



REPORTER



VOLUME VI - NUMBER 11

OROVILLE, CALIFORNIA

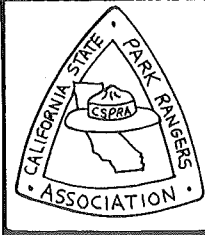
DECEMBER, 1974



california state park rangers association REPORTER

VOLUME VI - NUMBER 11

DECEMBER, 1974

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President's Message

RIGHT ON TARGET!

A story was told once about a man riding through a large ranch when he began to see neatly painted targets on trees, fences, barns, fence posts - everywhere. In the very center of each bulls eye on each target was one bullet hole. Dead center on every target. He soon met a man on the trail and asked him about the targets. "They're mine" replied the man. How in the world did you manage to place the bullet so accurately in the center of each target he was asked. "Easy" replied the man. "Shot first then painted the target around the hole!"

How often we repeat the feat of the man in the story. We cast about and by a combination of circumstances create or produce an end product. We pat ourselves on the back and say: "Look there - dead center on target!" In these days of ever increasing work loads, multiplying complexities of life and job and endless delays and interferences it becomes increasingly tempting to draw a target around anything we accomplish and say: "dead center".

In this regard I have always admired people who have lofty goals. When they paint their targets first and then shoot for the center they have made a commitment to reach a stated goal.

At our last GEC Jack Welch stated in his President's message "CSPRA has reached a point where it must adopt a more organized and structured approach, where it must more clearly define its objectives, where it must establish and live by firm policies, and where it must set definite programs of priority goals". At the first Board Meeting after GEC last year I placed a challenge before your Regional Directors and the membership at large. I desired to set a course of participation, contribution and direction for CSPRA. I looked for each member to participate, contribute and have a part in determining the direction of the organization.

PAINTED TARGETS

I feel that your Regional Directors have met the challenge by increasing Region meetings, getting out and boosting participation in projects and keeping everyone informed. Membership participation has improved but I feel there is unlimited potential yet to be reached.

We have painted a few targets this last year and hit them dead center. Jerry Henderson's 1974 Bond Program Committee is one good example. The 1975 GEC is drawing near. Be thinking about other targets we can paint and set our sights on the coming year. If you will help set the goals you have a hard working Board of Directors capable of putting the machinery in motion to get the job done.

Last issue of the REPORTER I had an item about the social aspect of CSPRA. Unfortunately on the way to the printer a paragraph was dropped. Permit me some publishers license by allowing me to repeat a paragraph from

Continued on page 5.

CHILD OF THE UNIVERSE

A hike in the moonlight through the wilderness with no one saying a word. Gaining 6000 feet in elevation, passing through 5 major life zones, going from the hot, dry desert to a cool forested valley -- all in 15 minutes. An evening program for backpackers -- without slides or electricity.

Mt. San Jacinto State Park is a perfect laboratory for interpretation which provides unique opportunities both for the park visitors and for the rangers. The center of the interpretive in the summer is the evening program. In Idyllwild, park headquarters, programs of songs and slide talks are offered for the vehicle campers. In Round Valley, the largest of the park's wilderness campgrounds, the setting is quite different. The lack of electricity enables us to present a different type of program to the backpackers who camp there. We relate Cahuilla Indian legends, sing songs, expound on the ethics of wilderness behavior, tell of our experiences, and recount historical tales of the mountain.

MOONLIGHT HIKES

After the evening program, if the moon is at least half-full, we may take a hike where no talking or flashlights are allowed. Last summer, on a moonlight hike, one elderly couple made it all the way to San Jacinto Peak and back -- a round trip of 7 miles. The ranger who accompanied them did not get to bed until 4 o'clock the next morning. This summer we had one group reserve a weekend to camp when the moon would be full just so they could go on the moonlight hike. They had been told about it by the elderly couple from the previous summer. It's great to listen to and watch the moonlit night.

Our self-guiding nature is also unusual. Rather than list the names of different plants one observes along the trail, its purpose is to promote awareness on the part of the visitor -- awareness of the changes that occur along the trail; awareness of sensory perceptions; and awareness of oneself. The guide begins, "You are a child of the universe. You have a right to be here." It also asks the visitor questions,

Continued on page 4, col. 3.

THE NIGHT BEFORE CHRISTMAS

Written by John and Cathy Hart while stationed in the Anza-Borrego Area. *gm*

'Twas the night before Christmas, when all through the park
Not a kit fox was stirring, it was quiet and dark.

The campfire was lit by the Ranger with care,
In hopes that St. Nicholas soon would be there.

The road runners were nested, snug in their beds
While visions of lizards danced through their heads.

The Ranger in the kiosk and I in my Jeep
Had just settled down for a short desert sleep.

When out in the campground there arose such a clatter,
I sprang from my truck to see what was the matter.

Away through the campground I flew like a flash,
Knocked over the garbage and fell in the trash.

The moon on the crest of the mountains with snow
Gave a luster of midday to the desert below.

When what to my wondering eyes should I see,
But a wagon and mules coming toward me.

With a little old driver so lively and quick,
I knew in a moment it must be that desert pack rat St. Nick.

More rapid than eagles his mules they came,
And he whistled, and shouted, and called them by name.

Now Dasher, now Dancer, now Prancer, now Vixen!
On, Comet, on Cupid, on Donner, and Blitzen!

To the top of the kiosk, to the top of the wall!
Now dash away, dash away, dash away all!

As sand that before the wild dust devils fly,
When it meets with an obstacle and mounts to the sky

So into the campground the mules they flew,
With the wagon of joys, and St. Nicholas too.

He was dressed in red khaki from his head to his knees,
And his clothes were all dusty from the hot desert breeze.

He reached over his shoulder and into his pack,
Pulled out some weenies for a quick midnight snack.

With many a gift he had stuffed in his sack,
He looked like a sour dough miner carrying his pack.

His eyes how they squinted, his face was so simple,
From his sunburned forehead to his sand filled dimple.

His droll little mouth was dry as a bone.
Wheezing and choking he started to groan.

Grabbing up his canteen to quench his thirst,
He drank and he drank 'till I thought he would burst.

His belly was so big and his face was so dry,
That I wondered to myself how he flew through the sky.

He had a red nose and a double chin
That warbled when he laughed like it had been blown by the wind.

He said not a word, not even a noise,
But gave each and every campsite a bag full of joys.

Cactus, creosote, and sand all aglitter,
He gave the gift of the desert to each little critter.

Then he sprang to his wagon, to his mules gave a whistle,
And away they all plodded, dodging the thistle.

But I did hear him say as he drove out of sight
Happiness to you all, for Jesus was born on this night.

FEATURED OPINION

" LET'S ENCOURAGE ENVIRONMENTALLY RESPONSIBLE RECREATION "

It seems to me that the various types of recreation can be categorized according to the effect each one has on the environment. At the positive end of things would be those recreational pursuits which pollute and consume the least. The negative end would include those which recklessly consume and pollute....those types of recreation in which the participants must "destroy to enjoy".

The latest statistics on the energy and resource supply prospects for the United States show that conservation measures are a must unless we wish to consume ourselves into disaster. Therefore, it seems clear that our department has a moral and even patriotic obligation to encourage nonconsumptive types of recreation and to actively discourage environmentally irresponsible ones. Let me be specific.

NON-CONSUMPTIVE RECREATION

Hiking, bicycling, backpacking and canoeing are examples of relatively non-consumptive and non-polluting types of recreation. Sure, resources are used in the initial manufacture of equipment items used. However, once manufactured the equipment will last a lifetime with proper care. The activities themselves are good for the body and good for the soul. They are activities which foster an appreciation for the intrinsic values of the land.... the same values which inspired the creation of the state park system in the first place.

Dune buggying, dirt biking, power boat racing and snow mobiling are examples of totally consumptive and polluting recreational activities. Raw materials are consumed in the manufacture of the vehicles involved and large amounts of fuel are used in their operation. They cause air, noise, and visual pollution. They irreparably scar the landscape in areas in which they operate and the vehicles present disposal problems as they fall apart and are abandoned. It might be argued that participation in these activities provides a needed psychological release for the people involved. In my opinion this type of psychological release is not worthy of encouraging, and I use as corroboration for my position the crime and accident statistics associated with off road vehicle use at Pismo Beach. In short, I can see no redeeming value of any

Continued on page 6, col. 1.

AFFIRMATIVE ACTION PROGRAM

PART II by ROBERT DUTRA

Operations Division employees have been very supportive of the Affirmative Action Program and have achieved some very encouraging results, particularly in the area of seasonal hiring.

So that all employees are aware of the extent of the Affirmative Action Program, and so you can answer questions about the program, summarized below are some of the major activities and goals of the Program.


1. Concessions - The Affirmative Action Section works with the Concessions Division to provide an equal opportunity for minorities to get concessions contracts in State Park units. This includes identifying minority potential concessionaires to receive notices of concessions opportunities.
2. Local jurisdictions - The Affirmative Action Section works with all local jurisdictions receiving Federal Land and Water Conservation Fund grants to build recreation facilities to ensure that they comply with federal affirmative action requirements. We also follow-up on federal audits of local jurisdictions to see that discrepancies are corrected.
3. Career Opportunity Development (COD) - The Affirmative Action Section Generally administers and monitors the COD Program while working with Area Managers and immediate supervisors. We assist wherever needed in smoothing out paperwork problems, etc. This program helps to get Welfare recipients off of welfare and into permanent full-time employment.
4. Seasonal Hiring - The goal of the Departmental Affirmative Action Hiring Program is to increase our minority seasonal hiring by 3% per year from a starting point of 8%, until we reach 26%. This year's goal was 11%, next year's goal for the 1975 season will be 14%. This is the area where the local supervisors have had the most direct impact on the program. The Operations Division did an outstanding job during the 1974 summer season in fully meeting our goals. It is particularly desirable wherever possible to hire minority college students since they are potential competitors for permanent jobs with the Department, such as State



Park Ranger Trainee. The Affirmative Action Section's role is to assist areas in finding minority applicants when they experience any recruiting difficulties and to monitor the program in order to provide feedback to top management.

5. Permanent Recruiting - Since we are under Civil Service, this really involves getting people to take examinations for Departmental jobs. We have established working relationships with most college placement centers in California. The Affirmative Action Section also maintains a card file of interested minority candidates and will notify them whenever a particular examination is scheduled. This is where field employees can, again, have a big impact on the Program. If you run across qualified minority candidates when a particular examination is not currently scheduled, get their name and address and the class title they are interested in, and send it to the Affirmative Action Section so we can add them to our notification list.
6. Training - A basic beginning has been made on an Affirmative Action training program for Departmental employees with the initiation of a four-hour race relations course in connection with peace officer training at Asilomar. We hope to refine this course further and add others as well.
7. Helping the Department adjust its ongoing programs to comply with new laws and court interpretations. For example, working with Operations Division and Headquarters personnel to implement the Dymally-Alatorre Bi-lingual Act, which became effective January 1, 1974.

In summary, the Affirmative Action Program involves all aspects of the Department's activities and all employees of the Department. The Department expects each employee to fully support the Affirmative Action Program. In adopting the program, the Department is not trying to tell individual employees how they must feel about certain people, or that everyone must love everyone else. We are saying, however, that as employees of the Department, and particularly as tax supported government employees, our on-the-job actions and decisions must reflect Departmental

policy and the law of the land. I am sure that for most employees the Affirmative Action Program of the Department presents no internal conflicts.

If anyone has any further questions, comments, or suggestions about the program, the Affirmative Action Section would appreciate hearing from you. 

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CHILD OF THE UNIVERSE

Cont. from page 2.

such as "If you were to build a hotel or restaurant or road here, what part of the beauty here would you choose to destroy?" Hopefully, the park visitor will become aware of things and ask himself questions that are not mentioned on the trail guide. In addition to the self-guiding trail, we also offer ranger-led nature walks in the wilderness.

Another unique experience is the Palm Springs Aerial Tramway, which carries people from the desert to the edge of the mountain wilderness of the park. For all its drawbacks, the tram does offer a great opportunity to observe the dramatic change of life zones on the eastern slope of Mt. San Jacinto. Our school-year interpretation is geared largely towards the schools of the Coachella Valley desert. This year we are initiating a two-part program. The first part we spend with the kids at their school, orienting them to outdoor education and helping them take a closer look at their desert surroundings. Next, they ride up the tram and spend time in the mountains. Of course, some of the differences between the desert and the forest are obvious. We help point out less obvious differences, plus many of the similarities, and the reasons for both.

It's an exciting, beautiful place to be an interpreter. Only by making people aware of the beauty of their surroundings can we enlist them to help preserve the environment.

/s/ David Van Cleve
Environmental Issues
Committee

President's Message -Continued

last issue and add the lost one to complete the thought.

Recent letter from Past President Al Salzgeber echoed something I have been seeking since taking office. Member participation and communication. CSPRA is a professional organization, but also an organization with social importance among its members. Al's specific point was about a retirement party for a CSPRA member. There were many expressions of farewell, but none from CSPRA.

LET'S HONOR OUR RETIRING MEMBERS

If we are to honor our retiring members, we need your participation. As President I am not personally acquainted with all 500 members of the Association. For me to prepare a personal letter from CSPRA for a retiring member or a note of sympathy to a bereaved member, I need your help. This facet of our Association is as important as our professional goals. Please communicate these needs to me directly or through your Regional Director.

The new grooming standards are a hot topic of conversation right now. Some people are cheering, some are predicting the sky will fall. I look at the new standards as a challenge. These standards grant a new dimension of freedom never available before. Can our people carry the responsibility of such a freedom? I believe they can. We may face a few rough spots along the way but I believe in the end the freedom will not be abused. I believe that those whose ideas are liberal will moderate and those whose ideas are conservative will accept change. If we keep our ultimate goal of public service uppermost in our thinking and deliberations, grooming will not become a problem and will find its own level of acceptance.

CSPRA

Honorary Lifetime Membership Nominations

WHO?

"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." Section 6, Article 4 of the Constitution of C.S.P.R.A.

HOW?

By placing in nomination a person whose distinguished services meet the following criteria:

- 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 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.

WHAT?

Compose a letter, including the name, address and telephone number of the person, the date and place of his birth, the educational and/or service background and listing the specific accomplishments which you believe qualifies him, or her for the Honorary Lifetime Membership.

WHEN?

NOW, complete and sign, along with other participating members, the letter, or letters, of nomination and mail to Ron McCullough at 6290 Edgewood way, Sacramento, California 95677. Nominations received later than January 1, will not be considered for that year's award.

DO IT EARLY!

COVER PHOTO: La Purisma Mission as photographed by District IV Interpretive Specialist, Dick McKillop.

E.I.C. REPORTS

BY BILL KRUMBEIN

Minneapolis News

If we looked at today's world with only 100 people, there would be 70 who would be able to read, one who would have a college education, 50 who would be suffering from malnutrition, and 80 who would be living in what we call substandard housing. If we looked at this global village of 100 people, we would find that six would be Americans who have the villages entire income, and 94 people would exist on the other half.

Environment Action Bulletin

The Air Force is reviving its plan to sell 2.3 million gallons of dioxin-contaminated Agent Orange, an herbicide left over from the Vietnam War, to U.S. highway departments, farmers or whoever, the Washington Post reports. The Air Force claims it can't find any dioxin contamination effects. But we remember the recent story where dioxin hospitalized two children, killed 54 horses and possibly thousands of small mammals in Missouri. Let's complain to our Congressmen on this one, for sure.

The Army doesn't intend to file an environmental impact statement on its decision to kill 14 million blackbirds -- two percent of the nation's total -- by spraying them with wetting agents this winter, after which they'll die of exposure. The Army maintains there'll be no
Continued on page 6, col. 2.

KOLB KOMMENTS

Have you ever run across newspaper "fillers" such as the following: More than 200 million tire casings are discarded each year in the U. S. according to the Tire Retread Information Bureau. That's enough to circle the earth four times at the equator. It takes 7 gallons of oil to produce an average auto tire but only 2½ gallons to retread a recycled casing.

The CSPRA Inc (Interpretive Needs Committee) would like to help you develop more interesting programs that can relate to the visitor's experience. When you run across "fillers" or any similar info, send it (and the source) to the Committee. We can start by printing them in the Reporter. If there is enough interest, we may create our own circulation system. Send your items to any Committee member or to John Kolb 400 Grove Acre Ave, Pacific Grove, Ca. 93950.

"RESPONSIBLE RECREATION,"
kind in these types of recreation.

I recommend that as this year's G.E.C. we pass a resolution asking our department to refrain from designating any more units or parts of units as suitable for use by off road vehicles and power boat racing. And, we should further resolve to recommend that the department eliminate these activities from existing units of the state park system. A resolution of this nature will be forthcoming from Region III. I invite your comment.

/s/ Jeff Jones

Editor's Note: The above is a letter to the Editor of the Reporter and does not necessarily reflect the official position of G.S.P.R.A.

Mailbox

Dear Lloyd:

I'm helping Marty Kania plan activities for the ladies for GEC in March. Thought it would be interesting if while we were all together we could share with each other the specialties of our present park. We could tell the exciting aspects of living in an outpost or Redwood park - all our parks have some outstanding point of interest, or it wouldn't be a state park. So, Ladies, please take a couple of slides of your park and bring it to GEC to show the rest of us. We might live there someday too and it will help us know what to look forward to. Be proud of your park!

/s/ Cathy Hart

Photo Freaks!

Fun and Fortune!

Announcing a contest will be part of G.E.C. All you need to know now is that your entries must be taken within the boundaries of a state park by a state park employee, and be color slides. (This medium was chosen since we do work with 35mm color slides as a job requirement for campfire programs.) Watch for the next issue of the Reporter for rules, prizes, etc!

EVENTS CALENDER

January-Written resolutions for consideration at GEC must be delivered to Executive Secretary within first week.

E.I.C. Reports, cont.

significant environmental impact. Such assurance is rejected by the Environmental Defense Fund, which says it'll take the Army to court if it doesn't follow the law in preparing an impact statement.

Plastics industries are fighting new safety rules to protect vinyl chloride workers, who are showing up with alarming rates of rare liver cancer. One official called the standards, "economically unrealistic, technically unfeasible, politically motivated and medically ridiculous." Another said it puts the industry on a collision course with economic disaster and throws two million jobs down the drain. We have a suggestion: Pipe the air from the workers' area into the executive suite. There's nothing to worry about, right?

* * * * *

From Project Flash

MCA -- The Music Corporation of America, has bought out the original concessionaire at Yosemite, the Curry Company. What do they plan for Yosemite? Two golf courses, a new hotel on Glacier Point, a nightclub, 400 new hotel units, a convention center, a tramway going from the valley to Glacier point, a ski area are but a few examples. Indicate your dissatisfaction with the excessive development in Yosemite. Express disapproval of the development plans of MCA regarding plans to bring more people to Yosemite by building more facilities. Send to: Superintendent Leslie Arnberger, Yosemite National Park, CA 95389.

G.E.C. Tantalizer

Are you getting your stuff together for G.E.C. in March? Saving your loose change? Planning and dreaming of the sun-drenched shores of San Diego? Good! Keep it up! Plans are taking shape. We are definitely staying at delightful Vacation Village on Mission Bay. They are printing up new brochures and I hope to get them out to you in early January so that you can have plenty of time to drool. Reservation cards will be sent out at that time, too. The only real snag so far is trying to narrow down the multitudinous activities available for wives and families. It would be helpful if you ladies who have very explicit desires would indicate them to me as soon as possible. A shopping trip to Tijuana? Luncheon on the harbor cruise? A tour of Old Town with lunch and shopping at exciting Bazaar Del Mundo? A drive across the spectacular bay bridge to the jewel city of Coronado with shopping in the unique stores there and lunch at legendary Hotel Del Coronado? You see my problem? Of course tennis, golf, swimming, boating, hiking bicycle rentals, shuffle board badminton, table tennis and horse-shoes are all available right at Vacation Village. There's even a fenced children's playground! So please, if you feel very strongly for or against any particular planned activity, let me know soon. It is the sincere wish of all of us that your G.E.C. experience in San Diego will be an unforgettable pleasure.

Marty Kania
G.E.C. Chairman

Association Membership: **ACTIVE:** current or retired, permanent or permanent intermittent employees of Dept. of Parks & Recreation of State Park Ranger or State Park Maintenance classes. **ASSOCIATE:** permanent or retired employees of the Dept. of Parks & Recreation in classes not eligible for active membership. **SUPPORTING:** any interested person not eligible for active or associate membership. **HONORARY:** distinguished person nominated by a member and approved by Board.

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First Class

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