

news

NHTSA



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Editor M. J. Noll

October 1976

A Cordial Welcome to Dr. Duke, Our New Deputy Administrator

Engineer, professor, researcher, planner, analyst and executive. Dr. Charles E. Duke, NHTSA's new Deputy Administrator, is a man of wide experience.

Following undergraduate study, a stint with the Air Force, and graduate work, he joined the faculty of Pennsylvania State University in 1946. Dr. Duke stayed there until 1955 rising to the level of Assistant Professor of Aeronautical Engineering, and was a member of the

(See **Dr. Duke** on page 6.)



Dr. Charles E. Duke

Snow to Appeal for the International Harmonization of Standards

Before a meeting of Working Party 29 in Geneva, NHTSA Administrator John W. Snow will appeal to the European nations for the International Harmonization of Standards.

Specifically he will call for increased harmonization in three basic areas. These are the certification procedures of vehicles, the establishment of specifications on performance rather than design, and uniform test procedures for vehicle regulations.

Such harmonization of international standards, Mr. Snow points out, would help bring about the production of vehicles that are marketable throughout the world. This uniformity, in turn,

would then help ease the burdens of exporting and importing vehicles into and out of the various countries.

Perhaps even more importantly, he says, such harmonization would contribute to a safer driving environment internationally. This would enable manufacturers to concentrate on research and development toward complying with one standard regardless of where the vehicle was marketed.

Snow's trip will also take him to other European nations where he will visit the manufacturers of Saab, Volkswagen and British-Leyland, tour the Road Research Laboratory in London and meet with members of the Common Market.

In Memoriam

Dear President Ford,

On the night of July 25th my 17 year old brother was killed in Mackinaw City, Michigan. For days my 13 year old sister was between life and death. She's been released from the hospital, but she will be slightly crippled for the rest of her life.

The killer was alcohol & drugs. They were hit by a drunk driver who was also using marijuana. The driver was 18 years old.

How long does the senseless slaughter of our youth on the highways have to continue until something is done?

My brother was an Eagle Scout, a church member, he did not drink and didn't believe in drugs of any kind.

Alcohol and drugs do kill and they kill the innocents.

Put yourself in my parents place - try to imagine the shock & grief they felt while they buried their son and watched their baby daughter lay in a hospital bed with both legs in a cast.

We need stricter laws on alcohol and drug abuse. Although the public is leaning toward the legalization of marijuana, it's still a killer. It impairs judgment of the drivers, and when mixed with alcohol, it's lethal to other motorists.

This week 22 people were killed on Virginia's highways.

Reckless abusive drivers are the worst kind of killer. They don't choose their victims. They pick at random. They kill babies, teens, pregnant women, anyone who happens to be traveling at the same time.

Our laws are too lenient. Speed limits are not enforced. Stop lights and signs not observed.

Please show your concern this election year. Help fight the biggest killer of all.

Thank you so much for your time. Your help will be appreciated.

Sincerely,
Mrs. Robert Hoover
Chesapeake Va.

This poem was written by my younger sister. It shows what families everyday feel and go through because of car accidents.

He was only seventeen;
But he tried so to be grown.
And Sunday night he did become
The biggest man I've ever known.

Sunday night the Angels came
And they took my brother Steve.

I believe that in Heaven
Jesus called an Angel friend
He said "There's a job down there
And you're the one to send.

"Now see in that car down there
Are two children that I love

I want you to go to them
With my comfort from above."

Sunday night the Angels came
And they took my brother Steve.

"Now there's going to be a crash
This is all still in my hand
So, Go now. I need you there
To carry out my plan."

"Be there with the little girl.
Guard her life. She is my own.
But the boy, just hold him tight
I want him home."

Sunday night the Angels came
And they took my brother Steve

And I think when Steve got there
That the first thing that he said was,
"Please send someone back
To comfort my Mom & Dad.

And Sunday night the Angels came.

D.D.S.

Now is the Time

Now is the time to think about your contributions to charity, and to look into the new Combined Federal Campaign. Several features of the program have changed, and we feel it has become even more responsive than it was before. See your keyperson for details!

OF SPECIAL INTEREST
Carbon Monoxide, the silent killer. You can't see, taste or smell it. Yet it is deadly.

How is carbon monoxide produced? When fuels burn incompletely, as almost all fuels do to some extent.

When a generous supply of fresh air is available and the fuel is burning properly, there is little danger of carbon monoxide poisoning. But operating an internal combustion engine or an improperly adjusted fuel-burning appliance in a closed area without fresh air can be fatal.

Following are suggestions offered by the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission to help you avoid carbon monoxide poisoning.

At Home

All home fuel-burning equipment should be inspected yearly by an ex-

pert to keep it operating efficiently and properly vented.

All fuel-burning heaters used to warm the house should be vented to the outside. If you must use an unvented heater, be sure to leave a window open at least one inch. Unvented heaters should be turned off at night.

Do not use a gas range or oven for heating a room.

Never use a charcoal grill or hibachi inside, unless it is in a well-ventilated fireplace. Burning charcoal--whether it's glowing red or turning to gray ashes--gives off large amounts of carbon monoxide.

All of the above suggestions apply especially to mobile homes which are smaller and may have less adequate ventilation than houses.

In the Car

Always leave all garage windows and doors open if you are operating an automobile engine--or any other internal combustion en-

gine--inside the garage. If you have an attached garage, be sure the fumes are not being vented into the house. Avoid prolonged running of an engine inside.

Have your muffler and tail pipes checked regularly. Carbon monoxide can leak into the car from a faulty exhaust system.

Ordinarily, you should open your car windows when the car is stopped for any period of time and the motor is running.

Watch for the Symptoms of Carbon Monoxide Poisoning

Mild cases produce sleepiness, headache, dizziness, blurred vision, irritability, and an inability to concentrate.

Severe cases cause nausea and vomiting, shortness of breath, convulsions, unconsciousness, and death.

The best first aid for carbon monoxide poisoning is lots of fresh air. Then see a doctor immediately.

Congratulations!

We would like to extend our congratulations to Mrs. Ethel Ezell, TSP and to Mrs. Linda O'Connor, PACS. They both became mothers recently.

Ethel gave birth to a baby girl on September 19. She and her husband named their daughter Christy Ann. Their son, Darren, age 5, attends kindergarten.

Linda had a baby boy, weighing 8 lbs. 12-1/2 oz. on October 2. She and her husband named their son Brendan Brian. This is their first child.

Hardworking Mother of Five

Helen Jackson, Secretary to the Chief, Public Affairs, is an attractive young woman with, you might say, two full-time jobs. Her second job--for it certainly is that--is being mother to five teenagers. Helen's own office says proudly that she is one of the keystones of the office--a gal who knows what she is doing.

Helen's initial entry into the business world brought her to the Office of Public Affairs in April 1973, where she started as a clerk-typist. Her duties as a housewife and mother had understandably kept her at home up until that time. She has been in her present position for about a year and a half now, and with genuine enthusiasm she says she loves working for Public Affairs. There are many duties, all of which she enjoys; the work is never routine; she finds it challenging, and says she is still learning. At this writing she is looking forward to taking a two-week course on executive correspondence to be taught at NHTSA in early October.

Helen played on the NHTSA "All Stars" softball team this summer and liked the game so well that she played at home too with her boys and the neighborhood kids.

As you might well guess, Helen's main interest outside of her job is her family. Her oldest is daughter Jeanette, 19, who has just completed a busi-



Helen Jackson, PACS

ness course at Lacaze-Gardner Business School in Washington and is now working for the Treasury Department.

Ralph, 17, wants to follow in the footsteps of his father and be an electrician. He attends a vocational high school where he takes regular high school courses for half a day, and electrical shop training the other half. He had a few jobs this summer and also works after school, saving hard for his yet-to-be-purchased first car.

Eric, 16, goes to Ballou High School and has not made up his mind about his future yet. However, his older brother's earnings this past summer made quite an impression on him, financially speaking, and he now thinks he may want to be an electrician too. As a teenager, Eric has an

interest and a talent which is rather unusual for a 16-year-old--he loves to cook and bake. Helen says that if she isn't in the kitchen, Eric probably is--mixing up his favorite tuna casserole, or baking a cake. And not only does he like to cook, but he likes to shop for the groceries too, and does a good job his mother says. Quite a help to a working mother of five! Helen remembers that when she was in junior high, home economics was her favorite subject. Often the school principal would have luncheons for special guests and Helen almost always volunteered to do the baking and cooking. And, if she didn't, her teacher would ask her. Helen still loves to cook, and especially to bake cakes. Apparently her talents have rubbed off on her 16-year-old.

Fifteen-year-old Louis is a student at Randall Junior High. His interest is music, and he plays the trombone and is in the school band. His younger brother Robert, 13, also is in Randall Junior High and plays on the 90 - 115 pound weight team of the Arthur Cappa Football Team. The coach directs three Arthur Cappa Football Teams, each for a different weight group, and at this writing they are lining up for the fall games. Helen enjoys going to these with her family.

Washington, D.C. is

home to Helen. She was born here and grew up in the District, graduating from Cardozo High. In junior high and senior high school, she loved to play basketball.

Helen's dream now is to own her own home, and she has been looking for a house that will accommodate her large family nicely. They presently are apartment dwellers and recently had to part with their pet doberman, Fifi, who has been a tried and true member of the family for five years. She still is, but Fifi was evicted from the family quarters, bringing sadness to all, including Fifi. A big, old house with lots of space inside and out would be a dream come true. All would have more room, and Fifi could return to the family hearthstone for more than her present weekends. That home, when it is found, will have to be in the District of Columbia, though. Helen has lived here all of her life, and while others may seek "greener" pastures in far-away places, only Washington satisfies her. "Home is where the heart is" and Helen's heart is here.

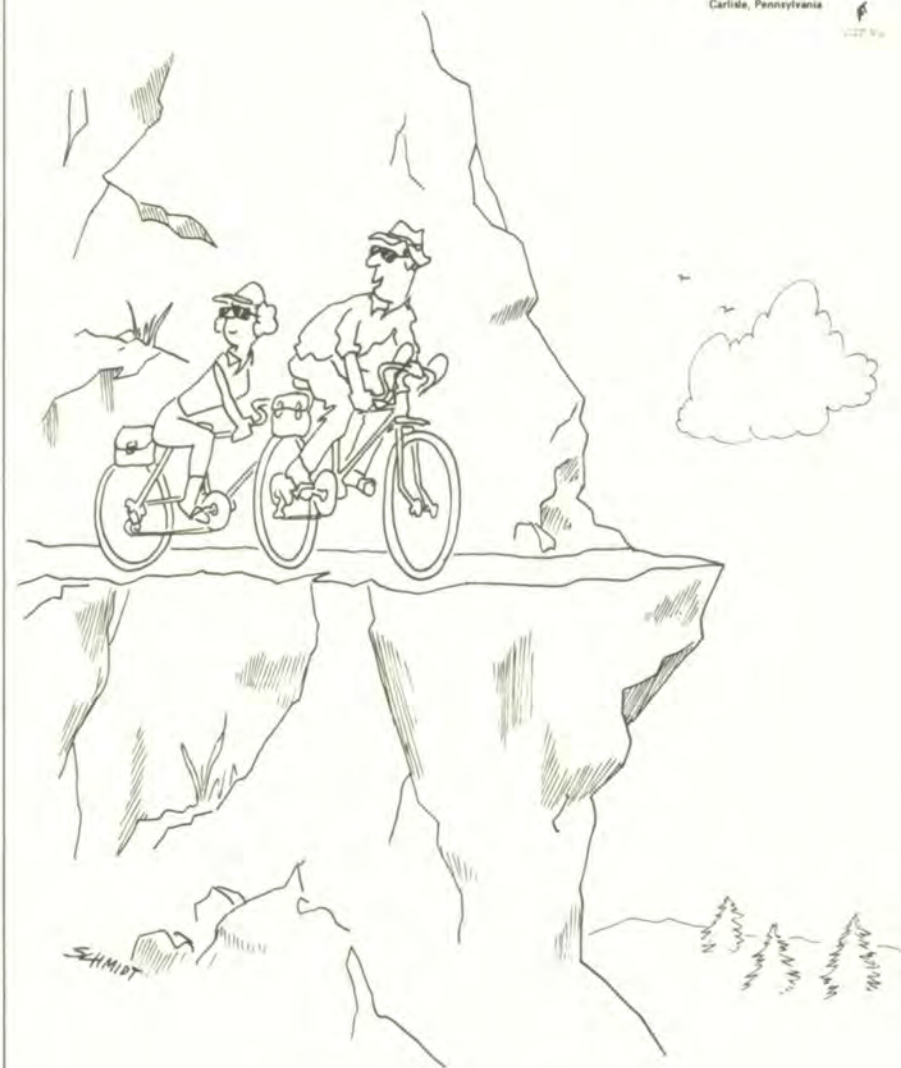
Back in the Fold

It's nice to see Bob Cook (PACS) back in office and feeling fit. Bob came back to work September 27 after recuperating from surgery during the summer and he looks great. Welcome back, Bob!

Bicycling

Keeping Your Eyes Peeled

Bicentennial Bikesentennial '76
THE NATIONAL CONVENTION OF BICYCLISTS
Dickinson College
Carlisle, Pennsylvania



"LOOK AT THAT VIEW!"

And, if you survive that ride, when you get back to town, look for:
* "Parallel-bar" water and sewer grates--Avoid them.
* Cars pulling out of driveways and doors of parked vehicles opening unexpectedly--Concentrate on the driving task.

* Safe places in your environment--And ride in accord with the Rules of the Road. For the safe places in your area, contact the Motor Vehicle, Police, or Driver Licensing authorities in your state or community or NHTSA's Pedestrian-Cyclist Branch (TSP) on 426-2180.

Dr. Duke (from page 1)

Graduate Faculty and President's Faculty Advisory Council.

From there, Dr. Duke went on to HRB-Singer, Inc. Here he served first as Vice President for Research and Development and Head of the Analysis Department. Later he was named the Executive Vice President with responsibility for all of the company's work including research and development and manufacturing. Also, from 1957 to 1966, he served as a member of the Board of Directors.

In 1966 the new Deputy Administrator joined MITRE Corporation, a not-for-profit system engineering organization. Starting off with planning assignments, he rose to the position of Director of Planning and Director of Administration of the Bedford Division. He stayed with MITRE until 1972, when he accepted a position as Vice President of E-Systems, Inc., Melpar Division.

Dr. Duke comes to NHTSA from the E-Systems, Inc., where he had direct supervision of five technical departments and the technical service group. And he eagerly looks forward to the challenges of this new position.

"Transportation has been a life-long interest for me," Dr. Duke said. "I feel fortunate to get involved at a time when electronics may be ready to make a significant contribution to our transportation problems."

Dr. Duke, a native of Williamsport, Pennsylvania, has a Bachelor of Science

degree in Mechanical Engineering from Pennsylvania State University.

He, his wife, Shirley, and three daughters, live in McLean, Virginia.

From the Young Set

Many of the letters referred to NHTSA are from young people. Each has a message. Each provides a stimulus. These young persons help us realize how important our goals are. Their imaginative ideas demonstrate a real interest in, and desire to help with, the problems that beset our society.

Following are a few of the letters that we have received. Others will appear in future issues.

Dear, Mr. President, Would you please allow special mini-cars that children like nine years old and over could drive it. I always wanted to drive a little mini-car. Maybe about five feet long and four feet wide. And a little steerinwheel and two seats and two gas peadels and stoping. That run by big and have a raido and air-condishoning. And little roads that go to all different places and go about 25 miles per hour. That come in all sorts of colors and that come in Fords and Impalas and Cadilacs. I would like you to consider my proposal. Thank you. Hope to hear from you soon. Write back. That run by big batteries and have lights. If you do it I will vote for you to be Presedent. I hope you

do it. I think youl be the best Presadent of the United States.

Love
Bill Glassberg
Wantagh, New York

Dear President Ford,

There should be a law about bicycles. The law should be that bicycles need a speed limit because bicycles might run into cars. This would prevent accidents.

Thank you,
Shane Sears
(5 years old)

P.S. I dictated this to my mother.

Dear Mr. President,

My friends and I have mini-bikes and mini-cycles. We want to know if you would pass a law for us mini-bike riders that we get at least 5 days a month to ride without the police chasing us threw the streets.

I have been caught twice, and all they do is give you a ticket or tell you that it is very dangerous to ride mini-bikes.

I do not understand this, there is more and more people getting killed or hurt on a car than a mini-bike.

My friends and a lot of other kids would like someplace or a law to be passed so we could ride are mini-bikes.

WOULD YOU PLEASE ANSWER THIS?

Steven Kiraly
Youngstown, Ohio

Buckle Up Dept.

The recent DOT Highway Safety Needs Report ranks highway safety countermeasures in the following order of their potential to forestall human fatalities over the next 10 years: Mandatory safety belt use, 89,000 lives at a cost of \$506 per life saved; increased enforcement of the national 55 mph speed limit, 32,000 lives at a cost of \$22,000 per life saved. So for goodness' sake, slow down on your own!

Job Openings

For complete details, 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.

Computer Programmer, GS-334-9, AD. Opens: 10-4, Closes 10-26. NHTSA 77-09.

Safety Compliance Engineer, GS-801-14, MVP. Opens: 10-7, Closes: 10-22. NHTSA 77-10.

Bio Medical Engineer, GS-858-12, or General Engineer, GS-801-12, RD. Opens: 10-4, Closes: 10-26. NHTSA 77-11.

Special Assistant to Deputy Administrator, GS-301-15, Office of Deputy Administrator. Opens: 10-5, Closes 10-27. NHTSA 77-12.

Program Analyst, GS-345-7/9, TSP. Opens: 10-13, Closes 11-3. NHTSA 77-13.

Tips for Motorists from NHTSA

The NHTSA Office of Consumer Services has developed two new publications to provide safety advice to motorists. One is a fact sheet entitled "Passenger Car Brakes"; the other is a booklet entitled "Winter Safe Driving Tips." Both will receive wide consumer distribution, and we are happy to add them to our growing list.

"Passenger Car Brakes" describes the warning signs available to drivers to indicate symptoms of impending brake failure so that corrections can be made before the failure is catastrophic and results in an accident. It suggests causes and remedial actions for such symptoms as mushy or thumping brakes, pulling or grabbing brakes, excessive metallic squealing or grinding noises when the brakes are applied, and provides precautions on use of brake fluids.

In addition to symptoms and causes, the brake fact sheet provides tips on brake system inspection and maintenance, and suggestions on how to get the maximum life from a vehicle's brakes. This fact sheet is available now, and can be obtained from the NHTSA distribution office, room 4423.

"Winter Safe Driving Tips" is currently being published and should be available soon. It provides suggestions for planning and preparation for winter driving, with

emphasis on inspection and maintenance of the battery, ignition system, heating and cooling system, exhaust system, windshield wipers and washer, tires, and chains. It also provides a listing of equipment that should be carried in the glove compartment or trunk for use to combat problems that may be encountered in driving on snowy or icy roads or in winter storms. A separate section on special techniques for safe driving on ice and snow is also included, and discusses combating glare, driving in fog, braking on slippery surfaces, reaction to skids, and what to do when your vehicle is stuck in a rut.

To find out what these publications really say, get them and read them. At the same time you may also want to pick up some other booklets. These include "Motorcycle Safety," "Tips on Car Care and Safety for Deaf Drivers," "Common Sense in Buying a Safe Used Car," "How to Deal With Motor Vehicle Emergencies," and "Automobile Jacks." Also, there are three fact sheets which are available. They are "Automotive Rust--Its Causes and Prevention," "Battery Hazards--Explosions and Jump Starting," and "Safety Tips on Use of Headlights."

All are available from the Distribution Office, Room 4423.

Summer Jobs in 1977

The 1977 announcement of summer jobs, Announcement No. 414, was issued on October 14, 1976, and is available at the headquarters personnel office. Regional employees may obtain a copy from the regional office of the Civil Service Commission.

Although complete application instructions are contained in the announcement, it will be helpful for prospective applicants to know the following procedures and changes:

Group I (includes most jobs in grades GS-1 through 4 filled from the Summer Employment Examination).

Applicants who did not work for the employing agency the previous year may apply by:

1) Renewing their written test eligibility from the previous year. The form for updating this eligibility is included on the last page of the announcement.

2) Filing for the written test. This application form is also included on the last page of the announcement.

The deadline for both eligibility renewals and written test applications is January 13, 1977. Applications postmarked after that date will not be accepted. The written test will be scheduled throughout the country during January and February.

Group I employees from the previous year no longer

have to re compete for employment by the same agency. The employee may be re-appointed up to grade GS-4 provided he or she meets the qualification requirements of the position to be filled. Applicants for positions in agencies other than the one for which they worked the previous year must take the Summer Employment Examination.

Group III (positions in grades GS-5 and above, involving professional and administrative work).

These positions must be filled through agency-administered staffing plans. Applicants must file directly with the agencies where they wish consideration by the deadline dates listed in the announcement.

Personnel

Welcome Aboard

Lauren Reynolds, Sec. Steno, PACS, 9-12.

Paulette Williams, Clerk-Steno, TSP, 9-12.

Viola Walsh, Clerk-Typist, PACS, 9-19.

Barbara McManus, Clerk (Typing), AD, 9-20.

Paulette Saxon, Clerk (Typing), AD, 9-20.

Marian Tomassoni, Clerk Steno, Region III, 9-20.

Sineta Wooten, Clerk (DMT), Exec. Sec., 9-20.

'Bye and Good Luck

Lois A. Gray, Clerk Steno, Region III, 9-11.

Patricia A. Price, Clerk (Typing), OCC, 9-19.

Dianne Graham, Clerk (Typing), RD, 9-25.

Congrats on Promotion

Gail Boger, Clerk Steno, AD, 9-12.

Lenora Borow, Admin. Officer, Automotive Fuel Economy Working Group, 9-12.

Bruce Buckheit, Attor. Advis., OCC, 9-12.

Gary Butler, Highway Safety Management Spec., TSP, 9-12.

Elizabeth Carr, Comp. Sys. Anal., AD, 9-12.

Philip Dozier, Highway Safety Mgmt. Specialist, TSP, 9-12.

Stanley Feldman, Atty. Adv., OCC, 9-12

Thomas Herlihy, Atty. Adv., OCC, 9-12.

Philip Hertz, Atty. Adv., OCC, 9-12.

Allan Kam, Trial Attorney, OCC, 9-12.

Henry Lederman, Trial Attorney, OCC, 9-12.

Mahesh Podar, Economist, P & E, 9-12.

Mark Schwimmer, Atty. Adv., OCC, 9-12.

Elaine Weinstein, Soc. Scien, Prog. Spec., TSP, 9-12.

graffiti

A three-pound pull,
and a five-pound bite;
An eight-pound jump,
and a ten-pound fight;
A twelve-pound bend,
... but alas!

When you get
him
aboard,
He's a half-
pound
bass!



— Author
Unknown