



Cajun musicians stage an impromptu concert. The Louisiana entertainers will be among the numerous ethnic performers at the July 1-4 Festival of American Folklife.

All-out Effort Rounds Up Folkspeople for Festival

by Reed Hundt

It took an all-out effort by the Museum Service Division to organize the Folklife Festival that will sprawl across the Mall July 1-4.

To bring to Washington the 100 craftsmen, artists, and musicians who will create, dance, and sing in front of MHT and MNH over the four-day weekend, Museum Service Director James Morris first called upon two special consultants, Ralph Rinzler from the Newport Folk Foundation and Henry Glassie from the Pennsylvania Historical Commission.

In January these men, assisted by Marian Hope, Kesa Sakai, Beth Fein, Jeanette Gladstone, Leslie Schaberg, Tim Jecko and others, began seeking out the folkspeople.

Letters went out to New Mexico mountain hamlets, villages in the Florida swamps, igloos in the Alaskan snowfields, and houses in the back hills of Kentucky.

But often the craftsmen could not be contacted so easily. Mrs. Estelle Beck, head switchboard operator, had to call neighboring ranches, police departments, and Interior Department Indian Agents to put messages through.

The New Mexico police brought Mrs. Jose Mondragon down from the mountains to talk to the Smithsonian about her stone carvings.

Alaskan Airways was the agent bringing Eskimo ivory workers to Washington.

And some, like Lou Seshur, specialist in tall tale telling from Lock No. 4, Pa., hitched rides with neighbors.

But the festival organizers also wanted to bring some finished works here.

For this Museum Service commissioned Roger Paige from Arlington to make a nine-day truck trip through the back country of North Carolina, Kentucky, Tennessee, and Georgia. He collected everything from handcarved dulcimers to appleface dolls.

Two special problems, however, were wool and cornshucks. The weavers needed fleece to demonstrate their craft and the cornshuck dollmakers had to have shucks.

But all the sheep were shorn months ago and corn is not in season yet.

The corn crisis was solved as Ralph Rinzler discovered a friend who had a store of shucks in his barn.

The wool problem seemed more serious. Then ballad singer Norman Kennedy came through with the solution. He reported that he was a part-time weaver and his basement just happened to be full of fleece.

The wool crisis weathered, the final plans fell hectically into place.

Along with the festival, Museum Service also managed to organize a folklife conference for July 2 and 3. Seventeen scholars from the U.S., Mexico, and Europe will attend. They will discuss ways of promoting and preserving America's traditional culture and suggest future Smithsonian programs in folklife.

Henry Glassie, chief organizer of the conference, said, "It is very important that more organized study of folklife be begun. We don't have too much time, for many traditional crafts are disappearing."

"This conference should help fill the need."

Summer Concerts Set for Mall Feature Symphony, Barber Shop

Working after hours this summer can turn out to be a treat instead of a chore if you keep your windows open. Special concerts will fill the Mall area with music every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday evening.

The Mall Summer Orchestra, sponsored by the D.C. Recreation Department, Local 161 of the American Federation of Musicians, and the Music Performance Trust Fund of the Recording Industries, will perform on the MNH Mall steps at 8:30 each Wednesday. On Fridays the same spot will be occupied by local chapters of the Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of Barber Shop Quartet Singing in America, in 8 p.m. concerts. Arrangements for both groups were made by Museum Service.

On Monday nights the Division of Musical Instruments' annual Tower Music concerts are staged on the SI



THE SMITHSONIAN TORCH

Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D.C.

No. 24, July, 1967

SI, Renwick Gallery Renovation Starting

With programs either underway or in the planning stages for five Smithsonian buildings, 1967 may be remembered as the renovation summer.

Major remodeling of the SI building and the Renwick Gallery heads the list of imminent projects. Architects' plans for interior renovation of both buildings should be completed soon and bids invited. Exterior work on the Renwick has already been started, Robert Engle, engi-

neering assistant to Assistant Secretary Bradley, announced.

Actual construction in SI should begin this fall and be completed in about one-and-one-half years at a cost of about \$2 million. Architects Chatelain, Gauger, and Nolan have nearly finished drawings for three main objectives, preserving the historical integrity of the building, installing central air conditioning and new wiring, and improving utilization of the building's space.

The Renwick Gallery, formerly the Court of Claims Building, next door to the Blair House at 17th and Pennsylvania Avenue, is being reconditioned as a proposed exhibition area for American folk arts and handicrafts. Architect John Carl Warnecke is completing drawings for the building's interior. Construction should begin in the fall.

Scaffolding has been erected around the outside of the red stone building, which is now being cleaned. The stonework is "badly deteriorated," according to Engle, and a painstaking examination of the exterior will be conducted to determine restoration needs.

Early photographs of the two-story building show statues in niches where the second-floor windows now are. Although not in the present plans, the statues will someday be replaced. NCFA's Donald McClelland located the originals in the Botanical Gardens of the City of Norfolk. When money is available they will be recast.

Changes in the SI building will include removal of James Smithson's tomb to the south foyer and opening of the south entrance to the public. The temporary offices in the old herbarium will be removed and two stories of new offices constructed, for use by the proposed new Center for Advanced Studies. At the west end will be a two-story lounge area, also for the potential use of the Center.

The construction will add 20,000 feet of office space to SI.

The south foyer may be made into a Smithsonian room, with exhibits relating to the Institution's founder, when the tomb is placed there. When the air museum is completed the south lawn will be cleared and a mall will run from the south entrance through the new Forrestal Building and all the way to the river.

As part of the upcoming renovation, the Associates' offices will be moved from the west wing of SI to the A&I Building. The vacated area will be turned into a common room for the study center. When this and the herbarium offices are completed, work will begin on the air conditioning and heating system.

SI's east wing will be left much as it is, Engle says. If the drilling—and accompanying plaster dust—necessary for putting pipes in the walls becomes intolerable, east wing offices will be given temporary seating space in the new rooms. Equipment for the air conditioning system will be housed in A&I.

The northeast tower, which had a curved roofcap before the Great Fire of 1865, will be restored to its original appearance. Other exterior changes will include restoration of the windows now housing air conditioners, and period-style doors replacing the glass ones now at the public entrance. The building will be closed to the public while the northwest stairs are rebuilt to the third floor.

MNH will get two new elevators on the south side of the rotunda this summer. (Continued on page 4)

July 14 Program To Recognize 28

Twenty-eight SI employees, and the Smithsonian staff as a whole, will be honored at an awards ceremony July 14 at 3:45 in the MNH auditorium.

The President's Safety Award for 1966, presented to Secretary Ripley at the White House last month, will be passed on to the staff. Mr. Ripley will award it to bureau heads on behalf of all SI employees.

The Secretary will honor Dr. I. E. Wallen, head of the Office of Oceanography and Limnology, and Dr. Doris M. Cochran, Division of Reptiles and Amphibians, with special awards. Dr. Cochran will celebrate her fiftieth anniversary at the Smithsonian in March.

Receiving Sustained Superior Performance Awards will be Sylvandrous S. Anderson, MHT; Frazier B. Efferson, BMD; Dorothy E. Estep, BMD; Matthew Jackson, BMD; Lawrence Parish, BMD; Ronald N. Tabor, Office of the Secretary, and Robert L. Wallingsford, BMD.

Special Act Awards will go to Reuben W. Gore, BMD; Joseph C. Langford, BMD; Francis J. McGrath, BMD; John L. Oakley, BMD; Donald J. Ortner, MNH; Eugene F. Shipman, BMD; William B. Sonntag, BMD, and Samuel S. Wilson, BMD.

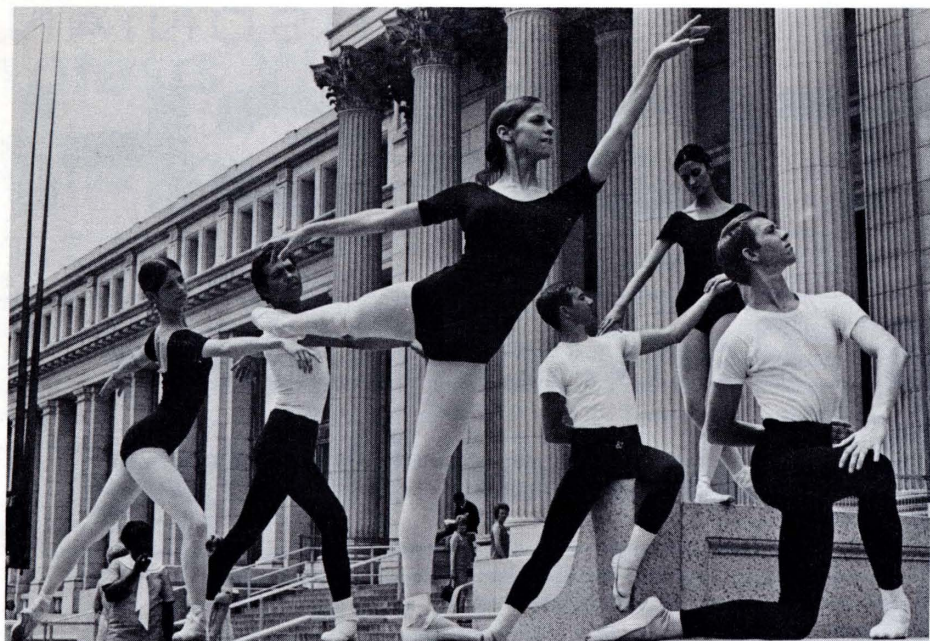
John Anderson, Jr., Oliver N. Armstead, Herbert L. Graham, Harrison J. Trout, and Robert L. Wallingsford, all of BMD, are Special Act Group Award winners. Special Service Group Awards will go to BMD's Gertrude M. Duffin, Alice E. Hall, and Marie W. Whitted.

The Zoo's William W. Freitas, Jr., and Donald L. Muddiman and BMD's Eugene F. Shipman will be recognized for money-saving employee suggestions.

Tower at 7:30. (See May TORCH.)

The Mall Orchestra is appearing at the Smithsonian for the first time after several seasons as the Watergate Symphony. Its programs will include an appearance by the Washington Civic Ballet Company July 5, opera selections on July 12, the music of Sigmund Romberg and Victor Herbert July 19, and a symphony concert July 26.

The barber shop groups will also be making their first appearances here after performing at the airplane-plagued Watergate. The Historyland Chorus of Fredericksburg and Manassas will be here July 7. They will be followed by Arlington's Arlingtons and the Marylandaires of Prince George's County July 14, the Annual Barber Shop Chorus of the Potomac July 21, and the Singing Capital Chorus of the District of Columbia July 28.



Between the Rickey sculpture, far left, and the dancers, tourists probably thought they were at the Cultural Center rather than a natural history museum. Drawing the curious stares are members of the Washington Civic Ballet Company, who will perform on the MNH steps July 5 at 8:30 p.m. The performance is a part of the Mall summer concerts. See story on page one.

Planning Already Underway For 'Complex' Celebration

"The American Revolution will be more complex in the celebration than it was in the fighting" promises one MHT official.

With the Independence Day Bicentennial almost exactly nine years in the future, work has already begun to insure the validity of that prediction. Although nothing specific has been decided this early, ideas have been flowing from, and to, all sorts of official and semi-official sources.

Keith E. Melder, chairman of Political History, Mendel L. Peterson, chairman of Armed Forces History, and Wilcomb E. Washburn, chairman of American Studies, have been appointed to develop MHT's part in the national celebration. Ideas that have been proposed include a major exhibit displayed from 1974 to 1976. This exhibition, occupying a number of halls, would give special prominence to the Washington headquarters tent and the gunboat Philadelphia. Military equipment and uniforms would contrast the British professional with the Colonial citizen soldier, making the point that the Revolution was a people's war.

Large-scale treatment of Revolutionary life and times is also anticipated. According to Dr. Melder, SI's collections of cultural material are limited for this period and arrangements must be made in the near future to borrow or otherwise acquire it.

Lack of museum objects has already been a problem in the special displays Political History has put together on such pre-Revolutionary themes as the Stamp Act and one on the Townsend Act, due to open later this year. Original material is largely archival and must be borrowed from such sources as the Library of Congress. Other small pre-Revolution displays are tentatively planned.

Among the possibilities being considered for publications to complement the

bicentennial exhibitions is a richly illustrated national inventory of objects surviving from the Revolutionary period. It would be published by the Smithsonian Institution Press. There may also be a series of exhibit-related pamphlets prepared for a popular audience and suited to classroom use.

A full range of research and academic activities will accompany the special exhibits and publications. Conferences dealing with Revolutionary subjects will bring together SI and university historians, and a seminar may be developed to attract graduate students from area schools.

As early as last July members of the SI staff were invited to submit ideas on the celebration to Frank Taylor, director of the U.S. National Museum. The House Appropriations Committee reported in March, 1966 that "it is not too early to begin adequate preparation and plans for the celebration of this momentous occasion. Certainly such an observance falls within the purview of the activities of the Smithsonian Institution."

Priceless Coin Collection to SI, Paper Reports

A coin collection said to be worth millions will be given to the Smithsonian, according to a recent report by the Indianapolis *Star*.

Assembled by the late Josiah K. Lilly, the 6000-piece collection is expected to become the property of the American people as soon as the Indiana delegation in Congress can iron out a legislative problem associated with the dispersal of the coins.

Vladimir Clain-Steffanelli, MHT's curator of numismatics, rates the Lilly collection "priceless" and a "national treasure."

Dr. Steffanelli, who has been given the opportunity to examine and analyze the scope of the Lilly collection, said that "it surpasses any other collection of gold coins ever assembled by one person."

The United States section, for example, consists of 1,227 pieces with only the extremely rare \$3 dollar coin of 1870 missing. Latin American coins number 1,236, including 665 8-escudo pieces. For comparison purposes, the famed Emilio Carles-Tolra collection contained only 256 8-escudo pieces.

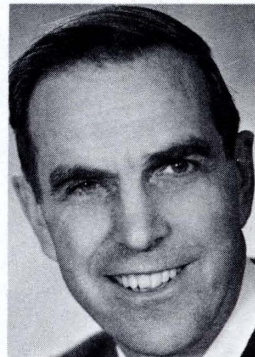
If the collection is turned over to the Smithsonian, it would probably raise the level of SI's array of coins above that of the Soviet Union.

If legislation is not introduced and enacted, the collection — under inheritance laws — must be liquidated.

ABOUT SI PEOPLE

Stern, Humphrey Depart For University Positions

William L. Stern, chairman of the department of botany, and Philip S. Humphrey, chairman of the department of vertebrate zoology, are leaving MNH on July 1 to return to the academic community. Dr. Stern, a leading wood anatomist, has accepted a post as professor in the University of Maryland's department of botany. Dr. Humphrey, an ornithologist, has been named director of the University of Kansas' museum of natural history and chairman of KU's department of zoology. Stern, incidentally, will continue an official relationship with SI, having accepted a research associateship.



SCOTT ELECTED TO HIGH ART POST

David W. Scott, director of the National Collection of Fine Arts, has been elected to the Association of Art Museum Directors. A very distinguished group representing the top art museum directors in the country, the AAMD permits only 75 members on its rolls. Scott joins Charles Nagel, John Pope, and Adelyn Breeskin as SI members.

INSTANT REPLY BY JACK WHITE

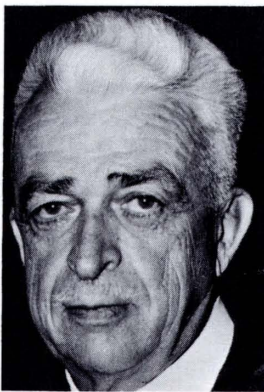
The forelorn Weems electric locomotive was the subject of an "instant editorial" appearing in this column last month. Jack White, new curator of MHT's division of transportation, wrote the *Torch* that the locomotive "was painted within the last three years, but time and weather have taken their toll since that time." The locomotive, Mr. White writes, "is of no technical importance and was therefore not incorporated into the new MHT exhibit. I would agree that it is not attractive in its present state and orders have therefore been issued for its transfer to Silver Hill."

INSTANT EDITORIAL

Some members of SI's officialdom reacted vehemently to the front-page pictures of the hush-hush Hirshhorn Museum models that appeared recently in the *Washington Post*. The cooler heads knew that, judging from the quality of the pictures, photographer Douglas Chevalier obviously made his shots in a hurry and without the help or permission of anyone here. The *TORCH*, believing strongly in a free and competitive press, applauds Mr. Chevalier for his successful scoop. That he had ample opportunity is without question: the models were accessible to anyone with the ingenuity to peek over the barricades set up in the Great Hall.

WEDEL LAUNCHES THIRD KANSAS DIG

Dr. Waldo Wedel, MNH archeologist, has launched his third dig in as many years in Rice County, Kansas. His nine-member crew is working the site of a Quiveran Indian village between Lyons and Geneseo, known to have been occupied at the time of Coronado's visit to central Kansas in 1641. In 1941, Dr. Wedel found pieces of chain armor of the type worn by Spanish soldiers during Coronado's time, substantiating the fact that Coronado visited central Kansas more than 400 years ago.



MHT'S FIRST SENIOR HISTORIAN

Howard I. Chapelle, for many years curator of transportation, has been appointed MHT's first senior historian. Mr. Chapelle is one of the world's foremost authorities on sailing vessels. The author of several distinguished books on watercraft, Mr. Chapelle also planned and designed MHT's "Hall of American Merchant Shipping," which traces the development of U.S. vessels from Colonial times to the present by means of more than 200 detailed and often contemporary ship models.

ONE-LINERS

Frederic Phillips of the Department of Commerce has been appointed special assistant for public affairs here . . . David Chase has succeeded Hugh Latham as director of Belmont Conference Center. Latham resigned recently to set up a prep school in Pennsylvania's Appalachian Mountain range . . . Rosa Moore reports that the Smithsonian Bridge Club is now organized. Interested employees may contact her on ext. 5847 . . . Waldo Schmitt of MNH observed his 80th birthday on June 30 . . . Director Ted Reed reports that the Zoo's birdhouse will be closed until October while it is being remodeled . . . Carl Fox has opened the new MNH sales shop. While the emphasis is on quality merchandise, prices begin at 10 cents . . . Frank Kreysa has been elected chairman, and Vincent Maturi secretary, of the Washington Chapter of the American Institute of Chemists. Both Kreysa and Maturi are employed by SIE.

QUOTES OF THE MONTH

Reporter: "Is Saul Steinberg still here?"
PIO: "Who?"

LETTER

Enlightenment

Dear Editor:

In your May issue of the *Torch*, you make the point that "the sun won't set on SI personnel."

Could you, perchance, have placed the emphasis on the wrong half of the diurnal cycle?

With more than 100 SAO station hands observing the nighttime sky at 15 field stations completely circling the globe, it might be more correct to say that "the sun never rises" on the Smithsonian Institution.

In fact, on October 7, we will celebrate the launch of Sputnik I and the 10th anniversary of our official "moonlighting."

Darkly yours,
James C. Cornell Jr.
Public Information Officer

SMITHSONIAN TORCH

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Greenery Enlivens Exhibits Through Ludes' Efforts

Mary M. Krug

How does a sculptor get to be a duck keeper? By being a member of the hyper-versatile exhibits staff.

Leonard Ludes was an exhibits specialist when a "no artificial plants" policy was set for the museums. Now he is a horticultural designer with responsibility not only for the greenery in all exhibit halls but also for floral arrangements for openings and receptions and even care of the ducks in the Growth of the U.S. Halls.

Ludes' background as a Kansas farm boy with nursery experience qualified him in theory for the hectic job he now holds, but he soon found out how much he didn't know. "Extreme bullheadedness and stubbornness are making up for a lack of knowledge," Ludes jokes. "You get that way chipping on stone."

The Botany Department and Radiation Biology Laboratory provided the basic technical help that Ludes needed, and he learned that working with indoor plants meant "no bugs, but all kinds of glorious problems with mildews, viruses and other unexpected things." It also meant contending with the "two enemies of plants in public buildings, air conditioning and lack of sun."

Typical of the creative members of the exhibits staff, Ludes found that the usual ways of doing things just were not good enough, and began looking for a way to condition outdoor plants for indoor living. This month a new propagating laboratory will be completed in MNH, where Ludes can continue his very promising experiments in condensing the process of photosynthesis.

"At this point," Ludes says, "I am not least able to prolong the life of plants enough to make it economically feasible to use live plants." Among his achievements are the outdoor plants thriving in the GOUS Halls—plum trees and a honeysuckle that was in bloom the night of the opening reception.

Ludes' experiments have to be conducted in spare moments when he is not engaged in the regular work of caring for some 5,000 plants or working on a new hall. Planting in an exhibit hall is

coordinated with the designer and curator and, wherever possible, is appropriate to the subject of the displays. In the Hall of Medical Sciences, for example, medicinal herbs are growing. Ludes hopes to raise cotton and dye plants for the textile hall, where it might be possible to grow, process and weave the fibers.

Some halls, such as ceramics, get plants which are purely decorative, but they still have to be appropriate to their surroundings, and Ludes frequently designs containers suitable for the period of the exhibit. Among his creations are the Victorian tubs in the Great Hall and large white plastic saucers seen throughout the third floor of MHT. The saucers were made by the MHT exhibits plastics lab, are lightweight and easy to move and can be used in innumerable combinations.

Large, open halls demand showy plants. Zoo director Theodore Reed has turned over a plot at the Zoo to Ludes for growing larger shrubs experimentally. Small plants can be even more of a problem, not in growth but in maintenance. They have a way of disappearing from the exhibit areas, Ludes says, so he used cactus in the GOUS Halls.

Special events, when there is time, get the same careful planning as the exhibit halls. For the Tunisian mosaic show, native Tunisian plants were borrowed from the Botanic Gardens. Oleander and delicate pink geraniums scattered among the mosaics are helping to soften the massiveness of the display and hold the hall together.

The openings of the GOUS and Tunisian exhibits climaxed a three-week period in which there were 19 special events. The one-man horticulture staff managed to provide the necessary decoration for all of them and still care for the plants that demand his daily attention in every building.

If any plant should begin to wither despite Ludes' precautions, there is a sunny "sick bay" in MNH where it is taken to recuperate. It is a tribute to Ludes' green thumb that the small room is not at all crowded.



Horticultural designer Leonard Ludes, responsible for all of SI's indoor plants, applies his green thumb to some of the growth outside MHT.

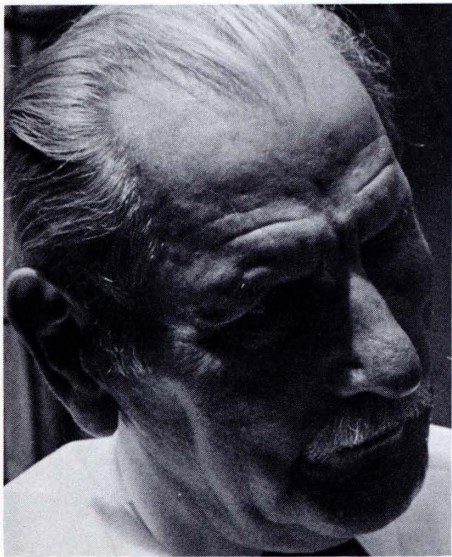
Fehlmann, Rhyne Gather Specimens In 'Obscure Dot' in Indian Ocean

H. A. Fehlmann and Charles F. Rhyne are among the most adventurous of SI's July travelers. They are participating in a Department of the Navy scientific expedition that makes them the first SI people to travel to Diego Garcia Island, where they are collecting marine specimens. Diego Garcia, we are told, "is an obscure dot in the Indian Ocean as well as in the records of the British Embassy." . . . Cecil O. Smith, Jr., of Mechanical and Civil Engineering leaves July 6 for West Germany, where he will explore opportunities for a study of the German engineering profession. . . . Also in western Europe is the Freer's Rutherford Gettens, studying oriental art collections,

techniques and technology until November. . . . Latin America is luring a number of the MNH staff, including F. R. Fosberg of the Office of the Director. He and Lee M. Talbot, Ecology, are attending the International Biological Program meeting in Rio de Janeiro. Dr. Talbot will go on to Argentina, Chile, Peru, Columbia, Costa Rica, and the Canal Zone to discuss IBP programs. . . . Botany's David Lellinger is also in Costa Rica, teaching a course in tropical plants and collecting specimens. He returns at the end of August. . . . Kent V. Flannery of Anthropology and Mrs. Flannery will be in Mexico until winter, studying the prehistoric human ecology of the Valley of Oaxaca. . . . The living historical farms of European museums have drawn John T. Schlebecker of Agriculture and Forest Products to the Continent for a month's study. . . . Daniel J. Stanley of Sedimentology is visiting Poland on an exchange program of the U.S. and Polish Academies of Science. He will also research fossil canyon deposits in France, England and Austria. . . . Assistant Secretary Sidney R. Galler, Mrs. Helen L. Hayes, Robert C. Engle, engineering assistant, and Edward H. Kohn, director of the Budget Office, are spending a week at STRI in the Canal Zone. . . . Nearby is Paul J. Spangler of entomology, collecting leaf-cutting ants in Panama and Costa Rica. . . . Richard Cifelli, Invertebrate Paleontology, is participating in an oceanographic expedition to the Mid Atlantic Ridge while the chief of Oceanography and Limnology, I. E. Wallen, discusses cooperative programs in the Philippines, Indonesia, Singapore, Thailand, Hong Kong and Taiwan. . . . Several staff members with foresight are conducting their research in cooler climes than Washington can boast in July. Francis M. Hueber, Paleobotany, and Edward S. Davidson are collecting fossil plants in Scotland, England and Germany. Richard L. Zusi is collecting birds in Manitoba, Canada, and Neil C. Hulings, of the Oceanographic Sorting Center, Richard H. Benson of Invertebrate Paleontology, and Louis Kornicker of Crustacea are attending a Symposium on Taxonomy, Morphology and Ecology of Recent Ostracoda in Scotland and England.

THE ENORMOUS EGG & SI

Uncle Beazley Comes to the Smithsonian



Louis Paul Jonas

Early risers July 27 may think they should have had a few more hours sleep as the apparition of a full-size dinosaur lumbering down Independence Avenue greets them.

Actually, the apparition will be the very real, though not live, star of "The Enormous Egg", a children's special that will be the second major cooperative television effort between the Smithsonian and NBC.

"The Enormous Egg", based on a book of the same name by Oliver Butterworth, is the story of Uncle Beazley, a triceratops who hatches from a chicken hen's egg and becomes a child's pet. His phenomenal growth rate—at age seven months he weighs in at 14,000 pounds—leaves his master no choice but to bring him to the Smithsonian.

Beazley starts out in MNH, but because of a law prohibiting the stabling of

large animals in the District, he winds up at the Zoo in the Elephant House.

The 22-foot-long model used to represent full-grown Uncle Beazley will be given to the Smithsonian by the Sinclair Oil Company. It will be kept on display at the Zoo.

Louis Paul Jonas, designer of the famous Sinclair dinosaurs and a noted museum display artist, is building the large model and six other Beazleys at various stages of growth. Mr. Jonas was in Washington last month to introduce the smallest of the creatures, and its enormous egg, to the SI staff and the giraffes that will be Beazley's roommates at the Zoo. Dr. Nicholas Hotton, associate curator of vertebrate paleontology, who is giving technical advice, and William Grayson and Miss Karen Loveland of the Office of Public Information are working with NBC on the show.

Jonas, a 73-year-old native of Hungary, is a grandfatherly type noted for the accuracy and beauty of his creations.

The smaller Beazleys are being made of resilient ceramic, a substance Jonas has developed which cures at a very low temperature. This makes it possible to put wire supports in the sculptures and results in some very graceful creations.

Even if the Smithsonian didn't insist on it, the Beazley models would be as scientifically accurate as possible. Jonas himself is very demanding, and he shows off his creation with the pride and affection of parenthood. Even the egg, he pointed out during his visit, has the leathery texture of a reptile egg rather than the smooth feel of a hen egg. Yet even this didn't satisfy the exacting Mr. Jonas. He reported that a new, even more leathery enormous egg is now in the works in his converted dairy-barn studio in the Hudson Valley.

"The Enormous Egg" will be a production of the NBC Children's Theater. George Heinemann is the executive producer of the show, which will be broadcast in early 1968.



Just-hatched Uncle Beazley and his enormous egg

NO AUGUST TORCH

There will be no August issue of the TORCH. Copy for the September edition should be submitted to the Office of Public Information, SI 131, by August 15.

Protests Won't Change Plans for Zoo Hospital

The site for the new Zoo hospital-research center will remain as announced despite protests from the Kalorama Citizens Association. This is the conclusion of a statement prepared for the Regents in reply to the group's arguments.

The civic organization has submitted a letter and petition to Chief Justice Earl Warren, chancellor of the SI Board of Regents, objecting to the new facility's location near the Holt House administration building. The petition was followed up with a letter printed in the Washington Daily News last month.

The hospital site is quiet and secluded, and therefore ideal for nervous, excited or disturbed animals and conducive to research observations, the statement reports. The buildings will be on land which cannot be economically developed for public use, and will not be readily visible from surrounding residential areas.

"The National Capital Planning Commission was especially pleased with the architect's solution of adapting a very low building to the existing terrain," the report says. "Due to the very need for isolation of this animal facility the existing dense woods between the new facility and the Zoo property line will be carefully preserved."

The group's specific objection was that Holt House is a landmark whose preservation has been called for by the National Trust for Historic Preservation. The report states that "Prior to recommending siting of the Animal Hospital and Research Complex near the Holt House, a careful evaluation of its historical significance was made. A historical research report prepared in 1962 by the Chairman of the Department of Civil History of the Museum of History and Technology, who was also serving as Chairman of the Consulting Committee for the National Survey of Historical Sites and Buildings, states that there is no evidence to indicate an association of the Holt House with persons of National significance."

Renovation

(Continued from page 1)

mer. Bids have already been invited for the project. Also on tap this month is a renovation of the Oceanographic Sorting Center at the Navy Yard. The construction will be completed next March and will provide more work space.

While execution begins on all these plans, an architect yet to be named will be preparing proposals for the Arts and Industries Building. A&I will get new air conditioning and mechanical improvements and be remodeled for use as an exposition hall.

Holt House was included on a list of historic landmarks in the District of Columbia prepared by the Joint Commission on Landmarks of the National Capital Planning Commission and the Fine Arts Commission. Subsequent conferences with the Landmarks Commission brought the decision that the building should be preserved for Zoo use but not restored to its original internal plan.

The Landmarks Commission concurred with the Institution's conclusion that locating the new hospital facility in back of and downhill from the house would not conflict with the desire to preserve the approach to and views from the house.

The statement concludes that "Relocating the research building to the main park area would unnecessarily reduce the space provided for animal exhibits and accommodations for over 4,000,000 annual visitors. Substantial planning costs would be incurred to redesign foundations and utilities and to otherwise revise the drawings which have now been completed."

CRUISE

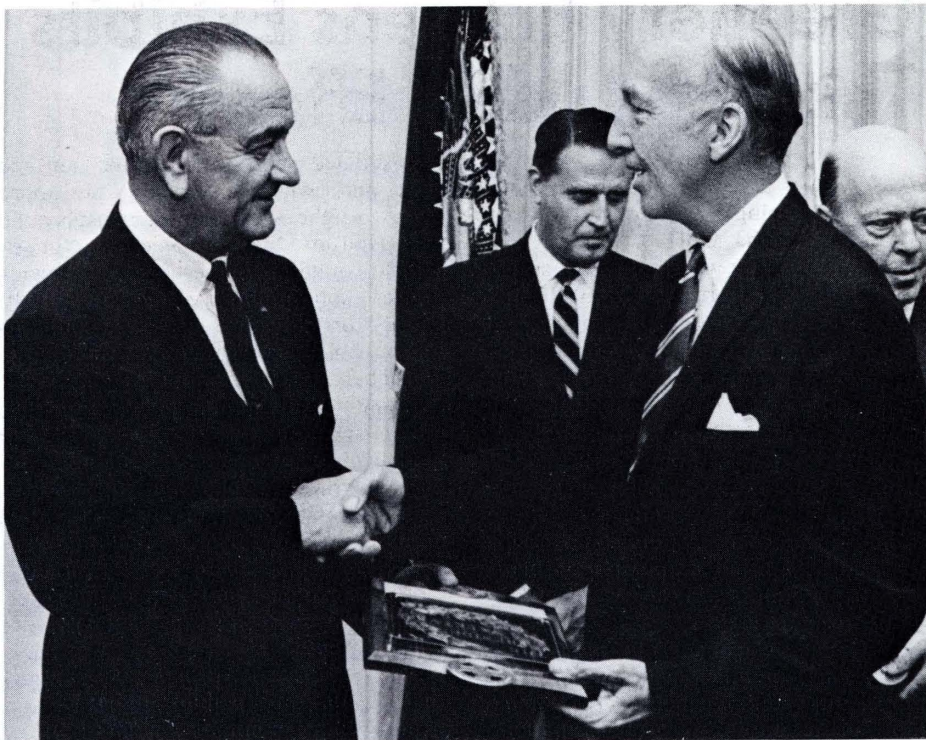
Guard Leon Robinson and his Lords of Rhythm band will provide the music for the Recreation Association's annual moonlight cruise on the Potomac August 5. For tickets or information phone Mrs. Dorothy Lewis, 5226.

Nepal Gives SI Plant Specimens

American botanists for the first time will have a chance to study a major series of specimens from the rich and relatively unknown Nepalese Himalayas.

The Nepalese government has contributed 1600 herbarium specimens from the Botanical Survey of Nepal to the Smithsonian, reports Dr. Dan H. Nicolson, associate curator of the Botany Department's Division of Phanerogams. Dr. Nicolson has been in Nepal for the past nine months on a Senior Fulbright Research Fellowship, and has collected some 1500 specimens himself.

The gift, the first official relationship between the Nepalese government and the Smithsonian, and Dr. Nicolson's collection will provide a rare resource for American botanists. Nepal, due to its climatic and altitudinal variations, is rich in different kinds of plants ranging from tropical regions to the alpine regions.



President Johnson presents a plaque symbolizing SI's 1966 Safety Award to Secretary Ripley at the White House June 13. In the background are representatives of the two other winning agencies, Secretary of the Navy Paul Nitze and Federal Aviation Administrator William F. McKee. The President told Mr. Ripley that, "under your leadership, the Smithsonian Institution has successfully reduced a variety of hazards from LASER beams to dangers in the Zoological Park."

Institution 'Navy' Sets Sail Under Maine-SI Agreement

The Smithsonian "navy" sets sail this summer.

The Phykos, a World War II Army freighter obtained by the Smithsonian for oceanographic research, is being renovated by the Southern Maine Vocational and Technical Institute under a cooperative agreement completed last week. Dr. I. E. Wallen, head of the Office of Oceanography and Limnology and chairman of the Smithsonian Ships Committee, announced the arrangement.

The ship had been sitting at the Navy Yard while the committee studied what facilities it should have and sought resources for putting it in operation. Under the recent agreement, the Maine institute is putting the vessel in condition in return for use of it during part of the school year. SI will have it the rest of the school year and during the summers, beginning this month.

Dr. Melvin H. Jackson, associate curator of the Division of Transportation and a specialist in ship architecture, has been the Ships Committee's consultant on the Phykos' facilities and on the potential design of other need vessels.

About 60 SI scientists are interested in oceanography. To enable them to

participate in expeditions, the 14-member committee receives schedules from all government and private oceanography institutions and passes the information on. It is then up to the individual scientist to arrange to go along for all or part of the expedition.

In recent years 73 ships from 19 agencies have been used by SI staff members, Dr. Wallen points out. From their record of who has gone where and on what kind of expedition, the committee has tried to determine the Institution's needs for ships of its own. "We believe we could justify three ships," he says, "one deep-ocean vessel and two continental shelf vessels, one each for near-shore research and for supporting shore parties."

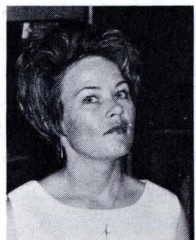
In addition to the now research-worthy Phykos, the Smithsonian has one other ship in its "fleet," the motor-powered sailing boat Ellida. Charged with deciding how the Ellida should be used, the Ships Committee tried it out last summer and determined that it was not suitable for research. The Ellida is now up for sale, and proceeds will go into the Ships Committee Fund, to be used someday to help the Institution obtain its needed vessels.

AS OTHERS SEE US—THE KITTY HAWK

by Al Robinson

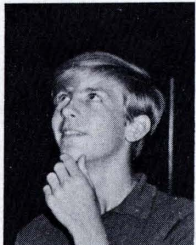
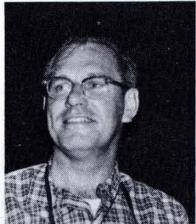
The TORCH asked tourists what they thought of the presentation of two of SI's most popular exhibits, the Wright brothers' plane "Kitty Hawk" and Lindbergh's "Spirit of St. Louis." The two fill the top of the entrance hall in A & I, but some visitors wished for a better view.

William Patterson of Media, Pa., thought the two planes were "a little crowded." He added, "it would be nice if you could get up and look in the windows (of the "Spirit of St. Louis") and see what Lindbergh had to look at."



The height of the plane attracted some comment. Mrs. Shirley Griffith of Bedford, Texas, said, "I expected something a little different. I didn't expect to walk in under it."

John Wissman from Baltimore said he would like to be able to go above the Wright's plane and see the top. But he thought the Spirit was "okay the way it is."



But many people liked the height. "I like having it up in the air," said Mrs. E. J. Goodier, also from Texas. "It would be better if there were more space between the two, though they are nice together. You know, I'm really not a good person to ask," she added, "I'm impressed by everything."

Herbert Zeller of Columbus, Ohio, suggested that the "Kitty Hawk" ought to be lower "because those interested in the technical aspects of the plane might want to see the motor. But it really catches your eye up there."



And Elizabeth Erikson of Sioux Falls, S.D., was afraid to put the planes lower "because then they might be touched. But it would be good if you could see all sides of the plane, as you can see all aspects of the pendulum (in MHT)."

Though they had criticisms, Mrs. Erikson and the other visitors were not really sure how best to display the planes, and left the question up in the air.

