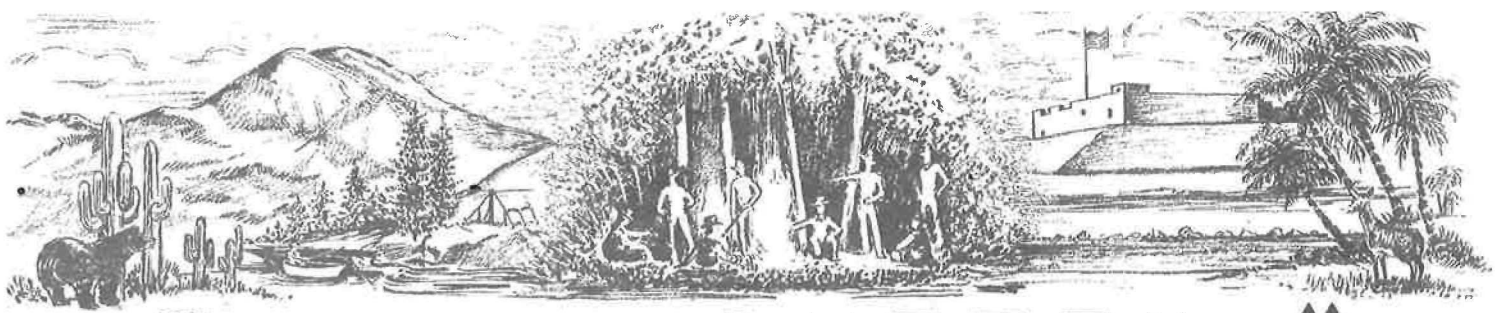




# NEWSLETTER

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service



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OCTOBER 5, 1967

## *Tribute to Late Poet*

A crowd of over 2,000 people gathered at the Lincoln Memorial in Washington, D.C., on September 17 to pay tribute to poet Carl Sandburg, who died on July 22 at 89. President and Mrs. Johnson, daughter Lynda Bird, and her fiancé Marine Captain Charles Robb surprised visitors with an unannounced appearance moments before the service began. The President greeted Mrs. Sandburg and expressed his admiration for the late poet.

The President described Mr. Sandburg as "that vital, exuberant, wise, and generous man." "I will miss him," President Johnson said. "We will all miss him."

Fellow poets Mark Van Doren and Archibald MacLeish took part in the service and read several of Mr. Sandburg's poems. Mr. Sandburg was praised for his eloquent six-volume biography of Abraham Lincoln, for which he won the Pulitzer Prize in 1940.



The musical portion of the service included performances by soloist Jessye Norman, brilliant young Washington mezzo soprano, the 22-man U.S. Air Force chorus "Singing Sergeants," and the well-known guitarist Charlie Byrd. Mr. Byrd played the favorite songs of the late poet, who was himself an accomplished folk guitarist.

Others attending the service, which was open to the public, included Secretary Udall, Attorney General Ramsey Clark, and Secretary of Labor W. Willard Wirtz. Senator Charles Percy and former Senator Paul Douglas, both from Mr. Sandburg's home state of Illinois, were also present.

## *Blue Ribbon Day for Zion Girls*

Six little girls— Leslie Brueck, Caroline Fisher, Linda Hagood, Sandy Hillery, Lesa Langan, and Beth Schaack— of Zion National Park proudly walked away with six blue ribbons in the baking division of the Washington County 4-H Fair in Hurricane, Utah. Leslie Brueck was awarded another blue ribbon for her demonstration of proper table settings.



Back row, left to right: Caroline Fisher, Claudette Hagood (Leader) and Laura Langan (Leader).

Middle row, left to right: Beth Schaack, Leslie Brueck and Lesa Langan.

Front row, left to right: Linda Hagood, Priscilla Fisher, Polly Hagood, Patty Langan.

The girls later put their newly-acquired skills to use by entertaining their mothers and special friends at a breakfast. This summer, in addition to their regular 4-H projects, the girls compiled a booklet of safety rules and delivered a copy to each home in the community.

These "Little Women" of the National Park Service and their leaders, Mrs. Frank Langan and Mrs. Allen Hagood, are to be congratulated for a job very well done!

## *People on the move . . .*

### NEW FACES

Galloway, Delburt G., to Foreman III (Maintenance), Mammoth Cave NP  
Lopez, Levi E., to Supv. Acc., SWRO  
Norlund, Delbert D., to Power Plant Operator, Yosemite NP  
Witucki, Gerard S., to Geologist, SFSC

### NEW PLACES

Bielenberg, Warren E., from Pk. Ranger, Albright TC, to same Blue Ridge Pky.  
Borman, Ralph E., from Appraiser, WSC, to same, WASO  
Casey, Albert E., from Pk. Ranger, Albright TC, to same, Blue Ridge Pky.  
Costales, Roberto A., from Pk. Ranger (Archeologist), Gran Quivira NM, to Archeologist, Montezuma Castle NM  
Countreman, Edward E., from Admin. Off., Curecanti NRA, to same, Jefferson Nat. Expansion Mem.  
Davis, Joseph L., from Foreman III (Constr. & Maintenance), Sequoia & Kings Canyon NP, to Maintenance Supt. (Gen.), Zion NP  
Deckert, Frank J., from Pk. Ranger, Albright TC, to same, Shenandoah NP  
Dodge, Norman H., from Pk. Ranger, Vicksburg NMP, to Supv. Pk. Ranger, Yellowstone NP  
Hanson, Coy J., from Enrollee Wk. Supv., Oconaluftee JCCC Great Smoky Mtns. NP, to Deputy Dir. Wk. Programs, Tremont JCCC Great Smoky Mtns. NP  
Henderson, Glen E., from Supv. Pk. Ranger, Saguaro NM, to same, Yellowstone NP  
Johnson, Carlock E., from Supt., Isle Royale NP, to Asst. Supt., Lake Mead NRA  
Johnson, Einar L., from Staff Pk. Ranger, WASO, to Supv. Pk. Ranger, Lava Beds NM  
Lewis, Jack E., from Foreman IV (Maintenance) Great Smoky Mtns. NP, to Foreman III, (Roads), Sequoia & Kings Canyon NP  
Lyttle, Eugene F., from Realty Spec., SFSC, to Realty Off. (Asst. Ch., Operations), WASO  
Mathis, Paul E., from Pk. Ranger, Grand Canyon NP, to Supv. Pk. Ranger, Blue Ridge Pky  
McCarthy, Dennis M., from Pk. Ranger, Albright TC, to same, Blue Ridge Pky  
Meleski, Edward, from Auto Mechanic, NCR, to Equipment Spec. (Automotive), WASO  
Miller, Bruce J., from Realty Off. (Asst. Chief, Off. of Land & Water Rights), SFSC, to Supt., Isle Royale NP  
Minklein, Arthur A., Jr., from Pk. Ranger, Albright TC, to same, Blue Ridge Pky  
Neusaenger, George E., from Pk. Ranger, Albright TC, to same, Everglades NP  
Pridemore, Franklin D., from Hist., Kings Mtn. NMP, to same, Kennesaw Mtn. NBP  
Rabenstein, William M., from Pk. Nat., Hawaii Volcanoes NP, to same, Great Sand Dunes NM  
Voll, Charles B., from Archeologist (Supv. Wk. Foreman, Arch.), WASO (DS: Amman, Jordan), to Archeologist, SW Archeological Center  
Wagoner, John J., from Pk. Ranger, Albright TC, to same, Blue Ridge Pky

Walters, James E., from Pk. Ranger, Albright TC, to same, Blue Ridge Pky  
Walton, Anthony L., from Pk. Ranger, Albright TC, to same, Everglades NP

### JOINING THE ALUMNI

Erskine, Donald J., from Supv. Audiovisual Production Spec. (Chief, Br. Audiovisual Services) WASO  
McGraw, Margaret, from Accounting Tech. (Cost Accounting), WRO  
Ruecroft, Helen L., from File Clk., NCR  
Young, William S., from Auto Mechanic, ENCP

## *Awards*

### MERITORIOUS SERVICE AWARDS

Mrs. Eleanor V. Goodale, formerly Secretary to the Chief, Division of Personnel Management and Manpower Development

Mr. Robert W. Andrews, Chief Landscape Architect, DC-WSC

Miss Betty R. Koubele, Employee Relations Officer, Division of Personnel Management and Manpower Development

### SUPERIOR PERFORMANCE AWARD

Mr. Donald R. Swain, Exhibits Specialist, Eastern Museum Laboratory - \$ 350

### UNIT AWARD FOR SEQUOIA & KINGS

Secretary Udall has presented a Unit Award for Excellence of Service to maintenance employees of Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks. The citation was presented to the employees by Superintendent Frank F. Kowski "for performance above and beyond the call of duty during and following the disastrous storm of December 1966." Six days of heavy rain



resulted in unprecedented damage to facilities at the parks, and major access routes were closed. The employees were cited for their "exemplary leadership and superb teamwork . . . under extremely hazardous conditions" and for their "tireless efforts . . . in the face of a devastating storm."

## ***New Area Chairman in Southwest***

Besse and Don Ripley are moving to the National Capital Regional Office in Washington, D.C., so Besse writes:

*"Transfers are always taken with mixed emotions, the sadness of leaving old friends and the anticipation of making new ones. Thus it is with me as I transfer the position of Area Chairman, Southwest Region, NPS Women's Organization, to Nancy Dayton of Petrified Forest National Park."*

*"I cannot adequately express in words my appreciation and gratitude for the letters, phone calls, and personal responses in keeping the Southwest Region so active a part of the Organization."*

Besse, in her short stay in office, kicked off a number of new activities for her area. Among them are the Quarterly Southwest Women's Newsletter and the first Pow-Wow, a social meeting of Southwest Park Wives at Tumacacori National Monument.



### **NORTHWEST FIRES CONTROLLED**

The large fires in the Northwest have been extinguished, and only a few small fires, all under control, remain. Glacier National Park suffered the most damage. Thirty-four fires, the largest being Flathead, Glacier Wall, and Gardener Peak, consumed approximately 11,300 acres at Glacier before being brought under control.

### **BEULAH STRIKES PADRE ISLAND**

Hurricane Beulah swept over Padre Island National Seashore, bringing heavy rains and winds of up to 160 mph at Point Isabel. The southeast quadrant of the storm moved over the southern end of the island, causing considerable damage to facilities. The causeway to the island, was under water, beaten by over 11-foot tides. At last report officials voiced concern over possible damage to six miles of roads under construction on the island. No new buildings were hurt.

The hurricane had lost most of its force by the time it reached Corpus Christi. The headquarters building was left intact except for one antenna pole.

### **MUD FLOODS RAINIER**

A mud flow on August 31 and severe rainstorms on September 4 inundated the Tahoma Creek Campground on Mount Rainier's west side. Damages totaled about \$17,000. There were no personal injuries.

### **TOUR WITH MRS. KENNEDY**

Mrs. Rose Kennedy has agreed to tape a television tour of the John F. Kennedy Birthplace. The tour will be shown on CBS-TV probably on or around May 29, the birthdate of the late President.

## ***Profiles . . . . .***

## ***Frank A. Hjort***



Frank A. Hjort, Superintendent, Badlands National Monument, was born April 17, 1909 in Boise, Idaho. He studied mechanical engineering at the University of Idaho and worked as a fire dispatcher for the Forest Service and as a self-employed electrician prior to entering the National Park Service in 1940.

His first NPS position took him to Haleakala where he served as ranger until 1946. That year he became chief ranger at Hawaii National Park, serving in that capacity until 1951 when he became superintendent, Fort Vancouver National Historic Site. From 1963 to the present Frank has maintained the superintendency at Badlands.

Frank received the Superior Accomplishment Award in 1946 while in Hawaii and was presented the Good Government Award by the Vancouver Chamber of Commerce in 1961. His many activities include memberships in the Masonic Lodge, Elks Lodge, and the Fort Vancouver Historical Society's Board of Directors. He presently holds down the vice-presidency of the Rapid City Rotary Club and was president of the Vancouver Chapter NFEE.

Frank has earned his private pilot's license for land and sea fixed-wing aircraft and has tallied up a considerable number of flying hours, having flown as far north as Alaska and as far south as Guatemala. Prior to World War II he spent one year investigating the jet streams from the summit of Haleakala on a U.S. Navy weather research project.

Frank and his wife, Catherine, have one daughter, Mrs. James Clayton, and three grandchildren.

### **HEALTH BENEFITS INFORMATION**

The Civil Service Commission has advised that there will be no Open Season for Health Benefits in 1967. However, many health benefit plans will change benefits or rates or both, effective January 1, 1968, and enrolled employees will receive copies of a new edition of the pamphlet BRI 41-117 entitled "Information About Plan Changes Effective January 1968," which will explain the changes, if any, in each plan. Watch for your copy of the revised BRI 41-117. Plan brochures, even though changes may occur in your plan, will not be distributed unless employees specifically request them.

## CNCP Guides Saluted

Letters continue to pour in from all corners of the world, praising the outstanding performance of National Park Service guides at the Jefferson Memorial in Washington, D. C. This year approximately one million people visited the Memorial, with hundreds returning home to send letters of appreciation to Central National Capital Parks officials. Not a single complaint has been received.

This incredible record did not just happen. The guides have worked together to make theirs a group to be proud of. Their enthusiasm and dedication to their work has enabled them to transmit a rich experience to the visitor and to present a stirring and memorable picture of the man behind the monument.

A typical letter said: "On September 1, 1967, while visiting the Jefferson Memorial, a group of visitors gathered near the elegant statue of Jefferson and listened to the guide explain, in a clear and scholarly manner, the main thoughts which Jefferson expounded and the great ideals for which he stood. So overwhelming were the words of this guide that they reminded one of a distinguished college professor delivering a commencement address to a group of graduating students. Upon ending his message the visitors applauded excitedly. And one visitor walked up to the guide and shook his hand, thus expressing his personal gratitude for a most inspiring interpretation of the Memorial itself as well as the significant ideals and thoughts which were inscribed therein."

A letter to Director Hartzog from Congressman Roger H. Zion of Indiana praised the "courtesy and helpfulness" of a particular guide. Congressman Zion's legislative assistant and his family were members of a tour which the guide "conducted . . . with obvious enthusiasm." The guide's "grasp of information concerning the subject matter was exceedingly thorough . . . and he was exceedingly helpful in answering individual questions. He even offered to look up the answers to certain inquiries for which he did not have the immediate answers." As the guide had no knowledge that the visitor represented such a high governmental office, his efforts were all the more outstanding.

Central National Capital Parks officials have expressed their great pride in the Jefferson employees. The guides' efforts are truly being recognized, and it is hoped that they will continue to inspire millions.

Safety movie of the week  
HOW HIGH IS DOWN? .....OR.....



THE -S-T-R-E-T-C-H-E-R- CASE

## FOST to the Rescue

The workings of the Field Operations Study Team, known to Park Service employees as FOST, is perhaps one of the most progressive and yet least understood programs in the Service. Established in 1966, FOST is concerned with the reorganization of office structures to alleviate the critical manpower shortage and to extend career opportunities to people who may have some skills but not the skills needed for hard-to-fill jobs.

FOST calls for the man in charge to take a close look at the entire organization and every job in it. Working in concert with operations and personnel specialists, he strips low-skill duties from high-skill positions when this makes good sense from the standpoint of effective operations and economy. Realizing that top level people will be working at their highest skills, and that fewer will be needed, he rearranges the structure of the organization and sets up lower level positions to carry out some of the tasks that have been removed from higher level jobs.

FOST pays close attention to the placement and promotion of employees to guarantee the best utilization of skills and to provide career advancement for new and old employees who show promise. This, in turn, calls for training. Management prescribes, and gets, training that will increase the skills of people already on the rolls as well as of newcomers joining the ranks. In this manner, career patterns are set up to make good economical use of all the skills available.

Let us suppose the plan has gone into effect. Now the manager is able to take an occasional day of leave that is his due for deadlines are being met, the work is flowing smoothly, recruiting needs are less acute, and dollar economies are being realized.

Morale is high among professionals and highly skilled workers who are now making better use of their skills.

Career employees who felt "dead-ended" in their old jobs, but who have been trained and promoted to better paying work, have a new lease on life.

Newcomers brought in at lower levels, who once felt they would never make it in Federal employment, are on the job — producing well — and facing a bright future.

This hypothetical case actually took place in another government agency which realized the concepts of Operation MUST, a close relative of the National Park Service's FOST. It could have happened in YOUR office.

The process is so logical that managers who give it a real try for the first time conclude: We should have been doing this all the while! FOST concepts are sound, regardless of the environment or the particular activity involved, and it is to the benefit of every employee to put these ideas into action.

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