

# news

# NHTSA



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Editor M. J. Noll

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## Administrator Commends Correspondence Control Staff



Members of the Correspondence Control Unit pose with Ms. Joan Claybrook. Shown from left to right are Carolyn Plunkett, Marie Greene, Susan Hopson, Linda Watson, Eunice Moran, Beverly Bryan, Ms. Claybrook and Willie Wilson.

Correspondence Coordinator Eunice Moran and members of the Correspondence Control Staff recently received special recognition from the Administrator for their outstanding service for the year August 1, 1977, to July 31, 1978.

The award specified that the unit had processed an unusually large amount of correspondence during this time period with little overtime. It further stated that throughout the period, the Unit maintained a high quality of accuracy and responsiveness and that as a team performed in a smooth, efficient and highly responsive manner.

In handing out the certificates and cash awards to each member of the team, Ms. Claybrook expressed her appreciation to the group for what she said must sometimes seem to them a thankless job. But, she pointed out, it is an important function and their conscientious efforts--not only during the period specified in the award, but beyond as well--do not go unrecognized.

### Awards ... Awards ... Awards ... Awards

Fifty-three NHTSA employees have recently received awards for noteworthy contributions on the job.

Outstanding Performance Ratings were given to Florine Demeo, Region VII; Mary L. Freeman, AD; Bonita D. Garrison, NTS;

Tressa E. Guthrie, Region VI; Michael I. Impellizzeri, Region III; Nancy Martus, NRM; Carl Nash and Judith Pasquini, Office of the Administrator; and Helen Seminario, NTS.

Receiving Special

(See Awards on page 3.)

## Brenner Receives ASTM Award

Dr. F. Cecil Brenner, chief of the Tire Systems Division, Safety Research Laboratory, has been named a recipient of the Award of Merit by the American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM).

Dr. Brenner received the honor in Cleveland during ceremonies sponsored by ASTM Committee F-9 on Tires. He was cited for "distinguished service and leadership in developing voluntary standards for vehicle tires by chairing Committee F-9 through its formative years, through research on tires, and through his strong support of the journal Tire Science and Technology."

The Award of Merit, naming the recipient a Fellow of the Society, was established in 1949 by ASTM, the world's largest source of voluntary consensus standards for materials, products, systems, and services with over 26,000 members internationally. The award recognizes distinguished service to the cause of voluntary standardization through productive service to ASTM, marked leadership, outstanding contribution, publication of papers.

As chairman of Committee F-9 since its inception in 1971, Dr. Brenner fostered the development of 11 standards within the first six years of the committee's existence. He has promoted voluntary standardization through personal technical contri-



Dr. F. Cecil Brenner

butions, particularly in measuring wear resistance of tires.

Dr. Brenner was instrumental in establishing and maintaining the journal of Tire Science and Technology, the only publication in the world that is devoted to the science and technology of tires. He was also active in developing standard definitions related to tires and tire testing.

In conjunction with his work with Committee F-9, Dr. Brenner was a member of the Society's Committee on Technical Committee Operations (1973-76) and was a member of the ASTM Middle Atlantic District Council for two years.

A native of Norfolk, Virginia, Dr. Brenner received his B.S. degree in chemistry from Virginia Polytechnic Institute in 1940. He later attained his M.S. degree in chemistry and his Ph.D. degree in polymer chemistry from the

Polytechnic Institute of Brooklyn in 1942 and 1950, respectively.

Dr. Brenner joined NHTSA in 1971 in his present position. Prior to this time, Dr. Brenner spent four years directing research on tires as chief of the Tire Systems Section at the National Bureau of Standards. He was responsible for development of a technical basis for motor vehicle safety standards for tires and a uniform quality grading system for passenger car tires.

Dr. Brenner's professional career also encompasses work as an assistant professor of physical chemistry at Vanderbilt University for two years; senior research associate for Johnson and Johnson Research Center in New Brunswick, N.J.; senior group leader at the Chemistry and Research Center; and chief of the Textile and Apparel Center for the National Bureau of Standards, U.S. Department of Commerce, respectively.

Dr. Brenner received the Administrator's Award for Superior Achievement in April 1976 for his outstanding accomplishments in this field. He also received the Apparel Research Foundation Honor Award in 1967.

The author of approximately 35 papers on fiber and fabric science, their performance, and performance testing, Dr. Brenner is a member of the American Chemical Society, and the Fiber Society.

## Alcohol and Highway Safety

From M. Mamontoff, Paris, Interministerial Committee for Highway Safety in France, comes this study on the role of alcohol in highway crashes. On the average, 38% of people responsible for fatal accidents in France are under the influence of alcohol. "Under the influence" is defined in France as a Blood Alcohol Content of 0.08% as compared to the 0.10% level definition used in most of the United States. The breakdown in the percentage of alcohol related fatal crashes by accident type is:

France: Proportion of road users responsible for crashes at or above a BAC of .08 by types

Vehicle-Pedestrian...68%  
Multiple Vehicle.....23%  
Single Vehicle.....51%  
Vehicle Truck.....36%

Mr. Mamontoff also provided information on the illegal BAC levels in European countries.

They are as follows:

.00%: Bulgaria, East Germany, Rumania, Hungary, Czechoslovakia, and the USSR.

.05%: Finland, Greece, Iceland, Yugoslavia, Holland, Norway, Poland and Sweden.

.08%: Belgium, West Germany, Denmark, France, Great Britain, Luxembourg, Austria, Spain and Switzerland.

No fixed limit: Italy, Monaco, and Portugal, but sanctions exist against

drivers in a state of inebriation.

No information is available for other countries.

It should be noted, however, that while any amount of alcohol at all is illegal in Eastern Europe, it does not necessarily mean that their enforcement programs are stricter. There is no information available on the actual number of drivers arrested for drunk driving in these countries.

A few copies of a recent research report on 328 Fatal Highway accidents in France by Claude Got, head of the Department of Pathology at Raymond Poincare Hospital in Garches, and Christian Thomas, Institute of Orthopedic Research, Garches Hospital, are available from Dr. Robert B. Voas, TSP.

## Job Openings

Compliance Reports Assistant, GS-301-7, NEF. Opens: 8-29, Closes: 9-19. NHTSA 78-90.

Technical Information Specialist, GS-1412-5, AD. Opens: 9-1, Closes: 9-21. NHTSA 78-91.

Research Assistant, GS-301-8, RD. Opens: 9-6, Closes: 9-26. NHTSA 78-92.

Supervisory Mechanical Engineer, GS-830-15, RD. Opens: 8-31, Closes: 9-21. NHTSA 78-93.

Supervisory Mechanical Engineer, GS-830-15, RD. Opens: 8-31, Closes: 9-21. NHTSA 78-94.

## Awards (from page 1.)

Achievement Awards were Beverly Bryan, Marie Greene, Suzanne Hopson, Eunice Moran, Carolyn Plunkett, Linda Watson, and Willie Wilson, Executive Secretariat; Catherine Campbell, PACP; Darlene F. Childs, Phyllis Green, Patricia Gutierrez, Marlene Hardester, and Cheryl Peterson, AD; Charles Kahane and Warren LaHeist, P&P; Katherine Lambert, Region V; and Walter Maki, NRM.

Special Achievement Awards were also given to the following summer employees: Michael E. Aldrich, Martha Bromley, Kevin M. Gaffney, Mark A. Damico, Donna J. Gilbert, Regina Hill, Jane F. Kirby, David B. Lee, Sandra L. Lee, Paula M. Liekweg, Marsinah Mazuzan, Mark A. Meadows, Ann L. Miller, Verniece Porter, Howard A. Rosen, Mary E. Tuthill, Maxine Y. Walker, Anna V. Taam, and Susan Tobin.

Quality Step Increases were awarded to Stanley C. Feldman and John G. Womack, OCC; Maryanne C. Fletcher, P&P; Linda Naccara, Donald Nelson and Delores Richard, AD; and Carolyn Thompson, NTS.

## Advice to Motorists

He who stops to look each way  
Will drive his car another day.  
But he who speeds across the "stop"  
Will land in some mortician's shop.

## Personnel

### Welcome Aboard

Richard Strombotne,  
Director, Auto Fuel  
Economy Standards, NEF,  
6-21.

Linda L. Lawson,  
Management Analyst, AD,  
8-13.

Phyllis E. Wallace,  
Secretary, AD, 8-13.

Lynn Miller,  
Clerk-Typist, AD, 8-20.

### 'Bye and Good Luck

Kathy Jastras, Math.  
Statistician, RD, 7-20.

Virginia C. Padgett,  
Library Technician, AD,  
8-1.

Alan E. Feinberg,  
Mechanical Engineer, NEF,  
8-12.

Michael D. Gibbons,  
Engr. Technician, RD,  
8-12.

Salvatore J. Nicolosi,  
Contract Specialists, AD,  
8-12.

Curtis G. Payne,  
Chemist, RD, 8-12.

Rose E. Rennie,  
Secretary, NTS, 8-12.

Marietta S. Jones,  
Compl. Rept. Assistant,  
NEF, 8-19.

### Congrats on Promotion

Kathleen Demeter,  
Attorney Advisor, OCC,  
8-13.

Norman C. Harvey,  
Compliance Systems  
Analyst, RD, 8-13.

Richard J. Hipolit,  
Attorney Advisor, OCC,  
8-13.

Joseph Kianianthra,  
Hwy. Safety Research  
Engineer, RD, 8-13.

Bernard Klein, Attorney  
Advisor, OCC, 8-13.

Theresa A. Seave, Math.  
Statistician Trainee, RD,  
8-13.

Willie Wilson, Motor  
Vehicle Operator, Office  
of the Administrator,  
8-13.

## Presentation Praised

An audio-visual  
presentation entitled  
"Everyone is a Pedestrian  
Sometime," which was sent  
to the States for their  
use and dissemination, was  
highly commended by the  
Massachusetts Governor's  
Coordinator.

In a letter to James F.  
Williamson, NHTSA Region I  
Administrator, Francis X.  
Colleton, Director of the  
Massachusetts Governor's  
Highway Safety Bureau,  
said:

"The presentation is  
considered to be excellent  
in all respects and  
represents the type of  
NHTSA support in dire need  
by the States. Please  
express our thanks to  
NHTSA Washington with the  
request that other areas  
of highway safety be  
similarly treated."

The presentation was  
developed under the  
general direction of Larry  
Pavlinski, TSP, and the  
day-to-day supervision of  
Bob Barlett, former TSP  
employee who is now with  
the Transportation Safety  
Board.

Excellent production  
coordination and service  
was provided by Richard  
Jordan of AD.

## Congratulations

Congratulations to the  
following persons on their  
new assignments:

Mr. Charles F.  
Livingston, who has been  
named Deputy Associate  
Administrator for Traffic  
Safety Programs. Mr.  
Livingston will also  
continue to serve as  
Director, Office of Driver  
and Pedestrian Programs,  
TSP.

Mr. Dean Van Gorden,  
who is the new Regional  
Coordinator serving in the  
Office of the Admini-  
strator. Mr. Van Gorden  
was formerly Regional  
Administrator for Region  
II.

Ms. Karen Dyson,  
formerly of the Office of  
the Chief Counsel, who has  
been designated as Acting  
Chief of the Consumer  
Participation Division in  
the Office of Public  
Affairs and Consumer  
Services.

Mr. William H. Close,  
previously Director of the  
Department's Office of  
Noise Abatement, who has  
been named Director of the  
Office of Heavy Duty  
Vehicle Research.

## graffiti

**Procrastination:  
Putting off problems  
for a brainy day**

