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**1 CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF**



**OFFICIAL  
NEWSLETTER**

DIVISION OF STATE PARKS  
Winter, 1978

Volume 8, Number 4

**PARKS, RECREATION AND TOURISM**

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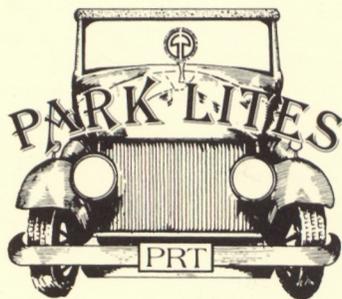
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STATE DOCUMENTS

*There is beauty in the winter,  
When the snowflakes gently bring  
A message that the flowers,  
Sleeping now, will wake in spring.*

M. L. Mints





**PARK LITES** is the official publication of the Division of State Parks, Department of Parks, Recreation and Tourism, Edgar A. Brown Building, 1205 Pendleton Street, Columbia, South Carolina 29201. Correspondence regarding this publication should be mailed to the above address. Permission is granted to reprint any uncopyrighted portion of this publication. Credit to the source will be appreciated.

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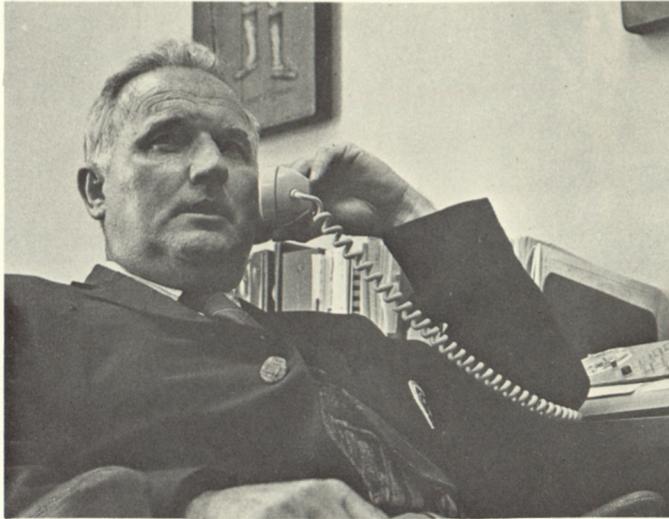
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**ABOUT THE COVER:** A park road at Table Rock State Park takes on a different appearance with a fresh blanket of snow. Photo by Sawyer.



## *From the Director*

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Another summer season is behind us, one that was successful in the terms of attendance, revenue and the use of facilities. As I reflect upon the progress and problems of 1978, I am more aware of our reason for existence. Simply put, we exist to "serve the people," and all of us should constantly remind ourselves of this fact as we go about our daily duties.

We are all aware of the theory that "the customer is always right." However, in my many years of state park service I cannot recall our park users expecting more and, in some cases, demanding services that are often downright ridiculous. A number of users often zero in with the old "I am a taxpayer" bit. I firmly believe that, by exerting more effort with our public relations, we can satisfy most of the demands made by our users.

In spite of our efforts to inform users as to the location of facilities and educate them concerning our policies, rules and regulations, many park users just don't know where to go or what to do when they get there. I often hear from people who tell me that they cannot find a particular facility in a park. Perhaps we need to take a second look at our park signing, and consider that every visitor is an out-of-stater who arrives at the park after dark. He is unfamiliar with our policies and with the location of our facilities. Will he or she be able to find the various park facilities easily without driving all over the park? While we must

caution ourselves not to over-sign our parks, we do need to have adequate signing to direct visitors to the various use areas.

We have seen the positive effect of last year's law enforcement training at the Criminal Justice Academy during the summer just completed. The general public seemed to get the message that we meant business in enforcing our park rules and regulations, and the few trouble-makers seem to be going elsewhere to cause their usual disturbances. I understand that plans are being made to schedule another class during the winter months, and we look forward to the excellent training that our park employees will receive at the Criminal Justice Academy.

Our YACC program has completed its first two months of operation, and I am receiving very favorable reports concerning their work at Sesqui and Poinsett. As soon as we can get transportation problems solved, we will be branching out to other more distant parks in the future. I am sure that the YACC workers will receive your full cooperation and that you will be pleased with their work. I have observed the work that they have performed to date, and it has been outstanding.

*Ray M. Sisk*

Ray M. Sisk, Director  
Division of State Parks

*Note: Margaret Vreeland, wife of former State Park Director E. R. Vreeland, passed away November 28. Our deepest sympathy is extended to Mr. Vreeland and his daughter Marla from the Vreelands' many friends in the state park system.*

# Highlights from Annual Superintendents' Conference, held November 13-16 at Santee State Park





## Service Awards

25 Years

Raymond M. Sisk State Park Director

20 Years

Joe F. Watson Chief Naturalist

15 Years

Louis W. Ridley Ranger, Oconee

10 Years

J. R. Altman Construction Crew Supervisor  
Bobby Altman Heavy Equipment Foreman, Service and Supply  
Carroll Zissette Ranger, Barnwell  
Janson L. Cox Expo Park Manager, Charles Towne Landing  
Fred H. Belk Superintendent, Rose Hill  
Elijah Gillens Ranger, Santee

5 Years

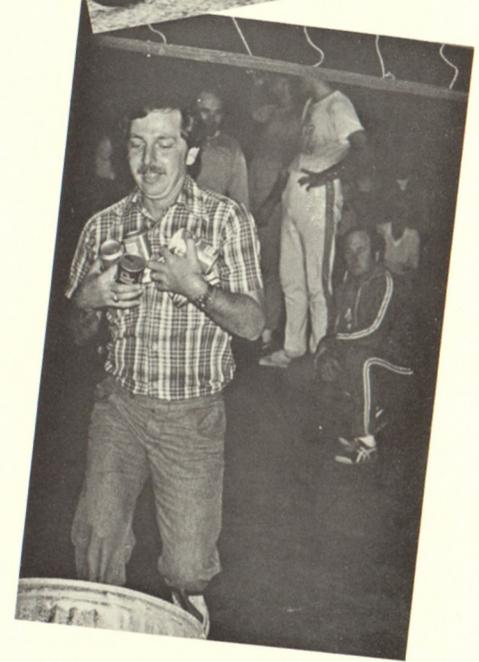
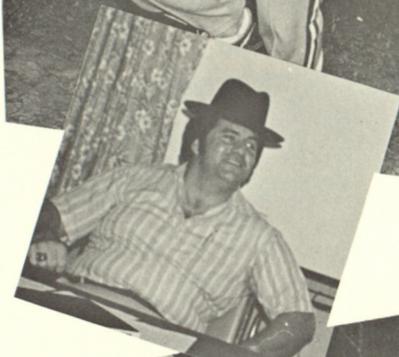
Edmond J. Brown, Jr. Safety and Job Training Officer  
Michael Foley Chief Historian  
Jacqueline G. Wood Secretary, Columbia Office  
Walter Branham Assistant Superintendent, Service and Supply  
Cecil Pruette Ranger, Cheraw  
Robert F. Parrish Superintendent, Dreher Island  
Kurt K. Becht Superintendent, Edisto Beach  
Steven R. Edison Superintendent, Hamilton Branch  
Ted T. Williams Superintendent, Hickory Knob  
Dorothy Elliott Recreator, Hickory Knob  
Bernice Holloway Accounting Clerk, Hickory Knob  
Charles Rainey Ranger, Hunting Island  
Van A. Stickles Superintendent, Huntington Beach  
Foster Hart Ranger, Huntington Beach  
William Alewine Superintendent, Lee  
R. A. Mitchell Ranger, Table Rock  
Robert C. Fowler Superintendent, Goodale

State Park Award

R.P.A. Department Clemson University

Scribe Award

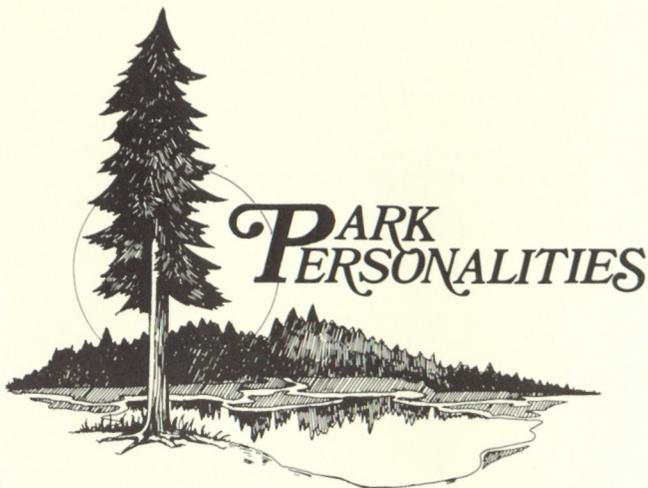
John B. Holloway Superintendent, Givhans Ferry



# Highlights from Annual Superintendents' Conference (continued) . . .



1. PRT Commission Chairman D. Gene Rickenbaker addresses the superintendents at the awards luncheon. 2. Some 26 service awards totalling 205 years of service were presented by Chairman Rickenbaker. One of the recipients, here shown receiving his 20-year award, was Chief Naturalist Joe Frank Watson (right). 3. Freddie Parkman, District 4 Superintendent, receives the first-place medal in the inter-district Olympiad from Naturalist John Reid Clonts. 4. Givhans Ferry Superintendent John Holloway (right) shows his "Scribe" award to District Superintendent Larry Duncan. This award is made annually to the superintendent who has made the best contributions to *PARK LITES*. 5. The winning team in the Olympiad — District Four! 6. Y.A.C.C. Director Kay McKoy and Assistant Director Vandell Davis discuss their program during one of the sessions. 7. Pleasant Ridge Superintendent Leroy Smith (left) finally gets a pair of rubber boots! Making the "presentation" is District 2 Superintendent Horace Craig. 8. The first "State Park Award" was presented by State Park Director Ray Sisk (left) to Dr. Herbert P. Brantley, Head of the R.P.A. Department at Clemson University.



#### DISTRICT I

**Janson L. Cox**, Expo Park Manager  
Charles Towne Landing

#### DISTRICT II

**Ted Barbie**, Superintendent  
Santee State Park

#### DISTRICT III

**Robert A. Mitchell**, Ranger  
Table Rock State Park

#### DISTRICT IV

**Don Holloway**, Maintenance Supervisor  
Hickory Knob State Resort Park



**JANSON L. COX** — Janson lists his birthplace as Laurens, South Carolina, but we know him as a vagabond from places unknown. Janson's father worked in the textile industry, and Janson's early years were spent at a variety of locations up and down the East coast. "I've lived in Charleston longer than anywhere else," he says! He graduated from The Citadel in 1963 with a B.S. degree in mathematics, with emphasis in the areas of education and history. Three years later he had added a Master of Arts degree to his collection, this time from New York State University College at Oneonta. His Major: History Museum Training Program; his Thesis: "The Vanishing Hitchhiking Ghost!"

He has attended a number of training sessions in recent years, particularly in the areas of historic preservation, state and local history associations and legal problems of museum administration. His instructional experience has included two years on the Associate Faculty at Utica College of Syracuse University, guest lecturer at Mohawk Valley Community College, Utica, New York and at area high schools in Utica.

Janson joined the PRT team in 1968 as Chief Historian after serving for three years as Director of the Oneida Historical Society at Utica, Utica, New York. Janson remained as Chief Historian until 1973, when he became the Expo Park Manager at Charles Towne Landing. He is a Council Member of the American Association for State and Local History, an Officer on the Board of Directors of the Charles Towne Landing Foundation, and Treasurer for the Charleston Travel Council. He has had numerous articles and manuals published (including an occasional contribution to *Park Lites!* Ed.)

Janson is married to the former Cleta Vale Higgins, and they have two sons, Erik, 8 and Yanson, 1½. Cleta has recently earned a Master's degree in Elementary Education — Reading and is Head of the Reading Lab at Stall High School, Charleston. Cleta enjoys cooking and sewing, while Janson dabbles in photography (he has his own darkroom), ship model building (he built a four-foot model of the ketch "Adventure" for former PRT Commission Chairman Dwight Holder) and car collecting (he has eight cars in his "stable"). Janson's specialty is American Motors cars, and he has a '51 Nash Rambler convertible (the one with the "window shade" top), 3 Metropolitans and a '48 Packard. All except three are in running condition, and he plans to remedy that situation in the near future.

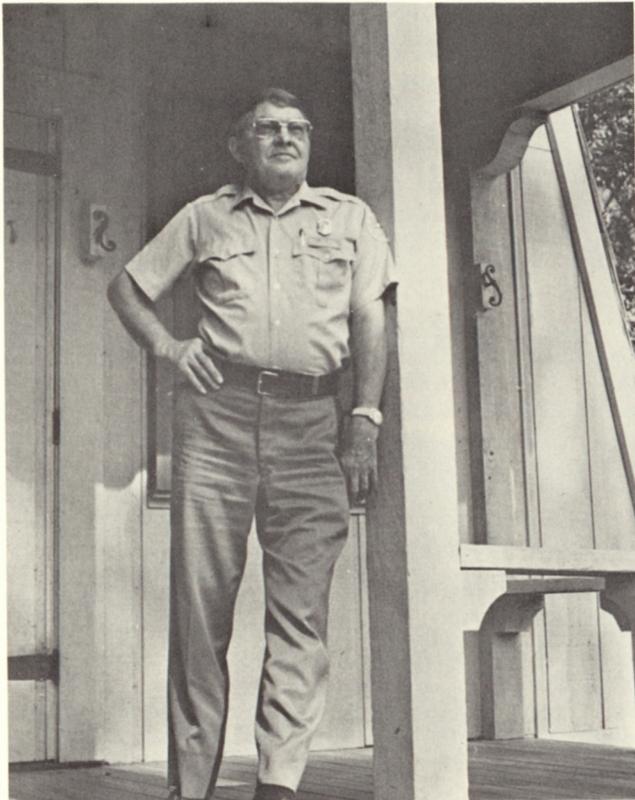
He only buys cars with no missing parts. "I can repair or restore a car much easier if all the parts are there to work with," he says, "but I don't want to have to travel all over the country looking for missing parts." He considers his car collecting hobby a worthwhile investment, and is presently looking for additional cars to round out his collection.

While the Cox family lives at the Landing, their "home away from home" is a Federal-style Camden town house located about 15 miles from Camden. Built in 1845, it was originally located a block from the center of Camden. Janson had it moved to its present location several years ago, where it serves as a home for Janson's parents. A major portion of the renovation and restoration work has been done by Janson and Cleta (with a little help from friends and relatives)! Garden plots (organic, of course) spread out in every direction on the ten-acre "Cox estate." Janson estimates that the project should be completed in 100 years or so! Much of their spare time away from the Landing is spent at Route #1, Box 55, Rembert (Janson welcomes any assistance in completing the project!)

Janson is obviously vitally interested in the progress of Charles Towne Landing, and labels it a "sleeping giant." He believes that the revenue potential of the geodesic Dome will be increased with the eventual addition of a mini-kitchen and rest rooms, and he hopes to secure new exhibits for the Pavilion. The Settler's Life Area is arousing new interest among visitors, for Cox believes that the Landing must be constantly changing and improving to encourage increased visitation and "repeat business." He would like to see the ketch "Adventure" become a working exhibit. Above all, he would like to see each of you visit the Landing with your family!

**TED BARBIE** — Ted is from Hartsville, where his father retired after working for years with the Atlantic Coast Line Railroad. His mother graduated from Welch Neck High School (now Coker College!) Ted has five sisters, including one set of twins. "I didn't have to worry about second-hand clothes," he remarked. Ted graduated from Hartsville High School, where he lettered in baseball, track and football.

After graduating from high school, Ted worked at Sonoco Products Company, Hartsville for four years before serving in the Navy from 1942 to 1945. He was a pharmacist's mate, and was stationed on an aircraft carrier. Next stop for Barbie after his discharge from the Navy was Clemson College, where he studied for one year. He left college to work with his uncle in Rocky Mount, North Carolina selling cemetery monuments and mausoleums.



Ted joined the Navy Reserves in 1950, and was called back to active duty in 1951. He spent 2½ years as a pharmacist's mate at a receiving unit at Bainbridge, Maryland. He moved to Myrtle Beach in anticipation of a job at Myrtle Beach State Park. Hurricane Hazel hit that area in the fall of 1954, destroying a one thousand-foot fishing boardwalk, the fishing pier and a lot of trees. Barbie became Acting Superintendent in December 1955, and remained at Myrtle Beach until the late sixties. Ted recalls that in the mid-fifties, there were twelve campsites at Myrtle Beach State Park, the only sites along the Grand Strand! "We kept adding sites until we finally had 150 sites," Barbie said. (There are now 300 sites at Myrtle Beach State Park. Ed.)

Ted left the state park system in the late sixties, and for three years he sold sporting goods for Harold T. McGill. Working out of Myrtle Beach, his territory included the coast of South Carolina and part of North Carolina. Back to the "state park family" Ted came, this time locating at Santee as Superintendent. His next move was to Hickory Knob, where he "roughed it" during the early days of the park, including a time when there was no water or telephone at his park residence. Ted transferred back to Santee in September of last year.

Barbie likes to fish in fresh water, particularly for bass and bream, hunt doves and play golf (but not necessarily in that order! Ed.). He is eagerly looking forward to another vacation with former District Superintendent Norman Cooler and his wife Mary. Ted has a cabin on the Clark Hill Reservoir, and most of his spare time is spent there.

Ted calls the past year very rewarding, and one of the best he has ever had. He credits much of this to the full-time park personnel and seasonal employees, who worked well together as a team. "A highlight of the past summer's operation was the splendid set of programs presented jointly by our recreator, naturalist and missionary," he said. He has formed many lasting friendships with people living near the park, and bragged that he has yet to buy the first tomato!

Ted's retirement plans in a few years call for fishing, fishing and more fishing. In the meantime, he is content in the middle of Santee-Cooper Country. "I'll take this part of the country any day!" he exclaimed.

**DON HOLLOWAY** — Don has no reason to be homesick at Hickory Knob, for his home is just three miles across the river in McCormick! His mother is in a nursing home in Augusta. His father, now deceased, worked in the Veterans' Hospital in Augusta. His brother, John, is superintendent at Givhans Ferry State Park. He has three sisters, one living in Michigan, one in Augusta and another in McCormick.

He attended local McCormick school through high school, graduating in 1955. His first job was with the Atlantic Coast Line Railroad, where he worked out of Augusta for six months as a flagman and brakeman.

Don's next fifteen years were spent working in Milliken textile mills, ten years in McCormick and five in Saluda. Don became interested in park work during this time, and had talked with K. O. Kolb, then the superintendent at Baker Creek. His first job with state parks was at Sesqui, where he worked as a ranger from 1971 to 1972. He transferred to Santee in 1972, where he was Maintenance Supervisor until the following year, when he packed his bags and moved to Hickory Knob to assume a similar position.

Don's wife, Bernice is from Lexington. She works at the Lodge as an Accounting Clerk, and they live on the park "at the first intersection!" The Holloways have two daughters; Pam, living in Dallas, Texas and Sandy, married to a barber and living in McCormick, where she is secretary to an attorney. Their son, Thomas McKinney, 3, is sort of a favorite grandson of Don and Bernice!

Don enjoys fresh water fishing for bass and crappie, and has a fifteen-foot boat that gets a regular workout on off-days. Bernice likes to travel, but her idea of camping is in a comfortable motel room! "Now that the girls are grown, we hope to do more traveling," Don says.

One of the persistent problems at Hickory Knob is with drivers that have trouble staying on the winding park road leading to the lodge. "We have one large pine tree that has totalled three cars," Don quipped! (One member of this unfortunate group happens to be a member of our Columbia office staff! Ed.) As Maintenance Supervisor, Don spends 90% of his time with various electrical, plumbing and building maintenance projects. "Our maintenance crew doesn't have much direct contact with park visitors," Don said. Since the Holloways live at an intersection of the main park road and one leading to the camping area, quite a few campers stop at their house to ask directions or inquire about available campsites. "We do not have a park gate," Don said, "and hunters from the surrounding game management areas enjoy being able to get to the camping area at all hours."



Don would like to see a swimming area for campers established, since the swimming pool is only for visitors renting lodge rooms or cabins. "Most people coming to Hickory Knob know in advance what they want to do," Don remarked. Much of the "winter" work program at Hickory Knob must be done during the summer months, since a majority of the conferences and meetings are scheduled during the fall and winter months. Most of the maintenance work at the park is being done by the park crew, freeing up the roving crew from the Service and Supply Center for work at other parks.

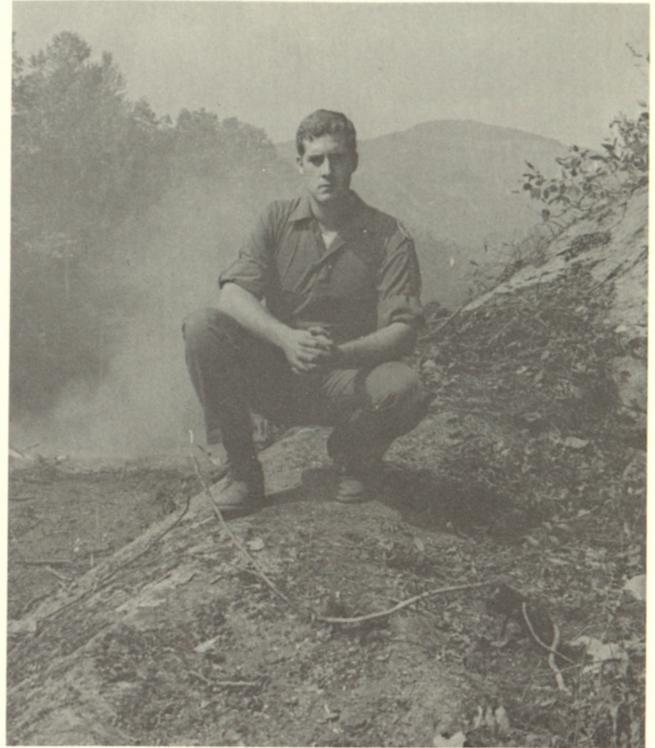
Don says that he and Bernice don't have any particular plans, except to have more fun! (It sounds like Don and Bernice subscribe to Bob Mitchell's philosophy! Come to think about it, so do I! Ed.)

**ROBERT A. MITCHELL** — For the want of a better place (and there may not be one!), Bob calls Laramie, Wyoming "home." His father, retired from the Air Force, installed the wiring for the "Minuteman" missile program. His mother is from Walhalla, and he has three brothers, now scattered out all over the globe.

Bob graduated from high school in Cheyenne, then attended the University of Wyoming, where he studied Forest Ranger Management. He moved to Walhalla in 1973, and worked as a park aide that summer. A ranger vacancy in September of 1973 resulted in a telephone call from District Superintendent Bob Jones. "Can you be here by one o'clock?" Jones asked. Mitchell was there by eleven o'clock!

He has traveled all over the country, and has visited all but four or five states. He is especially fond of the Rockies, but finds Pickens County running a close second. Now a Ranger II, Bob is unattached (except for two Labrador Retrievers). He has an extensive collection of firearms, and enjoys re-working and re-blueing them. One of his favorite pastimes is backpacking and tent camping from "head-quarters," his trusty pickup truck. The mountains of North Carolina, Tennessee and the foothills of South Carolina are some of his favorite haunts, and he especially enjoys primitive camping in National Forest areas.

Assistant Superintendent Brooks Jordan sold him a base station, and he enjoys talking with people in the Greenville-Spartanburg-



Asheville area. Bob did a lot of mountain climbing and mountain rescue work in Wyoming, but he has given up on it for the present time. He still has old equipment, but says that the cost of gear has gone out of sight.

Some of his spare time is spent on the farm in Walhalla, working the garden and cutting logs. He and other personnel at Table Rock have spent many hours up on "the mountain" looking for lost or injured hikers. "The most common injury seems to be broken legs," Bob says. He and other park personnel are anxiously looking forward to the construction of a new recreation building. He thinks that more playground equipment and additional campsites would be welcome additions at the park.

Bob's philosophy is simple . . . "I try not to get in a hurry," he says. Beyond that, he tries to remain flexible, and has no plans for the future beyond enjoying each day as it comes. Come to think of it, that's not such a bad idea!

## Energy Saver

An open fireplace damper can draw as much as 20% of the warm air out of your home. Be sure to keep the damper closed on your fireplace when not in use. Consider the installation of a glass door on your fireplace to keep the heat from escaping up the chimney.

WILLIAM C. LUCAS  
Chief of Construction

District I Superintendents: from left; Janson Cox (Charles Towne Landing); James Taylor (Hunting Island); Jerry Price (Rivers Bridge); Bobby Turner (Myrtle Beach); Larry Duncan (District Superintendent); Kurt Becht (Little Pee Dee); Van Stickles (Huntington Beach); Bud Klein (Hampton Plantation); George Gordon (Old Dorchester); John Holloway (Givhans Ferry); Glenn Farr (Colleton).



Most District I employees are already planning their winter vacations and looking forward to the holiday season. Employees at the four beach parks, however, are wondering if the campers are ever going home for the holidays! Due to very pleasant and dry weather, all four of these parks have had excellent campground usage since Labor Day.

Some District I parks have already begun working on winter work projects. I will list a few of the big jobs going on in the District.

**Myrtle Beach** — Wood has been ordered for major repairs on the pier this winter. Large portions of the docking and railings will be replaced. Several buildings have already been painted.

**Hunting Island** — The crew has already begun repairs and painting on several buildings and almost every residence. Five new cabins will be contracted this winter.

**Givhans Ferry** — The maintenance crew is still working on renovation of the cabins. The park crew is doing all the painting and keeping work areas clean. Paint has been ordered to paint the Recreation Building.

**Huntington Beach** — The Corps of Engineers is beginning work on the jetty at the north end of the park. The park crew is working on several small projects. (Smaller than the jetty, that is!)

**Hampton Plantation** — Architects have inspected the plantation house and more restoration should begin in the not-too-distant future.

**Edisto Beach** — Reworking rest rooms and the building of porches on the cabins are two projects to be completed.

**Charles Towne Landing** — The crew has just completed a bison loading chute and put a new roof on the hay barn. Dome additions are on schedule.

**Old Dorchester** — Superintendent Gordon has spent some time repainting the ranger's residence. The new flagpole from Service and Supply is a welcome addition.

**Rivers Bridge** — Painting the bath house and reworking the recreation building floor are two main projects.

**Colleton** — Glenn Farr and Bill Fowler are painting and putting a new roof on one picnic shelter.

LARRY DUNCAN  
District I Superintendent

**CHARLES TOWNE LANDING** — With the reopening of school, regular attendance has dropped during the week, but we have stayed busy with special events, maintenance projects and school group visits.

Special thanks go to our volunteers, without whose help some of our services could not have been maintained. Mickey Haselow and Ola Mae Raybourne help many mornings compiling and preparing school group statistics and mailings. The Animal Forest is fortunate to have the volunteer help of Nita Cedrone, who has had extensive animal care experience at other zoos, in addition to Michael Kersey and Jane Hightower. Former employees Charlie Geilfuss and Elliot Baker also return to lend a hand on weekends. Their help has been particularly timely since Frank Whiteside took some time off to learn something about fatherhood!

Some of our younger volunteers, Karl Briggs and Will Anderson in particular, have filled in at Information, the Settlers' Life Area, at the Boat Dock and in the Exhibit Pavilion when our guide force reached a minimum level. Eddie Odom, our new guide supervisor, has been trying to fill the vacant slots, but we all know how slow that process can be.

We have a new craftsworker and two enthusiastic volunteers for the Settlers' Life Area. We welcome Ferrin Hewitt and volunteers Bill Smiley and Isabella "Granny" Meany, our colonial baker.

Al Dann has had problems with manpower shortages in his grounds crew, not only because of three vacancies, but because many of his crew have been in the hospital. Carl Ronemous is back although on restricted duties, Junior Colvard is recovering at home, and "Pappy" Craven is still in the hospital.

Without some of our volunteer help, it would have been impossible to conduct some of our special events. Volunteers helped in the food line and seating guests at Oktoberfest, and two volunteers assisted with the pumpkin carving and Halloween costume contests during the Colonial Life Festival. In fact, since last January, volunteers have contributed an average of 48 hours per week!

Oktoberfest showed higher attendance and revenue this year. Evidently the word has spread that it is a great time, and those who came ate and drank more than ever.

The Colonial Life Festival was similar to last year's event, with demonstrations by the Second Regiment in the Settlers' Life Area, pumpkin carving and Halloween costume contests, and colonial recorder music and dancing. Expanded over last year's event was the Black Powder Turkey Shoot. Participants were provided with black powder muskets or pistols and were able to choose between three colonial games: Hit the turkey (a mechanical turkey lifted his head and gobbled), Snuff the Candle, or Drive the Nail. At three shots for \$1.00, we were able to supply four winners with turkeys.

This year's Christmas Tree Lighting on December 9 will be co-sponsored by WXTC radio. Their promotional capabilities promise to turn out a good crowd to enjoy our planned charity bazaar, hayrides, Christmas carols, Santa Claus and of course, the lighting of the giant Christmas tree.

DEIRDRA WINTNER  
Public Information Specialist



**A scarecrow keeps a watchful eye out for intruders at Charles Towne Landing's colonial crop garden.**

**COLLETON STATE PARK** — Colleton State Park is having the best year ever and with two months yet to go we are 52 campsites ahead of last year. Visitors from Israel, Holland, The Netherlands, England, Germany, and Nova Scotia had very favorable comments about the park and the state of South Carolina. I-95 continues to be our main source of campers.

The Edisto River has been very low most of the summer and that made for good swimming. There were more people swimming this year than I've seen since I have been here. Fishing was off and the low water made boating dangerous at certain places in the river. I didn't miss swimming many days myself. I was lifeguard for the local kids.

Having the power of arrest has certainly made a big difference in the way the public reacted when they were informed of park rules that are now law. All the visitors that I have talked to were in favor of this move (except trouble makers). I was fortunate that I did not have to make an arrest this season; however there were a few times when alcohol was involved that I thought I might. It would have been nice to have had my badge and I.D. card. Several people asked to see them.

I would like to thank Ranger Bill Fowler for the fine job he has done this year. He held things down while I was in the hospital. At a time like that it is nice to know you have someone you can depend on.

At 3 a.m. on Friday, September 29th I lost my best friend (Mother). She has gone to be with the Lord God and by His grace some day I will see her again. Cancer can never hurt her again. We miss her very much, but it is a comfort to know that she isn't suffering anymore.

I hope I am wrong but I am looking for a cold wet winter. The holiday season is coming up fast, but I got it beat this year. I've already done my Christmas shopping. By the time this issue of *Park Lites* arrives it will be getting close to Christmas. May God bless you and yours with the best Christmas ever. Y'all come.

Note: My new *Smokey* is 8 months old and is doing fine. She is a carbon copy of the first *Smokey*.

HARRY G. FARR  
Superintendent

**EDISTO BEACH STATE PARK** — Things are getting in shape at Edisto Beach. The park is looking good, the grass cut especially nice, and all these palm limbs are off the ground.

Judging from the number of campers and mosquitos, summer is still here. We're having good crowds of campers during the week and we're filled on weekends. As for the mosquitos, they don't seem to know when there supposed to leave!

Our cabins are getting good use, but we have far too many one night rentals, which keeps us cleaning them almost every day.

Our cabins, along with one of the ranger's residences are going to get new porches. We think this will improve the looks and help on rainy days.

I would like to thank everyone at Myrtle Beach for their help and friendship. I hope that I can be helpful and friendly to everyone here.

RAY T. STEVENS  
Ranger II



Edisto Beach Superintendent Kurt Becht applies the finishing touches to a new fossil exhibit prepared by the Programs Section. The handsome exhibit case was built at the Service & Supply Center.

**GIVHANS FERRY STATE PARK** — Fall has arrived with its magnificent colors at Givhans Ferry. The park visitors have slackened during the week but are still plentiful on the weekends. September and October are always strong here for company picnics, family reunions and just plain old fashioned "picnicking and socializing". "The Great Lady" Edisto is very popular with the canoeing bunch. They put in at Colleton and canoe down to Givhans Ferry. This enables them to enjoy a seven to eight hour scenic tour down the lovely river. "The Great Lady" displays quite an array of beauty at this time of year, however, the water level is quite low and could pose problems in some areas.

To all you deer hunters, let me describe an incident that happened here about a week after hunting season opened. I no more than opened my mouth to take a big bite of my

sandwich one Saturday noon when the door bell rang (which usually happens when you sit down to eat). A camper came to report that there was a deer stuck in a ditch down behind picnic shelter #2, and someone should come see about it. A patrolman friend was having lunch with my wife and I that day, so when we finished eating we went to see to the deer. All the way down there our mouths were watering, just tasting the deer steaks! Sure enough, there he was, a six-point buck, stuck in the mud up to his stomach and his horns fastened in the bushes, just waiting for the kill. Lo and behold!! we looked around and there were about a hundred people watching, so how could the law do anything illegal! After talking it over, we decided we had better play it right down the line. We made a call to the Game Warden, who decided he had better come on the scene. After arriving and sizing up the situation, he decided he had better call the Biologist. The Biologist, based on the information given him by the Game Warden, suggested that the animal would have to be slaughtered. (Incidentally, the deer had a broken leg and had been shot previously.) Oh, boy!! those steaks were beginning to taste even better. The animal was shot and dragged about a mile up a hill when the Game Warden told us that the carcass would have to be taken to the county jail in St. George for the inmates to eat. You guessed it, not even



I want to tell you about some old fashioned horse trading that happened at Givhans Ferry this summer. Everything was going along fine, for I had a Ranger-I, an A-2 worker, and a couple of NYC boys. Then a chain reaction took place. The ranger was promoted to Ranger II, the A-2 worker became the Ranger I, one of the NYC workers became the A-2. The only thing I can be really sure of was that I remained the superintendent!

One of the suggested topics to write about was off-season plans of the park families. My ranger is new, so I imagine he will be minding the store quite a bit. As for the superintendent, well, he and the Misses will be hitting the "Old Chisholm Trail" with the camper and the pickum-up truck on his weekends off.

Have a good Fall season, take time to enjoy living just a little, and don't work too hard on those winter projects.

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year from "The Joneses" and "The Holloways". MAY GOD BLESS . . .

JOHN B. HOLLOWAY  
Superintendent

**HAMPTON PLANTATION STATE PARK** — We here at Hampton must constantly keep the words written below, by the late Dr. Archibald Rutledge, engraved within our minds. We must do this throughout this terribly dry season, with a constant fear of fire destroying our woodlands; with the nightly invasion of poachers after our deer herd; with the heaviest infestation of mosquitoes at this time of the year for a long time; and even though the quietness and serenity are enjoyable, this does not sustain us after months and months of no visitation or even seeing other people.

These words are: *"We carelessly think of an Act of God as some disaster. But all beauty is an act of God. And to plant a garden is to cooperate with the Creator. No one can ever bring loveliness into this world unless he is holding fast the hand of God."*

Our life here consists of no unusual occurrences, or rather we have not had any since the last *Park Lites*. Any happening is just our doing routine maintenance within our gardens and areas and attempting to hold fast the loveliness at Hampton from natural and human disasters until again we can begin restoration work on this priceless home.

**BUD KLEIN**  
Superintendent

**HUNTING ISLAND STATE PARK** — You may catch glimpses of Hunting Island on the "big screen" next summer. Portions of the movie "The Great Santini" were filmed on our beach recently. The movie, being shot on location in Beaufort, is about a Marine and his family and is scheduled for release next summer.

There have been a few changes in personnel on the park. Assistant Superintendent Steve Edison has left us to become Superintendent at Hamilton Branch. Jane Turner, Clerk II, has crossed over to another state department, Wildlife and Marine Resources. That leaves me, Lulita Graham, in her desk at the park office. Originally from Kansas, I love it here on the ocean front.

They tell me that summers here are chaotic and last summer was no exception. The campground was full every weekend and the cabins every day. Things are quieter now as the crew works on the repair of buildings.

Superintendent James Taylor would like to thank all his personnel for the fine job this summer. They are a good group, and I think I'm going to like it here. Why not visit and see why?

**LULITA GRAHAM**  
Clerk II

**HUNTINGTON BEACH STATE PARK** — At this writing our fearless leader, Van, is on vacation in Yankee land. After this summer season, he really needs it! I've only been here since July, but can tell you that this is one busy place! Attendance and revenue are up over last year and at this writing things are just beginning to slow down.

We have had people from all over the world, including New Zealand, Denmark, Germany and Switzerland. Have you ever tried to explain the rules to someone who doesn't speak or understand English?

The Third Annual Atalaya Arts and Crafts Festival was a great success. We had the biggest crowds ever. This is the first one I have worked and I couldn't believe how smoothly everything went. Dan Turpin and the other people from Columbia did a fine job. We also had some fine pickin' and grinnin' by Larry Duncan. He really can play and sing, folks!

By the time this goes to print, we will have had two weddings in the Atalaya Castle courtyard.

The inlet project on our side is getting into full swing. They just finished the road to the inlet and the big rock trucks should start any day now.

We're getting ready for a boy scout camporee the first weekend in November and are expecting close to two thousand scouts and leaders.

Ranger Tommy Raynor, bought a camper and the first place he tried it out was Myrtle Beach. He really took a long trip! Ranger Charles Cumbee and family are tent campers, as is Van Stickles. With all this camping going on, my family and I got the bug and just purchased a small travel trailer. Now all I need to do is buy a trailer hitch so I can pull it. We hope to break it in by going to Florida in November.

My son Brian had his 16th birthday in October and the entire park family came over to help him celebrate. We would like to welcome our new ranger, Buddy Brown and wish him luck. Buddy is single right now, but for how long?

That's about it from beautiful Huntington Beach. We hope you all have a good winter.

**DENNIS HART**  
Ranger

**MYRTLE BEACH STATE PARK** — It's that time of year again and my favorite month at the beach. The nights are cool so campers can enjoy their campfires and the days are warm enough so that a walk on the beach is enjoyable.

Our campground and cabins have seen an exceptionally busy fall. The pier has been busy too as the fish have moved in on their way South. There have been large catches of spot, trout, and whiting, also some good catches of flounder and blues. It's good to see all of our fishermen friends once again. The pier is like a big meeting place for them each fall.

We would like to welcome John Stoker as our new Ranger I since the last issue. He replaced Ray Stevens who moved to Edisto. John worked as an A-2 since the spring and decided to go full time with the parks. We lost Pete Davis to Croft and he was replaced by Rick Isaac. A big welcome goes out to Rick and his wife Lyn.

Last year I mentioned my son, Johnson, and his team he plays with in football. They have had another undefeated season this year, but still have one more game and the play-offs. The coaches on all the teams deserve a word of praise for the fine job they do with these boys.

Our summer and fall have been busy for us. Now we are into the winter work of repainting buildings and repairs which are necessary for a neat park. We will have a short season to get ready for the crowds again next year. I would like to thank all of the personnel here at the park, our District Superintendent and the Columbia office for the help and cooperation they have given us.

**ROBERT J. TURNER**  
Superintendent



Old Dorchester's George Gordon raises the flag on the newly-installed flagpole.

**OLD DORCHESTER STATE PARK** — "Greetings" from the Old Fort!

Ouch, there goes another yellow jacket! We seem to be blessed with an abundance this fall, but so far they don't seem to have dampened the spirit of our weekend visitors. We are having capacity crowds on weekends since the weather has turned cool. Unfortunately, the incidences of vandalism have increased also. Nothing big, just the usual small aggravating things.

We have had an increase in park use by people in the local area, since Fred Rigsbee wrote an article about Old Dorchester in the Charleston Evening Post.

So far this year we have had five church services and twenty-three weddings at the bell tower. For those of you who have never been to Old Dorchester, the bell tower is what remains of the Anglican Parish of St. George, established in 1717. The bell tower is a beautiful setting for a wedding and it is good to see it so well used.

The summer season has proved to be both productive in revenue and park use. We managed to get through the summer with only one accident occurring on the park. A girl broke her leg sliding into third base! The addition of the flag pole at the site of the old fort has been well received. I would like to wish Phillip Dickson, my new Ranger I, a successful career with PRT. Phillip is from Walterboro and is currently single.

I hope everyone has a happy holiday season.

GEORGE GORDON  
Superintendent

**RIVERS BRIDGE STATE PARK** — Our summer season here at Rivers Bridge was a busy one again. Jerry and I are glad it is over and we are looking forward to a nice, peaceful, relaxing winter of hard work so that we may recuperate for the coming summer.

The Prices are doing fine. Jerry has already taken two vacations; he camped a week at Myrtle Beach with his family the second week in September, and spent a week fishing at Edisto Beach with Bill Alewine the third week of October. Jerry's son Lynn, has a job after school working in the meat department at Bi-Lo's in Hampton, and Ursula is still sewing away in Ehrhardt.

By the time you all read this issue, you will already know that my wife and I have had our first child and that we are the happy and proud parents of a fine baby boy or girl.

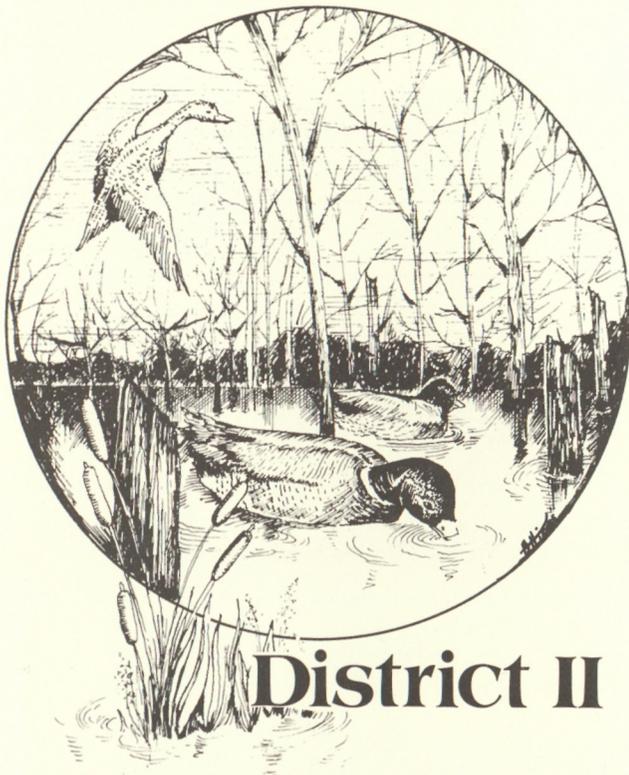
That is all the news from Rivers Bridge and we, the Coffeys, and the Prices want to wish all of you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

TOM COFFEY  
Ranger



Rivers Bridge Superintendent Jerry Price is fast becoming an accomplished artist. Here he shows two of his most recent paintings while camped at Santee for the Annual Superintendents' Conference.

Front row, from left: Ted Barbie (Santee); Danny Odom (Little Pee Dee); Robert Fowler (Goodale); Wayne Smith (Lynches River); Bea Ross (Barnwell); George Atkinson (Woods Bay). Back row, from left: Horace Craig (District Superintendent); Frank Couch (Assistant Superintendent for Op'ns-Santee); Ed Nesbit (Aiken); Bill Alewine (Lee); Gene Cobb (Redcliffe); Larry Adair (Cheraw); Marshall West (Poinsett).



**Aiken** — Superintendent Nesbitt and Ranger Inabinet are well underway with their work program which includes painting and repairs to buildings. The superintendent's residence is to be insulated and rewired and some sills and flooring are to be replaced.

**Barnwell** — Some painting and grassing have been keeping the Barnwell crew very busy this fall.

**Cheraw** — Superintendent Adair and crew are very busy with their work projects such as scraping, painting and repairing many buildings on the park. Some dirt is to be hauled in order to reclaim the main picnic area and help erosion problems in other areas.

**Goodale** — The crew at Goodale has been working like mad to get the golf course greens in shape for winter rye seeding. Many of the work projects have been completed, including some roofing and painting.

**Lee** — Superintendent Alewine and his "Rookie Ranger" have been busy with projects which includes rewiring of the shop, some painting and keeping ducks out of the community building!

**Lynches River** — The park crew has been making a new parking area and a drain for the existing one.

**Poinsett** — with help from the newly formed YACC program, the crew has completed the power line underbrushing and drain cleaning. Many projects are yet to be started, including some cabin insulation and rewiring.

**Redcliffe** — While the painting contractor is busy with the Big House, Superintendent Cobb and Ranger Bennett are busy on the outbuildings.

**Santee** — The park crew at Santee has completed many projects thus far, including tileboard replacement in some of the cabin showers, painting, assorted repairs and shop rewiring.

**Woods Bay** — Superintendent Atkinson is working on canoe trails and a ball field at this time. He recently put in a new drainfield at the superintendent's residence with little help from anyone.

**Little Pee Dee** — Superintendent Odom and his Ranger are well into their work program with much of the usual winter maintenance already completed.

H. W. CRAIG  
Superintendent

**AIKEN STATE PARK** — Fall has arrived and it's the time for winterizing the lawn mowers and rest rooms, annual inventory, plowing fire breaks, remarking boundaries, shutting off water, winter work projects, cutting dead trees, leave requests and raking, raking and more raking.

With the cool weather, site camping is again increasing with more clubs and families who appreciate the quietness of state parks this time of the year. Primitive camping is also on the increase as more individuals discover they don't need electricity and hot showers for an enjoyable weekend. The New Ellington Riding Club had their fall ride and camp the weekend of October 14-15 and had 100 horsemen staying overnite in the primitive area.

Dave and his wife have made several trips to the coast this fall. He says that so far he hasn't caught any fish that are larger or better tasting than what he catches out of the Edisto River here at the park. One evening he caught thirty pounds of catfish between quitting time and dark! My family and I made two trips to the North Carolina Outer Banks where we had one good week catching small bluefish, trout, croaker and flounder. The next trip didn't produce as much fish for the freezer, although we had a lot of fun catching big blues (10-20 lbs.) and a good many flounder.

We here at Aiken wish everyone an enjoyable fall. If you come to Aiken and we aren't here we are probably camping at your park!

ED NESBIT  
Superintendent

**BARNWELL STATE PARK** — The Community Center is getting its share of attention recently, with a meeting for Congressman Floyd Spence on October 24 and a party the following night in honor of Solomon Blatt, Jr. A number of dignitaries from Columbia attended the latter event.

Deer hunters are occupying the cabins and some of the campsites this weekend. Most of the cabin users are from Florida and the campers are from North Carolina. We have had quite a few weddings in the new Community Center.

The first reunion of the C.C.C. men who built Barnwell State Park was held September 10 at the #1 picnic shelter. One of the wives said that they were all acting like little boys at the reunion! They plan to meet here next year.

Wishing all a Merry, Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year (and a prosperous one, too)!

BEA ROSS  
Superintendent

Scenes from an old C.C.C. yearbook showing work by the 4468th Company, Camp SCP-70 at Barnwell. 3. Excavating for spillway and dirt dam at Barnwell State Park. 4. A radio room. 5. Working on the spillway. 6. The camp reading room and library. 7. The blacksmith shop.



**CHERAW STATE PARK** — As this article is being written we are enjoying a beautiful Indian summer day. We have had just the right amount of frost to slow the growth of the grass, and to turn the trees brilliant colors.

Our summer season ended with a fizz instead of a bomb. Most of our statistics for the summer show a minus per cent from last year. Our swimming was down about 24% or 4,958 swimmers. Our total park use has been way down. The only bright spots were the group camps, which were up about 15%, and camping which is up about 10%. Our out-of-state use is up, mainly those Tar Heels from across the border.

Our Y.C.C. venture turned out better than we had thought. We were able to repair most of the bridges throughout the park, and clear back the underbrush on the nature trails.

The swimmers weren't off the beach but a couple of weeks when the Canadian geese took over. They sure are a pretty sight as they come in to land on the lake.

Even though we are only a little over a month out of summer, we are well into our winter work program. All of you who have worked at Cheraw in the past, will have to pay us a visit, just to see our new shop. Can you imagine being able to find a tool when you need it?



**Lake Eureka at Cheraw State Park. Photo by Robert Sullivan, P.M.A.**

October seems to be vacation month. The McPhersons just returned from a week up into those West Virginia hills, and they reported seeing some of that white stuff. The Pruettes visited in Orlando, Florida and Mike really had a time at Disney World and Sea World. Robert Sullivan is planning a trip down to Florida later this month. I can't wait for those fresh oranges! Rooster Smith is still celebrating the birth of his little rooster, Olin, Jr. He's taking a week off because he wants to learn to change diapers, or maybe it's because his wife wants him to learn!

Keith Windham's wife, Debbie, just went to work, so his vacation will have to be put off for a while.

Larry Adair's wife, Ginny, is planning a Christmas vacation trip to see her people in Alabama.

Our fall afternoons have been kept busy by the local soccer league. The park has three representatives. Tim Adair and Brian McPherson play for one team. Mike Pruette plays for another. This causes a lot of excitement. There are three teams in the league and at this writing the two teams represented by the park kids are tied for third. But they have a good time.

Please plan to visit us if you can. Members of our park family are always welcome. God Bless.

**CECIL PRUETTE**  
Ranger

**N. R. GOODALE STATE PARK** — Summer is over and winter is on its way. Our summer here at Goodale went very smoothly except for the rapid turnover of lifeguards. I'm sure Mrs. Friedman was tired of seeing the bundle of paperwork I sent her almost every week concerning deleting and adding A-2 help. Despite not having any veteran summer employees, our summer turned out very well. Attendance was up all summer until cloudy, rainy August turned up. Our July 4th was one of the biggest I can remember and Sundays were almost as good. Every Friday we were visited by playgrounds operated by the City of Camden. Our shelters were reserved for family reunions from May through September on weekends and with several day camps, employee dinners and church groups, even the weekdays were crowded.

As I write this article I can look out and see a deserted park. It seems hard to believe that two months ago we were so busy. The summer is hectic and my wife sure appreciates the weekends we can spend together doing the things we enjoy. However, there's something sad about the end of summer. I love the summer season when we see people, especially kids with smiles on their faces having a great time. As I look out from my office, the leaves have turned and are falling, the park is very quiet and ducks and even an occasional flock of geese adorn our lake. It's wonderful that state parks can provide such areas for the enjoyment of the public. I hope that we can continue to become bigger and better every year. The summer is hectic and tiring but it's what state parks are all about. Summer is over and winter is here but, to me, winter is just a time to prepare for next summer.

Since our last *Park Lites*, Steve Cumbee has joined our staff at Goodale. Steve is 19 years old, single and hails from Orangeburg. We are happy to have Steve and hope he enjoys the good life of a Park Ranger.

**ROBERT FOWLER**  
Superintendent

**LEE STATE PARK** — Well, this year is nearing an end and another year will be beginning. As for us here at Lee State Park, summer was a good one. Our summer help turned out real good and they did an excellent job. We did not have any drownings and not as many rescues as we had last year. The bath house, concession and pedal boats did an increase over last year. Swimming was off some, maybe because we had lots of rain and bad weather this summer season.

Camping at Lee has been on the increase, and we are over 500 units compared to last year at this time. Monday through Friday campers are out-of-staters traveling mostly to and from Florida. Local people and camping clubs come out to visit on weekends.

Our Community Building and shelters have increased over last year too, and picnic shelters have gotten a lot of use.

The Horse Show Ring is a popular facility. We have had lots of horse clubs coming out to use some of the new trails that we have cut through the woods to keep them off Loop Road. They are able to ride back into the woods where they can see more of nature and be away from the traffic.

New additions to our park family are Mr. and Mrs. Dick Kelly. Dick replaced Glen "Andy" Davis, who was promoted to Ranger II at Poinsett. We hope Andy does good at Poinsett and we welcome Dick and Betty.

**BILL ALEWINE**  
Superintendent

**LITTLE PEE DEE STATE PARK** — Greetings from the heart of the Pee Dee country! At this writing the leaves are turning, the mornings and nights are cool and the afternoons warm. Visitation has slowed and we have a chance to collect our thoughts. As we reflect on the past summer season it was one of a few problems but, thank God, no serious ones. We had a fine lifeguard staff that performed their duties well and our summer Manpower workers were a great help to us.

Our revenue showed an increase over last summer of around \$900.00 but our total number of swimmers showed a slight decrease. Camping showed an increase of 157 sites over the previous summer season. Our campers were mostly from the two Carolinas but we had campers from almost every state in the U.S. Vandalism was not a major problem but the concession stand was broken into once.

My family and I are planning a trip to the Blue Ridge Mountains before the winter snows begin. We also plan to visit some of the parks in our State, so we might be stopping in to visit with some of you. We wish each and everyone a safe and accident-free winter season.

**DANNY M. ODOM**  
Superintendent

**LYNCHES RIVER STATE PARK** — The days are shorter now and the crowds have dropped off to weekend use. We still have our usual two and three days a week with the Community Building rental and it manages to keep us busy. Some of the special programs and events in the building recently have included a Republican Party Meeting for their candidate for Governor, Mr. Ed Young; The Florence Lions Club; The Florence County Agricultural Council; and a host of family reunions. One of the upcoming events will be the McLeod Hospital Christmas party.

This fall is not as colorful as last fall because of the unusually dry weather that we're experiencing. One thing that we can look forward to here in the fall is a nearby syrup mill going into operation, owned by Mr. Buster Lynch. Mr. Lynch grows his own sugar cane and operates the mill himself, squeezing the juice from the cane and cooking up the syrup. It's more of a family tradition since the mill has been in operation since 1800. His syrup is real good too, especially on those cold wintery mornings, poured over hot buttered biscuits!

We're busy down here, like everyone else in the system, getting started on our fall and winter work projects. Most of these will consist of the usual painting, repairing, replacing, and straightening up.

Now for the bad news! Our concession was broken into and vandalized recently. The matter was turned over to the local Sheriff's Department and so far we haven't heard of the culprits being apprehended. We've also had some trouble with hunters running deer on the park. With the assistance of the local game warden, this matter is also under control. I would also like to report with a close and watchful eye that we have really held the drinking problems to a minimum.

Now for the best news yet!! We are truly, finally getting our swimming pool. We don't know who all to thank, but thanks anyway!

**RODGER D. VISSAGE**  
Ranger

**POINSETT STATE PARK** — In the last issue of *Park Lites* I said that it certainly was nice to have a full crew for the first time all summer. Well it seems that I jumped the gun. Ranger Steve Parker decided that the grass was greener with the SCHD so he left about three weeks before Labor Day. We hated to see him and his wife leave but we hope that things will work out well for them.

As it stands right now (knock on wood) we have a full crew here at Poinsett and it certainly takes a load off my shoulders. Our newest Ranger is Andy Davis who was promoted from Lee State Park. We are happy to welcome Andy, his wife Dale and their two boys Drew and Brodie. One thing that made Andy's arrival so nice was the fact that he has been with the park system long enough to be familiar with the way things are done.

This past summer being my first at Poinsett, I feel that everything went as well as can be expected. We have had about a 25% increase in visitors to the park and cabin use but all the other categories were down considerably. Camping has been way off (about 35%) and I really can't explain why. Several first-time campers have been amazed to find only 6-10 campers here on the weekends and these campers assured us that they would be back and most have. One of the reasons I believe that we are not getting a lot of the camping clubs in the summer months is that the entrance road to the campground is really narrow with just one trailer at a time. But when the crowds are here in the summer and this road also serves two picnic areas the campers are a little bit hesitant to travel this road. We have opened up the exit road out of the back of the campground hoping this would help, but most of the campers do not bother to use it for one reason or another.

I would like to take a moment to thank all the A-2 employees for a great job they did and a special thanks to naturalist, Ed Roberts, who spent many hours keeping the museum in top shape and for the careful planning and presentation of the programs that were offered the campers and cabin guests.

We have had our usual large numbers of family reunions, church picnics and company picnics. The largest group, as has been for the last couple of years, was Becton-Dickinson out of Sumter. Over 1700 people were in attendance and rib-eye steaks were fed to all including the staff here at the park.

Looking over the memo that Dana sent concerning *Park Lites* it looks like the District Superintendent will cover the winter work projects. If Horace lists all of ours, he may be writing for some time! I am hoping by December that we will have the better part of our projects completed. But this would not be possible if it were not for the YACC crews who have been here for the last two weeks. It is hard for me to imagine how much work these young men and women put out.

I've got to go now. We are in the process of insulating the cabins, and as much as I dislike working with fiberglass, I must get back and do my share.

If any of you are in the area stop by and visit, as we would like to see you.

May everyone have a happy holiday season.

MARSHALL WEST  
Superintendent

#### SANTEE STATE PARK — Greetings from Santee!

Whoever told me that it would be a slow season was joking. The usage at the park is far above normal for this time of the year. The family campground is usually closed for the winter right after Labor Day, but this year it wasn't until November that we got everything turned off and winterized. The fisherman's campground is still going strong, but we look for this cold weather to slow them down in the next couple of weeks. The cabins have also been busy for the past three months. Many large groups from all over the state have come to spend the weekends with us, plus all of the regular fishermen we have. We even have people coming to spend Christmas with us.

Not only has the park crew been busy with the many visitors at the park, but the Fall Superintendent's Conference was held here in November. Under the supervision of District Superintendent Horace Craig and Superintendent Ted Barbie, Charlie Hatfield and the crew have the park looking its best. Thanks to the entire Park Crew for a wonderful job.

I would like to welcome Dale Piercy to our park family at Santee. Dale is presently our new Night Ranger and has experienced many new encounters since arriving at Santee. With lost people in the night or people on Site 51 in the 50 site campground, just looking for a place with a senior citizen discount without having proof of age, Dale seems to be adjusting to the park very nicely.

Not only is Dale the newest member of the family, but he has also caused an epidemic at the park. Wedding bells can be heard from every direction. We are going from a one couple park to a six couple park. I want to welcome Dale's bride, Brenda, who married him in November. Superintendent

"Teddy Bear" Barbie, Assistant Superintendent Frank Couch and PMA Michael Mathis have not yet revealed their wedding plans to us. But Ranger II Jerry "Mike" Spivey has plans for a January wedding to Frances Dunning (that's me). Bobby Hatfield is really looking forward to breaking in the new brides this winter and coming spring. She has spent enough long, lonely winters without some female company!

We had a little trouble keeping signs around here lately, for it seems some people take a fancy to our signs and some don't. A couple of our little road signs have come up missing but later found in the woods. Someone didn't like our sign at Highway #6, because one night while everyone was asleep and the night ranger was off, they burned it to the ground. It didn't take Columbia Office long to replace it with another. Thanks for the quick work!

Since there isn't much else happening here at Santee, I guess we will be seeing you when we all thaw out. Merry Christmas, everyone!

FRANCES DUNNING  
Rondette Clerk



A favorite "fishing hole" is the boardwalk at Woods Bay State Park.

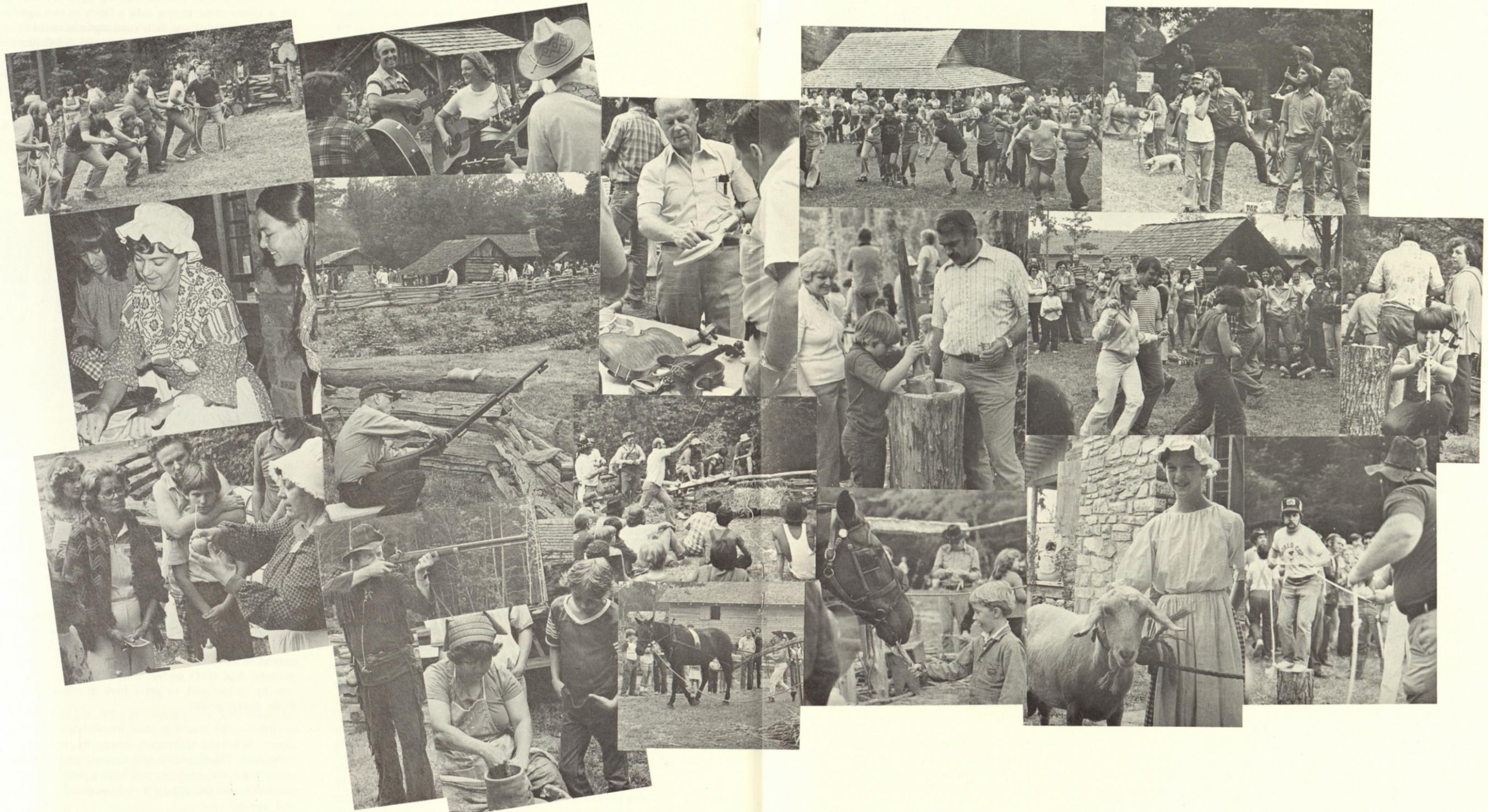
**WOODS BAY STATE PARK** — This past summer at Woods Bay was a very good one, with attendance almost double over last year. We had visitors from as far away as Maine and California, a couple from Germany, and as near as Olanta and Turbeville. We also had a local artist to take some shots of the mill pond and bay so he could paint several watercolor scenes of the park.

Summer may be over for some, but not for the fishermen who come to Woods Bay. They line the boardwalk day after day, trying to catch the biggest mud fish. We even had one person to leave with a string of twelve totalling about seventy pounds! And that's no fish tale, either. Bird watchers are still coming to the park to get a look at some of the migratory birds going north.

The winter crowd is slow but steady. People are talking about Halloween and turkey shoots. By the time this article is published, Thanksgiving will be over and Christmas will be near. We hope everyone will have a safe and joyful holiday season this winter. If any of you are near Woods Bay, stop by and say hi.

ROY ATKINSON  
Superintendent

# Pioneer Days Activities at Kings Mountain State Park, held September 23-24



From left: Frank Baughman (Sadlers Creek); Bob Cothran (Oconee); Mike Hendrix (Table Rock); Ray Hayes (Croft); Fred Belk (Rose Hill); Brooks Jordan (Assistant Superintendent, Table Rock); Bob Jones (District Superintendent); John Rhodes (Keowee-Toxaway); Leroy Smith (Pleasant Ridge).



The Annual Christmas Party (Open House) at Rose Hill will be held on the weekend of December 9 and 10 this year. Painting contractors are now at work repairing cracks in plastered walls and repainting the inside of the Mansion. Several other improvements inside the Mansion will also be observed by those attending this annual and ever popular observance of the Christmas season at Rose Hill. Superintendent Fred Belk and Ranger Eddie Glance have been busy cutting firewood for the several large fireplaces where the

crackling fires always seem to add a lot of cheer to the other festival activities. We invite everyone to come and visit with us at Rose Hill during this year's "Open House" at Rose Hill.

The Fall outing of the state chapter of NCHA was held at Croft State Park on the weekend of October 13, 14 and 15 and everyone seemed to have a very enjoyable time. Attendance was off a little in comparison with last year — 136 units were in attendance this year. The newly REVISED POLICY ON RENTAL OF CAMPSITES as set forth in a Policy Memo from State Parks Director Mr. Ray M. Sisk was well received by members of the NCHA and park personnel alike. This new policy states; Campers will be allowed up to two units per site as long as the campers are of one family of not more than six people. The two units refer to a small tent and a large one; a small tent and a trailer; or, a small tent and a Recreational Vehicle. The new policy further states that under no circumstances are such units as two trailers or two recreational vehicles to be allowed on one site.

Progress continues on the lake (Project 40 of the Oolenoy Watershed) at Table Rock with the lake basin now completely cleared. The contractor has begun work on raising a two hundred yard section of Highway 11 running by the east entrance to Table Rock and construction of a 110 foot bridge in the middle of the elevated highway. The highway has been closed to all through traffic for several months into the spring of 1979.

We take this opportunity to welcome two new employees into District III; Joel Lowery, Ranger I at Table Rock and Phil Tymer, Ranger I at Croft. We are delighted to have these new employees and sincerely hope they will enjoy park work.

R. G. JONES  
District Superintendent

**CROFT STATE PARK** — Thank goodness for the fall season when all the leaves turn every color imaginable and the squirrels begin to hide their nuts for the cold winter weather ahead! Thank goodness for the upcoming Superintendents' Meeting to be held at Santee State Park this fall so that we can squirrel a few days of rest and swap tales of this past summer season.

Croft State Park will never be the same after this season because on June 3 we opened the gates to the Olympic size pool. By Labor Day some forty thousand swimmers had refreshed themselves therein making our revenue soar to an all time high and our endurance to an all time low. The best part of it all was that we had very few accidents, and for this reason I would like to compliment my Rangers and the summer employees for an outstanding job.

In late August WSPA radio and TV put on what will become an annual "Festival In The Park" day which drew some eight thousand people. Local bands and many country music groups were on hand to make this old park come alive. When the animals were about to come out of hiding and get back to normal, along came the N.C.H.A. for their Fall Camp-Out. Thank God, this year's outing was held in near perfect weather and everyone seemed to have had a good time. Back in 1972 Croft Park was host to what started out to be a Spring Camp-Out but instead ended up being the Big Pull Out. It rained for three of the four days, and if Pearce Thomson had not been here with the four-wheel drive rig, we might still be looking for campers!

We welcome Eugene "Pete" Davis to the upper Piedmont and to Croft State Park. I hope that you find the necessary objectives here that will help you increase your goals with the system, Pete. Sometimes, I forget to personally thank those who have helped make the materials available so that we can say our Park had a most successful season. Thanks to all of you down at the Big "C"!

May everyone be blessed with good health and have the best holidays ever.

Hanging On,

RAY E. HAYES  
Superintendent

**KEOWEE-TOXAWAY STATE PARK** — The fall colors are gradually disappearing, taking with them the large crowds that invade the mountains in the fall. Even though the fall colors weren't as brilliant as they have been in the past, visitation increased greatly.

We have had many people from all over the world visit with us this year. In the past three weeks we've had people from Nigeria, Holland, Germany, England, Michigan, New Hampshire, Texas, Tennessee, Florida, North Carolina and, of course, South Carolina.

Cabin use has really increased this year as more and more people find out about our cabin here at Keowee. We have had only eleven open dates since May 5th, and eight of those were set aside so that we could pull maintenance on the cabin.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank publicly two people who have helped make this a great year. First, Mrs. Frances Looper, our receptionist. Mrs. Looper has done an excellent job in welcoming the visitors to the interpretive center and making them feel at home. She also takes reservations and keeps the center clean. Her extra care at keeping the center clean can be seen in the compliments written in our Visitors' Registration book.

Second is Bill Bowen, our Ranger II. Bill came to us in August and has really done an excellent job. It's nice to know that there is someone dependable around when a problem arises. By the way, Bill turned 23 on October 25!

Again I want to thank Frances and Bill for their help and support.

JOHN RHODES  
Superintendent

**OCONEE STATE PARK** — At this writing on October 22, the beauty of the leaves are at their peak and I agree with people that say this is the best leaf season they can remember. If we have no heavy rains and wind this will last for another week. Due to this and the mild days, the attendance has been up especially in camping. We almost filled the camping area and I cannot remember having that many in the past at this time of year.

We are making plans for our next off-season recreation program which will be on November 3 and 4. A big square dance will be held on the 3rd and about 10 clogging teams will perform on the 4th. In the past this has been a real big event, and I am sure this will hold true for this program. (It was! See photograph on page 22. Ed.)

By the time this is printed we will be into cold weather and some areas will have to be winterized.

The cabins are now being booked for Christmas and New Year's. Also, people wanting to go skiing at one of the ski slopes within 25 miles of the park can stay in a State Park cabin for a weekend cheaper than one night at the resorts.

BOB COTHRAN  
Superintendent

**PARIS MOUNTAIN STATE PARK** — The past summer season was certainly a busy one. Our pedal boats and picnic shelters were heavily used by the large crowds during the summer season. The renovation of Camp Buckhorn has really been enjoyed by the groups this summer.

Autumn has arrived and leaves are everywhere. The nature and hiking trails are being enjoyed by visitors and local people looking at the beautiful fall colors.

We are trying to keep up with the park projects while Superintendent Eddie Miller is in the hospital. Mr. Miller will be in the hospital for at least ten days. We at the park hope he has a safe and speedy recovery.

Stop in at Paris Mountain and pay us a visit when you are in the Greenville area.

JAMES CREECH  
Ranger III



Square dances at Oconee State Park always seem to bring out a full house, and the recent square dance and clogging demonstration held November 3-4 were no exception.

**PLEASANT RIDGE STATE PARK** — That time — the fall season — is here again with all of its beauty. We had looked forward to the arrival of fall thinking it would end the grass cutting season, which it did. But, the leaves are falling earlier and faster than usual; and that, along with cutting firewood for the cabins, keeps us just as busy as cutting grass. It is so dry we don't sleep very sound at night! We are always watching for forest fires, especially when we have campers. Some of them are very cooperative while others get offended and tell us that's what camping is all about. Therefore, we have to be on the lookout for fires at all times.

Camping has been better this year than last year. The cabins and picnic shelters were used more this year. Also, more group outings were held in our park than in the past. All our cabins are reserved for weekends through November. People want one with a fireplace and want to know if we have firewood for them.

Recently, we had a lady camper from Germany who was touring the state parks in America. She had visited parks in eighteen states, and said she found the South Carolina parks to be superior to those she had visited in other states. This made me proud that I am connected with the South Carolina State Park system.

All in all, I guess we had a very good year. More than 70,000 visitors have used our park thus far. I want to thank all those who helped make this year a successful one — Mr. Sisk, the Columbia personnel and District Superintendent Bob Jones.

Stop by for a chat when you are in this neck of the woods.

LEROY L. SMITH  
Superintendent

**ROSE HILL STATE PARK** — It's already that time again! Those were my words when Fred told me that *Park Lites* was due again. It was really Fred's time to write this report, but I got the honor again, since he hurt his arm. Fred had a fight with the tractor and lost. At least that is what he tells everyone about his arm injury. But just between us, I think Helen had something to do with it!

The fall season has once again laid out its splendid colors, and the trees here at the park are really beautiful. We have been having a lot of visitors just riding through looking at the trees and enjoying this cool weather we are having. But I'm sure most of the other parks are having the same kind of traffic.

I had to work at Croft last weekend for the N.C.H.A. event that was held there. I enjoyed working with the three rangers at Croft, who are good friends. Pete, Rick and Dan, I enjoyed it, men! My thanks go out to Mr. and Mrs. Hayes and their family for all their kindness shown to me. They can really make a person feel welcome.

Fred and I have some friends visiting us for the week, one from North Carolina and two from Florida. They come every year at this time to deer hunt, but mostly just to have a good time, because they have never killed a deer!

Don't forget about our Christmas Open House the 9th and 10th of December here at Rose Hill. We would really like to see more of the park people stop by.

I was looking through some of my old papers recently and came across this prayer that I had cut out of a Reader's Digest a long time ago. The reason I kept it was because it was written by one of the greatest Americans that ever lived, and I think it describes every father's feelings about his son, and I would like to share it with some of the other people in PRT.

PART OF THE *spiritual legacy that General of the Army Douglas MacArthur left to his son Arthur was a prayer. The General wrote it during the desperate early days of the Pacific war.*

By GEN. DOUGLAS MacARTHUR

#### A SOLDIER'S PRAYER FOR HIS SON

Build me a son, O Lord, who will be strong enough to know when he is weak, brave enough to face himself when he is afraid; one who will be proud and unbending in honest defeat, humble and gentle in victory.

Build me a son whose wishes will not take the place of deeds; a son who will know Thee — and that to know himself is the foundation stone of knowledge.

Lead him, I pray, not in the path of ease and comfort, but under the stress and spur of difficulties and challenge. Let him learn to stand up in the storm; let him learn compassion for those who fail.

Build me a son whose heart will be clear; whose goal will be high; a son who will master himself before he seeks to master other men; one who will reach into the future, yet never forget the past. And after all these things are his, add, I pray, enough of a sense of humor so that he may always be serious yet never take himself too seriously. Give him humility, the simplicity of true greatness, the open mind of true wisdom and the meekness of true strength.

Then I, his father, will dare to whisper, "I have not lived in vain."

EDDIE GLANCE  
Ranger

**SADLERS CREEK STATE PARK** — This summer at Sadlers Creek was comparatively slow after July 4th in our camping and swimming areas. We are blaming this, to some extent, on the extremely dry conditions which caused the water level on Lake Hartwell to start falling about two months ahead of schedule.

We didn't have any major problems at the park this summer other than the one break-in at our concession when about \$900 worth of merchandise was taken. I hope the thieves got sick on all those sandwiches and candy bars!

Rangers Herb Jones and Andy Shore were not disappointed to see Labor Day get here so that they could take some leave. Both have enjoyed trips to the mountains in the past few weeks. I took some time off to get that big "Buck" but haven't had any luck as of this writing.

Ranger Shore attended the maintenance school at Sesqui, which he said was very beneficial to him.

Camping and Revenue were slightly up over 1977, even though the NCHA held their annual campout at Croft instead of Sadlers Creek. Hopefully, with the completion of construction on the main highway leading to the park with anticipated improvement on our swimming beach, Sadlers Creek will see an even greater increase in 1979.

FRANK BAUGHMAN  
Superintendent

**TABLE ROCK STATE PARK** — The past few months have been busy ones at Table Rock. When the summer season came to a close, we thought that we would get to slow down a bit, but activities have been far from slowing down. The cabins are booked on weekends until December and more of the cabins are being booked through the week.

Mother Nature has once again let us behold her beautiful fall colors. The annual fall color walk, held October 7 and 8, turned out to be the best ever. Everyone that participated enjoyed the event immensely. Our thanks and appreciation go to Steve Larson, who led the walks at Table Rock, and to John Reid Clonts, who led the walks at Jones Gap and Keowee-Toxaway.

October 16-22 we were privileged to have Alex Powers, a professional artist from Myrtle Beach holding a workshop for some 25 other artists. Everyone seemed to have a good time as well as getting some good pointers on their painting.

Scenic Highway 11 is now closed for road construction. A bridge will be built on the section of 11 from our East Gate to the turn-off to the West Gate. This bridge will allow the water from the new sixty-acre lake to pass under the bridge. Work on the new dam has come to a standstill for the time being because of a problem at the dam site. People will be somewhat inconvenienced for approximately a year, but we hope that this won't keep them from visiting our park. We think that it is going to be well worth the wait.

Everyone have a safe and enjoyable winter!

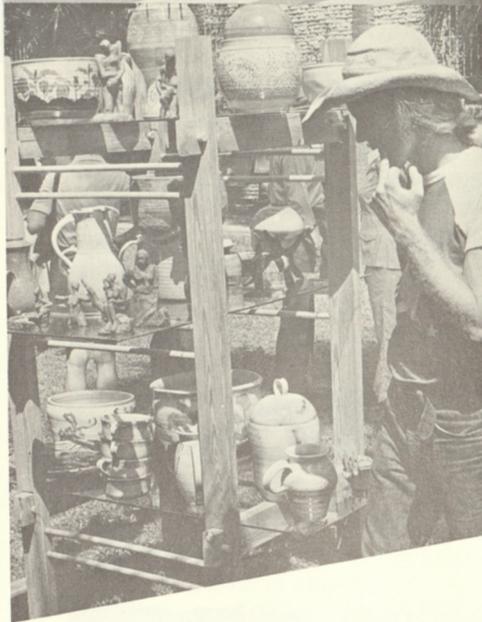
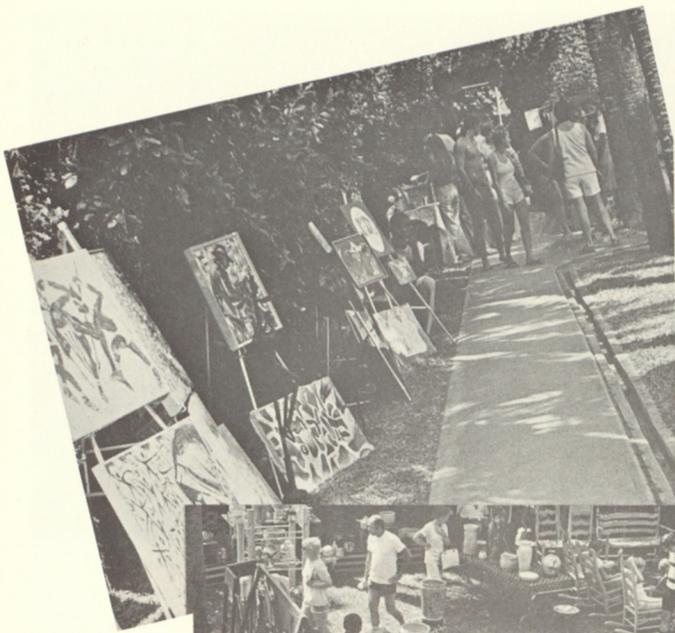
MIKE HENDRIX  
Superintendent



A portion of the new lake site under construction at Table Rock State Park.

# Atalaya Arts & Crafts Festival — Huntington Beach State Park, September 15-17

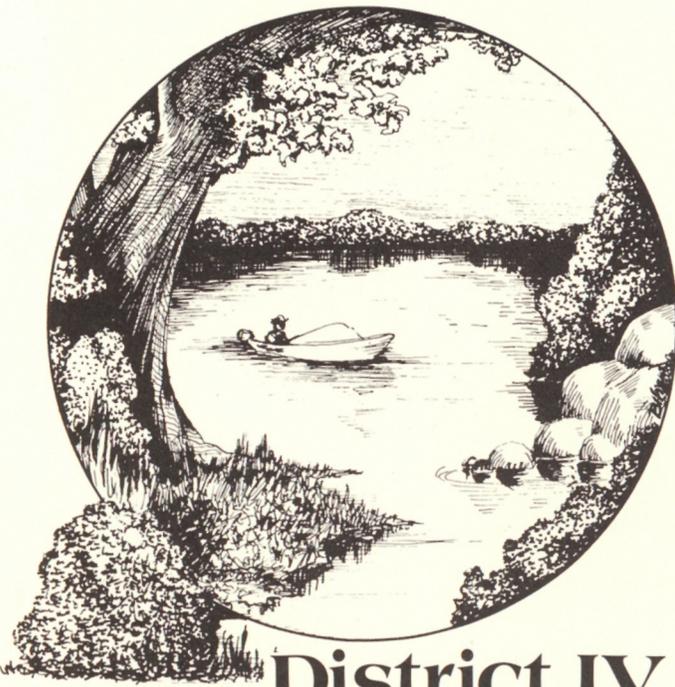




## State Park Programs and Special Events

January 26-28	Wilderness Weekend (Oconee)
February 3	Mid-Winter Bird Count (7 state parks)
February 10	Mid-Winter Bird Count (7 state parks)
March 16-17	Spring Hoe-Down (Oconee)
March 17-18	The Coming of the Green (Charles Towne Landing)
March 22-23	Edisto River Canoe Trip (Colleton and Givhans Ferry State Parks)
March 24	Third Annual Hickory Knob Open Bass Tournament
March 30-31, April 1	Low Country Lifestyles (Huntington Beach)
April 7-8	Lowlands Wildflower Weekend
April 15	Easter Sunrise Service and Easter Celebration
April 21-22	Highlands Wildflower Weekend
May 5-6	Woods Bay Weekend
May 12-13	Colonial Crops and Crafts (Charles Towne Landing)
May 23-24	Senior Citizens Fishing Tournament (Myrtle Beach)
May 26	Second Annual Lung Run (Hickory Knob)
June 2	Summer Bird Count (7 state parks)
June 9	Summer Bird Count (7 state parks)

From left: Jim Meadors (Sesqui); Freddie Parkman (District Superintendent); Bob Parrish (Dreher Island); Wayne Timms (Chester); Lew Cato (Assistant Superintendent, Kings Mountain); Steve Edison (Hamilton Branch); Mike Davidson (Lodging Facility Manager, Hickory Knob); Marshall Brucke (Landsford Canal); Joe Hambricht (Greenwood); Lee Jordan (Kings Mountain); Lew Griffin (Andrew Jackson); Ted Williams (Hickory Knob); Mac Copeland (Baker Creek).



## District IV

With the busy summer season over, I hope this issue finds everyone in good health and moving forward with their winter work programs. General maintenance projects such as painting, trimming trees, minor repairs, etc. are keeping District IV personnel busy. Major jobs such as roofing are going on at Kings Mountain, Greenwood, and Chester. Several parks are having to replace large timber supports on picnic shelters. A shop addition, new greenhouse, con-

struction of pond, and continued renovation of Camp Cherokee is also keeping the maintenance and construction crews busy at Kings Mountain. Without their help, I don't see how we could have accomplished as much as we have.

Hopefully by next summer, visitors will be able to enjoy new facilities at Dreher Island, Greenwood, Landsford Canal, and Hickory Knob. Installation of water, sewer, and electrical lines is 95% complete at Dreher Island with building construction gearing up next. Greenwood visitors will hopefully enjoy a new floating boat dock at the boat ramp at picnic area number two. A paved road, to be constructed in January, will allow visitors access to picnic areas and closer parking to the canal at Landsford. Hickory Knob will see construction of an archery, skeet, and trap range as well as an eighteen-hole golf course.

Resignations and transfers have plagued this district as they have others. J. W. Moore, Superintendent at Hamilton Branch resigned to accept another job. He will be missed by all of his friends in parks, but we wish him much success in the future. Several ranger positions were also vacated. To those new personnel, I wish you much success and happiness and, welcome you to the "park family".

I'm sure that everyone ate their share of the "ole" gobbler during Thanksgiving and are now getting ready for St. Nick. To give you some more time to prepare I will close for now by wishing every member of PRT and their families "Merry Christmas and best wishes for a Happy New Year."

CHARLES F. PARKMAN  
District IV Superintendent

**ANDREW JACKSON STATE PARK** — The fall slowdown is here and the shorter, cooler days make working a bit more pleasant. I heard a visitor say "it's a perfect day for anything." He was absolutely right, for the temperature was about 75° and a slight breeze was blowing. There is nothing you would want to do that couldn't be done on a day like that.

We are still having exceptionally good day use by leaf watchers and picnickers. In fact, our attendance and revenue is up from last year. The few fish-persons who are coming out are making quantity catches of quality fish that included a 9¾ pound largemouth bass taken by Ray Carnes of Camden, S. C. (Fish-persons . . . ! Your wife did a good good of proof-reading your report, Steve! Ed.) Our camping revenue has sharply declined since Labor Day. I believe that most of our regular campers winterized their units a couple of months too early.

It is dangerously dry in this north-central part of the state, for we haven't had any measureable amount of rain since early August. The grass had been steadily fading to a dull brown, when suddenly a patch of grass about 20' x 40' began showing new life. After a time of speculating and a couple hours of digging we discovered a pin size hole in one of our underground water lines. Two couplings and a short piece of pipe and presto . . . no more leak!

Just before Labor Day we came upon a very interesting challenge. A swarm of honey bees had taken up residence in the roof of our comfort station. After dismantling a portion of the building, and battling several hundred bees, we removed about three pounds of raw honey. I borrowed a beekeeper's suit and received only one sting!

In concluding this article I would like to mention that the Canadian geese that hatched on our lake this past spring have returned and I suspect will spend the winter with us. Presently we have 5 domestic geese, 7 Canadian geese, a varying number of mallards and a lone white duck. However, with the rising cost of grain to feed these fowl, they may become extinct on our waters.

Have a safe and successful winter.

STEVE BUCHANAN  
Ranger

**BAKER CREEK STATE PARK** — Ideal camping weather this fall has really helped the season to linger on. Although the '78 season is slowly coming to a close, camping is still steady with the "true" campers now taking over the campgrounds. Although the overall attendance is off a little this year, the camping has increased and the revenue is up from last year. It seems that picnicking and reunions have slowed a little this season, causing the decrease in total attendance. The majority of our campers seem to be South Carolinians but we have also had some distinguished guests from Germany, Holland, and Sweden and they all have really been impressed with our South Carolina State Parks.

Thanks are in store for my A-2 employees who helped us make it through the season with no accidents. I would also like to say thanks to my present Federal employees who stuck it out through the summer and helped us with our daily chores.

We would like to say goodbye to three former state park employees, Ben Dubose, Dwight Smith and Chris Hanson. These three men have left the park system and we wish them the best of luck in their search for happiness in the outside world. We also welcome Kennedy Moore, III to the "Park Family." Ken started working here at Baker Creek as Ranger I in September. He seems to enjoy working with the parks and I think he can look forward to a bright and prosperous future with PRT.

The fish are biting and the deer are plentiful, so if you're taking a vacation, stop by and we'll share our wildlife with you. (Except for the two bucks I bagged with my muzzleloader!)

MAC COPELAND  
Superintendent

**CHESTER STATE PARK** — Things haven't slowed down very much here since fall has arrived. Indian summer weather still draws lots of picnickers, joggers and campers. The camping area has seen heavy usage since hunting season opened. Ranger Robert Corley has made several attempts to bag a deer with compound bow and shotgun but I have failed to see any results yet.

The Field Archery Tournament held in September was a huge success with 175 participants. My thanks go out to Ranger Corley and his wife, Cathy, for helping collect the monies, registrations, and score-cards. It's too bad that no one was able to come from Columbia. I think that they would have been impressed with the response. My son, Brian, did bring home a first-place gold medal in his club division.

The increase in park usage looks good. Total visitors thus far for 1978 are 245,281 as compared to 141,963 for 1977. That's an increase of over 100,000 visitors! I have had a lot of my regular campers from Baker Creek to come up and camp here at Chester. That makes a fellow feel pretty good to know that some people like him well enough to follow him from park to park!

We have been busy painting and doing some maintenance throughout the park, and there is plenty to keep us busy all winter long.

My family and I have managed to steal a few weekends off. We recently visited the Boone-Blowing Rock area. The boys really enjoyed a day at Tweetsie Railroad. The remainder of the trip was spent sightseeing along the Blue Ridge Parkway.

The sound of rain on the roof sure sounds good today. We have had such dry conditions that there was a serious threat of forest fires.

My youngest son, Patrick, enjoyed his seventh birthday with a party on October 30. Son, Brian, is learning to play trombone in the sixth grade band. Wife, Pat, is keeping busy serving as president of the Parent-Teacher Organization.

In closing, I want to take this opportunity to wish everyone a MERRY CHRISTMAS and A HAPPY NEW YEAR!

WAYNE TIMMS  
Superintendent

**DREHER ISLAND STATE PARK** — Development of the facilities at Dreher Island are continuing at a moderate pace. At present our new water and sewer systems are approximately 90% complete. After nearly ten years in the planning, the first building on the island is near completion. This is the lab building at the waste treatment plant. Eighteen more buildings are scheduled to start this month, as the contract has been signed. The general contractor, R. S. Weeks Construction Company of Leesville, moved on site the first of November.

The installation of underground power service to all proposed facilities is about 60% complete.

The park is still open for public use on weekends with fairly heavy use of the boat ramps, as they are the best on Lake Murray.

Hopefully, the spring of 1979 will see Dreher Island operating with a full complement of personnel, equipment, and facilities.

R. F. PARRISH  
Superintendent

**GREENWOOD STATE PARK** — Warm sunny days, cool nights and nature's masterpiece of fall color, make autumn the perfect time of year to enjoy a state park. Park visitors seem to be more content this time of year than any other. We get more out-of-state visitors during the fall, and they always are quick to say that they think we have the cleanest, prettiest and most friendly park system of any they have ever visited. Compliments like that make it all worth while.

This has been one of the best years ever at Greenwood. Revenue at the trading post and campsite occupancy have increased. A lot of this is due to the beautiful weather we have had. Attendance has fallen off some, but most of that is due to a drop in teenagers who like to constantly ride the park on Sundays. (Maybe the Park Rules and Regulations being made law helped some.)

We have had several personnel changes at Greenwood this fall. Chris Hightower transferred from Kings Mountain as our Ranger II. Kent Arthur has accepted the Ranger I position recently vacated. We feel that both will be a valuable asset to the park.

Everyone is busy trying to get our winter work projects completed so we can get in some leave time during the holidays. Stop by and see us when you're in the area. Have a safe and happy holiday season.

JOE HAMBRIGHT  
Superintendent

**HAMILTON BRANCH STATE PARK** — As of this writing, there have been a few changes at Hamilton Branch. All of us here are sorry to lose Superintendent J. W. Moore and family. We would like to wish them the very best on their new job.

Congratulations are in order for Chris Hanson on his promotion to Ranger II. We hope he enjoys his new position at Baker Creek.

As always, Labor Day brought to a close a very busy season. Our A-2 and YCCIP personnel did a fine job for us this summer, and we were sorry to see them go.

As of this week, our attendance and revenue have been up considerably over last year because of more out-of-state visitors and hunters.

I guess there won't be any controversy about who has duty for the next few weeks, since I am the only one left at the present time!

The Sloan family will be looking forward to new park families soon.

CHARLES F. SLOAN  
Ranger II

**HICKORY KNOB STATE RESORT PARK** — As the fall and winter seasons gradually change the general appearance of Hickory Knob, there has been a steady rush of groups and organizations to use the facilities here. The months of September and October saw Hickory Knob as the site for such groups as the Department of Corrections, the Automotive Service Council of Georgia, the Daughters of the American Revolution, Women's Ministries, the Wil Lou Gray Adult Reading Council, the S. C. Baptist Convention, two Catholic Priests Retreats, and the Western Square Dancers. As you can see, this is quite a variety of different people, so it can never be said that Hickory Knob caters to just one particular set of people!!

At this time, before it gets extremely cold, the rangers, Superintendent Williams, and Don Holloway are completing a very worthwhile project that is sure to be here for a long time. Using the rock that is here in the woods at Hickory Knob, they are building some beautiful stone walls and planters around the Lodge area. The stone work blends in quite nicely with the buildings and adds that little something extra to the park.



Mike Davidson (left), Lodging Facility Manager at Hickory Knob, points out some interesting glassware in a new bottle collection now on display at the park's Lodge building.



Native stonework and foundation plantings add appeal to on-park signing at Hickory Knob.

Back in September, Hickory Knob was the site for the 2nd Annual Deer Hunting Seminar which was co-sponsored by Deer Unlimited. The event attracted hunters from a wide area who were eager to learn a bit more about the art of deer hunting. While on the subject of deer, let me mention that Rangers Robert Wilson and Alan Barwick have been successful this fall in bringing some venison home to the dinner table.

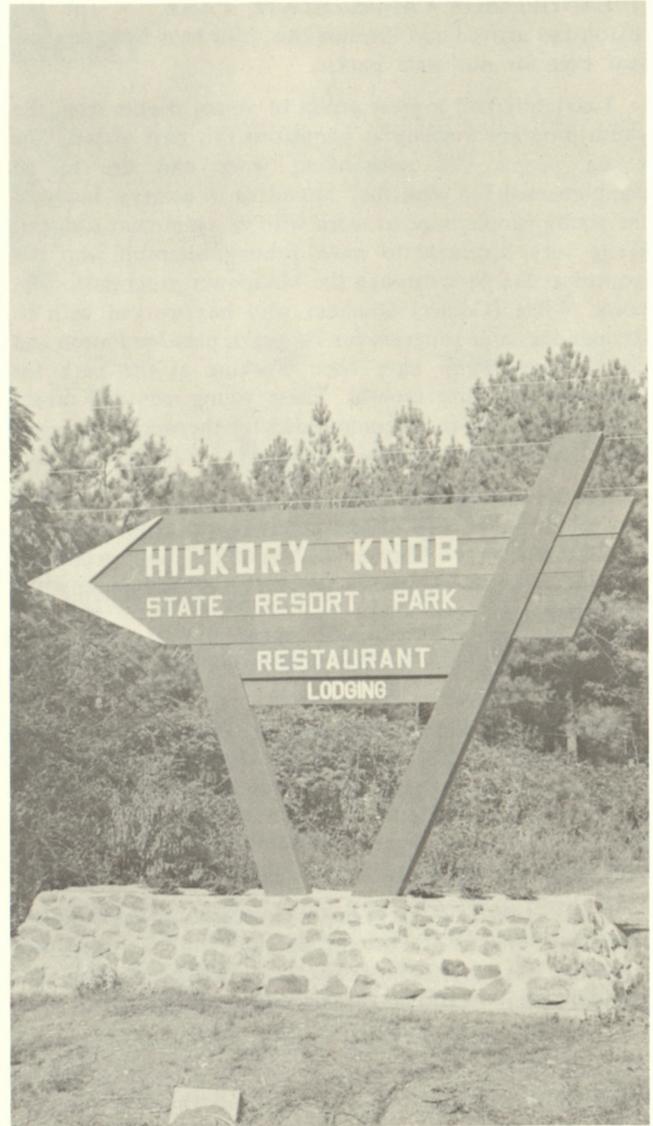
May you all have a warm, safe, happy, and productive winter.

MIKE E. DAVIDSON  
Assistant Superintendent

**KINGS MOUNTAIN STATE PARK** — The weekend of October 22 brought out scores of people to visit the park and see the beautiful autumn leaves. We were hoping that our campground would fill up, but we were disappointed. My guess is that most of our regular campers visited the mountains along the Blue Ridge Parkway to see that beautiful sight.

The highlight of our weekend here was camping, hiking, and horseback riding, as we had the Cherokee County Riding Club staying at Camp York. The Dogwood Squares from Charlotte, North Carolina held their annual Square Dance in the Park, September 16, and all the campers enjoyed themselves. From the way things are going, it looks like Kings Mountain State Park is going to be the stomping grounds for family reunions in the future. We get families from Charlotte, Dallas, and Shelby, North Carolina and the local people have used the park this year for family type outings more than ever before.

The "Living History Farm" hit its peak this year, and people around Clover and York are still talking about the Pioneer Days festival held September 23-24.



Persons traveling on U.S. 378 near McCormick are directed to Hickory Knob State Resort Park by this massive sign.

They have a new horticulturist for the greenhouse, Joanne Smith, a graduate from Clemson University. She joined the park operation here at Kings Mountain on September 15th. We welcome her and hope that she will enjoy this type of work. Miss Smith says at this time we have between 8 and 10 thousand plants to be shipped out to other parks. Any park Superintendent interested in these plants should get in touch with his District Superintendent and requisition them.

We also have a new Ranger at the park, Michael E. Burden, wife Nancy A. Burden and their sons Mike, Jr., 8 and Charles, 7. Their hometown is Laurens and their hobbies are pool, horseback riding, water skiing, fishing and hunting.

Last but not least, congratulations go out to Charlie (Bull) Mason on his promotion to Ranger II. Keep up the good work!

LEE JORDAN  
Superintendent

**LANDSFORD CANAL STATE PARK** — The fall season has arrived and I'm sure this must have been the best year ever for our state parks.

I certainly had a great group of young people from the youth program working at Landsford this past season. The young people did outstanding work and are to be complimented for what they helped us to achieve. Many of the young people hope to work with us again next summer. We're very fortunate to have Johnny Simpson who has worked at the park through the Manpower program for 3½ years, Willie (Cooter) Dunham who has worked with us through the same program for 1½ years, plus Joe Patton and David Young who have been working at the park for approximately three months. These young men and ranger Charles Love are to be commended for the work which has been achieved at Landsford Canal.

Charles has been at Landsford for 2½ years, is married and the father of two children. His oldest child started to school this year and Charles tells me that his son certainly is enjoying going to school. His daughter is excited about going to school next year.

Charles and his wife Dot are both originally from Clover, South Carolina.

Our pride and joy (Betty and I), is our granddaughter. She's starting to walk and I really feel my age when she can move faster than her grandfather, who has been walking for more years than I like to think about! Although she makes me feel old in some ways, she takes me back to another place and makes me think of another little girl — her mother.

Since Labor Day, we've had a church group on a hayride at the park and a Little League softball team on a picnic and an all-day outing. Hunting season has just opened in this area and Landsford certainly sees its share of hunters.

I'd like to thank Freddie Parkman for all the help and assistance he's given me this past number of years, as well as the help I've received from the Central Office personnel.

**MARSHALL BRUCKE**  
Superintendent

**SESQUICENTENNIAL STATE PARK** — The weather in October has been fantastic, especially when you consider the State Fair. Everyone knows that it always turns cold and starts raining the day the fair opens. This year, however, there were clear skies, moderate temperature and record crowds.

These beautiful days are also great for work projects in the parks. The Young Adult Conservation Program (Y.A.C.C.) is now underway and these young people seem to enjoy working outdoors. Thus far they have scraped four buildings and almost finished painting two of them. They have cleared some underbrush and raked all campsites and campground roads. Many of them have also experienced television exposure since appearing on a local TV news story about the YACC Program. They were filmed while working on projects at Sesqui. In fact, Sesqui has been on TV four times in the past six or seven weeks, on two local stations.

Gus Krajcik just returned from Washington, D. C. where his WW II buddies (8th Air Force) held a reunion. He and wife Dot had a fine time socializing with some well-known personalities including General Jimmy Doolittle.



**Marshall Brucke (left), Superintendent at Landsford Canal State Park, receives the first copy of the 1978 Chester Telephone Company Directory from Jim Hicklin, Commercial Manager of the Chester Telephone Company. The cover photo of the stone bridge at Landsford Canal was taken by Mr. Hicklin. Photo by Ms. Betsy White, Chester News and Reporter.**

The summer passed smoothly, thanks to our staff and an excellent A-2 crew. The condition of the park was responsible for numerous complimentary comments from our visitors, who came from almost every state and many foreign countries. Lifeguards made several rescues and our Security Guards discouraged the trouble makers to the extent that they now conform to park regulations or seek their "kicks" elsewhere.

We hope that your year has been as good as ours. I'm thankful for so many things. I'd like to share the following from Ranger Raymond Canada.

#### **THANKSGIVING**

Thanksgiving is more than a day in November, that students of history are taught to remember,  
More than a date that we still celebrate, with turkey and dressing piled high on our plate.  
For while we still offer the traditional prayer, we pray out of habit without being aware,  
That the Pilgrims thanked God just for being alive, for the strength that He gave them to endure and survive, hunger and hardship that's unknown in the present.

The families at Sesqui wish for all of you, the very happiest Holiday Season.

**JIM MEADORS**  
Superintendent

# Slaying of the Great Bear



The swimming areas are closed now, the seasonals have gone back to school, the busy season in South Carolina's State Parks is over. But wait a minute . . . why are all these people here? It's bumper to bumper on park roads, the trails are covered, empty picnic tables are scarce. These people are here to enjoy that last fling outdoors before winter sets in. Many have come to witness one of nature's most spectacular phenomena . . . the changing of the leaves. This annual event is common in the eastern United States where the forests contain large percentages of deciduous trees. Few other places in the world witness such a splendid sight. Where evergreen trees predominate the cycle is never completed. The oft-asked question "why do they change" is heard all over.

It is Jack Frost, of course, who is responsible for this colorful display. Every school child knows that. But, where there has been no frost the leaves are still changing, so there must be another explanation. The Indians had a different view of the story. Of course the Indians saw a lot of things differently than we do. When they observed the constellations of seven stars resembling a big dipper they saw no dipper at all. Instead, they saw a great bear, pursued by three young braves who sought to slay him. Since the Fall was their most successful hunting season they presumed that these three braves were successful also. It was the blood of the great bear draining from the heavens which colored the leaves red and the fat spattering from the cookpot which dyed them yellow. Botanists who have studied the phenomenon have found it more complicated than Jack Frost or the Slaying of the Great Bear.

It's a natural process which began back in the Spring. Healthy, growing plants produce chlorophyll constantly. It is this chlorophyll which allows the plant to use sunlight to convert carbon dioxide and water into simple sugars which the plant needs for survival. It doesn't live long before used up. As it dies it is

immediately replaced and the leaves remain constantly green. There are other pigments present in these leaves also. The carotenes, which are yellow and the tannins which are brown are present but the abundance of chlorophyll masks them. Under normal conditions only the chlorophyll shows. In the Fall several things happen to change all of this.

As the days get shorter and the nights get cooler, chlorophyll is still being used at a fairly rapid pace but it is not being replaced as quickly as it is used. The amount of chlorophyll in the leaf decreases allowing the yellows and browns to show through. The poplars, oaks, and hickories are easily recognized in the Fall as these colors appear. At the same time, sugars are produced in the leaves during the day, but the cool night temperatures slow down its flow to the roots and sugar builds up in the leaves. The breakdown of these sugars forms anthocyanins which have characteristically red or blue shades. The abundance of anthocyanins give the maples, sourwoods, gums, and dogwoods their autumnal coloration.

As all these pigments combine or stand in contrast to each other the brilliance, characteristic of the autumnal forest, becomes apparent. Long admired by man, this seasonal display continues to be a source of fascination and awe as one of many extraordinary natural phenomena. During our recent Fall Color Walks program more than one hundred and thirty people joined our naturalists for a series of hikes through our mountain parks to observe this unique happening up close. These people had utilized the opportunity to witness one of Nature's most delightful occurrences from an angle which our present fast moving society seldom allows. Pausing to observe such sights is a pastime we all would do well to savor.

JOHN REID CLONTS  
*State Park Naturalist*

# TABLE ROCK STATE PARK

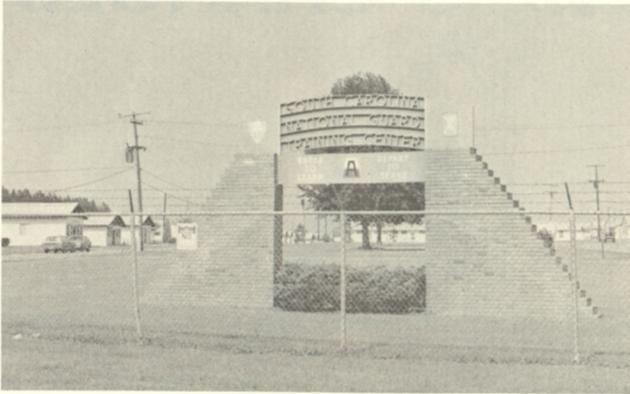
October 27-29



Some 125 persons attended this weekend event and participated in the following sessions: Outdoor Cooking, Guides To Nature, Wilderness First Aid, Backpacking Skills; Jones Gap Venture (an overnight backpacking trip at nearby Jones Gap State Park property), Reading the Wilderness, Where To Go and What To Do, Edible Wild Plants, Survival Skills, Dressing Right For The Out-Of-Doors, Trout Fishing, Canoeing, Sportsman's Skills, and Orienteering.



# Y.A.C.C. in Action . . .



The National Guard Training Center at Fort Jackson, where quarters are being furnished for the Y.A.C.C. program until more permanent facilities can be completed at Sesquicentennial State Park.



One of the ranger's residences at Sesqui receives a fresh coat of paint by the Y.A.C.C. trainees.



Y.A.C.C. workers refurbishing window screens on a park residence at Sesqui.



One of the trainees receives a Red Cross Multi-Media certificate from Safety and Job Training Officer Edmond J. Brown, Jr.

South Carolina's Young Adult Conservation Corps (Y.A.C.C.) program is off and running, with excellent reports from Sesqui Superintendent Jim Meadors and Poinsett Superintendent Marshall West concerning work performed at these two locations. "I would like to thank you and your staff for the cooperation that you have given us and let you know what a fine job they have been doing," wrote Superintendent West to Y.A.C.C. Director Kay McCoy.

Eighty young adults between the ages of 16 and 23 were interviewed, from which thirty were accepted for training. One leased van is being used, but additional transportation if forthcoming. This limits the use of the trainees to one location at a time, but eventually it may be possible to branch out in more than one direction. The trainees work five days a week from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., and most of them go home on weekends. The present work force is composed of ten females and

twenty males, who provide their own work clothes and transportation to the headquarters and dormitory area, a National Guard Training Center on the outskirts of Fort Jackson.

Safety equipment is furnished by the program, according to Crew Supervisors Howard Adams, Bill Linder and Dawn Ross. These supervisors are beginning to identify specific skills, and some opportunities to promote have resulted with the selection of a Camp Assistant, three Crew Assistants, and two Camp Council members.

The work crews are beginning to move out onto other state park locations as Project Requests are received from District Superintendents and Park Superintendents. The crews will be working out of parks that can provide sleeping and cooking accommodations, such as the group camp facilities at Kings Mountain.

## CAMPING REGULATIONS CHANGED

Several changes have been made recently in policies concerning the maximum length of stay and the number of units to be allowed per site. In addition, the PRT Commission approved rate adjustments for campsite rentals that will become effective January 1, 1979.

Many camping families and camping clubs wanted the maximum length of stay lengthened from the former seven-day limit. Campers can now stay a maximum of fourteen days between October 1 and March 1. However, the seven-day limit will be in effect during the busy season from March 1 through September 30. One exception to this rule is Hamilton Branch State Park where the fourteen-day maximum will be in effect year-round.

Another suggestion received from a number of campers involved the use of a small tent on the same site with a recreational vehicle. Children enjoy camping in their own little "camping unit" while Mom and Dad have the trailer to themselves. The former "one unit per site" policy has therefore been revised, and campers will be allowed up to two units per site as long as the campers are of one family of not more than six people. The "two units" refer to a small tent and a large one; a small tent and a trailer; or, a small tent and a recreational vehicle. Under **no circumstances** are such units as two trailers or two recreational vehicles to be allowed on one site.

Camping rates at South Carolina state parks will be adjusted as follows, these adjustments to be effective January 1, 1979. The year-round rate at all inland state parks will be \$5.00 (\$4.81 camping fee plus 19¢ State sales tax). This same \$5.00 rate will also be in effect at the four coastal state parks with camping areas (Myrtle Beach, Huntington Beach, Edisto Beach and Hunting Island) after Labor Day and prior to April 1.

During the "busy season" from April 1 to Labor Day, sites at these coastal state parks will be \$7.50

(\$7.21 camping fee plus 29¢ State sales tax). Seventeen ocean-front sites at Hunting Island, ten ocean-front sites at Edisto Beach and fourteen lake-front sites at Santee will be slightly higher during the summer season. The sites at the two coastal state parks will be \$9.00 (\$8.64 camping fee plus 36¢ State sales tax) and the lake-front sites at Santee will be \$6.00 (\$5.77 camping fee plus 23¢ State sales tax).

The above rate increases will be the first for the state park system since 1976. Most South Carolina private sector campgrounds have reported an average increase of 30% during the past three years, or 10% annually during that period. Projected increases in 1979 for private campgrounds range from 10-20%. State park campsite fee increases have averaged only 13-15% for the past three years, with fees for comparable facilities remaining below the private sector rates.

Inflationary cost increases for the operation of state park campgrounds and other facilities have increased at a much higher rate than state park campsite user fees during recent years. For example, the total utility bill (for heating, electricity and water) for the state park system has increased by an average of 34% annually, rising from \$244,113 in 1974 to \$498,375 in 1977. This represents a three-year cost increase of 104%.

State park revenues are a vital part of the state park budget and must be used to defray all operational costs not covered by available State appropriations. Some 61% of the 1979-80 state park budget is anticipated from revenues.

"Periodic upward adjustments of fees for camping and other state park revenues-producing facilities are essential in order to maintain quality services in a continuing inflationary economy," said State Parks Director Ray Sisk.

# SAFETY CORNER



**WEAR** closefitting clothing, heavy work-gloves, safety glasses, and a hardhat.

## Safety tips for chainsaw users

OPERATING A CHAINSAW can be dangerous work if you don't take the proper precautions. Read your operator's manual, and follow these simple tips from **Deere & Co.**, Moline, Ill., to prevent serious injuries.

**Protective clothing:** Wear heavy workgloves, safety goggles or glasses, and a hardhat to protect against falling branches. Long pants, a long-sleeve shirt buttoned around your wrists, and a tucked-in shirt aren't likely to catch on branches, thorns, or moving chains. Nonslip safety shoes protect toes and help you keep your footing.

**Fall insurance:** Carry the saw in your left hand, below your waist, with the guidebar behind you. If you trip, drop the saw and you'll fall away from the chain. Be sure to shut off the engine between locations.

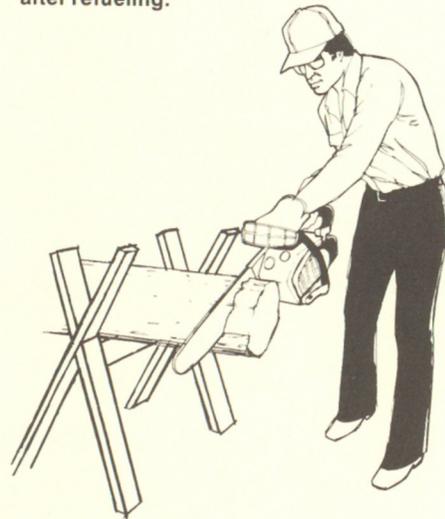
**Fuel facts:** Mix fuel and fill the saw outside, avoiding overfilling and spills. Shut off the engine and let it cool before refueling. Wipe the saw clean, and move away before starting it again. Store in an approved safety container on a shelf out of children's reach.

**Cut with caution:** Plan each job in advance. Clear the cutting area first — slippery rocks make you lose your footing, and thorns catch on clothing. Check for loose or dead overhead branches, and clear a path before felling a tree. Make sure people and animals are out of the way. Before you begin, make sure the saw is in good condition and the hand-grips are clean and dry. Hold tightly with both hands, and work with the saw to one side so you're not directly behind the chain. Never use a chainsaw when you're tired, and always work slowly.

**Avoid kickback** by bringing the chain to the right speed before cutting. Keep the chain sharp.



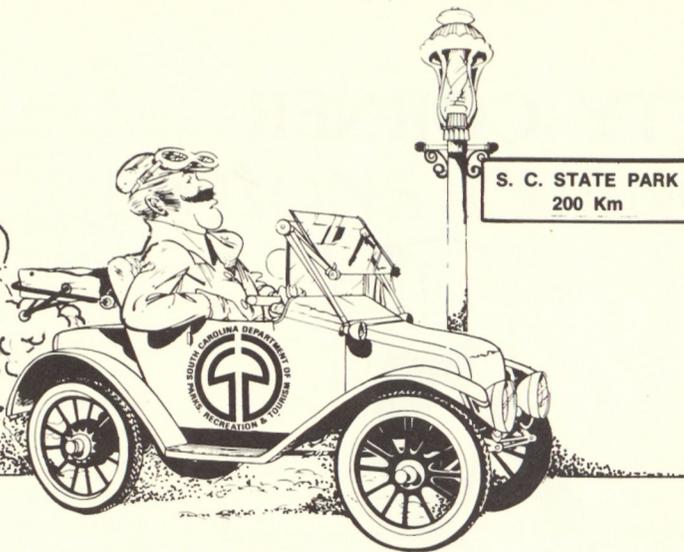
**FILL THE SAW** outside, and wipe it clean after refueling.



**WORK** with the saw to one side.

EDMOND J. BROWN, JR.  
Safety and Job Training Officer

**On  
the  
MOVE...**



## New Employees

Donald B. Allen	Groundskeeper I	CTL
Robert Arthur	Ranger I	Greenwood
Thomas Berretta	Groundskeeper I	CTL
Andrew Brown	Heavy Equipment Operator	Field Maintenance and Construction
Artricia Brown	Custodial Worker II	Hickory Knob
Charles T. Brown	Ranger I	Dreher Island
Osmond Brown	Ranger I	Huntington Beach
Michael Burden	Ranger I	Kings Mountain
Steven Cumbee	Ranger I	Goodale
Phillip Dickson	Ranger I	Old Dorchester
Lulita Graham	Clerk II	Hunting Island
Carl Griffith	Ranger I	CTL
Sharon Hawkins	Canteen Operator I	CTL
Ruth Ittner	Information Clerk I	CTL
Daniel Jackson	Ranger I	Barnwell
Georgia Jordan	Information Clerk I	CTL
Richard Kelly	Ranger I	Lee
Milford Lowery	Ranger I	Table Rock
Palmer Marvin, Jr.	Information Clerk I	CTL
Kennedy Moore	Ranger I	Baker Creek
Joanne Smith	Nursery Attendant I	Kings Mountain
John Stocker	Ranger I	Myrtle Beach
Deborah Stokes	Information Clerk I	CTL
Phil Tyner	Ranger I	Croft
Frances Vashon	Information Clerk I	CTL
Lawrence Walters	Vehicle Operator II	Field Maintenance and Construction
Farron Hewett	Crafts Worker I	CTL

## Promotions & Transfers

Name	From	To
Hobie Buffington	Ranger I, Dreher Island	Ranger I, Kings Mountain
David Cannon	Ranger I, Hunting Island	Ranger II, Baker Creek
Rosevelt Copeland	Vehicle Operator II, Field Maintenance and Construction	Heavy Equipment Operator, Field Maintenance and Construction
Eugene Davis	Ranger II, Myrtle Beach	Ranger III, Croft
Glen Davis	Ranger I, Lee	Ranger II, Poinsett
Steven Edison	Assistant Superintendent, Hunting Island	Superintendent I, Hamilton Branch
Christopher Hanson	Ranger I, Hamilton Branch	Ranger II, Baker Creek
Chris Hightower	Ranger I, Kings Mountain	Ranger II, Greenwood
Richard Isaac	Ranger I, Croft	Ranger II, Myrtle Beach
Mark Johnson	Ranger Trainee, Hunting Island	Ranger I, Hunting Island
Stanley Looper	PMA, Myrtle Beach	Assistant Superintendent, Hunting Island
Eddie Odum	Ranger I, CTL	Information Clerk II, CTL
William Priestler	Ranger I, Goodale	Ranger II, Goodale
Barbara T. Riley	Secretary I, State Parks	Secretary II, Management Services Division

## Resignations

R. M. Badger	Gary Cranford	Georgia Jordan	Leigh A. Smith
Thomas Ballard	Jarvis Craven	Johnny Lane	James Summer
Charles Bradham	George Davis, III	Jefferson Moore	Klaus Wickizer
Christina Chase	Chris Hanson	Moody R. Rutledge	James Whitfield
Doug Cothran	Dewey Jackson	Dwight Smith	Omega Young



## Welcome to Computer Chip State Park!

"That's right, sir. Pick up your telephone, dial your confidential code number and transfer funds from your checking account to your savings account, or pay any of your monthly bills." Dealing with people is becoming a lost art in our mechanized, computerized society. The local bank with which I do business has drive-up banking at some distance from the teller, using compressed air tubes to carry the transactions back and forth. This same bank has walk-in banking stations, open 24 hours a day, in which you communicate with a machine in order to transact your business.

These modern gadgets may be OK for some folks, but I like dealing face to face with a living, breathing person! What if state parks in future years were completely mechanized? Your favorite park would be staffed by mechanical contrivances; your campsite would be cleaned by a giant motorized vacuum cleaner; your camping fee would be accepted by an automatic teller and the weight of your car would trip a switch to open the gate as you leave.

However, don't expect a machine to help you in the middle of the night when your daughter becomes ill and you need to leave the park. And don't expect a computer to chat with you about nearby restaurants and points of interest. And don't expect an automatic teller to remember that you camped at the park last month, and address you by name.

Relax . . . Computer Chip State Park will probably never become a reality! Campers, cabin renters and other state park visitors certainly enjoy the various facilities at our state parks. They come as often as they can, and they tell us and others about their pleasant experiences. Experiences . . . that is the key word! The total experience of a state park visit encompasses much more than the use of the facilities. It also includes the many face-to-face encounters with park personnel and other park visitors. Visitors remember the pleasant smile and friendly conversation with a park superintendent, ranger or seasonal employee long after he has forgotten the number of the campsite or cabin where he and his family stayed.

Park visitors probably do not see you when you are mowing the grass, cleaning out the comfort stations or stocking the trading post. But they remember your face, your conversation and the smile on your face until they return to your park. And you can be sure that they will return, if your smile was warm and your conversation was pleasant.

Park personnel will always be one of the most necessary . . . and appreciated . . . ingredients in the "Satisfying Visit" recipe. Karl S. Jeffcoat of Spartanburg has this to say in a recent letter to State Park Director Ray Sisk . . . "A week ago today marked the end of the annual fall convention of the South Carolina chapter of the National Campers and Hikers Association at Croft State Park. From my personal experience and from the comments and letters that I have received from others, it was a most successful campout, with approximately 134 families and 300 persons attending and camping. Much of the credit for the success of the event must be given to the superb cooperation that we received from the park personnel . . . Superintendent Hayes and Rangers Davis, Pasco and Isaac. Mr. Jones, the District Superintendent, also helped us. They pleasantly and efficiently did all that we asked of them and more . . ."

Never underestimate the value of your work! It is all-important, and it is appreciated!



*Dana L. Sawyer*  
DANA L. SAWYER  
Editor

*Editor Sawyer was elected to a two-year term on the Board of Directors of the Southeastern Outdoor Press Association (SEOPA). The organization held its Annual Conference October 12-14 at Kentucky Dam Village State Resort Park, Gilbertsville, Kentucky.*

**PARK LITES**

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Department of Parks, Recreation & Tourism  
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Mr. W. E. "Bill" Young of Taylors instructs a young admirer in the fine art of dulcimer playing. Mr. Taylor, also a dulcimer maker, exhibited at the Pioneer Days event this fall at Kings Mountain. He and his wife performed at the Saturday evening Folk Music Festival. Photo by John Reid Clonts.