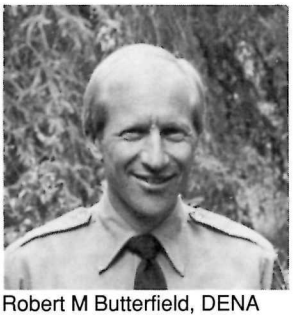
United States
National Park Service

1991 Freeman Tilden Awards

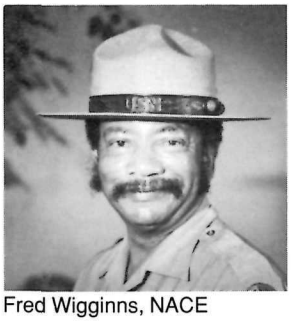
WINNERS

1991 National Recipient Southwest Region

During the past year, **Wilson Hunter, Jr** achieved remarkable accomplishments in heritage interpretation at Canyon de Chelly NM, and is recipient of the Southwest Regional and National Tilden Award. Entry into the canyons of Canyon de Chelly must be with a Navajo guide. As a former guide, Wilson recognized the need for professional training and began a program to provide that training. He drafted by-laws for the Tsegi Guide Association that he instituted, based upon Federal and tribal law, and set up a board and yearly elections of members and officers. Wilson also stressed the importance of pride in one's heritage and a pride in the land. Also significant is Wilson's co-founding of the Council for American Indian Interpretation. From its beginnings just over a year ago, this organization has grown from an idea, to a working group in the Four Corners region, to an organization with quarterly regional meetings on issues of mutual concern, to affiliation as a Section within the National Association for Interpretation. For the first time there is a professional organization for individual interpreters who never before felt that such an organization could meet their needs. Wilson has managed to enhance himself professionally while building bridges of understanding between the Navajo community and the NPS where too few have previously existed.



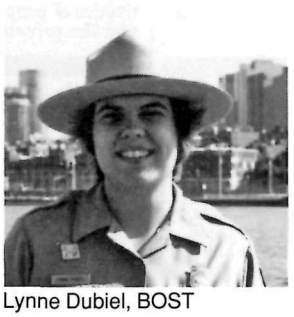
Robert M Butterfield, DENA



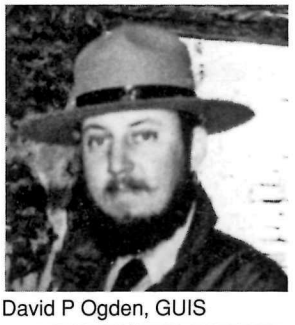
Fred Wigginns, NACE

George B Robinson, YELL

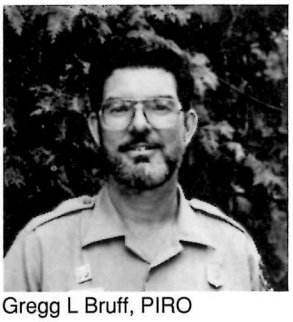
Carol A Hegeman, EISE



Lynne Dubiel, BOST

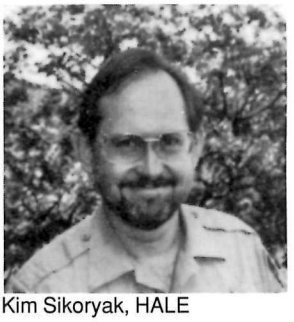


David P Ogden, GUIS



Gregg L Bruff, PIRO

Marianne Mills, KLGO



Kim Sikoryak, HALE

Congratulations!

Congratulations to all Regional Freeman Tilden Award Recipients and to National Tilden Award Recipient **Wilson Hunter, Jr.** This is the tenth year of the Freeman Tilden Award, an award program sponsored in partnership by the National Park Service and the National Parks and Conservation Association. This year's judges were Mr James M Ridenour, Director, NPS; Mr Paul C Pritchard, President NPCA; and Mr Russell E Dickenson, NPS Director, 1981-1985. The judges based their decision on the creativity and the impact of the nominee's interpretive activities upon the public.

All nine former National Tilden Recipients were able to attend the tenth ceremony:

1982 Victor Jackson (ZION)
1983 Bruce Craig (CHIS)
1984 Sandra L Dayhoff (EVER)
1985 Walter E McDowney (NCPE)
1986 Phillip Evans (FORA)
1987 Carol Spears (CUVA)
1988 Sylvia Flowers (OCMU)
1989 James E Small II (ANDE)
1990 Maureen H Loughlin (EVER)

Each of the past national recipients was interviewed during the week. K C DenDooven, co-founder of the Tilden Award, is sponsoring the production of a training video based on the creative process displayed by these outstanding interpreters over the past decade. The National Award Ceremony was held in Vail, Colorado, during the National Association for Interpretation National Workshop. The National Tilden Recipient received a bronze bust of Freeman Tilden from the NPS, and a $2500 award from NPCA.

Michael D Watson, Chief, Division of Interpretation

Alaska Region

Robert M Butterfield, the East District Naturalist at Denali NP&P, is recognized for the leadership he has demonstrated in the direction and production of the park newspaper "Denali Alpenglow." Because almost all park visitors make only one visit in their lifetimes, an effective way of reaching those visitors had to be devised. Bob, as editor of "Alpenglow" for the past eight years, has shaped it into an effective award-winning interpretive publication. His newspaper article "Will Wildlife Survive the 1990's" significantly enhanced the public's understanding that Denali is first and foremost a wildlife park. Further, it carried forward the message that visitors have a responsibility in preserving Denali as well as protecting wildlife. In 1990, recognizing the need for a balance of visuals in the paper, Bob arranged through the park's VIP program for an artist to provide black and white sketches for the paper. The old masthead, a view of Mount McKinley, was no longer effective since it emphasized the mountains rather that the wildlife for which the park was set aside. The current caribou masthead reflects Bob's sensitivity towards the visitors and the resource as he continues to improve the newspaper and its effectiveness.

Mid-Atlantic Region

For her planning and coordination of the Eisenhower Centennial **Carol A Hegeman**, received the Mid-Atlantic Regional Tilden Award. Carol nurtured a seemingly unlikely coalition—cattle ranchers, stamp collectors, skeet shooters, college administrators, and local politicians. In true interpretive fashion, Carol carefully tied each activity into the theme of the centennial and in the process revealed little-known facets of the Eisenhower personality. She coordinated acomplex series of events, including the Eisenhower Coin Ceremony; the Tree Planting and Landscape Restoration Project with the National Trust for Scotland; the US Postal Service Eisenhower Stamp Second Day of Issue; the Eisenhower Society community picnic. The Angus Field Days and Cattle Sale recognized Eisenhower's interest in raising prize-winning Angus cattle The Eisenhower Art Exhibit provided visitors with a glimpse at a little known side of Eisenhower—Carol located 25 original paintings by the President and coordinated their display with Gettysburg College. The Eisenhower Centennial stands as a model illustrating how a special event can be focused by interpretation and by an experienced and talented interpreter.

Midwest Region

Gregg L Bruff, Pictured Rock National Lakeshore's Interpretive Specialist, is the Midwest Regional Tilden Recipient. He has been the guiding force in the blossoming of the interpretive program at the Lakeshore. He has creatively overcome limited resources to develop an outstanding interpretive operation, actively responding to initiatives in education, partnerships, and stewardship of our nation's resources. Gregg has been instrumental in the development of educational programs, sponsored teacher and scout leader workshops, and developed a flyer to inform teachers of programs available to schools. Gregg played a critical role in the development of the Sand Point March Trail, a fully accessible trail. As a one-man "Harpers Ferry Center Design Team," he guided publication and exhibit projects from inception to completion. He developed seven site bulletins and trial guides to enable visitors to experience the park on their own. Many people can dream of projects to enhance visitor experiences; Gregg has the ability to convert dreams into reality. He is mindful that the more one knows the resource, the better one is able to share that knowledge with visitors, park neighbors, and colleagues.

National Capital Region

Of all the exceptional interpretive programs offered by NPS employees, few have more far-reaching impact than the VIP tours given by **Fred Wiggins**, from National Capital Parks—Central. These special tours are requested by the White House, the Secretary of the Interior, the Director, and Congress for special guests such as international dignitaries, special interest groups, and award winners. People on Fred's tours are quite often among the top decision-makers in America. In preparation for the responsibilities of providing these tours, Fred has done extensive research on the history and lore of Washington, DC, and surrounding sites to which he takes the visitors. And he has made personal contacts which ensure special attention will be paid to them. The most outstanding aspects of Fred's tours are intangible. These include his courteous and gracious manner, his knowledge and understanding of his subjects, his flexibility and understanding of peoples' needs, and his ability to relate to dignitaries. The quality of Fred's tours enhances the image of the NPS among both domestic and international dignitaries and positively affects the attitudes of people important in both government and the private sector.

North Atlantic Region

Boston NHP Park Interpreter **Lynne Dubiel** is the North Atlantic Regional Tilden Recipient. She has brought to life "Rosie the Riveter," a story which she interprets at the Charleston Navy Yard. Lynne's "Rosie" is a story of labor history and working class people, of women coming into the workforce, and of changing social attitudes.Her interpretive program has been successful with the general public, and has been incorporated into the park's educational offerings for Boston fourth-grade students. With the help of the 1991 NPS Education Initiative, she produced curriculum and pre-visit materials for this new program as a participant of the first training course on Developing Education Program. Students in the "Rosie the Riveter" program are met by Lynne dressed in the garb for women workers during World War II. She illustrates how a shipbuilding production line works, the hardships of life at sea, and the technology and equipment of the 1940s shipbuilding and repair. Lynne has demonstrated excellence in the field of interpretation through her initiative, creativity, and skill in planning, developing, and implementing this new program, expanding the thematic reach of the NPS and reaching out to new audiences.

Pacific Northwest Region

Marianne Mills, Chief of Interpretation at Klondike Gold Rush NHP (Seattle Unit), is the Pacific Northwest Regional Tilden Recipient. Last year, she worked with the Mayor of Seattle's office, the Children's Museum, the Museum of History and Industry, and the Seattle *Post-Intelligencer* to develop and promote a three-month-long citywide celebration called, "Gold! Gold! Gold! Klondike Fever Strikes Seattle." The park and museums collaborated to produce a teacher's workshop attended by 300 teachers from the Puget Sound region. A play called "Klondike Fever" was scripted and presented fifty times to school groups at the Museum of History and Industry. A special exhibit was planned and placed in the Children's Museum where children 2-6 could "take part" in the Gold Rush. Marianne worked with the *Post-Intelligencer* to produce a 16-page children's guide to the Gold Rush and its effect on Seattle. Copies were distributed in the September, 1990, edition of the *PI*, plus the newspaper printed an additional 30,000 copies and donated them to the park for distribution to school groups and other visitors. Participation in the park's school group programming has climbed 25% since Marianne took responsibility for the program.

Rocky Mountain Region

George B Robinson, Chief of Interpretation at Yellowstone NP, is the Rocky Mountain Regional Tilden Recipient. George is an especially strong proponent of environmental eduction and children's interpretation. In 1990 construction of two interpretive trails devoted to interpretation of the 1988 fires was completed. The Children's Fire Trail incorporates many of his ideas and suggestions—ideas generated by George's frequent walks with his son. George committed the park to developing a special supplement on fire ecology to the *Expedition: Yellowstone!* curriculum. The 32-page illustrated booklet, published in April 1990, was adopted by Project Learning Tree for nationwide distribution. George also conceived of a children's art contest with Yellowstone and the national park idea as its themes. The 1990 "iMAGiNE YELLOWSTONE—The Wolf" art exhibit received more than 350 entries from child-ren in 25 states. In late 1990, George worked with the Science Museum of Minnesota to open a national touring exhibit on North American bears titled "Bear! Imagination and Reality." Under George's direction, the 1990 Yellowstone interpretive program has been marked by a continuing series of dynamic accomplishments.

Southeast Region

The work of **David P Ogden**, the Southeast Regional Tilden Recipient from Gulf Islands NS, embodies all the skills of a successful interpreter: insightful researcher, sensitive communicator, excellent organizer. His work on the Fort Barrancas Oral History Project exhibits the creative thinking and professional activity necessary to accomplish what can easily be judged as an interpretive model for oral history endeavors throughout the NPS. First, he had to familiarize himself with all available information on coast artillery. Second, he had to study the process of conducting oral history. Third, he had to secure aerial photographs of the post area to bring to the interviews to help spark memories and to elicit identification of structures that no longer exist. Finally, the tapes had to be indexed to make the information accessible as a cultural and interpretive resource. Dave's interviews led to donations for the park's museum collection. These donations led David to produce the slide show entitled "Windows to the Past" to make the information available to the public. Dave has also produced a book entitled *Frontline on the Homefront: The 13th Coast Artillery at Pensacola in the 1930s and 1940s*.

Western Region

Haleakala NP's interpretive program has been improved significantly during the last year, thanks to **Kim Sikoryak**. His enthusiastic, positive approach has revitalized the interpretive program. Through his rapport and cooperation with regional interpretive staff, Haleakala serves 1.4 million visitors annually. Kim has inculcated into the operation the idea that interpretation is a vital part of Haleakala's endeavor to protect and preserve natural and cultural resources. Meeting with Hawaiian groups he laid the foundation for the development of a cooperative cultural interpretive program including a living history Hawaiian farm at Kipahulu. Kim also co-founded the Hawaii Environmental Education Association. He and other concerned persons in Hawaii recognized that the many organizations throughout the state involved with environmental education needed to be able to communicate and coordinate efforts. A statewide HEEA conference in Honolulu brought together most of the individuals involved in environmental education in Hawaii. Kim was the key figure in the planning and coordination of the event. The conference drew nearly 300 persons and was a huge success, for which Kim deserves much