



Volunteers-In-Parks

FY05 Annual Report



Volunteers-In-Parks

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Produced by the Division of Interpretation & Education
National Park Service

U.S. Department of the Interior
Washington, DC

Front cover: VIPs and staff pose with Director Mainella during her visit to Steamtown National Historic Site in Pennsylvania



SCA at Yukon-Charley Rivers National Preserve fuels up for project

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Volunteers-In-Parks Program Summary

Joy Pietschmann, Servicewide Volunteer Program Coordinator

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 FY2005, 137,000 VIPs contributed 5.2 million hours of service (or 2500 FTEs) valued at \$91,260,000 based on the private sector value figure of \$17.55 as used by AARP, Points of Light Foundation, and other large-scale volunteer programs including many federal agencies. There are 365 separate volunteer programs throughout the National Park Service. Since 1990, the number of volunteers has increased an average of 2% per year.

Current Direction - Our Goals

The national office is continuing to enhance and expand the Volunteers-In-Parks program. National goals over the next 2 years are to:

Complete the servicewide program assessment.

A contractor will evaluate the program at the national, regional, and local levels to determine strengths and weaknesses and will provide suggestions for improvement where needed.

Enhance the visibility of the VIP program.

Create a VIP Recruitment Poster and VIP Service Log and continue the George B. Hartzog VIP Recognition Program.

Continue participation in the Take Pride in America program.

Continue to encourage parks to hold Take Pride in America volunteer events and to advertise them on the volunteer.gov/gov and takepride.gov web calendars to increase participation.

Expand the Master Volunteer Ranger Corps program.

Expand the corps of volunteers who are committed to contributing at least 500 hours of service each year or offer expertise in special areas such as geology, archeology, etc. Other specialized volunteer programs that fall under the Volunteer Master Ranger Corps include: the Volunteer Senior Ranger Corps, the Natural Resources Volunteer Laureate Program, and the Amtrak/NPS Trails and Rails Program.

FY05 VIP Program Figures At A Glance

Total Number of VIPs	137,000
Total Hours	5,200,000
Total Cost	\$1,850,000
Value Per Hour	\$17.55
Total Value	\$91,260,000

International Volunteers-In-Parks Program Summary

Linda Bennett, Office of International Affairs

Every year, more than one hundred individuals from all over the world volunteer in America's national parks. The International Volunteers-In-Parks Program (IVIP) benefits both the individual volunteer and the National Park Service. International volunteers receive training in such areas as park management, wildlife research, environmental education, and interpretation and are then able to apply those skills at home.



IVIP Patricio Bustos of Chile at Rocky Mountain National Park

Perhaps, one of NPS's best kept secrets is its International Volunteers-In-Parks Program (IVIP). This unique program quietly made a difference in many national parks in FY 2005. During the year, 117 volunteers from 34 countries worked in 43 NPS units. NPS international VIPs received hands-on training while parks benefitted from the volunteers' assistance. By providing these opportunities to international volunteers, the Service is not only giving them the tools to better protect natural and cultural resources across the globe, but also increasing understanding between the U.S. and other cultures.

The cross-cultural opportunities afforded to international volunteers in NPS units are an important part of their volunteer programs. The national parks are ideal places for international volunteers to learn about our nation, to see the best aspects of our country, meet Americans from many backgrounds, and to learn about our values and system of government.

Throughout FY 2005, NPS International volunteers participated in many community outreach activities. International volunteers helped NPS staff with interpretive and educational programs at local schools and other institutions. These included: associations, park friends groups, concessionaires that provide interpretive or educational services to park visitors, chambers of commerce, affiliated cultures, non-governmental conservation and historical organizations, schools and universities, museums, other agencies, (federal, state, local). NPS international volunteers also used their language skills to help national parks to reach diverse members of the community and foreign visitors.

In FY 2005, NPS hosted international volunteers in U.S. national parks which are World Heritage sites in the United States. (The World Heritage was a convention, introduced by UNESCO in 1972, to promote the protection of the world's naturally and culturally significant sites, through voluntary cooperation between nations. The World Heritage List contains 841 sites from

around the world and 20 U.S. sites are listed on it.) International volunteers worked at Yellowstone, Redwood, Carlsbad Caverns, Olympic, Great Smokey Mountains, Hawaii Volcanoes and Everglades, all of which are on the World Heritage List.

During the year, NPS international volunteers were given opportunities to learn NPS methods to manage, monitor, and track climate change, invasive species, and migratory species. Training was provided in a variety of formats including Technology Enhanced Learning (TEL) courses transmitted by satellite. TEL courses provided international volunteers with opportunities to train for specific competencies and allowed them to interact with NPS employees and instructors across the United States.

Patricio Bustos, an NPS international volunteer from Chile, participated in one of many successful NPS international volunteer programs in 2005. Patricio volunteered at Rocky Mountain National Park for 5 months and his program was a "win/win" proposition for the park and for himself. Patricio, a veterinary science student, offered his time and skills in exchange for the opportunity to live and work in Rocky Mountain. Like the majority of NPS international volunteers, Patricio's program was self-financed. Patricio assisted the park with numerous research and resource management projects. He tracked mountain lions, searched for boreal toads, counted butterflies, monitored bears, tested deer for Chronic Wasting Disease, and collected sheep DNA. While learning how Rocky Mountain addresses resource management challenges, Patricio proved to be a valuable team member of the park staff, providing them with a new perspective on many issues. For many international volunteers like Patricio, the opportunity to train in America's most cherished, natural treasures can be a life changing experience which may further their careers in conservation.

As in past years, most NPS international volunteers were college students or recent graduates,

who had academic instruction but who sought practical experience. Assisting NPS professionals with GIS (Geographic Information System) projects in park environmental assessments, fire management plans, and in forestry research gave NPS international volunteers training which went beyond their classroom instruction. Students of biology had opportunities to participate in wildlife population studies of threatened species with NPS natural resource specialists. International volunteers participated in wilderness workshops with NPS and other federal land management professionals. In these workshops, international volunteers learned about U.S. wilderness legislation and policies which apply to park management. International volunteers had opportunities to observe NPS prescribed burning techniques, and to contribute to NPS community fire education programs. Graduate students of botany had the chance to participate in NPS invasive plant management studies and develop integrated pest management plans. Latin American volunteers, who were selected for the NPS ParkFlight migratory bird program, were taught by NPS biologists to identify the same bird species which they encounter in their home countries. These international volunteers learned scientific techniques to track, capture, measure, monitor, and study migration trends, and ultimately to create natural resource management plans to protect birds which migrate from North America to Central and South America.

Each year, NPS coordinates 1 or 2 international volunteer programs for foreign park rangers in the U.S. national parks. Though these programs are rare, they are uniquely, beneficial to NPS parks and employees as well as the foreign park staff, fostering the exchange of best practices to address shared problems. Costs are minimal to the Service, and usually only in the form of in kind contributions of housing and training.

In FY2005, South African National Parks (SANParks) ranger, Andrew Lumbe, completed an extensive six week NPS law enforcement training program which he underwent while serving in the Service's International Volunteer Program. For the last seven years, the NPS & SANParks have enjoyed a special relationship, working cooperatively on projects to build the capacity of both agencies in the protection of each others natural, historical, and recreational resources.

Because SANParks face many of the same law enforcement issues that the NPS does – animal

and plant poaching, illegal immigration, drug and contraband smuggling, general law enforcement issues, etc. – SANParks was invited to nominate one investigator to participate in a structured law enforcement training program. Investigator Andrew Lumbe was selected and from early April to mid-May, he visited more than a dozen national parks, refuges, other land management agencies, and state and county park lands.

The Office of International Affairs worked closely with Special Agents David Sandbakken (Santa Fe) and Todd Swain (Southern California) to plan and structure this program and appreciated their input and planning. OIA also appreciated the support from participating parks in the Intermountain and Pacific West regions and other federal and state agencies that helped to make this training program a success.

Many NPS employees, like David and Todd, put much effort, sometimes even their personal time, into assisting international volunteers. In FY 2005, the NPS International Volunteer Program received much positive feedback from international volunteers and parks. We realize that this was due to the dedication of NPS colleagues in the parks. Many international volunteers stated that working in the national parks gave them valuable skills and experience which will help them in their careers. Additionally, volunteers and park supervisors overwhelmingly confirmed that these exchanges were rewarding to all involved, often parks learning as much from their volunteers, as the volunteers did from the parks. Many international volunteers commented that their interactions with park staff and the public left them with an appreciation for our country and the National Park Service. These relationships can only serve to increase the cooperation between the NPS and its foreign counterparts. Partnering with our neighbors across the border and around the globe may prove to be essential in confronting resource challenges and protecting U.S. parks in the 21st century.



IVIP Andrew Lumbe of South Africa with Todd Swain at Channel Islands National Park

VIP Program Highlights

The following highlights display the variety 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.

Brad Cooke's work increased awareness about national parks for students in the Anchorage bowl...

Alaska Regional Office

Alaska Region

Alaska Regional Office

The Alaska Regional Office more than doubled its VIP hours in FY05. Of particular note was VIP Brad Cooke, who coordinated urban outreach efforts during National Park Week. Brad managed a three-dimensional art contest for students in the Anchorage and Matanuska-Susitna Valley School Districts. He also wrote and designed the third edition of the Greatland Junior Ranger Program newsletter. His work increased awareness about national parks for students in the Anchorage bowl, enabling the NPS to reach out to urban residents in Alaska's largest city.

Anchorage-Alaska Public Lands Information Ctr

For the first time in recent history, Alaska Public Lands Information Center (APLIC) was unable to attract any full-time summer volunteers due to a housing shortage. However, the center had the privilege of hosting a volunteer from Germany during the winter of 2005. Norman assisted at the visitor desk, with school groups, and with the German language web pages. The Center was also able to attract a violinist from the Anchorage Symphony Orchestra. Elise provided the skills to enhance the educational puppet shows and manipulate photos for the digital database. In addition, 2005 saw the return of long-term volunteer Cathy, who has accumulated over 2,000 hours and a decade of service.

Denali National Park & Preserve

The Denali School Borough and the Student Conservation Association (SCA) provided 55 volunteers who ultimately contributed over a third of the park's total volunteer hours. The park received \$1,500 in grants from the Take Pride in America program to help with the Earth Day event held at the Susitna Borough, as well as a substantial donation of Craisins from Ocean Spray. Accomplishments for the 2005 season include the construction of two seasonal quarters, construction of several trails in the front country development area, removal of 1,000 pounds of non-native plants and historic restoration efforts on patrol cabins. Funds were used to construct three full service RV trailer pads for VIP use in the headquarters area.

Fairbanks-Alaska Public Lands Information Center

The 2005 summer season was the busiest ever with 52,000 visitors – twice the number in 2004. ALPIC is fortunate to have had nine volunteers for the season, four serving as Artists-in-Residence. The artists agreed to present an art show and lecture at the center in payment for their work in the park.

Gates Of The Arctic National Park & Preserve

Gates of the Arctic had another successful Artist-in-Residence program in 2005. A local artist and his spouse visited Oolah Lake, base-camped and did several day hikes for inspiration. Volunteers also assisted during the park's fall hunting season, assuring dependable Backcountry Patrol coverage during this busy visitor season.

Glacier Bay National Park & Preserve

VIPs Jennifer and Jessica gathered much needed scientific data about East Alsek River in FY05. These hardy VIPs assisted park biologists sample fish populations, collect water and weather data, and assist with camp chores despite the never-ending rain, insistent bugs, and the constant threat of bears. Jennifer and Jessica's excellent work ethic and bear awareness made this project a safe success for the park.

Katmai National Park & Preserve, Alagnak Wildlife Refuge, and Aniakchak National Mon. & Preserve

Katmai's VIPs provided for another successful summer in 2005. Their contributions allowed the staff (including VIPs) the opportunity to participate in interpretive operations in remote areas of the park, while still having staff available for the core Brooks Camp program.

Kenai Fjords National Park

Several years ago a spot two miles up a steep trail was identified as needing major work. In 2005 a Southeast Alaska Guidance Association (SAGA) crew of seven people was able to clear out an existing flimsy staircase and carve permanent steps into the bedrock of the trail, creating a wonderful permanent improvement for the remote Harding Icefield Trail.

Klondike Gold Rush National Historical Park

The SAGA crew donated 760 hours in FY05, not including 192 education hours. They improved the parking area at Nelson Slough, installed new rail fence, and rebuilt rock steps on Sainthly Hill. This work consisted of removing existing rock steps, repacking the ground, and relaying the stone steps to get a firmer, more level surface. The crew also improved drainage on the trail around Sainthly Hill and installed a new trail at the Slide Cemetery. These projects greatly improved visitor experiences at Klondike Gold Rush NHP.



VIP at Yukon - Charley Rivers National Preserve

Western Arctic National Parklands

Oregon State University PhD candidate Emily Holt was joined by her VIP field partner Amanda Hardman in conducting an inventory of the lichens of Noatak National Preserve. They surveyed eight plots via helicopter covering all plant community types in the preserve, sampling for lichen species and collecting tissue for use in detecting airborne contaminants.

Sitka National Historical Park

Sitka's VIP gardener attended a Master Gardener course at the local Coop, resulting in the recruitment of nine new VIPs. The students of the class were asked to do 40 hours of community gardening as part of their course and succeeded in extending the historic garden at the Russian Bishop's house. The park also had an archeology project run by the Midwest Regional Archeological Team this year. Additionally, the Overland Adventures group returned twice in 2005 to help with two roads and trails projects.

Yukon - Charley Rivers National Preserve

The very first NPS float was entered into the annual Fourth of July Parade in 2005. Focusing on "Leave No Trace" principles, the float inspired many questions from visitors and the local community. Because of the level of interest, the Preserve held a "Leave No Trace" workshop later in the season for students and community members. Planning has begun to include the community during seasonal training in 2006.

Intermountain Region

InterMountain Submerged Resources Center

VIPs conducted important survey work on the USS Arizona throughout the year.

InterMountain Archeology Program

The majority of volunteer work accomplished in FY05 was conducted in and around Chaco Culture NHP, Natural Bridges NM, and Mesa Verde NP. Professor Jack Cambell continued his photographic work of standing architecture in and around Chaco Canyon, while Tom Windes led

groups of volunteers documenting structural wood and collecting tree-ring samples at Mesa Verde and Natural Bridges. Spruce Tree House was completed in this third year of wood documentation, and Horse Collar Ruin and Lightning Ruin were nearly completed at Natural Bridges.

InterMountain Historic Architecture Program

An architectural conservation graduate student spent nearly 1,000 hours over the entire year working on a research project. He studied material qualities of soil cement usage at three parks, including Chaco Canyon, Bandelier, and Salinas. He used this research to accomplish his Master of Science degree at the University of Pennsylvania. In addition to this activity, 16 other volunteers participated in a restoration project at Fort Davis National Monument where their hours became a match for funds from a Save America's Treasures Grant.

Amistad National Recreation Area

Amistad NRA's Trails & Rails VIPs won the George Hartzog Award for Outstanding Group Volunteer for the Intermountain Region.

Arches National Park

With the building of a new Visitor Center, local volunteers offered to fill the need for more desk personnel as visitor numbers increased. Volunteers, including the Fiery Furnace Corp, hiked in the Fiery Furnace and focused on visitor contacts in the park. The goal for 2006 will be recruitment of more volunteers to assist the public at the Visitor Center.

Aztec Ruins National Monument

A large number of interpretative talks were made possible by three volunteers in FY05. Larry Chalmers, a former statistical psychologist professor, presented 45 talks, and volunteers Jeanne and Allan Collins, professors in chemical biology and pharmacology, co-presented another 15. All were very well received, as witnessed by Visitor Center registration book entries. These talks were part of the expanded level of personal interpretive services available this year thanks to the increased number and quality of roving and point interpretive contacts made by VIPs. Finally, Anita Herring deserves special recognition for preparing new and better streamlined statistics procedures and compilation. Larry also coordinated this year's Government Performance Results Act (GPRA) survey, including training and positioning of staff.

Bandelier National Monument

Over 15,000 hours of work were completed by volunteers at Bandelier NM. With Volunteer

The success of the Castolon Visitor Center is largely due to the hard work and enthusiasm of these VIPs

Big Bend National Park

Emphasis funds, Bandelier launched a Site Stewardship program at Tsankawi in partnership with the NM Office of Cultural Affairs. Bandelier welcomed crews from the Rocky Mountain Youth Corps and the Wilderness School to perform backcountry and maintenance projects. This year the Monument was able to host two International VIPs as part of the Park Flight program. Sixteen SCAs worked on ecological restoration of Pinon woodlands, delivered interpretive programs, and worked as part of the Fire Effects Monitoring crew. Both front-country campgrounds were fully staffed during the busy camping season this year.

Bent's Old Fort National Historic Site

More than 116 volunteers from six states provided over 4,700 hours of work in a variety of outlets, assisting with the Santa Fe Trail Encampment, the Fourth of July, and the Frontier Holiday Celebration. Funding from the Take Pride in America program allowed for support of nine new volunteers, including one member of the Cheyenne tribe. Living history volunteers portrayed Plains Indians, fur trade era traders, teamsters, craftsmen, laborers, cooks, trappers, and soldiers. This was the fourth year of Trails & Rails trips aboard Amtrak's Southwest Chief managed out of Bent's Old Fort NHS. Twenty-six volunteers presented 68 programs on the La Junta, CO to Albuquerque, NM route. The program was extremely well received by more than 14,900 travelers.

Big Bend National Park

In January 2006, Big Bend National Park hosted a Grand Opening for a new Visitor Center in the Castolon District of the park. In order to prepare for the opening, volunteers Nancy Bauer, Gary Stevens and Nan Wilson helped develop and install exhibits, organize office space and the bookstore, write standard operating procedures, and raise money for furniture items. The success of the Castolon Visitor Center is largely due to the hard work and enthusiasm of these VIPs.

Bighorn Canyon National Recreation Area

Volunteer hours increased by a third from 4,025 to 6,037 in FY05. Bighorn Lake returned to full pool from record lows during the drought, resulting in an increase of campground host and interpretation hours at the Crooked Creek Contact Station. Notably, Susanne Morstad, who has volunteered for Bighorn Canyon since 1998, increased her total hours volunteered to 4,231.

Big Thicket National Preserve

Due to Hurricane Rita no highlight is available at this time.

Black Canyon of the Gunnison National Park

The volunteer operation at Black Canyon is a small program but still provides great results. SCAs and other volunteers fill an essential role, and FY06 is expected to be equally successful.

Bryce Canyon National Park

Bryce Canyon's VIP program hired 11 Astronomy Volunteers through a \$4,000 grant from R.E.I. and the National Park Foundation. Stargazing programs are a regular feature at Bryce Canyon, known for its dark skies and clear air, and have become increasingly popular over the last few years. These 11 amateur astronomers together with three NPS rangers presented solar viewing and evening astronomy programs to over 27,000 visitors. Furthermore, the addition of the VIPs allowed Bryce Canyon to partner with five other nearby parks to provide stargazing programs to their visitors as well. To top it off, one of the astronomy VIPs recently donated \$1,400 worth of telescopes to the Bryce Canyon.

Canyon De Chelly National Monument

The park participated in a Take Pride in America event that included the recruitment of more than 30 volunteers working to inventory natural resources within the park.

Casa Grande Ruins National Monument

VIPs led 340 visitor tours and assisted with 42 on-site school group visits that reached more than 1,300 students. They also made thousands of community contacts at several local festivals, and created interactive web pages for the Kids Corner. They were a great help in updating and maintaining computer systems, databases, and documents.

Canyonlands National Park

A new SCA position was added in FY05 to conduct archeological work along the river corridor. In addition, the Sierra Club provided two volunteer work groups, one of which made a significant find during an archeological project. The other group labored removing tamarisk in the Needles District – a great success for the Resource Management division.

Capitol Reef National Park

Ripple Rock Nature Center, which features exhibits and activities geared for children and families, was open Easter weekend and five days a week afterwards. Ripple Rock was open a total of 74 days this season serving 3,674 visitors, an average of 50 people per day. Volunteers staffed the facility through the summer season.

Capulin Volcano National Monument

Local experts, ranchers, and landowners volunteered their time for two tours for New Mexico Heritage Preservation Month. Two volunteers resided in the park and provided Visitor Center coverage that would not have been possible without them.

Cedar Breaks National Monument

The park's VIP program received a boost this year with a larger cadre of volunteers assisting with everything from office filing to vegetation management to electronics troubleshooting and installation. They also conducted Visitor Center desk work, campground hosting, maintenance, photography, and formal interpretation. Park volunteers contributed over 1,575 hours of service in FY05 – a new park record.

Chamizal National Memorial

Twenty-eight volunteers helped make this year very special for Chamizal NM. Volunteers participated in several festivals, including the annual Siglo de Oro Drama Festival and the Santa Fe Opera Apprenticeship tour, which saw more than 4,000 students throughout El Paso and Dona Ana counties. The memorial's 32nd annual Chamizal Festival drew 2,500 students for the Outreach Program. Chamizal NM is proud to say that all volunteers have signed up for another successful year in 2006.

Chaco Culture National Historical Park

Chaco Culture NHP's volunteer program had a very successful year with over 12,700 hours donated. Many of the volunteers worked with the park's Night Sky program, allowing visitors access to four telescopes and a CCD imaging system. Another highlight this year was improvement on trails and trail signage, much of the work done by volunteers.

Chickasaw National Recreation Area

At the Oklahoma State Fair held September 15-25, the NPS booth emphasized the Volunteer-In-Parks program and various volunteer opportunities at Chickasaw NRA. Unfortunately, the park was unable to recruit enough camp host volunteers for the entire camping season, and the Historic Candlelight Tour was not held this year. The Trails & Rails Program on the Amtrak Heartland Flyer, however, continues to be a well-received asset.

Chiricahua National Monument

Three individuals received the Department of the Interior (DOI) 3,000 hour award and two received 4,000 hour Presidential Awards. The park's VIP coordinator attended "How to Succeed With VIPs" training. AVIP couple with pres-

ervation skills worked on Chiricahua NM's historic house, and one volunteer spent an entire month in the fire lookout.

Colorado National Monument

The Trails & Rails operation saw a 53% increase in programs presented and a 63% increase in passengers contacted over last year's inaugural season. Forty-seven active volunteers gave a total of 109 programs to 23,565 passengers in FY05. With the help of two volunteers and one seasonal ranger, the monument started providing onsite Environmental Education programs to local schools once again, reaching 1,053 students. A new Trail Ambassadors VIP hiking and roving program began in May as well. Maintenance division hours increased because of two trail rehabilitation projects partnered by Volunteers for Outdoors Colorado (VOC).

Coronado National Memorial

The VIP program at Coronado NM was once again the driving force in completing many projects, with volunteer hours far exceeding last year's totals. Four volunteer site hosts assisted in the Interpretive and Maintenance divisions throughout the year, and provided assistance in environmental educational school programs, information desk work, guided hikes, inputting computer information data, natural resource projects, and custodial and maintenance duties. Seventy-five volunteers from the local community, Fort Huachuca military soldiers, and Boy and Girl Scout troops participated in a park-wide cleanup for National Public Lands Day in September. Seventy-eight large bags of trash were collected in a four-hour period.

Curecanti National Recreation Area

FY05 was a challenging year for the VIP program at Curecanti NRA. Several of the campgrounds were closed or had delayed openings due to a plague in the prairie dog villages. The volunteers were outstanding and willing to move or change volunteer assignments at a moment's notice. All of the campgrounds are expected to open on time for the FY06 season with volunteers at all locations.

Devils Tower National Monument

With assistance from the Access Fund the NPS hosted a successful Adopt-A-Crag workday at Devils Tower National Monument in September. Thirteen volunteers from Rapid City, Spearfish, Custer, and Gillette worked with park rangers to stabilize the approach area to the classic Durrance climbing route. Six water bars and drainage structures were installed along the dirt trail that leads to the base of the tower. In addition, volunteers assisted with the removal of



Trail rehabilitation at Colorado National Monument

more than 2,000 exotic plants. The group worked for half a day then climbed, hiked, and enjoyed the monument during the afternoon. The event culminated with a barbecue dinner donated by the Devils Tower Natural History Association and slide show presented by monument rangers.

Dinosaur National Monument

The monument geologist put together a VIP program to address both fossil preparation and to inventory fossil resources. The fossil preparation work focused on the backlog of specimens collected in the monument over the last 10 years. The fieldwork resulted in the location of more than 150 new fossil sites.



VIPs conducting demonstration at Fort Davis National Historic Site

El Malpais National Monument

SCA Wendell Eoff removed barbed wire and exotic species throughout the park and was instrumental in removing cattails overgrowing the historic pool at El Morro. Members of Sandia Grotto conducted cave surveys and resource inventories and submitted 11 initial reports. Twenty-seven Grotto members logged 401 hours and traveled 6,250 miles to and from the monument to work on this cave study project.

El Morro National Monument

Longtime VIP Paul Mace made the switch to El Morro's summer SCA intern, volunteering a total of 968 hours in less than six months in FY05. During her three-month stay, VIP June Forbing conducted important historical research for a new interpretive display, "This Month in El Morro History." This research will be utilized during El Morro's Centennial Celebration in '06.

Flagstaff Areas (Sunset Crater, Walnut Canyon, and Wupatki National Monuments)

Longtime volunteer Floy Healer returned for his 25th year at Sunset Crater Volcano. The park was fortunate to have Dr. Sarah Hansen return to continue her training of NPS staff, volunteers, and the public on volcanology. Floy and Sarah, along with SCA Jenny Jackson, assisted the joint NPS/US Forest Service partnership by giving evening programs at the campground amphitheaters. Lastly, Wal-Mart/Unilever volunteers again participated in litter pickup along the Walnut Canyon entry road in 2005.

Florissant Fossil Beds National Monument

During FY05, four Florissant VIPs received the Presidential Award for over 4,000 hours donated. In August, Retired General Tommy Franks (now a National Parks Foundation Board Member) visited the monument. The General signed award certificates for three volunteers and presented them with hour recognition bars.

Fort Bowie National Historic Site

Fort Bowie NHS welcomed five returning and two new VIPs in FY05. These seven individuals accounted for 1,501 volunteer hours.

Fossil Butte National Monument

Volunteers were critical to the success of the monument's most popular interpretive programs in 2005. Fossil preparation demonstrations and visitor participation in the scientific collection of fossils occurred only with the help of SCA interns and the Geological Society of America. These programs help visitors gain a better understanding of the significance of Fossil Butte National Monument.

Fort Davis National Historic Site

Fort Davis National Historic Site had an outstanding volunteer event in FY05. On October 9, 2004, the park celebrated the 150th anniversary of the founding of the fort. This grand Sesquicentennial celebration involved the efforts of more than 215 volunteers and brought more than 3,000 visitors to the park in one day – a record in the history of this park. Logged for this single event were nearly 5,800 volunteer hours on behalf of Fort Davis NHS, including many hours by living history re-enactors.

Fort Laramie National Historic Site

Some of this year's highlights of the VIP program at Fort Laramie NHS include 550 hours donated by SCA volunteer Jamison Black. He was assigned to the Natural Resource Management program, focusing on ongoing exotic plant eradication, natural grassland restoration, and hazardous tree removal. Linda Gilson gave nearly 200 hours to the site, laboriously and meticulously transcribing an original office orders book dating back 140 years. This computerized transcription will be used by researchers and staff members for years to come. High praise must also be given to long-term volunteer Sandy Lowry, who handled more than 558 research requests this year alone and entertained questions from more than 205 site visitors.

Fort Union National Monument

Volunteers helped with this year's special events at the park, including "Cultural Encounters" and "Historic Weaponry." The monument is also grateful to have a VIP who helps out enormously with the park library.

Gila Cliff Dwellings National Monument

Two volunteers stood out at Gila Cliff Dwellings National Monument for FY05: Loretta McSween and Jim Ransom. Their dedication and creativity enhanced in a beautification project that references Geronimo's connection to the

headwaters of the Gila River. Loretta and Jim collected large stones and river rocks from surrounding national forest lands and planted medicinal and native plants in a once barren parking lot median. This project was a cooperative effort between the Park Service, the National Forest, and several members of the Apache tribe, including descendents of Geronimo himself.

Glacier National Park

Two international volunteers joined Glacier National Park this year. One completed comparison studies of bear management in Glacier versus a park in Italy. The other collected wildlife, vegetation, and GIS data and then created storyboards for an interactive web page. Other volunteers conducted re-vegetation projects, building rehabilitation, and trail maintenance and construction work.

Glen Canyon National Recreation Area

Last year's TPIA award-winning Trash Tracker program continued to be a great success in FY05. With 101 volunteers contributing 3,316 hours, 56,938 pounds of trash were cleaned from the shores of Lake Powell. Some of the more interesting items found include 1,228 golf balls, six basketballs, 12,709 aluminum cans, a full-sized clothes dryer, and dozens of shoes.

Golden Spike National Historic Site

The re-enactment of the Last Spike Ceremony took place each Saturday and holiday through the summer in FY05 thanks to the dedicated local volunteer cast that came out to perform it. Over 4,000 hours were relied upon to make the replica locomotives operate this summer.

Grand Canyon National Park

The FY05 Village District Associate Naturalist program included three returning and nine new volunteers. One Associate Naturalist overcame an off-duty skiing injury and continued to volunteer, and her perseverance and talent led to an interpretation position and then a summer seasonal job. For a third year the Geologist-In-Parks and Artists-In-Parks operated at the North Rim District. Preventative Search and Rescue (PSAR) had 218 hiker assists on Inner Canyon Trails, and the North Rim Star Party volunteer astronomers presented 38 different formal talks and telescope viewings to 4,719 visitors.

Grant-Kohrs Ranch National Historic Site

This year Grant-Kohrs Ranch NHS added new volunteer opportunities that nearly doubled volunteer hours and added 28 new volunteers. Grant-Kohrs Ranch implemented a winter host program by recruiting local volunteers to help at the Visitor Center, enabling staff to keep it open

throughout season. Also, nationally recognized draft horse experts Lynn Miller and Doc Hamill came to the ranch to work with and offer clinics for our volunteer teamsters. This brought seven new volunteers along with their teams of draft horses from as far as 150 miles away to work the ranch's fields and assist with historic haying demonstrations.

Great Sand Dunes National Monument & Preserve

A local 4X4 club assisted along the 4-wheel drive road on busy weekends in FY05. They helped with traffic control and flow, performed roadside cleanups, and assisted with fire pit cleanup in the preserve. One weekend, they transported Boy Scouts who helped with a fence project on the newly acquired Baca property.

Grand Teton National Park

During the Take Pride in America event, volunteers trained in preservation re-roofed two historic buildings in the park, replaced deteriorated logs on a historic dance hall, and reconstructed a historic hay derrick. Volunteers also stabilized buildings at the Lucas Fabian historic site. These volunteers were led and trained by Harrison Goodall, a nationally renowned historic building preservationist. This work preserved important historic structures that are a crucial component of our American heritage and the cultural history of Grand Teton National Park.

Guadalupe Mountains National Park

This year, seven volunteer teams including youth groups (Public Land Corps, SCA) and hiking organizations performed a significant amount of work on park trails. Survey work done on geologic resources had major input from VIPs, and a number of park contact stations were kept open with the help of VIPs. Lastly, volunteers produced a Senior Ranger Program and geology trail guide for children.

Hovenweep National Monument

The park's longtime campground host assisted the Interpretation division with programs and informal roving contacts. With his help, Hovenweep reached new highs in numbers of programs presented and visitor attendance.

Hubbell Trading Post National Historic Site

Fiscal year 2005 was exceptional for Hubbell Trading Post NHS. With 110 volunteers, accomplishments included two Art Auctions and two successful volunteer workday events: National Parks America Tour and National Public Lands Day. Once again, the VIP Santa Claus delighted the Ganado Community children at HUTR's annual Luminaria Night. New VIPs contributed to the development of a new cataloging system for

Some of the more interesting items found include 1,228 golf balls, six basketballs, 12,709 aluminum cans, a full-sized clothes dryer, and dozens of shoes.

Glen Canyon National Recreation Area

The New Mexico State Historic Preservation Office collaborated on the summer project, "Documenting the American Indian Experience of Route 66."

Santa Fe Long Distance Trails Office

the library. An enthusiastic former schoolteacher devoted time to jump-start HUTR's education curriculum as well as revise and improve the teacher's workbook. HUTR's "WASH" Crew of SCAs continued to work on the Ganado Wash restoration program, as well as the agriculture field project, building a compost bin and occasionally tending to a flock of sheep.

Lake Meredith National Recreation Area and Alibates Flint Quarries National Monument

The Crown of Texas Arabian Horse Club built and mended horse corrals and assisted park staff with building, repairing, marking, and maintaining the trail system. They also assisted with GPS monitoring and mapping of the trail system. The Adopt-a-Lakeshore program attracted large organizations, including Boy Scout troops, church groups, United Supermarkets, and the Fritch Chamber of Commerce. A core group of volunteers leads tours, speaks to school groups, and performs demonstrations of flint-knapping, fire-starting, and atl-atl throwing.

Little Bighorn Battlefield National Monument

In 2005, the Friends of the Little Bighorn again volunteered during the Battle anniversary, June 25-26. One of the volunteers was able to fix the park's computer kiosk. Other volunteers continued research on the names and number of warriors killed or wounded at the Battle.

Santa Fe Long Distance Trails Office

Loyola University student Caroline Waddell joined the NPS Route 66 Corridor Preservation Program for a summer VIP position. The New Mexico State Historic Preservation Office collaborated on the summer project, "Documenting the American Indian Experience of Route 66." This project explored the interaction of Native American and Anglo cultures along Route 66 in the Southwest. Caroline's work included the review of published documents and ethnographic histories, the identification of existing oral history transcripts, and the establishment of tribal contacts. The project culminated in the development of an annotated bibliography, a database of historic Route 66 properties on tribal lands, and an analytical paper synthesizing the project results. The overall objective of the project was to establish a foundation for future work that will ensure that the whole story of Route 66 is told – not just from the traveler's perspective or from a traditional historical perspective, but also from the perspective of local communities and tribes who were affected.

Salt Lake City Long Distance Trails Office

The Salt Lake City Trails Office continues to work with Trail Associations in their volunteer

efforts to protect, educate, and maintain the Oregon, California, Mormon Pioneer, and Pony Express National Historic Trails. A continuing project is to provide USGS topo maps to help in the physical location of actual trails segments. VIPs perform public education on the protection of the trail resources that are still visible.

Lyndon B. Johnson National Historical Park

The Texas Book Festival on the Road event held at Lyndon B. Johnson National Historical Park made use of more than 90 volunteers. The event promoted the Elementary and Secondary Education Acts, which President Johnson signed in the park at the Junction Schoolhouse in 1965. Various authors gave presentations throughout the day, and the event would not have been such a success without the VIPs.

Mesa Verde National Park

Mesa Verde National Park's centennial celebration began in FY05 and continues throughout 2006. A cadre of volunteers is helping with every aspect of the celebration, including fundraising, planning, public relations, photography, and poster and brochure design. These volunteers will be trained for backcountry access and any other skills necessary in making the centennial a wonderful event in the Four Corners area.

Montezuma Castle and Tuzigoot Natl Monuments

In addition to regular theme-oriented interpretive programs, several special activities took place in FY05. Ticketmaster Corporation provided assistance in planting cactus to block out "social trails" at Montezuma Well. The volunteer group Volunteers of Arizona participated in a restoration project at all park sites, donating over 300 hours of service. The third annual Wal-Mart/Unilever volunteer day was a success with 133 volunteers providing over 532 hours of support. Projects included litter removal, painting, and exotic vegetation removal.

Natural Bridges National Monument

A crew from the Hopi Tribe assisted park archeologists with a two-week survey of the Bear Ladder ruin site.

Navajo National Monument

Volunteers continue to conduct tours of the cliff dwellings, staff the Visitor Center, and assist with routine maintenance and administration projects. Cultural demonstrators from the local Navajo community provide enriching experiences for visitors, showing and sharing traditional crafts such as pottery, silversmithing, canvas painting, basketry, and weaving. SCA Ali Abbors not only revised the French language translation handout for the Betatakin pueblo,

but also prepared a French language version of the “Traveling among the Navajo” handout. VIP Peggy Moder contributed 607 hours on cliff dwelling tours and various projects, and Jimmie Black made regular appearances for Tuesday Betatakin tours in all kinds of weather, totaling 385 hours.

Organ Pipe Cactus National Monument

Thirty-nine residential, local, and temporary volunteers contributed over 16,450 hours to the park in all divisions in FY05. Most of the residential volunteers were returning VIPs, and most intend to return for the 2005-2006 winter season as well. One special project this year was a bi-lingual exhibit created by a VIP from Organ Pipe Cactus’s Mexican sister park. The exhibit was honored and placed in the lobbies of the DOI and the International Affairs buildings in Washington, DC.



VIPs at Petroglyph National Monument

Palo Alto Battlefield National Historic Site

Palo Alto Battlefield’s Memorial Illumination attracted more than 100 volunteers and hundreds of spectators from the southern tip of Texas. The event involved the lighting of 8,000 luminaries – one for each Mexican and American soldier who fought in the 1846 battles on the Rio Grande. Volunteers assisted with preparing and placing luminaries on the Resaca de la Palma battlefield throughout the course of the day. At sunset, in a participatory event volunteers and observers spread across the field and lit the candles. The event drew enough attention and praise that the park will make this an annual event, and has already drawn a significantly higher level of interest and volunteers for next year’s program.

Padre Island National Seashore

The bulk of volunteer hours was once again accrued by volunteers working on the Kemp’s Ridley Sea Turtle Recovery Program. One hundred and forty-nine volunteers put in 8,463 hours patrolling and recording statistical data at the public hatchling releases. A large number of hours were devoted to cleaning marine debris off the beach. There was a substantial increase in volunteers for public cleanups (+600 volunteers from FY04), and the Interpretation division also benefited with over 1,000 hours of assistance.

Pecos National Historical Park

Volunteer highlights include the creation and completion of a 200-yard trail that now connects the picnic area of the park with the Visitor Center. More than 150 students from the Pecos Elementary School were part of an educational program at the park, while volunteers assisted as instructors of educational curriculum.

Petrified Forest National Park

Several volunteers worked with the Physical Science Technician in the paleontology lab this year, cleaning and preparing fossils for study. The park’s heaters, air conditioners, and swamp coolers benefited from an expert volunteer’s care. VIPs worked with the park curator scanning archival photos and papers, and one long-time volunteer continues to work on the park’s boundary expansion researching public records to identify land ownership.

Petroglyph National Monument

VIP projects included the development of a Visitor Use Plan, corn pollen sampling of mesa top lands, noise monitoring, museum collection management, and inventories of leopard lizards. Volunteers also assisted with the juniper stump tree ring project, Summer Sunset Programs, native planting, a Unilever project, trail watch, and interpretive programs at the Visitor Center.

Pipe Spring National Monument

Winsor Castle by Night is a yearly event at Pipe Spring National Monument. In early December, the historic fort is decorated for the holidays, and visitors can enjoy the fort lit by gas lanterns. Volunteers staff each of the rooms in the fort, orient visitors, collect fees, and serve hot cider by the campfire. Despite the cold and the fact that many of the volunteers are in costume, they are great sports and everyone has a great time.

Rainbow Bridge National Monument

Due to an unexpected wet winter, the hiking trail to Rainbow Bridge was washed out quite a few times. Volunteers were very helpful in the many trail restorations needed throughout the season.

Rocky Mountain National Park

The RMNP VIP program again received two \$500 grants from Take Pride in America in FY05. One grant provided tools to rehabilitate the Moraine Park Museum Amphitheater. Because of the historic nature of the amphitheater built by the CCC, it was an ideal project for Boy Scout Troop 1, which was coincidentally celebrating its 90th birthday along with the park. The second grant went toward Lumpy Trails Day in the Twin Owls area. More than 60 volunteers from the American Alpine Club, the Access Fund, and the local climbing community assisted 10 NPS trail crew employees in improving the climber access trails to one of the country’s premiere rock climbing areas.

San Antonio Missions National Historical Park

The park’s Wal-Mart/Unilever America Tour was a great success with 221 volunteers removing remnant fencing and chopping, loading, and

hauling 168 cubic yards of trash to a pickup point. Wonder Voyage Missions provided student volunteers for the summer, who completed 593 hours of hard labor. From San Antonio College, 37 students participated with the park's Service Learning Program. Projects consisted of station interpretation using demo carts, land ownership research, web page photography, graphics design, and historical research. Lastly, nine new docents were trained in Spanish colonial history, mission architecture, archeology, the acequia system in San Antonio, and the ethnobotany of the region.

Saguaro National Park

On June 17 2005, six teenagers and two crew leaders arrived at Manning Camp after hiking 9.3 miles and climbing 4,500 feet to help Saguaro National Park work on trails for three weeks. These students came from Virginia to California to form an SCA Youth Corps crew. During their time in the park, they cleared vegetation from six miles of trail and installed 29 trail structures that will help hold the integrity of the trail.

Salinas Pueblo Missions National Monument

Volunteers for the year 2005 helped with interpretation and with migratory bird day. Sarge Biggs's work was a huge service to Salinas Pueblo Missions Maintenance division.

Southern Arizona Office

Volunteer work for SOAR parks included museum management surveys and park collection assessments. The Sonoran Desert Network benefited from volunteer assistance that involved both fieldwork and database entry for ongoing research in vital signs and Phase III reporting.

Timpanogos Cave National Monument

For two weeks, five students from Box Elder SCC volunteered at the monument by building a trail to the new cave exit restroom. Work included building a 130-foot trail, a rock retaining wall, and 60 to 70 stairs up a steep grade. The SCC worked over 80 hours on this very laborious, high priority project, assuring a safe trail for the visiting public.

Tonto National Monument

Volunteers participated in three Cultural Resources projects in FY05. The first project involved backcountry archeological site condition assessments for 13 resources. The VIPs helped match and replicate photographs taken in 1985. Photographic comparisons were used to determine changes in site condition over a twenty-year period. The second project involved scanning nearly 30 cultural resources reports and placing this information into a digital archive.

The third project involved the removal of cultural material from a slope below the lower cliff dwelling prior to the building of a retaining wall.

Tumacácori National Historical Park

Tumacácori NHP added an In-service Committee to facilitate and plan training of VIPs. One VIP was "hired" to assist the paid Volunteer Coordinator who has many duties in the park.

Western Archeological Center

Western Archeological Center's volunteers worked in the Museum Collections packing and identifying artifacts then entering the information into the computer system. They also volunteered in the library with reference and circulation, data entry, inventory, book repair, and conducting research projects in FY05.

White Sands National Monument

Volunteers at White Sands National Monument assisted the rangers in a variety of visitor services. Many hours were spent staffing the Nature Center, while other volunteers developed interpretive programs and assisted at the Visitor Center desk. In March, a new trail – the Interdune Boardwalk – was completed by a group of AmeriCorps volunteers. The volunteers worked in the park for six weeks to help rebuild this trail and make it handicap accessible.

Yellowstone National Park

Yellowstone Center for Resources volunteer John J. Reynolds was selected as the Intermountain Region's recipient of the George B. Hartzog, Jr. Award for Outstanding Volunteer Service. John has donated over 3,693 hours to the park's archaeology program over the past six summers. Because of his assistance in the field, the amount of inventory and excavation completed was at least 20% greater than anticipated in project budgets, and larger areas of critically endangered, eroding sites (and the information they contain) were salvaged. John's popular articles in *Yellowstone Science* and the *Greater Yellowstone Report* have taught the public about the importance of both archaeological resources and opportunities for volunteerism in Yellowstone. Several thousand dollars have been donated to archaeological projects due east in part to his efforts, and the archaeology program's cataloging backlog has been reduced by 1,200 artifacts.

Zion National Park

Resource Management crews planted 737 new grasses to re-vegetate an area of the park and collected 118 pounds of native seeds for future disbursement. The Archeology division updated the list of classified structures (LCS) database



Garden VIPs at Tumacácori National Historical Park

and completed verification of all archeology site files to comply with ASMIS and IMACS. Search and Rescue (SAR) and Protection crews completed much needed improvements to the park shooting range, installed new equipment in all the patrol vehicles, provided numerous hours of training to the park's SAR team members, and served on six actual searches. They also completed a park historical SAR incident compilation.

Midwest Region

Apostle Islands National Lakeshore

In August 2005, a crew of volunteers assembled at the Hadland Brothers Fish Camp on Rocky Island to take care of some long-deferred maintenance needs on the historic cabin and surrounding grounds. Retired park historian Bob Mackreth worked with Apostle Islands Historic Preservation staff to determine critical needs and a work plan that could be accomplished by volunteer labor. Fifteen workers from the island community were recruited to re-paint the exterior in a historically appropriate color, treat unpainted surfaces with wood preservative, and remove encroaching brush and saplings back to the historic tree line. Total work hours contributed were 65. The VIPs performed their work enthusiastically, and expressed eagerness to return to the site next summer to repair the roof.

Badlands National Park

In FY05, Badlands National Park volunteers presented 40% of the summer interpretive programs and provided 60% of Contact Station contacts. Volunteer interns presented Badlands in Your Classroom education programs, which target schools within 100-mile radius of the park. They completed a computer-based orientation to park geology, two children's newspapers, drafts of teacher and student guides for the Cliff Shelf Nature Trail, and Fossil Study Units for Native American classrooms. Resource Management volunteers monitored the reproductive success and survival of the park's bighorn sheep population. They also assisted with the latest swift fox and bighorn sheep introductions from Colorado and New Mexico, trapping, handling, transporting, and monitoring the foxes, as well as assessing the habitat selection parameters. Additionally, a total of 926 new paleontological accumulations were discovered and documented. Four new paleontological localities were recorded into the park database, which supported park GPRA goals. A total of 108 acres were surveyed by VIPs.

Brown V. Board of Education National Historic Site

During the first full fiscal year Brown v. Board of Education NHS hosted a number of incredible events. In October, the park was host to Voices of the Civil Rights sponsored by AARP. February

– Black History Month – brought *Now Let Me Fly*, the play written for the 50th anniversary of the Brown decision, and later the one-man show *Power on Earth*, performed by actor Darryl Van Leer. In August, the park was one of four NPS host sites where the U.S. Postal Service unveiled a new commemorative stamp series on the civil rights movement. Volunteers played a vital role in the success of these and other events by helping with the set-up, visitor contacts, traffic control, and parking lot operations.

Central High School National Historic Site

VIPs continued to assist park staff in the bookstore and Visitor Center. VIPs also participated in Halloween activities and Clinton Presidential Center opening festivities, National Night Out, and the unveiling of the U.S. Postal Service Civil Rights Stamp at CHS. Pulaski County Juvenile Justice also sent VIPs to assist rangers in cleaning, yard work, and other maintenance projects.

Cuyahoga Valley National Park

In FY05 the volunteer program at Cuyahoga Valley National Park (CVNP) was marked by increased growth with a 6.3 % increase in hours donated and a 24.3% increase in the number of volunteers. This year also marked new volunteer opportunities, including a formal Interpretive Volunteer Program and Train Interpreters, who provide interpretive services aboard the rail excursions of park partner Cuyahoga Valley Scenic Railroad. Many new volunteers joined as part of invasive plant species removal efforts. CVNP was fortunate to participate in the Volunteer Enhancement Grant Program with the National Park Foundation, which, along with volunteer program money, allowed for the acquisition of a new volunteer logo and high quality uniforms.

Dayton Aviation Heritage National Historical Park

VIP hours were devoted to routine operations of three visitor contact facilities, as well as assisting the Park Historian in archives and research projects. Ryan Musgrave cataloged park collections found in The Wright Cycle Company Building and Hale Grocery, while Lew Goodman continued the on-going project of cataloging park photographs. Thom Rosenblum identified sites of interest to the Aviation Heritage Foundation in anticipation of the development of the AHF's general management plan. Steve Weaver assisted with the 2005 Wright Write by volunteering at the Dunbar State Memorial. The Wright Flyer Assistance Team, a group of one-time volunteers, provided valuable help in the filming of reenactments of the Wright Flyer at Huffman Prairie. Dayton Aviation Heritage NHP logged over 1,233 hours with an estimated value of \$21,652 in FY05.

...volunteers presented 40% of the summer interpretive programs and provided 60% of Contact Station contacts.

Badlands National Park



Post Band at Fort Larned National Historic Site

Effigy Mounds National Monument

A Take Pride in America grant of \$1,500 funded an Earth Day honeysuckle removal project in 2005. Twenty-eight volunteers became public lands stewards within the 1,045-acre Heritage Addition. Other grant funding was used to purchase a spotting scope/telescope for use by birding and astronomy VIPs. Nearly 10,000 photographic files were scanned, identified, and placed into a database by VIP Don Janes. Rainy weather did not deter volunteers or the public from enjoying the 21st Annual Effigy Mounds National Monument HawkWatch. Held on the last full weekend of September, the annual event was an opportunity for over 1,000 visitors to view the various species of migrating birds of prey, learn about the threats to the birds' life cycles, and enjoy numerous interactive educational activities.

Fort Larned National Historic Site

The park interpretive programs, living history, attended stations, and craft demonstrations in 2005 received the most volunteer assistance. A new volunteer program was the creation of a 20-member Post Band. The band members held a very well-received concert with music of the 1860s and 1870s once again heard throughout the post. The living history efforts of all the vol-

unteers continue to reach out and are an immeasurable contribution for the public in understanding life at Fort Larned.

Fort Scott National Historic Site

Volunteers are an integral part of the interpretive program at Fort Scott NHS, assisting with the Visitor Center and library, and performing curatorial work and living history programs.

Fort Union Trading Post National Historic Site

At the Fort Union Rendezvous in June, a 19th century fur trade fair included a variety of period crafts and music. The tent and tipi camp featured 114 volunteers in period dress, and 3,000 visitors attended the four-day event. As part of the Trails & Rails Program, Fort Union Trading Post NHS conducted programs three days a week from Williston, ND to Malta and Shelby, MT from mid-May to mid-September. Twenty-two volunteers gave 64 programs to 19,050 visitors.

Grand Portage National Monument

This year seven volunteers participated in a birchbark canoe building class through a cooperative effort with North House Folk School, taught by the monument's master canoe builder and seasonal park ranger Erik Simula. For one

week in June, visitors to the monument had the chance to talk with the builders and see a traditional birchbark canoe being built onsite in Ojibwe Village. The completed canoe was exhibited at The Wooden Boat Show – an annual event sponsored by North House in Grand Marais, MN. Another VIP highlight was a Wood Carving for Beginners workshop presented by master wood carver volunteer Bernard Olker. This workshop was offered during the Rendezvous Days and Traditional Pow Wow event, the busiest event of the summer at the monument. After the workshop, novice woodcarvers proudly displayed the small model paddles they had made to staff and visitors. Total numbers of volunteer hours equaled 12,772, with an approximate value of more than \$224,000.

George Washington Carver National Monument

In FY05 VIPs conducted programs and guided tours for more than 11,600 student visitors on educational field trips. The park hosted Heartland Chautauqua in June with over 400 volunteer hours donated for event planning and hosting. Carver Day and Prairie Day saw scores of VIPs providing booths and programs for over 2,000 park visitors. Volunteer teachers provided many hours of valuable feedback as the park prepared interpretive and educational content for exhibits to be placed in the new Discovery Center. VIPs were also a tremendous help in the park's major construction project – the expansion of the Visitor Center. George Washington Carver NM's cooperating association also benefited from VIP service at a science fair held at the park in April.

Herbert Hoover National Historic Site

This year, 206 volunteers contributed 3,487 hours of service to programs such as Presidential Clean Sweep, Hooverfest, National Public Lands Day, Harvest Home Festival, and "A Christmas Past" at Herbert Hoover NHS. During the 2nd annual Presidential Clean Sweep (a Take Pride in America activity), volunteers removed woody species from the tallgrass prairie, removed weeds from behind the gravesite, and tilled and prepared the soils in the kitchen garden behind Herbert Hoover's birthplace. "A Christmas Past" attracted close to 3,000 visitors over a three-day period. Herbert Hoover NHS hosted three Artists-in-Residence, as well as a volunteer who scanned 3,100 photographic slides and converted them to digital images.

Hopewell Culture National Historical Park

Volunteers were once again instrumental in achieving park goals during FY05. In the Cultural Resource Program, a University of Arizona group led by Dr. Kate Spillman excavated por-

tions of the Seip Earthworks. The area hasn't had extensive research done since the Baby excavations of the 1920's. Dr. Spillman and her crew of volunteers worked on the numerous structures used by the Hopewell Culture 2,000 years ago. Natural Resource staff continued long-term plans at removing invasive plants and restoring lands to their natural condition through plantings. Research included bird banding, bat monitoring, mammal inventories, and stream monitoring.

Homestead National Monument of America

In FY05, education programs such as Pioneer Days and Reading Ranger reached more than 1,800 kids in one week. Two VIPs were taped for a public service announcement for Nebraska Volunteer Commission Development, and the park brochure was translated into Spanish. Special events included Homestead Days, Environmental Expo, Winter Festival of Prairie Cultures, Howling Homestead, Heartland Storytelling Festival, Homestead Prairie Walk – a March for Parks event, and a Prairie Work Day. The park received the National Daily Points of Light Award for its Reading Ranger program, the Nebraska First Lady's Outstanding Community Service Award for the water quality monitoring team, and the Regional George B. Hartzog, Jr. Award for Outstanding Volunteer Service and Outstanding Park Program.

Hot Springs National Park

In Hot Springs NP's second year of the Artist-In-Residence program, the park received over 120 inquiries. Seven two-dimensional visual artists, one potter, and one writer were selected to participate in the program and contributed over 1,200 hours of volunteer service. Their artwork is currently on display in the Fordyce Bathhouse Visitor Center.

Harry S. Truman National Historic Site

The Truman Farm Home was able to increase tours in FY05 thanks to two new volunteers from Lawrence, KS. Their help allowed permanent staff to operate the farm home schedule on a regular tour basis, giving visitors a look into the life of Truman as a farmer and the day-to-day operations on the family farm. The season ended with a Key West-themed VIP dinner, since this is where President Truman spent his vacations.

Ice Age National Scenic Trail

In 2005, the Ice Age National Scenic Trail program continued to provide much needed support (tools, food, trainers) for the park and Trail Foundation Mobile Skills Crew (MSC). Six MSC workshops were held along the trail throughout the state. Cumulatively, these workshops created

and rehabilitated 15 miles of new trail, built numerous bridges and boardwalks, and rehabilitated 1930s CCC stairways to the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties. In doing so, the park trained 618 volunteers who donated over 12,800 hours toward these endeavors.

Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore

This year docents led more than 100 environmental education programs for more than 2,500 students. The Junior Ranger and Advanced Junior Ranger participants worked over 2,300 hours, conducting exotic species removal, native seed collection, habitat restoration, and various cultural resource projects. A great crew of volunteers hosted a well-received public program titled "Gathering at the Calumet." Volunteers also worked approximately 2,000 hours during the Maple Sugar Time and Duneland Harvest festivals. Throughout the summer, volunteers enabled the park to keep several historic buildings open to the public during the Summer Open-House programs.

James A. Garfield National Historic Site

The Western Reserve Historical Society, who operates visitor services as the site partner, managed and supervised the VIPs. The WRHS Operations Manager recruited many more volunteers this year to assist at new special events and to help in interpretation, information, and orientation duties.

Jewel Cave National Monument

SCA Autumn Ela provided critical assistance to the monument's interpretive program, assisting with the reorganization of the department and of the monument's library. She put the library onto the NPS catalog system and added more than 100 new volumes. She also conducted research into the story of Jewel Cave's creation, and created plans for educational in-classroom activities, educational displays, and education "program box" ideas. Not only did Autumn allow staff to provide critical visitor services at a strong base level, but she contributed information and research to assist future staff in providing increasingly professional programs.

Keweenaw National Historical Park

Keweenaw's volunteer program continued to grow and formalize this year. The park was the recipient of a grant from the National Park Foundation and REI for volunteer enhancement. The park worked with a local school to begin regular cleanups of an area frequented by park visitors, and recruited several long-term volunteers to work on projects in the Museum Services division.

Knife River Indian Villages National Historic Site

Bill Schreier joined the VIP program in May 2005, retired after spending 28 years with the National Park Service. Bill served in the Law Enforcement division as a seasonal and permanent ranger as well as a seasonal interpretive ranger. Most recently, he was the coordinator of the National Natural Landmark Program for the Intermountain Region. Bill brings a wealth of experience to the VIP program and will be a great asset to the park and the program. He worked at the annual two-day Northern Plains Indian Culture Fest event and has been collecting bird data for the Inventory and Monitoring Program park.

Lewis & Clark National Historic Trail

This year the Lewis & Clark Trail Heritage Foundation volunteers provided invaluable assistance to the trail by presenting educational and interpretive programs. They monitored sites along the trail, which helped with natural resource protection. VIPs also provided essential assistance to the Corps II Traveling Exhibit in FY05.

Lincoln Home National Historic Site

Lincoln Home NHS volunteers assisted in preparations for the four-day citywide celebration of the opening of the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Museum in April. Costumed volunteers participated in the torchlight parade and recreation of Lincoln's Farwell address at the Great Western Depot. They staffed the Visitor Center desk, where weekly flora arrangements were donated by volunteers from the garden club. Cultural Resources volunteers catalogued park photographs and assisted in researching topics for reply to public inquiries.

Minuteman Missile National Historic Site

In September of 2002, the U.S. Air Force transferred administration of Minuteman Missile National Historic Site (MIMI) to the National Park Service. MIMI began official operations in October 2003 and has just completed its second fiscal year. Program highlights during fiscal year 2005 centered on the hiring of the site's first permanent interpretive park ranger to oversee the development and implementation of the VIP program; the development of a Long Range Interpretive Plan outlining VIP possibilities; 88 hours of critical "caretaking" maintenance for the historic sites at Delta-01 and Delta-09; and the completion of a restoration project at Delta-01 to replace historic elements in the compound. Total VIP hours increased by 30% over FY04.

Mississippi National River & Recreation Area

VIPs took an active role in a new, regularly scheduled program - Bike With a Ranger (BWR). Through this program, a park ranger and VIP

team led 20 bicycle riders on an eight-mile loop of trails along the Mississippi River. The three-hour trips featured several interpretive stops focused on the unique stories of the River. The trips filled up quickly, and, based on positive rider feedback, became one of the park's most successful programs. Volunteers play the crucial role of sweep rider during the program, maintaining radio contact with the park ranger and being able to remedy any problematic situation that may arise. Volunteers received training in bicycle safety and maintenance, cultural and natural history, and trip logistics.

Missouri National Recreational River

The second year of the Yankton Missouri River Cleanup in May 2005 was another great success. This year volunteer participation increased from 108 in 2004 to 262 for a total of 1,048 hours. Several volunteers from local schools and community organizations participated in removing several truckloads of trash and debris from the Missouri National Recreational River.

Mount Rushmore National Memorial

The park's library of 2,000+ 35mm slides were all scanned by volunteers and are now available digitally. A tenth of these are historic black and white images taken during the carving era by Lincoln Borglum.

Nicodemus National Historic Site

Nicodemus NHS experienced its second year of success with its re-enactment baseball game. Twenty-eight participants from Nicodemus and Hill City contributed to this important recognition of the game of baseball in the region. Two hundred visitors attended and enjoyed the game, in which 1863 vintage baseball rules and equipment were used and teams were dressed in period uniforms. Prior to game day park staff and the Vintage Baseball team from Grand Island, NE, conducted offsite visits to area schools to demonstrate the playing of vintage baseball. VIPs also assisted with traffic control, food service preparation, and passing out programs.

Niobrara National Scenic River

The NPS worked again with the Niobrara Council for the Annual Spring River Cleanup event where 41 VIPs assisted. Eleven others volunteered at the scenic river assisting in visitor use management, litter pick-up, restoration work, bird surveys, water quality monitoring, and T&E monitoring activities, for a total of 387 hours.

North Country National Scenic Trail

Volunteers constructed more than 33 miles of new and relocated hiking trail across the seven states that the North Country NST traverses.

These trails connected to existing trail in New York, Michigan, Wisconsin, Minnesota, and North Dakota, providing hikers with access to extensive trail opportunities. Trail relocations resulted in upgrading a heavily-used equestrian trail that was previously located in wet areas.

Ozark National Scenic Riverways

One major volunteer project in FY05 was supporting the Ozark Heritage Days. A number of local artists, craftsmen, and traditional musicians volunteered to donate their talents. This interpretive festival included a day for local schoolchildren in which almost 2,000 came to learn about Ozark culture through demonstrations, programs, and music. The second day of the event was open to the general public and was well received by hundreds.

Pea Ridge National Military Park

For the third year in a row, the Unilever National Parks Tour visited Pea Ridge. In late October 2004, 300 volunteers showed up to rebuild a historic fence that existed at the time of the battle but had not been in place for over 100 years. By the time the event ended at 12:30 p.m., over one mile of historic worm rail fence had been built, and the park had taken a giant leap toward its goal of restoring the historic landscape to its 1862 appearance.

Perry's Victory & International Peace Memorial

This year's Historic Weekend consisted of a parade, a formal ceremony, an evening concert by the Toledo Symphony, a Boy Scout Camporee, and a War of 1812 encampment. Forty-nine reenactors participated in the events by providing small arms and artillery demonstrations. A milestone was reached by VIPs Denny and Sue Keith, who reached the 1,000-hour mark this year. They were acknowledged and presented a plaque at the park's end-of-season barbecue.

Pipestone National Monument

Pipestone NM hosted five volunteers from the local community who assisted in collection of grass seeds from the native tallgrass prairie. One of the volunteers was the editor of the local newspaper, who then printed a story on his experience at the park.

Saint Croix National Scenic River

Biology students at Grantsburg High School assisted the Riverway with native mussel and host fish research, and expanded their explorations to include a new inventory of aquatic insects. Working cooperatively with the NPS and Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, for six weeks students and their instructor quantitatively sampled dragonfly exuviae (shed larval



VIP demonstration at Mount Rushmore National Memorial

skins) from 70 sites on the St. Croix and Namekagon Rivers. The initial analysis of 16,157 exuviae resulted in 43 species identified. In addition, Cyrano Darner, a species not previously known to occur in Minnesota, was found at two separate sites. This project involved more than 50 students collecting exuviae and sorting, identifying, recording, analyzing, and reporting data. Total time donated to the Riverway on this project amounted to over 1,000 hours and the analytical work is continuing.

Scotts Bluff National Monument

Local rancher Dave Fisher is the monument's expert on the badlands. This last year he found more ancient tortoise shells (estimated to be over 33 million years old) and two full Oreodont skulls. The Oreodont is an ancient mammal that was a combination of a present day sheep and pig. Through his research and contacts one of the skulls was excavated by University of Nebraska paleontologists for further research. Dave is the watchdog of the seldom-visited area and alerts monument staff when there have been disturbances to the fossils. The national monument is indeed fortunate to have someone so dedicated to the resource.

Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore

The 4th annual Port Oneida Rural Arts and Culture Fair highlights the Port Oneida Rural Historic District, a 3,400-acre landscape within the Lakeshore that comes alive for two days every August. Volunteers, artists, and interpreters are stationed at five historic farms scattered throughout the District, demonstrating time-honored skills and crafts while providing opportunities for the public to make connections to a variety of natural and cultural resources. Blacksmiths, potters, barn builders, quilters, spinners, storytellers, and musicians are among those sharing their talents. This year, 148 presenters contributed 2,100 hours during the two-day event that more than 4,500 visitors attended, showing a 50% increase in volunteerism.

Tallgrass Prairie National Preserve

Tallgrass Prairie National Preserve initiated a new volunteer program in FY05 called the Tallgrass Trail Patrol. Trail Patrol volunteers hike around historic Spring Hill Ranch as well as on the more isolated backcountry trails of the preserve. They provide information and interpretation of the nature, history, and culture of the tallgrass prairie region, and monitor proper visitor use of trails. When necessary, volunteers provide basic first aid to visitors and alert HQ of misuse of trails and other incidents.

Theodore Roosevelt National Park

Telephone Pioneers of America completed major preservation projects on the Caretaker's Building in the North Unit, the park's oldest building constructed by the CCC in the 1930s. Two SCA crews completed a very successful 30-day trail rehab project in the South Unit, including hauling in over 20 cubic yards of gravel and 40 posts to repair the trail tread and construct new cribbing. The energetic teams also constructed water bars, removed old post, repaired tread, and installed sediment traps. The park also had two campground host couples who donated 4,038 hours during the summer.

Ulysses S. Grant National Historic Site

Volunteers supported interpretive staff by manning the front desk, conducting tours, and presenting a special program on apple cider making.

Voyageurs National Park

Volunteer projects in FY05 included operating park Visitor Centers, assisting with special events, producing new works of art, monitoring the health of natural resources, and helping to rehabilitate a historic garden. Water quality monitoring work was accomplished on the Namakan Reservoir by volunteers from the Academy of Certified Hazardous Materials Managers (ACHMM), partner agencies at the state, national, and local levels, and the Voyageurs National Park Association. This work will provide a baseline database of water quality in the park against which future water quality monitoring efforts can be compared. This will help the park identify changes to water quality in the future, and provide solid information from which to make management decisions. Volunteers working on the ACHMM water quality project this year donated a total of 1,724 hours.

Wind Cave National Park

VIP Tom McBride volunteered 549 hours for the Natural Resource Management division at Wind Cave NP this summer, writing a program that allows staff to enter cave inventory data into an Access database. Because contracting this project out to someone with Tom's programming skills would have cost over \$24,000, it would never have been accomplished. His work also provided the park with more accurate data. Staff and volunteers will undoubtedly learn many things about Wind Cave that was never suspected before.

William Howard Taft National Historic Site

Volunteer Peggy Hendren attended Interpretive Development Program training, which has helped strengthen the interpretive programs she provides for the site.



First volunteer out on the Tallgrass Prairie Patrol at Tallgrass Prairie National Preserve

National Capital Region

Regional Archeology Program-NCR

RAP's summer volunteer worked on two important projects. Once completed, these projects will help increase the accountability and the accessibility of archeological collections in both parks. The park also purchased rigid document holders that will prevent archeological and other reports (some the only remaining copies) from damage caused by slumping and bending.

Museum Resource Center-NCR

The MRC VIPs are mostly "off-site." They encompass the Vietnam Veterans Memorial, the Veteran service organizations, family members and friends, and authors preeminent in their fields of study – especially the military arena. Although they rarely sign up for the VIP program, volunteers direct individuals seeking information to the VVMC, and provide invaluable identification of artifacts and, in some instances, the circumstances surrounding the object. Achieving stellar loan exhibitions, receiving reference material, identification, and contacts would have fallen short if not for the VVMC volunteers.

Center for Urban Ecology-NCR

This year NCR's Natural Resource and Science office at the Center for Urban Ecology continued to partner with the Nature Conservancy to remove invasive exotic plants from the Potomac Gorge in cooperation with CHOH and GWMP. In addition, the Inventory and Monitoring Program staff worked with a very talented volunteer to do quality control and entry into the NPSpecies and other databases managed by the program for parks in NCR. The Exotic Plant Management Team worked with an SCA crew to treat invasive exotic plants at GWMP and PRWI parks, surveying and treating over 200 acres of park lands.

Anacostia Park

Highlights at Anacostia Park included the completion of the Potomac River Watershed Cleanup. In spite of bad weather conditions, volunteers worked diligently collecting more than twenty bags of trash from the River's edge. Later in the year Anacostia Park was inundated with a young army of volunteers from City Year and AmeriCorps, who joined in to clean, paint, and plant. One of the lasting projects of the day was a replication of the NPS arrowhead that graces the center of the skating pavilion. On the same day, SCA students worked tirelessly on the Urban Tree House (an outdoor classroom) planting, pruning, and weeding. With more than 70 college prep students there, the work was fast and thorough.

Antietam National Battlefield

Antietam National Battlefield hosted several special events this year. More than 900 volunteers placed 23,110 luminaries in December 2004, more than 100 volunteers helped with the Annual Torchlight Tour, and more than 40 volunteers helped with the Annual Salute to Independence. Visitor Services volunteers donated 2,271 hours working the information desk, giving interpretive programs, and serving as Battlefield Ambassadors. Cultural Resources volunteers helped construct fences, clear trails, and work on the Historic Pry House. More than 200 volunteers helped the Natural Resources division plant trees and restore several historic orchards, and more than 300 Living History volunteers provided Black Powder programs throughout the summer and fall.

Arlington House, The Robert E. Lee Memorial

One of the highlights of the Arlington House's volunteer programs was the Kitchen Garden project. Volunteers helped revitalize the Arlington House's Kitchen Gardens using heirloom vegetables. The exotic plant removal project – Volunteers Rescue Arlington House Woodlands – continued to grow with six exotic plant removal events held this year. For the fourth year the site's historian, working with teachers at a local high school, recruited ten talented public history students who assisted the site with interpretive services, research, and curatorial operations. Six of the students eventually worked as seasonals during the summer.

Catoctin Mountain Park

Eagle Scout Mayukh Sirgar from Boy Scout Troop 274 and his team put in 210 hours reconstructing a charcoal hearth exhibit in April 2005. He researched the project, identified the materials and manpower needed to complete the project, and coordinated his activities with park staff to complete the project over three weekends. This unusual project required the major overhaul and reconstruction of the exhibit, as it had been damaged from severe storms earlier in the year. The hearth Mayukh worked on was one exhibit along a trail demonstrating the process of charcoal making, allowing visitors to see what the inside construction looked like. The reconstruction of this exhibit completed the picture for visitors to understand the process of charcoal making in Catoctin Mountain Park.

Chesapeake & Ohio Canal National Historical Park

The C&O Canal Association teamed up with the park's VIP coordinator to identify, plan, and execute 10 service projects, donating 464 hours in FY05. The park's Billy Goat Trail Stewards con-



Leave No Trace Training at Chesapeake & Ohio Canal National Historical Park

tinued to make progress in outreach efforts, and VIPs taught Leave No Trace ethics on the park's most popular trail. In particular, one volunteer obtained a \$500 grant from REI to create a mobile Visitor Center that was used to teach LNT at the trailhead. This mobile Visitor Center was used to make 377 visitor contacts in two hours on Labor Day. The Nature Conservancy partnered with the C&O Canal NHP in a pilot program called the Weed Warriors. Weed Warriors complete 10 hours of training in order to identify the 12 critical invasive plant species to target. They are then assigned sections within the park where they target invasives and complete field reports for TNC and NPS staff. Fifteen Weed Warriors donated 340 hours.

Clara Barton National Historic Site

Clara Barton NHS began the groundwork for a costumed interpretive program with four complete Edwardian outfits. Educational materials were purchased for training, and additional VIP funds were used to purchase CLBA special event signage that will raise awareness and increase visitation to volunteer-based programs. Also, in response to parents seeking information for school projects, two educational hand-outs were developed. The first illustrates how young students can dress like Clara Barton as a Civil War nurse and as Red Cross President. The second hand-out provides supply lists of items that Barton would have collected for victims of war and natural disaster. Because of the hand-outs, CLBA is currently working with the Girl Scouts to program on-site craft workshops.

Ford's Theatre National Historic Site

Ford's Theatre NHS is fortunate to have several dedicated volunteers, one of which portrays Abraham Lincoln at Ford's Theatre events. He was in character for the 140th anniversary of the Assassination of President Lincoln and a Spy Museum Symposium, as well as for the celebration of Lincoln's 196th birthday. The program titled "African Americans who knew Abraham Lincoln and Mary Todd Lincoln" was chosen this year for the Regional Freeman Tilden Award and will compete in the National Competition for Excellence in Interpretation this November. Visitors enjoy being able to talk with 19th century historical figures and many urge "Lincoln" not to go to the theatre on April 14th. This volunteer makes appearances and delights those attending the special Ford's Theatre events, always willing to pose for a picture and explain the details of his life.

Fort Washington Park

Approximately 1,000 Boy Scouts assisted staff in clearing brush vegetation along the mason walls

during two BSA jamborees, and several Eagle Scout projects were completed at Forts Washington and Foote in FY05. The Fort Washington Guard volunteer group conducted artillery demonstrations monthly for six months. Additionally, the Chesapeake Chapter of the US Lighthouse Society gave Lighthouse 80 a long overdue cleaning and painting. They also staffed and coordinated Fort Washington's participation in the 3rd Annual Maryland Lighthouse Challenge. The Universal Soldier program had a large volunteer turnout as 50 living history re-enactors portrayed military soldiers from 1645 to 1985 during a two-day encampment.

Frederick Douglass National Historic Site

National Make a Difference Day brought approximately 175 volunteers who improved the grounds of the Frederick Douglass NHS. Projects included planting flowers, mulching, invasive plant removal, rebuilding the garden at the base of the parking lot, and painting for a total of 1,050 hours of service. Partners included the Corporation for National and Community Service, AmeriCorps*NCCC, Points of Light Foundation, US Department of Labor and Job Corps, and USA Weekend magazine. Later in the year, 225 volunteers donated their time to improving the Hiker-Biker Trail, which extends almost seven miles from Fort Ricketts to Fort Mahan. Park partner Casey Tree Endowment Fund also volunteered over 4,027 hours to plant more than 100 native trees at Fort Ricketts.

Glen Echo Park

In FY05 the park acquired a 1947 PCC electric streetcar. VIPs built track and helped place the car, and plans call for the streetcar to be re-gauged, painted, and developed as a major interpretive display. Ranger Stan Fowler began a natural resource effort to control erosion along the Minnehaha Creek. Fowler hopes that VIP support will eliminate the need for a major, intrusive construction project along this fragile ecosystem. "Working with nature," Fowler and VIPs are redirecting the channel of the creek away from park structures. Glen Echo had a breakthrough year in the presentation of special interpretive programming, including "Then and Wow," a history festival that attracted more than 4,000 visitors. Also, "Summer of Change" was a commemoration of the civil rights struggle of 1960s. Moderated by author Juan Williams, the program was an important event with media, local, and state politicians attending. Finally, in 2005 an oral history program was begun. VIPs are integral parts of this endeavor – contacting people, developing questions, filming, transcribing, and archiving this important history.

Greenbelt Park

Ranger Culver started a partnership with REI and began a REI Volunteer Trails Days, which resulted in improved trail conditions for Greenbelt Park. The volunteer program was awarded two grants in FY05: a Take Pride In America grant and NCR Competition Fund for event shelter tents. The park participated in the Potomac Watershed Cleanup, National Park Week Volunteer Day, Keep America Beautiful, National Trails Day, Public Lands Day, and SCA projects in the summer.

Great Falls Park

Great Falls Park volunteers have contributed significantly to the improvement of interpretation and natural resource protection this past year. The Potomac Gorge Interpretive Trail is now in place, and the Trail Crew successfully installed bases for the waysides. Great Falls Park, in cooperation with The Nature Conservancy, has worked aggressively to address exotic plant species removal, an endeavor conducted almost exclusively by volunteers. The park hosted several workdays to attack these invasives, including National Trails Day in early June and National Public Lands Day in September. Two Eagle Scout projects were completed in 2005; the first improved trail conditions and reduced plant degradation by installing sections of boardwalk, and the second improved an overlook area creating a viewing area for a new interpretive wayside.

George Washington Memorial Parkway

George Washington Memorial Parkway's Virginia District continued to expand the Volunteer Program in FY05. Two SCA interns worked on distribution of trilingual Fishing Education kits along the Potomac River and to adjacent partner groups. Park staff recruited another volunteer to implement a new database for tracking all of the volunteers in the Virginia District. Three SCA interns were trained to present Bridging the Watershed education programs to high school students. In addition, two park staff and a volunteer attended Volunteer Management training in the National Capital Region.

Harpers Ferry National Historical Park

The Oakton Virginia Stake of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints contributed 700 hours of service project work on in July. Two hundred teenagers and adults participated in the work, which included installation of a trail surface, mulching, washing buses, removing brush, and painting.

Kenilworth Park & Aquatic Gardens

Take Pride in America was a big success at Kenilworth Aquatic Gardens. More than 200

volunteers participated in various projects at the gardens. The park partnered with the National Park Conservation Association and Kenilworth Aquatic Gardens Volunteer Friends Group for ongoing projects including marsh river cleanup, weeding, planting, and pruning the river trail.

Mary McLeod Bethune Council House National Historic Site

The Mary McLeod Bethune Council House National Historic Site enjoyed a wonderful year of events including the Bethune Training Institute, which was developed to educate the volunteers on the life and legacy of Mary McLeod Bethune. Through field trips, panel discussions, and specialized tours of the Bethune Council House, the program goal is to inspire volunteers to become well educated about every aspect of Mary McLeod Bethune, the National Council of Negro Women (NCNW), and the Civil Rights Movement. During the Black Family Reunion celebration on the National Mall, volunteers interpreted and enlightened visitors on the historical significance and cultural resources offered by the park. VIPs also assisted staff in preparing for the Holiday Storytelling Program at the N Street Shelter, setting up for Black History Month Lecture Series, welcoming visitors to afternoon and evening programs, and marketing site programs around the greater Washington, DC community.

Manassas National Battlefield Park

This year Manassas NBP experienced increased numbers in the VIP program because of multiple large group maintenance programs, and a dedicated home school group that completed monthly projects in Resource Management. The park developed lasting contacts with two organized hiking groups from state and national levels – the Maryland Outdoor Club and the American Hiking Society. In addition, mounted patrol VIPs contributed over 800 hours providing the public with safety rules and regulations. Interpretive VIPs conducted programs, talks and hikes, living history and weapons demonstrations. 2005 saw an increase in overall hours from 11,993 to 12,467. The park was also supported by additional hours from the Battlefield Equestrian Society and by contributions from an SCA.

Monocacy National Battlefield

The FY05 Volunteer-In-Parks highlight for Monocacy National Battlefield was the August special event, "Frederick in the Civil War." Thirty-eight costumed living history volunteers donated over 1,800 hours for the event, which boasted the battlefield's largest August visitor turnout to date. Both formal and informal interpretive programs were provided to visitors.



Cleanup event at George Washington Memorial Parkway

Challenge Cost-Share Funds were used to initiate a process to improve communications and coordination among volunteer-based citizen groups...

Potomac Heritage NST

National Capital Parks-East

National Capital Parks-East and the Capitol Hill Business Improvement District (CHBID) joined forces in 2005 to improve NACE park sites.

These improvements involved participants from Youth Empowerment for Success (YES), who twice monthly planted, watered, mulched, pruned, and performed general park maintenance in high-traffic park areas. The improvements have been recognized by citizens and welcomed most enthusiastically by the public, generating increased citizen involvement. YES VIP participants serve as park stewards as well as volunteers making a difference in the Capitol Hill community.

National Mall & Memorial Parks

In FY05 the National Mall and Memorial Parks counted 12,172 volunteer hours. Of those hours, 6,180 were devoted to cleanups around the park, and interpretation, recycling, and EMS provided the rest, many donated as part of the Fourth of July program. The bulk of hours come from the Vietnam Veterans Memorial volunteers. This year, many service organizations provided groups of people to help the park, including American University, Single Volunteers, the military, and the Burgundy Crescent organization. Students completed community hours by assisting with visitor services, passing out brochures, giving directions, and explaining the memorials to the visitors. 2005 also saw the introduction of the bike program at the parks.

National Capital Regional Office

The National Capital Region Office of Interpretation and Education (OIE) offered training, celebrated accomplishments, and hosted special events in FY05. The OIE and regional partnership offices, with support from National Capital Parks-East, funded and supplied a regional tool shed with tools that can be lent to any NCR park. At the 2nd annual George B. Hartzog, Jr. Award reception the following volunteers and staff received awards: Georgeann Smale received the Outstanding Individual Volunteer Service Award and was also this award's national recipient. Chesapeake & Ohio Canal NHP received the Outstanding Park Volunteer Program Award and also received the national Take Pride in America Outstanding Federal Volunteer Program Award. The National Skate Patrol, DC Chapter, received the Outstanding Park Volunteer Group Award for its clinics and roving in the park.

Oxon Cove Park & Oxon Hill Farm

During the 2005 fiscal year OXCO held two main events. The first was the river cleanup by AmeriCorps volunteers, who also put together

benches to place on the cove. Secondly, a Boy Scout troop completed major rehabilitation on park trails.

Potomac Heritage National Scenic Trail

Challenge Cost-Share Funds were used to initiate a process to improve communications and coordination among volunteer-based citizen groups associated with the Potomac Heritage NST. As legislative bodies debate additional appropriations for segments of the trail, the need for volunteers increases. Volunteers assist with construction and maintenance of trail segments, planning with local agency staff, event planning and coordination, and advocacy.

Prince William Forest Park

VIPs staffed Visitor Center for every month of this fiscal year on a daily basis for at least half the day. A new handbook was created by VIPs that will be used to orient new VIPs to the park and surrounding area. Several college interns worked in the divisions of Interpretation and Resource Management, providing valuable training and work experience in their respective majors.

Rock Creek Park

On April 20, 2005, 160 volunteers formed a bucket brigade to assist the shad and herring found in Rock Creek in reaching their traditional spawning area above the Peirce Mill spillway. Among the organizations that assisted were Sidwell Friends School, The National Park Foundation, The National Fish & Wildlife Foundation, The Alice Ferguson Foundation, plus volunteers and employees of Rock Creek Park and the National Capital Region. This effort, known as "Herring Aide," represented more than 480 volunteer hours. The results should be evident in the spring of 2006 when the herring and shad spawned in 2005 above the spillway return to use the newly constructed fish passage.

President's Park (White House)

In 2005, VIPs contributed thousands of hours of time and talent to insure the success of programs offered at the White House Visitor Center and President's Park. For example, VIPs participated in 10 White House events: The Easter Egg Roll, Spring White House Garden Tours, four Summer White House Garden & Grounds Tours, Fall White House Garden Tours, Topping of the National Christmas Tree, the Lighting of the National Christmas Tree, and the Pageant of Peace. VIPs also assisted with 10 senior citizen off-site interpretive programs, and made a similar impact on younger audiences through seven "Kid's Corner" programs highlighting major holidays and observances (including the celebration of August

25th as the birthday of the National Park Service). VIPs also found the time, resources, and energy to bring the spirit of the park and the NPS to those in need near and far through two charity drives: a Christmas Shoebox donation for the homeless, and a project that brought supplies to victims of Hurricane Katrina.

Wolf Trap National Park for the Performing Arts

During the performance season at the Filene Center, over 100 volunteers a night help make sure patrons stay safe and have an enjoyable experience. Wolf Trap's volunteers were dedicated and reliable, despite this past summer's excessive heat. This year, the park explored innovative ways to recruit and retain new volunteers.



Tire Cleanup at Blackstone River Valley National Heritage Corridor

Northeast Region

Acadia National Park

The annual Take Pride in Acadia Day event drew 431 volunteers who worked for three hours preparing Acadia's Carriage Roads for winter.

Adams National Historical Park

In 2005, a local high school student offered her time and talents to Adams NHP. She participated in one of the park's most popular public programs – Spirits of Quincy's Past. This annual family program is conducted each October in Quincy's historic Hancock Cemetery, final resting place of many Adams family members. The volunteer welcomed several hundred chilly attendees to the Visitor Center where they found hot cider, Halloween cookies, and a friendly face. In the months since she joined the Adams NHP VIP program, this young woman has honed her customer service skills, found many admirers among the staff and volunteers, and is considering a career in the National Park Service. Her commitment to public service exemplifies the Adams family's legendary commitment to their community and the nation.

Allegheny Portage Railroad National Historic Site

Allegheny Portage Railroad NHS in cooperation with the Allegheny Ridge Corporation hosted an exhibition called "These Rare Lands." Volunteers from the community of Altoona staffed the Discovery Center for five or six days per week for 12 weeks to make this traveling Smithsonian exhibit available to the public.

Appomattox Court House National Historical Park

Two volunteers developed and presented a very successful Summer History Day Camp at Appomattox Court House NHP.

Assateague Island National Seashore

More than 200 VIPs participated in International Beach Cleanup Day on September 17, 2005. Over

one-and-a-half tons of trash were removed from the 20 miles of beach of the Maryland District of Assateague Island National Seashore and its neighbor, Assateague State Park.

Blackstone River Valley National Heritage Corridor

The VIP program of the John H. Chafee Blackstone River Valley National Heritage Corridor continues to grow. Volunteers contributed an amazing 30,297 hours for FY05, a 10% increase over last year. The VIP program provides the ever-expanding number of partner sites in the Blackstone Valley with volunteers to help share stories and preserve resources at the sites. Secondly, it provides the volunteers with an opportunity to give something back to their community. From unique service learning projects to Natural Resource Management programs and ongoing interpretive presentations, volunteers can be found out and about in the Blackstone Valley daily making a difference. A volunteer in action online scrapbook can be found at www.nps.gov/blac.

Boston Harbor Islands National Recreation Area

Boston Harbor Islands engaged volunteers in three scientific monitoring projects: bird nesting counts, invasive crab counts, and invasive plant removal. This effort is paving the way for another study on collecting data for scientists at Harvard to conduct an all biodiversity inventory of invertebrates. These exciting studies can be done by people of all ages, and they connect scientists in the field to the public and interpreters.

Boston National Historical Park

Volunteers on USS Cassin Young, a World War II Museum Navy ship, developed a highly technical soundings inspection this year for monitoring hull integrity. This inspection is carried out twice a month by volunteers and park staff. The program assists with the ship's preservation and dry-docking plan, and has also saved the park thousands of maintenance dollars.

Booker T. Washington National Monument

A significant highlight of the VIP Program during FY05 was the educational training held at the park for volunteers interested in becoming more involved with the park's curriculum-based education program, including the first grade program, "To be a Slave." Another highlight involves the park's Natural Resource Management program. Between February and June, eleven Ferrum College students and others participated in fish inventories of Gills Creek at the park. Over 200 VIP hours were contributed to document the fish community diversity (36 species) within Gills Creek and provide information on spawning activity of various Catostomids. Volun-

teers made an important finding, documenting *Scartonyzon ariommus*, a globally rare fish that is uncommon within the Virginia portion of its range and is currently listed on the VA Natural Heritage Vertebrate Watch List.

Cape Cod National Seashore

Three volunteers received Take Pride in America Secretarial Awards for contributing over 4,000 hours to Cape Cod NS. Through a NPF and Ford Motor Co. grant, the seashore placed an interpretive intern aboard park shuttles, adding value to the service and enhancing public understanding of park resources and issues. Cape Cod NS also sponsored Great American Cleanup and National Public Lands Day projects this year.



The Fort McHenry Guard

Colonial National Historical Park

Poor Potter Archeological site, located in Yorktown, VA, opened in the summer of 2005. It is staffed by three VIPs who logged 357 hours. The park hosted four international VIPs from France, Germany, and Russia who logged 2,502 hours in the areas of visitor service and interpretation. 84-year-old VIP Marge Shave logged 763 hours in museum service.

Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area

In the past 13 months Delaware Water Gap NRA was struck by two of the worst floods in decades. Millions of dollars in damage was sustained and major park facilities were closed because of damage. The VIP program at Delaware Water Gap NRA was also severely impacted by the storms and the aftereffects. Several major volunteer-based events and archeological digs scheduled for the summer had to be cancelled, and volunteer trail crews were not able to work for several weeks this spring. Although these programs, which collectively add many thousands of hours to our VIP program, were cancelled in 2005, Delaware Water Gap NRA is already back on track for 2006 and expects the VIP program to be as strong and vital as ever in the next year. The park was able to start a new volunteer partnership with the Pike County Master Gardeners (PCMG) in which volunteers work with NPS to develop an educational native garden at Dingmans Falls Visitor Center. About 30 square feet of native garden is already planted, and interpretive signs, pamphlets, and a native plant workshop have been designed as companions to the garden.

Edison National Historic Site

Members of the Garden Club of the Oranges are replanting the historic gardens at Glenmont, the home of Thomas A. Edison and his family.

Eisenhower National Historic Site

Over 2,275 volunteer work hours were donated during the World War II special event on September 17 and 18. A living history military encampment portraying Allied and German forces included 134 volunteers from more than 20 organizations. Four WW II combat veterans and a holocaust survivor participated as special guest speakers. One regular interpretive volunteer demonstrated how the German Enigma Code machine worked. An off-site USO style living history dance, open to the public, was also sponsored by the NPS and volunteer staff. The event educated the public about WW II and General Dwight D. Eisenhower's role in that conflict, and was attended by 2,132 visitors.

Fire Island National Seashore

The park received a grant from the NPF Volunteer Enhancement program in FY05. Volunteers received additional training and took two bus trips to other national park sites to see other volunteers in action. Fire Island NS hosted a boat tour of the island with volunteers and park partnership groups. VSRC completed several special projects throughout the park and three Boy and Girl Scout Eagle and Gold Award projects were hosted at the park as well.

Fort McHenry Natl Monument and Historic Shrine

Volunteers were instrumental in building and interpreting the largest exhibit ever installed in the park. Titled "The Guns that Won the Battle," the exhibit showcases the main battery used to defend the fort. Volunteers built the earthworks and gun platform, and refurbished working reproduction cannons and other props for a powerful educational tool. Volunteers did the bulk of historical research and spent thousands of hours this summer interpreting the exhibit for school groups and other visitors. Volunteers went the extra mile as most of the construction was done using period tools in a living history atmosphere. Funding for the exhibit came from partnerships with the Chesapeake Bay Gateways Network and Maryland Antique Arms Collectors Association as well as fee demo monies.

Fort Stanwix National Monument

A major highlight for Fort Stanwix NM volunteers this year was taking part in the filming of a new orientation film at the park. Because of the difficulty in recruiting enough outside re-enactors, the response of VIPs was critical to how convincingly a garrison of 500 men, women and children could be portrayed on film. Extra help was also needed for all the logistical work that goes into such a project. The enthusiastic support of volunteers both in front of and behind

the cameras ensured that the filming ran smoothly and that the end product was of high quality in all aspects.

Friendship Hill National Historic Site

FestiFall – a one-day festival at Friendship Hill NHS – continues to be the site’s prime event for visitation and volunteers. 173 people volunteered over 3,180 hours to make this event a success. Additionally, the site hosted two interns, one of which converted into an SCA appointment for the summer. Ten VIPs ran the Visitor Center and presented programs to the public in 2005.

Frederick Law Olmsted National Historic Site

Several volunteers helped conduct advanced research and staff a panel discussion titled “Looking Southward: The Southern Travelogue from Frederick Law Olmsted to the Present” at the Boston Public Library. This panel explored Olmsted’s southern writings in the antebellum period from 1852 to 1854.

Fredericksburg & Spotsylvania Natl Military Park

The Chatham volunteer program got started in FY05 and visitor services at the site are now completely operated by volunteers. Chatham served as a Federal army headquarters and hospital during the Battle of Fredericksburg. The park began the fiscal year by reducing the hours that it was open to the public to just weekends, after 20 years of daily service. Over the winter, the park made plans to recruit and train a staff that could open the building up again on weekdays, but the response of the volunteers was so overwhelming that the site not only opened on weekdays but weekends as well. The visitor experience has also changed for the better in that instead of one park employee assigned to the building, there are two volunteers – one to cover orientation functions at the entrance, and one to conduct tours of the building, a service never offered to the public before. A corps of 53 volunteers trained for 568 hours and provided 3,160 hours of interpretive services over the last eight months of the fiscal year.

Gateway National Recreation Area

On September 24, 2005, the Historic Battery Weed Lighthouse was relit in a dramatic ceremony. The late volunteer and friend of Gateway NRA, Joseph N. Esposito, Sr. of Dongan Hills, orchestrated the repairs on the abandoned light station with eight other volunteers. Joseph passed last May at 66 years of age, and although Joseph was not physically present to complete his dream, dedicated volunteers made Joe’s dream a shining reality. It was a great honor to have Anna Esposito, volunteer and widow of Joseph Esposito, press the red switch that turned

on the power to Joseph’s dream. This project took three years to accomplish and saved the NPS an estimated cost of \$7,000 and some \$100,000 in labor.

George Washington Birthplace Natl Monument

Eighteen VIPs helped make Children’s Day on July 4th a great success. Over 200 children completed at least three of the five activities to get a certificate with their picture in colonial costume.

Governors Island

In the site’s second full year of operation, volunteers took a more active role in extending the visitor season by assisting with and leading guided tours of Governors Island. Staff assisted a park partner in establishing a framework (based largely on NPS VIP guidelines) for a joint volunteer program and began preliminary steps in establishing a joint agency volunteer coordinator.

Hampton National Historic Site

Volunteers from all divisions worked together to support the beginning of the massive environmental control systems project in the mansion. Curatorial volunteers contributed over 750 hours toward inventorying and wrapping the collection, as well as moving artifacts from the building. Maintenance volunteers contributed over 800 hours in preparing the building for the start of construction. Volunteers from Telephone Pioneers contributed over 500 hours with setting up new telephones and alarm systems for the new offices and storage areas. Interpretive volunteers pitched in to inaugurate the new visitor services area in the Farmhouse by attending special training, reading new materials, and scheduling themselves to staff the building.

Hopewell Furnace National Historic Site

For the second consecutive year, volunteers played a crucial role in the implementation of the site’s new “Ingredients” school tour, an interactive educational program at Hopewell Furnace. The “Ingredients” program consists of six stops – all staffed by volunteers – on a self-guided tour throughout the historic area of the furnace. The information conveyed by volunteers, which emphasizes the ingredients that went into producing iron products at a charcoal-burning, cold-blast iron furnace, is then used by students to complete a worksheet before they leave the park. Thanks to the active participation of numerous volunteers, last year’s program was presented to a total of 215 enthusiastic students.

Independence National Historical Park

In November 2004, the park participated in the annual Pennsylvania Horticultural Society Annual Flower Show. Eighty-nine volunteers staffed

This project took three years to accomplish and saved the NPS an estimated cost of \$7,000 and some \$100,000 in labor.

Gateway National Recreation Area

the NPS exhibit developed by photographer Amy Lamb. The end of June, in preparation for the July 4th weekend holiday events, the park hosted volunteers in “Operation Company is Coming” to clean up and plant flowers for the Independence Day celebration. Park volunteers then worked the events surrounding the Independence Day Philly Pops Concert. In October 2005, the volunteers at the Deshler Morris House participated in the Revolutionary Germantown Festival. Independence NHP volunteer Walter Hodorowski received the Presidential Award and William Ubil received the Secretarial Award.

John F. Kennedy National Historic Site

Volunteers enabled the park to participate in the Town of Brookline’s 300th anniversary celebration by providing general information about JOFI and other NPS units in the area. A number of volunteers also developed interpretive programs (including a workshop on backyard archeology) for the festival’s diverse audience.

Johnstown Flood National Memorial

The park was successful in recruiting new VIPs in FY05, and Visitor Center hours increased dramatically thanks to them. Johnstown Flood NM hosted an intern who plans a career in Parks and Recreation management. Through her time here, she learned many of the facets of operating a National Park unit. For the second year in a row, the park worked with the local Forest Hills School District in preparing for the annual May 31 Johnstown Flood Commemoration activities. Each student in the school helped prepare a luminary, and Boy and Girl Scouts, as well as members of the community, helped light each of the 2,200 luminaries. This past May, three long-term VIPs received Presidential Awards in recognition for their outstanding service.

Longfellow National Historic Site

In FY05 Longfellow NHS established a collaboration with the Concordant Volunteers, a group of middle and high school students who provide volunteer assistance and historic interpretation to sites in Concord and Cambridge. Eleven students have conducted research (using primary and secondary source material and personal interviews with Longfellow family descendents) to develop first-person portrayals of children who lived in the historic mansion from the time of its construction in 1759 into the 20th century. The students will debut their characters during a special December holiday open house.

Lowell National Historical Park

The park developed a very successful cooperative partnership with the Lowell Canalwaters

Cleaners, a new non-profit dedicated to the environmental cleanup and enhancement of the historic canal system. Under the leadership of Executive Director Bill Moreau, 140 volunteers enlisted to contribute nearly 1,700 hours toward the organization’s first goal: to use their collective muscle power and creativity to wrestle out of the canals the unsightly, unhealthy rafts of trash and refuse that stagnate at locks and gates. The Lowell Folk Festival again produced over 19,000 hours from more than 1,200 volunteers.

Marsh-Billings-Rockefeller National Historical Park

Marsh-Billings-Rockefeller NHP continues to provide innovative projects and experiences for the Volunteers-in-Parks program. The focal point of the volunteer effort is predominately in Resource Management and visitor services, however, the Conservation Study Institute established an internship through the SCA Unilever program to continue research work on the Stewardship Atlas and the Gateway Communities Program. It is the first year for CSI to utilize our VIP resource and reciprocate valuable experience for students to launch a career path in the conservation field. The total hours in volunteer time from 126 VIPs at Marsh-Billing-Rockefeller NHP for the 2005 season is 4,909.

Martin Van Buren National Historic Site

Cultural Resource Management was the recipient of a tremendous amount of volunteer assistance during FY05. Specifically, VIP Mary Jane Walsh assisted in inventorying the oversized archival storage and developing an index so that items are more easily found. Secondly, Brad Whilhem, an intern with U Albany’s Center for Applied Historical Research began the daunting task of assessing and ordering all of the park’s archeological resource records.

Maggie L. Walker National Historic Site

Volunteers played a critical role in supporting two major events – the Maggie L. Walker birthday commemoration and the Second Street Celebration. Contributions of talents and skills given by the volunteers made these programs educational and memorable in FY05.

Minute Man National Historical Park

Seven hundred and fifty volunteers donated 12,445 hours to Minute Man NHP this year. Highlights include the research and construction of a gun carriage for the “Hancock Cannon” at the Visitor Center, as the original 18th century cannon is on long-term loan. Hartwell Garden Volunteers organized “From Garden to Table” this spring and fall. They planted and tended an 18th century garden that included flax as well as vegetables and herbs. Resource Man-

agement volunteers pruned heirloom apple trees, cleared miles of trails of brush and exotic plants, rebuilt stone walls, and weeded the extensive Buttrick Gardens. Of particular note, visitors experienced a British and militia encampment, military drills, 18th century political discussion, music, medicine, and craft demonstrations at this year's Battle Road. Concord Minute Men, First Foot Guards, 10th Foot Lincoln MM, and Peter's Corps presented events, and more than 100 re-enactment VIPs rallied at North Bridge on a snowy March day in support of Minute Man NHP's interpretive program.

Morristown National Historical Park

On September 28, 2005 a forty-seven member crew from Pfizer, Inc. did extensive work to the Wick Farm Historical Garden at no cost to the National Park Service. This corporation made an in-kind donation of supplies and materials to the park at a value of \$9,000, less the cost of personnel. The crew replaced 350 feet of post and rail fence and mesh around the Wick Farm Garden, re-painted the Wick Farm Barn, replenished 450 foot stone path from the Visitor Center to the Wick Farm House, rebuilt two horse gates in the Wick Farm Coral, removed two 30-yard dumpsters of old fence material, removed exotic species from the Wick Farm House area, and cleaned 300 feet of fence line around the Wick Farm Orchard. It was an impressive display of coordinated assistance involving a private firm's maintenance staff and NPS personnel and VIPs.

New Bedford Whaling National Historical Park

As part of National Park Week 2005, the park kicked off its annual volunteer training program, providing new volunteers with a framework to use as front line visitor services staff and in the development of interpretive programs. This annual training also serves as a refresher for returning volunteers. Twelve new VIPs graduated from the 2005 training program, which represents a 24% increase in the park's volunteer corps. New this past year, the park collaborated with its community partners to offer three joint volunteer training sessions. The sessions – History of New Bedford, New Bedford's Commercial Fishing Industry, and the Underground Railroad in New Bedford – received high evaluations from coordinators and participants and will be expanded upon next spring.

New Jersey Coastal Heritage Trail Route

Chelina Batista participated with PINE/NEJE and its partner, New Jersey Audubon, as an intern and International Volunteer. The focus of this volunteer's project was the study of weight gain and stopover length made by sandpipers and other shorebirds in the Delaware Bay region

of southern New Jersey. She also participated in field studies and interpretive activities for visitors and school groups. PINE/NEJE was one of the participating Park Flight Migratory Bird Program Project parks awarded the Secretary of the Interior Gale Norton's 2005 Four Cs Award. This award honors individual or group efforts in Communication, Consultation, and Cooperation all in the service of Conservation.

New River Gorge National River

This year New River Gorge National River saw a large increase in the number of volunteer groups coming to the park to assist with a variety of maintenance projects. Many of the groups were associated with a high school or college from states such as Michigan, Indiana, Illinois, Ohio, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, and Massachusetts. A couple groups from the local communities of Hinton and Fayetteville became first time volunteers at the park. Individual volunteers included college interns, educational presenters, and river patrol assistants. The park's volunteer program has undergone a thorough revitalization effort with the development of core volunteer positions within each division and updated position descriptions. Volunteer activities such as Adopt-a-Trail and Adopt-a-Stream have been developed as part of the park's volunteer program. In FY06 the park will undertake a significant effort to recruit, select, and train volunteers from the local area to help the park staff meet its goals and mission on a yearly basis.

Petersburg National Battlefield

Two SCA Interns participated in the clearing and rehabilitation of three Civil War Forts, performed maintenance and made improvements on 800 meters of Multi-Use Trail System, and produced 34 digital maps for park management.

Richmond National Battlefield Park

More than fifty volunteers participated in Richmond Civil War Day at the Tredegar Iron Works commemorating the 140th Anniversary of the fall of Richmond. They assisted with planning, scheduling, and presenting interpretive programs, living history, and evaluating the event. The program was a great success, resulting in the contact of more than 700 visitors that day.

Saint-Gaudens National Historic Site

This year marked the 100th anniversary of the pageant, "The Gods and the Golden Bowl," held at this site in 1905. The pageant was staged by more than 85 members of the Cornish Art Colony to honor sculptor Augustus Saint-Gaudens' 20th year in Cornish. The play had a classical theme and the artists played various Greek gods and goddesses. To celebrate the cen-



VIP with schoolchildren at New Bedford Whaling National Historical Park

ennial, a new outdoor pageant modeled on the original was presented at the site. More than 79 VIPs worked for two months to put on the pageant, which included a cast of sixty. More than 1,600 people attended the three performances.

Sagamore Hill National Historic Site

Sagamore Hill VIPs reached 7,025 hours (up from 6,000 last year) thanks to some special projects by local Boy Scouts in maintaining the trail and landscape. The Museum Services division profited this summer from several college student interns who aided in inventory and cataloging. For the volunteer in-service trip this year, members lunched at the Sayville Roadhouse Inn, where Theodore Roosevelt reputedly dined.

Saratoga National Historical Park

Saratoga NHP was approached by two visitors interested in volunteering at the park. The couple, on learning that it had been some years since volunteer-guided bicycle tours were offered, took it upon themselves to reinstate these tours. They spent many hours studying the history of the Battles of Saratoga, learning from park interpretive staff, writing a draft tour, and riding the tour road to rehearse their program. Once they had completed this work, they established a series of five dates to offer the guided bicycle tours, which were very well received. Another series of guided bicycle tours for the 2006 visitor season have been scheduled, with this couple taking the lead. The park is looking forward to having this opportunity for a unique tour of park available to visitors.

Shenandoah National Park

VIPs Rick and Meridith Potts used a mule-string to haul roofing materials and equipment to Corbin Cabin via upper Nicholson Hollow trail. There was a small Potomac Appalachian Trail Club (a park partner) contingent on hand, and a few trail crew personnel available to deal with any unforeseen trail obstacles as the two-horse, two-mule string moved down the mountain. One mile of this transport was through designated wilderness, about 1.8 miles total travel to the Cabin from the Hughes River Gap staging area.

Springfield Armory National Historic Site

VIP Raymond Germain donated his many talents as a retired engineer and former contractor for Springfield Armory to the park in FY05. He has earned both the Take Pride in America Secretarial and Presidential Awards for working over 4,000 hours since the year 2000. He completed a scale drawing of the only surviving "Organ of Muskets" firearms storage rack, created a schematic of the Armory grounds, and scanned archival aperture cards. He also supervised college

interns, presented Civil War school programs as an artilleryman re-enactor, staffed off site exhibit booths, assisted at special events, and is willing to try many new jobs in an effort to help this National Historic Site. The park appreciates all he does for this special place.

Steamtown National Historic Site

In FY05, Steamtown Railroad Operations volunteers were one of the regional winners of the George B. Hertzog Award for Outstanding Volunteer Services for making significant contributions to the steam locomotive operation of the park. Visitors had the opportunity to learn about the contributions of steam railroading to the history of America and the opportunity to experience "live" steam. Volunteers also contributed over 865 hours over the course of nine nights to the park's annual holiday train event. This year, the park switched from telling the story of the "Polar Express" to an original story called "Slocum Hollow's Christmas Magic," about the local region written specifically for the event by a park employee. After helping with the old event for seven years, volunteers did an outstanding job adapting to the new story and other changes to the program.

Statue of Liberty National Monument

Between July 5 and August 19, 2005, eight students from the Lexington School for the Deaf in Queens, NY, worked on Ellis Island in the Interpretation, Museum, and Maintenance divisions.

Theodore Roosevelt Inaugural Natl Historic Site

VIPs proudly celebrated a special milestone in their fundraising efforts this year – the 30th annual Victorian Christmas. In 1974, a small Christmas tree and homemade cookies served on a Sunday afternoon in December was the first Victorian Christmas. Through the spirit and determination of the Site's VIPs, the event has grown from these humble beginnings to one of Western New York's most popular and unique traditions. For nine days in early December more than 2,500 visitors experienced holiday traditions from long ago thanks to the countless hours of volunteer service. Outside help from numerous organizations was greatly appreciated but, as always, it was the strength of the site's own volunteers and staff members that made this a record-breaking event and rousing financial success, raising nearly \$41,000 for preservation and education programs.

Thomas Stone National Historic Site

The VIP highlight of 2005 was the Christmas Candlelight Tour held the first Saturday in December. For this event, 18 VIPs (including a young woman who is Thomas Stone's great-

Doris Mack...is a treasure to this site and those that work with her enjoy every minute of it.

Vanderbilt Mansion National Historic Site

great-great niece) assisted park staff in distributing food and beverages to arriving guests, assisting visitors with parking and logistics, and playing parts in the living history program. Much of the budget was used to purchase new period clothing for the VIPs participating in the event. The event was well attended and the site will be presenting the program this year as well.

Upper Delaware Scenic & Recreational River

The National Canoe Safety Patrol (NCSP) has had another outstanding summer at Upper Delaware S&RR. More than 50 volunteers paddled and patrolled the Upper Delaware River assisting park staff by performing river rescues, providing safety talks, and helping river users to understand the stretch of the river they are paddling. Over the last twenty-six years the NCSP has volunteered over 92,000 hours on the Upper Delaware River.

Valley Forge National Historical Park

Total volunteers increased 480 people in FY05, with an increase of 2,256 volunteer hours over FY04. This was due in part to the increasing popularity of large volunteer events such as National Trails Day in June and National Public Lands Day in September. For the first time, a Sierra Club Outing Vacation group helped with trails stabilization, trail restoration, closing archaeological excavation plots, and protecting young trees from deer browsing. Also for the first time, a group from AmeriCorps*NCCC installed 13 waterbars and 25 checkbars along Horse-Shoe Trail, and 14 checkbars along Chapel Trail in four weeks. Their hard work will help prevent future erosion of the trails. During the summer, three graduate students came to Valley Forge as SCAs to work and write the park's business plan. The park also increased training opportunities for volunteers, offering educational field trips, park-related lectures at VIP meetings, orientation to new VIPs, and workshops about period clothing. In addition, Valley Forge NHP received a volunteer enhancement grant from the National Park Foundation to provide multi-disciplinary training in partnership with neighboring Mill Grove Audubon Center. With it, the park offered a series of programs on birds and watersheds that focuses on the natural and cultural aspects of those topics.

Vanderbilt Mansion National Historic Site

Vanderbilt Mansion's highlight for FY05 has to be the number of hours contributed by one volunteer this year, Doris Mack, who gave 566 hours to the Eleanor Roosevelt NHS. Doris is an amazing woman who devotes two days a week to Mrs. Roosevelt's home, Val-Kill, and even volunteers for the Eleanor Roosevelt Center at Val-

Kill once or twice a month. Doris delights her groups with personal stories of Mrs. Roosevelt; the visitors can't get enough of her. She makes all feel welcome as Eleanor Roosevelt would have wanted. She is a treasure to this site and those that work with her enjoy every minute of it.

Weir Farm National Historic Site

In FY05 volunteer Kelly Davis and site Horticulturist Greg Waters worked together to create an illustrated Plant Guide for the Burlingham House Visitor Center. Visitors to the site are often curious about the vegetation they encounter while exploring the site, and frequently return to the Visitor Center to inquire about their discoveries. The Plant Guide has proved an effective tool in identifying those plants and also in satisfying visitors' curiosity. Another wonderful new asset to the site is the Brown Bag Lecture Series for volunteers and staff. Conceived as a way for volunteers and staff to spend time together, the Brown Bag lectures have become not only extremely interesting and educational, but also an event that staff and volunteers eagerly anticipate with each coming month. The connection developed between staff and volunteers during these events has brought a greater understanding and friendship among all the varied contributors to the completion of our mission. The site also held two very successful Stone Wall Workshops, and great improvements were made to the site's hiking trails on both National Public Lands Day and National Trails Day. Weir Farm NHS also enlisted the help of two Scout groups that further improved the trail to the pond.

Women's Rights National Historical Park

During FY05 WORIP was fortunate to have had the services of Professor Elouise Oyzon and her information technology class to help with the design of Parkwide Waysides, which were installed at five different sites within the Park. As the summer progressed, it was obvious that the waysides made a valuable contribution to visitor enjoyment and understanding of the park both during and after regular park hours. The 12 students in the project devoted a total of 2,700 hours to the project and exhibited a great deal of enthusiasm throughout.

Pacific West Region

Ala Kahakai National Historic Trail

Staffed in 2002, Ala Kahakai NHT is currently developing its Comprehensive Management Plan and EIS. As such, no segment of the trail is opened to the public as a NHT. Al Kahakai NHT has launched a number of projects aimed at building the foundations for its management system, and VIP funds in FY05 were allocated for

this purpose. These funds partially covered the travel expenses of a student from the University of Redlands International Masters Program in GIS to develop a trail data collection prototype and curriculum utilizing GIS technology and digital photography. This was done in partnership with the West Hawaii Explorations Academy (WHEA), a charter high school that matched Al Kahakai VIP funds. This trail data collection prototype can be used by the many community-based trail segment management entities envisioned for Al Kahakai. Related to the prototype, the student developed an Internet Mapping Site so that trail segment managers can upload information for overall trail administration. Eventually, a section of this site will be opened to the public for trail information and planning visits and hikes.

Bear Paw Battlefield

Boy Scout Troop 448 volunteered for a one-day activity of trail maintenance, litter collection, sign painting, wayside cleaning, grass cutting, and weed collection. Scouts were given a tour of the battlefield and watched a video about the battle. Each Scout received the NPS & BSA arrowhead patch. The parents of each Scout were in attendance and participated in this project.

Big Hole National Battlefield

A long-time volunteer organization for the battlefield, Wisdom Volunteer Fire and Ambulance, assisted the battlefield with calls for injuries, staff and visitor emergencies, and first aid support at annual events and along isolated locations of the historic Lewis & Clark and Nez Perce Trails. To address the most frequent situations that arise in front- and backcountry, the battlefield supported the purchase of an advanced Automatic Emergency Defibrillator to assist with heart and breathing emergencies. The Wisdom Volunteers support the battlefield by contributing up to 80 hours annually.

Cabrillo National Monument

Staff attended “Beyond the Basics in Volunteer Management” training in Las Vegas, NV. The monument’s first full-time summer intern, Dan Golin, donated over 300 hours to the volunteer program. A new Tidepool, Protection, Education, and Restoration Program (TPERP) volunteer supervisor, Laura Congdon, came to Cabrillo NM via Glacier Bay NP to get the park back on track in recruitment, registration, education, and retention of VIPs. Stephanie Glenn is the new Herpetological and Shorebird Monitoring VIP supervisor and is doing an excellent job. Bob Munson has implemented a Living History VIP program where volunteers interpret the 1500s, 1880s, and WW I and II in period clothing.

Columbia Cascades Support Office

Volunteers performed a variety of services for the PWR-Seattle this year, including cataloging books, re-organizing the vertical file, obtaining documents and performing other tasks at the Regional Library. One volunteer has been providing advice on a number of important archeological projects, including the Station Camp archeological investigations and the research design for the Fort Clatsop investigations. One group of volunteers worked on the development of a management plan for a historic orchard. Another group provided graphic arts and photography assistance for a project to develop a self-guiding walking trail. One dedicated VIP has spent many hours researching historic mining and climbing in Mount Rainier National Park.

Channel Islands National Park

Highlighting 2005 was the 25th anniversary of Channel Islands National Park. This past year also marked the 25th anniversary of the Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary. In celebration, more than 50 volunteers donated over 250 hours at SeaFest, a special park and sanctuary event. With their efforts, the event was very successful and reached 18,000 visitors to strengthen the community’s connection to the Channel Islands and the marine environment. The partnership with the sanctuary continued to develop with more than 130 volunteers participating in this program alone. In 2005, the Volunteer-In-Parks Program at Channel Islands National Park grew by 321 volunteers, a 60% increase from 2004. Eight hundred and two volunteers donated 52,525 hours total, which is the equivalent of 25 FTE.

City Of Rocks National Reserve

Volunteers were a great asset to the reserve in FY05. They helped relieve the burden of trail and maintenance crews. The reserve regularly depends on the Camp Host for after-hours campground compliance and disbursement of park information.

Crater Lake National Park

Crater Lake’s Herzog Award-winning Volunteer Ski Patrol had another strong season at the park. Beginning with training weekends in November (Winter First Aid and CPR) and December (ski and backcountry skills) the ski patrol volunteered at such tasks as avalanche testing, route marking, trail breaking, Search and Rescue, and general visitor information and aid. The park’s other main partner, the Friends of Crater Lake, served in a volunteer capacity as winter Rim Village information contacts, and in the summer as Information Rove VIPs. The Friends members have lived in local communities for many years

and are very familiar with the park. Their knowledge, expertise and friendly demeanor assists the visitors to Crater Lake in areas of the park where other staffing is unavailable. Finally, the Division of Interpretation worked with both winter and summer long-term volunteers to serve the public in Visitor Centers and doing interpretive programs. These volunteers often choose to make a career change following their term at the park, making it a beneficial experience for them, the park, and the public.

Craters Of The Moon National Monument

VIPs completed a 1:12,000 geologic map of the Broken Top area in FY05 (map and key are posted on CRMO web site). They began a xenolith research project and completed a preliminary study of the Highway Flow to present the results at the American Geophysical Union in December. With only one paid seasonal, the two Interpretation interns kept this division going. SCAs funded through the Public Land Corps provided public education and noxious weed management for CRMO. They also assisted Resource Management with surveys, inventories, mapping, and seed collection.

Death Valley National Park

Death Valley NP's VIPs stepped up when the park was over-inundated with visitors due to a fantastic flower season. They answered phones, assisted in Interpretation, and extended their stays to assist the park where needed.

Ebey's Landing National Historical Reserve

The highlight of the volunteer program at Ebey's Landing NHR in 2005 was clearly the dedicated effort of one individual, Lisa Brittain, who worked energetically for 430 hours on a wide variety of cultural and natural resource projects. Lisa worked very hard managing invasive exotic vegetation at Ebey's Landing and at the NPS experimental native prairie restoration site. Lisa also mapped creosoted driftwood on over a mile of Puget Sound beach and conducted literature searches on woodlot management, historic bricks, dark night sky ordinances, and native plant propagation techniques. Her efforts greatly aided the NPS mission at Ebey's Landing National Historical Reserve.

Eugene O'Neill National Historic Site

Park partner, the Eugene O'Neill Foundation, held their Sixth Annual Eugene O'Neill Festival in September with most activities taking place in the park. Volunteers were generous with their help in assisting the large number of visitors to enjoy the historic home, O'Neill plays, and living history activities. They answered questions, directed visitors, and professionally represented the NPS. With the volunteers' help, Eugene O'Neill NHS was able to accommodate the anticipated higher-than-usual number of visitors without any incidents.

Fort Clatsop National Memorial

Lewis and Clark NHP had a record number of VIPs this year with many individuals and organizations helping in the construction of the Fort to



Workday at Lewis and Clark National Historical Park

Sea Trail. Interest in working at the park is high as it is in the bicentennial of the Lewis and Clark Expedition. VIPs also helped with library work, archeology, and visitor services such as education and living history. The park had three SCA Ford Proud Partner Transportation interns that helped to organize and orient arriving summer visitors prior to boarding the intra-park shuttle bus to access the fort and Visitor Center area.

Fort Point National Historic Site

Fort Point National Historic Site employees are proud to acknowledge the work of SCA Diversity Intern Marquis Cannon. This past summer he assisted in planning and designing the upgrade of the Enlisted Men's Quarters. It is to Marquis's credit that visitors today can sense the extraordinarily crowded living conditions that the soldiers endured.

Fort Vancouver National Historic Site

Fort Vancouver Volunteer Program Highlight came later in the fiscal year. Interpreting a large span of history, 20 volunteers came on board to update and upgrade the park's Period Clothing Program. The Period Clothing Program includes clothing from the 1820s to the early 1900s; men, women, and children, as well as varying classes that are interpreted at Fort Vancouver. Period clothing examples include metis (a mix between European and Native heritage), blacksmith laborers, Oregon Trail Pioneers, and Civil War Uniforms. The Program also includes the appropriate accessories to make the persona come to life as they interpret Fort Vancouver's History. Volunteers donated close to 600 hours in just three short months. One volunteer in particular, Eileen Trestain, donates at least 20 hours a week leading the crew into improving the Period Clothing Program for Fort Vancouver.

Golden Gate National Recreation Area

Golden Gate NRA staff is proud to acknowledge the 20+ year partnership in Volunteer Management with the Golden Gate National Parks Conservancy. The Parks Conservancy funds the following successful VIP programs: Golden Gate Raptor Observatory, Site Stewardship, Park Native Plant Nurseries, I-YEL Program, Crissy Field Maintenance, Alcatraz Garden Program and Trails Forever. The Trails Forever VIP program, launched this spring, generated an incredible amount of interest from local communities and corporate groups. The Annual Alcatraz Alumni event included 50 former inmates, guards, and residents who presented unique educational experiences to peak the interest of the public. Lastly, Golden Gate Raptor Observatory VIPs recorded the highest number of rap-

tors banded in one season (1,802) and spotted a Peregrine Falcon nest in the cliff at Kirby Cove – the first nest in the Marin Headlands in 13 years.

Great Basin National Park

On May 6, 2005, Great Basin NP, partners, and volunteers reintroduced Bonneville cutthroat trout into a fourth park stream. This native trout originally occupied six of the park's ten perennial streams. Forty-six Bonneville cutthroat trout were captured from Hendry's Creek located in the North Snake Range and transported to Upper Snake Creek in the South Snake Range. Bonneville cutthroat trout spawn in early July, so by the end of summer the population should be larger, with potentially hundreds of young-of-the-year fish joining the population. Future plans for the Bonneville cutthroat program are to move additional fish into Snake Creek in the fall and to restore Bonneville into South Fork Baker Creek, making it the fifth park stream to contain the native trout. In addition, this summer the park will begin to restore the aquatic ecosystem of the Bonneville cutthroat streams by reintroducing non-game fish that were also extirpated along with the native trout.

Hagerman Fossil Beds National Monument

To enhance the monument's paleontology program, new position descriptions directed to fossil research were developed. Staff worked to provide exceptional replications and tools for research volunteers.

Haleakala National Park

In 2005 the presence of youth in volunteerism was at the forefront. Thirty-five percent of volunteers this year were under the age of 18 and participated in service trips through Boy Scouts, local secondary schools, youth centers and through SCA. These dedicated youth removed thousands of invasive plants, dug holes and planted native species, participated in litter pickups and basic trail maintenance.

Hawaii Volcanoes National Park

The Vegetation Management department uses volunteers in numerous aspects of management and research in Hawaii Volcanoes National Park. Volunteers come as interns staying at the park for two to five months, as college students or community members working one or two days a week, or as large volunteer groups from local schools and the community that come for a day of service in the park. In the 2005 fiscal year alone eight interns, four part-time volunteers, and more than 300 school and community volunteers have assisted in ecosystem restoration, vegetation monitoring after fire, invasive weed



I-YEL Program at Golden Gate NRA

control and everything in between. The time these individuals have volunteered for the park's vegetation programs exceeds 5,000 hours.

John Day Fossil Beds National Monument

On August 13, 2005, John Day Fossil Beds National Monument celebrated the Grand Opening of the Thomas Condon Paleontology Center with a day of festivities including tours, music, food, a ribbon-cutting, and speeches by NPS Director Fran Mainella and PWR Director Jon Jarvis. VIPs were a critical part of this event's success. They participated enthusiastically as event organizers, interpreters, collectors of oral history interviews, food preparers and servers at the reception, traffic control assistants, and shuttle drivers. Several local community members took it upon themselves to appear unbidden in the morning before the event, dressed in matching outfits and ready to take charge of any task that was asked of them. Overall, the event was a rousing success, thanks in large part to the VIPs who helped make sure that every small detail fell into place and completed the big picture.

Joshua Tree National Park

The staff at Joshua National Park is proud of the talents, time and commitment given by VIPs toward Search and Rescue, backcountry patrols, tortoise surveys, cleanup efforts, and exotic weed removal. The volunteer SAR team keeps increasing their level of training with 22 members completing the National Association of Search and Rescue courses. This past summer 16 new members joined the team and have already gone through 40 hours of technical rope and rescue training. Of the 5,363 hours put in by the team in FY05, only 500 hours were SAR incidents. The Volunteer Horse Patrol now has a long-term supervisor and they too have picked up new members and are back in the saddle again.

Juan Bautista De Anza National Historic Trail

Trail volunteers at the South Coast Railroad Museum have been busy creating an on-line adventure for young trail explorers. The web-based Junior Ranger Program for the Anza Trail takes potential explorers on the same expedition used by the families in the 1775-76 Anza expedition. The interactive program allows these young colonists to earn a Junior Ranger badge while learning about California and Arizona's colonial history as well as their indigenous populations.

Kaloko-Honokohau National Historical Park

Our invasive species removal program was the highlight in FY05. More than 151 volunteers contributed 878 volunteer hours toward this goal. Students from the community and three Boy

Scout troops removed several trash bags of seaweed from the fish pond and numerous bags of non-native vegetation surrounding the pond. The VIPs also helped with trash pickup in and around the site. They learned about the site and the importance of the work they had completed.

Kalaupapa National Historical Park

Kalaupapa National Historical Park staff renewed their volunteer program efforts in FY05 and re-vamped the VIP program guideline. Several large groups, including the US Coast Guard, Molokai High School Environmental Club, Men's Leadership Hawaii, and Sierra Club-Oahu performed important work in preserving historic structures and assisting natural resource efforts. Funds this year allowed the park to acquire equipment to allow visually impaired VIPs work with the park's photograph and archival collections in the future. The park is working toward the establishment and furnishing of two VIP bunkhouses to enhance its ability to support group projects.

Klondike Gold Rush - Seattle Unit National Historical Park

Klondike Gold Rush NHP-Seattle is moving its Visitor Center in mid-January, 2006. Besides assisting in the Visitor Center and the Outdoor Recreation Information Center, VIPs contributed to research for the production of the new exhibit. The park's 99 Trails & Rails program VIPs racked up 10,515 hours in FY05 serving on the Amtrak Empire Builder and Coast Starlight.

Lava Beds National Monument

Along with providing overall program support in Resource Management, volunteers at Lava Beds NM began a two-year intensive study of climate change and pika distribution in the monument, which may have long-term and widespread relevance. One of many contributions made by the 32 volunteers with the Cave Research Foundation this year is an updated Catacombs Cave rescue map, which will significantly benefit Resource Management and Protection, Law Enforcement, and Interpretation, as well as Lava Beds visitors. A 12-week Resource Management SCA was devoted to the completion of the first inventory of macro-invertebrate cave life at Lava Beds. The survey of 29 caves conducted by this volunteer and a seasonal cave specialist led to the discovery of new species in the monument and a greater ability to protect cave life. One outstanding contribution made by an interpretive volunteer was the development of a new curriculum-based education program to orient visiting students to the monument. The program

introduced 697 students to lava tube cave formation, safety, and preservation in FY05 and will continue to be used for years to come.

Lake Mead National Recreation Area

Lake Mead NRA's volunteers assisted in the management and maintenance of eight campgrounds and in the documentation of archeological sites in Nevada and Arizona. Lake Mead continued the valuable partnership with the three federal land management agencies in the Las Vegas Valley, (US Forest Service, Fish & Wildlife Service, and BLM) and the University of Nevada, Las Vegas through the Southern Nevada Public Lands Management Act (SNPLMA). The Interagency Volunteer Program received the Take Pride in America Federal Volunteer Program Award.

Lake Roosevelt National Recreation Area

The highlight of the volunteer program this year was that Lake Roosevelt was able to fill a campground host position that had not been filled for over seven years in one of the busiest campgrounds. Visitors to this campground were very grateful to have the campground host available for the summer season.

Lassen Volcanic National Park

In July 2005, more than 100 volunteers, staff, sponsors, and their families attended the third Annual Volunteer Appreciation Dinner where Pete Ceccon received the VIP of the Year Award for his assistance with recycling and maintenance projects. Five volunteers received awards for their contributions of 1,000 or 2,500 hours and three volunteers received 3,000-hour DOI Secretarial awards. Many volunteers also staffed booths at the Day in the Park, A Family Fun Festival at the Loomis Museum where the "Take Pride in America" banner was once again prominently displayed. Earlier this year, the Ski Patrol grew to 24 members. These volunteers assisted staff and visitors with route information, avalanche assessments, search and rescues, and medical emergencies. Another notable volunteer, Andrew Bell, prepared five professional-quality graphic designs for lapel pins and water bottles for the park's cooperating association. Lassen Volcanic National Park will benefit from the sale and donation of these items in years to come.

Manzanar National Historic Site

The Maintenance division at Manzanar NHS has been proactively working with teenagers from Earth Systems Science, Inc. (ESSI). ESSI is a National Wildlife Habitat Stewards volunteer group that comes from Los Angeles County. Maintenance staff takes these teenagers out into the site

to teach them about the importance of protecting and cleaning historic structures. Each time they visit Manzanar they volunteer around 400 hours clearing up historic ponds and gardens as well as clearing away weeds from historic structures. They also explore the diverse ecosystem of the site, identifying several species of lizards, rabbits, plants, birds, and much more. The ESSI teens offer visitors the opportunity to see the remnants of the internment camp, providing vital work that tells the story of Manzanar.

Mojave National Preserve

The VIP program suffered from housing shortages that will continue into FY06, but still supported 46 volunteers who donated 7,549 hours. Several volunteers extended their stays at the preserve and some were even hired to paid positions. A new partnership utilized local Quail Unlimited VIPs to perform much-needed spring surveys. The park had to turn a number of volunteers away because of high fire danger levels this summer and fall. Extra firefighters filled the main dorm leaving no vacancies for VIPs. Preserve management is currently considering alternative funding sources to install additional RV sites at several park locations in the near future.

Mount Rainier National Park

Mount Rainier's volunteer program grew significantly in FY05, with an increase of 4,600 hours reported. This is attributed in part to the use of volunteers and SCAs in long-term positions throughout the park's operation. Volunteer groups included the Japan Volunteers-in-Parks Association for the 12th straight year and first-timers the National Parks America Tour. The park was privileged to work with a total of 17 international volunteers from Japan, Scotland, France, and Russia. Several sources of outside funding, including VIP special project funding, a personal donation by the family of a volunteer, and grants from REI and Unilever, allowed the park to expand its volunteer mountaineering program, increase the uniform cache, provide more volunteer reimbursements, and for advanced volunteer program training.

Muir Woods National Monument

The Muir Woods volunteer program continues to support critical natural resource monitoring endeavors, which was a key reason the park was chosen as a pilot for soundscape monitoring in 2005. On short notice, a special corps was recruited and trained to do field work recorded on Palm Pilots at specified times throughout a 24-hour period. The first season of data collection of the natural soundscape has already become a part of programs, education, and public dia-

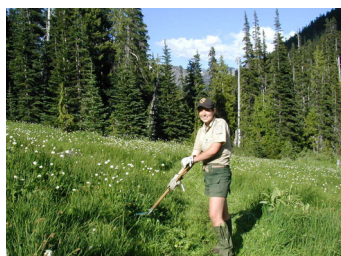


Southern Nevada Group receiving Take Pride in America Award

logue. Muir Woods volunteer program also collaborates with the Oakland Museum's Nature Sound Society on this project.

North Cascades National Park

In FY05 the park partnered with the North Cascades Institute to create the Restoration Stewards Program, which recruited, trained, and utilized weekend work parties of nearly 300 volunteers to re-vegetate land around the newly dedicated North Cascades Environmental Learning Center. The park's Artist-in-Residence program continued its growth, hosting two artists in 2005. The most recent was a photojournalist who presented programs in the local community about his work in Africa and his explorations of the park and staff. Lastly, the park produced and distributed its first issue of "The Volunteer," a semi-annual volunteer newsletter for current, former, and prospective VIPs.



VIP at Olympic National Park

Olympic National Park

Volunteer Gordon James has been hauling trash off the Ozette beaches for 30 years, taught by his family that campsites should always be left cleaner than they were found. Since moving closer to the Ozette area, Gordon has dedicated his volunteer time to packing trash from the Sand Point area out the three-mile boardwalk trail to the Ozette ranger station. Over the past nine months, Gordon has made 38 trips, hiking 228 miles and removing 1,050 pounds of beach litter from the Ozette beaches. Gordon also brushes the Ericsons Bay trail to keep it cleared of vegetation. Thanks to the efforts of Gordon and volunteers like him, the Ozette area is a better place.

Oregon Caves National Monument

GIS mapping projects were completed at Oregon Caves NM in FY05.

Parashant National Monument

The Parashant NM Ranger Protection staff is tasked with maintenance and upkeep at a remote Administrative Site to include overnight lodging cabins. This year over the Labor Day holiday weekend, four VIPs painted cabin interiors, constructed wood rail fence, cleaned rain gutters, built cabinets, and cleaned interior floors, bathrooms, and kitchens totaling 96 hours of volunteer time. The Chief Ranger recognized two VIPs with fleece jackets embroidered with the Parashant logo and took all four VIPs to the historic Waring Ranch and Twin Point for a view into the Grand Canyon.

Pacific Great Basin Support Office

This is the first year for the Oakland office volunteer program to submit a report. The office

anticipates increased VIP numbers as the program becomes more visible to the public. Scientist Jeanne Panek volunteered 200 hours to put together extensive resources on global climate change that can be used for developing outreach and education programs and materials. Marti Leicester, retired NPS deputy regional director, volunteered over 250 hours for the NPS Education Council in development of the national business plan for interpretation and education.

Pinnacles National Monument

With the help from participants in the volunteer program, Pinnacles National Monument has 13 free flying healthy California condors. Additionally, through the hard work and dedication of the groups and individuals who donated their time, the spread of exotic plants has been kept in check. With the help of the park's two SCA volunteers, the park was able to make over 2,790 educational contacts in FY05. Interpretive volunteers presented 15 programs to 350 visitors.

Point Reyes National Seashore

The volunteer highlight at Point Reyes National Seashore for FY05 was the presentation of the Pacific West Region's VIP of the Year Award to Frank Binney. Frank has been volunteering at Point Reyes NS since 1996 and volunteers year-round throughout the park. He helps with tule elk monitoring while riding on horseback to locate bulls, document mortality events, and perform elk censuses. As a harbor seal monitor, he counts harbor seals and documents disturbances. Frank's gift for interpretation makes him a skilled wildlife docent, meeting hundreds of visitors and educating them about elephant seals, gray whales, tule elk, and snowy plovers. Frank's work and example reflect the highest goals of the NPS.

Puukohola Heiau National Historic Site

The Cultural Festival at Puukohola Heiau NHS continues to be a success with much community involvement.

Pu'uhonua O Honaunau National Historical Park

Pu'uhonua o Honaunau NHP celebrates a two-day event of Hawaiian Cultural Festival where VIPs display their expertise of Hawaiian arts and crafts throughout the Royal Grounds. They are volunteers from within the Kona district, around the Island of Hawaii, and neighboring islands. The two-day event includes a Royal Procession to open and close the park's festivities followed by a variety of Hawaiian games, hula schools, weaving of coconut fronds and pandanus leaves, food tasting, and community fishing. The activities reached 2,500 people in FY05.

Redwood National and State Parks

Redwood hosted seven VIPs from Germany, Switzerland, and France for a total of 3,410 hours donated in FY05. They repaired a major trail bridge, re-routed a trail for disease control, and researched data and information for the Second Growth Redwood Study. Major exotic plant removal and research was also done by VIPs and SCA crews.

Rosie the Riveter WWII Home Front National Historical Park

This was a very successful year for the Rosie and Home Front World War II Stories Project. Most of the volunteer effort was put towards accessioning incoming stories and memorabilia from all across America.

San Francisco Maritime National Historical Park

Thousands of visitors came to this year's Festival of the Sea. This day-long event celebrates the seafaring heritage of San Francisco and the west coast of the United States. Traditional chantey music, nautical crafts, exhibits, children's programs, and a variety of shipboard and rigging demonstrations are provided to the public free of charge. Volunteer duties included logistics, emceeing, stage managing, acting as ambassadors, directing activities, and assisting with event set-up and take-down. The event was considered a huge success thanks to the San Francisco Maritime NHP VIP Program.

San Juan Island National Historical Park

The park's official, non-profit volunteer organization, the Battery D. Foundation, once again underwrote and participated in the Orcas Island

and San Juan Island Fourth of July parades. On Orcas, the foundation set up a living history exhibit to support a fundraising event for the Orcas Island Historical Museum. Battery D. also organized a 19th century U.S. Army field kitchen for the eighth annual Encampment at English Camp, and set up the kitchen and static displays for the county fair and at Pioneer Days at Roche Harbor Village. The folk group Sugar on the Floor, which is composed of staff and volunteers, played each week for the island's Elderhostel program, at the park's annual Holiday Social, the county fair, and throughout Encampment, including at a formal Candlelight Ball. More than 1,200 visitors turned out for Encampment.

Santa Monica Mountains National Rec. Area

VIP Cheryl Pelly discovered severe vandalism damage (name carving and bark removal) to native oaks while hiking in Santa Monica Mountains NRA. Cheryl was so shocked with this excessive act of vandalism that she volunteered to mitigate the damage. Working with Law Enforcement ranger Bonnie Clarfield and plant ecology staff, Cheryl identified appropriate bonding materials and helped develop a procedure for repairing the damage to restore the natural appearance of the trees. It is hoped that the resulting work will help prevent additional vandalism and maintain the pleasant visual experience that visitors enjoy while hiking along area trails. Cheryl's work was innovative and imaginative and has left a lasting impression of respect from all staff involved. Retired engineer and VIP Bill Bissell's work on energy projects provided the park with a greater opportunity for success in energy savings.



Mountain Bike Unit VIPs at Santa Monica Mountains NRA

Sequoia & Kings Canyon National Parks

The Crystal Cave restoration project is this year's volunteer highlight. The project involved volunteers with specialized skills as well as daily visitors compelled to get involved. The restoration was hard, backbreaking work that included removal of all the fixtures, pipes, and walls from cave restrooms. VIPs made five daily trips each with a 200-pound wheelbarrow full of debris. In total, 22 tons of demolition material was carried out. In May 2005 when the cave re-opened, three tons of debris still remained. More than 27,000 visitors on daily tours carried a piece of concrete up the trail where it was later hauled away. Each visitor volunteered to carry a chunk of rock, moving the debris one brick at a time. It was inspiring as visitors young and old pitched in, viewing the work as a right of passage to participate in such a worthy cause. By late summer all of the loose debris had been moved.

USS Arizona Memorial

December 7, 2004, was the most outstanding event for FY05. Support from the United States military exceeded 500 volunteer hours. US Navy sailors acted as greeters outside the Visitor Center, guiding guests to welcome tables staffed by volunteers from the United States Air Force. Uniformed Marines then escorted guests to their seats, acting as crowd control during the ceremony. At the end of the day, the National Park Service and the United States Navy performed the interment of a USS Arizona survivor at the memorial. More than 50 uniformed volunteers from all branches of the Armed Forces were present to pay their respects to Mr. Noel Chapman. Mr. Chapman had survived the bombing and sinking of the battleship, but his brother Naaman was killed and never recovered. Mr. Chapman had expressed the desire to return to the USS Arizona to be with his brother and his lost shipmates. Mr. Chapman's son and daughter appreciated the volunteer support from the Navy, the Army, the Marine Corps, the Air Force and the Coast Guard – and from the National Park Service for allowing them to participate in their father's final request.

War In The Pacific National Historical Park

Park volunteer Toni Ramirez has been heavily involved at both the War in the Pacific NHP and the American Memorial Park in coordinating special events and historical and cultural research. For the last three years, Toni has served as a member of the American Memorial Park Content Review Committee assisting the Chief of Interpretation in exhibit planning for the new Visitor Center. This year, park staff, members of the Content Review Committee, and Toni par-

ticipated in a walk through (evaluation of exhibits) at Pacific Studio, Seattle, for final approval of exhibits before shipment to Saipan. Additionally, the Girl Scouts of Guam continue to volunteer for National Public Lands Day. They have been active participants in beach cleanup, auto barrier painting, and vegetation removal and replanting.

Whiskeytown National Recreation Area

On April 22, more than 100 volunteers from the local community participated in Whiskeytown's 14th Annual Pick Up Lake Litter Day. VIPs registered in the morning, were directed to boats and other areas of the lake to pick up litter and other debris, and at noon were treated to a BBQ lunch with prizes and a raffle. A local Girl Scout troop provided a rock painting children's activity, and local group, the Back 40 String Band, provided music for the event.

Whitman Mission National Historic Site

The Doan Creek restoration project utilizes many VIPs who work alongside NPS employees to develop stream restoration designs. The goal is to direct former stream flow back to a naturalized condition where flora and fauna may return. Eventually the water will flow along a historic Whitman Mission path.

Yosemite National Park

VIPs contributed 105,416 hours to the benefit of Yosemite National Park in 2005. The Yosemite VIP program experienced many challenges in 2005, but still produced successful results. Significant rainfall from April through June created flooded campsites where VIP groups are typically located. Twenty-five groups had to cancel their projects because of high water. Although several weeks of productivity were lost, 110 groups – approximately 1,800 individuals – performed a variety of much-needed work throughout the park. VIPs performed maintenance on over 100 miles of trail, hand-pulled several thousand invasive and non-native plants, and decompacted thousands of square feet of soil in heavily used backcountry areas near the High Sierra Camps. VIP groups disposed of over four tons of trash and recyclables in addition to countless loads of ash from campfire rings.

Southeast Region

Abraham Lincoln Birthplace National Historic Site

The Abraham Lincoln Birthplace NHS participated in National Public Lands Day by hosting a Cleanup Day on April 23, 2005. Volunteers cleared trails, picked up trash, and marked the trail so visitors could enjoy the wildflowers and knobs that surround Knob Creek. Throughout

the year, the LaRue County Detention Center volunteers contributed many hours performing various jobs that helped the park tremendously.

Andersonville National Historic Site

The highlight of the Andersonville NHS VIP program this year was that four loyal volunteers earned the Presidential Award in the Take Pride in America program. One volunteer has over 15 years of service to the park, and another has 12,000 hours of volunteer time accumulated over the past seven years. These volunteers are vital to the site's interpretive program as well as to support services such as working the information desk, maintaining databases, and coordinating special events.

Andrew Johnson National Historic Site

The volunteer at the Andrew Johnson NHS manages the Visitor Center desk one day a week, enabling park staff to complete other required duties. In FY06 the site will more aggressively utilize funding for the VIP program.

Biscayne National Park

Major developments during the 2005 Biscayne VIP program year included the utilization of several alternative spring break university groups to assist with beach cleanups, a coral reef nursery project, and a cultural resources inventory. VIPs provided 3,200 hours of work. The park established a partnership with the Everglades Youth Hostel, which helped to recruit and house the student groups. Installation of two all-new VIP trailer pads were completed on-site, and services performed by the RV volunteers included Visitor Center staffing, interpretive programs, maintenance assistance, and organizing and scanning the park's 10,000-image slide file. These volunteers provided 2,500 hours of work in FY05.

Big South Fork National River & Recreation Area

VIP Joe Cross and the Big South Fork Mountain Bike Club have been working with visitor protection to patrol remote portions of horse trails and mountain bike trails, providing information to visitors and reporting problems that exist along the trails. The Blue Ridge Trail Riders have worked with trail maintenance in the park for many years. This past July they attended the Southeast Trails Conference in High Point, NC to learn more about maintaining trails and volunteer programs. VIP Coordinator Sue Duncan had the opportunity to speak about volunteers and their work at Big South Fork. The park also held a Spring Planting Day in May and a Storytelling Festival in September. Both events allowed volunteers to use their skills and demonstrate Appalachian culture, including plowing and planting with mules. Other VIPs demon-

strated traditional life skill crafts such as basket making, woodcarving, paling fence making, blacksmithing, flint knapping, quilting, tatting, and chicken scratch and candlewick embroidery.

Blue Ridge Parkway

This year the Blue Ridge Parkway recognized more than a dozen volunteers including Volunteer of the Year, Aubrey Arrington. Aubrey was honored for his work in trail construction and technical expertise in troubleshooting and operating specialized audio-visual equipment at the new Blue Ridge Music Center. Bill Carson and Dennis and Lorraine Voelker worked directly with the park to develop and present one of Blue Ridge Parkway's largest annual events, the Overmountain Victory Trail celebration. This year Eagle Scout Ben Hoyle planned and carried out the rehabilitation of the handicapped accessible trail adjacent to the Folk Art Center. That trail sustained heavy damage during the 2004 hurricane season and had been closed.

Buck Island Reef National Monument

Buck Island Reef's sea turtle program had the support of more than 35 volunteers with each of the long-term volunteer research assistants donating over 800 hours. The park encountered 80 nesting turtles of three species and, continues to document the hatch success of more than 200 nests. Additionally this year volunteers worked with the park Resource Management division on the coral reef project, monitoring elkhorn coral colonies and their recovery from the severe bleaching event in September and October of 2005. Volunteers also helped the park's newly reformed Law Enforcement division with public education and outreach. One volunteer single-handedly completed the long awaited Buck Island Coastal Vegetation Identification Handbook – a critical tool for teaching sea turtle volunteers. Overall volunteers contributed over 4,200 hours to the park.

Cape Hatteras National Seashore

A new database program streamlined volunteer management in FY05, and a new training manual focusing on safety and disability awareness was developed. Big Sweep 2004 was the seashore's first Take Pride in America event, with 300 volunteers working together to clean seashore areas. Operation Piping Plover Protection monitored T&E species, and Natural Resource Management increased their volunteer hours by almost 50%. Park partners sponsored an archaeology camp at the seashore that allowed students to participate in a research-driven archaeological project. Volunteers also helped open the Hatteras District Principal Keepers' Quarters, contacting 36,000 people in 78 days.

Cape Lookout National Seashore

A Coast Guard Artist volunteer visits the park and produces original watercolors of historic buildings and other subjects, such as the wild horses on Shackleford Banks. The VIP mats and frames the works and presents them to the park.

Canaveral National Seashore

Canaveral National Seashore began this year recovering from three major hurricanes alongside local volunteers. Though parts of the park were closed due to damage, volunteers came back when they were needed. They pitched in to help with the cleanup of the park, and participated in 24 environmental education programs that saw 1,260 children. Volunteers also put in over 1,000 hours for the sea turtle protection program. Just like years before, Canaveral National Seashore's VIPs were there to educate park visitors in the Information Center, to conduct roving interpretation, and to protect sea turtles, all while doing repairs or awaiting work to be completed on their own storm-damaged homes.

Cane River Creole National Historical Park

A significant event at the Cane River Creole NHP is actually a year-round activity for VIPs who take an active role in maintaining the demonstration garden for the park, beginning with planting activities in the spring. Throughout the year, visitors can see the cotton, sugar cane, and vegetables in growth, and to see how food gets to the table and how cotton looks before it becomes fabric. The project culminates in the fall with a daylong event called "Feast or Famine." Youth from the Boys & Girls Club participate in this hands-on learning experience, witnessing a living history lesson of how gardens and fields were planted and maintained in another era. VIPs demonstrate how the ground was tilled by mule and plow and share their experiences of farm life before mechanization.

Carl Sandburg Home National Historic Site

Park volunteers provided critical assistance in every aspect of park and program management. In 2005, volunteers successfully recruited new VIPs at a Friends-sponsored book fair. Adult volunteers caring for the goat herd at Carl Sandburg Home NHS worked with youth volunteers in the 4-H program to show goats at the Mountain State Fair in North Carolina. One young Toggenburg goat won grand champion and provided an opportunity to share the Sandburg legacy with a new audience.

Castillo De San Marcos National Monument

Once again the staff and volunteers of the Castillo de San Marcos organized a series of special evening events. They presented a series of

living history programs portraying a timeline of different soldiers in the Castillo history. The military groups represented were Spanish, British, Civil War, Second Seminole War, Hispanic American War, and World War II soldiers. The VIPs dressed in period clothing and presented demonstrations. These presentations were highly attended and accepted by park visitors.

Chattahoochee River National Recreation Area

FY05 was very successful with 966 VIPs contributing 18,685 hours to the park. The park is targeting the removal of exotic plant species from the units of land adjacent to the river, and in August hosted its annual Summer Festival. Throughout the year, volunteer groups including the Riverkeepers, Georgia Power, the EPA, Lovett School, Coca Cola, Bank of America, Target Stores, Bell South Pioneers, Southern Off Road Biking Association, Earthshare, Sierra Club, and Turner Broadcasting continued to clean the river and participate in the RiversAlive campaign. Trout Unlimited provided 102 VIPs for the Settles Bridge event to continue a restoration project along the riverbank. The group provided hydraulic equipment, power equipment operators, dumpsters, native oak tree lumber, coconut mat, black willow stakes, native grass seeds, and tools. Starbucks and Home Depot contributed both volunteer hours and monetary donations to the park in the amounts of \$520 and \$2,500, respectively.

Chickamauga & Chattanooga Natl Military Park

Living history programs provided by volunteers were the highlight of VIP activities at Chickamauga and Chattanooga NMP in 2005. The Lookout Mountain District commemorated the 141st Anniversary of the Battles for Chattanooga in November with infantry and artillery demonstrations on one weekend, and special guided tours of the Battles for Chattanooga on the following weekend. The park also sponsored 21 living history events highlighting Union and Confederate cavalry and civilian life. Volunteers portrayed United States Colored Troops at the Orchard Knob Reservation. These demonstrations drew many visitors to a lesser utilized but significant area of the park, while encouraging them to embrace Orchard Knob and assist park staff in protecting the reservation from criminal activity occurring in the area.

Christiansted National Historic Site

Volunteers staffed the Steeple Building museum, cleaned historic furnished rooms in Fort Christiansvaern, and assisted in stocking sales items and doing inventory at the site's cooperating association bookstore.



VIP at Cane River Creole National Historical Park

Museum coverage increased from 30 to 100% this year...

Cumberland Island National Seashore

Congaree Swamp National Monument

Park VIPs contributed 10,422 hours for the Resource Management, Maintenance, and Interpretive divisions in FY05. They conducted research for projects such as feral hog movement patterns, acoustic monitoring, bat surveys, vascular plant surveys, and a surveys of *Macbridea caroliniana*, as well as the park's annual butterfly count. Researchers presented programs at the park's annual Naturefest, and volunteered on projects such as Monitoring Avian Productivity and Survivorship (MAPS), Canoe Landing, water quality assessment, and Geomorphology, Hydrology, and Vegetation near the Congaree River. An AmeriCorps team rebuilt and anchored 800 feet of boardwalk, while Eagle Scouts rebuilt a footbridge and added kick rails to two turnouts on park boardwalks.

Cowpens National Battlefield

Park VIPs provided interpretive demonstrations in period dress and accoutrements to local schools and civic groups. Cowpens's living history trucks for children gave a hands-on approach to interpretive talks. Other VIPs provided much needed traffic and security resources for special events.

Cumberland Gap National Historical Park

VIPs from several regions joined the Cumberland Gap family in producing the 18th century "America's First Frontier – Colonial Trade Faire and Living History Event." VIPs put up signs, designed and constructed stocks and pillories, portrayed tavern keepers, and made elaborate colonial ball gowns. A wonderful VIP handbook highlighting many of the natural and cultural resources of the park was completed with VIP assistance. This year, Cave Research Foundation conducted a cave survey and inventory on Gap Cave. The foundation will be producing a detailed map of Gap Cave system and its formations and cave life.

Cumberland Island National Seashore

Cumberland Island NS participated in the Great American Cleanup and a fully funded grant proposal for Volunteerism Enhancement through the National Park Foundation. Through these programs and other individual contributions, over 18,000 hours were logged in nearly every division this year. Volunteers assisted in archeological excavations and recovery, interpretive and educational programs and tours, natural resource inventories, trail assessments and restoration, and the creation of an informational orientation DVD for the public. Museum coverage increased from 30 to 100% this year, a substantial contribution now that the seashore is hous-

ing a new War of 1812 exhibit. This has dramatically increased visitation to the museum.

De Soto National Memorial

This FY05 De Soto NM recruitment efforts added 24 new VIPs. A new special needs program brought six trail maintenance volunteers. This is a win/win program, as it provides a useful purpose in their lives. Many are getting out into the community, actively engaging in improved communications with other visitors, and getting much needed daily exercise. In return, De Soto National Memorial enjoys the benefits of a better-maintained shoreline and trail.

Dry Tortugas National Park

FY05 was by far the most successful volunteer year in the history of Dry Tortugas National Park. Volunteer hours exceeded 10,000 – nearly a 40% increase over the previous year. Volunteers were instrumental in virtually every aspect of park operations, and their assistance was particularly valuable because of the damage caused by Tropical Storm Arlene and Hurricanes Dennis, Katrina, and Rita. Without the help of this talented and dedicated group of volunteers, the park could not have reopened so quickly after each of the powerful storms.

Everglades National Park

Ten students from Tulane University came to Everglades NP to volunteer for a full week. They removed an invasive tree species and planted Slash Pines for a pineland and wetland prairie restoration project. They also collected debris along waterways, cleared trails, and carried out campground maintenance chores. In FY05, eight Alternative Break groups from colleges nationwide volunteered in the Everglades. They contributed much time and energy, completing a variety of maintenance, roads and trails, research, and Resource Management projects.

Fort Donelson National Battlefield

The volunteer program at Fort Donelson NB experienced another year of growth in 2005. A total of 205 volunteers and 3,546 hours were donated to Fort Donelson. The park is proud to highlight Susan Ryan-Hahn, who accumulated the most volunteer hours in one year in the history of the program. Another volunteer who played an important role in increasing volunteer hours is Frank Pellino, a retired New York City firefighter with a gregarious attitude and willingness to tackle anything. Contributing 171 volunteer hours, Frank stayed busy assisting park staff in grounds maintenance. Lastly, a special couple, Harold Perciful and Mary Moore, donated 170 hours sharing their love of bald eagles with park

visitors. They came shortly after our nation's bird selected the park's confederate-built fort as their nesting area in November 2004. Harold and Mary used their own spotting scope and equipment to grant many visitors stunning viewing opportunities. During the nesting stages, Harold photographed the eagle's activities and donated more than 500 digital images to the park's library.

Fort Frederica National Monument

This year saw dramatic growth in the volunteer program at Fort Frederica NM. Volunteers provided many opportunities for visitors to connect with the history of Frederica. Three Boy Scout Eagle candidates began planning VIP projects that will create a trail at the edge of the Frederica River, a replica settler's hut in the town site, and a replica soldier's booth near the barracks. The Maintenance division also spearheaded efforts to involve local residents in activities at the park through several Take Pride in America events and a National Public Lands Day Event.

Fort Matanzas National Monument

Though Fort Matanzas lost several long-time volunteers to illness or relocation, the park takes joy in its two remaining volunteers, who have served loyally for 10 years in the Visitor Center. Deckhand volunteers continue to be integral to park operations; without them, ferryboats to the park could not operate as regularly as they do.

Fort Pulaski National Monument

In September 2005, more than 40 VIPs participated in National Public Lands Day. The volunteers spent the day cleaning the marsh and painting the entrance bridge to the fort. The volunteers also cleared a quarter-mile path through the woods leading to the Cockspur Lighthouse.

Great Smoky Mountains National Park

In March 2005, 27 VIPs traveled to Washington, DC to meet with the NPS Director, SER Director, and the Secretary of Interior. Seven VIPs were presented with Take Pride in America Secretarial and Presidential Awards while there. The visit included a tour of the Interior building and nearby monuments. During the Earth Day event, President Bush was scheduled to visit the park (Cades Cove) to celebrate the day and participate in a trail project with VIPs from a local elementary school. As part of the visit, a special award ceremony was held to present additional Secretarial and Presidential awards to nine VIPs who did not make the trip to Washington. The President was forced to abandon his visit into the park due to a tremendous mountain thunderstorm, but he instead spoke of the VIP program from the Knoxville airport.

Guilford Courthouse National Military Park

VIPs provided assistance in a number of beneficial ways, mostly in interpretation and cultural management positions. VIP Frank Mascia was selected as SER's Volunteer of the Year for his fine work with the park's Friends group, the Guilford Battleground Company. The volunteer Guilford Court House Fife and Drum Corps provided several programs on-site for special events and represented the park in several off-site programs. The number of VIPs who were active for FY05 was 295 out of 299.

Gulf Islands National Seashore

Volunteer hours for FY05 were down considerably from the previous year because of four major hurricanes and two tropical storms. It began with Ivan in September of 2004 and continued with Arlene, Cindy, Dennis, Katrina and Rita in 2005. The entire seashore was impacted by these storms in one way or another and most volunteer facilities were either severely damaged or destroyed. Most of the seashore's current volunteers are locals who commute to the park, but many of them have been affected by the storms.

Horseshoe Bend National Military Park

On March 19-20, 2005, Horseshoe Bend National Military Park hosted the 191st Anniversary of the Battle of Horseshoe Bend. This annual special event recreates frontier life in the year 1814 and emphasizes the importance of the battle in United States history through a variety of special demonstrations and interpretive programs. A total of 45 volunteers provided 721 hours of service to the park, with 1,819 visitors attending the event on both days.

Jean Lafitte National Historic Park & Preserve

Five new VIPs spent 40 hours each learning to drill, fire muskets, and portray Captain Thomas Beale's Company of New Orleans Riflemen – a group of New Orleans merchants, lawyers, and craftsmen who volunteered to defend their city from the British during the Battle of New Orleans in 1815.

Jimmy Carter National Historic Site

Mule Days and Old Farm Days were successful interpretive events at the Jimmy Carter Boyhood Farm thanks to the assistance of volunteers. VIPs taught area schoolchildren various 1930s activities such as how to make butter and soap and how to plow a field with a team of mules. In addition, this year the site was privileged to have a full-time volunteer on staff. Willard Skinner of New York originally agreed to spend several months at the Jimmy Carter NHS assisting with projects such as reorganizing the park library. After spending time in the area, Mr. Skinner de-

cided to become a permanent resident, continuing to share his time with the park.

Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park

2005 saw the accomplishment of natural resource work that does not always take place at the park. Volunteers removed garlic mustard from the area, a project that may take five years to complete.

Kings Mountain National Military Park

Kings Mountain NMP experienced a record year in volunteer involvement in FY05. The park's living history group, the Backcountry Militia, continues to be a huge contributor to the VIP program. Members often work at offsite events such as tourism days at state welcome centers as well as at local schools. The Brigade of Friends contributed countless hours to several park projects this year, sponsoring two workdays to assist with the park's Battlefield Cultural Landscape Project and new museum exhibits. During the new "Military through the Ages" program, 42 volunteers in period costume set up military displays from every wartime period from the French and Indian War through the present. Visitors really enjoyed seeing how warfare had evolved through our nation's history.

Little River Canyon National Preserve

Though every division in the park had fewer volunteers than in FY04, Little River's dedicated volunteers came through to welcome just as many visitors as last year if not more. VIPs helped keep the park free of litter, the restrooms clean, and answered visitor questions. These volunteers made Little River Canyon National Preserve a wonderful place to visit this summer.

Mammoth Cave National Park

A total of 710 volunteers donated 27,535 hours to Mammoth Cave NP in 2005. A major accomplishment was the completion of the first phase of the new Mammoth Cave Railroad Bike and Hike Trail, a five-mile section initially cut by 164 volunteers. Not only open to bikers and hikers, the trail represents one of the longest wheelchair-accessible trails in the region. The Cave Research Foundation continued its 49th year of volunteering with the park, donating approximately 10,000 hours to the research of the Mammoth Cave system. The National Speleological Society and the TRACER cave-rescue team donated hundreds of hours of VIP time during their participation in the park's Cave Search and Rescue plan. Events included staging the largest mock cave-rescue in the history of the park.

Martin Luther King, Jr. National Historic Site

This year Martin Luther King, Jr. NHS witnessed a large increase in volunteer participation thanks to the site's Public Affairs Specialist who was able to get the word out to the metro Atlanta area. The most notable increase was in the Amtrak Trail & Rails Program, with the number of trips jumping from two days a week in FY04 to six days a week in FY05. The site also added DVD players with DVDs of the site to the traveling trunk exhibit and purchased books about the Civil Rights Movement to add to the interpretive and outreach programs.

Moore's Creek National Battlefield

Moore's Creek National Battlefield is in the process of renovating the park Visitor Center, which is to include new exhibits and a new film. As part of the anniversary of the battle events in February, the park actually filmed the new video. Volunteers from as far away as New York and Illinois came to the battlefield to participate in the filming. More than 90 participants who slept, ate, and worked in the park for a three-day period. Because of their hard work and dedication, Moore's Creek NB we will have a wonderfully dramatic video to show in the new theater.

Natchez National Historical Park

The VIP program at Natchez NHP saw major changes in the last half of the fiscal year. A new VIP coordinator took over and initiated successful new recruitment strategies via internet outreach, community speaking engagements, and press releases. Soon afterward she attended a 40-hour training course that laid the foundation for other improvements. Since then, the park has tripled the number of regular weekly interpretive volunteers and successfully recruited more than 60 new volunteers in two divisions. The year's highlight was the Take Pride in America event held in April, where more than 50 new volunteers logged 225 hours. The park partnered with community groups and schools to begin the process of historic landscape restoration to a 19th century appearance. The lasting result of that day is the ongoing "Melrose Garden Friends" group, which has committed to caring for and restoring the formal gardens to its 19th century splendor. They have subsequently logged over 125 additional hours in the gardens.

Natchez Trace Parkway

A very special volunteer-based program was planned and executed this year for the celebration of Hispanic Heritage Month. The park engaged several Hispanic community members to start what will hopefully be the first year of an

annual event that highlights the park's Hispanic heritage. Thirteen living history programs were driven by more than 75 volunteers and reached several thousand visitors. Demonstrations included leather-working, basket making, pioneer cooking, pioneer hunting techniques, and herbal medicines. The North Mississippi Dulcimer Association, a 40 member "orchestra" of dulcimer players with bass and guitar accompaniment, played traditional music much to the enjoyment of the visitors.

New Orleans Jazz National Historical Park

In cooperation with the New Orleans Jazz Commission, more than 50,000 Jazz walking tour brochures were distributed in FY05. Visitor Center calendars of events were delivered on a quarterly basis to approximately 275 tourist destinations in and near the city of New Orleans. Volunteers provided assistance in organizing and documenting this courier service.

Ninety Six National Historic Site

The Ninety Six VIP program was successful in several ways in FY05. First, in October the park hosted the 23rd Annual Autumn Candlelight Tour. More visitors attended than ever before: 1,325. It remains the park's most popular interpretive program, with living history presentations and 18th century music. The second highlight was a training session for living history volunteers in how to adopt a persona and role-play 18th century characters. An experienced instructor conducted the eight-hour session with 18 volunteers attending. The skills were utilized during the park's Living History Saturday programs in May, June, July, and August and will be helpful for future programs as well.

Obed Wild & Scenic River

On September 10, 100 volunteers joined forces to make the Obed Adopt-a-Crag Day a success. They worked on projects such as improving access to many climbing sites, placing rocks for trail definition along established trails, and removing dead and down trees from trails and the boulder field. Several climbers worked to re-bolt unsafe anchors, and ethics sheets were posted at the bulletin boards across the area.

Ocmulgee National Monument

Local high schools volunteered 150 Junior ROTC cadets to help with the Ocmulgee Indian Celebration School Day. Community service workers concentrated on trail maintenance and safety. Local Scout groups provided food distribution and grounds cleanup during the yearly special events. Ocmulgee's biggest effect on the community has been through the partnership with Macon Behavioral Health. This community

outreach organization brings 12 to 20 teenagers to the monument for volunteer community service. These young adults are working hard to fit into society, and the park allows them an opportunity to take responsibility seriously, to learn and connect to our cultural and natural resources, and to feel positive about the choices they make.

Russell Cave National Monument

VIPs assisted in making 2005 a very successful year. Many helped with the annual Native American Festival, while the Boy Scouts of America devoted conservation hours to removing garbage at the entrance of the cave.

San Juan National Historic Site

In June 2005 San Juan NHS held its two-day Beach Cleanup event. A total of 275 people participated, most as members of environmental awareness groups. National Public Lands Day was the largest volunteer event this year and was a joint effort with the National Park Company of Puerto Rico at Isla de Cabras. Four hundred volunteers cleaned and collected trash from the shoreline. Over 1,600 hours were donated by private enterprise employees, local government, Boy and Girl Scouts troops, and general public.

Southeast Archeological Center

The Southeast Archeological Center hosted two International VIPs in FY05. Steffen Boden worked on archeological projects, cataloged artifacts, and participated fully in SEAC activities. Steffen was in between high school and university in Germany, and was interested in pursuing an anthropology or archeology major when he returned home. SEAC is currently hosting Sonja Juergens, an anthropologist who graduated from the University of Bonn. She is also working on field projects and learning the cultural history of the Southeast.

Southeast Regional Office

The Southeast Regional Office continued its leadership of the Trails & Rails Volunteer Program with Amtrak. During FY05, the regional office managed the program out of New Orleans for the New Orleans Jazz Historic Park (JAZZ). A recruiting effort was launched from the Regional Office in partnership with Jean Lafitte National Historic Park and Preserve (JELA) as well. This recruiting effort resulted in expansion of the program from 25 to 47 volunteers. The Southeast Regional Office, JAZZ, and JELA came together in partnership with Amtrak to provide training for new recruits as well as to refresh veteran volunteers. Unfortunately, the onslaught of the hurricane season shortened several park programs within the Southeast Region in FY05.



VIP Beach Cleanup event at San Juan National Historic Site

“...I got to experience things that I would never be able to do otherwise. It has changed my opinion on my future.”

Sequoia & Kings Canyon National Parks

Shiloh National Military Park

Fifty-five volunteers cleaned shrubs, ivy, underbrush, and trees from the National Cemetery wall on Park Preservation Day. On National Public Lands Day, 31 children removed trash from the park. In May, 192 hours of living history interpretation reached 604 school children, and 45 volunteers participated in the Tennessee Monument Dedication for 2,000 visitors. Close to 16,000 visitors attended the Battle of Shiloh Anniversary events in FY05.

Stones River National Battlefield

In FY05, Stones River National Battlefield hosted four major volunteer workdays, including Civil War Preservation Trust Park Day in April and National Public Lands Day in September.

Timucuan Ecological & Historic Preserve

This year Timucuan Ecological & Historic Preserve volunteer Fred Barina received the “Heart of Gold” award presented by the City of Jacksonville for outstanding volunteer service in the Environmental Stewardship field. Throughout the year, 8,112 hours of volunteer time were donated to the park equating to roughly 3.9 FTE and \$148,760. The Kingsley Heritage Celebration annually presents history in meaningful ways to a diverse community. This year’s event focused on “The Power of Faith,” celebrating the determination and perseverance of the human spirit to survive against incredible odds. 2005 marked the seventh year of this wonderful multi-cultural event. The event also offered a special “Kids’ Corner” with creative hands-on children’s activities to explore life on a plantation.

Tuskegee Airmen National Historic Site

Three of this year’s VIP program highlights centered on the convergence of Maxwell Air Force Base volunteers on the Tuskegee Airmen NHS. In November, the VIPs began demolition of some non-historic structures in the core of Moton Field. In January, VIPs completed demolition and removal of the structures and performed erosion control work on the site. In February, more volunteers came and performed site preparation work for the park’s groundbreaking ceremony. Over 1,000 hours were donated for these three projects.

Tuskegee Institute National Historic Site

This year, volunteers turned out in numbers to support the Annual Selma Jubilee. They served in a variety of capacities, performing costumed interpretation in downtown Selma during the re-enactment of the Bloody Sunday March. Others served as hosts during the groundbreaking of “Tent City.”

Vicksburg National Military Park

Vicksburg NMP’s summer living history volunteers presented 329 programs to 14,146 visitors in FY05. In addition, the park hosted re-enactment groups during the holiday weekends, including a “Military Through the Ages” program complimented by period vehicles and accoutrements from the World War II, Korean, and Vietnam eras. The park also hosted several special events. Special recognition goes to volunteer Wade Barnes, who drove two hours one way every Saturday to volunteer at the park and completed 272 hours for the year.

Virgin Islands National Park

Volunteers from the St. John community collected and removed 120 30-gallon bags of debris from over six miles of beaches and coastline during Annual Coast Weeks. During the event, the Friends of Virgin Islands National Park recruited several businesses and organizations to adopt beaches and trails. A total of 11 beaches were adopted.

Washington Office

Denver Service Center

The Denver Service Center has three long-term volunteers. Alice Sharp is a 12-year volunteer in the library. She worked on a major circulation project to notify users of outstanding library items, and started a cataloging project for the Natural Resources Program Center-Denver office. The NRPC collection will become accessible via the internet NPS library catalog. Pat Cooper is a 10-year volunteer in the library. She worked on a weekly alert service to DSC employees on articles of interest appearing in journals received in the library. Pat is responsible for maintaining the journal collection in main and branch libraries. R. Felton Brunson is a 6-year volunteer and DSC career employee who has provided his engineering and design experience expertise to the center. This past year he assisted with Lake Mead project Replace Water Distribution Systems Park-Wide, providing extensive technical support to the project.

Appalachian National Scenic Trail

Two VIPs were recognized for 50 years of service at the July Appalachian Trail Biennial Conference in Johnson City, TN. Director Mainella awarded David Field of the Maine Appalachian Trail Club and Tom Aderhold of the Georgia Appalachian Trail Club with Golden Award Plaques recognizing their dedicated contribution to the preservation of the Appalachian Trail.

Washington Office

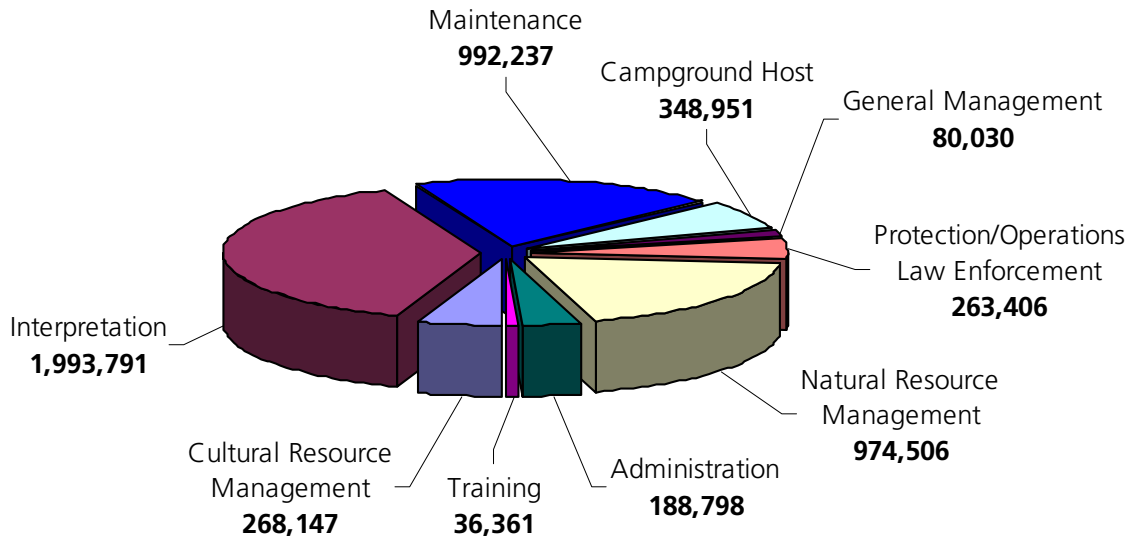
1201 Eye Street was host to a group of Korean interns who volunteered their skills in the offices of Information Technology, Cultural Resources, and Interpretation & Education. These ambitious students were helpful in a variety of tasks and will share their new-found knowledge of the U.S. National Park Service with fellow Koreans. Assisting the Youth Programs division is Matthew Brown, a twelve-year old VIP that assists with sorting large amounts of mail, as well as completing other clerical duties. He is a cheerful and energetic young man who spends a number of hours during his holiday and summer vacations helping the folks in Youth Programs. Amber Hollingsworth saved the Servicewide Volunteer Program Coordinator 40 hours by editing the narratives in this report. Thanks to Amber, the report is completed earlier than it has ever been before. In the Natural Resources Associateship, ten International Volunteers-In-Parks with the Park Flight Migratory Bird Program from five Latin American countries made

significant contributions to bird conservation at eight NPS units during FY2005, contributing a total of 3,548 hours. The wide range of bird monitoring and education activities the Park Flight IVIPs were involved in at these parks included bird banding and surveys, presentations to school children in classrooms and during field trips to parks, interpretive programs for adults in parks and adjacent communities, assistance with special bird-related events, data entry and analysis, and technical training.

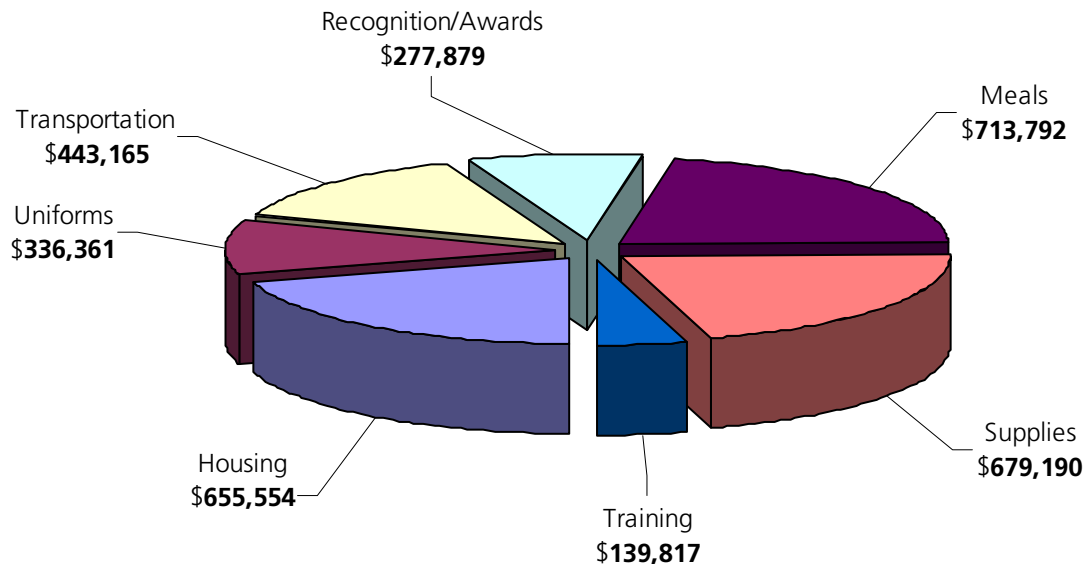


Park Flight IVIP Natalia Corrales Gómez from Costa Rica at Bandelier National Monument

FY2005 Reported Volunteers-In-Parks Program Hours by Category



FY2005 Reported Volunteers-In-Parks Program Costs by Category





VIP Reenactor at Fort Sumter National Monument