

CHAPLAIN'S MESSAGE

Where The Action Is!

By CHAPLAIN GORDON A. READ



"What's going on at the chapel these days?" is a question often asked of the Chaplain, and frequently of civilian clergy about the activities of the Church in the Secular Sixties.

Archie Hargraves says that the church today should have some of the same compulsion as the gambler who awakens each day knowing that somewhere in his city there is a crap game in progress and he must find where "the action is" so that he can run there and "dig it."

It has been reported that many of the young people in seminaries are not planning to enter the parish ministry because they are convinced this is not where "the action is." There is lots of "Action" in local churches, but many young people are not convinced that it is the kind that really changes people.

I suspect that a desire to help people is one of the strongest factors in a person's choice of the ministry. But many young people feel that this goal can be achieved more effectively outside the church than within it, and there are not a few adults who echo the same mood. Try raising support for the church budget sometime!

Sometimes because of our own hostilities we are better wreckers than we are builders. Sometimes we just don't understand the principles of human engineering well enough to build good bridges.

LET'S NOT WRITE OFF THE CHURCH!

Let us be grateful for the seminarians and all the young today who want to be "where the action is." Let us rejoice that they want to serve where their ministry can really accomplish God's will. But let's not write off the church. God is still using His church to bear witness to His reconciling love, and to break down the dividing walls of hostility.

Say, have you been "where the action is" lately?

*Quoted by Cox, Harvey, The Secular City, The MacMillan Company, New York, 1965, paper, p. 126.



RECEIVES PROMOTION—Lt(jg) T. R. Cavinder, c, Project Officer of the Public Works Department, is shown as his wife Chris, and Capt. K. C. Abplanalp, Public Works Officer, pin on his new Lt(jg) insignia. Lt(jg) Cavinder reported aboard the Center in December, 1968. He and his wife reside at 402-A Forrestal.

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 American Forces Press Service material. All are official U. S. Navy photos unless otherwise identified.

Printed weekly with appropriated funds in compliance with NAVSUP P-25, revised July 1958. Office at Nimitz and Lauritsen.

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DIVINE SERVICES

Protestant (All-Faith Chapel)—Morning Worship—9:45 a.m. Sunday School—8:30 a.m., Chapel Annexes 1, 2, 4 (Dorms 5, 6, 8) located opposite Center Restaurant.

Roman Catholic (All-Faith Chapel)—Holy Mass—7, 8:30, and 11 a.m. Sunday.

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

Confessions—7 to 8 p.m. Saturday, and 8 to 8:25 a.m. Sunday.

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

Employees are encouraged to apply for the positions listed below. Current applications (SF-171) or Standard Form 58 bringing your work history up-to-date should be forwarded as described below. The fact that positions are advertised here does not preclude the use of other means to fill these positions. Part of the ranking process of those rated as basically qualified will be a supervisory appraisal form that will be sent to the employees present and most recent previous supervisor. Selection shall be made without discrimination for any non-merit reason and without favoritism based on personal relationships or patronage.

The vacancies listed below are effective from 31 October to 7 November 1969.

Math Aid, GS-1521-3, WAE, PD No. 695-5120, Code 5523—The incumbent is responsible for transforming raw test and statistical data into logbook format for analysis by Branch engineers and project personnel. He is expected to perform the needed arithmetic computations involving percentages, averages, and ratios. These data are then put into formal program and firing reports. The Math Aid is responsible for the preparation of these reports in their final form. Qualifications: One year of general experience.

File above applications with Pat Gault, Bldg. 34, Rm. 34, Phone 71514.

Voucher Examiner, GS-540-3 or 4, Code 1765—Duties as trainee, and to process vouchers for disbursements for travel and other types of claims (advances, refunds, witness claims, allowances, etc.); review and prepares answers to NRFC audits; and advise and assist claimants in completing claims. Typing ability required. Minimum Qualification Requirements: GS-3 1 year of general experience obtained in the performance of clerical duties in any area of work. GS-4 1 year of general experience plus 1 year of specialized experience. Advancement Potential: GS-3 may advance to GS-4.

Teller, GS-530-5, PD No. 117019A, Code 1765—Collects cash and checks for special deposits, jury duty fees, advance travel, etc. Prepares vouchers, prepares and maintains financial records. Minimum Qualification Requirements: 1 year of general experience and 2 years of specialized experience.

Fiscal Accounting Clerk, GS-501-3, Code 1765—Trainee position. Assists in the auditing of civilian payrolls to insure the correctness, assists in the audit of military payroll checks and is responsible for verification, sorting, etc. Assists in timely distribution of U. S. Savings Bonds, reports, etc. Minimum Qualification Requirements: 1 year of general experience. Advancement Potential: GS-3 may advance to GS-4.

File application for the above with Sue Proslowicz, Bldg. 34, Rm. 28, ext. 71577. Clerk-Typist, GS-322-3 or 4, PD No. 530-018, Code 3007—Secretary to the Head of the Weapon Systems Analysis Group, Systems Development Department. The incumbent will perform administrative and secretarial duties and assist Group personnel in accomplishing assigned tasks. The duties include the preparation of reports, memorandums, official letters, administrative and statistical forms and the appropriate filing and maintenance of records. The incumbent will also be called on to receive official visitors, both civilian and military, from government and industrial agencies in a manner to promote good public relations. Minimum Qualification Requirements: One year of experience. Job Relevant Criteria: Direct experience in office management and documentation formats. Advancement Potential: GS-4 level.

File above applications with Pat Gault, Bldg. 34, Rm. 34, Phone 71514. The Interagency Board of U. S. Civil Service Examiners recently announced that it is accepting applications from persons interested in the following positions: Water Treatment Plant Operator; Baller Tender; Steam Plant Operator; Sewage Disposal Plant Operator; Power Plant Operator; Heating Plant Operator; and other related positions.

The lists of eligibles resulting from this announcement will be used for filling future vacancies in Federal agencies in Los Angeles, Kern, Orange, San Luis Obispo, Santa Barbara and Ventura Counties. Mr. James A. Eise, Executive Officer for the Los Angeles Interagency Board, said that applicants will not be required to compete in a written test. They will be rated according to their experience and training as it relates to these positions. Additional information and forms for applying may be obtained by writing or calling the (1) Federal Job Information Center, 851 South Broadway, Los Angeles, California 90014; (2) either of the Branch Offices of the Los Angeles Interagency Board located in Long Beach and Santa Maria or (3) most Post Offices where Civil Service examinations are held.

Ordnanceman (Ammunition and Explosives—Miscellaneous), WB-65002-08, JD No. 4-1, Code 2251 — Receives, segregates, moves, stows, groups ammunition and components including explosives; maintains surveillance for deterioration and hazards;

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'DESERT PHILOSOPHER'

Christmas Is Coming

By "POP" LOFINCK



A much appreciated Christmas present or birthday present is a polished gem stone—personalized by your own hands—from a lapidary shop.

Anything you can make with your own hands is more appreciated and longer treasured than anything you can buy.

Gemstones don't fade, wear out, get mildewed or moth eaten. They last for generations—passed down through the family.

Join the Rock Hounds

The first thing you should do is join the Indian Wells Gem and Mineral Society—it's been going a long time—started in early 1945. It used to be known as the NOTS Rock Hound Club until it was recommended that the name "NOTS" be dropped. Then they incorporated as a non-profit corporation. You can join for \$3 a year.

They are located in one of the old Rowe Street School buildings; they have the whole building.

It is open Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday from 6:30 p. m. to 9:30 p. m. Monday and Wednesday afternoons it is open just for women.

Beginner's Paradise

You don't have to know anything about rocks to start.

When the place is open, there is always a sponsor there to show you how to work on gem stones from start to finish. It's sort of like a fraternity, in a way. It can become a life-long creative hobby.

First, you need gemstone material to work on.

It's fun to go out in the hills and find the rocks yourself. But first you should know what kind of stones you are looking for. From time-to-time groups go out in the hills with a guide and sponsors to teach you.

If you don't have time to go out in the field to find the right stones, you can buy stones from the many rock shops. Or the people around the "rockhound" club will give you some rocks to start. That's the kind of people they are.

The Indian Wells Lapidary Shop has three large diamond saws—one 24-inch and two 20-inch, and three eight-inch trim saws (the word "diamond saw" refers to the teeth)—twelve grinders and several polishers.

Also, there is a "sphere" machine. You just saw out a cube, saw the corners off of the cube, saw the corners off the corners and put it in the sphere machine and the smoothing of the stone is automatic.

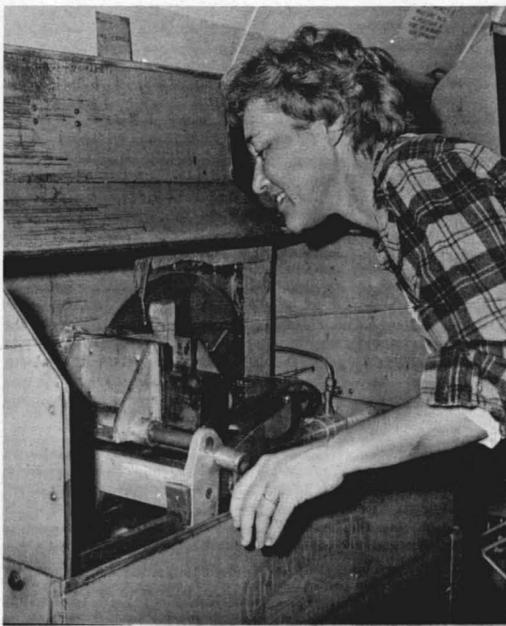
A sphere brings out the beauty of all sides of a stone. It's as simple as that. The sphere machine will turn out any size sphere from one inch to four inches.

Then you make a wooden stand to sit it on so it doesn't roll all over the room.

If you think your friend might lose a beautiful cabochon gem stone, you might get a big rock and saw out some book ends—and polish one side only as a contrast with the rough stone. Too big to loose.

Just a rough rock sawed and polished on one side is a thing of beauty.

Michelangelo always left some rough marble standing out of (Continued on Page 3)



ROCK HOUND AT WORK—Helen Mamula is shown sawing a rock on the 20-inch diamond saw at the Gem and Mineral Society's Club House on Rowe Street.



BETTY JANE TIFFANY, acting Vice-Principal at Murray School during the 1968-69 school year, has been appointed to that post permanently. Mrs. Tiffany, the wife of Dr. Ellis L. Tiffany, has been employed by the China Lake School District for 10 years. She received her B.A. from Ouachita Baptist University, in Arkadelphia, Arkansas. She is a member of the CLOTA Board of Directors, the Desert Counseling Clinic Board, and the ASPA Council. Mrs. Tiffany is the mother of three children: Tim, 23, Dana, 18, and Lorraine, 13.

Award Winning Film on Display At Mich. Lab

A short, off-beat film on the Naval Weapons Center's Machine Shops won first place in the Employee Relations category of the 1969 film contest sponsored by Information Film Producers of America.

Awards were presented at the closing banquet of the 3-day IFPA conference held at the Sheraton Palace Hotel in San Francisco on October 19.

This unusual five minute, motion - music film was produced under the supervision of Everett B. Baker, JID, for the NWC Engineering Department by F-M Motion Picture Services of Hollywood.

According to Baker, "The success of the film was largely due to the creative effort of Michael Ross of FM who wrote, directed, edited, selected and synchronized the clever musical sound track. Photography by Richard Eismon, also of FM, was outstanding."

If anyone wants to see this award winning film, they may do so by pushing button 24 marked "BITS AND CHIPS" (MACHINE SHOP) on one of the Informx machines located at either the Weapons Exhibit Center or the South Lobby of Michelson Laboratory.

Range Hunting Will Continue Until Jan. 11

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As announced for the opening weekend, the Darwin game will open at 8 p. m. on Fridays before the hunts and remain open all night to admit hunters.

Opening weekend of upland game season on NWC ranges was a long hike for many a hunter. Some bagged one bird; some a limit of chukar. Few hunters had any luck with quail.

True to predictions made by wildlife management experts of California Department of Fish and Game the birds were widely scattered in small coveys. Many a nimrod on the north range muttered in frustration as he heard the wily Indian red legged partridges talking it up among the rough broken scarp of the malpais.

Statistics on the NWC opener show a sharp drop-off in hunters from last year's all-time record. Only about 1600 hunters were checked through by Security during the October 25-26 weekend compared with last year's crowd of 2376. Bag counts for the 1969 starter were: 1098 chukar; 116 mountain quail; 36 valley quail, and 139 cottontails.

Moonlight Doubles

According to Fred Dalpiaz, manager of the China Lake Bowl, there will be a Moonlight Doubles tournament held at the China Lake Bowl Friday, October 31, following the completion of the 8:30 league (approximately 11 p. m.).

Entry fee will be \$1.50 per person, with \$1 for bowling and 50 cents to go toward supporting the Junior Bowling program. Prizes, which will be on display at the bowling alley, will be donated by Jim Poore, owner of Ace-TV, a steady sponsor of sporting teams and events throughout the Indian Wells Valley.

Those desiring to sign up for the tournament will be able to do so at the China Lake Bowl.



UNISCOPE 300—Pictured above are members of the Data Processing Management Association Board of Directors being shown the UNISCOPE 300, a Visual Communications Terminal, at a meeting held in the Hideaway October 15. The board members are, l to r, George Helsten, International Director; John Emery, Past President; Lyal Viers, President; Marge Vargus, Secretary; Bill Kearney, Vice President, and Bill Osborne, Treasurer. Another Board member, Helen Morrison, was not present for photo. Lyal Viers demonstrated the machine for the Board.

PROMOTIONAL

(Continued from Page 2)

disposes of obsolete and unstable or dangerous explosive items; delivers and ships or hauls ammunition and explosives on and off station. Minimum Qualification Requirements: Applicants must have had at least two years of progressively responsible experience in moving, storing and segregating of various ammunition components including explosive components.

File applications for the above with Carole Cadle, Bldg. 34, Rm. 26, X-71448.

Summer Job Employment

The Civil Service Commission will issue the 1970 Summer Employment Announcement in early November. Advance information on the examining schedule is as follows:

December 5, 1969—Cutoff date for filing for January 10 test; January 10, 1970—1st test date; January 9, 1970—Cutoff date for filing for February 14 test; February 14, 1970—2nd test date; February 4, 1970—Cutoff date for filing for March 14 test; March 14, 1970—3rd and final test date.

Additional information pertaining to filing and other provisions will be published in The Rocketeer as soon as the announcement is received.

Students—who are attending school in other localities are encouraged to check with the Placement Office at their colleges or the main Post Office in the town in which they are attending school for a copy of the announcement.

Youth Center Dance Tonight

The China Lake Youth Center will sponsor a dance on Friday, October 31, at the Community Center, with music provided by the "Closer This," a group well known in the local area for their past performances.

The dance will be open to all junior high, high school and college students of the Indian Wells Valley. Passes may be obtained at

the NWC Main Gate pass office for the event.

Admission is \$2 per person and \$1 each for Junior and Senior Student Union members.

SHARE IN FREEDOM U.S. Savings Bonds New Freedom Shares



VX-5 MEN EARN PROMOTIONS—Capt. C. W. Fritz, r, Air Test and Evaluation Squadron FIVE Commanding Officer, congratulates squadron personnel upon their advancement to Petty Officers Third Class. They are: (1st row, l-r) AMH-3 Willard Murray, AO-3 William Fernow, AMH-3 Luchion Doshier; (2nd row, l-r) AO-3 Roy Wilcox, ATR-3 Randy English, and AMS-3 Dennis Rich. Advancement is earned by achieving a high score on a Navy-wide written examination and by a consistently high level professional performance. Promotion to Third Class Petty Officer entitles these men to wear the Navy Eagle and one red chevron in addition to a specialty insignia on their left sleeve.

Community Council Will Conduct Opinion Survey of Centerites

The China Lake Community Council will conduct an opinion survey of Center residents on various community issues during the first two weeks of November, according to Phillip Gill, Representative of Precinct 9.

The opinion sampling technique to be used in this survey was recently developed by the Council's Opinion Sampling Committee under the guidance and supervision of NWC technical experts whose specialties range from mathematics and statistics to sociology and human factors.

A representative sample of the China Lake population has been "randomly" selected for the survey. Each person in this sample will be contacted

by a Council Representative and asked to fill out a short questionnaire form. This form will not include the respondents name nor will the name be requested; in fact, no identifying marks will be used on the questionnaire.

The results of the survey, to be published at a later date, will be used by the Council in its efforts to represent the viewpoints and opinion of the community to Command and civilian organizations.

Councilmen taking part in the survey are: Gill, who is Chairman of the Opinion Sampling Committee; George Ness, Ted Bergman, members of the Opinion Sampling Committee; and Wardna Abernathy and Jack Dragovich.

Condor Expert To Present Program

Local Schools To Hear Talks

An educational conservation program in the schools of Indian Wells Valley is the 1969-1970 project of the Oasis Garden Club of Indian Wells Valley. The program will get started next week when Mr. John C. Borneman, Condor Naturalist of the National Audubon Society will make presentations to Valley schools.

On November 3, Mr. Borneman will speak at the Murray School Cafetorium at 8:20 a.m. and at 9:20 a.m., and at the Seventh Day Adventist School, Ridgecrest, at 2 p.m.

November 4, he will speak at the Monroe School Auditorium, Ridgecrest, at 9 a.m. and at 10 a.m.; the upper grades of St. Ann's Catholic School will be included in one of the assembly programs at Monroe School. Mr. Borneman will speak at the Inyokern School at 1 p.m., November 4.

Mr. Borneman has worked for the National Audubon Society since 1951 and has been the Condor Naturalist since February 1965. His duties include education, public relations, and research pertaining to the California condors, and he works closely with the California Department of Fish and Game, the U. S. Forest Service, and the Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife.

The condor is now one of the rarest of birds. A recent count in California by 95 observers of Federal, State, and private organizations located 53 condors this year, an increase of one over last year's count.



CONDOR CONSERVATIONIST — Mr. John C. Borneman, Condor Naturalist of the National Audubon Society, points to one habitat of the nearly extinct Condor. He will present an educational conservation program next week in Indian Wells Valley Schools.

Alvin Ailey American Dance Troupe Opens Concert Season

The first program of the Civic Concert Association for the 1969-70 season will be the Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater. The troupe of 15 dancers will appear at the Center Theater on Thursday evening, November 6th at 8:00 p.m.

Performances by the Alvin Ailey Dancers both here and in foreign countries have electrified audiences and critics alike.

The condor is now one of the rarest of birds. A recent count in California by 95 observers of Federal, State, and private organizations located 53 condors this year, an increase of one over last year's count.



received an unprecedented 61 curtain calls.

While their dancing is purely classical, the dances themselves are as contemporary as tomorrow, and present the heritage of the American Negro—his legacy of music and dance, his moods of sorrow, joy and hope—through the medium of modern dance. The music is jazz, blues and spirituals. The dancing is ecstatic, dramatic and vital. The whole experience is total "dance theater."

Good seats are still available in all price ranges for the Concert series, states F. A. Chenault, sales manager for the Association. Only season tickets are being sold this year to nonmembers and these may be purchased from Mr. Chenault or wherever the red Concert poster is displayed.

They will also be on sale at the box office Thursday evening. Seat selection may be made at the home of the Concert Board President, Mrs. David Chapman, at 501 Kearsarge, China Lake, or at the box office on the evening of the performance.

Association members desiring to bring guests may purchase additional tickets for this performance. All single performance tickets for the American Dance Theater are \$6 regardless of seating.

Youth Fellowship Group Plans Clothing Drive To Aid Charities

Members of the Senior High School Youth Fellowship of the All Faith Chapel are making final plans to conduct a clothing drive for the benefit of various charity organizations on Saturdays of the weekends of November 1 and 8.

Proceeds from the drive will go to the Porterville and Ridgecrest hospitals, an Indian Reservation in New Mexico, and Casa Mar Via in East Los Angeles.

The group plans to canvas the homes on the Center north of Halsey on November 1, and those south of the main thoroughfare on November 8.

Collectors will pick up clothing, magazines, books or toys on those days for further distribution to the needy.

The members ask that donors who will not be at home during pick-up periods bring their contributions to the East Wing of the All Faith Chapel.



Six Bonus Weekends Scheduled For Hunting on NWC Range Areas

According to a recent announcement, six bonus weekends have been added to the previously scheduled weekends for public hunting on the range areas of NWC. The hunting season, which began October 25, has now been extended to the weekend of January 10-11, which is the end of the Upland Gamebird season in the State of California.

The revised schedule of open public hunting weekends now includes: November 1-2; November 8-9; December 6-7; December 13-14; December 20-21; December 27-28; January 3-4; and January 10-11.

All announced hunting dates are subject to test schedules on the Naval Weapons Center's ranges. Advance notice will be given if possible should tests be necessary to accomplish the military mission of the Center.

An unprecedented number of birds on the 260 square miles of hunting area accounts for the six extra weekends. According to the NWC Natural Resource Management Board, who recommended the bonus dates, there was an excellent brood count last August.

Another first is extension of the hunting area boundary for this season to include Moscow Springs. In former years this has been the locale from which chukar and quail were live-trapped for transplant elsewhere in the state. This year

chukar trapping was done on the Mojave "B" south range and quail traps were located northwest of the hunting area so wildlife technical advisors from California Department of Fish and Game concurred with the opening of the former trapping site during the 1969-1970 season.

Hunters are cautioned to observe posted boundaries. With recent widespread publicity on the petroglyphs and other historic resources on NWC lands numbers of non-hunting visitors to the ranges are on the upswing. Renegade (Little Petroglyph) and Big Petroglyph Canyons are both outside the hunting area.

The same ground rules as announced for the opener will apply for all hunts on NWC ranges. Only entry for the public to the ranges is through the Darwin Gate. Overnight camping will be permitted at Junction Ranch and Burcham Springs. The only firearms that may be brought on the range are legal gauge shotguns. All bag limits and provisions of the California Fish and Game Code apply to hunting on NWC ranges.

Use of two-wheeled vehicles is prohibited at all times on Naval Weapons Center ranges. Entry of two-wheeled vehicles onto the ranges will not be permitted at the check points.

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HUNTING BOUNDARY—Shown above is a map describing the boundaries in which public hunting may be undertaken during the prescribed weekends and times listed elsewhere in this issue. The old boundaries have been extended to include the area around Moscow Springs (note shaded area at bottom of map).

Navy Day Parade, Flyby



PILOTS SALUTE NAVY DAY—The two A-7's in the above photo were part of the fly-over which signalled the beginning of an impromptu parade held at 7 a.m. on Monday, October 27, as a portion of the Center's participation in Navy Day.



MARINES TAKE PART—Members of the USMC Supply Depot Band from Barstow, Calif., were participants in the early morning parade. They are shown here as they marched down Blandly Ave.



FLEET RESERVE BRANCH 95—The color guard from the FRA Branch 95 are shown as they march in front of the local Fleet Reserve Unit. Men from NAF, VX-5 and NWC participated in the surprise early morning parade to signal the Naval Weapons Center's participation in the world-wide Navy Day celebration.

Directory, Nameplate Info Told

Centerites who would like their name included in the new NWC telephone directory that is now being compiled, and who are not sure that a new card was submitted for them, should check with their division office or the Communications Office, Extension 72991 or 72400.

Since this is a completely new directory—not a revision of the current one—and will again include home addresses and telephone numbers, no one will be listed who does not submit a new directory/locator card (11ND-NWC-5400/2. Cards are not required for temporary employees.

Cards may be obtained at the Communication Office in the Administration Building.

Future directory/locator cards should be submitted when changes occur, so that

accurate records may be maintained in the telephone office.

Effective immediately, desk name plates will be ordered on a 9-part Request for Issue or Turn-in, Form 11ND-NWC-4270/34, submitted to the Supply Department.

This replaces the procedure of sending a memorandum to the Engineering Department requesting that a name plate be made.

Name plates will be 2 x 10 inches with white engraving on a brown background set on a clear plastic base. The cost of each is \$3.00 with one line of engraving and \$3.75 with two lines. Delivery time is approximately one week.

Health Benefits Open Season November 10-28

Thirty of the 36 federal employee health insurance plans, including the government-wide service benefit plan (Blue Cross-Blue Shield) and the Indemnity plan (Aetna) will charge higher premiums starting Jan. 1, the Civil Service Commission has announced. The CSC said the higher premiums reflect the continuing sharp increases in the cost of hospital and medical care.

There will be an open season this Nov. 10-28 in which government employees may change plans or those who are not in any plan may select one.

Blue Cross-Blue Shield, under its high option plan increased the biweekly premiums charged its members from \$12.16 to \$13.59 for self and family and from \$4.98 to \$5.57 for self only; and under the low option plan from \$4.24 to \$5.30 for self and family \$1.76 to \$2.16 for self only.

Aetna, under its high option plan, raised the premiums for self and family from \$13.31 to \$16.64 for self only from \$5.34 to \$6.68; and under low option from \$4.99 to \$6.84 for self and family and from \$2.11 to \$2.89 for self only.

The Postmasters Plan made no change.

Blue Cross-Blue Shield made the following changes in benefits as of Jan. 1: Double coverage (both options)—Basic hospital benefits and basic surgical-medical benefits will be subject to reduction if the charge is covered by another plan obtained through law or employment. Formerly, the double coverage provision applied only to supplemental benefits.

Private accommodations in members hospitals (low option). The allowance is increased from \$12 per day to the hospital's average daily charge for semi-private accommodations.

Benefits in nonmember hospitals (both options). The allowance is increased from \$12 a day for room and board plus 90 per cent of the cost of other services to 80 percent of the cost of all covered hospital services in semi-private accommodations.

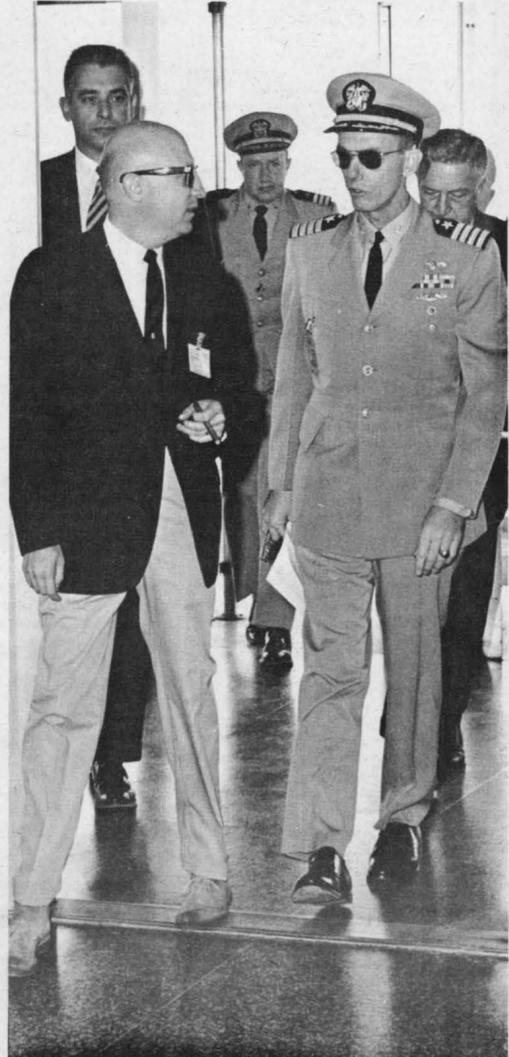
Assistant-at-surgery benefit (both options)—A basic surgical-medical benefit is provided for a physician assistant-at-surgery when required by the attending surgeon and when a qualified physician intern or resident is not available.

Removal of impacted teeth (both options)—The basic surgical-medical benefit will apply to removal in the outpatient department of a hospital or the physician's or dentist's office. This benefit formerly was payable only if removal was performed for a hospitalized bed patient.

Aetna made one benefit change. The maximum benefit under the low option is increased from \$15,000 to \$20,000.

Before the open season starts, employees will be given new brochures showing the benefits and premiums of all the plans to help them decide if they want to switch plans.

Ass't. Secretary Welcomed



OFFICIAL VISIT—Dr. Robert A. Frosch (second from left), Assistant Secretary of the Navy for R & D, visited the Center last Wednesday for discussion and review of various programs that are being conducted at NWC. He was accompanied on his visit by Dr. Joel S. Lawson, Jr. (far left), Director of Navy Laboratories. Others shown in the above photo are (l-r) Cdr. W. C. Bentley; Capt. M. R. Etheridge, NWC Commander; and H. G. Wilson, NWC Deputy Technical Director.

Desert Philosopher

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some part of his statues for contrast. He loved marble—like some people love trees and clouds.

Tough To Prepare

It would cost \$10,000 today to replace the equipment in the Indian Wells Lapidary Club House.

Many members have a small lapidary shop at home, but use the Club equipment for larger things.

If you have the time and patience and can find a beautiful rock big enough and without cracks, you might saw out a table top—say one-fourth inch thick—then cement it to a board. It has been done. In that case, polishing is the big job.

The Indian Wells Gem and Mineral Society also has a big assembly room in their club house where they discuss geology, etc.

Ex-Officer

Years ago I was elected vice president and secretary of the Indian Wells Rock Hound Club—not because I had any superior knowledge of rocks or was an expert on gem stones, cutting and polishing—but because they could all hear me.

Valley Of Gems

The Indian Wells Gem and Mineral Society will present their 13th Annual Gem and Mineral Show on November 8-9 at the Community Center on the Naval Weapons Center, China Lake. Saturday, November 8th the hours are 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. and on Sunday, November 9th from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.

There will be a motion picture shown that was taken in the Indian Wells Lapidary Shop showing the equipment in operation—turning out polished gem stones. It's like going to school.

There will be exhibits of minerals, gems, fossils, and bottles. Don't miss it.



RECEIVES \$800 CHECK—One of the top gifts presented to the new "Bluejacket of the Year," AO-1 A. C. Stephenson, was a check in the amount of \$800. "Steve" is

shown above accepting the check from Cdr. Jackie Cooper as Steve's wife, Sallie, looks on. Other prizes included four \$50 gift certificates and a 14-day trip.



RUNNER-UP BLUEJACKET—PN1 Danny J. Farrel of VX-5 captured the runner-up honors at the auspicious occasion. Danny was the Center's "Bluejacket of the Month" for July. For being named to the runner-up spot, Farrel received a check for \$150 from the local Navy League Council. Cdr. Jackie Cooper, USNR, presented the award. Danny's wife, Barbara, accompanied him to the gala affair and was a guest of the Navy League, as were all of the candidates and their wives or dates.



AWARD CANDIDATES—All of the candidates for the Center's outstanding tribute to the enlisted men at NWC were awarded a check for \$50, whether or not they were successful recipients of the top award. After the ceremony, they gathered for a group picture with Cdr. Cooper and the Heads of the Commands they represented. Shown above, they are: (Front row, l-r) Capt. M. R. Etheridge, NWC Commander; Cdr. Cooper; Sallie Stephenson; "Bluejacket of the Year"

AC-1 "Steve" Stephenson; Capt. L. A. Dewing, C.O. NAF; Capt. C. W. Fritz, C.O. VX-5; (Second row, l-r) Sue Rittner, AO-1 Gilbert Rittner; Barbara Farrel; PN-1 Danny Farrel; Beth Morris; PN-1 Franklin Morris; (Third row, l-r) Lillian Condon; Ginger Ann Stone; Eileen Mullins; Patricia Perkins; Jocelyn Dart; and Earline Pearson; (Back row) ACC Bernard Condon; CS-1 Cliff Stone; AO-1 Mikel Tosti; RM-1 Morris Perkins; ETR-3 Timothy Dart; and AO-2 Marshall Pearson.



BANQUET PRINCIPALS—Seated at the head table at the Navy Day banquet celebration honoring the Bluejacket of the Year were (l-r) Capt. M. R. Etheridge, NWC Commander; Mrs. George Hucek; Cdr. Jackie Cooper, USNR, who flew

up from Hollywood to present the awards; Mrs. M. R. Etheridge; and George Hucek, Navy League Council President. The occasion marked the 194th birthday commemoration of the United States Navy.

1969 Navy League 'Bluejacket of the Year' Awards Banquet



WINS ALL-EXPENSE-PAID TRIP—One of the prizes attendant to winning the "Bluejacket of the Year" Award was a 14-day All-Expense-Paid trip to Las Vegas, the Grand Canyon and Death Valley, and the use of a brand new Ford in which to make it. Above, top Bluejacket Stephenson accepts the keys to the new Ford from John King of Desert Motors in Ridgecrest.



OUT-OF-TOWN GUEST—Capt. Dick Huxford, USN, from the staff of COMOPTEVFOR in Norfolk, also attended the banquet as a guest of Capt. C. W. Fritz, Commanding Officer of VX-5 and his wife, Eve. The affair was catered by Club Chaparral.

Stephenson Garners Top Award At Banquet

(Continued from Page 1)

VX-5, named as the runner-up "Bluejacket of the Year" received a check from the Council for \$150, and all of the other candidates received a check for \$50.

The new "Bluejacket of the Year" was selected from 10 candidates from the Center who were chosen over the past year as "Bluejackets of the Month" by the various commands.

Other candidates for the award included AE1 William B. Engel of VX-5, who had been transferred since his selection in November, 1968; RM1 Morris J. Perkins, NWC; AC1 B. J. Condon, not really a candidate for the honor since he was promoted to Chief recently; AO2 Marshall Pearson, of VX-5; AO1 Mikel L. Tosti, of NAF; ETR3 Timothy Dart, of NWC; PN1 Franklin L. Morris, of NAF; CS1 Clifford H. Stone, of NWC; and AO1 Gilbert L. Rittner of NAF.

Commander's Remarks

Capt. M. R. Etheridge, NWC Commander, praised the "Bluejacket" program as one of the finest tributes to enlisted men anywhere. He said, "the enlisted corps of the Navy is the backbone of the service, and it is largely this source that has made the Navy the great service it has been in the past, and which is the strength and potential of the future."

June Candidate

The new "Bluejacket of the Year" was the June selection for "Bluejacket of the Month" from NAF. "Steve," as he is called by those who know him well, reported aboard the Naval Weapons Center in September, 1967, and was assigned to the Airways Division of the Operations Department of the Naval Air Facility. His duties include those of Tower Supervisor, Alternate Division Career Appraisal Petty Officer, and FAA Examiner.

AO1 Stephenson enlisted in

the Navy in August, 1955, at Houston, Texas. He is a graduate of Campbell High School in Newark, New Jersey. Steve and his wife, Sallie, have three children — Lowell, Joni Jane, and Darryl—and reside at 302-A Entwistle on the Center.

Distinguished Guests

The auspicious occasion was attended by over 200 Navy, League members and their wives, including many outstanding community leaders of the Indian Wells Valley.

Distinguished guests who also were present at the affair included, in addition to those already mentioned, Capt. and Mrs. John McConeghy, Jr., NWC Executive Officer; Capt. and Mrs. L. A. Dewing, Commanding Officer of the Naval Air Facility; Capt. and Mrs. Charles W. Fritz, C.O. of VX-5; and Chaplain and Mrs. Harold A. MacNeill.

Many organizations of the area were also recognized as contributors to the gifts and

cash awards presented. They included:

American Legion Post No. 684; Arrowsmith Tool & Mfg. Co.; Bakersfield Council of the Navy League; Bank of America NT&SA; Champ's Desert Food Market; COMARCO, Inc.; Community National Bank; Computer Applications, Inc.; Desert Motors, Inc.; FEDCO; The Flower Shop; Fred Harvey Corp.; General Dynamics Corp.; Genge Industries, Inc.; Indian Wells Valley Council of Navy League; Hideaway Steak House; K & R Market; Kiwanis Club of Ridgecrest; McDonnell Enterprises; Mayfair Flower Shop; Mercury Moving & Storage Co.; The Mint Hotel, Las Vegas; North American Rockwell Corp.; Shopping Bag Food Stores, Inc.; The Stardust, Las Vegas; Rotary Club of Ridgecrest; Texas Instruments, Inc.; Triangle Sport Shop, Inc.; Valley Independent; Veterans of Foreign Wars Ship No. 4084; and Western Auto Supply.



NAF CANDIDATE—AO-1 Mikel Tosti, of NAF, was on hand for the awards banquet with his date, Eileen Mullins. Tosti was the "Bluejacket of the Month" selection from the Naval Air Facility for April.