



PARADE CELEBRITY — Capt. Melvin Etheridge, USN (Ret.), Commander of the Naval Weapons Center during the period of 1967-70, officiated as grand marshal of the 1983 Desert Empire Fair parade held last Saturday morning in Ridgecrest. Capt. Etheridge, accompanied here from his home in Connecticut by his wife, Anne (seated behind him in the parade marshal car) enjoyed the opportunity to renew acquaintances, exchange reminiscences, and size up the changes that have been made since he was grand marshal of the 1967 DEF parade. — Photo by PHAN Rebecca Gill

STC slates hands-on workshop for publishers of newsletters

Newsletter editors and those who are about to become editors of newsletters can learn how to make their task easier in another of the Newsletter Publication Workshops sponsored by the Sierra-Panamint Chapter of the Society for Technical Communication (STC) on Saturday, Oct. 29.

The workshop will run from 9:15 a.m. until 4 p.m. at the conference room of the Kern County Library, 131 E. Las Flores, in Ridgecrest.

Fee for the workshop is \$20 for anyone who enrolls and sends an advance payment by Oct. 22; those registering after that date will be charged \$25.

Anyone who plans to attend but will not be able to register prior to Oct. 22 is asked to telephone Maggie Frazier, registrar for the workshop, at NWC ext. 2895 or 2859, or at her home, 375-7294, by that date to ensure that an adequate supply of materials for the "hands-on" workshop will be on hand.

Session leaders include: John Kern, a senior technical writer for the Syscon Corporation, discussing "What every newsletter publisher should know."

Elizabeth Babcock, secretary of the International STC, describing "How to write communicative copy."

Phyllis Dame, editor of the Sierra-Panamint Chapter of STC's own newsletter, the "Petroglyph," conducting a hands-on session on art, illustration and typography for newsletters.

Linda Dittmeier, Information Processing Network Administrator for the Technical Information Department, talking about

'Gin Game' opens at Playhouse tonight; also booked Oct. 7, 8

Due to illness, the China Lake Players' production of "The Gin Game" was unable to be presented as planned last weekend.

It is now scheduled tonight and tomorrow night at 8:15 o'clock at The Playhouse (old Station Restaurant), as well as on Oct. 7 and 8. Reservations for tickets may be made by calling 375-9702.

Those who already have reservations to see "The Gin Game" are advised to call for confirmation to be sure that they get to see the show on the night they would like to attend.

Reserved seats not claimed by 8 p.m. will be available to anyone waiting at the door at the time.

This drama is a Pulitzer Prize winning play written by D. L. Coburn. It revolves around the lives of two lonely retirees who meet in a retirement home and find companionship while playing gin rummy. Because of the language used, it is recommended for adult audiences only.

The local actors featured in this tragic-comedy are Rudyard and Natalie Stone.

Parent education workshop on substance abuse program set

A parent education workshop on the subject of the new substance abuse program that is being implemented this semester by the Sierra Sands Unified School District will be held next Wednesday, Oct. 5, from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. at the Burroughs High School lecture center.

Following a welcome to parents by Anthony Magliari, superintendent of the local school district, the workshop will be divided into a series of short presentations covering the areas of law enforcement, parent-child communications, and the curriculum for this program, which is entitled "Here's Looking at You Two."

Sgt. Thomas McDermott, juvenile officer in the China Lake Police Division, and Steve Compton, of the Ridgecrest Police Department, will provide information about substance abuse laws and the kind of help that law enforcement agencies can give in dealing with this problem.

Parent-child communication skills will be the topic of Gloria Reynolds, of the Desert Counseling Clinic, who will stress this crucial ingredient of the relationship between parents and children if problems related to substance abuse by school-age children arise.

The curriculum and materials that are a part of the "Here's Looking at You Two" program is divided into kindergarten through third grade, fourth through sixth, seventh through ninth, and tenth through twelfth grade levels.

Teachers who have gone through in-service training to prepare themselves as

Husband-wife team to entertain at luncheon set Oct. 11 by WACOM

The regular monthly luncheons of the Woman's Auxiliary (WACOM) will begin on Tuesday, Oct. 11, but will be held at the Enlisted Mess because of renovations that are underway at the Commissioned Officers' Mess.

A highlight of this first luncheon of the 1983-84 year will be the dramatic presentations of Rena and Stanley Waxman, a husband-and-wife team that has won national acclaim for such presentations.

A social hour will begin at 11 a.m. with lunch to follow at 11:45. The menu will include a tomato stuffed with chicken salad, fresh fruit, corn muffins and lemon tarts, at a cost of \$4 per person.

Reservations are required and may be made by telephoning 446-4748.

instructors in the substance abuse program will be present to give a general synopsis of the subject matter that will be presented at the different grade levels. They are Beverly Estis, Bob McDermott, Laura Dobson, Kristi Smith, and Mary Anne Butterfield. Time will be set aside at the end of the workshop for questions from the audience.

This program got its start with a recommendation from a PTA subcommittee that was formed to study and recommend a substance (drugs and alcohol) prevention curriculum for the kindergarten through twelfth grades in the Sierra Sands Unified School District.

Soloists to audition Sunday for roles in Handel's Messiah

Auditions for singers interested in performing solos for Handel's Messiah will be held at the All Faith Chapel on Sunday, between 3 and 5 p.m.

The Christmas oratorio, which is sponsored by several local churches, will be performed once again by local musicians in the All Faith Chapel on Dec. 4 and 5, according to director Ray Blume. Those wishing to sing in the chorus also are invited to participate in the rehearsals without being auditioned.

A second rehearsal for the chorus is scheduled on Oct. 16, with dress rehearsals set for Nov. 6 and 20, all from 3 to 5 p.m.

For additional information, Blume can be contacted by calling NWC ext. 3741.

NEX Toyland hours of operation announced

Wise shoppers at the Navy Exchange are getting all set for Christmas now. Toyland has opened and will be open from 10 a.m. until 5 p.m. Mondays through Fridays and from 8:30 a.m. until 3:30 in the afternoon on Saturdays.

Toyland is located behind the automotive service center parts store.

MOVIES

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

Regular starting time 7:00 p.m.

FRIDAY	SEPTEMBER 30
"MAN, WOMAN AND CHILD"	
Starring Martin Sheen and Blythe Danner (Drama, rated PG, 101 min.)	
SATURDAY, SUNDAY	OCTOBER 1,2
"OLD YELLER"	
Starring Dorothy McGuire and Fess Parker (Drama, rated G, 84 min.)	
MONDAY	OCTOBER 3
"SATURDAY THE 14th"	
Starring Richard Benjamin and Paula Prentiss (Comedy/Horror, rated PG, 76 min.)	
WEDNESDAY	OCTOBER 5
"EDDIE MACON'S RUN"	
Starring Kirk Douglas and John Schneider (Drama, rated PG, 95 min.)	
FRIDAY	OCTOBER 7
"BREATHLESS"	
Starring Richard Gere and Valerie Kaprinsky (Drama, rated R, 84 min.)	

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From:	PLACE STAMP HERE
To:	



NAVAL WEAPONS CENTER
CHINA LAKE
CALIFORNIA

Meritorious Civilian Service Award

Eva Bien honored for many contributions in field of civilian personnel mngm't

Recognition of her major contributions in the field of civilian personnel management to the Naval Weapons Center, the Navy, and particularly the laboratory community of the Naval Material Command, was the basis for the presentation this week of the Navy Meritorious Civilian Service Award to Eva Bien, head of the NWC Personnel Department.

The presentation of this award, which is the highest honorary award in the Navy Civilian Service that may be granted by heads of activities, and is the third highest Navy honorary award, was made by Capt. K. A. Dickerson, NWC Commander, on Monday during the weekly meeting of department heads and other senior officials of the Center.

Ms. Bien, who has served as head of Code 09 since 1975, except for 18 months when she left the Center to become the Personnel

Officer for the Stanford Research Institute, joined the Civil Service work force here more than 26 years ago.

Among her principal assignments in the Personnel Department have been Employee Development Officer, Personnel Management Advisor, supervisor of the Personnel Services Division, Civilian Training Officer, and associate head of the department prior to becoming the department head nearly eight years ago.

According to R. E. Kistler, head of the Office of Finance and Management, who nominated Ms. Bien for the special honor she received this week, she was selected in 1976 (while head of Code 09) to serve on a NAVMAT Ad Hoc Committee to study the high grade position structure in the CNM Laboratories, and to recommend criteria to be used in allocating high grade positions among the laboratories.

She handled this assignment so expertly, Kistler noted, that she was commended for her professional analysis, judgment, and insight by James J. Probus, who was then the Director of Navy Laboratories.

The report and findings of this CNM Ad Hoc Committee proved to be extremely useful in making apportionment decisions at the DNL level, and it was this effort (among others), Kistler noted, that established Ms. Bien "as one of the most valued personnel people in the Naval Material Command."

As a result of this achievement by the head of the NWC Personnel Department, she was sought out for advice and counsel by high level personnel of the Office of Personnel Management, as well as those in CNM headquarters, Kistler added in his nomination of Ms. Bien for the Navy Meritorious Civilian Service Award.

Kistler also cited the contributions to the success of the Demonstration Project made by the head of the NWC Personnel Department as further evidence that she merited being singled out to receive the Navy (Continued on Page 5)



CONGRATULATIONS IN ORDER — Capt. K. A. Dickerson, NWC Commander, is joined by B. W. Hays, NWC Technical Director, in congratulating Eva Bien on the occasion of presenting her with the Navy Meritorious Civilian Service Award.

Capt. Dickerson airs views on his management philosophy at meeting of Fed'l Managers' Ass'n

The desire to defend and protect what is perceived to be right is a great motivator, Capt. K. A. Dickerson, NWC Commander, told members and guests last week at an open meeting of the Federal Managers' Association.

He told the group that he hoped by their becoming better acquainted with him and his expectations, a meaningful working relationship could be evolved.

"You can count on me to be completely open and honest with you. That does not mean," the Skipper stated, "that I will have all the answers to all the questions."

"I am certain that there have been some who came before me in this job who had a charter, or a mission, or a hidden agenda — some kind of management goal that was sacrosanct and driven by Washington. That is not the case with me," Capt. Dickerson emphasized.

His instructions were simple and clear, and no different than what he said during the NWC Change of Command ceremony last June, the NWC Commander stated. Today he feels much better prepared to define his task, however.

"My basic style," he explained, "is to be in the receive mode and to make my assessments quietly. If anyone were to read a lack of competitiveness into that, I can quickly change their mind."

"I love a good fight," he added, noting that the latter is a common trait among his peer group.

Capt. Dickerson stated that while he believes that following the chain of command may not be the only way to function, all other avenues of approach should be considered before taking any other direction.

"The system we have in place — both within the Center and within the Navy itself, is fundamentally sound and good. As a matter of routine, I insist that it be used."

There exists within the system many avenues, including hot lines all over the place, through which people can be heard, Capt. Dickerson said. The hard question to resolve is when does one go outside the system. The Skipper answered that by stating "it should be very, very difficult to get to the point in a problem where that

becomes a legitimate action."

In regard to the relationship between NWC and officials in Washington, the NWC Commander stated that it is his intention to work within the system to best accomplish the mission of the Center. "This does not mean to blindly carry out orders, but to voice dissent when necessary, and to make myself heard early in the decision process."

After that, when the final decision is made, he will fall in line and do his best to carry out that decision, and he expects the same from any of his subordinates, the Skipper said.

He abides by the fundamental belief that "If it ain't broke, don't fix it." This applies particularly to the "fine tuning" of management, Capt. Dickerson added.

"Management is people. People tend to do some remarkable and positive things when left alone. My goal as Commander is

to lead, not to meddle in management," he stated.

At the same time that he commented about not attempting to fix something that wasn't broken, however, he acknowledged that this wasn't always the case in the laboratory environment. As an example of what he meant, he said, "When a scientist is trying to coax one more erg out of a propellant, he should work at that tirelessly."

His prior perceptions about what NWC is doing, the speaker continued, come not so much from a tour of duty several years ago with Air Test and Evaluation Squadron Five (VX-5), but from other personal contacts and his awareness of the Center's long-standing reputation for being the repository of talent for the development of weapons.

He commented that throughout his Navy (Continued on Page 3)



WELCOME EXTENDED — Dennis Rowell, Federal Managers' Association president, greets Capt. K. A. Dickerson, NWC Commander, prior to the Skipper's recent talk to the group of managers. — Photo by PHAN Rebecca Gill

Energy Awareness Week observance planned Oct. 24-30

The Naval Weapons Center will join with other Department of Defense establishments in celebrating Energy Awareness Week, Oct. 24 through 30.

Secretary of Defense Caspar Weinberger has not only called on all DoD personnel worldwide to observe the week with appropriate activities, but also is working with other federal agencies, state and local governments, and public and private organizations to make the observance of American Energy Awareness Week a nationwide event.

The theme for the Navy's observance is "Fuel for the Fleet—Every Drop Counts." For the Navy, a complete energy management program is vital to balance the reality of energy supply and cost with the logistic, mobility and readiness requirements of the Fleet.

The Center's Energy Program Management Office is now engaged in making plans for the October observance, but reminds everyone that saving energy is a 365-day-a-year necessity.

