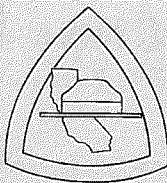


CALIFORNIA RANGER®

ISSUE NO. 5



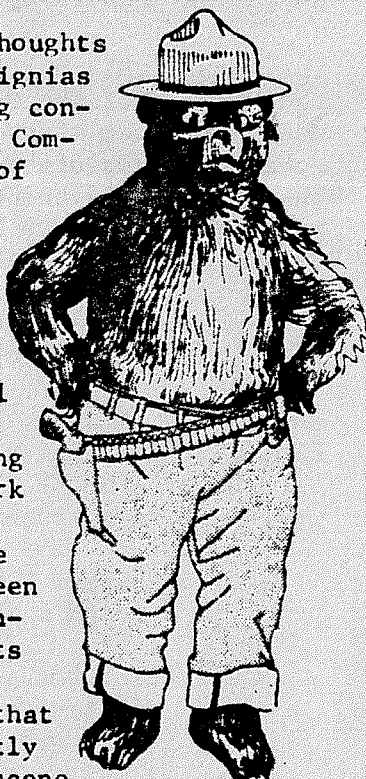
MAY 1980

INSIGNIA NEED QUESTIONED

by Jeff Jones

I wish to express my thoughts regarding the rank insignias (no pun intended) being considered by the Uniform Committee. I disapprove of the adoption of such insignias for the following reasons:

1) They serve no useful purpose. I understand proponents of the idea say it will assist allied agency personnel in identifying the highest ranking park employee at accident, fire, search and rescue scenes, etc. I have been present and actively involved in many incidents of the aforementioned nature and have found that rank has nothing directly to do with who on the scene is best trained and best informed about the particular circumstance. As a matter of fact, the highest ranking individual usually knows the least. This is not necessarily from a lack of ability, but rather because field personnel are most often first on the scene and are most familiar with such details as terrain, immediate manpower availability, emergency services and the nature of the incident. (Perhaps we only need one insignia to designate Ranger I's and Lifeguard I's !)



2) I have never experienced any significant "WHO'S IN CHARGE HERE?" problem. Perhaps I've been fortunate in working with people who are relatively secure in their abilities and who have a good working relationship with allied agencies with concurrent jurisdiction and with each other.

3) The insignias encourage a military and police consciousness which does not work to the Department or public's benefit. We are not a military or police organization.

Certainly there are elements of these two types of organizations within our jobs. And, of course we should perform the enforcement function effectively. But, a Lifeguard's and especially a Ranger's job is a unique combination of many disciplines. Overemphasis of one aspect of the job can have a detrimental effect on the others and does subtly but surely affect the employee's public image and the employee's image of her/himself.

I hope the Uniform Committee will accept these thoughts and accept my thanks for their consideration and overall efforts.*

From Under My !



by Chris Bowman

As a park maintenance worker at Coe Park, I have occasion to observe the fascinating territorial behavior of homo sapiens. As the fox, mountain lion, or bobcat, the human must stake his claim when he visits the park. Man, however, eschews scat in favor of cigarette butts, which more readily identify the type of person who leaves them.

A Marlboro, for example, is usually stomped flat by a boot heel, indicating the virile macho man who smokes them. A Virginia Slims is often accompanied by the tell - tale smear of lipstick, the mark of a woman who has come a long way. Spots of blood may garnish the Taryton, an indication of a person who would rather fight than switch. And of course the Camel is left by the man who is one of a kind.

Some may still regard the behavior I have described as thoughtless acts of littering which detract from the beauty of the park, but I hope most will now see that the tossing of a butt is as natural as, and equivalent to, leaving scat.*

It's Easy To Write Better Crime Reports

Technique

Just two major changes in reporting technique most often could turn lousy reports into good ones.

Stop pretending that the pronouns "I" and "me" are poison. Nobody really believes that your reports are more objective simply because you call yourself "this officer," or "the undersigned," or "writer," etc.

In fact, use of this archaic third-person narrative makes your reports suspiciously unnatural and unnecessarily confusing. If anyone in law enforcement has a justifiable reason for preferring the awkward third-person style to the straightforward first-person style, I haven't heard of it.

A juror once asked me, after a trial in which Ranger testimony and reports were in evidence, "Why do they write and speak like they don't want you to understand them? What've they got against straight talk?" What do you have against straight talk?

"I" is one of the shortest words in the language, and "me" and "my" aren't much longer. You may have been told in your college creative writing course to avoid these pronouns, but when you are composing a crime report about things you did, don't worry about creative writing - just communicate. Example:

Bad: This officer verbally advised OWENS to give this officer the baton belonging to this officer.

Better: I told OWENS to give me my baton.

The second thing you should do is to stop using what grammarians call the "passive voice," and start using the "active voice." This one change in writing style could easily reduce report length by 20 percent and increase factual clarity by 80 percent. Example:

Passive: PERKINS was arrested by me.

Active: I arrested PERKINS.

What's the difference? In this example, the "active" sentence uses 40 percent fewer words to say precisely the same thing as the "passive." This example shows the most common use of the passive voice - the extra words are usually "was" and "by."

The worst feature of the passive voice, though, is not the extra length it adds to most sentences where it is used; it is worse that you often use it in such a way that you create an unanswered question when you are supposed to be communicating specific facts. Example:

Passive: A knife was found in QUINN's right boot.

Who found it? Most arrests involve two Rangers. Will you remember later who found the knife? Can the DA tell from your report whom to subpoena for trial?

Active: Ranger RAY found a knife in QUINN's right boot.

Passive: The booking process was completed on USHER and the broadcast was cancelled.

Active: Officer VANCE booked USHER and I cancelled the broadcast.

See how the active voice forces you to be more precise (and usually saves several words per sentence)? There are times when the passive voice is appropriate, but a good rule for crime report construction is this: if you can say it in the active voice, don't use the passive. Your reports will then answer questions, rather than raising them, and will be informative, rather than just wordy.

Any single poor writing habit is bad enough, but when you string several bad ones together, as many Rangers do, the result is even worse. Example:

Bad: On above date and time at referenced location, this officer was verbally advised by reporting party that suspect #3 and victim #2 became engaged in a verbal dispute, which then escalated into a physical altercation between victim #2 and suspect #3. It was unknown by reporting party which of the subjects had actually initiated the physical altercation. It should be noted that when this officer responded to the location of victim #2, this officer was able to observe no indications of the altercation, except that on contacting victim #2, it was ascertained by this officer that victim #2 was indicating that he was suffering a painful head. It should be noted further that in view of this fact, a unit of the paramedics was requested by this officer at this time.

Better: BIRD told me GOON and MEEK argued and then fought, but he did not know which of them was first to use force. MEEK said his head hurt, so I radioed for the paramedics.

The "better" example is shorter, NOT because any facts are omitted, but because all the meaningless, surplus words and phrases are left out. Remember that the only words you should eliminate are those which add nothing. Always include in your report anything which may conceivably be relevant to the case.

A final word: whether writing or testifying, always keep your purpose in mind, be natural, and strive for clarity, accuracy, and completeness. You'll find that following these suggestions generally requires less effort, not more, and will make you far more effective in communicating information.*

CALIFORNIA RANGER

Published by the California State Park Ranger's Association for its members as a newsletter compliment to the Reporter.

Jeffery B. Price, Editor
(714) 758-4493

4232 Chasin St., Oceanside 92054

Environmental Issues Committee

1980

Objectives

by Steve O'Brien

Objective 1-80 Through the action of CSPRA President request that the Director convene the committee at least once during the coming year.

Objective 2-80 Promote the realistic and practical delegation of authority and responsibility for resource management to the area/field level.

Objective 3-80 Urge the department to adopt and fund a meaningful fire management program for the State Park System.

Objective 4-80 Identify those field rangers with educational backgrounds or exceptional field experience in resource management areas and further the utilization of such field expertise in solving department resource management problems.

Objective 5-80 Further the development of a comprehensive resource management funding procedure within the State Park System of a scope necessary to meet our obligation to preserve our resources for all future generations.

Objective 6-80 Establish the role of the ranger series in resource management as at least resource identification, monitoring of change, problem identification, solution proposals and program effectiveness evaluation.

Objective 7-80 Further the preservation and interpretation of the significant natural and cultural resources for which this department was created to preserve, protect and interpret for all.*

CSPRA Officers & Directors

PRESIDENT Denzil Verardo, 10899 Palm St. Castroville, 95012
VICE PRESIDENT Mike Lynch, 18600 Corral Hollow Rd. Livermore, 94550
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY Doug Bryce, P.O. Box 28366, Sacramento, 95828
REGION I Bill Beat, P.O. Box 65, Castella, 96017
REGION II George Cook, 338 E. Empire St. Grass Valley, 95945
REGION III G.E. Waggoner, 220 Forest Ave. Santa Cruz, 95062
REGION IV John Mott, 6087D Jacaranda Way, Carpinteria, 93013
REGION V Kay Schmidt, 17801 Lake Perris Dr. Perris, 92370
REGION VI Louis Wakefield, P.O. Box 87, Tehachapi, 93561

RANGER NAMESAKES

by Jeff Price

I have sent out several S.O.S. signals to solicit information or articles suitable for the California Ranger.

A while back Bill Krumbein (Sonoma area) sent me a small manila envelope. He had neatly printed on the outside flap "RANGER NAMES". The accompanying letter told of his fascination with all the products, devices and things named "Ranger". (A Preoccupation?) He began to cut out ads using the name "Ranger" in them and found quite a few. That's what was in the envelope.

Well, as Krumbein observed you can't find a pocket knife with the name "The Insurance Adjustor" or a boot model called "the Attorney" or a strain of black berry named "the Mechanic". But, the name RANGER apparently has special meaning to ad people. It is found on many products and in strange places!

I also began to watch for Ranger-dubbed things. Some of the more interesting we found are listed.

Ranger Peach - Freestone - heavy producer
- sweet yellow flesh - highly colored red skin

Road Ranger Recreational Vehicles

The Ranger - 4-post steel drafting table

Ranger Rick - nature magazine

3000 Ranger - 28' Apollo powerboat

Ranger 100 - Ford pickup truck

Ranger - brand of pocket knives

Buck Ranger - folding knife

Silva Ranger - type 15 - liquid filled compass

Ranger V - cabin cruisers

Ranger Cookies - coconut & oatmeal cookie

Ranger Line - sleeping bags

New York Rangers - NHL team

Texas Rangers - baseball team

BLO4 Ranger - blackberry - extra large dark fruit, wonderfully firm & brilliantly sweet. Pleasing as a wine berry

Ranger - brand of leather belt

Ranger - model of Polaris inboard motor

Boston 55 Ranger - brand of pencil sharpener

Ranger - brand of binoculars

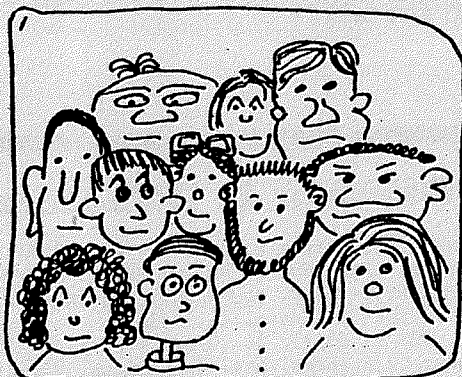
Lone Ranger - model of Freuhauf truck trailer

and included in other trivia: from T.V. series M*A*S*H, what is Corporal Radar O'Reilly's dog's name back home in Iowa? Yep! Ranger. »

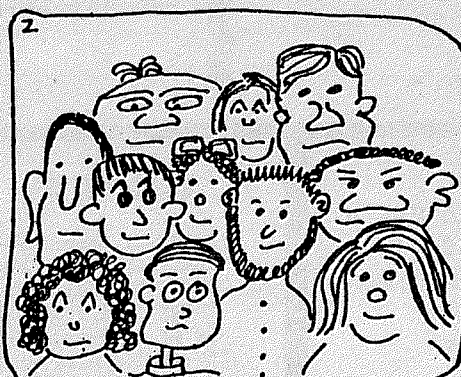
Ranger Cookies

½ cup shortening	½ cup shredded, unsweet-
1 cup honey	ened coconut
1 egg	1 cup whole-wheat flour
½ teaspoon vanilla	1 cup oats
¼ teaspoon salt	1 cup dry cereal flakes
1 tsp baking powder	

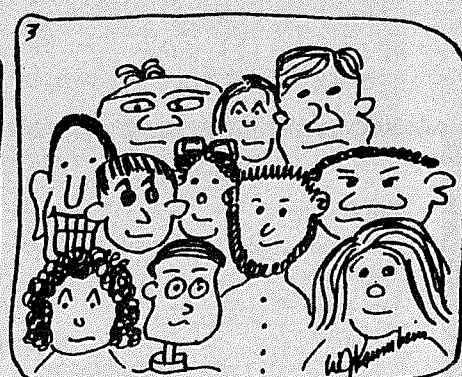
Preheat oven to 350. Mix shortening thoroughly with honey, egg and vanilla. Stir in remaining ingredients. Drop by rounded teaspoons 2 inches apart on a greased cookie sheet. Bake 10 min. and remove from the sheet immediately. 3 doz



"YOU SAY I'M SUPPOSED TO FIND OUT WHICH PERSON HERE IS A PARK RANGER?"



"WITHOUT ASKING ANY QUESTIONS EITHER? ... O.K.... EASY..."



"... I HEAR IT'S GOING TO RAIN ON MEMORIAL DAY!"

Evolution of a Profession

by Jeff Price

For many years now I have been hearing varied uses of the term ranger. It is applied to several conservation - related jobs, armed forces units and in law enforcement. Did you ever wonder just how this word evolved in the English language?

From a little library research, I find the word "ranger" had its beginnings over 500 years ago in England. The British Kings had "forest officers" "game keepers" and "keepers of the Royal Parks". In 1445 an agency of the Crown was formed called "Offices of Foresters and Raungers of oure said Forests". Later, Ranger was the English title for the keeper of a royal forest. He was responsible for protection of game and timber.

I find later, in 1579, references to the person in charge of Royal fox hunts... "rangers and their great hounts"... In 1742 the Province of Georgia in Colonial America had "Rangers who care for the woods" and in 1788 "Lord Bute's Rangers of the parks".

About this same time, military groups also began to pick up the word. A group of military units called Rangers, were recruited from among experienced frontiersmen. They were used in irregular warfare against Indian, Spanish and French raiders in early US military actions.

During the French & Indian War (1756) Rangers were expert woodsmen and marksmen and they ranged the forests on scouting and harrassing missions.

In 1832, I find the first combining of cavalry and ranger forces when in the Black Hawk War 600 mounted rangers were used. Ranger missions were long-range penetration into enemy territory to collect information or destroy bases. Because of constant danger, the ranger forces drew higher pay.

The Forest Service, an agency of the USDA, designated in 1905 a special force called Rangers to fight wild fires in remote areas. Then, in 1916, a force called National Park Rangers were designated to protect and conserve wild life, enforce park regulations and assist visitors. These men were an offshoot of the military and at first wore modified cavalry uniforms.

It seems that in the evolution of the term, ranger has always meant someone whose essential duty has been protection. Through the years only the type of protection has changed to meet the needs of the time.

At the turn of the century, California began setting aside tracts of land and scenic areas for public use. Men were employed to patrol, maintain and prevent unauthorized use of timber and resources. This was the beginning of what we know today as the California State Park Ranger professional.

I would be interested in knowing just where in the history of California's parks the term ranger was first applied. I have heard early park people were called wardens. Fill me in, those of you in-the-know.*

Dear Editor:

In my article on Collective Bargaining in Issue 4, there is one statement that is completely inappropriate and was mistakenly included in the article. I refer to the statement about CSEA and empire building on page 8.

I was directed by the Board of Directors to prepare an informational article on collective bargaining. I used several sources as the basis of my article, and this prejudiced statement from one of these sources, should have been edited out.

I do not believe that CSEA is empire building and sincerely regret that the statement appeared in the article.



Michael G Lynch, Chairman
Legislative Committee

TORO PEAK LOST

Court Strips DPR of Toro Peak Parksite

The State Department of Parks and Recreation has lost a court battle over ownership of Toro Peak. This 3,560 foot high Monterey County landmark surrounded by 1,350 acres of undeveloped Sycamore, Willow and Oak woodland was deeded to DPR in February of 1972 upon the death of cattleman Leo Piazzoni. The will stated DPR had to develop the lands for public use within five years or it would go to Guide Dogs for the Blind in San Rafael.

In December 1977 Guide Dogs took the case to court saying DPR didn't meet the five year condition. They stated that this beautiful mountaintop with a panoramic view of the Salinas Valley and Monterey Bay had never been opened for public use or developed. DPR said they had met the requirements.

A Monterey County Superior Court Judge, Harkjoon Paik, recently ruled in favor of the Guide Dog charity. He felt that DPR development efforts consisting mainly of a pit toilet and a used picnic table didn't meet the conditions of the Piazzoni will. The charity can be expected to sell the land for cattle ranching interests for near 1 million dollars. DPR plans to appeal the judge's decision based on the distinction between "developed for use" and "usable", to try to get Toro Peak back into park ownership.*

A Park Ranger

by Bill Krumbein

Hey ranger, what do you do?

I am whatever you want me to be
a rescuer in your time of need,
collecting and accounting the camping fee,
reassurance when I bandage a child's knee,
miles to the lake? between two and three;

I am whatever you want me to
hikers, families, I'll show the park to you,
answer your questions 'bout cones, trees, or shrew,
picking up litter that somebody threw,
patrolling the campground, I smell your beef stew;

I am whatever you want me
best fishing you ask, I'd try by that tree,
if the fire leaps the break, we've got to flee,
your car broken into, you said there were three,
sing, sing at campfire with glee;

I am whatever you want
a greeter, courteous and pleasant,
the bird on the rock? why, a cormorant,
it's quiet time now, your noise is predominant,
the lost child out there, we've got to hunt;

I am whatever you
if I can help, allow me to,
fix your lantern, did you check that screw?
I'll deliver your message as soon as I'm through,
these are just some of the things I do;

I am whatever
to catch the thief, sometimes clever,
to move that logjam we need a lever,
search and rescue, give up never,
first aid, careful ... or it may sever;

I am ...
a park ranger.



JACK WELCH, San Diego Coast, examines one of two converted postal trucks he will use in the field. Oversize decals were part of Dave Donahue's prank. Jack felt the entire matter was "FOURTH CLASS".

A blind chameleon will still take on the color of its surrounding.



Year of the "Almost-Volunteer": Valuable Interns

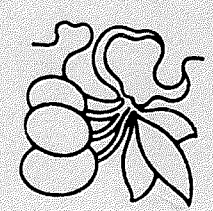
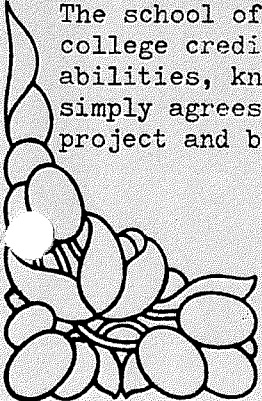
by Jeff Price

The state park system can benefit from college internship and student fieldwork programs now going on in all parts of the state. Many colleges have intern programs where students work in the "real world" to gain experience in real life problems. Assignments vary as may the required hours, and units offered. Most interns sign a contract with the park to complete a specific part of or a total project. Most colleges give from 3 to 6 units for the required 160 to 240 hours. A critique and summary evaluation is required from the park supervisor. A program of cooperative effort can produce valuable products for the park unit.

The resource possibilities are barely realized, by many current park managers and supervisors. The type of assignments seen most commonly are fee collection, patrol, public contact and visitor center/museum operation. However, the limits are nonexistent if park people will look at the scope possible. How many special maintenance projects of a time consuming nature are put off because daily work comes first? Interns from the industrial arts department of your local college may be able to complete them under your guidance and direction. Projects such as locating, sizing, updating and mapping fire, water, electrical and sewer systems, organizing your paperwork filing and reporting, or making charts, maps, diagrams etc.

There is assistance to visitor services in park resource mapping and study, crime pattern research, data collection, exhibit preparation, public preference opinion polls, interpretive publications: there are endless possibilities.

I'm sure administrative, district and headquarters personnel could also provide an excellent project environment.



The school offers students its resources and college credits. The student offers the park abilities, knowledge and time. The park simply agrees to provide the environment, a project and basic supervision. All in all,

a cooperative method for each to gain tangible results.

If you'd like to get your park involved in fieldwork or student internships, contact your local colleges. They likely have a coordinator assigned to administer programs. Some progressive high schools offer similar but limited opportunities. ■



Reg 4 Alt-Directorship Open

Do you have, or do you know someone who has, the qualities to be a good Alt. Reg. Director? Let me know by May 15th, if you have any ideas or inspirations.

What does an Alt. Reg. Dir. do? He or she primarily assists the Regional Director and represents the Director when the Director's presence is impractical. The Alt. Reg. Dir. also becomes the Director in case of transfer, insanity or other factors making the Director incapable of Regional representation.

What does it take to be an Alt Regional Director?

- *Interest in making CSPRA a better organization
- *A little inner direction
- *Willingness to devote an average of 1-2 hrs/wk

What are the "kickbacks" to being an Alt. Reg. Dir? Several including:

- *Opportunity to meet and work with many "park people"
- *Opportunities to influence CSPRA policies, directions, and actions
- *Expenses paid for CSPRA business
- *An occasional "pat on the back"

Would you like to be considered? Let me know now.

John Mott, Director Region IV



YOUR CONTRIBUTED ARTICLES NEEDED

MOVING ?

Please send all changes in your mailing address for CR to Doug Bryce.

LETTERS

from the president's desk...

Honorable Eugene Chappie
Member of the Assembly
State Capitol

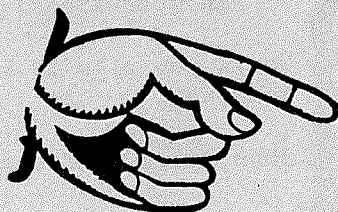
The California State Park Rangers Association is opposed to your bill, AB 2111, concerning Off-Highway Vehicle Parks. Our organization believes that while there may have been problems with the establishment and administration of OHV areas, the creation of a new Office of Off-Highway Motor Vehicle Parks is not the answer to the problem. That would only serve to split up park and recreation concerns more efficiently handled under a single department. The Department of Parks & Recreation is the proper department for off-highway parks. Please work out the problem without tampering with the system.

Denzil R. Verardo, President CSPRA

8

"CALIFORNIA RANGER"
Jeff Price, Editor
4232 Chasin Street
Oceanside, CA 92054

Bulk Rate
US Postage
PAID
Permit No 1123
Sacramento, CA



DOUGLAS R. BRYCE

577

P. O. BOX 28366

SACRAMENTO

CA 95828

R
A
N
G
E
R