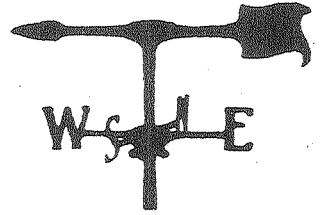


california state park rangers association

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REPORTER



Volume 3

Number 7

Nov. 2, 1970 News from North, East, South & West

Oct. 26, 1970

President's Message:

In a recent discussion with Director Mott, he wanted us to know that he was very pleased with the performance of the field personnel during the summer season. A good pat on the back is always welcome and makes us all feel like we are part of the team of Better Rangers.

The Department has continued to develop a salary comparison between the National Park Service Rangers and State Park Rangers. Those who have seen the comparison know that there are definite inequities at all levels. The Ranger I is about 5% behind his counterpart in National Park Service, the Ranger II about 11% on up to the District Superintendent who is over 40% behind the salary level of National Park Service management personnel. Discussing this with Director Mott, he assured us that he would go before the State Personnel Board and present the Department's program regarding salary adjustments.

I have just returned from a forum held by the National Recreation and Park Association on changing concepts in Citizen Safety in Parks and Recreation. I was certainly surprised to hear how many different agencies are opposed to Rangers enforcing laws. Many cities and counties have or are establishing special police to enforce laws in parks. Perhaps there may be need for this in metropolitan areas such as, San Francisco and Los Angeles, but I do not believe it to be a feasible way to handle law enforcement in State Parks. In addition to professional park people in attendance at the forum, there was one panel of private citizens who discussed the role of Citizens' Responsibilities and Problems. Youth was represented and discussed their responsibilities and problems. By next month I should have available some of the results and conclusions that were formulated at the forum. There were over 300 persons in attendance representing California, Arizona, Nevada, Oregon, Washington, Alaska and Hawaii Park and Recreation Areas.

It is anticipated that there will be a Board of Directors meeting in early December. I will make sure that all of you are aware of the date as soon as possible.

All Regions will be electing delegates, and Regions 1, 3, 5 & 7 will be electing Regional Directors to serve in 1971. Please make your selections with care as the responsibility you place on your elected representative is great.

I welcome the new members into the Association and hope that you will work towards its success. There are many persons eligible for Associate Membership, and I would like each Regional Director to contact these eligibles regarding membership.

It would also be desirable if all California State Park Rangers Association members who are California State Employees Association delegates to General Council being held at Disneyland on Nov. 13 - 15 would meet there to discuss California State Employees Association resolutions that could effect California State Park Rangers Association.

DON'T FORGET TO VOTE ON NOVEMBER 3RD.

Wesley E. Cater
President

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BUSINESS AS USUAL

Members now holding CSEA-Nationwide Auto plan policies will not be affected by the insurance company's recent announcement that it will not accept new policy holders.

October 22, 1970

Hi Neil:

Thanks for your postcard, and your request for a report on what's doing at Asilomar for your next issue. During the past few weeks, I've had the opportunity to report at the Area Managers Conferences in Districts 4, 5 and 6 on our present and planned activities, and always welcome another chance to expound.

First off, we're pleased to have had Bob Pugh assigned with us here. The position he holds is one of the first in DPR's Management Development Program, and is a two to three year assignment. His primary duties involve work on the Ranger Trainee Program, its development, conduct and coordination of training activities in the nine Intake Areas. It's been a pleasure welcoming the Pughs to the Monterey area.

Amongst his "other duties as required", Bob led a highly successful Supervisory Practices course for field supervisors, which kicked off our training for this fiscal year, and which ended on October 9th. We're waiting now for nominations for another Supervisory Practices course to begin November 30 and, for the first time, open to all classes throughout the Department.

The Park Management and Operations Training Program started on October 18th for Group V. As you know, this training is designed for Area Managers or their backups and, again for the first time, is being attended by a Maintenance Supervisor II. We anticipate seeing a wider mix of classes and levels of participants as the program is repeated, as it will be at least once a year.

Follow-up with last years participants in this training will soon be getting under way, now that the one-year period since Group I completed the training will be up in December. It's been a fast year - a lot has happened - and we're sure we'll gain a great deal through follow-up to further strengthen future programs. The initial step will be in the form of a questionnaire to each participant who completed the program, to be followed by a planned second step involving the individual and his supervisor and to be tied in with the Department's Career Development Program, about which more will be forthcoming.

Employees in the Maintenance series can take heart in learning of the 40-hour course to be offered for the first time in March, 1971 and designed initially for Maintenance Supervisors. This too will be a continuing program so long as a need exists, and will be adapted to meet the needs of the varied levels in the maintenance series.

For Rangers not yet meeting the criteria to attend the Park Management and Operations program, but with the experience and knowledge gained through practical work during a wide range of time so that their need for the Ranger Trainee Program is not as great as it is for the new Rangers, there are some interesting developments. For example, a one-week session will be held here in March, 1971 for Rangers assigned to areas with underwater parks. Other specialized areas will be covered in additional sessions, such as programs in Interpretation, Resource Management and Protection and Recreation. More about these later.

Other plans include a Safety Seminar in the Spring for District Superintendents, Assistants and Safety and Enforcement Specialists.

We're up to our in the Ranger Trainee Program. With a classroom starting date of November 1, courses are being developed by 42 writers from the field. It's a 250 hour program here, plus O-J-T and the 200-hour Enforcement training at Riverside. This program will be covered in more detail in the December issue of News and Views. Its intent is to bring the new Ranger, in his first year, up to the high level that it has taken our many Rangers much rough experience to attain.

I don't want to take up your whole issue, but we have a great deal more going on. Training is now working on an Employee Development Handbook, which will provide comprehensive details on training and development and, we hope, a good communications device. We're exploring now, and will soon be offering, correspondence courses to department employees, all or most of which will be at no cost to the individual. And, as space runs out on the page, that's it for now.

One parting shot, though. The entire Department can take a great deal of pride in the many field employees who have become involved in the development of the Ranger Trainee Program. We're getting a program started in a matter of months that it has taken other departments a matter of years to achieve. Interest in our programs is mounting daily; Texas, Nevada, Washington, Illinois, several counties in California and many others all "want in". To those in the field, and in Sacramento too, and from Director Mott to the newest employee - take pride. If I had a Stetson, I'd tip it! Best regards,

Jim Kruger
Training Institute

Notice

Word has just been received that the American Uniform Supply Company in Los Angeles has gone bankrupt. Recently many of us received ads from this company. Some of the field personnel have lost money in their transactions with them and have not received satisfactory merchandise.

Write to the court appointed receiver if you have had a problem. He is Mr. David Blonder, 608 So. Hill St., Room 910, Los Angeles. Phone: 213-622-1364.

The store in San Jose is a franchise store, and he doesn't know if he is in or out of business.

Thanks to Jim Davis for the information -

MUSHROOM RISE IN FOREST CRIME

By MARK KAUTZ

A grim picture of mushrooming lawlessness in state and federal parks and forest lands was painted yesterday by those officials whose jobs it is to preserve them.

A call for federal and state funds to assist local law enforcement agencies in policing these areas was unanimously seen as at least a partial solution to the growing problem.

The scope of crime in the local national forests and parks was aired here in the first of a series of public hearings conducted by Assemblyman Gene Chappie.

Chappie said the meeting was called after receiving feedback from the general public on the "harrowing experiences" of last summer, particularly in Folsom state park and Yosemite.

Chappie expressed hope that further legislation or other action resulting in closer cooperation between federal, state and local governments will result from these meetings.

Representatives from Yosemite, Stanislaus and Eldorado national forests, Columbia State park, the U.S. Bureau of Land Management and supervisors from Tuolumne and Mariposa counties were on hand yesterday.

Sheriffs from Tuolumne, Mariposa, Amador and Calaveras counties and highway patrol were present, also.

Tom Hoots, district forest ranger at Pinecrest, outlined the problem there---showing that most violations occur in a one-square mile area around Strawberry reservoir.

In 1969, there were 740 law violations between Memorial and Labor days, Hoots told the gathering---about twice as many as the year before. He said the first increases in crime were noticed in 1967.

Even more dramatic was the number of persons involved in violations. The year 1969 saw 589 visitors involved in incidents compared to 3,528 in 1970.

A breakdown showed 45 percent of these violators come from the Bay area; 30 percent from the central valley, and three percent locally.

Violations enjoyed a rapid increase between the hours of 6 a.m. and noon, said Hoots, with a slackening at lunch. The number of violations per hour peak in the early afternoon but remain at a high level until midnight.

About 50 percent of the violations involve automobiles or theft and vandalism.

With the exception of theft and vandalism where 41 percent of the violations were committed by adults, the overwhelming number of crimes involve juveniles.

Don Halsey, BLM protection officer, elaborated on the violations sustained on federal lands.

They ranged from deliberate polluting of water

and burning of picnic tables and signs to the stealing of all the toilet paper in one campground and demolition of an outhouse.

"About 90 percent of the visitors are cooperative," stated Halsey. "We once viewed violations as misadventures of good-intentioned visitors. But violations are growing substantially in frequency and volume. There is a growing neglect by the public in obeying posted rules."

"Except for fee collections, the BLM does not have the authority to enforce the rules governing recreation," Halsey continued. "There are no federal statutes applicable to BLM regarding murder, riots, disturbing the peace, panhandling or indecent exposure."

Halsey said the FBI investigates most federal crimes occurring on BLM land. Later, he stated the BLM must provide visitor protection as well as resources protection.

Dick Marks, staff park ranger at Yosemite, said more trouble as the July fourth rock-throwing incident can be expected next year unless the park staff is able to communicate with would-be violators this winter.

"We can't afford another July fourth," stated Marks. It cost the park an additional \$300,000 in law enforcement and caused an additional burden on the Mariposa county sheriff's office.

Marks expressed hope that an extensive communications network with local law enforcement agencies and a corps of mounted rangers will help stem the tide of lawlessness next summer.

Halsey saw a solution to the problem in two bills now before the U.S. Congress---a Senate bill that will provide the BLM with authority to enforce rules and make arrests and a House bill that will authorize the U.S. Forest service to receive in-lieu payments for contracting services from local law enforcement agencies.

Dist. Atty. Ernest Geddes agreed, viewing the problem as a matter for state government.

"We don't need any more laws," stated Geddes, "but what we do need is lots of assistance. The weekend influx of people draws the county enforcement agencies away from services that should be provided to local residents. It's a question of money and manpower."

Sheriff Miller Sardella said it cost his department an additional \$4,000 for 12,000 hours in extra deputy hours spent on forest service lands.

The only possible solution to the dollar dilemma was voiced by Ray Hunter of Sonora, director of the state department of parks and recreation.

Hunter suggested increasing fees for day recreationers as a means of supporting county law enforcement efforts on state and federal lands.

If not, he and others predict local residents will bear the burden of increased taxes.

####

RETIRED EMPLOYEES LOSE COST-OF-LIVING RAISE

"Once again our retired state employees are being asked to wait and exist on a substandard pension while the cost of living continues to escalate."

This is Assemblyman Edwin L. Z'berg's comment after Governor Ronald Reagan vetoed a 5 percent increase for retired employees.

The bill, SB 454, was introduced by Senator Robert Lagomarsino of Ventura and sponsored by the Retired Public Employees' Association (RPEA) and CSEA.

Before it was amended down to 5 percent, the bill originally called for a 13 percent increase in annuity benefits.

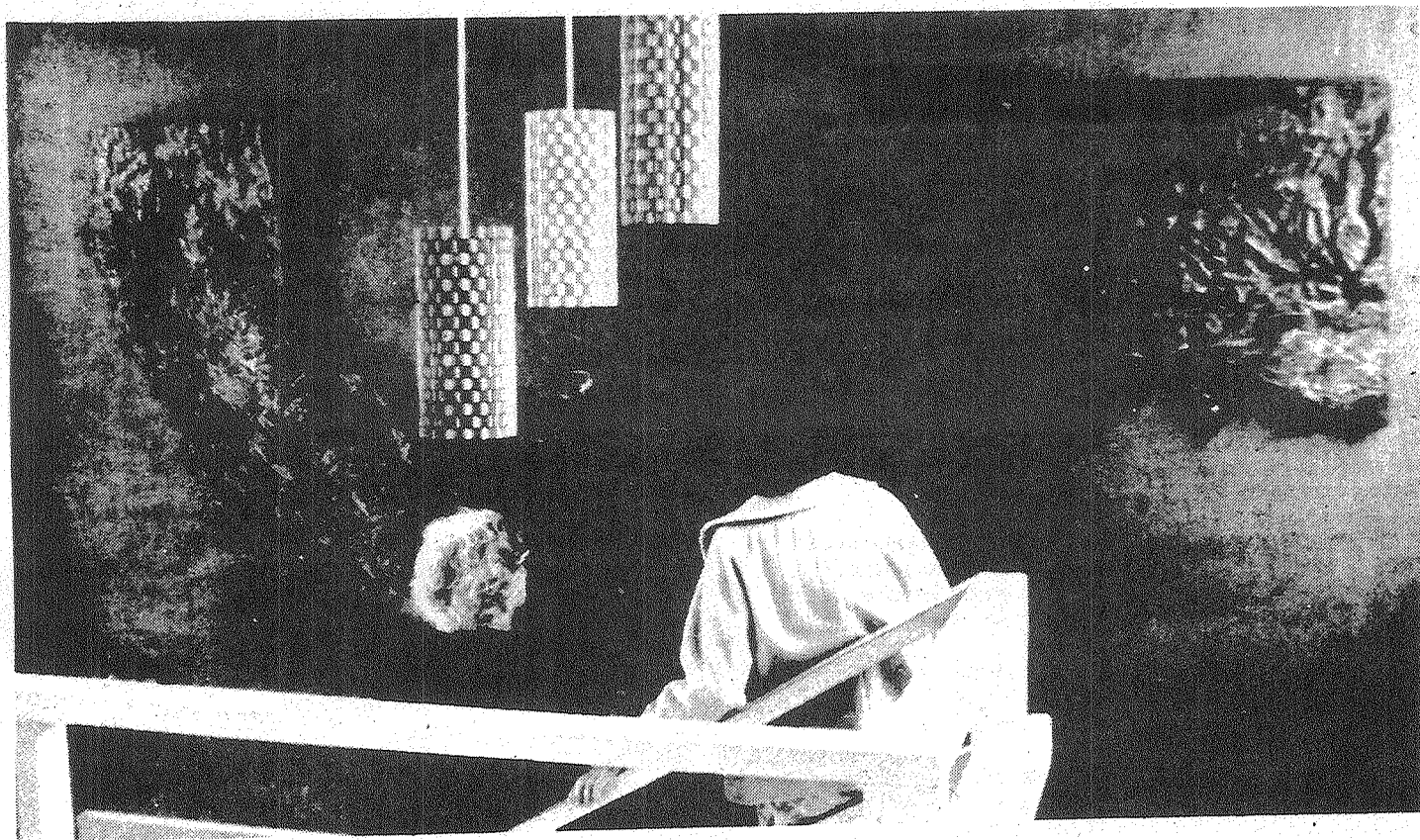
Reagan said the 5 percent increase would cost \$999,000 this year. This was disputed by Fred Halterman, RPEA's president, who said:

"At the most there would be only 7 months cost in 1970, and that would amount to about \$770,000, of which only \$454,000 would come from the general fund."

####

Sculptured Redwood Maps

The Tourists Have Something New To Talk About



'MOST IMPRESSIVE' — Tourists admire the two huge redwood relief maps carved by Marian Laret for the Jade motel near San Simeon. Wife of the supervising ranger at Pismo State Beach, Mrs. Laret began making small maps

for home decor early this year, using the dining room table as her work bench. She had to move into the garage for the motel projects. Each map took some 110 hours to complete. Work began July 2 and ended Sept. 17.

* * * *

Fear is the darkroom where negatives are developed.

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Mr. Wesley E. Cater, President
State Park Rangers Association
c/o Hearst San Simeon State Historic Park
P. O. Box 8
San Simeon, California 93452

Oct. 15, 1970

Dear Mr. Cater:

Your letter to me, which was recently published in the C.S.P.R.A. publication, requested that the Department of Parks and Recreation insist that the concessionaire at Lake Elsinore cease the use of State park employee shoulder patches.

The concessionaire has been contacted by the Concessions Division and by the Area Manager and informed that the concessionaire's employees are not authorized to use departmental shoulder patches. The concessionaire has agreed to comply with this request.

Sincerely,


William Penn Mott, Jr.
Director

'Interest' Ruling Awaited

—Daily Union Democrat,
Sonora, Tuesday, Oct. 6, 1970

A three-year court battle over whether the county has the right to levy a "possessory interest" tax from U.S. Forest service employees is nearing a decision.

Final arguments were presented Friday and the matter was submitted to superior court Judge Ross Carkeet for a ruling.

The controversy started in 1967 when Art Ron-ten, county assessor, attempted to levy a possessory interest property tax on 12 forest service employees who rented their homes from their employer, a tax-exempt government agency. The government and the employees protested.

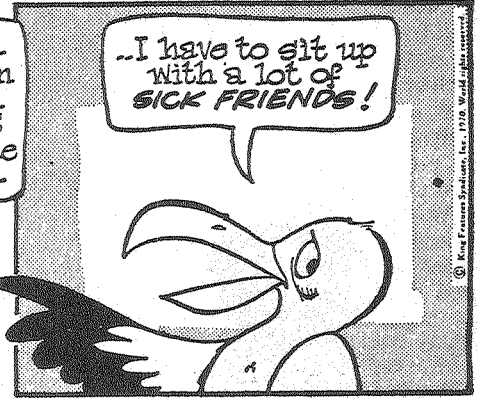
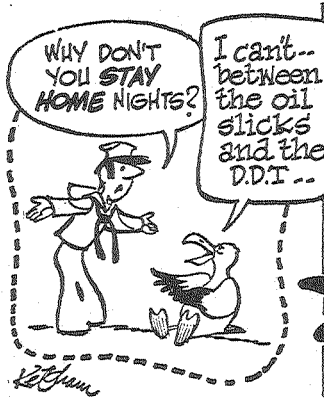
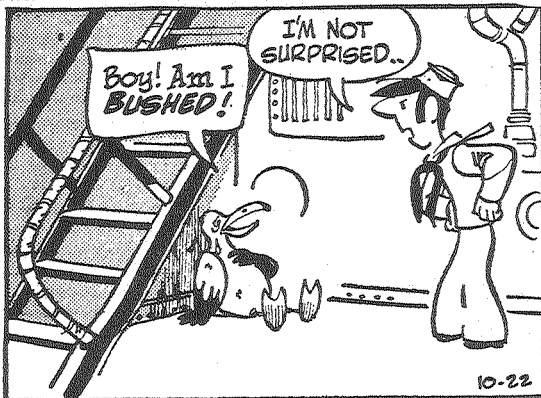
In the final arguments, Richard W. Nichols, attorney for the government, maintained that the employees do not have a taxable possessory interest if they do not have exclusive possession of the property against all the world. And in this case the government has the right to evict them without notice, he said.

Nichols stressed that it made no difference whether the government exercised the right, but only that it had the right.

Tom Marovich, assistant district attorney representing the county, pointed out that there was a "good deal of permanency" involved. The government does not evict people at whim, but has objective standards, and only evicts on short notice when there is an emergency situation, Marovich said.

Carkeet denied a motion for summary judgment made by the government, noting there are "tryable issues involved." He said he intended to review the government regulations and the transcript of previous testimony in the case before making a ruling.

Half Hitch



October 28, 1970

Mrs. Neil E. Power
P. O. Box 151
Columbia, California 95310

Dear Mrs. Power:

It seems to me that the historical ranger uniform in vogue for the past number of years no longer identifies our rangers and sets them apart from rangers or wardens of other organizations throughout the State. The outstanding quality of the California State Park System and the ranger personnel who administer, supervise and maintain the units of the system should, I feel, be distinctly identifiable. Therefore, I am writing to see if you have any suggestions with regard to the type of uniform that will give us a distinctive appearance and the materials to be used in them. I am sure that you have a great deal of experience in keeping your husband's uniform neat and clean, and that you have some very sound and practical suggestions as to what we might do to improve the uniform insofar as maintaining it is concerned.

Also, I would like very much to have your comments on the design, style and color of uniform you feel might be more distinctive. If you feel that the present uniform is okay, please say so; if you believe that only minor changes are needed, please convey your ideas and suggestions to me. I will appreciate very much receiving your comments.

After I have received your comments, ideas, sketches, illustrations, et cetera, I will have the information tabulated and mailed to you so that you will know how others responded to this letter. The data will then be evaluated by our Uniform Committee. Inasmuch as the Committee will be meeting early in December, I will appreciate receiving your comments not later than November 30.

I then plan to request funds to carry out the uniform changes whatever they may be, and also, press for a uniform allowance.

Thanks for your help -- and don't forget to vote YES on Proposition 20 and get your friends to do likewise.

Sincerely,

William Penn Mott, Jr.
William Penn Mott, Jr.
Director

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