



This is ... an OFFICE?

By Loretta DeLozier

"Don't sell us too hard!"

That seems to be the common plea among Park employees at the Southwest Regional Office in Santa Fe.

It's not that they're unfriendly. They're just worried that everyone else will want to transfer there. And no one there seems to want to transfer anywhere else.

No wonder.

SWRO is truly one of the gems of the Park Service, both place-wise and people-wise. The building is beautiful, the people are expansive, and the pace is leisurely but productive. ("It's not mañana every day—but it's not Maalox either!" one ex-ulcered, former Washingtonian cried.)

The Santa Fe area has a rich past and a lively present. It also has the

kind of variety that is a travel director's dream—in people, culture and natural beauty. Spanish lives side by side with Indian, Mexican and red-white-and-blue American. The oldest church in the United States sits but several blocks away from the newest state capitol building. A desert valley, complete with cactus and sagebrush, nestles warmly beneath snow-capped, skiable mountains.

However, my purpose in traveling to Santa Fe was more professional—to start gathering material on NPS field activities, the need for which was indicated in our NEWSLETTER survey, reported in our last issue. And I received a wealth of material to use in forthcoming articles.

Best of all, I gained many new

friends to share with the rest of the Park Service. Some of them you may have met, some of them you may meet on future assignments. Certainly all of them are worth knowing—and all of them have some part of my story to tell.

As is usual in our highly mobile Service, several key people were away during my visit. Also, in the short time I was there, I couldn't meet everyone. But I do owe thanks to all who gave me their time and their knowledge and their friendship. (With special thanks to Fred Mang for letting me raid his picture file to fill in the gaps in my photography.)

As I discovered, the Southwest Regional Office is a great place to visit—even if you can't get a transfer there!

(PHOTO STORY, Page 4)

Year at University Offered by Concessions Management

As part of the continuing effort to strengthen the concessions management program of the National Park Service, an employee will be selected to enroll in a school of hotel and restaurant management at an appropriate university for the '71-'72 school year.

Any interested career employee who meets university requirements may send a memo of application—through his supervisor—to the Director (with copy to the Regional Office). The memo must be received in WASO no later than December 30.

The memo should include a statement of previous education, including a college transcript; or a list of completed courses with grades; a statement concerning the general level of program sought (i.e., graduate and/or undergraduate); university preference; and a brief statement of career goals.

The selected employee will be transferred to a training position in the Office of Concessions Management, WASO, his official duty station being the university. Upon completion of school he will be assigned either to Concessions Management, WASO; one of the Service Centers; or an appropriate field area, depending on the needs of the individual and the Service at the time.

Employees who have previously made application for this program need only send a brief memo to the Director expressing continued interest.

For further information see "Training Opportunities—1971" or contact Leonard Hall, Concessions Management Training Coordinator, 202-343-4778.

Under our hat

MERITORIOUS SERVICE AWARDS:

Three Park employees recently received MSA's. They are: Edward J. Bierly, for his highly successful career in exhibit planning and design; Louise J. Gilmore, for her outstanding services in the field of personnel administration and position classification; and John W. Stratton, for his significant accomplishments in the field of park management and administration.



John Stratton

DUES WITHHOLDING RULES

CHANGED: Allotment regulations now permit Federal employees who belong to certain associations to have their dues withheld through payroll deduction. The Civil Service Commission defines such associations as those composed of management officials or supervisors with which the employing agency has official relationship under Executive Order 11491.

PER DIEM GUIDE: A new guidebook, *Per Diem*, published by American Airlines, lists 1200 hotels and motels in the U.S. that give Federal discounts. Free copies are available from the Travel Office, Department of the Interior, Washington, D.C. 20240.

FRED FAGERGREN: Midwest Regional Director Fred C. Fagergren, 62, died on November 5 at his home. A native of Salt Lake City, Utah, Fred joined the National Park Service in December 1930 as a ranger at Zion. During his long career he served as assistant superintendent of Mesa Verde and superintendent at Petrified Forest and Grand Teton. He became Regional Director in January 1966.



Fred Fagergren

SUMMER JOBS: The CSC has announced test dates for competitive summer jobs in Federal agencies. Complete information is contained in Announcement No. 414, which may be obtained from Job Information Centers in any area office of the Commission, major post offices, college placement offices, or from the U.S. Civil Service Commission, Washington, D.C. 20415.

EDITOR'S REQUEST: Our printer ran short on our Oct. 1 issue of the NEWSLETTER and we need copies. Anybody willing to part with one, please send it to us. Our address is on page 8.

Safety Through Training

By Bill Kay

*Living Interpretation Specialist
Southeast Region*

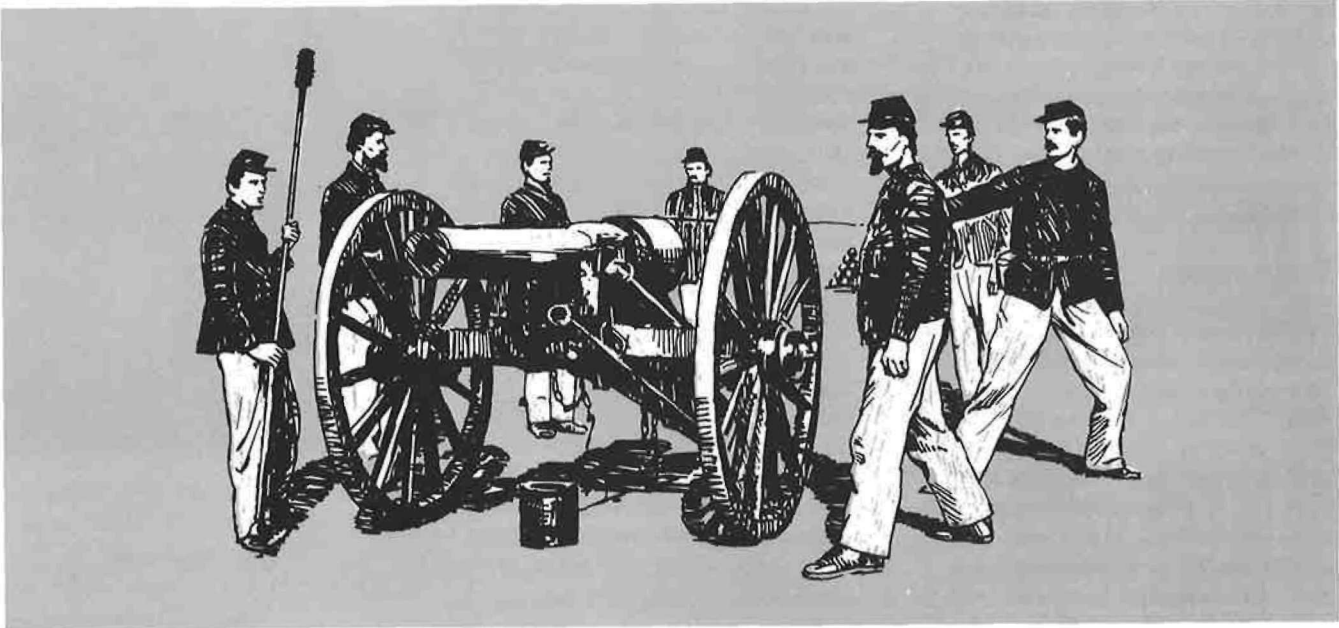
Although National Park Service personnel were not involved, the tragic artillery accident at the Sugar Bowl in New Orleans on November 1 needs to be a matter of grave concern to NPS Living Interpretation people. We don't yet know precisely what went wrong, but we most emphatically intend finding out.

Art Hehr, superintendent at Chalmette NHP, is looking into the matter. He's reviewing still shots of the accident, interviewing members of the crew and conferring

possession since the early 19th century—by attempting to fire smokeless powder. Another, civilian, crew saw four of its members hospitalized when they attempted to fire a mixture of black and flash powder. At least one member of that crew was not following the prescribed gun drill.

Another accident occurred when a commercial manufacturer loaded railroad torpedoes into the powder bags; another when a crew member stepped in front of the gun; and still another when a container of powder was left open behind the firing line.

Neither could be further from the truth. Training gun crews is much like training automobile drivers. Cannoneers must be trained to carry out their tasks without consciously thinking about them. An inexperienced, learning driver is unsafe because he must devote so much of his time to thinking of the mechanical details of driving the car, that he has no opportunity to look for hazards. This is precisely true for artillerymen. Add to that the pressure of handling artillery pieces before crowds of visitors and you have the same problem faced by fledgling drivers in heavy traffic.



with explosive experts. The object is to make sure the same thing doesn't happen to our people, or in one of our parks.

Park Service employees involved with military demonstrations have long been examining all non-NPS accidents that come to their attention. Earlier accidents have been caused by unsafe ammunition, failure of the crews to follow the artillery manuals of the period, and unsafe handling of bulk powder.

Years ago, a National Guard gun crew blew the breech from one of its prized Revolutionary War guns—a gun that had been in the battery's

One of our primary concerns is training our people. When handling weapons, they must go by the book—the military manuals of the period. All the manuals were based half on the need to deliver a volume of directed, disciplined fire, and half on safety. It takes hours and hours of drill to make a man safe around military weapons, whether small arms or artillery pieces.

A recent Southeast Region memo points out that "The many would-be artillerists believe that handling artillery is simply a matter of stoking the piece and touching it off."

To help alleviate the problem a military arts course is scheduled at Mather Training Center in May, 1971. The course will embrace the manufacture of ammunition and will include three days of range firing. Participants are to be line supervisors and others charged with carrying out military living interpretation programs and Regional safety officers who will serve as safety and range officers.

Other phases of the course will deal with organization and training of the British and American armies, military custom and tradition, soldier life, and military cooking.



This IS an Office!

(Continued from p. 1)



This picture is highly untypical for two reasons:

1) All four men are in the same place at the same time; and 2) None of them is wearing a bolo tie.

Lined up in front of the huge Spanish-style front doors, these are four of SWRO's leaders. They are, left to right: Art White, staff specialist; Frank Kowski, regional director; James Eden, assistant regional director for operations; and Carl Walker, assistant regional director for administration.

Esther Humes

"There are some advantages to being older," admits Esther Humes. "People put up with your orneriness."

If Esther is ornery, she is also dryly humorous and cheerfully busy. A secretary in the Office of Support Services, she has been keeping the environmental program alive since the environmental specialist left last March.

"We were involved in Earth Day activities and the Johnny Horizon program," she says, briskly listing her many activities. "Platt has a NEED program, Bryce Canyon an environmental day school, Big Bend a yearly essay contest. We also supply films and a reading list on environmental awareness."

Esther attended the conservation/ecology workshop at Rocky Mountain National Park last summer. One of the other (younger) participants said of her: "Being with Esther was like being with my mother—she made sure I ate enough, and things like that. But Esther is more fun than my mother."



Monte Fitch

"I do anything anyone else doesn't want to do," laughs Monte Fitch, assistant director for Support Services. "In the areas of technical support and resource management, that is."

Monte began his Park career as a ranger at Mesa Verde in 1942. He has wide field experience and was superintendent at National Capital Parks-Central in Washington, D.C. before coming to Santa Fe.

In a cooperative agreement with the Forest Service and Bureaus of Indian Affairs and Land Management, Monte is also helping use Indians as fire fighters. Twenty-five-man crews are sent around on planes to fires all over the country. "It's been a very effective program," Monte concludes.



Carl Wikstrom

Personnel Officer Carl Wikstrom has helped set up a program to employ Indian students as seasonals. This summer some 120 youth from a variety of tribes in New Mexico, Arizona and Utah were hired by NPS.

"We're also interested in what they do when they finish school," Carl says. "They make excellent employees and fit beautifully into the Park Service, particularly because we have so many Indian sites. Visitors respond well to them, and we've had some wonderful reports from the field."

A 13-year Park veteran, Carl was personnel officer at Glacier, Sequoia and Midwest Regional Office. He has been at SWRO since 1966.



Something Out of the Movies?

Looking like Jeanette MacDonald and Nelson Eddy but "just old friends" are Jean Swearingen and Jim French. Jean is curator in the Office of Support Services and is ebullient, intelligent and iconoclastic. (Read—bubbly, bright and slightly wacky.)

"Everything I do is fun," she says breezily. "I was born and raised in

museums and just like them all. Some of the bad ones are the most fun."

Jim is a tall, lanky program specialist in the Division of Programs. A native of Montana, he began his Park career 23 years ago in Yellowstone.

"Jim really puts out the work," says one of his colleagues. "He and Arv Koehler (regional program officer) carry a fantastic load."

Helping the Indians



"We're trying to help the Indians economically—to make them feel part of the recreation picture in the U.S.," explains Volney Westley,

park planner in the Division of Indian Assistance.

"We're actively working on projects with several Indian groups, including the Navajo, Tesuque, Hualapai, Cheyenne-Arapaho and Mescalero."

Shown, left to right, are members of the division: Warren Henderson and Volney Westley, planners; Clyde Arquero, engineering technician; and Bill Fields, engineer.

Clyde is a full-blood Cochiti Indian, and Bill is part Cherokee. Not shown is Engineering Technician Eddy Lee who is half-Navajo and half-Santa Domingo.

As Bill says, "Our best asset is that we have people on the staff with personal knowledge of four different Indian cultures. In our planning, for instance, the knowledge of Indian religions is very important."

Bob Bone

Bob Bone, chief of property management and general services, is the 1970 campaign chairman for the entire Santa Fe County Combined Federal Campaign (formerly United



Fund). Over 40 widely spread Federal offices are represented in the Santa Fe area.

Although several offices have more employees than NPS, the Southwest Regional Office has consistently contributed the largest dollar amount and is the only Federal agency in Santa Fe qualifying for the participation and goal award for ten straight years. "Much of this credit is due to Bob's past participation and leadership," says Director Kowski.

Jerry Davis

"I never met a man with such a 'collected' mind," says secretary Jerry Davis about her boss, Luis Gastellum, chief of the Office of Operations Evaluation. "He's really great to work for."



An eight-year Park employee, Jerry is equally enthusiastic about Santa Fe. "It's 'a city different.' Some visitors don't see its charm, I guess. But it's the most wonderful place to raise my three children."

(MORE)



This IS an Office!

(Continued)



Not Far Away. . .

The tiny adobe visitor center at Pecos National Monument, 25 miles southeast of Santa Fe, is both unpretentious and charming.

It has a small desk, the usual display case and shelves with books and pamphlets. Best of all it has a fireplace which, in autumn, fills the room with the incense fragrance of burning "piñon," a scrubby little pine tree that seems to grow all over the Southwest.

Established in 1965, Pecos is an Indian archeological site that contains a large Franciscan church (circa 1620) and the ruins of several Indian pueblos. Its superintendent is Tom Giles, an energetic and affable 23-year Park veteran who, according to a friend, "Never runs down!"

Other Parks close to Santa Fe are Bandelier (supervised by Linwood



Tom Giles

Jackson) and Fort Union (supervised by Homer Hastings).

SWRO covers the states of Arizona, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Texas, Utah and the southwestern part of Colorado. It administers more than 50 National Parks, Memorials, Monuments, Recreation Areas and Historic Sites.



Elsie Anstey

"The special thing about Santa Fe is its variety of cultures," says Elsie Anstey, secretary to Director Kowski. "You name it, we've got it. And we all get along well.

"There's not a lot of 'outgoingness.' People wait for you to make the first move. Maybe it's an inherent shyness—but it's also almost a courtesy. And people do warm up quickly."

An NPS employee for almost six years, Elsie was born in Santa Fe and knows its charms.

"We have the usual restaurants, night clubs, movies, etc. But we also have horseback riding, picnics, skiing, plays, opera, concerts, and a large rodeo in July. Most fun is our annual Fiesta held the four days before Labor Day. They kick it off by burning Zozobra, 'old Man Gloom.' There are also fireworks and dancing. It's really quite an event."



And in the Middle. . .

In typical Spanish style, much of the regional office is built around a large (95' x 70') interior patio, complete with trees, flowers, fountains and benches. Enjoying their "inside-outdoors" are, left to right: Interpretive Specialist Albert

Schroeder; Secretaries Tillie Garcia and Ortencia Gonzales; and Wilderness Coordinator Stan Broman. Al's specialty is archeology, and Stan is primarily a wildlife biologist.



They Remember When

Carl Walker and Eunice Carroll are the only "old timers" left from the days (1937) when Region 3 was transferred from Oklahoma City to Santa Fe.

"Eunice and I used to operate the bookkeeping machines together," Carl recalls. He was with the CCC camp that helped build the office and worked at SWRO until 1942. After many years in the field and at WASO, he returned to Santa Fe in 1968 to become chief of the Office of Administrative Management.

Eunice began as a clerk in Oklahoma City and has worked her way up to become SWRO's budget officer. "I'm an antique—I've got all this old stuff," she laughs, displaying a collection of old photographs and Park memorabilia.

"Santa Fe has changed since I first came here," she muses. "Then it was more like going to a foreign country—they even hauled wood on the back of burros. It has progressed, but fortunately it has still maintained its history."

Al Henson

Management Assistant Al Henson shows off one of SWRO's unique features—a fireplace in his office. SWRO is also filled with handwoven Indian rugs and colorful pottery, all carefully recorded along with typewriters, filing cabinets and waste baskets.

SWRO is believed to be the largest all-adobe office building in the U.S. The walls are more than three feet thick at the base and rest on foundations of native stone. The massive Spanish-design furniture is all handmade, as are the tin lighting fixtures.

"It's a beautiful place to work," Al says simply. A former park planner at the Western Service Center, he has been in Santa Fe for a year.



Richard Portillo

Bringing the mail with a smile is Richard Portillo, a mail and file clerk at SWRO for the past year and a half. A former Marine, Richard is a junior majoring in sociology at the College of Santa Fe.

On Their Way. . .

"This country has some great places for camping," says Norm Harp, architect in the Office of Support Services. He and his wife, Wynema, have a comfortably out-



fitted Volkswagon which they use on their many camping expeditions

A graduate of Texas Tech, Norm had his own architectural firm before entering the Park Service nine years ago. As a co-worker describes him, "Norm is good at getting things done—not just putting on paper what he thinks should be done."



People On The Move



New Faces

Burchill, John J., to Legal Asst., ESC
 Davis, Vera M. K., to Realty Clk., WSC
 Dixon, Audrey L., to Policy Analyst, WASO
 Hopkins, Bruce G., to Editor, Harpers Ferry Center
 Ridge, Patricia L., to Office Machine Operator, WASO
 Rule, John C., to Pk. Techn. Typing, Tonto NM

New Places

Barrenche, Donald M., from Pk. Guide, Carlsbad Caverns NP, to Pk. Techn., Saguaro NM
 Brown, Gary N., from Supv. Pk. Ranger, Yellowstone NP, to same, Point Reyes NS
 Crisman, Bobby L., from Pk. Ranger, Fort Davis NHS, to same, Carlsbad Caverns NP
 Dunn, Dawn E., from Supply Techn., WSC, to Gen. Supply Asst., Klamath Falls Cluster
 Evans, Florence B., from Clk. Steno., Grand Canyon NP, to Sec. Steno., Redwood NP
 Gannaway, Lewis J., from Foreman II Maintenance, Sequoia-Kings Canyon NP, to Maintenance Supv., Glacier NP
 Glass, Carl W., from Pers. Mgmt. Spec., MWRO, to Admin. Off., Assateague Island NS
 Hoffman, John J., from Archeologist, MW Archeological Center, to same, WSC
 Howard, Richard M., from Supv. Pk. Ranger, Mesa Verde NP, to same, Casa Grande Ruins NM
 Joseph, Stanley C., from Deputy Asst. Dir., WASO, to Pk. Ranger, SWRO

Kelly, Robert M., from Foreman II Maintenance, Canyon De Chelly NM, to Maintenance Supv., Sanford RA
 Martin, Buddy D., from Supv. Pk. Ranger, Padre Island NS, to same, Glen Canyon NRA
 Parkinson, Charles R., from Pk. Ranger, Canyonlands NP, to Supv. Pk. Ranger, Zion NP
 Ross, Glade M., from Motorboat Operator, Grand Canyon NP, to Pk. Techn., Dinosaur NM
 Shakespear, Preston L., Jr., from Maintenance Worker, Canyonlands NP, to Maintenance Foreman, Craters of the Moon NM
 Shaw, Phyllis P., from Admin. Clk., Death Valley NM, to Program Asst. Typing, WRO
 Thompson, Perron A., from Pk. Ranger, Yellowstone NP, to Supv. Pk. Ranger, Glen Canyon NRA
 Vinger, Waldo T., from Pers. Mgmt. Spec., SWRO, to Admin. Off., Mesa Verde NP

Out of the Traces

Bland, James V., from Laborer, Ozark NSR
 Cook, Roscoe M., from Foreman II MC, Roads, Yosemite NP

James, Bert E., from Foreman I Maintenance, Alaska Office
 Lowenthal, Larry, from Pk. Ranger, Albright TC
 McCan, Mary F., from Sec., Harpers Ferry Center
 Ruggeri, Hilda E., from Clk. Steno., WSC
 Vincent, Pearl E., from Planning & Design Clk., WSC
 Weller, Marion M., from Clk. Typist, Yosemite NP

Death

Spurlock, Robert A., October 14, 1970, from Motorboat Operator, Channel Island NM

Women's News

... At Big Bend

The Women's Club at Big Bend is into its 1970/71 year with a new group of officers. Now serving are: **Mur Jensen**, president; **Ruth Jessen**, vice president; **Glada Costales**, secretary/treasurer; **Verlene Bennett**, historian. Sharing the program chairman's job are **Glada Costales**, **Diane Rivera** and **Sharon Wauer**. Keeper and Refurbisher of the Hospitality Kit is **Betty Peterson**.

... At Cape Cod

Elections have been held in the Park Service Women's group at Cape Cod. **Sue Tillman** is the new president; **Jaime LeBlond**, vice president; **Diana Brown**, secretary, and **Ernestine Michael**, treasurer.



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