



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Cumberland Island National Seashore
P.O. Box 806
St. Marys, GA 31558



EXPERIENCE YOUR AMERICA



Park News

National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior



The Mullet Wrapper



The official newsletter of
Cumberland Island National Seashore

March through May 2009

Dungeness Ruins post stabilization completion. (NPS Photo)

Letter From The Superintendent

By FRED BOYLES

I am excited to be reporting on board Cumberland Island National Seashore in early June. It is an honor to be selected as Superintendent of this remarkable resource. My interest in Cumberland Island began in 1976 while my wife and I were teachers in Waycross when we first visited the park on a day trip. A few months later I brought a Scout group backpacking into the backcountry and saw a part of the island that most visitors don't see. From that point on I was hooked to the beauty and mystique of this extraordinary place. For many years since those first experiences, I have compared notes with other visitors to the park who have told me of their special experiences on the Island. I am pleased that the park staff and its partners have worked diligently to preserve its resources while providing for the special park experiences that only Cumberland can provide.

A few months ago I was talking to a person from Atlanta about the value of National Parks and he told me that two Georgia parks had affected him in a profound way. One was Andersonville National Historic Site, where I worked at the time. The other was Cumberland Island. I feel privileged to have the chance to work at both areas. A

meaningful park experience can help visitors become advocates for the cause of preserving resources for future generations. With both natural and historic resources in peril all over the planet, we have an important mission to expose our 80,000+ yearly visitors to the stewardship ethic that guides the management of the National Park Service. It is my sincere aspiration that with your help, I can guide Cumberland Island to a new era of stewardship and help provide each of our visitors with the special experience unique to this remarkable resource.

I look forward to meeting everyone who cares for the Seashore.



Fred Boyles
Superintendent

My detail as the acting Superintendent is quickly coming to a close. I leave pleased, knowing that another acting Superintendent is not following behind me but that a permanent Superintendent will be reporting for duty on June 8th. I have spoken with Fred Boyles on several occasions and he is looking forward to rolling up his sleeves and getting to work with the staff and community on the pressing issues at Cumberland.

There are many of you that I have not had the opportunity to meet. For those of you that I have met and worked with I want to thank you for your hospitality and willingness to take the time to bring me up to speed on the various tasks of the day. I now know more about feral hogs than I ever thought I would. I continue to be impressed with the dedicated NPS personnel I meet throughout the service and I have seen that same commitment to service here at Cumberland.

At the conclusion of my detail I will return to my duties as Superintendent of De Soto National Memorial where I have been since 2007.

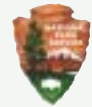
I started my federal career while still earning my bachelors degree in resource management from George Mason University in Virginia. An internship with the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) in Washington, D.C. led to a three year stint with BLM out at Red Rock Canyon in Nevada. I then came back east and began my park service career as a Ranger on the National Mall. Since then I have worked at Great Falls Park, the office of International Affairs, Great Smoky Mountains National Park and now at De Soto National Memorial.

My wife Caroline and I got married in 1997 at Prince William Forest Park, an NPS site in northern Virginia. Our daughter Charlotte is 7 and enjoys earning a Junior Ranger badge at all the parks we visit. My best wishes on your success as you move forward in this new chapter at Cumberland Island. Busy days are ahead of the staff: bird and turtle nesting seasons are starting, YCC work programs are underway, multiple maintenance projects are being carried out throughout the island, and on the horizon is the next phase of the newly signed Transportation Management Plan is approaching.

Thanks again for your kindness and support during my time here and giving me the opportunity to experience this treasure of the National Park Service.



Scott Pardue
Acting Superintendent



**National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior**

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Justin Helton
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Editorial Consultant:
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Wildlife Biologist



All Employees Mandatory Meeting

Please plan to attend one of the following:

Monday, June 8, 2009
at 3:30pm in the Bachlott House

or

Wednesday, June 10, 2009
at 2:30pm in the YCC Kitchen

Superintendent Fred Boyles

*Please RSVP to Justin Helton no later than
June 4, 2009 at extension 226
and inform him which meeting you will
be attending.*

Hints from Helton

How to find a lost file on your Computer

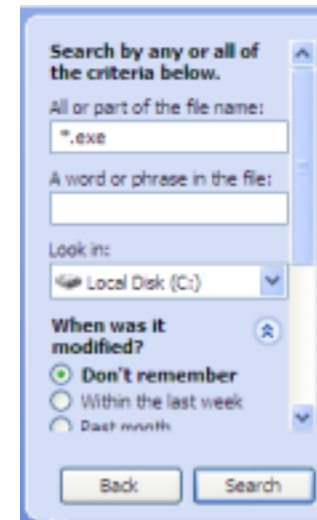
By JUSTIN HELTON

I recommend you try to search for a file with its file extensions (for example for word files, type *.doc, Excel *.xls, Acrobat *.pdf, *.ppt and *.exe for executable files). If you don't know the name of file but know that it contains a string of text then try to search for files containing specific text, type the text you want to find from any file or folder. This is a time taking process but creates very precise results. In "Look in", click the drive, folder, or network you want to search. To save time, always select the specified drive or location instead of the whole computer.

Click Start Button, point to Search, and then click For File or Folders, a Search Results dialog box will appear. In "Search for files or folders" type the file name or folder name you want to find in the "A word or phrase in the file" search box.

To specify additional search criteria, click Search Options, and then click one or more of the following options to narrow your search:

- Select Date to look for files that were created or modified on or between specific dates.
- Select Type to look for files of a specific type, such as a text or WordPad document.
- Select Size to look for files of a specific size.
- Select Advanced Options to specify additional search criteria.



Quote Corner

"The time is always right to do what is right."

-Martin Luther King Jr.

Upcoming TELnet Courses

For a full listing of upcoming courses, go to <http://www.nps.gov/training/tel/schedule.htm>

May 21st
12:00pm - 1:00pm
"FWS - Cryptozoology: Bigfoot -- Myth or Reality?"
Course Code: FWS-2009-0521

Last Day to Register: June 1st
FWS Historian Mark Madison hosts an interview with wildlife educator Larry Batson.

June 11th
12:30pm - 4:30pm
"Legal Update"
Course Code: NPS-LAW2000
Last Day to Register: June 10th

These sessions feature updates on current legal issues from recent court decisions affecting commissioned employees as well as reviews of legal standards affecting law enforcement. The course is presented multiple times through the year, with different instructors and topics depending on instructor availability and scheduling. Details for a specific broadcast can be found on the NPS Law Enforcement Training Center website.

June 12th
12:30pm - 3:30pm
"LE Refresher"
Course Code: NPS-LAW2010
Last Day to Register: June 11th

This course will cover a variety of topics dealing with law enforcement. Each session will have a different topic. Because of changing schedules and availability of instructors, check the NPS Law Enforcement Training Center website for the topics to be covered during each session.

June 15th
1:00pm - 3:00pm
"Retirement Planning for New Employees"
Course Code: NPS-UNC6300

Last Day to Register: June 14th
This training is designed to enable employees who are just beginning their careers to plan prudently for their retirement.

An expert in Federal benefits and a financial planner are the presenters. Discussion includes the importance of planning for retirement from the beginning of a career, Thrift Savings Plan (TSP) options, and pitfalls to avoid when investing for retirement. This course is most appropriate for employees enrolled in FERS. This course is part of NPS Fundamentals III: Taking Charge of Your Future. The online course "Retirement Planning" in NPS Fundamentals III should, ideally, be completed before participating in the TEL course.

June 24th
1:00pm - 4:00pm
"Conducted Activities for Historic Sites"
Course Code: NPS-INT2211T

Designed for interpreters already familiar with the IDP competencies for Conducted Activities and Interpretive Talk. During the course of the afternoon (three hours) interpreters will be guided step-by-step to develop a conducted activity for their historic site. The goal is to help interpreters plan for a program that meets the NPS standards for this competency.

Administration

Please think about ordering your uniforms before the last months of the fiscal year. As you know, the web site for ordering is: www.vfsolutions.com/lma

The FLTCIP [Federal Long Term Care Insurance Program] has not had an open season since the program was created in 2002. However, OPM has said that a new open enrollment period will be offered in which current enrollees can choose to keep their premiums level by making certain benefit changes, keeping their current benefit structure, or switch to a new benefit package without underwriting. OPM to date has not announced the effective date of the open season or of the premium and benefit changes but I will keep you posted when I hear.

Good news! All three TSP stock-oriented funds posted substantial gains in April, with the small company stock S fund leading the way with a 15 percent increase, followed by the international stock I fund, up 12.13 percent and the large company stock C fund, up 9.58 percent.

Our park has implemented the new payroll software, QuickTime. We have been slow in getting all the park employees trained on the new program but please expect to be scheduled for this training soon.

We are pleased to welcome Loretta Akemon as our new YCC Leader. The new enrollees are Robert Farmer, Bruno DeWitt, Jonathan Lassiter, Tyler Lewis, Stephanie Wiley and Ashley Grigsby. The 2009 YCC program begins on May 26 and will end on July 17. As we do every year, we had a great deal of interest in the program and as of the May first deadline for application submissions, we had received a total of 44 applications.

We are working hard on getting our base funding as well as our project funding distributed. As of the first of May, we had completed forty Purchase Requests. We also received \$172,000 in stimulus funding to complete three projects – solar lights on the docks, HVAC units in the dormitory and rehab of the island's dormitory.

Until next time.*julie*

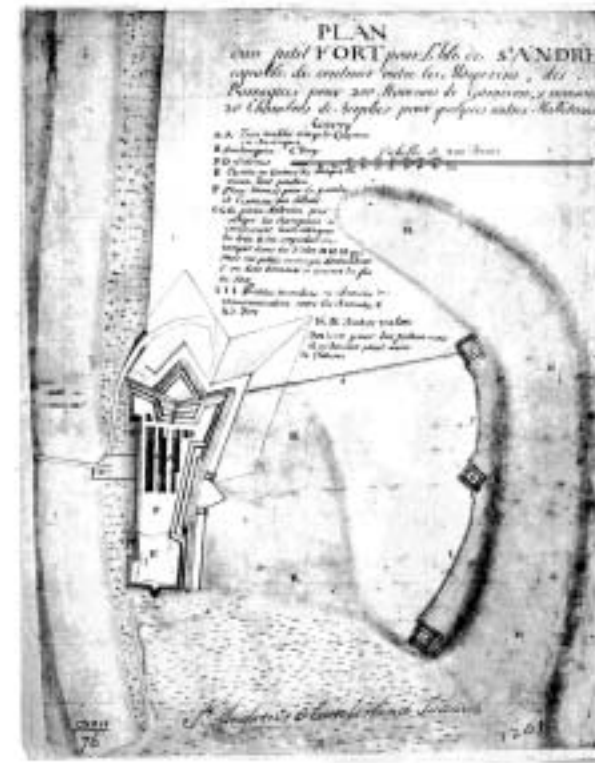


Exciting Excavations of the North End

By STEVEN KIDD

During March and April a team of archeologists from the National Park Service's Southeast Archeological Center took part in excavations on the north end of Cumberland Island. The goal of this project was to recover evidence in the form of artifacts and features (soil color stains which indicate the former location of posts, walls, and ditches) of the remains of Fort Saint Andrews.

The fort, which was established by James Oglethorpe in 1736, served as a lookout for up to 300 British soldiers stationed as a deterrent to Spanish encroachment into British held territories. Historical records indicate that the fort, which was star-shaped, was constructed of timbers and sand and was approximately 20 meters north-south by 40 meters east-west. Examination of the Hargrett map (right) indicates that the small four-sided fort labeled 'E' in the lower left hand corner was the existing fort and the surrounding drawings were for a much larger structure that had been planned but never completed. The fort was abandoned in 1742 prior to an attack by the Spanish, who succeeded in destroying the



Hargrett map (University of Georgia Libraries)

fort after only six years in use.



If you note the stratigraphy in the wall of the excavation site, you can make out the outline of a ditch.

Erosion of the high bluffs on the north end of the island has been an ongoing concern for the integrity of the Fort St. Andrews remains, and the decision to recover as much information about the fort before it was completely lost was made in 2006. Since that time considerable archeological excavations have taken place which revealed the remains of the ditch surrounding the fort and the remains of palisades within the ditch, which served as an additional means of defense (left).

During the 2009 work (below) the SEAC archeologists recovered numerous artifacts related to the fort occupation



Field crew pictured in excavation site.

including musket balls, gunflints, and buttons from the soldier's uniforms. The artifacts collected clearly date to the occupation of the fort (1736-1742). The excavations focused on the west edge of the fort where erosion threatened to destroy any remains of the fort. These excavations clearly show that the ditch surrounding the fort extended in this direction for at least 14 meters before erosion of the bluff edge ended the excavations. Future work at Fort Saint Andrews will hopefully reveal more about the fascinating history of Cumberland Island during the 18th century.

Weirdness in the Grass!

By SARAH L. CORBETT, I&M PROGRAM BOTANIST

Where on earth could you find a plant that lacks chlorophyll (in other words is not green), is parasitic on a fungus which is symbiotic with oaks and beech, and is an uncommon orchid? In the lawn of the Bachlott house of course! While on a recent afternoon walk, I encountered the odd but lovely plant *Corallorhiza wisteriana* (Spring coralroot) in the lawn on the North side of the Bachlott house. Spring coralroot is a parasitic, non-green orchid. The orchid is parasitic not on another plant, but on a mycorrhizal fungus.



Mycorrhizal fungi are fungi that live in symbiosis with plants, getting food in the form of carbohydrates from the plant while expanding the surface area of a plant's roots to help in the uptake of water and nutrients. The orchid steals carbons from a mycorrhizal fungus that lives in a symbiotic relationship with oaks and beech. For this reason, Spring coralroot cannot be transplanted to your garden, as you would have to live in an oak or beech forest that had the correct mycorrhizal fungus present for Spring coralroot to survive. Nonetheless, you can enjoy seeing this odd and uncommon plant until mid-March right in our National Park Service neighborhood!



Maintenance Man

By CARL DAVID



Kelly Kennard

We would like to welcome our new maintenance employee, Kelly Kennard. Kelly is originally from Lancaster, Ohio. He served 21 years in the United States Navy and retired as a Senior Chief. He has lived in St. Mary's for the past 18 years and is excited about his opportunity to work with us at Cumberland Island. Please make Kelly feel welcome, and introduce yourself to him when you see him out and about.

2009 Hurricanes

By JULIE MEEKS

The pre-approved list of names for tropical storms and hurricanes for the upcoming season are as follows:

- | | |
|-----------|----------|
| Ana | Larry |
| Bill | Mindy |
| Claudette | Nicholas |
| Danny | Odette |
| Erika | Peter |
| Fred | Rose |
| Grace | Sam |
| Henri | Teresa |
| Ida | Victor |
| Joaquin | Wanda |
| Kate | |

These lists have been generated by the National Hurricane Center since 1953. Initially, the list only contained names of females but since 1979, the list alternates between male and female names. However, there is never a 'Q' or 'U' name included. There are six lists that continue to rotate but if there is a devastating hurricane then that name is retired.

Cumberland Honored

By JUSTIN HELTON

The St. Marys Garden Club honored Cumberland Island National Seashore as the March 2009 recipient of their award for contributing to the beautification of downtown St. Marys. Accepting the award on behalf of the National Park Service is Visitor Use Assistant Ron Crawford.



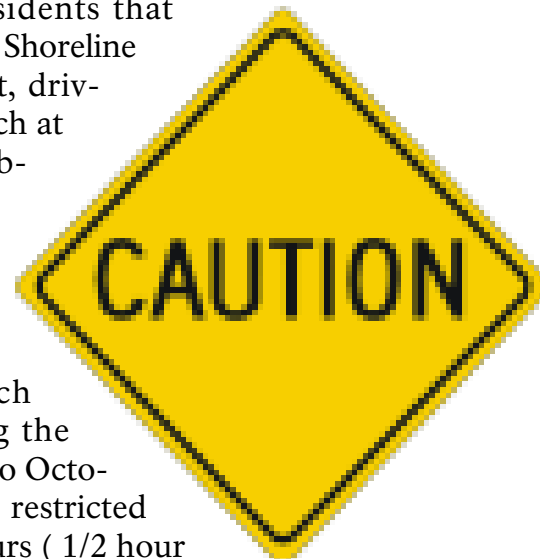
Visitor Use Assistant Ron Crawford with the award.

Cumberland Island National Seashore would like to take this opportunity to thank the St. Marys Garden Club for their wonderful award. We look forward to continuing to contribute to the beauty that is St. Marys.

Night Beach Driving Regulations In Effect

By DOUG HOFFMAN

A reminder to all park staff and island residents that per the Georgia Shoreline Protection Act, driving on the beach at night is prohibited from May 1st to October 31st each year. Specifically stated: "Beach driving during the period May 1 to October 31 shall be restricted to daylight hours (1/2 hour before sunrise to 1/2 hour after sunset), ..."



Turtle Tech News

By DOUG HOFFMAN



The first turtle tech of the season has arrived. Laura Early arrived on May 11th to begin her internship with the park. Laura is a student at Clemson University majoring in biology with a minor in journalism. She is interested in pursuing a career in conservation and/or education. Laura is already a worldly traveler, having completed study abroad courses in India and



Laura Early

Dominica. No stranger to the national park system, she participated in a study abroad program at Yellowstone National Park working with coyotes and bison.

Our second intern arrived on May 19th. Anda Naumoff will be assisting the turtle program for the first half of the season. Anda attends Kent State University in Ohio and is majoring in Zoology. She completed an SCA internship at Inyo National Forest in 2008 working on trail maintenance. Some of Anda's interests include ecological restoration, trail construction, and wildlife management.

Please welcome both interns to the park when you see them.



Anda Naumoff

RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

First Turtle Nest of the Season

By DOUG HOFFMAN

Cumberland recorded its first loggerhead sea turtle nest of the 2009 season on May 11th. The nest marks the beginning of what is anticipated to be another busy year along the Georgia coast. Cumberland Island turtle interns will be patrolling the beach daily from May through October searching for new nests and monitoring existing nests until they hatch.

Welcome!

Sarah Corbett is the new Botanist stationed at the Cumberland Island Field Office for the Southeast Coast Inventory and Monitoring Network. Sarah is a South Georgia native, and grew up just west of the Okefenokee Swamp in rural Echols County. A long time plant aficionado and apparent “tree hugger” (see photo), Sarah received her Master’s Degree in Botany in 2004 from the University of Florida. She obtained her undergraduate degree in Biology from Valdosta State University in 2000. Prior to joining the National Park Service, she was employed with the Florida Department of Environmental Protection’s Wetland Evaluation and Delineation Section as a wetland ecologist and botanist. Prior to her work with DEP, her adventures included stints as a botany intern at the Smithsonian, an ecology intern for the University of Georgia on Sapelo Island, a field botanist for the University of Pennsylvania, and an agricultural inspector with U.S. Customs and Border Protection. She lives with her extremely fat cat Simon and spends much of her spare time with her family in Echols County.



Sarah Corbett, an apparent tree hugger.

Bird Nesting Season: Beach Drivers Use Caution

By DOUG HOFFMAN

We are at that time of year when numerous species of shorebirds use Cumberland for nesting and rearing chicks, including several species of concern such as Wilson’s Plovers and American Oystercatchers. Both species will have chicks on the beach soon. The chicks start out literally the size of cotton balls and feed between the dunes and surf. Scientific studies have shown a direct correlation to the amount of beach driving/human activity and survival of shorebird chicks. Please use extra caution when driving on the beach for the next several months to ensure the survival of these birds. The Resource Management Division posts nesting areas along the beach each year to prevent disturbance from pedestrians and vehicles. Please keep an eye out for the “birds nesting” signs and give the area a wide buffer as you travel by.



Boaters, Slow for Manatees!

By DOUG HOFFMAN



Manatee off the Dungeness Dock on Cumberland Island that has been scarred by boat propellers.

Manatees will once again return to Cumberland as the May sun warms the waters of our western shores and tidal creeks. These “sea cows” are a common sight at Dungeness and Sea Camp docks through the summer months, departing southward as the waters cool in the fall. It is common to see up to seven manatees at one time basking around our docks during low tide. The most common cause of death and injury to this federally listed endangered species is boat strikes. Please use caution this summer when boating around the island docks and tidal creeks.

Maintenance Division

By DAVID CASEY

Fee Demo Project

Dungeness Fee Demo Project One of this years feature Fee Demo project is underway and expected to be completed in mid May. All of the decking and handrails were completely replaced. Thanks to all that have helped manage the Visitors in this vicinity.



Dungeness Dock

Dungeness Stabilization



Dungeness Ruins after most vegetation has been removed and the structure has been stabilized.

The Dungeness Stabilization project for 2008/2009 has been completed. The contract was completed without any injuries or even close calls during the stabilization. A lot of safety measures were taken during the project and we hope that all the efforts will ensure a stable ruin for years to come. In the picture you can see the white parging (plaster) on the top of the walls to prevent moisture penetration.

Our next Repair Rehab project slated for this year is the exterior rehabilitation of the Dungeness Carriage House. Again excuse our mess, however Visitor services will not be compromised. A percentage of the stucco elements will be replaced, woodwork around doors and windows repaired, lead paint abated, and exterior stucco completely repainted.



Kudos Korner



The Cumberland Financial Group
Knowledge Wisdom Experience

Charles A. Smith CLU ChFC AEP
Registered Representative
CEO

20 Apr 09
Thanks to everyone - I had a great experience & really enjoyed the park. You all make the park a special place - both by your work & just being you. Thanks again & I hope to see you again -
Aleta

Good job Renee - Thanks, Aleta 3/14/09



March 12, 2009

Ms. Aleta Knight, Superintendent
Cumberland Island National Park Service
101 Wheeler Street
St. Marys, GA 31558

Dear Ms. Knight :

I would like to take this opportunity on behalf of the 2009 Camden County Leadership Class to recognize the outstanding work of your park service associate, Renee Noe. Renee hosted our tour of Cumberland Island last Thursday. We were really impressed by her imaginative and creative approach to storytelling. She made the past come alive and did so with object lessons that made us pay attention and actually remember the important points of the story. Her knowledge, engaging style and unique perspective made the day long visit compelling and very valuable.

Please know our appreciation for her generous hospitality and unique professionalism. We would love to have her guide our tour in 2010.

Best wishes for every continued success,

Charles A. Smith
Chairman Leadership Camden Class of 2009

Not quite comparable to the Dungeness gardens, but enough to make the days a bit brighter.
Thank you again for your insights and generosity. Say hello to Renee for me. And please do thank all of your colleagues at the Park Service for their brave and wondrous acts of preservation and guidance during the fire last summer. The refreshed forests are rich with new growth!
Sincerely,
Sarah Candler



Safety First!!!



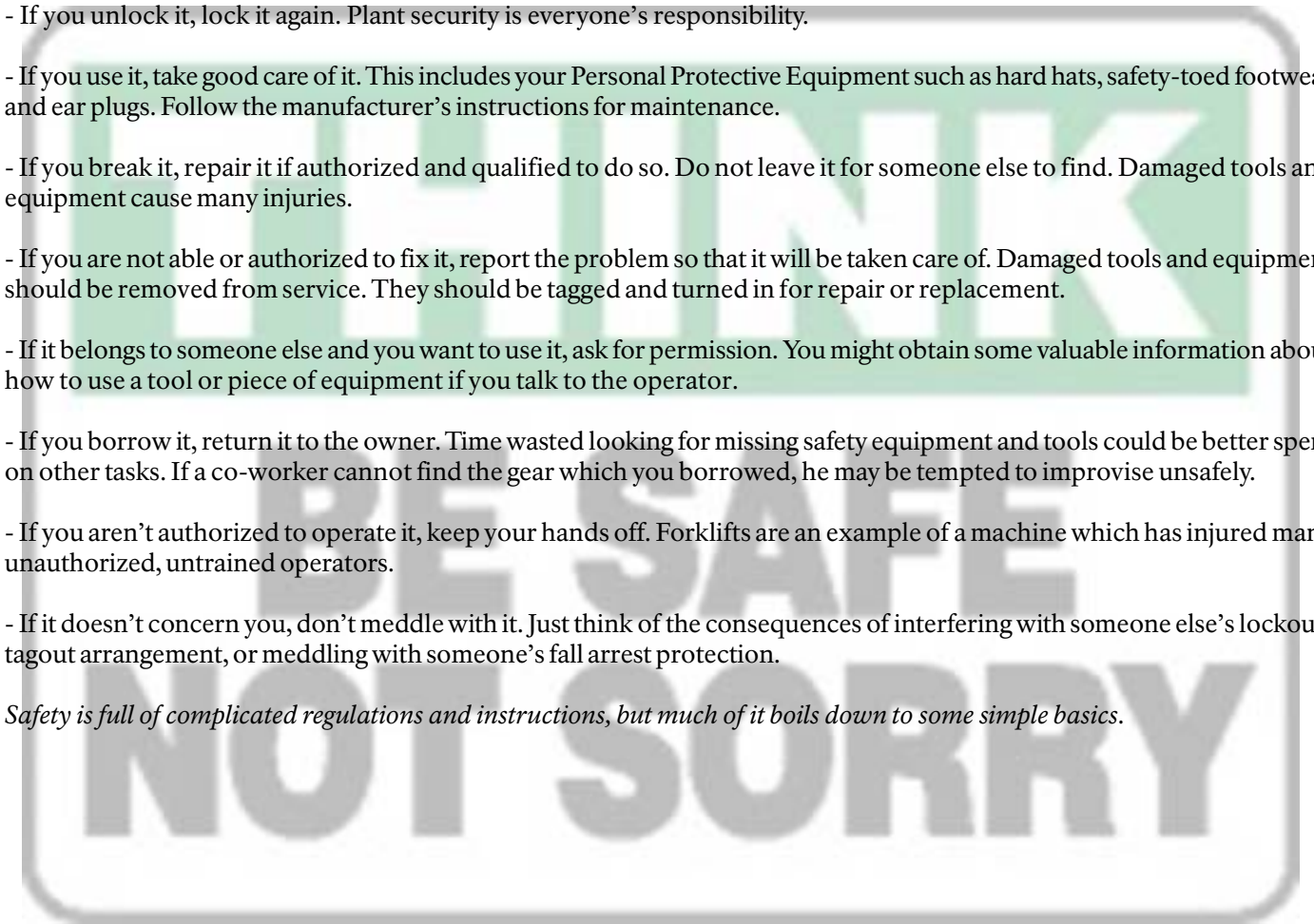
Safety can be a complicated business, when you consider the rules and regulations for dealing with hazards involving chemicals, gases and fast-moving machinery.

But in many situations, safe behavior is simply responsible behavior. In fact, there is a striking resemblance between the rules we learned in childhood for being responsible around home or school, and the guidelines for safe behavior at work. As children, we learned that we were supposed to clean up any messes we made, and we were not to touch dangerous items without permission and supervision. These and other simple guidelines are also important for working safely as adults.

Here are some tips for working safely. They will probably sound pretty familiar; we have been told these things for years:

- If you make a mess, clean it up. Many accidents are caused by spills and clutter on the floor. Accumulated debris has provided fuel for many workplace fires. A spill of coffee may seem insignificant, but it can contribute to a serious slip and fall by a co-worker.
- Report any hazards to your supervisor. This can include unsafe working conditions and unsafe procedures.
- If you move it, put it back. Keeping things where they belong reduces clutter in the work area, and also reduces the chance of accidents.
- If you open it, then close it. Fire doors are a good example of something you should always close behind you.
- If you turn it on, you should turn it off. Don't assume that someone else will do so. In fact, don't assume anything.
- If you unlock it, lock it again. Plant security is everyone's responsibility.
- If you use it, take good care of it. This includes your Personal Protective Equipment such as hard hats, safety-toed footwear and ear plugs. Follow the manufacturer's instructions for maintenance.
- If you break it, repair it if authorized and qualified to do so. Do not leave it for someone else to find. Damaged tools and equipment cause many injuries.
- If you are not able or authorized to fix it, report the problem so that it will be taken care of. Damaged tools and equipment should be removed from service. They should be tagged and turned in for repair or replacement.
- If it belongs to someone else and you want to use it, ask for permission. You might obtain some valuable information about how to use a tool or piece of equipment if you talk to the operator.
- If you borrow it, return it to the owner. Time wasted looking for missing safety equipment and tools could be better spent on other tasks. If a co-worker cannot find the gear which you borrowed, he may be tempted to improvise unsafely.
- If you aren't authorized to operate it, keep your hands off. Forklifts are an example of a machine which has injured many unauthorized, untrained operators.
- If it doesn't concern you, don't meddle with it. Just think of the consequences of interfering with someone else's lockout-tagout arrangement, or meddling with someone's fall arrest protection.

Safety is full of complicated regulations and instructions, but much of it boils down to some simple basics.



First Aid / CPR / AED Training

By ERIC ULITALO

On February 24, 2009, Cumberland Island National Seashore held a First Aid, CPR course. The class instructor was Captain Don Colbert of the Jacksonville Fire Dept. Don, a veteran of the Cumberland Island NS training circuit, has taught classes for five years at Cumberland Island NS. 14 people were trained in Basic First Aid, CPR and AED. The training held annually helps maintain the high standards of the emergency medical response team at Cumberland Island National Seashore.



Ranger Dennis Curry and wife Jeanie practice tying a sling.



Course Instructor Captain Don Colbert



Park personnel and volunteers freshen up on their bandaging skills.

International Migratory Bird Day

By PAULINE WENTWORTH

Visitors to the Island celebrated International Migratory Bird Day on Saturday May 9. The United States celebrates these birds on the second Saturday in May. The theme for this year was Birds in Culture. The symbolism of birds historically as well as current beliefs was explored. Visitors could make a falcon mask to take home as a memento.

A total of nine stations were set up along the route from the Dungeness Dock through the historic district and then from the amphitheatre in the campground to the Sea Camp dock. Each station was designed to raise awareness about the hazards birds face as they migrate as well as increasing general information.

Learning what makes a bird a bird, how to use binoculars and field guides and playing Jeop-Birdy were a few of the stops. An obstacle course demonstrated the hazards of home life: glass windows, habitat loss and domestic cats, to name a few. Wind socks made from recycled water bottles and ribbons were a reminder that simple things like marking your glass windows with silhouettes or wind socks, cleaning bird feeders and keeping cats indoors can make a big difference. Think globally while acting locally. The festival was a success thanks to the volunteers who migrated to the island to help out. A big Thank You to them and Happy Migratory Bird day!



The Brown Thrasher, the state bird of Georgia

Dungeness Dairy Barn Foundation Uncovered

By JOHN FRY

For two weeks in March a Student Conservation High School Crew spent their Spring Break battling thick vegetation to uncover the remnants of the Dungeness Dairy. The 17 member crew included students from Vermont Academy and Kimball Union Academy in New England. The former dairy was located on the west side of Beach Field, which at the time served as pasture for the herd. All that remains of the operation are the foundations and the cupola from the milk shed. Until the crew went to work the structures were virtually invisible behind a screen of palmettos, wax myrtles, hackberry trees, red bays, cedars, vines, and other vegetation. The area has now been dramatically opened up and adds another element to the understanding and interpretation of the Carnegie period on the island (see historic and before/after photos below).



NPS Photo

Dungeness Dairy Barn, as it once stood.

VOLUNTEER!

By GINGER HOLLINGSWORTH-COX

Alternative Spring Breaks



Volunteer Grayson Powell (far right) with the Georgia Conservancy group.

Business as usual for Spring Break Work Groups on Cumberland Island

Under the leadership and direction of Back Country Volunteer Grayson Powell, volunteers such as Alternative Spring Break College Groups including Boston University, University of West Georgia, University of South Florida, University of New Hampshire, West Michigan University, Clean Coast of Savannah, Warren Wilson College, Georgia Conservancy and several high school and scout groups cleared every single trail in the designated Wilderness areas, as well as conducted miles of beach clean-ups.



Dumpsters full of trash from the beach clean-ups.

Welcome!

Marla Rader comes to us from Michigan, as a Student Conservation Association Volunteer Coordinator. She will assist in the summer intern program, as well as all aspects of operating a successful volunteer program. Marla has barely been here just over a month and had opportunities to participate in two VIP meetings, a partnership project meeting, an speaking engagement



Marla Rader (second from right) along with Interpreter Ginger Hollingsworth-Cox and Volunteer Edward Torgersen presenting the Volunteer Program at a local Kiwanis meeting.

with Kiwanis, a Jr. Ranger outreach event at the Kingsland Crawfish Festival, set up logistics for numerous island projects involving volunteers including Visitor Use Surveys, Migratory Bird Day, Archeology Sessions, and Storytelling Sessions, along with assisting at SC (Sea Camp), and of course

administrative tasks.

Summer Interns will be assisting this summer season with Saturday Evening Campfire Programs, a storytelling project, working with archives and web page development, and preparing educational trunks for teachers for next year. Please join us in making them feel welcome and appreciated.

Farewell!



Lyman Hemmert

Lyman Hemmert has just left us to enjoy a volunteer stint at Kings Mountain. Lyman is a long time volunteer for the Park Service and we were blessed to have him this past spring. His quiet demeanor and great stories were appreciated by staff, volunteers and the visitors alike. Lyman got us through

a busy busy March season with campers, spring break groups and day trippers

Maureen and Michael Barry were on the island only for a short time, but had a tremendous impact. Maureen is a published author and storyteller and spent lots of time on grants for future programs (look for fun this fall). She also conducted a storytelling workshop which got rave reviews from the participants, conducted storytelling for daily Dockside programs, and planned a facilitated storytelling for Jr. Ranger Day at the Kingsland Crawfish Festival. Her husband Michael was a blessing with his can do attitude about everything from fixing bikes, painting walls, transporting visitors and volunteers, meeting and greeting the public, building a puppet stage and many more “handyman” tasks. Look for them in the fall and more fun programs.



Maureen Barry conducting a program at the YCC Kitchen

Grayson Powell served as Back County volunteer living up at the North Cabin from November last year to May of this year. During this time he provided leadership for all the spring break work crews, assisted with managed hog hunts, did trail assessments, helped with logistics needs, minor maintenance, beach clean-ups, etc. He has recently earned his Wilderness First Responder Credentials and leaves us to accept a full time position with the Forestry Service as a Hot Shot firefighter. Grayson fully enjoyed his role with volunteers, his cabin in the back woods, and the opportunity to work with such a dedicated staff. We hope to see Grayson back next winter when the fire season is on sabbatical.

Rodney and Kathy Kling spent another winter with us at SC, along with Susan Ekstrom where they facilitate dockside programs, provided a presence for visitors at SC, while Rodney served as “handy man” with installing food cages, building bulletin boards, painting and other numerous tasks.

Museum Volunteers continue to keep the museum open most of the time. We are deeply grateful to our many dedicated volunteers, as well as to those who served and have now resigned. Look for a special feature in next issue about this dedicated bunch of folks.

Upcoming Events

Summer Programs start Memorial Day Weekend!

- Children’s craft programs at 2:00pm on Wednesday – Saturday at Sea Camp Ranger Station
- Friday and Saturday “Campfire” programs at the Sea Camp amphitheatre.

