

Questionnaire for WCSP Superintendents

1. Name: James E. Wiles III
2. Address: 331 Hughes Drive, Hamilton Square, NJ 08690
3. 609 890 2584 H 609 25 2426 C
4. Email: jewiles3@verizon.net
5. DOB and P: 28 Feb 1945, Trenton, NJ
6. Education: BS Forestry, University of Idaho 1973
7. Wife: Ellen
8. Children: Laura, James, and Gregory

9. Working as a seasonal employee the summers of 1964, 65, 66, and 67. In 1967 I worked to dec. and enlisted in the Army then. Came back in the summer of 1971 and worked at the Nature Center. I left that Aug. and moved to Idaho with Ellen and our daughter Laura. I graduated in 1973 with a BS in forestry and Ellen had received her Masters in Education as a Learning Consultant. We came back to NJ and I worked at the Crossing for about a year as a year round seasonal and then took a job as a conservation officer with the NJ Division of Fish and Game. After 6 months I resigned and took a position of Assistant Division Firewarden with the NJ Forest Fire Service. I spent 3 years with them and then was offered a position of park superintendent at WCSP by the Director of Parks and Forestry, Al Guido

10. 1977 to 1988

11. Bring management to the approx. 79 employees under the superintendent, including outer areas and make all employees aware of what everyone else was doing and what was happening in the park and it's outer areas.

Held weekly meetings of all supervisors from maintenance, rangers, and interpretation. Everyone had to report on accomplishments the previous week and what they expected to accomplish the following week. All events taking place in the park and outer areas would be discussed for coordination. This never happened before.

Integrated the concept of the park being historical and also natural. The VC and NC were operating independent of each other and I changed that.

Brought a horticultural program to the park. Hired a woman who had a degree in horticulture and began plant flowers we grew in a greenhouse in a corrections site in W. Trenton.

Began to restore the George Washington Memorial Arboretum.

Brought the antique engine show to the park and it became an annual event.

Restored the cooking fireplace at the Ferry House which give the site another dimension for interpretation which is still going on today.

Developed and mapped the trails in the park for hiking, cross county skiing and horse back riding.

Developed the soccer and softball fields at Phillips farm area.

12. Bringing management to the park.

The park was in charge of Morven, the governor's mansion. Dealing with the staff and residents there was a very delicate form of management and political trade offs as the Trenton staff would inject their views.

Dealing with the Friends of Washington Crossing. Dirk was a founding member and after he retired there were conflicts in operating the OAT. Butted heads with Jack Reese who ran the OAT on many occasions but managed to make headway in some of the procedures they thought were acceptable to them but not to me. I made them do a nightly report of attendance and money brought in. Make them deposit the money that evening. A ranger drove them to the night deposit at the bank instead of taking it home in a paper bag.

13. Yes, Dirk. Remembered his leaving the Trenton Staff stranded on the D&R canal after he had a argument with them.

He said I had straw in my head after I told him there was a danger of the Phillips farm barn burning down due to the green hay bales stored there. This was on a Fri.

afternoon and by Monday morning there were only ashes of what was a huge barn.

Along with the barn was a large collection of old photos and records of the state's parks that went up with it.

14. Living in the park and never really leaving the job. That was a good thing for me.

Ellen and the three children and I would take walks in the park on the trails behind our house on Church Rd. Once while walking on a old farm road next to the fields behind the Natural area a sparrow hawk landed on Ellen's shoulder. It was released from the Nature Center and had become some what tame and liked humans. I'll never forget the scream Ellen sounded and I am sure the sparrow hawk didn't either. The two boys thought it was neat. I was surprised no one called the police because sounded like a person was being attacked by a bear. Also recalled cross skiing in the park when there was snow.

15. Rachel Horn,

16. The secretary of education under Reagan came to the Visitor Center.

17. The annual crossing at Christmas day and the dedication of the VC

18 The carving that was put in the tree just around Halloween and it make a lot of press on the East coast at that time.

19. No

20. Took a position of Assistant Regional Superintendent at Monmouth Battlefield and then transfered to the Central Region Office in Spruce Run Recreation Area. Retired in 2000. That summer I worked at Mount Hood National Forest in Oregon running a YCC crew doing trail work. I worked for a tree company as a plant health specialist

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in the Princeton area part time for about 4 years. After that I worked part time reposseing cars and working as a private investigator. For the last four years I also worked part time as a Veteran Service Officer for Mercer County. I left that job about 4 months ago. I am now retired officially.