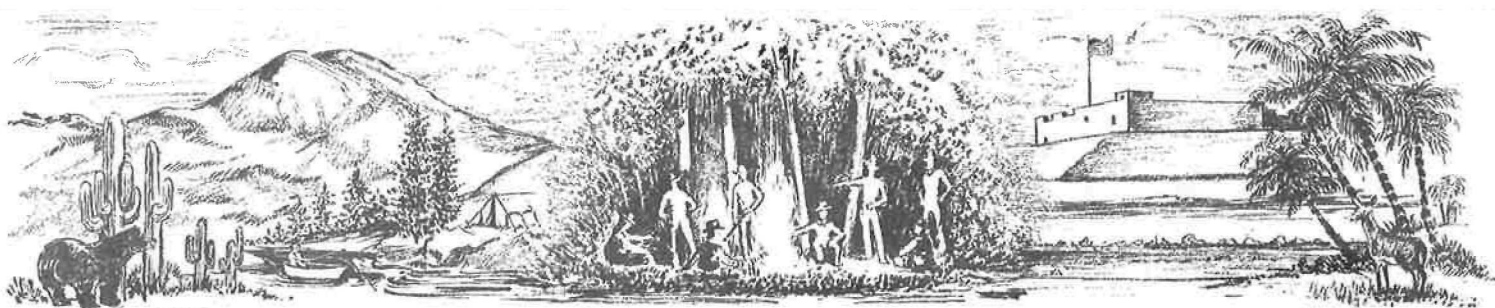




NEWSLETTER

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service



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NO. 3

A SERVICE PUBLICATION FOR SERVICE PERSONNEL

SEPTEMBER 22, 1966

Parks Feature Anniversary

There wasn't an area in the System which didn't celebrate our Golden Anniversary in one way or another. Two events in the West are worthy of special mention, since they epitomize the Service spirit — viewing the past with pride, and the future with confidence.

At Yellowstone the celebration featured official First Day of Issue for the new Parkscape postage stamp, with General Counsel Timothy S. May representing the Post Office Department. The new stamp release was quite an occasion for the modest Yellowstone National Park Post Office. Nearly a half million additional pieces of mail were handled, requiring 35 extra part-time postal employees.

Superintendent John S. McLaughlin — "Johnny Mack" to most of us — served as Master of Ceremonies for the historic event.

Associate Director Clark Stratton gave a stimulating summary of the meaning the occasion has for us all, both as Service employees and citizens of the republic. Clark then introduced the honored speaker of the day, Stanley A. Cain, Assistant Secretary of the Interior. Dr. Cain gave a lucid presentation of Service problems and potentials, past and present. (Excerpts will appear in next month's "Courier").

The occasion took on a festive tone in the evening as the "Swinging Sergeants," (of the Ellsworth Air Force Band), provided the background music for an all-park dance, in the Mammoth Recreation Hall.



Former Director Drury (left), and former Associate Director Scoyen.



Assistant Secretary Stanley A. Cain speaking at the Yellowstone 50th Anniversary Program.

The program at Sequoia-Kings Canyon was different, but equally inspiring and noteworthy. Their program was held in the Giant Grove Amphitheater, with the magnificent Sequoias forming an incomparable backdrop.

Eivind T. Scoyen, former Associate Director of the Service, (now retired), served as Master of Ceremonies — an appropriate nomination by Superintendent Frank Kowski, since Eivind was Superintendent of Sequoia for over 15 years during his long career.

Keynote speaker was former Director Newton B. Drury. Interestingly enough, Mr. Drury had been principal speaker at Sequoia's own 50th Anniversary back in 1940!

The former Director told of the struggle to form Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks as they exist today. He spoke of the future, and the challenges which face the National Park Service. He said, in part:

"We must, in the face of the population explosion and the dynamic expansion of our economy, the development of transportation and the pressures for mass recreation, find some way of protecting the crown jewels of the nation for what they are, a haven for those who seek inspiration in an environment of great beauty."

Then he and Mr. Scoyen planted a three-year-old sequoia tree in front of the Grant Grove Visitor Center, which will be known as the "Anniversary Tree."

People on the move 8/29 to 9/12, '66

New Places . . .

Berry, Elmer F., from Carto. Technician, WASO, to same, WSC
Bracey, William R., Civil Engr., NCDC, to same, WSC
Champion, Roger L., from Civil Engineer, NCDC, to Supervisor Civil Engineer, WSC
Daniels, David J., Admin. Asst., Chickamauga-Chat-tanooga NMP, to Program Specialist, WASO
Davis, Scott W., from Civil Engineer Technician, NCDC, to same, WSC
Dunmire, William W., Supv. Park Naturalist, Isle Royale NP, to Park Naturalist, WASO
Hart, Ruben O., Supv. Park Ranger, Mount Rainier NP, to same, Glacier NP
Hornberger, Hilda L., from Sec. (Steno.), NCDC, to same, WSC
Human, Clarkson B., from Civil Engineer, NCR, to same, WSC
Keller, Dorothy M., from Clerk (DMT), WASO, to same, WSC
Kerns, Delores M., from Clerk.-Steno., WASO, to same, WSC
Kuiper, Gary J., from Park Ranger, Natchez, Trace PW, to same, Blue Ridge PW
Lancaster, John O., Admin. Asst., Assateague NS, to same, WASO
Loper, Betty J., Voucher Examiner, Midwest Reg. Office, to same, WASO
Liston, William T., from Surveying Aid, NCDC, to same, WSC
McDonald, Ola M., from File Clerk, WRO, to Mail & File Clerk, SSC
McGregor, Patricia G., Clerk-Typist, Southeast Region, to same, WASO
Markvardsen, Peter K., from Maint. Supt., V.I. NP, to same, Coulee Dam NRA
Mebane, R. Alan, from Park Naturalist, Grand Teton NP, to same, Mammoth Cave NP
Moeller, Richard A., Supv. Park Ranger, Rocky Mt. NP, to same, Lake Mead NRA
Murphy, Augustus W., from Clerk, WASO, to Office Serv. Supervisor, WSC
Myers, Marion W., Park Ranger, Yellowstone NP, to Supv. Park Ranger, Great Smoky Mountains NP
Rayner, Richard S., Supv. Park Ranger, Platt NP, to Staff Park Ranger, WASO
Reid, William O., from Supervisor Civil Engineer, NCR, to same, WSC
Reiner, Mary L., from Sec. (Steno.), NCDC, to same, WSC
Reynolds, Carl D., from Personnel Officer, Grand Teton NP, to Regional Coordinator, JC Activities, NCR
Ross, Ralph R., from Supervisor Civil Engineer, NCR, to same, WSC
Schneider, Albert C., Park Ranger, Cape Cod NS, to Supv. Park Ranger, Death Valley NM
Stenmark, Richard J., from Supv. Park Ranger, Grand Teton NP, to same, Sequoia & Kings Canyon NP

Stevens, James R., III, from Civil Engineer, NCDC, to Supervisor Civil Engineer, WSC
Thoen, Curtis E., Admin. Asst., Platt NP, to Personnel Staffing Specialist, WASO
Thompson, James B., Mgmt. Asst., Jewel Cave NM, to Program Specialist, WASO
Tillman, Larry J., Park Naturalist, Prince William Forest Park, to Asst. Chief Park Naturalist, Everglades NP
Urbanek, John C., from Civil Engineer, NCR, to same, WSC
Vetter, Mary B., from Sec. (Steno.), NCDC, to same, WSC
Vollmer, Herman C., from Const. Mgmt. Engineer, WASO, to Civil Engineer, WSC
Wilson, Frank E., from Historian, L. Morro NM, to same, Pecos NM
Wood, Marshall T., from Surveying Technician, NCR, to same, WSC

New Faces

Gass, Edwin C., Commemorative Commissions Co-ordinator
Giffin, Joel D., Corpsmen Supv., Tremont JC Center
Gilmore, Charles E., Architect, WSC
Kausch, Paul Richard, Realty Specialist, WSC
Kerbin, Sue-Jane, Historian, Roosevelt-Vanderbilt NHS
Moody, Charles W., Corpsmen Asst., Supv., Great Onyx JC Center
Peterson, Bertil R., Realty Specialist, WSC
Rennison, Charles E., Engineer Technician, JNEM
Rice, Clarence H., Principal-Teacher, Catoctin JC Center
Russ, Donald R., Corpsmen Asst. Supv., Great Onyx JC Center
Tipton, Paul F., Training Instructor, Tremont JC Center

Joining the Alumni

Kidwell, Joseph D., from Private, Motorcycle Officer, U.S. Park Police, NCR
McDonald, Jephthy H., from Caretaker, Blue Ridge Parkway

NPS NEWSLETTER

Published biweekly by the Office of the Director, National Park Service, U.S. Dept. of the Interior, Washington, D.C. to provide Service information to Service personnel.

The pages of the NEWSLETTER are open to any and all items of information or instruction which will aid the National Park Service in the improvement of management and operation, in effecting economies, and in providing increased service to the public.

All items intended for publication should be addressed to: The Editor, NPS NEWSLETTER, National Park Service, U.S. Dept. of the Interior, Washington, D.C., 20240.

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Recent Awards

Messrs. Charles W. Lessig, William H. Richardson, and Charles E. Humberger received the Department's Meritorious Service Award recently. Mr. Lessig's award was granted in recognition of contributions in the field of architecture; Mr. Richardson was recognized for his outstanding service in engineering and safety and Superintendent Humberger, Petrified Forest, for a long career in administrative management.

Mr. Lessig is Supervisory Architect, D&C, WSC

Mr. Richardson is Safety Engineer, SSC

Mr. Humberger retired December 30 from Superintendent, Petrified Forest National Park

Sound Off!

Dear Friend Editor:

Congratulations on the first issue of the Newsletter. We have been needing this, and we look for great things from it in future.

I don't know just what kind of contributions you can use, but I have been inspired to write a "Sound Off" item that has been incubating for some time.

There was a time when I believed that nobody would do a job (any job) as well as I could do it myself. Lately, however, I am finding that lots of our young people in the Park Service can do a lot of jobs better than I can, better than I had imagined possible. Is this just because I am getting old and complacent?

Yes, maybe — but this is not the whole answer. The fact is that our Service has a wonderful pool of talent in lower and middle grades, oftentimes in positions where the best of this talent does not find a chance to prove itself. It seems to me that we must locate and put to the test all of these potential skills, if we are to get our job done most effectively and if we are to stimulate and train the many good brains that are looking for work.

How to locate these people, how to fit task and man together for the best output, is a communication problem. Maybe we should advertise special jobs for volunteers — a "clearing house" for special assignments farmed out to the most qualified aspirants. But until we organize some such scheme, here is a suggestion to fellow-supervisors, wherever you are: next time you have a job that needs doing well, assume that you yourself are too old and incompetent for it, and delegate it to a qualified subordinate who hasn't yet had a chance to make his reputation. Most times, you'll be amazed at the good result. Remember, the talents and ambitions of our rising careerists deserve the best outlet we can find for them.

Kit Wing
Superintendent
Petrified Forest N.P.

Aug. 30, 1966

Profile . . .

Elbert Cox



Elbert Cox, Regional Director of the Southeast Region, a true son of the Old Dominion, was born in Baywood, Virginia on January 28, 1906. He attended Roanoke College, in Salem, Virginia, graduating with an AB in 1927. He then entered the graduate school of Thomas Jefferson's University of Virginia in Charlottesville, receiving his MS degree there in 1931.

Elbert entered the Service in August 1931, as historian at Colonial N.H.P., and began his career in park administration in 1934 when he was appointed Superintendent of Morristown N.H.P.—its first, incidentally. He then moved on to the Superintendency of Colonial in 1939, where he was also responsible for management of Guilford Courthouse, Moores Creek, Kings Mountain and Cowpens, as Coordinating Superintendent.

During World War II he entered the Navy in 1942 as Lieutenant (jg). Emerging as Lieutenant Commander (USNR) in December 1945, he was reinstated from military furlough to Associate Regional Director of the then Region One Office (now SERO) on December 7, 1945. He was appointed Regional Director there in December 1951.

A member of the Richmond, Virginia, Rotary Club, the Officers' Club of Richmond, the National Conference on State Parks, and the National Trust for Historic Preservation, he received the Department's Distinguished Service Award in July 1965.

The citation identified him as one of the leaders in the Service in introducing new principles and procedures and mentioned that he has made significant advancements in management improvement, an example being the 1962 five-day seminar for superintendents of his Region which he put on at the University of Georgia. During the Civil War Centennial he assisted some twenty parks and neighboring communities in arranging appropriate observances and programs. His perception, tact, and patience have resulted in high morale and outstanding loyalty throughout the Region. An articulate spokesman for conservation and park programs, he has played a conspicuous role in advancing the objectives and programs of the Service and the Department.

Elbert and his wife Elizabeth (a native of Brattleboro, Vermont) have two sons — Elbert Thomas, 21, and John Terry, 20. Their home is in Richmond.

Training Highlights

Seven National Park Service employees have been selected for the Departmental Equal Opportunity Trainee Program. This is the first year of this program which was announced in July to all National Park Service employees in the Washington, D. C. metropolitan area. The program, which runs for 10 months, involves rotational assignments in various offices, courses in colleges and at the U.S. Civil Service Commission and orientation sessions conducted by the Department.

This program is designed for employees in GS-6 and below and equivalent wage board, minority group employees and represents an additional effort to guarantee equal opportunity for employees of the Department of the Interior.

The National Park Service employees selected for the program are:

Horace G. Griffin, Landscape Gardener, National Capital Region

Dorothy W. Benton, Clerk-Stenographer, National Capital Region

Wilbert A. Henry, Tractor Operator, National Capital Region

Alonzo B. Washington, Jr., File Clerk, Washington Office

Harry L. Thomas, Printing and Publications Clerk, Washington Office

Calvin W. Nowlin, Files Clerk, National Capital Region

Elizabeth Rachel Wright Odellas, Office Services Assistant, Washington Office.

New Career Development Plan

A new Regional and Local Career Development and Placement Plan has been established and is now in effect for employees who are not covered in the Servicewide Career Development and Placement Plan. This plan provides a means of considering for reassignment and promotion those employees who are interested in positions below GS-9 or Foreman III, except for Park Ranger, Historian, Naturalist, Archeologist, Engineer, Architect, Landscape Architect, and Administrative Assistant in grades GS-5 and above. The essential elements of the program will be explained in scheduled meetings with employees in Parks and offices in the near future. Any employee who wish to read the Plan may do so by contacting their personnel offices.

Briefly, the plan provides for the announcement of vacancies throughout the appropriate area of consideration and the application of interested employees by use of the NPS Forms 10-180, 10-181, and 10-182, or other forms to suit particular needs.

The effective date for all promotions and lateral transfers is the beginning of the next pay period following approval of the personnel action.

Health Benefits

As the open season for enrolling, changing plans, or options in the health benefits program approaches (November 14-30), you may be interested to know that the program now covers 7.1 million persons. A recent survey conducted by the Civil Service Commission indicates that the total six-year cost of the health benefits program, to the Government and employees, is estimated by the Civil Service Commission at approximately \$2.5 billion. Government and employee contributions to the various Plans are now running at about \$43 million per month.

All Plans participating in the program have paid out about \$2.1 billion in benefits during the first six years. Currently, about \$41 million in benefits is being paid out each month.

Active employees have received 36 percent of the total benefits to date, their dependents 56 percent, annuitants 5 percent, and dependents of annuitants 3 percent.

Made a Move Lately? Hold Onto All Receipts

The Bureau of the Budget is now drafting regulations to carry out the provisions of Public Law 89-516, the so-called Moving Allowance Bill. Regulations are expected to be published by October 21.

Meantime, the Budget Bureau has issued interim guidelines to Federal personnel officers, for use until the regulations are published.

While exact answers to many questions being asked by employees cannot be given until the regulations are issued, employees who reported to a new job on or after July 21 are being advised to keep exact records of all expenses related to their moves, including receipts or other proof of expenses and payments.

When detailed regulations are issued they will be retroactive to July 21, 1966, the date the law was signed.

Study Of Recreation Use

The Bureau of Outdoor Recreation has entered into a contract with Century Research Corporation, Arlington, Virginia, to conduct a study of recreationists using designated recreation fee areas. Of the Federal areas selected for the study, 12 are units of the National Park System, which are identified as follows: Acadia, Everglades, Gettysburg, Home of Franklin D. Roosevelt, Mammoth Cave, Mount Rainier, Rocky Mountain, Shenandoah, Theodore Roosevelt, Yellowstone, Yosemite, and Zion.

The information gathered by the study team will assist the Bureau of Outdoor Recreation in making decisions with respect to what changes, if any, should be made in the recreation fee regulations which will guide the administration of the recreation fee system for next year in the parks and other Federal recreation areas.