

1993
Freeman Tilden
Award

WINNERS

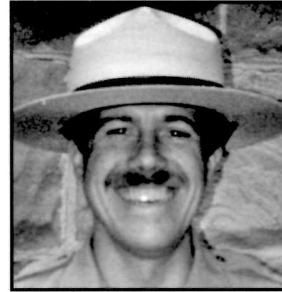


1993 National Recipient Alaska Region

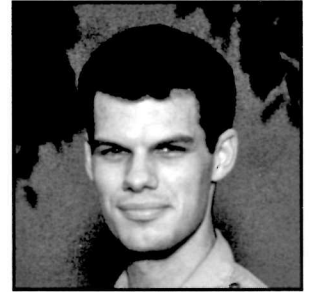
Mark Wagner, Chief of Interpretation at Katmai National Park and Preserve received the National Freeman Tilden Award in recognition for the unique interpretive programs which he designed and implemented for Brooks Camp, a development in the heart of Katmai National Park renowned for viewing brown bears as they congregate to feed on spawning salmon. The increasing number of visitors in this location has put tremendous pressure on both the well being of the bears and the park staff who have to manage the area. The highly creative ways Mr. Wagner developed to help maintain a balance between protection of the resources and visitor use in this limited area were most innovative. The **Brown Bear Booster Program** rewards visitors who responded safely and positively during their encounters with bears with an "on the spot" award pin for proper behavior. In the **Bear Facts Newspaper** Mr. Wagner's publication planning and design skills encouraged visitors to get the facts. The development of a "Five Tips" brochure and table top tent cards for the concession lodge rooms with the "**Compare-A-Bear**" graphic reflects his creative ingenuity. Thanks to Mark's individual creative efforts in the interpretive management of bears and visitors business in the area of Brooks Camp is no longer conducted as usual with both the bears and visitors gaining long term benefits in a positive way.



David Scott Hartwig
Mid-Atlantic Region



Neil J. Howk
Midwest Region



Timothy Sean Good
National Capital Region



David J. Taft
North Atlantic Region



Barbara E. Maynes
Pacific Northwest Region



Coralee S. Hays
Rocky Mountain Region



Marilyn Hause-Loftus
Southeast Region



Myra Dec
Southwest Region



Jan S. Ryan
Western Region

Regional Winners

Congratulations to all ten 1993 regional Freeman Tilden Award recipients in this twelfth year of the award. And a special salute to **Mark Wagner**, the National Award Winner for his work with bears and visitors at Katmai National Park and Preserve. The award is sponsored by the National Park Service and the National Parks and Conservation Association. The 1993 national judges included Roger G. Kennedy, Director, National Park Service, Mr. Paul C. Pritchard, President, National Parks and Conservation Association and Dr. Brett A. Wright, Associate Professor and Director, Center for Recreation Resources Policy, George Mason University.

Their decision was based upon the degree of creativity displayed by the nominees and the amount of impact that their work had upon the participating public. As in the past, the task though pleasant was most difficult due to the high quality of the candidates.

The National Award Ceremony was held on November 20, 1993, at the National Association for Interpretation Workshop in Crystal City, Virginia. Mark Wagner, the National Award Recipient received a bronze bust of Freeman Tilden from the National Park Service, and a \$2500 award from the National Parks and Conservation Association. A large group of interpreters were on hand to witness the ceremonies which were combined with the USDA Forest Service's Gifford Pinchot Award for Excellence in interpretation.

Mid-Atlantic Region

David Scott Hartwig, Historical Interpreter at Gettysburg National Military Park was awarded the Mid-Atlantic Regional Tilden Award for his outstanding contributions to the historical interpretation program at the park. Mr. Hartwig has combined detailed historical knowledge, common sense, and a gift for interpretation to lead thousands of visitors to greater understanding of the significance of the Battle of Gettysburg and the Civil War. Through personally conducted tours provided to a wide variety of audiences, wayside exhibits, and scripts, Mr. Hartwig has sparked interest in the people and events of Gettysburg and what they mean to modern Americans. His direct influence on public perception has been accomplished as an instructor in seminars at the Civil War Institute at Gettysburg College, through his drafting of an auto tape tour and in completion of a new Cyclorama sound and light program script. Scott is an excellent public speaker, is very knowledgeable of the subject matter and easily conveys his enthusiasm to the public. Through his personal effect and through these fine interpretive tools thousands of visitors now and in the future will benefit from Mr. Hartwig's knowledge and love of the interpretation of the Civil War and the Battle of Gettysburg.

North Atlantic Region

David J. Taft, Supervisory Interpreter at the Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge, Gateway National Recreation Area, has many diverse interests which have enabled him to truly practice interpretation as an art which combines many arts. He is recognized for his innovation. He is responsible for the "Naturalist's Corner" in every issue of the parkwide Program Guide. The Program Guide is an in-house publication produced three times a year for over 20,000 people. For each issue David selects a seasonal, notable natural feature or phenomenon, writes interpretive field notes and accompanies the piece with an original pen and ink drawing. He also has initiated art shows featuring the works of local artists at the wildlife refuge. Using his art skills David is frequently contributing to the park's Gateway Environmental Center as an instructor. His interest in fishing has resulted in clinics, workshops, and lectures which evolved to become part of the 1992 Fishing Initiative launched by the Washington Natural Resource Division. Innovation is at the root of all of David Taft's interpretive programs, a fact not unnoticed by the Village Voice newspaper which wrote an article about this unique and dedicated individual.

Southeast Region

Marilyn Hause-Loftus, Chief of Interpretation, Biscayne National Park, has been a guiding force in the aftermath of Hurricane Andrew. The task after the storm was to rebuild and redesign. Marilyn orchestrated a fresh innovative interpretive program with the goal of reaching the untapped hispanic community by providing area residents with an appreciation and understanding of the diverse and fragile resources of the park. The holistic program provided a blend of natural and cultural history interpreted through an innovative living history program. This program entitled "Close Encounters" centered on the submerged wreck of the Nuestra Senora Del Populo. The program used the epic poem "TRIACA" written by Joseph Velasco, a 1733 shipwreck survivor of the hurricane destroyed ship of the Spanish Plate Fleet. The focus program is an interaction between school children and the visitors with a time traveler from the past. An addition to the program was Marilyn's brainchild "A Shipwreck is a Time Capsule." An expanded community outreach program was also initiated and staff positions were filled with local bilingual interpreters. Marilyn's commitment to serve the visitor is manifested in her efforts to bridge the language barrier and to reach new audiences.

Midwest Region

Neil J. Howk, Assistant Chief of Interpretation, at Apostle Islands National Lakeshore through his programs, publications and imparting of passion to twelve seasonal interpreters demonstrates the personal impact a master interpreter can have on a park. His work with the Submerged Cultural Resources Unit and the State Historical Society of Wisconsin resulted in the production of a waterproof site bulletin map of the schooner barge NOQUEBAY funded through a grant from Eastern National Park and Monument Association. The guide contains historical information about the ship, a detailed map of the wreck and a preservation message to encourage protection of the resource by the diving community. This guide may serve as a prototype for additional guides to wrecks outside the lakeshore's boundaries. An outstanding field naturalist and storyteller, Neil is as adroit at interpreting for pre-schoolers as for college biology classes. His newly designed Junior Ranger Program was tested by 300 children. His patience and skill in coaching his seasonal staff ensures a strong program of accuracy and variety. He is at once an artist, revealer, facilitator, connector, and synthesizer. His work demonstrates that, as Freeman Tilden wrote, "Interpretation is an art, which combines many arts...."

Pacific Northwest Region

Barbara Maynes, East District Naturalist at Olympic National Park, brings a special creative energy and enthusiasm to the art of Interpretation. Her individual efforts have led to a revitalization of the park environmental education program and her strategies in this area have greatly expanded the park outreach efforts. In the heart of the Northwest's critical resource controversies of old growth, spotted owls and anadromous fish, Ms. Maynes has identified a pressing need to develop appreciation of park values in the children of western Washington. Barb was responsible for initiating a three part environmental education program with the main goal to inspire and help school teachers understand the wonder of the forest ecosystem. This program included: "The Living Forest: A Curriculum Guide to the Lowland Forests of Olympic National Park," the development of hands-on educational traveling trunks, and the conducting of a series of Educational Excellence Teacher Workshops. The program was accomplished through a grant from the National Park Foundation. Barb Maynes brought her extensive experience to this project and through a unique effort has contributed to the enhancement of public understanding of Olympic National Park and helped thousands of individuals develop a greater love and respect for the Northwest.

Southwest Region

Myra Dec, Lower District Interpreter, Buffalo National River, through her individual accomplishments has energized the interpretive program at the park. She has increased the ways the park can serve as a learning resource by assembling an extraordinary resource set for teachers, planning and conducting teachers workshops, and establishing relationships with the Ozark Unlimited Resource Cooperative. She has also developed a Junior Ranger Program for the park which included a workbook used by children. Myra has demonstrated her leadership in interpretation by redesigning the park newspaper "Currents" and making it an effective tool to inform regional communities. She also was a major contributor in the development of the new Tyler Bend Visitor Center exhibits. Taking a leadership role Myra led the planning effort for a regional workshop for the National Association for Interpretation with more than 200 people in attendance. Collaborating with other agencies and the Arkansas Tech University she created learning opportunities to prepare students for careers in resource management and interpretation. As part of this effort she revised the park Cooperative Education program. No less important is Myra's personal style and professionalism which has contributed greatly to the *esprit de corps* among the park and interpretive staff.

National Capital Region

Park Ranger **Timothy Sean Good** of Ford's Theatre National Historic Site is recognized for the outstanding work he has accomplished in sharing his vision of the history and significance of Ford's Theatre. Mr. Good has taken the story beyond the introductory stage program and takes visitors into the Lincoln Museum to look closely at original objects and stand witness to their significance in the tragic events. Visitors stare with open mouths and sparked interest as Tim reveals the meanings behind Booth's derring and Lincoln's dress coat. In another program, "President Lincoln's Soldier," Tim tells the story of African-American soldiers in the Union Army. In period costume, Tim delivers a first person presentation of "Lincoln's Last Friend" wherein the actual words of Doctor Leale, the medical officer who ministered to the dying President, are revealed. A consummate interpreter and true scholar, Mr. Good distinguished himself through his remarkable research skills and interpretive writing. He has revised the story of the assassination though a scholarly manuscript entitled, "Witness to Tragedy: the Lincoln Assassination." This anthology of never before published eyewitness accounts analyzes the information and paints a picture of what happened the night Lincoln was assassinated.

Rocky Mountain Region

Coralee (Corky) Hays, District Interpreter, Rocky Mountain National Park has made significant contributions to the park interpretive program and through innovative and progressive interpretive planning explored methods for sustaining high quality visitor services while at the same time mitigating external resource threats. Her work establishing the **Alpine Ambassadors** volunteer group has contributed to the providing of first class tours of the park to official international guests and dignitaries from 71 countries. Her personal knowledge of the Ambassadors and her skills at matching their individual desires and areas of expertise with park needs is to be commended. In addition to the Ambassadors, Corky has taken the results of a report by the Wilderness Society listing Rocky Mountain National Park as among the ten most threatened parks and created a major shift in the park's interpretive program by developing a Lyceum series of lectures and performances. This series addresses major issues like trans-boundary wildlife, community development strategies and xeric landscaping. These programs received a high community participation and response. Other work supporting this nomination included major frontline support in the development of exhibits for two visitor centers in her district.

Western Region

Jan Ryan, Chief of Interpretation and Resources Management at Tonto National Monument, receives her Region's nomination for work accomplished at Chiricahua National Monument. Her knowledge relating to the role of interpretation as it can be used to effect the requirements of the Archeological Resources Protection Act transcends regional boundaries. Ms. Ryan gained considerable recognition for the publication "Preventing Cultural Resources Destruction: Taking Action Through Interpretation" which she researched and wrote. This source book outlines various interpretive methods and techniques that can be employed by both management and field interpreters to combat theft, vandalism, destruction and other threats to cultural resources. Ms. Ryan received the 1993 Regional Director's Award for Cultural Resource Project of the Year for this work. Her awareness of the vital role interpretation can play in creating public awareness can never be underestimated. Jan has also demonstrated a firm dedication to cultural resources through her active role in the Arizona Site Stewardship Program. Jan Ryan is committed to furthering excellence in interpretation through her leadership and skills.