COURIER

NEWSMAGAZINE OF THE NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

VOL. 34, NO. 10

OCTOBER 1989

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COVER

Robert Glenn Ketchum took time out from a hectic schedule to provide the cover photos for this month's *Courier*. Titled "Bald Eagle," the front cover photo comes from his book, The Tongass: Alaska's Vanishing Rain Forest. The back cover, which captures "The Chickamin River Valley, Misty Fiords National Monument," also appears in The Tongass.

Ketchum's dramatic photographic art last appeared in the March issue of the *Courier* where a two-page photo spread illustrated the diverse beauty of Cuyahoga Valley NRA.

FEATURES

BLACK SPRING — 6
EXXON VALDEZ OIL SPILL — 10
ALASKA'S EDUCATION PARTNERSHIPS TO PAY FUTURE DIVIDENDS — 11
VIEW FROM THE MOUNTAIN — 13
HERB CABLES LOOKS AHEAD — 15
RECOVERY CORPS COMES TO YELLOWSTONE — 16
THEN AND NOW - TECHNOLOGY AND SECRETARIES — 20

DEPARTMENTS

COMMENTARY — 2
PARK BRIEFS — 22
NPS PEOPLE — 25
E&AA — 29

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National Park Service
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ALASKA

Last month I had the opportunity to travel to Alaska. It was my first visit to that great state and a landmark in my travels as I have now been in all 50 of our states—let me hasten to add that this accomplishment has taken place over a number of years and not just since joining the National Park Service. This trip to Alaska allowed me to become more fully informed about the important issues affecting our northernmost parks.

Without a doubt, Alaska has been marked by the Valdez tragedy. And while there is some talk of nature's restorative powers, there is still oil along shorelines as well as a tremendous loss of animal and plant life. In Yellowstone, the changes were part of a natural cycle. In Alaska, we truly have a human-caused environmental disaster.

But I am proud to say that the Park Service's response was quick and effective. I also want to take this opportunity to recognize Alaska Regional Director Boyd Evison and the staff of the regional office, as well as Kenai Fjords, Katmai and other areas for the very difficult job they did so well. Their rapid response to the potential resource damage—even when it was predicted that there would be no impact on the parks—and their actions in response to the damage that did occur, deserve our highest praise. As I told Superintendent Anna Castellina of Kenai Fjords, I was most impressed with what she and her staff, assisted by many NPS employees from all over the system, were able to accomplish. We were also fortunate to be able to draw on retired NPS employees for support and direction in the Area Command set up in Anchorage to assure continuity and ease the extraordinary workload.

While some things have been done to try to mitigate the impacts of the oil spill, we undoubtedly will be feeling the effects of it for years to come. The whole country has been saddened by the damage done to this magnificent natural environment. As far as the Park Service is concerned, we will continue our monitoring and research on the effects of the oil spill while weather permits, then resume our efforts in the spring, based on what we learned this fall and winter. We must do whatever we can to make sure this kind of thing does not happen again.

I think part of providing better protection for the resources under our stewardship involves maintaining strong ties with other professionals in the land management community. Although their responsibilities may differ from ours, they have significant expertise to share. I had the opportunity to share this message with state park directors at their annual meeting during the first part of my stay in Alaska. I emphasized the important role that the state parks, NPS, and others play in protecting natural and cultural properties, and providing outdoor recreation. We all manage elements of the national network of parks that is so critical to the continued quality of life in this country, and working together helps us do it better.

Skilled park professionals at the state and local level have much to offer, and while the national park system is extremely important, I think we tend to forget that the visitation of state parks is 2-1/2 times ours. They deserve to be fully recognized as co-equals in fulfilling the recreational demands of the public and in the preservation of this country's special natural and cultural resources—many of which are within state and local park areas. I believe we both benefit from working closely together, and I will continue to give strong support to our partners project with the state park directors, the National Conference of State Historic Preservation Officers and the National Association of State Outdoor Recreation Liasion Officers.

My visit to Alaska also took me to Denali, where I met with Superintendent Russell Berry and some of his staff to discuss a variety of park issues. I had a chance to see how the new visitor access center is progressing. This will be a great facility for both visitors and staff, and is a significant improvement over what was there. I also had the opportunity to fly over the Kantishna area where controversial mining activities are taking place, and to look at the issue of providing additional access into the park. While there may be some need for additional access, whatever we do there must be done in a way that is environmentally sound and protects the natural and cultural resources of the area.

My visit to Denali concluded with a breathtaking flight past Mt. McKinley on the way to Lake Clark. Returning to Anchorage, I asked the pilot if we could fly through Lake Clark Pass, the principal route of access to the park. Tightening his seatbelt, he replied, "I can take it, if you can." Although it was a very rough trip, the spectacular beauty of the Pass made it all worthwhile.

As you might expect, I was struck by the enormous scale of our Alaskan parks and our equally enormous responsibility to protect them. We have this same awesome responsibility to protect all the parks under our stewardship, and by working together with others, we can help fulfill the potential of a national system of parks.

James M. Ridenour

COMMENTARY

FROM THE EDITOR

A friend recently observed that I go by geologic time. We happened to be locked in one of those late night conversations where the participants are allowed to make insightful comments about their companions and still be forgiven. But I was not sure about this one. Geologic time? Should I let it pass? After all, I try very hard to keep up.

"It's not so bad," she consoled, making my condition sound terminal. "It's just mountain time."

I suppose I looked the right amount of puzzled.

"You know... Mountain ranges grind down to piles of sand, and *you're* still thinking."

Oh!

She was right, of course, though I required several weeks of brooding, *à la* mountain time, before I was ready to admit it. Now, accepting my condition at last, I wonder what's so wrong with keeping to a geologic clock. Yes, it may mean being locked in a time warp of sorts (looking back too long and never moving on), but there *is* a certain wakefulness involved—an alert appreciation of every rock that rolls down the hill, just in case that solitary rock may be part of some larger process. Going by geologic time, one takes nothing for granted. To do so might be to start an avalanche.

It is a good attitude for a preservationist. It is also the "prime directive" that motivated starship Enterprise personnel, and considering the number of adults who cut their intellectual teeth on *Star Trek*, it's surprising in retrospect that not more of them take this geologic view. To have no need to mark a place with one's presence—no urge to leave the outline of one's own hand on the proverbial cave wall—is to go against much that is historically human. But to have the urge, then not surrender to it, is to evolve.

This morning I found myself staring sleepily at the cartoons that dull the energies of my four-year-old before we go our separate ways to work and school. I saw Mickey Mouse down the years, skating across a lake of ice with the wind at his back. The image dated the cartoon. For an urban audience with access to the Disney channel, that lake of ice needed to be replaced with a skating rink to bring it up to date. Yet for the old geologic timer that I am, the image rang true. I may not have skated on a frozen lake in the middle of the woods with the moon shining down, but I know of those who have. My son is more removed from this reality, caught up in a world that has left so many hand prints on the cave wall as to obscure much of that wall all together.

And that is perhaps the tragedy—that those who keep to a different rhythm move faster: enjoy the woods, the lake, the moon (or maybe not) while they construct the civilization that overshadows them. Those of us more psychologically equipped to watch the rocks roll down the hill find the hill gone before we can collect ourselves enough to challenge those who took it.

Fortunately the hills are being missed, and questions are being asked. Those who organized the Manassas effort are still making headlines. The Alaska experience has shown us all too graphically just how much there will be to mourn if environmental degradation continues...

But of course it will, to some degree or other, because there are just too many people around, ready to find a use for all those rocks that roll down the hill.

What they fail to realize is the kind of avalanche they may have started.

MUGWUMP CURMUDGEON — THE SEQUEL

Dixie

Has The Lo-o-one Haranguer returned? Perhaps.

All you aspiring NPS essayists had an extended golden opportunity (about 162 games) to come to Madam (or is it mad? as in Hatter) Editor's rescue by depositing your provocative prose in a blue envelope or on Com(PUKE)serve —possibly forcing a *columner coup*. But nooooo! Everyone complacently sat back and blew their shot for house-organ literary stardom. So, despite all rational thought to the contrary, this two-finger keypuncher comes off the (psychologically) Disabled List for the first time since the National Game's Opening Pitch. Many softball games, weekend excursions and a midwest journey later, here we are in the ninth inning of the year's nice weather, gearing up for the LEAGUE CHAMPIONSHIPS AND WORLD SERIES, while tracing the movement of a bumper foliage crop for NAR leaf peepers.

Sorry to have disappointed the dozen or so loyal strollers of this meadow of syllabic mold, but the impetus to peck out pent up job-related frustrations just fizzled one pointless day, though I can't remember which one. Rare sparks of re-interest were doused by droplets of summer humidity. I was waiting for some kind of weird "sign." One came when *Bloom County* suddenly revived its infamous Steve Dallas character to his natural belligerent mood. (He's back and he's bad! read the panel.) Unfortunately, by the time any of us flip through this *Courier issue*, flightless fowl Opus, *BC Picayune* editor Milo and the gang will be comic-strip history because artist Breathed believes he has drained his conceptual well. Hmmm, sounds familiar.

More on Our Man Hornaday

Since our last discussion a few knowledgeable folks have communicated more information on conservationist William Temple Hornaday (1854-1937). Hot Springs NP ranger Jeff Olhfs, E&AA member and former SE RD George Fry (whose letter is buried somewhere in my office rubble) and E&AA member Marietta M. (Hornaday) Sumner all contributed insight to the Hornaday Hotline.

From Glenwood, NM, Mrs. Sumner wrote to E&AA caretaker Terry Wood, about remembering Hornaday's visits to her grandmother's (a first cousin to WTH) Indiana farm and she sent along a 60-inch long Hornaday article written in the November 1975 issue of "Field and Stream." By the way, NPS alumnists Lowell and Marietta report that they are doing fine out in Lujanland. Fry and Olhfs made note of a special Boy Scout Award named in WTH's memory that each of them has won.

Now on to the old mail pouch. Despite this year's roster of drought-induced infernos, my undaunted travelers were out at your parks as usual. By mid-July the Century mark was eclipsed for the fifth

straight year in the number of persons who got "special handling" park visitor information from this office. Because they had the sense to ask, these hundred adventuresome families were spoonfed vital information that "salvaged" their vacations, which were hurtling toward disastrous ends. Postcards and letters have trickled in from your scenic outposts. An actual "letter" came from a suburban Boston doctor. In part it read: "Your advice was invaluable. We are especially grateful that you encouraged us NOT to leave Zion NP off our itinerary (he must mean my conniption after he told me a "friend" had said to skip Zion because it 'wasn't that much!'). The hike up Angel's Landing was, in more than one way, the *high point* of our trip."

Obviously no PhD in Travel is needed to tell someone that avoiding Zion NP doesn't rate as a super travel plan, but at least he won't be listening to his "friend" again very soon. He ended with, "It was the best vacation we ever had." I wonder whose advice he followed on the others.

Back 35 Years to the Future

"Yosemite Braces for Summer Rush" read one large headline in this past July 3 (a special day to my Mom and me) edition of *The Christian Science Monitor*. It is probable that California's Big Y braced long before July for the annual assault on its beauty and resources, but I guess the reporter just wanted to flex his outdoor/natural vocabulary while writing what hundreds of scribes have written under various titles before him —about crowds in national parks.

Apparently, but not definitely, the "first" such media outburst came on the The New York Times editorial page on Monday, April 5, 1954. It ran in conjunction with a front page story (the first of a five-part NPS series written by Gladwin Hill) about conditions at Grand Canyon. Some notable excerpts:

"We cannot have our parks and eat them too! We cannot maintain this remarkable system for the benefit of the American people and yet refuse to grant it the funds necessary to preserve it from present deterioration and future ruin.

"...just about everything concerning the parks is inadequate except for their magnificent scenic or historic values and the devotion of the men and women of the National Park Service, whose morale remains, on the whole, unshaken despite the shabby treatment sometimes accorded them."

There are nuggets in the text about employee housing inadequacies, low pay, not enough personnel to manage visitor herds and those other wonderful characteristics we still enjoy today. So from my stellar days in first grade through playing in a Jack Benny Softball League, NPS basics have remained the same.

I would like an accountant to go back and add up all the Defense Department expenditures (X trillions) for this time period and tell me exactly what America has received for their bill. According to DoD everything they own is outdated; yet each year democracy and my freedom are in more peril than the last. I've always wondered why we are so afraid of a people who can't even grow wheat.

So why did this editorial appear in 1954? It was historically appropriate since it was long enough after WWII and Korea for average citizens with some disposable income to be settled and looking for new family vacation ideas. Automobiles, roads, services and equipment for travelers were improved also. Aided by these factors, park attendance tripled during the early Fifties. Before this the visitation numbers just were not high enough and conditions not bad enough for press interest. When John Q. Public discovered the parks as a haven for family fun and was able financially to take advantage of the resources, the "Love Our Parks to Death" stories began. (That phrase was first uttered by Director Connie Wirth at a Congressional hearing around the same period.)

Sorry to say but in 1989, a "do more with less" pep talk holds water like a sieve. *For how long* can anyone continue to do *more* with *less*? The NPS budget did not cause the nation's deficit or the collapse of the Savings and Loan Banks or the rip-off at HUD. Unfortunately we're stuck with the silly little task of providing for Americans' leisure enjoyment and protecting their heritage. Taxpayers make use of our services while they try to forget that portions of their tax money are being pilfered.

How many parents and retirees do you know who are planning family outings in 1990 to S&Ls, housing developments, military bases or the moon? In contrast, how many are going to Yellowstone, Grand Canyon and the Everglades? Should we "get with the program" or get a new one?

Remember, national parks are our idea. After all these years shouldn't the agency demand the finest instead of continually "getting by" with the fiscally adequate or less??

Editor's Note: Thanks to Dixie for coming back out of "columner retirement" to compose these thoughts.

THE PERSONNEL SIDE

By Terrie Fajardo

Hi there!

Every once in a while we find that some things are worth repeating. Hem lines go up, but they also come back down; bathing suits swing back and forth between one- and two-piece fashions; the Baltimore Orioles have a winning season, and suddenly they're everybody's team. From time to time, the same principle works with information. We can often stand a little more repetition than we think.

I had a visitor recently whose predicament reminded me of a subject I discussed here a while ago. All things considered, it looks like it's time for a little repetition once again.

The young man in front of me was "steamed."

"What do you expect!" he said. "I just found out about the vacancy the day it closed. I had to send in my application postmarked that day. I didn't have time to look it over and do it right. I just wanted to be considered for the job!"

Looking from his face back to the application, I knew what he meant. "I understand how much you wanted to get your application in on time," I answered, "but you may have done yourself more harm than good. Let's go over a few things on your form together, and let me show you what I mean."

Calvin J. (CJ) Flack had applied for a position as a historian. His SF-171 indicated he was working for another federal agency at the time, but a number of blocks on the form just didn't make sense. I wasn't sure whether he was eligible to be considered for the job or not because his dates didn't match! Accurately filling out an SF-171 includes accurately reflecting the dates of employment and promotion. Let's take a closer look to see why this is so important.

Block 10. The form asks: Did you ever work for the government? Did you have

different types of appointments? Temporary? Career-Conditional? Career? Exempted? What was your highest grade? From when to when did you work?

You might be surprised to learn that a lot of applicants check all the boxes whether they've had the appointments or not! And if they have served under different appointments, they never go on to link the appointments to their dates of employment. This information may be critical, especially if you wish to be considered for reinstatement. Remember: to be eligible for reinstatement you must prove you had career status when you left government service or that you have served under a career-conditional appointment within the last three years.

Don't forget that temporary appointment time counts too. It is used for evaluation purposes as well as calculating time-in-grade. Be accurate about time and dates. Match these with the correct job experience section on the form.

Block 23. On this portion of the form, sections "a" and "b" of "Work Experience" help determine your eligibility. The first block (a) reads: "Dates employed (give month, day and year)." Folks commonly fill this out as follows: "From: 1982 to Present."

There are two problems with this. First, 1982 had the usual twelve months (not a great year but a good year!). Which month and day in 1982 was the job started? Be accurate because this information helps credit months of experience. You can't expect to receive credit for the whole year if you only started the job in September. Second, what exactly does "Present" mean? If you are currently in that job, then the term, "Present," can be used. However, if you have since left that job and gone on to one or two additional jobs requiring their own experience sheets, then you must change "Present" to reflect the day you actually left the position. Every experience block can't read "From: (date) To: Present."

The second block (b) reads: "If Federal employment (civilian or military), list series, grade or rank, and, if promoted in this job, the date of your last promotion." The key phrase is "date of your last promotion." For some reason, applicants take it to mean the date of their last within grade (WGI) increase. Otherwise, they often leave the space blank.

However, the date of your last promotion lets the personnelist know whether or not you have "time-in-grade." Generally, most positions above GS-5 require you to be in-grade for one year to be eligible for promotion. If you put in your last WGI date, you may be short-changing yourself. For example, if you have been a GS-9 for the last three years but give the date of the WGI you received two months ago as the date of your last promotion, a personnelist will assume you haven't had the requisite year at the GS-9 level. Similarly, if you leave the space blank, there is nothing to evaluate.

Block 28. Among other things, this section asks for the month and year you attended college, the total semester or quarter hours you earned, the type of degree you earned and the year you attained it.

Once again, such information helps when qualifications are based on education only or on a combination of education and experience. If you're working toward a degree, give only credit hours earned and leave out when you expect to receive your degree. Life being the way it is, you might find you need extra time. Also, do not project the number of hours you expect to attain when you complete the degree unless you are finishing the last semester of your senior year and expect to complete all coursework.

Block 29 and 30. These two sections are the most important ones on the form if you're applying for a professional position that has specific educational requirements associated with it. For example, to qualify as GS-5 historians, applicants need at least 18 semester hours of history. If there is no information on the form, then no evaluation can be made. The bottom line requires that to qualify for a GS-5, you must meet the positive education requirement. Positions above GS-5 still require you to fulfill the positive education requirement to be considered for higher levels.

I recently reviewed applications for a GS-9/11/12 historian position here in Washington. Along with her SF-171, an applicant had forwarded samples of the articles she had written on historical topics. However, as I mentioned in an earlier article, addendum material should not be included because it doesn't contribute to the evaluation process. What this individual failed to include was far more critical to her application. She failed to include information on her college major or the number of semester hours she had taken. So I contacted her, only to discover, after much discussion, that her college major had been English. She had taken only one course in history (worth three semester hours), but loved the profession so much that she began writing on the subject years ago. She just never got around to taking any courses.

Personnelists generally don't contact applicants for more information. We expect you to take responsibility for accurately completing your SF-171s on your own. This time, however, I felt the applicant simply might have overlooked an important point, and so I called. To be fair to the others who likewise did not appear to have the positive education requirement, I called them also. Actually I was rewarded in the effort because one of them who had not included the essential information did meet the requirement. All the same, this was an unusual situation and not what usually happens.

Well, I don't think CJ is "steamed" any more. After we went over his application, he left to redo it. Sometimes it's better to start over when the majority of the form cannot be salvaged. Remember, the object of the game is to give the most accurate information possible about your education and experience. Then you can be assured of a fair evaluation.

As the sergeant in "Hill Street Blues" used to say, "Let's be careful out there!"

Special Note: Many thanks to my colleague, Linda McHuron (Grand Teton NP), and my former colleague, Brian Bowden (Pacific Northwest Regional Office) for suggesting the topics for this article. Good luck Brian in your new assignment!

LETTERS

I watched television as Ranger Mark Wellman made the first climb by a paraplegic of El Capitan. It is one of the purest examples of equal opportunity of which I am aware in the national park system. Nobody said to Wellman that he couldn't do the climb. He trained, according to the TV reports I saw, for a solid six months, gradually building his upper body strength to the point at which he felt confident that he could do the 7,000 or so pullups on his jumar system that would be required to finish the 3,500-foot climb, six inches for each pullup. What Wellman counted on was the principle that in the U.S. everyone has the *opportunity* to do whatever he or she wants to do.

This is 180 degrees from the theory, more prevalent today than in the past, that suggests people have the *right* to do whatever they want to do. An important adjunct to this theory is that since national parks belong to the American public, the National Park Service has the obligation to accommodate any kind of use. Proponents of this theory argue that everyone has the right to go to the bottom of the Grand Canyon; the Park Service, therefore, should build a tram to Phantom Ranch. Everyone has the right to go anywhere on Cape Cod, so the NPS ought to allow ORV's on the beaches.

These arguments are often made on behalf of older or disabled visitors, although one suspects that this is only a smoke screen for the high-tech, motorized recreational pursuits that many people seem to favor.

That is what makes Wellman's climb so inspiring. He didn't ask for any trams to the top of El Cap. He got there—to quote the famous ad—the old fashioned way: he earned it, six inches at a time. His climb reminds one of other stories that the *Courier* has carried in the past: disabled people rafting the Colorado through the Grand Canyon or taking overnight pack trips in Rocky Mountain by horseback; vision-impaired folks hiking the Appalachian Trail; mentally impaired individuals experiencing the satisfaction of taking care of the gardens on the Mall in Washington. These are all examples of people taking advantage of the opportunities that exist in the national park system. Despite the difficulties that faced them, they prepared themselves to seize the opportunities.

As a society, we regularly have said that not everyone has the *right* to do everything. We require students to study hard to achieve good grades before they enter our universities, because not everyone can go. Before we allow someone to drive on the nation's highways, he or she must pass both written and practical tests. Not everyone gets to drive. We have established these activities as special privileges, ones that require preparation prior to taking advantage of them.

In much the same way, visiting an area of the national park system is a privilege. Before people take advantage of the special opportunities contained within the parks, they must prepare themselves. Often this will not require much effort; reading the brochure or looking at the park map will usually suffice. Some opportunities, however, will require much more preparation. Our responsibility is to assure that a range of activities exists within the parks for visitors depending on their willingness to prepare themselves.

Not everyone gets to do everything. Instead, everyone has the *opportunity...* to do everything. As Wellman said on the summit of El Capitan, "If you think you can do it, go for it."

Rick Smith
SWRO

To preserve and protect this country's natural and cultural resources is the responsibility of all NPS employees. Maintenance employees nationwide fulfill this standard by preservation treatments to buildings, as well as grounds, roads and trails maintenance.

The NPS has renewed its efforts in training maintenance personnel with courses such as Historic Structures for Technicians, the Maintenance Workers Skills Workshop and the most recent Facility Managers Development Program.

One detail is missing for these improved maintenance craftsmen. The standard of craftsmanship depends not only on quality of skills, but also on quality tools and equipment. To the maintenance craftsmen, good quality tools help produce the high quality job expected from all employees. Mediocre tools often result in a mediocre finished product.

The problem is not that professional tools, equipment and materials aren't available, but rather that it's hard to find information on where to go to get them. All maintenance employees should be aware that top-of-the-line products are available to them from sources other than the typical GSA supply catalog. Federal supply schedules offer vendors with approved, professional items that can be purchased easily and quickly, and are of a much higher quality than the generic tools offered by the supply catalog. These schedules provide detailed specifications, using professional marketing techniques to assist purchasers in ordering and receiving what they want.

I think the *Courier* could help by running product notices from Supply Schedule vendors. This could inform employees of what is available.

We are all asked to do more work with less money and still maintain high standards. Professional, high quality tools have been proven to be an economical investment and assist in employee motivation.

Jim Hauver
National Capital Region

ANNOUNCEMENT

On November 17, in Orlando, FL, the 3rd Annual National Conference on Public Practice will be held, featuring educational sessions and special events devoted to landscape architecture and planning issues. For brochure and registration information, contact the American Society of Landscape Architects at 202/686-2752 or NPS landscape architect and program chair Carol Whipple at 202/485-9836.

A Note From the Editor's Overseer

To Our Readers:

The National Association of Government Communicators has selected the *Courier* as the first place award-winner among agency house organs (internal newsletters).

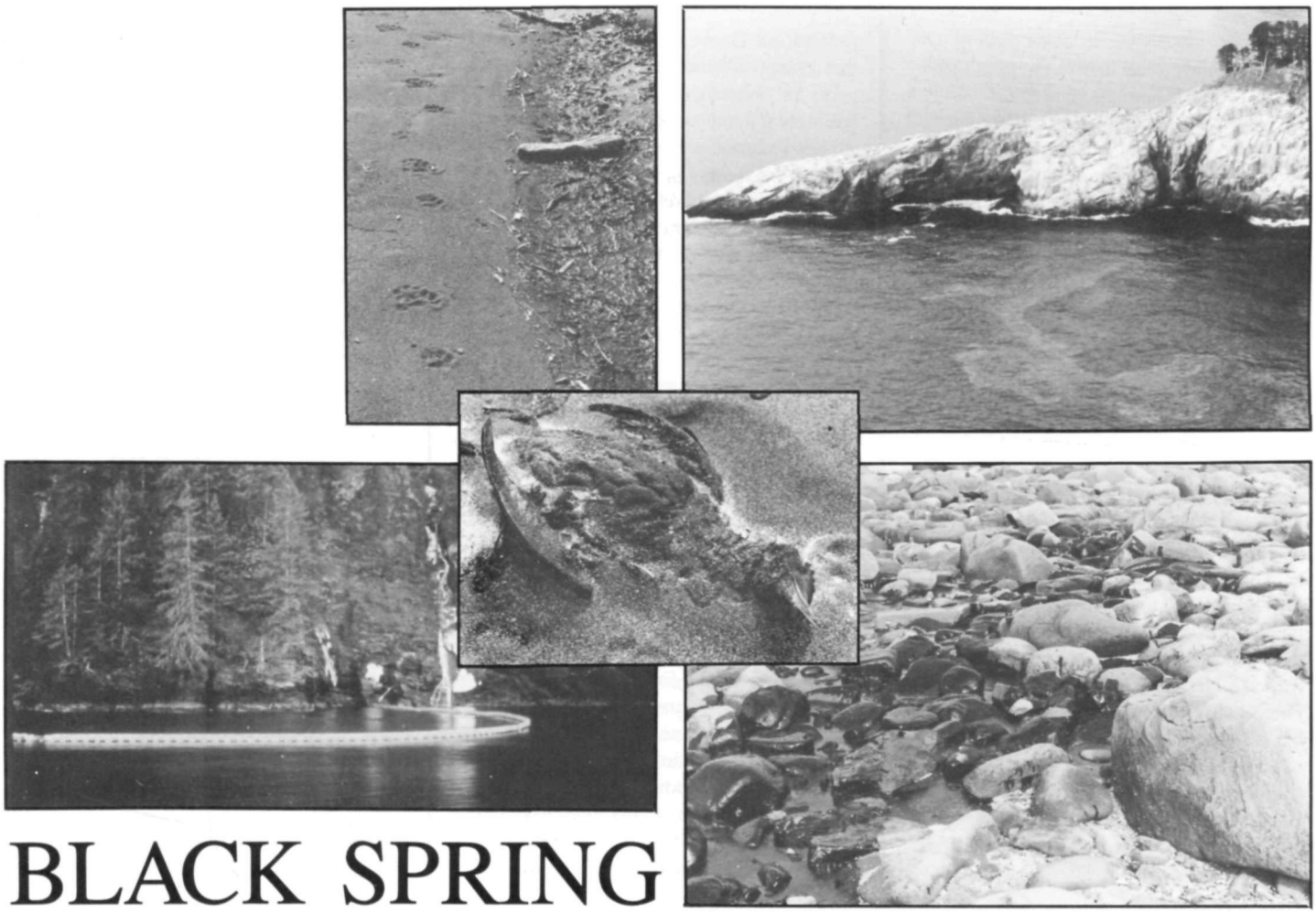
We know you, the readers, share our pleasure in the award and its recognition of the hard work of our editor, Mary Maruca, and designer, Rick Lewis.

As always, even the best — perhaps, especially the best — strive to improve. Mary continues to welcome and encourage your suggestions and contributions.

Congratulations, Mary and Rick.

George Berklacy
Chief, Office of Public Affairs

BY JOHN QUINLEY



BLACK SPRING

ON COPING WITH THE ALASKA OIL SPILL.

"We're finding a variety of oilings, from fine, barely visible strands of oil on dark sand on Kamishak Beach. . .to larger globs, with more depth on Kuikpulik Island. . ."

April 24. Snow is falling hard on Kukak Bay in Katmai National Park. The leading edge of the nation's largest oil spill has brushed the park. Nancy Deschu, an NPS hydraulic engineer, is waiting out the storm, writing a report on water sampling work.

"None of these oil deposits would be visible from the air, or for that matter from a skiff along shore. . .Even walking, you have to look sharply, and under and around. Once you get an image in your mind, you can see the oil all over."

April 24. One month after eleven million gallons of Alaska North Slope crude bubbled from the ruptured holds of the supertanker Exxon Valdez. Since the tanker ran aground on Bligh Reef outside of Valdez, oil had floated 300 miles southwest.

In its path, oil inundated quiet shorelines of Prince William Sound in Chugach National Forest. It moved across dozens of islands, many in the Alaska Maritime National Wildlife Refuge. In that first month, oil also hit two national parks—first the capes and outer beaches of Kenai Fjords and then Katmai. In July, Aniakchak NM was hit. In mid-summer, oil was a few miles off the coast of Lake Clark NP & Pre.

Two months after the spill, the magnitude of the damage to Kenai Fjords had multiplied. More than 150 miles of Katmai's coast was hit with oil in some form. On some cobble beaches, the crevices between rocks became oil sumps, many holding dead birds. High tide lines were marked by broad bands of molasses-like oil mixed with debris. At Hallo Bay, a six-mile beach held 2,500 dead birds.

Everything about the spill—its size, the cost in dollars and environmental damage, the response—was unprecedented. In the opening days of the drama, no one knew how to corral eleven million gallons of oil. When a spring storm blew on March 29, spreading the oil miles beyond the accident site, the chance was lost. All that could be done was triage—and it *had* to be done.

In the two national parks alone, at least 200 miles of coast have been struck with oil. In Katmai, more than 7,000 dead birds had been retrieved by early June. Bald eagles died from ingesting oil or being incapable of flight, their feathers welded with crude. Brown bears were observed scavenging on dead, oiled seabirds; the consequences are unknown.

It seemed few animals were spared exposure: "Gray whales

and killer whales were seen swimming in oil-contaminated waters... Earlier, a pod of sea otters had been spotted huddled together around some oil-soaked members in an apparent attempt to keep warm," Katmai Superintendent Ray Bane wrote on May 1.

"The loss of fish and wildlife, and of scenic beauty, is awful," said Alaska Regional Director Boyd Evison. "But the most profound loss is of the knowledge that could have been gained from these previously unspoiled ecosystems. When that oil arrived, ecosystem integrity was crushed."

On March 29, many forecasters were saying little oil would escape Prince William Sound, but ocean currents and spring storms blowing out of the south dictated otherwise. Anna Castellina, superintendent at Kenai Fjords NP, knew if the gloomy forecast was right, her staff of five would be overwhelmed. After she placed calls to the Alaska Regional Office, an interagency, Class I Incident Command Team was sent to park headquarters in Seward.

Adept at organizing fire-fighting work, the team soon learned the nature of an oil spill. The first lesson was the most potent: you can't put an oil spill out. The incident command system will stay in place for at least the summer. Park Service employees from across the nation were called to help cope with the largest man-made disaster to strike the national park system.

The incident command team first worked in Kenai Fjords. Biologists and cultural resource specialists were sent in boats to survey the coast and document pre-spill conditions. Aircraft with spotters tracked the oil. With no Exxon presence in Seward in early April, the team handled logistics and planning for placing protective booms in high-value resource areas in and out of the park.

Dave Liebersbach, a veteran Bureau of Land Management firefighter, was the first incident commander. "In Yellowstone we put firefighters on the ground. Here we're providing logistics for Ph.D. biologists who we're handling as a very intelligent resource, very delicately," he told the Associated Press. "If they need a boat, we get one; if they need a ham sandwich, we make one. What they need we try to provide."

The team also established a Multi-Agency Coordinating (MAC) Group, knitting the leadership of Seward, the Kenai Peninsula Borough, and state agencies into an effective, cooperative organization.

The documentation of pre-oil conditions soon expanded to Katmai, Lake Clark and Aniakchak. Logistics were demanding. Katmai is at best a 20-hour boat trip from the port town of Homer, the nearest road-access. Aniakchak is 400 miles from the regional office. Rain and wind grounded aircraft. Twenty-foot seas stymied coastal patrols.

For beach crews, the coast could sometimes deceive. "We were looking at a beach from 50 or 60 feet offshore, and it looked pristine," said Castellina in mid-April. Once onshore, hopes were dashed. "There was a thick crude oil, like taffy, under the rocks. There were crevices filled with oil and dead birds."

As oil continued making landfalls in Kenai Fjords and Katmai, the incident command team had begun turning over much of the actual oil-fighting to the Coast Guard and Exxon. By late April, the NPS was settling in for the long job of assessing the injury to its coastlines, monitoring cleanup efforts, and starting long-term research into the effects of the oil.

Field reports were mixed. The deep bays of Kenai Fjords were clean, but many beaches and headlands were not. On May 1, environmental specialist Page Spencer filed this report with the Kenai Fjords superintendent:

"The bad news is that we're finding oil in a lot of places.We watched 150 sandhill cranes land right in the oiled area to feed. The Black Bay beaches are probably a lost cause—beautiful granite boulders, clean on top, filthy underneath, and the oil goes down one-half to one-foot more. We watched three bears near these beaches, and there were bear tracks of a sow and two cubs following the entire oiled kelp line for at least one-half mile of beach. Little bear paws right in the oil. Pretty grim—glorious scenery and trashed beaches. We're all having nightmares after a day's work."

Through early June, the cleanup of park beaches has been low-tech. Exxon crews with shovels, bags, and small all-terrain vehicles have removed tons of oiled material each week. Other crews have collected dead wildlife to prevent scavenging. Live animals are sent to cleaning centers.

National Park Service resource protection officers accompany each cleanup crew of 10 to 15 people. Armed with a shotgun for bear protection, and carrying instructions to steer the crews clear of confrontations with bears and other animals, the rangers perform a vital task. In addition to monitoring safety, they keep cleanup work from damaging other park resources, and are the eyes and ears of the Park Service on widely scattered, remote sites.

Through July 3, the Alaska Region had spent about $4.5 million, or 18 percent of its annual budget. Other regions were tapped for personnel, and directed to hold money to fund the response. Spending through the remainder of the fiscal year was expected to surpass $6 million.

The spill has taught lessons to all who responded. The incident command system worked well for responding to a non-fire emergency. However, cost-sharing agreements for fires were not applicable for oil spills, and the financial uncertainty caused much anxiety.

"To have sat on our hands until funding was guaranteed would have been unconscionable," said Evison. "Like being in a burning building and not fighting the fire because someone wonders who's going to pay the water bill." Strong support from the Alaska Congressional delegation and other key people on Capitol Hill brought approval to a $7.3 million supplemental appropriation that would reimburse much of the Interior Department's response and likely free money frozen in every NPS region.

In the opening days of the spill, overlapping jurisdictions were confusing, at best. The Park Service had responsibility through the Organic Act and other legislation to protect its resources. But that work had to fit within the overall response plan.

Pre-spill resource information was almost nonexistent. Quick surveys were made, but they were slim volumes compared to the vast amounts of knowledge that could have been gained through a comprehensive baseline study. Most parks in Alaska do not have that information.

The spill also demonstrated that despite distance and technological wonders, coastal parks are vulnerable to oil spills. Aniakchak, 500 miles from the Exxon Valdez, has oil on its doorstep. Calculated in East Coast terms, this would mean oil from Acadia to the Chesapeake Bay.

And finally, the nation again learned that talk of "cleaning up" an oil spill may be appropriate when a tank truck leaks, but not when a spill is measured in millions of gallons. Cleanup work, too, carries potential resource damage. Calls for intensive, mechanized cleanup increased as people were confronted with the minimal results of less invasive methods.

Weather and the tides will hide the most obvious effects of the spill. The news media will soon move on. But despite millions of dollars spent on beneficial work, the slow, insidious effects of oil in the environment will continue for years. Time will be the only real cleanup authority. And only careful and thorough monitoring programs will reveal how best to mitigate impacts.

Previously an Anchorage newspaper man, John Quinley is the public affairs officer for the Alaska Region. This is his first article for Courier. *Please note that Exxon and the National Park Service have finished up their field activities for the season. John Quinley's article is a retrospective on those activities and the aftermath of the spill. Though work in Alaska is drawing to a close for now, there is still oil on the beaches.*

The "Over the Hill Gang" Rides Again

When the Alaska Region needed long-term continuity in managing its response to the country's largest oil spill, it called on a highly qualified group of NPS veterans.

Retired from posts as superintendents, chief rangers and regional office executives, a group of nine retirees is spending the summer in Alaska running an incident command system that stretches across Southcentral Alaska.

Jokingly called "retreads," or "the over-the-hill gang" around the regional office, the men have come out of retirement to put in routine 10-to-12 hour days, learn the jargon of oil spill legislation, and contend with a maze of interagency responsibilities.

Within a few days of the grounding of the Exxon Valdez, the Alaska Region had called in an interagency incident command team to Kenai Fjords NP. The team soon expanded to Kodiak, where operations were conducted for Katmai NP.

The original team members and their replacements were adept at putting people and resources together. But unlike firefighting, the job for which the teams were designed, the oil spill was not ending. Individuals on 21-day incident command team assignments came and went, and the oil stayed.

"There needed to be continuity, so instead of changing incident commanders every three weeks, we would have people who could stay the duration. And we wanted people who had some Alaska experience, and managerial experience," said Frank Betts.

Betts, who had retired as superintendent of Denali NP, was working for a bank in Fort Collins, CO, when the call for help came. He gave two weeks notice, took an early retirement, and on May 22 was in Anchorage to assume the job of area commander.

Jim Randall, who has headed up the area command's planning section since May 28, saw an article in the Fort Collins newspaper announcing Betts' new job.

"I called and talked to Frank's wife, and she said he'd already left," the former Wind Cave NP superintendent said. "I ended up talking to Frank on a Thursday. He said he needed me, and on Sunday I was in Anchorage."

Other retirees quickly filled needed jobs. Chuck Budge, who retired as superintendent of Wrangell-St. Elias NP&Pre, came from Whitehorse, MT, to spend time as the logistics chief. Bill Orr, former Western Regional Office Chief of Ranger Activities, left his home in Peteluma, CA, to take over that position.

Jerry Hammond, former chief ranger at Everglades NP, is the Katmai superintendent's representative in Kodiak. Working next to him in Kodiak is Will Troyer, who retired as the chief biologist for the Alaska Region after spending many seasons working in the Katmai area.

Jim Ryan, the finance division chief for the area command, retired as the associate regional director for administration in the Midwest Region and was living in Omaha, NB, when his call came.

Rod Broyles retired as superintendent of Pinnacles NM; he's now the plans chief for the incident command team in Seward, headquarters for Kenai Fjords NP. Homer Leach was the chief ranger at Redwood NP before retiring. He's now heading the tort investigation team in Seward.

"There's been real value in terms of being able to recruit people to come up here," Randall said. "Over the years, we got to know a lot of people, and what employees could just fit the bill for a certain position. We can call a superintendent or a regional director and sort of grease the skids to get who we need."

Those calls for people to work on the spill—whether desk jobs in the area command office or three-week stints as a coastal ranger living in a fishing boat—have been answered by parks across the country.

Through late July, individuals from more than 60 park units have worked in Alaska.

John Quinley

Viewpoints —
ON VISITING KENAI FJORDS

Kenai Fjords Superintendent Anna Castellina with Director Ridenour at Exit Glacier interpretive exhibit. Photo by John Quinley.

Some of our nation's most spectacular and pristine resources are within the Alaskan parks. Their long-term protection, however, cannot be only the responsibility of the Service; it must be a goal of others as well.

Director Ridenour and seasonal ranger Reed Duston. Photo by John Quinley.

Director Ridenour and Superintendent Castellina prepare to board helicopter. Photo by John Quinley.

Our mission is one of continuance. We must continue to see these areas—all areas under our stewardship—preserved for the continued enjoyment of all Americans.

It's a simple truth—we can't always make things right. Therefore, we must thoroughly understand the possible consequences of our actions. People might not like to hear that or think about it, but—like it or not—it's a message we have a responsibility to see reaches the American public.

BY ANNA CASTELLINA

EXXON VALDEZ OIL SPILL

A PERSONAL PERSPECTIVE. On April 10, 1989, crude oil spilled in Prince William Sound by the Exxon Valdez tanker hit the shores of Aialik Cape in Kenai Fjords NP. The normally dispassionate voice of the Incident Management Team weatherman cracked as he made the announcement at the daily 6:00 pm briefing. Listeners were suddenly lost in a bewildering swirl of emotions as the words penetrated tired brains. In one short sentence the human ability to deny what heads know, but hearts refuse to believe, was destroyed. The pristine wilderness we had vowed to "protect and preserve for future generations" had been violated.

" This tragedy has drawn the park staff together. It has drawn the park and the community together."

For days the oil had been charted with horrible fascination as it threaded its way through the Sound, the Montague Straits, and into the currents of the Gulf of Alaska. When the winds changed and began blowing from the southeast on April 8 it became a matter of not "if," but "when" the park would be reached. Still, the announcement confirming the hit was a stunning blow.

Confirmed reports of oiled shoreline began to dominate briefings and meetings in the days following April 10. Bear Glacier; Pony, Agnes and Verdant Coves; Thunder, Taroka, Yalik, and Quartz Bays; Beauty Bay, MacArthur Passage, McCarty Lagoon—all were touched. In Thunder Bay, oil seeped beneath and between the large cobbles, covering the final resting places of oiled murres and kittiwakes. At Bear Glacier Beach eagles perched on every available tree stump tore into the oiled carcasses of birds scavenged from the black tide line. At Black Bay oily bear-cub prints paced their mothers' prints as the larger mammals awoke from winter hibernation and headed down to the oil-slicked shore for their first meals of the new year.

The toll on humans was equally harsh as the number of oiled areas increased and the death counts of birds and mammals rose. Each new onslaught was another wound. It became difficult for people to distance themselves from the incident. Nightmares, crying jags, and an incredible amount of anger and frustration surfaced time and again. Macabre jokes and cynical shrugs replaced tears eventually, but the pain can still be found in the eyes of many.

The frustrations of dealing with a lumbering and inept Exxon organization also took their toll. Careers were put on the line in an effort to move the clean-up along. An endless series of unkept promises and a myriad of sometimes elaborate excuses were swallowed in order to remain as helpful and useful as possible. The very real feeling that we could have done it better ourselves continued to surface and haunt.

There is another side, however, to the anguish of this incident. There is pride—pride in the way the park and incident management staffs rose to the occasion time and again, pride in working in concert with a host of other agencies and entities, pride in giving the effort everything we had. This tragedy has drawn the park staff together. It has drawn the park and the community together. It also has forged new understandings with sister agencies and special interest organizations.

The oil from the Exxon Valdez will be in the park for years to come—a silent reminder of man's folly and arrogance. The park staff will be here to handle the research and the questions from visitors. We didn't ask for this challenge, but we will accept it. We know now that we can handle it, and, for the time being, that has to be enough.

Anna Castellina is the superintendent of Kenai Fjords NP.

BY ELEANOR PRATT

ALASKA'S EDUCATION PARTNERSHIPS TO PAY FUTURE DIVIDENDS

Hubert Chakuchin, a cooperative education student at Denali NP & Pre, explains the uses of a dog sled.

Hubert Chakuchin grins as he begins unharnessing the sled dogs after an interpretive demonstration at Denali NP & Pre. He waits good-naturedly as several visitors snap photos. After two summers as a cooperative education trainee at Lake Clark where he might see ten visitors a day in the backcountry, Hubert is now training as an interpreter in a park that hosts nearly 600,000 each season. Characterizing the pace at Denali as "frantic," Hubert still feels he has gained a much broader understanding of the variety and complexity of Alaskan park issues. Next spring the Sheldon Jackson College senior will be among the first graduates of Alaska Region's baccalaureate-level cooperative education program.

With enthusiastic support from Regional Director Boyd Evison as well as many superintendents, the long-dormant program was reinstituted in 1987 to focus on attracting Alaska Native candidates, primarily for park ranger positions. This recruitment emphasis has been sparked by the realization that making Alaska Natives an integral part of the workforce enhances NPS' ability to manage Alaska's 54 million acres of national parkland wisely and to enrich the visiting public's understanding of its history. Meeting affirmative action goals is only a pleasant by-product of this effort.

Cooperative education is a special hiring authority that allows federal employers to recruit high school or college students to train on the job while enrolled in school, and, upon graduation, to convert their trainee positions into permanent ones. A typical schedule for a college student working on a four-year degree would be a park assignment one summer (14 weeks) after the sophomore year, return for another summer after the junior year, then conversion to permanent status during the 120-day period following graduation. Some students are able to put in three summers of training before graduation, and some also work part-time or perform volunteer work while attending classes.

Recruiting from three Alaska colleges, the Service has hired 11 Alaska Native student trainees since 1987. Five have chosen to leave the program, some because of interrupted schooling, but most because they chose to pursue other career opportunities. By working closely with faculty and other college staff who know the students well, we have attracted a 50-60 percent Native applicant pool from our campus visits (Alaska's population is 18% Native).

The six students in the 1989 program bring unique skills and knowledge to the job from their rural upbringing. Cyril Andrews, from the Yupik village of Kotlik, on Norton Sound, studies rural development at the University of Alaska-Fairbanks. He is spending his first work period in the regional office Lands Division as a realty specialist trainee. Like several of our cooperative education employees, Cyril is bilingual and has experience in commercial fishing and subsistence activities learned from his family. He and another of this year's new trainees, Jake Isaac of Marshall (on the lower Yukon), participated in the Upward Bound Program, which teaches high school seniors leadership and outdoor skills. Like many of the students, they have strong backgrounds in academics, sports, and student government.

Martha Olympic, a Yupik Eskimo from the village of Igiugug in southwestern Alaska, studies anthropology at the University of Alaska-Anchorage. With regional office experience, a summer in interpretation at Katmai, and her present work as part of an archeological crew at Bering Land Bridge National Preserve, she looks forward to a permanent field position as a cultural resources specialist after graduation next May.

Glen Hart, a member of Bristol Bay Native Corporation and second-year ranger trainee at Sitka NHP, spent four years in the Army before pursuing a resource management degree. Besides being an elected official of the Alaska Native Brotherhood, Glenn has served a docentship with two Sitka museums in his spare time while at school. Donald Mike, a park ranger trainee in his first season at Wrangell-St. Elias NP & Pre, is a resource management major at Sheldon Jackson College. He grew up in Kotlik and is a skilled maker of hunting implements such as spears and atlatls.

Praise for the students' performance and personal qualities has been unanimous among supervisors and park superintendents. They consistently are described as hardworking, quick to learn, straightforward, articulate, highly motivated, and well skilled in interpersonal relationships. Evison believes that the cooperative education program will provide a nucleus of future managers for Alaska. He adds that in many ways the National Park Service is "learning far more from the students than they are from us."

At the high school level, the Service has implemented RAPS (Resource Apprenticeship Program for Students). Begun in 1988, the program has two major goals: to expose Native high school juniors and seniors to resource management and related activities, and to spark their interest in attending college (particularly in science and resource fields). The Park Service provides supervision, work projects, and occasionally housing; Native non-profit corporations pay salaries and transportation with Department of Labor or Bureau of Indian Affairs employment funds.

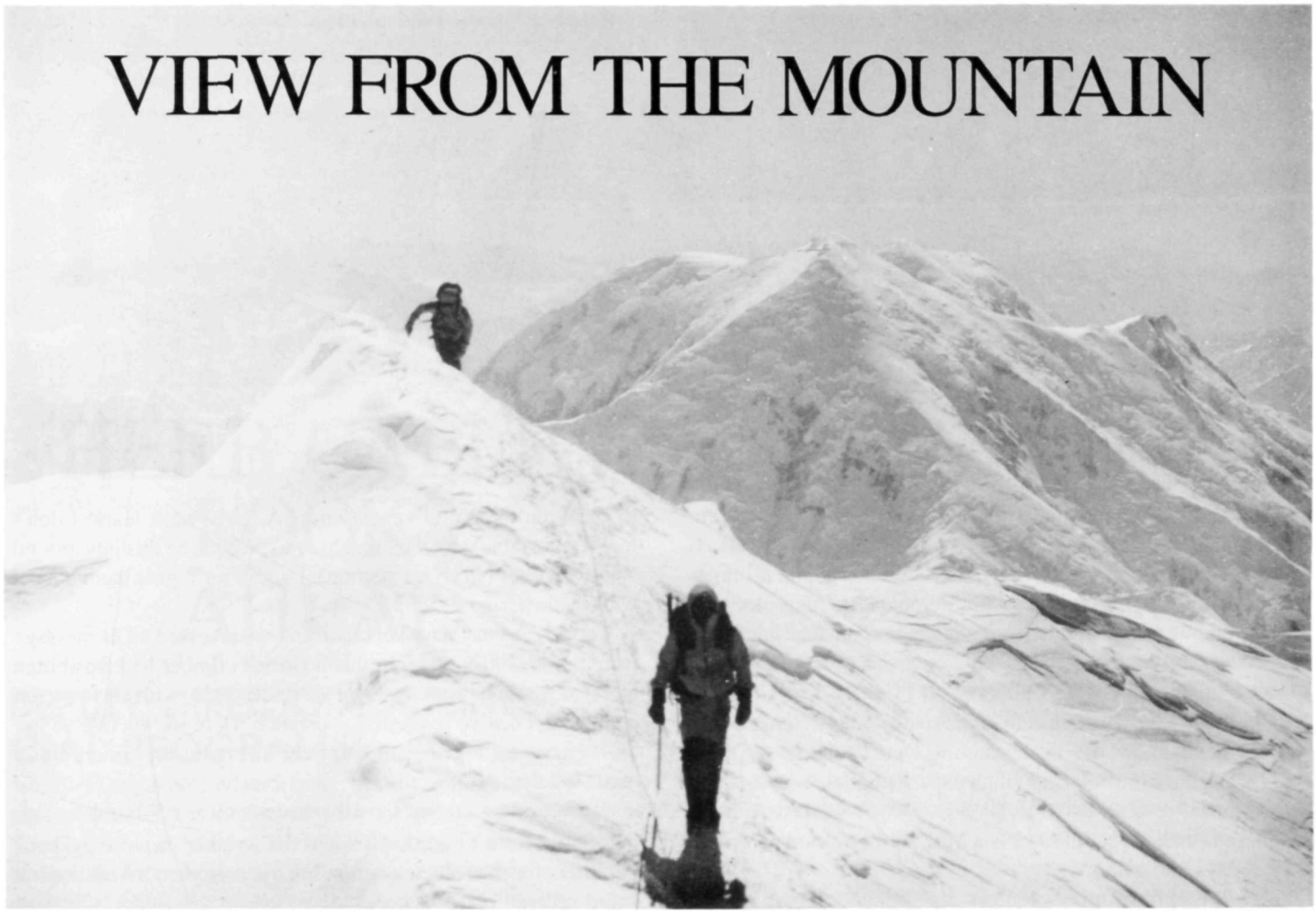
This year nine students served in five parks and one public lands information center, a three-fold increase over 1988. Unit managers work directly with school district staffs and corporation administrators to recruit and to set up work agreements. They have been delighted with the caliber of students enrolled in the eight-week program.

Some RAPS students who go on to college may eventually choose cooperative education with the NPS, another land-management agency, or a Native corporation. No matter what career choices they make, as they mature and assume various leadership roles in the state they will know what the Park Service is and what it does. Such relationships as these will only strengthen our ability to manage Alaska's parklands in the 21st century.

Eleanor Pratt is the Alaska Region's equal opportunity manager.

BY ROGER ROBINSON

VIEW FROM THE MOUNTAIN



Mountaineering rangers on the summit ridge of North America's tallest peak at Denali NP & Pre. Photo by Jim Litch.

TALKEETNA, ALASKA. Starting in May, this sleepy community of 400 comes alive with climbers. The rush begins to scale North America's highest peak. Mount McKinley, or Denali as most climbers call this subarctic peak, is the premier ascent each year for more than 600 American mountaineers and 300 foreign climbers.

Talkeetna is where more than 90 percent of these climbers begin their ascent with a ride in a single-engine aircraft to the 7,200-foot base camp—more than 13,000 feet below the summit. A typical climb lasts three weeks on one of the coldest mountains in the world, accompanied by numerous frostbite cases, severe altitude problems, and frequent falls.

SOME DAYS begin early for the Talkeetna Ranger Station, as did this one in 1984.

0245. An urgent call was made to the station from the 7,200-foot base camp: "One person is in a crevasse; they are giving CPR." The Spanish climbers who try to translate this information have skied from the accident site two hours before. The injured American party needs help.

0300. This sketchy information is passed to park headquarters.

0315. The Talkeetna rangers request a helicopter from Anchorage, several hours away.

0430. A mountaineering ranger is flown in a fixed-wing aircraft to the accident site where a CB radio is to be airdropped. The plane, equipped to make glacier landings on retractable skis, flies 35 minutes to reach the mountain.

0505. The weather remains good. The Americans are spotted, hauling what resembles a person in a sled.

0510. In Talkeetna, the helicopter arrives and refuels. Emergency supplies are loaded.

0515. The Americans receive the airdropped CB radio. The wife of the expedition leader has died in a crevasse fall. They will haul her back to base camp.

0800. Another day has begun at the Talkeetna Ranger Station.

With the help of volunteers, Ranger Jim Litch loads supplies at medical camp 14,000 feet up on Denali. Photo by Bill Cannon.

Mountaineering rangers build protective igloo at 11,200 feet. Photo by Bob Seibert.

Ranger Jim Litch on Denali summit. Photo by Bob Seibert.

SINCE 1977, mountaineering rangers with Denali NP & Pre have staffed the Talkeetna Ranger Station. The community is about 30 miles from the park's southern boundary and 60 miles from Denali's 20,320-foot summit. Remoteness, high elevation and severe weather make the mountain unique for managers. Three seasonal mountaineering rangers and a permanent South District ranger manage the southern half of the park—more than 2.25 million acres, or an area about the size of Yellowstone. These rangers must know the intricacies of Denali and the Alaska Range, and have previous mountain experience that enables them to coordinate rescues or participate in a three-week expedition climbing Denali. What follows is a May patrol journal recording typical days at the park.

Day 9. I and my three volunteer-expedition members worked all day on a large igloo. The blocks must be large enough to span this cooking entrance. It takes two of us to handle just one. I wonder to myself what moving those giant blocks must have been like for the Egyptians. The second block develops a crack. It won't work—not for an extended period or in a heavy snowstorm. Back to the block-cutting pit.

Today we placed a beautiful window in the igloo using a 10-inch thick cylinder of ice we made by freezing the water in a large cook pot. We've placed it so we can get the morning sun.

The fixed lines above here have had groups ascending and descending all day. At 3 p.m., I counted 65 people. The new line placed this spring by the Japanese down the steep 50-degree rescue gully has really been a life-saver for groups wanting to bail out of the high camp at 17,200 feet.

Day 10. No one is moving at camp. The wind above sounds like a freight train, probably blowing 50 or 60 knots at the 17,200-foot camp. We're glad for this igloo, snug as a bug. There's worry about the 24 or so camped above. But in reality, there's not much we could do if something was wrong.

This evening Dr. Peter Hackett of the Denali Medical Research Facility reported having a Japanese man with severe HAPE (high altitude pulmonary edema). The man will be on oxygen all night. I confer with his party to see if they can take him down when the weather breaks. Their English is poor, so I call down to Talkeetna to check on the group's experience. A fairly weak team. I don't feel comfortable with the thought of them hauling this guy around Windy Corner (steep icy section). I guess we'll give them a hand with the lowering.

Day 11. A busy day. This morning we received a CB message from the 17,200-foot camp that a British climber had frostbitten toes and would be coming down the rescue gully with his two team members. They've requested assistance. Here we go. We've got to have our act together to help with this one; the wind chill is minus 60 degrees.

Hackett reported that the Japanese man was holding his own, but would have to go down when the weather improves. Thank goodness for the research camp. Each season their assistance has saved several lives.

Due to clouds, we are unable to observe the headwall above, but the last reported message said the British would start to descend at 11 a.m.

I make sure we have plenty of hot liquids—at least two quarts apiece as there won't be any way to stop and brew some in this weather. The four of us depart at noon with a litter and survival gear. Leaving the comforts of the igloo is not pleasant. We all suffer cold feet for the first hour, even with the best double boots and insulated overboots.

I keep kicking the ice with my crampons—must feel those toes! Our ascent is very slow. My face mask is completely frosted over. Bamboo wands mark the trail up. Without these we wouldn't think of moving in this whiteout.

The timing worked out well, meeting the Brits just as they exited fixed lines. No time to talk, just get them all back to 14,300 feet. The ropes are tied together and we begin making the long lowers of the litter.

The weather improved as we returned. This evening we'll feast on hot spinach fettuccine, apple compote and quarts of hot drinks.

All is secure on the mountain for another night.

Roger Robinson is a Denali mountaineering ranger. In 1989, 974 people attempted the summit; 461 reached the summit and six died while on the mountain.

BY ELAINE SEVY

HERB CABLES LOOKS AHEAD

DEPUTY DIRECTOR OUTLINES SPECIAL PROGRAMS. Sunlight illuminates the roomy office, decorated with large, healthy houseplants as well as photographs of the Statue of Liberty and Gateway National Recreation Area. Herbert "Herb" Cables enjoys the houseplants because he loves gardening. He enjoys the photographs because they remind him of Park Service places dear to his heart.

He appears relaxed in these surroundings, as comfortable with this office as he is with his newly appointed position as deputy director of the National Park Service. Cables' self-confidence comes from more than 30 years of experience in park management positions in federal and local government.

Prior to his current appointment, Cables was North Atlantic Regional Director for seven years. He coordinated the Statue of Liberty restoration project and the massive Ellis Island restoration, which earned him the Meritorious Executive Rank Award in 1988. He also served as superintendent of Gateway National Recreation Area from 1974 to 1982. Cables came to the Park Service from Manpower Assistance Projects, Inc., where he organized job training programs for disadvantaged youth.

His experience and accomplishments have made Cables confident, but not overly so. "I've never taken myself so serious as to think I can't benefit from using staff resources for expertise," Cables said. "I plan to regularly confer with NPS Associates, who are experts in their areas."

In a general sense, Cables said his first objective is to carry out the policies of the Director and the Administration: "President Bush talks about hiring more women and minorities, encouraging a drug-free workplace, and promoting volunteerism, and partnerships. I believe my experience has prepared me to be a strong advocate and supporter of these initiatives."

On a more specific level, Cables has some personal interests he plans to "aggressively" pursue. Affirmative action is one of them. "I'm not certain that the Park Service is going to be able to attract a significant number of women and minorities, given the competitiveness of the labor market at the present time. The Service is just not as competitive as it once was," he observes.

Cables is developing a plan that may help the Service once again compete in the labor market. To help fill positions, he plans to work with the Student Conservation Association to develop a pilot program targeting high school seniors in 10 major cities throughout the country—one city per NPS region—with emphasis on ethnic minorities. Students from each of the 10 cities will then be recruited for summer park positions, where NPS employees will serve as mentors, tracking their progress for five years (senior year of high school and four years of college). Cables hopes the program will provide a pool of applicants for Service vacancies.

He also said that employees currently in the Service will be given career ladder opportunities through special training and placement. "We need to come up with a training program that will help us fill vacancies, but not threaten our workforce," he said.

Cables' interests range beyond training for current and prospective Park Service employees to improved NPS education for urban populations . He is researching ways to assist urban parks in meeting this need.

"I think a larger percentage of the urban population needs to know more about what concerns us when Yellowstone is ablaze and why we are promoting such programs as wolf reintroduction," Cables said. "We in the Service understand what these issues mean, but someone in New York, where tenements are burning every day, may not. We need to use urban parks to educate people about the Service's issues, for the benefit of the whole system."

The position of deputy director offers Cables exciting new challenges. But he admits that it has required his family to make certain sacrifices. And family is very important to Cables.

His wife, Lu, plans to leave her position at Yale University Medical School and relocate here this fall.

"My wife has been very supportive of all of my career moves. That's very important; I've been able to accept new challenges with the partnership and commitment in my marriage that is necessary to help me start off on the right foot.

"Lu and I felt that if someone thought I could come down to Washington and make a significant contribution, then I should accept the offer. Being a minority and being offered a senior management position within the government has significant implications."

Cables' immediate family is dear to him, but so is his Park Service family. His devotion to the Service is evident when he speaks of his future: "I pray I'll be able to do a job that brings credit to the Service and to those who have given me this opportunity."

Elaine Sevy is with the Public Affairs Office in WASO.

BY HELEN WELBORN

RECOVERY CORPS COMES TO YELLOWSTONE

The new bog bridge at Fairy Falls winds its way through the charred trunks of lodgepole pines.

Recovery Corps volunteers pack in resupplies of food and equipment to the backcountry work crew at Fairy Falls.

The trail to Fairy Falls follows the remains of an old road bed through scattered groves of lodgepole pine, around a series of boiling mudpots, and along the perimeter of a luscious early summer meadow. A grazing elk tracks our progress as he forages the meadow's knee-high grasses. Finally he turns away and wanders out of view, leaving the tall grasses to waft in the breeze.

I adjust my pack and pull my hat brim lower over my eyes as we continue along the flat and well-worn trail. In the distance we see the cluster of tents that is home to the Greater Yellowstone Recovery Corps' Alpha Three work crew. Alpha Three is stationed here at Fairy Falls for a month, and we are carrying repair tools, mail, and resupplies of food to them. We walk a half mile beyond the camp before we meet the crew at work just below the falls.

The Greater Yellowstone Recovery Corps was created in April of this year primarily to rebuild hundreds of miles of trails and dozens of foot bridges burned in the wildfires that swept Yellowstone Park last summer. The Recovery Corps, composed of high school and conservation corps volunteers from across the country, will also restore fire lines and protect natural areas threatened by erosion due to the loss of ground cover.

The Alpha Three crew is tearing out and replacing several hundred feet of the charred boardwalk that once spanned what in most seasons is the boggy final approach to the popular Fairy Falls. Using a 30-year-old virgin Royal Chinook crosscut saw and Pulaskis, the crew is cutting the lumber it needs from the naturally fallen timber that lies in the burned-over woods. They even use some of the scorched trees that need only to have their blackened bark skinned.

Alpha Three is one of 57 Recovery Corps crews stationed at work sites throughout the Greater Yellowstone area this summer. Alpha Three is a five-person crew of 16- and 17-year-old high school students (two young women; three young men) from Pennsylvania, Indiana, New York, Illinois, and Connecticut. They first met each other two weeks ago when Peter Henrikson, their supervisor, picked them up in Bozeman, MT, and brought them to Blister Rust Camp, the Recovery Corps' headquarters in Yellowstone.

They spent their first few days with three other crews acclimating to the high altitude, and learning about backcountry living and the equipment and tools they would use at their work sites. Then, three days after arriving, each crew packed ten days of provisions, loaded their tools and equipment, and headed off to establish basecamps throughout the park. Alpha Three headed to Fairy Falls, 35 miles southwest of Blister Rust.

The Greater Yellowstone Recovery Corps was established by an agreement between the National Park Service and the Student Conservation Association. While the expressed goal is to help park personnel accomplish their fire recovery objectives, more than just bridges and water bars are being built in Yellowstone this summer. Not only is the Recovery Corps exposing more than 500 participants to the challenges of natural resource management, it also is introducing these high school juniors and seniors to a world where self-reliance means more than being able to negotiate the local bus system or find books in a library. They learn it means figuring out how to keep the crew's food cache out of the way of grizzly and black bears, that it means learning how to look at the land and see how to lay out a turnpike or where to put in water bars. And, it also means learning to live with, rely on, and take care of the other crew members in a primitive camp in Yellowstone's backcountry.

For some crew members this is their first long trip away from home and into the woods. For others it is their first acquaintance with a sleeping bag and a primitive latrine. All are strangers to the forestry tools and techniques they'll use, and most have never heard the words "low-impact camping."

The opportunity to participate in the Recovery Corps is also an opportunity to consider the field of natural resources management as a career choice. During their stay the crews are visited by a variety of resource professionals, including the park's archeologist, naturalist, horse packers, and a variety of sub-district personnel. Some crews even get to meet Yellowstone Superintendent Bob Barbee.

While the Greater Yellowstone Recovery Corps focuses the work of several hundred participants on the fire recovery needs of Yellowstone NP, the Student Conservation Association (SCA) places dozens of crews and hundreds of resource assistants at more than 260 national parks, monuments, forests, and other public-resource sites each year.

SCA, a 32-year-old, non-profit organization, works with agency personnel to develop crew opportunities and positions in backcountry work, research, interpretation, and species protection. Then they recruit students from across the nation and other countries to fill those positions.

SCA also manages several unique programs, including work crews for special populations and backcountry skills workshops for agency personnel and the general public. This summer, for instance, SCA's hearing-impaired crews are revegetating camps and building trails in Olympic and Rocky Mountain NPs, while developmentally delayed youth are managing campgrounds in Montana.

Meanwhile, at ten locations across the country, comprehensive and specialized programs in Wilderness Work Skills are helping to revive the nearly lost art of building with rock, using crosscut saws, and erecting wood structures with jointery instead of hardware.

The goal of all these programs and workshops is to continue to provide and create opportunities for students (and others) to experiment and learn about natural resource management, conservation ethics, traditional forestry skills, and working with others. The key to success in each of these matters seems to depend on how well one learns to cooperate rather than compete with agency prerogatives, natural systems, and, of course, people.

Agency, corporate, foundation, and individual support make these programs possible. The Greater Yellowstone Recovery Corps, for example, is funded by the National Park Service, several foundations, and hundreds of individual donors. Several corporations, such as Stanley Tools, Patagonia, Coleman, Continental Airlines, Filson, and Harkin Supplies contribute funding, equipment and services at considerable discounts and, in several cases, free of charge. Public lands, youth, and conservation, it seems, are issues that attract much interest and support.

As we approach Alpha Three's work site I find myself thinking about the hard work and cooperation that have made the Recovery Corps a success. I see that Alpha Three is having its own success—most of the old burned-out walk has been dismantled, and more than fifty yards of new walk laid out. Streaked with ash and sweat, the crew clusters at the far side of the work site, watching Peter put a new handle on a Pulaski. Later he will show them how to sharpen the Royal Chinook saw. I slide the pack off my shoulders and reach for the mail pouch.

And I wonder how other teenagers are spending their summer.

Helen L. Welborn recently moved to Charlestown, NH, to work for the Student Conservation Association as the Program Administrator for the Greater Yellowstone Recovery Corps. She has also worked in conservation programs in Missouri and Washington.

To Reduce or Not to Reduce — Facts on Retirement Annuities

Insurance company representatives who want to explain the "benefits" of not electing a reduced retirement annuity with a survivor benefit recently have approached several Service employees. They reason that a reduced retirement annuity with a survivor benefit costs the annuitant several hundred dollars a year. They suggest that an employee can take the difference between (1) a reduced retirement annuity with survivor benefit and (2) a full retirement annuity without survivor benefit, invest this difference in a life insurance policy with a fairly substantial face value, and be money ahead. (In this situation, the life insurance policy is taken out on the annuitant, with the survivor named as the beneficiary.)

This may appear to be a viable alternative to a reduced retirement annuity with survivor benefit. However several things need to be considered before you decide to participate in such a program. What follows are just a few things to think about:

1. Normally, a federal employee's existing health insurance with family coverage continues into retirement. If you are retired and have family coverage under your health insurance, the coverage continues for your spouse if you die and have elected a survivor annuity. If you retire without electing an annuity with survivor benefit, then die, your spouse is no longer eligible for coverage under the federal employee's health insurance program.

2. The age of your spouse is an important consideration. According to the statistics women outlive men of the same age by about 10 years. Assuming that you are a 55-year old married man with a wife of the same age, chances are that she will outlive you. So, if you elect a survivor annuity for your spouse, she would probably be paid a monthly survivor annuity for at least 10 years after your death. It would take a fairly substantial insurance policy to take care of your spouse's financial needs for that long. Therefore, keep in mind the health of your spouse when electing or not electing a survivor annuity. Also, keep in mind that if your spouse predeceases you and you have elected a reduced annuity with survivor benefit, you can have your annuity changed back to unreduced annuity without survivor benefit.

3. Yes, it does cost you to elect a survivor annuity. Basically, the annual cost of a full (55 percent of your total annuity) survivor annuity is computed as follows: 2 1/2 percent of the first $3,600 of your retirement annuity and 10 percent of the remaining amount of your retirement annuity. Consider, for example, that your retirement annuity is computed at $24,000 a year. To provide a full survivor annuity of $13,200 for your spouse (55 percent of the $24,000) would cost you $2,130 a year or $177.50 a month. Therefore, instead of receiving $24,000 annual annuity for life without a survivor annuity, you would receive the reduced annual annuity of $21,870. The calculations are as follows:

2 1/2 percent of the first $3,600 of your retirement annuity = $90

10 percent of the remaining amount of $20,400 ($24,000 less $3,600) = $2,040

Total annual reduction = $2,130

Total retirement annuity without survivor benefit = $24,000

Less $2,130 for a full survivor benefit = $2,130

Annual annuity with survivor benefit = $21,870

In summary, you need to consider a variety of factors before deciding whether or not to elect a survivor annuity upon retirement. Do not be too quick to jump at what appears to be a short-term, windfall "profit" compared to what you save if you do not elect a survivor annuity. Every person's needs are different. What works well for some may not work well for others, and to be forewarned is to be forearmed. Move into this area cautiously and ask lots of questions if you are approached by anyone wanting to "sell" you an alternative to a federal survivor annuity. While some of these have some attractive features, especially in the short-term, the long-range benefits may not be there.

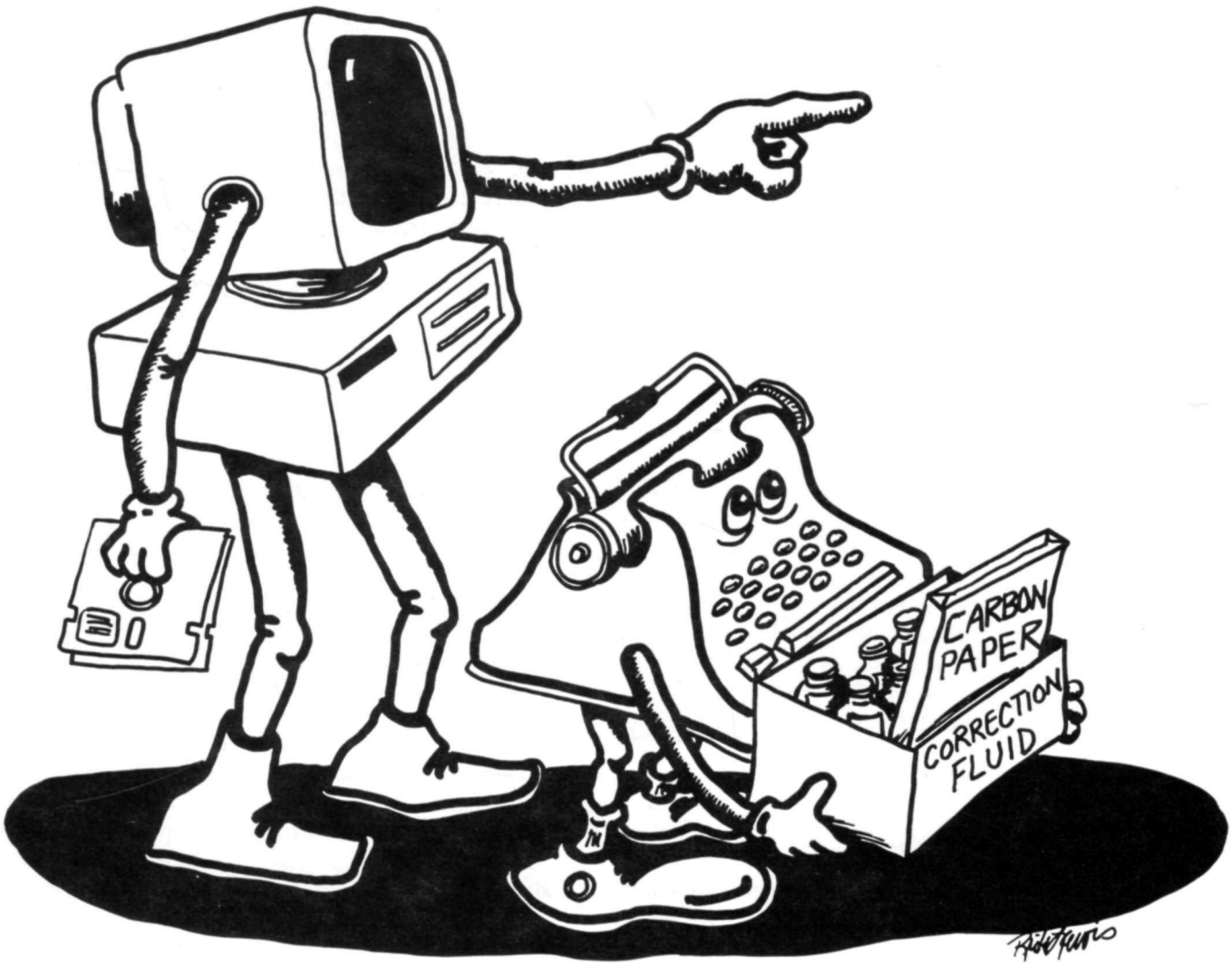
Ken Schaefer
MWRO Personnel

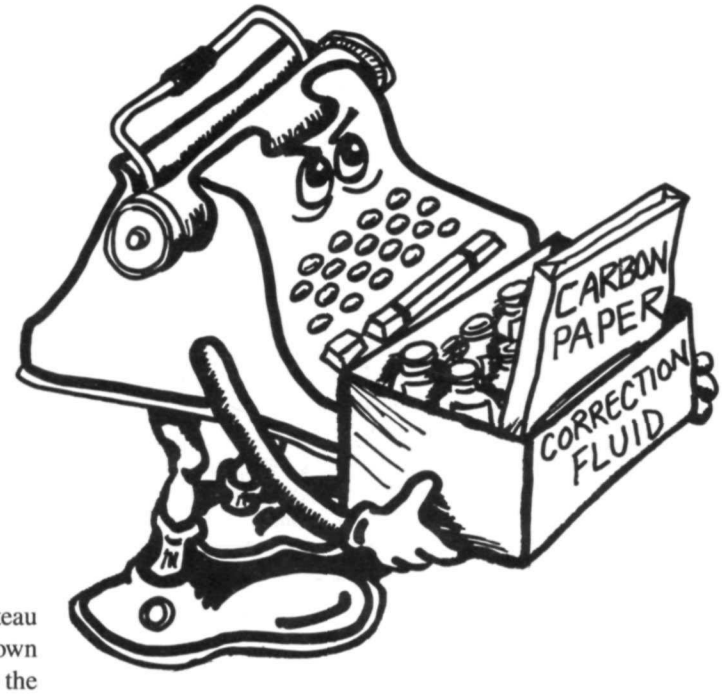
BY MARTHA ANN HOWELL

THEN AND NOW— TECHNOLOGY AND SECRETARIES

About ten years ago in the beautiful, historic Pension Building, I was introduced to my first IBM Selectric II typewriter. Years before that—and I won't say how many—if we typed a document with a manual typewriter and made an error, we had to type the whole thing over. I shudder when I think of all the tissue copies we had to correct or type over. Well, thanks to improving technology, life became easier. With a self-correcting typewriter we could backspace over a mistake and correct it. It was great. No more pencil erasers, shields, or white-out fluids. It was a new kind of freedom.

But there was more to come.





Moving forward in time, we achieved an even greater plateau with the Mag Card machine. This looked like an overgrown typewriter with a dual disk drive that sat on the floor next to the machine. All in all, this was a lot of hardware, and, at times, it appeared rather formidable. But we proceeded to master this new challenge. We made changes, inserted corrections, and printed documents without having to retype them. What a thrill!

During the late 1970s an office called the Word Processing Division came into existence. The name was self-explanatory. It handled all documents that exceeded a certain number of pages, and made work a lot easier for the rest of us. The NBI equipment they used was the second generation of word processing machinery, but the first that allowed you to see the text you inserted on a TV-like monitor. During the reorganization at the beginning of the Reagan administration, the Word Processing Division was abolished.

Fortunately, all was not lost. Other divisions began to acquire NBI equipment. I welcomed yet another upgrade at the same time. I suddenly had to learn how to use some very sophisticated machinery. After a few basic instructions from what was left of the Word Processing Division, I faced the task of having to produce a document on the NBI *alone*. What could I do? Out came the manual.

I taught myself how the NBI worked, then discovered a class that covered all the detailed functions of the machine. Very excited, I signed up for the 2-day course, only to realize that after the first day I was so far ahead of the class that the instructor let me go ahead at my own pace. I did learn how to underline headings and other invaluable formatting techniques. I kept forging ahead on the NBI, all the while remembering the earlier technology I had put behind me.

When we moved out of the old Pension Building, (now the National Building Museum) and back to 1100 L Street NW, I brought along my trusty NBI as well as the Mag Card machine, soon to be surplused. Little did I suspect yet another change was just around the corner.

I enjoyed about two or three years of NBI word processing, just enough to feel at home with the machine, when the NPS decided to join the computer era. Everyone typing on outmoded equipment moved up to computers at that time. Purchasing NBIs was no longer endorsed. As a matter of fact, NBI, itself, now offered more advanced computer models.

It seemed like the same old routine at first. Again, we were encouraged to take advantage of the free computer classes. But this time the change over to new and better computer hardware was different for me. I felt like a kid with a new toy. There was excitement, challenge—a door to new technology had opened up and I intended to walk through.

If someone had asked me a few years ago how I felt about computers I probably would have answered, "Well, I doubt if I will ever learn how to operate one." Secretly, however, I always had wanted to do just that. I used to walk downtown when I was very young and look into store windows that displayed shiny new computer equipment. I dreamed of being able to operate one of those models myself. Now, thanks to modern technology, I don't have to dream such dreams anymore. Now, there are computers with LaserJet printers for everyone! Now almost every office has its own computer—and not just one, but several. Only very rarely do you still find an NBI or a correcting typewriter. Rarer still are the plain old manual typewriters, though occasionally you do come across one.

If you should have an old manual typewriter on your desk, take good care of it. In this age of technology, it will soon be a collector's item, if it is not already. As a thing of the past, it's worth more as an antique than as a usable piece of office equipment for aging secretaries.

Martha Howell serves the Preservation Assistance Division as Division Secretary.

PARK BRIEFS

A little ponderosa pine got a powerful start in life when it was planted this past summer near the **Lincoln Memorial** by three members of the Montana delegation to Congress. Barely three feet high, the sapling was dwarfed by U.S. Senators Max Baucus and Conrad Burns and U.S. Representative Pat Williams, who each delighted in heaping shovelfuls of earth around the transplant from their home state.

"The Ponderosa represents the spirit of Montana," said Senator Baucus in brief remarks dedicating the tree to this year's celebration of Montana's centennial of statehood.

The tree was presented to the NPS by U.S. Forest Service Montana supervisor Ernie Nunn, who told a crowd of friends and news reporters that the tree and he traveled together to Washington, D.C.

The tree's presence in the nation's capital will help Montana school children celebrate their state's history. It is expected to give focus to school programs that explain Montana's role in national events.

Accepting the tree for the Park Service was NCR RD Robert G. Stanton. "We invite you to drop by and watch it grow," he said.

Earle Kittleman

USFS Supervisor Ernie Nunn (l), U.S. Senator Conrad Burns, U.S. Representative Pat Williams, NCR Director Robert Stanton and U.S. Senator Max Baucus plant a Ponderosa Pine near the Lincoln Memorial.

On May 13, the NPS and the Congressional Medal of Honor Society sponsored a special ceremony to honor three previously unrecognized Medal of Honor recipients who lived in Fort Scott, KS. New headstones, provided by the Veterans Administration, were dedicated to Civil War Veterans George F. Pond and William H. Longshore with the sound of drum rolls, taps and a salute from a rifle squad. During the course of his research, **Fort Scott NHS** Historian Arnold W. Schofield also discovered that U.S. Marine Corps 1st Lieutenant William Dean Hawkins, buried in Punchbowl National Cemetery of the Pacific, was the only native son of Fort Scott to receive the Medal of Honor. Historian Schofield eulogized Lt. Hawkins during the ceremony.

A memorial procession, historic field music, military hymns, a floral tribute and remarks by Sonny Wells, Midwestern Representative of the Congressional Medal of Honor Society, characterized the ceremony, which was the result of seven months of research and planning that began in September 1988 and concluded in Evergreen Cemetery on May 13, 1989.

Fort Scott NHS Medal of Honor ceremony, featuring 1st Sgt. Arnold W. Schofield eulogizing 1st Lt. William Dean Hawkins.

Evergreen Cemetery is the final resting place of Pvt. George F. Pond and William H. Longshore, who lived the balance of their lives in Fort Scott after the Civil War. Pvt. Pond, a member of Co. C of the 3rd Wisconsin Cavalry, received his Medal of Honor for bravery in action against a superior number of the enemy during the Battle of Drywood, KS, on May 15, 1864. Pvt. William H. Longshore, a member of Co. D of the 30th Ohio Infantry Regiment, received his Medal of Honor for volunteering for and participating in a suicide mission at the Battle of Vicksburg, MS, on May 22, 1863. U.S. Marine Corps 1st Lieutenant William Dean Hawkins died from wounds he received while leading his sniper-scout platoon in action against the enemy during the battle for the Island of Tarawa from November 21-23, 1943.

A dozen enthusiastic teenagers helped to replant historic hedges, upgrade trampled trails and renew faded directional signs at **Saint-Gaudens NHS** this summer.

As members of the New Hampshire Conservation Corps (NHCC), the energetic crew learned new skills as they were assigned to different tasks at the site. Their major goal was improving the three-mile Blow-Me-Down Trail. They built log walks and retaining walls despite high humidity, pesky insects and mud. Construction of a 20-foot wood bridge with railing across a large drainage area was their biggest achievement.

The NHCC is a Student Conservation Association program aimed at placing "at risk" youngsters in supervised outdoor settings for a six-week period where they learn outdoor and craft skills. This is the second year Saint-Gaudens has benefitted from the Corps assistance. Maintenance foreman John Gilbert, Jr., who coordinated the overall operation, said the park received "outstanding quality" work from the group.

More than 3,000 acres of Appalachian National Scenic Trail (AT) land has become part of the **Blue Ridge Parkway** to clear up confusion over contiguous lands being managed by two different units of the national park system. Lack of Appalachian Trail staff to carry out protection responsibilities has resulted in some localized damage. Trees have been cut, plants removed and illegal use of off-road vehicles used illegally. A cooperative agreement between the Parkway, AT Project Office, Appalachian Trail Conference, and Old Dominion Appalachian Trail Club formally placed the 3,065 acres under parkway management.

The beginning of the final phase of rehabilitation and construction of the Boott Mills Museum was celebrated at **Lowell NHP** on June 9. The former Boott Mills' Building #6 and Countinghouse will contain major exhibits, including a reconstructed weaving room with more than 100 power looms, some of which actually will produce cotton cloth. The Boott Mills Museum also will be the home of the Paul E. Tsongas Industrial History Center; a gallery that displays works by local craftspeople and artists; and NPS offices. Destined to become the centerpiece of Lowell NHP, the museum should open by summer 1991. The restoration of the Boott Mills complex is a cooperative venture between the Lowell Historic Preservation Commission, Congress Group Properties, the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, and the National Park Service.

Katie Lawhon

On November, 1909, Presidential Proclamation created Gran Quivira NM near Mountainair, New Mexico. Now a unit of **Salinas Pueblo Missions NM**, Gran Quivira will be celebrating its 80th anniversary with an open house on November 4. All former park employees are invited to attend. On display will be photographs and momentos, past and present. If you have an interesting tale to tell, a photo that says a thousand words and a desire to celebrate Gran Quivira's 80th anniversary with old friends, we're hoping you'll attend. For more information, call or write: Park Ranger Carol Chilton, Salinas Pueblo Missions NM, P.O. Box 496, Mountainair, NM 87036, (505)847-2290 or 847-2585.

About 1,000 visitors flooded the **JFK Birthplace NHS** in Brookline, MA, during the last weekend in May to help the site celebrate its 20th anniversary as a part of the park system. Had he lived, that day would have marked the former president's 72nd birthday.

And so, under sparkling Friday morning skies, tree-lined Beals Street was closed to traffic for about two hours as chairs were set up in front of the modest home where President Kennedy was born and lived until 1921. He began his schooling at the nearby Edward Devotion School and for the third year, grade three students there participated in an essay contest with the natural topic of "What John Kennedy Means to Me." The former president's nephew, Michael Kennedy, Citizens Energy Corp. chairman, was the guest speaker at the event and gave out prizes to the essay winners.

The Florida Department of Environmental Regulation (DER) has committed $75,000 from its Pollution Recovery Fund toward the completion of the Turner River Restoration Project within **Big Cypress NP**. The project will continue the process of restoring 18,000 acres of seasonal wetlands, increasing natural water flow into the Turner River, and mitigating drainage impacts of roadside canals. The NPS, with the assistance of Collier County, initiated restoration of natural conditions in 1986 through placement of plugs in the canals and culverts under the roads. A side effect of the original roadside canal dredging was spoil piles and exotic vegetation. The additional $75,000 will remove these and reseed disturbed areas.

The fund, according to Environmental Manager Gordon Romeis, was established by the State of Florida for resource restoration projects. Money collected from fines paid by violators of environmental rules and regulation supports the fund.

Fred Fagergren

Clan relationships, the role of Native American women in the modern era, and intercultural relations were some of the topics discussed at a recent cultural awareness day sponsored by **Bighorn Canyon NRA, Custer Battlefield NM, the Hardin Area Chamber of Commerce** and the **Montana Committee for the Humanities**. The event drew speakers from the Crow and Northern Cheyenne Indian Tribes and from the non-Indian community.

Planned as a way for non-Indians to learn more about their neighbors' traditions and lifestyles, the discussions ranged from problems faced by Native Americans in modern society and today's impacts on traditional practices, to communication among all the ethnic groups residing in Big Horn County, MT.

Dale Old Horn, an instructor at Little Big Horn College, compared Crow family relationships to those within the non-Indian society and to cultural views held by other Native American groups. Old Horn stated that the Crow language, in contrast to certain other Native American tongues, is dynamic, viable, and spoken by a majority of the Crow people including children. Far from dying out, it is a major factor in preserving many facets of the culture.

Jeanine Windy Boy, President of Little Bighorn College, and Myra Left Hand, a school board member, discussed the role of modern Native American female professionals active in the political arena. These women draw on their cultural heritage as sources of strength and inspiration and, even though involved fully in the modern world, still find time to practice traditional skills and ceremonies and to raise their children in the age-old ways.

According to Bighorn Canyon Superintendent Bill Binnewies and Custer Battlefield Superintendent Dennis Ditmanson, the issues raised were all of importance to the Service since each park is totally or partly surrounded by the Crow Reservation and in close proximity to the Northern Cheyenne Reservation.

Coordinating the activity were Mardell Plain Feather of Custer Battlefield, Theo Hugs, Kathy Paranto, and Yvonne Iron of Bighorn Canyon. Theo, Yvonne, and Mardell are members of the Crow Tribe as well as long time Park Service employees.

Paul Gordon

Everything changes. That's one of the lessons that visitors take home from **Russell Cave NM**. The cave grows to the slow tick of geologic time, while the last 10,000 years have rushed by (relatively speaking) in a flurry of Indians, explorers and modern visitors. This perspective on time and change is a central theme at Russell Cave as we continue to expand our facilities and programs for the future.

For example, less than four years ago the need for a separate AV room in the visitor center became obvious. In such a small park (with proportionately small funding) the best solution required that we build the new AV room ourselves. Slightly more than a year later, the addition had been completed at a cost of $10,000 (one-fourth the DSC estimate), and work started on a collection of AV programs to interpret the natural and cultural history of the park.

This collection now includes several locally produced "custom" videos for the park. Once again flexibility was the key in producing a three-minute introductory video and a special eleven-minute park program that has proven very useful for handicapped visitors. The eleven-minute program was filmed in the park by staff, then edited on the region's VHS equipment with the assistance of the communications office. The result is a general program on Russell Cave's natural and cultural features at a fraction of the cost of a commercially produced video.

The same initiative that produced the AV room and video programs was also responsible for the growth of the annual Indian Day interpretive program in mid-April. This gathering of local experts on Southeastern Indian lifestyles results in a day-long demonstration of flintknapping, pottery making, cooking, hide tanning, and a variety of other skills—a chance for visitors to learn firsthand some of the knowledge gathered over the last century by Southeastern archeologists, and an opportunity for the park to promote the protection of this cultural history for everyone's future.

Through all these examples there is the common thread of growth and change. Changing facilities and changing programs not only keep the visitors interested and the staff excited about the work, they also help underscore a primary theme about humankind and nature at Russell Cave. Everything changes, always.

Dirk Wiley

A new artist-in-residence program in **Yosemite NP** seeks participants for the 1990-1991 season. Six artists will be offered the opportunity to live in the park for up to a month in order to interpret the special nature of the park through their work. Applicants for the program should provide ten slides of current work and a resume that includes shows and exhibits. Mail material to Artist-in-Residence, NPS, Yosemite Museum, P.O. Box 577, Yosemite, CA 95389 or call 209/372-0297 for further information.

"We hope to achieve a balance between artists with well-established backgrounds, and those who are unknown but of promising talent," remarked Dave Forgang, park curator and program coordinator. "After all, Yosemite has long served as an inspiration to artists. The first touring party included artist Thomas Ayres whose Yosemite images were seen throughout America in 1855."

The fifth annual All-Women Lifeguard Tournament at Jacob Riis Park was truly national this year as competitors came from seven states and the team trophy was won by women lifeguards from Los Angeles County.

One hundred twenty-eight women lifeguards from California, Florida, Delaware, Connecticut, Rhode Island, New Jersey and New York competed in events aimed at testing their stamina, skills and familiarity with lifesaving equipment, said Carl Martinez, water safety specialist at **Gateway NRA** who coordinates the annual event.

The tournament was created by Martinez and Gateway Superintendent Robert McIntosh, Jr., to promote lifeguarding by women. It attracts more than 100 participants each year. The California team was flown east by private donations. The Florida team drove 20 consecutive hours to compete.

Why do the lifeguards travel so far and practice so rigorously for the annual event at Gateway? "It's ladies' day out," said Norreen Farrell, a Yale University undergraduate who lifeguards each summer at a beach in Michigan.

Manny Strumpf

For a two-week period in June, **Mount Rainier NP** hosted Soviet and Chinese mountain climbers scheduled to join with American climbers for a team building exercise and equipment shakedown in preparation for a 1990 Earth Day 20 Everest summit attempt. The unrest in China delayed the arrival of the Chinese team . However, they did manage to meet and train with the international group for a few days on the mountain. This was the first time that American, Soviet and Chinese climbers have roped up together. According to the organizers, the objective of this international cooperation is to demonstrate to the world the heights of human achievement that can be reached through international commitment and teamwork, and to show that international cooperation and teamwork are the foundation for a more peaceful world. The mountaineering objective is to place not less than three climbers (one climber from each nationality) simultaneously on the summit of the world's highest peak, to directly televise this accomplishment by satellite to all three nations, and to arrange communications between the summit team and political leaders in China, the Soviet Union and the United States.

Cy Hentges

NEWS

Michael V. Finley, 42, has been named to the superintendency of Yosemite NP. Finley, a Medford, OR, native with extensive NPS experience, has been superintendent of Florida's Everglades NP since 1986.

Service Director James M. Ridenour said, "Mike Finley is a dynamic manager whose career has been marked by a succession of accomplishments. I have the utmost confidence in Mike for this important position. He expressed a deep interest in taking on the challenge of Yosemite, and I definitely feel he is the right person for the job."

"Everglades NP has been an exceptional challenge with the diversity of ecological concerns that affect the delicate resources of the park," Finley said. "Only the rare opportunity to work with the comparable, though very different, challenges of Yosemite could have induced me to leave Florida....I will greatly miss overseeing the management of Everglades NP. However, I believe that Yosemite presents a whole new set of resource management challenges and opportunities. "

Finley replaces John M. Morehead, who recently left Yosemite to assume the Service's third-ranking post in Washington, DC, as Associate Director for Operations. Finley's first superintendency was at Assateague Island NS.

■

Carolyn E. Link has been selected superintendent of Abraham Lincoln Birthplace NHS. Currently the administrative officer for Virgin Islands NP, she had also been in charge of administrative duties at Fort Donelson NB where her NPS career began. She succeeds James F. Kretschmann, who retired in June.

■

A veteran park ranger now in charge of interpretive programs on the Blue Ridge Parkway, **Mary Ann Peckham** has been appointed manager of Stones River NB. She succeeds Donald E. Magee who recently was appointed the new superintendent of USS Arizona Memorial. During her 15-year career, Peckham has worked as a park ranger at Custer Battlefield NM, Fort Sumter NM, Tuskegee Institute NHS, and Cape Hatteras NS.

More than 100 friends and colleagues of Superintendent **John N. Tucker** (Andersonville and Jimmy Carter NHSs) gathered outside Plains, GA, for a southern-style covered dish farewell dinner in his honor. Former President Carter and his wife, Rosalynn, were among those who attended.

The transfer of Superintendent Tucker to Fort Sumter NM came as a surprise to the people of Plains. Plains Historical Trust President Maxine Reese credited Tucker with the smooth transition of the Service into Plains life. She also remarked, "We could always count on John Tucker. When he said he would do something for us, he would."

Former President Carter agreed. However he indicated that there was one thing about Tucker that everyone needed to be aware of. "When the Jimmy Carter National Historic Site was established last year, Rosalynn and I had all kinds of jobs lined up for John. But Superintendent Tucker had a way of turning those jobs around and giving them right back to us to do," he said.

Plains Mayor Boze Godwin continued with the accolades, awarding Tucker honorary citizenship to the Town of Plains. Elizabeth Barthold, a historian working with the HABS team in Plains this past summer, later remarked on the comradery of the evening. "These people really respect John Tucker," she said.

Though Superintendent Tucker will also miss staff and other friends from the two areas he most recently managed, he looks forward to yet another new adventure at Fort Sumter NM, where he succeeds Brien Varnado, who left the Service in May to take a job with the Charleston Museum.

Sarah Robinson

Southwest Regional Historian **Melody Webb** has been named to her first superintendency at Lyndon B. Johnson NHP. She replaces Harry O'Bryant who had been superintendent since 1983. Webb joined the Service in Alaska in 1975 as a research historian. She is the author of *The Last Frontier: A History of the Yukon Basin of Canada and Alaska*. In addition she has published several scholarly articles for professional journals and three major history studies for the Alaska parks.

AWARDS

Carlsbad Caverns NP park ranger **Fred Armstrong** has received a $10,000 graduate fellowship at Colorado State University. The fellowship was awarded from an endowment fund established in 1986 by NPS alumnus George F. Baggley, former superintendent of Isle Royale NP (1940-46) and Lake Mead NRA (1946-54) and assistant RD of the Midwest Region (1961-64), as well as associate RD (1964-66). Armstrong will pursue a masters degree in recreation resource management, with an emphasis on water quality in national parks.

■

Zion Superintendent **Harold L. Grafe** received the Department of the Interior's Meritorious Service Award for his NPS activities since 1966. "It's gratifying to be recognized for work that is so enjoyable," said Grafe, who passed up two budding careers to join the National Park Service. His first job after flying F-86 Sabre Jets for the Air Force was as a pilot for a major airline. But following a furlough during an economic downturn he decided to become a teacher and returned to school for a masters in education and administration. He taught at Montezuma-Cortez High in Colorado for several years, working as an NPS seasonal during the summers to make extra money.

"Each summer I became more and more enchanted with the National Park Service, its mission and philosophy," Grafe said. "I enjoyed the summers so much I applied for permanent status and got a job as an intake ranger."

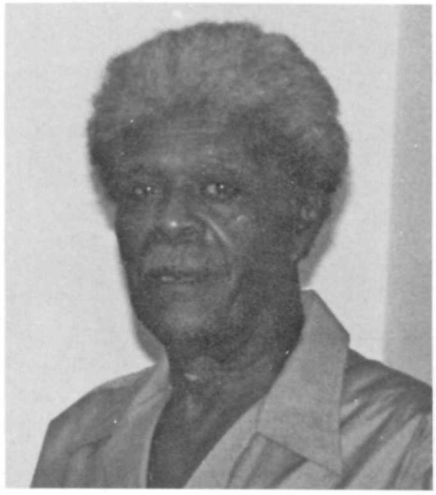
Park Ranger **Susan Flo Smith** received a special achievement award at Minute Man NHP for her work monitoring a comprehensive emergency alarm system and coordinating the park's integrated pest management program. That an urban park should maintain an integrated pest management program comes as a surprise to some. However, the program is critical to the preservation of historic buildings susceptible to insects.

■

Arkansas Department of Parks & Tourism honored **Buffalo NR** with a Henry award for its outstanding contributions to the state's tourism industry. Since the 1981 inception of the awards, recipients have represented the best and brightest in Arkansas' tourism industry. Buffalo NR received its Henry in the "Natural State" category, presented to a community or an organization, a special event or attraction enhancing the state's quality of life. The award was named for Henri de Tonti, the man many historians consider one of the first "Arkansas travelers." An Italian adventurer as well as a trusted friend and lieutenant of French explorer Sieur de La Salle, de Tonti is credited with commissioning "Poste de Arkansas," now part of Arkansas Post NM, the first permanent settlement in the lower Mississippi region and, as such, the first center of Arkansas hospitality.

■

Indiana Dunes NL Superintendent Dale Engquist presented Assistant U.S. Attorney **J. Philip Klingeberger** with a special commendation award for his support of the Service in defending the right of public access to the lakeshore. His efforts were required when the Beverly Shores community and other plaintiffs filed a complaint in the U.S. District Court seeking to restrict access to park lands along Lake Michigan. The complaint had potentially far-reaching significance for the lakeshore since much of its land is interspersed among several northwest Indiana communities. However, Mr. Klingeberger's legal counsel and actions in defending the United States resulted in court orders dismissing all major issues.



John Stewart, a key, long-term staff member of King Mountain NMP, just completed 40 years with the Park Service. When he began with the park in 1948, much of the land consisted of former pastures and fields then recently purchased from previous landowners to create both the park and the adjoining area that became the state park. Over the years, Stewart saw the regeneration of a heavy second-growth forest that has recently begun to suggest the original oak-hickory-beech old growth forest that dominated the area at the time of the Revolutionary War.

Through the years, Stewart has received numerous commendations for exceptional service. In October 1982 he received a special achievement award for outstanding work during the Bicentennial celebrations held at Kings Mountain and Cowpens. In November 1986, he accepted a special act service award for preparation and installation of the new museum displays at the visitor center. Most recently he was awarded a special 40th anniversary plaque and service award, including a gold and ruby pin in commemoration of his years of service.

DEATHS

William Glen Gray, 52, Superintendent of Saratoga NHP (NY) for the last 14 years, died of a sudden heart attack on the morning of July 17. He was working at his desk when he was stricken.

Born to Charles and Lois Wert Gray in Pembroke, (south of Hopkinsville in western) KY, Glen lived in several western states while a youngster. He earned a BA in History from UMaryland in 1961 and that July married Beverly Thomas, whom he met while playing in a church volleyball league. Glen entered federal government service with the US Patent Office (1962), but stayed there less than a year before transferring to his first NPS post as Petersburg NB historian in June 1963. During the early portion of his 26-year NPS career Glen also worked at Guilford Courthouse NMP, Appomattox Court House NHP, Adams NHS, Grand Canyon NP and served as a management assistant at Saugus Iron Works NHS from 1969 to 1973 before being named superintendent there in 1974. On July 6, 1975 he was appointed Saratoga's sixth superintendent.

Glen Gray receives 25-year pin from then NARO RD Herb Cables. Photo by R. Dixie Tourangeau.

As it turned out, this Revolutionary War battleground of placid rolling hills along the Hudson River, would become Glen Gray's legacy to the American people, and will now be looked on as a symbol of his capable management and leadership. He guided park expansion to include the American headquarters, the hospital, and Saratoga Monument, while beginning the fight to preserve the Champlain Canal. Both the Schuyler and Neilson Houses received extensive rehabbing and more interpretive operations during his tenure. In an effort to bring the public into Saratoga NHP and bring the park to the community's attention, Glen became deeply involved in the creation of the "Friends of Saratoga." Not shy of new NPS programs, Glen made 434 acres of parkland available to local farmers under the Historic Leasing Act. Among the things he did to protect the historic scene at Saratoga, Glen fostered a multi-year study of park deer habits and a fire management research program. He also found time to serve a number of details at the North Atlantic

Glen Gray during Bicentennial.

Regional Office where he authored "The Gray Report," a list of recommendations for regionwide project management.

Known and respected in the communities surrounding his park, Glen was a dedicated Emergency Medical Technician and served on the Saratoga and Schuylerville Emergency Squads, once in 1986 helping to deliver a newborn in an ambulance. Active in scouting, he was instrumental in creating the Wilkinson National Recreation Trail for Boy Scouts at Saratoga NHP. Glen was a member of the "Ten-Gallon Club" (blood donors) and was very proud of his "Half-Century" patch given to him for riding a bike 50 miles in one day (of 180 total miles) on behalf of the Vermont Lung Association.

At a memorial service at sunset on July 21, Acting NA RD Steven Lewis said, "Glen was probably the most credible, stable, helpful and respected manager in our Region. He has been a trusted colleague and close friend for many years. We are thankful for having known and worked with him." Glen's ashes were later scattered at Stop 9-The Great Redoubt, along Saratoga's Tour Road.

In tragedies like this there is sometimes sad irony. One NAR superintendent noted that a short time before his death Glen was good-naturedly razzing a fellow administrator who was talking about retiring. Glen reportedly remarked, "C'mon you know you'll probably die on the job like the rest us." Unfortunately for his immediate family and NPS friends, his prediction came true much, much too soon.

He leaves his wife Beverly (106 Route Four South, Schuylerville, NY 12871), and son Charles Raymond, also of Schuylerville; daughters Linda with the US Navy at Mare Island, CA, and Carol Wallace of Glens Falls, NY; three sisters, Leslie, Sharon and Barbara all of Ellicott City, MD, and a grandson, Dale Wallace.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Schuylerville Lions Club Eye Bank or the Johnsville-Union Bridge United Methodist Church, P.O. Box 460, Union Bridge, MD 21791.

Supt. Bill Gibson, Mound City Group NM
and Rich Tourangeau, NARO

■

Vince Gannon, 54, died in Gainesville on April 9. He started his NPS career at Castillo de San Marcos NM in 1959, followed by assignments at Chickamauga-Chattanooga NMP, DeSota NMem, and Cape Hatteras NS. He retired from the Southeast Region as a program officer. Survivors include his mother, Mary Lee Gannon (1 Palm Row, St. Augustine, FL 32084), and two brothers.

■

Laura M. Joyner, 79, died March 4. The widow of Newell F. Joyner (Midwest Region museum curator from 1957 until his death in 1965), she had fought the effects of polio since 1951. Ten years ago she also was diagnosed as having Parkinson's disease. Her daughter, Joan Bourke (83 Saddle Rock Ridge, Wimberly, TX 78676), observed that, with her affairs in order and no marriages or births on the horizon of her large family, Laura lived only two days after coming down with pneumonia. She is survived by her daughter, two sons, seven grandchildren and three great grandchildren.

■

Dolores V. (Dodee) Oppegaard, 69, died in West Park Hospital recently of a heart attack. The wife of Robert N. Oppegaard who retired in 1988 as a project supervisor in Death Valley, Dolores worked for KODI radio in Cody, WY, the Bureau of Reclamation and the National Park Service. She co-founded the Exemplar chapter of Beta Sigma Phi, and enjoyed art, painting, photography, and other occupations. She is survived by her husband, a son, and two grandsons. Messages of condolence may be sent to husband Bob at P.O. Box 442, Cody, WY 82414.

James (Tubby) Skaggs, 66, died at his home on July 18. Born within the boundaries of what is today Mammoth Cave NP, Tubby often recollected childhood days spent dangling his legs over the edge of the porch of the old Mammoth Cave Hotel while his mother washed hotel linens. In the mid 1930s he worked as a Civilian Conservation Corpsman in one of four camps located at the then proposed park.

Tubby began working for the NPS in 1950, and performed a variety of jobs during his tenure at Mammoth Cave NP. For many years, he guided visitors through the Mammoth Cave passageways, paddling hundreds of boatloads of visitors across the waters of Echo River on the now discontinued seven hour "All Day Tour." In more recent years, Tubby worked in the Maintenance Division, protecting the cave from human impact, but still giving visitors a personal interpretive experience.

Born near the entrance to Mammoth Cave NP, Tubby Skaggs lived his lifetime near the cave's rambling passages. He has touched the lives of many over the years, and his talk of auctions, past guides, and family will be missed by all who knew him.

He is survived by his wife, Delma (391 Indian Hill Road, Park City, KY 42160), their three children, two stepsons, several grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

David A. Mihalic

■

Leslie W. Piel, 82, died September 13 in Jackson, MS. His NPS career began at Cape Cod NS in 1961, and was followed by a transfer to Fire Island NS, from which he retired in 1969 as a realty officer. He also served with the Corps of Engineers. He is survived by his wife, Eunice Viala Piel (204 Azalea Lane, Vicksburg, MS 39180).

Although dated October 23, 1977, the letter could well be of today—a fleeting moment of essence in the chase of time: "So from the beautiful valley of Kamiah, I will say: 'Tots-khoo-laah-wit Lough-tee-way, [in] Nez Perce, good evening my friend. . ." [Also] regards to [all] I know [at Harpers Ferry]. . .we had a jam session at Dave Guiney's place and I think we did quite well considering we played together for the first time. . ."

So wrote Wet-yaat-Mess Ilp-bilp (Red Swan) about his training session at Harpers Ferry and about the interpretive plan for the Nez Perce NHP in Idaho.

But now the pen is still. On April 19th, at age 75, he died of a stroke at the VA hospital in Boise. Better known by his Christian name of **Angus A. Wilson**, this *gentle* man helped develop the ethnological background for Nez Perce.

Says then-superintendent Jack Williams: "as result of his work for NPS, Angus became more interested in aboriginal Nez Perce life, having been raised a Presbyterian. . .and like his mother (Elizabeth) made every effort to pass this on to his young Nez Perce people. . ."

Angus was a master at easing tensions between the aboriginal past and the modern world. I recall a certain scene with Angus and Josiah Red Wolf, last survivor of the Nez Perce War.

In October, 1970, we found Red Wolf in a tiny room of the Sommerville nursing home near Lewiston, ID. He lay sleeping in print pajamas on a cot by a lone chair. Only a drop light illuminated the scene. Angus leaned down and shook the old man gently.

Upon awakening, Red Wolf recognized Angus and started to arise. "No, no Josiah, don't get up, don't get up," Angus said. "But I must," Red Wolf replied. Then he sat bolt upright.

Angus asked Red Wolf if I could photograph him for a visitor center display. Red Wolf agreed. Then the two drifted away on the Nez Perce tongue—hands animated, thoughts punctuated by a pointed finger. The words came deep-throated, sibilant, melodious, sometimes through pursed lips.

But finally Red Wolf's voice grew loud and agitated. He stabbed the air with his forefinger, his gnarled hands clenching and opening. Angus spoke quickly. Then Red Wolf relaxed and both men laughed.

Turning to me, Angus said: "Woody, Josiah got started on the treaties [with the U.S. government] and I had to get him off of it. I said, 'Josiah, remember when we sang together in church and everyone laughed.'"

Angus A. Wilson

To commemorate the life of this man who could so graciously pass between cultures, more than 300 people attended services at the first Presbyterian Church at East Kamiah on April 25. Wilson's mentor, Jack Williams, was among the honorary pall bearers. Following the service, VFW Post 5407 conducted military graveside rites in the cemetery behind the historic church—and rightfully so, for after graduating from the University of Idaho, Angus had enlisted in the Army Air Corps just in time for World War II. He also played the saxophone and clarinet in Army swing bands. Later he fell a prisoner of war, caught up in the Bataan Death March.

Following the war, he rose in tribal affairs to serve five times as chairman of the Nez Perce Tribal Executive Committee. Upon retirement in 1977, he was honored by the Nez Perce for his contributions to the tribe and his accomplishments.

One day he took his wife, Harriett, on his lap, and suggested his true thoughts about being an Indian. Out of these she composed the following eulogy for Angus:

Do not stand at my grave and weep,/I did not die, I only sleep./I am the singing snags, and the winds/That blow, in the mountains high./The eagle soaring in the sky,/The bugle of the elk in Fall,/The forest so straight and tall,/The salmon that run in the spring,/The beautiful birds and the songs they sing./Never think of me and weep,/For I did not die, I only sleep.

Woody Williams

The daughter of Don and Shirley Torgerson, **Tera Lee Torgerson**, 17, died as a result of an automobile accident on June 10. A recent graduate of Wayne High School, she was to have started beauty school on June 13. Her mother is the business manager of the Capitol Reef Natural History Association. Tera Lee is survived by her parents (Torrey, UT 84775), a brother and sister, grandparents, and a host of friends.

■

Dr. Avery E. Sturm, 82, a Mariposa family physician, died recently in Merced, CA. He was associated with the Lewis Memorial Hospital in Yosemite NP from 1935 to 1971, and served as Mariposa County Public Health Officer from 1973 to 1988.

Marjorie (Mike) Hackett, Western Region's alumni rep on the E&AA Board, remembers Dr. Sturm as a favorite with the NPS employees passing through Yosemite during his years there. She recollects, "he fixed our bones, doctored our diseases, held our hands in time of need, taught us First Aid, was an avid skier and promoter of winter sports, and a friend to everyone."

Dr. Sturm is survived by two daughters, a son, and eight grandchildren. The family asks that memorial contributions be sent to the American Cancer Society, P.O. Box 801, Merced, CA 95341 or to the Mariposa/Merced County Hospice Association, P.O. Box 763, Merced, CA 95341.

BUSINESS NEWS

It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas, especially with stocking stuffers from E&AA's Christmas gift list.

For the little ones, consider the Discovering books by Nancy Field and Sally Machlis of Dog-Eared Publications, an easily affordable $3.50 per book, plus $1.40 postage for up to two books ordered, and $.50 for each additional book.

Spice up your Christmas with more than 300 fun recipes compiled in a spiral bound, wipe-clean plastic cover by the Zion National Park Women's Club ($5 each plus $1 per book for postage and handling). Order copies from Zion National Park Women's Club, P.O. Box 22, Springdale, UT 84767. All profits go to the Education Trust Fund of the E&AA.

"Oh Ranger!," a book about the national parks by Horace Albright and Frank Taylor, is filled with lively cartoons and historic pictures to help keep the holidays merry. First published in 1928, it is now in its 16th edition. $6.95 per soft-cover copy.

The Birth of the National Park Service—The Founding Years, 1913-1933 by Horace Albright as told to Bob Cahn is another possibility, but act fast. Supplies limited. Hard cover $13.50.

Parks, Politics and the People by Conrad Wirth, with foreword by Mel Grosvenor, autographed by the author, is also in limited supply. Hard cover $15.

Battling for the National Parks by George B. Hartzog, Jr., joins the Christmas hit list at a hard cover price of $15. The book comes autographed as well as personally inscribed upon request.

The Making of a Ranger—Forty Years with the National Parks by Lon Garrison is available in soft cover at $11.50.

National Park Service—The Story Behind the Scenery by former directors Horace Albright, Russell E. Dickenson, and William Penn Mott, Jr., sells at $14.50 for autographed hard cover copies and $9 for autographed soft cover copies.

Desert Shadows by former Death Valley superintendent Bob Murphy is the bizarre story of Charles Manson and his family, autographed soft cover at $7.

The Quiet Crisis and the Next Generation by former Secretary of the Interior Stewart L. Udall contains the complete text of the original edition, plus an update. Autographed hard cover copies $15.

Historic Listing of the National Park Service Officials as of May 1986. Soft cover $2.

Grand Canyon Video Postcard. VHS or BETA available at $19.95 each.

Great Smoky Mountains Video Postcard. VHS or BETA available at $19.95 each.

Acadia National Park Video Postcard, the lastest in the collection, with photography by Alan Nyiri and David Muench. VHS or BETA at $19.95 each.(Any one of the above video postcards also is available as a premium for full Life Membership in E&AA—$100 submitted.)

National Park 1990 calendars. Wall calendars with national park scenes. $6.Prices quoted for all books and video postcards include postage and handling, and may be ordered directly from E&AA, P.O. Box 1490, Falls Church, VA 22041.

What's Cooking in the National Parks, a reprint of the original cookbook compiled by the Western Region in 1973, is available at $11.95 per copy ($3 postage and handling included in price) from Outbooks, Inc., 2487 Industrial Blvd., #2, Grand Junction, CO 81505. Publisher William R. Jones, a DSC alumnus, will donate $.50 for each cookbook sold to the E&AA Education Trust Fund.

Culinary Treasures, a Delaware Water Gap NRA compilation reviewed elsewhere in this issue, may be ordered from Kathy North, P.O. Box 223, Bushkill, PA 18324, at $6 each, plus $1 for postage and handling per book. Also available from the Delaware Water Gap NRA park women's association are golf shirts, t-shirts, tank tops, gym shorts and other items containing the park's logo. Write Jane Ring, Route 6, Box 6130, East Stroudsburg, PA 18301 or call 717/421-8468 for an order blank. Order blanks also available from E&AA, P.O. Box 1490, Falls Church, VA 22041.

The Seashore Sampler, the final cookbook in E&AA's hit parade, has a New England flare with its quotes from Thoreau, Perry and Bradford. Available at $3 each from Dorothea Stevens, Box 136, Eastham, MA 02642.

■

Culinary Treasures (25th anniversary edition, 1965-1990), compiled by and available from the Delaware Water Gap National Park Women is a delightful collection of recipes that include two from First Lady Barbara Bush. It also contains a three-year calendar (1989-91); table of substitutions by ingredient and quantity; common weights and measures; timetable for roasting turkeys; and much more.

Compiled as a fundraiser for the E&AA Education Trust Fund and the Ranger Museum in Yellowstone NP, the book celebrates Delaware Water Gap's upcoming Silver Anniversary.

■

R. O. Buffington, the technical office manager for American AG International (2201 N. Indian Ruins Road, P.O. Box 32048, Tucson, AZ 85751, 602/296-5447) wrote E&AA to inquire about retirees who might be interested in overseas assignments. American AG International is looking into bidding on future USAID and World Bank project proposals in Africa and Latin America. As a for-profit corporation, however, they can only consider retired park personnel with expertise in the natural resource field. Assignments might range from 1 to 24 months. Interested alumni may contact Bob Buffington for information, should any of these assignments open up.

MEMBER NEWS

Lynn and Joy Jamison recently returned from a vacation to such places as Rocky Mountain NP, Dinosaur NM, and Fossil Butte NM. Along the way they visited Grant and Neda Gyllenskog (870 North 700 East, Logan, UT 84321). Grant is recovering from a serious brain tumor operation, and making great progress. The Jamisons encourage his friends to be in touch with him as he continues his return to health. E&AA Life member Lynn Jamison retired from Chickasaw NRA in 1985, and E&AA Life member Grant Gyllenskog from the Denver Service Center in 1972.

■

Mike Rumbaitis (54 Seawinds Circle, Ponce Inlet, FL), a 1982 NPS retiree, writes, "We have no regrets...moving from the Denver area to Daytona Beach. We live close to the ocean and it takes about a minute and a half to get there and cool off in the Atlantic. Fishing is my hobby and as the old Chinese saying goes, 'the gods do not count the time against you when you are fishing.' So I try to spend as much time fishing as I can..."

Jim McLaughlin, who retired in 1981 as Sequoia-Kings Canyon NPs assistant superintendent, has spent the spring and summer traveling with his little Scottie, Jock, zig-zagging across the Southwest and up the East Coast, stopping off for a "breather" at his sister's home in central Pennsylvania. He plans to be in Mexico for dove hunting in September. "I'm doing OK," he says, "but, as you can guess, I miss my co-pilot something awful." Jane McLaughlin died March 20, 1988.

■

Long-time E&AA Life Member Michael Frome recently published a new book entitled, *Conscience of a Conservationist: Selected Essays* (University of Tennessee Press). An outspoken advocate for the national parks for more than 30 years, Mike has been called "the voice of the wilderness" and the "conscience of the national parks." His other books include *Promised Land, Strangers In High Places, Battle For The Wilderness*, and *Whose Woods These Are*. Since 1987, he has been teaching environmental journalism at Western Washington University's Huxley College for Environmental Studies.

■

George (Pete) and Mary Dietrich are doing well in Sun City, AZ. Having recovered from a 1987 heart attack, George is active in the Shrine, and encourages any Shriner passing through to visit the new temple in Sun City. He and Mary remark that they have a "soft spot for the NPS family, and loved the years we spent working for the parks."

■

Bob and Margrete Beard (2401 W. Broadway, #412, Columbia, MO 65203) moved at the request of the American Association of Lutheran Churches to begin a mission congregation in their new hometown. It's quite a change for them, after 29 years in Denver. Bob served as chief pilot for DSC's "kingair," and as a contract specialist prior to his 1985 retirement. Since then, he and Margrete have gone bicycling with the Colorado Bike Tours group, visited California and Florida, and "generally had a great time."

Ed Alberts (2005 Country Club Ave., Omaha, NE 6814) and his wife, Carey, are "alive and well," they say, "possibly due to survival traits implanted in us back in the late 1930s working for such legendary figures as Frank Pinkley, Earl Jackson, and Natt Dodge in the undeveloped monuments of the Southwest...dear me, yes, over half a century ago, when a $2,000 per annum salary wasn't half bad and per diem was $4 a day (if you could get it out of old Parke Soule at the Casa Grande headquarters)."

■

Much news from Forrest and Mary Benson, who plan to attend the joint ANPR/E&AA Rendezvous in Hot Springs NP from October 22 to 26. In the works is a little golf at the Kowski Memorial Golf Tournament, as well as some fishing. The Bensons will be staying with neighbors from Forrest's days as a chief ranger at Hot Springs, days he especially remembers for the fishing trips that helped keep fun in the work.

The couple recently returned from California where their youngest son was married. Also in attendance was their daughter, Teri Olson, who recently was awarded the Navy's Meritorious Service Medal and named to the "Who's Who in American Nursing."

■

Seasonal Park Ranger James A. Ice (1441 6th Ave., Belmont, CA 94002) reminisced in a recent letter about his NPS days, starting in Yosemite in 1954. A teacher for many years in Arizona and California, he begins a brief outline of his Service seasons with, "Oh the anecdotes I could tell..." The Ices' grandchildren even spent much of their school years in Yosemite, going by bus to high school in Mariposa 40 miles away. Ice ends his letter: "We are very glad for the Old Timers' Reunion the third week of September at the Wawona Hotel, when Old Yosemite friends meet and reminisce, whether they were 'government' or 'concessioner,' seasonal or permanent."

■

Harvey T. Anderson recently received honorary E&AA Life membership. In a letter, E&AA Chair Lorraine Mintzmyer praised his efforts to improve the fitness of an entire generation of rangers. Anderson then recalled it was Horace Albright who suggested that what Anderson was doing for the fire department also should be done for the NPS. Lon Garrison, then superintendent of the Albright Training Center, enjoyed Anderson's program, first given in 1970. This enabled him to become a working part of the NPS family.

Now retired, Anderson remains an active part of the Santa Monica Mountain Parks Advisory Committee. He and his wife, Alice, live at 26758 Latigo Shore Drive, Malibu, CA 90265.

■

Jean Swearingen (3031 Rosalind Loop, Anchorage, AK 99507) has been expanding her horizons. Last October she represented the Service at a seminar in Portugal that focused on historic sites in that "incredibly old country." She adds: "I spent a couple of weeks in Lisbon...on a team with another American, a French museum director and a safety officer from the British Museum of Natural History. It was amazing and wonderful." Jean also reports that she has a "wonderful curatorial crew of hard working, talented museum technicians...They are great."

■

James F. Kieley, who joined the Service in 1936 as a public information officer, is completing work toward a master of arts degree at Georgetown University. With course work complete, he is concentrating on his thesis. Jim edited Connie Wirth's autobiographical history of the Service, *Parks, Politics, and the People,* published in 1980 by the University of Oklahoma Press—a small supply of autographed hard cover copies are still available through E&AA for $15, postage and handling included.

■

William G. (Bill) Carnes recently detoured on a return trip from San Antonio, TX, in order to spend a day and a night at Big Bend NP. The trip was a nostalgic one for Bill because, in the summer of 1935 he joined a team of eight to examine an area along the Rio Grande that had been proposed for a national park. Transportation included a DC-2, some cantankerous horses, and a lot of

footwork. The group stayed at a CCC camp where they enjoyed freshly caught catfish, wild goat and other delicacies. Bill ends his letter with this thought: "I believe that Connie Wirth and I are the only members of that investigation of 54 years ago who are still surviving. It is one of the best pages of nostalgia in my memory book of a wonderful NPS career."

■

Eugene G. Jester (1216 Cottage Place, NW, Canton, OH 44703-1155) retired in April on his 65th birthday. He worked six seasons for the Service as a ranger. He says, "I know Salt Fork State Park and most of the Hocking Hills. Waverly, Ohio, is not far behind." He will continue his travels by tent and van.

BOOKS

In 1961, The Horace Marden Albright Lectureship in Conservation was established at the University of California, Berkeley, bringing to the campus prominent people whose ideas and work have had significant impact on the conservation of natural resources.

Albright himself delivered the first lecture, and in the ensuing years such luminaries as Stewart Udall, Ansel Adams, Robert Cahn, Barry Commoner, Joseph Sax and Marston Bates have lectured on a variety of conservation-related subjects.

Twenty-four of the first 25 lectures,published individually each year, have now been put into a book published by the University of Idaho Press. (One lecture was presented as a film with informal commentary and was not adaptable for publication). The book is titled *Conservators of Hope*. For those of us who use these lectures regularly as references, but find a cabinetful of booklets to be messy, this new book is a tidy addition to our personal libraries.

The book contains a foreward by Michael Frome, who also delivered one of the lectures, and an introduction by Dennis E. Teeguarden, professor of forestry and resource management at the University of California.

Albright, the second director of the National Park Service, wrote a preface to the book, which may be his last published writing. He died March 2, 1987, at age 97.

Albright remarks in his preface that when the lectureship was formed "I had just reached the age of 70 and wondered just how many I would live to hear and read about.

"Now, more than a quarter of a century later, I feel immensely gratified by the sum and substance of the lectures. Each one stands on its own as a significant statement on natural resource policy. Taken collectively, they comprise an impressive body of opinion of special value in a world of change," he notes.

He was right about that. The lectures are invaluable to writers, loaded as they are with quotable material, which is often cited in periodicals and government reports.

"Perhaps one or two of the lectures (especially my own) might be improved with updating," Albright writes. "But that would only change the context of things. Let them stand as delivered, to be identified as expressions of extremely talented individuals at a particular point in time, and to be taken together as a panoply of ideas that spread over a quarter century."

There are minor flaws. The absence of lecture titles or authors over each page makes it difficult to thumb through and find what you want. A trip to the index is therefore necessary. Also, the inclusion of a brief biographical sketch of each author would have been helpful.

But for anyone who will ever need a nugget of conservation wisdom to add sparkle to a "due yesterday" report or speech, grab this book for your reference shelf.

Ben Moffett

Cavalier in Buckskin—George *Armstrong Custer and the Western Military Frontier* by Robert M. Utley, University of Oklahoma Press: Norman and London. 1988.

No figure in the history of the American West has moved the human imagination more powerfully than George Armstrong Custer. But the Custer of myth and legend is the immortal rather than the mortal one.

Cavalier in Buckskin probes both aspects of the man, while interpreting the institutional context that created him. Custer was the best known of the nation's military Indian fighters. Through his history we have clear access to the western military frontier and the nature of warfare with the Great Plains Indians.

Custer first burst into popular imagination as the "Boy General" of Civil War fame. Despite his youth, he proved a superlative combat leader. His immortality, however, rests almost entirely on his frontier exploits. As premier Indian fighter, mighty hunter, skilled plainsman, dashing cavalier, and celebrated author, he ranked as durable hero for a decade.

Custer was a complex character, overflowing with contradictions. Robert Utley sees the contradictions principally as symptoms of the struggle between boy and man, a struggle never wholly resolved. Spotlighted here for the first time are an obsession with money that fueled shady business deals and possibly fraudulent kickback schemes, and a solid marriage that nonetheless, after some stormy interludes, settled down to accommodate infidelities.

Naomi L. Hunt

Proceedings from the 1984 "First World Conference on Cultural Parks" recently have been published and distributed. Titled "International Perspectives on Cultural Parks," the document contains papers written and presented at the conference by cultural resource and park professionals from all over the world. The 408-page, soft-cover volume is available in a limited quantity from the Superintendent, Mesa Verde NP, Mesa Verde, CO 81330.

Discovering Crater Lake; Discovering Marine Mammals, Discovering Salmon; Discovering Northwest Volcanoes; Discovering Mount Rainier; by Nancy Field and Sally Machlis. Dog-Eared Publications.

Nancy Field and Sally Machlis are very fortunate. As spouses of NPS consultants, they have succeeded in developing a business that can move when they move. In the process, they also provide a needed product that is park and resource oriented. If that weren't enough, their business is aimed at the next generation of scientists and environmentally informed citizens. All in all, the prospects are pretty exciting!

Field, a wildlife biologist and environmental educator, and Machlis, artist and illustrator, have been collaborating since 1977. With their own company, Dog-Eared Publications, they have developed learning and activity books for young people. Their objective is to "create books for children that will help them grow up with a love of nature and an environmental ethic."

From *Discovering Mt. Rainier*, published in 1980, to *Discovering Crater Lake*, just off the press, the books illustrate the authors'

belief that good environmental attitude is developed early in life and can be achieved in a positive manner.

Looking through each softbound book, the reader feels guided along a carefully thought-out journey. The good illustrations, informational text, games and activities build knowledge about marine mammals, salmon or Crater Lake without much effort on the reader's part. It seems like fun! And that is the whole idea!

Since the books are geared toward the third through sixth or seventh grader, I called in my local "Kid on the Street" for an objective opinion. Matt Kehrer, 3rd grader, newly transplanted from the rocks of Capitol Reef to the wildflowers of Denali, spent about twenty minutes examining the five books. He said he would like to have all of them but probably would need help with a lot of the words. His favorite was discovering marine mammals because he is interested in whales. He liked the board games best.

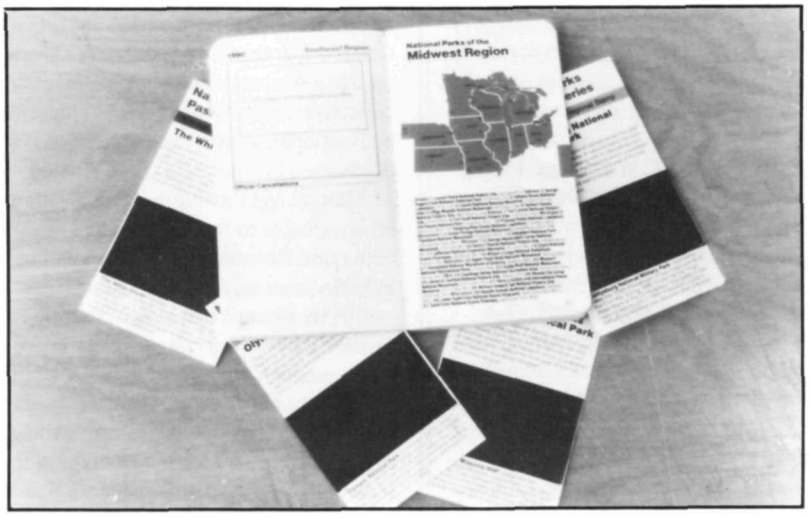
Perhaps I was influenced by Matt, but I liked *Discovering Marine Mammals* and the board games, too. The reading text does promote scientific words. Mom, dad, or Aunt Sally will need to read much of the material to younger and less skilled readers, but that has good aspects. Riding in the car or sitting out a rainstorm in camp can turn into a fun-filled learning experience for everyone with help from one of these books. And each of the books, penciled and colored in during summer, will be useful during the school year as a resource for a report or experiment.

The books' activities range from coloring wildflowers and drawing in land features to word finds and mazes. But each includes the game board with instructions to use pebbles as the markers. Kids can relive their trip to Crater Lake or Mount Rainier or follow the death defying journey of a salmon or whale migration. The next book planned is titled *Discovering Endangered Species*.

After looking over *Discovering Crater Lake*, you may want to envision your own park or monument as the next one in the series. Personally, I see Denali and the road into the park in game board format.

Linda Griffiths
Denali NP

Picture Your Award-Winning Photograph Here...



Before Time Runs Out!

1990 Passport Competition Ends November 17

Eastern National is now accepting entries for the 1990 *Passport To Your National Parks* photography contest. All National Park Service employees are eligible to enter. Winning photographs will appear on the 1990 Passport commemorative stamps.

1.) Prizewinners announced January 12, 1990. Eastern National will pay the photographer $500.00 for the winning photograph in each category. If the winning image is a National Park Service slide/transparency or taken on government time, Eastern National will donate $500.00 to the photographer's park to support the interpretive program.

2.) Submissions must be received in Philadelphia by November 17. Photography will be accepted for each of the following categories: North Atlantic, Mid-Atlantic, National Capital, Southeast, Midwest, Rocky Mountain, Southwest, Western, and Pacific Northwest regions (usually horizontal format) and the national stamp (usually vertical format). Images of National Parks hosting special events or anniversary celebrations during 1990 are encouraged. A brief statement about the celebration should be enclosed.

3.) Images of national parks previously featured on 1986, 1987, 1988, or 1989 stamps will not be accepted.

4.) All submissions must be clearly labeled stating park name and image location; photographer's name, current park assignment, and mailing address; category submission. (Indicate on slide or transparency.)

5.) All submissions must be originals of reproduction quality: 35mm or 4" x 5" transparency.

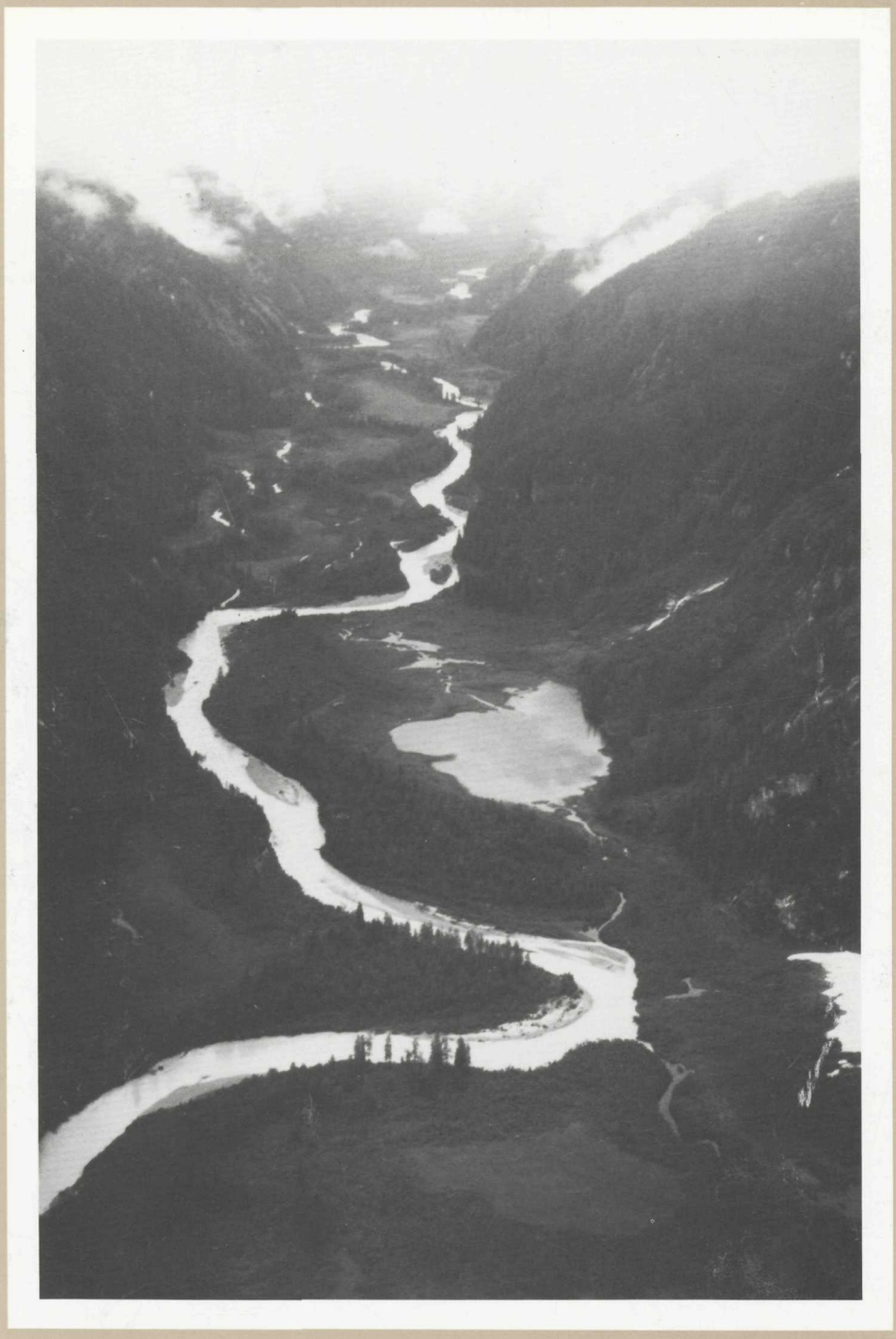
6.) Eastern National will review all submissions and make final decisions. Images will be judged on quality, interpretive merit, and subject matter appropriateness. Lacking a suitable entry, Eastern National reserves the right to select a suitable photograph.

7.) Photographers agree that, by submitting their work for review, Eastern National may use the winning photograph for the Passport stamp and promotional purposes. All submissions will be returned to the photographers; those images not selected for stamp reproduction will be returned by January 1, 1990.

8.) Individual submissions are limited to ten (10) in any given category.

9.) Mail submissions to Dave Holt; Eastern National; 1990 Passport Photography Competition; 325 Chestnut St., Ste. 1212; Phila., PA 19106. For more information, call (215) 238-6697.

YOU KNOW, THEY SAY THAT A POACHER'S APPENDIX CAN BE QUITE AN APHRODISIAC !!
YEAH, AND HIS HEAD WOULD LOOK GREAT IN AUNT HILDA'S DEN !!
Rick Lewis



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