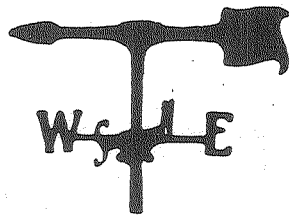




california state park rangers association

1108 O STREET • SACRAMENTO CALIF 95814 • PHONE (916) 444-9134

REPORTER



Volume 1

Number 1

June 21, 1971

News from North, East, South & West

.....

Several National and State Park Rangers have asked my advice on retirement, and if I had any suggestions. Looking back over the past 12 years of freedom, I can say this: The long drag was a happy and challenging experience. After 36 years of working for Uncle Sam, 4 years with the United States Forest Service, and 32 with the National Park Service in several National Parks and Recreation Areas, this old Ranger decided to pull the cork at age 55. And, I am very happy that I retired early instead of staying until the 62 age cut off time.

Many career men stay too long and die in the saddle or do so a year or so later after leaving the Service. If you do the whole stint, a few years before taking off, you have the feeling of the younger men looking over your shoulder or riding you to quit so that they can fill your boots. I know of many retirees returning to the old grindstone as consultants. In several instance, these younger men died on the job shortly after taking on new duties and responsibilities. It would have been better had they retired and enjoyed a few months or years doing what they wanted to do.

Nevertheless, it is wise to make plans ahead of time so that you know where you want to live and what you want to do with your leisure time. If you have independent means, you are fortunate. If your home is paid for--you might make it with your pension. REMEMBER, you will be spending just as much or more after retirement as you did before. The expenses will be the same! You can't hunt, fish and travel all the time. It cost \$40 and up to travel per day. Medical and dental expenses take their drain as you grow older. Taxes eat up a part of your annual budget, too!

If you are paying on a home or car or both, it can be disasterous! So you had better plan on securing a job on the outside that you can handle without too much stress. It will help supplement the old pension.

In my case, I get along nicely by writing magazine articles and have had a number of books published--so am able to travel extensively and do what I want to do without worrying.

It is the wise Ranger that puts away a little money each pay day in a savings account or a building and loan account--even if it is only a dollar or two. In 20-30 years at compound interests it will make a nice little start in your new life of leisure. And it always come handy for a rainy day that seems to appear in all our lives some time or other. Take it easy and good luck.

W. K. "Bill" Merrill, Retired
U.S. Dist. Supv. Park Ranger.

Can You Cut the Mustard, Grandma?

Do you have the energy and stamina necessary for the operation? Can you compete and hold your own with the "under 30s"? We are talking about a 10-hour day, 4 days a week, which is being considered for some of the state offices. Would the convenience of a week day to use as one pleases offset the extra hours added at each end of Monday through Thursday? How would all weekends of 3 days compare with a 3-day holiday now and then?

And could the "under 30s" hold up any better or as well as the "old ones"? Most of them with baby-sitters to reeducate to the new hours--would the extra day free from a baby-sitter be worth the problems involved in a longer day? What do you men think? Are you game to try something new? Would you rest and relax or find another job to make use of the extra day?

...By Alice Lyon

MINUTES

May 13, 1971

CALIFORNIA STATE PARK RANGERS ASSOCIATION

Oakland, California

Meeting called to order at 9:00 A.M. by president Cater.

Roll Call:

Wesley Cater, President
Herman Schlerf, Director, Region I
Don Engler, Director, Region II
Gerald Johnson, Director, Region III
Dana Long, Director, Region IV
Rodger Kellogg, Director, Region V
Dominic Gotelli, Director, Region VI
Doug Bryce, Executive Secretary

Guests

Clyde Strickler

Communications

Executive Secretary Bryce read a letter from Phil Geiger telling of his leaving CSEA to enter private practice in Stockton.

Reports of Officers

Region I

Held four meetings - Mendocino, Percy, Trinidad and Oroville areas and made approximately 10 other contacts to discuss GEC and let members know what is coming.

Unable to hold meetings after minutes sent out.

Appointed Advisory Committee - Lyle Kieth, Marion Hanshew, Auburn Rose and Bob Perkins.

Placed news release re: Santa Barbara GEC in 5 newspapers in three areas within Region I.

Made nine contacts regarding membership including three Ranger Trainees - Trainees interested, two others want to know more about the organization and four said "no way". Ranger Trainees would like to have copy of "Reporter" even if they can't join for their first year.

Region II

Don Engler reported he planned a meeting in Petaluma on May 18th.

Region III

Gerald Johnson reported that no meetings had been held but he planned some soon.

Region IV

Dana Long reported that he had held no meetings. He said that he had been busy working with Oakland Chamber of Commerce and the Hilton Hotel to make tentative arrangements for 1972 GEC. He reported that alternate Regional Director Geissinger had moved to Region V and that he would appoint a replacement soon.

Region V

Rodger Kellogg had just replaced Dick Felty as Regional Director when Dick went to Region VI.

Region VI

No report.

Action on GEC Resolutions

71 - 1, 2 + 5

Committee on Constitution and By-Laws requested to write proposed changes and prepare a ballot for the membership with pro and con arguments.

71 - 6

Ron Bawlings and Ross Henry to prepare ballot to determine members wishes regarding affiliation with the California Park and Recreation Society.

71 - 7

It was decided to give one full scholarship to the Audobon Camp of the West. Each Regional Director is to solicit candidates and have a drawing to determine one candidate from each Region. The seven candidates thus selected would have their names placed in a hat and one name selected from the hat to determine the recipient of the scholarship. Drawings to be held this summer will be for the 1972 sessions.

71 - 8

Executive Secretary directed to send a check for \$190 to the Asilomar Training Institute Contingency Fund.

71 - 10

President Cater will appoint a committee to study law enforcement policy.

71 - 11

President Cater appointed Dominic Gotelli, Gerry Johnson and Don Engler to draft a letter for his signature to the Director making recommendations regarding concession developments.

71 - 12

After considerable debate the Board decided that they agree in principle with this resolution but feel that it might be so restrictive that it would prevent initiative worthwhile changes. They also feel that we have taken a step in the right direction by setting priorities in our operations and maintenance plans.

71 - 13

Referred to committee for actions as needed.

71 - 14

President Cater will handle.

71 - 15

President Cater appointed a Uniform Committee consisting of Dick Brock, Ken E. Martin, Harold Bradshaw and Dick Johnson. He requested that the committee report back in 90 days.

GEC Committee

Clyde Strickler reported that after visiting sites in Santa Cruz, Los Banos and the Bay area he felt that the best offer was made by the Oakland Hilton. The room rates would be \$17 for a single and \$21 for a double. Since they have an orchestra playing on Saturday nights we would not need to hire an orchestra. It was felt that with the savings on the orchestra and increased exhibitors that we should have in the Bay Area that the association could underwrite about \$5 on the cost of the rooms. This would make the room rate \$12 for a single and \$16 for a double. There would be no charge for children under 12.

Adjourned for lunch at 1200.

President Cater called the afternoon session to order at 1300.

1972 GEC

The Oakland Convention Bureau and the Hilton hotel people made a presentation on their convention facilities. After a discussion of our convention needs, minimum fees, etc. it was decided that the Oakland Hilton would be the location for the 1972 GEC to be held on March 9, 10 and 11.

The possibility of selling adds in our GEC program was discussed at considerable length. It was decided that Dana Long would obtain information from a printer regarding printing costs, size of adds, etc. and send same to all Regional Directors. Each Director will then try to sell \$1,000 worth of advertising.

President Cater appointed the following committees.

Transfer Committee Bob Allen, chairman - Dick Johnson, Charlie Cline.

Publicity Committee All Alternate Regional Directors.

Committee to prepare press releases on CSPRA activities and provide family and social news for Reporter.

Alternate Regional Directors are to prepare articles for Reporter on the following schedule:

Region I and IV July, October and January.

Region II, V and VII May, August, November and February.

Region III and VI June, September, December and March.

Retirement of Health Committee Bob Stewart, chairman - Dick Menefee

Committee to investigate health insurance plans and safety retirement status.

Committee to Maintain Contact with Retired Members. Jerry Johnson, chairman - Darrel Knoefler

Committee to Provide Liaison between CSPRA and CSEA Vice-President, chairman
1 member appointed by each Regional Director.

Honorary Member Committee. Earl Hanson, chairman - chairman to appoint other members.

Better Ranger Committee Dick Mc Killop, chairman - chairman to appoint other members.

Environmental Problems Committee Al Salzgeber, chairman - Gar Salzgeber

NEW BUSINESS

President Cater received a letter from CSEA regarding complaints from Rangers that they were supervised by maintenance supervisors in the absence of the area Manager and Chief of Visitor Services and that they were assigned maintenance duties by the maintenance supervisor. CSEA asked if CSPRA had any feelings about the situation and if we wanted to take a stand on the division of labor between the maintenance series and Ranger series.

It was decided that President Cater would reply that we were interested in the problem, if one exists, and just what the problem is. Letter to Wes follows:

Dear Wes:

It has been brought to our attention that some individuals in the maintenance series at the supervisory level have been supervising park rangers in the absence of area managers and supervising park rangers. It also appears to be a rather common practice for maintenance supervisors to assign maintenance duties to park rangers when the maintenance supervisors are in charge of the park.

We have a number of rangers who are unhappy with this situation and have asked us to seek relief.

Do you have any feelings about this issue or do you think CSPRA may want to take a stand on the division of labor between the new maintenance series and the park rangers series.

Sincerely

Donald B. Cardno, Employee Relations Division

Rodger Kellogg read a letter from Carl Chavez regarding mountain rescue training he had received from the NPS. It was decided that President Cater would write a letter to the Department of Parks and Recreation requesting mountain rescue training be given to the Ranger Trainees.

Jerry Johnson read a letter from Clyde Newlin to Jack Knight proposing a Ranger Hall of Fame. Letter follows

District 3

So many of our State Park Rangers, retired and on duty, have done outstanding things and have been cited by top level administrators for their work over and above the call of duty and have received awards. It was a thought of ours that we should have, somewhere in the Department of Parks and Recreation, a Hall of Fame for these people.

There also should be, if at all possible, a pictorial record of the Directors, Chiefs and Rangers who have worked for the Division and then the Department since its inception and have retired or who have passed on. I don't feel that this picture record should include people who have resigned or who have left for other reasons. It is my feeling this Hall of Fame should record those people who were career Rangers and who have done outstanding work or have been cited for good, faithful service.

One suggestion for this Hall of Fame at this time would be to place it in the main halls of the 14th floor of the Resources Building where all visitors could see it. If a room could be made available on the 14th floor then it could be devoted to the written and pictorial portion. This would keep the material together. Possibly at some later date, it may be more advantageous to put the whole of this program in some location such as a special structure in or around Sacramento.

Clyde L. Newlin

Superintendent, District 3

Jerry said that Jack Knight felt that CSPRA should take this on as a project. President Cater referred the proposal to Ed Earl to work on.

New Business Contd.

Dana Long made a motion that we send a \$50 gift certificate to Dick Mc Hillop as recommended by GEC. Schlerf seconded. Carried.

Meeting adjourned at 15:45.

Dear Neil:

Wes Cater has appointed me chairman of the committee to screen candidates for the "Honorary" ranger award and to report, through President Cater, to the regional directors recommendations for the award in 1972. He asked me to prepare a brief for the Reporter so that appropriate data may be presented to our committee for review.

"An Honorary member may be any person who, for distinguished service devoted to the objectives of the association, is nominated by a member of any membership class and approved by a two-thirds vote of the Board."

Criteria for consideration of a candidate was published in the December 15, 1970 issue of the "Reporter" and I would appreciate it if you would arrange to have the four Roman-numeraled criteria from that issue reproduced in the "Reporter" soon.

The criteria for consideration of a candidate for the designation of Honorary Ranger shall be as follows:

- I. The individual shall have contributed in an outstanding or extraordinary manner, or to an unusual degree, to the advancement of the State Park concept, the profession of State Park Ranger, public service within the State Parks, or in the field of ecology as it affects the Park System or the public use of parks.
- II. This service or action is to be beyond that in which the individual would normally have accomplished as a part of his job or responsibility.
- III. The service may not necessarily be of State or National importance, but it is to be judged on its own merit and degree of contribution.
- IV. Normally, the recommendation would be made during the person's lifetime.

letter contd.

Later, an application form may be considered. A letter containing essential data about a candidate is adequate now. It should include, name, mailing address and telephone number of the nominee, date and place of birth, education and/or background of service, and the specific accomplishments that the writer believes qualifying for the "Honorary" award. The writer should sign with his address and telephone number included and the names of any other members who endorse the nominee. Letters may be mailed to Earl Hanson, at any time, but may not be accepted after December 1, 1971. It will be helpful if a recent snapshot of the individual nominee is presented along with any published data about his or her services or accomplishments.

Ree and I are leaving today for a month-long tour of Columbia, Peru, Ecuador and Guatemala, sandwiching in a ten-day visit with our daughter Barbara, her agronomist husband, Chuck and our two grandsons, Todd 3 and Karen 1 year. We'll return about July 4 and hope that, by then, the fireworks will be in celebration of Independence Day and not in protest by "independants".

Warm regards
Earl P. Hanson
2600 Verna Way
Sacramento, Calif. 95821

THE PAPERWORK BLUES

By D. A. Knoefler

It's the first of the month and we've got the blues.
Just look at the forms that we have to use!
They're in triplicate, quadruplicate, plus many more.
And it makes one wonder what all they are for.

Some are on people and some about sales.
Some are on money and what it entails.
How many were campers, did you turn some away?
How many brought dogs and what did they pay?

The vehicle logs must be all up to date.
The reports of deposit must never be late.
Were all the men working and what did they do.
The figures should balance, so I'm feeling blue.

The figures we give, the computers reject.
We are only Rangers, what do they expect.
So we do 'em again, right then and there.
We even act happy, sometimes we don't swear.

And then comes the clincher that drives us to tears -
The forms that will haunt us the following years.
Those cussed, those blasted, those darned 202's.
Everyone here has THE PAPERWORK BLUES.

A smog dictionary

"The Smog Fighter's Dictionary," a 16-page glossary published by the Automobile Club of Southern California, carries a fair statement of its purpose and worth:

"Much confusion exists in the public mind not only about smog itself, but also about words and terms associated with it.... If we more clearly understand the language of smog, we will more clearly understand the enemy itself. Thus armed, we will be in a better position to discuss it, think about it — and defeat it."

Here is an illustration. "Inversion" in Merriam-Websters unabridged is defined as: "A reversal of normal atmospheric gradient."

Now try the Smogfighter's Dictionary and you find: "Inversion Layer — A blanket of warm air which acts as 'lid' over the Los Angeles Basin. This lid holds polluted air close to the ground, below the surrounding hills and mountains. When sunlight penetrates the lid, it reacts with pollutants to form what is known as photochemical smog."

Clearer, isn't it?

WOULD YOU REPEAT THAT, PLEASE

Injury producing accidents, as well as other problems, frequently occur as a result of failure to communicate or to understand verbal directives. An example illustrating a complete breakdown in communications was read by Mr. Joseph M. Kaplan, Executive Vice President, Greater Los Angeles Chapter, National Safety Council, at the Western Safety Congress held in Los Angeles last year. His illustration, which will mean much to those with military background, is as follows:

OPERATION HALLEY'S COMET

COLONEL ISSUED THE FOLLOWING DIRECTIVE TO HIS EXECUTIVE OFFICERS:

"Tomorrow evening at approximately 2000 hours Halley's Comet will be visible in this area, an event which occurs only once every 75 years. Have the men fall out in the battalion area in fatigues, and I will explain this rare phenomenon to them. In case of rain, we will not be able to see anything, so assemble the men in the theater and I will show them films of it."

EXECUTIVE OFFICER TO COMPANY COMMANDER:

"By order of the Colonel, tomorrow at 2000 hours, Halley's Comet will appear above the battalion area. If it rains, fall the men out in fatigues, then march to the theater where the rare phenomenon will take place, something which occurs only once every 75 years."

COMPANY COMMANDER TO LIEUTENANT:

"By order of the Colonel in fatigues at 2000 hours tomorrow evening, the phenomenal Halley's Comet will appear in the theater. In case of rain, in the battalion area, the Colonel will give another order, something which occurs once every 75 years."

LIEUTENANT TO SERGEANT:

"Tomorrow at 2000 hours, the Colonel will appear in the theater with Halley's Comet, something which happens every 75 years if it rains, the Colonel will order the Comet into the battalion area."

SERGEANT TO SQUAD:

"When it rains tomorrow at 2000 hours, the phenomenal 75-year old General Halley, accompanied by the Colonel, will drive his Comet through the battalion area theater in fatigues."

Lately we have been hearing more and more about improving the relationships we have with our local communities. Great, I'm all for it. I feel we should become involved both as Park Rangers and as neighbors. In my personal opinion, one of the main things holding us back in the communities is our lack of participation in volunteer fire departments and ambulance corps. The general understanding is that this type of effort is an incompatible activity.

Many of our Parks are next to small communities and we rely upon them for emergency services. As a rule, they respond immediately and with competence. These services are supported entirely by the community and in most cases are manned by volunteers.

Is it right to ask these people to leave their jobs, their businesses, their homes and their families and respond to a Park emergency, when the Park Rangers are not allowed to assist them when they need help outside the Park?

I fully understand the Parks agreement with the Division of Forestry, and how, through mutual aid agreements, fire protection responsibility is passed down to the nearest fire department to the Park. This policy does not seem at all realistic when applied to a small volunteer fire department.

The Park Rangers are highly qualified to assist in any emergency. Among their qualifications are, first aide training, basic law enforcement knowledge, fire fighting skills, search and rescue and many individual specialized skills. Our uniform suits us well to act as traffic directors at the scene of an emergency and being peace officers we are qualified to drive an ambulance.

There is more to contributing to a community than giving them a free talk. This just represents the Department. Before we can get on good firm ground with our neighbors we have to show them that we can give as well as take.

Robert A Justice
Ranger I
Delta Area

MOUNTAIN LION'S LAST CHANCE

Would you like to help preserve and protect the Mountain Lion in California? Support Assembly Bill 660.

The mountain lion, one of the most controversial and magnificent animals in North America, is dangerously close to extinction. The Department of Fish & Game reports that the number of Mountain lions or cougars in California is 600. But they have cited that figure since 1919. Despite the more than 12,000 bounties that have been paid and the lion's drastically reduced wilderness habitat, we are asked to believe that the mountain lion population has remained stable. And even if there are 600 lions in the State, they may not survive much longer. Lions have disappeared from 26 counties and declined as much as 95% (in reported kills) in counties only recently noted for large lion numbers.

Lions prey primarily on deer and rodents, helping to maintain the balance of nature by keeping deer and rodent populations in check. Healthy, wild mountain lions are not dangerous to man. Depredations on livestock are not a serious problem. Livestock interests are not opposed to AB-660.

Wildlife belongs to all of us, mountain lions must be preserved for future generations to admire. AB-660 places a 4-year moratorium on hunting while the Fish & Game Department ascertains the number of mountain lions remaining in California.

AB-660 has been approved by the Assembly and the first senate committee and is awaiting a hearing by the Senate Finance committee. This hearing will take place within the next two weeks.

Write or call our district Senator - Stephen Teale, Vice-Chairman, Senate Finance Committee, c/o State Capitol, Sacramento, California. Urge him to vote for the preservation of the mountain lion.

COALITION TO SAVE THE CALIFORNIA MOUNTAIN LION
2303 Grant Street, Berkeley, California.

Governor Reagan Asking Support For Golden Poppy

Governor Ronald Reagan has asked Californians to help save the state flower - the golden poppy.

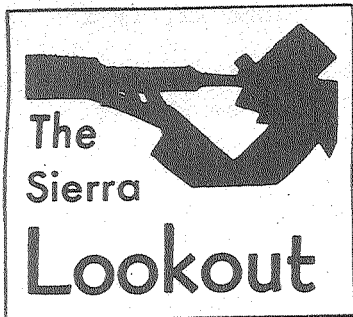
"... there are only a few areas left where ... the golden poppy still flourishes in sizeable displays," Reagan said.

"The California State Parks Foundation needs help to save one of the largest and most beautiful of these areas, some 700 acres in Los Angeles County's Antelope Valley," the governor said.

"They hope to buy this for the state park system as California's first state wildflower preserve," Reagan said.

Reagan urged citizens to help by sending contributions to the California State Parks Foundation, 315 Montgomery Street, San Francisco 94104.

The foundation estimates \$5 will buy 300 square feet and \$625 will save an acre.



SOME BIG changes have taken place on the forest since I last saw Smokey Bear.

Like entry permits for the primitive area and a highway checking station and litterbug undercover agents masquerading as fishermen.

So a trip into the forest to interview Smokey seemed appropriate at this time.

* * *
SMOKEY was not easy to find.

If my suspicions hadn't been aroused by a manzanita bush that kept darting across the trail, I might still be looking.

Even after I had a grip on the manzanita, I couldn't be sure. The bear behind it wore dark glasses. That sharply-creased hat was now rumpled and pulled down over his eyes.

Q---Is that you, Smokey Bear?

A---Shhhhhh. Not so loud, and stop calling me Smokey.

Q---But don't you want everyone to see you so you can warn them about fires, and why not call you Smokey?

A---You're living in the past, man. Don't you know I've been restructured in the light of contemporary ecological considerations...

Q---What about...?

A---Security, man, that's what it's all about today. The fragile balance of nature must be protected against man's invasion of the wilderness...

Q---I see. And are those nature books you're carrying, Smokey?

A---No, no. This big book is permit forms---in triplicate. Then I have the citation forms, of course, and the book of regulations, the forest directives, the federal statutes, the receipt forms.

Q---What else do you have there?

A---Well, there's my walkie-talkie which keeps me in touch with the trail guards, wilderness entry stations and forest headquarters. Then there's my tape recorder, fingerprint set, blood analysis kit...

Q---I see you have your fishing outfit, too.

A---You are out of it, aren't you? That's my telephoto camera, especially designed for collecting evidence on mountain lakes.

Q---You certainly are well equipped.

A---It's essential these days. How else could we protect the unparalleled freedom of the granite summits, retain the placid solitude of alpine lakes, preserve the majestic serenity of piney forests? This is man's last sanctuary from...

Q---But if it's bugged, patrolled and regulated, Smokey, isn't there danger of destroying what you're trying to protect?

A---Say, how did you get into the forest anyway? You got a permit to be here, boy? How long you figure on staying? How'd you sneak by our check station?

Q---But Smokey...

A---And knock off that Smokey bit. I'm the new Snooper Bear and I intend to preserve the peace and freedom of this here forest---even if I have to arrest you to do it.

"I find the great thing in this world is not so much where we stand as in what direction we are moving... We must sail sometimes with the wind and sometimes against it. But we must sail, and not drift, nor lie in anchor."

--Oliver Wendell Holmes

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