

Divine Services

PROTESTANT
SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICE 10:30 a.m.
SUNDAY SCHOOL (Annexes 1, 2, 4, and the East Wing) 9 a.m.
BIBLE STUDY (East Wing)
 Tuesday 7:30 p.m. (Nursery provided) Sept. through June
 Wednesday 11:30 a.m. Sept. through June
 Thursday 7:00 p.m. Officer's Christian Fellowship
 Christian Military Fellowship

ROMAN CATHOLIC
SUNDAY MASS 9:00 a.m.
CONFESSIONS (Sunday) 8:15-8:45 a.m.
COMMUNION SERVICE (Monday) 11:35 a.m.
DAILY MASS (Tuesday through Friday) 11:35 a.m.
CONFESSIONS (Friday) 4:30-5:00 p.m.
RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CLASSES (Sunday) Sept. to May 10:30 a.m.
JEWISH
WEEKLY SERVICES (Friday, East Wing) 7:30 p.m.
ADULT EDUCATION (Saturday, Annex 4) 9 a.m.
RELIGIOUS SCHOOL (Sunday, Annex 4) 1 p.m.
 Chaplain J. Milton Collins, Capt., CHC, USN
 Chaplain A. J. Smith, Cdr., CHC, USN
 Chaplain Jason E. Knott, LCdr., CHC, USN
 Phone, NWC ext. 3506, 3507

Blood bank needs donors for Tuesday's drawing

Spring is a good time to donate the gift of life in the form of a blood donation to the Houchin Blood Bank on Tuesday, April 8 from 1 to 6 p.m. The blood bank will again set up at the Ridgecrest Elks Lodge, 201 E. Church Ave.

No appointment is needed and donors need only allocate about an hour of their time to make this important gift.

Dorothy Jackson chairs the blood bank for the sponsoring Ridgecrest Emblem Club. She notes anyone in reasonably good health between the ages of 18 and 66 can give blood safely.

Donors are asked to complete a simple

medical history form before giving blood. Donors should be free of flu or cold symptoms for at least two weeks and know what types, if any, of medication they are taking, since some may disqualify them.

Anyone volunteering to give blood should not eat fatty food or dairy products within three hours of the time they plan to come to the Elks Lodge.

Donations can be designated for specific individuals or earmarked for the general fund maintained for Indian Wells Valley residents. Donors can give blood up to five times a calendar year.

New rules require shots for children entering school

California Department of Health Services has issued a directive stating children can no longer be registered for school without an up-to-date immunization record.

This means parents or guardians no longer have the option of filling in and signing the California School Immunization Record.

Parents are being advised to contact the Kern County Health Department at 375-5157 if they have been utilizing the clinics for immunizations, or to see their private physicians to obtain complete records prior to kindergarten registration which begins this month.

The minimum immunizations required before registration are three doses of polio, four doses of DPT, and one dose each of measles, rubella, and mumps. An additional dose of polio and DPT are required for any of which the last dose was given before the second birthday; and an additional dose for measles, rubella, and mumps for any of which the last dose was given before the 1st birthday.

A child cannot be registered for kindergarten unless immunizations are up to date or has a written exemption from a physician.

First job proves to be right for Brian Barbaris

It didn't take Brian Barbaris long to find a real home when he began his Naval Weapons Center career. On board just over a year now, Barbaris recalls he cut short his junior professional tour in order to take a permanent position in the Engineering Department's Systems Safety Branch. A job, by the way, he says he enjoys tremendously.

A New Jersey native, Barbaris has now found a home in the desert. He spent six years in Tucson, Ariz. getting used to the desert, meeting his wife, Simone, and completing work on a bachelor's degree in physics.

When it came time to get a full time career type position, he was attracted to China Lake by the desert as well as the job opportunities available here.

Currently Barbaris is a safety engineer in support of the cruise missile program. It is, he notes, a very interesting and very challenging job. "I really like the diversity this job offers," he commented. "We're sort of system engineers for the cruise missile program," Barbaris added.

Safety engineers are pioneers in a relatively new field, a field still working to build a base. Barbaris notes there is a real challenge, not only on the technical side,

but in going to the program managers and telling them safety concerns to be addressed.

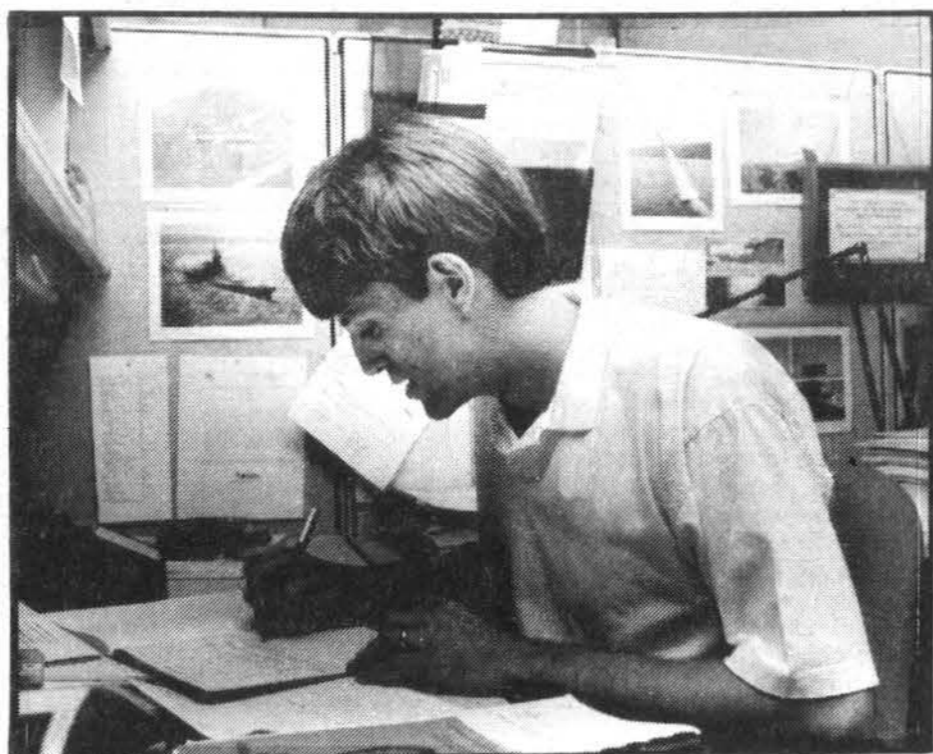
He said it was important to build a good relationship with program offices even if safety engineers had to sometimes be bearers of news that could cost programs money or time.

Barbaris picked up his initial training as an electronic technician with the U.S. Coast Guard. After completing his enlistment he headed for Tucson and a short stint in public relations before going technical again.

While attending the University of Arizona on the GI Bill, he also worked as a golf caddy (where he met his wife), played in a blues and rock band and took part in sports as much as possible.

Today, when not playing with their 10-month old son, Chase, Barbaris can be found playing fast pitch softball, or any other sport he can. And, when all else fails, he'll watch all the sports he can on television.

He notes he and wife, a native of the Netherlands, just bought a house in Inyokern. "We're really happy here," Barbaris concluded.



SAFETY ENGINEER — Brian Barbaris makes notes of safety issues in his role as a safety engineer for the cruise missile program at the Naval Weapons Center. — Photo by PHAA Bob Reynolds

Rabies clinics are offered

Kern County Health Department will offer rabies vaccination and dog licensing clinics in three locations in the Indian Wells Valley later next month. Clinics will offer rabies shots at \$3 each and licenses for dogs owned by residents of the unincorporated area of Kern County will be \$10 each. Licenses for spayed or neutered animals are \$1 each.

Kern County has been determined to be a rabies area by state department of health officials. The disease, which can be fatal, can be contracted by unvaccinated animals after being licked on an open wound or bitten by a rabid animal.

The Naval Weapons Center will host the

first clinic, set for Friday, May 16 from 2 to 5 p.m. at the Girl Scout Hut. The next day, Saturday, the clinic will set up at the Kern County Fire Station in Inyokern from 9 a.m. to noon. The final clinic is planned from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. at the Ridgecrest Senior Center on Warner Street.

NWC HOTLINE
 Integrity, efficiency program
 Call: NWC ext. 3636 (24 hrs.)
 or call the Inspector General at:
 (800)522-3451 (toll free)
 288-6743 (Autovon)
 (202)433-6743 (commercial)

Sand fun at dunes

Less than 150 miles from China Lake lies one of the largest sand dune complexes in the United States. The Eureka Dunes cover more than 4,000 acres in the remote Eureka Valley. Tallest of this dune complex towers more than 700 feet above the valley floor.

Looking more like a small mountain range than typical sand dunes, the Eureka Dunes are considered an environmentally critical area by the Bureau of Land Management which administers the area as part of the California Desert Conservation Area.

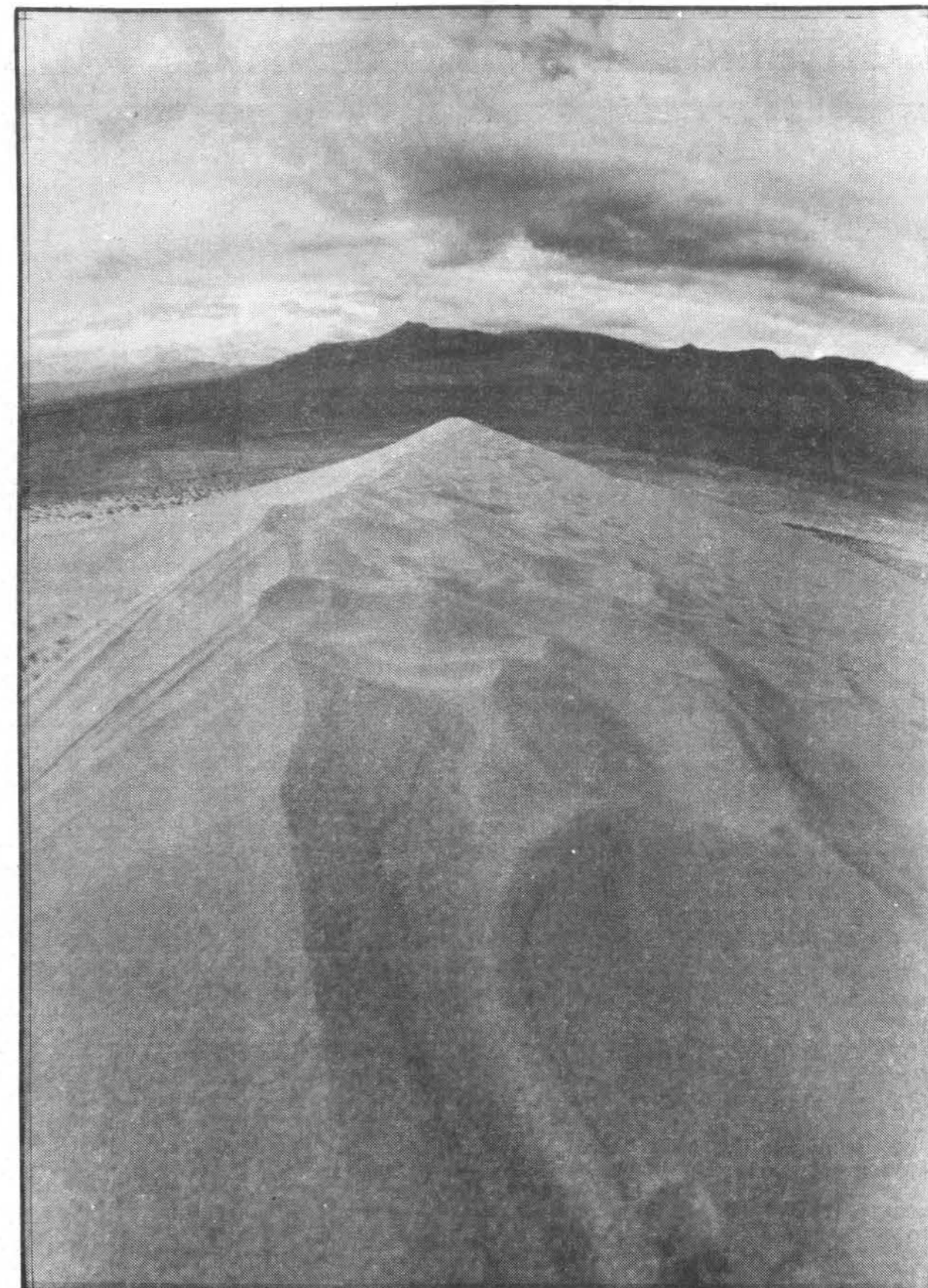
Attracting visitors from throughout California, this massive dunes complex can hide a large number of people in its folds and valleys, allowing the feeling of isolation when on one ridge line and none of the other visitors are visible.

The prime visiting season is coming to an end this month. The remote Eureka Valley must be reached by dirt roads east of Big Pine. During several winter and spring months, BLM rangers will conduct guided hikes of the dunes complex one weekend per month.

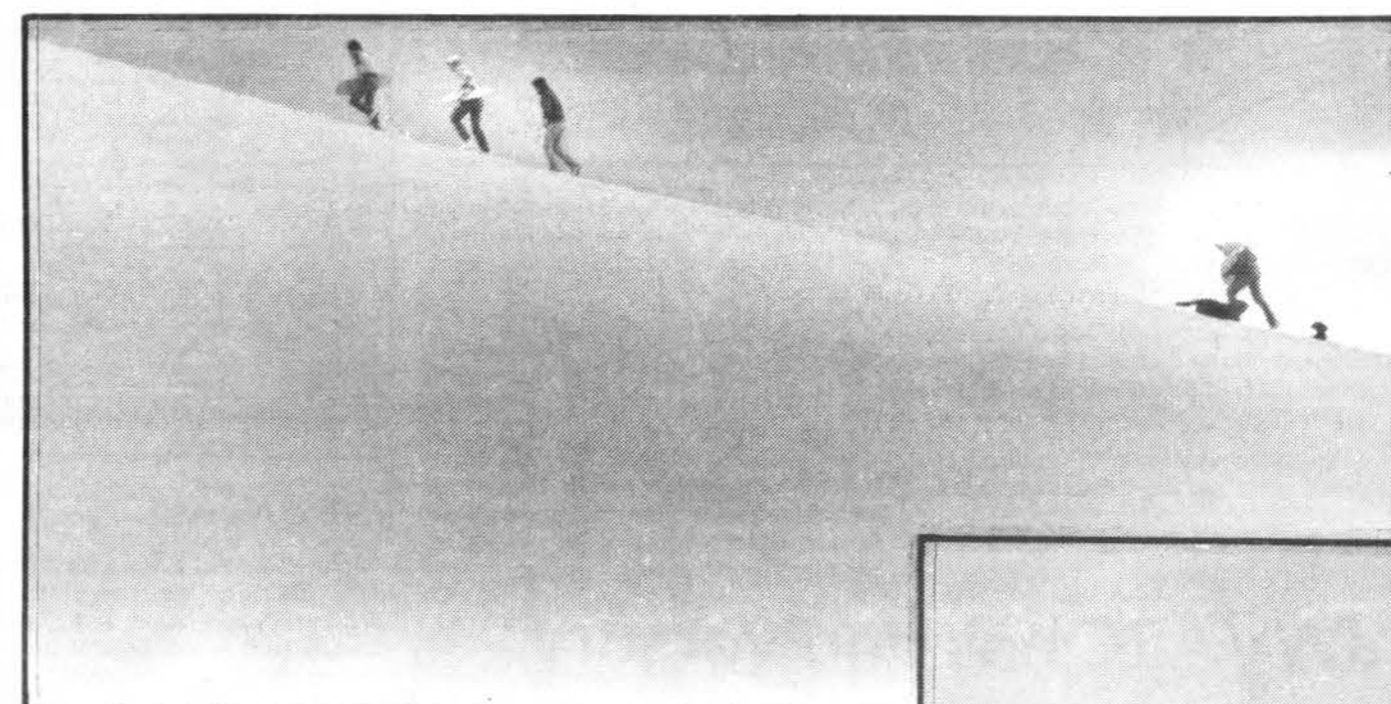
Picnics, desert photography, sand castle building and riding down the steep slopes on a waxed sand board are just a few of the many uses of these dunes.

No motor vehicles are allowed on the dunes, or on the dry Eureka Lake bed surrounding much of the dune area.

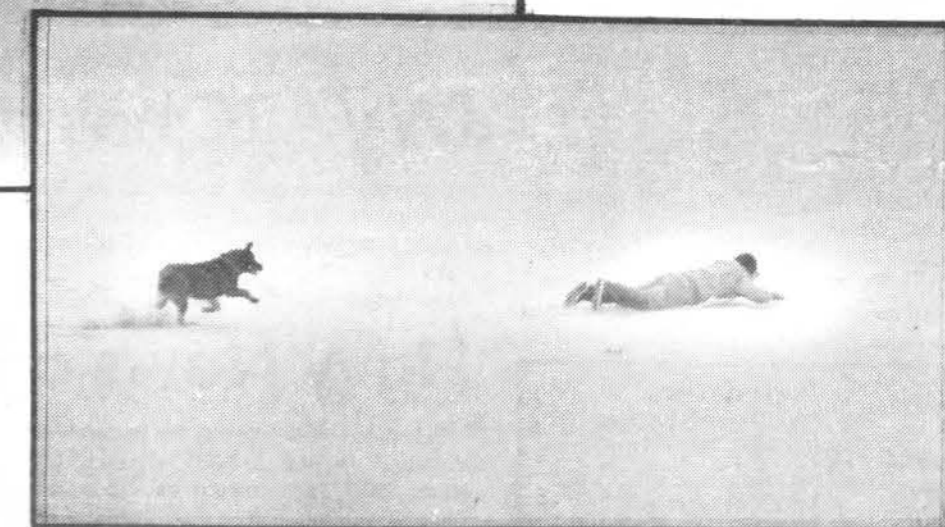
The Eureka Sand Dunes are about 45 miles east of Big Pine.



GIANT DUNE — From atop one of the taller dunes in the Eureka Dune complex, a wide-angle lens was used to take in both the dune crest and the mountains surrounding this unique desert valley. Visitors may have to drive through dust, snow, rain or mud to reach the remote valley, but the dune complex is well worth the effort for a photographer, for kids on sand boards or for anyone who appreciates nature.



PHOTOS AND STORY BY Steve Boster



LONG HIKE — To really enjoy a trip down a sand dune on a waxed sand board, it takes a long, uphill hike to the dune's crest. Man and dog can enjoy this quick trip down, but if they want a repeat performance —

it's back up the hill they trudge, board in hand and a little slower than their first time up. The dune complex is massive and visitors can easily forget they aren't the only ones here once the others are on the other side of the hill.

NWC Rocketeer

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Balloons join aircraft flying Center skies

Although the skies above the Center have ordinarily been used as a medium for aircraft flight, they are also ideal for hot air ballooning. Considering that even today the cost of propane for a hot air balloon runs about \$10 per hour, the advantages of using a balloon where one can be used are obvious.

The first hot air balloon was introduced at what was then the Naval Ordnance Test Station in the early 1960s, when Jim Craig, a friend of Ed Yost (known as the "father of hot air balloons") felt that a tethered hot air balloon would be of immense use in testing Briteye, a flare designed to illuminate targets at night.

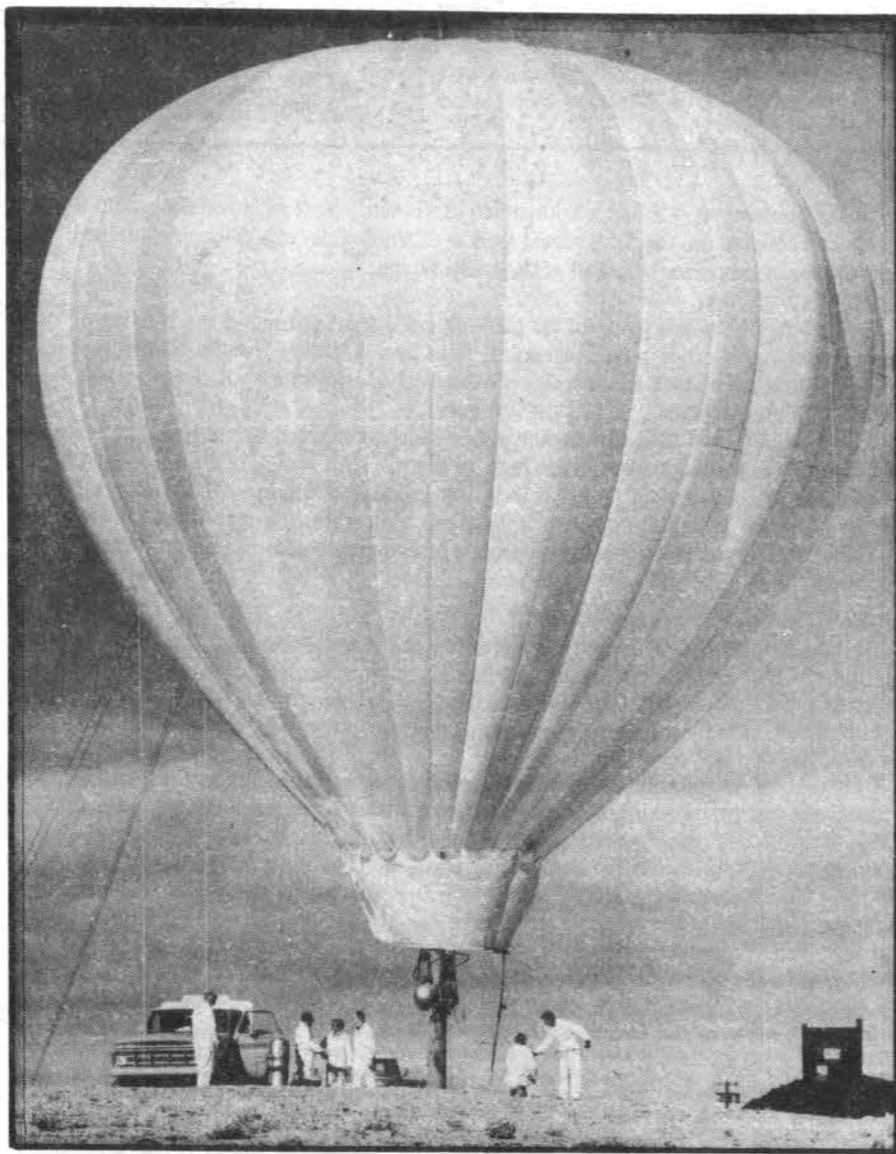
As an aside, both Craig, the Center's first chief balloon pilot and Duane Powers, who currently holds that job, have international reputations as balloonists and have competed extensively both in national and international balloon competitions.

Most of the work that has been done at China Lake using the hot air balloons has been done with the balloons tethered at one spot with the balloon itself being at an elevation of 3,500 feet or less.

The balloons have been used extensively for a variety of projects during the past two decades and have proven their worth to the Center and the Navy.

Currently the Center has several hot air balloons and several gondolas for use in a variety of tests. The two newest balloons include one 55 feet in diameter and holds 74,000 cubic feet of hot air when inflated, and another 77 feet in diameter that holds 210,000 cubic feet of hot air. Inflating

the first takes about 40 minutes, while the larger one takes about an hour and 15 minutes. Both the balloons and gondolas can be packed into the back of a pickup truck for moving to test sites.



Navy trains new managers with a progressive program

As a result of its Civilian Financial Management Career Program, the Navy has developed a core of financial managers with broad experience in several facets of resource management to meet staffing needs.

The two-year program was established in 1972 by the Comptroller of the Navy. Personnel in CFMCP are trained at Navy establishments throughout the country. Currently, a budget analyst and an accountant are in training at NWC; they will become part of the Center's staff or successfully completing their training if they so choose.

The program ensures that each person enrolled gets on-the-job training, cross training in resource management jobs, rotational assignments to field and higher echelon organizations, and academic training. Professional fields include those for budget analysts, accountants and auditors.

Budget analysts take part in formulating budgets, presenting these with supporting materials in budget reviews and putting budgets into effect. Applicants for such programs need to have logical minds, good writing and oral skills, and research ability joined by skills required to use the results of such research.

Accountants maintain continued fiscal

control of projects, either individually or as team members. They set up and maintain accounting systems and procedures and ensure that these conform to proved accounting standards.

Budget analyst applicants, if they are not college graduates (in any discipline), should have relevant experience. They can apply through the Merit Promotion Process.

NWC graduates of the program are currently taking leading management roles at commensurate grade levels (DP-3 and DP-4).

Requests for information can be directed to the NAVCOMPT Trainee Program Coordinator, Elaine Wunderlich, Code 08.

Those wishing to apply should send a completed Standard Form 171 and a copy of their college transcripts to Comptroller of the Navy, Office of Career Management, Code NCF-3, Crystal Mall 3, Room 119, Washington, D.C. 20376-5001.

Applicants for auditor and accountant positions must also write to Office of Personnel Management, Staffing Service Center Examining Office, Box 9800, Macon, GA 31298-2699, to ask for Accountant/Auditor application forms. When these are submitted, applicants can be placed on appropriate registers.

Good deal from Rec Services

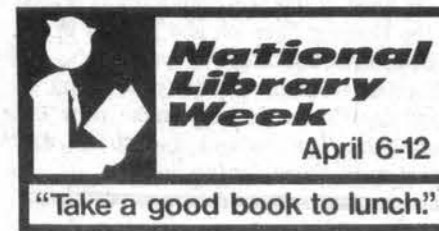
Summer fitness time is nearing and NWC Recreational Services Department has a deal for China Lakers they may find hard to resist.

Just buy 10 diet specials at the Commis-

sioned Officers' Mess, Chief Petty Officers' Mess or the Enlisted Mess during April and May then receive three free lines of bowling at Hall Memorial Lanes.

Patrons need only ask the cashier for the diet special coupon and have it signed and dated by the cashier each time they purchase a diet special. When the coupon is filled out, take it to Hall Memorial Lanes and enjoy three lines of bowling.

The diet plates and the bowling should help China Lakers get into better "poolside" shape for the long hot summer ahead.



Leadership graduates for NWC

Twenty-eight sailors from China Lake completed a Leadership Management Education Training class during February. The 28 sailors were all second and first class petty officers at China Lake.

The two-week training session held at NWC's Training Center, was conducted by members of a Naval mobile training team from the Navy Amphibious Base at Coronado. It was the first of three such training sessions planned for NWC this year.

Sailors received instruction in supervisory skills, effective leadership skills, communication skills and how to be an effective counselor of enlisted personnel.

SH1 Madison Bryson, Educational Services Officer for the Military Administration Department, said the class was designed to teach supervisory first and second class petty officers how to be effective leaders and supervisors. They are encouraged to use the skills honed during the two-week session on the job to the benefit of the Navy.



GRADUATING CLASS — Cdr. J. A. Thompson, head, Military Administration Department, (far right) was on hand to congratulate the 28 sailors who completed the Leadership Management Education Training class at the NWC Training Center in February.

Sailors continue carrying 'dead horse' around

"In the olden days, merchant marine and Navy men were allowed to draw advance pay when they were going on long cruises," said a spokesman for the Naval Historical Center in Washington, D.C. "They called such payments a 'dead horse,' possibly because the money was spent before it was earned.

"The man had to work several months without earning any more money, so he might as well have spent it for a dead horse," he said. "When the man had worked off the money, it was customary to hold a ceremony in which a crude horse was made out of a barrel and odds and ends of boards and canvas. The horse was set afire and thrown overboard while the crew sang a ditty called 'Poor Old Horse.'"

A "dead horse" is still a "dead horse" to sailors and Marines. There are a few soldiers and airmen who have picked up the term, but most of them just call advance pay "advance pay."

Today's military men and women don't have to take a long cruise to get a "dead horse." Everyone making a permanent change of station move can draw up to three months advance basic pay, less deductions and allotments. But the practice is putting hundreds of service members and their families in "dire straits."

"We've noticed a significant increase in problems resulting from advance payments," said a spokesman for the Navy Relief Society.

"The main problems are a lack of understanding of just what advance pay is intended for," he emphasized. "It should be made clear that it's not to pay off a bill for encyclopedias, to give a big going-away party or to take a vacation enroute to the next duty station. The money should be used for travel expenses and for setting up a house at the new duty station — rent, security and utility deposits, things like that.

"Many sailors draw a 'dead horse' before going to sea, only to find out later that their family spent about the same amount of money, or more, as they did when he was home," he added.

An advance payment is like an interest-free loan. For instance, if an E-6, married with two children, "borrows" \$4,500 in advance pay, he has to repay the government only the amount borrowed.

But payback is extremely difficult for some families. Paying back \$4,500 means that \$375 per month will be taken out of the E-6's paycheck for 12 months.

"Many service families live from paycheck to paycheck," said a spokesman

for the Air Force Aid Society. "They probably have about \$50 left at the end of the pay period. If in addition to his normal living expenses the person has to reimburse

the government \$375 a month, where is he going to get the other \$325?"

"Maybe he had a part-time job and his wife worked at the old duty station and

their cash flow was based on two or three incomes," he said. "If his wife can't find a job at the new duty station, the advance pay starts killing him."

"Most people don't know it, but they can get their payments extended to 24 months if they are assigned to a high cost area, such as Washington, D.C., San Diego, Calif., or New York City," said a spokeswoman for the Army Community services Center, Fort Myer, Va.

Service members in grades E-7 and above can apply for the extension at their local finance office. An extension for E-6s and below must be approved by their commander.

"Are You Carrying Around a Dead Horse?" is the title of a pamphlet produced by the Fort Myer (Va.) Army Community Service.

"Some service members don't understand how they pay back advance pay," said the Army Community Service spokeswoman. "Some of them don't ask enough questions at the finance office."

"They end up at the Army Emergency Relief, Navy Relief Society, Air Force Relief Society or the Coast Guard Mutual Aid Society getting another loan they have to pay back," said the spokeswoman.

"Getting advance base pay really is like carrying around a dead horse," she said.

"They still have the 'dead horse' burning ceremony aboard some ships after they've been at sea for three months," said a Navy captain. "They throw it off the fantail."



Military News

Fleet Reserve is electing a new slate of officers

Officers for the upcoming year will be elected at Monday evening's meeting of China Lake Branch 95 of the Fleet Reserve Association. The meeting will be held at 7:30 p.m. at the Chief Petty Officers' Mess, and all active duty and retired personnel of the Navy, Marine Corps and Coast Guard are invited to attend.

Nominated for office and the offices for which they have been nominated are: President, H. J. (Joe) Tavare and A. C.

(Skip) Bennett; vice president, Tina L. Evans; secretary-treasurer, W. E. (Wally) Baker; and for five seats on the board of directors, Edward Alba, Opel Anders, Bob Balcom, Robert de Champalain, Robert Schwaiger, Verne Tracey, and James Unger. Nominations are open until the time of election.

Also on the agenda will be making final plans for the installation of the new officers, which is planned for May 17.

CHAMPUS may cover new medical procedures

New services will now be covered by CHAMPUS (Civilian Health and Medical Program of the Uniformed Services) including some cosmetic, plastic or reconstructive surgery and magnetic resonance imaging (MRI).

These do not require advance approval from CHAMPUS, but claims processors can answer questions from military families who want to use these services. For CHAMPUS users in California, call Blue Cross-Blue Shield of South Carolina at 1-800-334-0308.

MRI is a new way of producing high-quality images of cross-sections of the body, in order to spot internal abnormalities or diseases. It's especially useful in examining head, central nervous system or spinal injuries. It is considered equal to or better than the computerized tomography (CT) scans for some conditions. It does not require surgery or radiation like some other diagnostic procedures.

There are restrictions on the use of MRI. For details contact the CHAMPUS claims processor or the nearest Health Benefits Advisor.

U.S. Savings Bond interest remains taxable

Interest on U.S. Savings Bonds is taxable income and must be reported on federal income tax returns, the Internal Revenue says.

Taxpayers must report the interest from Series E and EE bonds in one of two ways:

1) annually, as it accrues, or 2) when the bond is cashed or reaches final maturity.

In the case of Series H and HH bonds, however, interest payments are made twice a year and must be reported in the year received.

Youth party time

The Youth Activities Branch is now handling birthday parties. Parties for kids 6 to 16 years of age will be held at the Youth Center at a cost of \$5 per person.

The parties include birthday cake, ice cream, Kool Aid, decorations, party favors, games, roller skating, and a balloon bouquet delivered by a character.

For registration and information, contact the Information, Ticket and Tours Office, NWCext. 2010.

Those taxpayers who buy U.S. Savings Bonds as co-owners with their children are liable for the tax on the interest earned on the bonds. Interest on U.S. Savings Bonds bought in the name of a child is income to the child.

