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Editor: A. Martin



U.S. Department
of Transportation
**National Highway
Traffic Safety
Administration**

The Secretary's 17th Annual Awards Ceremony 1984



**Alfred Crancer shakes Secretary Dole's hand
as she prepares to present his Award for
Meritorious Achievement.**

The Secretary's Award
Ceremony was held on
Wednesday, September 12,
1984, in the Departmental
Auditorium at 10:30 a.m.

The following awards
were presented to NHTSA
employees:

AWARDS FOR MERITORIOUS ACHIEVEMENT -- SILVER MEDAL

This award is given
by the Secretary in
recognition of
exceptionally meritorious
service to the Department
or Federal Government, or
for exceptional
achievement which substan-
tially contributed to
accomplishment of the
Department's mission or
major programs.

Alfred Crancer, Jr.
Robert L. Hellmuth
Francis J. Turpin



Francis Turpin



Robert L. Hellmuth

(See **Awards** on page 3)

Hine Junior High Student Wins Departmental Essay Contest!



Sandra Smith,
Essay Winner

Congratulations Sandra Smith! You've won the Departmental Essay Contest. We're publishing your essay in its entirety.

"I do not drink alcoholic beverages, nor have I learned how to drive an automobile. I have selected this topic because I can relate to the subject matter.

"My beloved father, who has now been deceased for four years, was a heavy drinker of alcoholic beverages. He also drove a car, and held down various jobs as a truck driver. I loved him very much and shall cherish the many golden and tender moments we shared as father and daughter.

"There were many times when I worshipped him as I'd sit thrilled and enchanted while listening as he talked of his childhood days growing up in the streets of Philadelphia; working in the coal mines in West Virginia, and serving in the United States Army during the latter part of World War II. He was a very special person in my life, and I felt no other fathers could compare to my gentle and

understanding father. As a little girl growing up, he was always there ready and willing to comfort me, whether it was from a scraped knee, difficulty in understanding my school work, a frightened little girl awakened during the night after having a nightmare, or a bout with tonsillitis. Those were the times which shall live on in my memory.

"Yet, there were times when I viewed him with pain and frustration, especially on the Sunday afternoons or late evenings as we went for long rides along the countryside to escape the sweltering heat or summers in the city. My father would keep several cans of beer (six packs as they are often called) and quite often a bottle of wine, in the cooler in the trunk of his car. The further we rode, the more frequently he stopped to get a beer or pour himself some wine into a small plastic cup. As his drinking increased, the needle on the speedometer pointed to a greater speed.

"Often I sat up front between my mother and father. I noticed the tension within my mother as she would plead with my father, 'Slow down, please slow down, you're driving too fast.' He would angrily reply, 'Oh stop whining, I know what I am doing!' The outcome of those rides most of the time resulted in bitter words spoken between my parents.

"As I sat amidst the bickering and arguing, I would look from one parent to another. I felt a helplessness that cannot be defined. I loved them both dearly and it was quite painful to see them so angry with one another. So I would let my thoughts drift to the music playing on the radio, hoping it would drown out the noise and confusion my parents were engaged in. Occasionally, my mother would turn down the volume on the radio and in between periodic silences, all that was heard was the steady drone of the car's motor as we sped down the highway.

"On one special occasion in celebration of my birthday, my parents took me to the Red Bard Restaurant.

My father had been drinking as usual. On our way home that night, his speeding was so excessive that he actually turned a corner on two wheels. Mama became so frightened that she began to cry and started screaming, 'You're going to kill us, please for God's sake slow down.' I began to cry also, mainly because my mother was crying. My father slowed down after seeing I had become upset.

"One evening my father was later than usual coming home from work. That particular evening I was looking forward to his coming home because he had promised to take me to McDonald's. He would always take me to McDonald's whenever I did not like what we were having for dinner. When

(See *Essay* on page 4)

(Awards from page 1)

AWARDS FOR EXCELLENCE

This award is granted to employees in grades GS-1 through GS-9 and Wage Grade 1 through 8 who have achieved outstanding performance in all aspects of their work and deserve special commendation.

Mary L. Freeman
Jacqueline Hilliard
Rita H. Leggett
Helen M. Noe



Jacqueline Hilliard



Rita H. Leggett



Helen M. Noe

Congratulations Award Winners!



Mary L. Freeman and Secretary Dole shake hands as they pose with Mary's Award for Excellence.

AWARDS FOR ACHIEVEMENT IN EEO

This award is granted by the Secretary to honor and recognize those employees, supervisors, or managers having no specific EEO duties, who have excelled in their efforts to promote equal opportunity through unusually effective leadership, skill, imagination, and perseverance.

George L. Parker



George L. Parker shakes Secretary Dole's hand as they hold his Award.

F-L-A-S-H! It's a Girl

As we go to press, it was announced that Shante Simone Dement was born to Mr. and Mrs. Gregory Dement on Sunday, September 30, 1984, at 5:56 p.m. at the Washington Hospital Center.

Shante Simone Weighed 6 lbs, 12 ozs and was 19-1/2 inches long.

She is "Vicky" and Greg's first child.

Vicky works in the OPACAs and does the typing for this newsletter.

CONGRATULATIONS FROM ALL OF US!

**Help Someone
Come Home
Again.
Give Blood.**

he finally arrived home, he came in a taxi. My mother asked the whereabouts of his car. He angrily mumbled, 'I haven't got a car anymore.' My mother looked at him in disbelief and said, 'Oh stop kidding, where is the car.'

"My father proceeded to tell her a story so shocking, that even a ten year old could understand its meaning. He was involved in a terrible collision with another car. His car was totally demolished. Through the mercy and the grace of God, he and the other driver escaped injury.

"My father did not buy another car after that horrible accident. Not much longer afterwards, he died of an illness brought on by his extreme drinking habits.

"The message I have to convey to a friend and to fellow mankind is: drinking and driving do not mix. It is stupid and most of all quite dangerous. It can leave a devastating effect on loved ones and other innocent persons. I read it in the newspaper and I see it in the news coverage on television.

"I hear it in the saddened tone of my mother's voice, as she speaks of wanting to learn how to drive a car. She has become quite fearful of riding in automobiles. Those inner fears she developed those previous years while riding with my father, will not allow her to get behind a steering wheel.

"Luckily I have no such feelings. I fully intend to learn how to drive a car in the near future. I also promised my mother that I would teach her how to drive so she would not be afraid anymore.

"I cannot say for certain that I will drink alcoholic beverages, but I am most certain if I do, I won't get behind the steering wheel of an automobile."

Essay contributed and written by: Sandra Smith, Hine Jr. High 9-403

Secretary Dole Proclaims Federal Women's Week

Secretary of Transportation Elizabeth Dole has proclaimed October 22 - 26, 1984, as the third annual observance of Federal Women's Week.

"This year's theme, 'Meeting the Challenge,' is an appropriate message for the women of this Department and for working women across the country," the Secretary said.

DOT's Intra-Departmental Council of Federal Women's Program Managers presents the schedule of events to begin on Tuesday, October 23, 1984, 10:00 a.m., Room 2230, as follows:

Opening Remarks by Secretary Elizabeth Hanford Dole; keynote speaker: Carmen E. Turner, General Manager, Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority. (Interpreted for the Deaf).

Wednesday, October 23, a Stress Management Seminar will be conducted by

Leonard H. Powell, Global Perspectives, Inc.

Thursday, October 25, an SF-171 Workshop will be conducted by Toni Bruegge, of OST, DOT.

Friday, October 26, Introduction to Computers and Career Opportunities in ADAP will be conducted by Ernest Hawkins, Deputy Associate Administrator for Policy and Administration, MARAD.

For further information or admission tickets, contact NHTSA's Federal Women's Program Manager, Zelfia Gouldson on 426-0972 or visit her in Room 5312.

It's Time to Fall Backwards

On Sunday, October 28, we will set our clocks back one hour. Don't forget!

In Memoriam



The NHTSA family would like to extend its deepest sympathy to the family, friends and coworkers of former NHTSA employee Samuel Friend.

Samuel died of pneumonia at Eastern Hospital on the Eastern Shore on September 8, 1984.

During his approximately 4 years of employment with NHTSA, Samuel was a Title VI Equal Opportunity Specialist in the Office of Civil Rights.

He had recently returned to the east coast from California and was residing on the Eastern Shore of Maryland

Commander Scheib Heads EMS Division

Commander Thomas Scheib, United States Coast Guard, has been appointed Chief, Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Division, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA).

For thousands of traffic accident victims, medical treatment provided by an EMS team is the critical link between an accident site and a major medical facility.

Scheib will put top priority on the development of national guidelines to promote efficient and effective state-operated EMS programs and systems. He will also serve as coordinator for the states on major EMS concerns, including vehicles and medical equipment, communication systems, administrative innovations and training of technicians. He will report to George L. Reagle, NHTSA Associate Administrator for Traffic Safety Programs.

Scheib joined the Department of Transportation as executive secretary of the Military Assistance to Safety and Traffic Programs, an interagency program providing military aeromedical resources to transport civilian emergency medical patients. For two years prior to that he served as evaluation coordinator for the Office of Emergency Medical Services, Department of Health and Human Services.

A native of Ohio, Commander Scheib holds a bachelor's degree in psychology from Denison University, Granville, Ohio, and a Master of Science Degree in psychobiology from the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Michigan.

In addition, he has had extensive post graduate training in biostatistics and industrial hygiene.

In 1970, Scheib was commissioned as an officer in the United States Public Health Service, and he was assigned to the U.S. Coast Guard in 1981.

Bake Sale/Ice Cream Social Benefitted Two Families

First the Bucia family is most grateful for the \$1,878.24 contribution made to them to help meet mounting medical and related bills during their illnesses.

The Bucias wish to thank each of you who truly showed that we are a caring and compassionate Department. You came through when all else appeared to be going down hill.

To the Bucia family, the NHTSA family would like to say, you're welcome and we hope both of you have a speedy recovery.

Second, the Ortega family who, by the way, has a daughter at our adopt-a-school, Hine Junior High, wishes to thank you for your contribution of \$602.50. For this, they are most appreciative.

These funds will be used to help defray medical and

other costs which will enable their daughter to attend school, at least on a part time basis, during this medical emergency. A special ice cream sale along with the regular ice cream sale helped to raise these funds for this family.

To the Ortega family, the NHTSA family would like to say, you're welcome and we hope this gift will in some way aid in your emergencies, medical and otherwise.

Department-wide, the total amount raised was \$2,480.74.

NHTSA-wide, the amount raised was \$150.32, but contributions are still coming in.

Stop! Don't Toss Out Those Clothes

If you are Fall closet cleaning, don't forget that our adopt-a-school, Hine Junior High students might be able to use what you're about to throw away.

Also, elementary school children clothes are being accepted because the U.S. Coast Guard has adopted an elementary school in the Adams Morgan area.

Should you have any clothes that you no longer want or cannot use, please bring them to Chuck McGuire in Room 10232. He can be reached by telephone on 426-4458.

Thought Provoker

People were made to be loved and things were made to be used.

We get into trouble when we reverse this and begin to love things and use people.

-Anonymous

Procurement Reforms — Now!

In a memorandum from Administrator Steed to AAs, SODs, and ODs, she wrote:

"Recently, the Office of the Secretary directed the immediate implementation of procurement reforms....

"Effective immediately, all procurement requests must include a 'statement of essential need' justifying the requested procurement. This statement should be a brief, concise paragraph or two that details why the procurement is necessary for the accomplishment of NHTSA's mission, and the impact if the procurement is not made.

"The statement should not be merely a repeat of the procurement, but rather a statement as to why the procurement is needed and not simply a 'nice to have' item or project.

"The statement may be included on the first page of the procurement request, or included as a separate attachment to the request. For procurement requests up to \$100,000, the statement may be approved by the requesting Associate or Acting Associate Administrator. For procurements estimated to exceed \$100,000, the statement will be prepared for my signature.

"For procurement exceeding \$100,000 or modifications to existing contracts which will cause the total expenditure to exceed \$100,000, the procurement must be approved by the Office of

the Secretary prior to issuing a solicitation. A new 'procurement Prenotification Form' has been developed for this purpose.

"The procurement request cover sheet with appropriate approvals, the statement of essential need, and the Commerce Business Daily synopsis must be attached to the form when it is forwarded to the Office of the Secretary.

"All prenotification forms will be transmitted to OST by a memorandum signed by me.

"As no official procurement action may be taken until the form is returned approved, the procurement leadtime could be significantly increased.

"The Office of Contracts and Procurement will be responsible for the processing of the prenotification forms through channels and will assist the program offices in completing the form."

Proud Grandma It's a Boy!

We'd all like to extend our congratulations to Roslyn Kaiser, Office of Public and Consumer Affairs, who has become the proud grandmother of Abraham Jerome Silk, born on September 15, 1984, in Cambridge, Mass.

Abraham weighed in at 5 lbs., 15 ozs. and is the first child of the proud parents, Mark and Tema Kaiser Silk.

Belated Congratulations It's a Boy!

The NHTSA family wishes belated congratulations to James and Marcia Robertson on the birth of their son, Jonathan Warren on April 22, 1984.

Jonathan weighed 5 lbs. 13 ozs. and was 18 ½" long.

And Jonathan was welcomed to the family by brother James Jr. and sister Marcia.

Marcia is employed in the R&D Crash Avoidance Division.

Finding Your Way in DOT...

A newly-revised pamphlet entitled "Finding Your Way In DOT" is now available.

This is a very brief directory of information and services offered by the nine operating agencies and the OST of the Department of Transportation.

The pamphlet contains phone numbers of the Department's Consumer/Public Affairs Offices as well as sources of information to call for more specific guidance, arranged by subject matter.

To receive a copy, write to: Consumer Affairs Officer, (I-20), U. S. Department of Transportation, 400 7th Street, SW, Washington, DC 20590, or call (202) 426-4518.

Readers: We Need Your Input. Please Let Us Hear From You — Your Views Are Needed.

DOT Employees Asked to Conserve Energy

In a memorandum to all DOT employees, the Assistant Secretary for Administration, Robert L. Fairman states that: Each year the Federal Government spends about \$4 billion for energy in buildings.

Since 1973 there has been a concentrated effort to reduce energy consumption not only to help reduce the cost of Government, but also to enable us to better manage this precious resource. Although initial conservation efforts in buildings produced good results it has been noticed that we are "sliding back" toward increased consumption.

Past experience has shown that significant savings can be achieved with no dollar investment if employees develop good energy conservation habits.... "To assure the success of this program I encourage you to observe the following five energy conservation practices:

" 1) TURN OUT THE LIGHTS WHEN YOU LEAVE THE ROOM; EVEN FOR A FEW MINUTES AND ESPECIALLY AT THE CLOSE OF BUSINESS.

" 2) TURN OFF OFFICE EQUIPMENT OR PLACE IT IN A STANDBY MODE, AS APPROPRIATE, WHEN NO LONGER NEEDED.

" 3) KEEP VENTILATION SYSTEMS FREE OF OBSTRUCTIONS...THAT BLOCK OR RESTRICT THE FLOW OF AIR.

" 4) KEEP DOORS, WINDOWS, OR OTHER ACCESSES CLOSED WHEN THE HEATING AND COOLING SYSTEMS ARE OPERATING.

" 5) KEEP BLINDS AND DRAPES CLOSED WHEN THE AIR-CONDITIONER IS OPERATING."

Financial Planning Seminar

A financial planning seminar will be held on October 18, 1984, Noon to 1:00 p.m. in Rooms 6332-36, Nassif Building.

The purpose of the seminar is to define a financial goal and ways of attaining it. This will result in having money for the things you want to do, when you want to do them.

All investment questions will be answered and handouts will be provided.

Overused Cliches

When was the last time you were even mildly amused by "little old ladies from Pasadena?" "Fit to be tied?" and "Dead as a door knob?"

Every time we repeat a phrase that has lost its originality, instead of adding spice to the language, we are diluting its flavor.

Listed below are some of the tired and worn-out phrases and words that are taking over intelligent conversations:

Blue-ribbon panel
bottom line

communication (or other) gap
consciousness-raising
final outcome
game plan
gut feeling
in-house
interestingly enough
major breakthrough
name of the game
Operation whatever
Project anything
single most
state of the art
think tank
this point in time
viable alternative.

Remember, it's not just phrase-making that gets us in trouble. Here are a few words that should be used sparingly, if at all:

actually
burnout
conceptualize
feedback
hopefully
impact
input
networking
ongoing
overview
parameters
relevant
spectrum
thrust

How many of these tranquilizers do you still mistake for stimulants?

Ment's Hint — Stains Out

To get oil, grease or coal stains out of garments soak for 45 minutes in two or three cans of cola before laundering

--Submitted by
Wendy O'Neil
Gillette, Wyoming

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