

Murder-mystery by China Lake Players begins run tonight

The first two of six performances of the China Lake Players' initial production of the 1983 season are scheduled tonight and tomorrow night, starting at 8:15, at The Playhouse (corner of Blandly Avenue and Lauritsen Road).

Repeat performances of this ingenious murder-mystery, entitled "Catch Me If You Can," also are scheduled at 2 p.m. on Sunday, as well as on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, March 10, 11 and 12, at 8:15 p.m. at The Playhouse.

Because of the limited seating capacity of The Playhouse, reservations are necessary and can be made by calling 446-5026 or 446-6212. Ticket prices are \$3.50 for general admission and \$2.50 for senior citizens, enlisted military personnel and students.

The setting for "Catch Me If You Can" is a summer cabin in the Catskill Mountains over a Labor Day weekend. The action begins immediately as the play unfolds a tangled plot of surprises and turnabouts.

Karen Torrence is making her debut as a director with this comedy-thriller, and is joined by Richard Jackson as technical director.

Members of the cast are Edward Torrence, as Daniel Corban; Gary Houston, as Inspector Levine; Lynn Wilson, as Elizabeth Corban; Bernard J. Stewart, as Father Kelleher; Rudyard Stone, as Sydney; and James E. Goss and Susan Stewart, as Mr. and Mrs. Parker.

"Catch Me If You Can" is billed as entertainment suitable for the entire family.

Astronomy group to present film on 'Women at NASA'

The China Lake Astronomical Society (CLAS) will hold its regular monthly meeting on Monday at 7:30 p.m. in the Ridgecrest library.

Featured during the meeting will be a film produced in 1981 by the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) entitled "Women at NASA."

Ricardo Montalban interviews seven outstanding NASA women, the stars of the film, about their careers. Astronaut Anna Lee Fisher, Dr. Patricia Cowings, Shirley Chevalier, Sue Norman, Sharon Orkansky, Brenda Willis, and Astronaut Catherine Sullivan discuss the intelligence, excellence, and teamwork that are keys to success at NASA, and in life.

"Women at NASA" won the 1981 Silver Screen Award at the U.S. Industrial Film Festival, the 1981 Golden Eagle Award at the Council of International Nontheatrical Events (CINE), the Bronze Award at the 1981 World Aerospace Film Festival, (Amsterdam), the Silver Medal at the 1981 International Film and TV Festival in 1981, and a Certificate at the 12th International Scientific Film Festival, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

Recorded music at EM

The Enlisted Mess has scheduled a dance tonight in the flight deck. Orlando Holman will be playing a variety of recorded disco music from 9 p.m. until 1:30 a.m.

Search for Talent show scheduled on March 15

The Exchange Club of Ridgecrest will hold its seventh annual Search for Talent Show on March 15 at 7 p.m. in the Center theater.

A special guest on this occasion will be Lisa Davenport, Miss California, who will sing several songs and award trophies to the winners of this event. Martha Boessow, Miss Indian Wells Valley, will emcee the talent show for which there is a general admission fee of \$1.

Auditions and sign-ups will begin at noon on March 13 in the theater. Those who plan to audition should come prepared to exhibit their talent with taped music or an accompanist and with costume.

Five judges will select the winner in each of three categories (Primary, ages 6-9,



A FEAST OF FINE VOICES — Chanticleer's varied and unusual a capella repertoire will be presented next Wednesday night, March 9, at the Center theater. This program is fourth in the current series of the Indian Wells Valley Concert Association.

Concert by Chanticleer, men's chorus, set March 9 at theater

Chanticleer, a talented men's chorus dedicated to the performance of the rich male-voice repertoire (ranging from the Middle Ages through the present-day popular scene) will perform next Wednesday, March 9, at 7:30 p.m. at the Center theater.

The program by Chanticleer is the fourth in the series of six concerts presented this season by the Indian Wells Valley Concert Association. This particular engagement is supported, in part, by funds from the California Arts Council.

Whether performing barbershop quartet selections, medieval motets or upbeat Gershwin songs, the ensemble is certain to appeal to audiences of all ages, Concert Association officials report.

Tickets for the concert by Chanticleer are now on sale at the Museum Man and Medical Arts Pharmacy in Ridgecrest, and also at the Maturango Museum's business

St. Patrick's Day celebration planned, event open to public

Everyone, whether ye be Irish or not, is invited to join with members of the All Faith Chapel Catholic congregation and St. Ann's Church in Ridgecrest for a St. Patrick's Day celebration to be held Sunday, March 13, at the Knights of Columbus Hall in Ridgecrest.

A corn beef and cabbage dinner will be served between 5 and 8 p.m., and there will be lots of Irish music and door prizes.

Tickets for this event are priced at \$5 each for adults and \$2.50 for children under the age of 12. They may be purchased following all weekend masses at the NWC Catholic Chapel and at St. Ann's Church.

During the week, tickets can be obtained at the St. Ann's School office and the NWC Chapel office. Proceeds of this family fun event will go to the Children's Fund.

The St. Patrick's Day celebration is being co-chaired by Margaret Wheeler and Agnes Winter.

Junior, ages 10-15, and Senior, ages 16-19) based on the degree of difficulty, technique, showmanship, personality, excellence of performance, and audience response.

The judges will be Judge Charles Porter, of the East Kern Municipal Court; Lita Reid, city editor of the Daily Independent newspaper; Sandra Raines, vocal instructor at Cerro Coso Community College; Georgia Knutsen, owner of the Sierra Academy of Dance; and Jan Burch, director of the Miss California City Pageant.

The alternate judge is Pete Petersen, a member of the Miss Indian Wells Valley Pageant.

Winners will receive trophies and \$50 U.S. Savings Bonds. There will also be trophies for those who placed second and third. All

MOVIES

REGULAR STARTING TIME 7:00 P.M.

FRI. SAT. SUN MARCH 4, 5, 6
"ANNIE"
Starring Aileen Quinn and Albert Finney (Musical/Comedy, rated PG, 127 min.)

MONDAY MARCH 7
"NIGHT SHIFT"
Starring Henry Winkler and Michael Keaton (Comedy, rated R, 106 min.)

FRIDAY MARCH 11
"BEST LITTLE WHOREHOUSE IN TEXAS"
Starring Burt Reynolds and Dolly Parton (Musical/Comedy, rated R, 114 min.)

(G) ALL AGES ADMITTED
General Audiences
(PG) ALL AGES ADMITTED
Parental Guidance Suggested
(R) RESTRICTED
Under 17 requires accompanying Parent or Adult Guardian

Shakespeare play will open CLOTA season March 11

Spring is the time for love, and what better subject for the first production of the year by the Community Light Opera and Theater Association?

The play is William Shakespeare's "A Midsummer Night's Dream," and the production will be presented at the Burroughs High School lecture center on Friday and Saturday, March 11 and 12, and 18 and 19, starting at 7:30 p.m.

General admission is \$3.50, with students, enlisted military, and senior citizens admitted for \$2.50. Tickets can be purchased in advance from cast members or at the box office on any of the production nights.

Oberon, King of the Fairies, will be portrayed by Robert Persons, with Karen Buehler appearing as Titania, his queen. Jon Bell plays the impish Puck, and Alex Bellen takes the role of Theseus, Duke of Athens.

The lovers will be played by Kathy Farris-Burfeindt, Robert Lee, Robert Arnold and Laura Wisniewski. Eduardo Romero, well-known in local theatrical circles, has the role of the stubborn father of one of the lovers.

Tina Dillard directs this Shakespearean production, assisted by Tricia Siegel.

Season tickets for CLOTA productions on sale at Commissary

Season tickets for three productions scheduled during 1983 by the Community Light Opera and Theater Association (CLOTA) are now on sale at the Commissary Store.

Price of the season tickets is \$11 for general admission, or \$8 for enlisted military personnel, students and senior citizens.

The first of the tickets in the package of three will be good for admission to "A Midsummer Night's Dream," which will be presented by CLOTA at the Burroughs High School lecture center on March 11-12 and 18-19.

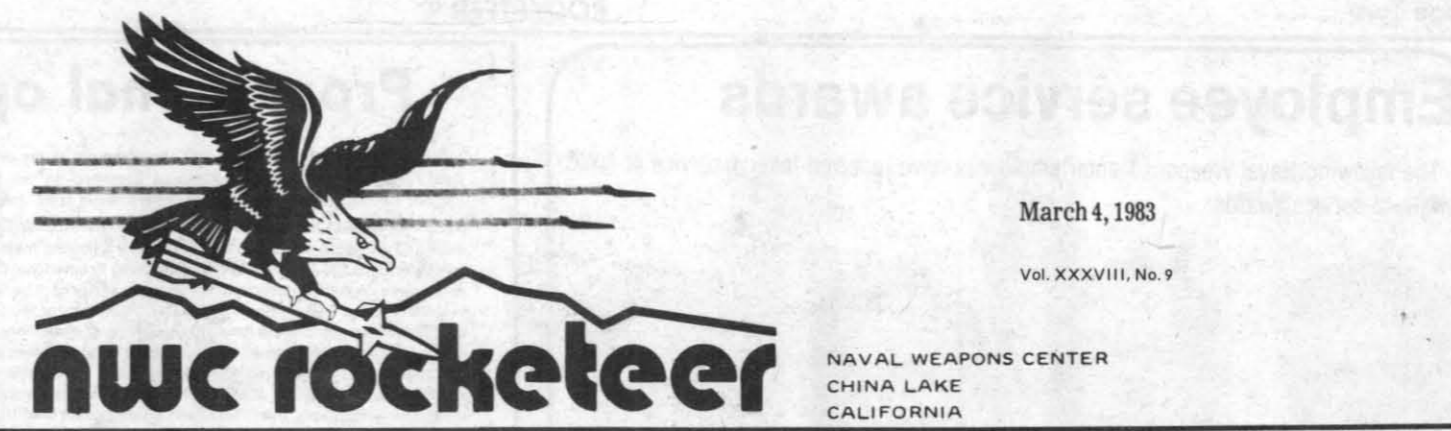
CLOTA season ticket sales will continue at the Commissary Store from now until March 18. Other productions to be staged later in the year by CLOTA are "Oklahoma" and "The King and I."

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5 Centerites honored at Fedl. Exec. Bd. awards program

The Naval Weapons Center reaped a significant share (in three out of six categories) of the major honors presented last Friday at the Los Angeles Federal Executive Board's 10th annual Distinguished Public Service Awards program.

More than 200 persons (the largest number ever to attend) filled the main dining room of the Riviera Country Club in the West Los Angeles for this event.

Joan Leslie, a former film and television actress, was joined by William K. Anderson, chairman of the Los Angeles Federal Executive Board, in presenting awards to the winners and to the nominees, who also were given special recognition.

COINCIDES WITH ANNIVERSARY
This event, Anderson noted during his preliminary remarks, coincides this year with the 100th anniversary of the passage of the Civil Service Act. Those being honored, he added, represented the high caliber of public service rendered by the estimated 100,000 federal employees in the Los Angeles area.

Anderson's job is that of Director of the Veterans Administration's Los Angeles Medical Center.

China Lakers honored at this prestigious event were Capt. Lahr, NWC Commander; Dr. Carl F. Austin, head of the Geothermal Utilization Division in the Public Works Department; and Richard W. Keith, a painter in the Building Trades Branch of Public Works.

NOMINEES FROM NWC
In addition, Sterling Haaland, a supervisory electronics engineer who heads the Weapons Department's Radio Frequency Division, was a nominee for the "Outstanding Supervisor Award," and LCdr. E. J. "Chip" Lancaster, aviation safety officer in the NWC Aircraft Department, represented the NWC Helicopter Search and Rescue Crew, which was nominated for the LA FEB Chairman's Special Award.

Capt. Lahr was singled out to receive the

New rainfall record for 24-hour period set here

A new record for the amount of rainfall to hit the local area in a 24-hour period was set between 4:38 p.m. Monday and 4:38 p.m. on Tuesday, when 2.38 in. of rain was recorded at Armitage Airfield.

According to AGC R. L. Braddock, assistant officer-in-charge of the Naval Oceanography Command Detachment at China Lake, the local area was on the receiving end of the effects of an intense low pressure system located off the California coast, due west of San Francisco.

This weather front remained stationary and kicked off short wave activity that brought the drenching rains here, AGC Braddock said. As of Friday morning, precipitation totalled 3.36 in. in for the storm. Rain continued on Wednesday, but let up on Thursday, and there was no sign of it on Friday.

By mid-morning on Wednesday, the total amount of precipitation for the year to date had reached 6.12 in., which far exceeds the annual average of just over 4 in. for the past 12 years.

Personnel of the Naval Oceanography Command Detachment, who usually secure nightly at 11 o'clock, were on continuous duty for a little over 40 hours, beginning at 11:13 a.m. Tuesday because of a tornado watch.

The "watch" was upgraded to a "warning" at 6:45 p.m. Tuesday and during the night on Tuesday there were visual sightings of two active and six passive



NWC WELL REPRESENTED — When it came to handing out kudos to those singled out for recognition at the Los Angeles Federal Executive Board's Distinguished Public Service Awards program, the Naval Weapons Center was well represented with winners in three of the six categories, and nominees in two others. Those honored during a luncheon held last Friday at the Riviera Country Club in West Los Angeles were (l.-r.) Sterling Haaland (nominee), Dr. Carl Austin, Capt. Lahr, and Richard W. Keith (award winners), and LCdr. E. J. "Chip" Lancaster (also a nominee.) The presentations were made by Joan Leslie, a former movie and television actress, assisted by William K. Anderson, chairman of the Los Angeles Federal Executive Board.

top award in a category that recognized an individual's contribution to effective cooperation.

The multiple aspects of Capt. Lahr's responsibilities as NWC Commander that were summarized in his nomination for this Federal Executive Board Award began by mentioning his personal involvement in getting the necessary high-level support for an internally funded project that was intended to quickly provide the Fleet with an affordable and accurate weapon with which to attack ships at sea.

Although this project, called Skipper, was not then in the Department of Defense

budget, Capt. Lahr personally brought its successful development/demonstration to the attention of the Commander, Naval Air Systems Command, the Deputy Chief of Naval Operations (Air Warfare), and the Chief of Naval Material among others and obtained their support.

The nomination of Capt. Lahr for the FEB Distinguished Public Service Award also noted his personal contribution to successful and amicable resolution with animal protection groups of the feral burro control problem at China Lake, as well as leadership in forming the High Desert Civilian/Military Affairs Council, and his

role in the interaction between NWC and the Ridgecrest and Bakersfield Military Affairs Committees.

In addition, this award for Capt. Lahr was based on his personal commitment to the Navywide drug abuse program, and his strong support of the NWC Equal Employment Opportunity Program.

TOP PROFESSIONAL EMPLOYEE

Dr. Austin was one of three Civil Service employees to be honored by receiving FEB Awards in the "Outstanding Professional Employee" category. This recognition was based on Dr. Austin's significant contributions to the performance, control and coordination of all Navy geothermal exploration, development and production programs.

As a consequence of the success he has achieved in his efforts, Dr. Austin has, according to the citation that accompanied his award, "made outstanding contributions to the worldwide search for new sources of energy to accelerate conservation of the nation's diminishing conventional energy sources, and to preserve the environmental quality of man's natural world."

WIDE RANGE OF DUTIES

Dr. Austin, who has been an NWC employee since February 1961, has headed the Geothermal Utilization Division in Code 26 for the past six years. He is involved not only in directing scientists and technicians, field and operational personnel in exploration and development of areas with geothermal potential, but also must formulate projects for exploration and development.

Such project proposals must then be presented at national or international levels in order to obtain the coordination of related geophysical programs by other government agencies and academic institutions.

Additional duties include consultation and coordination with other government laboratories and the Armed Services of the United States worldwide in the exploration and development of geothermal potential on military lands.

Keith, who has worked as a painter at China Lake for more than seven years, was (Continued on Page 4)

funnel clouds.

The nearest that either of the two active funnel clouds got to the ground was 500 ft., AGC Braddock stated, and it was back to normal operations at 6 a.m. Wednesday for the Naval Oceanography Command Detachment.

At NWC, the main problem caused by the rainstorm was leaking roofs on buildings in the commercial area, Mike Crom, head of the Public Works Department's Maintenance Utilities Division, said.

There were 70 reports of leaky roofs in commercial buildings, and another 52 leaky

roofs in the housing area on Tuesday.

There was some erosion of roads, but that was minor except at one point where the road to Randsburg Wash nears a railroad line. At that location, the pavement was badly washed out, Crom added.

Because of the tornado watch, however, electrical power distribution crewmen remained on stand-by at their work stations from mid-day Tuesday until midnight.

In rain-softened ground, there was the potential danger of collapsing power line poles if strong, tornado-like winds had hit the local area.



COMMON SIGHT — Heavy rainfall on Tuesday and Wednesday made sights like this commonplace at low spots on streets in the housing and business area.

