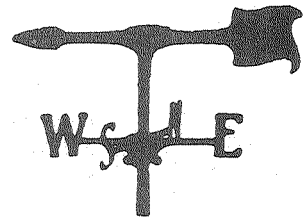




california state park rangers association

1108 O STREET • SACRAMENTO CALIF 95814 • PHONE (916) 444 8134

REPORTER



Volume 3
Number 6

Sept. 27, 1970

News from North, East, South & West

President's Message:

The summer season has past rapidly and I know many of you are now ready for those well earned vacations. During the summer I had the opportunity to visit a number of park areas and discussed California State Park Rangers Association matters with various members of the Association. I have been asked, "Can the former rangers, who are now Maintenance Men, hold office in California State Park Rangers Association?" Our organization does not preclude any regular member from holding office irregardless of his Civil Service classification. Along with those questions of membership, I have been asked by a number of new rangers why they cannot belong to the California State Park Rangers Association. My only answer is a regretful explanation that our Constitution precludes membership until the probationary period has been completed. I would ask that each of you reconsider this restriction of membership and work toward an amendment to our Constitution which would permit membership to California State Park Rangers Association upon appointment as a Ranger.

At this time the Department has requested a "State Park Peace Office Evaluation" of present employees who are designated as State Park Peace Officers. This is being done to determine the fitness and effectiveness of an employee to perform the duties of a State Park Peace Officer. This information could then be used to determine which men should receive peace officer training. The Department has also requested from the District Superintendents their recommendations concerning law enforcement safety equipment.

In November, 1969, Director Mott requested that the Operations Division submit recommendations and evaluations in regards to law enforcement in State Parks. These recommendations and evaluations were to be submitted after the 1970 summer session. Director Mott has assured us that the Department will recognize all of the recommendations that were submitted to him by the California State Park Rangers Association on November 13, 1969.

I have been in contact with the California State Employees Association regarding the increase in monthly rental rates and the possessory interest taxes. California State Employees Association informs me that they appeared before the Board of Control to protest the increase in rental rates and to ask that the Board take into consideration a reduction in rental rates in the amount paid for possessory interest taxes. Some Agencies appeared before the Board and presented evidence that an increase in rental rates were not justified based on the reasons stated by the Board of Control. The Board of Control based the rental increase on increased costs to maintain the housing. Certain Departments had facts and figures showing that the cost of maintenance had not increased 25% and they were not putting back into the houses for maintenance the amounts being charged for monthly rental. Therefore, the State is according to California State Employees Association making a profit on rentals of State owned facilities. At the close of the hearing on rents, the Chairman of the Board of Control said that the decision had been reached to increase monthly rental rates and nothing had been presented to make them change their decision. The Board of Control is responsible directly to the Governor for their actions and their decisions are final, and as such no appeals are heard once a decision is reached by them.

The questionnaires printed in the July 14, 1970 publication of the minutes of the California State Park Rangers Association Board of Directors meeting regarding whether or not California State Park Rangers Association would favor California State Employees Association attempting to establish a statewide employee-employer relations plan have

been returned to me. I received exactly 13 questionnaires back from the membership of the California State Park Rangers Association on the above question. Six favored support and 7 opposed the support of the California State Employees Association's proposal. The California State Employees Association will be informed of your decision.

Continued on page 2.

President's Message, cont.

I did write to the Department regarding the wearing of the Class A uniform by the Park Maintenance Supervisors. Jack Knight said that their decision to have the Park Maintenance Supervisor position wear the Class A uniform was based on the fact that "The Park Maintenance Supervisor" is part of the Area Management team, their duties include working with the business community, contractors, other State Agencies and the public. He may act as Area Manager, when performing these aspects of his job, he should be in a dress uniform.

Ron Rawlings has been in contact with the California Parks and Recreation Society regarding California State Park Rangers Association's possible affiliation with them. I have sent a letter to Joe Rodota, President of the California Parks and Recreation Society, requesting additional information and upon receipt of this information I will present it to the Board of Directors for their consideration.

Good luck on the forthcoming promotional examinations.

Wes Cater, President

Regional Directors
Region 1-3-5-7

Subject: Election for Regional
Director

Pursuant to Article VI (Bylaws) you are required to hold an election in your Region:

Section 1 - "Any active or active retired member is eligible--
---- provided he expresses willingness in writing to serve if elected."

Section 2 - "A majority -- voting ----- is required to decide an election."

Section 3 --- "During October in even numbered years ----- Regions 1, 3, 5, and 7 ----- and shall designate at least two nominees for the office of Regional Director." -----

Those nominated shall give the Executive Secretary, in writing ---- their consent to serve -----."

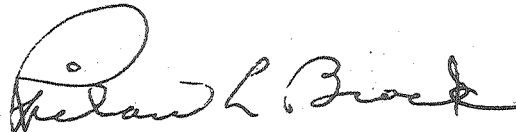
"Any member may be placed in nomination upon written petition signed by five (5) active or active retired members of the Region -----."

Section 3.1 -- "nominating committee shall announce ----- time, place and date of meeting on nominations 15 days prior to such meeting."

Section 3.2 - "During month of November ---- Executive Secretary shall prepare a proper ballot -----." "All ballots returned ----- must be postmarked not later than December 10."

The above are some of the highlights of Article VI of the Bylaws of CSPRA which you are required to follow in the forthcoming elections for Regional Officers. I urge you and the Regional members to read this Article thoroughly. It sets forth the procedures and indicates the deadlines you must meet in order to comply with our election procedures. Please make sure that all of the members are aware of the elections and have the opportunity to participate.

Best personal regards to all of you.


RICHARD L. BROCK, Chairman
Nominations Committee

Some may think the state colleges are going to the dogs, but at San Jose State College it may be more than just an expression.

Jim Lioi, president of CSEA San Jose State College Chapter 32, has organized a campaign to rid the campus of loose dogs and is circulating a petition calling for strict control.

He is seeking the enforcement of existing city, county and state dog control laws.

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY REPORT

FINANCIAL REPORT

Balance 5/10/70	\$3,179.24
Dues	2,053.59
G E C	-48.09
Board of Directors	-16.73
Board Meeting	-214.34
Newsletter	-249.17
Exec. Secretary	-200.00
Staff Services	-437.24
Committees	-20.00
BALANCE 9/4/70	\$4,047.26

Paul L. Dunning
P. O. Box 2
Dana Point, California 92629

Rodger W. Kellogg
940 Long Branch
Grover City, California 93433

Arthur G. Morley
4721 Choctaw Dr. # H
San Diego, California 92115

NEW MEMBERS

Rene S. Avant
3020 Via de Frente
San Clemente, California 92672

John F. Bollinger
580 Woodland Drive
Los Osos, California 93401

John A. Cutler
14253 Sunset Blvd.
Pacific Palisades, Ca. 90272

Robert H. Walker
5402 Roland Way
Oxnard, California 93030

Stewart B. Witt
34831 Calle Fortuna
Capistrano Beach, California 92624

Regional Directors

9/4/70

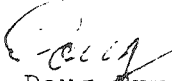
Election of Officers

This year Regions 1,3,5 and 7 will be electing Regional Directors. All Regions will elect delegates to serve during 1971. The following are the number of delegates to be elected for each Region:

Region I	2	Region V	2
Region II	2	Region VI	3
Region III	3	Region VKK	1
Region IV	2		

Two Persons must be nominated for each delegate allowed.

Please review Article VI of the Bylaws.


Doug Bryce
Executive Secretary

Wife's Affidavit

(The following "affidavit for thought" is about as gentle as a sledgehammer in making its point. Read it. Think about it. You won't forget it!)

I, hereby authorize my husband to work without wearing goggles, safety shoes, hard hat, or any other safety equipment and hereby promise that I will, without complaint, perform the following duties in case he is blinded or crippled:

1. Lead him wherever he wants to go.
2. Help him dress and eat.
3. Describe the scenery to him on our vacations.
4. Read to him instead of watching television.
5. Describe the way the children's eyes light up at Christmas time and what their graduations and weddings are like.
6. Teach him to do housework so I can get a job to support our family.
7. Do all the work around the yard and garage that he used to do.
8. Teach our little boy how to playball, build model airplanes, fish and hunt.

(Signed)

Wife

Just a note to report that over one hundred District IV employees and their families enjoyed a steak Bar-B-Que the evening of Sept. 10th. in Monterey. Art Lloyd of district headquarters was the chef, and cooked the steaks to perfection. Song and dance routines by host, and Past Regional Director, Clyde Ray and wife Shirley were the highlight of the evenings entertainment. The Memory Garden setting behind the Pacific Building was an excellent choice for the event.

Dana Long, Region IV

I thought you would be interested in the fact that Mel Whittaker's Doctors have finally analyzed his situation and Mel will go into St. Joseph's Hospital, 1800 N. California Street, Stockton, California 95204 on September 9th to be operated on September 11th. The best estimate of his Doctors is that it will be some time around Thanksgiving before he can come back to work.

I am sure Mel would enjoy hearing from you. I am sure some of his friends would like to drop him a card either before or after his surgery.

I know you join me in wishing Mel a speedy recovery.

Home Address,
M. Whittaker
2715 N. Pershing Ave.
Stockton, CA. 95204

Clyde L. Newlin
CLYDE L. NEWLIN
Superintendent, District 3

14 September 1970

Dear Neil,

A dinner meeting was held for Region II members in Petaluma on Tuesday, Aug. 11th. The turn-out far exceeded our expectations for a meeting in the busy season. Attending were 46 members, associate members and potential members, as well as 8 wives.

The minutes of the July Executive Board meeting were discussed. The criteria set by the Public Employee's Retirement System's Board of Administration regarding early retirement for Peace Officers drew some comment. A brief discussion regarding uniforms for Maintenance Supervisors was curtailed, as it was felt not a proper topic to be discussed by those present. It was also mentioned that maintenance men are forming a committee to recommend such uniform changes as they feel to be necessary.

District II Enforcement Specialist Tom Fogarty asked for our opinions as to what protective devices we felt necessary. A spirited discussion followed!! It was agreed that none present wanted firearms, while all were adamant as to the need for sufficient training to use whatever devices may be issued.

Although no date was set, we are tentatively planning our next meeting for Nov. with the express purpose being a workshop for writing resolutions to be presented at the next G.E.C.

Jerry Fialho has accepted the position of Alternate Director for Region II.

Don
Don Engler
Director, Region II

* * * * *

"Today's younger generation is no worse than my own. We were just as ignorant and repulsive as they are, but nobody listened to us."

-----Al Capp

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

Aug. 7, 1970

Dear Mr. Cater:

This is in response to a letter appearing in the REPORTER for July 20, 1970, concerning reservations and group camping. The letter expresses concern that "camping groups will usurp the family camping sites through a non-controlled centralized campsite reservation system." It goes on to express strong opposition to the concept of a centralized reservation program.

With regard to use of "family" campsites by "organized groups", I would like to point out that a very large proportion, probably a majority, of such groups using our facilities are Boy Scouts, Campfire Girls, Indian Y-Guides, and similar groups. Many members of such groups would not have the opportunity for a camping experience if it were not for their participation with these organizations.

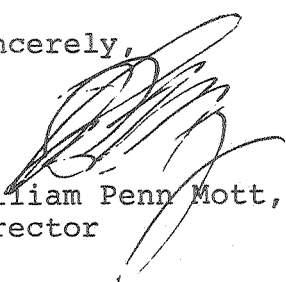
Although it is departmental policy to encourage the use of specifically designated group facilities by organized groups (through direct arrangements with the park), it is difficult to distinguish which groups are "organized", or how large they should be to justify use of group facilities. Also, since we operate a public parks system, we are not in a position to refuse its use to any group of citizens, organized or not, provided all requirements and regulations are complied with.

At a meeting of Assistant District Superintendents on May 14, 1970, attended by headquarters staff involved with reservation work, several pertinent points were clarified and agreed upon: All Districts were to provide updated information on parks with group camping facilities, and the Reservation Office would return appropriate group reservation requests with the suggestion that they contact the park directly for a group reservation. Also, when multiple individual campsite reservations were made, a separate receipt would be prepared for each campsite. These procedures have been placed in effect and appear to have resolved much of the apparent difficulty.

With regard to centralization of reservations, the tremendous public acceptance and response, and the related increase in workload, have made it unlikely that we will ever go back to processing reservation requests with park personnel. One of the important reasons for converting to a computerized system this year was to shift the increasingly heavy load of direct reservation work away from the field staff. This has been accomplished. The vast improvement in public convenience whereby availability status can be determined at once and confirmed reservations issued on the spot has had a very favorable response. The fact that over 42,000 reservations were made in the first 3 months of this year emphasizes this.

We are making progress in our efforts to restore more convenient reservation services to the public in 1971. We will also continue to explore all possible means for further improvements in the future. In our Department's continuing efforts to provide the best possible park system within the resources allotted to us, it makes good sense to take advantage of any system which modern technology makes economically available to us. We intend to do so.

Sincerely,


William Penn Mott, Jr.
Director

Editor: The Reporter

How about a classified Ad section in the Reporter?

Such as; Situations Wanted:

"Ranger II stationed at new Reservoir-Recreation Area would like to trade with Ranger II in Coastal area.

This area has warm, dry summers and mild winters. Good hunting and fishing, and close to Sierras.

No Park housing, contact"

What do you think of the idea?

Joe. D. Hood, Oroville.

From Jim Kruger, Director, Training Institute, Asilomar, Calif.

INITIAL MEASUREMENT OF TRAINING EFFECTIVENESS - GROUPS I and II *

With emphasis on the practical, non-theoretical approach, our initial investment is already indicating a good return, and is providing a firm base on which to build a continuing program for other operational levels. Significantly, there has been no question raised as to the value of or need for the training program. The below chart provides a measurement of GROUPS I & II participant reaction to the program and its components and, while specific content area and coverage approach problems have arisen which are dealt with on an individual basis, it appears that our direction is correct.

CONTENT AREA	Level of Participant-recognized need		Felt Training need met		Anticipated level of job performance improvement		Quality of Course presentation	
	GROUP		GROUP		GROUP		GROUP	
	I	II	I	II	I	II	I	II
Principles of Mgm't	7.4	6.7	6.8	7.9	5.5	7.8	6.5	8.9
Personnel Mgm't	7.0	6.5	7.1	6.2	6.2	6.1	5.9	6.0
Business Mgm't	7.8	6.6	7.8	7.6	6.4	6.6	7.4	6.9
Program Mgm't System	8.9	7.9	9.0	8.2	7.0	7.6	8.2	7.6
Budgeting	7.8	6.6	8.9	8.2	7.2	7.6	8.1	7.6
Real Property Mgm't	7.5	6.5	7.6	7.0	5.7	6.0	7.5	7.3
Legal Aspects of Mgm't	7.4	8.0	7.6	7.3	5.7	6.6	7.5	7.2
Concessions Mgm't	6.9	6.7	5.9	6.0	5.4	5.5	6.9	6.5
Visitor Protection	8.6	6.6	6.1	7.1	7.3	6.2	6.0	6.8
Equipment Mgm't	6.5	5.8	7.4	6.6	6.7	6.1	8.3	8.3
Planning & Development	7.9	6.7	8.0	7.1	6.4	6.6	6.6	7.9
Park Maintenance	5.4	5.7	8.9	8.2	7.6	7.5	8.9	8.5
Resources Mgm't & Protection	7.3	5.9	6.3	6.5	5.8	6.0	7.1	7.1
Public Relations & Communications	5.5	6.7	6.9	6.8	6.6	6.2	7.1	7.0
Interpretation	6.7	6.8	7.0	5.9	6.1	5.8	6.3	4.6
OVERALL AVERAGE	7.2	6.5	7.4	7.1	6.4	6.6	7.2	7.2

GROUP CHARACTERISTICS	PRE-PROGRAM		POST-PROGRAM	
	GROUP I	GROUP II	GROUP I	GROUP II
Attitude	7.2	7.5	8.7	8.5
Interest	8.1	8.1	8.4	8.3
Average Age	GROUP I - 46.8		GROUP II - 45.3	
Average DPR Experience	GROUP I 18.4		GROUP II - 17.3	

* NOTE: Range of 10 to 1 (10 highest possible; 1 lowest possible)

ADVANCE REGISTRATION

National Recreation and Park Association
National Forum
Changing Concepts — Citizen Safety in Parks and Recreation

☐ Western
San Francisco, California
Hilton Inn
October 22-23, 1970

Name	Title	Phone
Address		
City	State	Zip Code

Check where applicable:

Advance Registration	\$15.00	<input type="checkbox"/>
Registration at the Forum	\$20.00	<input type="checkbox"/>
Youth Registration	\$ 2.00	<input type="checkbox"/>
Organization Registration (5 or more delegates)	\$25.00	<input type="checkbox"/>

Statement of Purposes

Many persons are willing to believe that park and recreation facilities have lost their utility and no longer represent a community human service resource that can be enjoyed by the citizen in safety and comfort. This attitude is reinforced in part when youth and adults encounter widespread resistance to efforts to make new and modified uses of park and recreation facilities. Of equal concern to citizens and park, recreation and law enforcement officials is the high incidence of anti-social and illegal activities that reportedly occur in parks and other outdoor recreation facilities.

The purpose of this National Forum is to increase the capabilities of park, recreation and law enforcement agencies at all levels to provide leadership, training and programs that are responsive to the expressed concerns, needs and desires of the citizen to enjoy park and recreation facilities in safety and comfort.

General Session

Major speakers will explore changing concepts in leadership techniques, program planning, training and citizen involvement as they relate to the delivery of services in park and recreation facilities. Citizens and park, recreation and law enforcement officials will present their points of view.

Study Groups — Task Force

National Forum delegates will be organized into small work groups to facilitate problem delineation, in-depth study of specified concerns and formulation of recommendations and resolutions for action. Resource persons will be assigned to all work groups for consultation and reference purposes.

Plenary Sessions

Plenary sessions will be scheduled to assure all Forum delegates the opportunity to review, refine and add to the reports and recommendations emanating from the task force and study groups. Plenary sessions will be designed to acquire maximum delegate input into formulation of Forum guidelines and resolutions as well as help Forum sponsors determine the scope and character of follow-up actions.

Participants

The Forum is expected to attract a wide audience of citizens and professionals with a common concern for the Forum subject, especially representatives of:

- citizen organizations—youth and adult
- law enforcement agencies
- state, county and city park departments
- municipal recreation departments
- private recreation agencies
- model cities organizations
- youth serving agencies
- federal and state agencies
- social service agencies and organizations

Mail application and make checks payable to:
National Recreation and Park Association - Forum
1700 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20006

Just a note to let you know your Newsletter (REPORTER) being sent to me serves a purpose. Some of the info. is valuable as insight, for instance, on field point of view and pertinent material is circulated here.

Thanks, Dick Humphrey, Design Section.

"FROM MY CRESCENT WINDOW"

Multi-millionaire merchant, senator Horace A. W. Tabor picked his fame and fortune from the Silver mines in and around Leadville, Colorado, in the last century. Until silver was re-valued in 1893, Tabor's Matchless Mine was famous for its seemingly endless profusity of the once-plentiful metal which made the silver dollar common throughout the west. Through lavish spending and poor management, the silver king went bankrupt and spent the last few of his aging years in near-penniless poverty. On his dying bed, he admonished his youthful second wife to "hold on" to the Matchless Mine as he was sure it would again be a profitable silver producer. Thirty five years later, Baby Doe Tabor froze to death in the little scantily-furnished cabin beside the inoperative Matchless Mine shaft, alone and destitute. The Matchless Mine never again produced an ounce of silver.

A little over three years ago, a new "order" was introduced to the Park People of California in the personages of Governor Ronald Reagan and DPR Director William Penn Mott, Jr. And the theme of the music which has abided with us these many months has been conservatism ----- not necessarily to be construed as tree conservatism, or plant conservatism, or sand dune conservatism, or natural resource conservatism in general, but MONEY conservatism. Billions of words have been said about, for, or against Mr. Mott in these past three metamorphic years in the way he has handled the pittance Mr. Reagan and his finance crew has doled out annually to run the most elaborate, naturally-endowed state park system in the union.

Part of these billions of words have come from those among our ranks who are real dreamers, with remarkable memories. They figuratively sit and bask in the sunshine of warm memories of by-gone park days ----- when every park employee lived in a park house ----- when they worked three months every year and "took-care" for nine months ----- when the annual attendance of our units was 1/10th to 1/4th of what it is today. With their dying-on-the-vine gasps for life, they admonish their cohorts, "Don't give up --- park service will again someday be like it use to be in the good ole days." Like Baby Doe Tabor, we'll all freeze to death (some busy August) before the California DPR regresses to 1940 or 1950 standards of operation.

If we haven't fully faced reality by this point on the road to renovation, we should know by now that CONSERVATISM is the fad of the hour ---- not just in Orange County in particular or the State of California in general, but in the majority of the United (?) States. Like the walkathon, flag pole sitting, phone booth jamming and other fads, CONSERVATISM will undoubtedly cycle out of existance for a time, but for now it's "with us". And when it has passed, its far-reaching influence will linger with us for eons to follow.

Because of all the wars the United States must underwrite and subsidize (hence the huge drain on the federal tax budget), those government agencies easiest to pounce on by the law makers and money-changers in Washington have taken the brunt of the throat(money)-cutting action. And the Department of the Interior was one non-warring department which had its monetary skirts clipped so short it became embarrassingly cool in some spots.

On a three-week vacation this spring, Irene and I visited six National Parks and four National Monuments from Zion N.P. in Utah to Shiloh N. P. in Tennessee. The story was the same in every unit as we talked with park people. In by-gone days, under a more liberal-type Whitehouse administration with smaller investments being funnelled into the war machine, our National Parks and Monuments were richly endowed with permanent, year 'round park personnel. In most of these units, permanent, on-the-premises housing was available for these protectors of our national heritage.

But, like the relentless cutting away of the Grand Canyon as the mighty Colorado River rolls ever onward toward the sea, the National Park Service has been trimmed of its excessive fat until it stands tall and lean from coast to coast. And with the excess fat worked off, it can travel faster and farther than ever before, and on much less subsistence allowance. The once larger year 'round permanent operational staffs have been cut to adequately small operational staffs with heavy emphasis placed on permanent-intermittent employees ----- local (indigenous) school teachers, people who have retired from other professions, housewives, and students.

Cont.

At Colorado National Monument, for example, we counted four big beautiful homes which once housed four Ranger families, year 'round. Today only two of those houses are occupied full time. The other two are used in the summer season by school teacher-naturalists.

At the North Rim of the Grand Canyon, a huge operation of interpretation, campground management and other related Ranger-type duties, only three full-time Rangers are in residence. But they have quite a large staff of P.I. personnel ----- Rangers, interpreters, KIOSK attendants and maintenance men.

And the story was about the same at Zion, Mesa Verde, Black Canyon of the Gunnison, Rocky Mountain, The Great Sand Dunes, Bandelier, Vicksburg and Shiloh. A great tribute to man's ingenuity in action when his back is to the wall.

And for a little over three years, the California DPR has had its back to the wall. The Okies and Arkies and Texans and people from Tennessee, New York and Illinois just keep on pouring into California to stay and become a part of our affluent society. And with this affluence, they buy campers and trailers and they want to travel and visit the scenic wonders of the most lavish, naturally-endowed state in the union. So we have campers "running out our ears" in our parks, visitors turned away at Hearst Monument, and beaches swarming with bare flesh, fair, firm and flabby.

And meanwhile back at the ranch in Sacramento, the grubstake hasn't grown in size. And with the leader's back to the wall, so-to-speak, what can be done but fall back and re-group? And which one of us, burying our egotistical pride, wouldn't take the advantage to profit by, or better ourselves by the seemingly successful "BIG BROTHER" ----- the National Park Service!

And, if it hasn't been recognized before, the California DPR is clearly following in the footsteps of the NPS in its method of park operations. A "bare bones" permanent staff year 'round, augmented heavily with a flexible budget for seasonal or permanent-intermittent employees. And those of you whose fingers have kneaded the dough of personnel management know that this method of employee utilization is MOST advantageous, monetarily.

And the Matchless Mine never produced again. Nor will the old California State Division of Beaches and Parks. Like Baby Doe Tabor, who died thinking the "old days" would return, the dreamers, the "contented", the progressive infirms, the mental "old timers" in the Department will eventually fade away or be run over by those rushing out to meet the present-day challenge which befronts us. Conservatism has left an indelible mark which will never be erased. But should it be erased? Can't some indelible marks be good, lasting, BENEFICIAL marks????

Bob Hankes

RETIREMENTS

After 28 years of service, Art Parvin retired September 1, 1970.

Mr. Wayne Cox will retire Sept. 30, 1970 after 27 years of service.

We wish them both a happy and active retirement.

EDITORIAL POLICY. To promote the Association's objectives and the professional interests of the membership of the California State Park Rangers Association. Letters from members (and others) of interest to professional rangers are encouraged. Reports from officers, regions, and committees will be printed. All information relative to the professional interests of rangers is welcome and solicited.

Unless otherwise noted, opinions expressed are those of the writer or signer of each article and letter published, and NOT those of the Association.

This issue was delayed because the printer that has been helping me and printing the REPORTER went out of the printing business. I will try to be back on schedule next month.

Neil Power, Editor

Re: Articles by James K. Staley, Associated Press Writer

TO EDITOR: [San Diego Evening Tribune]

Having read your two-part article on California's Parks, I found the first part good, but the second installment not a true appraisal of what the Ranger's job is, or how we are going about coping with the changing function of the Park Ranger.

Being a California Park Ranger myself, I disagree with the points taken by most of my fellow Rangers who were interviewed in your article. My first disagreement is with the use of the old saw, "If I had wanted to become a policeman, I would not have become a Ranger." Now this talks great, but it lost its validity a few years ago when our Parks started to become a refuge for those who wished to conceal their activities from the general public and law enforcement authorities. The quote is no attitude for the professional Ranger, who will do the job asked of him, be it guiding a nature walk or apprehending a narcotics user.

Secondly I disagree with some of the statements regarding young people. We all are concerned with the wants and needs of young people, but we must not lose sight of the desires of children, families and the retired folk who make up the bulk of our yearly attendance.

You quoted a Ranger as saying, "The tendency is to let young people alone, the Park Spirit would sort of dictate that." I must agree that the Park spirit dictates that you let people alone to enjoy a recreational experience, but only so long as their pursuits are lawful and do not infringe upon their neighbors enjoyment of the area.

Lastly I find the paragraph regarding the complaints of Rangers regarding their supervisors attitude totally uncalled for. There is no place within the Ranger fraternity for those individuals who take the opportunity to downgrade their superiors and the Ranger profession openly in the press.

We have a saying the the California Park system coined by a former Chief of the Department which is simply, "Be a Better Ranger." Now some of the younger Rangers you interviewed possess the idealism which makes for the "Better Ranger," but at this point in their short career they lack the experience and objectivity that truly binds the "Better Ranger" together. I would suggest that they re-evaluate in their minds the three principle reasons of the Ranger's existence, to Interpret, Protect and Maintain our State Park System for all the people. Then they will be living up to the highest ideals of the "Better Ranger."

This letter by Dick Edwards is understandable without reading the newspaper article. Room did not permit printing the entire article.

RICHARD C. EDWARDS
State Park Ranger I

To. James H. Green, Heart Bar State Park

August 5, 1970

From : Department of Parks and Recreation
District 6

I read, with considerable interest, your recent letter to Neil Power, reproduced in the California State Park Rangers' Association newsletter on the subject. If you will recall our conversation during my recent visit to Heart Bar concerning the use of personal equipment, I don't think Chief Knight was saying that the "contribution of personal equipment for use on State projects is no longer considered to be of value to the state". On the contrary, I think he went to considerable pains to recognize the value of what has been done in the past by State Park people with their own wherewithal.

I think, also, that I understand what you are saying concerning contributed overtime, and I don't think you are saying the State Park System and State Park people are what it is and what they are through the efforts of those who have been concerned about contributed overtime.

Of great interest to most of us is the fact that the National Park Service has been on 40-hour weeks for a long time and yet, great numbers of these dedicated park people continue to contribute a great amount of overtime because they believe in what they are doing.

Regards.

Jim Whitehead, Superintendent
District 6

Honorable William Pann Mott, Jr., Director
Dept. of Parks and Recreation
Sacramento, CA. 95811

July 24, 1970

Dear Director Mott:

It has come to our attention that some thought has been given to permitting the employees of the Lake Elsinore Area Concession the use of the official State Park patch. If this is true the California State Park Rangers Association is opposed to this idea.

The official State Park patch is a part of the uniform worn by employees of the Department of Parks and Recreation. The Department employees permitted to wear the official State Park patch do so with pride as they have qualified through examinations and performance to earn this right.

We do not believe that anyone, just because he is working in a park, should be permitted to wear the State Park patch unless he or she is an employee of this Department.

The dignity of our uniform must be protected, whether it be the State Park patch or the Ranger's Stetson. Inroads into the use of our official uniform will dilute our image as professionals of the State Park System.

Sincerely yours,

Wesley E. Cater
President, CSPRA

S A F E T Y
C R E D O

We believe--

....that every man bears the unalterable responsibility for keeping out of harm's way. That he owes it to himself, his family, his fellows, and his job.

....that no man lives or works entirely alone. He is involved with all men, touched by their accomplishments, marked by their failures. If he fails the man beside him, he fails himself, and will share the burden of that loss. The true horror of an accident is the realization that a man has failed himself--and more--that his fellows have failed him.

....that accidents are conceived in improper attitudes, and born in moments of action without thought. They will cease to be only when the proper attitude is strong enough to precede the act--when the right attitude creates the awareness that controls the act.

....that freedom from harm is not a privilege, but a goal to be achieved and perpetuated day by day.

....that the elimination of injury and pain through accidents is a moral obligation upon which the final measure of our performance directly depends.

..... American Society of Safety
Engineers



"It is right to be contented with what we have; but never with what we are."

--Sir James Mackintosh

DO YOU ACT....OR REACT?

I walked with my friend, a Quaker, to the newstand the other night, and he bought a paper, thanking the newsie politely. The newsie didn't even acknowledge it.

'A sullen fellow, isn't he?' I commented.

'Oh, he's that way every night,' shrugged my friend.

'Then why do you continue to be so polite to him?' I asked.

'Why not?' inquired my friend. 'Why should I let him decide how I'm going to act?'

As I thought about this incident later, it occurred to me that the important word was 'ACT'. My friend acts toward people; most of us react toward them.

He has a sense of inner balance which is lacking in most of us; he knows who he is, what he stands for, how he should behave. He refuses to return incivility for incivility, because then he would no longer be in command of his own conduct.

When we are enjoined in the Bible to return good for evil, we look upon this as a moral injunction - which it is. But it is also a psychological prescription for our emotional health.

Nobody is unhappier than the perpetual reactor. His center of emotional gravity is not rooted within himself, where it belongs, but in the world outside him. His spiritual temperature is always being raised or lowered by the social climate around him, and he is a mere creature at the mercy of these elements.

Praise gives him a feeling of euphoria, which is false, because it does not last and it does not come from self-approval. Criticism depresses him more than it should, because it confirms his own secretly shaky opinion of himself. Snubs hurt him, and the merest suspicion of unpopularity in any quarter rouses him to bitterness.

A serenity of spirit cannot be achieved until we become the masters of our own actions and attitudes. To let another determine whether we shall be rude or gracious, elated or depressed, is to relinquish control over our own personalities, which is ultimately all we possess. The only true possession is self-possession.

Condensed from the Chicago Daily
News 2/5/60 - Sydney J. Harris"

CALIFORNIA STATE PARK RANGERS ASSOCIATION
P.O. BOX 151
COLUMBIA, CALIFORNIA 95310

NON-PROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE
1.6c PAID
PERMIT #2
COLUMBIA, CALIF.

N. E. Power
P. O. Box 151
Columbia, CA 95310

