









MAKES FAMILY CONTRIBUTION — Rear Admiral Rowland G. Freeman III, NWC Commander, presented a check for \$20 to Pat Leopard as his family's contribution to the TV Booster fund drive...

—Photo by Ron Allen

Outlook Grim for Solution To Navy's Health Care Problems

(Editor's Note: This is the second in a series of articles prepared for publication in The Rocketeer regarding the Navy's shortage of general medical officers...

The Navy is faced with a growing health care delivery situation in which the outlook is grim, with no immediate prospect for improvement.

Although never wavering from the commitment to take care of its own, a drastic loss of general medical practitioners, coupled with a constant or even increasing number of health care beneficiaries, has made it impossible for the Navy to provide all the medical care desired by all of the Navy family...

According to Vice Admiral David H. Bagley, Chief of Naval Personnel: "We are losing Navy physicians at the rate of more than one a day. And maybe even more important, we are losing precisely the type of physician our Navy family needs most—the general practitioner."

Initial Exams Limited

This decrease in the number of general medical officers means there are fewer doctors available to provide initial examination or treatment. By 1975, if the number of annual outpatient visits remains the same, one general physician will have to see 37 outpatients per day.

While the number of general physicians has dropped, the number of specialists has remained at a healthy level. But, the specialist cannot take the place of the generalist. In some cases his specialty has taken him away from general practice for as long as eight years.

Also, the medical profession itself does not allow many specialists to practice outside their certified specialty, at the risk of losing their professional certification.

The Navy is not alone in feeling the strain of a decreasing level of general practitioners. Other branches of the service and the nation itself are feeling the pinch of the

severe shortage of general physicians who provide primary care.

Until 1973, the military was guaranteed at least a few years of service from the small number of physicians being trained. With the abolishment of the draft, physicians were no longer required to serve in the Armed Forces.

Priorities for Care

"By Public Law, all active duty members will be given care. Also under the law, dependents and survivors of active duty members are entitled to health care providing that care is available.

Because of the distinctions in the law, non-active duty beneficiaries have been assigned the following priorities: (1) dependents and survivors of active duty members; (2) retirees, their dependents and survivors. These distinctions will only be observed when a medical treatment facility does not have the available personnel, space or sufficient medical specialists to provide care for all.

(To be continued)

Lineup of Special Entertainment

Entertainers who will appear during the TV Booster Bash tomorrow, and the times allotted to them, are as follows:

Table with 2 columns: Time and Performers. Includes Santa Claus, vocalists, Disney films, gymnastics, and various musical groups.

TV Booster Bash Set Tomorrow At Joshua Hall on Fairgrounds

Beginning tomorrow, residents of the Indian Wells Valley will be asked to give themselves a Christmas present that will last for the next 10 years—television.

At noon, the "TV Booster Bash" will begin at the Desert Empire Fairgrounds with the arrival of Santa Claus from the North Pole, via a NAF helicopter piloted by Lt. Ian Refo.

Recently, the Federal Communications Commission notified the China Lake Community Council—operators of the booster stations—that the equipment now in use must be replaced to conform with current regulations.

\$100,000 Is Needed

In order to replace the seven channels now being received in the valley, plus add three additional UHF channels, the sum of \$100,000 is needed.

"This will work out to approximately \$20 per household in the valley," said Don Stanton, who heads up the Council's TV Booster Committee.

Friends and neighbors will be the main attractions tomorrow during the "Bash," which is set for noon to 8 p.m., and will be followed by a country and western dance.

A complete list of the entertainers and the times they will be on stage can be found at the bottom of this page.

Part of Donation

Admission to the Booster Bash is \$5 per adult and \$1 for children 12 years of age and under. The entry price is deductible from the \$20 per household figure set by the fund drive's coordinators.

Persons who pay their \$20 will receive a stock certificate, signed by Bob Fletcher, president of the Community Council. This stock certificate can be displayed in a prominent place at the contributor's residence so he or she will not be asked for a further donation when the fund drive's coordinators stage a door-to-door campaign toward the latter part of the drive.

"Regarding door-to-door donations, I

must caution all persons living in the valley not to give money to any persons who represent themselves as collectors for the TV Booster Fund Drive.

"When the actual door-to-door soliciting begins, probably early in 1975, we will arm each campaigner with proper identification. Until that time, we are asking all citizens who wish to make donations now to mail a check or money order to the China Lake Community Council, P.O. Box 5443, China Lake, CA 93555," Mrs. Leopard added.

Residents who attend the TV Booster Bash tomorrow will not only be entertained, but they will be happy to learn that plenty of food and refreshments will be on hand.

IEEE Members To Hear Talk About Microprocessors

A talk on the subject of microprocessors and what they are will be presented at Monday's luncheon meeting of the China Lake Section of the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers.

The speaker at this meeting, which will begin at 11:30 a.m. in the Sun Room of the Commissioned Officers' Mess, will be Robert D. Hawkins, a computer simulation coordinator in the Systems Development Department's Computer Sciences Branch.

Hawkins came to China Lake nearly two years ago from the Lawrence Radiation Laboratories in Livermore, Calif., where he served as a systems consultant in such



Robert D. Hawkins

areas as laser development and nuclear weapons applications.

His previous experience also includes 15 years at North American Aviation, Inc. (now North American Rockwell) and at the Lockheed Missiles and Space Co., where he was involved in work in the fields of structures, guidance and controls and electronics systems.

A graduate of Ohio State University, where he received a BS degree in civil engineering, Hawkins also completed the requirements for undergraduate degrees in mathematics, physics and electrical engineering, in addition to pursuing graduate studies in these same fields.

During his talk on Monday to local IEEE members and all other interested persons, Hawkins will discuss the basic techniques of programming a microprocessor, which is a very small, general-purpose computer.

Opportunities . . .

(Continued from Page 2)

data, scripting the presentation and developing the visual material to complement the script. Job Relevant Criteria: Ability to deal effectively with others. Experience in script writing. Ability to effectively develop visual material. File applications for the above with June Adams, Code 656, Rm. 208, Ph. 2577.

Annual Christmas Parade Enjoyed by Local Residents

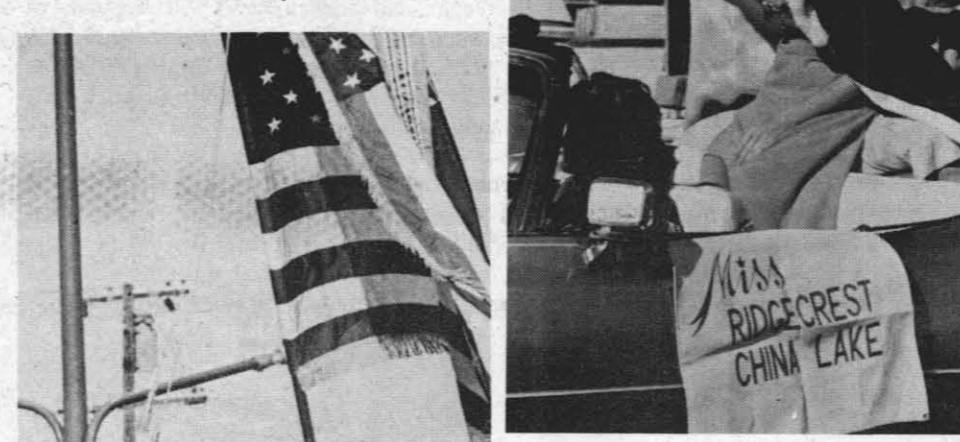


THE ST. MICHAEL'S Episcopal Church float won the President's trophy. It featured a nativity scene and depicted the first Christmas.



THE DESERT AREA Teacher's Association float (above), was voted winner of the Theme Prize.

Photos by Maurice Dias



RENGES FABRIS, Miss Ridgecrest/China Lake, waves to well-wishers.



PRECISION MARCHING was the forte of the Naval Air Facility color guard.



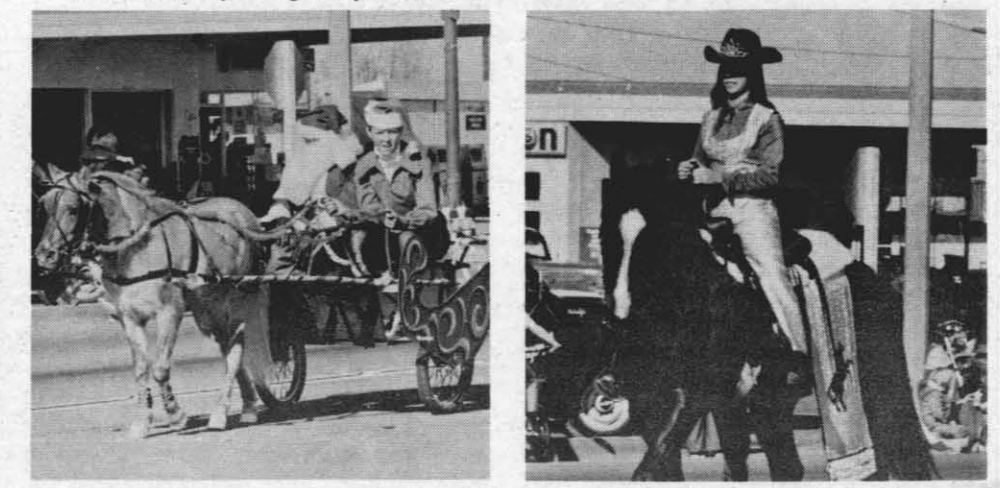
THE SWEEPSTAKES award was won by the Ridgecrest Moving and Storage float, shown above. It depicted Christmas as it is celebrated in many different lands, and was constructed by the Ken Armstrong family.



ONE OF THE highlights of the parade was the awarding of a special plaque to Wardna Abernathy (2nd from right), a former member of the China Lake Community Council board of directors, who planned the first Christmas parade.



THE BURROUGHS HIGH School marching band was a welcome addition to music lovers lined up along the parade route.



SOME OF THE special entries included a horse and sleigh carrying Santa Claus and a helper (l.), and equestrian units.