

news

NHTSA



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Editor M. J. Noll

April 1976

NHTSA To Initiate Coop Program

A task group of representatives from the Office of Personnel Management (OPM), Motor Vehicle Programs (MVP), Research and Development (RD), Traffic Safety Programs (TSP), and the Office of Civil Rights (OCR) is preparing a cooperative education program for NHTSA. Known as "coop programs," they enable college students to spend part of their year working for government or industry and the remainder on campus.

Coop programs provide management with an opportunity to train, develop, and evaluate potential employees in the authentic environment. At the same time, the coop is evaluating the agency and has ample opportunity to decide if it's the place he wants to work. Should the student continue in this

job, he has already completed an extensive training period and is usually ready for substantive work from the first day he becomes a permanent employee.

While the coop program is directed toward recruitment, it is a way to attract minorities and women into professional level jobs. Five spaces have been established to support the program. However, since each student can spend only six months with the Administration, NHTSA will be able to employ ten coops in any one year. Two spaces each will go to MVP and RD, and one space to TSP.

The task group preparing the program includes Jim Small, MVP; Carolyn Thompson and John Tartaglino, TSP; Bob

(See **Coop Program** on page 6.)

Build a Better Future...Buy Bonds



Dr. Gregory, leading the way, urges that you, too, invest in your own future and that of your country by buying U.S. Savings Bonds. NHTSA's Vice Chairman for this year's campaign is Associate Administrator for Motor Vehicle Programs Robert L. Carter (standing). See pages 2 and 3 for details.

From the desk of...

I am pleased to see that these pages in our NHTSA newsletter are devoted to the kick-off of the 1976 Savings Bond Campaign in NHTSA. Secretary Coleman's comments in his enclosed letter to all personnel about the campaign have my fullest support since I am a firm believer in the purchase of U.S. Savings Bonds.

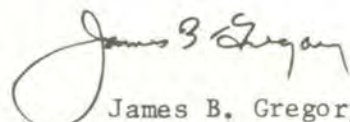


The Administrator

The interest rate on Savings Bonds these days is attractive and this attractiveness is considerably enhanced when you realize that no state or local taxes need be paid on the interest earned. In addition, the federal income tax liability may be deferred until the bonds are redeemed. A review of other facts about the purchase of bonds convinces me more than ever that they are indeed a good buy.

When you are contacted by one of your fellow workers to enroll in, or increase your present savings bond allotment, you invest in your own future and that of your country.

I ask each of you to be as generous as possible.


James B. Gregory

Looking Ahead

TO: All Personnel

The annual U.S. Savings Bonds Campaign for 1976 will be conducted throughout the Department during April. I encourage each of you to carefully consider this important means for assuring financial independence for yourself, your family and our country.

Bonds offer benefits to purchasers that are unmatched by other securities. A full guaranteed 6 percent return on the investment when held to maturity and thereafter is only the beginning. The accompanying article more fully describes the

benefits of bonds to each of you individually, and to all of us collectively.

You will soon be contacted by one of your fellow workers and given the opportunity to participate in this year's campaign by either beginning a new bond purchase program, or increasing your present allotment. If you have not begun yet, you can start with as little as \$3.75 per pay period.

U.S. Savings Bonds have my full support, and I urge you to support them as well.

William T. Coleman, Jr.

Nothing But the Facts

Each person's reasons for buying savings bonds are as varied as the individuals themselves. And in many cases, there are even more benefits in purchasing savings bonds than a good many people realize. Here are the main ones.

High Interest Rate

The interest rate on Series E Savings Bonds is 6 percent when held to maturity of 5 years, and 6 percent annually thereafter. This is a guaranteed minimum for the full life of all bonds purchased now, and not subject to adjustment downward in the future.

Tax Advantages

The interest earned on Savings Bonds is not sub-

ject to state and local income taxes. Federal income taxes on Series E Bond interest may be deferred until the Bonds are redeemed. The deferral of tax payment on Series E Bond interest can mean an increase in the effective return on your investment. This benefit becomes especially advantageous when Bonds are held until retirement, when extra deductions and lower income result in a lower tax rate.

Also, employees may exchange their Series E Bonds for Series H Bonds, which pay interest semi-annually by Treasury check. On such trades, federal income tax accumulated on Series E Bond interest may continue to be deferred until the

Series H Bonds mature or are redeemed. Interest collected on Series H Bonds is taxable in the year received, however.

Parents can buy Bonds in a child's name with themselves as beneficiary. By declaring the income tax annually, or by redeeming the bonds before the child begins to earn taxable income, no taxes are payable. The parents are as well off as if they had saved the money at a higher interest rate and paid taxes on the interest each year.

Automatic Savings

The Payroll Savings Plan provides a guaranteed way to save money. All personnel may designate a part of each pay to be automatically deducted every payday and put toward Savings Bonds. As savings grow into substantial reserves, a solid base is formed with which future financial planning develops.

Ready Cash

Savings Bonds can be redeemed without charge for their purchase price, plus any accumulated interest, anytime after two months from the date of issue. This enables employees to have ready cash to meet any financial emergency. Consumers can cash accumulated Bonds to pay for big-ticket items that, if bought on installment, would be financed by paying interest rates of 12 to 18 percent.

Safe Investment

U.S. Savings Bonds are among the safest invest-

ments in the world. Both principal and interest are fully guaranteed and Savings Bonds are replaced free if lost, stolen or destroyed with no loss of accumulated interest. They can be issued in the owner's name along with a beneficiary, if desired, or with a co-owner.

National Economic Stability

Savings Bonds provide non-inflationary financing of government programs. Concern about inflation is more likely to limit programs to improve the environment, the urban situation, mass transportation, and so on, than it is likely to limit the defense budget. The argument, therefore, that one should not buy Savings Bonds because one doesn't want to help finance military expenditures might have had merit some time ago, but is not a viable one today.

Current holdings of Bonds account for 23 percent of the publicly held portion of the federal debt. If Bonds had not been sold, that much more money would have had to be raised through the banking system, by the creation of additional money, and there would be even greater inflationary pressure than we have now. Without public support for the Savings Bond program, government would have to raise taxes or postpone spending for expanded domestic programs. We should all prefer the opportunity to finance those expenditures by savings.

Personnel

Welcome Aboard

Marlene Keiderling, Accountant, Region IX, 2-29.

Vincent Coletti, Program Analyst, TSP, 3-1.

Veronica Dunning, Con. Info. Resp. Typ., PACS, 3-2.

Donna Gray, Clerk-Typist, PACS, 3-2.

Gerald Royston, Clerk-Typist, AD, 3-8.

Gary Harmon, Mail and File Clerk, AD, 3-9.

Beverly Bryan, Con. Info. Resp. Typ., PACS, 3-10.

'Bye and Good Luck

Damian Adamo, Sec. Steno., Region III, 2-27.

Elbert Peters, Jr., HSMS, TSP, 3-8.

Congrats on Promotion

Samuel Daniel, Jr., Mech. Engr., MVP, 2-29.

Donald Durkee, Mgt. Analyst, AD, 2-29.

Sandy Miller, Sec. (Typing), AD, 2-29.

Scott G. Shadle, Mech. Engineer, MVP, 2-29.



The Mark of Distinction

In Grosse Pointe, Michigan, there is a round Unitarian Church which was built by the efforts of many persons. Behind the altar stretches a hand-fashioned, nine foot by nine foot, aluminum screen of intertwining ovals. Mortised onto the screen are symbols of the various religions of the world.

John W. Carson, chief of Controls and Displays Branch, MVP, contributed this screen to his church when it was dedicated in 1965.

Today, Johnny still finds fascination in these symbols. He has researched the history of their meanings and uses them often in his silversmithing hobby and in the jewelry he makes.

A recent example is the exquisite bracelet he made for his wife, which combines his goldsmithing ability with his lapidary talents. Between two twisted gold wires are seven symbols. The Thunderbird (Navaho symbol for rain and happiness), the Man (symbolic representation dating from 1000 B.C. in India), and the Flaming Chalice (Unitarian Universalist Church symbol) are gold. Ying and Yang (Taoist symbol for opposites) meet each other in red carnelian and black jade. The Christian cross is white opal, the Egyptian ankh is green jade. The "Ohm" (both a verbal and written symbol for eternity in Hindi) is cut from a cameo shell.

Johnny also enjoys



1965—Johnny Carson, his wife, Joyce, and Johnny's handmade screen were photographed at the dedication of the church in Michigan where Johnny's craftwork may still be seen today.

creating non-sectarian jewelry. Persons with a practiced eye will note his work around the agency in a pewter necklace, silver initial rings, key rings and tie clips or carved applewood pins. Johnny has often been "commissioned" for special projects. "I don't do it to make money, but I must charge something for the materials and time involved. I enjoy the work."

In 1954, when employed as a quality assurance manager in Detroit, Johnny took an adult education class in jewelry-making. He has been practicing his art ever since, occasionally taking related courses such as gem-cutting or enameling.

Even before becoming an amateur jeweler, Johnny was creating things. He's loved whittling

ever since his childhood in Kentucky. He once whittled a wooden ship model of the Queen Mary which won seventh place in a national competition. His applewood initial pins beautifully display the years of whittling experience he has had.

One of Johnny's recent commissions was a silver initial ring. He explained the process of its creation. He began with a drawing, a two-dimensional conception, as he always does. (He says his mechanical engineering background is a great help here.) Then he carved a model of the ring in wax. He attached this ring to the top of a metal cone. Both cone and ring went into a box into which a plaster-of-paris-type compound was poured. When dried, the box and cone were removed and the wax was melted out, leaving a hollow mold of the ring inside. Through the access left where the cone had been, Johnny poured molten silver into the mold. After the metal solidified, he removed the plaster, leaving a silver ring duplicate of the wax model. This is known as the "lost wax process."

Johnny has an impressive display of gems which he will use in future projects. There is romance in viewing his star garnet from a maharaja's crown and his Russian emerald from the Ural Mountains. Both

faceted and cabochon (rounded) stones are used in his jewelry. The transparent stones, he explains, like diamonds and amethysts, are more beautiful when faceted, while opaque or translucent stones, like tiger's eye and bloodstone, are better as cabochons.

Johnny has worked with

every material from abalone shells to enamel. He estimates that he has fashioned from seventy-five to one hundred rings, belt buckles, earrings, etc. To the owners of a Johnny Carson Original, there is a joy in the realization that each is a one-of-a-kind personalized item created by a conscientious craftsman.



Samples of the jeweler's handicraft. The squiggle above the name "John" in the lower corner is Johnny Carson's trademark, found on all jewelry he has designed.

Can You Put It Into English?

OST's International Secretariat (TAD-26) is sometimes required to provide quick translations of letters and brief documents received by the Department. Although we have a fairly good background in French and Spanish, we sometimes find ourselves with letters in many other languages requiring quick, rough translations. If you have some fluency in any foreign language and would like to share your expertise, please contact Jean Herz at extension 64375. TAD-26 would like to compile a listing of DOT employees who have special language capabilities in various foreign languages and who would like to volunteer to help out with brief translations from time to time. Past experience indicates that most efforts require no more than ten minutes for an informal, hand-written translation.

Job Openings

For complete details on these job openings, see the official vacancy announcements. Vacancy announcements are posted on the NHTSA Bulletin Boards at both the Nassif and Transpoint Buildings. They are also distributed to each Office Director.

Secretary (Stenography), GS-318-06, Motor Vehicle Programs, Engineering Test Facility, East Liberty, Ohio. Opens: 3-24, Closes: 4-13. NHTSA 76-59.

The Easter Egg

From time unknown, and in all corners of the earth, the egg has been a symbol of life to mankind. Innumerable myths may be found of the cosmogonic egg, the egg from which the universe was born.

Mircea Eliade, the religious historian, says the egg is a symbol beyond that of birth. In it, man has found the embodiment of rebirth.

There is evidence that the dyeing of eggs goes back to the spring festivals in ancient Egypt, Greece, Persia, and Rome. The Persians gave eggs as gifts at the vernal equinox, the first day of spring. The custom of egg dyeing does not seem to have reached Europe until late medieval times. Probably, the Crusaders brought this custom home from the East.

Today, in Eastern Europe, the dyeing of eggs is a well-developed art in which many colors are used and designs are often religious symbols.

In the U.S., an Easter egg with two yolks means coming prosperity, and to refuse an Easter egg offered by a friend means loss of that friendship.

Egg-rolling was brought to America from England. Two well-known egg-rolling contests are those in Central Park and on the White House lawn on Easter Monday.

The first White House egg rolls were actually held on Capitol Hill under President Madison. An old account of the time is amusing:

"At first the children sit sedately in long rows; each has brought a basket of gay-colored, hard-boiled eggs, and those on the upper terrace send them rolling to the line next below, and those pass on to ribbon-like streams to other hundreds at the foot, who scramble for the hopping eggs and hurry panting to the top to start them down again. And as the sport warms, those on top who have rolled all the eggs they brought finally roll themselves, shrieking with laughter. Now comes a swirl of curls, ribbons and furbelows, somebody's dainty maid indifferent to bumps and grass stains. A set of boys who started in a line of six with joined hands are trying to come down in somersaults without breaking the chain"

It was in 1878 when the

egg rollers moved from the Hill to the White House.

As it had been during the Civil War, the game was suspended during World War I and World War II. In 1953 it was revived and is now a popular annual event in the nation's capital. It is usually attended by about 10,000 persons.

This is the only chance the public has to walk on the White House lawn. Adults are not admitted unless accompanied by children. A military band entertains and the President sometimes makes an appearance.

The egg hunt was also imported from Europe. Young children are told "The Easter Bunny has hidden the eggs. Whoever finds the most eggs wins a prize." The prize usually is Easter candy. What else?

Coop Program (from page 1)

MacDonald, RD; Shirley Lloyd, OCR; and Kay O'Brien and John Budnik, OPM.

Much work lies ahead. The group must develop a cooperative education agreement for colleges and universities; prepare

training plans; identify recruitment sources and activities; and provide supervisors with support and assistance after the program begins. If all goes well, we'll have our first coops on board in September.



Members of the NHTSA task group meet to initiate action on a cooperative education program. They are, left to right: Carolyn Thompson, TSP; Barbara Mandley, R&D; Jim Small, MVP; and Shirley Lloyd, OCR. Since this photo was taken, Barbara Mandley has left NHTSA (March 20) and is now working for ERDA.

The Pause That Refreshes

Since the far off days when man turned to agriculture, he has been trading in vegetables and fruits. A bright rectangle arranged in neat rows of red, orange, green and yellow on the corner of 7th and E Sts., S.W. is a refreshing reminder of that less complex past.

Along with an estimated 24,000 employees in adjacent buildings, many NHTSA employees keep alive that tradition of trade when they stop at the fruit stand each day.

Under the yellow umbrella stands Steve Szatmari, one of many fruit-stand owners in D.C. Steve has been selling apples and oranges, grapes, pears, and bananas for two years. He is a Hungarian immigrant who came here in 1971 with a dream of owning his own business. Now he does.

Fruit-stand owners in the District must have three licenses; one for the vendor, one for the stand, and an "Environmental Services License" from the Board of Health. The first two are renewed each year, the last each month.

And where does the fruit come from? Steve and his two Hungarian partners (who own stands on Pennsylvania Ave., N.W.) make purchases in different places. They go to the large market in Northwest D.C. They also buy often from Philadelphia and bring their purchase back in a tractor-trailer they own. Steve says he



Steve Szatmari (right) and his colorful fruit stand, almost a landmark to DOT employees, will soon be a thing of the past. Steve plans to open a farmer's market somewhere in Maryland and perhaps go into the produce-hauling business.

feels this is worthwhile because prices are usually better in Philadelphia. For example, a bushel of apples may cost \$5.50 in Philadelphia, and up to \$7.00 here in the District.

During the summer months, Steve and his friends purchase produce from local farmers. On summer afternoons, they travel to various apartment buildings and sell fruits and vegetables by the pound or bushel.

Steve points out that vendors do not charge a uniform price for fruit throughout the city. His price for a pear or 2 bananas or an apple is 25¢. This includes tax. However, he notes, if the

sales tax goes up again, vendors will probably have to raise their prices.

Now that his business is established and prospering, Steve has set further goals. He and his friends would like to open a farmer's market somewhere in Maryland. He may also go into the produce-hauling business. If so, the cheery green stand at 7th and E may disappear.

"Every day, I'm selling one pick-up truck load of fruit," Steve says. In terms of individual buyers, that could mean a lot of people will miss that colorful rectangle and its cheery owner.

She's Region VIII's Petite and Proficient Accounting Technician



Janice Losey, a little gal with a big job. She's Region VIII's efficient accounting technician.

Five foot two and eyes of blue . . . born and educated in Nebraska, that's Janice Losey, the efficient accounting technician in the Denver regional office.

Jan graduated from a small-town high school in Naponee, Nebraska and attended Kearney State College before moving to Denver and starting her career with FHWA.

In 1970, Jan transferred to the NHTSA region VIII office as a secretary. Several years ago she was moved into financial management and since has become proficient in this specialized field under the tutelage of Jim Tracy.

Jan has been recognized for her regional work with an Outstanding Award and more recently a Special Achievement Award. The latter was based on her unique ability to inter-

into computer software specifications.

Whenever she can get away from her work duties, Jan's hobbies include skiing on Colorado's slopes, crocheting and ceramics.

She has become well acquainted with many other regional staffs through her contacts on training for the computer terminals now used in every region.

'Round About NHTSA Deaths

It was with deep regret we learned of the deaths of two NHTSA employees; Mr. Richard A. Youngs on Saturday, March 6, and Miss Frances Racoosin on Saturday, March 20.

Mr. Youngs was Chief of the Police Traffic Services Branch in TSP. He had been with the

man of great courage, good will and a friend.

Miss Racoosin was a Secretary-Steno in the Office of Crash Avoidance, MVP. She had been with the Department since 1967. Miss Racoosin, a warm and outgoing person, will be missed by all who knew and worked with her.

Rail Tour, Anyone?

Interested in making a rail tour of the U.S. with stopovers at several major western National Parks and cities (e.g., Yellowstone, San Francisco)? AMTRAK offers 2, 3, and 4 week rail passes (\$150 - \$250) which can make this an inexpensive vacation. If you are interested in forming a group (more than one) to take advantage of this travel bargain, call Bob Schroth (585-1474 or 426-1582). He will arrange length and timing of tour to suit participants, but prefers late April or May.

Let Us Know

Do you have an item that you would like to share with others in the agency? If so, give us a call on X62876 or stop by room 5215 in the Nassif Building.

We are interested in a wide variety of items for the NHTSA News, including such events as births, weddings, unusual hobbies, awards, etc.

graffiti

When driving near schools, open your eyes and save the pupils

