

The New Park Sign Language ... Comprenez-Vous ?

By Loretta DeLozier

Picture a typical National Park on a busy summer day. Hundreds of visitors roam in and out, heading for a variety of activities, needing many different services. From tents to telephones, restaurants to rest rooms, each of their destinations represents another request for information.

But how many signs are needed and how many questions must be answered before the visitor gets his information? Think for a moment about the activities and services available throughout the 270 areas in the National Park System, and the variety of signs and other methods used to identify them. What do you see? Confusion.

Hope is in sight, however. For five years the Park Service has studied the problem, conducting surveys and pilot projects, in an attempt to develop the best standard symbols for familiar visitor activities and services. As envisioned, the sign program of the future will provide a uniform system for all park areas, with the exception of traffic and individual entrance signs.

Allen Fields, a civil engineer in the advanced technology division of the Eastern Service Center,



is currently heading the project. His assistant, James R. Zinck, departmental management trainee, is working on a Servicewide booklet to explain the new sign standards.

"A high quality, uniform system will establish a national identity for the Service. It should also reduce sign costs by using an efficient standard system," Zinck says. "We hope to be ready by the end of the fiscal year. However, there are still many details to be worked out, and that takes time," he admits.

Meanwhile, the graphic design department of the University of Bridgeport, in cooperation with the Park Service and the International Committee for Breaking the Language Barrier, is presently conducting a survey of 50,000 people to determine the most clear, simple and universal symbols.

According to the International Committee, the use of symbols is an effective way of talking with all people, regardless of what language they speak. Also, the time required to "read" a symbol is about one-fourth the time needed to read a sign with the same written message.

The above are samples lifted from the Bridgeport survey. Can you identify them? Answers are on page 4.



Elinor Burchard, wife of Ranger Duncan Burchard of Colorado NM, is a tall, slim, versatile gal—and an ideal example of southern charm and NPS hospitality.

A Maryland neighbor describes her as "one of the remarkable women in our Park Service family who is everyone's friend. She's a talented, likable person who delights in doing favors and good deeds for her friends, never asking anything in return."

See Here, Ladies

SEX DIFFERENCES SLIGHT REPORT SAYS

Cost differences in employing men and women are not significant, according to a newly revised publication issued by the U.S. Department of Labor.

The report, prepared by the Women's Bureau, summarizes the latest available data on certain factors that affect labor costs—absenteeism, labor turnover, job tenure, and labor mobility.

The data include, for example, Public Health Service Statistics on worktime lost because of illness or injury, which averaged 5.6 days for women and 5.3 days for men in 1967. On the other hand, earlier PHS data showed fewer sick days per year for single women (3.9 days) than for single men (4.3 days).

The report states that women workers have favorable records of attendance and labor turnover when compared with men employed at similar job levels and under similar circumstances.

Detailed analyses indicate that the skill level of the job, the marital status and age of the worker, length of service, and record of job stability provide better clues to differences in work performance than does the mere fact that the worker is a man or a woman.

Studies on labor turnover show that overall job-changing rates are about the same for women and men. In 1968, 2.6 percent of women workers and 2.2 percent of men workers quit their jobs voluntarily, according

The mother of two boys, Russell (5) and Ashby (8), Elinor also endears herself to other children with her special understanding and her clever creations of dolls and stuffed toys. With a bit of yarn, a piece of cloth, an old box and a scrap of paper, she charms children like a fairy godmother.

It is not surprising to find that children play such an important role in her life. A graduate of Madison College in Harrisonburg, Virginia, Elinor specialized in elementary education. She taught school for five years and recently served as a church school teacher for first and second graders.

Fond of good books and music, Elinor is now learning to play the dulcimer, an old-time stringed musical instrument. She even made herself an old-fashioned dress to wear when playing it—just to set the mood.

The Burchards recently transferred to Colorado after eight years at Catoclin Mountain Park in Maryland, where Dunc was a naturalist. Before that they were stationed at Big Bend NP in Texas. Married 14 years, the two share a distant relationship between their families. A large oil painting of their mutual ancestor is an interesting focal point in their comfortably appointed, "Americana" home.

very February COURIER late!

Your February Courier is going to be very late. Our printer went out of business! Please pass the word to all E&AA Alumni. Ed.

to a Bureau of Labor Statistics study.

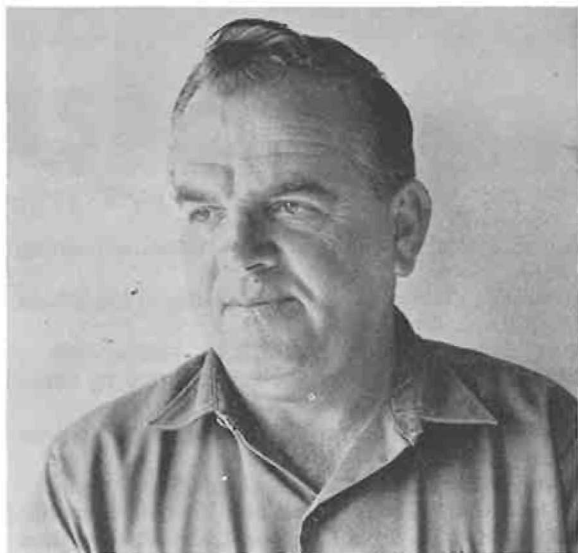
But men are more frequent occupation changers than women, another BLS study showed. Only 7 percent of the women but 10 percent of the men held a different occupation in January 1966 than in January 1965.

The summary report titled "Facts About Women's Absenteeism and Labor Turnover" is available on request from the Women's Bureau, Wage and Labor Standards Administration, U.S. Department of Labor, Washington, D.C. 20210.

Women's Uniforms: What's happening

If you've been puzzled by recent rumors concerning new women's uniforms or are wondering what to do about purchasing additional items—WAIT! The uniform committee recently contracted for a designer to create an entirely new wardrobe for NPS women. Initial sketches were presented to the committee in February, and sample garments will be shown to them and to Director Hartzog on March 20.

Hopefully our next issue of the NEWSLETTER will feature the new designs and will give you all the information available. One hint—it should be worth waiting for!



Demetri Gambsky, foreman II, Roads and Trails, in Hawaii Volcanoes National Park, was born on November 8, 1923, in Papaalooa, Hawaii. At the age of two he moved part-way across the Big Island to Glenwood. After attending schools in Mountain View, Hawaii, he enrolled in the CCC Camp in Hawaii National Park in 1941. This marked the beginning of a long and successful association with Hawaii Volcanoes National Park. A two-year tour of duty in the Army in 1945 and 1946, during which he served in the Philippines and Korea, marks the only interruption in Demetri's National Park Service career.

While advancing through positions of increasing responsibility, Demetri has demonstrated unusual skill in operating a wide variety of heavy duty equipment. In 1967 he was promoted into his present position as foreman II. The unpredictable antics of Kilauea Volcano have not made this an easy job. Twice during the past six months, it has been necessary to construct roads over fresh lava; three times during this same period, turnaround and parking areas constructed to permit visitor access to the eruption area have been covered with new lava flows and had to be relocated. At this writing, Demetri's crew is repairing road fissures and clearing pumice from the latest activity so that visitors may see the devastated area as quickly as possible.

Off duty hobbies center around pursuing wild pigs with his trained dogs and salt-water fishing. Demetri's wife, Dorothy, is an expert at converting pig meat

into Portuguese sausage, a highly prized delicacy at local gourmet functions.

Demetri's intimate familiarity with the dense jungles between Glenwood and Kilauea helped save the life of a Kilauea Military Camp soldier who was lost for nine days in April 1969. Over 70 men from several agencies and three helicopters were involved in the search. On his lieu days, Demetri organized his own search party, coordinated with the over-all operation, and heeding clues from his uncle in Glenwood, found the lost individual.

Demetri and his wife live near the park in Volcano, Hawaii, with their two sons; Joseph, 18, a recent graduate of Hilo High School; and Demetri, 15, a freshman at Hilo High.



"New Eyes" Needs Help

"New Eyes for the Needy" needs help, according to George F. Gauzza, acting director of management operations.

A non-profit, non-sectarian volunteer organization, "New Eyes" does not solicit money. Instead it requests metal frames in any condition, unbroken plastic frames with lenses, sunglasses, artificial eyes, cataract lenses, soft cases, hearing aids, precious metal scrap, costume jewelry, silverware, etc. The organization, however, cannot use loose lenses or hard cases.

Over 500,000 people have been helped by the organization, whose sole purpose is to help provide better vision for the poor all over the world. "New Eyes" is endorsed by the National Society for the Prevention of Blindness, Fight for Sight, Inc., and the American Academy of Ophthalmology and Otolaryngology.

Donations should be brought or sent to Room B-248 in the main Interior Building, Washington, D.C. 20240. Be sure items are labeled "New Eyes for the Needy," particularly if they are packaged. Any questions regarding your contribution may be directed to Mrs. Marietta Alcorn on Area Code 202-343-6716.



DEATHTRAP FOR DEER

Recently a visitor to Great Smoky Mountains NP was issued a citation for littering. Despite "Alice's Restaurant" and our current concern with environmental pollution, such an event is not usually newsworthy.

Later research, however, has proved otherwise. The discarded object was an exposed piece of Polaroid film negative. Two authorities, the U.S. Forest Service and the State of North Carolina Wildlife Commission have found that the developing agent contained in the negative is fatal to deer.

The problem is compounded by the fact that deer like to eat this material, and that as a litter item, it is found in quantity second only to beer cans. Thus the "Polaroid Plague" is a serious matter indeed—one that we, both as NPS personnel and as private citizens, should remember in the vacation months ahead.

Open Season Reminder

March 31st marks the end of the current life insurance open season, and the last day that employees may make changes in their current life insurance status.

Employees who have waived regular insurance may cancel their waivers during the open season. Also, employees who have the regular but not the optional insurance may add the \$10,000 optional coverage, at new reduced rates. These changes in coverage can be made without regard to age or condition of health.

People on the move—

NEW FACES

Artis, Lucille E., to Janitor, NCP
 Barrett, Donald C., to Geologist, WSC
 Bartoli, Gustave J., to Cartographic Techn., Harpers Ferry Center
 Beasley, Samuel L., to Guard, Golden Spike NM
 Bone, Steve D., to Pk. Techn., El Morro NM
 Donnelly, Michael W., to Student Trainee Landscape Arch., ESC
 Flanders, Marion R., to Caretaker, Abraham Lincoln Birthplace NHS
 Hornbuckle, Lynda D., to Clk. Steno., WASO
 Iuliano, Fedele, to Maintenanceman, Fire Island NS & New York City Group
 Miller, Richard H., to Mgmt. Anal. Off., WASO
 Reiley, Valerie K., to Clk. Steno., MWRO
 Weaver, Mary C., to Clk. Typist, ESC

NEW PLACES

Armstead, Arthur, from Carpenter Helper, NCP, to Maintenance Worker, NCP-Central
 Barnett, Otha F., from Writer-Editor, NERO, to same, Harpers Ferry Center
 Bell, Stirling, from Proc. & Prop. Mgmt. Asst., Mesa Verde NP, to Asst. Proc. & Prop. Mgmt. Off., Rocky Mtn. NP & Shadow Mtn. NRA
 Besett, Billy L., from Caretaker, Platt NP, to Pk. Techn., Sanford RA
 Burchard, Duncan R., from Pk. Nat., Catoctin Mtn. Pk., to Supv. Pk. Ranger, Curecanti NRA
 Burke, William J., from Pk. Ranger, Albright TC, to same, Sanford RA
 Cone, Wayne B., from Education Prog. Admin., Albright TC, to Pk. Mgr. (Supt.), Redwood NP
 Craddock, Wildon B., from Civil Engr. Techn., ESC, to Caretaker, Cape Hatteras NS
 Dement, Joseph A., from Foreman II, Gardener, Landscape, NCP-Central, to Gardener, NCP-East
 Follows, Donald S., from Pk. Ranger, Capitol Reef NM, to same, Bryce Canyon NP
 Hawman, Harold W., Jr., from Admin. Asst., WASO, to Budget & Prog. Off., NWRO
 Mackintosh, Barry, from Hist., Booker T. Washington NM, to same, Fort Frederica NM
 Olson, Virgil J., from Pk. Ranger, Bryce Canyon NP, to same, Capitol Reef NM
 Outlaw, Alexander T., from Pk. Nat., George Washington Mem. Pkwy., to Supv. Pk. Nat., Everglades NP
 Ozanich, John M., from Admin. Asst., WSC, to Admin. Off., San Juan NHS
 Rector, Alvoid L., from Supt., Appomattox Court House, to same, Shiloh NMP
 Rowell, Leroy A., from Pk. Planner, ESC, to same, NCP
 Schiffman, Saul W., from Supv. Pk. Nat., George Washington Mem. Pkwy., to Staff Curator, Harpers Ferry Center
 Smith, Dorothy D., from Clk. Steno., Indiana Dunes NL, to Sec. Steno., Harpers Ferry Center
 Soubier, L. Clifford, from Hist., Homestead NM, to same, Custer Battlefield NM
 Taylor, Albert E., from Admin. Off., Flagstaff Group, to same, Klamath Falls Cluster

Webb, Arthur P., from Carpenter, to Exhibit-Spec., Harpers Ferry Center
 Whitaker, Fahy C., from Hist., Albright TC, to same, Homestead NM

JOINING THE ALUMNI

Adams, Donald L., from Sgt., U.S. Pk. Police, NCP
 Cabbage, Elbert F., from Foreman III (R & T), Shenandoah NP
 Dayton, Lester R., from Pk. Ranger, Cumberland Gap NHP
 Duckworth, Darryl R., from Agricultural Equipment Repairer, NCP-North
 Finch, James D., from Pvt., U.S. Pk. Police, NCP
 Folden, Luther L., from Foreman III, (R & T), Shenandoah NP
 Gillam, Theodore D., from Medical Aid, Harpers Ferry JCCCC
 Greene, Mary K., from Budget Off., SERO
 Guine, Eddie R., from Caretaker, Fort McHenry NM
 Hart, William D., from Foreman II, Maintenance, Blue Ridge Pkwy.
 Hegeman, Robert J., from Program Analyst, WASO
 Hinton, Lucille G., from Voucher Examiner, SERO
 James, Andrew R., from Proc. & Prop. Mgmt. Asst., SWRO
 LaFollette, Victor L., from Admin. Off., Great Smoky Mtns. NP
 Meyer, James R., from Mechanic, Elevator, JNEM
 Nutt, Donald S., from Supv. Gen. Engr., SERO
 Osgood, Gloria T., from Pers. Asst., SERO
 Owle, Barbara C., from Sec., WASO
 Sloan, Maxine P., from Pers. Clk., SWRO
 Woody, Jessie E., from Mail & File Clk., Olympic NP

TRANSFER OF FUNCTION FROM THE NATIONAL PARK SERVICE TO THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA GOVERNMENT

Bumbrey, Walter A., from Laborer, NCP-Central
 Cannon, George, from Laborer, NCP-North
 Clarke, Maurice A., from Laborer Foreman, NCP-North
 Davis, Frank, from Laborer, NCP-North
 Edelen, Francis A., from Laborer, NCP-North
 Gavin, Weldon, from Maintenance Worker, NCP-North
 Greene, Bernard T., from Maintenance Worker, NCP-East
 Griffith, James M., from Maintenance Worker Lead Foreman, NCP-East
 Hayden, Kermit, from Laborer, NCP-North
 Henderson, Anatole A., from Caretaker, NCP-North
 Henry, Wilbert A., from Maintenance Worker Lead Foreman, NCP-East
 Hickson, James E., from Laborer, NCP-North
 Hines, George J., from Laborer, NCP-East
 Horne, Henry H., from Laborer, NCP-Central
 Jackson, Richard S., from Laborer, NCP-East
 Jacobs, David, from Laborer, NCP-North

Continued in next issue.

ANSWERS TO THE SIGN SURVEY: A-Information; B-Bus Stop; C-Post Office; D-Gas Station; E-Swimming; F-Water; G-Marina.



U. S. Department of the Interior
 National Park Service

