Pictured are two of the winning entries in the Second Annual Photography Contest sponsored by the Smithsonian Resident Associate Program. The winners were chosen from more than 100 entries submitted in three categories. Winning photos shown here were taken by: Charles W. Rumph, Washington, D.C., first in the adult category with an eerie view of the entrance to the "castle" (note the face in the lantern), and by Earl A. Houseman, Annandale, Va., second in the adult category whose entry shows a tower of the Arts and Industries Building framed by a Hirshhorn sculpture. Other winners were Arnold Miles, Bowie, Md., who was first in the teenage category with an unusual view of the Mall from the Hirshhorn Museum, and Rick Keller, Falls Church, Va., first in the child category with his entry taken through a sun shade on the terrace of the Museum of History and Technology. Their entries will appear next month in the Torch.

The competition judges were: Jan Mulder, Associate Curator, Division of Contemporary Painting and Sculpture, National Collection of Fine Arts, Eugene Marble, Photographer, National Portrait Gallery, David H. Gruen, Assistant Curator, Division of Graphic Arts, NMHT; Arthur Gaukh, Director, Office of Printing and Photographic Services, and James Wallace, Special Assistant to Mr. Gaukh. The winners were honored at a special awards ceremony coinciding with the opening of the exhibition of winning photographs.

Employees Receive Performance Awards

The following employees have recently received Sustained Superior Performance Awards, in recognition of their outstanding performance "above and beyond the call of duty."

- Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute
  - Mercedes Ayros, Miguel A. Estrin
  - National Zoological Park - Walter C. Tucker, Harry H. Goodman, Michael E. Stewart, David A. Garga
  - Office of Plant Services - Thomas J. Matthews, Zeliff Richardson
  - Office of the Treasurer - Rhoda Garfinkle
  - National Division - Edward Pravlik
  - Air and Space Museum - Her- nan I. Otano
  - Museum Programs - F. Matilda Wells
  - National Museum of History and Technology - Grace Rogers Cooper
  - Office of Public Affairs - Diane Campbell
  - Visual Media Act Awards have recently been presented to the following employees:
    - Museum Shops - Robert M. Dills
    - Office of Plant Services - Dean Jones
    - Office of Coordinator of Membership and Development - E. Jeffrey Stann

Airlines Establish New Ticket Office

SI employees who plan personal travel are invited to take advantage of the recently opened Scheduled Airlines Ticket Office (SATO) in the Main Justice Department Building.

The facility, operated by the Air Transport Association, can provide flight information, make reservations and issue tickets for personal travel on any regularly scheduled (i.e., non-charter) airline, world-wide. Restroom rental car reservations are to be used in conjunction with air travel and can also be made through SATO.

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North Hall of A&I

The last section of the Arts and Industries Building still open to the public — the north hall displaying "famous firsts" in aviation and space flight history — will be closed September 1 so that renovation of the structure may proceed for the Bicentennial.

In a memorandum, Paul Perrot, Assistant Secretary for Museum Programs, said the museum shop in the building will stay open until then. The other three exhibit halls and the rotunda of the building have already been closed to visitors so that workers can proceed with plans to restore the building to its appearance 100 years ago.

New Museum Shop Opens at NMHT

The Smithsonian's newest museum shop opened March 26 in the National Museum of History and Technology, just inside the Mall entrance.

Designed by the architectural firm of Becker and Becker of New Canaan, Conn., the elegantly appointed store is the first of a number of shops currently planned or under construction.

Other shops to open are: the 1767 Shop in the renovated Arts and Industries Building (Spring 1976); the National Air and Space Museum Shop (July 4, 1976); and a large new facility in the National Museum of Natural History (1977).

A&I Seen From Hirshhorn

**Access From Rotunda**

The three-level building is being designed jointly by Smithsonian and Marriott. Visitors entering the first floor of NMNH from the Mall will find direct access to the new building from the rotunda. Walking through the entrance to the new building they will either be able to stroll into the new museum shop, which NMNH Director Dr. Porter Kier hopes will include "the best natural science book store in the country," or into the public dining area. There will be a stairway down to the middle level of the new building where restrooms will be located.

The easy and convenient location of the new restrooms will remedy a situation that for years has made life miserable for many tourists. Guards at the first floor Mall entrance have noted that the most frequently asked question by persons coming into the building is "Where are the restrooms?" Unfortunately, the present location of public restrooms — at the east and west wings of the Constitution Avenue entrance — has necessitated a long and often confusing walk. The Smithsonian and Marriott have planned for the upper level of the new building will provide space for a cafeteria for use by the staff and Woodrow Wilson fellows. The west courtyard where the building is to be constructed was originally an air shaft, meant to provide window space for air circulation in the days before the 60-year-old building had air conditioning. Until last year the space was occupied by a tin shed that at one time or another provided space for speckled storage, Easter shops and a mammal preparation laboratory. The tin shed is now gone; in its place is a large window which runs the width of the National Museum entrance.

With the NMNH public cafeteria planned to seat 400 persons and will be similar in design but larger than the carousel snack bar area at the National Museum of History and Technology, at the present time NMHT will have combined cafeteria and snack bar facilities that seat over 600 persons — is the only museum other than the National Gallery of Art where the public can find a place to eat. The opening of the NMNH cafeteria in addition to a planned NMHT expansion and another 400-seat carousel snack bar in the new National Air and Space Museum, scheduled to open in July, will more than double tourist eating accommodations in SI's Mall museums.

All of the food facilities to be installed in the new NMHT west court yard building will be operated by the Marriott Corporation, which runs the NMHT kitchens.

**Awards**

Awards, in recognition of their outstanding contributions between the Institution and Marriott for the renovation of the NMHT operation, were presented to the following employees: The west court yard building where the building is to be constructed was originally an air shaft, meant to provide window space for air circulation in the days before the 60-year-old building had air conditioning. Until last year the space was occupied by a tin shed that at one time or another provided space for speckled storage, Easter shops and a mammal preparation laboratory. The tin shed is now gone; in its place is a large window which runs the width of the National Museum entrance.

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About SI Women
Council to Present Seminars

Beginning May 17, the Smithsonian Institution's Women's Council will present a series of seminars designed to acquaint interested SI employees with the different roles that women play in our society.

The first speaker will be Ms. Euphesenia Foster who has been awarded the U.S. Justice Department, Bureau of Prisons, to the U.S. Labor Department, Women's Bureau, to coordinate International Women's Year activities relating to women opportunities.

One of the women on the Women's Council has recently won an adjustment to her complaint of sex discrimination that we believe will set a precedent. She was awarded a grade promotion, back pay in the amount of $21,500, and more.

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FILMMAKERS AT NGP — Charles Guggenheim cameramen have been filming at the Smithsonian Institution as part of a new series designed to attract more people to the museum.

* * *

1876-Style Plant Decorations Featured in A&I Restoration

Horticultural decorations will play an important part in recreating a 19th-century appearance in the Arts and Industries Building. This is now undergoing restoration for the nation's Bicentennial celebration next year.

A conservatory to be installed in the building will "evoke the horticultural extravaganza of the Centennial Exhibition of 1876," said James R. Buckler, Smithsonian Institution scientist.

At that exhibition in Philadelphia, there was a Horticultural Hall 250 feet long, 140 feet wide and 65 feet high, which remained there until Hurricane Hazel hit the area in 1954. The hall contained numerous tropical plants including many palms and ferns.

Parks for the A&I Building include an octagonal basin in the rotunda containing a fountain surrounded by a planter 18 inches wide and 22 inches deep. The planter will contain changing seasonal floral displays. There are also those of the 1870s and 1880s such as poinsettias at Christmas, Easter lilies in the spring, begonias in June and July, and chrysanthemums in the fall.

At the points of the octagonal basin will be placed palms 18 to 20 feet tall. Cascading tropical plants such as philodendron and ferns are planned for the four balconies facing the rotunda. Each entrance into the rotunda will have on either side 18 to 20-foot Kensia palms planted in large tubs.

Areas of the building other than the rotunda also will be decorated with plant life. Approximately 120 major palm or other species of trees are planned for the building. These will be changing seasonal flower displays in the balcony areas with benches arranged in various patterns.

The balconies of all the halls will contain plantings as well as the ground floors of the north, east and west halls. Greenhouse plantings will not be installed in the south hall, as it will contain war machinery and military exhibits. The balcony above the south hall will contain upright trees rather than cascading plants.

In the north hall there is planned a row of seven benches with 18 to 20-foot palms in orangery boxes typical of the period, un­derplanted with ivy and other plants. The recently constructed galleries of the north hall will contain cascading plants probably weeping figs.

The west hall will open on to a Victorian garden with the balcony containing Australian tree ferns, crotons, cocoa, ferns, Boston ferns and spider plants.

"We are also trying to find or recreate War­dian cases which were very ornamental, and totally enclosed the plants in large tubs," Mr. Buckler said.

During the 19th century, Dr. Nathaniel Ward invented the War­dian case for plants which today we know as a terrarium. These cases were very beneficial to the field of horticulture since they enabled the shipment of plants from other parts of the world without exposure to salt water air and damaging influences.

From old photographs the Horticultural Services Division staff has identified the types of tubs, including their banding, and other details as well as the plants used in the original exhibition.

SATURN SEEN — Ron Miller, an artist in the National Air and Space Museum's Presentations and Education Division, received the "Best in Show" first-place award for his 1974 entry in the Science Fiction Art category at the World Science Fiction Convention. The conclave, held in Boston from February 28 thru March 5, 1974, was sponsored by the Science Fiction League of Boston. Mr. Miller, shown here with his award-winning painting, is a specialist in space-oriented paintings and has received many awards for his outstanding work including: "Best Astronomical," "Best Science Fiction," "Best Art," "Best Science Fiction Art," and "Best Cartoon," all at various conventions. He was born in February 1847 in the English village of Cibotium in the English county of Dorset. He married Margaret Miller, with whom he had three sons, in 1854.

FONZ Takes Over Zoo Food Service

As of April 1, the Friends of the National Zoo took over operation of all food services at the National Zoo. FONZ announced that emphasis this season will be on popular, fast food items, with more diversity. All seating and service areas will be renovated. Mobile carts and a food kiosk through­out the park will be added to give a varied refreshments.

By next year, FONZ plans to have in operation an outdoor cafe with an international menu on the hill near the Bird House, and a Bavarian-style cafe atop the Panda House. An eight-sided kiosk near the Monkey House will specialize in scooped ice cream in many flavors.

Revenue from the food service operations will be used by FONZ to support education, research, and conservation programs at the Zoo.

SMITHSONIAN TORCH May 1975

Published for Smithsonian Institution personnel by the Smithsonian Office of Public Affairs, William O. Craig, Editor; Kathryn Lindeman, Assistant.
and explode attendance figures. There is increasing concern on the part of museums to create a pleasant and instructive ambiance in which visitors can experience sensations and discoveries which enlarge and intensify their emotional and intellectual horizons.

"That is our ambition here, and in this respect we differ little from our grandfathers - our methods are contemporary but our intentions are not so different after all. The increase and diffusion of knowledge among men's remains our greatest imperative. This is the sentiment, reminiscent by James Smithson, an Englishman, has a Whit­ernessque grandeur which I find irresistible and irrevocable.

"The museum is a perfect vehicle for that purpose. It differs from the solemn depositories of yesteryear in that its intention is more clearly understood. A century ago it was felt that only technical or artistic reconstructions were the proper receptacles of art. Underestimating very well since I think it had the virtue of creating a mood which prepared the visitor for an unusual experience. Unfortunately, its size and solemnity overwhelmed the visitor and eventual­ly produced boredom and weariness. Installations were dull, unimaginative and pedantic. We have learned how to make museums attractive without sacrificing their educational mission.

A Special Mission

"We are a museum of modern art and we have a very specific mission. Modern art is another difficult concept for the public. We can only guess, by its very newsiness and departure from traditional forms, how the visitor approaches the viewer and often confuses us by its variety and vigor. When we think we have it all, it changes like a chameleon under our eyes. And yet it speaks to us of our time and our society. Each artist's familiarity, however, evolves with the course of modernism which has in­fluenced the architecture we live in, the cars we wear, the shapes and color of our daily existence, affects even the most skep­tical. Not too long after we opened, I walked into a gallery and to my amazement, saw a young mother diapering her baby on the carpeted floor. It is not a practice I would encourage, but it was somehow indicative of the new breed of museum visitors, comfortable and at home among modern paintings and sculpture. It is to this curious, eager, skeptic­enthusiastic, skeptical, demanding, appreciative audience we ad­dress ourselves.

"In all of this, business and men of business can play an important role. In­creasingly, the private business sector, the large corporations, and foundations have become welcome allies of the art museums, enabling us to carry through exhibitions and educational programs that would be im­possible without their support. You must imagine that your museum is a perfect vehicle for that purpose. I believe you must imagine that your museum is a perfect vehicle for that purpose. Your understanding of the museum's role is exceedingly important to us. In our view, businesses have a very special kind of role to play. This is their role in inter­national business.

"The problem we have now is that we are dealing with a different audience, as the growth of cultural interest has accelerated. We are dealing with a younger generation that says "I want to know about what is going on." It is a generation that is more sophisticated, more informed, more knowledgeable. They have a different kind of taste, a different set of values.

"Indeed the demand for such service has proliferated so widely and so quickly in recent years.

"For further details contact the Audubon Nature Foray.
Preparing more than 5,000 items for the bicentennial exhibition "We the People" is one of the major types of work available in a museum by working as a volunteer. Mrs. Lellouche said, "I really enjoy my work at the Smithsonian — the total surroundings are exciting. But I think it is the people, who show such enthusiasm and like their work, and touching such historic items that I like the most. You can become a part of it." There are basically two kinds of work the volunteers perform: sewing and cleaning. This work involves primarily textile and paper objects, such as flags, banners, and other objects. The textile items such as banners and flags must be backed with fabric for protection. This is often a very delicate operation since many of the fabrics are old and fragile. The large quilts have had to be sewn with curved needles on an old and fragile 48-star flag. Another project performed by volunteers was the cleaning of more than 30 paper documents and photographs — a very time-consuming project. "Though background skills are always helpful for volunteers performing the tasks necessary to prepare the large collection of items for "We the People", Miss Coffee commented, "the most necessary elements are common sense and patience. Without the development of these two qualities the volunteers would not be able to carry out their tasks, which are so important in the understanding and appreciation of our history."

Volunteers at NMHT Prepare 'We the People' Exhibit Items

By Kathryn Lindeman

Preparations for the bicentennial exhibition "We the People" involve a variety of tasks, including the cleaning of textiles and paper objects, such as flags, banners, and other items.

Barbara Coffee, Museum Specialist in the Division of Political History, said: "I fell in love with the Smithsonian when I visited Washington in 1968. Then when we moved here recently the first thing I thought about was that I could spend time in the Smithsonian. I began as a docent because I wanted to share all these great exhibits with the public. Then I discovered that help was needed in the Division of Political History to prepare objects for a new exhibit. I have worked on sewing of su­

fragile banners, steaming of band uniforms and many other jobs and I love it all. Now I spend about three days a week at the Smithsonian."

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Prepared by the volunteers who have been trained by Miss Coffee to put their skills into practice,

volunteers are referred to the Division of Political History through the docents program and the information volunteers provide.

The volunteers working on the "We the People" exhibit include several who help out on a regular-schedule basis and others who come in whenever possible.

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