Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D.C. March 1973

New Parking Rules for Mall

The birth of the Polish astronomer, Nicolaus Copernicus on February 19, 1473, will be celebrated April 22-26 with an international symposium under co-sponsorship of the Smithsonian and the National Academy of Sciences. The observance will include an ambitious multi-media tribute to the genius who started modern astronomy and set daring to assign the earth its true place in the cosmos. The celebration coincides with the annual meeting of the Academy.

Symposium to Mark Birth of Copernicus

The history of the Freer collection began considerably earlier than 1923 when the Gallery was opened to the public. In 1883 the donor, Charles Lang Freer, purchased his first Japanese print, an example of Ukiyoe painting from the Freer collection. Each is reproduced and the subject, has selected more than 100 examples of Ukiyoe painting from the Freer collection. Each is reproduced and...
Under the direction of Mrs. Joan Madden, Coordinator of Docent Programs, the Office of Elementary and Secondary Education uses the services of 225 volunteer docents (museum teachers) who conduct lesson tours for thousands of area school children in the three museums on the Mall.

Mrs. Madden describes the museum teachers as enthusiastic individuals who have expressed a genuine interest in their duties and who feel that they are performing a worthwhile service as well as adding to their own learning experiences.

The docent program is operated as a volunteer service of area school houseswives, retirees, and professionals, including about 12 men, some who work on their regular jobs at night and some who volunteer for walk-in, week-end tours.

During the summer months, college and high school students work from five to eight weeks as volunteer guides. This program involves a week of training in order to provide general tours to visitors and pre-assigned group tours.

Docents direct lessons in most of the halls in the National Museum of Natural History, where only school tours are conducted. The National Museum of History and Technology is also fully covered, and includes walk-in tours as well. The changing exhibits in the National Air and Space Museum allow docents to offer a full range of lessons from the first airplane flight to the current space flights.

The docents’ versatility is often put to a test in the various teaching approaches made to the same hall, for instance the Hall of Mammals can become an excellent factor in explaining ecology to older children.

The museum teachers’ duties extend from preparing halls to outreach programs which take them to schools in the area to prepare the students for their visit to the Smithsonian. The People of Asia lesson tour, which began in October 1972, has proved to be popular with area school teachers. This lesson offers the students the opportunity to study their classroom one of three cultures—Japanese, Indian or Chinese. The docent brings to the classroom a set of props and materials, including slides which give a panoramic view of the culture represented. The docent and the class participate in an activity of the country being discussed. The second part of the lesson takes place in the Asian Hall of the Museum of Natural History conducted by the same docent, and designed to permit the students to draw their own conclusions about all three cultures.

The folk instrument workshop introduces students to various stringed musical instruments: the musical bow, banjo, hammer dulcimer and Appalachian dulcimer. The docents compare the history of the instruments and their operation and discuss the role traditional music has played in history.

The film strip program, another outreach effort, prepares students for their visit to the museum. “A Living History” gives information on Old Strubridge Village and Mystic Seaport. “What Man Has Made”, gives details of how archeologists reconstruct a culture from their finds.

According to Mrs. Madden most docents remain in the position for an average of two years. Their initial training consists of a three-week program in mid-September and early October which includes general orientation, sample tours, and teaching technique sessions with various curators and members of the education staff. The “on-the-job” training takes the form of field trips to other museums and monthly lectures.

Mrs. Madden stated that much of the accomplishments made do the docent program can be attributed to the cooperation received from the curators in the museums. Docent manuals are prepared by the curators and students. Teachers are able to touch these objects and are quizzed as to what they are and what can be learned from them.

School tours are arranged on the basis of school programs. Requests from area school teachers. The Office of Elementary and Secondary Education makes all arrangements after

(Continued on page 4)
Two Specialists Join EO Staff

Laverne M. Love has joined the staff of the Office of Equal Opportunity as Smithsonian Women's Coordinator. She will serve as the principal adviser to management on all matters pertaining to the equal employment status of women, including serving as Execu­
tive Director of the Women's Council, guiding and overseeing its operations. As Women's Coordinator, Ms. Love is authorized to receive EEO formal complaints from Smithsonian employees.

Early in 1972 Ms. Love was employed by the U.S. Department of the Treasury's Office of Equal Opportunity. There she laid the ground work for that organization's Federal Women's Program, while working closely with the Treasury's Women's Co­mmittee.

She comes to the Smithsonian with a background in urban social work. In 1968 she was ap­pointed Executive Director of the second Community Action Agency in Columbus, Ohio. She addressed the U.S. Senate Committee on Urban Affairs. She accepted the position of President of Ohio University - a campus that had just become co-educational in that year - in the spring of 1972. She is now the President of the East Central Citizens Organization in the U.S. Department of Justice. Ms. Love brings a wealth of experience in training employees. She has had special responsibility to repre­sent UDO in Mayor William Harrison's program for equal employment of minorities.

Mr. Crumpler is a former member of the Metropolitan Police Department and a police officer for the United Planning Organization and was granted the special responsibility to repre­sent OEO in Mayor William Harrison's program for equal employment of minorities. In 1968 he was ap­pointed Executive Director of the second Community Action Agency in Columbus, Ohio. He addressed the U.S. Senate Committee on Urban Affairs. He accepted the position of President of Ohio University - a campus that had just become co-educational in that year - in the spring of 1972. He is now the President of the East Central Citizens Organization in the U.S. Department of Justice. Mr. Crumpler brings a wealth of experience in training employees. He has had special responsibility to repre­sent UDO in Mayor William Harrison's program for equal employment of minorities.

EO Task Force Formed

A special-purpose task force has been established to accomplish objectives of the SI Equal Opportunity Program de­scribed in item 4j) of Office Memorandum 763(rev).

This task force will recommend actions which would result in new oppor­tunities for black and GT-7 through 12 for entry employment, career advance­ment, and transition to more promising career fields for minority and women employees. The first meeting was held February 13. Members will approach their task by obtaining and reviewing position charts for the various Smith­sonian organizations. Position charts will show how jobs are aligned in organizations and whether pathways to advance­ment from lower grades to higher grade positions exist. Where pathways do not exist, the Task Force will recommend ways to create them.

As chairman of the Task Force is Rod­ney Evans, Office of Personnel Adminis­tration. Members are Gwen Doby, Director of the OEO Programs, Doug­las E. Smith, National Portrait Gallery; Archie Grimmett, Office of Equal Opportunity; Nancy Kirkpatrick, Office of Program­ming and Budget; Harold Michaelson, Office of Assistant Secretary for Science; Robert Tillotson, National Museum of History and Technology; Jack Whitelaw, National Air and Space Museum; Jeral­dine Whitemore, National Museum of Natural History.

PARKING NERVECENTER--A vital role in the smooth functioning of the Smithsonian is played by Mrs. Cheryl Price, parking coordinator in the Office of BMD Programs. In the course of her normal work day she deals with a large segment of the organization's personal as well as adminis­trative parking needs. In addition to regular parkers, visitors and contractors must be accommodated. A recent check revealed that more than 300 visitors and con­tractors are parked in the basement of any given day. In most cases either Mr. Crumpler or Ms. Love is authorized to receive special experience in training employees. She has had special responsibility to repre­sent UDO in Mayor William Harrison's program for equal employment of minorities.

Personnel News Get Awards

Fifteen employees recently received awards for outstanding contributions to the various programs of the Smithsonian Institution.

They are Patricia A. Kilkenny, Smith­sonian Associate; John Correia, Science Information Exchange; Vernell M. Led­better, SIE; June M. Moore, SIE; John N. Boughan, Buildings Manage­ment Department; Oliver N. Armstead, BMD; Charles DeFiance, BMD; Donald Elliot, BMD; Daniel Lloyd, BMD; Lindsey Ross, BMD; Franklin贲, BMD; Claude Russ­sell, BMD; Joyce Jones, National Port­rait Gallery; Betty G. Grier, National Museum of Natural History.

"Our congratulations are extended to them and also to Mr. Thomas Byas, of BMD, in recognition of the adoption of his suggestion," said Vincent J. Doyle, Director of the Personnel Office. "Mr. Byas suggested that a manually controlled banner switch be installed on each air handling unit in the National Museum of History and Technology. The purpose of this switch is to prevent return air and exhaust air ducters so that the return of air can evacuate or purge the work area. This innovation will enable the fume to enter the fume areas and extinguish the blaze in case of fire. The function of this switch is to secure a lower point to combat any flame-up of a blaze." He added.

"The need for this function was dramatically emphasized when fire broke out in the Museum of History and Tech­nology in 1970. We are most grateful to Mr. Byas for the outstanding job he performed in designing and installing this remote control system.

New Procedures For Executive Training Set

Supplement 1 to Office Memorandum 762, published December 15, 1972, an­nounced new procedures for authoriza­tion and funding for executive, manage­ment, and high level administrative programs offered outside the organization.

Under these new procedures, requests for such training must be approved by the Executive Manpower Resources Board and funds are made available by the Office of Personnel Administration. The deadline for submitting nomina­tions for fiscal year 1974 is April 1. Shortly after that date, the Executive Manpower Resources Board will review the requests and make its final decision.

Notifications will be sent out about May 1.

Personnel Moves To New Offices

The Office of Personnel Administra­tion has moved to new quarters. The brightly decorated rooms are now located where the offices of the Build­ings Management Department used to be, near the entrance of the northeast door to the Arts and Industries Building. Those employees affected are: A & I employees; BMD; Claude Rus­sell, BMD; Joyce Jones, National Port­rait Gallery; Betty G. Grier, National Museum of Natural History.

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Hirshhorn Museum, Garden Near Completion on Mall

The drum-shaped Hirshhorn Museum and its sculpture garden (foreground in center photo) are beginning to take on their final, distinctive appearance as work progresses on blocks of concrete aggregate facing to the exterior of the building (left). In the meantime, museum staff members employ scale models to plan exhibits to the last detail. At right, Nancy Sage, museum registrar, uses a periscope to get an "inside" view of a gallery. The construction photos are two of a series taken by Harry N. S. Storin, photographer, who has made a pictorial record of the project for archival purposes.

New Approach Used To Design Opening Exhibit
By Mary Krug

The Joseph H. Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden is still under construction and more than a year away from opening to the public. But Hirshorn staff members have already seen much of its opening exhibition in place in the finished galleries, thanks to the novel and imaginative installation.

What they have seen is not the real thing, of course, but the closest approximation that can be made to the finished appearance of an unfinished museum. Scale models are the time machine that allows this glimpse of the future.

The Hirshhorn Museum, when completed, will house a great collection of contemporary paintings and sculpture donated to the American people by Joseph H. Hirshhorn and administered by the Smithsonian Institution. The building, situated on the National Mall in Washington, is of circular design, with an inner courtyard open to the sky and a sculpture garden in which monumental pieces will be displayed.

The opening exhibition will consist of a survey of the museum's collections, in as much depth as space will permit, and will range from such 19th century precursors as Daumier, Escher, Homer and Rodin, to the works of 20th century masters. The total number of works to be shown will be determined by the format of the exhibition and the building's accommodation. The scale models offer a partial solution to these problems.

National Gallery's Far North Exhibit Has MNH Artifacts

The National Gallery of Art's spectacular exhibition, The Far North: 2000 Years of American Eskimo and Indian Art (March 7-May 15) includes scores of artifacts from collections of the National Museum of Natural History, ranging from Eskimo walrus ivory carvings to Tlingit woven baskets.

Three staffers from NMNH's Department of Anthropology consulted and assed in assembling the show; Dr. Clifford Evans, Department Chairman; Dr. William C. Sturtevant, Supervisor of the Division of North American Anthropology; and Dr. William F. Fithugh, curator in the Division.

Dr. Henry B. Collins, NMNH's Archeologist Emeritus, and one of the world's leading authorities on prehistoric Eskimo and Aleut culture (a member of the Eskimo carvings in the show were excavated and published by him in the early 1930's on Alaska's St. Lawrence Island) says in an essay he wrote for the catalog that the exhibition "demonstrates why Alaska must be recognized as one of the major world centers of primitive art."

He concludes his essay by noting that the watercolors and drawings in the Smithsonian Institution Press volume published last year by Department of Anthropology staff member, George E. Phebus, Alaskan Eskimo Life in the 1890's as Sketched by Native Artists, are the last known remaining authentic, traditional works of art by Alaskan Eskimos.

The catalog also has an essay on Alaska's Tlingit Indians written by Barry Mawr Professor, Dr. Frederica de Laguna, who is the author of the massive study, Under Mount Saint Elias: The History and Culture of the Yukatsu Tlingit, recently published as Volume 7 of the Smithsonian Contributions to Anthropology.

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March 1973


Copernicus (Continued from page 1)

entations by designer Charles Eames, and commissioned avant garde music suggesting breakthroughs in science; special exhibitions of contemporary Polish posters and art and manuscripts and scientific instruments contemporary with Copernicus; presentation of nine medals; the issuance of a Copernicus stamp; and public forums dealing with innovation in technology, public receptivity to science and the education of space age children.

"In an age of specialization, the tribute to Copernicus, who embodied the Renaissance ideal, should have special meaning for the continuing education of modern Americans, and other people in the world who need such reminders of the interdependence of learning," Secretary Ripley commented. "Through identified with Poland, Copernicus transcends ethnic and national origins."

Opening ceremonies for the celebration are scheduled Easter Sunday evening, April 22, in the auditorium of the National Academy of Sciences for members of the Academy, the Smithsonian Regents, and other invited guests. Chamber music composed for the occasion by Leo Smit, Buffalo, N.Y., with narrative lyrics by Sir Fred Hoyle, the British astronomer, will make up the evening program.

Summer Hours
Four Smithsonian museum buildings will be open from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. each day from April 1 through September 30. The History and Technology, Natural History, Arts and Industries, and Air and Space Buildings. Visiting hours will revert to the normal 10-5 schedule for all SI buildings, effective September 4.

Docents (Continued from page 2)
The initial contact which indicates the type of tour the teacher is interested in for the students. Docents are also involved in activities other than school tours, such as guiding visiting the National Academy of Sciences for members of the Academy, the Smithsonian Regents, and other invited guests. Chamber music composed for the occasion by Leo Smit, Buffalo, N.Y., with narrative lyrics by Sir Fred Hoyle, the British astronomer, will make up the evening program.

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