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PARK LITES

SOUTH CAROLINA STATE PARKS NEWSLETTER

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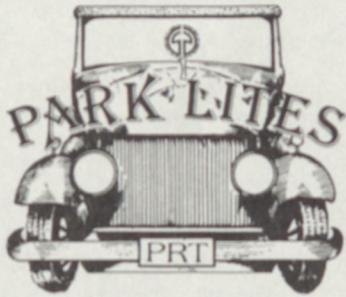
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Happy Holidays



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WILLIAM R. JENNINGS



ABOUT THE COVER PHOTO:

One of the five new lakefront villas at Dreher Island State Park. These villas are fully furnished with cooking and eating utensils, bed and bath linens, microwave ovens, coffee makers, ice makers and remote control color television sets with closed caption hearing decoders. Each villa also has ceiling fans, a fireplace, screen porch with furniture, and an outdoor grill. Each villa has two stories and two bathrooms. The two-bedroom villas sleep up to six people while the three-bedroom units sleep up to eight. One villa is accessible for the handicapped, while all offer access to a boat dock. The villas were open to the public for viewing during an open house on Saturday, December 11. Dreher Island State Park is on the Newberry County side of Lake Murray, just 30 miles northwest of Columbia and six miles from Chapin.

FROM THE DIRECTOR

The year 1993 is about to be history. The Park System experienced some unforeseen problems such as the March storm and the greens at Hickory Knob. These problems were solved, in good order, by the efforts of the park employees. When everything is considered, we had a good year. The Park Division is blessed with excellent employees and I want to thank you for your efforts.

We will have to make it through next year without several employees that have made substantial contributions to the system for many years. The early retirement plan was too attractive for twelve PRT employees to pass up. Some have already entered retirement and others will be leaving before next July. Because their leaving dates are spread out over the next six months, I am proposing that an appreciation or farewell dinner be given in their honor on February 25 at Sesqui. I feel sure that many of you will want to attend. More information will be forthcoming; mark your calendars!

As I look forward to 1994, I am excited with some of the possibilities. We will have a couple of opportunities to request additional funding from the Legislature. We have not had the opportunity to even make a request for several years. We will have Sergeant Jasper State Park opening around the first of the year. The new facilities at Huntington Beach will be ready this spring. Several smaller projects such as the Caesars Head Visitor Center and the Myrtle Beach Visitor Center should be complete this year. The park system has the opportunity to improve the facilities and the services that we provide to the visitors next year.

Many of you are aware that this fiscal year is another tight budget year for park operations.



We could not approve all the maintenance projects that were submitted. If we can not do everything that needs to be done, let's do a high quality job on the approved projects.

We should be looking sharp in the new uniforms very soon. The appearance of the park staff will finally be as good as the service that you have been providing for many years. Please wear the uniforms with pride and in the knowledge that you represent and are an integral part of the South Carolina state park system. You are a part of a very fine organization and the parks system is a quality organization because of you.

All of the staff members and employees of the State Parks Division would like to wish Mr. Lawrence the very best upon his upcoming retirement. We welcome Grace McKown as our new executive director, and we look forward to working with her during the coming year.

Have a safe and happy holiday season.

CHARLES W. HARRISON
Director, Division of State Parks



School children, local officials, and representatives from PRT and CP&L gather for a group photo at the groundbreaking ceremony October 22 for a nature center at Woods Bay State Park.



CP&L DONATES FUNDS FOR WOODS BAY NATURE CENTER

South Carolina state parks have more to offer than the traditional hiking and canoeing trips. "Bats Are Our Friends," "Waders and Warblers," and "Nature Study for the Visually Handicapped" are just a few of the many educational programs held at Woods Bay State Park this past year. Thanks to Carolina Power and Light Company, Woods Bay will now be able to host a full range of school and community educational programs.

As a part of its "Adopt State Parks" program, the company has donated \$40,000 for a multi-purpose nature center at Woods Bay State Park near Florence. The new facility is a joint project of Carolina Power and Light and the S.C. Department of Parks, Recreation and Tourism. It is the first major addition at Woods Bay in a decade. The park has been using the picnic shelter to hold programs.

"This generous donation by CP&L will go a long way in helping us fulfill our commitment to provide quality programming for the areas surrounding the park," said Bill Lawrence, PRT executive director. "The increase in demand for programs at the park has created the need for the center, and we're certainly delighted that CP&L is dedicated to helping our effort." Over the past three years, Woods Bay has seen a 30 percent-a-year increase in the number of people attending programs at the park.

The 30' by 50' enclosed building will have a large lecture area for special programs and an office for park staff. A sidewalk entrance and a 10' by 30' viewing porch will be accessible to the handicapped.

A groundbreaking ceremony was held Friday, Oct. 22 at Woods Bay State Park. Emerson Gower, CP&L Southern Division General Manager, Bill Lawrence and children from Olanta Elementary School participated in the "reversing the shovels" ceremony. Children held adult-sized shovels symbolizing the center as a focal point of their continuing education.

"It is hoped that the new center will permit an educational opportunity within easy access of schools within this region for one-day trips to broaden the environmental education of students," said Emerson Gower.

Staff members at Woods Bay include Superintendent Dennis Hart and Interpreter Al James.



J.W. Lawrence, PRT Executive Director (left) and Emerson Gower, CP&L Southern Division General Manager (right) assist two children from Olanta Elementary School in the groundbreaking ceremony October 22 for a multi-purpose nature center at Woods Bay State Park.



by Lisa Bynum

LOOKING BACK

by Joe F. Watson
Chief Naturalist

When the South Carolina state parks were first opened for public use, they were operated by the CCC personnel as the state had no budget to employ the needed manpower. By July 1, 1936, the state employed "recreation directors" to operate the parks during the summer season. These recreation directors would hire and supervise lifeguards and other necessary seasonal personnel. Records indicate that the first full time position on a park was a "caretaker" for Aiken who was employed June 26, 1936. The following summer another caretaker was employed for Givhans Ferry. These men were provided with a token salary, a house, a large garden plot, and facilities for livestock. It doesn't take a lot of imagination to see that the shop at Aiken and Lee were originally designed to house a cow and/or a mule.

These early caretakers were not provided with a truck, tractor, lawnmower or any power tools. Grass was cut with a slingblade or a scythe and one enterprising caretaker would borrow a mule-drawn sickle blade mower to cut the large open areas. Incinerators were located near most use areas and trash pickup was done with a wheelbarrow. Trash cleanup was not a major chore as picnics were carried in a basket and the food utensils were returned home to be cleaned and reused. Soft drinks came in refundable bottles and canned drinks were a thing of the future.

Road repairs were also made with a wheelbarrow and shovel, which proved to be a major task in the rainy season. Although the roads were well designed and constructed, none of the early roads were paved. An earnest effort was made to secure trucks for the parks and anything was accepted including used equipment from other agencies. The first truck at Lee State Park was a full size dump truck that was used for trash pickup, patrol, etc.

Buddy Batten, who served many years as Maintenance Supervisor, related a story of two trucks he helped procure. Hearing that two army trucks at Camp Croft were available, he set out from the Sumter shops with another driver. The plan was to drive two trucks back and tow the third. On the return trip two trucks suffered a breakdown so the three were tied together so the one could tow both. This was the day

before interstate highways and bypasses, so traffic from Spartanburg to Sumter had to go through Columbia. The trip was made without further incident or traffic citation, and the trucks were repaired and sent to two grateful parks.

When I arrived at Hunting Island in 1958, the park superintendent had a modern pickup but the rest of the staff shared an open top jeep that was used rain or shine, summer and winter for patrol and other duties. The first truck with a heater that I can remember was a 1961 Ford pickup at Lee State Park. Prior to this, heaters were considered optional equipment, and if you wanted one you bought it yourself.

Very few rural areas had telephone or electrical service prior to 1940. Most of the utility lines on the early parks were owned and maintained by the state, so park superintendents were expected to repair telephones and restore electric service after every thunderstorm. Some of these state-owned utility lines extended off the park across private land until they accessed commercial lines. The telephone line at Lee State Park crossed the swamp and extended all the way to Highway 341, while the line at Cheraw State Park extended south along U.S. 1 all the way to Campbells Lake. A few of our parks in rural areas served as communication centers for the local population, as the park's telephone would be the only one for miles around. In the late 50's the telephone at Hunting Island was on a party line and consisted of a wooden box with a crank on the side. As late as 1967, the staff at Poinsett maintained a telephone system to provide communications for Burnt Gin and Mill Creek Group Camps. The telephone line on Cheraw State Park was maintained by the park staff as late as 1970.

Some outstanding individuals served as superintendent during the era when our parks were just beginning. Included in this group were:

T.D. "Binks" Ravenel, who served at Edisto Beach (1939-40) and Kings Mountain (1940-42), making him one of the few men to be the first superintendent at two different parks. Binks later served in the Columbia office for many years as Assistant Director and briefly as acting Director of State Parks.

E.W. "Ernie" Cooler served as the first superintendent at Hunting Island (1946-48). (H.R. Sams was caretaker during the war years but Cooler was the first superintendent.) A Clemson graduate, Ernie also served as superintendent at Table Rock (1953-57).

M.R. "Sheriff" Leroy was the first superintendent at Lake Greenwood (1942-59). A former sheriff of McCormick County, Leroy became a foreman with the CCC and served for seven years. During this time he supervised construction of the dams for the lakes at Table Rock and Poinsett state parks. Sheriff Leroy was an expert in using diplomacy and gentle persuasion to maintain law and order on the park.

W.E. "Bill" Steel was a native of Montana that came into this area with the CCC program and stayed on to become the first superintendent (1941-46) at Lee State Park. Mr. Steel's love for the park and his work ethic created quite a legend with the local population. There are those that believe the protective spirit of Mr. Steel remained on the park long after his untimely death while on the job.

Marshall Holder served as the first superintendent (1939-42) at Myrtle Beach State Park until he was drafted into the army. Returning from the war, he served as superintendent at Sesquicentennial State Park (1946-67) during the era when the average daily visitation during the summer was greater at Sesqui than it is at any of our present parks. Marshall left the state parks to become a successful golf pro.

Maurice Kemp, a native of Belgium, served as engineer and senior foreman for the CCC Camp that developed Paris Mountain State Park. He was also the first superintendent at Paris Mountain (1940-42) and at Sesquicentennial (1942-46) state parks. Mr. Kemp transferred to the Sumter shops/warehouse, where he served until disability forced his retirement.

F. Marion Dwight graduated from Clemson and taught school before joining the CCC as a technician. Mr. Dwight worked with the CCC Camp that developed Lee State Park and later became the first superintendent at Poinsett State Park (1940-61). After his long tenure at Poinsett, he was promoted to the central office, where he served as assistant director and as the first interpreter with statewide responsibilities.

Like many agencies during World War II, the state parks lost many good men to the war effort. It was imperative that good managers be trained and placed in charge of the parks after the war, as park use soared in the late '40s and through the '50s. Gas rationing had ended, the work week was shortened, and many roads to the parks were now paved.

Few homes were air-conditioned in this era, so people would flock to the parks to cool off with a refreshing swim. During the fiscal year 1953-54, Poinsett averaged 387 swimmers a day, seven days a week, rain or shine, during the summer months. In 1957-58, Oconee averaged 509 swimmers per day. In 1951-52, Table Rock averaged 781 swimmers per day. Paris Mountain had its biggest year in 1957-58 when it reported 110,726 swimmers for the summer with an average of 1,165 per day. The all time champion was Sesquicentennial which reported 318,295 swimmers in 1954-55, for a daily average of 3,350. If this was an average, can you imagine what the 4th of July looked like?

In 1992, the total number of park visitors at Myrtle Beach or Hunting Island on their busiest day did not equal the average number of swimmers at Sesqui in the mid '50s.

During this era the park gates were open by 8 a.m. and closed no earlier than 10 p.m., while the swimming areas were open from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. seven days a week. It took quite an effort for the small staff at the park (two or three permanent employees plus summer help) to keep everything running smoothly with this many visitors on the park.

By 1960, the number of swimmers using state park facilities had started a gradual decline as more and more homes were air-conditioned, so people did not have to go to the park to cool off. Other factors affecting attendance included television to provide entertainment at home, the development of public and private swimming pools in the communities near the parks, and working mothers were not free to drive the kids out to the park for a swim.

Other uses increased as swimming declined, such as the camping boom of the 1960's. The parks have seen a lot of changes over the years, but the ranger of today with his computer has a lot in common with yesterday's ranger with a scythe... They both strive to provide the visiting public with an enjoyable experience in an attractive outdoor setting.



*Cheraw State Park –Day Use Area –
July 4, 1958.*

*Aiken State Park –Superintendent
Richard Condrey proudly
using a new sickle blade mower,
the latest in technology back in
the fifties! The young man on the
left is probably his son.*



*Sesquicentennial State Park –
Swimming Area –Summer 1962.*

*Myrtle Beach State Park –
Swimming Pool – July 1957. The
two end structures were relocated
and served as picnic shelters for a
number of years. The upper story of
the building in the center was
moved to the campground, where it
served as the park store. In
recent years it was renovated and
remodeled into two apartments.*



Table Rock State Park – July 4, 1951.

*Myrtle Beach State Park –
Fishing Pier/Beach – June 1953.*





Harbison Forest Director Ron Ferguson (center) was honored earlier this fall by PRT's Division of State Parks for his assistance in managing their forest lands during his tenure as State Land Forester with the South Carolina Forestry Commission. Joe Frank Watson, (left) Chief Naturalist with PRT's State Parks Division, also cited the outstanding work of Pete Spearman, Bob Ford and other former SCFC State Lands Foresters. Observing the ceremony (right) is Van Stickle, Assistant State Parks Director.

SOUTH CAROLINA STATE PARKS AT A GLANCE

- 47 state parks
- 80,000 acres
- 154 cabins
- 80 motel rooms/2 apartments
- 2900 campsites
- 45 parks with picnic areas - 40 with shelters
- 46 parks with playground equipment
- 24 parks with swimming areas
- 44 parks with nature/walking/hiking trails
- 2 parks with 18-hole championship golf courses
- 5 parks with equestrian facilities
- 4 parks with tennis courts
- 42 parks with fishing areas
- 2 parks with salt-water fishing piers
- 4 parks with fresh water fishing docks
- 20 parks with rental boats
- 16 parks with boat ramps (including most lakes & major reservoirs)
- 10 parks with registered Heritage Trust sites
- 21 parks with museums/nature centers
- 22 parks with significant natural areas
- 16 parks with unique historic significance
- 17 parks with CCC buildings
- 16 parks with year-round interpretive programs
- 2 parks with seasonal interpretive programs
- 4 parks with restaurants
- 11 parks with gift shops
- 10 parks with stores
- 6 parks with tackle shops
- 28 parks with rental community buildings



FORMER MEMBERS OF "OUR" FAMILY! RETIRED STATE PARK PERSONNEL

40+ YEARS

LORINE W. DAVIS
572 Rainbow Circle
West Columbia, S.C. 29169

LLOYD KING
Route #1
Mountain Rest, S.C. 29664

KENNETH O. KOLB
Post Office Box 126
Elloree, S.C. 29047

RAY M. SISK
4738 Circle Drive
Columbia, S.C. 29206

LEE CHAPPELLE
Route #2, Box 585
Ninety Six, S.C. 29666

GEORGE HOLDER
146 Castle Road
Columbia, S.C. 29210

LAFON NORTON
404 Johnson Drive
Dillon, S.C. 29536

VAN PRESSLEY
606 Parish Road
Charleston, S.C. 29407

MAY JESSEN
109 Rutherford Street
Summerville, S.C. 29483

ANDREW KENNEDY
Route #3, Box 161
Pickens, S.C. 29671

DAISY KOLB
Post Office Box 126
Elloree, S.C. 29047

GUS KRAJCIK
100 Windsor Point Road
Columbia, S.C. 29223

JIM MEADORS
2424 Alpine Road
Columbia, S.C. 29206

30+ YEARS

TED BARBIE
Route #1, Box 117 AB-1
Summerton, S.C. 29148

ARTHUR BROWN
Route #3, Box 850
Frogmore, S.C. 29920

NORMAN B. COOLER
4316 Creek Drive
Murrells Inlet, S.C. 29576

DAVE INABINET
Route #1, Box 35
Windsor, S.C. 29856

ROBERT G. JONES
Route #3
Pickens, S.C. 29671

EDDIE MILLER
16 Capewood Court
Greenville, S.C. 29609

JAMES WASHINGTON
Route #1, Box 22
Wedgefield, S.C. 29168

20 - 29 YEARS

JAMES E. BYNUM
c/o Oconee State Park
624 State Park Road
Mountain Rest, S.C. 29664

OTHER RETIRED PERSONNEL

J. R. ALTMAN
2594 Fort Jackson Road
Elgin, S.C. 29045

DAVID G. BLACKWELL
Post Office Box 4585
Greenville, S.C. 29608

WALT BRANHAM
530 Smyrna Road
Elgin, S.C. 29045

RICHARD L. BROWN
135 Chastain Street
Pickens, S.C. 29671

HENSLEE CAULDER
R.F.D. #3
Dillon, S.C. 29536

NEIL COLVARD
3538 Walter Drive
Johns Island, S.C. 29455

ROOSEVELT COPELAND
c/o Mrs. Louise Reeves
Route #1, Box 188
Reevesville, S.C. 29471

LEW & SUE GRIFFIN
P.O. Box 273
Eutawville, S.C. 29048

JOHN HOLLOWAY
2401 Highway 378
Gilbert, S.C. 29054

LOUIE RIDLEY
Star Route
Walhalla, S.C. 29691

PAUL ROSS
Post Office Box 127
Elgin, S.C. 29045

AUGIE SAUKAS
1253 Camelot Road
Charleston, S.C. 29407

T. M. SHULER
Route #2, Box 441
Elloree, S.C. 29047

CHARLIE HATFIELD
218 Overhill Drive
Walterboro, S.C. 29488

(Take a few minutes today
and drop a holiday greeting to
former members of our State Park
"family" that have retired after a
rewarding career with state parks.
It will brighten both their day and
yours! Ed.)

WHAT'S IN A UNIFORM?

What is in a uniform?! After many months of work, a contract for new uniforms for employees of the Division of State Parks was awarded in July of this year. Many employees have already been measured for their respective clothing and are familiar with what is in their uniform; or, do they?

A recent glance at an encyclopedia reveals that a uniform is a style of clothing that identifies persons as members of a group or as workers in a particular field. For us, the latter part of the definition best describes our uniform. The modern day term for a uniform is career clothing or career apparel. Through the use of a uniform, the employee is easily identifiable to customers. But still, can we say what's in a uniform? The following are some characteristics I look for in a uniform.

Understanding - Someone who understands the needs of others to include park visitors, co-workers, and those for whom work is performed. This requires knowledge of your park, the park system, and the mission of the agency. Having the skills to do what is required and expected of you is essential. Being able to understand instructions necessary to complete assignments is a must. Lastly, learn to appreciate and deal with the feelings of people who are in your presence.

Name - The most important sound we know! Don't mis-spell or pronounce it. Say "Mr., Mrs., or Miss". Use "Sir and Mam".

Interest - Be interested in what interests others. A shared interest is a tie that binds. Take an interest in community affairs. Whenever possible, lend your hands and your talents. Play your part in clubs and organizations in your community.

Familiarity - Be familiar with the policies of the Division. Policies are ideas based upon knowledge and experience reduced to written form to guide programs. Policies are subject to change so it is important to keep abreast of changes as they occur and why.

Own-up - If you do not know the correct answers to questions or the correct way to do a task, own up. Admit it! Always follow up by obtaining the correct information or by asking how the job should be done.

Respect - Respect the rights and opinions of others. Don't argue! View problems through the eyes of others.

Mannerisms - Your mannerisms and appearance can affect public relations. It is possible to offend others by the manner of your speaking as well as by the words you speak. Obvious aggressiveness and arrogance can cause resentment. Don't be a "know-it-all" either. Remove sunglasses when talking with visitors. Public relations efforts can be seriously hurt by not being properly attired and well groomed. A clean, wholesome appearance invites admiration. Keep your uniform clean and pressed and wear it with pride. Personal cleanliness has no substitute. Do not offend the visual and olfactory senses of others by showing up in a dirty, sweat-soaked garment. Avoid smoking, chewing tobacco, chewing sunflower seeds, etc. while directly involved with the public or when attending meetings where you are representing the Division. Avoid breathing directly into someone's face.

What's in a uniform is not just cloth, thread, buttons, a badge, etc.
What's in a uniform is you! Without you, there would be no need for a uniform. Regardless of the position you hold, be proud of yourself and the work you do!

C. F. Parkman
Chief of Operations



DISTRICT I

Guests this issue include Tom Hanks, Sally Fields, Dennis Hopper, Tom Baringer, and Erika Eleniaka. Sound like the end of a Jay Leno or David Letterman (your choice) monologue? Well, it's not, even though Messrs. Leno or Letterman would be proud to have such a guest list on one of their late night television shows! The personalities listed above have all been guests on District I parks since the last issue of PARK LITES.

No, they didn't come to picnic or to camp. Instead, they all came to take part in motion pictures being filmed on District I parks. Scenes for the motion picture "Chasers" were filmed at Huntington Beach State Park in June. The roof of Atalaya was transformed into a rooftop Mexican cantina. Scenes for the Paramount Pictures motion picture "Forrest Gump" were filmed at Hunting Island State Park in October. The director, Robert Zemeckis, said the lagoon at Hunting Island was the only place they had found in the United States that looked like South Viet Nam.

Thanks to all the district employees who worked extra hours to make this filming possible. Thanks also to Mr. Parkman for his assistance in making the arrangements. These film productions not only create jobs for the local citizenry, but they also add millions of dollars to our state's economy.

Well, since these movies won't be coming out until next year, don't wait to see us on the big screen! We would welcome a visit anytime. Best wishes for a wonderful holiday season!

LARRY DUNCAN
District I Superintendent

CHARLES TOWNE LANDING

Charles Towne Landing-1670 has enjoyed an extremely busy fall. Programs and special events occupy the interpretive staffing every weekend in addition to the school programs during the week. Several weekends have found the staff giving three different programs at three different locations around the state. Indigo continues to be the most popular fall program. Hundreds of additional plants have been coming in from Kings Mountain State Park and the Charles Towne Landing Foundation Adopt-A-Plant program. Explorer Post #1670 is a reality. It is a co-educational young adult program of the Boy Scouts of America open for young men and women ages 14-21. There are over 1 million Explorers nationwide receiving hands-on experience in careers ranging from law enforcement to medicine to computers. Post #1670 will be a Living History/Interpreters career experience.

JANSON L. COX, *Exposition Park Manager*

COLLETON STATE PARK

Greetings from Colleton State Park! It seems a little strange writing this for Colleton instead of Barnwell, but it is great to be back "home."

First of all, I would like to thank Mr. Duncan, LaRena Evers, and Teddy Hall for all their help in making the transition so smooth for my family and me. Congratulations are in order for Larena on her promotion to Ranger II at Lynches River. She did an excellent job building the clientele here at Colleton with her programs and quality visitor service. I would also like to thank Mr. West and the fine folks at Barnwell for their help and support over the last four years. They were a pleasure to work with.

Here at Colleton we are getting busy with our concurrent projects, continuing programs, filling the campground, and hiring a new ranger. We also have just installed a new tire swing set which came about from our park surveys requesting playground equipment.

In closing, I am amazed at the positive improvements that have been made here in the last four years and I hope to build on that. If you are in the area, come by for a visit. I think that you will be pleasantly surprised!

RICK ROBERTSON, *Superintendent*

EDISTO BEACH

Revenue is up in nearly every category for the Spring and Summer of 1993. Superintendent Spivey and his staff are to be commended for their efforts in

offering quality programs to park visitors despite the fact that they don't have a full-time interpreter. One program which was co-sponsored by the Edisto Arts Guild was the first annual Oristo Arts Festival, which was held on the park in September.

GIVHANS FERRY

Like Edisto, revenues for the spring and summer at Givhans Ferry are greatly improved over the previous fiscal year. One reason for this increase has been the increased occupancy rates in the park's rental cabins. Superintendent Farr and his staff are to be commended for all the good comments received on the cabin surveys sent in by happy users.

HAMPTON PLANTATION

Superintendent Robert Mitchell and his staff continue to make good use of volunteers to increase the number of hours per week the mansion can be open to the public. We are very happy to get the new elevated drainfield and lift station for the park's only public restroom. We are sure that the new system will solve the problems which forced us to close the facility after heavy rainfalls. Thanks to Donnie Barker and his helpers who did the archeology required before the system could become a reality.

HUNTING ISLAND

Lights, camera, action! Those have been the sounds around the Beaufort area this fall. The movie "Forrest Gump" being made by Paramount Pictures has been filmed for over two months in the Low Country, with scene locations that included Hunting Island.

The lighthouse is still scheduled to have the exterior walls painted the first two weeks in November. The last time the exterior was painted was about 12 years ago.

The summer park operations went very well. When comparing the summer of 1993 to the summer of 1992, there were far fewer incidents involving park visitors. I contribute this to better park patrols by the Ranger staff in the last year.

The retail staff has done a real good job with the retail outlets. The store is looking good and sales are up.

The maintenance staff has (as always) been kept busy with upkeep and repairs. This staff has done a good job as reflected by the quality of their work.

The park's naturalist had an easier season with turtle nests this year. With the turtles' cycle for nesting, last year was our highest count while this year provided one of our lowest. This staff has kept busy with lighthouse operations and tours, regular scheduled

programs, school groups and special events. The members of this staff work the oddest schedule because they try to present each program at the best times to get the maximum attendance. My hat is off to you!

The staff at Hunting Island would like to wish each and every one of you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

RAY T. STEPHENS, *Superintendent*

HUNTINGTON BEACH

Along with the new year, there will be a new look at Huntington Beach. The park staff and visitors will have a lot to look forward to in 1994. The new construction includes an office, store, concession stand, bathhouse, two boardwalks, an additional parking lot and, last but not least, a new superintendent's residence. You would not believe the size of these buildings! You'll have to come and see for yourself!

I would like to thank the park staff for their hard work during another busy summer and fall. Revenue and visitation are up, so it looks like "94" will be even bigger than "93."

Our part-time interpreters, Steve Roff and Lee Wilson, have been busy with school groups, daily programs, a new nature trail and, at this writing, they are building an osprey nest to put in Sandpiper Pond along the nature trail. Keep up the good work, guys!

The Atalaya Arts & Crafts Festival was another success this year. The castle was full of beautiful exhibits for the visitors to purchase or admire. I would like to thank everyone that helped us during the busy three days of the festival.

The special events programs are going great. October 9th was the date of the Second Annual Surf Fishing Rodeo. There were three hundred and eighteen fishermen testing their skills to win the grand prize, which was a boat, motor and trailer. A special thanks goes to Ranger Chris Bowers, Rodeo Coordinator, for another great event at Huntington Beach.

We recently had our annual Halloween program when we transform Atalaya into a Haunted Castle. Last year we had 1,600 people to wander through the dark maze. This year he had 2,000 visitors, and appreciate the additional help coming from Myrtle Beach and Huntington Island state parks.

I hope that you all have a great holiday season. Please stop by if you're ever on the coast.

KEITH WINDHAM, *Superintendent*

LAKE WARREN

Thanks to Superintendent James Christie, his staff, and all the volunteers who put in many hours of hard work to plan and prepare for the Lake Warren Outdoor Festival, which was held on October 16. Special thanks to Jim Wescott, Director of the Lowcountry Tourism Commission, whose leadership and dedication to the project brought everything together.

Sorry to say, the weatherman did not cooperate, and a day of rain prevented the success we had all hoped for and worked to see. I agree with Mr. Wescott when he says we can consider it a dress rehearsal for next year's event.

MYRTLE BEACH

Another busy and profitable year is drawing to a close at Myrtle Beach State Park. This past year, we have seen an increase in the usage of the campground, cabins, and day-use areas. The increase in visitation has kept us all very busy, providing quality customer service. We have seen a drastic increase in positive comments and letters in regards to our park staff and facilities. This is proof positive that our quality customer service campaign is a success.

Construction of our new office is going smoothly, thanks to the help of Kurt Becht and his maintenance crews along with the Myrtle Beach staff. The quality of their work is excellent. We will begin construction of our new parking fee building sometime this winter. We all hope to be in our new office sometime in the spring of 1994.

As you can see, we have been very busy maintaining and improving the facilities at Myrtle Beach State Park. If you are ever visiting along the Grand Strand, please stop by and check out all of our improvements. From the staff at Myrtle Beach, we would like to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a health and prosperous New Year.

ROB ACHENBURG, *Assistant Superintendent*

OLD DORCHESTER

Congratulations to Superintendent Charles Cumbee and Ranger Danny Dewees for their successful completion of the retaining wall project between the Colonial fort and the Ashley River. The project included a series of walls built from heavy timbers. A front end loader with backhoe was rented and operated by the park crew to accomplish the task, which took some time to complete.

Needless to say, doing the project with park labor saved us thousands of dollars. We could not have afforded the project at a contractor's price. Thanks to Dan Bell, Donnie Creel, Moody Walters, Timmy Hiers, William Daniels, and other district employees who helped during the construction.

RIVERS BRIDGE

Since the lack of lifeguards prevented us from having the swimming pool open, Superintendent Price and his crew got an early start on their work projects. By October, painting of the bathhouse and the ranger's residence are already complete. The crew is presently making good use of one of the department's stump grinders to rid the park of the many stumps left after last year's diseased tree cut.

SERGEANT JASPER

Construction is underway and we are looking for completion of Phase I development early in 1994. The first phase includes an activity center, picnic shelter, paved parking, two residences, a maintenance building, park signing, and utilities.



Activity Center at Sergeant Jasper State Park.

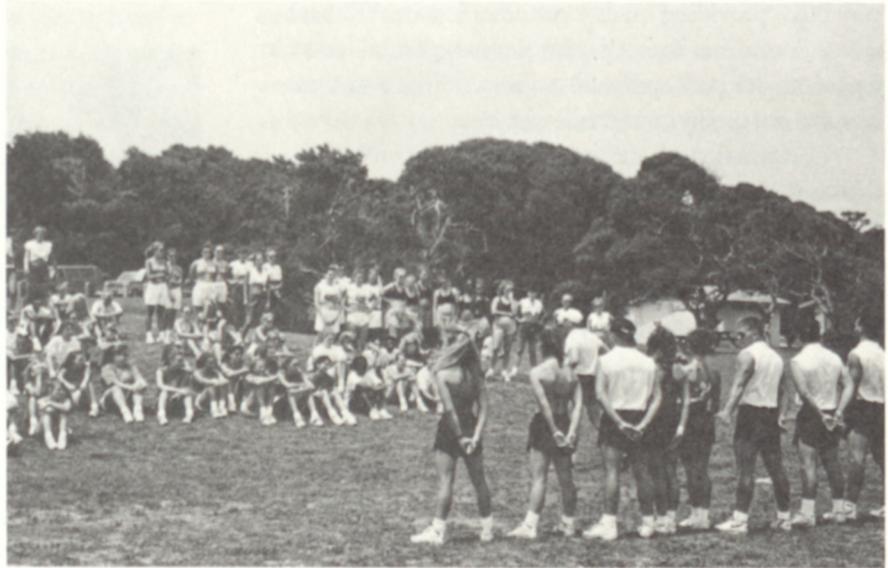


Ranger residence at Sergeant Jasper State Park.



New drink shed at Edisto Beach State Park.

Cheerleaders from the University of South Carolina work on drills while visiting Myrtle Beach State Park this summer.



Myrtle Beach State Park Superintendent Bobby Turner checks the installation of an electric usage monitor at one of the park's campsites. The park system purchased two of these meters to determine how much electricity is being used by campers. These meters will eventually be moved to campgrounds at other state parks.

New office at Myrtle Beach State Park under construction.



Huntington Beach State Park will soon have a new concession/restroom building, shown here under construction.

Helicopters race across the lagoon at Hunting Island State Park during the recent filming of "Forrest Gump" by Paramount Pictures.





DISTRICT II

Lately I seem to be spending most of my time conducting interviews. District II has been hit lately with a rash of promotions and resignations. I welcome all the new people in the district, and I wish success to those that have left. Many good positive things have taken place in the district, one of the most notable being the groundbreaking ceremonies for the nature center at Woods Bay. We are all excited about this project and look forward to the actual beginning of construction.

Never have I been associated with a group that is so willing to help out in a time of need. A big thanks to all of you who stop what you are doing to go to another park to help out. I also would like to thank each of you in the Central Office for support that you have given to this district. I do not know what we would have done without your help.

I am writing this article in two different locations and am not sure what has been written. I hope that you will find the names of all the new personnel in this district listed somewhere in "Park Lites," and welcome them to our family.

AIKEN

Carl and his staff have moved right along with their projects and, as usual, are one of the first parks to complete their concurrent projects. The staff at Aiken likes to get right on their projects and complete them so they can concentrate on fine tuning their grounds and facilities, and it shows.

BARNWELL

Hello from Barnwell State Park! As I sit here writing this article, it is 48 degrees and the sun is popping out from behind the clouds. The leaves on the trees are beginning to turn beautiful red, yellow and

orange colors and I can be sure fall is here and winter is on its way. Some cool weather will be welcome after the hot summer we had.

Writing this article from Barnwell State Park seems strange to me because, as of this writing, I have been here only a little over a week. In fact, the entire park staff with the exception of Trades Worker Carroll Zissette has changed. Homer Stanton resigned as superintendent and returned to Cheraw, and I replaced him. That opened the superintendent position at Colleton State Park and Rick Robertson, the Ranger II here was promoted to that position.

At this time we have not interviewed for Rick's replacement, but I am sure we will get a capable ranger to fill his shoes. Floyd Spears, the park technician, resigned to work in another field, and we hired James Ward to replace him. James has done an outstanding job, and I would like to welcome him to the system.

I would like to thank Carroll and Rick for keeping the park going between Homer's departure and my arrival. They made my job easier by doing a good job at theirs.

The park has been busy since I came to Barnwell. Cabins are being rented and the community building stays rented. Camping is not real good right now but maybe this cool weather will bring some campers out. Fishing has been pretty good. The second day I was here I saw a 7 pound and a 4 1/2 pound bass come of the small lake. People are catching some small fish also, but that seven pound fish was a beauty!

Well, that's about it for this time. If you are ever around the Barnwell area, please stop by. We would be happy to see you.

GREG HANNA, *Superintendent*

CHERAW

Cheraw State Park has been working on the golf course, re-seeding the greens, and planting trees and shrubbery throughout the park with the help of personnel from PRT's Engineering & Planning Division, the Wateree Correctional Prison, and Carolina Power & Light Company.

The cabin renovation has finally been completed on all eight cabins. They look exceptional, especially with the new furniture, appliances and carpet! We could not have completed this tremendous project without the help of personnel from District II. Our sincere thanks go out to folks from Lee, Lynches River, Little Pee Dee, N. R. Goodale, and Poinsett state parks.

Irvin Pitts from the Columbia office has made several trips to work out a new nature trail, which some of the members of the Telephone Pioneers of America have already started to clear.

On November 13, Cheraw had a busy day! Volunteers from CP & L and the Telephone Pioneers of America will be at the park, working on several projects, such as the nature trail, wood duck boxes, and clearing campground sites.

Programs at Cheraw have consisted of the following: August 8, Early Morning Canoe Floats; October 21/22, Business Expo - District II display - parks promotion; and October 23, Pumpkin Marking Contest for 3-8 year olds.

Coming up in December is the Angel Ornaments Craft Day, where angels will be transformed from safety pins and beads.

Once the boardwalk which runs along Lake Juniper is completed, we will utilize this park addition with nature walks.

LARRY ADAIR, *Superintendent*

GOODALE

Jim and his staff have been busy these past few months working extensively on planting and pruning trees and working on the golf course. Jim has been working very closely with the Natural Resources section and we both appreciate their tremendous help.

LEE

Mike and his staff have just finished hosting "Celebrating The Outdoors." This was an event co-hosted by several other agencies. Although the weatherman did not cooperate (it rained all day), it was enough of a success that Mike and his staff want to host it again.

LITTLE PEE DEE

The last issue of "Park Lites" showed that there was no superintendent at Little Pee Dee. We now welcome Jeff Diller and his wife. Jeff has jumped right into the work and he and his staff have made some tremendous improvements on the grounds. The adjustments of moving to a new park is a strain, but when you move and your swimming lake drains and almost dries up, this just adds more to the stress. We have found the problem - beavers! Hopefully we are on the way to correcting this and filling the lake back up.

LYNCHES RIVER

Things are still going strong on the park even though the pool has closed for the season. Concurrent projects, cutting grass, and cleaning the community building, which is rented every Saturday Sunday and some weekdays for the rest of the year, keep us busy! The latter is a big job when it comes to cleaning an 11,000 square foot building and having it ready by 9 a.m. the next morning!

The bluegrass concerts which are held monthly are growing stronger. We just had our 2nd Annual Fall Festival October 2, which had a turnout of about 600 people, not bad considering all the festivals in the area at that time. The bluegrass concerts are not only bringing in people from all over the area, but are also bring in much-needed revenue to the park.

At this time we would like to welcome LaRena Evers to the staff at Lynches River. As the new ranger, she is bringing her new ideas concerning promoting the park and programs.

HAROLD PATE, *Superintendent*

OLD SANTEE CANAL

Greetings from Old Santee Canal! After a very hot, dry summer, with little visitation, things have begun to pick up at the park.

For the first time since we re-opened after Hurricane Hugo, we have had school groups call to book field trips for September. We usually had a couple of schools come out in October and a large number coming out to the park around Thanksgiving to participate in our Plantation Life program, but never had any scheduled for September. We sent out letters to all the school principals in the Berkeley County school system in August and I guess that helped.

The 3rd Annual Berkeley County Arts and Crafts Festival was held in September. There were over 100 works of art on display in the Interpretive Center. For the first time there was a "People's Choice Award" voted on by the visitors at the park during the week the exhibit was shown. The event will return again next September.

October 24th was the 3rd Annual Red Ribbon Family Picnic Day at the park to kick off the '93 Red Ribbon Celebration. There was everything from line dancers to power lifters and from dunk-a-cop booths to emergency vehicles at the park. The event was a great success.

December brought our annual food drive. The Stony Landing House was decorated with Victorian decorations and people brought food to donate to the Food Bank of the Salvation Army.

Speaking of the Stony Landing House, the maintenance staff gave it a fresh coat of paint in preparation for a very busy fall rental period. It looks great!

We would like to welcome Lee Lowder as the new park naturalist. He replaced Carol Moore, who left in July to pursue other career opportunities. Welcome, Lee! The staff at Old Santee Canal wishes everyone a safe and happy holiday season!

MARY S. BELL, *Curator*

POINSETT

Our summer started with a new drink machine in the concession stand and one in the campground. The machine in the concession stand made life easier for our returning concession stand operator.

We had about 300 girl scouts every day for a week in June, which happened to be Amy Thurmond's first week of work at Poinsett. I'm sure she wondered what in the world she got herself into! Amy is our new naturalist, and came to Poinsett from Kings Mountain, where she was a seasonal naturalist. She is already working on fall and winter programs for school groups and park visitors. We are all glad to have her at Poinsett. We also have a new supplemental laborer, Paul Solano.

July Fourth week was exciting for our swimming area. A large (13 feet, 672 pound) alligator decided to swim with the visitors!. With assistance from the Columbia office and the Wildlife & Marine Resources Department, the alligator was removed from the lake.

August saw many species of butterflies using our new butterfly and birding area. We are also the adopted parents of two baby box turtles and two baby yellow-bellied slider turtles born in the CP&L-built turtle pen.

September was Public Land Appreciation Month. We worked with the Sumter County "Keep America Beautiful" Board and the Sumter Historical Commission to put on a work day at Thomas Sumter Tomb. September 11 was a beautiful day and many repair and research jobs were completed. In September we decided to cut dead "Hugo" trees off the drift fences that were placed on the park back in 1988 by Terry Seidel and Ed Nesbit. We are in the process of recording data that will show what happens to a population of insects, reptiles, amphibians, and small mammals after five years and "Hugo."

We at Poinsett want to wish all of you a great holiday season and a Happy New Year.

MARY CROCKETT, *Superintendent*

REDCLIFFE PLANTATION

By the time this is published, Joby Pitts will be enrolled in college, going forward with his education. Joby has been a great Ranger I at Redcliffe, and we hated to lose him. We wish Joby well, and want him to know that he will be missed.

Redcliffe will be holding Christmas Open House on December 4th this year, due to last year's huge success with almost 1,000 visitors. By the time you read this, the event will have already been held! However, if you are in the area, please stop by for a visit.

GENE COBB, *Superintendent*

SANTEE

A hot, dry summer meant many busy weekends and increased visitation. Visitors have enjoyed new playground equipment in the picnic area, and boats can again refuel with gas at the tackle shop.

The third annual Archaeology Day was a big success this year with more exhibits and over 1,500 visitors. A program was also given at the Santee Indian Mound and attracted a large crowd. Much work has been done at the Santee Indian Mound and we are now seeing results, thanks to the park staff, Mike Foley, Donnie Barker and Stan Hutto. The fall and winter means the cabins and restaurant will be busy with groups while other staff members will be working on concurrent projects and preparing for spring.

WOODS BAY

Greetings from the Swamp! Just a short message to let you know what's going on here at Woods Bay. This has been one of the busiest years for programs. We have had many for school and church groups as well as individual park visitors. Due to a lack of rain, our swamp dropped over three feet and we had to close down the canoe trail. This has really hurt our revenue.

Our biggest news for the park is that Carolina Power & Light has donated \$40,000 towards the construction of a new educational center. This will include a classroom, display area and park offices. We are really looking forward to this.

All of the Harts are doing fine. Our son Brian is now preaching at his own church in Rocky Mount, North Carolina.

Al James and his wife Toni are expecting a baby at the end of December, hopefully in time for a tax break.

I hope that everyone has a wonderful holiday season and please remember the true meaning of this season. May God bless you.

DENNIS HART, *Superintendent*

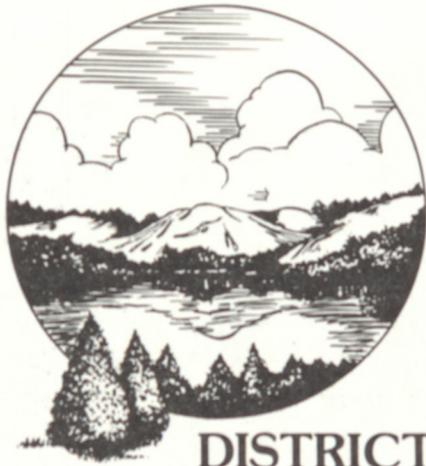
Volunteers performed clean-up duties during a work day September 11 at the Thomas Sumter Tomb site.



Christa Johnson (right) talks to a group of visitors during a tour of Redcliffe Plantation State Park.



Poinsett State Park Interpreter Amy Thurmond inspects a section of drift fence.



DISTRICT III

Although this past summer was hot and dry, I must admit it has been a good one for most park activities. The Caesars Head store renovation is well underway and should have reopened by this printing. This visitors' center should help boost attendance at all state parks and not just those in the upcountry. Try to schedule a trip to this park if you're in the area.

Trailside camping is becoming more and more popular, to the point of adding more sites at Caesars Head in the Dismal area.

I'm sure that most of you have noticed the change in camping styles with the increase of tent campers. As a result, Devils Fork tent sites are more popular than ever.

I have always felt that every park has a certain beauty or attraction that fills the needs of someone. Lake Hartwell State Park is definitely filling the needs for senior citizen campers and camping clubs. The park staff at Lake Hartwell works with these groups to ensure return visits.

The trailside camping, interpretive center, and natural beauty of Jones Gap along with the well-maintained park keep visitors coming back.

The opening last year of new trails for horseback riders at Croft has proven that once you find or develop an attraction for your park, attendance will definitely increase. Weekdays always finds horse trailers in the equestrian parking area, with the area filled to overflowing on weekends.

Oconee is the family-oriented park, with generation after generation coming back to relive their youth through the square dances or summer organized activities.

Sadlers Creek now has an abundance of wildlife that is ever present, resulting in more visitors to the park. This was brought about by food plots and a parkstaff that is interested in their welfare. Ten years ago you would have had a problem scaring up a crow!

Rose Hill has been very successful with special programs such as the Christmas Open House and period encamp-

ments at the plantation, not to mention the manicured grounds.

Table Rock has the mountain that always finds a hiker on the trails and Paris Mountain is a beautiful spot for the citizens of Greenville to escape to, if just for a lunch break each day.

Keowee-Toxaway has the self-guided Cherokee Indian kiosk trail, an interpretive center and has been a haven of rest for many a weary traveler along Scenic Highway 11.

If I don't see you before Christmas, I wish you and yours a Merry Christmas.

HORACE CRAIG, *District III Superintendent*

CAESARS HEAD

There have been some major changes occurring at Caesars Head over the last few months. The renovation of the store has come along to the point that we can see the end in sight. We are all looking forward to the reopening in early December.

We have learned just recently that Don Seriff, the naturalist/interpreter for the Mountain Bridge Wilderness Area, will be leaving us to take a job in the Charlotte, North Carolina area. He will be sorely missed here at Caesars Head and Jones Gap state parks. Scott Pruitt, park technician, resigned this summer for personal reasons, and we have hired Ricky Henderson to replace him. Ricky is from Brevard, North Carolina, and I hope a lot of you will get to know Ricky. We have also hired two individuals to help maintain our trail system. The trail system now contains roughly fifty miles of trails, and most of the maintenance is carried on with the help of volunteers.

These are just a few changes that have occurred at Caesars Head State Park, and we hope all of you will come by to see our new facility.

JOHN CULBRETH, *Superintendent*

CROFT

Fall has arrived at Croft and the leaves are turning to their radiant colors. This is a nice time of the year to relax and enjoy nature, however, we are a

state park and work still needs to get done. The crew has been busy working on concurrent projects as well as the normal routine duties.

Visitation has slowed down a little, but weekends are just like summer with campers and horseback riders.

We would like to take this opportunity to wish Jeff Diller well on his promotion and transfer to Little PeeDee, and to welcome Shannon Hart and his family

to Croft. We would also like to wish Charles Strickland a quick recovery from a recent back operation.

All of us at Croft would like to wish everyone a safe and joyous holiday season.

GERRY PERRY, *Superintendent*

DEVILS FORK

Now that the busy season is coming to an end, we can look back over the last twelve months and seek improvements. Although we met or exceeded most of our personal goals, there were a couple that we fell short on. Rest assured that those will again be at the top of our list and will remain there until they're reached.

We are now experiencing cooler nights and shorter days and the fall colors are just starting. Lake Jocassee is presently 18 feet below full pond and looks empty. So far the trout fishing has continued to be good. Since the warm waters of Keowee were not pumped back to Jocassee, the trout never went real deep this summer. We had standing room only on weekends, and I believe that the fishermen have discovered Devils Fork and Lake Jocassee.

Numerous special programs were held with great participation at each one. Just to mention a few of them, we sponsored programs on spiders, bears, snakes, bats, birds of prey, peregrine falcons, and the Oconee bell. Also, wildflower walks, waterfall tours, foothills trail day hikes, kayak clinics, photography workshops, overnight backpacking, and Lake Jocassee Clean-up Day. Our annual Easter program was a great success this past year as were the many special school programs that Bill Marrell has initiated.

Occupancy percentages in the villas and campground increased this year. We believe this was due to increased public awareness and clear, hot weather. We received many positive comments from our visitors, with most of them planning return trips. The villas are already about 50% booked for next summer. From all indications, it's going to be another good year.

PETE DAVIS, *Superintendent*

JONES GAP

The colors of fall are beginning to cover the mountains and the valleys of Jones Gap. This fall has been a busy one for camping and hiking, as everyone wants to see the colors at the same time.

Our meeting building is getting a lot of use this year, with a lot of weddings and family reunions held there. More and more visitors are finding out what a great place it is to meet and enjoy the wonderful view

from the front porch.

We now have a small gift shop at the interpretive center and office complex, where we sell t-shirts, firewood, topo maps, trail guides, etc.

It seems like each year we get more visitors that we have parking spaces, so at this time we have a lot of roadside parking.

Ranger David Tarrant, Park Technician Rollen Green and I would like to wish you and yours the very best of the holidays. Stop and take a look at our trout if you find yourself in this area. Please remember to keep Dick Paisley and his family in our thoughts and prayers.

LARRY McPHERSON, *Superintendent*

LAKE HARTWELL

I hope that everyone had a great summer! Lake Hartwell did great, as camping was up, and programs went very well. Fall is here and everyone is arriving to see the changing of the leaves. Sandy and I have been busy working on programs for next spring and summer, while Fred and his crew have been getting the grounds and facilities ready. I think that next summer will prove to be one of the best ones yet. Happy holidays from all of us at Lake Hartwell!

BECKY THOMPSON, *Ranger II*

PARIS MOUNTAIN

We have had an extremely busy fall with family picnics and people hiking in the park. The leaves are turning beautiful colors and that should increase our visitation. We have been working on concurrent projects for the 93-94 year, and so far we are making good progress.

I would like to congratulate Noel Simon on his promotion to Ranger II at Baker Creek, and I would also like to welcome Tammie Wells to Paris Mountain. Tammie came from Hamilton Branch as a park technician and she will be a Ranger I here at Paris Mountain. I would like to thank all of my staff at Paris Mountain for the help they have given me this past year.

We would like to invite everyone to stop by and see us and we hope that everyone will have a good holiday season.

JAMES TAYLOR, *Superintendent*

ROSE HILL

In spite of the hot, dry summer, our roses and other ornamentals have done well. Even our fall colors are beautiful. Students from Union, Spartanburg and Newberry county schools were invited to attend a new experimental program in October. There were five

stations set up including spinning, open hearth cooking, candlemaking, blacksmithing and a Civil War period encampment. Some 618 students and 75 adults rotated around these stations and enjoyed a picnic lunch. With the success of this program, we plan to make it an annual event.

Time is drawing near to begin planning for this year's Christmas Open House. We would like to invite all park and Columbia office staff to welcome the holiday season with us.

CHRIS HIGHTOWER, *Superintendent*

SADLERS CREEK

With the change of seasons upon us, we look forward to cooler weather and hopefully some much-needed rainfall. This past summer has been a long, hot one and I personally welcome the cooler times ahead.

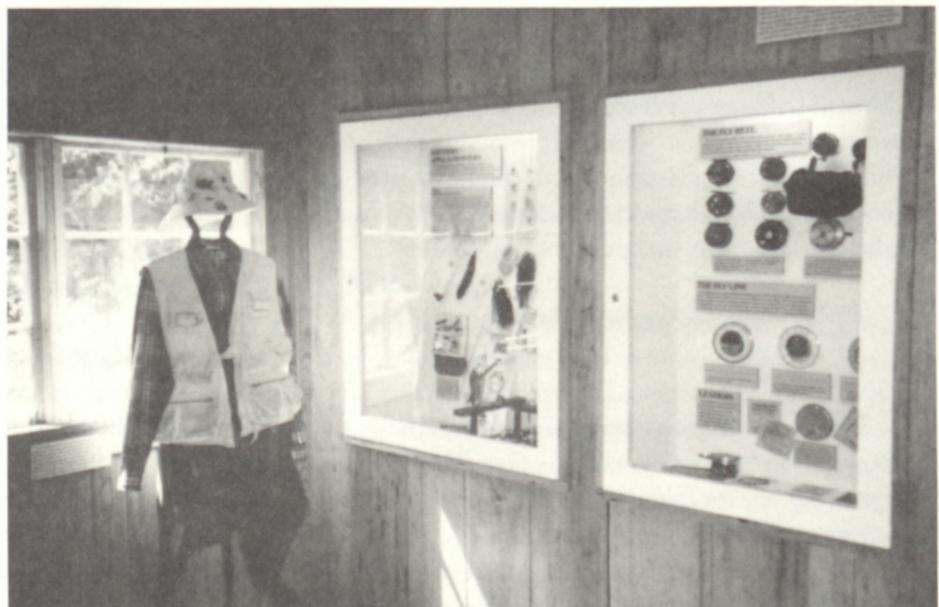
As we all anticipate another change, the arrival of our new uniforms, we can all agree that this change is a very needed and positive one.

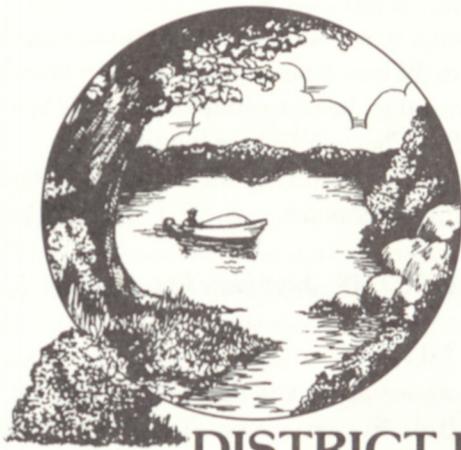
We at Sadlers Creek State Park want to take this opportunity to wish everyone the best of the holiday season. Remember to give thanks for all we have around us.

BROOKS M. JORDAN, *Superintendent*



Displays at the Oconee State Park visitor information center help to acquaint park visitors with area attractions. Some exhibits show various types of fishing gear and tackle, while others show species of flora and fauna that may be found in the area.





DISTRICT IV

Season's greetings from District IV! It is hard to believe that Thanksgiving is past and Christmas is right around the corner. This year has really past quickly, as it seems like only yesterday when we were at the superintendents' conference at Hickory Knob. All in all, it has been a very successful summer and fall for the district, with few problems and complaints. I wish to thank all District IV employees for the hard work and the many hours put forth to make this such a good year.

There have been several promotions and new faces in the District.

I would like to welcome the new employees to our district and congratulate those who have been promoted. Noel Simons started at Baker Creek as a park technician and moved to Paris Mountain as a ranger I. He is back home at Baker Creek as our new ranger II. Tommy Coleman was promoted from groundskeeper at Hickory Knob's golf course to park technician at Baker Creek. Fran Bullock is the new administrative specialist B at Calhoun Falls. Donna Herman is the canteen operator at Dreher Island, Darby Ferguson is the new clerical specialist B at Hickory Knob, and Tammy Sutherland is the new interpreter at Sesqui. I want to congratulate Tammy Wells on her promotion from park technician at Hamilton Branch to ranger I at Paris Mountain. We wish her the best of luck in her new position in District III.

At this time of year, park visitors often ask me what park employees do when we don't have much visitation. I am quick to answer that this is our busiest time of the year because we have to get ready for the following year. As usual, District IV has many projects to complete before June 30th. Last year we dropped in the percentage of projects completed district-wide. We did have several parks complete 100% of their projects, and I commend them for all their hard work. This year I have set a district goal of 100% completion of our projects. There is a saying that I frequently use, "When the going gets tough,

the tough get going." It will be hard to reach this goal, but I know that I can count on a "tough" group of people in District IV.

During the past several months we have had several major projects going on in the district. The most time-consuming and labor-intensive was the reconstruction of all eighteen greens at the Hickory Knob golf course. On Monday, August 9th, we started hulling out the old greens and refilling them with new green medium or mix. During our planning session we allowed two weeks to complete this task. With a lot of hard work, planning, and the old state park "we can do it" attitude, we completed this project one week ahead of schedule. On August 16th, we sprigged the greens with Bermuda and in just four weeks the new greens were covered with pretty new GREEN grass. Not playable, but totally green!

During the planning session we decided to allow the greens to grow until October 25th before we reopened them for play. We also wanted to make the course as good as we could. This work included underbrushing, limbing all trees, weed eating, cutting trees, grinding stumps, replacing sand in traps, landscaping and painting the pro shop. As you can see, this was a major undertaking and we could not have accomplished it without a lot of help from outside sources. I cannot list everyone by name that helped, but I would like to sincerely thank the Columbia office staff, maintenance and construction crews, District II, District II, and District IV employees for all the extra help.

While we are on Hickory Knob, I would like to share two other projects going on at this time. We are remodeling several more cabins and we have just refurbished all the cabins. On December 13th, the restaurant will be closed for renovations. This will include a new buffet line, furniture carpet, lighting, and window curtains. Hopefully we can enjoy this new atmosphere in January at the superintendent's meeting.

The day-use parking area at Baker Creek is completed and landscaped. In the near future the campground will be paved and this should prove to be a nice addition to this park.

The contract to build an additional 60 campsites at Calhoun Falls will be awarded in the near future. This should help alleviate the demand for the 41 sites we now have at this park.

The paving of the campground and the repaving of all the roads at Lake Greenwood is complete. It is hard to believe how the paving of a campground can change the aesthetics of an area. This alone has made Lake Greenwood one of the prettiest parks in the district. In the future there are plans to improve the sewage system

and to build an office/community building.

At Dreher Island we are anxiously awaiting the completion of the five Lakeside Villas. In my opinion, these will be some of the finest facilities operated by our state park system. These impressive structures are beautiful on the outside as well as on the inside. Hardwood floors and furnishings selected by a professional decorator enhance these new accommodations.

In closing, I would like to say that this is a special time of year when family and friends seem so important. I want to wish everyone the best for the upcoming year.

LEW CATO, *District IV Superintendent*

P.S. I almost forgot that we had two additions to District IV families recently. Scott Dublin, the recreator at Hickory Knob, is the proud father of a baby girl, Taylor McCray. If Taylor has the personality of her father, she will go a long way in life. Frank Couch, superintendent at Kings Mountain, is the proud father of a new daughter, Augusta Lee. I told Frank that since he waited so long to start a family, he would be in a wheelchair or walker when Augusta Lee graduated from high school. Congratulations to both of these families.

ANDREW JACKSON

This spring/summer has been very busy at Andrew Jackson for Kim Ehrman-Threatt, Jimmy Catoe and me. The rental facilities, including the Meeting House, have seen much activity from park programs conducted by Kim, to numerous weddings, reunions, and local group meetings.

The lake was drained and will be restocked and open for fishing in the spring of 1995.

Lightning struck the museum in August, but very few of the artifacts were lost or damaged. Work to repair the damage began October 1st, and plans to reopen the museum are set for early 1994.

Many thanks to Lew Cato and the Columbia office staff for all their support and assistance.

The staff at Andrew Jackson wishes each of you a safe and happy holiday.

MARSHALL L. BRUCKE, *Superintendent*

CHESTER

The latest statistics indicate a 35% increase in campsite occupancy at Chester. The opening of deer season draws numerous hunters from North Carolina into the area to hunt on nearby game management lands. As a result, the campground has remained near

capacity.

Work projects are moving along. Natural siding has been added to the boat house and new bulletin boards have been erected in the campground and picnic area.

The staff at Chester is looking forward to the issuance of new uniforms. They will certainly improve the image of our park personnel.

WAYNE TIMMS, *Superintendent*

DREHER ISLAND

Things are starting to slow down here at Dreher Island State Park after a season which was slightly busier than last year. We are looking forward to the many fishing tournaments and camping clubs which regularly visit us during the late fall and early spring seasons. We are also filled with anticipation as we watch the new "Island Villas" coming to a fabulous finish. They will be an added attraction to the park which very few will be able to pass up. We are looking forward to the challenge of this brand new operation here at Dreher Island State Park.

RONALD M. WAY, *Ranger III*

HICKORY KNOB

September found crews from around the state descended upon the golf course to rebuild all 18 golf greens. Another year of heat and drought brought about the decision to do away with bent grass. All of the golf course greens were completely rebuilt with several being re-contoured and having new drainage installed. Not only were Bermuda grass greens installed, but the entire course also received attention. The golf course now has new rain shelters, new signs and tee box markers, new water cooler stations and has had extensive removal of underbrush from the woods surrounding the fairways.

The grand reopening was held on October 30 and even a cool, steady rain could not dampen the spirits of the golfers who participated. Many people say that the course is now better than it ever has been. Golfers can now look forward to excellent Bermuda greens year round.

We at Hickory Knob are also excited about the beautiful new logo signs at our entrance. The signs, which are green and gray, proudly display the hickory leaf logo and welcome visitors to our facility.

We are now looking forward to the renovation of the restaurant. Plans are to begin work by the end of the year. The finished project will give the restaurant a beautiful new salad bar and buffet line as well as new waitress stations and seating facilities. Long-term plans will eventually extend the renovations into the lodge lobby and restroom facilities.

Come to Hickory Knob soon and see the wonderful changes!

TED WILLIAMS, *Superintendent*

LANDSFORD CANAL

The early builders of the canal had much to be proud of. Ultimately, though, the success of a canal was based upon the cooperative success of many canals chained along a river's course.

I, too, have been proud of the success we experienced with the spring, summer, and fall programs, particularly the canoe trips. The success of our programs was accomplished only with the cooperative assistance from neighboring parks and other individuals chained along the Department's course. Thank you.

Through it all, the Catawba River has remained a gracious host for two particular groups, those who come to relax and enjoy the property, and those charged with its care and protection. Recreational programs enabled us to gain a greater appreciation for not only one another, but also for those who enjoyed and traveled the river and canal years ago.

Winter programs will encourage and require the active participation from the local communities. We hope to gain better insight as to how the park might best serve their interests and needs. Such insight will direct future work projects. It is my hope that we are now painting a prosperous and joyful picture of '93-'94 for those centuries ahead of us.

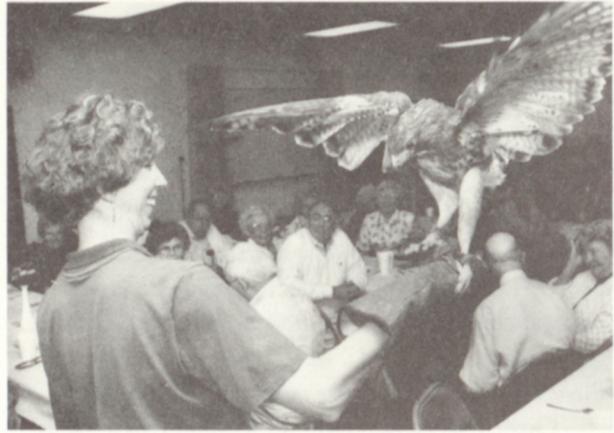
JOSEPH S. ANDERSON, *Superintendent*

SESQUICENTENNIAL

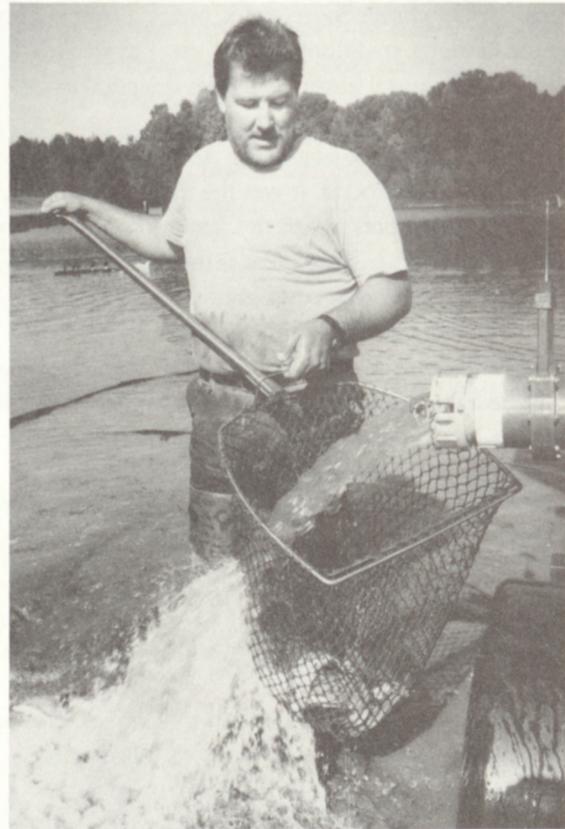
Here comes fall, and there it goes! Beautiful days of cool weather have finally reached the sandhills here at Sesqui, and they've brought with them a little bit of change.

The park office has a new and improved gift shop accessible to our winter visitors here at the park. Also, the transition of naturalists has gone rather smoothly with much support from the park staff. A Taste of Autumn, Fall Color Walk, and Time for Tots are a few of the programs that have already been conducted.

The park crew is busy repairing and maintaining facilities after a very busy summer. The training center and conference center have been keeping us busy, but it sure is nice to see everybody when they're out here at the park. Come on out and visit just for fun!



Kodiak, a red-tailed hawk, turned on cue as Kim Threatt, interpreter at Andrew Jackson State Park, tells a group of 200 seniors from the OASIS club of the First Baptist Church of Lancaster how the bird got its name. The hawk arrived at the park in June, and cannot be released into the wild again because of a wing injury.



Andrew Jackson State Park got its first fish this fall when workers brought in about 600 ponds of catfish. The pond was drained in July so that it could be dredged as part of a renovation project to improve fish quality and reproduction. In the photo, worker Mitch Manis puts the last few fish into the pond. The 1,250 catfish came from Springs Stevens Fish Hatchery in Heath Springs. The pond will be re-opened for fishing in the summer of 1994.

(Photos by Robin Cornetet/The Lancaster News.)

PROGRAMS & EVENTS

Since the mid 1970's two of our biggest events - Pioneer Days and the Atalaya Festival - have made September "Festival month" in the state parks system. Another festival was added to the schedule this year.

The Oristo Festival of the Arts took place at Edisto Beach State Park on September 11 and 12. This juried arts and craft show was co-sponsored with the Edisto Art Guild and featured a very good mix of artisans. Plans are already underway to expand it for 1994.

Quality also characterized the other two festivals. The Sunshine Artist Complete Guide to Art Events has selected the Atalaya Festival as one of the four best traditional crafts shows in South Carolina. It was also selected as the 88th best in the entire nation.

Pioneer Days continues to enhance its role as an educational experience for visitors. It consists of all the elements that made it successful in the early years - black powder competition, crafts, music, living history demonstrations, traditional games, etc. - as well as cultural and natural history activities designed to get children involved in hands-on activities.

Santee State Park hosted the Annual Archaeology Field Day on October 2. It was the third year that the Archeological Society of South Carolina conducted the Field Day at Santee. This event is the culmination of Archaeology Week that consists of cultural history activities conducted by various agencies and groups throughout South Carolina.

The Lake Warren Outdoor Festival took place on October 16. A constant drizzle of rain curtailed many of the activities in this festival, but it did not dampen the enthusiasm of the community volunteers that were so active in planning the festivities. Plans are already being made for the 1994 festival.

The 2nd Annual Women's Outdoor Sports Clinic also took place in October. Sailing, orienteering, canoeing and kayaking are just a few of the classes offered to ladies of all ages at Hickory Knob in what has already become one of our most popular activities.

NEW FACES

Tammy Sutherland has been selected to fill the vacant naturalist position at Sesquicentennial. Tammy worked as a summer naturalist in the Mountain Bridge prior to coming to Sesqui. She is a graduate of St. Andrews Presbyterian College.

The new naturalist at Old Santee Canal is Lee Lowder. He is also a former seasonal employee (at OSC) that accepted permanent employment. Lee is a

graduate of the College of Charleston and has been an interpreter at Francis Beidler Forest and Cypress Gardens.

The Charlotte area will also have two new faces. Don Seriff, who served South Carolina state parks at Sesqui and in the Mountain Bridge, has accepted employment with Mecklenberg County in Charlotte, North Carolina.

Kim Garrett, who was naturalist at Cheraw State Park, and has served as Interpretive Coordinator in the central office since April, 1988, has also decided to accept a position with Mecklenberg County. Kim was a major contributor to South Carolina state parks at a time when tremendous growth was being experienced in interpretation and program services. Her dedication and enthusiasm will be missed.

The Mountain Bridge hosted kids participating in the Richland School District II ALERT program. More than 400 children from nine Richland County schools participated between early October and mid-November.

Rose Hill Plantation State Park hosted History Days for over 600 Union County school children. They had the opportunity to participate in five activities: candlemaking, open hearth cooking, spinning, blacksmithing, and a Civil War encampment.

ETV & STATE PARKS

Project Discovery, a program produced by South Carolina Educational Television, will be doing a live broadcast from the Kings Mountain Farm. This will allow school children throughout the state to call in from their classrooms. This is the second time in less than a year that ETV has chosen to do a Project Discovery broadcast from one of our parks.

HOLIDAY PROGRAMS

The Division of State Parks continues to stress holiday and Christmas programs throughout the state. A more intense promotional effort will include public service television spots featuring superintendents Rick Smith and Sandy McKinsey. Special flyers and posters have also been designed and distributed.

ROPES

The Parks Division also has another first - a course that was developed by the Marion and Dillon County Commission on Alcohol and Drug Abuse at Little Pee Dee State Park. Hopefully, this will lead to other such facilities and continued growth in diversity of services offered by South Carolina state parks.

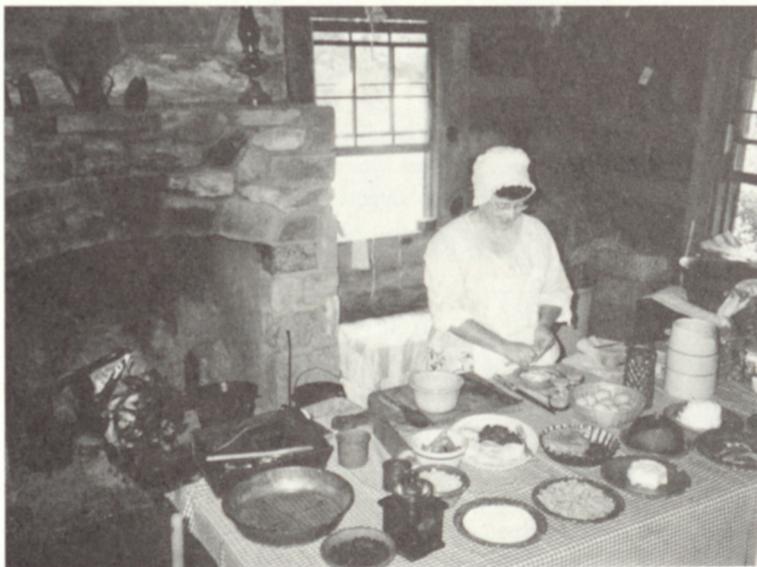
BOATS FOR "SAIL"

By now, most employees are aware of the success enjoyed in our canoeing programs. We hope to double our canoe "fleet" to help meet the demand for canoeing programs and workshops.

During the past year, much "lobbying" has taking place for the agency to purchase sail boats so that sailing workshops could be offered. Sail boats are not inexpen-

sive, but, as luck would have it, another state agency decided to sell several boats through the surplus properties division of General Services. The Parks Division is now the proud owner of eight of these boats and will be using them in programs and workshops throughout the park system.

DAN TURPIN, *Chief, Programs & Promotion*



There was no microwave and no electricity back in "the good old days," but kitchen tasks 100 years ago still had to be done, and people expected three square meals each day. Numerous exhibits such as this added to the realism of the annual Pioneer Days event held in September at Kings Mountain State Park's Living History Farm.

Contrary to popular belief, leaves on trees in the relatively flat lands are just as impressive as their neighbors up in the mountains. Lee Lowder, curator at Old Santee Canal State Park, led a group of visitors on a fall color walk using a section of the park's network of boardwalks.



PERSONNEL CHANGES

NEW EMPLOYEES

BAKER CREEK

Thomas Coleman, Park Technician

BARNWELL

James Ward, Park Technician

CAESARS HEAD

Ricky Henderson, Park Technician

CENTRAL OFFICE

Sherrie Morey, Executive Support Specialist

CHARLES TOWNE LANDING

Jenneth Devera, Park Technician

Katherine Saunders, Administrative Specialist A

CHERAW

Kenneth Cassidy, Groundskeeper I

Jerry Goodale, Canteen Operator II

Henry Taylor, Groundskeeper Supervisor

Melonie Williams, Business Associate II

DREHER ISLAND

Donna Herman, Canteen Operator I

HICKORY KNOB

John Ellis, Groundskeeper I

Darby Furqueron, Clerical Specialist B

Clifton Tooker, Groundskeeper I

Bernice Turman, Groundskeeper I

LAKE WARREN

Kevin Evans, Ranger I

MYRTLE BEACH

Jonathan Olin, Park Technician

OLD SANTEE CANAL

Hubert Lowder, Curator I

POINSETT

Amy Thurmond, Interpreter I

SERVICE & SUPPLY

Alfreda Diamond, Administrative Specialist B

SESQUICENTENNIAL

Noel Belvin, Park Technician

Tammy Sutherland, Interpreter I

TABLE ROCK

Robert Davis, Park Technician

Ray Kinsler, Trades Craftsman

Claudette Long, Food Service Supervisor II

Benjamin Mosley, Park Technician

PROMOTIONS & TRANSFERS

Bobby Arthurs, Park Technician, Aiken to Ranger I, Redcliffe Plantation

Thomas Coleman, Groundskeeper, Hickory Knob to Park Technician, Baker Creek

Donnie Creel, Park Technician, Givhans Ferry to Ranger I, Colleton

Jeffrey Diller, Ranger III, Croft to Superintendent II, Little Pee Dee

William Dukes, Ranger I, Croft to Ranger II, Barnwell

Larena Evers, Ranger I, Colleton to Ranger II, Lynches River

Karen Fuller, Food Service Supervisor II, Table Rock to Administrative Assistant I, Table Rock

Gregory Hanna, Superintendent I, Colleton to Superintendent II, Barnwell

Shannon Hart, Ranger II, Lynches River to Ranger III, Croft

Rick Robertson, Ranger II, Barnwell to Superintendent I, Colleton

Noel Simons, Ranger I, Paris Mountain to Ranger II, Baker Creek

Tammie Wells, Park Technician, Hamilton Branch to Ranger I, Paris Mountain

Ivy Wiggins, Executive Support Specialist, Central Office to Administrative Assistant, I, Central Office

RESIGNATIONS

Louise Amick, Canteen Operator I, Dreher Island

David Blackwell, Groundskeeper I, Cheraw

Tim Braden, Interpreter II, Myrtle Beach

Russell Cassell, Park Technician, Table Rock

Hugh Cooper, Jr., Ranger II, Baker Creek

Rosemary Edwards, Administrative Specialist B, Service & Supply

George Eggleston, Park Technician, Myrtle Beach

Kim Garrett, Administrative Assistant III, Central Office

David Gilstrap, Trades Craftsman, Table Rock

Joyce Harper, Clerical Specialist B, Hickory Knob

Avis Huggins, Canteen Operator II, Cheraw

John Lloyd, Groundskeeper, Cheraw

Michelle Martin, Interpreter I, Sesqui

Carol Moore, Curator I, Old Santee Canal

Scott Pruitt, Park Technician, Caesars Head

Thomas Rodgers, Groundskeeper, Hickory Knob

Donald Seriff, Interpreter II, Caesars Head

Larry Shaw, Park Technician, Table Rock

Floyd Spears, Park Technician, Barnwell

Homer Stanton, Superintendent II, Barnwell

Timothy Thrasher, Park Technician, Table Rock

Derald Tutt, Park Technician, Baker Creek

Charles Williams, Park Technician, Sesqui

RETIREMENTS

Jacob Altman, Highway Maintenance Foreman, Maintenance Crew

Joseph Ross, Jr., Supply Specialist III, Purchasing/Warehousing

Augustine Saukas, Canteen Manager I, Charles Towne Landing

FROM THE EDITOR

THE GOOD OLD DAYS

Each of us has different ideas about how things were back in the "good old days." We have an age range of some forty years among the members of our state park family, so some folks' "good old days" might not be very far in the distant past of those of us with a few extra years under our belts.

When we long for the "good old days" and compare the cost of living, we might do well to compare how long we would have worked to buy products or services then and now. I recall that my first job out of college in 1961 paid \$4,800 a year! Three years later it had increased to \$6,000, and one of my goals was to be making a salary in five figures (\$10,000) by the time I reached forty!

Lynn and I bought our first house in Newberry in 1957 for \$8,300! That three-bedroom home is still standing, and we could be as happy there now as we were then! The house payment was \$75! A new Volvo 122-S two-door sedan in 1965 cost us about \$2,300! Today you could add a zero to the end of that figure (\$23,000), and perhaps you could buy a stripped-down model! Some of you have seen the high-tech Aerostich Roadcrafter riding suit that I wear when I ride my motorcycle. It's a real masterpiece of craftsmanship, and is made up of a number of exotic materials. Today's retail price is \$697, and it's worth every penny! Not too many years ago you could buy a new car for that price!

Everyday in the newspaper we read about the increase in crime. When Lynn and I lived in Newberry some thirty-five years ago, we'd leave the car key in the ignition and the doors to the house unlocked at night! Now when I drive our daughter's car, I have to remember not to walk away from it with the key in the ignition, or the doors lock and the alarm is activated with a couple of chirps! When I try to clean the windshield, I am reminded by the piercing sound of the alarm that it's not such a good idea unless I open a door!

Ray Snowdon, one of my friends from Canada, sent me a poem recently from an English magazine. Ray and his wife Freda were born in England and endured the hardships of World War II, during which time Ray was an R.A.F. tail gunner on an Avon Lancaster bomber. Anyway, here's the poem (and you need to know that, in England, a "bob" is a shilling and the "wireless" is the radio.)

Poor But Blessed In Those Old Days

We met and we married a long time ago...
We worked for long hours when wages were low.
No T.V., no wireless, no bath, times were hard...
Just a cold water tap and a walk in the yard.

No holidays abroad, no carpets on the floors...
We had coal on the fires and we didn't lock doors.
Our children arrived, no pill in those days...
And "we" brought them up without any state aid.

They were safe going out to play in the park...
And old folks could go for a walk in the dark.
No valium, no drugs and no LSD...
We cured most of our ills with a good cup of tea.

No vandals, no muggings, there was nothing to rob...
We felt we were rich with a couple of bob.
People were happier in those far-off days...
Kinder and caring in so many ways.

Milkman and paper boy would whistle and sing...
A night at the pictures was our one mad fling.
We all got our share of troubles and strife...
We just had to face it, t'was the pattern of life.

Now I am alone and I look back through the years...
I don't think of bad times, the troubles and tears.
I remember the blessings, our home and our love...
That we shared them together, I thank God above.

The good old days? Here they are, all around us!
Enjoy them and make the most of each one that arrives!
Remember that, before long, we'll look back on the
todays as being...the "good old days!"

Best wishes for a happy holiday season and for a
memorable New Year!

DANA L. SAWYER
Editor

1205 Pendleton Street
Columbia, South Carolina 29201



An increasing number of handicapped persons have been visiting South Carolina state parks in recent years. These folks are enjoying wetting their lines from the handicapped-accessible freshwater pier at Santee State Park. Most South Carolina

state parks have some facilities for the use of handicapped visitors. PRT's Division of State Parks is making progress building new facilities or renovating existing structures to ADA standards as funds become available.