

SCRATCH PAD

March 27, 1987

Number 47



From the editor: Happy Spring! I'm sure everyone is enjoying this glorious weather. I've got a terrible case of Spring Fever. Our features this month are about two of our computer operators, Ron and Frank. Read on to find out what type of background it takes to operate this monster.

FRANK HARRELL

Users of misbehaving terminals now have a new distress call: "Fraaank" can be heard echoing down the hall at 1930 Isaac Newton Square. There generally appears, in response to this cry, a cowboy-booted, mustachioed young man who sets about correcting in short order whatever condition it was that prompted the cry in the first place. Frank Harrell, along with Joyce Pfeffer, Ron Moran and Debbie Christie, is a system operator for the Association's VAX computer, "arhoRA." Because so much of his work will involve the computer, Frank has a new job title, "Maintenance Specialist Technician," which more accurately reflects his new emphasis on matters electrical and electronic. Presently, Frank is finishing up the installation of cables for the computer system, and he is streamlining the method of loading fonts on the Laser printer. He is still responsible for the plumbing and electrical needs of the Open Space Department and for underpass lighting and the F-2 lights. He is hoping to be able to save much time, money and effort in the lighting program by replacing the bulbs now used with longer-lived traffic signal light bulbs. In response to damage by vandals to the lenses on the underpass lights, Frank is in the process of converting them from plexiglass to 1/4 inch lexan, a much stronger, unbreakable plastic.



Frank obviously relishes working in a tangle of wires and cables, and has since he was three years old. At that time, his father, wishing to demonstrate to his son the dangers of playing with Christmas tree lights, briefly held a bulb in his hand. Instead of shrieking and backing off like most kids, Frank was enthralled by the light, and thus began a career of taking apart electrical gadgets to see how they work. This combination of mechanical aptitude and interest has led Frank to several "vocations."

He has been at various times a maintenance mechanic for apartment complexes and other buildings, and a theatrical technical director in Lake Braddock Secondary School's performing arts department, with

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FRANK HARRELL (CONTINUED)

Wolf Trap's International Children's Festival, and at the Reston Community Center. Immediately before he came to Reston Association, Frank worked for Warner Cable.

To the benefit of the Association, Frank enjoys solving problems. He has begun installing telephone-style jacks to make terminals more mobile. He is rewiring the computer system using less cable, a process he compares to "re-routing Shirley Highway without interfering with traffic."

Frank was born in Rocky Mount, North Carolina, but he moved to the Washington area when he was ten years old. His father, a photographer for the Smithsonian, taught Frank how to make amateur movies. Making quality videos is still a prime interest of Frank's. He loves riding motor cycles, hiking,

and listening to classical music (those of us who work at Isaac Newton get treated to the strains of Bach, Beethoven and Handel when we refill our coffee cups).

Frank doesn't leave his penchant for technical innovation at the office. His house is a "gadgeteer's dream." Tied into his home computer are three thermostats, the coffee pot and the bathroom heater. Besides computer-regulating these creature comforts, Frank has done a lot of creative lighting throughout his place on Chimney House Road.

Those of us who have come to rely on the efficiencies of computer technology are grateful to Frank's dad for introducing him to the wonders of the light bulb. Otherwise, the Association might not be lucky enough to have Frank, the Trouble Shooting Technician, on staff.

RON MORAN

While Frank Harrell concentrates on wires and hook-ups, Ron Moran is concerned with system back-up, user education and operator functions. Ron reports that installation of software on the computer system is proceeding well. Early on, the financial applications were identified as the highest priority, and all of these are installed and running or very close to it. The word processing package, LEX, is being widely used. Ron is pleased with the interest in using the computer, which he credits to the staff's open-mindedness and willingness to try new things. The next step in applications programming is to create a database. This will be done gradually, creating a workable system for one department at a time. Ron is working to start in Open Space with some CSF functions.

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Page Three

RON MORAN (CONTINUED)

Computer programming is a bit different from Ron's first job with the Association, which was to cut firewood on a contract basis. He was subsequently contracted to mow all the recreation facilities: North Shore Pool, Hunters Woods, Pool and Hook Road Recreation Area. Ron wasn't shy about making suggestions to improve efficiency. He talked the Association into replacing a hand saw with a chain saw for cutting trees and persuaded them to give up a sickle in favor of a lawn mower--Bold and costly recommendations in the days when our acronym was FHOA and the staff consisted of three souls.

The Moran family may hold the record for the most members who have been employed by the Association. Besides his mom's serving as secretary when the only other employees were the executive director and a bookkeeper, Ron's three brothers have been hired for various odd jobs.

The first maintenance facility was a corner of the Morans' garage, and the first Maintenance Department was a crew hired in 1970 to help build Wainwright Recreation Area. Since he was hired as a full-time staff member in 1971, Ron, wearing four different logos on his shirt, has guided the Maintenance Department through ever-increasing responsibilities, from that garage corner to the barn and trailers, and finally to our multi-million dollar CSF.

One of the reasons that Ron has been such a valuable staff member is that he has wide-ranging interests and knowledge. He flies small planes, and would like to take up hang-gliding and flying ultra-lights. In the winter he skis, and he has recently learned to ice skate. He shoots Civil War-era small arms and artillery. Consistent with his Navy education and service, he sails, fishes and tries his hand at celestial navigation. And he keeps in shape by lifting weights and doing aerobics (essential in order to keep up with five year old son, David).

Ron has been instrumental in introducing many innovations to the Association. The computer is just the most recent. What do you suppose he'll be involved with next?



*Happy
Easter!*

STAFF COMMUNICATION AND INFORMATION COMMITTEE

Just to keep up with fashion, the SOS Committee has changed its name to Staff Communication and Information Committee (SCI). The new name describes the group's purpose a little better. The SCI Committee plans for staff functions, such as the orientation, the annual picnic and the Christmas party. The group plans and creates the Staff Scratch Pad and provides staff with handy reference manuals about the organization. Ideas are now being considered for a monthly receptionist meeting to inform those handling the phones, throughout the organization, of upcoming events. Anyone interested in helping out should contact someone on the committee. Representatives are Debbie Christie, Betty Meldrum, Mary Cremonese, Sue Grim, Roberta Ramsey, Sheila Gorg and Mike Giannotti.

COME JOIN THE FUN!

STAFF GET TOGETHER

TODAY AT 4:00

The SCI Committee is planning four department-sponsored staff get togethers. The first is being held today and sponsored by the "upstairs" main office staff. CSF will have their staff party in May. Watch for more details.

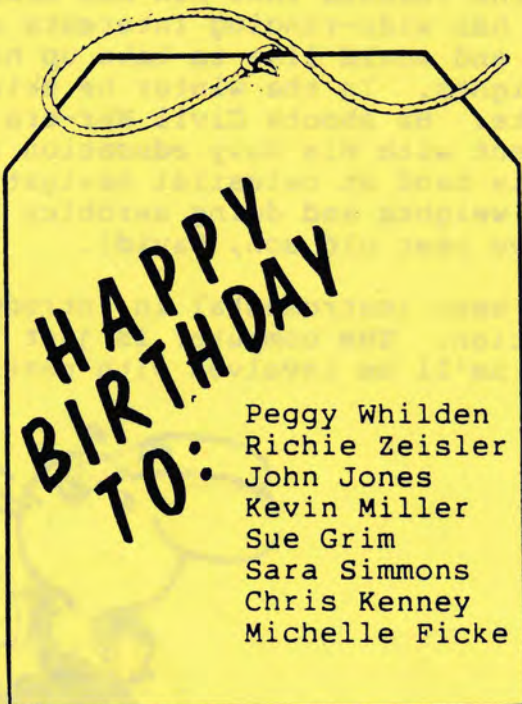
First Aid Training Course

First Aid Training will be offered in April if there is enough interest. Course takes about 7 1/2 hours.

If interested

contact

Sue.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO:

- Peggy Whilden
- Richie Zeisler
- John Jones
- Kevin Miller
- Sue Grim
- Sara Simmons
- Chris Kenney
- Michelle Ficke

CURRENTS



ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES -- Joyce has, as many have probably noticed, been doing a lot of re-programming of the computer. Tom has been busy refereeing Inlet Cluster's problem with staining decks. He has also been receiving some very interesting mail and is becoming an expert in birth control for roaches. Staff is getting ready for the annual members meeting and reception on April 15. The first Board meeting with the new directors is being held on the 16th.

FINANCE -- The audit is finally finished and the financial programs on the computer are progressing nicely. Carol, the consultant has been a great help to staff in getting these programs set up. Today is Cheryl's last day. She is leaving Reston Association and will be working in the accounting department for the Miller Company, a real estate development firm. Cheryl has enjoyed working for Reston Association and will miss everyone. A luncheon is being held for her today at the Blue Channel Inn.

OPEN SPACE -- The dredging project is underway and the land base crane is on site. Roberta has been working on the new Day Camp flyer which should be out on schedule. "The Difference is Reston" slide show is being updated to take out RHOA and add our new name. Vicky is also working on the new water shed slide show. The beavers were in the paper this week. We had planned to move them to another area because they are damaging not only open space, but also private property. Many residents have called against moving them. We are waiting to see what response we get from the story in the paper before making a decision on the matter. Three new trucks arrived at the CSF this week, just in time for the busy spring season.

PLUS SERVICES -- The Early Bird Tournament begins on April 4. Ted Salazar is training to take over Jane's position as Manager of Membership Services. Jane is leaving the Racquet Club to open a sporting goods store at South Lakes Center. Mike and his crews are busy preparing tennis courts and pools for the upcoming season.

COVENANTS OFFICE -- Marji is already swamped with applications for additions and alterations. Betty has been on vacation this past week and Sara just returned from San Francisco. Everyone in the office is fully functional on the computer.



FOR EACH OF US MAY DANCE TO A DIFFERENT DRUM

I ask only a few things of myself and others
I ask that if I do not want what others want,
that they try not to tell me my wants are wrong

If my beliefs are different,
I ask that other pause before they correct my views

Should my emotions be stronger or weaker,
in the same situations, I ask that others
not ask me to feel more or less like they.

If I act, or not act, the way others say I must or should
I ask that they simply let me be

I am not saying at this moment, that people must or need to
understand me. Perhaps that will only come when others cease
trying to change me into a copy of them.

Our relationships may be one of many:
spouse, child or friend, teacher, employer, leader,
colleague or peer.

I ask only that others consider allowing me some of my wants,
emotions, beliefs or actions.

If they will do these few things they may some day see that
my ways might not be so wrong but rather perhaps right
for me to be the best me I can be.

Preface to WE ARE....

Robert Alan Black, Ph.D. -- 1987

LOOK WHAT'S COOKIN'

MARIE'S CIRCLE OF FRUIT DESSERT

Crust: Combine 1 18oz. pkg. oatmeal cookie mix with 1 egg
and 1/4 c. water. Spread on a 14 inch greased pizza
pan and bake for 14 to 16 minutes at 375.

Filling: Combine 1 8oz. package cream cheese, 1/4 c. sugar, and
2 Tbsp. lemon juice. Spread on cooled cookie crust.

Topping: 2 c. strawberries, halved, 1 15oz. can pineapple chunks,
1 c. blueberries, 1 large banana, dipped in
pineapple juice, 1 c. grapes, or any other colorful
fruit assortment

Glaze: Combine 1/2 c. orange marmalade with 2 Tbsp
pineapple juice and spoon over fruit topping.

SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY



Do-Nut Club
8:30 CSF

All Fool's Day 1

Full DRB Mtg
8 PM Conf Rm 2

3

4

Ramblin' Rangers
2-4 PM

TIME SHEETS
Noon

Trailblazers
3:45-5:45

Natural Areas Comm.
7:30 CSF 8

PAYDAY

Covenants Comm.
8 PM Conf Rm 6

DRB - Alter & Add
8 PM Conf Rm 7

9

10

11

Trailblazers
3:45-5:45

Annual Members' Mtg.
South Lakes HS
Orange Cafeteria 7 PM 15

Board of Directors
8 PM Conf Rm 16

Easter Egg Hunt
Golf Course Island
10AM
John Jones
Kevin Miller B-day
Richie Zeisler 18

12

Full Moon

13

DRB-Initial Const
8 PM Conf Rm 14
PASSOVER

Peggy Whilden B-day

GOOD FRIDAY

17

18

TIME SHEETS
Noon

Trailblazers
3:45-5:45

22

PAYDAY

Ramblin' Rangers
2-4 Pm 20

DRB-Alter & Add
8 PM Conf Rm 21

Sara Simmons B-day 23

Board Retreat

Board Retreat

19

EASTER SUNDAY

20

22

23

Chris Kenney B-day 24

24

25

Ramblin/ Rangers
2-4 PM

New Moon

Trailblazers
3:45-5:45

Woodland Gardens
1-2 PM CSF

29

30

26

27

DRB-Initial Const
8 PM Conf Rm 28

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29	30	31				

MARCH 1987

APRIL 1987

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