



LCDR. DAN D. MONGER recently reported to China Lake as the new Administrative Officer of VX-5. He comes from duty at NAS, Le-moore, California where he was attached to VA-195. LCDR. Monger is a native of Sweetwater, Tennessee, and he is a graduate of the University of Tennessee. He entered the Navy in June 1958 through the Flight Training Program. His hobbies are sailing and radio control modeling. He and his wife Sarah reside at 1806-B Withington with their children, Stephen, 6; Robert, 4, and Joe, 2.

Ceramics Shop Registers New Members

Registration for civilians in the Ceramics Hobby Shop will take place on Tuesday, March 18 through March 21.

Civilians who now are members in the Ceramics Shop and wish to continue their membership must renew by March 21. Membership fees are \$3 per year and must be made in person at the shop. Hours are Monday and Wednesday from 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., and Tuesday and Friday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Work will soon be underway to remodel the shop. Anyone having a locker is asked to have it emptied by March 21.

LAW IN ACTION

THE DRIVER CAN'T SEE!

In a head-on crash, front seat passengers are in a dangerous spot. Automobile manufacturers have tried to make the front-seat passengers safer with padded dashboards, seatbelts, and wider seats.

A court has said that the wider front seat has added safety to cars. In one case, Mabel and her two friends were riding in the front seat of her car. Five youngsters were in the back. As they crept through an intersection, Sam Flash sped in and hit them, injuring the front-seat passengers. They sued Sam.

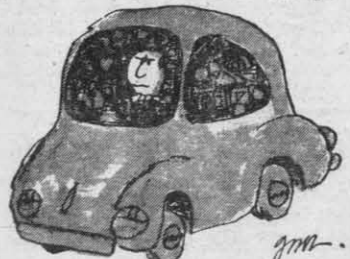
Sam said he was not to blame since they were overloading the car, a thing which the law forbids. With all the people in the car, Sam said, Mabel could not see him at the sides. Therefore it was at least partly their own fault that they got hurt.

The court ruled against Sam. In today's cars with wide seats, the court said, three persons could ride in the front without overloading. The number of persons alone does not decide whether crowding interferes with driving.

In another case three passengers were riding in a compact car. One was drunk, restless, and was leaning from side to side. When they crashed, the driver of the other car could show that such a passenger in the front interfered with the driver's vision and control. Since this helped to bring on their own injury they could blame only themselves.

The Vehicle Code prohibits hanging on your windshield novelty items which might obstruct your vision. You cannot put posters or stickers on your windshield except within a seven-inch square in the lower corner furthest from the driver's seat. In no case may it block your view.

Cracked windshields or rear windows can interfere with your vision. As a rule the po-



lice will stop a car and have the driver get his window fixed within 48 hours.

Note: California lawyers offer this column so you may know about our laws.

SHOWBOAT

FRIDAY "GRAND PRIX" (174 Min.)
James Garner, Eva Marie Saint
7:30 P.M.

(Adventure) Thrill-packed story of international racing teams on the nine race circuit. The excitement, death-defying risks and heartbreaks of their lives both on and off the track. There's more to racing than a throttle! (Adult, Youth.)

SATURDAY —MATINEE—
"MARCO POLO" (92 Min.)
Rory Calhoun
1:00 P.M.

Shorts: "Sleepytime Donald" (7 Min.)
"Captain Marvel" (No. 4, 17 Min.)

—EVENING—
"THE BALLAD OF JOSIE" (102 Min.)
Doris Day, Peter Graves
7:30 P.M.

(Comedy/Western) Pity the poor recent widow whom the local ranchers believe is guilty of murder! Her attempt to provide for her son meets with aid and resistance until the whole town is in an uproar. Country fun! (Adult, Youth, Children.)
Short: "Get in the Swim" (9 Min.)

SUNDAY-MONDAY **MARCH 16-17**
"THE BOSTON STRANGLER" (116 Min.)
Tony Curtis, Henry Fonda
7:30 P.M.

(Crime Drama) A remarkable based-on-fact story of the killer of 11 women. A sadistic maniac? No! A bewildered, sick man as Tony falls every attempt of Fonda to catch him! A tension-building story without the usual violence of murder is almost documentary style. Academy Award caliber! (Adult.)

TUESDAY-WEDNESDAY **MARCH 18-19**
"THE HORSE IN THE GREY FLANNEL SUIT" (113 Min.)
Dean Jones, Diane Baker
7:30 P.M.

(Comedy) Disney tale of an advertising executive, his equestrian daughter's ambition to win blue ribbons and some comical havoc created by the horse. A pleasant diversion from the usual film fare—the D.C. Horse Show. (Adult, Youth, Children.)

THURSDAY **MARCH 20**
KERN COUNTY HONOR BAND
PRESENTATION

FRIDAY **MARCH 21**
"THE BLUE MAX" (156 Min.)
George Peppard, Ursula Andress
7:30 P.M.

(Air Drama) Shades of the Red Baron! Biplanes and tri-planes of WWI take to the air as a young German lieutenant kills all striving for the Kaiser's award. Thrilling evolution of air power is a "don't miss." (Adult.)

Scientists Fear No Evil

(Continued from Page 1)

quakes, recalled recently that Seismologists at the California Institute of Technology have been knocking quack predictions for years.

"A few years ago, in 1965, to be exact, we received spurious earthquake predictions for Jan. 17, Feb. 4, March 17, April 16, all of May, May 30, and for Imperial Valley sometime in June or July," Richter noted.

"But it was a normal year — none came true."

Earthquake Not Apparent
The San Andreas Fault is the name given to a geological line that represents a break in the continuity of rock strata stretching from Point Arenas in Northern California, to the Gulf of California.

Scientists point out that even if we had an earthquake of the magnitude that was felt in the recent Alaskan disaster, the likelihood that all of the territory west of the Fault would split off and slide into the sea is not at all apparent.

Tennis Clinic Planned For Upcoming Weeks

The China Lake Tennis Club has announced plans for its annual tennis clinic. It will be held April 12-May 17 to help those interested in learning tennis or improving their game.

The clinic offers a series of six group lessons for a fee of \$3.00. Qualified instructors will be at the courts on King St. (behind the station theatre) for registration on Saturday, April 12, at 8 a.m. The first lesson will be that morning, followed by five subsequent lessons Saturday mornings through May 17.

Balls will be furnished and rackets are available for those who have none. Be sure to wear tennis shoes or sneakers.

The clinic is open to young and old, from your coordinated eight-year-old and to your grandfather. There will be instruction at all levels. Certificates and patches will be awarded at the completion of the series.

This is an excellent opportunity to learn, at little cost, a game which affords good exercise and good fun.

Retired Officers Hold Meeting

The Indian Wells Valley Chapter of the Retired Officers Association will have its regular bi-monthly business meeting at the Officers' Club, starting with dinner at 7:30, on Wednesday, March 19. An optional no-host social hour will be held in the bar preceding the dinner.

Retired or active duty officers of any of the seven branches of military service are welcome to attend with a view to joining. Dinners will be ordered from the menu.

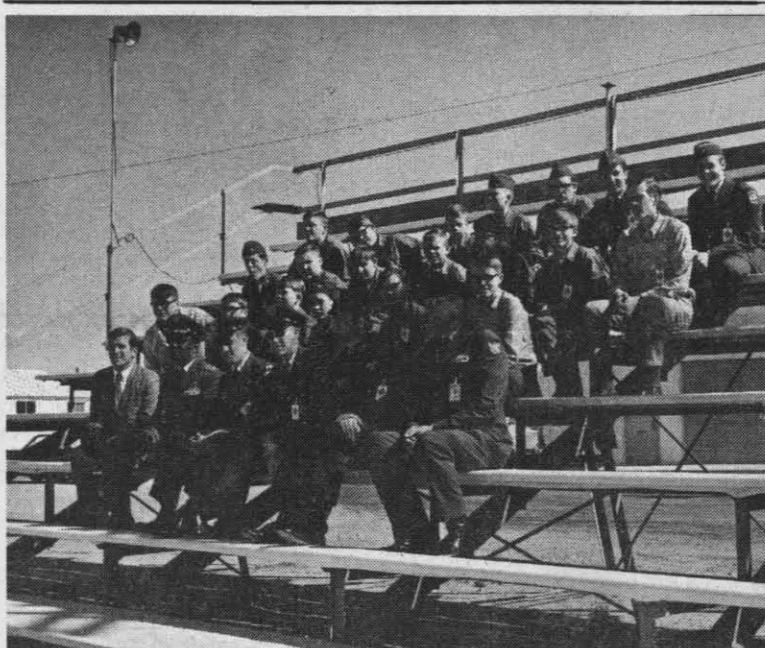


CHAMBER CHIEFS HONORED — The great distance that separates many communities in Kern County is illustrated as Supervisor Milton Miller (l) and Supervisor John Holt (r) chat with guests at annual Board of Trade-sponsored Chamber Presidents Dinner. With them are Robert Duguid, second from left, president of the Ridgecrest Chamber of Commerce, and Bill Wadkins, president of the Taft Chamber of Commerce. The two cities are 160 miles apart.

Crippled Kids Can Be Helped!



Give To EASTER SEALS



VISITING CADETS — Twenty Idaho Wing Civil Air Patrol cadets from Twin Falls, Idaho visited the Center last week. The group was accompanied on their tour of the Center by: (front row, l-r) Denny Kline, NWC Presentations Coordinator; LtCol. John Mosley, USAF, Director of Operations and Training for Denver Regional CAP; Capt. L. Boyd Johnson, CAP, Pocatello Squadron Commander; 1stLt. Charles Gilmore, CAP, Aerospace Education Officer; 1stLt. John T. Walsh, CAP, Deputy Commander and Chief of Staff; and Maj. Charles Ross, Commander, China Lake Squadron No. 84. The CAPs witnessed weapons delivery tactics developed by Air Test and Evaluation Squadron FIVE and were briefed by Lt. G. E. Fant USN, Operations Officer, Weapons Development Dept., and Lt. J. A. Lockard USN, NAF Attack Systems Project Officer on the pilots' responsibility at NWC, NAF, and in the Fleet.

Previous GEBA Assessment Announcement In Error

Assessment 176-104 of the Government Employees Benefit Association and the China Lake Mutual Aid Society, for the death of Leta B. Herndon, was "waived" and is not due as previously announced.

Members who have already mailed a payment for 176-104 will be given credit on their account for the next assessment.

From _____

TO _____

STAMP

Pierre St. Amand Discounts Earthquake Scare

Self-styled oracles and other superstitious harbingers of doom have of late been frightening persons needlessly with foundless predictions about the future of parts of California, particularly that portion of the State that is situated to the west of the San Andreas Fault.

"These people are in the same class as Chicken Little. Their predictions are groundless and serve no useful purpose," exclaimed Dr. Pierre St. Amand, Head of the Center's Earth and Planetary Sciences Division when interviewed about the matter.

"There are many serious scientists who are trying to learn how to predict earthquakes. So far, no good system has been developed and apart from the general knowledge that an area that has suffered earthquakes in the near past is likely to do so in the future, we are not in a position to pinpoint the exact time occurrence, magnitude or place of an earthquake."

It is possible to foresee some of the consequences of a given earthquake in a particular area and a lot of thought has gone into this sort of work

by people interested in the problem of disaster prevention. Emergency materials are stockpiled in various places to ensure rapid repair of water and power sources and similar matters.

"Because we cannot now predict earthquakes, neither can we say that one will not occur. On the other hand, we do know that the very large earthquakes are extremely infrequent and that the probability of one happening on any given day is quite small," Dr. St. Amand continued.

"While most earthquakes are

accompanied by some change in land level and many such cases have been documented in detail, there is absolutely no reason to expect any large part of the state to sink or slide into the sea in any one earthquake or series of earthquakes. The most extreme changes noted in recent years have been of the order of 20 ft. vertical movement and it is not likely that that will be exceeded.

"At the present time, should an earthquake occur, there will be more than the usual amount of landsliding and

slumping because of all the rain that has occurred in the last few months. Indeed, there will be some more of this sort of thing with or without an earthquake."

"As for me," he went on, "I can think of a lot of other things that are more worth worrying about than having all of California, west of the San Andreas Fault, sinking beneath the sea."

Predictors Show Lousy Record
Dr. Charles F. Richter, who devised the Richter scale for measuring the magnitude of (Continued on Page 8)



Center Curtails RIF Procedures

New Ceiling To Be Reached Through Attrition and Restrictive Hiring

Capt. M. R. Etheridge, NWC Commander, announced today that official instructions from Washington have allowed him to reduce the impact of a large Reduction-In-Force action that was originally planned for completion by June 30, 1969.

The recent communication, from Chief of Naval Material, directs the Commander to attempt to lower the on-board count of the Center through attrition and restricted hiring rather than through the means of previously announced Reduction-In-Force procedures.

In this manner, it is hoped that the workforce will be realigned in a less painful manner. Reduction-in-Force procedures, while continuing as a management tool available for realignment of the work force will not be used for the purpose of achieving the Center's authorized ceiling.

As of this date, there are 4820 employees on the Center roles. The new ceiling of 4650 will be reached by filling vacancies on a "three out of ten" basis, and by not replacing some of the billets that have been vacated due to retirement, firings, or transfers.

Began in September
The orderly use of attrition

processes currently planned by Center management caps a series of announcements by the Chief of Naval Material that began back in September of 1968 when it was announced that civilian positions within the 15 Naval Laboratories would be reduced by 2400 billets in compliance with the Reserve and Expenditures Control Act.

In addition, the original mandate directed the action to be completed by January 31, 1969.

At the Naval Weapons Center, the cutback would have reflected a reduction in numbers by 478, since the on-board count at the time of the announcement was approximately 5100 and the new ceiling that had to be reached was 4622.

A later announcement by Capt. Etheridge notified Center personnel that the date for completion of the planned reduction had been postponed to June 30, 1969, but that the number and type of work force realignment had not been appreciably changed with respect to the conditions of the original announcement from the Chief of Naval Material.

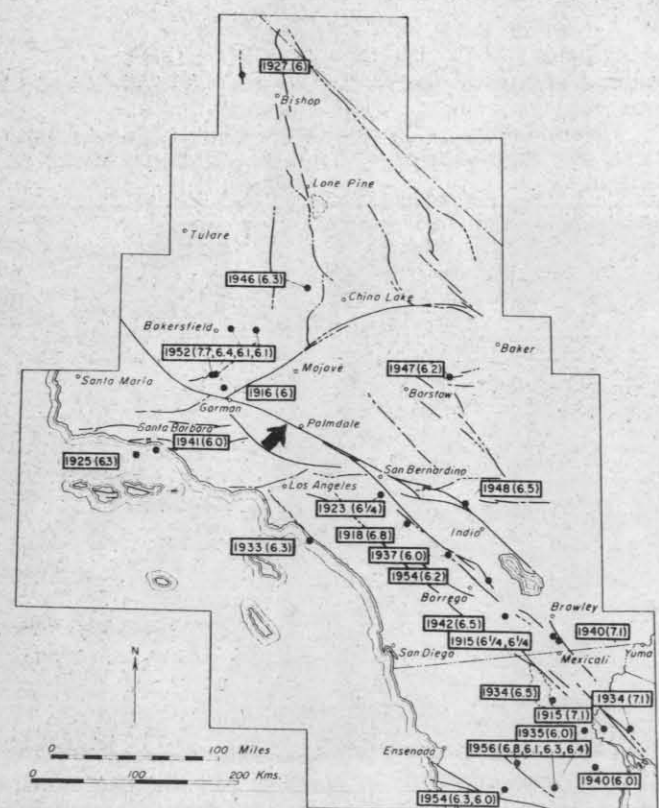
The Commander will promulgate future developments on this subject as more information becomes available.



CASTLE IN THE FAIR — Designer Keith Skidmore, center, displays the approved model for the Kern County exhibit to be shown in the 1969 Cal-Expo State Fair at Sacramento. With him are Supervisor Vance Webb (l) and Judge Richard Ledwidge of Mojave, director of the Board of Trade. "Kern County — California's Golden Empire," will be the exhibit theme for 1969.



DR. PIERRE ST. AMAND



EARTHQUAKE HISTORY — Depicted above is a drawing that shows the San Andreas Fault (arrow), and a record of earthquakes that have occurred in the Southern California region between the years 1912 and 1963. The San Andreas Fault stretches from Point Arenas to the Gulf of California.

A toothache is a pain that drives you to extraction.

CHAPLAIN'S MESSAGE

Seeing Things
As They Are

By CHAPLAIN GORDON A. READ



Someone has said, "Happy is the man that can enjoy the scenery when he has to take a detour." A converse statement would indicate that many people are unhappy, because they miss much of life, hurrying to find it.

A few years ago, a college class conducted an experiment in which members were blindfolded and led barefoot along a path through a wooded area near their campus. The newly sensed presence of small animal sounds, fragrances from many wild flowers, and the prickly carpet of pine needles came as a surprising revelation for those who had never seen more with their eyes than a blur of green, or heard with deafened ears more than the din of traffic noise, nor felt more than anxious frustration while commuting back and forth on the nearby freeway.

In this age of "telling it like it is," we may also need a little more of "seeing things as they are." Quite frequently we are in such a hurry to find meaning or happiness, or are so insensitive to the qualities of life which produce them, that we fail to achieve our goal. We find instead, having journeyed to the point at which we thought happiness would be found, that happiness and meaning had been passed by, unrecognized, along the way.

Marshall McLuhan's thesis that "The Medium is the Message" is another application of the principles, "The life is in the living." Do I see things as they really are?



DEDICATION PLANNED — Sewell "Pop" Lofinck, Desert Philosopher and long-time friend of "Seldom Seen Slim", recently visited Slim's grave site at Boot Hill Cemetery near the ghost town of Ballarat shown in the background. At 10:30 a.m., Saturday, March 15, a plaque for Slim's tombstone will be dedicated during a ceremony at Boot Hill, and the public is invited to attend according to Mrs. D. Manwell of the Ballarat Store. Charles J. Ferge acquired his famous nickname of "Seldom Seen Slim" because of his fondness for solitude—just gazing at the stars and dreaming of the past. Slim came to Ballarat in 1913 and for a long time he was the one-man population of the old mining town. Slim died on Sunday, August 11, 1968.

The Rocketeer

Official Weekly Publication
U. S. Naval Weapons Center
China Lake, California

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DEADLINES:

News Stories Tuesday, 4:30 p.m.

Photographs Tuesday, 11:30 a.m.

The Rocketeer receives Armed Forces Press Service material. All are official U. S. Navy photos unless otherwise identified. Printed weekly with appropriated funds in compliance with NAVJCS P-35, revised July 1958. Office at Nimitz and Lauritzen.

Phones 71354, 71655, 72082

DIVINE
SERVICES

Protestant (All-Faith Chapel)—
Morning Worship—8:15 and 11 a.m.
Sunday School—9:30 a.m., Chapel Annexes 1, 2, 3, 4 (Dorms 5, 6, 7, 8) located opposite Center Restaurant.

Roman Catholic (All-Faith Chapel)—
Holy Mass—7, 9:30 a.m., and 12:30 p.m. Sunday.

Daily Mass—11:30 a.m. in Blessed Sacrament Chapel. Saturday, 8:30 a.m.

Confessions—7 to 8 p.m. Saturday.

NWC Jewish Services (East Wing All-Faith Chapel)—8 p.m. every first and third Friday.

Sabbath School—10 a.m. to noon, every first and third Saturday.

Unitarian Fellowship—(Chapel Annex 95, 95 King Ave.)—Sundays, 7:30 p.m.

PROMOTIONAL
OPPORTUNITIES

Present Center employees are encouraged to apply for the positions listed below. Applications should be accompanied by an up-to-date Form 58. The fact that positions are advertised here does not preclude the use of other means to fill these vacancies.

The vacancies listed below are effective from March 14 to 21, 1969.

Physicist, Aerospace, Electrical or Electronic Engineer, or Physical Chemist, GS-9, 11, 12, or 13, Code 4535 — Incumbent will serve as project engineer for NWC studies of RF interference by rocket exhaust plumes and as coordinator for NASC work in the same field. Primary responsibility will involve theoretical studies of the effects of exhaust plumes or the propagation of electromagnetic radiation. The incumbent will also be responsible for planning and coordinating experimental measurements of interference and for relating the theoretical and experimental work to problems encountered in guided missile systems.

File applications for above with Jan Bixler, Rm. 24, Phone 72723.

Clerk Typist, GS-4, Intermittent, Code 3002 — This position is located in the Systems Development Department, Planning and Administration Staff. The incumbent will be assigned to various units of the Department to perform clerical and typing duties.

Physical Science Aid, GS-2, 3, 4 or 5, Code 3032 — Incumbent prepares a wide variety of film processing solution used in the operation of the Photographic Laboratory. There is considerable lifting and movement of bulk materials. Close attention must be paid to weighing devices and bulk mixing of chemicals.

File application for above with Fawn Haycock, Room 34, Personnel Bldg. Ph. 71514. Clerk-Typist, GS-322-4, or 5, Code 4505 — Position to provide clerical functions for the Propulsion Administration Group. Duties include ability to type technical reports, forms; simple bookkeeping will be required; ability to meet public.

File applications for above with Jan Bixler, Rm. 24, Bldg. 34, Phone 72723.

Claims Clerk, GS-998-06, Code 2598 — This position is located in the Material Division, Traffic Branch, Inspection Section of the Supply Department. The purpose of this position is to inspect household goods of military personnel on both inbound and outbound shipments, analyze claims from household goods shippers, assume duties of Head, Household Goods and Shipping and Crating Branch in the absence of that supervisor, and conduct specialized studies assigned by the Head, Material Division.

File applications for the above with Carole Cadde, Bldg. 34, Rm. 26, Ext. 71648.

Computer Aid, GS-335-4 or 5, Code 6504 — The position provides support for the Personnel Computer System. The incumbent checks input source documents and computer output files for accuracy and consistency; keypunches computer programs, and input data for Personnel and Training master files; submits programs to the computer and distributes computer reports and other output; keeps records of tapes in use; completes program documentation, e.g., listings, flowcharts, and sample output; assists in preparation and distribution of personnel reports. GS-4 needs 2 years of general experience and GS-5 needs 2 years of general experience and 1 year of specialized experience.

File application for above with Sue Prasolowicz, Bldg. 34, Rm. 28, Ext. 71577. Civil Engineering Technician (Drafting), GS-802-6, PD No. 970083, Code 7036 — Position is located in the Public Works Department, Engineering Division, Civil Branch. The work covers alterations and improvements, construction, replacement, maintenance and repair of roads, runways, drainage facilities, civil structures, water and sewage systems, pipelines, and tests for materials used for maintenance and construction, as required. Qualifications: X-118, 2 years general experience and 2 years specialized. The specialized experience must have involved nonprofessional technical work in, or very closely allied to, the option in which eligibility is assigned.

File applications with Dora Childers, Code 657, Room 32, Bldg. 34, Phone 71393.

Sewage Disposal Plant Operator, JD No. 216-2, Code 70451 — Operates, oils, cleans and makes minor adjustments on all equipment such as booster, sludge, recirculating pumps, settling tank motors, rotary filter arms, digesters, pre-aerators, hydraulic lifts, furnaces, etc.; maintains plant records; furnaces, etc.; maintains plant records; prepares reports as required. Orders supplies as needed. Qualifications: Must have had not less than 2 years of practical experience in the operation, maintenance and repair of sewage pumping equipment and machinery.

File applications with Dora Childers, Code 657, Room 32, Bldg. 34, Phone 71393. Clerk Typist, GS-3 or 4, Code 305 — The incumbent is responsible for preparing transmittals, official letters, memorandums, travel orders, clearance requests, time cards, etc.; receiving and distributing incoming mail, and maintaining office files.

File application for above with Fawn Haycock, Room 34, Personnel Bldg. Ph. 71514.

(Continued on Page 7)

EDITORIAL

The "THC" Habit

Why all the fuss about drugs?
What does it have to do with me?
And besides whose business is it anyway, what I think or do about drugs?

These are some of the questions concerning the use and misuse of drugs being asked by the citizens of our nation and of the free world. Don't be misled however, the communist world is also being plagued by an extensive misuse of drugs.

The question of the sudden interest in the misuse of drugs is easy to answer. In the past several years there has been an increase in the misuse or abuse of beneficial drugs as well as dangerous drugs. The dangerous drugs, of primary interest here, can lead to psychological dependence; moreover, certain drugs, such as LSD, STP, and marijuana — the hallucinogens — can damage your mind, and have no known medical benefit whatsoever.

To get a glimpse of why the fuss about drugs, just take a brief look at the effects that one of the hallucinogenic drugs alone might have on the human body and mind.

Marijuana, known also as "pot" or "grass", is the most frequently abused of the hallucinogenic drugs.

Very little is known concerning its long-termed effects, but in



its mildest forms it does not appear to be physically dangerous. Nevertheless, you can't be certain that it is totally safe, for in its stronger forms, marijuana can cause psychotic reactions in almost everyone.

Marijuana's active ingredient, tetrahydrocannabinol or "THC", is potentially very dangerous, and while a given dosage may not have apparent ill effects on another person, that fact is no protection for you.

The use of marijuana is particularly hazardous. While under its influence, concepts of time and space can be radically distorted, and response to an emergency becomes unpredictable. A "pot" at the wheel of an automobile makes it a deadly dangerous weapon to others and a booby trap to himself.

Another important reason for not using "pot" stems from its being against Federal law to use or possess. The penalties can be as much as 10 years in the penitentiary and a \$20,000 fine for a first offense. Its sale, use, or possession is likewise a violation of the Uniform Code of Military Justice, punishable by court-martial with a dishonorable discharge and up to five years in prison as the end results.

Only the individual can decide if he desires to get caught in the drug trap, so take time out to think — is a few moments of false pleasure worth a lifetime of sorrow? (AFPS)

CENTER LIBRARY LISTS NEW BOOKS

A complete list of new books is available in the library.

Fiction

Delany—Nova.

Garve—Ascent of D-13.

Stewart—Heads.

Westheimer—Song of the

Young Sentry.

Non-Fiction

American Heritage—History

of Flight.

Boyd—Free to Live, Free to

Die.

Daniels—Washington Quad-

rille.

Durant—Rousseau and Revo-

lution.

Lasagna—Life, Death and the

Doctor.

Sierra Club—Glacier Bay.

Sunset—National Parks of the

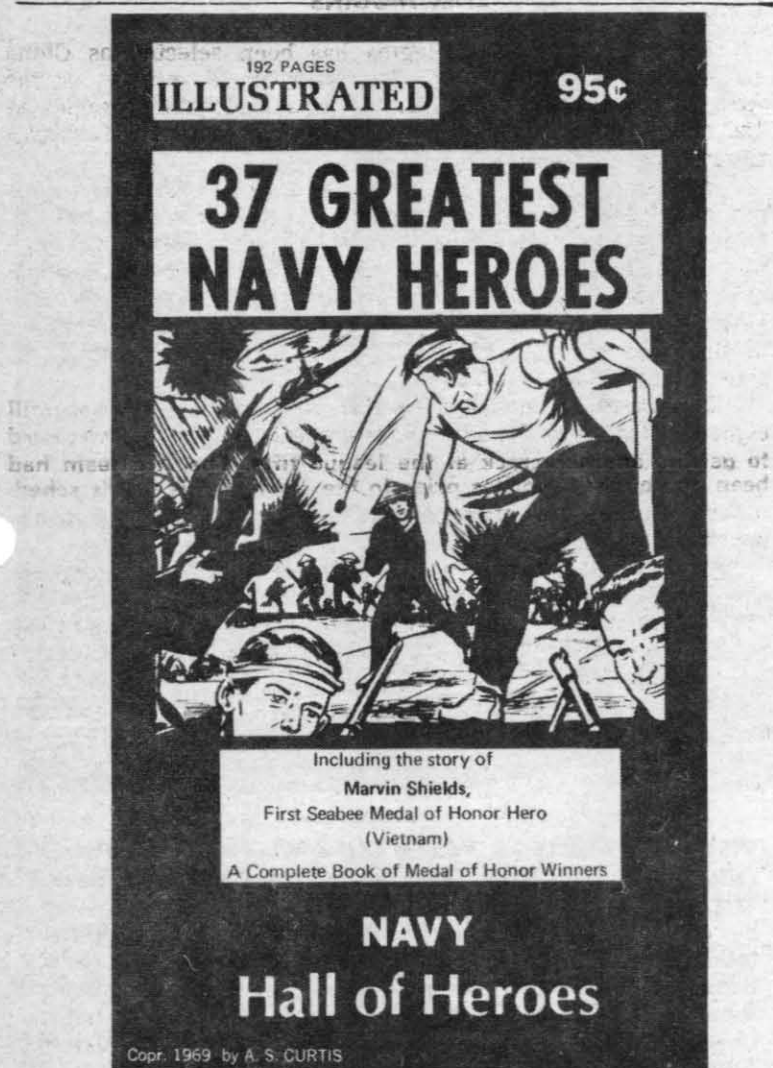
West.



FESTIVAL COMMITTEE — Meeting for the first time at the home of the General Chairman of the upcoming Wildflower Festival, Mrs. Anne Etheridge, WACOM Committee members gather to discuss future arrangements for this year's show. Left to right they are: Judy Lind, Donna Goettig, Lorraine McClung, Margaret Meck, and Joan Robcke. This year's event is set for April 26 and 27.



PROMOTION — Lt. (jg) Robert W. Cummings was promoted to Lieutenant recently in a brief ceremony at the Naval Air Facility. Capt. L. A. Dewing, NAF Commanding Officer, and Mrs. Cummings assisted in attaching the new shoulder boards. Cummings is the Avionics Officer at the Naval Air Facility.



NAVY HEROES — Just published pictorial pocketbook dramatically portrays selected Navy Congressional Medal of Honor winners, led by story of Construction Mechanic Third Class Marvin Shields, first SEABEE in history to receive this nation's highest honor and first Navy man awarded the Medal in the Vietnam war. Now available in all Navy Exchange stores worldwide, book is published by A. S. Curtis Enterprises, National Press Building 816, Washington, D.C., 20004, and marks the 1969 March celebration of the U.S. Navy "CAN DO!" SEABEES 27th year as a proud part of the United States Armed Forces.

Youth Center
Sponsors Dance

The China Lake Youth Center will sponsor a high school-college dance at the Community Center on Friday from 8 to 11:30 p.m.

Music will be provided by "The Bloomfield Telephone." This group is well known by the young set in other areas.

Admission to the dance will be \$1.50 per person and all those attending will be required to show their Youth Activities membership card, or a high school or college student body card.

California
To Celebrate
Wildlife Week

Californians were urged today by Ray Arnett, Director of the Department of Fish and Game, to join in observance of National Wildlife Week, March 16-22.

"Provide habitat — places where wildlife live," is the theme of 1969 Wildlife Week, and calls attention to the growing urgency to protect and provide natural areas that can support wildlife.

"This year's theme is more than just a slogan," Arnett said. "It provides a call to action that all of us can take to protect existing wildlife habitat and develop additional areas for wildlife."

Arnett emphasized that providing wildlife habitat is a job for individuals and conservation and civic organizations as well as government agencies such as the Department of Fish and Game.

"Some of the most effective work that has been done has been accomplished by public spirited individuals and our great conservation organizations," Arnett said. "The job of preserving our wildlife habitat can't be left just to the limited resources of government."

Wildlife Week is sponsored by the National Wildlife Federation and its state affiliate, the California Wildlife Federation.

Little League
Registration

Registration for the China Lake Little League's 1969 baseball season will be held for boys 8 through 12 at the Groves School auditorium on March 19 and 25.

Permission has been granted to distribute registration cards throughout the China Lake School District, according to John Hartwig, League President.

"However," he added, "should any boy living in the China Lake or Desert Park housing area fail to get a card, they are to contact me or the Player Agent, Robin Fuller."

Proof of birth must accompany all registrations, Hartwig emphasized.

Qualifying tryouts for the Major League will be held March 29 and April 5 for all 10, 11, and 12 year olds.

Social Security Rep.
At Community Center
Wednesday, Mar. 19

All employees with questions about Social Security provisions may contact a representative from the Administration here next Wednesday, March 19.

He will be at the Community Center from 8:30 to 11:30 a.m., and is available for consultation.

Chaparral Has
'Depress' Soul

"The Depress Soul" will be on the bandstand again at the Club Chaparral on March 14. Tickets are still on sale, by the way for the big "Bierstube" (German night). For more information, contact Mike Weinberg, Manager, Club Chaparral, Ext. 72274.



ARMY COMMENDATION MEDAL AWARDED — Specialist Four E-4 Lonnie D. Brannon (c), U.S. Army, was presented the Army Commendation Medal with "V" Device by Capt. R. Williamson, NWC Executive Officer, during a brief ceremony attended by his mother, Mrs. J. Dean Brannon of Trona, California. The award for valor reads "For heroism against an armed hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam. Specialist Brannon distinguished himself while serving as a Squad Leader . . . with complete disregard for his own safety, began to lay down an intense base of effective fire to allow his men to safely deploy and allow the remainder of the company to move to the patrol's aid. At this time Specialist Brannon was severely wounded. But, despite his wounds and the fact that he was in an exposed position, he continued laying an intense volume of fire on the enemy position. His brave action served as an inspiration to his patrol members and contributed greatly to their mission." Presently, Brannon is living in Trona with his mother and plans to return to Southeastern State College in Durant, Oklahoma.

Promotional

(Continued from Page 2)

cock, Room 34, Bldg. 34, Ph. 71514.

Carpenter, JD No. 177, Code 70411 — Incumbent builds, repairs, and makes alterations to wood structures of buildings. Constructs, repairs, and installs various wooden articles and items of equipment. Qualifications: J-Element.

Automotive Equipment Serviceman, JD No. 142-1, Code 707 — Services automotive equipment with gasoline, checks oil level, adds oil, checks radiators, cleans windshields, checks tires, and checks batteries. Lubricates automotive equipment and changes and patches tires and tubes. Qualifications: Applicants must have had not less than six months of experience as a service station attendant, or laborer in the automotive field. Substitution of six months training in a resident automotive trade school may be substituted for the six months of required experience.

Electrician, JD No. 180, Code 70431 (4 vacancies) — Constructs, installs, maintains, and repairs various electrical wiring systems, electrical controls, electrically operated equipment, or instruments, and light and heavy electrical machinery. Qualifications: J-Elements. For all positions that require the J-Elements standards, applicants should pick up Supplemental Rating Forms in Room 32, Personnel Bldg.

File applications with Dora Childers, Code 657, Room 32, Phone 71393. Laborer (Heavy), JD No. 155-3, Code 704 Performs any one or a combination of a large variety of unskilled or low skilled tasks requiring predominantly physical exertion of a heavy or arduous type. Qualifications: J-Element Standards.

File applications with Dora Childers, Code 657, Room 32, Phone 71393. Non-Local Competitive Promotion Examination for Superintendent (Public Works) I, issued 10 March 1969, Ann. No. 5(69) WF-NAD. Place of Employment is at the U.S. Naval Ammunition Depot, Hawthorne, Nevada, and applications will be accepted from career and career-conditioned employees of Naval establishments nationwide. File Application Card Form NAVEXOS-4155-AB, Registration Card Form NAVEXOS-4156-AB and Standard Form 171 with the Industrial Relations Officer, U.S. Naval Ammunition Depot, Hawthorne, Nevada not later than the close of business on the 14 of April, 1969.

Caseworkers Needed

A Red Cross class for case-work volunteers will be held March 25 and 26. Anyone interested in spending one weekday per month in this vital and interesting work please call Mrs. George Silberg, 375-2356, for further details.

The Dental Department of NWC, China Lake will administer the Navy three-agent stannous fluoride treatment to military and retired military dependent children six years of age and older who have not had the treatment in the past six months.

The program will be conducted during the Easter vacation, March 31 through April 4. Appointments can be made by calling the Base Dental Clinic, phone no. 71581, during the week March 25-28.

All parents are urged to take advantage of this program for the improvement of the dental health of your children.

Burros Vocal
Ensemble Wins
'A' for Effort

A score equivalent to an academic "A" was awarded to the Burroughs High School Concert Choir for its performance at the Vocal Ensemble Festival presented by the Central California Music Educators Association at Harvey Auditorium in Bakersfield on March 7.

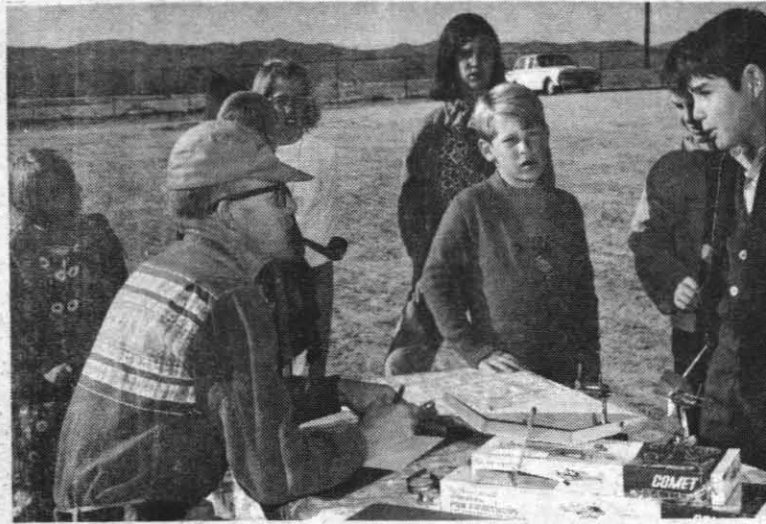
Under the direction of Earl Sherburn they sang "Then Shout Thou Understand Righteousness" by Jean Berger, "Vondrous Cool, Thou Woodland Quiet" by Brahms, and "Three Madrigals" by Diemer.

Three different judges evaluated the choirs on choral tone, intonation, blend, balance, rhythm, diction, repertoire, stage appearance, and pitch.

Although the groups were not competing with each other, each was awarded grades for performance.

Out of 27 letter grades which could be received in these categories, the Burroughs choir acquired 17 A's and 10 B's for a total of 3.71, the same as an A grade.

Model Airplane Meet Held



MODEL PLANE CONTEST — Earl Donaldson, Contest Director and a member of the Alkali Angels (local model airplane club), registers last Saturday's contestants at the model airplane meet held on Burroughs High School baseball field. Information will be forthcoming on the second meet planned for late April or early May. Firm plans will be announced.

The model airplane meet got off to a flying start last Saturday morning at eight a.m. and finished at 10 a.m. — just before the wind began to blow. Forty-two contestants and parents met at the Burroughs High School baseball field with the Alkali Angels and other interested onlookers to launch the Valley's first model airplane contest.

Youngest contestant was Lacey Payne, age three and one-half. Although her model plane seemingly refused to cooperate, at least she tried. Appropriately, she was awarded a small model airplane kit as the prize for the youngest entrant.

First place winner in Class One (age 10 and under) was Tom McLane, age 9; flying time of 42.2 seconds. Second place in Class One went to Curt Schneider, age 8; flying time of 41.1.

Class two (age 11-14) first place winner was David Meeker, age 12; flying time of 47.52 seconds. Mike Sinnott, age 12, was second place winner with a flying time of 41 seconds.

Both first place winners were awarded trophies donated by the Indian Wells Valley Council of Navy League. Second place prizes consisted of model airplane kits. All model airplane prizes were donated by the NWC Carpenter Hobby Shop.

Two additional contests are planned in the future. The second event will be with rubber band powered models. The same classifications and age limits will prevail, and it is anticipated that the second contest will take place near the end of April or early May.

The three model planes used in the contests are all designed by Frank Zaic, editor of the world-famous Model Aircraft Year Books, and Sunnyvale manufacturer of the contest models. Zaic was the only manufacturer who would provide models on a consignment basis.

Earl Donaldson, Contest Director and member of the Alkali Angels Model Airplane Club, reports that no profit is realized by any club from the sale of these models.

The models were selected because they are the simplest and most rewarding in performance for the youngster. Not only are they inexpensive and easy to assemble, but they "will fly," if the assembler will follow directions for putting them together.

Several families have made the model meet a "family affair." The Howard Payne family turned out en masse with six entrants, including three and one-half year old Lacey.

In addition to providing a contest director, the Alkali Angels are providing timing and judging for each event.

Contest rules require that the model conform to drawings. Each contestant is allowed five hand launch attempts. No catapult launches will be permitted. Contest time is the total of three longest flights. Flight time starts when model leaves the hand and terminates when model comes to rest, including flight termination when hitting an obstacle. Mid-air collision of models may void flight at the option of contestants involved. A void flight is not considered an attempt.

Registration Held for Pony, Colt Leagues

Managers and coaches are required for teams in the 1969 Indian Wells Valley Pony and Colt Leagues, it was announced this week by Bob Nelligan, League President.

Plans for this youth program, open to all valley boys ages 13 through 16, are now being developed by a number of Ridgecrest and China Lake adults. League games will start May 19th with practice sessions starting about May 1st. Approximately 175 boys will participate in this nationally affiliated program this spring and summer with details regarding player registration to be published in the Rocketeer next week.

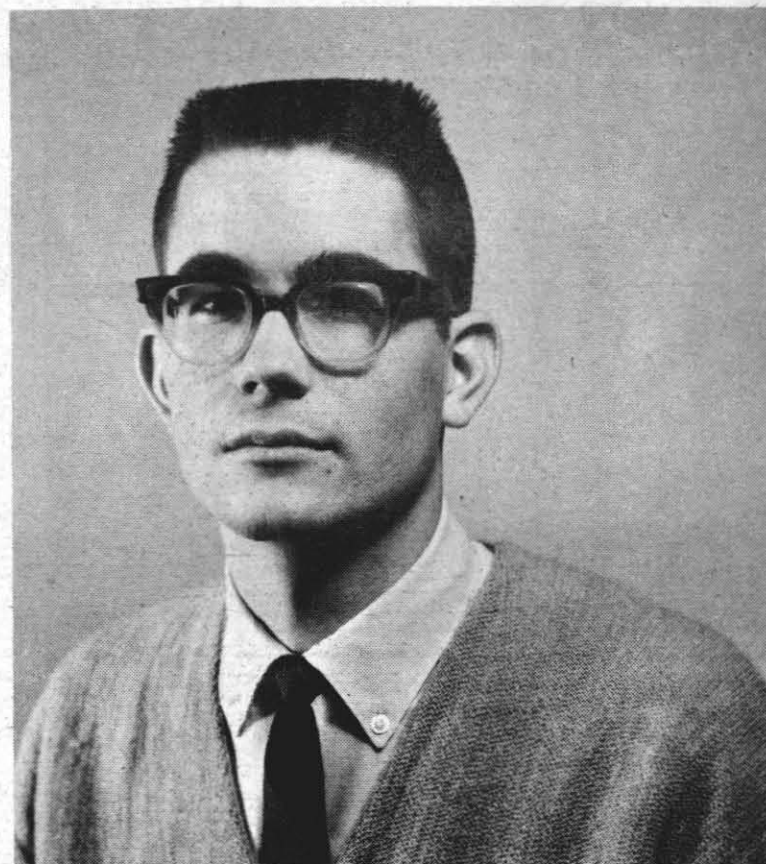
All boys born between August 1, 1954 and July 31, 1956 and reside in the Indian Wells Valley are eligible to participate. In addition, a five dollar (\$5.00) registration fee is required to defray the cost of insurance, equipment, umpires and other operations.

Any boy who did not participate in the IYW Pony/Colt League last year must present a birth certificate at registration time.

There will be two nights reserved for registration in China Lake and Ridgecrest. Registration will be held on Thursday, March 27 from 7 to 9 p.m. at Groves School Auditorium in China Lake, and in Room 13 at James Monroe School in Ridgecrest. Registration will also be open on Thursday, April 3.

Adults interested in serving as managers or coaches in this teen-age athletic program are invited to call the League President or Gordon Peacock, Colt League Vice-President or George Wright, Pony-Colt Treasurer.

Athlete of the Month



TIM HIGGINS

Basketball star Tim Higgins has been selected as China Lake's Athlete of the Month for February. A member of the Ace TV club during the recent season, Higgins finished as the league's top scorer, hitting 245 points for a 16.3 average during the 15 game schedule.

It was the first full season of basketball at China Lake for the 6'3" native of the San Francisco bay area. Higgins arrived at the Center last year in time to participate in the final four games of the 67-68 schedule, and later played softball as a member of the China Lake championship team, the Engineers. Despite his relatively short time as an active member of the local sports program, Higgins has become an enthusiastic participant.

Basketball is his first love, and with the 69-70 season still eight months away, he and his teammates are looking forward to getting another crack at the league title. The Ace team had been one of the favorites prior to the start of this year's schedule but suffered a mid-season collapse and finished a disappointing third.

"We had a good ball club this past year but during the second half of the season we couldn't do anything," he recalled. "We lost Ted Bailey around the first of the year and at that time most of the other teams started to play us man to man. We just couldn't get adjusted to it."

Higgins felt that he did much better against the zone defense, although the scoring statistics fail to uphold the theory. "I'm an outside shooter, and against the zone you just get more time to shoot," he said.

Higgins played high school basketball in the bay area then went on to play a year of freshman ball at Cal Poly. He tried to make the varsity but was "too small to play forward and couldn't handle the ball well enough to play guard."

He feels that although the China Lake league is strong, the players are much smaller than the ones he faced in college. "Also the teams in college get a lot better coaching than they do in an intramural league," he added.

Higgins did have plenty of praise for the China Lake Basketball League, particularly the Loewen's Falcons and the VX-5 Vampires. He felt that the Falcons' main asset was that they had depth and were extremely well handled by Coach Dennis Henden. As for the champion Vampires, he summed it up in one sentence. "They sure can run."



GASHOUSE GANG? — Varsity horsehiders at Burroughs take time out to have a memory captured, then went right to work to beat Bishop last week. They head for Lancaster this weekend to play in a pre-season tournament at Antelope Valley High. Standing, left to right, are: Ralph Corn, Manager; Danny Mercado, Jerry Crow, Mark Ston-

er, Bob Kirkpatrick, Scott Christman, Cary Dabbs, Alan Turner, Tracy Fifer, Wayne Wooten, and Varsity Coach, Bob Hicks. Front row, l-r, are Frank Koonz, Brad Christman, Danny Pinto, Dan Robinson, David Williams, Kennard Horsley, Sam Miller, Rick Telles, John Franich, and Earl Machowsky. Their record thus far is 2-0.

State Department Claims Drug Addiction Worldwide Problem

Narcotic drug addiction formerly was confined to only a few countries of the world, but today there are no frontiers to drug abuse and no country can be immune from it.

A State Department publication, Foreign Policy Briefs, observed that drug addiction is "spreading like an epidemic and is reaching out to new groups of people, especially the young. It is supplied almost 100 per cent by illicitly produced narcotic drugs."

DOD Booklet

The Department of Defense, concerned with drug abuse, has published a booklet called "Drug Abuse — Game Without Winners" and said in the preface, "Drugs can benefit all mankind when used as intended. When abused, they can be harmful, not only to the abuser, but also to those who may be dependent on him."

The United Nations also has shown concern in the drug situation. Despite its earnest efforts to reduce world opium production to the level required for legitimate medical and scientific purposes, and the provisions for international control provided by the 1961 Single Convention which governs international control of narcotics, the evil persists.

The State Department publication notes that this "evil" is particularly serious in the United States, which has about 65,000 known active drug addicts, an increase of nearly 40 per cent since 1960. More than 90 per cent of these people are addicted to heroin, which is not produced here but is smuggled into the country. Available statistics indicate that heroin seizures this year will be well over 200 kilograms — more than any other year in this decade.

Arrests Rising

During the period 1960-67, arrests of drug addicts increased 165 per cent. Total arrests for persons under the age of 18 have risen about 64 per cent in the past eight years. Arrests of such youngsters for drug-related offenses showed a staggering increase of 774 per cent.

In New York City alone, where more than 30,543 addicts were reported in 1967, diseases related to narcotic addiction were responsible for more

deaths within the 15-35 age group than any other cause. Eighty-five per cent of all deaths attributed to narcotics abuse occur in this age group.

The most dramatic increase in illicit drug traffic in the United States is abuse of cannabis (marijuana). Polls indicate that from 6-15 per cent of our six million college students have used cannabis on one or more occasions.

Opium, cannabis, and coca leaf are produced illicitly in many parts of the world. Ironically, the producers of these drugs are poor farmers and their families who get little profit from their crop. It is the criminal, the middle man, who organizes and feeds on this traffic, and who makes the price of these drugs multiply many hundreds of times before they reach the addict.

To fight drug addiction effectively this illicit production must be stamped out at the source, in the areas of production, the State Department publication said.

The need for all countries to eliminate clandestine narcotics operations has never been greater. The need for constant exchange of the intelligence information concerning illicit international trafficking has never been more apparent, the publication asserted.

"It is not desirable to eliminate all production for there is obviously legitimate medical need for narcotic drugs," the publication said. "Also, when a country wishes to take land out of opium production it must provide the grower with an alternative means of livelihood."

"Conditions have to be created," it continued, "in which the well-being of these peoples is advanced as they find a genuine economic interest in giving up narcotics production for new forms of activity."

This is the purpose of a recently adopted resolution of the 23d U.N. General Assembly. It calls on the Secretary-General, interested governments, the U.N. Commission on Narcotic Drugs, and the International Narcotics Control Board to develop plans for alternative economic activities, especially alternative crops, for some narcotics-producing farmers.

Museum Authors Autograph Books



MATURANGO PRESS AUTHORS — Left to right, Jim Baird, Ken Pringle, and Campbell Grant, co-authors of the recent Maturango Press Publication, "Drawings of the Coso Range," autograph first run copies for purchasers at a tea held recently at the home of Capt. and Mrs. Etheridge. The new book is currently on sale at the Museum.

Pageant Working Committee Formed



PAGEANT COMMITTEE — Members of the Entry Committee for the Miss Ridgecrest-China Lake Pageant meet for the first time. Members (l-r) are Lurlene Kemp, Beverly Ahern, chairman (standing), Tony Squillace, O. A. (Gabe) Imer, Rev. Fred L. Strathdee,

John Emery, Asst. Pageant Director, Margy Zinke, Pageant Director, and Mrs. Melvin R. Etheridge. Pageant will be staged at the Center Theater on Saturday, May 24. Applications for prospective entrants are available at the Ridgecrest Chamber.

Members of the first working committee of the Miss Ridgecrest-China Lake Pageant, have been named. Known as the Entry Committee, it will have the responsibility of screening all the entries.

Committee members are Beverly Ahern, Burroughs High School senior counselor, chairman; Mrs. Melvin R. Etheridge, Lurlene Kemp, 1967 pageant modeling coach; O. A. (Gabe) Imer, master of ceremonies for the event in 1967; Jim Poore, 1967 Pageant Director; Tony Squillace, Manager, Ridgecrest branch of Bank of America, and Rev. Fred L. Strathdee, Pastor of the United Methodist Church.

The responsibility of the Entry Committee members is to

personally interview the candidates and explain the rules and regulations of the pageant. They will also inform the candidate what is expected of her as a contestant.

In addition, committee members will meet with the candidate's parents to answer any questions they might have regarding the pageant. They will explain the time a candidate must devote to the preparation of her talent act and to rehearsals.

Advisor to the committee is John Emery, of the China Lake Community Council, who is assistant pageant director.

April 19 Closing Date — Emery pointed out that the closing date for entries will be April 19. The pageant will be

staged at the Center Theater on Saturday, May 24.

Candidates may be between the ages of 17 and 27 years, single, and have lived in Kern County for the past six months. They will be judged on poise, personality, intelligence, charm, beauty, and talent. Talent will count 50 points in the judging.

Emery emphasized that the pageant is not only a beauty contest but an opportunity for young women of the community to receive higher education through a scholarship program.

Girls who would like to enter the Miss Ridgecrest-China Lake Pageant may obtain entry forms by calling the Ridgecrest Chamber of Commerce, at 375-8331.

China Lake BPW Select Boggs Career Woman

President Marjorie Reed has announced that the China Lake Business and Professional Women's Club selected Antoinette Boggs as Young Career Woman Candidate at the business meeting held on March 4, 1969, at the NWC Station Restaurant.

Mrs. Boggs is a Laboratory Technologist at Drummond Medical Center in Ridgecrest, has a B.A. degree from the College of Holy Names, Oakland, California, with a major in Biology and a minor in Chemistry, and is very active in church and community activity.

After Mrs. Boggs spoke briefly on her career goals, Shirley Sims, Young Career Woman Chairman, presented the qualifications of Mrs. Boggs, and it was unanimously agreed that she meets the criteria set forth by the California Federation of BPWC.

Mrs. Boggs will represent the China Lake BPW Club in competition at the Tri-Valley District annual meeting in Hollywood on April 19-20, 1969.



MINI-CARRIER — One of the Navy's smallest flattops is at "flight quarters" as an Army helo moves in for a landing somewhere in the Mekong Delta. The Navy and Army work very closely during all operations staged in the Mekong Delta area.

Kern County Featured in New California Recreation Almanac

Kern County recreation facilities are featured in the 1969 Boating and Fishing Almanac, a year-round guide for the Southern California sportsmen, the Kern County Board of Trade said today.

The Almanac gives information on Lake Isabella, Lake Woodlome and Lake Ming. The guide also describes camping facilities in the Kern River Valley, Sequoia National Forest, Kern River and Horse Meadows.

It also singles out Lake Isabella for special reference, describing it as a "California phenomenon that 12 years ago was unknown to the boating public." The lake covers 38 miles of shoreline and has become famous for year-round

fishing. It is recognized as the foremost bass lake in the state.

Kern's continuing place as a major attraction for fresh water boatmen is reflected in a recent study of pleasure boats in California. Results of the survey indicate Kern has 6,777 boats either plying its inland waters or at rest. Of this total, 6,443 are privately owned, 311 are for rent or hire, and 23 are listed as belonging to dealers or manufacturers.

By comparison, Santa Barbara County has a total of 5,080 boats, and Ventura County, 5,468. The largest county in terms of boats owned is Los Angeles with a total of 99,335.



Model Rocket Program To Be Organized Here

Registration is currently under way at the China Lake Youth Activities Center for a model rocket program that is to be offered in conjunction with the local chapter of the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics — provided there is enough interest among the young people of the community in such an activity.

It is proposed that this model rocket program consist of instruction in the basic physics of rocketry, as well as the design, building and launching of such missiles. Special emphasis will be placed on safety factors at all stages in the program, it was added.

Four professional advisors (all AIAA members) are prepared to help supervise the model rocket program. Chief advisor will be Howard Kelly, AIAA educational chairman. Firings will be coordinated with the Fire and Safety Departments, and with security police at the Naval Weapons Center.

A hobby - type program for youngsters who are interested in space exploration, this program is being offered to boys and girls from 13 years of age on up through high school.

There will be an initial registration fee of \$1 for those with a Youth Activities membership card and \$2.50 for those without such cards. Dues will be 25 cents per week for members and 50 cents weekly for non-members of the Youth Activities program.

Model rocket starter kits will be available at a cost of \$6.50 each, with the Youth Center supplying the paints, glues, sandpaper and other working tools. The Youth Center also will provide the fuel for supervised launchings, since members will not be permitted to purchase their own fuel.

Further information may be obtained by calling the Youth Center, NWC Ext. 72909.

China Lake Dog Control Action Revitalized

The Center has received a large number of complaints concerning dogs running loose, annoying neighbors and becoming a traffic hazard. As a result, the Indian Wells Valley Animal Control Officer has been requested to concentrate his patrolling time on trouble spots. This accelerated activity has resulted in warnings being issued to 24 persons and five persons being cited to the Community Hearing Board.

Increased patrolling will be helpful, but the problem will not be solved until the dog owning residents police themselves. The Community Council has been requested to assist Command in bringing about better citizen cooperation. The Council also was asked to study the feasibility of more rigid controls in the event the situation does not improve.

All residents of China Lake are urgently requested to keep their dogs on a leash, in a fenced enclosure or indoors. Please respect the rights of your neighbors and fellow workers.

Youth Employment Service Gets Boost



SERVICE CLUB DONATION — Youth Employment Service Student Director, Diane Franks, gladly accepts a \$200 check from Clarence Renne, the Kiwanis Club representative, as his organization's yearly contribution to the local Youth Employment Service. Looking on are representatives from

the five other service clubs who also make annual contributions which keep Y.E.S. functioning. Left to right, they are: Al Wacker, Rotary; Peg Blount, Altrusa; Ted Edwards, Optimists; Earl Powers, Lions; and Gilbert Pritchett, of the Knights of Columbus. The Y.E.S. helps all IYW youth.

Anyone under 21, ambitious, and having trouble finding employment will find that this telephone number, 375-1321, may well solve their problem. At the other end of the line sits a young lady by the name of Diane Franks. She is the student director for the Ridgecrest-China Lake area Youth Employment Service.

Organized in 1966, the Y.E.S. functions as a community service to assist young people in securing employment of all types. The service in this area was suggested by the California Department of Employment in view of the fact that the nearest state employment service is in Lancaster.

Originally, the service only operated during the summer months and, except for the fact that the city provided office space and telephone service, was supported entirely by the four service clubs: the Lions, Rotary, Kiwanis, and Optimists. By the summer of 1967, the Knights of Columbus and Altrusa Club also began contributing.

The donations of these clubs cover the salary of the Y.E.S. operator (student director) who

is paid to receive the phone calls concerning job orders and co-ordinate job distribution. The operator is not alone, however, in carrying the workload. Jim Heck, the City Administrator, acts as Consultant when assistance is needed.

In addition, Mr. Kennedy at Burroughs High School has been very helpful in selecting new operators, and Mrs. Jane Eckhart, the Department of Employment representative, trains the new recruits.

In May, 1967, the Congress for Community Progress suggested that Y.E.S. be a year-round program. At that point, the China Lake Rotary Club alone took on payment for the entire salary of the operator during the fall, winter, and spring of the 1967-1968 school year.

Now, the program still runs year-round, but is supported by six service clubs: Rotary, Lions, Kiwanis, Optimists, Knights of Columbus, and Altrusa.

Since its inception, the Y.E.S. has had a series of student directors: the first summer, Marjorie Goforth and Betty Sutherland shared the responsibility.

Veteran Tax Exemption Laws Show Changes

Several changes in the requirements for veterans who plan on filing for property tax exemption in the State of California were recently announced by Herbert E. Roberts, Kern County Assessor.

A veteran filing for the first time must have entered the armed forces as a resident of California, or have been a resident of California, on November 3, 1964. Proof must be provided to qualify.

The veteran must have been a member of the armed forces during time of war, or as specified by law.

If in doubt as to qualifying dates, contact the Exemption Section of the Kern County Assessor's Office. In addition, the veteran must not have assets of \$10,000 or more, if married; or \$5,000, if single.

Roberts also noted the deadline for filing exemption applications for Veteran and Church Exemptions, April 15, and pointed out that the claim must be complete, with all questions answered and properly signed, or the exemption will be denied.

The date for filing for Welfare Exemption Claims has also been changed to March 15th of each year. Forms will be mailed to those receiving the exemption last year and all others must apply at the Assessor's Office in the Bakersfield Civic Center. The determining of eligibility for Welfare Exemption is the responsibility of the State Board of Equalization and not the County Assessor.

To assist in filing Veteran and Church Exemption claims, the Ridgecrest field office at 230 W. Ridgecrest Blvd. will be open on Wednesdays from 10 A.M. to 5 P.M. and on Thursdays from 8 A.M. to 3 P.M.

Ft. Sill Coins

Silver and bronze coin medals, specially struck at a Pennsylvania mint to commemorate the centennial year of Fort Sill, Okla., are now available.

The silver coins are priced at \$10 each and the bronze coins at \$1 each.

Only 3,000 silver coins were struck (according to Maj. Craig Taylor, the project officer. "When these run out," he said, "no more will be struck." The silver coins are of .999 fine silver with a full mint-proof finish.

Ten thousand bronze coins with non-proof finish were struck, and additional coins will be struck as the need arises.

On the front piece of the coins is an image of a soldier standing in the outline of the state of Oklahoma, dressed in an 1869 period uniform and holding a Winchester 66 rifle. Over the design are the words "Fort Sill Centennial."

On the reverse side of the coin is an engraving of a cannon in use in 1869.

The coins were designed by Mrs. Janet Clements, an illustrator with the Fourth U.S. Army Training Aids Center, at Fort Sill and they were struck at the Franklin Mint in Yeadon, Pa.

The coins are available by mail order from the Fort Sill Centennial Project Office, Fort Sill, Okla. 73503.



PARTING HANDSHAKE—Fellow employees of the Research Dept. bid farewell to Herbert Shuler (far left) and Arlin Krueger (3rd from left) at a luncheon held in their honor at the Officers' Club last week. Joining in the handshake are: Dr. G. J. Plain (2nd from left), Associate Dept. Head; and Dr. Pierre St. Amand (far right), Head of Earth and Planetary Sciences Division where Shuler was cartographic technician and Krueger did research in ozone measurements. Shuler retires after 24 years in Civil Service, 18 of which were at China Lake. He has no immediate plans other than to catch up on projects at his White Corral Ranch. Krueger is transferring to NASA at the Goddard Space Flight Center in Greenbelt, Maryland where he will continue research of the upper atmosphere.



LOCAL CAR DEALER HONORED — Bud Eyre (c), of Eyre Chevrolet, Ridgecrest, was one of 15 Kern County auto dealers honored Wednesday, March 5, by the Auto Club of Southern California, the Kern County High School District, Chamber of Commerce, and Law Enforcement agencies for contributing to the high school district's driver education program. Eyre is flanked by Auto Club District Manager Nolan Black, right, and High School District Superintendent Dr. John W. Eckhardt, left.

CSC Publishes Proposed Increase

Step	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
GS- 1	\$ 3,889	\$ 4,019	\$ 4,149	\$ 4,279	\$ 4,408	\$ 4,538	\$ 4,668	\$ 4,798	\$ 4,928	\$ 5,057
2	4,360	4,505	4,650	4,795	4,940	5,085	5,230	5,375	5,520	5,665
3	4,917	5,081	5,245	5,409	5,573	5,737	5,901	6,065	6,229	6,393
4	5,522	5,706	5,890	6,074	6,258	6,442	6,626	6,810	6,994	7,178
5	6,176	6,382	6,588	6,794	6,999	7,206	7,412	7,618	7,824	8,030
6	6,882	7,111	7,340	7,569	7,798	8,027	8,256	8,485	8,714	8,943
7	7,639	7,894	8,149	8,404	8,659	8,914	9,169	9,424	9,679	9,934
8	8,449	8,731	9,013	9,295	9,577	9,859	10,141	10,423	10,705	10,987
9	9,320	9,631	9,942	10,253	10,564	10,875	11,186	11,497	11,808	12,119
10	10,252	10,594	10,936	11,278	11,620	11,962	12,304	12,646	12,988	13,330
11	11,233	11,607	11,981	12,355	12,729	13,103	13,477	13,851	14,225	14,599
12	13,389	13,835	14,281	14,727	15,173	15,619	16,065	16,511	16,957	17,403
13	15,812	16,339	16,866	17,393	17,920	18,447	18,974	19,501	20,028	20,555
14	18,531	19,149	19,767	20,385	21,003	21,621	22,239	22,857	23,475	24,093
15	21,589	22,309	23,029	23,749	24,469	25,189	25,909	26,629	27,349	28,069
16	25,044	25,879	26,714	27,549	28,384	29,219	30,054	30,889	31,724	32,559
17	28,976	29,942	30,908	31,874	32,840					
18	33,495									

PROPOSED JULY 1 PAY INCREASE FOR GENERAL SCHEDULE EMPLOYEES

General schedule employees will get pay raises averaging 9.1 percent on July 1, 1969, according to the Civil Service Commission.

The commission released new pay scales which will make all federal employees' pay fully comparable with salaries in private industry. The scales were computed on the basis of a survey by the Bureau of Labor Statistics. The law requires the President to adjust civilian salaries in July, 1969, by the amounts necessary to bring them to a level of full comparability with private industry salaries based on the 1968 BLS survey.

Thus even though federal salaries will be comparable to private industry pay as of June, 1968, they will still lag by the amount of increase in the private sector during the past year.

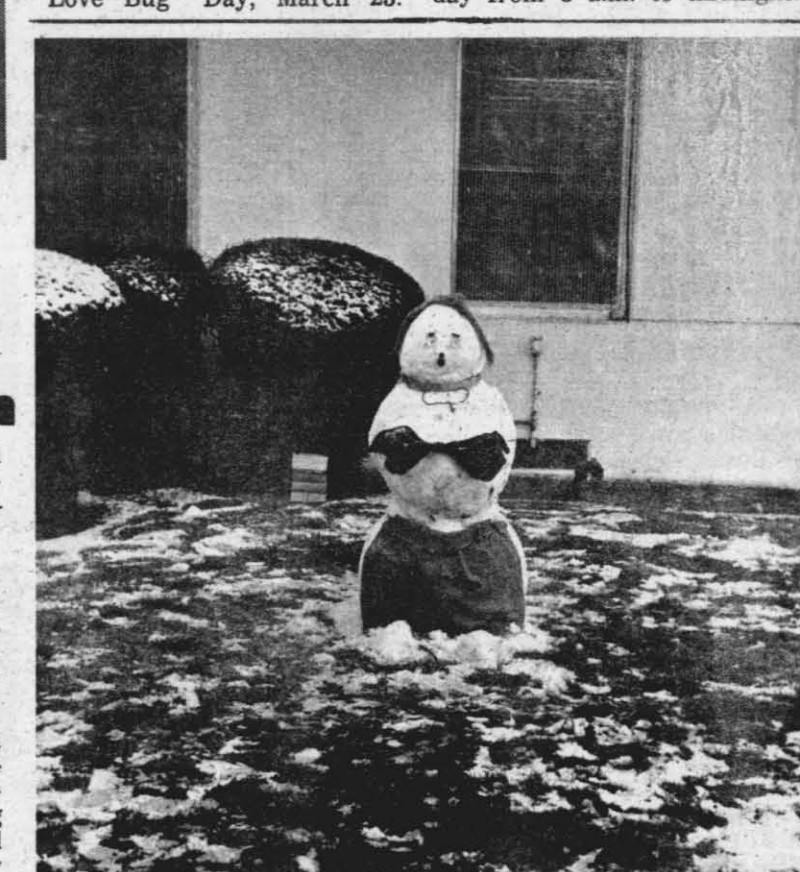
Robert E. Hampton, chairman of the proposed pay charts to employee unions and asked for their comments. He said the CSC and the Budget Bureau would like the comments by March 26.

Magic Kingdom Club News

Naval Weapons Center Magic Kingdom Club members can take advantage of Disneyland's top three entertainment happenings during the next two months: a St. Patrick's Day Parade on March 7, "Love Bug" Day on March 23, and "Spring Fling" on March 29.

A major parade at 3 p.m. on St. Patrick's Day will bring together guest bands, Irish celebrities and more than 30 famous Disney characters to participate in the "wearing of the green." The event coincides with the annual Catholic Schools' day at Disneyland. The Park will be open from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. with special musical entertainment throughout the day.

Love Bug Day
More than 1,000 Volkswagen owners will decorate their cars in a competition to select the "most lovable bug" on "Love Bug" Day, March 23.



WET STATUARY — The snowfall that was seen in the IYW on March 13 prompted some good old-fashioned fun on the lawn of the Administration Building in the early hours before the work day began. The unusual storm dropped about an inch of the white stuff on NWC.

Junior Gardeners Ready for Show



JUNIOR "FLOWER POWER"—The "Flower Power" Junior Garden Club recently attended a flower arranging demonstration and workshop given by Mrs. Curtis T. Garrett at the Oasis Garden Clubhouse. Preparing for the forthcoming flower and garden shows are (l-r): Samantha Swann, Carol Robertson,

Melessa Swann in front of Robin Burton, Debbie Ennis behind Theresa Byrd, Glenda Davis, Sherry Davis, Jannette Ruff, and Phillip Hewett. The "Flower Power" Juniors recently met at the home of Mrs. G. L. Hewett, Counselor for the "Flower Power" Junior Garden Club.