california state park rangers association

NEWSLETTER

P. O. Box 1468

Borrego Springs, CA 92004



October 1980

TITLES CHANGED

by Kay Schmidt

You noticed a new title on our monthly publication? On September 13th at the meeting of the Board of Directors, discussion was raised as to the appropriateness of the titles of our two publications, The Reporter (quarterly journal) and the California Ranger (monthly newsletter). It was decided to change the name of the quarterly journal to The California Ranger and the monthly newsletter to The California State Park Rangers Association Newsletter. One major reason for the change is the possibility of future affiliation with other similar professional organizations such as Western Interpreters Association (W.I.A.), Association of National Park Rangers (A.N.P.R.), and Park Rangers Association of California (P.R.A.C.). Furthermore, it has been suggested that an effort be make to combine the resources (capital, journalistic expertise, time) of C.S.P.R.A. and P.R.A.C. to produce a joint quarterly journal. The new title, The California Ranger, would more accurately reflect the commonality of those park rangers it serves. This quarterly publication will include articles of professional interest to all rangers without regard to agency affiliation. Also included would be separate sections specifically devoted to each organization. The aim is to produce a magazine of high qual-

The newsletter you are reading now will remain the <u>C.S.P.R.A.</u> Newsletter and will only carry information of interest to C.S.P.R.A.members, some "how-to" articles, quips and queries and regional news. While the name change may appear confusing at first, the board members and general membership input indicated that the title <u>The California Ranger</u> was an important and necessary change so that the journal may equally represent all subscribing rangers.

WIA Fall Workshop Homegrown Interpretation

by Donna Pozzi

Here is a quick outline of W.I.A. Fall Conference in Chico.

Workshop begins on Thursday, Nov. 6, with Registration, an informal get-together, and tours of Bidwell Mansion-from 4:00 to 6:00 pm, at the Mansion.

Friday, Nov. 7, we start at 7:30 am with continental breakfast, registration, at CSU Chico Bell Memorial Union. First session is at 8:30 and it's a panel discussion. Cliff Wade, Jon Hooper (Asst. Prof., Rec. Dept., CSUC), Olga Nicolayeff (Outdoor Education Coordinator, Lassen County Schools), and Todd Radke (Chico Visitor and Convention Bureau) will be discussing their various perspectives of ways to maximize community involvement and resources. The approach will be very practical.

(cont pg 2)

THOUGHTS ON REORGANIZATION

by Steve O'Brien

In the past we have operated with six district superintendents, each of equal status, and all of whom reported to and took direction from the Chief of the Operation Division. In the majority of cases the six superintendents agreed on how the Division was to function. In those cases where agreement could not be reached the Operations Division Chief had the authority and responsibility to make the decisions which the entire Division would follow. With one Operations Chief responsible for the entire statewide program of operating park units, standardization and coordination were assured to a high

(cont pg 6)



Friday night we're going to Lake Oroville for a program at the Visitor Center.

Saturday morning Neil Johannsen will be giving a talk on using concessions to complement interpretive programs--how to work with concessions to get them to pay for some of the things that many agencies can no longer provide (like publications, for example).

The remainder of Friday and Saturday will be devoted to all kinds of workshops, in cluding the following topics: Use of volunteers in interpretive programs; restoration and care of your artifacts; developing an Environmental Living Program; graphics and lay-out of interpretive publications; cemeteries as clues to your community's past; how to start a cooperating association; "Hot issues"

facing interpreters; involving handicapped volunteers in historic interpretation; overlooked community resources; resin-casting; using music in interpretation: grant writing: developing and marketing a fundable proposal; interpreting through Living History; the art of making recycled paper; new methods of evaluating interpretive programs.

Of course we'll have a dinner and square dance on Saturday night.

There's an optional tour on Sunday. Nov. 9, to Sutter Buttes.

For registration information write W.I.A. FALL WORKSHOP P. O. Box 28366 Sacramento, CA 95828

Honorary Ranger Nominations Opened

Do you know of a person who has demonstrated distinguished service devoted to CSPRA's objectives? If you do, you may nominate that person as Honorary Ranger. Simply compose a letter giving the person's background and relate one or more specific accomplishments which you believe qualifies him or her for an Honorary Lifetime Membership in CSPRA.

Your nomination should meet four general requirements as follows:

- 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 effects 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 is to be judged on its own merit and degree of contribution.
- IV. Normally, the recommendation would be made during the person's lifetime.

Your nominee, if approved by a two-thirds vote of the Board, will be honored at the 1981 GEC in Ventura. Please send nominations by December 15, 1980 to: **DEADLINE DECEMBER 15th**

1981 Honorary Member Committee c/o Jeff Price, Chairman P.O. Box 1468 Palm Canyon Drive Borrego Springs, CA 92004

MORE LETTERS

Peter Dangermond, Jr., Director Department of Parks & Recreation

The California State Park Rangers Association Board of Directors voted unanimously to actively support Proposition 1, the State Park Bond Act, and Proposition 2, the Lake Tahoe Bond Act. I will keep you appraised of our efforts.

Denzil R. Verardo, President

california state park rangers association

Interested in CSPRA membership? clip this and mail to P.O. Box 28366 Sacramento, CA 95828

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Dear Editor

I am writing in response to Mike Lynch's letter to Ida Berk, Chairwoman California State Parks and Recreation Commission.

I do not see that the problem is with the Coppertone advertisement on trash cans. Here is a recommendation accepted by our Department to SAVE money; as well as provide trash receptacles for the public, which I believe would be considered a public service, a business I thought DPR was in.

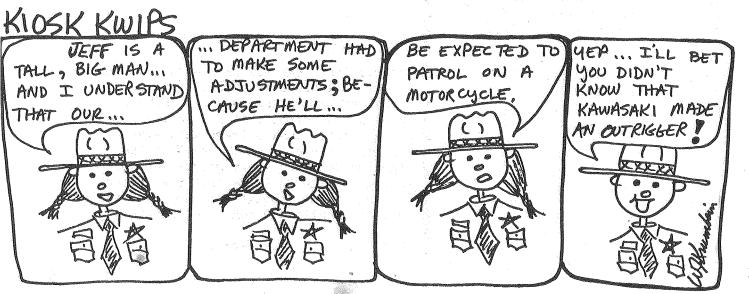
With the future looking not-so-good for Parks and Recreation as far as money is concerned, I feel it is time we take a look at our past policies. We should re-evaluate programs that we can no long afford and initiate those that will assist our financial situation.

The Director is already evaluating our present Concessions Division to see where we can gain more, monetarily, from their existence.

I would much rather see a few Coppertone trash cans than see the Department severly cut back in seasonal or operating expense monies to get the job done.

It is time we give a little to keep things going - on we will price ourselves out of the public service business and the "Iron Ranger" and publications vending machines will no longer be "pilot programs".

Sue Miles





Reprinted by permission from <u>California</u> <u>Journal</u>, October 1980.

The conservative trend in the 1979-80 Legislature has been turned into a gold strike by the forces of law and order. Among seven special-interest organizations compiling voting profiles for the 1979 Legislature by far the biggest gains were made by the California Peace Officers Association (CPOA). Over the years, the CPOA has sought laws identifying additional crimes and increasing penalties. After years of frustration, law enforcement officals apparently won over Assembly members who had previously voted with the civil libertarians. Over a five-year period, the average CPOA grade for the Assembly leaped from 33 to 85 percent. This marked the first time that the Assembly score exceeded that of the more conservative Senate (67 percent).

Since the Legislature was apparently so friendly to law enforcement it might be assumed that 1979 would also be a banner year for the Police Officers Research Association of California (PORAC). But that was not the case. PORAC is less concerned with crime and punishment than with benefits for police officers. The indication is that legislators are now more willing to increase prison sentences than to provide increased benefits for police officers during tight budgetary times.

During the mid-1970s, environmentalists enjoyed their greatest legislative success. But there is evidence of a new posture toward ecology issues in the Legislature. Ratings from the League of Conservation Voters (LCV) in 1979 were the lowest in five years. By comparison, labor grades have remained constant, as indicated by evaluations by the California Labor Federation, AFL-CIO (CLF).

submitted by -- Denzil Verardo

LETTERS

Mr. Tom Smith, President Park Rangers Association of California

The California State Park Rangers Association Board of Directors has approved affiliation with the Park Rangers Association of California, should your officers likewise approve the concept. We view this as a positive step toward the professional unification of park employees throughout California.

I will be in touch with you in the near future so we can work out details of the agreement.

Denzil R. Verardo

Editor

I am not very shy or easily offended. However, after seeing the cartoons by W.J. Krumbein on pages 1 and 7 of the September CA RANGER, I am OFFENDED.

It appears that he is groping for material for his humor. This time he groped in the wrong place! To add injury to insult, the cartoons are not even funny.

I hope he will use better judgement in the future; or I may be forced to start my own strip of bad taste to rival his: "Krumby Kartoons". Other than that, I think the RANGER is a top-flight publication.

Kim Allison Region V

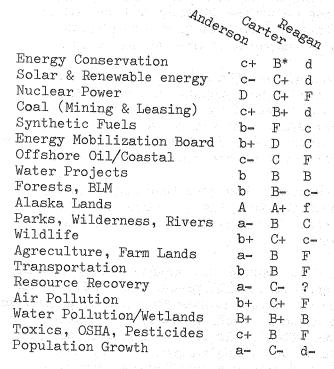
OPEN LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

Proposition 9 has now been defeated, and I want to express my appreciation to those members who aided me in CSPRA's campaign to defeat that initiative. The anti-9 battle took a tremendous amount of time and energy on the part of the organization, but every minute was worth-while. I like to think that the letter writing, anti-9 coalitions, and public contacts really did make a difference.

Denzil R. Verardo, President

LCV Grades the Candidates

THE LEAGUE OF CONSERVATION VOTERS has released its profiles of the presidential candidates of 1980. Here is the LCV report card. For a copy of the full report send \$2 to League of Conservation Voters, 317 Pennsylvania Avenue, SE, Washington, DC 20003.



submitted by -- Broc Stenman

Capital letters indicate leadership or active involvement; small letters indicate votes or campaign positions.



WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Miles K. Standish Portola

Richard D. Royer

Morro Bay

Robert E. Ball Ventura

Bobbie J. Garcia

Elk Grove



YOUR "WARM PEOPLE" IS LOADING OF OUR PICNIC TABLES INTO HIS TRUCK!

CSPRA - 1980 Officers and Directors

PRESIDENT Denzil Verardo, 10899 Palm St. Castroville, 95012 (408) 633-2726 VICE PRESIDENT Mike Lynch, 218 Mulberry, Auburn, 95603 (916) 885-9420 EXECUTIVE SECRETARY Doug Bryce, P.O. Box 28366, Sacramento, 95828 (916) 383-7299 REGION I Bill Beat, P.O. Box 65, Castella, 96017 REGION II Michael Callen, 7806 Folsom-Auburn Rd. Folsom, 95630 REGION III G.E. Waggoner, 220 Forest Ave. Santa Cruz, 95062 REGION IV Donald M. Caffey, 1994 Harbor Blvd. Ventura, 93003 REGION V Kay Schmidt, 17801 Lake Perris Dr. Perris, 92370 REGION VI Louis Wakefield, P.O. Box 87, Tehachapi, 93561 California Ranger Editor Lloyd Geissinger, 7561 Mirabel Rd. Forestville, 95436 CSPRA Newsletter Editor Jeffery B. Price, P.O. Box 1468, Borrego Springs, 92004

degree. The Operations Chief represented the entire Division in all dealings with the Director and the other Division Chiefs.

We are now going to a new system where there will be four regional directors of unequal status and no Operations Division Chief. With an unequal team and no captain it is still unknown how decisions will be made in those cases where the regional directors can not come to agreement. A high probability exists that more and more operational problems may find their way to the Director's desk. Since the turn over rate for Directors has historically been much higher than that of Operations Chiefs, a degree of consistancy may be lost in the years ahead. Without an Operations Chief it appears that each Regional Director will represent his region to the Director and the other Division Chiefs. Each region fighting its own battles may lead to a lessoning of effectiveness, coordination and standardization as compared to our recent system.

Another important change that this reorganization has brought about is that the new Regional Directors are CEA appointments which serve at the pleasure of the governor. If for any reason, political or otherwise, it is determined that an incumbant is no longer "pleasing" that person can be removed forthwith. The protection of the civil service system which was instituted to protect professional civil servants from political pressures and abuse has been removed from another level of department organization.

The system of Superintendent/Regional Director selection has also been significantly altered. Under the new system there are no guarantees that future selectees will have State Park System field management experience. The upward mobility of present and future field managers may be radically altered.

The Department Reorganization is being instituted to improve the department. Presently it is difficult to determine just how the reorganization will produce the improvement predicted. Unless some means is developed by which we can compare this new organization to our last one little will be learned from the change. Lacking accurate and objective data on which to base future decisions management often falls into a repeating pattern of reorganization after reorganization in search of the illusive goal of "improvement". The history of this Department demonstrates this pattern to a substantial degree.

Hopefully our Department has developed the means by which we can measure the effectiveness of the present reorganization against the predicted results it was planned to induce. We must also be ready to measure results that may not have been predicted, both good and bad. Only then can we hope to avoid unnecessary reorganizations in the future.

CSPRA NEWSLETTER
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