



NEWSLETTER

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service



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See here, Ladies



We're beginning to believe that some of the ladies — and most of the laddies — may be in the dark when it comes to understanding the why's and wherefore's of the NPS Women's Organization. Therefore, we are publishing the following brief description of the organization, as we see it. Corrections, additions, deletions and constructive comments or suggestions from the ladies are encouraged. Ditto from the laddies are invited but not urged.

Now, in the event that you ladies may not be up-to-date on the Organization's accomplishments, we will publish in the next issue of the Newsletter, a list of the most significant activities carried out by the ladies in recent months.

NAME: NPS Women's Organization

ORGANIZED: 1952 by the superintendents' wives present at the National Superintendents' Conference at Glacier National Park, Montana.

PURPOSE & AIMS: To promote friendship, cooperation and understanding; to encourage and provide means of exchange of ideas and information pertinent to social, recreational and domestic problems which are of real and special interest to NPS wives and women employees; to promote a feeling of pride-in-Service; and to limit Organization activities to those matters which do not interfere with the regular procedure of orderly business of the National Park Service.

QUALIFICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP: Each NPS woman-employee and/or wife of an employee is, automatically, a member for the duration of her or her husband's connection with the Service. Retiree alumnae and employee-widows have privilege of membership as long as they wish to remain active in the Women's Organization.

OFFICERS: National — Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Assistant Vice-Chairman. Regional — Area Chairman, Area Co-Chairman or Alternate; District Chairmen (appointed by Area Chairman at her discretion); Special Committee, Project, Survey or Study Chairmen (appointed at the discretion of the National Chairman, Servicewide, or by an Area Chairman to serve in her individual region).

TERM OF OFFICE: Each officer serves without remuneration or operating expenses of any kind for the interval between Superintendents' Conferences, averaging a two-year period.

SUCCESSION: If an officer resigns or relinquishes

her office, the officer next-in-line succeeds to the office. In the absence of a successor, the chairman may appoint an NPS lady to succeed to the office, or may choose to hold a special election for this purpose.

ELECTION: National Officer — During Conference the National Chairman appoints a Nominating Committee from the ladies in attendance to present a slate of nominees for the national offices; nominations may also be made from the floor. Elections are then held as soon as nominations cease and it has been moved and seconded as such. Elections may be held either by ballot or a show of hands.

There is no absentee vote or vote-by-proxy.

The local representation for each area is its superintendent's wife in attendance at conference.

Area Officers (by Regions) — After election of national officers, the members in attendance meet in separate groups by regions to elect their Area Officers (Region Officers).

Area Officers (Region Officers) are elected in the same manner as National Officers.

The six regions are: Western, Southwest, Midwest, National Capital, Northeast and Southeast.

QUALIFICATIONS - HOLDING OFFICE: In order to hold an office in the NPS Women's Organization, the nominee must be the wife of a current superintendent of an individual area.

If her husband transfers to another region, or no longer serves in the capacity of an area superintendent, the wife must relinquish her office. However, National Officers may retain their offices, regardless of regional transfers if the husbands remain in the position of superintendent.

Wives of personnel employed in a Regional Office or the Washington Office and related Service Offices may not hold office in NPS Women's Organization. Only a superintendent's wife may hold an office.

APPOINTED REPRESENTATIVE, WASHINGTON, D.C.: The Director of the National Park Service appoints an employee in the Washington Office to serve as a contact with and for NPS Women's Organization. This representative to date has been a male employee in a key position of the Washington Office. In July 1968, Mr. Ed Hummel was appointed by Director Hartzog to replace Mr. Howard Baker to serve in this capacity.

There is no officially elected or authorized woman to serve in this capacity in the Washington Office on behalf of the NPS Women's Organization.

DUES: None.

OPERATING EXPENSES: None.

FINANCING OF BUSINESS: Each officer, National or Area (Region) assumes all operating expenses, personally, when she accepts office. Each officer devises her own methods and means of carrying on the organization's business financially.



Profile

Carl O. Walker



Carl O. Walker, assistant regional director for administration in the Southwest Regional Office, was born in LaPlata, New Mexico on June 23, 1913. He graduated from Pawnee High School in Oklahoma and attended the U.S. Department of Agriculture Graduate School where he studied "Budgetary and Financial Administration".

In 1933, Walker started his Park Service career in CCC camps in Oklahoma, Texas, and New Mexico. From 1936 until 1942, he served in the CCC Procurement Office in Santa Fe as under clerk typist and senior bookkeeping machine operator. He transferred in 1942 to Zion as senior clerk and was promoted to chief clerk. Walker remained chief clerk when he moved to Lake Mead and then on to Grand Canyon. In 1953 he was promoted to government systems accountant and transferred into the Washington Office, where he later served as budget analyst, assistant finance officer, assistant budget and finance officer, and budget and finance officer (chief, division of budget and finance). In 1968 he was appointed assistant regional director for administration, the position he now holds.

For his outstanding performance as budget and finance officer, he received Superior Performance Awards in 1964 and 1966. In 1967 he was granted the Meritorious Service Award and a commendation from the Director for his fine work on preparations for the 1968 F.Y. Congressional hearings.

Walker is a member of the Federal Government Accountant Association, the National Federation of Federal Employees, and is past president of St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Falls Church.

Walker and his wife, Meraldine, have three children: Mrs. Hazel Evelyn Pung now of Baltimore, Maryland, who has two children; Mrs. Shirley Ann Kidwell of Long Beach, California; and Carl Dean, who is now married and studying to become a Lutheran pastor at Concordia Seminary in St. Louis. He will be serving as a vicar in Portland, Oregon next year.

Among their favorite pastimes, the Walkers include church and community activities, hiking and camping, and motor touring. But—according to Meraldine—their most enjoyable "hobby" these days is their children and grandchildren.

The Walkers reside at 128 La Plasita Circle, Sante Fe, New Mexico 87501.

Recent Legislative Action

FEDERAL AID TO HIGHWAY ACT OF 1968: In signing this bill on Friday, August 23, President Johnson remarked: "After careful consideration, I have signed the Federal Aid to Highway Act of 1968. In many respects, this is the most important highway authorization bill since the start of the Interstate Program over a decade ago. . . . I believe the good in this bill outweighs the bad. I believe the progressive steps we are taking here will permit us to improve the highway program in urban areas, and make it more responsive to the needs of the people who live there. I hope that the Congress will assist the Executive Branch in moving further in this direction and in amending the undesirable features of this bill."

This omnibus transportation measure provides appropriated funds for the Interstate Highway system through 1974 and extends the deadline for completion of the system to 1974. Additional funds are authorized for other highways, including \$30,000,000 for park roads and trails and \$11,000,000 for parkways for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1971. Monies are also provided for the continuing program of highway beautification. The establishment of fringe parking area demonstration facilities is also authorized in the act.

The Department of Transportation Act, Section 4(f) is amended to include a statement of national policy that parklands and wildlife refuges should be preserved. Federal, State or local officials administering public areas are to determine whether such areas possess significant historic, recreational or natural values and, thus, should be excluded from the national highway system—unless no feasible alternative is available.



Among other provisions of the Act, the District of Columbia is ordered to construct proposed links of the Interstate System within the District "as soon as possible after the enactment of the Act." The District is to begin some projects not more than thirty days after enactment, including the Three Sisters Bridge (I-266), the Potomac River Freeway (I-266), and the center (I-95) and east (I-295) legs of the Inner Loop terminating at New York Avenue and Bladensburg Road respectively.

SILHOUETTE

Annie Laurie Ledford

It is a good bet that anyone who has made the National Park Service circuit knows Annie Laurie Ledford. Annie, as all of her Park Service friends know her, is the supervisory information clerk in the Office of Information, but, informally, she is "Mrs. Information," throughout the Service.

Annie hails from Dothan, Ala. — the heart of southern hospitality. For most of her adult life, she has worked for the National Park Service. She has many hobbies, and directs her energies in many directions. But those who know Annie best will tell you that her main hobby is PEOPLE — "Park People!" There are few people in the Service who have not been helped at one time or other by Annie Laurie Ledford.

In 1931, Annie completed a commercial-secretarial course at Campbell Business College in Dothan, Alabama, and received her teacher's degree in commercial work from Bowling Green Business University, Kentucky.

Before her decade of service with the Washington Office, Annie spent many years at Mammoth Cave as fiscal accounting clerk. It was during this tour of duty that Secretary of the Interior Oscar Chapman named her "Miss National Park Service."

Annie is married to William H. Ledford, who also works in the Washington Office as special assistant to the Chief, Division of Budget.

They have three children. Frank S. Ewing, the eldest son, is a Yale-trained biologist. He is as much "Park Service" as Annie. He, too, worked at Mammoth Cave as a temporary laborer, and as an unofficial park naturalist — buying his own uniform and giving park lectures in the evenings. Frank also worked at Yosemite while going to Yale, and later took a temporary job at Grand Teton National Park. It was at Teton that he got interested in "float trips," working with the Grand Teton Lodge Company. Now, he runs his own "float trips" down the Snake River. He and his wife "Patty" (nee Deveraux), reside in Jackson, Wyo. The other son, William — known to most of his friends as "Buck" — has just returned from Vietnam. Annie and Bill hope that he will continue his college education. Buck now lives in Landover Hills, Maryland. The Ledford's daughter, Lora Lee, is married to Gary Carpenter, and is the proud mother of four little ones; Michelle, Michael, Robert, and Debra. They make their home in Laurel, Maryland.

Annie and Bill have complimentary hobbies. While her husband is busy collecting clocks and keeping up his membership in the National Association of Watch & Clock Collection, Inc., Annie collects antiques and art. The Ledford home in Arlington, Va., is filled with beautiful furniture, art, and clocks. Annie estimates the number of clocks at over 150 — and that covers a lot of time.

Many of Annie's fond Service memories come from Kentucky. In 1942, she was president of the Young Womens Club of Cave City and was in charge of the civil defense registration. As president, she was re-



sponsible for collecting donations for the purchase of blood plasma bottles to assist in the war effort. The club served luncheons and dinners, and held dances, picnics, cook-outs, and talent shows to entertain military groups on bivouac or maneuvers. At these shows, Annie's talents both with the piano and with people, involved her in many civic and social activities throughout the year. One highly successful project involved, working with the young college students each summer, staging the "Cave Capers," a talent show inaugurated for the entertainment of Park visitors and the local people. Sponsored by the National Park Concessioners, the show

became popular throughout the surrounding states. But her talent doesn't stop here either. She is known for playing the pipe organ too, and played for vespers, Sunday Services, the Easter sunrise services, and Christmas programs at the Cave.

It was at Mammoth Cave that her son, Frank, won a full scholarship to Phillips Exeter Academy in New Hampshire, for which she is very proud. And it was at the Cave where Annie met Bill for the first time in 1956. So it's no wonder that Annie calls Kentucky the best state of all.

In addition to all of her other activities, Annie is also a member of the Shenandoah Natural History Assn. and a life member of the Eastern National Park and Monument Association.

Ask Annie about her family, and guess what? She just smiles and opens that oversized wallet, and out pours a cascade of photos of her "Park Service children." With Annie, it's just one big happy family. Down Mammoth Cave way, they call her "Kentucky Mom."

'Tis rumored that Annie will be retiring this Fall. Well, maybe officially! But leave the Park Service! Never! It's our sneaking suspicion that we'll be seeing Annie more than ever before.

Floyd Hough, Treasurer
Employees & Alumni Association
National Park Service
1100 Ohio Drive, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20242

Inclosed is \$ _____. Please sign me up for E. & A. A. Membership and Subscription to the "Courier."

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NPS Affiliation _____

Membership Dues

Less than 10 years NPS Employment: \$ 3.00
All others: \$ 5.00

See Here Ladies Cont'd from page 1

MEETINGS: Official meetings are held during Superintendents' Conferences.

Special meetings may be called, nationally or by regions, at the discretion of the National Chairman or the Area Chairmen (within their own regions) or by their appointed representatives.

COMMITTEES, ETC.: Special committees, study, survey or project teams are appointed by the Chairmen, as needed, to perform the business and activities of the organization.

PERFORMANCE OF BUSINESS: The major portion of the organization's business is carried on through correspondence and telephone calls. Business meetings are held throughout the duration of Superintendents' Conferences.

Much of the business is also carried out through the use of questionnaires routed to each NPS woman employee or wife of an employee.

Some regions divide the areas into small, geographical districts so that several areas may hold meetings which all NPS women may be able to attend in their particular districts. Since only superintendents' wives are in attendance at conference, they serve as each area's local representative; but this limits personal communication and exchange of ideas and information to this particular group of women.

(Regions adopting the district-system have learned that greater interest and better participation is given when each NPS woman is offered the opportunity to meet on a common level with other NPS women from areas other than their own, from all divisions and grades or rank within the Service.)

ROUTING: Routing of business is through the National Chairman to the six Area Chairmen; in turn, Area Chairmen route it to each superintendent's wife in her region, who route it to each NPS woman in her particular area.

Required answers to business are routed in the same way in reverse manner. Superintendent's wife summarizes for her area and routes to Area Chairman, who summarizes the answers for her region and routes the material to the National Chairman. The National Chairman keeps the Washington Representative informed of all organization business through her servicewide summary report, which is also sent to all Area Chairmen for routing to superintendent's wives for each NPS woman in her individual area.

Since the inception of The Newsletter and the "See Here, Ladies" column, the sometimes cumbersome and slow burden of so much correspondence has been greatly relieved. The Newsletter serves admirably to inform NPS women of current business and information of necessary business of the women's organization, as well as reducing the costly expense of postage, supplies and materials which the organization's officers must personally assume.

(An active officer averages \$50.00 a month in expenses and 78 hours a month in labor time. This average was based on actual records kept by Area Chairmen. National Officers' expenses and time would far exceed that of Area Officers.)

PUBLICATION MATERIAL: All NPS women are encouraged to submit material, either through regular routing or direct submittal, to the Courier and The Newsletter. Such material should be that which is of special interest to NPS women.

INDIVIDUAL NPS CLUBS: In addition to the national women's organization, many regions and areas have individual Region Women's Clubs, Area Ladies Clubs and Employees Clubs (men and women); further, Teen-Age and Children's Clubs are formed in some areas.

These individual groups form their own policies, activities and functions.

REORGANIZATION-1967: At the 1967 Regional Superintendents' Conferences, the women expressed the desire to update the NPS Women's Organization. Prior to that time there were no written records kept of the actual organization, aims, activities, etc.; the officers learned of their duties "by-word-of-mouth" and had to follow policies, etc., which had been "understood". The organization had to "stumble-along", hoping for the best in implementing organization business. Because of the great number of new personnel and frequent transfers, the women felt that there was a definite need for clarification of all aspects of the NPS Women's Organization.

National Chairman Carolyn Shaw is presently concentrating on a written clarification and updating of the organization.

People on the move

NEW PLACES

Collins, Franklin G., from Landscape Arch., SFSC, to same, WSC

Cordary, Jay L., from Realty Spec., SFSC DS; Whiskeytown NRA, to same, WRO

Edmondson, Billy H., from Admin. Off., Great Smoky Mtns. NP, Oconaluftee JCCC, to Admin. Asst., WASO
Hartinez, Ray G., Jr., from Foreman II - MG, B&U, Lassen Volcanic NP, to Foreman III - Maintenance, Bandelier NM

Jenny, Philip B., from Pk. Ranger, Albright TC, to Pk. Guide, Carlsbad Caverns NP

Johnston, Thomas H., Jr., from Civil Engr., WSC, to same, SFSC

McLaren, Richard C., from Supv. Pk. Ranger, Sequoia & Kings Canyon NP, to same, Grand Canyon NF

Miller, Ivan D., from Pk. Ranger, Yosemite NP, to Supv. Pk. Ranger, Mount McKinley NP

Monroe, Thomas D., from Supv. Pk. Ranger, Mammoth Cave NP, to Mgmt. Asst., WASO

Paige, Bruce B., from Pk. Nat., Prince William Forest Park, to same, Sitka & Glacier Bay NM

Patton, Warren H., from Civil Engr., SFSC, to same, WSC

Richardson, Edward L., from Appraiser, SFSC, to same, WSC

Richardson, James A., from Supv. Pk. Nat., Lassen Volcanic NP, to Pk. Ranger, WASO

Scott, Harold E., from Foreman II - MG (Roads), Mount Rainier NP, to Foreman III, (Roads & Trails), Grand Teton NP

Stenmark, Richard J., from Supv. Pk. Ranger, Sequoia & Kings Canyon NP, to Mgmt. Asst., WASO

Stump, James M., from Electrical Engr., WASO, to Supv. Civil Engr., Glacier NP

Wyatt, Charles D., from Admin. Off., Timpanogos Cave NM, to Admin. Asst., WASO