transition from one type of experience to another.

Through spirit communication, we know that the past is in the present. It lives with us now. It will help us to learn its lessons, if only we will pay attention.

## Dave Dame on cultural belief and extrasensory phenomena

*Editor's Note:* Perhaps the most fascinating aspect of this October issue has been the variety of people I've had the chance to talk with, some of them people who have experienced the inexplicable, some of them critics of such experiences, but all of them individuals who have spent time thinking about the issues associated with extrasensory phenomena. One of these thinkers is Dave Dame, Chief of Interpretation, WASO. The following interview represents some of the directions of his thought.

**Q:** To begin, how did you become interested in what I might call paranormal experiences?

**A:** My interest comes from the simple fact that I was raised half-way between two cultures—part of the year by my grandfather on the Lakota reservation and most of the year by my parents as a white Anglo-Saxon Roman Catholic American. So, somewhere in between I'm sort of a Lakota Roman Catholic pantheist. Therefore, I think of words like paranormal as cultural ones. What is perfectly normal in one culture, what is considered rational according to the way that culture thinks, may be considered abnormal, paranormal, or extrasensory by another. Things that are anticipated as a normal part of a cultural heritage—in my case, the Lakota Sioux—are regarded as weird at best, at least from the white Anglo-Saxon cultural perspective. So I suppose the simplest way to define such terms is according to whatever a culture says is normal. If it is outside the culture's definition of a normal way to proceed, then it becomes pananormal or extrasensory.

**Q:** What effect did these childhood experiences have on you?

**A:** In any culture, you go through a learning experience during your youth that teaches you about the group or groups you're part of—a kind of ceremony. In the case of the Roman Catholics, it's confirmation; the Jews, it's bar mitzvah; Lakota, it's rights of passage, a vision quest. Much of the preparation for a vision quest in Lakota deals with what we would call extrasensory perception. It deals with mysticism, the paranormal. My grandfather was essentially an uneducated man, but not an unintelligent one. In many ways, he probably was a better psychologist than either of my parents. He taught me not to close my mind to things. Just because it is not normal, does not mean it's wrong; it just means we don't know enough about it.

**Q:** Would you talk a little more about the nature of the vision quest?

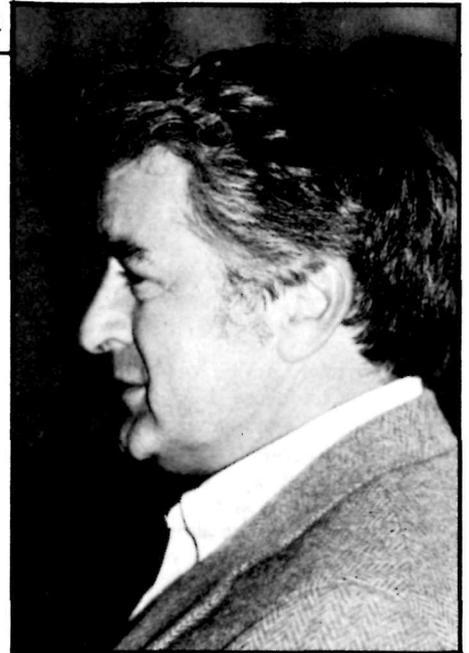
**A:** It's a matter of literally going out alone to some sacred place where you camp without food or water for as long as it takes to have a vision. In reality, if you stay on top of a hill for three or four days without food or water, eventually, you *will* have a vision. I think it's called starvation or dying of thirst. So you are creating the environment for a vision. Also, with all the years of training that goes into preparing for this event, you are tuned into thinking about the spiritual quest. So, you're more likely to have some kind of meaningful vision, something you want to have, even the kind of thing that will give you more respect in the tribe. But, when you come back from the quest, then the shaman—a combination of medicine doctor, psychiatrist, spiritualist, plus a few other things—also helps you interpret it; so you're not alone. The culture sets up a mechanism to help you understand what you see.

**Q:** But do you think some people are more predisposed than others to such experiences?

**A:** It depends on how you look at things. Some people are born with certain skills or abilities. Other people have to work hard in order to develop those very same capabilities. I was brought up to be skilled in woodcraft—the outdoor skills. Grandfather taught me everything he knew. But I also remember going to a boy scout summer camp where I got training and a little certificate that said that I was a canoeist. My grandfather thought that was hilarious. According to him, either you could paddle a canoe or you couldn't. A piece of paper had absolutely no relevance to such abilities as far as he was concerned. So even if you and I are totally willing to develop certain skills, we may start off with totally different potential. We can't all write like Shakespeare. There's a certain level of ability in everyone but it's there more in some people than in others.

**Q:** The Lakota way of life has helped you feel comfortable with a variety of experiences. Are the rest of us missing out?

**A:** When you define and tightly limit the things you are allowed to discuss openly with other people, then you are really shutting off your chance for growth. Spirits, depending on how you define them, can be scary things or they can be good things. The literature on this topic is abounding. If, within your culture, it's a no-no, something that's laughed at, then this response shuts off a



Dave Dame

whole avenue of exploration or growth. You don't necessarily have to believe in the existence of spirits, or disbelieve it; but it should be available as part of your thought patterns.

The extrasensory research being done up in Canada, in one case, looks at the mind as a sort of filter; it can only take in so much before it overloads. Using that as a paradigm, consider the possibility that we learn only to let the things through that we can handle, that are acceptable to ourselves, our society, and our culture. I remember one book I read that dealt with research into poltergeist activity. All the individuals studied exhibited strong poltergeist influence. Checking back through their case histories, trying to find some common denominator, researchers discovered that in all cases except one the study group had been exposed to near deadly doses of electrical shock. The one who hadn't—but who in fact exhibited the strongest poltergeist activity of the bunch—had a mother who had almost been electrocuted when she was carrying him. So maybe such things open up some filter that hadn't been open before. Certainly, we see young children with a variety of extraordinary powers, but they are talked out of exhibiting them by adults. Déjà vu experiences are quite common in young children but they don't talk about that. You learn to close those filters off. Society dictates what you are free to talk about.

**Q:** How do NPS people feel about discussing such experiences?

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**A:** A lot of people have “ghost” experiences; a lot of national parks have stories about ghosts. But a large percentage of the park rangers either won’t talk about them or will pass them off as a joke. It’s not socially acceptable. To keep from being joked about, we selectively share.

**Q:** In a culture trained to suppress such expressions, are there still resonances with the unseen world?

**A:** We might not be totally tuned-in to the right frequency. But at the same time, the radio waves are out there, and not everyone has put up the barriers. You know, language is as great a barrier as anything else to such experiences. It structures what we are allowed to think about. To my knowledge, one of the Eskimo languages has some 30 or 40 single words that deal with the quality of snow: whether it’s fresh, old, hard, cold, etc. We don’t have those words in English. We say it’s snowing. What we do have are words for cars. If I said Cadillac, you would know exactly what I was talking about. Our language is adverbial. We are very good at naming things and talking about ownership. But English is not a very good language for talking about relationships. You have to define them in paragraphs. It’s also not very good for talking about the abnormal.

**Q:** If an individual goes to a palm reader, what percentage of the predictions that “come true” merely involve wishful interpretation on the part of the client?

**A:** First off, a large percentage of practitioners are phony. However, I do believe some have sensory skills—they can read the person—if not the future. Unfortunately, you can’t filter out the few good ones. That is why researchers have such a hard time finding subjects to study; there are just too many charlatans in the profession.

**Q:** Could you suggest ways of developing such abilities on one’s own?

**A:** I would almost say it’s an undoing of what we’ve been taught. What we have to do is study the subject, at least listen with an open mind until we understand the kind of cultural barriers that have been erected. And once we understand what we tune out, maybe then we can lower the barriers. After that, study the subject; do a lot of reading, everything from the work of quacks to university studies by anthropologists and archeologists. Collect as much information as possible. It’s a matter of collecting enough understanding, collecting enough information, opening up the mind enough that you can deal with concepts that have

been thought to be totally wrong. The child born and raised a Hindu has absolutely no problems with reincarnation.

**Q:** Finally, from time to time we hear a lot about this type of experience or that kind of phenomena. Is there any way of making sense of these fragments of really rather diverse, seemingly unrelated events?

**A:** First approach the subject with an open mind. Try to keep current on the new research, especially on the working of the human brain. Then play “what if.” When I try to think about reincarnation as a “scientist,” what comes to mind are the laws of the conservation of energy, the laws of the conservation of matter. Every atom of your body has been around billions of years in some form or other. You’ve been part of rocks, you’ve been part of the ocean, you’ve been part of trees. Given four or five or ten billion years—let’s play pure mathematics for awhile—what are the chances that all of

them or the majority of them or whatever it takes to make up this entity, this electrical charge to things, come together at one point in time, then all go their separate ways . . . and “x” billion years down the road get together again. Mathematically you can write down the odds, so it’s conceivable. That’s one kind of possibility given pure coincidence, but I tend to think it’s somewhat far-fetched. I certainly don’t know the answer to all this, but it’s interesting to consider the possibilities. Let’s play again with the concept of electrical energies. There are a number of well-documented cases of aborigine tribes sending messages halfway across Australia. They go to a particular tree—a baobob tree I believe is the last one I read about—and they talk to the tree, then two thousand miles away their friends pick up the message. Amazing, but it’s been well-documented. Once again, I think whatever you are able to experience all comes back to your cultural beliefs.

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## Indian cultural/spiritual traditions

Maxine Dickenson

There is more to be preserved than artifacts, especially in those parts of the country where Native American lands and traditions are inextricably involved with many National Park Service areas. When my husband was Director, he was asked by James Kootshongue, representing the “traditional” elders of Hotevilla, Third Mesa, for NPS assistance in perpetuating the Hopi way of life. Although Hopi sovereignty had been recognized by the Treaty of Guadalupe-Hidalgo between Mexico and the United States in the 19th century, issues relating to the Hopi Nation had arisen in recent years and concerned him greatly, among those issues the use, occupancy, and boundaries between Navajo and Hopi tribal lands.

I had taken a special interest in the Hopi in the late seventies, believing that, as the Park Service and other organizations work to preserve Indian traditional structures and cultural characteristics, we must all become more aware of the spiritual life that is the basis of Native American culture.

Imagine my surprise when I arrived in late 1977, unannounced, at Hotevilla in the Hopi Nation to find that my visit had been expected for years. They even had a place specifically set for me at the table, and the food was hot as I entered the room. The spiritual leader of Hotevilla, David Monongue, then more than 100 years old, indicated that his late grandfather, Yukioma, had known years earlier

that I would come at an exact time. According to David, the Hopi “prophecy rock” said that I would visit Hotevilla, later returning to Washington, D.C., in order to work for the Hopi people.

This same rock contains prophecies about the creation of highways in the sky (aircraft), horses made of iron (railroads) and the arrival in Hopi land of people with light skins. Hundreds of years ago, the rock’s messages indicated that two world wars would happen, and, perhaps, a third.

I was intrigued by the prophecy rock and by the spiritual characteristics of Hopi life and traditions. Perhaps because of this, perhaps for other reasons, I was adopted by the Hopi people at Hotevilla in 1977 and given a Hopi name—Ho Mana, “Arrow Girl,” the one who carries messages.

Becoming increasingly involved in Hopi issues, I took David Monongue, at his request, to meet with English and European physicists visiting California in 1980. They were pursuing Einstein’s theories relating to time—theories suggesting that the mind can break through time and space—and wanted to discover the secret of the Hopis’ ability to look into the future. Some of the older Hopis do this routinely. They use concentration and meditation, regularly practiced, to develop the psychic sensitivity that permits them to interpret the past and to see the future.

The challenge of protecting unique native cultures and lifestyles such as these was an important

theme of the First World Conference on Cultural Parks, Mesa Verde National Park, September 1984. So many factors worldwide keep pressing for change, both directly and indirectly, among native cultures—government policies, travel and tourism, “progress,” economics—that it may be difficult to help preserve the lifeways of these cultures in the face of such influences. Nevertheless, it is not impossible.

In the early 1960s, 32 Hopi elders discussed their legends, religious rituals, annual ceremonies, and

deeply-rooted views of the world with author Frank Waters. This became the “Book of the Hopi.” Amazingly, one of the ancient prophecies included here described an organization like the National Park Service that would protect one of the Hopi villages from modern encroachment and assist in preserving traditional lifestyles.

For years, with varying degrees of success, several NPS regional offices and many individual employees have had important relationships and responsibilities with Native Americans and their lands. Finally,

Bill Fields of the Santa Fe Regional Office was given the job of liaison with the tribes. He has been very successful.

The Park Service not only needs to continue the work with Bill Fields, but with other experienced, creditable “ambassadors” also. Additionally, the Service should commit itself to the preservation of traditional native lifeways. The importance of this commitment cannot be underestimated. Native Americans and their lifeways are unique and they will vanish quickly unless the NPS can help them.

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## The southwestern Indian and the living Earth

William Fields  
Chief of Special Programs  
SWRO

I was an oddity in the Indian world of the 1920s. My father was Indian and my mother was white. When I was a boy, I lived in Crown Point, New Mexico, still a very beautiful, wild place. People spoke only the Navajo language. They still had their wagons and their horses; they still had their medicine man. I was fortunate, growing up to learn some of the language, even more fortunate to have a medicine man who had been educated in the white man’s world and knew how to explain the myths to me in a language that I understood.

And so, since I was raised in the Indian world, the longer I live, the more strongly I believe in a concept that I hope you will consider also:

We must all see ourselves as part of this earth, not as an enemy from the outside who tries to impose his will on it. We, who know the meaning of the pipe, also know that, being a living part of the earth, we cannot harm her without hurting ourselves.  
—attributed to Lame Deer,  
a Souix Elder

I heard variations of this theme almost from my first understanding. I knew that I was alive as part of a living Mother Earth where all things are alive. And so, in my memory stayed the stories of ant people, bird people, tree and plant people, dirt and rock people. . . beings who could be talked to and—if you were careful and sensitive enough—heard. Sometimes their voices spoke loud and clear, the words sifting through the elements of the air or being carried on the breeze. However, you soon learned to address them with your mind—the spoken word sometimes frightened them.

If you sat quietly for awhile, and only your mind talked, then all things accepted you as one of them—and it felt good . . . the voices of the bird, squirrel, tree, grass, lizard, log, and breeze, all blending into a melody of softness.

I think that those early years of my life were as close to harmony as it is possible for a human to attain. The simple basics were easy to learn—a smile equalled more smiles; one hug got one in return—and harmony was everywhere. I remember talking to the sun rays and the specks of dust which hung in the air and moved ever so slowly. They heard me and responded and approved of my thoughts. We carried on long conversations about the way things were. There were no mysteries, and the suspended dust would carry my thoughts to the sun; human voices weren’t necessary.

Such thoughts are difficult to explain to people who have not had this kind of cultural awareness creep up inside them. Nevertheless, I felt the presence of harmony among all things during my youth, and I communicated with all things. The answer to the question “is the earth alive?” was easy for me; of course she is! Our myths and legends all declare it, and some of those same legends (if you listen carefully) do have a scientific ring.

The Hopi, for example, believe that their place of emergence is in the Grand Canyon. Their cultural myths all begin there, and I think they have the best emergence legends. They believe there have been four worlds (the fourth being the present) and that each of the first three have ceased to exist because of transgressions against the rules of a living Mother Earth. However, during the time of each destruction, some of the Hopi (those who obeyed the rules) lived with the ant people until it was possible to move up into the next world. The first world was destroyed by fire, the second by ice, and third by flood. The fourth?

Unlike most Indian cultures, the Hopi have a prophecy. They believe this fourth world will be destroyed by gourds filled with ashes, and that once again the peoples of Mother Earth who adhere to her principles will be saved.

Certainly the myths of many cultures refer to destruction by floods, but there are very few myths which speak of ice and fire. Does this remembered emergence of the Hopi date back beyond the ice age into the time of volcanos? Do these myths record some interpretation of a real event? I cannot say, but I do know that when scientists first uncovered evidence of human activity in the western United States that dated back thousands of years, I was not surprised.

Our long ago Elders started looking at the earth in order to explain what was happening. From their close proximity to the pulse of Mother Earth they came up with one answer. She is alive and everything is a part of the whole—so everything on earth is also alive.

We must all see ourselves as part of this earth, not as an enemy from the outside who tries to impose his will on it . . . being a living part of the earth, we cannot harm her without hurting ourselves.

## Sighing a bit about psi

Scott Jones  
Office of Senator Claiborne Pell

Everyone who has been attentive to the field of psychical research (psi) has favorite hoary tales of slights, attacks, failures, and breakthroughs. A relatively young field of inquiry, even after a century of formal scientific existence, psi has neither zoomed into the main line of science and public attention, nor been buried in the pit of false and failed ideas. What can be observed now is instructive in predicting where this field will go, and what contributions reasonably may be expected from it.

The first observation I can make is that psi is far from a unified and well-defined area of endeavor. Indeed, the "psychic pot" holds a most wondrous collection of phenomena, claims, and artifacts. In addition to the standard list (e.g., telepathy, remote viewing, clairvoyance, precognition/retrocognition, psychokinesis, out-of-body experiences, mediumship, channeling, apparitions), many other phenomena habitually have become labelled as psi. I have yet to talk to a reporter without the conversation shifting at some point to Big Foot, UFOs, and other equally mysterious, sometimes controversial subjects. Clearly, considerable sorting-out needs to be done. Until this is accomplished, notice how those fearful of psi research routinely provoke the "giggle factor" by trying to force a relationship between psi and any other subject or field that brings emotion into the discussion. Anyone who wants a fuller treatment of this and closely related subjects should read an article by Ted Rockwell that appeared in the *Washington Post* on August 26, 1979, entitled "Parapsychology and the Integrity of Science."

Research into mind-mind and mind-matter phenomena has yielded extensive scientific and statistical data in recent years, most of it published in respected scientific parapsychological journals, conference proceedings, and academic monographs. Some of the findings are highly suggestive that our current understanding of the physical world and how it works is imperfect, though of course the same unexceptional statement can be made of biological, chemical, and other such research. However, new and unsettling elements enter here. Psychical research also suggests that our understanding of time and dimension is seriously deficient. As upsetting as this news may be to us, it appears that Soviet psychical researchers will survive a similar assault on their ideology, and that, if the process works and has utility,

they will use it. Indeed, such alleged Soviet involvement in the field is seen by some in Washington as reason enough for federal funding of U.S. psychical research. Rather, I would hope such research would be funded because of the anticipated value of the results and not because of the competition.

Currently, the very low funding levels that do exist for such research come primarily from private individuals and foundations. But even though the reader may have the impression that the government exhibits little interest in psi, such is not the case. In the winter of 1983, I held a Symposium on Applications of Anomalous Phenomena. A dozen of the leading U.S. psychical researchers presented details of their research, plus an assessment of its potential application, to a select group of 47 government scientists, engineers, and managers from 18 different offices, agencies, bureaus, and departments. Today a similar meeting could easily draw hundreds of participants, and many more organizations would be represented.

Another example of involvement—the U.S. Army Research Institute is financing a \$453,550 two-year study by the National Academy of Sciences' National Research Council into techniques for the enhancement of human performance, looking into the areas of sleep, split brain, and accelerated learning, as well as biofeedback, meditation, neurolinguistic programming, and parapsychology.

What does the above have to do with the National Park Service? Actually a lot. The National Research Council committee is charged to review and assess the relevant scientific literature underlying each technique; to examine in detail existing scientific evidence for the validity and effectiveness of each technique; and to recommend research needed to advance understanding of human capabilities and their enhancement. What will the committee report say about psychic archeology, for example? Will it comment on the results of field work done by a half dozen U.S. and Canadian archeologists and reported in their professional journals?

One of the "bonuses" that comes from the use of psi in archeology is that when the ground clearly has not been disturbed and the consulting intuitive gives his or her directions and impressions of what may be expected to be found—and it is found—no one walks away from the site without thoughts of how cost-effective the process is. What Park Service manager would not be ready to vote for the cost-effective development of new tools that can do important work?



Senator Claiborne Pell on psychic archeology:

In remarks made to the American Anthropological Association at its annual meeting in December 1985, Senator Claiborne Pell referred to work done by Professor J. Norman Emerson and others in psychic or intuitive archeology. He noted:

Those of you who have an interest in this can make a contribution to your discipline and more broadly to science by rigorously testing these applied intuitive skills.

It is a matter of personal interest to me to have responsible research done on the capabilities and limits of psychic phenomena and I hope that those of you who are using it as a tool in your profession will let me know the results of your efforts.

# In touch with the past: experiments in psychometry at Custer Battlefield

Don Rickey

Moments of high emotional intensity can leave their imprint on objects long after their human users have gone. Yet these objects can be like reels of old movie footage, useless without a projector. How can such impressions be made available to interested scholars?

Psychometry brings object and psychic together in order to unlock the imprints of the past. The psychic serves as the projector, so to speak; he or she holds and concentrates on a tin can, a bit of shoe leather, a rusted iron spur, whatever object may have been associated with a moment of intense emotion, and projects impressions made by the passing of a previous owner.

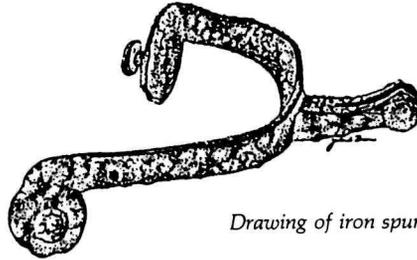
In July of 1979 I began a series of experiments in psychometry with psychic Howard R. Starkel. Through the courteous cooperation of Superintendent James Court and Historian Neil Mangum at Custer Battlefield National Monument, museum study collection artifacts known to have been found on the Custer-portion of the battlefield were made available to us. A quiet work space was also provided where Mr. Starkel's responses could be recorded to my question/answer-type experiments.

## Background

During one of my initial meetings with Mr. Starkel, I was intrigued sufficiently by the results of earlier experiments to ask him what he perceived to be happening when he received information from an object. He explained, "What I'm doing is focusing my energy flow on the (object) . . . I have told my people (described as spiritual helpers and guides) 'let's go' . . . I shut my eyes and see a sort of screen; but I also become a part of the object, in a way. As I go out, projecting to the object, I pick up emotions, then ask (helpers) why the emotion is felt—that is, in terms of what it is you want to know, what questions you have.

Vibrations, psychic traces, are left (by human personalities) on objects (all living things give off and are surrounded by electromagnetic field impulses). I feel the entity/personality's vibrations inside me. As my confidence builds, I more readily accept and pass on impressions. Questions can help direct energy flow."

To demonstrate his explanation, I handed him an iron spur, very much rusted, supposed to have been found in the Little Bighorn Valley, somewhere in the vicinity of Custer Battlefield. It was deleted from the museum collections in late 1958, because it was not an 1876



Drawing of iron spur

Army brass spur, had no specific site provenience data related to it, and was considered of no historical value to the collections. Mr. Starkel was told nothing about the spur. He simply took it in both hands, closed his eyes, and appeared to concentrate for five to ten seconds before he began to speak: "I was hurt; this was found in a desolate area; I am with other people . . ." (Where was it found?) "Trees were nearby, in a valley—there is emotion . . . hurry, startled, want to get on horseback, close to a stream, where all my activity was starting, trying to get to horseback. I have been hurt, and want to get across the stream to a hill to defend myself, about 150 yards away from the stream. I want to take off a black boot—I think I was shot, and am in pain but still running. This should have been found in the region of Custer's stand, or something like it—we're just a group, but not the big group.<sup>1</sup> Attackers pulled back. I am crossing the stream with a few others. The larger group is elsewhere. I am a big man, but have no hat. The people chasing me . . . one has a bull's-eye painted on his chest—they are mounted. I feel directionally disoriented. I go across the stream—this spur was lost on the south side just after I crossed the stream to climb the high ridges, in a panic to leave. I want to go across the river and north, to a main body, but can't. The enemies have backed away; they don't have time to play with us. They go back to fight the main body going to the northwest.<sup>2</sup> Horses lost at the river; are there horse carcasses? (Yes, horse bones were eroding from the right bank of the Little Bighorn, where Reno's men crossed in retreat, as of 1956-1960.) I see a fire, away from the object.<sup>3</sup> The owner did not make it through the battle."

Mr. Starkel's comments correlated with historical information concerning Reno's retreat the afternoon of June 25, 1876, especially with information about civilian contract surgeon J.M. DeWolfe, who was killed east of the river at that time. As a civilian, he had to outfit himself, and likely would not have worn Army brass spurs. His headstone marker is about two-thirds up a ridge from the river to the defense site.

## Methodology

As part of the methodology for these and other experiments, Mr. Starkel responded to a set of questions for each object: what was the natural as well as the man-made environment where the object was used or found; what use was the object put to and under what circumstances was it used; when was it used; and what was the personality and viewpoint of the user (provide cultural, ethnic, and occupational information). Overall, Starkel's responses suggested several different categories of information: 1) the movements of elements of the Custer command in approaching and entering the battlefield; 2) actions, reactions, attitudes, and emotions experienced by both Army and Indian participants; arms and ammunition conditions on both sides. What follows is an accounting in Mr. Starkel's own words of several objects he "read" during our experiments.

## The Objects

*Cavalry boot shoe*—"A helter-skelter situation. . . It was each for himself—all military discipline had ceased. Wearer was wounded, but did not have an instant death—he had more than one wound. He was looking for guidance from someone else." (What is the group the user was with?) "The person in charge is quite a motivator, and the wearer had confidence in him. The shoe was finally found in a pit.<sup>4</sup> The wearer was confident when in the group, but when isolated from the group he was not a self-motivator." (Was this group anywhere near the river at any time?) "North of the point where the river is furthest east. The wearer was part of a smaller group, broken off from the main body to go toward the river." (What was the view ahead for the detached group?) "Higher but rolling land. The main body was almost opposite the big river bend to the west. The wearer's group rode just to the left of the main body. The main body intended to circle to the northwest, and sweep south down on the Indian camp." (Why didn't they?) "An Indian maneuver separated the group and kept the troop movement from happening. Some Indians were moving from the northwest, a returning party perhaps. Then Indians swarmed out of the camp, crossing the river near the big bend and coming up onto the battlefield. Indians were coming up very heavy from the wearer's left. But initial Indian contact with the main body

(continued)

(continued)

came from their right front. On the battlefield there was a trough of activity—the wearer swung left to get to a safer area, away from action, but he is already wounded and is knocked off his horse—but he still has his carbine, and uses it. He is crawling; danger is apprehended all around. Soldiers and hostiles are not far apart. Indians are mainly to the wearer's front and side. No one in the vicinity is giving orders that the wearer is aware of. He is not on a firing line—some comrades near him have been killed. He dies in pain, but not writhing agony. His predominant feeling is 'I don't care.' He is past caring. He hears screams, hollering, shouting like one loud roar."

.50 Martin primed Army shell case—"The user was a hostile." (Conditions of use?) "Kneeling and shooting—not too far from water—a few hundred yards.<sup>5</sup> Water is behind him; he crossed it getting to the place of use. The user feels very angry, hostile toward the soldiers. He sees them to his east and a little south." (Soldiers mounted or on foot?) "Some of each—they are firing back—no leadership is apparent: there is an attack on them by mounted Indians—running up to and parting around the soldiers. We (Indians) are forming a line too. Part of the soldiers are in an arc line facing me (i.e., facing NW)—some mounted Indians are coming up behind them. We are trying to divide the line-arc of kneeling soldier skirmishers from the mounted soldiers behind them—who seem to be in a confused bunch. The shell's user did not lose his life here. He was in another battle, somewhere, with soldiers—he was experienced." (Did he have any special status?) "No, but the user had been in a previous battle. He had not been in the valley very long—he was a nomad, and he fights with a group of comrades<sup>6</sup>. The user is not rapid firing—he doesn't have much ammunition—a careful user of ammunition. He accounted for three soldiers here—he wasn't more than 50-60 yards from the soldiers, and other Indians are up closer to the soldiers—some mounted. He was a marksman, but the recoil hurts his shoulder." (Did he use any aiming aids or equipment in shooting?) "No." (How did he carry his cartridge?) "Hung around his neck in a pouch, a double pouch. He has long leg-gins on, no feathers I can see." (Does he have any holy or medicine items on him?) "Only red beads or berries on the pouch." (How is his hair?) "Divided into three braids. Firing this weapon, there is something like a back blast—it is not like a Springfield carbine." (How did he obtain the gun?) "He had it quite awhile."

(Where did he get his shells?) "By stealing, in trade, and so forth." (Had he used any shells recently?) "Perhaps, if so, it was east of here." (When did he become aware of the presence of the troops?) "Word spread that troops were very close, by word of mouth and the actions of others (in camp) grabbing weapons. I feel his wife was killed in the recent past, and he blames the army for this." (Where?) "South and a little west, a long distance. Several women were killed there, in a mountainous area, with backs to some cliffs, at least 1½ years before (Bates Fight, July 4, 1874, Snake Creek, WY). The group has been on the move pretty much ever since. He was a real fighter, an experienced warrior—he enjoyed warfare." (Did he know Sitting Bull?) "Not personally, and he had mixed emotions about him. The shell user was of the most aggressive group." (The same culture group as Sitting Bull?) "Not sure." (Did this man know Crazy Horse?) "There was a connection, but I don't get it now" (How did the user of this shell get to the action area?) "He was mounted, but fought on foot. From this camp he goes by another camp, goes around it, then joins with a larger group. He crosses the river where he can ride right up onto the battlefield. At one point, a lot of Indians leave the fighting area (the mounted men) and go northward.<sup>7</sup> (But) the shell user stays in the same place or area, and is still there at the end. The shell user walks away when the shooting stops—he is looking over his own casualties—scattered. Some scavenging is going on, for weapons and ammunition. An occasional shot is heard. He went through the saddle bags on a dead horse. (With what results?) "Don't know, but his shoulder is sore from shooting. The length of the battle was not long, but it was intense."

## Conclusion

This is merely a brief account of several of the artifacts "read" by Mr. Starkel. There were many more, each apparently conveying intense emotion, the panic and confusion of a battle about which many questions still remain. Mr. Starkel himself did not know so much about the Little Bighorn that his observations can be explained away as merely the mingling of imagination and fact. Time and again, the anguish and confusion of men about to die came forth from the artifacts he held. Bullets, shoe leather, spurs—as museum study objects, they were the silent remains of a historic battle. In the hands of Mr. Starkel, the scents and sounds of battle came alive once more, on the big screen.

<sup>1</sup>From the perspective of the Reno battalion men, their three companies and the Indian scouts were only about 25% of the full 12 company strength of the 7th Cavalry regiment. Custer had five companies, off northeast of the Reno men who opened the action.

<sup>2</sup>After most of Reno's men retreated across the river, most of the warriors went north to head off the Custer threat to the village.

<sup>3</sup>Sioux and Cheyenne set fire to the river valley grass as they moved off south and west the evening of June 26.

<sup>4</sup>Work on a water tank in the early NPS days revealed a cache of bones, old tin cans, trash, and some shoe parts of several 1876 Army boots.

<sup>5</sup>The find location of shell was just as Mr. Starkel describes.

<sup>6</sup>Many of the warriors had fought at the Battle of the Rosebud, June 17, 1876. The camps had been in the valley of the Little Bighorn less than a week before June 25.

<sup>7</sup>Possibly refers to the wide flanking movement led by Crazy Horse.



## About the experiments

Neil C. Mangum  
Chief Historian

For the past six years Custer Battlefield National Monument has been the testing ground for some highly unusual experiments. Dr. Don Rickey, a retired historian for the Bureau of Land Management and former historian at Custer Battlefield, 1955-1960, approached the park in 1980 regarding his psychometry experimentation. Rickey informed the staff that he had been in contact with a psychic by the name of Howard Starkel. Starkel, it seemed, had the capacity to interpret the past (and the future for that matter) via associating himself with objects or being at a site where human interaction had once occurred. Rickey suggested that by placing a number of artifacts from the battlefield's collection in Starkel's presence he could recount their usage and the events surrounding them.

As a trained historian, I admitted doubt to the validity of Rickey's charges. After all, historians deal with fact. Rickey was quick to agree, but his argument was also convincing. Rickey explained that prior to coming to us he had conducted several preliminary experiments using objects from his personal collection, some intimately associated with Custer Battlefield. Starkel was not told where the objects originated from or of their usage. One of the items involved was a civilian pattern spur found somewhere on the battlefield. Starkel received no information on the object either as to its source provenience data or its historical connection to the Battle of the Little Bighorn. In fact, to further isolate Starkel and retain control, Rickey had inserted a number of artifacts from other sites totally irrelevant to the objects coming from Custer Battlefield.

Reading Rickey's report sent chills racing up my spine. Starkel's commentary indicated the wearer of the spur had been in "a valley-type condition" and that the wearer was in a "panic situation." The spur-user, Starkel related, had crossed a stream and retreated to a bluff some 150



yards away. I was agog at what I had read. Starkel's words coincided with events of the Reno Valley fight: the valley attack, the river crossing, the bluff's beyond, all formed historically accurate episodes encountered by Major Reno's forces in the fight. Furthermore the scenario fit the description of Dr. James DeWolf, contract surgeon with Reno's battalion who was killed on the bluffs after retreating across the Little Bighorn. DeWolf would have been one of the few civilians who could have worn such a spur, as the troopers would have been universally equipped with the military pattern spur. Now, admittedly, I am a skeptic of such proceedings. Psychics should, I believed at that time, be relegated to sideshows at carnivals or situated in some dimly-lit house tucked away on the seamy side of town. But my curiosity was aroused by Rickey's preliminary sketch. The park staff generously agreed to participate in future developments.

On the day of Starkel's arrival we gathered from the park's collection several objects, primarily cartridge shells of different calibers and makes. Since I did not select them until his arrival he could not have had prior knowledge of where they came from. I sat in on the session and was stunned by his degree of accuracy. In most instances he came very close to describing where the artifact had been found. He did not know how

all the items were used but was able to describe their usage. One shell selected, a Spencer cartridge, is loaded via a tubular magazine through the butt plate. It was plainly visible to me that Starkel was not familiar with the loading process as he described the insertion of the cartridge in the butt. Starkel stopped in mid-thought, his own curiosity aroused, and asked "how could this be?"

Over the course of several years and countless other artifacts, more experiments were conducted with equally startling discoveries. Historians are divided in opinion as to whether Custer reached the crossing at Medicine Tail Coulee. In an attempt to gain some knowledge of these proceedings we purposefully selected items found in the vicinity. Starkel's revelations were shocking. He was able to draw maps of the area, a site he had never seen.

What is the relevancy of Rickey's experiments? I will be the first to state that we would not run out and begin to instruct park interpreters to utilize Starkel's visions as a foundation for interpreting the battle. Skeptics and other professionals would make a mockery of us and rightfully so, demanding we be sent to a home for the insane where we could do no harm. Psychometry is not about to take the place of standard methodology now employed in relating historical interpretation. Yet, I do feel there is some inexplicable truth to Starkel's approach. Whatever it is, I am convinced, based on what I have observed, that it cannot be merely passed off as fake and fraudulent. I witnessed the controls placed on the experiments. The importance rests in the realm of experimenting with other concepts that may run counter to our own ways of thinking. We must be willing to try new ideas which can expand our own theater of knowledge. Rickey's and Starkel's work should be encouraged at other areas. Given controls, psychometry can complement what we already know by augmenting and supporting existing data. It will probably never gain widespread acceptance, but it should not be totally discounted either.

## Unexplainable experiences in the national parks: how should we treat them?

Andy Kardos  
Superintendent  
Black Canyon NM

The latest issue of *National Parks* magazine features an article on ghost encounters in national park areas.<sup>1</sup> In it, the author quotes NPS representatives who say that interpretation of ghostly phenomena is being curtailed because such activity and its popularity detracts from the "factual" history that should be interpreted for the visitor. Of course, avoiding discussion of unverifiable events beyond the scope of accepted theory reduces risk to credibility as well as potential controversy, while protecting the image of scientific investigation we strive to maintain.

Nevertheless, events of a ghostly nature also induce great public interest. Why? Because they are common to the human experience. We humans have a persistent curiosity about the unknown. And so whether we interpret these phenomena or not, we should continue to document them as they occur in national parks. Our perceptions of our heritage through sites we have chosen to represent that heritage include "folklore" as well as facts. Superstition, myth, and legend tend to be as vital a part of our cultural fabric as objective reality because they express feelings about where we have come from.

Why am I interested in unexplainable phenomena in national parks? Besides being a Service employee and a student of human culture, I have had the only "psychic" experience of my life in a national park area, and that experience has haunted me ever since with its unanswered questions, and my nagging intuition that tells me the site had something to do with the experience, perhaps if in no other way than as a catalyst.

One summer evening about six years ago I was sitting with two Park Service colleagues on the south lawn of the Peaks of Otter Lodge on the Blue Ridge Parkway. After a long drive from Asheville and a good meal, we were discussing matters curatorial under a clear, star-filled sky. Without warning, my surroundings suddenly vanished, and, with eyes wide open, I began to view a series of images which played themselves out like a movie in front of me. I saw a dark-haired, dark-bearded stocky man wearing the costume and armor of another time and place, a persistent and recurring impression of a tomb with a vivid, brightly colored fresco of the Ascension of Christ on the



*Peaks of Otter*

wall behind and an ornately carved bier. Interspersed between these images were details of ornately carved wooden interiors and cityscapes as seen from the roof of a building. There seemed no rhyme or reason to the images, and as they unrolled I could hear my friends talking in the background but could not see them. This experience continued for nearly fifteen minutes. There I sat, feeling a cold weight on my shoulders and arms, until looking down, I saw myself wearing a mail shirt, and I felt its weight.

In absolute terror, I ran from the lawn to my room. The vision dissolved, and after a few minutes I was calm enough to write down all the details I could remember, realizing the importance of documenting what I had seen. But the documentation made it no clearer; it was still a series of bizzare images with no relation to past experience.

Only twice since that time have any clues come to light given. I was describing the scenes to an artist friend, particularly the painting of the Ascension, when she pulled a book from her library and showed me a similar fresco dating from the early medieval period. Later I described the chain mail to another friend who then said he had seen just such mail in Spanish museum. The mail also dated from the early medieval period.

Today as I recall the incident of six years ago, I remain mystified. The intuition still nags at me that the site, the Peaks of Otter, has significance though my experience has no link to the pre-

history or history of that place. Indeed, I have often wondered if anyone else has had a similar experience at that site.

Until six years ago, when I read about an unexplainable experience in a national park area, I was skeptical. I am less so now. The memory of my own experience makes me curious: are such experiences merely tricks of the mind, or a revelation of the collective unconsciousness, or an event that is both a product of the mind and the place? My studies of other cultures tell me that perceived reality is partly a result of learned behavior. Do places which represent our cultural identity also induce such experience? Are our national park areas more than the factual history of our human experience? Do some such places trigger unexplainable events?

National parks are a human idea, selected as much by verifiable feelings and beliefs as the facts of history. They are chosen in part the way other cultures, past and present, have chosen shrines, holy wells and vision quest sites. Therefore, it seems reasonable to assume that sites chosen by a people to represent their collective consciousness would also be sites where unexplainable experiences might occur. So how should we treat such sites? In the interest of understanding, perhaps we need to explore the unknown a little more and collect evidence to provide the basis for theory.

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<sup>1</sup> Carman, James, "Ghost Stories," *National Parks*, Sept/Oct 1986 pp. 26-30, National Parks and Conservation Association, Washington, DC

## Our psychic helper



Anne Gehman

Priscilla R. Baker  
WASO

Psychics have been helpful to the National Park Service in many ways, for many years. Individual units of the system have enlisted the assistance of psychics to explain unusual, sometimes unsettling phenomena whose causes could not be determined using other techniques. U.S. Park Police trainees have been provided with information about the use of psychics by law enforcement agencies. And individual National Park Service employees who have developed their own psychic sensitivities are quietly using their newly-honed intuitive abilities to make more meaningful contributions to the Service's work.

An internationally recognized psychic who lives in the Washington, D.C., area has been working with Park Service staff in many ways. The psychic's name is Anne Gehman.

In the last few years, Anne Gehman has helped a park's staff to understand and cope with unusual sights and sounds. She also has lectured at the Park Police's training facility in Washington, D.C.

Over the years, Anne has been a consultant to various federal agencies and to the police in many states. She has lectured and has served as a consultant to several of America's best-known corporations. From time to time, she becomes the object of research by universities that study relationships between physical and psychic phenomena.

## How did she know?

When psychic Anne Gehman arrived for a hastily scheduled visit to the Eisenhower Farm, the staff members involved did not quite know what to think. Ms. Gehman was initially to go to the Custis-Lee Mansion (Arlington House) that Saturday, but plans changed the Thursday before and she went instead to President Eisenhower's Gettysburg home. The results were unexpected.

Given the short time she had to plan the trip, it is unlikely Ms. Gehman could have done much, if any, research about the farm. As she quietly walked through the house, she relayed impressions she received of people and events associated with it. Most of her impressions were either verified by the staff as accurate or considered well within the realm of possibility. The most fascinating impressions, however, turned out to be ones discounted initially as inaccurate or unprovable.

In the den, she asked about a man named "something like Clinton, but not Clinton" who had lived there long ago. The name meant nothing to the staff, who checked it off as a mistake. The next week, however, research revealed that, contrary to traditional and published accounts, a man named Quentin Armstrong was the site's first white settler. Quentin is pronounced "like Clinton, but not Clinton".

Ms. Gehman also said there was a Civil War-period well on the property. Given a park map, she correctly indicated the location of that well, stating that someone was buried next to it in a bundled or seated position with damage to the skull. Considering it unlikely that approval would be granted to dig on the historic site "because a psychic said there is a burial there," the staff dismissed the statement as unprovable. A year later, in an oral history interview in Florida, the Eisenhower's landscaper stated that digging next to that well in the 1950s revealed such a burial. Mrs. Eisenhower had instructed him to leave the person to rest in peace, he said, and mention nothing to anyone about the discovery. He had complied with that request for 30 years.

Even in the unlikely event that Ms. Gehman did research on the Eisenhower Farm and Gettysburg

Battlefield before she arrived, it is almost inconceivable that she could have found these bits of information which were not available to the public or the park staff at the time of her visit. How did she know?

—Laurie Coughlan  
Eisenhower NHS

Undoubtedly the most impressive aspect of Anne's visit to Gettysburg was her ability to grasp the human element of the battle. On our tour we stopped at the monument of the 5th New Hampshire Regiment. There, Anne described accurately and in great detail the death of Col. Cross, the regiment's former commander (Cross was killed on July 2, 1863, at the spot where the 5th New Hampshire monument stands).

This scene was repeated at Spangler's Spring, at the foot of Culp's Hill. With no prior knowledge, Anne told the story of the "woman in white," a local legend. (The story cites the spring as a meeting place for two lovers—an unknown man and a woman dressed in a flowing white dress. It is told that the woman's spirit still visits the spring in search of her lover who died tragically.)

All too often we relegate the study of history to names, dates, and statistics. Anne, on the other hand, makes the study of the past a personal experience, a link with very real people much like ourselves.

—Steve Wright  
Independence NHP

## Shenandoah celebrates

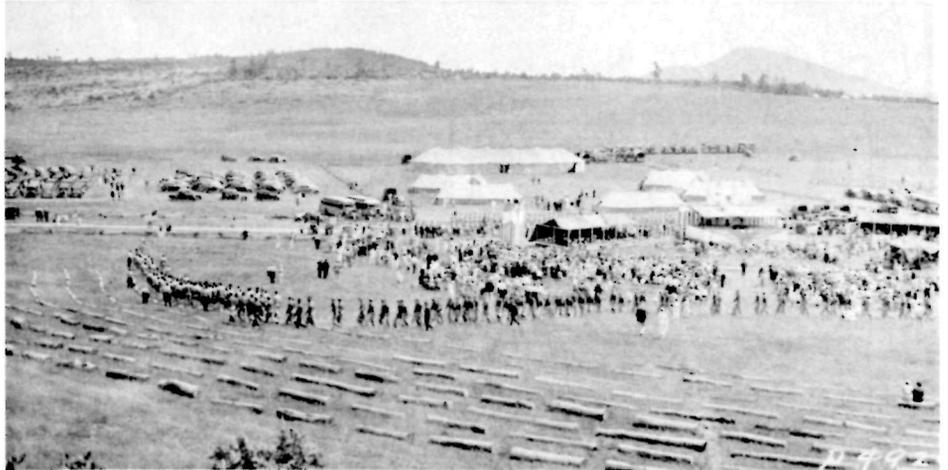
Charles Anibal  
Assistant Park Naturalist  
Shenandoah NP

In his remarks at Big Meadows on July 3, 1936, President Franklin D. Roosevelt dedicated Shenandoah NP "to this and to succeeding generations of Americans for the recreation and for the re-creation which we find here." Fifty years later a new generation of park visitors is still finding those same qualities of regeneration available at the park for them to enjoy.

Before 1920, Park Service Director Stephen Mather suggested that the country needed a national park in the southeast to complement Acadia in the northeast, and to provide recreational opportunities for the large population centers of the Eastern Seaboard. In 1924, a search began for a site in the Southern Highlands that could be included among the country's magnificent national parks. The Southern Appalachian Park Committee, appointed by the Secretary of Interior, inspected numerous areas for park potential. After two years, the sites of Great Smoky Mountains and Shenandoah National Parks were selected and authorized by Congress.

However, a major provision of the 1926 legislation held that no federal funds could be used for the purchase of these park lands. Over the next ten years, the citizens of Virginia, and particularly those of the Shenandoah Valley, campaigned to raise the required sums of money to purchase the land. This effort was not without controversy or suffering, but such sacrifices did culminate in the reality of Shenandoah, officially established December 26, 1935, when the land deeds were accepted by the government, and the people of Virginia presented the nation with their gift of a new national park.

A lot has changed for the park since those days. When Shenandoah was established, the Blue Ridge Mountains had been farmed, grazed, and lumbered for a century, and the land showed the effects of heavy use. Practically all of the original hardwood forests had been cut over at least once, and more than one third of the area was open farmland. Once-abundant wildlife had all but disappeared. But remarkably, forests have reclaimed the land again, transforming Shenandoah into one of the most beautiful and popular areas in the national park system. Trees and wildlife, regenerated after a century of intensive use, have made Shenandoah a genuinely recycled park.



*Dedication of the park, July 3, 1936*

Today, Shenandoah NP comprises about 195,000 acres of mountains, forests, streams, and waterfalls. Each year, millions of visitors enjoy its hundreds of miles of hiking trails, scenic vistas, and wildlife. The famous Skyline Drive, which runs the length of the park along the ridge top, was a separate development begun in 1931, before the official establishment of the park, and completed in 1939. This 105-mile scenic highway now provides access to the area's varied resources.

Special activities scheduled in the park and the surrounding communities in 1986 to commemorate the creation and dedication of Shenandoah NP included com-

memoration ceremonies at the Harry F. Byrd Visitor Center. Deputy Director Denis Galvin credited the establishment of Shenandoah NP to "the vision of people, known and unknown," and cited the contributions of the Civilian Conservation Corps, who built facilities for the new park, as well as the families who gave up their homes to make room for park development.

Certainly this anniversary year is a time to reflect upon the early sacrifices of Virginians and others whose contributions have made Shenandoah NP a place where future generations truly can find the "recreation and re-creation" that President Roosevelt envisioned in 1936.



*White-tailed doe stands momentarily in a glade*

## Loan rangers to the rescue

Ellen Foppes  
Historian, SERO

At Chattahoochee River NRA, "loan rangers" don't ride horses named Silver. Instead, they operate Honda 4-wheel ATCs, patrol boats, radar units, canoes and fire trucks. They come from big parks, small parks, historical areas, even isolated units throughout the Southeast Region, from anywhere and everywhere in order to lend support to fellow law enforcement rangers. This summer they have converged on Chattahoochee.

The Chattahoochee River NRA comprises 4,000 acres of river and green hillsides on the northwest edge of Atlanta, Georgia. Peaceful throughout the winter, the river is transformed on summer weekends into the area's largest "beach" party, with up to 10,000 people floating on inner tubes and rafts. More than 1.5 million people visited the park last year and 2 million visitors are expected in 1986.

With more people visiting the Chattahoochee River NRA, demands on the park's resources and personnel have increased, yet the number of seasonal rangers has decreased from fourteen to five. To supplement the park staff of seven permanent rangers, Superintendent Warren D. Beach called in the loan ranger force.

The loan ranger program was conceived at the Southeast Region Superintendent's Conference last spring, when several superintendents expressed concern over increased law violations. In order to enhance law enforcement during peak periods, the superintendents of Chattahoochee River NRA, Chickamauga and Chattanooga NMP, Kennesaw Mountain NBP, Martin Luther King Jr. NHS, Ocmulgee NM, and Tuskegee Institute NHS agreed to lend law enforcement support.

Since its inception, six other southeastern parks, the U.S. Park Police, the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center and the Southeast Regional Office have all joined the program.

Kennesaw Mountain was the first to utilize loan rangers. Each spring, this park experiences a dramatic increase in visitation due to its popularity among the local population. This year the loan rangers helped Kennesaw Mountain handle its annual increase.

By summer the loan rangers were working at Chattahoochee River. Each weekend, an average of four to ten loan rangers from across the southeast region arrive at the park. Once there, they fan along a 48-mile stretch of the river, working road, boat, and beach patrol with the Chattahoochee River ranger staff.



*Russell Whitlock, Ocmulgee NM; Bill Dean and Andy Atkins, Chattahoochee River NRA*

Their mission: ensure visitor safety and protect park resources, their greatest concern being drunken rafters who spend up to six hours on the river—drinking beer most of that time. (Rangers must be alert to any situation that endangers the safety of park visitors and resources, including bad weather, glass containers, insufficient personal flotation devices, hypothermia, public intoxication, disorderly conduct, and driving while under the influence of alcohol). Since Memorial Day weekend, more than 200 arrests have been made, prompting park officials to give "serious consideration" to banning alcohol on the river.

"You have to be quick," commented one loan ranger. "My first day, I was working boat patrol when my partner was assaulted by a rafter who tried to drown him in the river."

Skills and techniques developed at the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center are honed in the loan ranger program, resulting in a cadre of seasoned law en-

forcement rangers. "It's like two years of law enforcement experience in one weekend," commented another loan ranger. "I'm a more confident, professional, skilled ranger; it's an experience that I'll use throughout my Park Service career."

The success of the loan ranger program has provided a unique opportunity for cooperation between law enforcement personnel and National Park Service areas in the southeast. During periods of increased law enforcement activity, several fully trained and capable rangers are ready to assist their fellow employees. In addition, working in a variety of Park Service areas provides them with valuable law enforcement experience. The loan ranger program has become a workable counterweight to personnel and budget reductions while providing maximum protection for the visitor and the resource. Even without the familiar cry of "Hi ho Silver, away," it's a good deal for all.

## Early women claim park lands—for adventure and inspiration

Polly Welts Kaufman  
Special to the Courier

Eager to share in the strenuous life and to experience nature's grandeur in America's wonderlands, many women of the last decades of the nineteenth and early decades of the twentieth century were not only drawn to national parks, but also were anxious to share their experiences in print. They saw the parks as lands symbolizing the American Eden or places commemorating the schoolbook values of the nation. When they published articles in popular magazines and books about their journeys, they tacitly gave other women permission to join in the adventure. As women claimed park lands and potential park lands as their own spaces, they organized to demand that specific landscapes and historic sites be protected and to bring support to the movement for national parks.

High-spirited adventure characterized the trip to Yosemite in May, 1857, by two young teachers from San Francisco, Harriet Kirtland and Anna Clark. One of the first white women to travel into the valley—by sidesaddle and in a long skirt—Harriet explained in her diary that she was encouraged to go by her stepfather who wanted her to visit the sites of his 1849 mining adventures. The four women on the trip were escorted by James Denman, the principal of a San Francisco high school, and L.A. Holmes, the editor of the *Mariposa Gazette*. Harriet and Anna camped in a "room" made of blankets. Harriet's first attempt to see Vernal Falls was thwarted by the warning of a grizzly bear (which they ate that night) and high water, but her second try was successful after the men felled a tree for a bridge, although she was totally soaked. The women celebrated by racing their horses on the meadow and playing games and performing skits around the campfire. Denman's published account was quite different from Harriet's. He emphasized the measurements of the cliffs and falls, but his news of white women traveling safely to Yosemite on that and in the previous year paved the way for steadily increasing visitation after 1864 when Yosemite Valley was granted to the State of California.

By the time Mary Elizabeth Phillips rode into Yosemite Valley in July 1870, the "Yosemite suit" was the standard dress for women. Mary Elizabeth's party made their suits of blue flannel. The skirt fell half-way to the ankle covering bloomer drawers that ended just below the knee. Mary Elizabeth told her diary that the suits "look pretty frisky" but we're told they are "quite the thing in the



Fay Fuller ascended Mt. Rainier in 1890 and again in 1897

valley." When she had to ride astride because of the lack of sidesaddles, however, she complained, "'Tis abominable. I would not be one bit tired if it were not for the abominable position." She rode up a steep trail to Nevada Falls and when she descended by foot to Vernal Falls, she found herself in the midst of a complete circular rainbow, and she felt she was part of it. Like Harriet Kirtland, she celebrated with a horse race beside the Merced River, beating a male companion. When he challenged her again, her horse jumped a ditch and she flew off into a sand pit. At the same time, the horse of her friend Fannie backed into the river and Fannie rolled off while the horse of another friend, Min, stumbled and sent Min into the water. "Quite a day," Mary Elizabeth wrote. "Such sound sleeping and such an appetite I never had before. The air is so charming that one cannot but feel in good health."

Mary Elizabeth noted that Sara Jane Lippincott, an author who published under the name of Grace Greenwood and whose books and magazines she had read since a child, was traveling in Yosemite at the same time. Lippincott publicized her trip in a book revealing the reason most of the women authors made the journey to Yosemite during this period. Each presented the trip as a pilgrimage. The initiation was wearing the special clothing and such trials were emphasized as the

long rough journey on horseback. Each woman author warned that the trip would be difficult and that it was not to be undertaken, in Lippincott's words, by "mere lovers of pleasure . . . dainty . . . aged, timid and feeble people" and "all people without a disciplined imagination." But for those who pass the trials, she said, the reward is to see "what Nature, high-priestess of God, has prepared for them who love her." For in the eyes of these nineteenth-century women authors—Mary Cone, Helen Hunt Jackson, Caroline Churchill, and Constance Gordon-Cumming—the deserving pilgrim to Yosemite was supposed to experience an epiphany, a sublime feeling of oneness with God.

While James Denman used statistics to prove Yosemite's grandeur, the women writers described their emotions. The view from Inspiration Point was to Sara Jane Lippincott "a sight that appalled, while it attracted: a sublime terror; a beautiful abyss; the valley of the shadow of God!" She even included the change to the Mexican saddle in the requirements for the true woman pilgrim. After a "trial" of fifteen miles the first day and twenty-six the second, she came to the conclusion that astride was the most sensible way to ride in the mountains. Nature probably intended it, she wrote, "otherwise we should have been a sort of land variety of the mermaid."

Olive Logan, a well-known actress,

writer, and lecturer of the period, disagreed with her sister writers, particularly with Lippincott. She recoiled at having to wear the Yosemite suit and suffered over the initial crowded stagecoach ride that covered passengers with dust. When she arrived in the valley on horseback, she was so tired she had to be lifted out of her saddle. There she expected "to be repaid for all," but the experience fell flat. She wrote: "And what do we see? Tall rocks, a few tall trees, a high and narrow waterfall, a pretty little river! No more. . . Was it for this we had so suffered! In truth and very truth, it does not pay." Logan believed that "nine out of ten" agreed with her but did not dare admit it because others would say that they "can't appreciate" the scenery. Never did she feel awed or lose her sense of self while gazing at the vistas. She left after three days, ending her article with the admonition: "don't go to Yo Semite . . . never ride of your own free will in a California stage."

Trips to "The Geysers," as Yellowstone was called in the last quarter of the nineteenth century, were full of wonders and, in some cases, danger. Women travelers survived holdups, bear scares, dust, and Indian attacks even as they marveled at the geysers. Emma Stone of Bozeman, Montana, is considered to be the first white woman to make the trip. She traveled with her husband and two sons in 1872, the year Yellowstone became American's first national park. They followed animal trails and river beds, often dismounting to bushwack through thick timber. E.S. Topping guided them via the recently-discovered Norris Geyser Basin to the Old Faithful area where they camped for several days. A year later, Mabel Cross, at the age of six, became the first white child to visit Yellowstone. Her father, an Army captain, was leaving his assignment as Post trader for the Crow Agency to return to Iowa. Riding on "Dolly," an Indian pony, in a special saddle fashioned for her by a blacksmith, Mabel climbed steep trails, rode through streams, and swam the Yellowstone River. They lived on fish caught with their bare hands and game. Her father fastened himself to a tree with a rope so he could carry her out on a ledge for a view of the Lower Falls (while her mother closed her eyes).

It was barely three years later that Emma Carpenter Cowan made her second and ill-fated trip to the park. The family was equipped with a carriage, wagon, horses, tents, provisions, and even musical instruments. After the Castle Geyser erupted during the night near their camp, she was "sure the earth would be rent asunder and we would be swallowed up. . . One seemed," she said, "in close proximity to Dante's Inferno."

The events that followed, however, were real and not imagined. Soon after they broke camp to head for home, they were attacked by members of the Nez Perce tribe, who were in flight from the tribe's removal to a reservation. Emma Cowan was taken captive after she saw her husband shot. Still believing her husband was dead, she was eventually released, along with her brother and young sister. Weeks later her husband was reported alive after he crawled to safety and was found by Cavalry scouts. In retrospect, Emma believed, however, that the Nez Perce showed a "quality of mercy . . . that a Christian might emulate, and at a time when they must have hated the very name of the white race."

By the 1880s, trips to Yellowstone became popular and hotels were an option to "sage brushing," as camping was called. The roads were so dusty that women in stagecoaches or wagons wore long linen dusters and large hats draped with yards of veiling. For dudes, camping outfits complete with guides were available. As wagons met, the occupants would yell out the name of the state or country where they were from. In a book published in London, an Englishwoman, Georgina Synge, shared with her country the geyser games that became the standard Wonderland experience. She dropped her handkerchief into the "Cubs" so it would be thrown up "snowy white" and she "soaped" the Beehive so it would play two days ahead of time. Georgina saw the stage-houses as "too 'civilized'" and warned travelers to come at once while the park was still "unspoiled."

Patriotism—choosing a summer trip to Yellowstone instead of to the Alps—was the theme of an article in *Harper's* by an Easterner, Alice Wellington Rollins. She said the park was the "one place left in the United States where it was still possible to 'rough it.'" Complete emancipation from Worth," she said, "spoke in the flannel dresses of the ladies, the booted, belted, and spurred appearance of the gentlemen." Several women, including Jean Crawford Sharpe, who worked at the Canyon Hotel, reported the news of unsolved holdups of stages leaving Old Faithful in 1908 and 1915. Although she was "often scared silly" by a bear when she returned home from hotel dances, she was never attacked. These women saw their sojourns in the park as the opportunity to live the adventure of the Old West as they imagined it to be. Jean Sharpe, for one, saw the era as ending at Yellowstone with the entrance of the automobile after World War I.

The organization at the turn of the century of mountain clubs designed to explore the Sierra, Rocky Mountain, Cascade, and Olympic ranges, encouraged women to encounter snow-

covered peaks. Soon after the founding of the Sierra Club in 1892 and the Mazamas in Oregon two years later, women made up nearly half of the club memberships. "Marching" up peaks in quasi military order, women joined men in large groups and often comprised a third of the successful climbers. One by one peaks toppled to the "first ascent by a woman," all duly reported in club journals and popular magazines where the women's accomplishments served to inspire other women.

Fay Fuller earned her post as first historian and first woman vice president of the Mazamas. In August, 1890, she became the first woman to conquer Mt. Rainier, along with four men only two years after John Muir's ascent. Again, the major problem was not whether a woman was able to make the climb, but what she would wear. Fay later reported that her costume (a skirt just above the ankles with bloomers revealed below) "was considered quite immodest." She bought "the strongest shoes . . . sold to boys," had an alpenstock made from a shovel handle, wore a ribboned straw bonnet, and tied blankets for sleeping around her shoulder. She refused help at difficult spots because she wanted to reach her goal on her own. Fuller climbed the mountain a second time seven years later with a group of 58 Mazamas and spent the night at the summit. In 1905, 46 of the 112 members of a Rainier ascent by the Sierra Club and Mazamas were women.

Other records reported, often in articles written by women, included Anna Hubert of Johns Hopkins University and Dr. Cora Smith Eaton in the first party to climb different peaks of Mount Olympus in 1907. Dr. Eaton was on call for the Mountaineers' first ascent of Glacier Peak in 1910, which included 20 women and 37 men. Sierra Club women first climbed Mt. Lyell in 1892 and Mt. Whitney two years later. Jennie Ellsworth Price's successful hike through the Tuolumne Canyon to Hetch-Hetchy Valley brought coveted praise from John Muir who called her a "capital mountaineer," the first woman to follow the canyon, "the roughest of all the Sierra streets," for its entire length.

Perhaps the most famous climb by a woman of any mountain in nineteenth-century America was the ascent of Longs Peak, in what later became Rocky Mountain National Park, by Isabella Bird in 1873 with Rocky Mountain Jim Nugent. Her account was first published in 1873 and is still in print. It is Anna Dickinson, a lecturer and actress, however, who was the first woman to reach the top of Longs Peak only a few weeks before Isabella Bird. The large group included the editor

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of the *Rocky Mountain News*, which assured publicity for the climb. They encountered new snow near the top. Anna left her name on a yard-long spring tape measure which, along with her cape, neatly folded in a crevice, was found the following year.

Alaska's glaciers and Hawaii's volcanoes attracted women explorers at the turn of the century. Eliza Scidmore, the only woman on the board of managers of the National Geographic Society, was on board the *Idaho* when the first group of tourists entered Glacier Bay in 1883. She landed at Muir Glacier and felt a "strange fascination" for the wall of ice. "The crash of the falling fragments, and a steady undertone like the boom of the great Yosemite Fall," she wrote, "added to the inspiration and excitement. There was something, too, in the consciousness that so few had ever gazed upon the scene before us, and there were neither guides nor guide books to tell us which way to go, and what emotions to feel." Scidmore kept abreast of Alaska exploration and brought its news to the public in guidebooks and many articles.

In contrast to Alaska's ice was Hawaii's fire. Margaret Howard's journey to Kilauea in 1911 was so traumatic that she said, "To write an accurate account of the trip to the fiery furnace near heaven would require a pen dipped in red hot liquid lava." She believed that, except for Isabella Bird, she and her companion were the only women to look into the crater. They spent the night in weather below freezing listening to the "roaring of the furnace below" and lost their sense of reality as they watched "shiny, glistening lava. . . flowing in a red stream . . . and columns of red-hot liquid rocks bursting into the air."

The Grand Canyon also produced strong emotions in turn-of-the century women visitors who wrote for national magazines. A 75-mile stage ride took Harriet Monroe to the edge of the Canyon. "We stood at the end of the world," she wrote. "The earth lay stricken to the heart . . . confessing her eternal passion to the absolving sun." Harriet fought the impulse to jump into the canyon and believed that she could not live long on the rim because it produced "sensations too violent for the heart of man." Mary Wager Fisher felt she had arrived at the beginning, not the end, of time: "the place where the foundations of the earth were laid." A decade later when Ada Neil descended into the Canyon on a mule by the Bright Angel Trail—by then renting a divided skirt—she too reported the sensation of bidding farewell to the universe and looking into the "open fire of Hades."



Visitors at "Handkerchief Pool," Yellowstone, 1904

By the early twentieth century, women had either visited America's Wonderlands or heard enough about them to be aroused to action when they felt their spaces were in peril. One of the first places that moved women out of the role of observer was the ruins at Mesa Verde and Chaco Canyon. The sense of mystery and romance surrounding the first visits of women to the ruins soon gave way to a sense of urgency as Colorado women organized to save the cliff dwellings from vandals and curiosity seekers. Inspired by the nation's Centennial, Emma Hardacre in 1878 compared the Chaco ruins to the Pantheon and the Colosseum, calling them "tokens of a once powerful nation, who held our land before us." She believed they equalled "any of the present buildings of the United States, if we except the Capitol at Washington." By 1906, the women's efforts reached fruition with the creation of Mesa Verde National Park.

The women of the Sierra Club were also inspired to action as they joined John Muir in his unsuccessful fight to save Hetch-Hetchy Valley from being dammed

as a reservoir. Using the network of the Federation of Women's Clubs, they aroused women all over the country to protest the action. Women stepped into national politics as they worked to save a landscape they compared to Eden. Those who emerged from struggles to preserve land were no longer only travelers seeking personal inspiration from the landscape; they had become activists ready to demand the preservation of spaces they had come to claim as their own.

Sources for this article were furnished by the staffs of Yellowstone, Mount Rainier, Olympic, Rocky Mountain, Grand Canyon, and Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks and by consulting *A Bibliography of National Parks and Monuments West of the Mississippi River* published by the National Park Service in 1941. The article is part of a study on the history of women and National Parks. Relevant information or comments can be sent to the author, in care of the *Courier*, or to her home, 14 Larchmont Lane, Lexington, MA 02173.



**Let's Put A Lid On LITTER!**

## First Lady's 102nd birthday stirs dedication day memories at Val-Kill

R. "Dixie" Tourangeau  
NARO Public Affairs

*The old wooden bridge that spanned Val-Kill Pond always seemed to have a few "properly" loose boards. On contact, their "thumping" and "creaking" acted as the pastoral estate's natural "doorbell," tattling to Eleanor Roosevelt that company was arriving. But modern construction methods were unable to duplicate that noisy little quirk in ELRO's new wooden span (1984), so Eleanor's family, friends and legion of fans now cross the pond in relative silence.*

The atmosphere connected with a sparkling, northeast autumn day is special to Eleanor Roosevelt NHS (ELRO) in Hyde Park, NY. Each passing October 11th marks both the anniversary of Mrs. Roosevelt's birth in 1884 and the official dedication of the Val-Kill site *exactly* a century later. (Kill is Dutch for "stream"—Mrs. Roosevelt called this spot "Valley Stream.") In the coming years, visitors to ELRO on that special day will probably hear recollections about the "absolutely perfect" afternoon in 1984 when more than 1,500 people, including dignitaries and a horde of media, strode across Val-Kill Bridge to witness the event.

It was a notably warm day for October in New York, but periodically during the story-telling speeches, puffs of a cool breeze would sprinkle everyone with red, yellow and orange leaves. By 5 p.m., after all the hoopla had subsided, there were yet a few small groups of visitors rustling through the carpet of grounded foliage and one Great Blue Heron selecting a menu out of Val-Kill Pond. All future October 11th's will be contrasted to this—surely unfavorably.

ELRO's basic interpretive program hasn't changed much since that first "opening" day. Once off the shuttle bus (\$1.95/adults) that stops on Route 9G and across the pond bridge, visitors are led past the Stone Cottage to the rear of Val-Kill Cottage where there is a 20-minute film on Mrs. Roosevelt's life shown in the "Playhouse." The Stone Cottage was the first structure here (1925), built for Eleanor and her friends Nancy Cook and Marion Dickerman by FDR so they would have a place to relax when the nearby mansion was closed. Val-Kill Cottage was first a Depression-era furniture factory, started by Mrs. Roosevelt and friends. It failed in 1936 and she renovated the structure for her use in 1945. The tour goes through three ground-floor rooms, two of which have



Stone cottage and bridge at Val-Kill Pond



Early morning wreath-laying ceremonies were held at the Roosevelts' gravesite, located at the Home of FDR NHS.

been authentically recreated thanks to some interior photography done a few days after Mrs. Roosevelt's death in 1962.

Because of Val-Kill's location and setting, the first descriptive word many people would think of is "retreat." But Site Manager Margaret Partridge says that would be a misnomer. "If Mrs. Roosevelt arrived alone, the first thing she would do was to get on the phone and invite a few friends over. The house reflects her tastes and served her purposes—it has work areas and seven guest rooms," said Partridge.

Guided tours usually do not include the serene grounds, but there is history there too. The large barbecue is where Eleanor and the President taught foreign dignitaries how to eat hot dogs and hamburgers while the tiny "Dollhouse" was used as a play room for the children. Added this year was a "living memorial" garden.

Roosevelt-Vanderbilt Supt. Duane Pearson said that there had been plans (and legislated funds) for some kind of on-site memorial to Mrs. Roosevelt.

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"However it seemed that a statue or plaque would almost be redundant in the Val-Kill setting," recounted Pearson, "so we decided on a memorial garden, as it was planted in her day. It is a 'living' memorial to this great lady." The first-year garden would have been a success except for some voracious woodchucks, Pearson lamented. ELRO "green thumbs" will try again in '87.

In its '85 "rookie" season, ELRO attracted nearly 31,000 visitors. Through August, the '86 count is down about 5%. On the average, this represents about 15% of the people who visit the Home of FDR out on the main road. ELRO is open daily April through October, then weekends in March and November; it is closed in winter, except for some December weekends when the site celebrates "Christmas at Val-Kill" with special displays.

Ways of enticing visitors to add ELRO to their Hyde Park estate itineraries is something Supt. Pearson has in the works. "We realize that we are not a 'planned-for destination' right now," the superintendent admits, "but we've laid the groundwork for some advance publicity in recreational club newsletters and travel agent literature. We want travelers to know about all three sites and that it may take them a full day, maybe more, to see them (in depth) without rushing." Pearson added that according to those in the travel business, it takes a few years for such information to be spread around.

Furnishings for the historical site is a topic that always gets staff attention.



Val-Kill Cottage (built 1926) first housed Val-Kill Industries, the experimental crafts business begun by the three women in 1927. Depression woes closed the business in 1936 and in 1945 Eleanor made the building her home, saying it was "where I emerged as an individual." During the warmer months, Mrs. Roosevelt slept on the screened-in, second-floor porch.

Much of the original furniture was taken from the house by relatives or auctioned off back in the mid-sixties. It has begun to trickle back as the far-flung present owners tire of it or move somewhere and do not wish to take it along.

"We have a little money to buy some of the smaller items back," explained Pearson, "and we naturally appreciate any *donation* of the larger things."

It might take time for the comparatively humble estate of the "First

Lady of the World" to catch on with Hyde Park visitors. It has to compete with the awe instilled by the Vanderbilt Mansion and the esteem deservedly given the Home of FDR. But as Mrs. Roosevelt reached out to common and underprivileged citizens, so too, does the unpretentious Val-Kill, the *only home* that was ever truly hers. She once wrote her daughter Anna, "My house seems nicer than ever and I could be happy in it alone!" It's a thought a mind-at-ease visitor could get here while strolling through fallen leaves on an October day.

## Fogelsons fund new wing at Pecos NM

Ann Rason  
Park Ranger  
Pecos National Monument

In the two years since its opening, the E. E. Fogelson Visitor Center at Pecos National Monument, New Mexico has gained a reputation as one of the most beautiful visitor facilities in the national park system. (See *Courier*, Vol. 29, No. 11, Nov. 84.) A gift of Colonel E. E. and Mrs. Greer Garson Fogelson, the building is filled with many handcrafted touches—carved wood beams, doors and furniture, hand-punched tinwork chandeliers, and over 40 pieces of original exhibit art. The center depicts, through timeline, artifact, diorama and film, 10,000 years of history of the Pecos Valley from Paleo-Indian times through abandonment of Pecos Pueblo and Mission in 1838.

But there is much more history in the

Pecos Valley. Population expanded in the area during the period it was under Mexican Rule. The Santa Fe Trail, passing by the ruins, brought Anglo-Americans to New Mexico in the early 19th century. Pecos served as a gateway for Stephen Watts Kearny's troops during the Mexican War, for Union and Confederate Troops engaged in the nearby Civil War Battle of Glorieta Pass, and for the coming of the railroad in 1888. Recognizing the need to interpret this rich heritage of the Mexican and Anglo periods, the National Park Service and the newly formed Friends of Pecos National Monument began a campaign to raise funds for the construction of an addition to the exhibit area of the Fogelson Visitor Center. The Fogelsons, continuing 20 years of generosity, donated the funds to make the wing a reality.

Groundbreaking was held on August 3 after the traditional Feast Day Mass held

in the ruins of the Pecos mission church. Attendees represented the tri-cultural nature of the area—Pecos Indian descendants from Jemez Pueblo, townsfolk from the Hispanic village of Pecos, and Anglo visitors from across the country. Friends of Pecos Vice President Rodger Friedman was master of ceremonies and A. Samuel Adelo, Treasurer of the Friends and Pecos village native, delivered a welcome in Spanish and English. Greer Garson Fogelson expressed her pleasure in helping to make possible "the best little museum in the west" before she and her husband, Colonel E. E. Fogelson, broke ground for the new wing.

It is expected that the addition will be open to the public in late summer, 1987. The wing will continue the timeline chronology through the Mexican and Anglo periods of Pecos' history and will include a diorama of the Santa Fe Trail.

## Reburial service at Custer Battlefield

Nancy Pieters and Sandy Barnard  
Special to the *Courier*

Gradually, gray clouds covered the blue sky above the Little Big Horn. They shut out a burning sun that earlier in the afternoon had drenched the crowd gathered in the amphitheater. The mood of the people, as many as 2,000, had been almost festive up to that point, perhaps a bit strange considering they were about to attend a funeral.

Yet the event was also a cause for celebration: here, 110 years after some 4,000 Plains Indian warriors had overwhelmed the 7th U.S. Cavalry under Lt. Col. George Armstrong Custer, the races were joining for a moving burial service, "a common seeking of peace."

This June 25, 1986, they had come together to bury the partial remains of some three dozen troopers, discovered during three separate archeological projects at the Custer Battlefield National Monument in Montana. Of those laid to rest in the battlefield's National Cemetery, within sight of Last Stand Hill, three had been found in 1958; the rest had been located in either 1984 or 1985.

Tradition—and Hollywood folklore—has it that Custer himself and the remnants of his command were killed on the hill topped by a granite obelisk bearing the names of Custer's dead. Archeological evidence from the 1984 and 1985 projects, under the leadership of Dr. Douglas D. Scott, supervisory archeologist for the Park Service's Midwest Archeological Center in Lincoln, NE, seems to verify both the historical record and Hollywood's account of a last-ditch stand by some 40 to 50 soldiers.

But on Wednesday, June 25, the violence of the combat was put behind. Just past 4 p.m., Windy Shoulderblade, a Cheyenne, and other members of his Lame Deer American Legion Post color guard stepped off smartly down the asphalt path toward the amphitheater, tucked in a little triangle of a valley below Last Stand Hill, the national cemetery, and the battlefield's visitor center.

The crowd's festive air changed abruptly to a somber watch. On the lip of the amphitheater, patriotic march music by the Billings, Montana, community band, which had set the earlier upbeat mood for the afternoon, ceased. Only a steady click of cameras and the chirp of meadowlarks disturbed the silence.

Behind the Indian honor guard, six young soldiers from the Scout Platoon of the modern 7th U.S. Cavalry Regiment struggled with the awkward weight of the flag-draped casket. It contained the

skeletal remains of one trooper researchers had dubbed "Mike," and another 35 of their regimental predecessors, men who had died about that hour on this field of battle 110 years earlier.

As the color guard and other participants in the ceremony moved slowly down the hill to the amphitheater, the last traces of the sun vanished behind the clouds, seemingly a reminder to everyone of the solemnity of the day—the 110th anniversary of the Battle of the Little Bighorn.

After the posting of colors and the singing of the National Anthem, the Rev. Vincent Heier from Mt. Carmel Roman Catholic Church in St. Louis gave the invocation.

"In one sense, we turn to look back, to look back over a century ago to examine anew the clash of cultures that has led to the people who meet here on this field," he began. "We honor those who died. . . Also, we remember those who fought for this land, who fought for what they believed was right."

Father Heier also stressed that it is just as important to look to the future. "To look forward to a new age in history. And, what we commemorate should be a sign of the future. That the clash of cultures gave way to a common seeking of peace. That races, religions, creeds and ways of life might stand together and work together in this our land."

Next, Wayne Schile, master of ceremonies and publisher of the *Billings Gazette*, and Jim Court, Custer Battlefield superintendent, greeted the crowd. Continuing the formal part of the program, Enos Poor Bear, former president of the Oglala Sioux Tribe, spoke about the Indians' perception of the battle anniversary.

"We of the Indian nations look upon this battle as one of our finest hours," Poor Bear said. "Let me say in the same breath that if we take from that event only the history that occurred here, we do err."

Only by examining past events can the Indian people fashion for themselves "a better day and a brighter future," he explained.

The second speaker, Lorraine Mintzmyer, Rocky Mountain Regional Director, stressed the importance of observing the anniversary.

"There are many remarkable features about this battlefield and the events that took place here," she said. "And one of them is the curious fact that, to succeeding generations of Americans, the Battle of the Little Bighorn seems to dominate its era as few other single events in history do."

Mintzmyer added that "We are here



*Cheyenne member of the Lame Deer American Legion Post served as color guard during the reburial service*

today not only to commemorate the 110th anniversary of that grim event that gave this place its special significance. We are here as well to attend the final rest of some of those young men who fought and died here."

Jack McDermott, director of policy for the President's Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, also stressed the importance of preserving the memory of the soldiers who died in battle. He said they are a reminder of "what has come before and how difficult life may become."

Once the speeches were completed, the members of the Scout Platoon, commanded by 1st Lt. John Phalen, carried the casket up the hill to Section B, Grave 402, of the national cemetery. At the graveside a ceremonial wreath was placed by John White Man Runs, the 92-year-old son of White Man Runs Him, one of Custer's Crow scouts.

Father Heier recited the burial prayers of committal. Off to the side, six members of the Lame Deer legion post raised their rifles. Three volleys echoed across the ridges and coulees.

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As the modern 7th Cavalrymen, stationed at Fort Hood, Texas, today, folded the American flag which had covered the casket, spectators stood in respectful silence, aware of the tragic clash of cultures which had claimed many lives on both sides in this place years ago.

*Editor's Note:* Sandy Barnard is Director of Journalism at Indiana State University, Terre Haute, and assisted with public relations for both the 1985 archeological project and the 1986 reburial service at Custer Battlefield National Monument. Assisting him in 1986 were writer Nancy Pieters and photographer Trevis Mayfield, both journalism majors at ISU.

*Young soldiers from the Scout Platoon of the 7th U.S. Cavalry Regiment prepare to fold the flag that had draped the casket containing the remains of some 36 men of the 7th Cavalry killed at the Battle of the Little Big Horn*



## Happy birthday, NHPA!

The National Historic Preservation Act is having a birthday.

Without the fanfare, the marching bands and newspaper headlines, the endless speeches and self-congratulatory toasts. Rather, there is a quiet assurance about this celebration, a realization that on October 15, twenty years ago, a start was made toward something that altogether altered the attitude and the appearance of an entire nation.

Imagine Williamsburg circa 1920. Colonial gardens, the Governor's Palace, gracious women in floor-length gowns? Not hardly. Like most other parts of the country, Williamsburg was spawning its filling stations, billboards, lunch stands, and dry goods stores. And what about Washington, the nation's capital? Or historic Savannah, Chicago, and Boston, cities we've come to associate with very specific kinds of architectural motifs? Each of these were suffering dramatic losses as the country moved deeper into the twentieth century. Factors such as urban renewal led to the destruction of magnificent old buildings whose history has now been lost, along with their beveled glass and well-crafted stonework.

The National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) didn't change the urban scene immediately, but it provided the tools for that change. It authorized the Secretary of the Interior to expand and maintain the National Register (a listing of properties having national, state, or

local significance); it approved matching grants to the states and to the National Trust; and it established the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation.

In addition, it created a powerful partnership between federal and state governments, establishing a network of preservation consciousness filtering throughout all levels of the national and local scene. Not only was preservation accomplished, but educational programs developed around the concept. Even children became involved. Museums, historic districts, and school systems designed walking tours calculated to encourage children to notice historic roof lines, weathervanes, windows, and decorative stonework . . . and to respect them. Thus gradually, but with increasing inevitability, there grew an appreciation for structures and objects older than 50 years of age.

"The concept has stood the test of time," says Jerry Rogers, Associate Director, Cultural Resources. "Today there are 45,000 entries in the National Register, encompassing a far greater number of individual properties. There are state historic preservation offices in 57 states and similar jurisdictions. Every year federal agencies use this network to consider their impacts upon historic properties approximately 40,000 times."

And this is only part of the structure of cooperation initiated between state and federal agencies. Particularly impressive have been the results of the tax incentives program, called into existence through the Tax Reform Act, signed ten years ago



*Missouri Valley Trust Company, detail over corner entrance showing cornucopia of coins*

this October. After a decade of operation, this program has engendered more than 15,000 projects, worth more than \$10 billion. Approximately 204 projects in the District of Columbia alone have been beneficiaries.

Supporting and providing criteria for the program, the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation have established preservation guidelines

Photo courtesy of Jack Boucher and HABS

that, once met, qualify a developer's project for tax credits. Says Gary Hume, co-author of the Standards, "the National Register Criteria were the yardstick for evaluating properties and districts for significance, and the Standards were used to direct the treatment of these properties once they were identified as significant."

A sampling of the ten standards that guide the tax certification process include the following: 1) every reasonable effort shall be made to provide a compatible use for a property which requires minimal alteration of the building, structure, or site and its environment, or to use a property for its originally intended purpose; 2) the distinguishing original qualities or character of a building, structure, or site and its environment shall not be destroyed; and 3) all buildings, structures, and sites shall be recognized as products of their own time; alterations that have no historical basis and which seek to create an earlier appearance shall be discouraged.

Ernest Allen Connally, Chief Appeals Officer and long-time influential program builder for historic preservation, summarizes the primary criteria for a tax act property—it must preserve significant material, preserve the historic character intact, and make some visual distinction between old and new construction in order to protect the historic nature of the property.

Although, as of this writing, the tax reform package under consideration by Congress makes the future of the incentives program uncertain, the statistics alone reflect the genuine good the program has accomplished for the urban landscape. And, if that is not enough, one has only to walk through any number of historic districts to recognize the preservation consciousness now influencing various aspects of the building trades.

Likewise, an influential part of the federal preservation package, the Historic Landmarks program has resulted in the nominations of 1,697 National Historic Landmarks (NHLs), representing nearly every aspect of American history from the earliest prehistoric peoples to the Space program of today. Two of the recent theme studies undertaken by the NPS, Man-in-Space and War-in-the-Pacific, have made possible a number of new NHLs, 23 as a result of the former study and 37 as a result of the latter.

Sometimes forces outside the control of preservationists make it impossible to pass down a structure intact from generation to generation. Under such conditions, it has been especially fortunate that teams working under the Historic American Buildings Survey and the Historic American Engineering Record (HABS and HAER) have been able to

record more than 20,000 buildings and structures. Using measured drawings and photography, they have documented the precise dimensions of buildings that have since ceased to exist.

In the words of Representative John Seiberling, historic preservation authorized through the National Historic Preservation Act has protected "county courthouses and one-room schools as well as . . . historic sites and national landmarks honoring the rich and famous. It (has become) the study of sociology and anthropology as well as of architecture and design. It is oral history and folklore as well as artifacts and written information.

It is done in the library as well as in the field, and uses computers and laser beams as well as picks and shovels. It is Federal as well as State, public as well as private, international as well as local, the new as well as the old."

But if so much has been accomplished in so little time, what more is there for preservation programs to tackle?

"Increasingly, the direction is toward the greater delegation of responsibilities to the States," says Jerry Rogers. "It's important for all of us to realize that the welfare of even the historic units of the NPS is often in the hands of local planning groups. We must encourage the

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*Photo courtesy of Jack Boucher and HABS*

*Missouri Valley Trust Company, interior detail of small alcove office*

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SHPOs (state historic preservation officers) to draw closer to the parks, and park superintendents to realize that they can't fully do their jobs without the SHPOs. I think it's gone beyond the point where we can save the national park system from within that system."

Evidence of this can be found throughout the Park Service. Especially threatened are a number of Civil War battlefield parks. Ed Bearss, NPS Chief Historian, cites Richmond National Battlefield Park as only one example of the critical nature of such cooperation. "The park consists of nine disparate sites," explains Bearss. "If the tour of these areas is to retain its historic character, and the Service enclaves at Gaines' Mill, Cold Harbor, Malvern Hill, Fort Harrison, and Drewry's Bluff are not to be overwhelmed by suburbia, close cooperation by NPS, the Veterans Administration, preservationists, and local governments to perfect appropriate strategies is required." Continues Bearss, "the Virginia SHPO and his staff afford the leadership on the state level that the Service must look to if the park is to continue to provide its visitors with a high-quality experience."

Since anniversaries provide as much opportunity for reassessment as for reminiscing, this twentieth anniversary has been the occasion for much self-evaluation of programs authorized by the National Historic Preservation Act. In August, the National Park Service held a one-day symposium to examine how the Standards have been used in recent years, identifying their strengths and potential limitations. Participants included practicing architects and preservation program administrators as well as local, state and federal officials.

Further areas of examination for the preservation programs include funding mechanisms, the National Register Criteria for Evaluation, and the division of responsibility between state and federal programs. In this last subject area, Loretta Neumann, a Congressional staffer for Representative John Seiberling, observes: "The Federal-State-local partnerships established by the National Historic Preservation Act are still young and fragile—20 years is not so long ago that we can take them for granted. As members of Congress and Administration officials come and go, there is a constant need to re-educate both branches of government on why the national historic preservation program is so important to the American people."

The National Historic Preservation Act has had a relatively short, but nevertheless influential history. It has altered the face of the nation at the same time that it has claimed the life-long dedication

of many of its supporters. Without it, preservation efforts would not be occurring as effortlessly as they do now; neither would there be the mechanisms available to protect so many facets of our cultural past, among these treasures, ships, historic landscapes, totem poles,

archeological remains . . . the list goes on and on.

Yes, indeed, the National Historic Preservation Act is having a birthday.

And with it comes the determination to accomplish even more in the next twenty years than it has in the first.

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## Concessions: serving the visitor in the national parks

David E. Gackenback  
Chief, Concessions, WASO

Picture a pristine national park with no roads. You are surrounded by snow-capped mountains, trees, waterfalls, and streams. Your thoughts are only slightly disturbed by the silent murmurs of nature. Sounds like heaven, right? Well, maybe . . .

Think! You are miles away from home. You are awed by the grandeur. But, it is late in the day. You are hungry and tired . . . the children are restless. Where can you find a safe, clean place to stop for the night, and what about food? You are surrounded by beauty, but can you satisfy even your most basic needs?

A memorable park experience is impossible if it is plagued with discomfort, irritation, and frustration. As Stephen Mather recognized, "scenery is hollow enjoyment to a tourist who sets out in the morning after an indigestible breakfast and a fitful sleep on an impossible bed."

Long before Stephen Mather uttered these words, however, Congress knew their truth. The Yellowstone Act of 1872, which set aside lands near the Yellowstone River for our first national park, provided for visitor accommodations and established the pattern for the national park system. Concessions were an important part of that pattern.

Much-needed services are provided by private industry—concessioners—in the national parks, and these businesses offer far more than just a place to buy a postcard or a hamburger, although such things are important too. When visitors check into a room or eat in a restaurant, they ask questions: where do I hike, what should I see . . . Remember that concession employees often have as many visitor contacts as rangers. Indeed, visitors may only come in contact with concession employees, never talking to a ranger in uniform. So what is remembered about the trip may be the wonderful (or terrible) meal, the condition of their room, or the other comforts provided by the concessioner. Or the visitor may recall the trail a concession employee personally recommended. Concessions affect visitors in many positive ways. From the very beginning, this



knowledge has been the foundation of the national park system. Everyone—the visitor, the government, and the taxpayer—benefits from the presence of concessioners in the parks.

How?

Because private enterprise has the expertise to provide quality facilities and services for the *visitor*, with the necessary flexibility to include that personal touch characteristic of the park experience. Because concessioners also provide those critical capital investment dollars for concession facilities that save the *taxpayer* and the *federal government* a considerable amount of cash. More than 276 million concession dollars have gone into the construction of concession buildings and improvements. During the year 1984 alone, concessioners invested in excess of \$42 million. And last but not least, don't forget the franchise fee. Fees collected from concessioners continue to increase. For example, the fiscal year 1985 total franchise fees paid to the government amounted to \$7.6 million as compared to \$4.7 million in fiscal year 1980.

From time to time, concessioners may have been maligned for being greedy

businessmen, interested only in making money. Of course they want to make a profit. However, should you overhear someone charging that concessioners reap huge profits, please correct the misunderstanding. In 1984, the 478 concessioners operating in our parks had gross sales of some \$364.8 million, with pre-tax profits of \$32 million or 8.8 percent. Many of the concessioners had losses. So exhibit huge profits they do not, even when they have a successful season.

Although they do supply the parks with irreplaceable benefits, concessioners are not given *carte blanche*. NPS policy is explicit . . . the only facilities that will be provided in a park are those that are necessary for public use and enjoyment of the area, identified in general management plans and associated documents; seem appropriate to the purpose and objectives of the park; and/or are required by law. Indeed, if adequate facilities already exist or feasibly can be developed by private enterprise outside park boundaries, this is the preferred approach.

How are concession operations chosen? The Service planning process is basic to that determination. Once this process has occurred, concessions are safeguarded against unregulated and indiscriminate use, so that development of facilities can be limited to locations where the least damage to park values will be created. Every unit of the national park system is unique unto itself. Because of this, certain conditions influence the necessity and appropriateness of visitor accommodations and services. These include, but are not limited to the purpose for the park, its resources and weather conditions, length of season, and easy access to or remoteness of the area. What follows is a sampling of the types of concession accommodations and services currently authorized throughout the system: hotels and motels (luxury and economy), cabins, fishing/hunting camps, and hostels; trailer villages and campgrounds; restaurants, cafeterias, snack bars, mobile food stands, vending machines; gifts, handicrafts/souvenirs, photographic art, groceries, convenience items, photographic services; land, water, and air transportation; fuel and repairs for automobiles and marine vehicles; boat, bicycle, and equipment rentals; marinas, sightseeing tours, river runners, cruise ships; backpacking, caving, fishing, hiking, hunting, mountain climbing, and skiing guides; horse and mule operations; golf course and driving range, miniature golf, tennis, baseball, swimming, amusement centers, indoor riding rink, indoor fishing dock, ice skating rink; medical, dental, and pharmaceutical services and bathhouses; and much more.

Because concessions vary from small, owner-operated facilities to multi-million



*Old Faithful Inn, Yellowstone NP*

dollar corporations, the program has matured through the mutual efforts of the government *and* the concessioners.

Although some legislative requirements and limitations have been placed on the program over the years, it was the Concessions Policy Act of 1965 that set the policies, procedures, and regulations that give substance and direction to today's program.

But in the midst of this federal/private cooperation, you may wonder what safeguards for quality are built into the program. Park visitors have a right to expect facilities and services to meet a high level of quality, safety, and sanitation. This is acknowledged by the preferential right of renewal granted by the Concessions Policy Act to those concessioners who have performed their obligations satisfactorily. The Concessioner Review Program was developed to assure satisfactory performance by the concessioners as well as compliance with the terms of their contracts or permits. Evaluations of all concession operations are performed a minimum of one to four times each year, using 23 developed operating standards. An overall rating of satisfactory, marginal, or unsatisfactory is assigned at year end.

And yet the federal/private partnership doesn't stop with service to the visitor. The majority of concessioners love their work and the parks they consider home. In many parks, NPS employees come and go, but family-owned and operated concessions provide community stability and continuity. Living in a park with a concession operation has a side benefit; the business brings

more people to the community and opens a wider mixture of people for community activities, an especially important factor in isolated areas. Indeed, many isolated parks look to concessioners for community leadership; often this takes the form of financial assistance, but the initial gesture comes because concessioners have been long-term residents. Concessioners also have the freedom to institute changes and programs, which the NPS may not.

Because of the importance of concessioner-involvement in parks, the Director's 12-Point Plan calls on the NPS and the concessioners to take up the challenge to make the parks more meaningful to present and future generations. To accomplish the objectives of the plan, a cooperative partnership between the National Park Service and concessioners is vital. As part of this cooperative effort, concessioners are being encouraged to become involved in interpretive programs and to attend joint training sessions, ensuring high-quality interpretive techniques.

Visitors often make no distinction between concessioner and National Park Service employees. To them, the person immediately available represents the park. That is the person they turn to for information and assistance—often for interpretation of park values. Because of this, we are suggesting to concessioners that they encourage their employees to become involved in the Volunteers-in-Parks (VIP) program during their off-duty hours. As VIPs, they could be of great assistance, a real value to many NPS park programs.

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A remark taken from Director Mott's introductory statement to the 12-Point Plan best describes concessions in the park . . . "a good idea that has become better."

Concessioners have the following types of authorizations:

*Contract:* authorizes and requires concessioners to provide and operate accommodations, facilities and services; usually grosses \$100,000 or more, may require substantial investment, may be for terms (by statute) of up to 30 years, can be terminated only pursuant to terms of the contract.

*Standard Permit:* authorizes (does not require) concessioners to provide and operate facilities and services on a smaller scale, with little investment in the business; may not require investment in building or improvement programs; term (by policy) is limited to five years or less; may be revoked at any time by NPS.

*Limited Permit:* similar to the standard permit; was developed to lessen the administrative process of obtaining, renewing, and administering small concession operations (those grossing \$50,000 or less); the term (by policy) is limited to less than five years.

Any contract or permit whose term is five years or more or whose gross receipts are \$100,000 or more must be transmitted to the appropriate Committees of Congress for a 60-day review. Currently, we have 475 concessioners in 117 park areas. Of these, 173 are authorized by concession contract and the remaining 302 by concession permit.



CONCESSIONERS	1984
Gross receipts	\$364,800,000
Pre-tax profits	32,000,000 (8.8%)
Franchise fees paid	7,600,000
Investment in buildings and improvement	42,000,000
Number of employees	22,000



Triangle X Ranch, Grand Teton NP

SERVICES PROVIDED BY CONCESSIONERS		
Type	Operators/Quantity	
Lodging	7	10,113 rooms
Trailer villages and campgrounds	29	4,232 sites
Food and beverage	18	30,540 seats
Merchandise	188	526 outlets
Transportation	133	830 vehicles
Auto service	44	72 stations
Marinas	47	7,565 slips
Boat rental	112	6,440 boats
River runners	65	755 rafts
Swimming	12	20 areas
Horse/mule operations	32	1,867 animals
Guides services	26	N/A
Fish services	2	N/A
Sport activities	12	N/A
Bicycle rental	10	787 bikes
Amusement center	4	18 units
Ice skating rink	1	N/A
Photo services	2	N/A
Instructor services	3	N/A
Parking facilities	3	N/A
Health services	6	8 units
Bathhouse	2	2 units
Nursery	2	For 50 children
Kennel	2	For 49 pets
Craft demonstrations	3	N/A
Observation tower	1	N/A
Telescope (coin)	1	N/A
Recycling center	1	N/A

## CFC 1987—Make a dream come true

Rosa Wilson  
Editorial Clerk, WASO

The Combined Federal Campaign has been in existence for many years. Yet there are still major features of the program that are poorly understood. Let's tackle a few that are heard around the country each year.

What is CFC, its purpose and objectives? Combined Federal Campaign is an organizational structure originated under presidential executive order. The President has the responsibility for the Combined Federal Campaign nationwide. He appoints the campaign chairperson, who this year is the Honorable William E. Brock, Secretary of Labor, and designates, through executive order, the Office of Personnel Management as the overseer of the CFC.

The purpose of the campaign is to work in unity with all federal agencies to aid in funding voluntary agencies from the American Red Cross to the Downtown Cluster Geriatric Day Care Center. The objective is simply to help everyone from the youngest child to the oldest senior citizen realize that there are people who care—to realize that a dream can become reality through CFC funding.

The film "Just a Dream Away" starring Ricardo Montalban includes a title song performed especially for the 1987 CFC by Dionne Warwick. The film highlights the true stories of the Bradford brothers and Linda Down.

Bruce Bradford would like you to know: "When my parents died, it was very traumatic, but thanks to earlier camping experiences I think I was able to grow from it. Camp prepared me for life's ups and downs. It gave me a sense of belonging. I would hope that everyone would care about CFC. There are so many people who would benefit by such giving. I am thankful that someone cared enough to give to an organization that enabled me to grow and to develop."

Linda Down has this to say: "My sister and I were born with a condition that basically left us without coordination and balance. Running was not only a way to express myself, but also to prove to myself that I could physically do something. I started running the marathon, I think, because it was an adventure and a challenge, and something that felt impossible. It gives me a special feeling now to know that the agency that helped me so much got its funding from the Combined Federal Campaign. People really can make a difference through CFC."

As star and narrator of the film, Ricardo Montalban helps us realize that life without hope is not much of a life. He wants us to see that through the campaign we have the power to make dreams come true.

"For those in need, so much more will be required in 1987—from the agencies delivering service, so much more will be asked. Your gift through payroll deduction will make a difference."

Frank Marchand, who is the campaign director, worked with Secretary Brock, along with other staff members, to initiate the major campaign kickoff, Thursday, September 18. Victory Luncheon is Tuesday, November 25, International Ballroom, Washington Hilton Hotel, from 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. For campaign display materials, contact headquarters at 2100 M Street, NW, Suite 14, Lower Lobby, Washington, DC 20037; Phone (202) 488-2087.

Each year CFC also initiates a communications contest that honors government communicators who exhibit outstanding creativity and originality in presenting the Fall CFC campaign to their fellow employees. The competitive categories are Employee Publications, Special Awards and other Media. Mail two copies of each entry containing news stories, feature articles, editorials or photographs about the CFC, along with the registration form you may obtain by writing to the above address. Deadline is October 31, 1986.

Secretary Brock emphasizes that it is important for you to communicate the message, and do it enthusiastically. Find out who the leadership coordinator is; call that person to volunteer; and secure a photographer for the meeting for public relations purposes.

Secretary Don Hodel would like all Federal employees to help "make a dream come true." He encourages full support for this worthwhile endeavor.

Will you help make a difference in someone's life today? "For who knows? The gift you give today will help someone tomorrow . . . it may be you."

## New Assistance Fund

There is a new wrinkle to the Combined Federal Campaign this year. Four federal employee groups, two management and two labor, have formed a general assistance fund for all federal employees. It is called the Federal Employees Education & Assistance fund (FEEA). The sole mission of FEEA will be to advance the welfare of federal employees—to help with retraining or outplacement in the case of reductions-in-force or furloughs; to provide educational scholarships to federal employees and their children; and to lend a hand with emergency loans and grants when disaster strikes federal employee families. Never before in the 20-year history of the CFC has there been a fund that has served all federal employees regardless of rank or affiliation. For more information about FEEA, call (800) 323-4140 or in Washington, D.C. at (202) 534-8685.

## NPCA is in!

A recent U.S. District Court (D.C.) order and the inclusion of the Hoyer-Hatfield amendment in the supplemental appropriations bill signed by President Reagan insure the participation of "advocacy charities" such as the National Parks and Conservation Association in this fall's Combined Federal Campaign (CFC). Since the legislation requires this year's campaign to include all charitable groups that were eligible in 1984 and 1985, NPCA will be in all 70 of those campaigns which it was in last year. Please be aware that there may be some confusion about which organizations are participating due to the unavailability of printed lists of eligible organizations. For more information, contact Hilary Dick, CFC Coordinator, NPCA 1701—18th Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20009.



# The Director's Report

By William Penn Mott, Jr.

## On anniversaries and partnerships

Nineteen eighty-six has been a big year for anniversaries. Our nation celebrated its 210th birthday, the Statue of Liberty its centennial, and the National Park Service its 70th anniversary. Not to be forgotten in the midst of such events is another anniversary, one that we are celebrating this month, the 20th anniversary of the National Historic Preservation Act.

When I was appointed California's first state historic preservation officer 20 years ago by Governor Ronald Reagan, we did not dream that the historic preservation program would grow to the size and importance that today exists. I am happy to say now that the Act of 1966 has been a success. The Act heralded a new partnership between the private sector and federal, state, and local governments in the preservation of cultural resources. And it has been through this partnership that the Act's success has come. On the occasion of the Act's 20th anniversary, the Service has both celebrated and examined the role this legislation has had in protecting our heritage. In doing so, the NPS has committed itself to reaffirm and update this unique federal, state, local, and private partnership.

A year ago, I wrote to a broad spectrum of leaders in the historic preservation movement, inviting them to join the celebration. On December 20, 1985, I met with these preservation leaders to outline NPS plans, which resulted in three kinds of proposed activities: (1) historical accounts, publications, and public information; (2) short-term management actions; and (3) program analysis and strategic directions. In my 12-Point Plan, I included as an action item to "reaffirm the principles of the National Historic Preservation Act on its 20th anniversary." As part of this commitment, we will be publishing a report outlining our historic preservation goals and objectives to the year 2000.

Historic preservation is a broad, complex field, and credit for its growth belongs to a great many organizations and to thousands of individuals. Through their leadership and involvement, a multitude of programs have contributed to this nation's increased awareness of its cultural heritage. And so this month when we remember the 20th anniversary of the National Historic Preservation Act, we remember more than a piece of legislation. We remember historic districts saved, artifacts preserved, archeology

performed, and the results of such effort used to increase our knowledge of our historic and prehistoric past. In part because of the National Historic Preservation Act and the cultural programs that have grown out of it, our past as a nation has become less expendible, has indeed become treasured in every piece of pottery from an archeological site, every board and nail from a historic house, every historic context in which we view our areas of federal, state, and local significance.

In commemoration of the 20th anniversary of the 1966 Act, and in honor of the many people who have contributed to its success, *Preservation News*, a publication of the National Trust, is presenting a series of essays written by people who have been a part of the activities produced by the NHPA for the past 20 years. I would encourage Park Service employees to familiarize themselves with the Act, and its accomplishments, in the hope that these will serve not only as a record of where we have been but, more importantly, where we are heading as we jointly guide the historic preservation programs into the 21st century.

Remember, too, that as the involvement of each of us can make a difference in the success of such programs, so it can make a difference in the way the Park Service effectively works to meet the needs of its employees.

In this regard, I am very pleased to share with you the latest developments concerning the Horace Albright Fund. Recently, I met with Laurance Rockefeller to discuss with him this program and to ask him for his support since he knows Horace Albright and admires the work he did as Director of the National Park Service. At that meeting, Laurance kindly offered a donation of \$250,000 this year from his personal foundation, and \$250,000 from the Jackson Hole Foundation, to be matched by \$500,000. A request has been made to the Readers Digest Foundation for \$500,000, and we are in the process of raising the additional \$500,000.

### HORACE M. ALBRIGHT FUND

I wish to support the Horace Albright Fund. Enclosed is my gift in the amount of \$\_\_\_\_\_ or my pledge of \$\_\_\_\_\_, payable in \_\_\_\_\_ installments.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Make check payable to the Horace Albright Fund.

Mail to: The National Park Foundation  
P.O. Box 57473  
Washington, DC 20037

Although this is only a beginning for the fund, it is most definitely a promising one, and it will permit us to begin in a modest way to provide use of the fund next year. These recent donations have greatly encouraged me to aggressively pursue every opportunity to expand the Horace Albright Fund, and I am contact-

ing potential donors with renewed confidence and optimism.

The fund is now off the ground and I expect that by December we can begin to accept applications from employees wishing to participate in the program. In the meantime, however, I will continue to look to you for support and your per-

sonal assistance in the form of a donation. *Your* involvement can make a big difference! Together we will make the Horace Albright Fund an enduring legacy of the Service's commitment to excellence and professionalism.



**ELIGIBILITY**  
ALL NATIONAL PARK SERVICE EMPLOYEES

**COMPETITION FOCUS**  
A SHADE STRUCTURE FOR USE AT GATEWAY  
NATIONAL RECREATION AREA

**SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS**  
EACH DESIGN SHOULD BE SUBMITTED ON 24" X 36"  
PAPER AND SHOULD INCLUDE A PLAN VIEW,  
ELEVATION, AND CROSS SECTION OF THE SHADE  
STRUCTURE. PERSPECTIVE SKETCHES AND/OR  
MODELS ARE OPTIONAL.

**SCHEDULE**  
ENTRIES SHOULD BE SUBMITTED TO GATEWAY  
NATIONAL RECREATION AREA BY NOVEMBER 28,  
1986. AWARDS WILL BE ANNOUNCED ON  
DECEMBER 10, 1986.

**PRIZE**  
THE WINNER(S) WILL PARTICIPATE IN THE DESIGN  
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SHADE STRUCTURE  
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

## Trick or Treat!

### A historical look at the symbols and shenanigans of Halloween

Margaret Miller

You answer your doorbell—again. “Trick or treat!” cries a high-pitched voice. You pretend not to recognize the pint-sized witch from next door as you drop a candy bar into the orange papier-mache pumpkin she thrusts toward you. You watch the small black form melt into the darkness, then shut the door.

As everyone knows, scenes like this are common on Halloween all across America, but it’s not so well known that the practice of trick-or-treating, as well as other Halloween symbols such as black cats and ghosts, has ancient roots. In fact, it goes all the way back to the days of the Druids, priests of the Celtic tribes that inhabited Ireland, Wales, Brittany, and the Highlands of Scotland as early as the fifth century B.C. In the religion of the Druids, October 31st was New Year’s Eve, a time when they held a joint festival honoring their sun god and Samhain, lord of the dead.

As the nights of fall grew long, the Druids feared that the sun might cease to shine, leaving the earth to the dark forces of evil, unless the sun god was properly honored. Fire, believed to re-energize the sun and drive away the evil spirits of darkness, was important in these rites.

Spectacular bonfires were built on hilltops, the wood obtained by Druids begging in the villages and through the countryside. Few Celts had the temerity to refuse the priests, not wanting the “trick” of being imprisoned and tossed into the flames. This was, probably, the first practice of “trick or treat.”

The Druids deemed it imperative to pay equal homage to the death god because they believed he determined what form the souls of those who had died during the year would take. The exemplary might be thought worthy of a human body. The souls of the sinful would be relegated to animals. Cats were reserved for the most wicked; thus the connection between black cats and Halloween.

It was believed that gifts and sacrifices would expiate the sins and allow the souls to go on to their heavenly reward. Because they were sacred to the sun god, horses were a common sacrifice.

But there were human sacrifices, too. Men, most often criminals, were confined in wicker and thatch cages formed into the shapes of animals. Druid priests set fire to the combustible prisons, incinerating the unfortunate occupants.

During the New Year’s festival, Celtic household fires were allowed to go out, and a new, sacred one was relit. The fires of the village were rekindled from the new fire.

It was the custom in North Wales for every family to build a big bonfire called Coel Coeth near their respective houses on Halloween. As the fire died down, each member of the family marked a stone for identification and tossed it into the embers. Then they marched around the fire saying their prayers before going off to bed. At daybreak the family went out to search among the ashes for the stones. These were anxious moments; if a person’s stone was missing, the Welshmen believed its owner would die during the coming year.

Inhabitants of the Scottish Highlands held a similar ritual. They threw marked stones into the fire, and after it had died down drew circles in the ashes around each one. In the morning, if they found that any stone had been disturbed or had a footprint near it, the individual whose mark was on that stone would not live to see another Halloween.

The Scots had another method for divining impending death. Supposedly, on Halloween night, the fairies of the forest congregated wherever there was a junction of three roads. There they whispered the names of those fated to die in the coming year. A Scotsman believed that if he sat on a three-legged stool where three roads met he would hear the names. If, after the pronouncement of a name, he threw a garment to the fairies, the doomed party would be spared—another example of treating to avoid being tricked.

Another “treat” took the form of a feast. In those days, ghosts were believed to hover about the houses of the living. On Halloween they were treated to a banquet-laden table. The living partook along with the souls of the departed. After the feast, villagers, masked and wearing long white robes to represent the dead, paraded to the outskirts of town, supposedly leading the ghosts out of the village.

The Scottish Highlanders used peat torches to singe and destroy their ghosts and witches. They also held torch parades around their fields in a sunwise direction on Halloween, believing it would make their crops grow better.

With the conquering Romans, Christianity came to the Celtic tribes, and with it an end to many of their pagan festivities. Human sacrifice was forbidden; sacrificial groves destroyed. However, horse sacrifice went on for some time, and black cats, believed to be the bosom companions of witches or possibly incarnated witches themselves, were still being thrown into the fires in wicker cages.

Animal sacrifice was banned in the Middle Ages by Pope Gregory the Great. “They are no longer to sacrifice beasts to the Devil, but they may kill them for food to the praise of God, and give thanks to the giver of all gifts for His bounty,” he decreed. The usual beasts so killed after that were oxen.

In 835 AD, Pope Gregory III ordered that the church’s All Saints’ Day—also known as All Hallows’ (for holy) Day—be moved to November 1st, thus doing away with the pagan New Year’s festival altogether. October 31st became All Hallows’ E’en (later Halloween), a night when the evil spirits were allowed their fling.

Long after the advent of Christianity, the Irish believed that Halloween was the time when goblins and fairies gathered. They thought these ancient beings were once the ghosts of royalty and heroes, shrunken to their present size by the sprinkling of holy water and the pealing of Christian bells.

As you might guess from the name, the jack-o’-lantern is of Irish derivation. Irish children hollowed out the centers of large turnips or potatoes, carved faces in the surfaces, and put a lighted candle inside to guide them through the dark and to frighten away evil spirits. Irish emigrants introduced the custom to America in the 1800s, substituting the larger native pumpkins for turnips and potatoes.

According to Irish legend, the jack-o’-lantern originated with a parsimonious, besotted old Irishman named Jack. One day Jack persuaded the Devil to climb an apple tree to get one of the succulent fruits hanging from the highest branch. When the Devil reached the top of the tree, Jack hurriedly cut the sign of the

cross into the trunk, thus preventing the Devil from getting back down. Before Jack would obliterate the sign so the Devil could descend, he made him promise that he would never come after Jack's soul.

When Jack died, he tried to get through the gates of heaven, but his way was barred because all his life he had been mean, selfish, and given to drunkenness. Munching on a turnip, Jack made his way to the Devil's place of habitation. However, the Devil also refused to accept him; Jack had made him promise never to take his soul. As Jack turned away, the Devil hurled a coal straight from the fires of hell at the old man. Seeing only darkness ahead, Jack picked up the glowing coal and put it in his turnip. Ever since, this jack-o'-lantern has been seen lighting Jack's wanderings through eternity as he searches for a place of rest.

Halloween was not a particularly English or Protestant holiday, so during the first 200 years of colonization it was not widely observed in America. However, after the great potato famine in the 1840s that sent thousands of Irish emigrants to our shores, it became a significant celebration here. Masquerade parties became a popular social event. Bobbing for apples, a custom harking back to the pagan festival of Pomona, was a favorite activity at these soirees.

High-spirited young Americans seized upon Halloween as an opportunity for mischief. They had great fun toppling outhouses, or moving them to the center of town in the dead of night. Cows would disappear mysteriously from their stanchions in one

barn, to be found in a neighbor's barn the next morning. Buggies, and later Model-Ts, were spirited from barns and "auto sheds" and hoisted up onto porch roofs. Ghostly rappings on doors and white-sheeted figures peering through windows startled householders. Heads of cabbage thudded on front porches, but when the occupants opened their doors not a soul would be in sight. Occasionally a less fleet-footed perpetrator would be caught and taken into the home. When it was learned that these unfortunates were treated to hot chocolate or cider and doughnuts, most of the young mischief-makers made sure they got themselves apprehended.

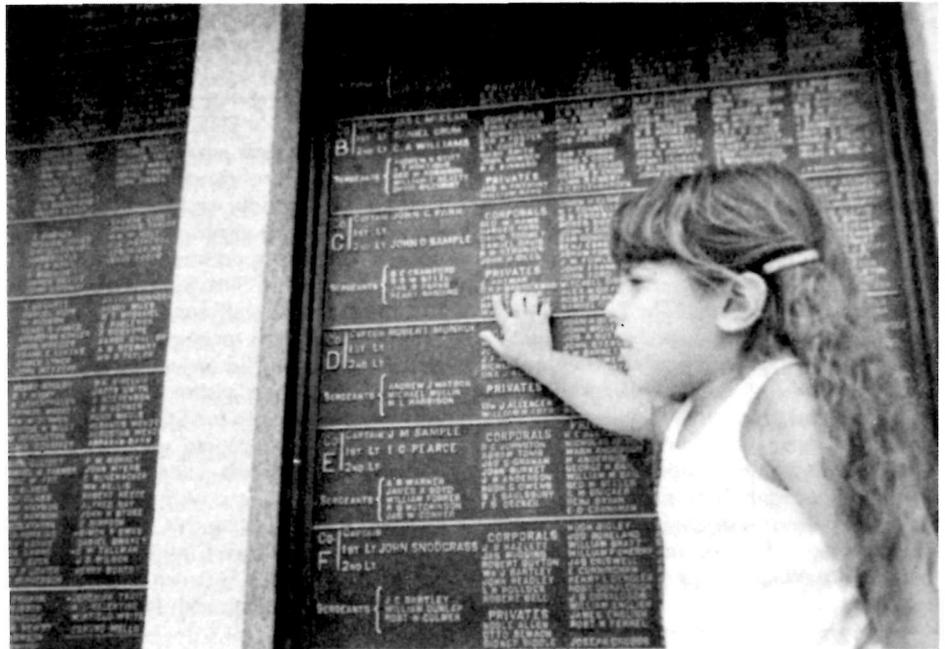
By the mid-1900s, soaping of windows had become a universal Halloween prank. It was no easy job cleaning soap off windowpanes, and somewhere along the line youngsters figured out that ringing a doorbell and asking for a treat while displaying a bar of soap produced amazing results. They let it be known that candy was the preferred treat, but they also accepted gum, apples, popcorn balls, and other goodies. Nowadays these little ghosts and goblins carry everything from paper sacks to pillowcases to hold their loot.

Today, Halloween is a night for light-hearted fun, mischief, and make-believe. But once upon a time, the celebration, with its "trick or treat," was a deadly serious affair.

—USAIR Magazine  
New York

## Park Briefs

**WASO**—The annual report to Congress on the federal archeological program, FY83 and FY84, has been completed. Such an effort fulfills the Secretary's reporting responsibilities under the Archeological and Historic Preservation Act of 1974 and the Archeological Resources Protection Act of 1979. Since FY75 when the first report was prepared, the challenge has always been to collect accurate information from all the bureaus and agencies carrying out archeological activities. Most recently, a questionnaire has been prepared to accomplish this. It requests information on projects, project costs, and project results; incidents of vandalism, prosecutions, and convictions; public information initiatives; and cooperative projects involving federal agencies and professional and avocational groups. Such data will be incorporated into the FY85 report to Congress. The FY83/84 report has been dedicated to the memory of Dr. Victor A. Carbone, whose project it was.



A young park visitor looks at the names engraved on the Pennsylvania Monument

**GETTYSBURG NMP, PA**—The park has kicked off a fund-raising campaign that it hopes will produce \$600,000 to restore the deteriorating monuments on its battlefield. "Age and acid rain have streaked and corroded many of them," said Superintendent John Earnst. "We're hoping state governments and private individuals will step forward to restore the monuments that honor the soldiers who fought at Gettysburg from their state." Already, North Carolina, Rhode Island

and Indiana have restored their monuments. Tennessee bought and erected a new one (the state had not had one before). Virginia has raised \$30,000 to restore its imposing monument. A big push was given the fund-raising when the largest monument on the battlefield—the Pennsylvania Monument—was restored and dedicated on July 1. Next in line to have their monuments restored: Georgia and Mississippi. Both states have the funds in hand.

**BLUE RIDGE PARKWAY, VA-NC**—A giant step toward realization of a 53-year-old dream was taken recently when North Carolina Congressman William M. Hendon presented a "check" for \$659,404 to Secretary of the Interior Donald P. Hodel and Blue Ridge Parkway Superintendent Gary Everhardt. The funds have been used to acquire an 81-acre tract adjacent to the parkway near Asheville, NC. Long-range plans call for parkway headquarters, which has been in rented office space since 1933, and a visitor information and orientation facility to be located on the site.



**WASO**—In simultaneous signing ceremonies at the British Embassy and the American Embassy, London, NPS Director William Penn Mott, Jr., and Mr. Adrian Phillips, Director of the Countryside Commission for England and Wales signed a Memorandum of Understanding formalizing cooperation between both agencies. Through informal contacts over the previous two years, both agencies have recognized the potential benefits of such cooperation. For the United States, the long British experience applying alternative approaches to full public ownership of conservation units and recreational areas is of major interest. For the British, United States experience in operations, management, policy, and interpretive programs hold major interest. In Washington, Director Mott expressed his pleasure at the opportunity to formalize this relationship: "The National Park Service reputation for excellence is based on its willingness and eagerness to learn from others . . . We look forward to a close and productive relationship with the Countryside Commission and envision this as a mechanism by which interested parties in both nations may have both a means of communication and a method of cooperation to the benefit of park and conservation interests on both sides."

**LAKE MEREDITH RA, TX**—Say Mike and Priscilla Sanders, "our son, Michael, is alive today because of dedicated, fast acting people." Park rangers at the Lake Meredith ranger station heard the sounds of a crash outside and responded immediately to find a pickup rolled over on its side, pinning the boy underneath. His face was in the dirt and he was in respiratory distress. Under the direction of Bob Wilson, Senior Ranger, the vehicle was rolled off Sanders, allowing him to breathe until the ambulance could arrive with oxygen and life saving equipment.

**LAKE MEAD NRA, NV**—A fishing pier for handicapped persons was made possible by donations of road material from the Basic Rock and Sand, Inc. of Henderson, Nevada, concrete from Stocks Mill & Supply Company of Las Vegas, Nevada, and the use of a 55-ton crane from the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation. The paved area measures 900 feet long and 20 feet wide, with a fishing pier at the end that projects out over the causeway bank for direct fishing in the lake.

**MANHATTAN SITES, NY**—Nine New York teenagers who assisted the many thousands of visitors to Castle Clinton NM and Liberty Island this past summer found the experience to be a positive learning opportunity. In the spring, Manhattan Sites Supt. Robert Mahoney and his staff considered enlisting local teens to supplement park rangers at Castle Clinton, which is the newest Park Service visitor center and new ticketing facility for Statue of Liberty ferries. The young people, who performed various visitor-related functions while earning a salary, were selected from two programs: The Youth Conservation Corps and (New York City) Mayor's/School Chancellor's Summer Employment Program for incoming high school seniors.

Joanne Gerber, park ranger and YCC coordinator, noted that the teenagers shared common characteristics, such as academic excellence, involvement in community activities, and plans to continue their educations beyond high school.

To hear the teens explain their experiences at Castle Clinton, one would have to agree that the program was beneficial to all concerned. For example, Susan Lum didn't mind the two-hour commute each way to and from her Staten Island home. "I was baptized by fire the first week trying to reunite a lost child with his frantic parents," said the

high school senior who plans to major in computer science and marketing in college. "I learned an awful lot, especially to have greater empathy for others."

Nancy Castro is from Manhattan. The future marine biologist will join the Navy next spring. She found it particularly great to work with group leaders because a junior high school teacher had motivated her to continue her education beyond high school. "His inspiration gave me greater respect for the helping professions."

Another Manhattanite, Shaun Williams, will join the Air Force in hopes of becoming a pilot. Being an avid reader prepared him to answer the questions posed by visitors. "I didn't think I'd be able to do it but working with the more than 20,000 people a day really boosted my self-confidence," he said.

**BOSTON NHP, MA**—NARO staffers, Boston NHP rangers and visitors lucky enough to be in the downtown Visitor Center around noon on August 25 celebrated the NPS's 70th Founders' Day with a cake from one of the city's finest bakers. Park Assistant Supt. John Debo related a brief NPS history to those present. Then "Happy Birthday" was sung, after which rangers and selected visitors blew out the 70 candles. Though large, the cake disappeared quickly as an estimated 200 pieces were given out.

That evening, another celebration with an even larger cake was held at the Charlestown Navy Yard. Along with Founders' Day, it was also the Navy Yard's Establishment Day (Aug. 26, 1800). The Tony Bruno Jr. "swing" band entertained about 200 park employees and invited guests, some retired yard workers, from the Charlestown area. The day before, a Boston NHP-sponsored concert drew 100 persons to Dorchester Heights NHS in South Boston. In conjunction with Founders' Day, cake was also served there.



Old Jack and friend

**NORTH CASCADES NP, WA—**District Manager Elaine Hounsell may have been the official greeter at the District Ranger Station Open House, but Old Jack, trail mule of considerable experience and "of a somewhat social nature," was up front when it came to making new acquaintances. He was part of a pack string demonstration being orchestrated at the barn. This and other events were key elements of Superintendent John Reynolds' efforts to involve the public in meeting the challenges of preserving our "natural heritage."

**ABRAHAM LINCOLN BIRTHPLACE NHS, KY—**On July 19 and 20, the park celebrated its annual Founders' Day, remembering the efforts of such notables as Robert J. Collier (the editor of then-popular Collier's Weekly magazine), William Jennings Bryan, and Samuel L. Clemens to preserve the national historic site. Said one supporter of the day, "the time will come when our posterity will regret the rain and decay of the old log cabin and the magnificent spring." Perhaps recognizing that, a total of more than 300,000 individuals submitted contributions to the cause. It is believed that the campaign was largely supported by school children donating their pennies and nickels. Remembering that early struggle, the park's two-day event included quilting, furniture-making, decoy carving, rail splitting, and blacksmithing. A local theatre group presented a one-act drama, and park rangers Susie Dickens and Jerry Sanders from Lincoln Boyhood NMem provided a costumed interpretive program including demonstrations of wool-spinning, candlemaking, butter churning and the making of gourd baskets.

## NPS People

### Rob Wallace: at home in the national park system



Rob Wallace still retains his residence in Wyoming, but his energy and Congressional know-how are presently centered right here in Washington, helping to make things work for the Park Service on Capitol Hill. As the new Assistant Director for Congressional Liaison and Legislative Services, he has been on the job for the last three months, dealing with issues as critical to the National Park Service as fees legislation or the establishment of Great Basin National Park.

"There are three functions that this office performs," he says. "First, we draft all the administrative legislation that affects the National Park Service; we also evaluate legislation written by members of Congress that pertains to us and prepare testimony for administration witnesses. Secondly, we play an active role in encouraging members to visit the parks. And lastly, we answer a tremendous volume of congressional mail that comes to the Director, Assistant Secretary, or the Secretary of the Interior. Taken together, these functions enable us to represent the National Park Service point of view on Capitol Hill and work issues of importance to us through Congress."

Having experience in the workings of private industry as well as public relations may go a long way toward helping him accomplish these three tasks. Of his private industry experience Wallace says it "enables me to better understand why Congressional members feel the way they do about different issues." Recognizing the importance of good communications, he also hopes to make his office "function

as an integral part of the Service's ability to communicate its message to members of Congress. If all groups understand the reasons why things are being done, it helps avoid public relations problems down the road."

In spite of Wallace's impressive Congressional background (he worked for some time as administrative and legislative assistant on the staff of Wyoming Senator Malcolm Wallop), his knowledge of Park Service affairs is, of course, still growing. "My greatest understanding is probably of western park issues, since that is my background, but I am quickly learning about battlefields and cultural programs and urban park issues, too."

Does he miss Wyoming?

"I like being able to look at the calendar and know that I will be back at Christmas," he replies.

But why Washington, D.C., if this tie to Wyoming remains so strong for him? Like so many NPS employees who eventually find themselves in Washington, there is a deep-rooted reason: "I can't think of another federal agency I would rather work for than the National Park Service. It's an agency with tremendous esprit de corps . . . And where else can you find an agency that represents all the cultural, historical values in the nation in such a great way?"

Part of Wallace's attraction to the Park Service may originate in his earlier seasonal days at Grand Tetons. "Those are some of the strongest memories I have," he observes. "And also some of the strongest friendships I have developed come from there. It is a great reference point to look back on. Certainly it's really the people in the field who do the job. They are the great salesmen for the Park Service. Because of them, visitors see that the NPS shield is a shield of quality."

According to Wallace, this dedication to the Service is not evidenced solely by NPS employees. Even the attitude in Congress is different that it was ten years ago, more positive, Wallace thinks.

"I think there has been a dramatic increase in the number of cultural and urban areas administered by the Service in the last decade. More and more, the NPS is becoming a known quantity to the people of the United States, and as the quality of people's experiences has remained high, this has created a stronger image of the Service and the job it does overall. That helps the entire system."

Certainly, if there is anything Wallace can do to see that this continues, he will!

## Who is Francis P. McManamon anyway? . . .

The fourth floor office of the Chief, Archeological Assistance Division, WASO, is sunny and book-lined. It is comfortable and unimposing, with that rushed, impulsive appearance that can be left by an occupant who has not quite gotten himself unpacked. In the corners there are boxes, piles of them, neatly stacked, waiting to be sorted through, and on the walls—perhaps for inspiration—crayoned portraits, in brilliant color and childish scrawl, of two young children, Adalie (6) and Kate (4).

At the desk, in the midst of it all, beams Frank McManamon. This smile from the new Archeological Assistance Division Chief is a sunny invocation for an assignment that comes with all the challenges he could ever want (for now) already built into it. Asked how long he has been on the job, he instinctively glances at his watch: "Almost two months . . . I had such a nice time here in 1984 I had to come back." A wry smile develops as he remembers his first experience with the archeology program at the national level. "Seriously," he adds, "I like the challenge of making things work."

From the beginning, the urge to be challenged seems to have directed McManamon's career. Graduating with his Masters from SUNY Binghamton in New York, he decided to see "if I could make a living doing archeology."

The idea was good in principle, but was it possible?

"I started out by writing to the places where my wife, Carol, and I thought it would be nice to live," he says. "I had always liked New England. So I wrote to the Massachusetts Historical Commission, among other places. They liked me and I liked them. March, 1976 I started as staff archeologist. It was a new position. I learned a lot about regulations and public agencies working for the Commission."

Those who are old hands at job-hunting may think good fortune of this sort only happens once in a lifetime, but obviously the story didn't stop with the historical commission. Not only did McManamon land a hard-to-find job in a desirable location, but within a year he had left his first job for a second, this time to work for the National Park Service as Regional Archeologist in the North Atlantic Regional Office. "The job was open to all sources," he explains. "Evidently no NPS archeologist wanted to work in Boston. It was fortunate for me the Service archeological corps felt that way."

Little by little, McManamon seemed to be proving that he could make a living doing archeology.

"But it wasn't all up to me," he continues. "I worked with some good people. In fact, I was fortunate that at first I worked for a very gentle supervisor, Ricardo Torres-Rey, who gave me a lot of responsibility right off the bat."

McManamon's glance has acquired a faraway quality, perhaps hovering somewhere in the vicinity of Boston. "Also my next supervisor in Boston, Associate Regional Director for Planning and Resource Preservation Charlie Clapper, is a very well-balanced person. He can see a multitude of perspectives. He always looked out for management but also for the resources. When the Division Chief job opened up in 1979, I applied, and was fortunate enough to be selected. So, I became the chief of the division as well as the regional archeologist."

What developed—because of several fortuitous events, McManamon asserts—was a pervasive preservation spirit in that region. "Dwight Pitcaithley came as regional historian and injected a philosophy of preservation that characterizes the office now. Jim Skelton provided expert direction on historical architecture, and Irene Duff kept all of us organized. Then Ed Kallop joined the staff. That was a real important thing too. Ed had developed an excellent curatorial program. Just having his program enhanced the whole division and made communications with park curators immeasurably easier."

What does McManamon think of Washington? It's a little too early to tell. With Carol, Addie, and Kate still living in Boston, waiting for the house to sell, and with him in Washington, waiting for the same thing, life has acquired a frenzied tinge. Nevertheless, he has already drafted a work plan for 1987, undertaken several crucial personnel actions, and gotten the report on the federal archeology program for FY85 underway. In addition, there is the National Archeological Data Base to see to, plus the personal contacts he has been making among his counterparts in other federal organizations, who will be contributing to the annual report. "After that, we plan to make recommendations to the Department on the kinds of programs we think need to be developed. These recommendations will be based on the information we receive from other agencies, so the accuracy of that information is very important."

McManamon's goal? "I'm not convinced, although our critics claim it's true, that Federal archeology is any worse than any other. A lot of good archeology



Francis P. McManamon and friend

is performed with public funds. Making the information from these projects available to the public in an accessible format is what we now have to do."

As Frank McManamon looks ahead to the next year, the challenges are certainly in evidence. But before that, before he tackles the real hard work of realizing these challenges, there is one more thing he has to do: a trip to Hawaii this fall with wife Carol and the two young artists whose work decorates his walls. "I need to get away from this solitary life and get back to a daily part of my family again."

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### PEOPLE ON THE MOVE

Frank J. Deckert, Chief of Interpretation for the Alaska Region, has been appointed Superintendent of Petersburg National Battlefield in Virginia. He replaces Glenn Clark who takes over Deckert's position in Alaska in an exchange of jobs. "Both will gain in experience from this exchange," said Mid-Atlantic Regional Director James W. Coleman Jr. "Deckert takes on his first park superintendency while Clark assumes an important planning job developing new parks in Alaska."

James W. Carrico, Superintendent of New River Gorge NR, has been named Superintendent of Big Bend NP. Carrico replaces Lusk who recently transferred to Glacier NP. At Big Bend, Carrico will be in charge of a 708,000-acre site, the largest NPS area in the six-state Southwest Region. "I'm looking forward to going to those wide open spaces and working with the staff at Big Bend and the friends of the park," Carrico said.

**Dean Einwalter**, no stranger to the North Country, has returned to become superintendent of Grand Portage NM near the Canadian border. Einwalter, a management assistant at Ozark National Scenic Riverways in southeast Missouri since 1980, said he was "thrilled with this opportunity because I've always loved the north woods and the Great Lakes states." He spent three of his teenage years as a fishing guide in northern Minnesota, and in 1971 was the first park ranger hired for Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore in Michigan.

When Mrs. Edward McPherson, daughter of Stephen Mather, visited Saint-Gaudens NHS with her husband two years ago, they met **Jim Barnett**,

then a seasonal ranger. Mr. and Mrs. McPherson were so impressed with Jim that, upon returning home, they sent him a copy of "Steve Mather of the National Parks" by Robert Sankland. Jim recently wrote Mrs. McPherson to tell her his good news—that he now has obtained the permanent position of Supervisory Park Ranger at Saint-Gaudens. When he first met the McPhersons, he felt his future with the Park Service was dim, and was considering seeking more steady employment. However, upon reading Mather's biography, he was inspired to keep trying a little while longer—and at last success—permanent employment. He adds "for me, it is a dream come true."

**Dottie Perks**, a 15-year NPS career

employee, has been selected as National Capital Region's budget officer. "We are going to be counting on Dottie's field experience and money management ability to get us through the really tight financial crisis the whole system now faces," said Regional Director Fish. Leaving park operations at National Capital Parks-Central was a tough decision, according to Dottie. "I truly enjoyed the hands-on experience of planting trees, planning park developments, and staging special events," she said. "But money is the greatest challenge now, and it's going to be tough. To me, the National Park Service represents the quality of the American people who depend on us to maintain its integrity."

## AWARDS

Ranger **Chris Calhoun** received a letter of commendation from Superintendent John Hutzky for his role in a rescue at Skinners Falls on July 26 where three people were pulled from the rapids in two separate incidents. Ralph Alicea and Jason Rivera were rescued when their canoe capsized during an unexpected cloudburst. Minutes later, Tom O'Leary was also rescued when his leg got stuck in a crevice of the rock formation known as "the fortress."

Rangers **Karen Boucher**, **Jerome Flood**, **Matthew Fulmer** and **Robert Gibbs** from Biscayne NP in Florida were recently presented with Department of Interior Exemplary Performance Awards for their outstanding performance of life-saving techniques. While working at the visitor center on Elliott Key, Ranger Karen Boucher was informed that a young woman had jumped into four feet of water in the bay and had not surfaced. Karen immediately called for assistance, then went down to the harbor, where she found the victim lying unconscious on the floor of the boat. Karen found no pulse or evidence of breathing and so started CPR, with the assistance of an unidentified visitor. Within minutes, the two were relieved by Rangers Flood, Fulmer, and Gibbs. The woman was transported to Mercy Hospital in Miami where she was stabilized.

**Nan Rickey** and **Larry Van Horn** have each received a Manager's Equal Opportunity Award for 1985, given annually by the Manager of the Denver Service Center. Rickey, Section Chief, Branch of Planning, Eastern Team, was recognized for her dedicated, innovative work as Chair of the Upward Mobility Subcommittee, Equal Opportunity Committee. Van Horn, Anthropologist, Branch of Planning, Western Team, was cited for his editorship of the Equal Opportunity



John Davis



Lyle Peterson



Gil Lusk

Newsletter, a publication that has "received compliments from the Director of the NPS on down throughout the Service."

**John Davis, Jr.**, Chief of Interpretation at Petersburg National Battlefield, received the Commander's Award for Public Service, presented by Maj. Gen. Eugene Stillions at Fort Lee, who cited Davis for "outstanding contributions to our Quartermaster School and to the national battlefield." He also added "We are close and good neighbors," even though "it took us awhile to get around to this," further observing that Davis has been leading tours of the battlefield and holding classes in cooperation with the U.S. Quartermaster Tactical and Historical School since 1983.

In a dockside surprise for Keweenaw employee **Lyle Peterson**, the NPS crane operator aboard the Ranger III received a special plaque from Isle Royale NP Superintendent Tom Hobbs and Captain Bert Nelson, commemorating 30 years of federal service. Peterson worked 13 years for the NPS and before that served on several lake boats for the Army Corps of Engineers.

Glacier NP's Superintendent **Gil Lusk** received a Meritorious Service Award

from Lorraine Mintzmyer, Rocky Mountain Regional Director. Lusk was recognized for his superior accomplishments in park management and public relations, having, among his many achievements, worked to develop good international relations with Mexico during his time as superintendent of Big Bend NP.

**William Guthrie "Cowboy" Brown**, Maintenance Work Leader at Guilford Courthouse NMP, was recently awarded his 30-year pin at a special ceremony. "Cowboy" is a third generation park employee and was born in his grandfather's house in the park. Brown's grandfather, William G. Brown (d. 1932), was grounds foreman when the park was administered by the War Department, and his father, Walter H. Brown, was also employed by that department and then by the NPS after the Reorganization Act of 1933.

The **Midwest Region** received the NPS Business and Economic Development Program Merit Citation for exceptional achievements and outstanding performance during fiscal year 1985. Charles E. Carlson, Regional Supervisory Contract Specialist, accepted the award on behalf of the region.

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Receiving the "Unsung Hero Award" were Regional Training Officer **Flo Six** and the Training Division for outstanding work on Orientation to NPS Operations at Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore last spring.

**Gerry Sader**, Accounting Technician in the Midwest Regional Office, received a handworked oak arrowhead from Regional Director Odegaard for winning the NPS Safety Logo Contest.

In recognition of his leadership and

service at Lincoln Home NHS, **Richard A. Lusardi**, the site's Chief of Maintenance, has received the 1985 Roy E. Appleman-Henry A. Judd Award. This award is given in appreciation of the contributions of career NPS employees who have demonstrated continuing commitment and competence in the field of cultural resources management. Mr. Lusardi's accomplishments have been many and varied. Under his direction, 15 major projects for preservation of historic buildings and restoration of the historic

scene were executed at Lincoln Home NHS in 1985. He also oversaw development and execution of several major contracts for preservation of historic structures. As a result of his efforts, a team from the Historic American Buildings Survey documented the architectural qualities of the site's five Lincoln-era buildings with photographs and measured drawings. His initiative in implementing these and other activities reflects the scope and quality of Mr. Lusardi's contributions to cultural resources management.

## RETIRED



*Frederick Lawrence Jessen*

**Frederick Lawrence Jessen**, long-time chief of the Branch of Equipment Services in the Audiovisual Division at Harpers Ferry Center, has retired. A native of North Dakota, he joined the NPS in 1970 after 17 years as a mechanical engineer with the Department of the Army, stationed at Fort Detrick, Frederick, MD. With the NPS, he was responsible for the design and installation of audiovisual equipment systems in scores of visitor centers and amphitheatres. He was also in charge of the very popular program that oversaw the maintenance and repair of AV equipment through the depot system, which included the Western Equipment Depot at Santa Fe, until it closed last year.

A temporary 30-day assignment at Independence NHP lasted 15 years and only ended when **Mary A. "Pat" Golin** retired May 30, 1986. Pat started her Federal service in 1972 as a secretary in the Maintenance Division, and beginning in 1981 handled the budget for the division of over 90 employees.

## DEATHS

**Edith Davenport Ogle**, of Sevierville, TN, died August 22. She is the mother of Jack Ogle, Deputy Director of the Southeast Region and sister of Ted Davenport, former Superintendent of Prince William Forest Park, Castillo de San Marcos National Monument and Ozark National Scenic Riverways. Jack Ogle's address is 3280 Squire Lane, Conyers, GA 30208; Ted Davenport's address is Route 1, Box 71, Gatlinburg, TN 37738.

**Floyd B. Taylor** of Midlothian, Virginia, died June 17, 1986. Floyd, a 1931 graduate of William & Mary College, started his career with the Park Service July 1933, as an historical assistant at the Richmond Battlefield Park, prior to the establishment of this area as a unit of the NPS. He later returned to become the first superintendent of the Richmond National Battlefield Park. Floyd served as superintendent at Petersburg National Battlefield and Shiloh National Military Park. His greatest responsibility came in 1965, when he was named superintendent of Prince William Forest Park, George Washington Memorial Parkway, Custis Lee Mansion, the Netherland Carillon, the US Marine Corps War Memorial, Chesapeake and Ohio Canal, Great Falls Park, and Theodore Roosevelt Island. In 1970, Floyd Taylor received the Interior Department's Meritorious Service Award. At the time of his retirement, June 1972, he was a Landmarks Specialist, based in New York City. Surviving are his wife, Edith Brown Taylor (407 Rossmere Drive, Midlothian, VA 23113-3091), two sons, and two stepdaughters. Amos Hawkins, now an NPS superintendent in Pennsylvania, drove through the night to attend Floyd's funeral in the uniform he said Floyd had taught him early in his career to wear with pride and dignity. The family suggests any remembrances be sent to Huguenot Road United Methodist Church, 10661 Duryea Drive, Richmond, Virginia 23235, where Floyd worshipped.



*Al Kouris*



*Carl H. Gerlach*

**Evangelos "Al" Kouris**, 59, died of a heart attack in Denver on June 24. Coming from the Martin Marietta Aerospace Corporation and then the U.S. Department of Defense at Lowry Air Force Base, Al joined the NPS in 1977 at the Denver Service Center (DSC). He spent his entire NPS career at the DSC, Branch of Design, Western Team, specializing in writing manuals for operations and maintenance. He developed the format and standards for all operations and maintenance manuals produced by the DSC. Al enjoyed golf, having participated in several NPS tournaments, and was an avid hunter and fisherman. He is survived by his wife, Joanne, three daughters, a sister, and a brother.

**Carl H. Gelach**, 73, of Savannah, GA, died July 3, 1986 after a long illness. A native of Danville, Kentucky, he retired from Fort Pulaski NM in 1981 after a 23-year career in administration and interpretation. Carl provided friendly and informative guided tours to thousands of visitors and also contributed to successful Eastern National Park and Monument operations in the park. Carl was a leader in veterans affairs in the Savannah area, serving as Commander of the American Legion and the Veterans of Foreign Wars. He was elected "Veteran of the Year" in 1972. Surviving are his wife, Mrs. Camile Boushelle Gerlach, 2107 East 57th Street, Savannah, GA 31404; two sisters; one brother; and several nieces and nephews.

**Clyde E. Quick**, former principal of the Chowchilla Union High School, passed away on July 26, 1986, one day prior to his 75th birthday. He retired in 1973 as a back country ranger after 29 seasons in Yosemite NP. Quick became a legend in his own time as an NPS ranger in Yosemite for his training ability, his dedication to the job, and his knack for lightening the processes of government. He was honored at his memorial service by a delegation of rangers in "full uniform" whom he had worked with and who came from all over the state to pay him tribute. Quick was active in Chowchilla community affairs, and for 20 years was a newspaper reporter for the Fresno Bee. Besides his wife, Arthayda, 270 Hames Rd #66, Watsonville, CA 95076, he is survived by his son and two grandchildren.

**Leon A. Froats**, a site supervisor at Vanderbilt Mansion in Hyde Park until his retirement in 1979, died Monday, August 11, in Poughkeepsie, NY. Born in Aultsburg, Ontario, Canada, he was past president of the Hyde Park Historical Society and a member of various other local and national organizations. He is survived by his wife, Mary, two brothers, two sisters, and several nieces and nephews.

Maryland lost one of its most outstanding citizens and public servants recently, said Senator Paul Sarbanes, with the death of **Fred L. Eskew**, assistant secretary of the Maryland Department of Natural Resources. It was Fred Eskew more than any single person in the State of Maryland who was responsible for the development of Maryland's Open Space Program, one of the most successful and innovative State grants-in-aid programs in the United States. Program Open Spaces has assisted the purchase and development of more than 2,200 local parks and recreation areas in every Maryland county and town. It has also provided more than 90,000 acres of State natural resource lands and parks to the State of Maryland. Dr. Torrey C. Brown, Secretary of the Department of Natural Resources, remarked: "Fred Eskew was a respected public park and recreational professional leader and is remembered for his calm and determined efforts. His efforts have contributed toward a marked improvement in the quality of life throughout the State of Maryland for all its citizens, both now and in the future."

**Thomas W. Morse**, 80, of Charlotte, NC, a retired superintendent of Cape Lookout National Seashore, died July 4. He served as Cape Lookout's first superintendent from July 1967 to January 1969.

**Mervin A. Cross**, 63, a realty specialist in the Mid-Atlantic Regional Office who negotiated the purchase of lands for several national park areas including Yosemite, Gettysburg, and Valley Forge, died July 4 at West Jersey Hospital in Voorhees, NJ. A hearty, friendly man with a big smile, Merv attended the University of Washington, after which he entered his father's real estate business, which he left in 1959 to become a real estate appraiser for Alaska's Division of Highways. In 1969 he joined the NPS as a realty specialist in the Washington, DC Planning and Service Center. Transferring to Yosemite in 1970, he negotiated the purchase of 57 properties in Wawona Village, an inholding in the park. Later in Gettysburg, he purchased a number of inholding properties that enabled the park to restore part of the original battlefield scene. Recently, he also negotiated the purchase of several significant tracts on the northside of Schuylkill River, thus preserving the historic view at Valley

Forge NHP. Colleagues remember that Cross collected pencils from places he visited but that he never used a pencil sharpener. He insisted on sharpening his pencils to a fine point using his own pocket knife. Cross leaves his wife Hazel, 127 McIntosh Road, Cherry Hill, NJ 08003, and two sons.

**Milton Swatek**, 74, an NPS architect who retired in 1975, died at his home in Melbourne, FL on May 28. Graduating from Oklahoma State University with a degree in architecture and the prestigious Beaux Aux bronze medal, Milton joined the Park Service in Santa Fe, NM, in 1937. He leaves his widow, Merle, 153 Augusta Way, Melbourne, FL 32940 (who served as secretary to former Southwest Regional Director Tillotson), his son, and his mother. Donations may be made to Hospice Organization, Holmes Regional Medical Center, 1350 S. Hickory St., Melbourne, FL 32901; or to the American Cancer Society, 478 Ballard Drive, Melbourne, FL 32935.

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## **E&AA news and notes**

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### **Founders Day 1986**

John Vosburg

As the years slip by, the annual Founders Day Dinner commemorating the establishment of the National Park Service seems to increase in significance. This was true of the 70th Anniversary observance on August 25, largely because the last of the NPS founding fathers, Horace M. Albright, is 96 years old.

Horace Albright, who always communicates with the Founders Day Dinner sponsored by the 1916 Society of the Employees and Alumni Association, this year sent a typed note from this California home. Director William Penn Mott, Jr. read the message to his 159 listeners before giving them a stirring report at the National Geographic Society membership center building near Gaithersburg, MD.

"Of course," Mott read from Albright's typed note, "I wish I could be with you at the dinner commemorating the 70th anniversary of the National Park Service. I'll try to celebrate with you . . . in 1991 if you'll come to my 100th birthday party in 1990 when we'll all honor the creation of Yosemite and Sequoia National Parks."

As Mott read, flocks of resident wild Canada geese wheeled and circled in the gathering dusk, clearly visible through the towering windows that comprise the west wall of the banquet room. The beauty of

the birds' flight against the summer sky and the attractiveness of the building was an appropriate reminder of the natural and cultural values preserved by the national park system. Men and women like Albright and Mott and former Directors Conrad L. Wirth and George B. Hartzog, Jr., who also spoke, have maintained those values.

Hartzog, the genial master of ceremonies, announced that Wirth, Director from 1951 to 1964, is moving in October from his Kensington, MD home to P.O. Box 480, New Lebanon, NY, 12125. Wirth, 86, said that his wife Helen and he will be living 200 feet from the home of their son Pete, a former military pilot and now owner of a computer business. Wirth, longest serving (12 yr. 1 mo) of any of the 12 NPS Directors, received a standing ovation, led by Hartzog at the conclusion of the "minimum three minutes or maximum 5 minutes" Hartzog allowed him at the microphone.

Mott then addressed the gathering, observing he had read in the Washington Post that morale was low in agencies such as the U.S. Customs Service.

"In the National Park Service just the reverse is true," he said. "Our personnel are excited about the tremendous opportunities and the challenges they have and they are doing an outstanding job."

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Dr. Ernest Connally and Regional Director Jim Coleman



Conrad Wirth, William Penn Mott, Jr., and George Hartzog



Denis Galvin, his wife Martha, and Ray Freeman

As part of that outstanding job, Mott predicted that three major pieces of NPS legislation would go forward in Congress at least by the next session: a fee schedule; a Tall Grass Prairie National Park proposal; and a program "to set aside a natural wild river system, a total river." Of the fee schedule, he said Rep. Morris Udall, chairman of the House Interior Committee, "has joined in with others in supporting that program and the only question now is whether the cap on the fee will be \$10 or \$7.50." He said that the new legislation would allow Volunteers-In-the-Parks (VIPs) to collect fees. They presently cannot do so. Mott also said the river system ultimately will be selected from a list of about nine rivers.

The Director was also concerned about the belief in the field that concessionaires would soon be operating park campgrounds: "We are *not* going to turn over campgrounds to concessionaires to operate. Some of them will be operated by concessionaires where it is feasible for that to happen, primarily in campgrounds where we have a concession operation next to a small campground that it would be much more logical for the concessionaire to operate. But our major campgrounds throughout the

system will be operated by the National Park Service because that is where we can make contacts, that's where we make friends, and I think we do an outstanding job in this regard."

Finally, Mott cited the latest developments in establishing a Horace Albright Fund which he proposed last year. He said that through the generosity of Laurance S. Rockefeller, the Rockefeller Foundation, and other sources, it now appears that possibly \$2 million might be available soon for "a significant beginning" of the Horace Albright Fund program.

Following the Director's remarks, Hartzog asked for a round of applause for everyone in the room, just to make sure no one had been forgotten and that he wouldn't be held responsible for any slip-ups. His request was generously fulfilled. Applause was given, in conjunction with a bit of regret that the evening was over. However, as the license plates from Colorado and Florida and Pennsylvania started to disappear into the darkness it was also with a degree of optimism from the celebrants that they would be renewing old friendships and once again seeing the Canada geese at Founders Day next year.

### Also at Founders Day

E&AA is pleased to advise that Terry Wood and Maureen Hoffman, who were ably assisted by Peggy Harris and Lucille Peacock, earned \$446 for the Education Trust Fund from the Silent Auction table. Once again, the Silent Auction had many 'treasures' of interest to those present, among them generous donations from Connie and Helen Wirth, John and Julia Reshoft, Barbara Stewart, Bob Cunningham, Marcia Krafzur, Jim Murfin, and Terry Wood. Also, Margaret Davis, NCR employee rep, launched the raffle for Redskin Tickets. Through the generosity of Burnice Kearney and Dottie Benton of National Capital Parks-East, and Margaret Davis, the E&AA raffled two free tickets to three Redskin home games, plus three chances for dinner for two at one of the area's finest restaurants. The drawing for the lucky winners was held in early October.

## Ghostly Trivia

(Editor's Note: This month's trivia courtesy of Priscilla Baker.)

1. Where has Abraham Lincoln appeared most often in recent years?
2. Name an area in the system that is haunted by a headless ghost.
3. Which park has ghosts that speak Chinese?

4. Who is the oldest ghost in the system?
5. Which park has a ghost that rides her horse through the area every seven years?
6. Name the park where a frisky ghost has locked a ranger into the tower of a lighthouse.
7. Ghosts have suggested new avenues for research in which park?

8. In which park is the ghost searching for inebriated soldiers?
9. In the past, some parks developed interpretive programs around their ghosts. Name one park.
10. Name the NPS-managed site in which the resident ghost tries to push women down the stairs.

(Trivia answers on pg. 42)

## Chats With Madame G...

...Or Adventures In E&AA!!



*Madame  
Galivant*

Don't faint, darlings, but the Madame just *happened* to overhear a revealing little *tete-a-tete* the other day. "It's the fall of the year," her unknown party remarked, as if such seasonal recognition could explain the long and the short of just about everything.

And so it is the fall, and maybe that fact does explain more than the Madame would ordinarily expect it to. Why I'm sure it accounts for all those headaches the Madame has been "blessed" with lately, and the flashes of revelation in the middle of the night—you know, the sort of thing where you wake with a start, suddenly, painfully aware of the true color of Mrs. B's hair. Whoever would have thought that your very own Madame G would become the beneficiary of such telepathic emanations. Oh, darlings, I have *prayed* for such a gift.

One such lad who seems to be psychically endowed is the Service's own **George B. Hartzog**. As master of ceremonies for the 1986 Founder's Day dinner, he left no foible unrecounted, and that included his own. "I've got my bride's two children praying for me in the far West," he blustered, "so I don't have to worry much about *that* any more"—this bit of information before he led the closing benediction . . . Ah, George, just the proper touch!

Like many others, **Paul Pritchard** of NPCA couldn't escape the Hartzog eye: "I must say there was a time in my career when I wouldn't have introduced *that* staff," Hartzog observed, "but things do change over time." He didn't overlook **Jack Fish** either—"I noticed that **Don Castleberry** and **Jim Coleman** are down from the Mid-Atlantic Region," said Hartzog, "probably to check up on how Fish gets away with all that money." And poor **Tom Flynn** . . . "He's about as successful at dodging me now as he was dodging paperwork back when he working for me"; the rapier wit went snip, snip, snip, though when Hartzog described Flynn's "relaxed" youthful appearance as the product of avoiding work, someone piped up on Flynn's behalf: "Now you know he's always been a handsome man."

Not even Director Mott escaped a revealing word or two: "He was the guy Nixon offered my job to back in '69. I'm glad he didn't take it," exclaimed the master of ceremonies. (Madame G better watch out. With competition like George B., she might find *him* being offered *her* job.)

But that wasn't *all* the Founder's Day news, not by any stretch of Madame's psychically-enhanced imagination. Ah darlings, some of the participants even told a jolly tale or two on *themselves*. **Dr. Ernest Connally** favored a few individuals with a recitation of his wife's experience with an evangelical. Failing to interest the lady of the house in her proposals, this woman couldn't resist inquiring after the good doctor also. "And does he believe in life after death," she asked. Quick as a wink, Mrs. Connally answered: "He doesn't even believe in life after dinner."

Well now, since *I* know *I* am in the mood for telling tales, here's an infamous little ditty I simply *have* to tell on the Chief Historian. Now *I* would certainly not be the one to verify whether it's true or not; all I can say is that you must consider the source, darlings, you must consider the source (and what kind of a gossip would I be if I revealed *that*). Anyway . . . Seems that the secretaries in the division of dapper Chief Historian **Ed Bearss** took it upon themselves to clean up some of the free-wheeling language they were forced to listen to day after day. So what did they do. . . They set up a money jar and levied fines based on the vulgarity of the words heard emanating from the Chief Historian's lips. Has it cured the problem? Well, the Chief Historian's pockets don't jingle the way they used to. Last *I* heard, the poor man was asking for a loan from **Barry Mackintosh**.

One last little item and then I'm done. **Frances Reynolds** has a talent worthy of a Stephen King novel. Is it only coincidence that right after Frances leaves a place it burns to the ground? Why do I ask, you wonder? Well, she took a cruise ship to Alaska—it burned shortly thereafter; she visited the MGM Grand—that, too,

burned, including the very floor her room was on; she toured the home of FDR, and that went up in flames. Finally, her very own car caught fire on the way back from the Grand Canyon. Ah Frances, do the parapsychologists know about you?

Well dears, I really *must* stop myself now. If I don't, well, there's no telling what I might even psychically intuit about *you*.

**FYI**

## Challenges are fresh for Federal Women's Program

A total of 21 park Federal Women's Program (FWP) Coordinators gathered this year on the George Washington Memorial Parkway in Alexandria, Virginia, for a rapid-paced, one-day refresher training program sponsored by National Capital Region's Federal Women's Program. The course covered the type of counseling problems that come through the doors of the Equal Opportunity Office, as well as the skills required to handle them by the FWP Coordinator. Participants included individuals from park offices, FWP coordinators from the National Capital and Mid-Atlantic Regions, EO managers and specialists, the US Park Police, and personnel from the local Denver Service Center-Northeast Team.

Colleen A. Spicka, Regional Manager, Federal Women's Program for NCR outlined the training goals:

- to gain a fresh vision of the Federal Women's Program—its origins, mission and challenges for today;
- to gain an update on vital employment issues in personnel and administration; to achieve more effective communication skills; and
- to become informed, to network, to be encouraged for the task ahead in serving the women of NCR and to work with management to accomplish goals.

Sharon Stromberg, Office of Personnel Management in Washington, D.C., covered the history, status, and challenge of the FWP. Program cutbacks and the training dilemma also were discussed. She stated: "We should become more mission-, not just individual-oriented. Make your opportunity happen. If you are not enthusiastic about your job, who will be?"

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Laura Woodson, Training Officer for NCR, stressed that preparation and planning are the key to success. She suggested that employees take inventory, identify problems in their career path, solve them, and move on. The use of Individual Development Plans (IDPs) was highlighted, and she urged us to consider the NPS mission in our planning. It is the employee's responsibility to plan and meet with the supervisor on IDP goals, and to attend the training approved. IDPs should be kept current, and renegotiated with supervisors as new needs arise. Ms. Woodson concluded with a quote from

American author and lecturer Helen Keller, "One should never consent to creep when one has the impulse to soar."

A question and answer segment covered panelists' own career development paths, and answered issues on the theme "making it work together."

Overall, the FWP refresher focused on the need for sensitivity to employee problems and to the available resources for resolving them. Employees must be aware of their responsibilities and promote their agency's missions, but managers must also be mindful of their own responsibilities to pursue a diverse and representative workforce, while endeavoring to steer the NPS through the waves of coming challenges.



(L to R) Ester Toms, FWPC, Catoctin MP; Sharon Stromberg, Special Assistant, OPM FWP; Peggy Harris, FWPC, DSC; (standing rear) Mary Ratliff and Michelle Proce, George Washington Memorial Parkway

## New Federal Employees Retirement Plan

Laurie McKnight  
Employee Relations Specialist  
WASO

On June 6, 1986, President Reagan signed legislation which established the new Federal Employees' Retirement System (FERS), to be supplemented both by Social Security and an optional tax-deferred savings plan. The effective date of FERS is January 1, 1987. The system covers all new permanent federal employees hired after December 31, 1983. Another group of employees automatically covered are those who were hired after December 31, 1983, AND who are now subject to full Social Security, with less than 5 years of previous service under the Civil Service Retirement System (CSRS).

Other employees not automatically covered by FERS (those currently under CSRS and those hired after December 31, 1983, AND subject to full Social Security, with more than 5 years of previous service under CSRS) will have a one-time opportunity to transfer into FERS beginning July 1, 1987 and ending December 31, 1987. Once a decision is made, however, it cannot be changed. Note: Congress is currently considering changing the July 1 date to an earlier date, but no action has been taken as of September 1986. Information will be provided to all employees in order to assist them in making an informed decision on whether or not to transfer into FERS.

FERS is a three-tiered retirement plan made up of the following parts:

- Social Security—FERS employees get full benefits the same as employees in the private sector.

- Basic Annuity Plan—The annuity is computed using 1% of the employees' "high-3" average pay X the years of service. If the employee retires after age 62 and has 20 or more years of service, the factor increases to 1.1% of the "high-3."
- Thrift Savings Plan—The agency automatically contributes 1% of pay into each employee's Thrift Savings account, even if the employee contributes nothing. Employees may contribute up to 10% of pay with the agency matching as follows:

First 3% of pay . . . . \$1.00 per \$1.00  
 Next 2% of pay . . . . \$ .50 per \$1.00  
 Next 5% of pay . . . . No match

One component of FERS is that employees will (continue to) pay the full Social Security tax, (taxes are 7.15% for 1986-87; 7.51% for 1988-89; and 7.65% for 1990), but their contributions to FERS will gradually decrease from 1.3% in 1986 and 1987 to .8% after 1989.

Another component of FERS is that employees under this system will be able to retire with unreduced benefits at age 62 with 5 years of service, OR at age 60 with 20 years of service, OR at a "minimum retirement age" with 30 years of service. This "minimum retirement age" will vary depending on the employee's date of birth. Those born before 1948 can retire at age 55. The requirement age will gradually rise so that those born after 1970 will be eligible for optional retirement at age 57.

An employee can also elect to retire at the "minimum retirement age" with as little as 10 years of service; however, his/her annuity will be reduced by 5% per year for every year the employee is under age 62.

No cost-of-living (COLA) adjustments will be given for retirees under age 62 (except for disability and survivor annuities). After age 62, retirees will be given a COLA based on the Consumer Price Index.

### Thrift Savings Plan

The optional Thrift Savings Plan is the third-tier of this new retirement system. An account will be opened for each eligible employee, and the federal government will automatically contribute an amount equal to one percent of the employee's basic pay into that account. The employee can make contributions of up to 10% of basic pay to his/her account. The government matches those contributions as outlined previously, for a maximum government contribution of 5% of basic pay. These contributions are tax-deferred until withdrawn when the employee retires or leaves federal service.

Under the Thrift Savings Plan, employees can elect to put their contributions into government securities, fixed-income securities, or common stock. A special five-member board, appointed by the President, will manage the investment funds. An opportunity for enrollment into the Plan will occur every six months so that employees may (1) elect to make contributions, (2) change the amount previously designated for contributions, or (3) terminate contributions. The Board, once established, will provide more information on this system.

### Thrift Plan for CSRS employees

Even if an employee presently covered by CSRS should decide not to change to FERS, he/she can still contribute up to 5% of basic pay to the Thrift Savings Plan; however, the government will not

match any of those contributions. The tax-deferred provisions previously mentioned will still apply to the employee's contributions.

**Employees need to keep several points in mind:**

(1) The new law does not go into effect until January 1, 1987;

(2) The law is long and complicated. OPM and the Thrift Savings Board will be providing more information as they

establish guidelines for these new systems;

(3) All employees will be provided more specific information, as it is available, as to how this legislation may affect them. More information will also be provided to those employees who will need to decide whether to change from CSRS to FERS.

Servicing personnel offices will be available to answer employee questions once they receive the necessary information.

available today may suddenly be vacant next week.

3. Now you know where you want to live and you have found a vacancy that is open to all applicants. (Remember our column about status versus non-status candidates. "Status only" means only those applicants who are currently on-board in career or career-conditional appointments, or a former federal employee with reinstatement eligibility.) Now what? The next step is to register for your chosen occupation with the OPM Area Office that serves your chosen city. If you are a biologist, you apply to the biologist register; an architect, the architect register, etc. Some registers like Mid-level (covering grades 9 to 12) can be used for a variety of occupations and are open continuously. Other registers like secretary and architect are only open for brief periods during the year or when there is a need to replenish the applicant pool. Your best bet is to call the OPM office and ask for the status of their register as well as any filing materials that you may need.

If, by chance, you are that rare soul who really will "go anywhere," then you must apply to each OPM Area Office separately. By this I mean that if you want to be considered for positions in Washington, DC, you must apply to the Washington OPM office. If you wish to be considered for positions in Denver, then you must apply to the Denver office of OPM, and so on. That's why making your mind up first about where you want to live makes it a lot easier, and less time-consuming and costly to apply for positions.

If you'd like further information about applying to other federal agencies or to the OPM registers, contact your friendly personnel office or write to me at the *Courier*; we'd be happy to help.

Well, the above gave Bill some things to think about. Hope it does the same for you. By the way, Bill's field was zoology—looking around at my desk, I told him he'd fit right in!!

Have a great day!



**Regulations**

## The Personnel Side

Terrie Fajardo

Hi there!

The fellow sitting in front of me looked beaten, like he had walked every inch of the 10 square miles of Washington. "I'm a temporary employee with Army," he said, "and you're the eighth Personnel Office I've visited today. Do you have any positions I qualify for?" I asked him his name and if he had an SF-171. Handing me his form, he said his name was Bill.

The most discouraging thing for Bill or any other applicant is the apparent "floundering in the dark" they go through to find out what jobs are available, how they go about applying, and how they get on the proper OPM register so that they can be considered. The following points I discussed with Bill can readily apply to our own seasonal/temporary employees looking for permanent positions or to our permanent staff who are looking to make a change.

1. Frequently when applicants visit, they say in essence: "What do you have? I'll go anywhere!" I know and they know that they really don't mean that. Each individual has definite ideas about city versus country life. What they need to decide first is what part of the country they wish to live in that goes with their occupational goals. That decision dictates what agencies they may apply to. Generally, federal agencies do not have offices in every state. So if it is a particular agency you're after, you may have to consider regional areas of the country as opposed to specific cities. Naturally, some

types of occupations may be better suited to one part of the country than another; so this, too, must enter into the planning process.

2. Once you decide where you want to go, then the task begins: "Hi ho, hi ho, to find a job I go." There is no "complete" listing of all federal jobs open in every federal agency at any given time—in other words, no "one-stop shopping." Most OPM Job Information Centers nationwide maintain bulletin boards or listings of any agency vacancy announcements sent to them. Additionally, many state employment offices receive job vacancy announcements. Unfortunately, neither of these sources cover everything. Even our own "Pink Sheet" may not contain every opening throughout NPS. There is a private company that publishes a bi-weekly periodical called the *Federal Research Service* that does list many position openings throughout the country. They secure the information by visiting, calling, or getting on the mailing list for most of the major agencies. But even this listing is not complete and should not be used as the only source of job opening information. The best way to learn of current vacancies is to contact the agency directly, either by telephone, letter, or, if feasible, personal visit. Remember to contact the personnel office, not just someone you know in the agency who happens to be in the same line of work you're looking for. Be persistent. What may not be

## "I didn't realize . . ."

*Scenario: A policeman pulls a motorist over for doing 55mph in a 35mph zone. The motorist, dumbfounded, explains, "Officer, I didn't realize . . . I thought the speed limit was 55 here." The policeman just smiles, as he proceeds to write the motorist up for speeding.*

In this instance as well as many others in our lives, "not realizing" is an unacceptable excuse for committing an infraction. This premise is no less true with regard to being unaware of your responsibilities and role as a Federal employee.

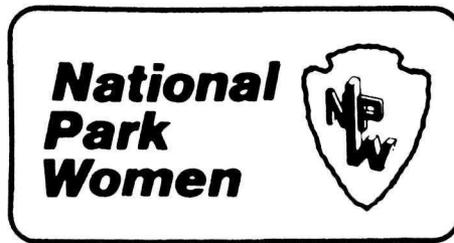
If, by chance, you are considering moonlighting; establishing a home business in an NPS housing unit; becoming actively involved in local community affairs; participating in political campaigns; or pursuing any other sort of activity that might be in conflict or be construed to be in conflict with your position, please take the time to find out if your actions comply with existing Departmental and National Park Service policies and regulations. As an employee, it is your responsibility to know.

A good place to start to learn whether your actions are in compliance or not is with a copy of the Department of the Interior Regulations on Employee Responsibilities and Conduct (43 CFR, Parts 1 through 7). If your concerns don't appear to be addressed or you are unable to locate material covering the subject you are interested in, don't stop there! Keep looking and contact your Ethics Counselor for additional guidance. The key here is to be informed. Know what you are getting into. Whatever you do, don't get yourself caught in the position of having to say, "I didn't realize . . ."

## Trivia Answers

(From pg. 38).

1. The White House
2. Fort McHenry NM and Saratoga NHP are two.
3. Golden Spike NHS
4. Fernando de Velasco, a Fransiscan friar assigned to Pecos and killed in 1680.
5. Fort Laramie NHS
6. Apostle Islands NL
7. Eisenhower NHS
8. Fort Pulaski NM
9. Harpers Ferry NHP and Fort McHenry NM are two examples.
10. The Old Stone House in Washington, D.C.



## A special thank-you

This is in praise of the spouses and children of the families of employees who live on Liberty Island. I suspect that when the Moffitts first moved to Liberty Island in 1977 they were unaware they would find their yard torn up, visitors cut off, and their lives so totally disrupted with the restoration of the Statue of Liberty. However, they have survived. Many families have had to endure some kind of hardship during their experience in the National Park Service; however this was a special circumstance and these particular families should be given a special thank you.

So here's to Carolyn Moffitt and her daughter Andrea, and to Kathy DeHart, Dawn Lippert, and Christine Hoeffner. You each have had a unique experience and have more than upheld the tradition of National Park Women.

—Kathleen A. Brown, Chairman  
National Park Women, NARO

## Books

*Of Bears and Men.* By Mike Cramond. (Norman, Oklahoma: the University of Oklahoma Press, 1986. 429p.; illustrations by Liza Calvert, index. \$29.95.)

"Have you ever had to kill a bear?" The famed outdoor writer Mike Cramond often asked that question of hunters, naturalists, and bear-attack victims as he crisscrossed North America interviewing people whose lives, like his own, have been changed by bears. Cramond's intent is to temper the views of the average person, who sees bears only in misleading advertisements and TV shows that produce a false sense of security.

To help us understand why bears kill, Cramond intersperses among his real-life interviews fictional episodes from the lives of three animals representative of their species—a female black bear, a young male polar bear, and an orphaned grizzly that feeds on carrion.

The author also explains the very slow reproductive cycle, which helps explain

the endangered status of the grizzly; the hunger that awakens them in the spring and impels them throughout their lives; and the terrific territoriality that is as strong in bears as any sex drive.

Cramond talked with hunters, naturalists and bear-attack victims. Among the experiences of these people, told mostly in their own words, are Ed Wiseman, who wrestled the last recorded grizzly in Colorado and stabbed it to death with a steel-tipped arrow; Karen Austrom, the young student naturalist who lost an arm to a black bear while patrolling a nature walk in a park in Canada; and Thomas Mutanen, who competed with polar bears at garbage cans in an urban area—and lost.

Besides the victims, people who have worked closely with bears give their personal testimony, including men such as Dr. Lynn Rogers of Ely, Minnesota, and Stan Price of Admiralty Island, Alaska. Equally captivating are the author's tales of his own encounters with bears during three-quarters of the 20th Century.

Cramond says that after 66 years with all kinds of wildlife in their own habitats, observing their activities and trying to understand them, he has learned that camping in the wilds at any time is deliberately exposing oneself to attack by bears.

The author reviewed voluminous files of documents and interviewed a score of officials about the maulings and killings at Glacier National Park during the 1980 summer camping season. He quotes from his reading: "The criteria used for deciding on whether to destroy bears is contained in the Bear Management Plan. Using this criteria, 15 grizzly bears have been killed since 1967. Seven of these bears were killed by the National Park Service as a direct result of fatal bear maulings. During the same period a much larger number of grizzly bears were killed on the periphery of Glacier (hunting, accidents, depredation, and illegal kills)."

And from another official in the investigation, "Most of us believe we have the right to enter wild lands and enjoy them just as much as the natural denizens do. How, then, can we best prepare to meet a potentially dangerous wild animal? That question has been considered well in our national parks: there we are not allowed to carry guns. Neither a knife nor an axe is adequate against an attacking bear—and, in fact, guns have also failed."

Cramond discusses various repellants such as Capsarsin, Halt, and gasses—mace and tear gas. He writes that one of the concepts he wanted to explore was a statement allegedly made by a park ranger that "the bear had intended to eat the girl." This was hotly denied by officials. The author explains that it was his

intent to determine whether there is a tendency among some bears to devour their victims immediately and a tendency among other attacking bears to maul their victims into submission and then leave. He said he was pursuing this, not because he wanted to give his readers a cheap thrill. Rather, by convincing readers that bears—like sharks—do eat people, "I hoped, among other things to deter some of the foolishness with which park employees have to contend—such as a woman wishing to spread jam on a child's face or hands so that a bear could lick it off for a photograph."

Although it was categorically stated that there was no indication the bear intended to devour the child—they said her injuries were from biting and severe mauling—Cramond disagrees. And he quotes from another interviewee who was attacked, "She (the bear) was eating my arm!" And the young naturalist who lost her arm, continued "I think park bears are more dangerous, because they become used to people who actually feed them around the campsite. It doesn't matter what you give them to read in the way of pamphlets, the warnings don't seem to make any impression. There just isn't anything anyone can do that will definitely prevent an attack from this most unpredictable of all wild animals—an enraged bear," she said.

"That's right, bears have not changed," says Cramond, "they still present a challenge to man."

—Naomi L. Hunt

*Choosing A Microcomputer for Parks and Recreation Administration* by Irmgard G. Schubert and Robert W. Douglass. (Published by Publishing Horizons, Incorporated, 2950 North High Street, P.O. Box 02190, Columbus, Ohio 43202, (614) 261-6565. Cost \$8.95.)

This book which has an interesting title, may seem to be the ultimate answer for park staff wishing to purchase a microcomputer. However, while it has many worksheets to fill out, the amount of information in this book is as skimpy as its size, a mere sixty-four pages.

Shubert and Douglass utilize worksheets to help park personnel decide what their computer needs are; however, while many useful questions are asked, the authors often fail to explain the feature as well as its benefits. In addition, after filling out all these worksheets, thirty-one pages in all, the user will still not know which computer to buy, as a decision tree is not provided. Where there is advice, such as to purchase two disk drives, there is not enough information presented, i.e. what type of disk drive to purchase.

In summary, this book does ask some useful questions about a user's needs; however, neither any information is provided to help fill out the worksheets nor are any conclusions drawn. At best, this book may be viewed as an additional source of ideas when buying a computer, rather than a definitive source of information.

—Lee Castellion  
Electronics Engineer  
Operations Engineering, DSC

## TV spots score 88% approval

WASO's "Take Pride in America" television spots are receiving generous play on commercial stations throughout the nation. "Report card" user-replies from 51 stations have been logged by WASO's Office of Public Affairs (OPA). Of those stations reporting, 12 TV outlets said they would not run the spots; 45 wrote they would use the Public Service Announcements (PSAs) during outdoor season, 1986. Several of those stated they would air the PSAs in future seasons, also. Unless OPAs \$6.95 hand-held calculator is—literally—on the blink . . . the station acceptance figure runs a positive 88 percent affirmative. The three PSAs were forwarded to a total of 200 commercial stations, generally in the Top 50 Markets.

## Letter

To the Editor:

We didn't want to leave Buffalo National River without first letting you know how much we appreciate your personnel. Everyone here was so friendly—the host and hostess, the volunteers who clean up (in particular, Ace, who took the time to point out the best camping sites and later helped me clean up after the storm), and, above all, the super rangers. Myra is so informative (and nice too!). The night of the storm she even came to check on me. Now tell me she gets paid to do that! She shared a lot of information with us also, and presented it all in a very organized, concise manner. Then, there's Sandy who is equally as sweet and informative. And Rick shared much knowledge of the geology and river with us.

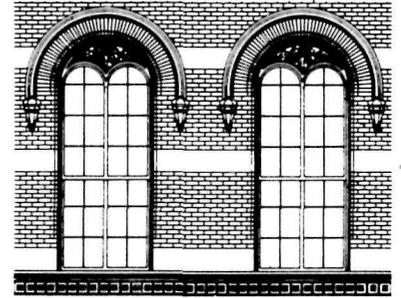
We leave this park with a lot of appreciation of the land and park life here—plus a warm feeling about the

wonderful park rangers who work at this park. How lucky we are!

—Barb Woollett

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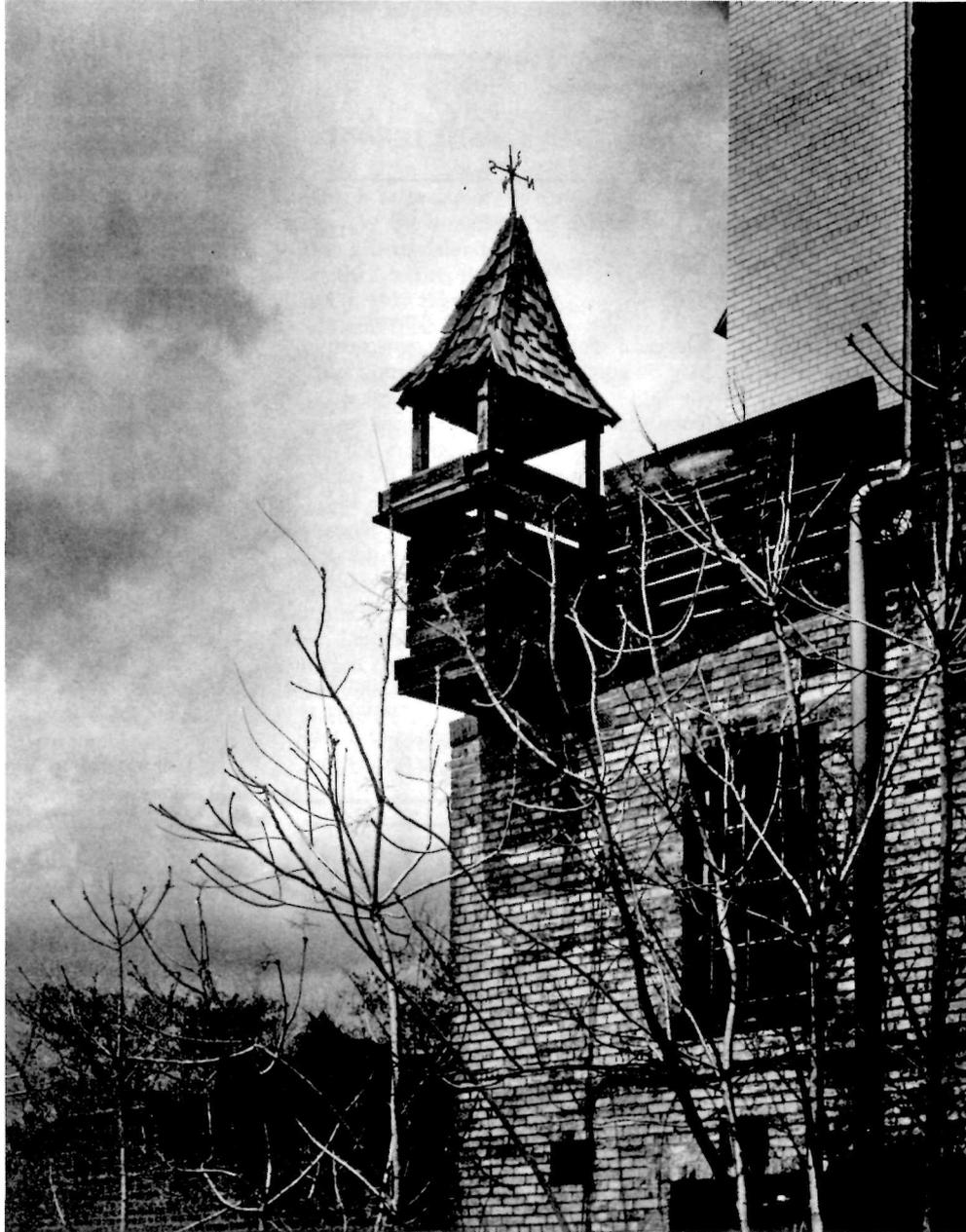
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A witches' nest?

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*Somewhere along Connecticut Avenue, Washington, DC*

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