

nps

newsletter

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By Loretta DeLozier

How important is photography to the National Park Service?

According to Carl Degen, audiovisual chief, photography is one of our most powerful tools for preconditioning people before they come to the parks, making them aware of the value of our natural resources and showing them what can be done to preserve our environment.

From Polaroid snapshots to museum-quality slides, the Park Service needs pictures to provide information, documentation and interpretation for both Park personnel and the public we serve.

Currently a handful of professional photographers do the bulk of the Park's picture taking. The following capsule profiles describe several of them, each of whom has a unique position in the Service. Together they make a motley group—but a fascinating one!

Jack Rottier: A photojournalism graduate of Northwestern University in Evanston, Ill., Jack is a world traveler who has photographed such celebrities as

Bing Crosby, Clark Gable, Gary Cooper and every President since Truman. A former photographer for the U.S. Bureau of International Trade Fairs, he joined NPS in 1966. As chief photographer for National Capital Parks, he covers various Presidential ceremonies and press conferences and all official Park functions.

An outdoorsman, last year he spend a week photographing wildlife in Yellowstone, and every summer he rides the Nez Perce Trail from Wallawo Lake, Ore., to Bear Paw, Mont. "I chose photojournalism because I felt it would give me more adventure. It hasn't made me rich, but it's provided lots of excitement and travel!"

Carl Degen, Jr.: A film producer, Carl has worked with NBC television, the J. Walter Thompson advertising agency, and an independent Atlanta production house. A six year NPS veteran, he currently heads the Division of Audiovisual Arts at Harpers Ferry, which produces all the

SHUTTERBUGS Cont'd. on Pg. 3

NCP's chief photographer,
Jack Rottier.



Photo by Jim Aycock

WASHINGTON REPORT

SURVIVOR BENEFITS

The House Insurance sub-committee has begun hearings on a bill to extend survivor annuity benefits to the spouses of Federal retirees who remarry subsequent to retirement. It would also restore the full annuity to the retiree whose pre-retirement spouse predeceases him.

HEALTH INSURANCE

The House of Representatives Civil Service Committee has approved its subcommittee's bill which will, if finally enacted, increase the Government's contribution toward Federal Employees Health Insurance premium costs from an average of about 24 percent to 50 percent effective next January 1.

Also approved by the sub-committee was an Administration-sponsored formula for automatic annual adjustments in the future to make sure that the Federal percentage of contributions does not decline while medical care costs rise. Under this plan, the Government's share would be based on the average cost of the six largest Federal insurance plans.

BILLS INTRODUCED

HR 17561 (Roybal) To study the desirability of establishing a national wildlife refuge in California and/or adjacent western states for the preservation of California tule elk.

S 3861 (Harris) To amend the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act by designating certain rivers in Oklahoma for potential additions to the national wild and scenic rivers system.

THREE MORE PARKS

Other legislation reported on favorably—with certain amendments—by the Interior Department include: establishment of Arches National Park, Utah; Voyageurs National Park, Minnesota; and Capitol Reef National Park, Utah.



Under our hat

FEDERAL HOLIDAYS: The Civil Service Commission lists the following Federal holidays to be observed starting in 1971.

- New Year's Day, Jan. 1
- Washington's Birthday, third Mon. in Feb.
- Memorial Day, last Mon. in May
- Independence Day, July 4
- Labor Day, first Mon. in Sept.
- Columbus Day, (new), second Mon. in Oct.
- Veterans Day, Fourth Mon. in Oct.
- Thanksgiving Day, Fourth Thurs. in Nov.
- Christmas Day, Dec. 25
- Inauguration Day (Washington, D.C. area only) Jan. 20, every fourth year after 1965

VACATION TOURS: Your Employees and Alumni Association is planning a series of vacation tours as part of the Discover America Program. Included are tours to the Deep South, Hawaii, Alaska and the Caribbean. Complete details are in the May-June issue of the Association's **NATIONAL PARK COURIER**.

Membership in the E&AA is open to any past or present NPS concessioner or employee. For additional information, write to the Executive Secretary, Employees and Alumni Association, 1100 Ohio Drive, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20242.

TRAINING BOOKLET: The new NPS "Training Opportunities" booklet will be available soon, reports Julius E. Eitington, train-

ing officer. Seven new courses have been added for FY 1971: Principles of Ecology, Narcotics Workshop, Advanced Leadership Lab, Natural Resources Management Seminar, Concessions Administration Seminars, Managerial Grid for Upper-Level Managers.

The environmental management course has been shortened to three days and will be offered at Albright for the first time. Also, the Park Police have opened basic recruit training and specialized law enforcement courses to park rangers.

AWARDS CEREMONY: Secretary Hickel will present nine Distinguished Service Awards and two Valor Awards to Park employees at the Departmental Honor Awards Convocation on Tuesday, June 30, at 2:00 p.m., in Constitution Hall, Washington, D.C. A reception in the Interior Cafeteria will immediately follow the presentation.

Receiving the DSA are: Jack Anderson, Supt., Yellowstone; Wilhelmina Harris, Supt., Adams NHS; Raymond Mulvany, former Asst. Reg. Director, WRO; George Palmer, Assoc. Reg. Director, NERO; Erik K. Reed, Research Anthropologist, SWR; John Reshoft, former Supv. Pk. Planner, WASO; Grover Steele, Supt., NCP-East; Howard Stricklin, former Supt., Grand Canyon; and Freeman Tilden, Writer-Editor, WASO.

Receiving the Valor Award are Dennis Long (posthumously), former laborer, Isle Royale, Louis Robinson, Pvt., U.S. Pk. Police.



Santa Fe's archeological photographer, Fred Mang.



interpretive films and slides used in our National Parks. Emphasizing quality, his staff has won awards for their work, and this year will submit one of their award-winning films to the Cannes Film Festival in France.

"It's fun to see the Government trying to say things in a new way on film," Degen exclaims, "For our part, we operate like a commercial production house, with the parks as clients. Our job is to work *with* them to produce the material they can use."

W. Woodbridge Williams: Originally a marine biologist, Woody is a highly acclaimed nature photographer who will squat for hours in a marshy bog just to take one perfect picture. Self-taught, he was on the staff of National Geographic before joining NPS in 1961. His pictures



Edward Stevens, Park Police photographer.

range from ghetto shots to sublime scenes in the Cascades and close-ups of birds and flowers. Now working in interpretation under Carl Degen, he is conducting a series of one-man showings in parks all over the country.

"This is a landmark in the Service," he declares. "Usually the Government doesn't promote individual work, and photographers get little recognition. Hopefully these showings will encourage good photography."

Cecil Stoughton: Trained by the Army, Cecil is a retired officer who held one of the most coveted positions in photography. He was personal photographer for both Presidents Kennedy and Johnson, and took what has been called the most famous picture in the



Cecil Stoughton, chief of Still Photography.

Photo by Stoughton



Audiovisual Chief Carl Degen directs actor John Ireland during the filming of "This is Frederica."



Nature photographer, M. Woodbridge Williams.

world—the swearing in of President Johnson aboard Air Force One on November 22, 1963.

A member of NPS since 1967, Cecil is chief of still photography under the office of Information, WASO, supplying press and public with pictures and maintaining an up-to-date photo file for the Service. "Our major problem is that we are often an afterthought. The field may plan for months on opening a new site and, a day or two before it opens, decide that some pictures would be nice. For best results, a photographer should be included in the planning stages."

Edward A. Stevens: Although Ed's job is vital to the Park Service, it is, strangely enough, also little known. As head of photography for the Park Police he covers accidents, demonstrations, investigations, awards and special events; he maintains police negatives and photofiles; and he develops and prints all of his black and white pictures.

A Park policeman since 1950, Ed also teaches photography to new recruits. "Almost every patrol car has a camera in it," he says. "Our pictures are used for court evidence, planning, engineering, safety and identification. We also use movies and portable closed-circuit television."

Fred Mang: A professional photographer for 23 years, Fred has a unique speciality—archeology. Primarily a studio photographer, he participated in the Weatherill Mesa Project at Mesa Verde, taking closeups of the hundreds of artifacts brought in for study. "My work is more scientific," he explains, "I try to do what the archeologists want, which is an accurate representation, using the correct lenses and lighting."

A graduate of the New York Institute of Photography, Fred is currently working for WASO, stationed at the Southwest Regional Office in Santa Fe. He does slide photography for museum audiovisuals and recently took a series of photos of the LBJ memorial home and birthplace.

SILHOUETTE

KMC 750

By Jim Howell

"This is KMC 750, can I help you?" is a familiar sound on the radio network of Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks. To a backcountry park ranger or trail crew member trying to reach park headquarters from his portable radio, this sound is greeted with relief and gratefulness. To others on their daily work routine, it is a sign that "all is well with Mattie on hand."

A 20-year NPS veteran, Mattie L. Sims was a seasonal telephone operator for six years, and has spent the past fourteen summers at her station as an indispensable fire lookout. Her devotion to the job and her personal competence won her a cash superior performance award in 1964.

Mattie's daughter, Kay, has also spent summers in the tower with her mother, and entered Reedley Junior College last fall as a freshman.



Once, after spending a busy summer in the lookout tower, Mattie gave a serious prayer of thanks for the many blessings bestowed upon her family, but ended the prayer with the familiar sign off of "KMC 750"!

Park employees at Sequoia and Kings Canyon are certainly not contemplating the day when such capable individuals as Mattie are replaced by other methods of detecting and locating forest fires. More progressive and economical perhaps, but will the sound of a plane be as comforting to the employee on duty at his wilderness outpost as Mattie's voice?

FOST IN

ACTION

Good news from the field.

According to recent reports, the Field Operations Study Team (FOST) is alive and happily functioning at both Petrified Forest National Park and the Navajo Lands Group in Arizona.

It's *great* news, really, for the FOST concept is nothing short of revolutionary. As described in the November 27 NEWSLETTER, its purpose is to convert some of the Park Service's major functions into two new occupational series—Park Management GS-025 and Park Aid and Technician, GS-026.

Using a variation of the FOST concept, Petrified Forest has reorganized into three divisions: administration, visitor services (park operations) and area services (resource management). The district ranger duties are almost at the level of a unit manager. Over the last two years, the park has converted eight permanent and two long term temporary positions to park technician, and twenty seasonal positions to park technician, park aid or park guide.

"We can now offer the technicians a variety of duties," reports Superintendent Donald A. Dayton. "These include law enforcement, road patrol, entrance station operation, information desk operation, horse patrol, on-site and off-site interpretation, and wood theft area patrol."

Frank E. Kowski, director of the Southwest Region, believes that the completion of the reorganization and staffing of Petrified Forest under the new unit manager concept is the first such accomplishment, of other than a small area, in the Service.

"It has resulted in what we feel is a more workable and efficient organization to do the job," Kowski says. "For years there have been sporadic personnel problems at Petrified Forest, due mainly to the assignment of

professional personnel to positions not requiring a professional background and education. The use of aids and technicians is helping to solve this problem. Another important side benefit of the FOST conversion is the opening up of additional opportunities for minority group applicants."

The Navajo Lands Group has also completely converted its permanent organizational structure to the FOST concept. According to General Superintend-

ent John E. Cook, they have eliminated seven professional positions and replaced them with lower graded technicians, resulting in a reduction of their net GS grade total.

"We are convinced that the FOST concept works," he says. "The Group arrangement and the classification adjustments have, *we feel*, resulted in improved management and the cost-benefit ratio (was) very well justified."

See Here Ladies

THE NATIONAL PARK BRIDES

By Thomas Birmingham, Editor, ESC Newsletter

You know, I wondered why the Director always paid very special attention to the "brides" as he calls them, why he brought them forth to bask in his lights. It wasn't until I was made a tourist that I discovered why. I found these ladies playing an active role in park life. They share the load of their husbands career as few other wives do. His problems are theirs, as are his joys and accomplishments.

Park brides are most important indeed, and can they ever cook! Superintendent Al Banton's wife, Suzanne, at Lincoln's Boyhood, makes the finest roast beef I've ever had (except, of course, at my own bride's table). When you come to visit them they treat you just like you're a Superintendent yourself. From a nothing, all of a sudden you're a star. They take you into their homes and hearts until it's not so bad being a tourist anymore.

Yes, the "brides" more than deserve their occasional dip in the limelight. In fact, I'm not so sure that they shouldn't be on salary.

OFFICERS ELECTED IN THE GREAT SMOKIES

The Park Wives organization in the Great Smoky Mountains National Park recently elected officers, to be installed next September. New officers are: Jean Menning, president; Mildred Miller, Tennessee vice president; Martha Ray, North Carolina vice president; LuAnn Mathis, secretary and Wilma Seay, treasurer.



People On The Move

NEW FACES

Breazeale, Patricia R., to Clk.
Typist, Everglades NP
Krause, Buddy M., to Supply
Asst., Olympic NP
Norstrom, Olga L., to Mail and
Files Clk., WSC
Price, Thomas R., to Motor
Vehicle Operator, Mount
Rainier NP
Wachman Robert C., to Training
Instr., Mammoth Cave NP

NEW PLACES

Alexander, William M., from
Civil Engr., SERO, to same,
Everglades NP
Campbell, Bonnie Maryon, from
Sociologist, ESC, to same, WSC
Kile, Robert D., from Mainte-
nanceman, Theodore Roosevelt
NMP, to Foreman II, B&U,
Wind Cave NP
Lamb, Carl C., from Pk. Ranger,
SERO, to same, Olympic NP
Lee, Daniel E., from Supt.,
Custer Battlefield NM, to Pk.
Mgr. (Supt.), Vicksburg, NMP
Madden Robert R., from Hist.,
Great Smoky Mtns. NP, to
Supv. Pk. Ranger, Colonial
NHP
Manscill, Robert William,
from Program Coordinator,
MWRO, to Admin. Off., Great
Smoky Mtns. NP
Montgomery, Jon B., from Pk.
Ranger, Pipestone NM, to Supv.
Pk. Ranger, Great Smoky Mtns.
NP
Munck, Robert W., from Pk.
Ranger, Manassas NBP, to
same, Cumberland Gap NHP
Sanders, Maxwell S., from Pk.
Ranger, Albright TC, to same,
Shenandoah NP
Schoch, Henry A., from Pk.
Ranger, Natchez Trace Pkwy.,
to Supv. Pk. Ranger, Theodore
Roosevelt NMP
Treabess, Ronald H., from Land-
scape Arch., ESC, to same,
WSC
Trulock, Elmer E., from Pk.
Mgr., Glen Canyon NRA, to
same, Mount Rainier NP

Verfaillis, Roland B., from
Maintenance Supv., Catoclin
Mtn. Pk., to Exhibit Spec.,
WSC
Walters, William D., from Proc.
Agent, Independence NHP, to
Admin. Off., Virgin Islands NP
Warfield, Ronald G., from Pk.
Ranger, Albright TC, to same,
Blue Ridge Pkwy.
Waters, Mack O., from Fore-
man I R & T, Big Bend NP, to
Foreman III R & T, Shenandoah
NP

JOINING THE ALUMNI

Bierly, Edward J., from Visual
Info. Spec., Harpers Ferry
Center
Hinz, Henry R., from Budget Off.,
WRO
Johnson, Harold F., from Reg.
Ch., Prop. Mgmt. & Gen.
Services, WSC
Nelson, Dan S., from Pk. Mgr.,
Glacier NP

The following poem was given to us by Ivan Parker, NPS personnel director, who met the author while in the Virgin Islands recently. It honors Nobel Samuel, an island native and one of our outstanding Park employees (see "Profile" in the January 22, 1970 NEWSLETTER).

NOBEL SAMUEL ©

by Renaldo Cutino

Nobel
On the first day we met
By Trunk Bay, we
Enjoyed nature at it best, and
Loved the National Park around us.

Spoke of understanding
Among men all over the Earth
Many will go along with
Us, to love the creation, is to learn to
Esteem ourselves as Earthly men
Let's hope for others, St. John does the same!



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