

nps newsletter

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OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20240

September 16, 1974

Dear NPS Colleagues:

As you know, on September 9 I submitted my resignation to Secretary Morton as your Director effective next January 1.

During the past two years I have met more than 8,000 NPS employees and if there is one reward I will carry away with me it will be the personal satisfaction and pride I have felt in knowing so many of the dedicated members of what I will always consider to be the finest people serving agency in government.

I have spent the past six years in government service - four as special assistant to the President and two as NPS Director. When President Nixon's first term concluded, I had planned to return to the private sector. I owed it to my wife, Anne, and my three daughters with whom I had been able to spend so little time. The President asked me to consider additional government service, and I accepted with the understanding that after two more years I would again give serious consideration to returning to private life. Anyone with small children knows well that you can give only so much of yourself to a job without leaving a vacuum at home that may never be filled. And that vacuum continued to grow as I travelled 308,700 miles to visit 76 NPS areas.

Here in the Washington Office we undertook new initiatives involving mass transportation; many public information programs; manpower development; a servicewide reorganization including two new regions; Bicentennial objectives; wilderness studies; Alaska proposals; and renewed emphasis on interpretation, science and dialogues with conservationists, concessioners, the travel industry and private, state and local entities. There were many other areas, too, for which I owe you my deep appreciation and thanks for your support and assistance.

I'll carry memories of this period with me always - memories and remembrances as fun and as warm as any I have experienced.

In undertaking any new responsibility all any of us can do is give our best shot -- to try our very hardest. I have done that, and because of the support of so many of you, I think we've taken a few strides which will serve both the National Park Service and the American people well in years to come.

God Bless!

Sincerely yours,

Ronald H. Walker
Director



Directorate set at Rocky Mountain Region

Eight men who have served at 21 different park areas and who boast a collective total of nearly 150 years National Park Service experience comprise the Directorate of the new Rocky Mountain Regional Office at Denver.

While their experience has a distinct western flavor, their assignments have embraced areas that range from Cape Cod National Seashore to the east to Hawaii Volcanoes and Haleakala National Park to the west, and with five administrative offices in addition.

Lynn H. Thompson is regional director of the six-state region (North and South Dakota, Montana, Wyoming, Colorado and Utah) that was established in January 1974. The Region includes 11 national parks, 16 national monuments, four national recreation areas and 11 other park facilities.

Bean



Thompson joined the National Park Service as a seasonal ranger at Yellowstone National Park in 1957, and received his permanent appointment six years later. After service in the Director's office and at Yellowstone, he became superintendent at Haleakala National Park in Hawaii in 1969. He served briefly with the office of legislation in Washington, then was named superintendent at Yosemite National Park in 1971 and served there until becoming regional director of the Rocky Mountain Region.

Thompson is a native of Salt Lake City, served aboard a destroyer in the Pacific during World War II, and graduated from Yale University.

The senior member of the Rocky Mountain Regional Office Directorate is Glen T. Bean, the deputy director. His Park Service career began in 1946 as a seasonal ranger at Great Sand Dunes National Monument in Colorado, the first of nine parks where he has served. Bean also was assistant regional director of the Midwest Region and assistant director for programs in the Washington office.

He was superintendent of the Lake Mead National Recreation Area immediately before joining the Rocky Mountain Regional Office staff.

Kenneth R. Ashley, associate regional director for Park System Management, has been a supervisory Park Ranger at Yosemite, Mt. Rainier, Yellowstone and Blue Ridge Parkway during his 27-year National Park Service career. He was park manager (assistant director for operations) at the Midwest Regional Office before joining the new Rocky Mountain Regional Office.

Associate regional director for Professional Services is Vernon D.



Thompson

(Dave) Dame, who joined the Service in 1961 as a naturalist at Crater Lake National Park. He was general superintendent of New York City operations prior to assuming his new post at Denver.

Richard A. Strait is associate regional director for Cooperative Activities. He was associate Colorado State director immediately before organization of the Rocky Mountain Regional Office. Strait has served at the Western Design Center in San Francisco, on the staff of the superintendent at Rocky Mountain National Park and at the Midwest Regional Office at Omaha.

(Continued on page 2)



Danz



Dame



Strait



Baca



Bryant

Harold P. Danz, associate regional director for Administration, began his NPS career in the old Region two office as a financial clerk in 1955. He was finance officer for Grand Teton, Zion and Yosemite National Parks before becoming chief of finance at the Western Regional Office and later chief of the Office of Finance and Control at the Denver Service Center. He transferred from that post to the Rocky Mountain Regional Office early this year.

Operations evaluation is the function of Wayne W. Bryant, whose first NPS duty was as a seasonal ranger-naturalist at Zion and Bryce Canyon National Parks in 1946-47. Bryant was chief of the Branch of Visitor Services in Washington from 1964-66, and then was assigned to the Western Regional Office as chief of Interpretation and Visitor Services, then visitor services evaluator before assuming his new position at Denver early in 1974.

The equal employment opportunity coordinator is Rudy L.



Ashley

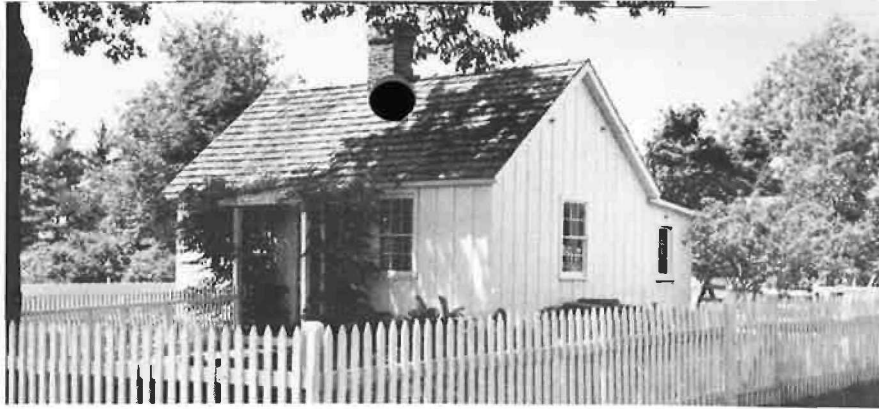
Baca, a New Mexico native who had been with the Department of Transportation in Washington for three years. Previously, he was with Sandia Corp. of Albuquerque, a contractor to the Atomic Energy Commission, and was active in community action groups in Albuquerque.

Keep sending "Sierra" ideas

On July 30 Director Walker sent a memorandum to all employees asking for submission of ideas, anecdotes or experiences that might be utilized in the "Sierra" television series. His concern has been that the work of the rangers and the purpose of the national parks be truly reflected in the programs.

The response has been substantial, and is appreciated. But anyone who had the urge to send material and allowed the urge to pass, is requested to send suggestions to Bill Everhart, assistant director for Interpretation, WASO. The series is seen on NBC on Thursdays, 8:00 to 9:00 p.m.

Public Law 93-246, enacted January 31, 1974, amends the Federal Employees Health Benefits law in two respects: (1) it increases the Government contribution to health benefits enrollments under the Federal Employees Health Benefits Program for 1974 from 40 percent to 50 percent of the average high option premiums of the six largest plans participating in this program and 60 percent of this average in 1975; (2) it increases the maximum Government contribution to any plan or option from 50 percent to 75 percent of the total premium for that plan or option.



August 10, 1974, was the 100th anniversary of the birth of the 31st President, Herbert Hoover. More than 7,000 people turned out in West Branch, Iowa, to honor the memory of the mining engineer turned humanitarian and statesman.

Leading up to the climactic ceremonies on Saturday, Herbert Hoover

Herbert Hoover NHS marks centennial of 31st President



Community efforts by West Branch's 1,300 residents have played a significant role in NPS restoration of Herbert Hoover NHS. Photos (from the top) show the restored birthplace cabin of the 31st President; Downey Street, which passes in front of the cabin and other restored homes; Main Street, West Branch; and NPS headquarters and visitor center.

National Historic Site, the Archives and Records Service (GSA) and the Hoover Presidential Library Association, joined to recreate an old fashioned tent Chautauqua, reviving a 19th-century Iowa tradition.

The tent Chautauqua, a traveling feature of midwestern America in the late 19th century, featured a variety of cultural and educational events, entertainment for the children, and fine home cooking.

Through the same week, a group of eminent scholars gathered to lead seminars which discussed the many aspects of President Hoover's life and work.

Some 4,000 Boy Scouts gathered at West Branch late in the week to honor the late President. Mr. Hoover's relatives came from all parts of the Nation.

Former members of the park staff, including first superintendent Larry Quist, now the media relations assistant in the Western Regional Office, and later superintendent Randy Pope, now at Ozark National Scenic Riverways, Mo., helped Superintendent Lorraine Mintzmyer's staff with final preparations and renewed old acquaintances.

Director Ronald H. Walker was master of ceremonies and Secretary Rogers C.B. Morton was the main speaker, talking from beneath a re-creation of the bandstand which long stood in West Branch.

As the day ended, the visitors took a final stroll through the Presidential library and such park attractions as the restored two-room cottage where "Bertie" Hoover was born, his father's blacksmith shop, and historic Downey Street, now largely restored to reflect its appearance when Hoover was a boy. Some stopped to marvel at the restoration of the old Quaker meeting house or to consider the long task of restoration which lies ahead for the one-room schoolhouse which Hoover attended.

Uniform standards

What will visiting public expect?

By Marlo Acock, Park Ranger
Division of Visitor Services, WASO

After I saw the pilot showing of "Sierra" I could not help but wonder what new standards the visiting public will expect from our uniformed personnel. Will their expectations exceed those standards which we have set for ourselves?

Our premise is written on Page 1 of the Uniform Standards and it's worth repeating:

Our uniform has symbolized dedication and performance since it was adopted in 1911...Worn with pride and dignity, it lifts the morale of those who wear it and the spirits of those who see it. It expresses the character of the organization and stimulates respect. It identifies the wearer with the objectives and reputation of the organization.

Does your personal uniform appearance meet that standard?

Even though the authorized list of prescribed items was extended, we

still see a number of incomplete uniforms and unauthorized items. Faded blue jeans and sandals are not approved to compliment the traditional gray shirt.

Who is responsible for retaining our premise?

Many were chagrined when the new standards took away the yardstick for precise measurement of acceptable appearance. The implementation of "neat, clean and well-groomed" suddenly became a reality. The superintendent and regional director are responsible for administrative determinations, but only in the mirror will we really find the person closest to the decision process for those three criteria. What you see is what the visitor gets!

What about the women's green double knit?

Most of the responses received

on the stock item samples were negative; most would prefer better quality even if the cost is greater. We will do our best to meet your preference by next visitor season.

What about increasing the uniform allowance?

Our proposal for raising the allowance is now being reviewed by the Office of Management and Budget. On August 20, 1974, HR-16481, sponsored by Congressman Broyhill of Virginia, was introduced to increase the allowance ceiling to \$300.

Even though the new standards cannot satisfy all personal preferences they do allow for needed flexibilities to meet changing times and conditions. We will never lose sight of our proud traditions in looking and acting like true public servants. Service is the last word in our name, but the first word in priority.

NPS's oldest employee reminisces

"I tell my friends I helped carry the Liberty Bell to Independence Hall," William Brooks chuckled during a recent interview. "In the Bicentennial year, 1976, I'll be 70 years old."

Bill, a program and budget specialist at Philadelphia, has the longest length of service of any Na-

tional Park Service employee—47 1/2 years. He recalls his close association (over 39 years) with all NPS directors except the first two whom he did not get a chance to meet. Arno B. Cammerer was director when Bill joined the Park Service in 1935.

"It was fun in those days—everybody knew everybody else. It was nothing for a whole division to have lunch together and everybody knew when some guy's wife was sick or was mad at him.

"Of course, we had only 100 park areas as compared with the 300 we have today. The Park Service is too big for me now. "You know," Bill reflected, "you join an organization and grow with it, but it begins to grow faster than you do. You'd like to hold it down a bit, but it is impossible to hold back progress or keep things uncomplicated."

Bill started his government career in 1925 with the Veterans Administration in Little Rock, Ark., then spent one year with the Civil Works Administration. When that agency was abolished in 1935 he joined the National Park Service in Washington, D.C., in the bookkeeping division.

During the war years 1942 to 1943, NPS headquarters was moved to Chicago. After a two-year stretch in the Army, Bill returned to the bookkeeping unit in Chicago. In 1958 he transferred to Washington, D.C. as a maintenance program analyst. In this position Bill programmed and collated data for the entire Service and got to know all the superintendents and most employees.

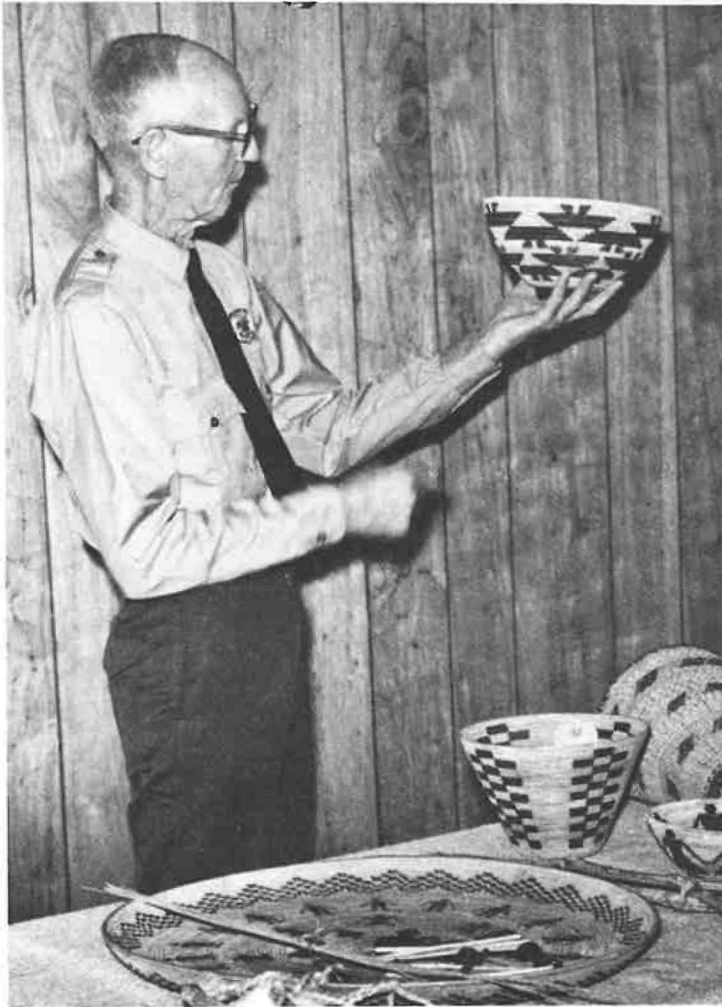
In 1969 he transferred to the Pacific Northwest Region as a program and budget specialist, then served a couple of months in the Southeast Region in Richmond, Va., in 1971. He came to Philadelphia when his position became one of nine assigned to the Mid-Atlantic Regional Office.

"I'd like to make one more move—back to Washington, D.C.," Bill says with a twinkle in his eye. "You see, you're never too old to move with the National Park Service."

"I couldn't think of a better organization for a young person seeking a career. National parks have every accommodation to make employees and their families comfortable. Travel gives your family a chance to see what goes on in the parks, and there is always something interesting to do."



Brooks



VIP Oscar Noren with Indian artifact collection.

VIP weaves tall tales at Grant Grove

In light of modern life and transportation, the tales of Oscar Noren, an 82-year-young volunteer in parks (VIP), at Grant Grove, in Sequoia-Kings Canyon National Park, Calif., may seem tall, even stretched. Yet, no one can listen to his stories without being convinced that all is true.

Throughout his life in the San Joaquin Valley, Oscar has had many real friends among the local Indians. He farmed with a team of horses and had an avid boyhood interest in the 10-mule wagon teams which traveled the Sierra at the turn of the century.

Noren talks about Indian life and mountain wagon transportation. To illustrate his talks he uses his priceless collection of baskets, woven by some of the finest basket makers known. He also uses numerous articles of wagon hardware.

Just as Oscar Noren is sharing his experiences to contribute to park visitor enjoyment, many other VIPs also serve without pay in such fields as interpretation, living history, arts and crafts, history, environmental study and resource management.

Colonial 'newswire' from Mid-Atlantic

In an effort to update the news of pre-revolutionary days for visitors to the 23 NPS Bicentennial areas, the Mid-Atlantic Regional Office has published a "Bicentennial Daybook" and a "Bicentennial Almanac," of events that took place 200 years ago. The Daybook is a daily description of some of the important and not-so-important news happenings that interpreters use in their talks, tours and conversations with visitors. The Bicentennial Almanac is a weekly summary of the former publication.

An example of the kind of news one finds in the Almanac is as follows: July 1-5, 1774, Alexandria, Va: "Fairfax County elects George Washington and Major Broadwater as Burgesses to the Assembly.

Washington spends the night at a ball; his share of the expenses amount to eight pounds, mostly for music, coffee and chocolate. No tea is served since 'this herb is in disgrace amongst Virginians.'

In contrast, an item in the Daybook reads: "August 19, 1774: Abigail Adams expressed in a letter to her husband John, that the first of September (the assumed date of the Continental Congress) may be as important to Great Britain as the Ides of March were to Caesar."

The Almanac is distributed to visitors to make them aware of what was happening on the day of their visit 200 years ago and to inform them of activities that were going on across the colonies not just in the park or community they

are visiting.

The two publications are written and researched by Harold Lessem. George Palmer is in charge of editing and production.

Many park areas have sent in 200-year-old news items—among them Moores Creek National Military Park, S.C. and Fort Sumter National Monument, S.C.

The CBS television network has included the Almanac and 10 hours of tape on the Bicentennial in a package they distribute to a large number of universities. Also, many radio stations and Voice of America are announcing events which happened 200 years ago. The American Revolution Bicentennial Administration distributes the Almanac to 300 newspapers.

Janet Wolf superintendent at Ft. Frederica

Janet Chess Wolf is the new superintendent of Fort Frederica National Monument, Ga.

Mrs. Wolf, formerly chief of operations and visitor services at Fort McHenry National Monument and Historic Shrine in Baltimore, assumed her new duties Sept. 15.

Prior to joining the National Park Service five years ago, she served five summers in park jobs: three as a ranger-historian at Saratoga National Historical Park, N.Y., and two with concessioners, at Acadia National Park, Maine, and Oregon Caves National Monument, Oregon.

She has been in visitor services since last October. Prior to that she was management assistant at Hamp-

Yosemite scene of 2nd Kalnga

From 1917 to 1924, Indian Field Days highlighted midsummer activities for many Yosemite National Park visitors. Miwok, Mono, Paiute, and other Indians came to display their baskets, join rodeos, prepare Indian foods, and perform ceremonial dances. This year, the National Park Service sponsored its second annual "Kalnga"—a weekend of activities commemorating and bringing to life the culture of Yosemite's oldest inhabitants. "Kalnga" is the southern Miwok word for "dance."

Activities included handgames and Miwok dances by Central California Indian people. California Indian dances are probably the least known and seen of any American dances.

Activities featured preparation of traditional foods—venison cooked in an earth oven and served with acorn, bleached and cooked on the spot; fresh and dried elderberries; manzanita cider; and herbal teas made from local plants.

A recent study showed that over 58% of civil service retirees age 65 and over receive a monthly social security benefit. This illustrates that if a Federal employee has earned social security benefits by virtue of other employment, he or she may receive benefits from both systems simultaneously.

ton National Historic Site, Towson, Md., for nine months, and an interpretive specialist at Home of Franklin D. Roosevelt National Historic Site, Hyde Park, N.Y., for two-and-a-half years.

Mrs. Wolf becomes the second woman superintendent of an NPS area in the Southeast. (Kathy Dilonardo, of Fort Caroline National Memorial, Jacksonville, Fla., is the other.)



Safety: Always in Season

These safety tips from the New York State Hotel Association are useful for both park operations and concessioner operations.

The employee's responsibility under the Occupational Safety and Health Act (OSHA) needs emphasis. In addition to the charge that the employer furnish "a place of employment which is free from recognized hazards..." there is a charge to the employees:

"Each employee shall comply with the occupational safety and health standards and rules, regulations, and orders issued pursuant to this Act which are applicable to his own actions and conduct."

Essentially the law states that protective equipment must be provided as dictated by circumstances. So, a plumber working among overhead pipes should wear a "bump hat." A gardener trimming trees should wear a "hard hat." Where there is danger of material being dropped on the feet, safety shoes are required. Materials handling of items with rough surfaces dictate use of protective gloves.

Greater attention must be given to eye protection. Recently, inspectors saw safety goggles hanging adjacent to grinders with an accumulation of dirt and grime indicating that the goggles had never been used. Insist that goggles be worn.

New source for burns

The use of specially packaged food warmed in electronic ovens can mean burns. Personnel should be instructed to open heated sealed containers with caution, preferably very slowly, to permit built-up pressure to escape.

If units are used by the public, warning instructions should be prominently posted.

Rings can be dangerous

Wearing rings around electrical equipment, tools, ladders, moving machinery, and vehicles can result in serious injury. A few examples:

—A man climbed upon a cabinet to operate a valve and as he stepped down, his ring finger caught on a projection, lacerating a finger.

—An electrician's ring wore a small hole through his linesman rubber glove. Contact was made with an electrical circuit through the ring and he was electrocuted.

—A man was working on a platform two feet above the floor. As he stepped down, he supported himself on a post having a protruding nail head which caught his ring. He was suspending until the ring cut through and amputated his ring finger.

First aid training and kits

It is required that an adequate number of first aid kits be on the premises. These should be maintained in a sanitary condition. The contents should be specified by a doctor. Whenever possible, a trained "first aider" should be on hand.

People on the move

New places

ANDERSON, Lee E., Supv Park Ranger, Blue Ridge Pkwy, to Park Ranger, Apostle Islands NL

ANIBAL, Charles, Park Ranger, Antietam NBS, to Same, Cumberland Gap NHP

BROWN, James L., Supv Park Ranger, Antietam NBS, to Park Mgr, Sagamore Hill NHS

BURKE, William J., Park Ranger, Big Bend NP, to Same, Great Smoky Mountains NP

CARRASCO, Victor, V., Park Ranger, Big Bend NP, to Same, Great Smoky Mountains NP

CARTER, Gary M., Park Ranger, C&O Canal NHP, to Supv Park Ranger, Glen Canyon NRA

CASTLEBERRY, Don H., Park Mgr, Timpanogos Cave NM, to Same, Indiana Dunes NL

COREY, Mark J., Mgmt Asst, Branch Train & Devel, to Mgmt Asst, Everglades NP

COTTONWOOD, Charles U., Electrician, Death Valley NM, to Same, Sequoia NP

COX, Thomas J., Jr., Facility Mgr, Petrified Forest NP, to Same, Harpers Ferry NHP

CROSSE, Juin A., Procurm't & Prop Spec, Southern Arizona Group, to Same, Branch Train & Devel, WASO

DERR, Rex E., Park Ranger, NCP, to Same, C&O Canal NHP

HARRIS, Rodney W., Park Ranger, Capulin Mountain NM, to Supv Park Ranger, Carlsbad Caverns NP

HASKELL, David A., Park Ranger, Chaco Canyon NM, to Supv Park Ranger, Shenandoah NP

HAYCOCK, James W., Supply Tech, Grand Canyon NP, to Purchase Agent, Zion NP

IORIO, Ralph M., Admin Off, Indian Dunes NL, to Same, Glen Canyon NRA

KOHLMAN, Eldon E., Park Ranger, GW Carver NM, to Same, Glen Canyon NRA

KUMP, Cloyd A., Admin Off, Lake Mead NRA, to Concessions Analyst, Assoc Reg Dir Park System Mgmt, SWRO

LAYNE, Betty, Clk-Typist, Div Graphic Systems, DSC, to Staff Clk, Assoc Reg Dir Admin, RMRO

LEFEVRE, John L., Maint Supv, Golden Spike NHS, to Bldgs & Utilities Foreman, Canyonlands NP

MAHN, Robert E., Jr., Park Ranger, Canyonlands NP, to Supv Park Ranger, Golden Spike NHS

MARSHALL, Charles A. III, Electronic Equipmt Mechanic, Yellowstone NP, to Electronics Tech, Lake Mead NRA

MARTIN, Carol A., Park Mgr, Tuzigoot NM, to Same, Arizona Archeological Center

McKIBBIN, Kevin, Park Mgr, Hubbell Trading Post NHS, to Same, Pea Ridge NMP

MILLER, Leonard P., Procurm't Agent, Off Assoc Reg Dir Admin, SERO, to Admin Off, Virgin Islands NP

THORNE, R Neil, Maint Supv, Hatteras Island, to Programs Analyst Off, Program & Budget, MWRO

VOORHEES, Arthur R., Exhibits Spec, Div Exhibits, HFC, to Same, Gettysburg NMP

WEILER, John F., Environmental Spec, Resource Staff, WASO, to Park Ranger, Assoc Reg Dir Coop Act, MWRO

WILCOX, Helen F., Admin Clk, Grand Canyon NP, to Same, Pinnacles NM

WOODCOX, Jerrald A., Park Ranger, Area II, NCP, to Same, Delaware Water Gap NRA

Out of the traces

ALEXANDER, Jerry E., Motor Vehicle Oper, Mesa Verde NP

BEVERLY, Carroll R., Computer Tech, Systems Design Div, WASO

BISHOP, Susan, Clk-Typist, Fire Island NS

BLACKFORD, Ronald G., Maint Worker, Muir Woods NM

BRUNK, Karolyn K., Resource Mgmt Clk, RMR

BUCCOLO, Pasquale P., Park Tech, Statue of Liberty NM

CHAPMAN, Barbara A., Clk-Typst, Yosemite NP

CLARK, Karen Sue, Park Tech, Gulf Islands NS

DELBRUGGE, Norma A., Clk DMT, Off of Natural Science, SER

EWING, John M., Supv Position Class Spec, NCP

FLETCHER, Robert M., Painter, Colonial NHP

FRANK, Molly M., Clk DMT, Assist Mgr Project Control & Ref Serv, HFC

GLOVER, Nancy C., Sec, Death Valley NM

GORMAN, Zita M., Clk-Steno, Cape Cod Lands Off

GUINTER, Robert A., Laborer, Morristown NHP

JACOBSEN, Mary E., Admin Clk, Dinosaur NM

JIMENEZ-GUERRA, Arcadio, Mason Helper, San Juan NHS

JONES, David P., Admin Off, Admin Off, Amistad RA

KELLERHOUSE, Dean K., Legis Serv Div, WASO

KEMERY, Stephen J., Laborer, Tumacacori NM

McCLANAHAN, W. Dean, Supv Park Planner, Resource Staff, WASO

MORGAN, Lynn C., Park Tech, Vicksburg NMP

MOSS, Sheila E., Clk, Maint Div, WASO

NEELY, Laverne L., Admin Clk, Prince William Forest Park

REIDY, Bernard A., Tree Group, GW Mem Pkwy, NCP

RIEGRAF, Augustus W., Park Tech, Edison NHS

SCHNEEMAN, Gladys V., Clk-Typist, US Park Police, NCP



U.S. Department of the Interior
Secretary Rogers C.B. Morton
National Park Service
Director Ronald H. Walker



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