

## TIPTOEING THROUGH 385,000 TULIPS



In Washington, D.C. Spring means flowers. It means tulips and cherry blossoms and daisies and dogwood. This year it has meant approximately 1,488,000 daffodils, 385,000 tulips, 132,500 other bulbs, and 32,600 pansies.

Spring also means work. It means laborers and caretakers and horticulturists and tree workers. This year it has meant 700 maintenance employees, including 30 gardener foremen, 103 gardeners and 17 gardener helpers.

Unfortunately that's not enough people to keep up with all the foliage, according to D. James Lindsay, chief horticulturist at National Capital Parks.

"Gardeners and horticultural people are at a premium today. We have had difficulty the past few years in hiring horticultural personnel, especially gardeners."

Being a gardener requires skill. A landscape gardener must know plants, how to grow them and to protect them from pests. He must know how to interpret landscape architects' plans and to keep a systematic set of records. He should also know the conditions that provide for good growth of trees, shrubs and plants.

"Gardening has always been an elite profession in Europe," Lindsay says. "Our recent developments in beautification of parks in cities and private homes have created a pressing need for



Soil specialist James Patterson instructs several members of the refresher course for gardeners. Standing, left to right, are Harvey Dickerson, John Hickerson, Nathaniel Becton, Leroy Buchanan. Seated, left to right, are William Posey and Curtiss Britt.

NPS Photo by Spradley

## WASHINGTON REPORT

### WILDERNESS PROPOSAL

Public hearings will be held beginning July 1 at Adams State College, Alamosa, Colorado, to receive comments and suggestions on the establishment of a wilderness comprising about 28,350 acres within the Great Sand Dunes National Monument. The proposed wilderness area is located in Saguache and Alamosa Counties, in south-central Colorado.

A packet containing a map and additional information may be obtained from the Superintendent, Great Sand Dunes National Monument, P.O. Box 60, Alamosa, Colorado, 87501 or from the director of the Southwest Region.

### LAKE TAHOE STUDY BEGUN

On May 11, the Senate Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs filed a report on S. 2208 directing a study of the feasibility of establishing a national lakeshore at Lake Tahoe, amended so as not to restrict the study to the State of Nevada. The Senate passed the bill on May 13.

### C&O CANAL GAINS SUPPORT

For 15 years, conservationists led by Supreme Court Justice Wm. O. Douglas have fought to get park status for the narrow, 185-mile C&O Canal and its towpath. Interior Secretary Hickel has now endorsed—with certain amendments—park legislation by Sen. Charles McC. Mathias, and Reps. John Saylor, Gilbert Gude, and J. Glen Beall, Jr. As amended, the legislation would authorize a C&O Canal National Historical Park of 20,250 acres, extending from Georgetown, D.C. to Cumberland Md.

### SLEEPING BEAR LAKESHORE

Secretary Hickel has recommended enactment, with certain amendments, of a bill authorizing the establishment of Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore in Michigan. Comprising 71,036 acres, the proposed lakeshore would be within a single day's automobile drive of about 20 million people.



## Under our hat

**NPS Task Force**—Secretary Hickel has appointed Robert F. Gibbs, chief of NPS park operations, to head a special Department field office at Miami, Fla. Helping to coordinate south Florida environmental matters pertinent to the Everglades Jetport controversy, the Park Service will lead a task force consisting of six other Departmental bureaus. A seashore specialist, Gibbs recently served as national parks and monuments advisor to Jordon.

**Come to the Show!**—All NPS employees and park wives (husbands, too) are invited to the fashion show introducing the new women's uniforms to be held at 2:00 June 27 in the Rose Garden of Independence National Historical Park, Philadelphia.

Models for the show will be Park women representing different jobs and various parts of the country, says Carole Scanlon, coordinator of the project. Included are Elaine Hounsell, a permanent seasonal naturalist who travels from Everglades to Glacier to Lake Mead; Marian Riggs, historian archeologist who has worked at WASO, Western Regional Office and Walnut Canyon; Ellen Lang, park technician from Sitka National Monument, Alaska; and Louise Boggs, housekeeper from Independence Park.

With special guests and network television coverage, it should be quite a show!

**Pre-Retirement Planning Seminar**—The second seminar for employees from WASO, Eastern Service Center, Harpers Ferry Center and NCP will be held on June 30 - July 1 in the eighth floor studio of the Interior Building.

Employees planning to retire before the anticipated cost-of-living increase on August 1 will be given first-hand information on the Civil Service retirement system.

All NPS employees should keep in touch with their personnel offices regarding the trend in the cost-of-living index. Also, those wishing to take Trial Retirement must have their applications approved *60 days before their anticipated retirement date.*

**Recruiting Source**—The new Vietnam Era Veterans Readjustment Appointment provides an outstanding source for recruiting park aids and technicians, reports James D. Workman, personnel management specialist. Offering excepted appointments at GS-3, GS-4 and GS-5 or equivalent, the program allows NPS to recruit without using CSC registers and examinations.

Eligible veterans must have served on active duty during the Vietnam era (since Aug. 5, 1964), and must have completed no more than fourteen years education. In addition they must agree to pursue a training or educational program. For further information, contact Mr. Workman in the office of Personnel Management and Manpower Development, WASO.

**Kudos**—To Mati Tammaru, supervisory personnel staffing specialist, who was one of the 15 nominees for the 1970 William A. Jump Memorial Award. Established in 1950 by the Department of Agriculture, the award goes annually to a Federal official under the age of 37 who has demonstrated leadership, creative thinking and exemplary achievement in public administration.



\* and happy side trips to FORD'S THEATRE and the EASTERN SERVICE CENTER

By Loretta DeLozier

The day was sunny and beautiful and we were gay and enthusiastic—the perfect weather and ideal audience for an orientation tour held May 21 for 40 new WASO employees.

And it was quite a show. Organized and led by Peggy Oskuie, employee relations specialist, we began with a tour of Ford's Theatre guided by Donald Gillespie, site supervisor, and James Miller, park technician. This was followed by a visit to the Eastern Service Center where we were greeted by Larry Zollar, ESC director. Harvey B. Reynolds, chief of program management, explained the organization and functions of the center, which houses 230 people in its bright, modern offices in northwest Washington, D.C.

The highlight of our trip, however, was an afternoon jaunt to the Harpers Ferry Center in West Virginia. Our first stop was at the

new NPS Interpretive Facilities building. Perched on top of a cliff overlooking the Shenandoah River, it looks like a huge fortress sculpted out of red brick and layered with sheets of pristine glass. We thrilled at the view and happily trotted after museum specialist Herb Martin who gave us a tour of the 30,000 square foot building which houses the five divisions of publications, audiovisual arts, museums, environmental projects, and planning and interpretive services.

We met many of the artists and craftsmen who work in the building and saw their finished products—the huge, wall-size dioramas, the wood sculpture, paintings and other audiovisual items used in National Parks all over the country. We also viewed an award-winning movie on the environment and met its enormously talented producer, Carl Degen,

chief of the division of audiovisual arts.

Later, we visited the Mather Training Center and were given a tour of Harpers Ferry Historical Site by park guide Charles Bruce.

Comparing notes on the bus ride back to Washington, we unanimously decided that the trip had been informative as well as fun. "It helped me see the end result of my work," said Sharon Wheat, program assistant in the office of land acquisition. Others agreed, saying that it gave them a better understanding of NPS programs and goals. Most important, we enjoyed seeing the people and places we work with, or at least have heard of, in the Park Service.

"It's like finally meeting someone you've only known over a phone," concluded Marsha Lawn a secretary in the office of legislation. "All of a sudden he *means* something to you!"

## SILHOUETTE

### A Woman On Her Way Up

Mildred Standlee is an example of one of the many outstanding women in the National Park field areas. In a span of six years, she has risen from clerk-steno to administrative officer, earning much respect among the staff of the western and northwestern regional offices. She also recently received a special achievement award for her work.

Mildred's career with NPS began at Cabrillo National Monument in San Diego. Following this, she spent two years at Mount McKinley National Park in Alaska as a secretary, transferred to Craters of the Moon National Monument in Idaho as administrative clerk for over three years, and was later lured to the newly created North Cascades National Park in Washington.

At North Cascades she has provided invaluable assistance

in setting up an area from "scratch." As Chief I & RM Jerry Hammond puts it, "At first we not only lacked a typewriter on which to type our forms, we lacked the forms to request a typewriter." Now one and a half years later the park has four functioning offices and permanent staff of nineteen.

The daughter of a Navy officer, Mildred was born in Norfolk, Va. She attended school in coastal Navy cities in the U.S., Puerto Rico, Panama and the Virgin Islands. She attended one year at San Diego State College and two at San Diego Business College. Her husband, Floyd, is a heavy-duty mechanic with the Skagit Steel Corporation in Sedro Woolley, Washington, the headquarter's town for the new park area.



## PROFILE

By Franklin D. Pridemore

### This Westerner Finally Went East



Vincent Ellis, superintendent at Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park, Georgia, is really a westerner—both by birth and NPS assignment. Originally from Amistad, New Mexico, his first exposure to the Park Service came in 1934 when he was a CCC enrollee at Bandelier National

Monument, New Mexico. In 1937 he began his NPS career as a "Junior Assistant to Technician." (He had the longest title and shortest paycheck of anyone on the payroll.)

Later assignments took him to the Southwestern National Monument headquarters in Arizona,

Southwest Regional Office, and Big Bend, Grand Canyon and Mesa Verde National Parks. In March 1966 he packed up and headed east to Kennesaw. Even though he left, the West remembered him in July 1966 with a superior performance award for his last year's service at Mesa Verde.

Active in the American Legion and Rotary International, Vince is presently Treasurer of the Marietta Club. A leader in environmental awareness programs, he has been honored for his work in conservation and natural beauty by both the Marietta-Cobb County Board of Beautification and the Marietta Men's Garden Club.

"Grandpa" Ellis has three children—two boys and a girl—and one granddaughter. Vincent Victor, his oldest son, is married and living in Atlanta; Jim lives in Denver, Colorado; and Cathy is a senior at North Cobb High School. His wife, Tillie, looks after the whole crowd.

## PER DIEM RATES CHANGE

Changes in NPS per diem travel rates resulting from recent legislation have been announced by C. P. Montgomery, assistant director, Administration. Following is a summary of the new per diem rates for travel within the 48 contiguous states and the District of Columbia.

- \$20.00 for travel in connection with a permanent official change of station.

- \$10.00 if official travel does not require overnight absence or if lodging is furnished without charge.

- \$8.00 at the Albright and Mather training centers for persons in Government quarters who are engaged in training activities for three weeks or less. If dormitory space is unavailable at the center, trainee may claim actual cost of lodging plus \$8.00 per day.

- \$2.00 when lodging and meals are furnished without charge at Government expense.

- The per diem rate for temporary duty travel is based on an average cost of lodging, with a sliding scale ranging from \$10 to \$25. This rate is obtained by dividing the total cost of lodging by the number of nights in a travel status during the period covered by the voucher.

Although documentary evidence will not be required to support per diem claimed on vouchers, receipts or a memorandum record should be kept to facilitate computation. Travelers must certify that rates have been determined according to the sliding scale, which will be attached to the Travel Authorization.

## *See Here Ladies*

### HOW IT ALL STARTED

Amy Benewies (retired) has written an account of the NPS Women's Organization, dating from its inception in 1952. This information will be sent to Ruth Joseph (WASO) to be compiled and added to the history that she is assembling for future publication.

### NEW REGIONAL NEWSLETTER

The Southwest Region is publishing its own regional newsletter. Subscriptions may be obtained by sending \$1.00 to: Horseshoe Bend National Military Park, Route 1, Box 63, Daviston, Alabama 36256.

### SHENANDOAH BOOKLET AVAILABLE

The women of Shenandoah National Park, Virginia, have prepared a "Newcomer's Booklet" to send to those who anticipate moving to the area. It provides basic information on available living quarters and facilities in the park and the towns nearby. Also included is a directory of long-term employees and their families. Contributing to the booklet were Joan Elliot, Julia Schenk, Sue Nichols, Gloria Deckert, Jane Dempsey and Stanley Davis.



A group of the Natchez Trace Parkway women at the "After Taxes" April meeting in Dancy, Miss., the home of Mrs. Henry Schock. Co-hostesses were Mrs. Roger Giddings and Mrs. Tom Pardee. These women drive for hours to be together for a short time, and the champion driver for the day was Mrs. Mickey Lee from Port Givson, Miss., over four hours away.

## Tiptoeing Through 385,000 Tulips

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trained men. However, the only schools or courses offered are at The Norfolk Botanical Gardens, the Gardener School at Niagra Falls, Canada, and the Sandhills Community College in North Carolina."

As a result Lindsay initiated a pilot project last year to train laborers to become gardeners. Trainees in the year-long course met once weekly for a full day of classroom instruction and received on-the-job training with various maintenance units. Seventeen men graduated from the course.

This year Bart Truesdell, horticulturist at NCP-North, is conducting a fifteen-week refresher course for gardeners. "Our purpose is to help bring the men up to date on modern skills and technological advancements in horticulture," Truesdell explains. "We try to combine the theoretical with the practical, so the men can actually use what they learn."

James M. French, landscape gardener at NCP, suggests that potential gardeners take several short courses offered through the Department of Agriculture and a correspondence course offered at Pennsylvania State University. Laborers can also ask to be made a gardener's helper, and receive some on-the-job training.

A member of the National Association of Professional Gardeners, French says, "Gardening is an art, like painting or music. It becomes a part of you, a beautiful composition. A good gardener has to love it; You have to be a gardener from the heart!"



James M. French, landscape gardener at NCP, offers helpful advice to would-be gardeners.



D. James Lindsay, chief horticulturist at NCP, instructs laborers in the gardening course held last year.

## People On The Move

### NEW FACES

Brister, Frances, to Sec., WASO  
Ingle, Irene R., to Clk. Typist,  
Glen Canyon NRA  
Johnson, Joan F., to Clk. Typing,  
WASO  
Kasero, Owen, to Clk. Typist,  
WASO  
Owings, Theodore R., to Pk.  
Mgr., WRO

Patterson, John R., from Supv.  
Pk. Ranger, Theodore Roose-  
velt NMP, to Pk. Mgr., Bents  
Old Fort NHS  
Rigby, Warren, L., from Pk.  
Ranger, Zion NP, to Pk.  
Techn., Petrified Forest NP

### JOINING THE ALUMNI

### NEW PLACES

Barrel, Robert L., from Supv.  
Pk. Nat., SWRO, to Pk. Mgr.,  
(Gen. Supt.), Hawaii Cluster  
Braden, James R., from Program  
Clk., Grand Canyon NP, to  
Conc. Analyst, WASO  
Henderson, Blanche P., from  
Admin. Off., Fort Clatsop NM,  
to same, Saguaro NM

Butterfield, Neal A., from Pk.  
Planner, Olympic NP  
Mahan, Russell L., from Pk.  
Mgr. (Supt.), Wupatki-Sunset  
Crater NM  
Miller, Mary W., from Budget  
Analyst, MWRO  
Pope, Charles S., from Hist.  
Arch., WASO



### NPS NEWSLETTER



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