National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Volunteers-In-Parks

FY02 Annual Report

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Produced by the Division of Interpretation & Education
National Park Service

U.S. Department of the Interior
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Front cover:

VIP at Golden Gate NRA

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
VOLUNTEER
Thank You Volunteers.

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VIP Program Summary

The VIP program has grown over the years to reflect the dedication of people to their national parks. VIPs range in age from young children to senior citizens. They come from all over the United States, and the world, bringing different backgrounds, skills, and talents that enrich our park programs.

Background

The National Park Service (NPS) Volunteers-In-Parks program was authorized by Public Law 91-357 enacted in 1970. The primary purpose of the program is to provide a means through which the NPS can accept and use voluntary help in such a way that is mutually beneficial to the NPS and the volunteer. Volunteers may be recruited without regard to Office of Personnel Management (OPM) regulations, are provided coverage for tort liability and work-injury compensation, and can be reimbursed for out-of-pocket expenses while participating in the program.

Current Status

In FY2002, 125,000 VIPs contributed 4.5 million hours of service (or 2156 FTEs) valued at $72,225,000 based on the private sector value figure of $16.05 as used by AARP, Points of Light Foundation, and other large-scale volunteer programs including some federal agencies. There are 340 separate volunteer programs throughout the National Park Service. Since 1990, the number of volunteers has increased an average of 5% per year.

Current Direction - Our Goals

The national office is working to enhance and expand the Volunteers-In-Parks program throughout the Service. Our national goals over the next five years are to:

Enhance the visibility of the VIP program to improve recruitment.

Use $274,000 in fee demonstration funds to:

- Update the existing web-based report system and establish a servicewide VIP database;
- Update, print, and distribute a new VIP brochure;
- Order and distribute VIP program supplies including patches, lapel pins, decals, and certificates;
- Create a VIP Service Log; and
- Implement the George B. Hartzog VIP Recognition Program.

Establish the Master Volunteer Ranger Corps Program.

Expand the corps of volunteers who are committed to contributing at least 300 hours of service each year or offer expertise in special areas such as geology, archeology, etc. The Volunteer Senior Ranger Corps currently operating in 11 parks will also be a subset of this program.

Establish the Presidential Volunteer Ranger Corps Program.

Recognize any volunteer who contributes 4000 cumulative hours or more to the National Park Service.

FY02 VIP Program Figures *At A Glance*	
Total Number of VIPs	**125,000**
Total Hours	**4,500,000**
Total Cost	**$1,517,000**
Value Per Hour	**$16.05**
Total Value	**$72,225,000**

VIP Program Highlights

The following highlights display the varitey of programs, volunteers, and accomplishments servicewide. Volunteers are an integral part of the National Park System and assist in accomplishing the mission of the National Park Service.

Denali NP VIP with sled dog

Alaska Region

Alaska Public Lands Info. Center - Anchorage
In FY01 Alaska Public Lands Information Center received VIP money to purchase equipment for an ongoing slide scanning project. During FY02, 550 high-quality, high-resolution slides were scanned by qualified volunteers. In turn these high-quality images will be used in interpretive programs and publications.

Alaska Public Lands Info. Center - Fairbanks
Volunteers provided their botanical skills by planting, weeding, feeding, nurturing and growing some of the most beautiful flowers in front of the Alaska Public Lands Information Center. The flowers were purchased by the Center but the requirement to keep them watered and weeded rested primarily on volunteers. Many of the indigenous species of flowers and plants were labeled with information about their genus. The Alaska Public Lands Information Center received hundreds of comments from visitors about the beauty and the aroma of the garden.

Denali National Park & Preserve
The Denali National Park Sled Dog Kennels is staffed by 1 permanent employee , 2 summer seasonals, and between 75-80 volunteers. Two full-time winter volunteers spend over 1,000 hours each caring for the dogs and patrolling the park in the winter. In the summer season seventy-five volunteer dog walkers assist the kennels staff with exercising the sled dogs. During the summer when it's hot, the park dogs spend their days running the demonstration loop for kennel visitors (over 50,000 visitors per summer). In the long summer evenings, volunteers take the dogs for "walks," during which the powerful huskies drag their companions down the edge of the park road. This popular volunteer program not only provides the dogs with much needed exercise, but also forges special bonds between the dogs and their walkers, bonds that sometimes last for years. Often, volunteer dogwalkers who have developed a special relationship with their dog will want to adopt them when they are done working at the kennels. At about age 8-10, when a dog starts slowing down or losing interest in work, an adoptive home is found in the local community or another northern locale. Sometimes the lucky adoptive parent ends up being a previous volunteer who couldn't live without spending more time with their 4-legged ranger friend. Denali dogs usually make outstanding companions once they are ready to retire, since they are so well-socialized throughout their lives at the kennels.

Gates of the Arctic Natl Park & Preserve
Given the remoteness of the park and preserve and the lack of housing around the park area, the VIP program is filled primarily by local residents. This year the park had the opportunity to strengthen community relations by working with a local teacher in Anaktuvuk Pass, Alaska, a Native enholding within the park. This project is on-going and pairs a VIP with a backcounty law enforcement ranger in various patrol efforts on a year-round basis. It has been a gratifying experience for both participants and continues to deepen community relations while also helping in resource protection efforts.

Glacier Bay National Park & Preserve
In efforts to increase NPS presence in the park, the Protection Division enlisted the help of VIPs in doing kayak patrols in certain areas of the bay. Volunteers assisted patrol staff with duties such as operation/maintenance of vessels and backcountry facilities, visitor contacts, backcountry use monitoring, permit compliance, and backcountry user education.

Kenai Fjords National Park
In 2002 Kenai Fjords National Park held an interagency summer seasonal workshop that included 17 commercial and government agencies. During this workshop the park actively recruited volunteers to assist with various park programs. Numerous applications were received and the park held two training sessions for volunteers that provided Junior Ranger programs on the commercial tour boats. This volunteer program expands the ability to reach all the youngsters on these boats and increase the number who complete the program and receive their Junior Ranger badges.

"Without your being there every step of the way, Rog and I would not have made it back."

Klondike Gold Rush National Historical Park

Klondike Gold Rush National Historical Park
The archaeology SCA, Aaron Trotter, was recognized by the Regional Director for saving two lives on the Chilkoot Trail. Working with another NPS employee, Aaron convinced two disoriented, hypothermic hikers to return to NPS quarters at Sheep Camp. He then escorted the hikers back to Sheep Camp and aided in their recovery. In a thank-you letter to the park, the couple wrote, "Without your being there every step of the way, Rog and I would not have made it back. You and Aaron came into our lives at the right time."

Western Arctic National Parklands
A Kotzebue SCA made an excellent start on a working herbarium working independently to collect and process specimens, procure photographs, write up natural history information, and track down extra details on Russian plant names and uses. An International Natural Resource VIP from Sweden brought knowledge of wolverines to the wildlife program and worked on running radio-isotope analyses on samples collected. This data will contribute greatly to management of wolverines in Western Arctic National Parklands.

Yukon-Charley Rivers National Preserve
During July 2002, adult and student volunteers participated in a cooperative electronic field trip project that will air on the world wide web in Dec. 2002. In partnership with One Planet Education Network, Satellite Education Resources Consortium, and U.S. Department of Education, field research and on-site data recording activities focused on the recovery of the once endangered American Peregrine Falcon.

Intermountain Region

Oklahoma City National Memorial
Volunteers at the Oklahoma City National Memorial assisted visitors to the Outdoor Symbolic Memorial and Memorial Center in the aftermath of September 11, 2001. Behind-the-scenes volunteers in administration, archives, and maintenance also made a great impact on the success of the program for the year 2002. Volunteers in each role assisted with special events and activities that related to the terrorists attacks and the shared experience between Oklahoma City, New York, the Pentagon, and Shanksville, Pennsylvania. They not only were the face of comfort for many who came to seek education through the Memorial, but also helped send "Hope Bears" to children affected by the attacks, helped open a temporary exhibit entitled "A Shared Experience" on April 19, 2002 and helped welcome guests from the different cities affected. The volunteers were a valuable service to their country by donating their time as volunteers in representing the Memorial, the National Park Service, and the nation.

Arches National Park
The Sierra Club volunteer group brought both muscle and enthusiasm to their projects. A favorite this year was using high angle rescue techniques to raise huge amounts of dead tamarisk (an exotic shrub)out of a deep canyon. This slash was schedule to be burned; instead it was used it to block unwanted trails that were developing in heavily visited areas of the park. The volunteers caught on very quickly to using the raising system. They were having so much fun they had to take turns operating it.

Bandelier National Monument
New Mexico Volunteers for the Outdoors donated 347 hours working on trail maintenance at Bandelier. Another VIP donated 560 hours to the Archeology Program to complete field work in the summer of 2002. This volunteer assisted in conducting archeological surveys and preparing condition assessments on sites located in the Bandelier backcountry. The Ozark Society-Buffalo River Chapter donated 376 hours to the park in accomplishing data collection for the archeologist that he could not have done safely alone. This crew located and recorded 5 archeological sites in remote areas of the park. This required up to three hours of wilderness hiking using a GPS unit to track and record location of the site and the return route across canyons and steep terrain. The Sierra Club assisted with trail maintenance and building a fence near the ski trail. A total of 320 hours was donated by this group.

Bent's Old Fort National Historic Site
Twenty-seven volunteers provided 54 narrated programs as part of the Trails and Rails program for Amtrak's "Southwest Chief" between La Junta, Colorado and Albuquerque, New Mexico. These VIPs recruited many additional volunteers and trained them as well. Approximately 13,500 passengers rode the train. 52 volunteers portrayed the life of Dragoon soldiers, fur traders, craftsmen, domestic laborers, trappers and plains Indians during four special park events. Volunteers worked in the Western National Parks Association Book Store providing retail sales. Progress was made with cataloging and inputting data into the park-wide Vista system.

Big Bend National Park
Scarlett Wirt did a tremendous job helping the Division of Interpretation with the Oral History

Big Bend NP Fall '02 VIP Training Class

Glen Canyon Graffiti Clean-Up

Collection. She attended Oral History Training in Colorado, and performed research and interviews with several experts about how to conduct successful interviews. She used this information to draft written instructions on how to conduct and transcribe Oral History Interviews. Scarlett also completed an inventory on all Oral History interviews and transcripts in the park's collection and from that, developed a matrix to keep track of interviews that have been transcribed and filed. Finally, she transcribed many interviews herself. Scarlett's invaluable efforts in organizing the park's Oral History Collection will help interpreters develop programs for years to come.

Bighorn Canyon National Recreation Area
Campground hosts donated 73% of the site's total VIP hours in various divisions. Their contacts with park visitors were especially helpful. One long term volunteer has now donated 1945 hours of highly skilled help in interpretation and resource management over the last five years.

Bryce Canyon National Park
Park offices recently moved into a new visitor center which included a room for the library. Sue Besemer, a retired librarian from New York, came to Bryce Canyon and organized the library. Sue Besemer spent nearly three months and donated about 400 hours of volunteer time. She digitized the collection, sorted out materials that had been improperly labeled, helped develop a system to put the collection on the web, and helped design the library furniture for the new space. The improvement has been tremendous.

Canyon de Chelly National Monument
Local artists demonstrated their crafts for the visiting public. Various maintenance backlog projects were completed by VIP groups.

Casa Grande National Monument
VIPs reorganized the library and began conversion to the Library of Congress catalogue system. In addition, they photographed Casa Grande NM objects stored at WACC facility and digitized them into a CD set. The park also hosted an Archaeology Expo.

Capitol Reef National Park
The highlighted activity has been the partnerships developed with various college groups. Snow College volunteers completed 2 miles of fence. Volunteers, in completing this work, helped the park with a special project that employees could not have accomplished alone.

Chickasaw National Recreation Area
Chickasaw tripled the number of Trails & Rails volunteers and presented the most programs since it began three years ago. The program exceeded the 1997 baseline volunteer hours by 640.5 hours.

Chiricahua National Monument
The CHIR campground hosts were a critical link in the communication process during the major road and utility construction projects this year. They ensured that people camping had the most accurate information in a timely manner, even when that information changed constantly.

Coronado National Memorial
VIPs at Coronado National Memorial have been a tremendous asset to the park. Volunteer assistance helps to continue very popular environmental education programs that take place in the fall and spring months of the school year. In addition, a very dedicated volunteer and maintenance staff has provided countless hours of help. Without the VIP program at CORO, many programs and projects would be unavailable.

Devils Tower National Monument
Once again this year, the Christian Motorcycle Association along with the regular VIPs helped with the Sturgis Rally visitation influx. During this 10-day period, there were an additional 3000 motorcycles visiting the park each day plus visitors arriving by auto, RV, etc.

El Malpais National Monument
An SCA has provided the resource management division with baseline cave inventory data that has moved the monument's cave program forward. The staff is grateful for her help.

Fort Bowie National Historic Site
VIPs were helpful in staffing the visitor center allowing rangers to complete on-going projects and reports. With only 2 permanent interpretive rangers and 2 permanent maintenance rangers, Fort Bowie NHS relies heavily on volunteers. In FY02 the VIP Program added 6 additional volunteers. Four of them were returnees. For FY03 Fort Bowie is expecting six volunteers to return. Having available housing has helped tremendously, along with presenting the volunteers with recognition awards and gifts. Six VIP's performed round-the-clock living history programs depicting military life at Fort Bowie. Five Arizona Native Plant Society members helped with manual eradication efforts of a non-native plant. Two VIPs worked diligently on posting boundary signs on the entire perimeter of the park. Additionally, VIPs at Fort Bowie have completed database inventories of the library, completed a Junior Ranger Program booklet, written an educational packet for school groups, and performed tours and talks of the Fort Bowie ruins.

Had this project been contracted out at $30/hour, it would have cost the park $4,800.

Fort Davis National Historic Site

Fossil Butte National Monument
The weekend interpretive program, "Aquarium in Stone," is one of the more popular programs. A volunteer, funded through the Geological Society of America, introduces visitors to the scientific collection of fossils. Visitors are then invited to assist. Visitors often remark that this program is the highlight of their visit. Volunteers also demonstrate the techniques used in the preparation of fossils. This program is also very popular.

Fort Davis National Historic Site
A VIP used park software to develop approx. 20 new links to the park website. He worked 160 hours on this project. Had this project been contracted out at $30/hour, it would have cost the park $4,800. Eleven volunteers assisted with trail patrol, upkeep, and maintenance, donating 458 hours. Some of them widened & stabilized with rock (rip-rapping) a hazardous 12-foot section of trail near the overlook.

Fort Union National Monument
Fort Union VIPs worked 714.4 hours organizing, cleaning, moving, and setting up the park library in another location. They organized map cases, slide files, and contributed valuable ideas on its maintenance. Seventeen members of Santa Fe Trails Association put in 91 hours painting picket fences around the visitor center. Volunteers also provided interpretive programs at four special events held at Fort Union.

Glacier National Park
Volunteers worked on revegetation of native plants (collecting seeds and transplanting), clearing trails, various repairs to cabins and fire lookouts, and painting Glacier's archive building.

Glen Canyon National Recreation Area
Glen Canyon NRA employees and volunteers have undertaken an initiative to remove graffiti from heavily impacted areas around Lake Powell. VIPs provided 1400+ hours of their time using wire brushes, wisk brooms, pressure sprayers, and elbow grease to make many sandstone walls and canyons pristine again. Traditionally, the removal of graffiti from a given area will make it less likely that it will re-appear there. The work that these volunteers performed will assure a more enjoyable and meaningful visitor experience for years to come.

Grand Canyon National Park
Resource management volunteers monitored condors along the rim including the nesting sites, monitored river corridor wildlife, and participated in the Youth Biologist program. VIPs created the Artist-in Residence brochure and guidelines and created a brochure on the history of the North Rim Grand Canyon Lodge. VIPs also assisted during Arizona Archeology Month activities presented at Tusayan Museum. During the summer months Preventive Search and Rescue volunteers assisted 118 inner canyon hikers. In addition, hundreds of inner canyon hikers were contacted near the trailhead to assure that they had adequate food, water, and equipment. Sjors Horstman has completed his 17th consecutive full-year tour working as a resource protection VIP at Phantom Ranch, located at the bottom of the Grand Canyon. He has accumulated over 29,000 hours. Fred Fisher has completed his 3rd consecutive full-year tour working administration at the park warehouse. He has accumulated over 5500 hours. Two interpretive VIPs returned for their fourth and fifth 12-week tours. Volunteer groups continued to remove exotic blackberry plants form the Indian Garden Campground area. VIPs have been an integral part of keeping exotic species under control on the South Rim although most volunteer hours, about 6000, are dedicated to weeding non-native plants.

Grant-Kohrs Ranch National Historic Site
Volunteer numbers increased in FY02 through advertising and recruitment efforts. The park also hosted its first volunteer banquet to recognize the VIPs for their contributions.

Great Sand Dunes National Monument
Ron and JoAnn Pippin, campground hosts, not only assisted at the campground, but also helped at the Visitor Center with information, book sales, etc. JoAnn is an artist and donated one of her paintings, completed while volunteering, to the Visitor Center artwork display. The park was fortunate to have such a talented husband/wife team and hope they will return next season.

Guadalupe Mountains National Park
A volunteer student from Mexico greatly assisted with environmental education projects including working with teachers and doing translations of park literature in Spanish. The park worked with NPS Mexican Affairs Office and SCA to get more involved with volunteers from Mexico. Guadalupe Mountains NP recruited two Mexico SCA volunteers to assist with resource management and interpretation projects.

Hubbell Trading Post National Historic Site
At least 50 volunteers assisted the park with the semi-annual Native American Art Auction events. VIPs helped with writing computer programs, consigning auction items, displaying auction items, registering bidders, keeping track of

sale and no sale items, etc. As one can see, it would be very difficult to have successful auctions without the help of these wonderful and dedicated volunteers.

Lake Meredith National Recreation Area
ALFL's main staffing needs are met through the use of VIPs to provide formal interpretive programs to thousands of visitors. In the future, a VIP report for ALFL will be completed to break out the interpretive program from LAMR's to emphasize the distinctions between these two separate NPS units. The majority of volunteer interpretive hours are performed at ALFL. Our cooperating association, WNPA, provided the park with a grant to do archeological investigations at ALFL which will enhance interpretive and educational programs. Most of the physical labor was performed by VIPs. During FY02 one VIP surpassed the 5000 hour mark.

Little Bighorn Battlefield National Monument
During FY02 Little Bighorn Battlefield utilized an SCA to input data on soldiers, Indians, and U.S. veterans for a future touch screen computer project. The friends group volunteered again to interpret on the park's three historic trails.

Long Distance Trails Group Office-SLC
Auto tour route signs were placed along I-80 for travelers to experience the California and Pony Express National Historic Trails through part of Utah. VIP Al Mulder spent numerous hours consulting with the highway department to determine exact locations for the crossing signs. As a result, travelers have an easier time of following the historic trails.

Lyndon B. Johnson National Historical Park
Out of the 93 people who volunteered at LBJ NHP this past fiscal year, one comes to the forefront with a project that was completed solely by the individual. He produced a video highlighting each person who works at LBJ and at our partnership State Park. Not only did he take the slide pictures of each person in their job setting, he worked with a local company to produce the video with a script, which he wrote. The video will be used at various activities and training sessions in the park.

Mesa Verde National Park
Eighteen Sierra Club volunteers completed a natural resource project for the park. This is the third year they have done such a project for Mesa Verde.

Natural Bridges National Monument
Volunteers this year as worked on flash flood rescue, undercover law enforcement operations, and went out on wildland firefighting.

Palo Alto Battlefield National Historic Site
The park's Living History Weekend in February 2002 attracted more than 2000 visitors. The event also featured the efforts of almost 100 volunteers who performed tasks that included site preparation, interpretation, resource protection, and clean-up. Volunteers were of all ages and included scouts, educators, and members of the local business community.

Padre Island National Seashore
Two Americorps teams (21 students in all) worked in the park for 6 weeks each completing many projects, including preparation for Tropical Storm Isidore and a mural for an exhibit in the visitor center. Fifty-two volunteers assisted staff with the Kemp's Ridley sea turtle project which resulted in a record 29 nests with 2779 eggs incubated and 1887 hatchlings released. In addition 1 loggerhead & 2 green turtle nests with 250 eggs resulting in 196 hatchlings were found due to the assistance of these volunteers. 1845 volunteers gave 4195 hours to cleaning the beaches of the park. This included clubs, individuals, scouts, and students earning community service hours. Over all, these VIPs removed an estimated 15-20 tons of trash from our shores.

Pecos National Historical Park
Volunteers were the backbone of initiating a new interpretive function at Pecos NHP, coordinating training and program presentations with the partnership with Amtrak between La Junta, CO and Lamy, NM. The number of interpretive programs and visitors served in guided tours is the highest peak it has been in the past 10 years; largely due to the support of VIPs.

Petroglyph National Monument
The Petroglyph NM Inventory crew completed the inventory of five kilometers of the 28 kilometer escarpment; to date, the 16-member, five-year old VIP crew has committed almost 13,000 hours to this critical project. Their weekly meter-by-meter inventory has resulted in documentation of 19,250 actual petroglyphs and 534 associated archaeological sites. A large and well attended VIP maintenance project sponsored by Lever Brothers and Walmart enhanced the visitor center and a Student Cultural Awareness Day benefitted from several Native American and Spanish Colonial artisans working as volunteers. The trail watch, visitor center information desk, and outreach programs all relied heavily on volunteers. The staff provided interpretive training to all NPS interpretive VIPs this year.

Greenhouse VIPs at Rocky Mountain NP

Rocky Mountain National Park
In FY02 ROMO's VIP office continued to expand the scope and quality of the program by focusing on the direct supervisor/volunteer relationship. Four paid positions were added in specific work units to serve as volunteer coordinators. Most notable is the new volunteer coordinator position at the Continental Divide Research and Learning Center which has launched a Citizen Scientist Initiative. This win-win initiative matches qualified volunteers with clearly articulated park research needs. Of the 21,000 volunteer hours contributed in Resources Management, 5600 came from Continental Divide Research and Learning Center VIP's.

San Antonio Missions National Historical Park
Some of our volunteers have been trained on the operation, interpretation, and maintenance of our 18th century historic grist mill. With the addition of the VIPs to the grist mill, we now have it operating 6 days per week.

Saguaro National Park
Several new interpretive programs were initiated and presented by volunteers. Special volunteer work crews worked extensively on resource protection, removing exotic plants, and restoring trails and worn areas.

Timpanogos Cave National Monument
The monument participated in the international volunteer program for the first time in its history and set up a vegetation mapping project for a Ph.D. candidate from England. Using hyperspectral remote sensing, Dr. Anjana Khatwa was able to create a vegetation map of Timpanogos Cave National Monument. This map will have applicable uses in fire management, exotic vegetation management, and native plant restoration projects. In addition to her work in vegetation mapping, Dr. Khatwa assisted the monument in managing and overseeing the Volunteer Senior Ranger Corps Program. She organized volunteer award banquets, assisted in the development of a volunteer newsletter, and workly closed with all divisions. She was a wonderful asset to the monument staff and everyone enjoyed working with her.

Tonto National Monument
Volunteers enabled the park to continue with Project Desert, the curriculum-based, environmental and cultural resource education program at public schools. They contributed numerous hours in constructing and preparing hand looms for distribution to the students. VIPs were instrumental in assisting with special events, particularly during the November and March Open House events.

Washita Battlefield National Historic Site
The highlight of this years VIP program was an IT VIP. He has helped the park often and this year found a problem that had the potential to be a system-wide computer problem. He notified all those involved of the danger at hand and has earned the respect of those in his field.

With the help of these volunteers, the park was able to accomplish a variety of projects as well as enhance visitor understanding.

Agate Fossil Beds National Monument

Western Archeological & Conservation Center
Several volunteers having been working in the Museum Collections packing and identifying artifacts then entering the information into the computer system. The volunteers have received computer training in various computer programs utilized in MCR.

Yellowstone National Park
The VIP program continues to play a vital role in accomplishing the park's operational goals. Besides providing an opportunity for citizens to give of their time to their national parks, it also provides an avenue for those seeking bonafide employment with the NPS either seasonally or permanently. This benefits both the volunteer and the Service. Yellowstone continues to see a high percentage of returning campground hosts each year to the park.

Midwest Region

Agate Fossil Beds National Monument
Throughout FY 02, Agate was fortunate to have four dedicated volunteers who committed time and effort into the park's interpretive program. Kristie Yelinek, Nick Schonek, and Edward and Cynthia Buchwald volunteered over 1,000 hours combined in Interpretation, Resource Management, and Curatorial Services. Kristie Yelinek volunteered over 400 hours assisting the park's museum curator in organizing and cataloging original documents in the James H. Cook Collection. Nick Schonek assisted the park's Interpretive division with overall visitor services. Nick's time was evenly divided between assisting visitors at the information desk, roving the trails and working on natural resource projects. Throughout the summer, Nick volunteered over 300 hours of time. Dr. Edward and Cynthia Buchwald provided assistance to the park's interpretive program throughout the month of September. One of Ed's contributions was leadership of a symposium for Agate, Scotts Bluff Monument, and Fort Laramie National Historic Site personnel on environmental education and its place in park interpretive programs. Dr. Buchwald was also a presenter at the Sioux County country school's Geography Day. Buchwald introduced the staff to the Nebraska K-12 Science Standards, which are based on the American Association for the Advancement of Science Project 2061 (and which set goals for learning for the 1st, 4th, 8th, and 12th grades), and to the North American Association for Environmental Education. Cynthia Buchwald also assisted the park's museum curator with yearly inventory of the James H. Cook Collection. With the help of these VIPs, the park was able to accomplish a variety of projects as well as enhance visitor understanding.

Apostle Islands National Lakeshore
56 VIPs contributed 10,237 hours during a compressed season of 5 months when most visitation occurs. The park's volunteer lighthouse keeper positions continue their popularity, attracting a large number of applicants; 3,990 hours were contributed at the 4 light stations where VIPs are utilized. 101 VIPs representing 7 special work groups (local 4-H clubs, Wisconsin Conservation Corps crews, BSA Troops, Northland College, and the Sierra Club) contributed 1,830 hours. A special highlight in 2002 was VIP Michael Armstrong surpassing 5000 hours in 5 years during the park's "short" summer season.

Arkansas Post National Memorial
The park has an active volunteer program involving the Interpretation, Maintenance and Resource Management divisions. Major volunteer activities include living history events such as the Colonial and Civil War encampment, and the Ghosts of the Past program. Regional Boy and Girl scout groups actively participate in clean-up programs such as park day in April.

Badlands National Park
The park's summer internship program provides onsite education at the Big Pig Dig, an active paleontology site open to the public during the summer months. This year, 14,250 visitors were contacted by volunteer interpreters and paleontology students as part of the VIP program.

Brown v. Board of Education National Historic Site
The interpretive division was able to accomplish several projects during FY02 with the help of two VIPs. Research, design, and layout for two editions of the BRVB Newsletter as well as African American Walking Trail brochures were completed. VIPs participated in several outreach and special events programs. One of the VIPs attended IDP training at Ft. Larned, NPS Library training in Denver, and Presenting Curriculum - Based Education programs in California.

Buffalo National River
Buffalo National River established a first, and possibly annual, Public Lands Day event.

Central High School National Historic Site
Again this year, there was great volunteer participation from Central High School students. Many of them must complete a certain number of service hours in order to participate in extracurricular organizations and the school allows ser-

Indian Heritage Celebration at Effigy Mounds NM

Big Pig Dig VIPs at Badlands NP

vice at the visitor center to count toward those service hours. Many former students remain volunteers at the site, including 8 who are now in college around the United States.

Effigy Mounds National Monument

VIP Kathy Giesler consistently donated hours throughout the entire year, travelling a distance of 200 miles each way. She became an integral part of the front-line interpretive program - providing support and information/orientation services in the visitor center and during all special events. VIP Betty McHenry donated hours remotely from North Carolina transcribing oral histories. Donated hours continue to center around special events and programs. In partnership with a nearby Iowa State Park, there is an agreement to recruit and share VIP's by offering a campsite located within the State Park. The groundwork for recruiting a student VIP intern has been set and there are plans to recruit this winter from regional colleges. Overall, there was an increase from 2001 in VIP hours donated throughout the park. VIP's are especially important in maintaining the quality of events historically offered at the Monument on an annual basis. VIP's performed an increased role in presenting living history characters during two "Moonlight Hikes." This enabled paid staff to lead the hikes. VIP's presented the majority of evening "Chautauqua" speakers series, highlighted by the participation of several prominent archeologists from Iowa and Wisconsin. The 18th annual Hawk Watch celebration on September 28th and 29th attracted almost 1,500 visitors to the park over the two-day period during the peak of hawk migration. Hawk Watch is cosponsored by the Upper Iowa Audubon Society, the Iowa DNR, Effigy Mounds National Monument and the Midwest Raptor Research Fund. Although presenters receive stipends for formal scheduled programs most of the continuous informal activities are conducted and presented by volunteers who are raptor experts. Effigy Mounds hosts this program, which was presented through the efforts of 36 volunteers, many of them raptor experts. Two Audubon Society VIP's, Pam Kester and Pat Heidenreich, served as coordinators – donating significant amounts of time and personal funding throughout the year.

Fort Larned National Historic Site

VIPs were the backbone of the park's living history program. The volunteers helped with all the interpretive programs and staffed the living history stations in the historic buildings. VIPs transported the park visitors back to 1868 through the living history program by allowing the visitors to actually experience many of the same sights, sounds, and smells of the frontier military post.

Fort Scott National Historic Site

Volunteers are an integral part of the interpretive program at Fort Scott National Historic Site. They assist in a variety of ways including visitor center help, library assistance, cleaning buildings, and living history programs. Many thanks to these special people.

Fort Union Trading Post National Historic Site

The Fort Union Rendezvous - 19th century fur trade includes a variety of period arts, crafts and music. The tent and tipi camp included 140 people in period dress. 4,947 visitors attended the four-day event. As part of Amtrak's Empire Builder Line, Fort Union Trading Post NHS conducted programs six days a week from Williston, North Dakota to Malta and Shelby, Montana as part of the Trails and Rails program. The programs were given from mid-May to mid-September. Fourteen volunteers gave a total of 60 programs to 14,673 visitors.

George Rogers Clark National Historical Park

During the spring a new volunteer to the park came looking for a project. This volunteer learned the library program and entered all of the parks books into the system. Nearly 900 books were catalogued. He also helped with the information desk, school programs, and various other tasks. David Weaver contributed 332 hours during the year.

Grand Portage National Monument

Three mini-rendezvous took place this season during June, September and October. Re-enactors prepared historic meals in the kitchen and worked on projects in the warehouse. The participants interpreted their work to visitors and the role Grand Portage played in global trade and the exchange of ideas and culture during the North American fur trade. During the event in September, a participant constructed a beautiful shaving horse from a Quaking Aspen trunk, a usable tool that interpreters can utilize and the public can continue to enjoy. Rendezvous Days and Powwow held in August commemorated the last North West Company meeting at the Grand Portage location. The largest number of re-enactors in the history of Rendezvous Days participated in three days of contests, demonstrations and programs. A brigade from Saginaw Michigan paddled three 40-foot Montreal canoes from Canada's Lake Nipigon to Grand Portage. Off in the distance, the monument's Mackinaw boat sailed gracefully through Grand Portage Bay to welcome these hardy voyageurs.

VIP at Hot Springs NP

George Washington Carver National Monument
A Volunteers-In-Parks project this year has been landscaping at the park which includes two ornate flowerbeds. The smaller of the two is outside the gates leading visitors into the park. The large flowerbed visitors see as they drive to the Visitor Center. It has native prairie plants. A team of 8 to 12 gardeners/VIPs brought in dirt, plants, and gardening equipment. After establishing the gardens they returned in smaller groups each day for weeks to water the plants. The addition is very attractive.

Herbert Hoover National Historic Site
Two photographers were VIP Artists-in-Residence at different times this year. Numerous volunteers helped with the two-day Harvest Home event, some in period costume. The Christmas Past event, in cooperation with the local community, included many volunteers. A volunteer gardener tended the garden at the Birthplace Cottage. Prairie Heritage Day and Public Lands Day brought out numerous volunteers to help with resource management work on the prairie.

Hopewell Culture National Historical Park
VIPs are used in a wide range of activities here at Hopewell Culture NHP. The majority of the hours come from students from MWAC and Hersey College. Both of these groups perform archeological services for the National Park Service. Other volunteers work bluebird trails and remove invasive plants, and work in the Visitor Center giving interpretive guidance to visitors.

Homestead National Monument of America
The Volunteer Senior Ranger Corps has worked on several projects that park staff would not have been able to complete without volunteers. They have indexed just under 10,000 images and have scanned 4,000 of those. Retrieval of images is very easy with this new system. VSRC participants also provide assistance for our special events. They just launched a water monitoring program and oral history project.

Hot Springs National Park
The park continues to develop a relationship with the local community hiking club, the Ouachita Mountain Hikers. Members of that organization led hikes on National Trails Day and for the annual Volksmarsch in conjunction with Octoberfest. They have adopted the access road to the campground and clean it four times a year. Many of their members have individually adopted park trails through the park's Adopt-A-Trail program, now in its 8th year. In fact, almost half of the tour guides and roving interpreters are members of that organization.

Harry S. Truman National Historic Site
A special event theme luncheon entitled VIP TEA, "Very Important People Team Evaluation Awards," honored Harry S. Truman volunteers with recognition of their service. Volunteers, bring the best possible experience to park visitors. Harry S Truman National Historic Site is fortunate to have such people. Interpretation and curatorial accomplishments were highlights. The Truman Home staff turned out to support these honors.

Ice Age National Scenic Trail
Volunteers continued to construct and maintain the trail throughout FY02. Ice Age Park & Trail Foundation staff attended the 8th Conference on National Scenic and National Historic Trails. Tools were purchased for the new Mobile Skills Trail Crews.

Illinois & Michigan Canal
Management of the Santa Fe Prairie by newly registered VIPs has found an increase in the amount of work accomplished, due in part to recognition of their status as National Park Service VIPs.

Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore
Angel Gochee received the 2002 National Association for Interpretation's Outstanding Interpretive Volunteer Award. Angel has been a volunteer since 1984 and does a wide variety of tasks throughout the park. She is also personally responsible for coordinating the Historic Halloween Fun program which regularily brings in over 1,400 visitors. More than 100 volunteers assisted with the Maple Sugar Time and Duneland Harvest festivals which brought in over 8,797 visitors. Hundreds of students from three area high schools came to the national lakeshore to work hands-on in the field with resource management specialists. These students worked a total of 1,266 hours restoring and monitoring sensitive park sites while completing high school curriculum requirements.

James A. Garfield National Historic Site
The NPS paid staff at JAGA is limited and the visitor contacts, interpretation, and education are carried out by the NPS operating partner at the site, the Western Reserve Historical Society. The VIP at the site does interpretive programs.

Jewel Cave National Monument
Jewel Cave National Monument, along with Wind Cave National Park, hosted the annual "Cave Restoration Camp." This year's camp involved 12 volunteers who contributed approximately 143 hours of work toward removal of

VIP at Jefferson National Expansion Memorial

candle wax, lint, and other debris from along the Candlelight Cave Tour route. Specifically, the volunteers removed lint and wax from along 300 linear feet of the Candlelight Tour route.

Jefferson National Expansion Memorial
A corps of "Living History" volunteers was initiated to present first-person presentations and programs throughout the year at several special events/celebrations at the Old Courthouse and Museum of Westward Expansion. Volunteers received bi-monthly training and were involved in two special events in FY02. The goal for FY03 is to continue with the training, develop and present programs and historic vignettes at four special events as a group, and work at the Old Courthouse as 2-person teams on weekends. The park will also examine the possibility of special programs in conjunction with the Trails & Rails and Riverboat programs.

Keweenaw National Historical Park
Of the 602 total volunteer hours donated to Keweenaw NHP, 2 VIPs provided the bulk of them (522 hrs.). One, a high school senior on a work study program, assisted the administration and maintenance divisions. He helped with filing, reception, janitorial, and other basic operational activities. The other, a retired Federal employee and Episcopal Deaconess, entered over 400 museum catalog records into the park's ANCS+ database and scanned historic photographs per visitor requests.

Knife River Indian Village National Historic Site
Nathan Sato, the SCA Diversity Internship Program volunteer completed 440 hours. Due to his Student Ambassador job at Hillsdale College where he conducted tours of the college, he was able to start presenting earthlodge programs within a week of arriving at the park. Nathan presented 50 formal earthlodge programs to 169 visitors. In addition, he conducted several guided walks to the village sites. The fact that Nathan felt comfortable presenting programs and working with the public made him an immediate valuable member of the seasonal staff at the park.

Lewis & Clark National Historic Trail
Each year the Lewis and Clark Trail Foundation, which is the oldest partner of the trail, has an annual meeting that is run solely by volunteers. They do all the preparation and work very hard during the week-long meeting.

Lincoln Boyhood National Memorial
Volunteer Chris Norris photographed the park in-depth with the park's digital cameras. This allowed Lincoln Boyhood NM to build a large and up-to-date photo library of the site.

Lincoln Home National Historic Site
VIP Jane Lowder presented 20 off-site programs. The park could not have accomplished these outreach programs in any other way. Another highlight was an on-site living history program presented by all the 5th graders from DuBois School.

Mississippi National River & Recreation Area
Restoration Specialist Volunteers began work at Grey Cloud Dunes Scientific and Natural Area, a unit of the SNA program managed by the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources within the park boundaries. This unique dry prairie representing some of Minnesota's prime natural heritage is the highest quality remnant of this region's prairie landscape and features shifting sand dunes that slowly move above the Mississippi River flood plain. Restoration specialists worked at Grey Cloud Dunes several times over the year with the largest event occurring on April 20, 2002 in celebration of Earth Day. Over 65 volunteers from the community, the DNR, the USDA Natural Resource Conservation Service, and the National Park Service came together to remove sumac from this new area of public land. The community and local service groups worked together to provide a reception and lunch for the volunteers following the event.

Missouri National Recreational River
This year the MNRR Natural Resource staff developed a volunteer project with high schools along the Missouri River. This project has area high school science students conducting water quality sampling and reporting to the MNRR. The students are under the supervision of their teachers. Total number of volunteers includes 110 students and teachers.

Mount Rushmore National Memorial
This year, Carol Kazmierczak approaches her 4th anniversary of volunteering with the curatorial operation at Mount Rushmore. She greatly contributed to and exceeded certain GPRA goals by completely reconciling 15 accession records for the 303 catalog records that she entered for the museum collection. She also reorganized and remounted specimens for the herbarium collection. Intern Mike Benning and other VIPs carried out Resource Management duties and projects with excellent quality. Volunteer EMT's Margaret Farrell, Lorraine Heinrich, and Dr. Robert Nitschelm especially aided emergency medical services during special events like the Sturgis bike rally, the July 3 & 4 patriotic event and President Bush's visit, where Dr. Nitschelm was assigned to substitute for the president's official physician during the event. Administrative VIP's Donna Nicolazzo (Pennsylvania) and

The zeal, energy, and enthusiasm of these people and their selfless donation of time and effort on this project is astounding.

Pea Ridge National Military Park

Rebecca Ingebretsen (Minnesota) aided the Administrative operation with organizing and secretarial functions, as did Dorothy Larsh, who returned for her second summer, with the RSVP Program in Rapid City, SD. Through the fall and winter, the Interpretive division benefitted from international VIP Sara Toyn (England) and Kara White (Kentucky). VIP John Esposti returned for his 4th season of presenting extra Presidential Walks while SCA resource assistants Jessica Smith and Anne Maasberg carried out most of the same duties as uniformed seasonals during the busiest summer on record at Rushmore.

Midwest Archeological Center

Certainly the most successful VIP projects at the Midwest Archeological Center in FY02 were the combined investigations at Pea Ridge National Military Park, Arkansas and Wilson's Creek National Battlefield, Missouri. This was the second field season of parkwide inventory at the two units. The study is part of the NPS Systemwide Archeological Inventory Program (SAIP) in the Midwest Region. Many local residents around these two NPS units have strong interests centering on the Civil War engagements that occurred there. Tapping into this wealth of assistance, Center Archeologist Doug Scott and a small Center crew enrolled and supervised 94 volunteers who came to lend their knowledge and expertise and to learn a little more about the history of their parks. The VIPs at Pea Ridge inventoried archeological remains across roughly 500 acres at the site of the Leetown Battle, while the VIPs at Wilson's Creek examined an area of similar size around Bloody Hill. Together, the VIPs at PERI and WICR contributed a total of 2,521 hours to the Center, an amazing contribution to these two projects that stretched the SAIP funding in a amost rewarding way.

Midwest Field Area

A college student worked with the Divsion of Planning and Compliance to eliminate the backlog of notification forms for projects needing environmental compliance review. This brought organization and priority-setting to the vital work of environmental compliance.

Niobrara National Scenic River

Spring River Clean-up sponsored by the Niobrara Council was successful with 60 individuals participating in this annual event to pick up litter in and along the Niobrara River.

North Country National Scenic Trail

Meals were provided to North Country and Finger Lakes Trail Association crews who completed new trail construction and maintenance on North Country NST segments. Tools and equipment were purchased for VIPs to allow for continued building and maintaining of the trail. Funding was provided to the North Country Trail Association for recognition awards for VIPs and partners at year-end banquets and award ceremonies.

Ozark National Scenic Riverways

Seven SCAs worked in fire education programs in the park and throughout the surrounding communities. They provided public programs each week in the campgrounds, made presentations on wildland fire at local community gatherings, and visited homes to evaluate their safety in the event of wildland fire. One SCA supervised the crew in coordination with the efforts of the FMO and Fire Staff.

Pea Ridge National Military Park

During the last week of March, 2002, 52 VIP's contributed over 1,400 hours of service for a major archeological study of the park. Over 1,600 artifacts were recovered and are currently being analyzed. The zeal, energy, and enthusiasm of these people and their selfless donation of time and effort on this project is astounding. The park expects that most, if not more, will participate in next year's project.

Perry's Victory & International Peace Memorial

Historic Weekend drew 5000 people to the park for a Boy Scout camporee, presentations by historical reenactors, black powder musket and carronade firing, parade, formal ceremony, and an evening performance of the Toledo Symphony on the Memorial plaza. 102 volunteers contributed to the success of Historic Weekend.

Pipestone National Monument

VIPs assisted the Interpretive division during high visitation months, providing answers to questions concerning cultural and natural resources of the park. The first Annual Buckthorn Day was a success, volunteers assisted with exotic weed removal improving the cultural landscape. Girl Scout groups assisted with keeping the park grounds clean and improving the visual aesthetics. The VIP program provides groups, organizations, and the local community with opportunities to be involved with this special site.

Saint Croix/Lower St. Croix National Scenic River

Twenty-six students and a teacher from Grantsburg High School, Grantsburg, Wisconsin, volunteered over 750 hours of time performing native freshwater mussel measurements, analysis, and identification on the St. Croix River. The river has a diverse mussel population (including two endangered species) that is threatened by the non-native zebra mussel. The

The ability to provide excellent visitor services...was bolstered by the talented and dependable VIP staff...

Ulysses S. Grant National Historic Site

survey is one part of the Riverways continuing effort to protect the native mussel population in the park.

Scotts Bluff National Monument
During the summer of 2002, Scotts Bluff National Monument had its first Student Conservation Association Transportation Interpreters, provided through an agreement with the Ford Motor Company, National Park Foundation, and the National Park Service. Using a bio-diesel powered van, our two SCA volunteers provided an interpretive shuttle service to the summit of Scotts Bluff.

Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore
The Michigan Barn Preservation Network, with 52 volunteers contributing 248 hours, restored a barn foundation and instructed park staff in fieldstone masonry techniques. This was their fourth year of providing a barn preservation workshop within the park.

Tallgrass Prairie National Preserve
The preserve has a one-room, historically furnished schoolhouse, which was in operation from 1882-1930. It is staffed completely by volunteers. Tallgrass Prairie National Preserve has started a Living History Program, which also added several new volunteers. The preserve will continue to add more VIPs to supplement this program as cultural programs continue to increase. Two of the long-term VIPs significantly increased their hours conducting research for several projects and reports.

Theodore Roosevelt National Park
One person volunteered 20 hours a week all year. She was responsible for sending out responses and literature for all of the park's informational requests, handling all video requests, and serving as the park's librarian. In addition, she staffed the information desk at the South Unit Visitor Center as needed.

Ulysses S. Grant National Historic Site
The park experienced a substantial increase in visitation this year and a dramatic increase in the number of interpretive tours. The ability to provide excellent visitor services, as well as to offer more interpretive tours, was bolstered by the talented and dependable VIP staff at the site.

Voyageurs National Park
Expert volunteers participated in the Ellsworth Rock Garden Blitz. This is a week of intensive restoration and clearing of the rock garden created by Jack Ellsworth between 1944 and 1965. The National Park Foundation, SCA, and the Ford Motor Company sponsored a Proud Partner Transportation Interpreter to interpret on the boat tours in the park.

Wind Cave National Park
Rocky Ford, a retired soil scientist for the Natural Resource Conservation Service, volunteered a total of 370 hours this past summer at Wind Cave National Park. Rocky inventoried and analyzed the existing soil survey that was conducted in 1985 and ground-truthed the soils to verify the correct soil classifications. Rocky conducted on-site investigations and provided the break-outs of the soil complexes in the park's grassland areas. He conducted training sessions for park employees on soil classification and range site determination by soils/vegetation. Wind Cave's resource management staff emphasized that Rocky's work has been invaluable in updating and revising the park's current soil survey and assisting them in determining the capabilities of the vegetation in each soil classification.

Wilson's Creek National Battlefield
75 park VIPs presented the "Moonlight Tour," an evening interpretive program highlighting the events of August 9-10, 1861. Approximately 425 visitors enjoyed the program on August 24.

William Howard Taft National Historic Site
Two volunteers spent 120 hours entering and correcting data in the ANCS files and changing locations on catalog cards.

National Capital Region

Antietam National Battlefield
The largest project this year was the Memorial Illumination where hundreds of volunteers came and placed 23,110 candles on the battlefield. These candles are made especially for this event and burn for twelve hours. It is these twelve hours each year that we remember every soldier killed, wounded, or captured on this battlefield. This event would not be possible without VIPs.

Arlington House, The Robert E. Lee Memorial
VIPs at ARHO continue to provide a valuable service, particularly to the interpretive program. VIPs in period clothing are stationed throughout the house, grounds, and in the slave quarters providing informal interpretive services. Their presence enables the staff to provide extra service in new locations, or to work on planning new programming. One of the site's VIPs presents the annual December program, "The Last Christmas," about the family's last holiday season before the start of the Civil War. This past year saw the beginning of an intern program. The site's historian, working with teachers at a local high school, recruited five high school seniors to

assist with intepretive services, research, and curatorial operations. Three of them eventually worked as seasonals during the summer. This new program was a great success. For the first time, VIPs assisted with a resource management project. Volunteers from local historical societies and environmental groups came to work in the Arlington Woodlands. They removed exotic vegetation and trash from the ravine as part of the new effort to include natural history themes and locations in the site's programming. VIP coordinators also met with Dr. James Horton of George Washington University to discuss recruiting students as volunteers. This effort will be followed up on this next fiscal year.

Catoctin Mountain Park

As part of the NPS Inventory and Monitoring initiative, VIPs completed the second year of a two-year inventory of birds for Catoctin Mountain Park. The six VIPs contributed 285 hours in FY02, confirming year-round residents, migratory species, and bird species breeding in the park. The last formal inventory of bird species in the park was conducted in the mid 1980's. Thanks to the VIPs, Catoctin was able to complete one of the required data sets in the NPS Inventory and Monitoring program.

Chesapeake & Ohio Canal National Historical Park

The rural western end of the park has some difficulty attracting VIPs. To generate more support, the park devised an effort dubbed "Western-End Initiative." The strategy was to focus on the mandatory community service requirement of the Maryland School system. After meeting with the Community Service Coordinator for each county and several teachers at the Middle and High School level, park personnel spoke to the student body and made phone calls to get commitments from teachers. Brochures were completed explaining the program and outlining how teachers could use park projects in fulfilling students' community service hours as well as completing their science and history teaching modules. The VIP projects focused on trash clean-ups and pruning of vegetation along the 184 mile towpath. The "Western-End Initiative" took place from 12/01- 6/02 and resulted in 1805 hours of volunteer work with 774 VIPs involved. As a result, teachers now call to arrange projects in the park for their students.

Clara Barton National Historic Site

A VIP photographed Clara Barton medals and royal jewels in the Library of Congress and organized an extensive digital photographic library at the site.

Fords Theatre National Historic Site

Throughout the year, a VIP maintained the garden behind the House Where Lincoln Died. Another VIP portrayed Abraham Lincoln for a program entitled "African Americans Who Knew Abraham Lincoln and Mary Todd Lincoln" and for the C& O Canal on D.C. Heritage Day. After Fords Theatre closed for renovations, volunteers have continued to support operations by interpreting the House Where Lincoln Died in their usual professional manner.

Hicks Middle School volunteers on the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal

VIP at Harpers Ferry NHP

Glen Echo Park
Glen Echo Park has been under major renovations and a number of volunteer-run maintenance programs and festivals were cancelled in FY02. However, a major park VIP project to rehabilitate the historic Bumper Car Pavilion was completed and has allowed the building to reopen for public use. It is now the venue for the park's dance program.

Great Falls Park
Great Falls Park implemented three new VIP programs in FY02. The establishment of these programs was made possible with monies awarded to Great Falls Park from the National Capital Region through the regional VIP proposal process. Each of these programs has allowed for greater visitor contacts. Each program is widening the opportunities to pass along safety, visitor services, interpretation, and resource protection information. The Safety Rove Bicycle Program has VIPs riding bicycles on the cycling trails and providing visitor services, informal interpretation, visitor safety/first aid, resource protection, and biker assistance. VIPs hike along the Potomac River shoreline and climbing areas in the Cliff Safety Rove Program. They monitor use, provide for visitor safety, visitor orientation, and resource protection. The River Safety/Litter Reduction Program was established in conjunction with various recreational kayakers in Great Falls Park. Small garbage bags were produced with bilingual safety messages and universal safety symbols. The bags are intended to provide clear river safety messages as well as convenience in trash collection for people fishing and general visitors.

George Washington Memorial Parkway
Staff continued to develop the Volunteer Senior Ranger Corps program, for which the park received a grant from the National Park Foundation in 2001. VIPs removed invasive, exotic plants and replaced them with native trees and protected the watershed by removing litter from the park. In addition to mentoring youth in the process of resource management/protection work, several seniors taught and/or assisted with educational programs in the field and local schools. In the process, both park staff and partners (Retired and Senior Volunteer Program, Northern Virginia Senior Environmental Corps, and Alexandria Seaport Foundation) learned many lessons. The VSRC program has been successful and continues to grow to reach its full potential. GWMP and RSVP staff have been asked to mentor Rocky Mountain National Park and the Ute Indian Tribe in developing their Volunteer Senior Ranger Corps.

Harpers Ferry National Historical Park
A team of 11 from Americorps spent 1,314 hours constructing trails that provide pedestrian access to two areas of a Civil War battlefield in Harpers Ferry National Historical Park. Thousands of dollars in salary were saved as a result. This project also helped focus positive public attention on an area of Harpers Ferry that was integral to a congressionally-mandated boundary expansion study. These trails connect phases and locations of a complex battle and provide for greater visitor understanding. Local residents immediately began using the trails for recreational purposes.

Manassas National Battlefield Park
SCA work in FY02 included rebuilding fence line, historic cemetery walls, and trails. During the months of July and August, living history volunteers conducted demonstrations for the public throughout the anniversary weekends of First and Second Battles of Manassas. A soldiers camp, musket firing, and cavalry demonstrations were some of the highlights of these 140th and 141st anniversary weekends.

Mary McLeod Bethune Council House NHS
This past summer the site hosted the Alonzo Project. Kelly Berry volunteered 240 hours working with youth and adults at the Ft. Dupont Activity Center. Mrs. Berry recruited a volunteer staff of 7 who contributed 368 hours. They worked with 15 children teaching them skills Mary McLeod Bethune found to be important elements in community leadership. The Alonzo Project was a summer camp almost completely initiated by Mrs. Kelly Marie Berry. The program was held at the Fort Dupont Activity Center from July 9 through August 5, 2002. The Alonzo Project used drama to demonstrate that hearing the spoken word inspires and supports interest in reading, listening, and use of imagination. The project promotes wider use of national park facilities by families, greater accessibility to its resources for children/community groups serving youth, and aesthetic appreciation of the park. It also provides information of Ft.Dupont's history, and preserves the history and legacies of Mary McLeod Bethune and Frederick Douglass. The program was a great success. Fifteen children from the local community participated and a play was given to over 200 visitors at Fort Dupont Activity Center. Through her volunteering, site personnel discovered a great program resource in Mrs. Kelly Marie Berry.

Monocacy National Battlefield
Volunteer Gail Stevens was awarded the E. W. Peterkin Award for her contribution to research

It is certain that the success of this program, both in attendance and in interpretive value, was a direct result of the contributions of VIPs.

Adams National Historic Site

for Monocacy National Battlefield. Monocacy had 167 volunteers that assisted in the Civil War Preservation Trust sponsored Park Day. This number was the largest number of volunteers in the nation for this event.

National Capital Parks-East

NACE(National Capital Parks-East) hosted National Public Lands Day 2002 for the Washington Metropolitan area on September 28, 2002. Two NACE park sites, Anacostia Park and Kenilworth Aquatic Gardens served as the signature event sites and the largest one-day volunteer restoration event for U.S. Public Lands. This Interagency effort included coordination with the Forest Service, DC Recreation, NEETF, WOW, NACC, SCA, ECC and others. Over 300 volunteers descended on Anacostia and Kenilworth Park to clear brush & plant flower beds near Urban Tree House, plant 40 trees in the park, weed beds, construct benches, and paint trash cans. The event was supported by NPS Director Fran Mainella, Mayor of Washinton,D.C., Anthony Williams, Congresswoman Eleanor Hollmes Nort, National Capital Region Director, Terry Carlstrom, Miss USA, and a host of others. The event was a success.

National Mall

Cherry Blossom Festival Clean-up turns into a monthly clean-up project on the National Mall. This year marked the 90th anniversary of the Cherry Blossom Festival and the first year for Cherry Blossom cleanup around the Tidal Basin. The VIP program envisioned a clean-up during Cherry Blossom to help keep the area clean so visitors could enjoy the festivities. The National Mall enlisted the help of its capable corps of volunteers to scour through 193 trash cans around the Tidal Basin and WAMO grounds. Included within this core group were Girl Scout Troop # 604 and students from T.C. Williams High School. Without the help of the VIPs the clean-up would have been impossible. Over three weekends VIPs collected 406 pounds of number 1&2 plastic, 60 pounds of aluminum, and 173 pounds of glass for a grand total of 639 lbs. They logged over a 150 hours. Due to the overwhelming success of the Cherry Blossom clean-up and the enthusiastic response from the public, the National Mall Volunteer Program created a monthly river cleaning project. VIPs were recruited and a relationship forged between the National Mall and American University, Georgetown University, and the local Stake of the Church of Jesus Christ of Ladder Day Saints. The groups participated in 7 river clean-ups on Haines Point, East Potomac Park, and West Potomac Park. Thousands of pounds of trash were removed and over 1600 volunteer hours were logged by 350 VIPs. The success of the program has created a relationship with the environmental club of Washington-Lee High School in Alexandria, VA. The school is going to participate in all clean-up projects in the future on the National Mall.

President's Park

This year marks the 20th Anniversary of the President's Park VIP Program. Volunteers include housewives, retirees, professionals, and students. The oldest active volunteer is 79 yrs. and the youngest is 15 yrs. Fifteen VIPs also volunteer for one or more additional organizations.

Prince William Forest Park

National Public Lands Day in Prince William Forest Park had 122 VIPs participating in six projects including invasive exotic plant removal, cleaning and maintenance of seven waysides along an interpretive trail, several campsite restoration projects, highway litter clean-up along the park's southern boundary, and a historic cabin camp rejuvenation project.

Rock Creek Park

VIPs were recruited this year to assist with a project entitled: "Reaching Out to Our Neighbors." Hispanic and Asian communities bordering Rock Creek Park were recruited and trained to assist Ranger Anne O'Neill in translating and printing park and VIP brochures into Spanish. They also helped with interpretive community outreach programs in their neighborhoods.

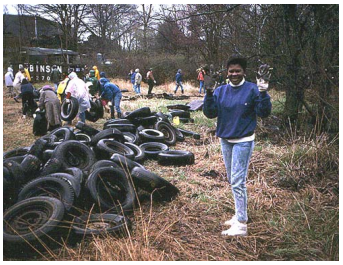
Wolf Trap Farm Park

During the 2002 performance season, the park formed a relationship with the school, St. Coletta of Greater Washington. Once a week, a group of 4-5 students with varying disabilities came to Wolf Trap to learn new work skills.

Northeast Region

Adams National Historic Site

VIPs played a invaluable role in contributing to one of the park's most well-attended, informative, and enjoyable special events, "Spirits of Quincy's Past." The seven VIPs that participated assisted park staff and devoted countless hours providing logistical support before, during, and after the event. Many of these volunteers portrayed people of the past in a program that interprets the lives, legacies, and relevancy of many of the famous and lesser-known people laid to rest in the historic Hancock Cemetery in Quincy, Massachusetts. The VIPs were of different ages with varying levels of knowledge of history. Each one was committed to the program and excelled at their roles and responsibilities. The program



VIP on the Appalachian Trail

Earth Day VIPs at Blackstone River Valley

was enjoyed by more than 900 people and was the subject of an extensive article in the Patriot Ledger newspaper. It is certain that the success of this program, both in attendance and in interpretive value, was a direct result of the contributions of VIPs. The park commends their success at Adams NHS and their role in fulfilling the mission of the NPS.

Allegheny Portage Railroad National Historic Site
The start of work with the Volunteer Senior Ranger Corps began with a National Public Lands Day project at the end of FY02. Senior Rangers worked with Girl and Boy Scouts to clear 2600 square feet of the non-native, invasive plant Barberry, and clean trash and litter from two miles of trails. Senior Rangers are from the Environmental Alliance for Senior Involvement (EASI) and contributed expertise, guidance, and lunches for all. Scouts plan on continuing their volunteer work to achieve the Service to America patch, and hope to attend another invasive plant workday in Spring 2003.

Appomattox Court House National Historical Park
Over 1,832 volunteer hours were contributed through the history trail program for scout groups in FY02. Scouts hike the 6 1/2 mile trail, pick up trash along the way, answer a history questionnaire, and earn a medal through the Blue Ridge Council.

Appalachian National Scenic Trail
The National Park Service Office of the Appalachian National Scenic Trail supports the efforts of both VIPs and VIFs (Volunteers in the Forests). FY02 saw a total of 4654 volunteers providing 181,893 hours of service trail-wide. For the new 4000 hour Presidential Award the Appalachian Trail submitted more than 160 volunteers to be recognized.

Blackstone River Valley
FY02 was an exciting and growing year for the VIP program of the John H. Chafee Blackstone River Valley National Heritage Corridor. A major highlight for 2002 was the creation of the VIP informational newspaper insert. The insert spread the word about volunteer opportunities to many who have stepped forward to become involved with the VIP program. In order to tap into the existing volunteer spirit in the Valley, Blackstone River Valley began an "Umbrella" approach to volunteering. The federal government does not own or manage any sites within the Heritage Corridor, so volunteers and partners are recruited from many of the heritage sites to share their expertise. A unique uniform was developed for the volunteer corps that gives them a sense of connection to one another and readily identifies them as VIPs. The VIP program also provides a forum for training, support, and for developing new friendships. This year an incredible 19, 853 hours were volunteered. With volunteers at the various sites sporting the same VIP uniforms, it has become a welcomed site to see the VIP's in the community making a difference. The 2002 Blackstone Valley Paddle Club wrapped up closing out an extremely successful season. Tuesday nights alone turned out to be insufficient to accommodate the growing demand for guided paddling opportunities so Wednesday evenings were added to the schedule. The continued partnership with RI Canoe and Kayak Association (RICKA), the development of volunteers as a crew of "team leaders" to assist in guiding the trips, the beneficial livery contract with Great Canadian, and an extremely flexible Ranger Team are all to be credited with the year's success of the Paddle Club. The total VIP hours volunteered for FY02's Paddle Club were 880 hours. Hats off to the "VIP Team Leaders."

Boston African-American National Historic Site
54th Regiment's reenactors volunteered for the July, 2002 program. Volunteers assisted with research for the Boston African-American NHS Historic Research Study. VIPs participated in planning meetings for the site's new GMP and LRIP. The site also hosted an international VIP from Senegal.

Boston Harbor Islands National Recreation Area
In the spring of 2002, Friends of the Boston Harbor Islands volunteers provided support activities for students at the Thompson Island Outward Bound Education Center. These volunteers were engaged in the restoration of grave sites of un-named children who had died in a boating accident while attending the former Boston Farm School which used to occupy the campus now owned by Outward Bound.

Boston National Historical Park
VIPs participated in a complete rehabilitation of the ship's engine and fire room on the World War II Fletcher Class Destroyer, USS CASSIN YOUNG, which was recognized for its top condition by Historical Naval Ships Association executive director.

Booker T. Washington National Monument
Girl Scouts from the area surrounding Booker T. Washington National Monument took part in celebrating Public Lands Day on Saturday, September 28, 2002. One-hundred seventeen girls contributed 351 hours to the park volunteer program. They completed such projects as refur-

VIPs were in the forefront of every aspect of the event, whether it was behind the scenes or in the public eye.

Fort Stanwix National Monument

bishing the picnic area, cleaning waysides, clearing the nature trail, seeding grass, mulching trees, and weeding gardens.

Cape Cod National Seashore
Cape Cod National Seashore sent an interpretive volunteer to a training course on how to interpret National Register properties which turned out to be extremely productive. Key volunteers were included in developing the park's Long Range Interpretive Plan. Park staff audited a number of interpretive presentations conducted by VIPs and analyzed program effectiveness and needs as part of the LRIP process.

Colonial National Historical Park
Connie Van Bourgandien received the NER Volunteer award for Interpretive Excellence for her work with the park and Williamsburg/James City County and York County Public Libraries in putting together "Park Packs." These are learning kits on Jamestown and Yorktown. Marge Shave, Curatorial Volunteer surpassed 8,000 volunteer hours. The park expanded its use of volunteers in the archeological program. These added volunteers enabled the park to undertake larger studies at Historic Jamestown and Green Spring. The park also hosted a joint Summer archeological Field School in conjunction with the APVA and Jamestown Rediscovery. Archeological VIP hours in FY02 (4,224) almost doubled from FYO1 (2,229).

Edison National Historic Site
One volunteer, who contributed one-third of total volunteer hours in FY02, assisted the Glenmont Curator in wrapping and storing household textiles and artifacts in preparation for a major restoration of the house.

Eisenhower National Historic Site
Eisenhower National Historic Site augmented its Volunteers-In-Parks program by creating a Volunteer Senior Ranger Corps in partnership with the Adams County Office for Aging. This new program was funded by a grant from the National Park Foundation. The Office for Aging aided in the recruitment of 14 volunteers which supplemented the existing VIP program. These 14 volunteers contributed 560 hours of the site's total volunteer hours. Over 152 hours were spent on cataloging historic artifacts and 116 hours were devoted to historic artifact preservation. Four of the VSRC volunteers spent 99 hours scanning the site's extensive collection of historic photographs. 71 hours of interpretive services were done by three of the Volunteer Senior Rangers. 28 hours contributed by one individual were used for maintaining the historic Eisenhower vegetable garden. Two Volunteer Senior Ranger Corps participants contributed 13.5 hours helping with special events parking. Albert Atkinson served as a VSRC coordinator, helping the site implement and administer this program.

Fire Island National Seashore
The park was awarded a grant from the National Park Foundation to create the VSRC program. VIPs completed several projects such as building 10 seating areas off the boardwalk, publishing a VIP newsletter, building a sandwheel chair, presenting off-site programs to schools, attending CPR/First Aid training, restorating an old boathouse, and performing historical restoration work on the Fire Island Lighthouse. The VIP program was largely supported by this grant.

Fort McHenry National Monument & Hist. Shrine
Park VIPs played an important role in a special ceremony held on Oct. 11th, 2001. Honorees present included three firefighters who performed search and rescue missions at the World Trade Center site, 20 dog-team handlers who served at the Pentagon, and a veteran eyewitness to the attack on Pearl Harbor in 1941. VIPs helped promote the event, performed light security duties, and provided living history interpretation. One of the park's volunteers, Charles H. Klein, was awarded the state's Governor's award on volunteer service. Out of thousands of nominees, Mr. Klein was one of 30 chosen to receive this honor. Mr. Klein's activities cross division boundaries as his duties encompass curatorial, maintenance, living history, and guided programs. The award was presented by the state's Lieutenant Governor.

Fort Necessity National Battlefield
A Boy Scout troop cleaned and put protective covering on waysides at 4 areas throughout the site. This work not only improves the visitor experience, but saves the National Park Service a considerable amount of money.

Fort Stanwix National Monument
The highlight of FY02 for Fort Stanwix NM was the commemeration of the 225th anniversary of the British siege of 1777. The dedication and enthusiasim of the VIPs made it possible for this small park to coordinate an event including 500 reenactors and to present intepretive programs to 8000 visitors. VIPs were in the forefront of every aspect of the event, whether it was behind the scenes or in the public eye. Without this dedicated body of VIPs, the event would not have been so successful.

Friendship Hill National Historic Site
FestiFall is a one-day celebration of the life and times of Albert Gallatin with historic foods,

VIPs at Independence NHP

crafts, and music. The park's friends group came together with 157 volunteers to put on the 21st annual event. Without the friends group and the additional volunteers they bring, Friendship Hill would not be able to offer such a fine special event to the visiting public.

Frederick Law Olmsted National Historic Site
In addition to staffing the Visitor Center desk, assisting with off-site landscape walks, and the Annual Holiday Open House, the site utilized VIPs in some new ways this past year. They assisted Administration with some routine tasks and planned and organized the field trip enrichment program for VIP staff. VIPs also scheduled substitutes to fill open slots in the Visitor Center desk staffing schedule as well as tutored a FRLA staff member in basic reading skills during a four-month period in which the funding for the applicable state literacy program had been cut. The Olmsted Center for Landscape Preservation (OCLP), which is headquartered at Frederick Law Olmsted National Historic Site, had two Student Conservation Association interns who logged 3, 360 hours.

Fredericksburg & Spotsylvania NMP
Archaeologists were contracted to come over a specific two-week span and welcomed VIPs who wanted to help with hard and dirty labor. The two weeks of the project turned out to be two of the hottest weeks of the summer. The scheduled VIPs put in some very difficult, and very valuable hours. The head of the team commented on several occasions that they could not have accomplished what they had succeeded in discovering without the help of the VIPs, and that the volunteers were some of the best they had ever worked with. Special kudos to several of the park's regular volunteer interpreters who pitched in for extra duty in archaeology during some sweltering summer days.

Gateway National Recreation Area
The Sandy Hook Foundation provided over 3,000 hours in park support through fundraising efforts, managing and presenting programs at the Post Theater, and sponsoring the summer beach concert series. The New Jersey Lighthouse Society contributed over 2,000 hours in staffing and providing tours at the Sandy Hook Lighthouse.

Hampton National Historic Site
VIPs provide approximately 65% of curatorial and visitor services. Volunteers contribute in a variety of ways, from building, installing, and monitoring bluebird boxes, housekeeping in the historic mansion, and presenting formal programs. Training continues to provide both basic and specialized skills, from information sessions keeping VIPs up-to-date to sessions providing historical context for the park story as well as specific interpretive skills.

Hopewell Furnace National Historic Site
In less than a month, FY02's eight SCA volunteers performed an amazing 1,440 hours of service clearing vegetation from historic structures in the core historic area. This work revealed several features such as the stone foundations of the Ironmaster's Mansion privy that had not been previously visible. The ability of visitors to accurately visualize the 19th century iron making community at Hopewell Furnace improves with every new historic structure and cultural landscape feature revealed by SCA volunteers.

Independence National Historical Park
The Todd House gardener volunteers entered a City Garden Contest sponsored by the Pennsylvania Horticultural Society for their 18th century style vegetable garden.

John Fitzgerald Kennedy National Historic Site
During FY02 three volunteers returned to the site and received training in basic functions and essential information concerning NPS policy and resource-specific information. The site has continued to build a library and to produce tools for training VIPs. In addition, one volunteer was involved in developing a new walking tour including the gathering and reproduction of images.

Johnstown Flood National Memorial
This year the park, through the generosity of the National Park Foundation and the Ford Motor Company, offered a new program entitled "From Here to Eternity." This program transported visitors from the visitor center to other local partner sites that relate to the story...the South Fork Fishing and Hunting Club Club House, the Johnstown Heritage Discovery Center, the Johnstown Inclined Plane, and Grandview Cemetery...all at no cost, except for admissions, to the visitors. This allowed for placing the story in better historical and geographical context. Hundreds of visitors participated in the program which received much media attention. As always, VIPs helped mark the anniversary of the Great Johnstown Flood of 1889 in a special way.

Longfellow National Historic Site
Volunteers provided 162 hours to assist in the Longfellow Rededication & 30th Anniversary & Family Day weekend on Sept. 14-15. Two high school students contributed 384 volunteer hours working with NPS archeologists on-site.

The continued support of VIPs has contributed greatly to the recovery of park programs from the temporary interruptions caused by the attack on America September 11, 2001.

Manhattan Sites

Lowell National Historical Park
The park benefited tremendously in the landscape maintenance of Lowell's historic canals through the work of the Youth Conservation Corps and Public Land Corps teams of the local Spindle City Corps youth organization, as well as corporation community service provided by Sun Microsystems, and two special education job training programs under the Merrimack Education Center and American Training. These efforts contributed approximately 6,500 hours of labor for preserving and maintaining the canals and landscaped walkways.

Marsh-Billings National Historical Park
On July 30, 2002, the park held a Volunteer Trail Day. 55 volunteers from both SCA and the Boston Community Youth Partnership Program and 10 park staff brushed trails and cleaned drainage ditches on 20 miles of carriage roads and trails in the 550 acre Mt. Tom Forest. This was the park's largest volunteer trail day to date.

Maggie L. Walker National Historic Site
FY02's highlight is the 100th Anniversary of the St. Luke Herald Newspaper started by Maggie Lena Walker in 1902 of which she was the editor. The Maggie L. Walker Historical Foundation sponsored an exhibit banner which has been on display throughout the anniversary year.

Manhattan Sites
The continued support of VIPs has contributed greatly to the recovery of park programs from the temporary interruptions caused by the attack on America September 11, 2001.

Martin Van Buren National Historic Site
Five girls, Jennifer, Jane, Sarah, Lucie, and Eleanor from Chatham, NY Cadette Girl Scout Troop 90 volunteered at the Martin Van Buren National Historic Site this past summer. Together they performed over 117 hours of service to the site. They spent their time in the house of Martin Van Buren painting the sign leading to the nature trails, digging with NPS archeologists, and performing a variety of readings during the observance of 9/11. They had a great time, which was demonstrated when they continued their service after they had completed their 12 hour requirement for the Service to America program.

Minute Man National Historical Park
With invaluable assistance from the Concord Junior Volunteers, Minute Man NHP offered a program entitled "An Impressive Lesson to My Children." The program is a dramatic presentation of a young Louisa May Alcott and her sister Elizabeth in conversation with a runaway slave who stayed at the Alcott residence in 1847. The Concord Junior Volunteers, a long-standing volunteer organization of young girls in the town of Concord, MA, spent long hours studying these texts and preparing for their roles as the young Alcott girls for this and other presentations. This extensive community involvement, in conjunction with the Underground Railroad Network to Freedom designation, made this one of the volunteer special event highlights of the year.

Morristown National Historical Park
In accordance with Fee Demo PMIS project number 43880, Repair and Rehab Five Reproduction Soldier Huts, VIPs assisted in this backlog maintenance project at Jockey Hollow. Volunteers de-chinked (removed) impediments between the logs and made roof shingles four feet wide by one inch thick. Roof shingles were stabilized on soldier huts by rolling six foot logs onto roofs and securing them with hand-made wood wedges. VIPs followed specifications and procedures that were authentic to the encampment period of 1779-80.

New Bedford Whaling National Historical Park
The number of VIPs remained steady at New Bedford Whaling National Historical Park during FY02. The most notable advancement in the park's VIP program was the work done by the Volunteer Leadership Council. Working in league with the park's Volunteer Coordinator, the Council's original mandate was to serve as a two-way communication between the park's VIP program and park administration. During FY02, the Council increased their presence and widened that mission by taking on larger roles on particular park projects. Members of the Council formed sub-committees to assist in such areas as Training and Education, VIP Recruitment and Interviewing, and Event Planning. They have also started to work on the establishment of a park resource library. Within the realm of training and education, one of the ideas generated by the Council was to implement a year round "continuing education" component of the VIP Training program. In addition to the intensive 6 week annual training program, this on going VIP training component serves as an enrichment opportunity for existing volunteers and has made it easier to take in new VIPs on a revolving basis.

New Jersey Coastal Heritage Trail
International VIP, Belkys Jimenez Ruis, spent two days at the Trail office and sites. She was sponsored under the National Park Foundation's Park Flight program. Her volunteer work centered on the Protecting Oases Along the Flyaway project cosponsored by NJ Coastal Heritage

Trail and the NJ Audubon Society's Cape May Observatory. One of the five Trail themes, Wildlife Migration, was of particular interest to her.

New River Gorge National River
Significant projects were undertaken by SCA, scout, and church groups. Trail maintenance and restoration, cleanup, and wetland rehabilitation were a few of the highlights. The park also worked with the State of West Virginia to provide on-the-job training to a number of area youth — this was provided primarily by the maintenance division. Resources Management continued a strong program of utilizing area college students as interns in the park LTEMS (Long Term Ecological Monitoring System) program.

With VIPs, completion time was reduced by at least half for every task performed.

Salem Maritime National Historic Site

Petersburg National Battlefield
A key achievement of VIPs was the creation of a new horse trailer parking area. The old parking lot was undesirable for horse riders because of hard pavement and no shade. Accessing this parking lot through a neighboring military base became difficult after September 11. VIPs and staff worked 8 weeks to clear and improve an area that offers grassy parking and shade during the summer. This new facility has been a tremendous hit with equestrian visitors.

Richmond National Battlefield Park
One of Richmond National Battlefield Park's most successful interpretive programs this past year was the battalion-size living history event at Malvern Hill. This program could not have been done without the tremendous support of numerous VIPs. During a volunteer work day, prior to the event, VIPs and staff worked to clear the underbrush in a section of woods to use as a campsite for the living history program. Living history volunteers assisted in the planning and organization of the program and over 100 volunteers, from numerous reenactment groups, came together for the event to portray one particular regiment at Malvern Hill. During each demonstration a park interpreter and VIP explained the different formations the regiment assumed as it marched over the same ground that the Confederate attacks followed in 1862. Over 400 visitors gained a better understanding of how a large body of troops maneuvered on the battlefield and the experiences of soldiers in combat during the battle of Malvern Hill.

Saint-Gaudens National Historic Site
In interpretation, SCA resource assistant, Aaron McIntire, using graphic design software, developed a new brochure for the educational outreach programs. The brochure details the educational resources available at the site, including the new curriculum for grades K-12, on-site activities for students, and special focused tours for school groups. It also provides information on visiting the site and the books, videos, and other materials available on loan to teachers. The brochure will be sent to all schools in New Hampshire and Vermont. An SCA trail crew rebuilt a bridge on the park's Ravine Trail. A Boy Scout Troop from Claremont, NH, as a National Public Lands Day project, cleaned out and helped restore the historic swimming hole, originally constructed by Augustus Saint-Gaudens near the Ravine Trail. SCA conservation associate, Julia Wilcox, using GPS and GIS technology, mapped invasive flora species within the park's 150 acres. She completed an extensive management plan on the invasive species.

Sagamore Hill National Historic Site
Documentation of interpretive materials in the form of datelines, outlines, and interpretive handbooks were the highlight of Sagamore Hill's VIP year. In addition, the complete revision of the Educational Program and posting on the website was a major accomplishment. Visit the website at www.nps.gov/sahi/education for a complete educational teacher's packet.

Salem Maritime National Historic Site
The highlighted project for the year was the amount of volunteer time spent preparing the replacement masts and yards for final installation and rigging for Friendship, Salem Maritime NHS' three-masted, square rigged vessel. With the help of many VIPs, the staff was able to meet established time frames for significant amounts of the work. With VIPs, completion time was reduced by at least half for every task performed.

Saratoga National Historic Park
Outreach and involvement occurred with hundreds of individuals, many of whom volunteered, in commemorating the 225th anniversary of the Battles of Saratoga in a region-wide partnership with museums, municipalities, schools, businesses, historical organizations, and others. The result was an increase in volunteer hours and an awareness of the park and its resources.

Shenandoah National Park
Reorganization of the Volunteers-In-Parks program at Shenandoah National Park was the major project for FY02. Staff wrote Standard Operating Procedures for the Volunteer-In-Parks Program and collected and wrote 70 individual position descriptions for existing and potential VIPs. Staff also organized existing VIP files to be in compliance with Director's Order # 7 and created numerous forms for VIPs and staff regarding operations of the program. New standards for recognizing volunteers were created and the

staff was provided with training on recruitment, training, and retention of VIPs. Staff researched, compiled, edited, and wrote the Volunteers-In-Parks Handbook for new volunteers, the Guidelines Handbook for the Volunteer Coordinator, and a list of Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ's) for all staff about the VIP Program. Posted the Volunteers-In-Parks Handbook for new volunteers and Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ's) of the Shenandoah National Park's intranet web site. In addition, these new materials were shared with Sequoia/Kings Canyon National Park and Great Smoky Mountains National Park. New VIP job announcements posted on the website resulted in recruitment of twenty-three park volunteers. Overall, the revitalization of the Shenandoah's VIP program has resulted in a streamlined program producing great results.

Springfield Armory National Historic Site
An employee of Appleton Inc., George Rein, approached archivist Dru Bronson-Geoffrey, to help him in creating an exhibit focused on the Women Ordnance Workers (WOWs) of Springfield Armory. He wanted to inform co-workers and visitors of the significance of the Springfield Armory buildings, where his company rents space in the Industrial Park, of what is historic "Federal Square." WOWs were employed in the space his company uses today. Together with archivist Bronson-Geoffrey, Rein should be congratulated for successfully completing the exhibit in March, 2002. It was permanently installed in the cafeteria where employees and visitors alike will learn about Armory history and how it is being protected by the National Park Service. Mr. Rein enlisted local photographer, James Langone, and employees of Ace Signs company to donate over $6000 worth of materials for the project. Fifty-five VIP hours were donated to the Armory. Bronson-Geoffrey researched the archives photograph collection and information on the WOWs, selected the graphics, and wrote the text. It was a wonderful collaborative project that will continue to educate and delight people for many years.

Steamtown National Historic Site
The annual park event, Polar Express, hosted over 6,000 visitors in 2001. Over the course of 6 nights, 200 volunteers contributed approximately 1018 hours in which they told the Polar Express story to riders on 3 trains a night, served cocoa and cookies, and portrayed costumed holiday characters. The use of volunteers is crucial to the program, and the event could not take place without them.

Theodore Roosevelt Inaugural NHS
A new advisory committee made up of young professionals interested in service to the site, coordinated a silent auction that was part of a reception in May for the opening of an exhibit on the centennial of the teddy bear. The committee solicited teddy bear-related items for the auction, oversaw the planning and set-up, and staffed the event. Not only was the project a fundraiser for the foundation, but it also added to the fun and festivities at the reception.

Thomas Stone National Historic Site
Thomas Stone NHS put in a new VIP program this year and had 11 VIPs put in hours for the program. Due to a tornado which damaged a large portion of the park in April, 20 Americorps volunteers helped with cleanup efforts to reopen the park. With this new VIP program in place, the site will try and increase the VIP numbers and hours in the coming year.

Valley Forge National Historical Park
The Tauck Travel Group volunteered over 500 hours at Valley Forge during the weekend of October 20-21, 2001. Family members, staff, and Tauck Travelers not only participated, they furnished many of the materials used for the projects. Adults removed old fencing and installed new 18th century worm fencing parkwide, improved reproduction soldiers' huts, and rehabilitated park trails while the children planted trees and shrubs. The children also became Junior Rangers after completing a half-day session. In September 2002, the Wayne Rotary Club adopted two large out buildings at the Valley Forge Farm. To date they have donated over 300 hours that included professional expertise, skilled labor, and the materials needed to complete the project. They plan to adopt more buildings in FY03 and continue the upkeep on the buildings from this project.

Weir Farm National Historic Site
In FY02, the maintenance and interpretive divisions at Weir Farm National Historic Site collaborated to run a Stonewalls Repair Workshop. While a preliminary stonewall volunteer project was held in August 2001 to "test out" the idea, this year's event was very successful, providing a wonderful array of interpretive and volunteer opportunities for attendees. The workshop focused on the restoration of an early 19th century stonewall that forms a portion of the south-west border of the park. The abutting neighbor, the Weir Preserve of the Nature Conservancy partnered with the National Park Service for this one-day event and provided refreshments as well as elbow grease for the project. Approximately 30 VIPs assisted park staff in repairing a collapsed section of the stonewall. Many VIPs were preservation-minded neighbors while oth-

VIP at Cabrillo NM

ers were stonewall enthusiasts from throughout the region. Close to 150 total volunteer hours were logged the day of the event.

Women's Rights National Historical Park
A real estate survey of all park property was completed by a volunteer land survey company. This work was valued at approximately $16,000.

Pacific West Region

Big Hole National Battlefield
This year marked the 125th Anniversary of the Nez Perce War. VIPs assisted with two beautification projects on the Big Hole National Battlefield using the Boy Scouts of America Eagle Scout Program performing maintenance and landscaping on the battlefield's entrance sign. VIPs continued to serve during commemoration events by placing luminaries at the Big Hole, Canyon Creek, and Bear Paw Battlefield sites to mark all those killed and wounded during the four and a half month long war.

Cabrillo National Monument
Annual programs like the 39th Cabrillo Festival, Pacific Grey Whale Watch Weekend, Anniversary of Founder's Day, and Anniversary of the Old Point Loma Lighthouse saw dedicated volunteers donate more than 700 hours.

Columbia Cascades System Support Office
Librarian VIPs cataloged materials for Pacific West region libraries. Two VIPs also staffed the desk at the Outdoor Recreation Information Center. North Cascades/EarthCorps summer restoration project volunteers were largely drawn from Seattle parks and community centers. Youth volunteers pulled 6,000 square feet of invasive plants and washed pots for plants at the NOCA greenhouse. As part of their service, youth also learned about the park's ecosystems and how to conduct restoration projects so that they can apply what they did to their home parks in Seattle. Wilderness Technology Alliance Volunteers built a website to show their high school peers the value of the Elwha Valley in Olympic National Park. The website can be found at http://www.handsontheland.org/ classroom/ 2002serv_learn/olym/new.htm. The website highlights the history, plants, and animals found in the Elwha Valley and the students personal experience backpacking in the Elwha for a week.

Channel Islands National Park
VIPs assisted this year with a project to help capture golden eagles on Santa Cruz Island (SCI) as part of the park's program to protect Island Foxes and further restoration of SCI. VIPs performed various duties such as spotting for

The highlighted project of the year is their persistent presence, their dedication, their loyalty, and their suggestions to improve the visitor experience and keep the resource alive.

Eugene O'Neill National Historic Site

golden eagles in remote locations on the island. Duties included long days of surveillance, overnight stays, and hiking to remote locations while maintaining constant communication contact with the project headquarters and/or other project staff. VIPs filled a great need in order to supply enough personnel which helped the park be able to make this project happen.

Crater Lake National Park
This year was Crater Lake National Park's Centennial. VIPs from the Friends of Crater Lake were instrumental in the success of the celebration. They provided volunteers to serve as greeters at the Centennial Receptions in the local communities surrounding the park, they provided staffing for the in-park Centennial Art Exhibit, and donated many hours helping make the park's employee reunion a reality.

Craters of the Moon National Monument
Several VIP's contributed considerable time to the accessibility program at the monument. Trail distances, gradients, cross-slopes, and other parameters were measured and a large amount of data entry and processing was completed. The final information products, a wayside at each trailhead and an accessibility site bulletin, won the NPS "Design Project Achievement Award (Exhibits & Waysides)" for FY02.

Ebey's Landing National Historic Reserve
Several members of the local community have volunteered their time to observe and document the nests of raptors living in the historical reserve. This data will be incorporated into a database and map to assist in land use planning and siting of new development in EBLA.

Eugene O'Neill National Historic Site
This small group of volunteers are priceless. With one park ranger on staff, they keep this small park open to the public by guiding tours, maintaining the cultural landscape, engaging with visitors, and presenting community programs. The time each one contributes to the park ranges from 3 - 122 hours per year. The highlighted project of the year is their persistent presence, their dedication, their loyalty, and their suggestions to improve the visitor experience and keep the resource alive.

Fort Clatsop National Memorial
VIPs were instrumental in many projects such as the annual "Seaman's Day" focusing on the canine member of the Lewis and Clark Expedition. This was made possible due to 8 volunteers who all live at least 2 hours from the park and are Newfoundland dog handlers. They donated a day of their (and their dog's) time. Several VIPs helped with traffic control/parking lot management on the day that hundreds of riders from the Harley Owners Group visited the park. A teacher worked full time for a month this summer and added Plant Discovery Walks to the summer program schedule.

Fort Point National Historic Site
Longtime VIP Chuck Bremmer was recognized for contributing 4,000 hours while stationed at the Fort Point Sallyport. Chuck has shared his enthusiasm for Fort Point stories with countless visitors while wearing the uniform of a Civil War private. It is believed that he is the most photographed modern-day Civil War private in the country. Visitors are intrigued by Chuck's personal connection to the conflict through his grandfather who served with Union forces.

Golden Gate National Recreation Area
Professor John Austin of Pennsylvania State University conducted an extensive and in-depth evaluation of a cross section of volunteers of Golden Gate National Recreation Area. Professor Austin performed thought-provoking interviews that adeptly captured the essence, passion, and dedication of volunteerism within the Golden Gate NRA. Evaluation results will serve as an invaluable tool for future recruitment and assessment of the current volunteer program.

Great Basin National Park
The park's Inventory and Monitoring Plan was implemented, with special emphasis on reptiles and amphibians. During the summer of 2002, Chris Kuhnel volunteered for an internship at Great Basin National Park. Sterling College and Kristina Heister (Great Basin NP ecologist) jointly administered Chris' internship. Chris' primary responsibility was implementing the park's inventory and monitoring plan. Chris quickly learned to identify all 28 reptile and amphibian species in the field using both their scientific and common names. Chris also found and set up backcountry, permanent plots, using a GPS unit and flagging. Chris collected and recorded weather, water quality, GIS (Global Information Systems), and species observation data onto datasheets, following established protocols. Chris then entered and proofed data. A significant portion of Chris' time was spent conducting amphibian surveys. In a park without amphibians, this is a discouraging task. However, Chris always kept a positive and upbeat attitude, creating an environment that allowed the crew to search more efficiently and thoroughly. Besides working on reptile and amphibian inventories, Chris also worked on several other projects, mist netting bats, small mammal trapping, spring restoration, fisheries renovation, and cave surveys.

A big "Mahalo" (thank you) to these dedicated, hard-working volunteers.

Hawaii Volcanoes National Park

Chris excelled as a volunteer in reptile and amphibian inventories, performing his job cheerfully and effectively.

Haleakala National Park
This summer, Haleakala ran several youth/young adult programs including two SCA conservation crews, Boy Scouts, school groups, and individuals. These young people contributed over 4100 hours in 4 months working on trails, fences, administrative/clerical duties, removal of non-native plants, and other tasks.

Hawaii Volcanoes National Park
VIPs with the Hawksbill Turtle Project at Hawaii Volcanoes National Park have done outstanding work aiding the endangered Hawksbill Turtle. Protecting nests and trapping predators, VIPs have helped an estimated 50,000 Hawksbill hatchlings to reach the ocean. Without this work, plus volunteer efforts to promote public education, the endangered Hawksbill Turtle would be much closer to extinction. A big "Mahalo" (thank you) to these dedicated, hard-working volunteers.

John Muir National Historic Site
John Muir NHS is dependent on VIPs to provide a quality and rewarding experience for park visitors. Without dedicated VIPs, the small park staff would be unable to provide personalized attention to visitors asking questions in the Muir House and Martinez Adobe, tend to the needs of the 9 acres of operating fruit orchards, patrol the park's 326 acres of open space, or accomplish the large number of elementary school programs provided on site. Their donated hours help visitors understand the importance of John Muir, the National Park Service, and the reasons for greenbelts, parks, and appropriate land conservation uses.

Joshua Tree National Park
During FY02 a VIP search and rescue team was organized. The VIP SAR team meets every other week for training to enhance their skills. They also train with the park's SAR team for rock rescues. The team recently took CPR and First Aid classes and passed the tests with nearly 100% scores, a first for the trainer. Interpretation increased their use of VIPs to staff the visitors' centers and to provide additional programs.

Juan Bautista de Anza National Historic Trail
Trail Volunteers created an orienteering event for the children of Nogales this fall. Having recently finished creating a four-mile trail segment north of town, VIP leaders organized the festival to create more interest for trail building within the town limits. Over 120 children and parents arrived to take part in the event where children learned the history of their community while, at the same time, exercising by hiking along the urban trail segments on the Anza Trail.

Kaloko-Honokohau Natl Historical Park
Throughout the year, a group from the University of Hawaii at Hilo, volunteered their time and expertise at Kaloko-Honokohau NHP. Their project is to provide advice on water quality, recommending needed studies, and determining current water quality status in the park. Samples of water and sediment pore water from anchialine pools, fish ponds, and near shore marine environment, along with the data collected, will help establish protocols for the future. This project is on-going and has provided invaluable data and information.

Klondike Gold Rush—Seattle Unit
Klondike Gold Rush NHP in Seattle was selected in FY02 to participate in the Trails and Rails Program (a partnership between the NPS and Amtrak). KLSE coordinated 31 volunteer guides on the Empire Builder route from Seattle to Havre, MT and 17 volunteer guides on the Coast Starlight route from Seattle to Portland, OR. These VIPs presented 138 programs to an audience of 68,000. The programs were well received and gave Klondike a unique opportunity to reach people who may not have otherwise visited a national park unit on their vacation.

Lava Beds National Monument
During the summer of 2002, the staff at Lava Beds NM prepared for the start of construction on the monument's new visitor center. One of the largest projects relied almost entirely on volunteer labor. The site selected for the new visitor center had numerous native plants that would have been lost if left in place. Working with assistance from Youth Conservation Corps work crews, SCA volunteers from the Resource Management division established a plant nursery, installed an irrigation system, and transplanted native plants from the construction site to the nursery. The VIP crews transplanted nearly 100 sagebrush plants and over 6000 stands of bunchgrass. The transplanted material will be maintained until construction is completed next summer, then the plants will be used for revegetation projects near the new visitor center and elsewhere throughout the monument.

Lake Mead National Recreation Area
Lake Mead National Recreation Area implemented the park's volunteer guidelines which helped provide direction and consistency in how the site manages its program.

VIP at Lassen Volcanic NP

Lassen Volcanic National Park
High school junior Amy Bond became the park's first baccalaureate volunteer. Amy shared her many artistic computer talents by designing and redesigning interpretive certificates, signs, and brochures (including one to recruit other baccalaureate VIPs). She assisted with computer troubleshooting, set up a new computer, digital camcorder, and connected a microscope to a computer in Lassen's new discovery center. Amy definitely left her mark on the park.

Manzanar National Historic Site
Thirty new and ten veteran volunteers contributed their personal experiences and professional knowledge to provide essential critical and technical critique of three concurrent interpretive media projects at Manzanar National Historic Site. A combination of locals, academics, and former internees comprised the volunteer review committees, which were formed through public service announcements, fliers, and invitation. Each of the interpretive projects was in the design phase when the respective committees met; their comments are being incorporated into the projects' content and design. Last winter, volunteer reviewers read and commented on the park's draft unigrid brochure. In the spring, they reviewed the proposed film script and attended a "rough cut" preview. Over the summer, they reviewed the exhibit concept plan and attended working discussions with park staff and exhibit contractors. Some VIPs participated in all three projects; others focused on one or two. Each person contributed valuable insights, experiences, and opinions that are helping shape the final products. Communications were all conducted in writing through mail and email. Reviews were conducted at their homes, and the "rough cut" preview and working discussions were conducted in their local communities (Los Angeles and Independence, CA). The National Park Service did not provide compensation for travel or meals, only lavish thanks and written appreciation. Their input will make the unigrid, 15-minute introductory film, and Interpretive Center Exhibits more accurate and representative of a multitude of perspectives. Their combined hours account for 17% of this year's volunteer hours and their efforts gave the National Park Service a wealth of information and many new friendships.

Mojave National Preserve
The park received a $700 grant for uniforms and supplies for the new volunteer program and a $500 grant that enabled the VIP Coordinator to attend VIP Program Management training. Even with the uniform/supply grant, the $1500 VIP budget did not stretch far enough to cover all of the VIP expenses, so the interpretation and maintenance divisions generously made up the difference. For the first time in the park's history, two volunteers were successfully recruited to work in the Baker Information Center. A permanent interpreter on furlough from her own park volunteered at the Hole-in-the-Wall Information Center and presented visitor programs this winter. A fifth grader, part of the 1000 Points of Light program, volunteered with his mother this winter performing resource management work. The new interagency fire center was completed, and housing is now available year-round on a first come, first served basis for VIPs and other park staffing needs. The park successfully initiated a "ranchsitter" program, recruiting a VIP to provide an NPS presence at an historic ranch property performing minor maintenance work.

Muir Woods National Monument
The VIPs at Muir Woods played a key role in large special events for the public. Events included Winter & Summer Solstices, Free & Green Day, and Earth Day. A new event, Dark Skies, a full-time VIP acted as a liaison with park partners to coordinate the event. The annual state-wide beach clean-up debuted at Muir Beach. One of the volunteers found an historic hub-nail shoe which was the state-wide contest winner for the most unusual item found.

Nez Perce National Historical Park
Nez Perce NHP worked with Unilever and a Boys and Girls Club in Spokane, Wa on a service project combined with interpretation programs. The boys and girls were "Weed Wariors" helping pull the exotic weed yellow star thistle. They then participated in a tipi pitch learning about traditional Nez Perce homes and learned about the Lewis and Clark Corps of Discovery and their interaction with the Nez Perce.

North Cascades National Park
North Cascades National Park received a $23,000 grant from the National Park Foundation's Park Flight Program, funded through a large financial commitment from American Airlines. The park has used the grant to bring three biologists from Central America as International Volunteers-In-Parks to participate in bird monitoring in the park and to provide various educational programs about birds that migrate between the Northwestern U.S. and Central America. Biologist and IVIP Roberto Rivera arrived from El Salvador and ecologists and IVIP Alejandra Martinez and Edgar Castaneda arrived from Nicaragua. All are involved with monitoring bird populations and preservation of bird habitat in their home countries. While at North Cascades NP they learned

...the nursery has been an exciting launch pad for numerous volunteer opportunities that have already brought the park much closer to the realization of restoring native plant ecosystems in the Santa Monica Mountains NRA.

Santa Monica Mountains NRA

first-hand about bird monitoring work in the park and presented a number of programs to visitors and staff. These programs focused on the importance of habitat preservation for the survival of birds which breed in the Northwest and winter from Mexico southward. The Park Flight grant supported the cost of a field trip to the park by Spanish-speaking residents of Skagit County. During their day in the park, the visiting biologists joined the group to talk about their work in Central America and the connection which migratory birds make between Spanish-speaking countries and the United States.

National Park of American Samoa
VIPs assisted eradicating invasive plant species in the park.

Olympic National Park
Landmark Volunteers is a nonprofit organization that provides opportunities for students to participate in community service projects nationwide. A 12-person Landmark crew have worked on a two-week project at Olympic NP for the last four years. The 2002 crew arrived in late July and worked for two weeks. This year's project was located near the Hurricane Hill Trailhead and involved completion of a trail construction project that was started last year by another Landmark crew. They completed the clearing and rough grading for this trail which connects the Hurricane Hill trailhead parking area with the Picnic Area B parking lot. The trail is 2,000 feet in length and provides a safe and accessible (with assistance) route back to the trailhead. The 2002 Landmark crew completed the finish grading on the trail, then spread 5/8-inch minus crushed rock with wheelbarrows onto the trail to provide a 3-inch depth compacted trail surface.

Oregon Caves National Monument
One volunteer cleaned and removed a decade of accumulated lint and other debris left by visitors touring the half mile trail through Oregon Caves. It took more than a month to complete the project. Several volunteer groups worked on other cave restoration projects.

San Francisco Maritime National Historical Park
In FY01, VIPs at San Francisco Maritime NHP helped with the 150th Anniversary Celebration of the publication of Moby Dick. Roughly 150 VIPs donated over 1460 hours for the event and were involved with almost every aspect – from assisting with a fundraiser and celebrity readings, to helping with hands-on kids activities, costumed living history, music, food, set-up and clean-up, etc. Skilled artists, among core volunteers, made spectacular original illustrations for the event as well as sculpting a life- sized whale tail for kids using paper-mache. The overwhelming success of this celebration was due largely to the efforts and dedication of volunteers.

San Juan Island National Historical Park
In 2002, VIP Boyd Pratt put in more than 200 hours researching the park's Belle Vue Farm site. This included transcribing the farm's journals from microfilm loaned by the Provincial Archives of Manitoba, which houses Hudson's Bay Company records. The research will be used to create new waysides, a brochure, and book. Also in 2002, new VIP Rex Doane offered key assistance in the continuing development of the park's web site. Mr. Doane spent more than 300 hours redesigning the site's various pages. As usual, the park's principle reenacting group, Battery D, donated hundreds of staff hours, food, and numerous pieces of equipment to make Encampment 2002 and Lantern Tour major successes. More than 84 re-enactors spent two days providing interpretation for the park during the Encampment 2002 event.

Santa Monica Mountains NRA
After approximately 3 years of work towards establishing a Native Plant Nursery staffed primarily by VIPs, FY02 resulted in the first full year of seeing that goal realized. Although the park employs a full time plant ecologist, he has far too many responsibilities to permit adequate time to manage the nursery. Good fortune came when a long-time VIP working in a variety of volunteer capacities offered to devote 2 ½ days a week to the nursery. Although not formally educated in plant ecology or nursery management, this VIP developed a strong interest in native plants and has gained a remarkable degree of knowledge through his own initiative. To further compliment his qualifications he had previous experience volunteering at a local university's plant nursery. Once 22 VIPs were recruited, this VIP nursery manager further impressed the staff with his organizational skills. Keeping excellent records and documentation of daily propagation activity, seed collecting, and all other basic aspects of nursery management he has set a standard comparable to most professionally run nurseries. In this first fully operational year the nursery volunteers contributed 3081 hours that resulted in the propagation of approximately 8000 native plants. In the past, the park was dependent on purchasing native plants from local commercial nurseries at an approximate cost of $4.50 per plant. By growing plants on-site and factoring in material costs, they now cost an estimated $1.50 per plant. With this savings, plus the quantity of plants grown, the staff can now plan for more VIP projects to remove non-natives

and replace with home- grown native plant species. The nursery has also been a resource for Eagle Scout projects. Scouts have built work benches, tables, a storage shed, nursery fencing, and waterlines. As envisioned, the nursery has been an exciting launch pad for numerous volunteer opportunities that have already brought the park much closer to the realization of restoring native plant ecosystems in the Santa Monica Mountains NRA.

"Now, knowing how things work at a basic level, I think I have a better idea of how I will try and help the world."

Lolita Munoz, VIP, Sequoia & Kings Canyon National Parks

Sequoia & Kings Canyon National Parks

The park recruited and trained a 16 year old volunteer/intern and provided her with an introduction to the National Park Service. Ms. Lolita Munoz from South Central LA provided park visitors with a positive and professional experience at the information desk. She was assigned various duties to introduce her to the operations and management of a national park. Ms. Munoz wrote in her evaluation of the internship experience, "Now, knowing how things work at a basic level, I think I have a better idea of how I will try and help the world." She added, "Sequoia National Park has played an essential part in my life both educationally and personally. It has allowed me to recognize the importance of conserving the earth. I don't know how, I don't know when, but what I do know is that I will be able to accomplish one of my main goals which is to make many differences in our society with the help of people like you." Ms. Munoz is seeking other internships in Washington next year perhaps with the director's office.

U.S.S. Arizona Memorial

On December 7, 2001, USS Arizona Memorial observed the 60th Anniversary Commemoration of the 1941 Japanese attack on the Hawaiian island of Oahu and Pearl Harbor. The 7-day long event was well-received by thousands of visitors and could not have been accomplished without the help of dedicated VIPs. The staff enjoyed working with many military personnel who offered to provide escort service to the returning Pearl Harbor Survivors and their families. Throughout the event, many Pearl Harbor Survivor VIPs provided interviews to the media or offered interpretive outreach programs to area schools, senior, and other special interest groups. The 60th anniversary was a marvelous success and one that many will remember for a long time. Several times throughout the year, the park and U.S. Navy offer special boat tours that circumnavigate Pearl Harbor. Park interpreters and VIPs take visitors back in time having the unique ability to "visually" explain the infamous attack. These special tours are well-received by visitors and kama`aina (residents) alike. The VIP team continues to provide assistance with special events, reservations, research, photo archives, administration, and resourcement management. The list of jobs are as diverse as this great group of people called VIPs. The staff is very proud of each one of them. This year's list of accomplishments have the signature of VIPs written all over it. It is obvious that guests, visitors, and staff appreciate the efforts put forth by dedicated VIPs. A sincerest Aloha for their exceptional efforts on behalf of the U.S.S. Arizona Memorial.

Whiskeytown-Shasta-Trinity NRA

Whiskeytown saw a substantial increase in volunteer hours. A major recruitment effort was started early in the year and as a result the Visitor Center was double-staffed this summer with VIPs working 7 days each week with park rangers supplementing when needed on the busier days. This staffing made it possible for park rangers to accomplish other tasks throughout the park that may not have been possible without the help of VIPs. Other VIPs which contributed to the substantial increase was the help from the Crystal Creek Boys Camp, a resident camp for delinquent teens. They contributed many hours to Whiskeytown by maintaining roadways keeping them clear of brush and rocks and picking up litter. They have also adopted the Tower House Historic District and keep it maintained by mowing, weeding, and picking up litter. They also assisted staff in the recycling program and helping to keep other areas of the park looking good. Another new program that included Whiskeytwon VIPs was in the Interpretive Kayak tour program. VIPs assisted staff in launching and preparing the kayaks before each tour. VIPs trailed along on the tours each day to assist the ranger in keeping the group together on the water and assisting visitors in operation of the kayaks. Tours were given every day which required VIP help. Whiskeytown also had an increase in Boy Scouts working to accomplish their Eagle Scout projects. Scouts made improvements on a well-known Boulder Creek Trail, totally rehabilitated the amphitheater benches, and built several new picnic tables at the group picnic area. More scouts are currently working on their projects for 2003.

Whitman Mission National Historic Site

The volunteer program with the most activity included a resource protection project. The project interacted an education program with community service. Students from a nearby school completed invasive plant eradication at Whitman Mission National Historic Site and were instructed in water/stream monitoring techniques. Resource reports were completed and maintained for the Department of Fish and Wildlife of Washington State.

Mr. Jimmy Culpepper, who has been a VIP since 1999, provides more hours each year than an FTE.

Andersonville National Historic Site

Yosemite National Park
Yosemit initiated a building deconstruction program as well as creating the "Volunteer Structure Fire Program" in conjunction with NIFC. One IVIP from Mexico volunteered in FY02. Park staff is currently developing an accessibility inventory program for all buildings and facilities in the park utilizing volunteer resources. Also under development is a program for volunteer search and rescue dog teams. Yosemite received $14,800 in donations from PLC and the American Alpine Club. FY02 also saw the initiation/improvement of numerous volunteer programs in the park including nordic volunteers, desk officers, wilderness volunteers, horsepatrol, SAR, camp hosts, etc. Yosemite housed 85 volunteers despite extremely limited housing. The park VIP Coordinator attended Advanced Volunteer Manager Training. Staff inventoried items in the park warehouse utilizing volunteers and coordinated the river clean-up project for the Kimberly Evans Memorial.

Southeast Region

Abraham Lincoln Birthplace National Historic Site
On April 25, 2002 volunteers were recognized with gift certificates at a VIP luncheon in appreciatioin of the numerous hours they donated to the park. Projects were completed and special services were provided to visitors due to the hard work and dedication of volunteers. The McOptimist Club at Magnolia Elementary School was recognized as the park's "Volunteers of the Year" for their work at the newly acquired Abraham Lincoln Boyhood Home. They were presented with a plaque and certificates. They volunteered 216 hours in clean-up work.

Andersonville National Historic Site
The highlight this year was the planting of an extension of the POW Memorial Grove. This project was an Eagle Scout program and involved over 30 participants who donated 133 hours. The tree seedlings were purchased to honor either specific former prisoners of war or POWs in general. The grove helps to beautify the entrance to the park, which would otherwise be an open field. As the trees grow they will make a wonderful canopy of shade for hot Georgia summers. Another highlight was the naming of one of the park's volunteers as a VIP of the year for the Southeast Region. Mr. Jimmy Culpepper, who has been a VIP since 1999, provides more hours each year than an FTE.

Andrew Johnson National Historic Site
In the past year, the volunteer program at Andrew Johnson National Historic Site has grown substantially. A SCA volunteer logged 993 hours as he updated the park map collection and had copies of the maps made for the site. Another VIP thoroughly researched and developed a new site brochure which highlights the relationship of Andrew Johnson with his slaves, their manumission, and the subsequent emancipation celebrations still recognized to this day. Trustees have provided much-needed service in the maintenance department assisting with the mowing and weed-eating in the National Cemetery. Two other VIPs within the interpretive division of the park have researched the life of Andrew Johnson and give orientation and tours of the president's home to the visiting public.

Big Cypress National Preserve
A retired electrical engineer designed plans, followed by the installation of and control work associated with, a new vehicle wash station that is utilized by 140 vehicles including heavy equipment such as dump trucks and swamp buggies. Another VIP is a retired naval officer and worked in interpretation, specifically environmental education, in the Parks as Classroooms Program. His jobs were varied but highlights included filling backpacks with supplies for sixth grade students to utilize on their field trips in Big Cypress. 45 students plus teachers and chaperones are divided into three groups, one of which he routinely led. He explored three different habitats with the students, often tromping through knee-deep water. In each distinct habitat, the students recorded the weather using a sling psychrometer and anemometer, identified plants and soil types, and looked for wildlife and recorded animal signs. They also tested the ph and dissolved oxygen content of water. In two of the habitats they would use telemetry equipment to track the radio collars on two "stuffed" panthers. Data collected is then analyzed back in the classroom, comparing and contrasting the three different groups' findings. Because he led the groups, this VIP knew what materials needed to be pre-packed so that field testing would run smoothly. The highlight of most days was entering the swamp waters with the excited students ready to begin work in a unique classroom.

Biscayne National Park
Homestead Senior High was involved in a service learning project. They researched a unique African-American pioneer family who lived and farmed on one of the Florida Keys protected in Biscayne National Park. They provided the NPS with invaluable information about this family, The Jones family. Twenty students and one teacher participated in the project. On March 2, 2002, more than 300 VIPs participated in the America Tour 2002 at Biscayne National Park. Unilever and Wal-mart sponsored the shoreline

clean-up and also the construction of an accessible picnic area. This area was built with 100% recycled plastic lumber provided by Unilever.

Big South Fork National River & Recreation Area
The Southern Pine Beetle has caused mass destruction of the yellow, virginia, and white pines within Big South Fork NRRA. Many of our hiking, horse, ATV, bike trails, and backcountry roads have had large numbers of these dead pines come down and block passage along the routes. VIPs have been instrumental in clearing these trails within the park as there is not enough staff to keep up with these falling trees. This has been a major effort of the trails crew this past year. Volunteers have helped to keep up with this heavy workload.

Blue Ridge Parkway
This year, the park honored an exceptional group, The Mabry Mill Band, who have provided continuous volunteer support for twenty-three years. The group plays traditional old-time mountain music for park visitors each Sunday afternoon, without exception, from early May through late October. They are an inherent part of the interpretive experience at Mabry Mill, and have showcased the musical and cultural heritage of the Appalachian region for tens of thousands of visitors. They are a tribute to the National Park Service.

Buck Island Reef National Monument
VIPs are critical to staffing the Buck Island Reef Sea Turtle Research and Monitoring Program. This season the site had 6 incredible long-term VIPs and a cadre of local volunteers who help staff meet program objectives. Three VIPs were international representing Spain, Canada, and Switzerland. Each of these individuals enriched the program with their knowledge and skills and the program provided them an invaluable experience to share with their peers at home. The turtle team was able to monitor the sea turtle nesting beaches, without fail, seven nights per week. Forty nesting hawksbill turtles were encountered, tagged, and their nesting activity recorded. Since the sea turtle nesting season at Buck Island Reef is year-round, VIPs have continued to work with staff to conduct daytime patrols for nesting activity and perform nest excavations (post-hatching) to determine the success of this nesting season.

Cape Hatteras National Seashore
The Southeast Region's VIP of the year award winner for large parks was Audrey Connor. She volunteers at the Cape Hatteras Visitor Center on Hatteras Island. Due to staffing shortages Cape Hatteras used VIPs to open the base of the Bodie Island Lighthouse five days a week. The Hatteras Island VIPs were able to assist the rangers by accomplishing several tasks such as cataloguing the slide collection, writing programs for living history, and rewriting the tour for the visually impaired. In August, 39 interpretation VIPs for WRBR, FORA, and CAHA contacted 170,574 visitors through projects, programs, lighthouse visits, camp buildings visits, roaming, and the information desk. Due to staffing shortages, the park was able to hold two interpretive programs at Cape Hatteras National Seashore on Hatteras Island that were completely supported by local VIPs. Fish with a Ranger and Early Morning Bird Walks were held weekly and were very popular programs with visitors. The Fish with a Ranger program and the volunteers who support the twice-weekly program were featured in one of the local newspapers. To enhance visitor understanding of the Freedmen Colony on Roanoke Island, a local VIP presented 26 programs to 898 people during the months of June-September. VIPs at Wright Brothers were able to staff the visitor center full-time allowing interpretive rangers to present programs.

Cape Lookout National Seashore
A VIP spent approximately two months researching and installing a computer database program used internationally to track unique animal populations for recording the lineage of Cape Lookout National Seashore wild horses, and she entered the appropriate data for that program. This tool will enable Resource Management to better maintain the herd of approximately 120 wild horses on Shackleford Banks.

Canaveral National Seashore
One VIP completed a model of a historic building that was in the park. This project took about 400 hours of time at home. This is the third such model this man has designed. Last year he was recognized as the SER VIP of the year.

Carl Sandburg Home National Historic Site
VIPs took the lead at CARL and began grassroots efforts in 1998 to conduct a vascular plant study of the site. They were key in developing a relationship with the Nature Conservancy, who continued and expanded the study, and eventually "hired" some of the VIPs to continue the inventory. Nature Serve completed the comprehensive study in 2002 and the park now has an important tool to guide natural resource management. The individual dedication of the VIPs contributed to the success of this project at a site where past resource management efforts primarily focused on cultural resources.

International VIPs at Everglades NP

Castillo de San Marcos National Monument
In FY 2002, the Castillo had help with just about everything from VIPs including help with interpretation, maintenance, printing of site materials, and even research into new avenues of interpretation. The highlight of the year was the Hispanic Heritage Month Event that was held in September. VIPs participated on all levels, especially with interpretation, and with their help the staff was able to contact over 3000 people that day. If it wasn't for the VIPs, the Castillo would not be able to do living history programs.

Chattahoochee River National Recreation Area
The RiversAlive month-long October 2001 campaign brought in 523 VIPs yielding 1,758 hours of river clean-up. This year the park hosted two SCA summer crews which added to the partnership with this wonderful organization. 18 participants logged in 2,864 hours. A multi-company (Coke/Six Continents/EDS) event last fall produced 217 VIPs who worked 651 hours to remove exotic plants, plant native trees, and stabilize a collapsing section of the riverbank.

Charles Pinckney National Historic Site
VIPs were instrumental in helping with the annual US Naturalization Ceremony held on September 17, 2002. This year's event was held in conjunction with a one-day, once in a lifetime display of an original copy of the Declaration of Independence. Over 3,000 visitors including hundreds of school children flocked to the site for the day's festivities. VIPs helped with a wide array of duties including: parking, seating guests, photographing the event, planning and coordinating, and interpreting the site. Approximately, 10 VIPs helped ensure that this day was a memorable experience for all.

Christiansted National Historic Site
A VIP retiree assisted the park's cultural resource manager in effecting repairs to a 1920 tower clock that had suffered damage in recent hurricanes. The clock mechanism had to be disassembled, the parts cleaned and reassembled, and certain parts repaired at a local metalworking shop. The project was 80% complete before the VIP underwent major surgery. It is hoped that this project will be completed in FY03.

Cowpens National Battlefield
Cowpens received funding for mechanical fuel reduction through the Wildland Urban Interface (Fire) money. That afforded the park an opportunity to work with a variety of VIPs and cooperators. All of this work is leading naturally into battlefield restoration work which begins in earnest this coming fiscal year. Without the aid of VIPs however, this would not be possible.

Cumberland Gap National Historical Park
In May, "Appalachian Reflections" highlighted the cultural skills of the region. More than 500 hours of volunteer time were spent in preparation for the event. VIPs conducted tours, constructed fences, shuttled visitors, designed and constructed a stage, and created wooden signs for vendors. SCA personnel contributed over 1,000 hours developing a program using the Global Positioning System and a Geographic Information System to analyze various resource management issues in conjunction with the Cumberland Gap Restoration project. Other Resource Management projects utilizing the GPS and GIS included trail documentation, historic and archaeological site locations, bog delineation, exotic species documentation, and infrastructure mapping.

Everglades National Park
Employees from Starbucks came out to the Shark Valley District from Miami once a month to assist in a variety of maintenance and habitat restoration projects. They assisted in the removal of invasive plant species, conducted at least five park clean-ups, and painted the exterior of several buildings. In addition, a team of eight VIPs worked in Shark Valley throughout the busy winter season. They assisted the interpretive division in many different capacities, from conducting short talks, to maintaining park trails, translating site bulletins into German and Spanish, and ensuring visitor safety and resource protection while biking and walking park trails.

Fort Donelson National Battlefield
Fort Donelson National Battlefield celebrated the 140th Anniversary of the Battle of Fort Henry and Donelson. Numerous events including lectures, civil war civilian and military encampments, musical performances, professional dramas, and civil war exhibits. August 30 through September 2, Phillip and Janine Whiteman, public historians and owners of the PNJW Collections & Aurora Men's Clothing, VIPs of Fort Donelson, exhibited over 150 Civil War era items, including original men's, women's, and children's clothing, jewelry, newspapers, currency, and photographs in the park's Visitor Center. A total of 1,374 visitors, school groups, and civil war enthusiasts took pleasure in viewing this collection. The Whitemans generously volunteered 60 hours, taking few breaks from answering non-stop questions from visitors. The park is fortunate to have VIPs like Phillip and Janine who provided a wealth of information to the visiting public and local community. In addition to the Visitor Center, the park has a historical building that is interpreted and operated by VIP assistance. The Dover Hotel, site of the sur-

render, is open to the public from May until October. These VIPs faithfully contributed 336 hours during the year and provided access to 2,388 visitors.

Fort Frederica National Monument
Visitor Service VIPs are steadfast park supporters enabling FOFR to demonstrate a high level of public service for a diversified population. In FY02, 11 RVers occupied the park's one RV pad and their hard work empowered the park to partner with the local KAB affiliate in a high profile "Adopt-a-Highway" program. These VIPs conscientiously maintain a 2-mile scenic roadway of great historic interest leading to the national monument.

Fort Matanzas National Monument
FOMA presented five evenings of Torchlight Tours in FY02 using volunteer reenactors. In addition, VIPs continue to host the visitor center on a daily basis.

Fort Pulaski National Monument
As in past years, the three main programs that continue to draw large visitors to the park are The Christmas Candlelantern Tour of the Fort, the Immortal 600 and the 48th New York Thanksgiving Field Day. These programs recreate life in the Fort from about 1861 through 1863. The large number of VIPs and rangers dress in period clothing and provide interpretive programs that tell the story of the "Immortal 600" who were held at the fort as POW's, the Thanksgiving Field Day which recreates the holiday along with what may perhaps be the "first photograph of a baseball game," and the Candlelantern allows visitors to tour inside the casemates by candlelight in celebration of the holiday from the time period of about 1861.

Fort Sumter National Monument
On May 18, 2002, Unilever and Walmart sponsored a Volunteer in America's National Parks day as part of the National Park's America-Tour 2002. During this event volunteers removed plants and dirt from the Liberty Square park, painted cannon carriages for Civil War guns, and scraped off the old paint from the stair railings. Children painted sign boards with images of Fort Sumter and the Civil War to display on a construction fence at Liberty Square. Lunch, shirts, and supplies were provided.

Great Smoky Mountains National Park
November 2, 2002, was a special day of celebration for volunteers from BWXT Y-12, Oak Ridge, TN, as they completed renovation of the entire Cades Cove Picnic Area. Continuing a 7-year partnership with the park, this 2-year project involved installing picnic table pads constructed of treated timber, curbing and associated walkways and steps for some 138 picnic sites and group sites. Tons of gravel were spread into these areas and the natural areas surrounding them were covered with a layer of mulch to lessen erosion and encourage rebuilding of soil and re-growth of native plants. This is the 2nd large picnic area this group has renovated, in addition to two other large projects, all of which are enabled by an annual donation of $5,000 from BWXT Y-12. As of this last project, over 8,000 hours have been donated by this group, with the VIP team being comprised of the same 35-40 dedicated individuals over the last 3 years.

Guilford Courthouse National Military Park
Despite a shortage of park employees during the peak summer season, VIPs assisted the interpretive and resource management staff to accomplish many programs and projects. VIPs logged the most hours in interpretation, primarily in costumed interpretation programs and the Park Watch Program. VIPs lent needed assistance at the visitor center desk where new AV programs now demand much more attention to announcements and scheduled showings, and in necessary resource management projects. The Guilford Courthouse Fife and Drum Corps, primarily VIPs, performed Revolutionary War period music for park visitors in on- and off-site programs.

Gulf Islands National Seashore
GO PARKS DAY, sponsored by Walmart and Unilever Corp. took place on March 23. 251 volunteers contributed 1,004 hours of their time performing various tasks to assist the Seashore with operations.

Horseshoe Bend National Military Park
This was the first year the park has had a "full time" volunteer to work the visitor center during the summer season. He was a college student from Mississippi State.

New Orleans Jazz National Historical Park
Much of the assistance provided this year was in the form of interpretive services through the photographing of interpretive programs. Through this photography, the park is able to capture musicians who are aging, those who are just passing through, and those younger ones on the rise. The photos are instrumental in documenting the success of the interpretive program.

Jean Lafitte National Historical Park & Preserve
This summer the Barataria Preserve unit of Jean Lafitte NHP & Preserve once again had 6 SCA volunteers working on the preserve trails. These high school students and their 2 leaders replaced

Southeast Archeological Center VIPs

boardwalk decking and support boards along 624 feet of one of the most used trails in the preserve, using hand tools and basic carpentry techniques. The preserve provided food and lodging. These volunteers worked a total of 960 hours.

Jimmy Carter National Historic Site
One of the VIPs saved the park a substantial amount of money as well as staff hours by creating a furnishings inventory database for the Jimmy Carter Boyhood Farm. This database lists all furnishings, their condition, location, acquisition source, and records of missing and/or damaged items. The VIP, under the direction of the Volunteer Coordinator, put in many hours at the park as well as at home. The job was done efficiently and accurately.

Kings Mountain National Military Park
FY02 was a banner year for Kings Mountain National Military Park's volunteer program. With the assistance provided by special funding from the Southeast Regional Office, the park was able to start its own living history volunteer unit, the Backcountry Militia. The program has been quite successful since recruiting started. The park has signed up 32 new VIPs that have accumulated over 500 hours of service. The start-up costs for such a unit are tremendous, however the benefits far exceed the costs incurred. Not only have more visitors been served through additional programs, but new friendships and new partnerships have been formed through the VIP special project.

Little River Canyon National Preserve
Little River Canyon NP has a wonderful senior volunteer that works with administration. Doris answers the telephone and gives valuable information to visitors. She logs and sends out information packets upon request and totals them for the end-of-year report. This vivacious VIP always meets and greets anyone that comes into the office with a smile. She welcomes them and gives whatever assistance is needed. Doris is willing to help on any project and is a welcome and valuable asset to the office.

Mammoth Cave National Park
The Cave Opening Location Project was undertaken by a hearty group of Resource Management VIPs who located about 250 reported "cave-like openings" in and around MACA and plotted each of these into the GPS system.

Martin Luther King Jr. National Historic Site
The site hosted, with Emory University, the *Without Sanctuary: Lynching Photography in America* exhibit. Emory University trained 100 VIPs who provided over 500 hours staffing the exhibit and facilitating the public dialogues. The Coca-Cola Company and Hands-on Atlanta participated again in the annual King Holiday Celebration by providing volunteers to assist in having historic Ebenezer Baptist Church cleaned and ready for re-opening for the annual commemorative service in January 2002.

Moores Creek National Battlefield
Moores Creek NB's most significant volunteer projects in 2002 were the four special events: 226th anniversary of the battle, Scots Heritage Day, Colonial Day, and Constitution Day. These accomplishments could not have been possible without the VIPs.

Natchez National Historical Park
Volunteer hours for operating the park's two visitor centers increased from 1,388 hours to 3,892 hours. VIPs operating the park's two visitor centers increased from three to twelve.

Natchez Trace Parkway
Throughout FY02, VIPs offered assistance in a variety of areas. They hosted special emphasis events by serving food, greeting visitors, and offering assistance. VIPs also designed and fabricated cancellation station entrance podiums. They helped to coordinate presentations, school groups, and host guests during special emphasis month events. A major volunteer project completed included two park VIPs completely cataloging the parkway's over 2000 books, magazines, transcripts, periodicals, and videos. This library had no ability to accession books for over four years. A team of two VIPs offered 7 weeks of assistance in preparing the records to be easily input into the pro-cite program.

Ninety Six National Historic Site
In October 2001 the park hosted its 19th annual Autumn Candlelight Tour. As a favorite program of the community, the presentation attracted over 1,000 visitors in the course of 2 hours during one evening. About 50 VIPs assisted in various ways such as living history, administration, pre-program planning, purchasing supplies, telephoning, and follow-up correspondence. A unique interpretive program, the candlelight tour highlights the two major themes of the park: the role Ninety Six played in 18th century settlement and development and the role it played in the Southern Campaign of the American Revolution. The tour continues to be the most popular park program.

Obed Wild & Scenic River
A student from the University of Tennessee worked with the staff for over 200 hours. Her main duty was to scan all slides onto CDs. This

Volunteers are one of the greatest assets of the National Park Service.

Russell Cave National Monument

project will prove beneficial to the staff for years to come. In addition, this year's "clean-up day" was a big success despite the cold, rainy weather. Approximately 30 volunteers of all ages worked to clean every access point within the park.

Ocmulgee National Monument
Ocmulgee Indian Celebration saw 1,250 volunteer hours and the Springtime Evening Lantern Light Tours, Summer Children's Workshop, and Earthday Celebration all had VIP assistance.

Russell Cave National Monument
VIPs have helped make Russell Cave NM special. Their enthusiasm and knowledge encourage and inspire visitors to learn and participate in interpretive programs. Both VIPs have taken the time and patience to learn primitive fire building and spear making. They have studied and researched the archeology at Russell Cave. These VIPs perform guided tours in a professional and friendly manner. The monument has visitors that come back to visit the cave due to their positive experiences. Volunteers are one of the greatest assets of the National Park Service.

Southeast Archeological Center
Shiloh National Battlefield and SEAC worked together on some VIP projects. SEAC personnel (Emily Yates) did most of the "on-site" management of VIPs for the Shiloh Mound Project. John Cornelison and Tammy Cooper provided direct oversight of metal detecting work. SEAC has a French volunteer, Muriel Hannion, who will be joining the staff for 7 months full time starting February 10, 2003. She has a Master's Degree in Geology and is going to volunteer to gain experience in the field of archeology.

Southeast Field Area
The SERO continued the youth volunteer program that was implemented last year. A student from a Historic Black College volunteered as an historian on the Tuskegee Airmen Project in the Cultural Resource Division. She assisted in the editing of oral history interviews.

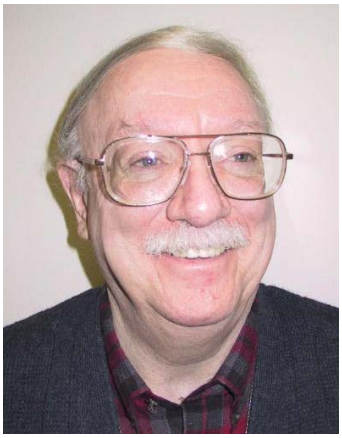
Shiloh National Military Park
During the Summer of 2002, 30 volunteers worked in the pre-historic Indian Mounds Complex. They provided a total of 1,826 volunteer hours. The emphasis was to investigate and conduct an organized archeological excavation into a pre-historic Indian Mound which will eventually be lost to erosion by the Tennessee River. The purpose was to discover all vital information available before the mound, and the history of the mound, is totally lost forever. There were also 28 volunteers who provided 504 hours to a battlefield archeological survey. This archeological investigation was to complete a Section 106 and to satisfy mitigation for Federal Highway improvements.

Stones River National Battlefield
During FY02 Stones River National Battlefield VIPs donated more than 3,000 hours to the maintenance and resource management divisions. More than 1,400 hours were donated by community service volunteers. VIPs working as individuals or as part of project days improved the natural resources and cultural landscapes of the battlefield. Interpretive VIPs donated more than 3,800 hours to help improve visitor understanding of the battle. VIPs at the information desk presented talks before the orientation programs which helped increase visitor understanding of the battlefield 10% above FY01.

Tuskegee Institute National Historic Site
Tuskegee Institute NHS VIPs participated in the grand opening of the new visitor center for Tuskegee Airmen National Historic Site on August 15th, 2002. The staff served as Special Event Assistants and Park Guides. Judge Craig Manson, Assistant Secretary, Fish, Wildlife and Parks gave greetings from the Department of Interior with a patriotic tribute to the Tuskegee Airmen. Director Fran Mainella also spoke to the Tuskegee Airmen and the community about her vision for the National Park Service and the site.

Vicksburg National Military Park
180 4th graders from Sherman Ave. Elementary School helped decorate over 17,000 graves in the Vicksburg National Cemetery. This normally takes the park staff at least 5 hours but was done in 2 hours by VIPs. The display was tremendous and a fitting tribute to the Veterans, as well as a way to cope with 9/11. On Memorial Day 25 VIPs helped recreate soldiers representing the Civil War through modern times. This program was extremely well received.

Virgin Islands National Park
This summer was the first for Virgin Islands National Park to host two SCA groups and one Americorp group. Each stayed in the park for approximately one month working in the Maintenance division. The Americorp group also spent two weeks conducting archeological duties with the Resource Management division. The groups rehabilitated several of the park's 20 trails, some of which are remote and therefore the groups had to hike far distances with tools and personal belongings. The park could not have accomplished this extensive trail maintenance without seeking a contractor.



VIP R. Felton Brunson of Denver Service Center

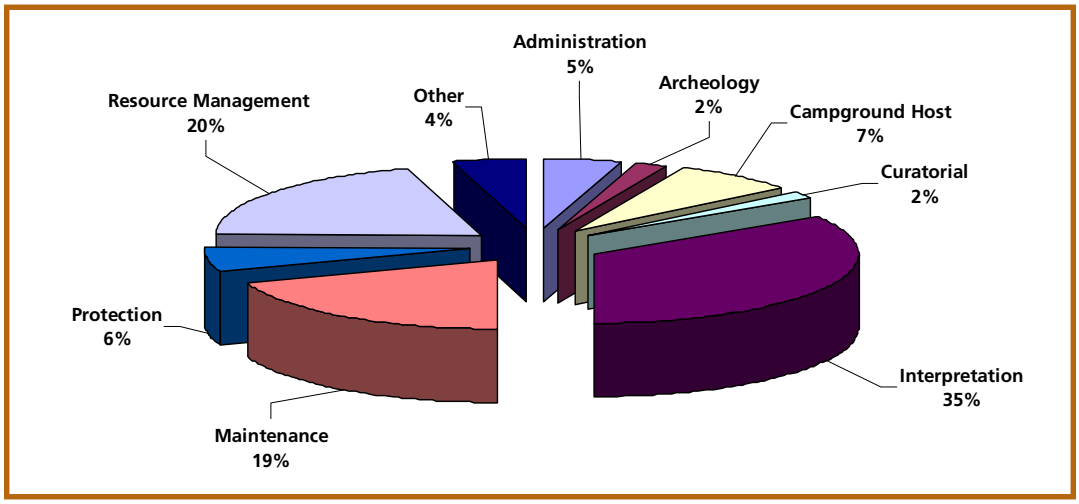
Washington Office

Denver Service Center

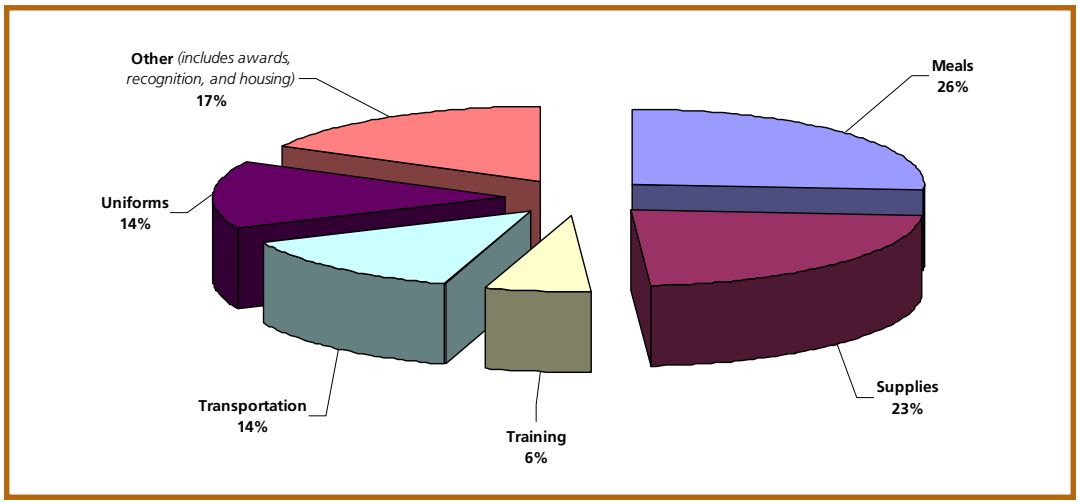
R. Felton Brunson provides engineering/design expertise to the Denver Service Center and to parks and regions as requested. This past year (January-February 2002), Felton traveled to Lake Mead NRA to work with Heath Consultants to locate water lines, valves, fire hydrants, meters, and other water line appurtenances. Surveyors then located the items and PSOMAS tested the water meters and fire hydrants. Felton produced up-to-date as-constructed drawings for nine developed areas at Lake Mead and investigated water item replacements. He also produced computer models for each of the nine water systems, evaluated the existing fire flows, and recommended system revisions to provide proper fire flows. He recommended water line construction scope and prepared the construction estimate. Felton is a valuable asset to the Denver Service Center and to the National Park Service.

Rocky Mountain NP's Volunteer Office

FY02 VIP Program Report Charts



FY02 Reported VIP Program Hours by Category
Total Hours: 4,500,000



FY02 Reported VIP Program Cost by Category
Total Cost: $1,517,000