



TED SWEM

Hail ... and Farewell

THEODOR R. SWEM, assistant director of Cooperative Activities for the National Park Service, has been named director of the National Capital Region.

"We are fortunate," said Director Hartzog, "to have an able career administrator of the caliber and experience of Ted Swem to fill the extremely sensitive position of director of the National Capital Region of the National Park System."

In his new position, Swem, 51, will administer more than 700 units of the National Capital Region in D.C., Md. & Va.—plus a number of unique urban park programs that run the gamut from "Summer in the Parks" to beautification and historic preservation.

NASH CASTRO has resigned, as of Sept. 1, to become general manager of the Palisades Interstate Park Commission, NY-NJ.

Director Hartzog called Castro "one of the outstanding executives of the NPS who has a record of dedicated service that is unsurpassed. Hartzog added: "While we deeply regret his decision to leave the Service, we appreciate the challenging opportunities of his new position and wish him all possible success."

Castro 49, is a 30-year veteran of the NPS, and holds the Interior Dept. Distinguished Service Award. In his new post, he will be responsible for administration of 23 state parks, parkways and historic sites extending along the Palisades of the Hudson River.



NASH CASTRO



NEWSLETTER



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New Policy On Pre-retirement Counseling

Following a study conducted in the summer of 1968, the Civil Service Commission has announced a new stand on pre-retirement counseling. Federal agencies are now encouraged to promote, encourage and sponsor pre-retirement planning services. The Commission's policy is based on the study's findings that:

- Most employees, especially those who have not yet retired, think that it is hard for people to get used to retirement.
- Almost all employees, both active and retired, like the idea of a pre-retirement planning program.
- Almost all employees, both active and retired, believe that a good pre-retirement planning program could help people enjoy retirement more.
- Most of the active and retired employees who did attend a pre-retirement planning program both liked it and are finding it useful.
- Most active employees who have not yet been able to attend a pre-retirement planning program wish they could do so; a smaller, but substantial, proportion of the retired employees who did not attend wish that they could have.
- A significantly larger proportion of program participants than nonparticipants have made definite plans for their retirement years, thus easing their adjustment to retirement.

The National Park Service has scheduled its first Washington Office Pre-retirement Planning Seminar for September 8-11, 1969. It will be open to WASO,

NCR, and WSC employees age 50 and over. Spouses will also be invited to attend. An invitation to attend the seminar has been extended to other Interior bureau and office employees stationed in the Washington, D.C. area. Similar seminars will be conducted at the regional offices where feasible.

The NPS Retirement Counseling Kits will be disseminated in the very near future to all Service employees who will acquire optional retirement eligibility in 1969. Employees who have acquired retirement eligibility in previous years and have never received the retirement counseling kit should request one from their regional office, or directly from the Washington Office should they wish to do so.

Severance Pay Changes

The U.S. Civil Service Commission has changed its regulations governing severance pay to avoid hardships to employees occasioned by an earlier amendment to its severance pay regulations.

The new amendment will allow severance pay for employees separated from the Service in connection with a transfer of function or reduction in force when they decline reassignment to a position in another commuting area, even if the agency offers to pay transportation and household moving expenses.

The earlier amendment to the regulations prohibited severance pay if the employee declined to accept a

See Pay, Page 4.

See Here, Ladies

AN EVENING IN 'YOU ALL' LAND

By Jeanne Allen

Oh! The things we learned about our neighbors one evening in March! We're still talking about it. Indeed, it came about quite routinely, no one imagining the revelations that would occur.

The Big Bend Womans' Club wanted to sponsor something a little out of the ordinary; a 'doing' of interest to all. So from a suggestion came a chorus of 'ayes' and a committee to see that March 4th became a reality.

It did! Our community really turned out for the Arts, Crafts, & Hobbies Exhibit. Friends from outlying communities came and many park visitors, too.

And what did they find to enthrall, to amaze? Would you believe...a quilt top showing women's fashions since Eve?!...and Amphicat...paintings (Of course! Beautiful tool)...leather crafts...knitting, sewing...woodwork...collections—stamps, coins, old bottles, dolls, wooden figures, cactuses, violets, Japanese items, minerals, artifacts, old guns...collages...rugs, hooked and sewn...a teepee!... 'Tacky' and how to do it...needlepoint and embroidery...a 'down' sleeping bag and jacket...doll houses and furniture...stuffed animals...purses...a swag lamp...refinished furniture...and mini-concerts on a mountain Dulcimer and an Auto harp.

Fifty-three residents exhibited one or more items. Husbands, wives, and children helped in some way—

to set up, display, take down, and clean. All who attended were served home-baked cookies with coffee or punch.

Yes, we found out things we didn't know. We discovered modestly hidden talents. What a nice way to learn about others! To discover most everyone is a collector or a doer—we suggest an Arts, Crafts, and Hobbies Exhibit! It will be a fun evening and a work together project. Try it and have fun!

Natchez Trace Women Defeat Distance

The Natchez Trace Parkway Wives Association was only organized in December 1968, but since then some of the women have racked up well over 1,000 miles in travel to and from the monthly meetings, which are hosted in different sub-districts along the tri-state Parkway, linking Natchez, Mississippi with Nashville, Tennessee.

Our primary aim has been just to get to know each other, no small accomplishment when so many miles separate us. The Port Gibson, Mississippi, women for instance have traveled 130 miles to Kosciusko, 164 miles to Jeff Busby Park, and 231 miles to Tupelo for a mid-day luncheon and afternoon coffee. Those from Cherokee, Alabama, and Meriwether Lewis, Tennessee, have almost equaled these distances. Grace Estes of Meriwether Lewis, our most northern area, traveled to our April meeting at Kosciusko sub-

See Natchez Trace, Page 4.

Profile

Hugh C. Cannon

One of the newest additions on the WASO employment roster is the name of Hugh C. Cannon, assistant to the director for Concessions Management.

Hugh grew up in Pennsylvania where he was born on May 9, 1940. He attended Kings College in Wilkes-Barre; from there, he transferred to Notre Dame, South Bend, Indiana, where he obtained a BS degree in Business Administration in 1962.

Hugh entered the General Hotel Business after graduation and from 1963 to 1966 he held the position of general manager of the Stardust Hotel in Las Vegas. In 1966, he transferred to Tamblin & Brown, Inc.; from there he progressed to be a partner with Driscoll and Associates. While here, he married the pretty Nancy Elizabeth McAteer in December 1967.

Hugh is a real go-getter (who else could manage a Las Vegas hotel?) and with Nancy at his side, he continued up the ladder of success. In 1968 he became a member of the Congressional Liaison Inaugural Committee, where he soon progressed to assistant to the secretary of the Cabinet.

Hugh has obviously never stepped under a ladder nor broken a mirror; his luck has been continually good. Of course, his luckiest move was to join forces with the National Park Service—or was that lucky for US? At any rate, this pleasant young man and his wife have entered the Park Service family, and we hope to keep them here!

Hugh's impressive background was certainly not ignored. Only a month after his appointment, Hugh was appointed as Departmental representative on the



President's Committee on Purchases of Blind-Made Products.

The other half of the Cannon family, Nancy is a secretary for a lawyer in Washington. She and her almost-newlywed husband reside in Bethesda, Maryland, at the present time. At home, Hugh loves sports, particularly football, and can't wait for the new season to begin.

Thelma Lawler, wife of Carl Lawler, maintenance chief at Mammoth Cave, loves people and flowers! Her love of gardening is evidenced by the fact that she must cover at night and uncover each morning her beautiful, and apparently delicious, flowers. She says our deer are fond of every variety except marigolds!

Thelma has spent most of her 27 years as a park wife at Hot Springs National Park where she was active in the Garden Club; held several offices in the Eastern Star; served six years as president of the PTA; taught Sunday School and worked with church youth and YWCA groups. She also served "time" with the girl and boy scouts while her children were growing up.

Since coming to Mammoth Cave four years ago, she has become a friendly and active member of our area. She is always busy, but never too busy to provide coffee and conversation for her many friends and neighbors, who often drop by to visit. She is a member of the Womens' Club and past president of our Homemakers Club. She hosts the homemakers annual Christmas party, furnishing games, prizes and all around fun evening. Volunteer work at Great Onyx Job Corps Center, in the reading and ceramics departments, is another activity that she enjoys. Other interests include quilting, canning, travel and sports, her favorites being baseball and football.

Thelma and Carl have four children and six grandchildren. Their daughters, Sara (Mrs. John Umphries) and Linda (Mrs. James Withrow) live in Hot Springs. Debbie is a junior at Caverna High School here. Their son, Bob, has earned a masters degree in nuclear engineering from Georgia Institute of Technology, and is employed by the General Electric Corp. in San Jose, California.



"I enjoy being a part of the NPS family," she says. "The national parks are beautiful places to bring up our children. Most of the people living here are from different states. This gives us a bigger and better outlook on life and we know the park is a wonderful place to live."

Court Leave Ruling

In a decision to the Defense Supply Agency, the Comptroller General has modified an earlier CG decision regarding granting court leave to temporary employees who were required to be absent from work for the purpose of performing jury duty. CG B-166056 of March 21, 1969, states the earlier stand was unnecessarily restrictive and now holds that temporary employees are entitled to court leave for jury duty under 5 U.S.C. 6322.

Coping With the Slack(s), Season or . . .

HOW CAN YOU MAKE WOMEN WEAR DRESSES IN NATIONAL PARKS?

By Horace M. Albright

One night in a mid-20's travel season, a ranger reported from his station at Lake Yellowstone, in Yellowstone National Park, that a congressman from Kansas, Mr. Edward Little, was out there and in critical mood, but would not explain what was disturbing him. I could not join the congressman the next day, but that night, Ted Ogston, in charge of Canyon Ranger Station, reported that he had seen Congressman Little, that he was in bad humor, he thought, but was not very communicative, merely saying quite positively that he was going to make his complaint to me personally. I endeavored to talk with Mr. Little on the telephone, but either he could not be found, or he refused to go to the telephone.

When he arrived at headquarters, I called on him, and I found him ready to voice his complaint. We found a quiet corner where we could talk. I hoped to talk about his trip in general, what he thought about the natural features of the park, etc. However, he came right to the thing that was disturbing him.

He said he was disappointed that so many women, particularly portly women, were wearing trousers

in the park. He thought that in a completely Federal jurisdiction like Yellowstone Park, women could be made to wear dresses. He seemed terribly serious, and I fell into his trap by earnestly asking him how he thought we could control women's wearing apparel. I made no progress with him. He thought we ought to try. He thought we could have women rangers to do something about the problem. He thought people all over the country would applaud any success we might have. Finally, in some desperation, I asked him if he had not seen in the park at least one girl or woman who looked good in trousers. The congressman's face lit up and then he smiled for the first time. "Yes," he said, "up on Mt. Washburn, just this morning, I saw a girl who looked wonderful in trousers, only I wished she was wearing shoes instead of dancing pumps!" The congressman was just having a little fun, and from then on we got along splendidly and he confessed that he enjoyed the park immensely, and was sorry if he had worried the rangers. Later, in Washington, he was helpful in our legislation. If my memory is correct, he was chairman of the House Judiciary Committee.

People on the move—

NEW FACES

Downs, John E., to Public Info. Off., WASO

NEW PLACES

Acock, Marlo G., from Supv. Pk. Ranger, Natchez Trace Pkwy., to same, Blue Ridge Pkwy.

Adams, Thomas J., from Maintenance Supt., Crater Lake NP, to Maintenance Spec., Klamath Falls Cluster

Anderson, Marion R., from Pers. Asst., Crater Lake NP, to same, Klamath Falls Cluster

Benton, Robert E., from Pk. Planner, WASO, to Supv. Pk. Ranger, Theodore Roosevelt NMP

Buhrman, Henry Q., from Cook, Catoctin JCCCC, to Agri. Equipment Repairer, National Capital Parks - Central

Downer, Leslie E., from Pk. Guide, to Pk. Tech., Shiloh NMP

Johnson, Wilma A., from Sec. Steno., Cumberland Gap JCCCC, to Clk. Steno., National Capital Parks - North

McClanahan, Lester S., from Asst. Supt., Fire Island NS and New York City Group, to Supt., Wind Cave NP

Nelson, Marvin L., from Admin. Off., Crater Lake NP, to same, Klamath Falls Cluster

Proctor, William A., from Laborer, National Capital Parks - Central, to Gardener, George Washington Mem. Pkwy.

Richardson, Alphonzo, from Caretaker, National Capital Parks - North, to Gardener, National Capital Parks - Central

Scott, Harold E., from Foreman, Roads & Trails, Grand Teton NP, to Foreman, Maintenance, Capitol Reef NM

Smith, R. V. L., from Proc. & Prop. Mgmt. Asst., Crater Lake NP, to same, Klamath Falls Cluster

Spurgeon, John M., from Concessions Analyst, WASO, to Concessions Program Spec., WSC

Terry, Gerald G., from Maintenceman, Grand Canyon NP, to Caretaker, Glen Canyon NRA

Wheat, Jack, from Cons. Center Dir., Oconaluftee JCCCC, to Mgmt. Asst., Glacier NP

JOINING THE ALUMNI

Ballard, Johnnie P., from Caretaker, National Capital Parks - East

Beach, Seymour G., from Bldg. Repairman, Big Bend NP

Blair, Claude R., from Resident Youth Worker, Great Smoky Mtns. NP, Tremond JCCCC

Gerald, Herbert A., from Foreman III, Shop, Great Smoky Mtns. NP

Hayden, Harold L., from Pvt., Motorcycle Off., U.S. Park Police, NCR

Justice, Glenn F., from Civil Engr., Cumberland Gap JCCCC

Lacy, Sam P., from Enrollee WorkSupv., Cumberland Gap JCCCC

Rolen, William T., from Supv. Pk. Ranger, Great Smoky Mtns. NP

Ryan, Helen S., from Sec. Steno., Independence NHP

Tracy, Helen B., from Sec. Steno., Yellowstone NP

Warren, Dwight T., from Supv. Pk. Nat., Death Valley NM

Natchez Trace Ladies

Continued from Page 2.

district, 238 miles south on the Trace. Mary Guedon of Church Hill, near Natchez, traveled the greatest mileage for our May Cherokee gathering, 346 miles—one way!!

Our most ambitious adventure this spring was going to Natchez during that city's March Pilgrimage. The Port Gibson Rocky Springs sub-district women were our hostesses, feeding us royally and bedding us overnight. The next morning 15 of us toured five of the historic ante-bellum homes, lunched, and headed back up the Parkway, stopping at our own historic sights, such as Mount Locust, a restored "stand" of the Old Trace.

May 13, the Northern District wives were our hostesses with a ham-dinner at the new Colbert Park area, on the shores of Pickwick Lake in Alabama.

We were pleased that three of the wives from Shiloh National Military Park could also attend this May picnic as our guests. Next month when we meet in our Ridgeland sub-district near Jackson, Mississippi, we hope to have the women from Vicksburg National Military Park as guests.

In addition to becoming better acquainted, we are at work producing an orientation and information booklet which will be forwarded to the wives of new Parkway employees. However, the pleasure of each other's company has alone made our new Parkway Wives Association and the long miles traveled worthwhile.

Severance Pay

Continued from Page 1.

position of like seniority, tenure, and pay in another commuting area when the agency offered to pay transportation and household moving expenses in connection with a transfer of functions.

Members of Congress and several Federal agencies petitioned the Commission to modify or cancel the amendment because it worked a hardship on employees, especially those in the lower grades. They contended that the provision created a hardship because it operated to deny severance pay to employees who were not free to move because of economic, family and like reasons.

"Write Right Rules"

A Navy publication recently listed the following "Write Right Rules" for employees:

Verbs has to agree with their subjects.

Try to not ever split infinitives.

About them sentence fragments.

Don't write run-on sentences they are hard to read.

Don't use commas, which aren't necessary.

Corect speling is esential.

Proofread your writing to see if you any words out.