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**cooperating
associations:**

The Americans of all ages, all conditions and all dispositions constantly form associations. They have not only commercial and manufacturing companies in which all take part but associations of a thousand other kinds, religious, moral, serious, futile, restricted, enormous, or diminutive. The Americans make associations to give entertainments, to found establishments for education, to send missionaries to the antipodes. Wherever at the head of some new undertaking you see the government of France or a man of rank in England, in the United States you will be sure to find an association.

Alexis de Tocqueville
1840

what they are ...

In 1792, the American Philosophical Society sent the French botanist Andre Michaux on an exploration trip across the North American continent. President Washington contributed \$25; Messrs. Jefferson and Hamilton \$12.50 each. Since that date non-profit organizations throughout the country have underwritten efforts to explore and bring to public attention the natural resources of the United States. Not unlike that famed expedition, the National Park Service's endeavors in interpreting the nation's scenic beauties and historic places are assisted, in part, by non-profit organizations, the NPS cooperating associations.

Cooperating associations developed early in National Park Service history in response to visitor needs for inexpensive guide leaflets, pictures, maps and other interpretive literature not otherwise available through the use of Federal funds. Interested persons in nearby communities and educational institutions joined with park naturalists and historians to form library, museum, and historical societies to produce and provide such information to the public. In some instances, long-established organizations became NPS cooperating associations to further their interests in park preservation.

The first such organization was the Yosemite Museum Association, founded in 1920 by Ansel F. Hall to develop a museum and visitor contact station in Yosemite Valley.

Nine thousand dollars contributed by interested citizens, and a later philanthropic gift of \$75,000 established the first Yosemite Museum and set into motion the work of cooperating associations as we know it today. As the museum grew, the need for suitable free and sales interpretive literature increased. The logical vehicle to facilitate this function was the existing association, which, in 1925, was reorganized and expanded into the Yosemite Natural History Association.

In 1931, cooperating associations were established in Zion and Rocky Mountain National Parks, and in 1933 in Yellowstone. By 1943, when Southwest Parks & Monuments Association was organized, there were more than a dozen such groups publishing and selling interpretive literature in visitor centers. In 1948 Eastern National Park & Monument Association was established, providing a supportive umbrella for a number of small parks and historic sites along the eastern coast. Today, there are 56 associations providing services at 230 areas of the National Park System.

Each cooperating association is a legal entity incorporated within the state in which it operates, and enjoys a non-profit and tax-exempt status under Internal Revenue Service codes. This means that it is governed by state corporate laws and regulations and by certain IRS rulings. Cooperating associations are non-Federal organizations. They conduct their business in the parks,

however, under authorization by the Federal government (U.S. Public Law 633, 1946). Each organization is managed by a board of directors composed of community leaders who give generously of their time, and by a membership of interested persons, in some cases scattered to the four corners of the nation.

In recognizing the need for advancing "educational and scientific" activities in the parks, the Congress authorized the Secretary of the Interior to permit "cooperation with . . . nonprofit scientific and historical societies engaged in educational work in the various parks and monuments . . ." In so doing the National Park Service has established guidelines to insure a standard of quality for association management and activities.

In short, the primary function of cooperating associations is to support the interpretive and related visitor-service activities of the National Park Service. It is done with the sanction of the Federal government and the support of the National Park Service.

Cooperating associations operate small bookshops and sales counters in park visitor facilities for the purpose of making available literature and other items that assist the visiting public to better understand the parks and their related values. Monies from these sales are used to sponsor numerous activities that support park interpretive programs.

For example:

1 *Sponsoring, publishing, purchasing, and distributing or selling appropriate literature.* The National Park Service publishes informational folders and books or booklets that form the official NPS statement for each park. Time, funds, and personnel, however, do not permit the publication of all the materials needed for the nearly 290 areas in the National Park System. This is where cooperating associations are called on to supplement the interpretive program. For example, associations print trail guides by the thousands. Two associations have jointly published a guide to trees of the Sierra. Several print weekly newspapers on park activities. Others have published motorists guides. Through the years a half million dollars has been contributed to the public in the form of free folders, maps, activity schedules, and other related publications. In each case, the association is filling a need not possible with Federally appropriated funds.

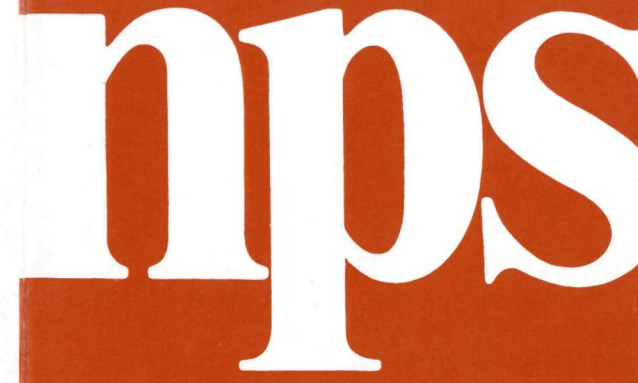
Acquiring display materials and equipment for museums and exhibits. Associations frequently provide museum exhibit materials when appropriated funds are unavailable. This can include the purchase of an antique or rare historical item, photographic equipment to assist in preparing an exhibit, or audio-visual equipment to aid in an interpretive display.

3 *Supporting special interpretive programs, such as living history demonstrations.* Many craft, military, camp life, or colonial home demonstrations are supported by financial and other types of assistance from associations. Frequently association seed-money provides testing periods for such projects before they become a part of the regular National Park Service program.

Supporting environmental education programs. It is not uncommon for an association to donate special equipment or literature for an environmental awareness field trip, or to charter a bus for urban children for a day-camp program. Dozens of other educational needs are supported with association funds: furnishing environmental reading rooms, special exhibits, sponsoring essay and photo contests, and providing guest lecturers for training, to name a few.

5 *Supporting park libraries and special nature and history reference collections.* Providing park research materials was one of the original functions of the early associations. This is continued today by the contribution of new books and reference works, the maintenance of libraries through the donation of librarian salaries, and, on occasion, the purchase or repair of equipment and materials used by park technicians for maintaining reference collections.

and what they do.



Other contributions include **6** such items as photographic equipment and supplies, reproductions of antique items for exhibits and demonstrations, and, in some cases, the purchase of land which is held for later NPS acquisition. Associations host environmental seminars and special interpretive and commemorative events, provide informational services and personnel, and assist other non-profit educational organizations in park interpretive programs. Cooperating associations now contribute more than one million dollars to the National Park Service each year in financial and services assistance. Since 1960 their total contributions have been more than five million dollars.

These are but a few of the many activities in which National Park Service cooperating associations participate. While De Tocqueville's definition of American associations was broad in scope, his evaluation of their versatility was correct. Although unsung in most of their work, National Park Service cooperating associations are directly responsible in many ways for enhancing the public enjoyment of our national parks.

Alaska National Parks & Monuments Assoc.
334 West 5th Avenue, Suite 250
Anchorage, Alaska 99501
Glacier Bay National Monument
Katmai National Monument
Mount McKinley National Park
Sitka National Historical Park

Badlands Natural History Association
P.O. Box 72
Interior, South Dakota 57750

Big Bend National History Association
Big Bend National Park,
Texas 79834

Bighorn Canyon National History Assoc.
P.O. Box 458
Fort Smith, Montana 59035

Bryce Canyon Natural History Association
Bryce Canyon, Utah 84717

Cabrillo Historical Association
P.O. Box 6175
San Diego, California 92106

Canyonlands Natural History Association
446 South Main Street
Moab, Utah 84532

Arches - Canyonlands - Natural Bridges National Parks
Glen Canyon National Recreation Area
Rainbow Bridge National Monument

Capitol Reef Natural History Association
Torrey, Utah 84775

Carlsbad Caverns Natural History Assoc.
3225 National Parks Highway
Carlsbad, New Mexico 88220
Carlsbad Caverns and Guadalupe Mountains National Parks

Coastal Parks Association
Point Reyes National Seashore
Point Reyes, California 94956

Fort Point National Historic Site
Golden Gate National Recreation Area
Alcatraz Island
John Muir National Historic Site
Muir Woods National Monument
Redwood National Park

Colorado-Black Canyon of the Gunnison National History Association
P.O. Box 438
Fruita, Colorado 81521

Crater Lake Natural History Association
P.O. Box 128
Klamath Falls, Oregon 97601
John Day Fossil Beds National Monument
Oregon Caves National Monument

Devils Tower Natural History Association
Devils Tower, Wyoming 82714

Dinosaur Nature Association
P.O. Box 127
Dinosaur, Utah 81610

Eastern National Park & Monument Assoc.
314 Market Street
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19106

Abraham Lincoln Birthplace National Historic Site
Acadia National Park
Allegheny Portage Railroad National Historic Site
Andersonville National Historic Site
Andrew Johnson National Historic Site
Apostle Islands National Lakeshore
Appomattox Court House National Historical Park
Arkansas Post National Memorial
Assateague Island National Seashore
Blue Ridge Parkway
Booker T. Washington National Monument
Buffalo National River
Cape Cod National Seashore
Cape Hatteras National Seashore
Carl Sandburg Home National Historic Site
Chalmette National Historic Park
Chickamauga & Chattanooga National Military Park
Christiansted National Historic Site
Colonial National Historical Park
Jamestown Glasshouse
Yorktown Battlefield
Cumberland Gap National Historical Park
Cumberland Island National Seashore
Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area
DeSoto National Memorial
Edison National Historic Site

Effigy Mounds National Monument
Federal Hall National Memorial
Fire Island National Seashore
Fort Caroline National Memorial
Fort Donelson National Military Park
Fort Matanzas National Monument

Fort Necessity National Battlefield
Fort Pulaski National Monument
Fort Smith National Historic Site
Fort Stanwix National Monument
Fort Sumter National Monument
Fredericksburg & Spotsylvania County Bat. Mem. Nat. Mil. Park & Cemetery
Gateway National Recreation Area
Jamaica Bay Unit
Sandy Hook Unit
General Grant National Memorial
George Rogers Clark National Historical Park
Gettysburg National Military Park & Cemetery
Grand Portage National Monument
Guilford Courthouse National Military Park
Gulf Islands National Seashore
Florida Unit
Mississippi Unit
Herbert Hoover National Historic Site
Homestead National Monument
Hopewell Village National Historic Site
Horseshoe Bend National Military Park
Hot Springs National Park
Independence National Historical Park
Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore
Kings Mountain National Military Park
Lincoln Boyhood National Memorial
Longfellow National Historic Site
Mammoth Cave National Park
Manassas National Battlefield Park
Minute Man National Historical Park
Moore's Creek National Military Park
Morristown National Historical Park
Mound City Group National Monument
Natchez Trace Parkway
Pea Ridge National Military Park
Perry's Victory & International Peace Memorial National Monument
Petersburg National Battlefield
Pictured Rocks National Lakeshore
Richmond National Battlefield Park

Russell Cave National Monument
Saint-Gaudens National Historic Site
Salem Maritime National Historic Site
San Juan National Historic Site
Saratoga National Historical Park
Saugus Ironworks National Historic Site
Shiloh National Military Park & Cemetery
Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore
St. Croix National Scenic Riverway
Stones River National Battlefield & Cemetery
Theodore Roosevelt Birthplace National Historic Site
Vicksburg National Military Park & Cemetery
Virgin Islands National Park
William Howard Taft National Historic Site
Wright Brothers National Memorial

Everglades Natural History Association
P.O. Box 279
Homestead, Florida 33030

Fort Clatsop Historical Association
Route 3, Box 604-FC
Astoria, Oregon 97103

Fort Frederica Association
Route 4, Box 286-C
St. Simons Island, Georgia 31522

Fort Laramie Historical Association
Fort Laramie, Wyoming 82212

George Washington Carver Birthplace District Association
P.O. Box 38
Diamond, Missouri 64840
Wilson's Creek National Battlefield

Glacier Natural History Association
West Glacier, Montana 59936

Grand Canyon Natural History Association
P.O. Box 399
Grand Canyon, Arizona 86023

Grand Teton Natural History Association
P.O. Box 67
Moose, Wyoming 83012
Fossil Butte National Monument
John D. Rockefeller, Jr. Memorial Parkway

Great Smoky Mountains National History Association
Gatlinburg, Tennessee 37738

Harpers Ferry Historical Association
P.O. Box 147
Harpers Ferry, West Virginia 25425

Hawaii Natural History Association
Hawaii Volcanoes National Park, Hawaii-96718
City of Refuge National Historical Park
Haleakala National Park
Puukohola Heiau National Historic Site

Hyde Park Historical Association
Home of Franklin D. Roosevelt & Vanderbilt Mansion National Historic Sites
P.O. Box 235
Hyde Park, Dutchess County, New York 12538

Isle Royale National History Association
87 North Ripley Street
Houghton, Michigan 49931

Jefferson National Expansion Historical Association
11 North Fourth Street
St. Louis, Missouri 63102

Joshua Tree Natural History Association
P.O. Box 875
Twentynine Palms, California 92277

Kennesaw Mountain Historical Association
P.O. Box 1167
Marietta, Georgia 30061

Lake States National Park Association
Voyageurs National Park
P.O. Box 50
International Falls, Minnesota 56649

Lava Beds Natural History Association
P.O. Box 867
Tulelake, California 96134

Lehman Caves Natural History Association
Baker, Nevada 89311

Loomis Museum Association
Lassen Volcanic National Park
Mineral, California 96063

Mesa Verde Museum Association
Mesa Verde National Park,
Colorado 81330
Hovenweep National Monument

Ocmulgee National Monument Association
Ocmulgee National Monument
1207 Emery Highway
Macon, Georgia 31201

Oregon Trail Museum Association
Scotts Bluff & Agate Fossil Beds National Monuments
P.O. Box 427
Gering, Nebraska 69341

Ozark National Riverways Historical Association
P.O. Box 448
Van Buren, Missouri 63965

Pacific Northwest National Parks Assoc.
523 Fourth and Pike Bldg., Room 807
Seattle, Washington 98101
Coulee Dam National Recreation Area
Fort Vancouver National Historic Site
Mount Rainier National Park
Nez Perce National Historical Park
North Cascades Complex
Olympic National Park
San Juan Island National Historical Park
Whitman Mission National Historic Site

Parks & History Association
1100 Ohio Drive, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20242
Antietam National Battlefield Site
Arlington House
Catoclin Mountain Park
Catoclin Mountain Store
Clara Barton House
C & O Canal (Hancock Station)
Ford's Theatre
Fort Washington
Glen Echo Park
Great Falls, Va.
Great Falls Tavern
Greenbelt Park
Lincoln Memorial
National Aquarium
National Visitor's Center
Pierce Mill
Prince William Forest Park
Rock Creek Nature Center
Washington Monument

Petrified Forest Museum Association
Petrified Forest National Park, Arizona 86025

Pipestone Indian Shrine Association
P.O. Box 727
Pipestone, Minnesota 56164

Rocky Mountain Nature Association

Rocky Mountain National Park
Estes Park, Colorado 80517
Bent's Old Fort National Historic Site
Florissant Fossil Beds National Monument
Shadow Mountain National Recreation Area

Sequoia Natural History Association
Sequoia & Kings Canyon National Parks
Three Rivers, California 93271

Shenandoah National History Association
P.O. Box 387
Luray, Virginia 22835

Southwest Parks & Monuments Association
P.O. Box 1562
Globe, Arizona 85501
Aztec Ruins National Monument
Bandelier National Monument
Canyon de Chelly National Monument
Capulin Mountain National Monument
Casa Grande Ruins National Monument
Chaco Canyon National Monument
Chamizal National Memorial
Channel Islands National Monument
Chickasaw National Recreation Area
Chiricahua National Monument
Coronado National Memorial
Curecanti National Recreation Area
El Morro National Monument
Fort Bowie National Historic Site
Fort Davis National Historic Site
Fort Larned National Historic Site
Fort Union National Monument
Gila Cliff Dwellings National Monument
Golden Spike National Historic Site
Gran Quivira National Monument
Great Sand Dunes National Monument
Hubbell Trading Post National Historic Site
Lake Mead National Recreation Area
Lake Meredith-Alibates National Recreation Area
Los Angeles Field Office

Lyndon B. Johnson National Historic Site
Montezuma Castle National Monument
Navajo National Monument
Organ Pipe Cactus National Monument
Padre Island National Seashore
Pecos National Monument
Pinnacles National Monument
Saguaro National Monument
Sunset Crater & Wupatki National Monuments
Timpanogos Cave National Monument
Tonto National Monument
Tumacacori National Monument
Tuzigoot National Monument
Walnut Canyon National Monument
White Sands National Monument

Theodore Roosevelt Nature & History Assoc.
Theodore Roosevelt National Memorial Park
Medora, North Dakota 58645
Fort Union Trading Post National Historic Site

Whiskeytown Natural History Association
P.O. Box 188
Whiskeytown, California 96095

Wind Cave Natural History Association
Wind Cave National Park
Hot Springs, South Dakota 57747
Jewel Cave National Monument

Yellowstone Library and Museum Association
Yellowstone National Park, Wyoming 82190
Big Hole National Battlefield
Grant-Kohrs Ranch National Historic Site

Yosemite Natural History Association
P.O. Box 545
Yosemite National Park, California 95389

Zion National History Association
Zion National Park
Springdale, Utah 84767
Cedar Breaks National Monument
Pipe Spring National Monument

cooperating associations: