



Environmental Education:

Where it's at

By Loretta DeLozier

and

Art Lamb

"You certainly have nice clean dirt..." "What smells so good out here?" "Just breathe and you'll learn something..." "I can learn somethin' by doin' nothin'."

These and other childlike comments were indicative of a pleasant day of learning recently for 5th and 6th grade pupils at Prince William Forest Park, Va. They were participating in the National Environmental Education Development program (NEED), run by the NPS Office of Environmental Education and its new chief, Tom Gilbert.

Now beginning its third year, NEED gives pre-schoolers through high school students the chance to learn the true meaning of the word ecology. More than just a "field day at the park," NEED is a year-round learning experience that enables students to see, smell, touch and hear the world around them. They learn about nature by participating in it.



Under our hat

TRAINING BOOKLET: The "Training Opportunities" booklet for FY 1971 has been sent to the field. Every first line supervisor or manager should have a copy and should make it available for use by their employees. A limited supply of additional copies is available from the training centers or the Branch of Training, WASO.

Several changes have been made since the booklet went to press. At Mather, the Narcotics Workshop scheduled for Oct. 5-9 has been postponed and will be announced later. The Law Enforcement Workshop scheduled for Jan. 25-Feb 12 has been cancelled and moved to the Mississippi Law Enforcement Academy in Jackson, Miss. from Oct. 12-23.

At Albright, the Concessions Management Seminar scheduled for Yosemite has been changed from Oct. 25-30 to Nov. 8-13; Managerial Grid Phase 1 changed from Oct. 18-23 to Jan. 4-9; Safety Management and Supervision changed from Nov. 29-Dec. 5 to Jan. 24-30; and the Environmental Management Seminar and Ecological Factors in Park Management courses have been combined into one course, Environmental factors in Park Management, to be given on Nov. 16-20.

FRIENDLY CRITICISM: Although we received several comments concerning our goof in the August 20 issue of the NEWSLETTER, the following was one of the nicest notes we've seen (and certainly made our chagrin more bearable): "Sirs: Did you notice the picture of Bill Ames was printed backwards? Even with a few, and a very few, mistakes, you are doing a fine job. Keep it up! Sincerely yours, J. W. Jernigan, Lincoln Memorial."

FIRST NEGRO SUPERINTENDENT: Robert G. Stanton, management assistant for National Capital Parks-Central, is the new superintendent of NCP-East and the first Negro superintendent of NPS. Born and reared in Texas, Stanton has a BS degree from Huston-Tillotson College in Austin, where he later was director of public relations. He joined the Washington office of



NPS in 1966 holding various positions in personnel management and public information. He has also been a ranger at Grand Teton NP in Wyoming.

VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT: Maintenance Supervisor, GS-1640-11, Mount McKinley National Park, Alaska. Closing date 9/30.

NEW SIGN SYSTEM: After 3 years of research and testing, the new wordless sign system (see March 19, 1970 issue of the NEWSLETTER) will be introduced into four NPS areas this fall: Colonial NHP, Va.; Herbert Hoover NHS, Iowa; Minute Man NHP, Mass.; and Yosemite NP, Calif. The goal is to have symbols in all NPS areas by July 1973.

TRAINING SESSION BEGINS:

The 33rd session of the 8-week "Introduction to Park Operations" for 20 new uniformed employees and 20 backlog park aids and technicians began at Albright Training Center on Sept. 14. The session has been named for Ira B. Lykes, park management consultant at Lake City Community College, Florida. Recently retired from NPS, Lykes was chief of the Division of Park Practice and helped found the Park Practice Program.

WOMEN'S UNIFORMS: Guidelines and order blanks for the new women's uniform have been sent to the field. Orders should be forwarded directly to Hart Schaffner & Marx, 36 S. Franklin St., Chicago, Ill, 60606, by Sept. 18. NPS wives may order both the apron and the zip-up smock to wear for Park-related functions. All questions should be directed to Miss Jean Nicholson at Hart Schaffner & Marx.

MSA'S PRESENTED: Six NPS employees and retirees recently received one of the Department of Interior's highest honors, the Meritorious Service Award. Included were Carl W. Alleman and Frank L. Brown, Western Service Center; Neal A. Butterfield, North Cascades NP; Mereda D. Cleary, Eastern Service Center; Arthur J. Connell, Blue Ridge Parkway; and Fred F. Dickison, Midwest Regional Office.

BIBLIOGRAPHY AVAILABLE:

An extremely helpful booklet, "A Guide to Management Reading," is available from the Branch of Training, WASO. It contains an annotated list of books on management subjects and includes names and addresses of periodicals containing management articles.

ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION: Where it's at



Bob Nunn: "This is not another program aimed only at the culturally deprived."

From Page 1

DEVELOPING NEED MATERIALS

"We've spent a great deal of time developing this program," says NEED Officer, Robert L. Nunn. "Up until now we've been mainly concerned with researching, testing and evaluating. Now we can put our work into operation."

Teaching materials were developed initially by the University of California at Davis and used by school teachers during the past two years of pilot study. They show that ecological principles can be made a vital part of all classroom subjects: math, science, art, history, music and social studies.

The National Park Foundation is publishing and distributing the NEED materials. The manuals presently cover grades three to eight. Complete materials for kindergarten through twelfth grades will be available by Sept. 1971.

"This is not another program aimed only at the culturally deprived," Nunn emphasizes. "We tested thousands of students in a variety of communities throughout the U.S."

St. Louis tested the program in seven schools and, according to Paul McCrary, environmental specialist for the Midwest Region, two St. Louis schools have used NEED materials in their outdoor school program. Richmond, Va.

school officials plan to continue their pilot program as a regular part of the curriculum.

NEED workshops for school and Park officials have been held around the country. During the winter of 1969 the Pennsylvania State Board of Education conducted eight regional NEED workshops for more than 300 teachers. In Virginia, 13 workshops were held for 378 teachers in the past 12 months, and Rocky Mountain National Park held workshops for over 150 teachers.

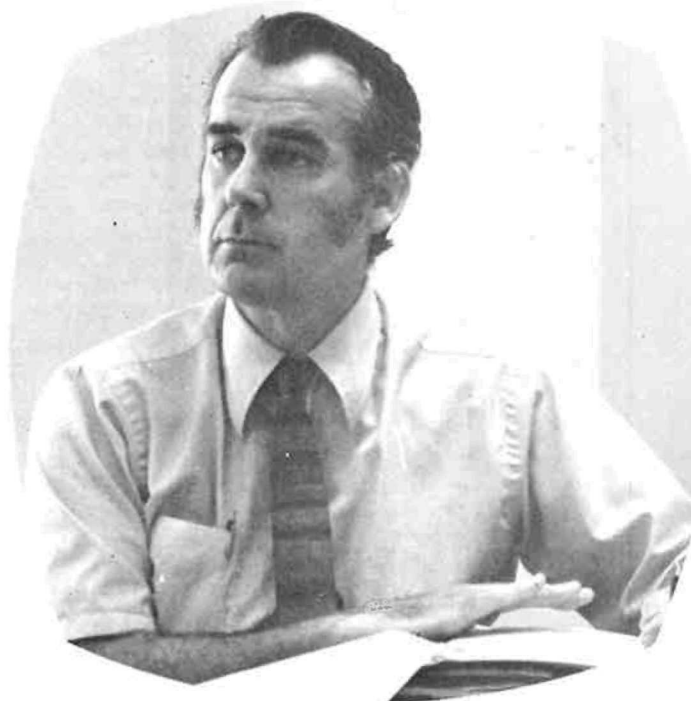
In California, local colleges will offer accredited workshops for elementary teachers beginning this Sept. at Whiskeytown National Recreation Area and John Muir National Historic Site.

The use of Federal, local or state parklands is essential to give children close contact with a variety of environments. Last summer, Sandy Walter, environmental specialist in the Pacific Northwest Region, took 100 eighth-grade science students from Seattle on a one-day study hike at Mount Rainier. A New York City class spent five days at Fire Island National Seashore as part of their NEED experience.

Two former Job Corps Centers at Tremont and Cumberland Gap are being operated by local colleges as environmental education centers. Four thousand students attended the Tremont center last year, and over 8,500 students plan to attend the two centers this year.

NESA PROGRAMS

Closely paralleling NEED is the National Environmental Study Areas program (NESA). NPS has set aside 70 NESA's in the Park System and 25 more outdoor classrooms are being planned. During the last school year, more than 35,000 students used the NESA's in 28 states and the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico. An additional 50,000 will use them by the end of this year.



Hugh Muller: "There's no fool-proof step-by-step process that works everywhere."

Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park in Georgia has six NESA trails and is putting in an advanced trail for highschool students. Former Kennesaw Supervisory Historian Frank Pridemore (now chief of urban and environmental activities for the George Washington Parkway) helped set up an extensive NEED/NESA program in the park.

"We've had the complete backing of the local county school system," says Paul Guraedy, park historian at Kennesaw. He and Seasonal Historian Rex Williams are now making a pamphlet on methods for using NESA's.

At Saguaro National Monument in Arizona, children can see a "green" desert containing a mixture of vegetation including the saguaro cactus. The mile-long NESA trail features an old adobe homestead and a gravel wash. Located near Tucson, the area receives its heaviest use during the cooler winter months.

"Many people think of the desert as a hostile place," explains Superintendent Harold R. Jones. "Here children can learn that not all things in the desert are to be feared—including snakes and gila monsters."

NESA guidelines, developed by NPS and the National Education Association provide the framework within which each local area can adapt to its own needs. The approach is interdisciplinary, man-centered and based on five environmental

"strands"— themes that underly the working processes of both the natural and cultural worlds.

The new NEA booklet, "Man and His Environment," shows how teachers may use nature as an approach to teaching other subjects. Verbal and non-verbal communication can be learned by watching animals and insects. Mathematics can be absorbed while studying the ratios of food supplies compared to the amount of life present in a given area. Illustrations of social study problems can be found in the relationships of various site elements.

WORKING WITH SCHOOLS

"There's no fool-proof step-by-step process that works everywhere," says NESA officer Hugh Muller. "We're not trying to take over the schools' teaching functions, but rather to help them make the Park an extension of their own classrooms. Our success depends on how well we work with the school people."

Al Mebane, environmental education coordinator for the Southeast Region and Bowie Lanford, supervisory historian at Chalmette National Historical Park, represented NPS at the annual convention of the Conservation Education Association in Louisiana last August.

David Karraker, environmental awareness coordinator for National Capital Parks has been

working closely with schools in Washington, D.C., and Roy Graybill, coordinator for the Pacific Northwest, has been active with schools in his region.

This summer Bill Taylor, environmental education specialist for the Western Region, represented NPS at the IUCN conference, "Environmental Education in the School Curriculum," attended by delegates from 18 countries. He reports that several countries are planning similar programs.

Park officials who know of a school wanting a NEED/NESA program should contact the NPS environmental education specialist in their region for assistance.

FURTHER INFORMATION

Articles in the Services's environmental education programs appeared in the Feb 19 issue of the NPS NEWSLETTER and the March 1970 issue of the NPS Interpreter's Newsletter (the latter also listed the NESA areas in NPS.) Staff Writer Jean Worth Matthews has written many articles and pamphlets which are available from the Office of Environmental Education, WASO.

Endorsed by Secretary Hickel, NPS's environmental education programs also received special recognition from the President's Council on Environmental Quality headed by Russell E. Train.

See Here Ladies

ACTIVE WOMEN AT AMISTAD

The women of Amistad Recreation Area are active in many community projects. Annabel Newman is a member of the Mignonette Garden Club and belongs to the Del Rio Study Club. Annabel is also on the Good Neighbor Council and recently spent four days at its convention in Saltillo, Mexico. Melba Vest serves on the adult council of the Del Rio Youth Center and works with the Del Rio Doll Boosters, an organization of parents working to help the drill team in which Kitty Vest performs. Kathy Korzan plays the flute in the All-City Orchestra and Trudy Vaughan, besides teaching school, works with a Junior Girl Scout troop.

WIDENING HORIZONS PROGRAM

In July, 25 Park wives in the Washington, D.C. area took 900 inner-city children on eight trips to nearby Parks as the Department of Interior's share of the "Widening Horizons Tours for Teens." Chairmen on the trips were Phil Jacobsen, Alice Stratton, Nattalie Bradley, Becky Hummel and Alice Viklund.

Developed by wives of Cabinet members, the "Widening Horizons" program is in its ninth year, under the sponsorship of the Urban Service Corps or the D.C. Public Schools. Chairman of the Board is Mrs. David Packard, wife of the Deputy Secretary of Defense.

In May, Becky Hummel and Nattalie Bradley, as "Widening Horizons" board members, were invited to the White House for tea. They were thanked personally by Mrs. Nixon and her daughter, Tricia, for the volunteer time that they donated to the Urban Service Corps projects.

SAFETY AT SWRO

The NPS Women of the Southwest Regional Office have been initiated into the SWRO Safety Program. Each month at their regular meeting a safety film on home safety will be shown to them.

PICNIC AT CATOCTIN

Catoctin Mountain Park women invite all NPS women and alumni wives to a "Colorfest Picnic" Tues. Oct. 6. Lunch will be at 12:00 p.m., rain or shine, but the women are invited to come early (10 a.m.) and stay late, as several activities are planned.

Please bring a salad or dessert and tableware, dress casually and join friends from other areas. Park headquarters are located three and a half miles west from Thurmont, Md. on state route 77. Areas will receive additional information, or contact Mrs. Norman Hinson (301) 824-2664 or Mrs. Frank Mentzer (301) 271-7448

PROFILE

He Talks Under The Arch

"I like to talk to people from all walks of life," says Noah Nelson, Sr. And, as supervisory park technician in charge of security and protection at the Jefferson National Expansion Memorial in St. Louis, he has many opportunities to do it.

"We work with local, state and Federal officials to solve our Security problems" he explains. He also occasionally assists in interpretation, gives orientation talks on the historical expansion of the West and shows documentary films.

Originally from Indiana, Noah was a salesman prior to spending three years with the Air Force during World War II. Afterwards he studied business administration at the University of Indiana and worked as a guard at the Indiana Arsenal. He later transferred to Louisville Medical Depot.



In 1953, Noah moved with his family to St. Louis where he entered NPS. He had special training in Government security work, including a special course at the St. Louis Police Academy. A former park guide, he was chief guard at JNEM before his recent promotion.

Noah's ability to talk to people earned him a special act award two years ago when he handled over 5,000 people during the Martin Luther King march in St. Louis. He coordinated activities with march leaders, local police and park officials. As a result, the march was peaceful and orderly.

Noah and his wife, Mary Elizabeth, have four children. Active in community activities, Noah works with Boy Scout Programs and is senior officer of the Pleasant Green Baptist Church.

WASHINGTON REPORT

PLATT-ARBUCKLE MASTER PLAN HEARINGS

Public meetings are scheduled for Oct. 28 on the Master Plan proposals for Platt National Park and Arbuckle National Recreation Area. A major proposal of the plan is the merger of the two park areas into a single Platt-Arbuckle National Recreation Area.

GOVERNMENT SUES FOR LAND

The Government has filed a condemnation suit against A. W. Sweet to determine value of the Sweet Ranch which is on land planned for inclusion in Point Reyes National Seashore. This is the last major parcel of land in the southwestern portion of Point Reyes which remains to be acquired by NPS. Trial date has not yet been set.

ADMINISTRATIVE BILL SIGNED

President Nixon signed a law in August which gives NPS more administrative latitude. The new law increases the jurisdiction of the Park Police in the Washington metropolitan area, authorizes the Service to sell products of living farm programs and retain the funds for the use of the Service, and provides several other improved or expanded "housekeeping" functions.

STUDY TO PRESERVE EDISON'S RECORDINGS

The Library of Congress Recording Laboratory is studying the recordings and research work of Thomas A. Edison now held by the Edison National Historic Site. It is hoped that rediscovery of Edison's technology coupled with a knowledge of modern sophisticated technology will enable the Library to develop techniques for permanent preservation of the original master recordings and wax cylinders.

HICKEL DESIGNATES LANDMARKS

Secretary of the Interior Walter J. Hickel announced on Sept. 6 that he is designating eight National Historic Landmarks. Included is Lafayette Park in Washington, D.C., across from the White House, and the buildings framing the park.

Also designated is an Indian structure in Wyoming known as "Medicine Wheel." It is the largest, most elaborate Indian structure of its type. Who built it and why remains a mystery.

Others include Blood Run Site, at the junction of Blood Run Creek and the Big Sioux River in Lyon County, Iowa, and Lincoln County, S.D.; and "Wickyup," the Admiral Richard E. Byrd estate in Hancock County, Maine.

Also, Fort Warren, on Georges Island in Boston Harbor; the Hermitage at HoHoKus, N.J., a house described as an outstanding example of the early, romantic phase of the Gothic Revival in American Domestic architecture; Fort Mifflin, along the Delaware River in Philadelphia, and Riverside Historic District, a Chicago suburb designed in 1868-69 by Frederick Law Olmsted.

Designation of the eight areas by Secretary Hickel automatically places them on the National Register of Historic Places, maintained by NPS.

While not owned or administered by the Service, Historic Landmarks are recognized as a means of encouraging preservation of historically significant properties.

NEW PLACES

Chittum, Harold J., from Constr. Rep., Grand Canyon NP, to same, WSC

Christensen, Carl S., Supv. Pk. Ranger, Glen Canyon NRA, to same, Grand Canyon NP

Cockrum, Dan E., from Civil Engr., Glen Canyon NRA, to same, WSC

Cunningham, William T., from Foreman I, Maintenance, Craters of the Moon NM, to Maintenance Foreman, White Sands NM

Fugate, Paul B., from Pk. Ranger, Carlsbad Caverns NP, to same, Chiricahua NM

Hastings, Philip B., from Pk. Ranger, Canyonlands NP, to same, Capulin Mountain NM

May, David D., from Pk. Ranger, Petrified Forest NP, to Supv. Pk. Ranger, Canyonlands NP

Mott, Eugene T., from Maintenance Supv., Amistad RA, to Constr. Rep., WSC

Phillips, Michael M., from Pk. Ranger, Albright TC, to same, Saratoga NHP & Saint-Gaudens NHS

Swartz, Paul C., from Supt., Fort Sumter NM, to same, San Juan NHS

Whitt, Lloyd K., from Asst. Supt., San Juan NHS, to Pk. Mgr. (Supt.), Fort Sumter NM

Wonson, Richard E., from Admin. Off., Sanford RA, to same, Tumacacori NM



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