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The California Ranger

The California Ranger

A JOURNAL FOR PARK PROFESSIONALS

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PARK RANGERS ASSOCIATION OF CALIFORNIA

Thank-you all for the support that you have shown for PRAC over the years. The organization is not one which simply allows us to pay dues and considers our duty done. The park ranger position is varied in scope throughout the state of California. Regardless of how our jobs might vary we must keep in mind that we all have a common thread. We are here to serve the public that has come to use public park lands. I think that I am safe in saying that we ALL come under that category. Regardless of the way in which we serve the public we have certain needs in common. This organization is concerned with the professionalization of the Park Ranger. How can a position be "professionalized"? First we can establish some training standards and then work to provide a means to meet these standards. Secondly we can become aware of, and involved with, the legislative changes that affect both our positions and the needs and concerns of the park going public.

I think that I am also safe in saying that we all share in the love of our jobs but that there are few agencies that can claim any fat amongst their rangers. We have a crop of dedicated hardworking people. What's so bad about that? Nothing! It is the very essence of the Ranger profession to be hardworking and dedicated, but it means an extra effort to become involved in developing the profession.

These first few months have been encouraging. I received a letter from Jeff Ohlfs asking our support for H.R. 5775 which would provide a much needed law enforcement authority for certain Bureau of Reclamation employees. A letter has been sent supporting this bill. Jeff has cared enough to send me this bill, he asks the support of the members of this organization in getting the bill passed. I have received other letters requesting much needed training. What is encouraging is that they were accompanied by an offer to assist in the implementation of the training. I encourage all the input you can send me. If you wish to write me directly, write: 1073 Hubert Rd., Oakland, CA 94610. If you prefer you can call me at (415) 889-6094. If you do write be sure to include a phone number so that I can call and discuss your concerns or clarify the message.

Start thinking of Ranger Olympics, and forward those ideas. It is a fantastic idea that sounds as though it could be educational and FUN. What we are looking for is something to test the physical Ranger skills. Suggestions welcome.

Diane Blackman
President

FUTURE THEMES

WINTER 1982

Concessions in Parks - alternative funding sources, concession management, maintaining park integrity, contract negotiation, private vs. public sector management techniques, failures, successes.

Deadline for receiving articles: January 15, 1983

PARK OFFICE

CALIFORNIA STATE PARK RANGERS ASSOCIATION

YES ON 11! YES ON 13!

This November we will be voting on two vitally important propositions to implement programs and help decide issues which CSPRA has been promoting for years. The CSPRA Board of Directors and I urge a YES vote on:

Proposition 11 - The Can and Bottle Recycling Initiative and

Proposition 13 - The Water Resources Conservation and Efficiency Initiative

Proposition 11

For the past 7 years CSPRA supported Senator Omer Rains in his tireless efforts to pass a "Bottle Bill" through California's Legislature. For 7 years we saw powerful lobbies crush this vitally needed legislation. Last year, Senator Rains and the Californians Against Waste (supported by CSPRA and numerous other organizations) qualified Proposition 11 for this November's ballot. The individual efforts of thousands of people like you gave us Proposition 11. We can not afford to let it be defeated by propaganda from the Beverage industry.

Proposition 13

What do the Friends of the River, the Mono Lake Committee, the League of Women Voters, the L.A. Times and CSPRA all have in common? We all support Proposition 13 authored by the California Water Protective Council! For decades people have been outraged over California's rivers being dammed and diverted only to have the water be inefficiently used or wasted. Our governments inability to develop effective long range goals and policies in allocating scarce water resources has resulted in the outrageous loss of the Stanislaus River canyon to create New Melones reservoir and the slow death of Mono Lake (California's newest State Reserve). Unless Proposition 13 passes, California's water atrocities will only get worse. We would be naive to think that State Park units will be exempt from the effects. We need a statewide water goal to end wasteful and inefficient water uses. This goal must also address the serious environmental concerns about managing Northern California's water supplies as well as meeting the critical water needs of Southern California. Proposition 13 provides such a goal and the means to carry it out.

I urge you to actively support both Propositions 11 and 13. Talk to your friends and take it upon yourself to inform all the employees in your park or Area about the importance of voting **Yes on 11 and 13**. Both the Californians Against Waste and the California Water Protective Council need your help and donations to counter a well financed opposition. **WE MUST CONTINUE TO WORK DILIGENTLY TO PASS THESE IMPORTANT PROPOSITIONS!!**

I urge you to be an active part of the solution to some of our State's most serious environmental problems.

John Mott
President

NOTES FROM THE EDITOR

I wish I had a dollar for every bottle and can deposited thoughtlessly on the grounds of the parks I patrol. As Park Rangers and dedicated conservationists we tire at the needless energies and budget allocations required to clean up after our "guests." In November we have the opportunity to change the situation with a YES vote on Proposition 11: The Beverage Container Initiative.

We can look at the success of Michigan as an example of what can be achieved with the passage of Proposition 11. In 1978, Michigan became the first major industrial state to require a deposit on all beverage containers—the beer and soft drink bottles and cans that so often end up as highway and park litter. While such a deposit law had proved successful in environmentally conscious Oregon and Vermont, no one could predict what would happen in a populous, urbanized state. Now the results are in, and they indicate a major victory for both industry and conservationists. The reduction of litter dropped 87.4 percent the year after the deposit bill took effect while increasing employment by 4648 jobs as a result of the law.*

The largest opposition comes from the retail grocery industry. They claim the recycling process will be too costly in addition to posing health hazards. These claims are unfounded as Safeway supermarkets have already, for over a year, implemented a recycling program which encourages customers to bring in aluminum cans. In addition, soda bottles have had deposits attached to them for years!

All the bill will do is expand upon these already established programs. Your support is urged for a cleaner environment with a YES vote on Proposition 11.

To help with Proposition 11 contact: Californians Against Waste, P.O. Box 289, Sacramento, CA 95802, OR 4025 Sepulveda Blvd., Culver City, CA 90230.

On another thought, I want to thank all of the contributors to this issue of *The California Ranger*. Every article is a result of contributions from the membership. Response from the readership has been tremendous—let's keep it up! *The California Ranger* is **your** publication. All ideas are welcomed and article submission is imperative. If you come across information that you would like to share please forward it to us. We need your help and ideas to continue.

Heidi Doyle



THE CALIFORNIA RANGER is the official publication of the California State Park Rangers Association (CSPRA) and the Park Rangers Association of California (PRAC). Manuscript guidelines can be obtained by writing: Heidi Doyle, Editor, *The California Ranger*, 2451 South "M" Street, Oxnard, CA 93033.

FEATURE ARTICLE

Unravelling the Ivory Tower Syndrome . . . **TAPPING UNIVERSITY RESOURCES**

by Dr. Jon K. Hooper

The university tower stood high on the skyline; its ivory surface shimmered in the sunlight. The professors within the edifice reigned from their lofty thrones, far removed from the everyday world below. Only a select few subjects were allowed to climb the stairs to enter the hallowed halls. Another day was passing in academia.

Does this description fit your stereotype of university settings? Doesn't it accurately reflect on the way universities operate, that is, limiting access to their resources to a select few? Afterall, you have to be a student, professional colleague, or renowned genius to gain access to faculty, libraries, audio-visual centers, and so on! And everyone knows that higher education includes nothing more than just coursework in classrooms! Right? How could a park ranger ever get access to "the system"? In fact, why would s/he want to in the first place?

In the current era of budget cutbacks, limited equipment resources, and volunteerism, recreation and park personnel are seeking new sources of inexpensive human and physical resources. Universities can sometimes provide such resources. This is *why park rangers should be interested in university settings (in this article, the term "university" is meant to encompass universities, colleges, and community colleges). The questions that remain are how do park rangers gain access and what is there worth accessing?*

The main key to unlocking university resources is to remember that "There is no such thing as a free lunch." Don't expect a handout; rather, expect to exchange resources. Universities face constraints just like park systems, but they also have needs that park rangers can help meet. In exchange, park employees can utilize faculty expertise, university facilities, and student manpower.

The on-going situation at California State University, Chico (CSUC) provides an example of how park rangers have helped meet university needs and thereby gained access to the university's resources. The university often uses California Department of Parks and Recreation personnel on a "gratis" basis as guest speakers. Nearby Lassen Volcanic National Park offers its facilities free of charge for use during class field trips. Black Butte Lake (U.S. Army Corps of Engineers) has been used as a site for student internships. Community recreation sites have been used as sites for planning and design class projects.

In return for their investment, park rangers are allowed to utilize a variety of university resources. As an example, let's look at the use of such resources by the California Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR). DPR uses the audio-visual facilities (slide-tape synchronizers, graphic copying boards, audio room, etc.) and staff expertise (a full-time A-V specialist consults on projects) of the Instructional Media Center on campus to produce slide-tape programs for the Bidwell Mansion State Historic Park. The university's library, especially the special collections and government documents sections, is frequently used for historical research. The university's color Xerox machine has been used to create copies of historic can and bottle labels.

Students are another resource frequently used by DPR staff. Students

continued on next page

within the Department of Recreation and Park Management, for example, are required to complete a one semester internship prior to graduation. As a prerequisite to the internship, students must have accrued a minimum of 500 hours of paid or volunteer work experience in recreation and/or park management. Some students fulfill the experience requirements by volunteering at park units such as Woodson Bridge State Recreation Area and Lake Oroville State Recreation Area. Other students undertake their actual internship at such sites (some of the internships are paid positions). DPR doesn't limit itself, however, to utilizing park management majors. History students conduct tours, anthropology students have helped preserve historical artifacts, home economics students plan and construct historical costumes, drama students role-play historical characters, museology students help prepare displays and exhibits, political science students conduct field interviews of community residents to collect historical data, and public administration students help prepare budgets and maintenance schedules.

Other units of the state park system further removed from campus have also tapped university resources. Faculty and student expertise from the Department of Recreation and Parks Management is currently being used to plan,



design, and construct interpretive displays for McArthur-Burney Falls Memorial State Park. The material costs for the project are covered through a DPR-funded grant. Students do not receive reimbursement; instead they receive university credit for work on the project.

Now that you've seen what university resources can be tapped, you probably want to learn how to set up such an investment/return system. The first step is to know where the nearest university, college, or community college campus is located (there are more than 132 campuses in California). In California, listings of campuses are available from the following sources: Office of the President, University Hall, University of California, 2200 University Avenue, Berkeley, CA 94720; Office of the Chancellor, The California State University System, 400 Golden Shore, Long Beach, CA 90802; and Office of the Chancellor, The California Community Colleges, 1238 "S" Street, Sacramento, CA 95814.

Once you have found the address and phone number of the nearest campus, you need to discover what departments, faculty, staff, and facilities exist. The key is to contact the campus's Office of Information or Office of Public Affairs. This office can arrange to send you a copy of the university catalog that identifies various departments and facilities. Many information offices can also send you a list of which identifies faculty and their area of expertise. At Land Grant universities, the Cooperative Extension Service (also called Agricultural Extension) should be contacted. Extension offers technical information and advice in the form of brochures, slide shows, workshops, and consulting specialists (personnel trained in specific fields such as audio-visual media, natural resources managements, etc.). Extension advice and information is usually available free of charge. Another university resource is University Extension or Continuing Education (not to be confused with Cooperative Extension). Continuing Education offers numerous workshops on topics ranging from preparing A-V shows to public relations. A catalog of courses is usually available free of charge.

Once you've identified potential resources, make appointments with the faculty or staff members who control use of the resources. Discuss ideas face-to-face. One the phone, it is too easy for university personnel to turn you away or shuffle you through the bureaucracy. Through personal contact, you can better portray the sincerity of your desire to initiate a cooperative arrangement.

Finally, don't expect miracles. Universities contain people who may not be even slightly interested in your problem. They may feel overworked, underpaid, and uninterested in initiating any new projects or allowing increased access to already overused facilities. The "Ivory Tower Syndrome" described earlier does thrive at universities. There may be only one person who is willing to cooperate. However, if your efforts result in gaining access to **any** of the university's resources, at least you'll be further ahead than when you started. Good luck!

Dr. Jon K. Hooper is an Associate Professor at California State University, Chico. He is currently coordinator of the Parks and Natural Resources Management Department.

VANDALISM: WHY URBAN PARKS HAVE A TARNISHED IMAGE

by Bruce Baker

One problem we all seem to be facing in the parks field is the increasing effects of vandalism and other associated abusive behavior. Whatever the reason for this undesirable activity, we find that in recent years the people who should be using our parks (and who have paid for them!) have been reluctant to do so because of this "negative element" that has somehow infiltrated the parks. Because of this increasing problem many residents no longer consider it an asset to live adjacent to a park. One park user addressed the problem specifically when he said, "A minority of rough quarrelsome and disorderly people should not be allowed to take over the parks or make life miserable for those whose homes are near them."

Unfortunately, in Los Gatos we have several parks which have fallen into this category and we find that even with the financial climate which exists today there are still techniques that can be employed to improve the situation.

Initially management and staff must make a commitment to finding solutions to the problems by mutually working together to implement a plan of action. Once this commitment has been made, a basic three step approach to problem solving can be introduced.

These steps are:

- A. Initiate a reporting system to determine the location of damage, extent, cost, etc. Make report forms readily available to all field personnel to improve the reporting procedure and plan to evaluate incidents regularly to see if any trends are apparent (see Figure A).
- B. Evaluate all resources available, including financial support, volunteer personnel, etc. Assign a priority to each problem or park location, being realistic in your approach to problem solving. Don't overestimate or underestimate your capabilities or resources.
- C. Establish and implement a vandalism management plan that is flexible and adaptable to changing conditions.

Before implementation of any plan, existing facilities should be surveyed to determine the current status of equipment and facilities. This will help establish a starting point for any project work.

In Los Gatos several techniques have been used effectively to help combat vandalism and other types of criminal activity.

These techniques are as follows:

1. Routine maintenance of problem parks should be emphasized in an attempt to project a positive image to the community.
2. Repair, remove or clean up any acts of vandalism as soon as possible.
3. Trim trees and shrubs on a regular basis in problem areas and around security lighting to allow for additional visibility by Rangers or Security staff. Follow up this action with added patrols on foot and by vehicle.
4. Implement a program to standardize signs in an attempt to inform the public about park rules and regulations. Repair or replace any damaged signs as soon as possible.
5. Revise existing park design to minimize inherent problems such as roof access to buildings, isolated picnic areas, vandalism susceptible light fixtures, etc.

DAMAGE/VANDALISM REPORT

Location of occurrence	Reported by	Report date	Case no.
------------------------	-------------	-------------	----------

Responsible party: Name Address Unknown Telephone	Accidental <input type="checkbox"/> Vandalism <input type="checkbox"/>	
Date of damage	For office use	
Description of damage: _____ _____ _____	Cost of material	Cost of labor
Explanation of costs:		

Figure A

6. Initiate programs which encourage positive use of park facilities, e.g., wildflower walks, civic group tree plantings, nature interpretation for schools and neighborhoods and neighborhood picnics.
7. Contact neighbors around parks to see what inputs they might have for park improvement.
8. Enforce all applicable codes and ordinances including park closure, curfew and noise restrictions.

This last item proved to be the most effective because many code violators were responsible for our vandalism problem and once they were removed vandalism no longer became a problem.

Many of the aforementioned factors can be expanded upon to meet the needs of a particular agency. Some require little planning or resources and others can become quite extensive. In many cases it is best for an agency to start this program on a limited basis and then expand to include the complete system.

Additional ideas on this subject can be acquired from the recent publications *Vandalism and Crime* by the Urban Action/Assistance Section, California Department of Parks and Recreation, 1980, and the *Study of Property Damage in Parks of San Jose, California: Final Report* by San Jose Parks Department 1981.

Bruce Baker is currently a park ranger with the Parks and Forestry Department, Town of Los Gatos, California.

FEATURE ARTICLE

What One Ranger Can Do...

MARKETING THE STATE PARK SYSTEM

BY Lisa Beutler

The California State Park System is facing a crisis of survival. As Department of Parks and Recreation Director Pete Dangermond Jr. stated in the July, 1982 issue of *NEWS & VIEWS*, "... justifying new park positions and funds is very difficult—especially when the Legislature compares examples of feeding starving children, educating youth, providing health care for the elderly, etc., against funding a guided hike at one of our parks." The fundamental questions are simple: Do we need parks and do we need rangers in those parks?

As professionals, we must believe the answers are YES. Remember those wise words we all mouthed after class in our Ranger Trainee days—being a ranger is not a job, it is a commitment to a lifestyle. As newlyweds professed their vows, so did we pledge our loyalty to the Department and Mother Earth.

Unfortunately, when dollars become less elastic, recreation finds itself on the strained end of the rubberband. With a surgeon's eye, budget makers view the parks as a place to loosen the economic tension.

Swirling in a whirlpool of bureaucratic snarls and indecision, the individual ranger feels helpless to change course. Rather than tackling such a large enterprise, we must understand that the first place to institute change is in our own park units.

Credibility in lobbying of the parks' cause comes from the park users and supporters. These are people the individual ranger has access to, and motivating them to tell our story should be a primary goal. Proper marketing of parks will increase public support and persuade budget makers to cut funds elsewhere.

The skills associated with marketing are closely related to one's own interpretive skills. The difference is that beyond helping the audience to gain understanding, marketing also persuades them to take action.

On sale is a product: The State Park System. Until recently our "product" was popular and easily sold itself. Now, as economic and political climates have changed, we are literally battling for our survival. We can no longer market our parks like vitamins—use one just because it's good for you. The public as consumers must be convinced of value and necessity.

The first step in developing a marketing technique is to convince management of the needs. Supervisors may believe that marketing activities should be directed by Headquarters or that marketing is a low priority for the field staff. In fact, rangers may be the only personnel that come in contact with the marketing audiences. Some managers may even question whether marketing is necessary, preferring instead to just relax and recall the 'old days.' The recent urgings of former Director Mott and the clear support of the current Director should provide persuasive ammunition.

Management will be asked to assist in two specific tasks. First, to identify the unit marketing goals, and second, to allow the employees time to devote to the project. Obviously, it becomes essential to have management support.

In soliciting supervisory approval, one must demonstrate the effectiveness of marketing as a management tool. Hook into goals that management has already identified, such as increasing revenue and attendance or solving a vandalism problem. While the primary goal is to sell the State Park System, proper program presentation can achieve those other secondary results.

At the field level, the most effective marketing approaches will revolve around community outreach. The regular park user could be compared to a faithful church goer—both are receptive to the messages being delivered or they wouldn't be there. The target of a marketing program is the individual beyond the park boundaries.

Development of a community outreach program should address any public relations problems currently affecting the unit. Such problems may include bad press on controversial issues, a distrust of outside agencies in local matters, or noncompatible uses of facilities from nearby residents. To solve these problems one must research their origin. What has been the historic relationship of the park to the community? What are the political consequences of actions one might take? Is there a way to neutralize potential problems? To answer these questions one must correctly detect the pulse of the community.

Careful research and evaluation of the prospective market will reap maximum results. Just as interpretive programs are designed for different audiences, so are marketing programs. Additionally, with limited time and resources, such research and evaluation will assist in developing necessary marketing priorities. This is particularly helpful in cases where overcoming problems would require extensive effort and offer little reward.

Specific problems may not be evident; instead the community may not be aware of or simply doesn't use the facilities. In those cases, marketing should focus on selling of the State Park System by encouraging use of the local park unit. Returning to the example of the church goer, methods that encourage increased park attendance should almost always be figured into your marketing strategy. Again, once they are in the park, the visitor becomes a receptive, accessible audience.

In evaluating ways to increase attendance, several factors should be considered. Who are the non-users? What are the use patterns of the regular clients? Are there possibilities for park use currently not offered?

At Carnegie State Vehicular Recreation Area, 90 percent of the users are able-bodied men between the ages of 15 and 30. Non-users are easily identified as women, children, the handicapped, and seniors. High visitor use occurs on a seasonal basis, with winter-spring weekends showing peak attendance. In this off-highway vehicle park, there is a possibility for year-round camping, organized outings, additional special events, and interpretive programs.

Although located outside of Tracy, California in the San Joaquin County, visitor surveys indicate the majority of visitors travel from Alameda and Santa Clara Counties. Therefore, while the closest townships to the unit are Tracy and Livermore, the "community" that Carnegie serves may extend up to a 90-mile radius.

Historically, Carnegie had been an OHV park for a number of years, but privately owned. The previous owner had been forced out of business several years before the State acquisition. There was also an unfortunate misunderstanding between the State and an influential park neighbor. The result was some bad press at any mention of State Park expansion.

In developing a marketing strategy for Carnegie, it was first necessary to focus on the community relations problem. Well-spent effort has resulted in a better relationship with the neighbors. The other factors to be overcome were that the private owner had not enforced any Vehicle Code requirements and that because he had been out of business for awhile, many people were unaware the park was still there. Those problems were partially resolved by

continued on next page

providing information on the park to community police departments, newspapers, and motorcycle dealers.

Since there is an obvious non-user factor at Carnegie, it makes sense to focus on attendance as a strategy. In this case, women are an easily accessible audience. Why don't women use the facility? Traditional participation in the sport has excluded them. In addressing that problem, the park will be adding more facilities for beginners and the park staff is looking at ways to change the image of the sport. A local motorcycle dealer was persuaded that an untapped market existed and he responded by donating a new motorcycle to the park for use by a female ranger. By seeming a woman showcased in the sport, many of the regular visitors decided to introduce female companions to motorcycling. The dealer benefits by increased sales and simultaneously, the park gains new users. Another non-user market is the disabled. Staff is now looking at featuring an event with vehicles that require no foot controls.

Because Carnegie is a relatively new unit it would be unfair to expect similar results in established parks, but visitation has increased over 20 percent in the last fiscal year.



Natural History Associations, such as this group at Ano Nuevo State Reserve, are excellent ambassadors for the park system. Photo by Frank Bathis

In a coastal unit, the non-users may be seniors or individuals without transportation. Some areas have worked out cooperative ventures with local transit districts, coordinating service with special events, thereby guaranteeing ridership. One innovative idea was the development of a bus tour featuring a historic interpretive program. The audience, mostly seniors with no interest in traditional beach use, also learned about some park operational problems from the ranger giving the tour. Many left the tour with new understanding and became motivated park supporters.

Another factor in employing a marketing strategy is to determine who else would be interested in furthering the identified goals. A well designed marketing program should include other individuals or organizations that will profit from assisting with the achievement of goals.

A model program that demonstrates this potential interaction is the relationship among Chico's Visitor and Convention Bureau, the State Parks, and the University. The three bodies—private industry, recreation, and education—work closely together in providing services, increasing revenues, and motivating supporters. For example, Bidwell Mansion State Historic Park serves as a drawing card by using student internship to host a variety of events. These events in turn increase tourism and produce a revenue base for the business community.

Elsewhere, East Bay Regional Park District and the National Fish and Wildlife Service has developed a symbiotic relationship at Coyote Hills and the San Francisco Bay Refuge. Coyote Hills has an exceptionally popular Native American program. Rather than duplicate services, the Refuge offers a complementary program that furthers the goals of both agencies.

At the San Mateo Coast Area, an informed relationship with the US Forest Service led to a gift of grass seed left over from reseeding efforts at the Marble Cone Fire. In addition, San Mateo also hosts a professionally-recognized internship program featuring UC Santa Cruz and West Valley College students.

By marketing to other agencies it is possible to increase resources and further the goals of all parties involved.

In continuing to identify outside assistance possibilities, a resource list should be developed. Include other agencies, individuals, private industry, special interests, and professional associations. In developing the list keep in mind compatible goals and the possibility of offering the park as a resource to them.

Explore new ways of selling the product. For instance, why not develop a portable display that could be loaned to schools, libraries, or be featured in public buildings and shopping centers.

Contact civic groups and the Chamber of Commerce. In addition to offering a program presentation, a picnic area may be suggested as a possible site for a midweek, summer evening meeting. Invite these local groups to host special events in the park.

There is no marketing without marketers. An individual ranger can not only increase attendance through his or her own efforts, but can actually change the public attitude toward State Parks. The future of State Parks lies not only in management, but in you, the State Park Ranger.

MOMENTS IN STATE PARK HISTORY

by Denzil & Jennie Verardo

For this issue we offer you an account written for us by Harriet "Petey" Weaver. A CSPRA Honorary Ranger, "Petey" was for twenty summers also the only uniformed woman in California's State Park Ranger crews. She was classified as a "Naturalist" because, until 1972, there were no women allowed in the park ranger ranks. However, she conducted campfire shows, led hikes and participated in countless "ranger duties." She has authored several books including Frosty, A Raccoon to Remember, a story set in Big Basin Redwoods State Park. Her account of the Big Basin Fire of 1948 graphically describes the dedication of park employees which has always been the bulwark of the State Park System. It also allows us to personally delve into a past era and through her eyes, witness how operations in State Parks functioned over three decades ago.

"The Big Basin Fire of 1948"

How could anyone who was in Big Basin the night of August 31, 1948 ever forget! While flames leaped over a mile into the sky from Pine Mountain above, we of the crew, watching from Headquarters porch, gasped in utter disbelief. Yet despite the menace, calm prevailed as everyone faced up to the fiery emergency confronting us.

The park was *loaded* for the Labor Day weekend. Sometime after 10 PM Les Gumm, Chief Ranger of the State Division of Forestry at Felton, had advised Big Basin Chief Ranger Lloyd Lively of our danger. Typical of a capable leader, Lloyd was thinking coolly and logically, organizing necessary procedures, when Naturalist Don Meadows and I rushed into the office.

With the fire bearing down upon us, the first priority had to be evacuation of the park. So Lloyd quickly deployed many of his crew throughout the extensive campgrounds to awaken campers calmly and avoid panic. Meanwhile he and three of the men, carrying Pulaskis, McClouds, and backpacks, set out for the Pine Mountain Trail on the first of several expeditions to scout and assess the fire situation. Roy Fulmer (park concessionaire) started alerting his Lodge guests and employees. I was assigned to Headquarters after Lloyd impressed upon me that we must clear the park—and fast; that the several hundred campers without any transportation—mostly women and children whose men-folk came over only on weekends—must be assembled at Headquarters and taken to safety.

Acting as dispatcher I began telephoning: first an SOS to the Boulder Creek operator, asking her to recruit anyone in the canyon who would fight fire or provide transportation and to alert the firehouse and whomever or whatever else could receive refugees. Next I phoned the Sheriff and the Highway Patrol in Santa Cruz, suggesting immediate closure and clearance of all roads for fire-fighters and equipment and absolutely essential travel. A call to Greyhound for a bus or two followed; then calls to Jack Knight, District Superintendent, and Clyde Newlin in Mountain View, who got up out of a sick-bed to respond. Later summons from Headquarters went to other Big Basin oldtimers to please come: Roy Cushing and Carl Saddlemyer from Seacliff, Mel Whittaker from Mt. Tam and Charlie Fackler from Shrine Grove (Portola). Before long they all arrived with their expertise and knowledge of our back-country. Loggers like the Locatelli brothers brought in their dozers and did much to save Big Basin. Many young men park campers remained with us to volunteer their services and the park wives hastened to pack family cars and prepare food and coffee.

RATTLESNAKES ARE A BUZZWORD

... the mere thought of these creatures sends some people climbing to high places. This shouldn't be. Maybe a little understanding of the animal will help; and as Alan Tennant said in his recent article "Herpin" in *Audubon Magazine*, "Snakes are only frightening when *they* surprise *you*."

The rattler living in my neighborhood is the Northern Pacific Rattlesnake, *Crotalus viridis oreganus*, one of the nine subspecies of the Western Rattlesnake. Its range is roughly from central California all the way up into British Columbia. In northeastern California lives the subspecies Great Basin Rattlesnake. California has the greatest variety of rattlesnakes in the south and southeast basin and plain country. It is here you might find the Southern Pacific Rattlesnake, the Panamint Rattlesnake, Southwestern Speckled Rattlesnake, Red Diamond Rattlesnake, Mojave Rattlesnake, the Western Diamondback Rattlesnake and two kinds of sidewinders, the Mojave Desert and the Colorado Desert Sidewinder. California has ten kinds of rattlers; but Arizona "wins" with 16 kinds, plus the coral snake!

Rattlesnakes are pit vipers. The "pit," a facial opening on each side of the head, is a heat receptor which aids in both locating prey and striking it. This temperature differential receptor has a maximum recognition distance of about 15 inches.

These snakes are well known for their fangs and poison delivery system; the mere thought instills fear in many humans.

But the understanding of these snakes may help relieve these tensions. Let's begin with a TRUE/FALSE Quiz:

RATTLESNAKES:

1. They can be found roaming at all times of the day; but prefer to hunt at night. T F
2. They are so dependent on external conditions, temperature being the most important. T F
3. They are deaf to airborne sounds. T F
4. They are not inherently vindictive or vicious. T F
5. They are at their greatest comfort in the 80-90 degree temperature range. T F
6. Their activities reach a low point in summer. T F
7. Rarely is their strike more than half their body length—almost never beyond three-quarters. T F
8. They eat mostly small mammals, mice and voles and such, but lizards are the second most important component of their diet. T F
9. They have full control over the amount of venom injected; they, if they wish, bite without injecting venom at all. T F
10. With no treatment at all, a rattlesnake bite would probably not be fatal in more than five percent of the cases. T F

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PICTURE CARDS FOR PRESCHOOLERS

Young children (ages 4-6) are fascinated by the mere sight of wild animals; so wouldn't it be nice if we had magic flutes, which when played, would draw wild animals to our sides? Alas . . . you know as well as I, when you want to see a deer, none appear.

Knowing full well the predictability (or really unpredictability) of sighting specific animals, I've found that I can use pictures of these animals in order to better communicate and interpret to these young children.

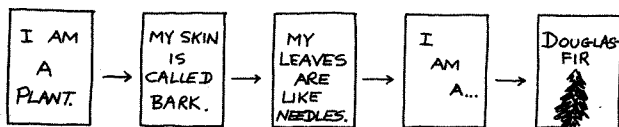
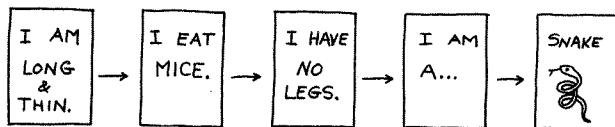
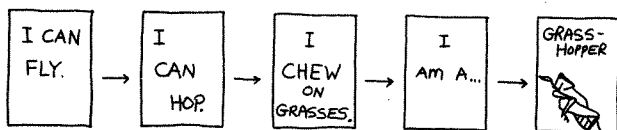
Taking photographs is expensive, and often impossible, so I rely on pictures cut from nature magazines. These old magazines can offer some pretty specific subjects such as close-ups of a spider with her eggs, moths drinking nectar, and birds building their nest. Often, you can find animals which are endemic to your region of the country.

These pictures, mounted on 5"x7" cardboard note cards, can be used in a variety of ways. These activities seem very simple—and they are—but remember, we're talking with very young children.

The pictures are used so that you can show the kids a clear example of an animal that has just disappeared from sight; or one that you can only hear at a distance. Also, if an animal is fragile, and couldn't survive twenty-two grasping little hands, the pictures work well.

Another way is to sit down in "circle time," simply showing the kids animals that live in your park . . . sort of an identification quiz . . . "Do you know what kind of an animal this is?", you might ask. Then tell them something special about this animal—where it lives or what it eats or tricks it uses to hide from its enemies.

GUESSING GAME EXAMPLES:

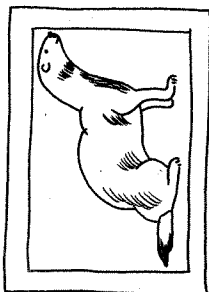


EXAMPLE:

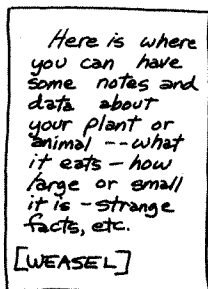
PICTURE CLOSE-UPS

MATERIALS }
EQUIPMENT } NEEDED:

- SCISSORS
- 5"x7" NOTECARDS
- PHOTO MOUNT SPRAY ADHESIVE
- LOTS OF OLD MAGAZINES -
RANGER RICK - NATIONAL WILDLIFE -
AUDUBON - NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC -
NATURAL HISTORY - ETC.



FRONT



BACK

And let's not forget, these kids love guessing games! Using 5"x7" cards, simple guessing game sequences can easily be developed, ending with a picture of the "answer." Each card is shown, one at a time, with a dialog between yourself and the kids—reactions and discussion to their responses—until, with suspense in your voice, you say, "It is a fox! Great! Good job!" and then praise them for their good guesses.

Not only are the children learning what animals look like, they are also learning a bit about the animal's ways.

When we give these children a clearer image of nature, a stronger impression, a closer look, then we're doing our job well. Picture cards are tools that can help you.

Bill Krumbein is the unit ranger at Annadel State Park, Santa Rosa, California 95405.

Well, how do you feel you scored? All of the answers are true.

Yes, we seem to be seeing more of these snakes around here each year, but these animals are not malignant, vindictive, and crafty, with a special hatred for humans. "... a rattlesnake is only a primitive creature with rudimentary perceptions and reactions. It seeks only to defend itself from injury by intruders of superior size, of which man is one."*

There are but three needs for all creatures: food, self protection, and reproduction, and thus to survive. In surviving, this animal as a predator, helps to keep rodent populations in control. If rodents became overpopulated they would threaten the grasslands, eating the grasses and seeds which would denude the landscape making it susceptible to the effects of erosion.

Spring is the time of greatest activity for these snakes. They are hungry after their long winter fast, and, in most areas, this is the mating season. The young are born from August into mid October with most in September.

During the summer it becomes hotter, and they bask in the sun only in times of moderate temperatures. When it's really hot, heat damage will occur in the animal in temperatures over 110 degrees. They are more nocturnal in summer than in spring or fall.

In summer there isn't the need for much activity. Mating is over and their spring hunger is satisfied. It lies in wait by a trail along which some small animal is likely to pass. It only feeds every 2 or 3 weeks. The remainder of the time is rest period, or looking out for enemies. Yes, rattlesnakes have quite a few dangers to be aware of at all times.

Besides people as a threat to rattlers, eagles, hawks, roadrunners, kingsnakes, racers, badgers, coyotes, and pigs will all eat rattlesnakes. These are all carnivores (pigs being omnivores eating just about anything) killing for their food. Deer are also rattlesnake killers but do so for their own protection or that of their young.

Now, what will you do if you see a rattlesnake while on your hike? Better yet, let's consider what the rattler is thinking about *you*. You are bigger than he is, and pose a threat. The snake has three *successive* phases of defense:

1. First it will attempt to avoid detection by being still and utilizing its protective coloration.
2. Next it will try to escape—get away from you—leave the scene.
3. Lastly, now being afraid of injury, it will coil, act in a threatening manner, and even strike out.

The snake really doesn't want to have anything to do with you. Its eyesight is only effectively responsive in the 10-15 foot range. It will feel your presence by ground tremors and sense of smell. Back off now, and allow the snake an escape route.

There is absolutely no reason for people to be fearful of coming to a state park just because there are rattlesnakes present. Last season, at Annadel S.P., maybe ten people told me of spotting a rattler. I only saw one, and I work here fifty weeks out of the year. You just must remember they may be present, and you should watch out for them.

Cardinal rule: WATCH WHERE YOU PUT YOUR HANDS AND FEET. If you cannot see the place, don't put your hands or feet there. This is especially true when climbing over a log or in a rocky area.

We should respect living things.

*The source of most of this article comes from a superior book about rattlesnakes and their ways. It is called *RATTLESNAKES*, by Laurance M. Klauber, Abridged Edition by Karen Harvey McClung, University of California Press, 1982.

At the same time, Lodge guests and campers with cars were on their way out, many quickly lining the streets of downcanyon towns; those afoot, carrying assorted bags, were soon streaming into Headquarters Rec Hall.

By midnight of this wild Tuesday an angry patch of red had appeared on the East Fork of the Waddell and was heading toward the park. Right then we began to dread the next afternoon's usual PM updraft from the sea, for that could drive the flames down into the park.

By dawn the blaze had swept over Pine Mountain and to within a half mile of us before a lucky shift of wind veered it seaward between the Waddell and Scotts Creek. Battling all of this were over 1200 men from six counties, the California Youth Authority Camp near Ben Lomond, the State Forestry crew from Felton, Boulder Creek's fire department, prisoners from Soledad's Medium Security Camp, and of course our own men who became crew bosses for the convicts. Later, firefighters and equipment came from Sequoia and Kings Canyon upon orders of President Truman and Secretary of the Interior Krug. By radio, hour after hour, Forestry at Felton kept calling for volunteers.

By Wednesday Little Basin with its 2000 acres of prime redwood and fir were gone; temperatures were well over 100 and the humidity zero; a strong capricious wind was driving the fire down the Waddell and Mill Creek toward some ranches and a half dozen lumber mills. Smoke hung thick and heavy in the canyons, and great clouds of it could be seen at San Francisco to the north and King City to the south. In the park, stock and records were being removed from the Lodge, curio store and Post Office.

Every man of our Big Basin crew worked the clock around with little or no rest. I was posted at the South Gate all day. Much of Thursday and Friday I served at the North Gate, stopping the hordes of sightseers from the Bay Area. This gave me an opportunity to watch from a safe but extremely hot and windy distance, for the temperatures continued to soar. One of the afternoons I was sent up to the Empire Grade to try and reassure the residents there who were waiting beside the road for news, and to deliver a message to the Eagle Rock lookout. As I passed through the Locatelli vineyards and headed for the short winding rise to the tower, the wind-fanned flames howled up the slope behind the ranch house, whipping the trees as through they were grasses. I had barely time enough to shout my message to the lookout on the catwalk before he yelled to get out NOW. I snapped a picture of the threatening fire and tore back to the Empire Grade and on down into the park. At the same time Lennie Penhale was out on the Chalks, shooting from there.

Friday saw more recruits rushed into the fray. Thirty-two naval reservists, soldiers from Ft. Ord, and additional 120 convicts from Soledad arrived at Davenport, while 400 men at the edge of our main area near Woodwardia Falls struggled to keep the inferno out of Park Center. By then the fire was roaring along a five mile front, and it began to look as if the whole countryside was going up. Everywhere towering flames overwhelmed backfires. Men on the lines were falling exhausted as they fought to cope with shifting winds and perpendicular terrain that would permit no heavy equipment; flames that leaped hacked-out firebreaks and crowned; intense heat and thick yellow smoke that hugged the ground and bore poison oak pollen that swelled sweating faces. Frank Locatelli drove his 23 ton cat for five days almost continuously, along with his employee, Manuel Rodriguez, on another cat. The only way to stop the fire seemed to be by dozing out wide breaks across the ridges. From the North Gate I watched stands of fir and brush mushroom high in the air like atomic bombs from where men and equipment were struggling to hold.

When along the Empire Ridge back of Boulder Creek the front boiled up red and ominous, frightened residents realized that this fire had to be stopped at

the Empire Grade or the valley and its towns would be next. All the while, over toward the coast ranches were burning; Swanton and Davenport were preparing to evacuate; scores of wild animals were fleeing into the open, and a Sheriff's posse was standing by a herd of 300 cattle. Giant trees, burned through at the base, were rolling down tinder-dry mountainsides like torches, setting new infernos.

Down in Park Center, where the sun shone red through the smoke, the deer stood around, gazing this way and that, obviously wondering what had become of everyone, why all the empty tents. It was weird to us, too, those deserted camp and picnic grounds.

On Saturday, September 4, the winds died down, and unless a strong up-draft should rush in from the sea or the fire should spread around McAbee Mountain and Gazos Creek and encircle Big Basin, we had reason to feel hopeful of its safety. A 60-foot wide break, parallel to the Empire Grade on the ocean side, warranted some optimism although four miles from the coast the fire still roared in a huge crescent on a seven mile front. Behind it lay 8000 smoldering acres, buildings at and near Mill Creek Dam had been destroyed, and Bonny Doon was being threatened.



Courtesy of the U.S. Forest Service

Then that afternoon the PM southwest wind came up and began whipping flames back toward the South Gate, the Harbaugh place, and the Sgarlato's home and grocery at Summit. Quickly a new fire camp was set up there and equipment rushed to it.

By Sunday 16,000 acres had been consumed. Now, though, a dense fog enhanced efforts at containment. By Monday the fire was 95% under control. Still to come were weeks of backbreaking work, dampening down the hot spots and patrolling. The head of Big Creek continued to burn, but Big Basin was no longer in danger because of the 60 foot firebreaks in the upper Little Basin near the southeast corner of the park, and despite a spot fire that roared

to within 100 yards of Eagle Rock Lookout, yet sparing the Locatelli Ranch, before it could be controlled.

There had been about 1200 men fighting the fire from Big Basin's boundary down Big, Scotts, and San Vicente creeks toward the coast, around the northernmost end of the Empire Grade and south to the very border of Bonny Doon. As of Sunday, about 850 men continued backfiring and clearing along the Empire Grade and many areas seaward to Swanton.

Santa Cruz was covered with ashes. As Del Curtis, CDF, told me later, "Before it was all over 20,000 acres of brush and timber had disappeared. Built, lost and rebuilt was fireline enough to equal a 30-foot road from San Francisco to King City—130 miles. A single sub-purchase order for meat for the men amounted to \$12,000. And the time in man hours required to corral the Big Basin fire—one man 14½ years." It had burned from August 31, that wildly busy Labor Day weekend to November 30 before finally being declared OUT.

What I remember most vividly about the fire were the tireless and heroic efforts of our own Big Basin crew, who sweat on and on, beyond what seemed to me to be the limits of human endurance. And we all remember, of course, the heartbreaking sight of animals burned and attempting to escape; our beloved giants giving up after all of those centuries and crashing to the earth.

"Moments in State Park History" is a regular feature of *The California Ranger*.



Clean up our parks—vote YES on Proposition 11!

THE GILLNET CONTROVERSY

by Wendy Lieber

During the month of July 1982, San Mateo Coast State Beach was introduced to modern gillnet fishing technology and the effect on marine resources was staggering. Concerned citizens and DPR employees formed a network which, during a 30 day period, documented 2000 birds and 25 marine mammal carcasses. The problem has a cohesing effect on the park staff as the north and south sectors of both visitors services and maintenance divisions kept each other aware of new bird kills and gill net boat sightings along a 45 mile stretch of shoreline. Gillnet fishing, banned by the Director of California Department of Fish and Game to the north and south of the park, sought out the San Mateo coastline where no limitations were in effect and legally began fishing with their deadly methods. Only three fishing boats are thought to be responsible for the kills.

The boats fishing out of Half Moon Bay Harbor towards the end of June used miles of monofilament gillnetting strung out at shallow depths offshore of sandy beaches. Unlike most types of commercial fishing, where a net is dragged behind a boat (trawling) or a school of fish is encircled by a net (purse seining), the gill nets are set in place by weights and floats, and left for 24 hours or more to collect a catch. The gills of the fish become entangled in the invisible nets. Unable to intake oxygen by movement the fish die which attracts larger predator fish. The problem develops when the birds and marine mammals are drawn to the nets to feed and become entangled and drown. When the gillnets are hauled in, the birds and marine mammals are cut free from the nets which then float to the nearby beaches in rafts of interconnected bodies. The visual effects were awesome. Visitors to the beaches were appalled and curious. "Gillnet" interpretation became a fixture of the field staff's job. It became commonplace to find birds stacked by visitors in creative memorials of twigs and litter throughout the park.

Greenpeace was the liaison to the media and enough publicity was generated by San Francisco television stations and local newspapers to persuade the Fish and Game Director to hold a public hearing only three weeks after the kills began. A full hall of environmentalists, fisherfolk, and Parks and Recreation employees assembled on a rare sunny Saturday afternoon for a lively debate. Within a week the Director of Fish and Game, using the emergency authority of SB 1475, extended the limitations to cover the San Mateo coastline. This emergency ban was in effect until the end of September. Gillnets were limited in size to 300 square feet and the net must be set at a depth of at least 60 feet below sea level. It is felt this action would reduce bird mortality, especially that of the common murre which dives to depths as far as 100 feet in search of fish to feed its hatchlings on the local offshore islands.

Approximately 1700 adult murrees were killed in the month of July leaving 1700 murre chicks to starve to death. Their carcasses still continue to float up on the beaches. There are now eleven gillnet boats operating out of Half Moon Bay Harbor where there were once three. Fish and Game wardens have been busy enforcing the limitations. Permanent legislation is needed to control commercial fishing when it threatens the viability of a marine species. Such legislation may be well on the way. The state legislature this past ses-



Murre caught up in netting, Pescadero State Beach.

sion approved AB 2581 giving the Fish and Game Director authority to monitor all types of fishing and to take measures when fishing activity adversely affects wildlife. It is now on the Governor's desk awaiting his signature. Hopefully this next summer will be safer for waterfowl.

Wendy Lieber is a State Park Ranger in the San Mateo Coast Area.

**CSPRA WELCOMES ITS ASSOCIATION WITH
THE CALIFORNIA PARK AND RECREATION SOCIETY**

COMMITTEE NOTES

by Steve Horvitz

The Education and Training Committee is still hard at work. We've set some pretty high goals for ourselves over the next year.

We'll be setting up training sessions located in the north and south state. The sessions will give the membership a chance to improve their skills in interpretation and resource management. We are just getting to work on this now, starting from scratch. Though I see this as one of our biggest challenges, I hope to see headway made early next year. With a tentative date for completion late next Fall.

Also high on our list is to develop a *Resource Management Handbook*. A quality reference for field Rangers and Maintenance workers. It will make available a ready guide to the most challenging resource problems we encounter at the units. These problems will be exemplified so they and their solutions will be clearly understandable and easy to follow. I am very excited about this handbook, and we're moving fast. Already a team is being set up to work on it, and the ground work is being completed.

We will be soliciting information from experts, from the Department's Resource Protection Division, and from the people who see and work with the problems first hand in the field, for their "back-yard" solutions. Keep your eyes to upcoming articles in the *California Ranger* and the *Newsletter* with our progress, and with questions for you to assist us on. It's the Education and Training Committee's goal to see this handbook to completion as a valuable and professional tool. Such that will set standards in our vocation. We hope to have the *Resource Management Handbook* finished by the time our first training sessions start.

As usual the Committee is offering scholarships for training. These scholarships are made available to all members who wish to better themselves and their profession, but need a little monetary assistance to do so. We ask when you file for a grant you follow this format:

First:

You must attempt to receive training funds from the department. If you're turned down, send the statement of denial to the committee. Include all pertinent information.

Second:

The training requested must be of value to the field level. Either directly—the candidate is working in the field, or indirectly—the candidate has a direct effect on field level people.

Third:

The training must be of value to the individual on a person by person basis.

Of course you must be a member of CSPRA to take advantage of the scholarships. Normally grants will be made to education given only in California.

We offer these grants to give the members a chance to improve themselves on an individual basis. Knowing that by doing so they will be improving the profession as a whole.

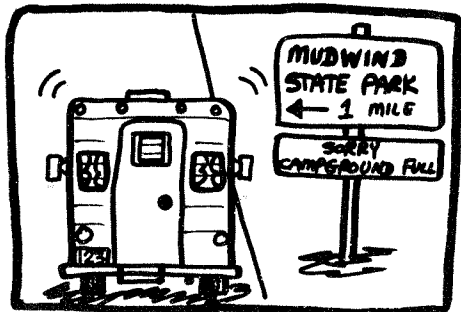
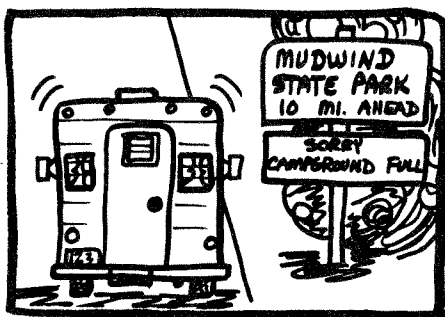
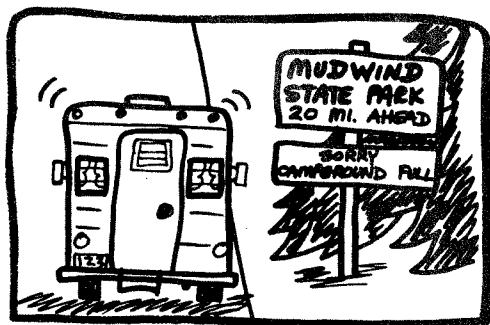
The scholarships will always be of high priority with the Education and Training Committee. Over the next few yeras we'll be building up the funds. As the Department is struggling with a tight budget, it will be necessary for the Education and Training Committee to take a more active role in helping Rangers with training.

Send all your requests to the Education and Training Committee directly. We'll consider them and send you a prompt response. Since 1979 the Committee has awarded grants totaling close to \$2,000. This service is available to all members—so make use of it!

For the future: the Committee will be continually working for the improvement of the Ranger profession. We feel we can best do this by working at an individual level. We'll be offering educational sessions to give our members the ability to become more effective and involved in the operations of their units. We'll be making available to the President and Board of Directors of CSPRA the information and alternatives to assist them as they plan for CSPRA's future.

If you would like to be involved with the Committee, let me know! We may have some work for you!

For information, training requests, suggestions, and advice, write the Education and Training Committee Chairman: Steve Horvitz, 622 High Street, Sebastopol, California 95472.

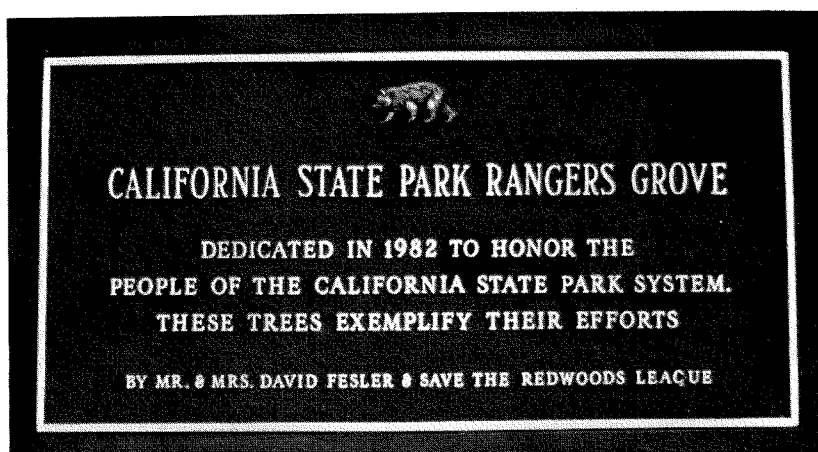


W. Hummer

PHOTO ESSAY

CALIFORNIA STATE PARK RANGERS GROVE GROVE DEDICATION - JUNE 5, 1982

by John Mott



Close up of the plaque.



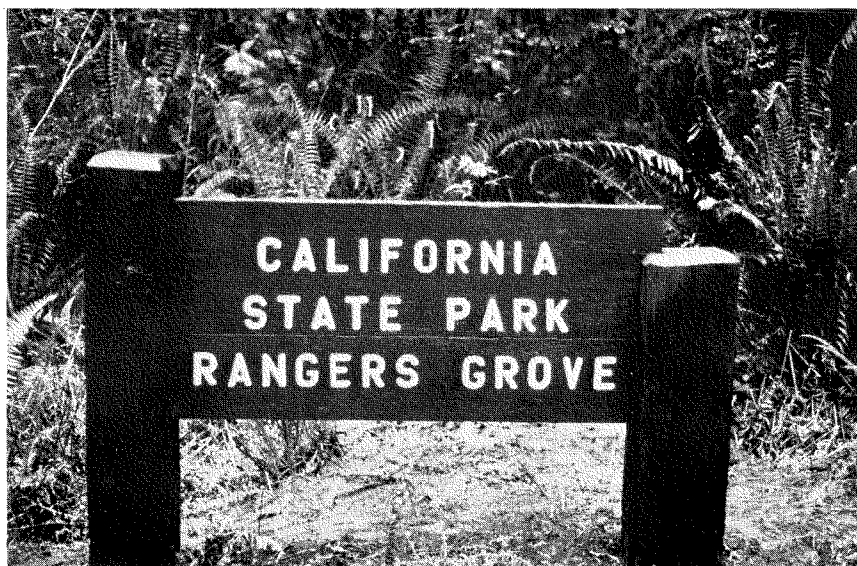
CSPRA President John Mott congratulates SPR II Bob Perkins for his outstanding service in working with Mr. Fesler and the Save-the-Redwoods League to make the grove a reality.

Author, honorary member and the "first lady seasonal Ranger" Harriett "Pettie" Weaver expressed how proud she was to be honored by Mr. Fesler's generosity.



"I am sure the rangers have continuously touched, in a positive way, millions of people just as they have touched the donors who gave the funds for the grove in honor of the State Park Rangers."

—Neil Johannsen, DPR Deputy Director, speaking at dedication ceremonies



The California State Park Rangers Grove sign as seen from Highway 99 in Jedediah Smith Redwoods State Park.

EQUIPMENT REVIEW

THE PR-24 POLICE BATON

by Mike Curry

In the past few months there has been an interest expressed among peace officer personnel in the PR-24 police baton, also known as the prosecutor or under its martial arts name Tofu. This device resembles a standard baton in which a short handle has been attached to the side of it. Proponents of the PR-24 consider it much superior to the standard baton stating not only is it more effective against both single and multiple opponents it is also fairly simple to learn the techniques. Opponents disagree feeling the techniques require extensive training. Stan Kepar, defensive tactics consultant for the California Department of Parks and Recreation, discussed the PR-24 during a defensive tactics instructor course at the Mott Training Center in Pacific Grove. He said the use of weapons in martial arts is not introduced until a practitioner has achieved a third degree black belt. He considered the PR-24 a gimmick that could not be easily mastered by field personnel.

Because of the interest of some of our peace officers and the fact that several major enforcement agencies, including CHP, have adopted it I have started researching the device. Utilizing the Department of Justice research facilities, I have been acquiring technical reports on the PR-24 and its use by various agencies. The conclusions of this report do not reflect support or non-support for the adoption of the PR-24 by DPR. But it does provide information to State Park Peace Officers.

The following report was completed by the Los Angeles Sheriff's Department in 1974 and is the earliest evaluation by an enforcement agency I could find.

"An Evaluation of the Monadnock Prosecutor Baton" *Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department*

Statement of the Problem

The purpose of this evaluation was: (1) to determine the effectiveness of the Monadnock Prosecutor baton as a law enforcement tool, (2) to evaluate the feasibility of adopting the Monadock Prosecutor baton as an issue or optional item of equipment by personnel of the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department.

Methods of Evaluation

This study utilized the following data collection methods:

1. The administration of monthly evaluation questionnaires to all members of the evaluation team.
2. Personal observations of baton and physical training instructors relative to the difficulty or ease of administering training in the use of the new baton.
3. Personal interviews with selected members of the evaluation team.

Limitations

Because of the prohibitive size of the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department, as well as the limited number of special batons available for the study, only 36 patrol personnel were utilized in this evaluation.

Description of the Preparatory Training Program and Evaluation Procedures

Because of the unique and unconventional aspects of the Monadnock Prosecutor baton, special training is required to insure safe and effective utilization by personnel. This training was arranged through the cooperation of Mr. Lon Anderson, representing the Monadnock organization and representatives of the Training Bureau of the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department.

Selection of Evaluators

Evaluators for this study were selected at random from the various patrol stations throughout the Department. Eighteen were selected from Patrol Division, East, and 18 from Patrol Division, West. Personnel selected were required to be assigned to field patrol duties, where the opportunity to evaluate the baton would be greatest.

Training Content

Initial training of evaluators and issuance of batons was conducted on April 25, 1974, from 0800 hours to 1600 hours in the gymnasium of the Training Bureau. Instruction was presented by Mr. Anderson, who was assisted by martial arts instructor, Deputy Gary Rovarino. Basic aspects of defense utilizing the Tonfa style baton were covered extensively. Defense against armed and unarmed assaults were illustrated and practiced, as well as two basic holds, useful in restraining combative drunks and other individuals.

All present were impressed by the speed with which personnel developed competence in using the Monadnock Prosecutor. This is, perhaps, due to the instinctive nature of the moves instructed.

As requested by Mr. Anderson, those personnel who completed the training were certified by the Training Bureau Commander. No one, other than those completing this training, were allowed to carry and utilize the special baton.

Evaluation Procedures

All personnel assigned to the evaluation study were required to submit a monthly evaluation sheet describing briefly the circumstances surrounding the utilization of the special baton during their patrol assignments. The evaluation format was in the form of a questionnaire, which was intentionally brief to facilitate compliance.

Results of the Evaluation

Upon completion of the six-month trial period, critiques submitted revealed that the special baton far exceeded positive expectations relative to its acceptance by both Deputy personnel, as well as the general public.

The baton proved useful in both individual and group confrontations. Many Deputies relied upon it for controlling suspects who were verging on combativeness, while others indicated that additional problems were averted due to their ability to use the baton without telegraphing their moves. The special baton proved to be an excellent means of quickly defending against multiple combative suspects attacking from more than one direction. This is apparently due to the speed of the special baton, which is attained by the turning movements of the body, coordinated with proper striking techniques.

Also, evaluation critiques indicated that the special baton provided the Deputy with a psychological advantage and instilled far more confidence than the conventional baton. Further, the public seems to recognize the special baton as a martial arts weapon. Consequently, many Deputies felt that the mere presence of the baton reduced the likelihood of physical assault on

continued on next page

their persons.

A surprising number of evaluating Deputies indicated that they had utilized the special baton come-along holds in restraining and arresting intoxicated persons. Because the holds instructed were not as instinctive as the defensive and offensive maneuvers, the instructors believed initially that they would be used less extensively. However, this did not hold true. Evaluators assigned to rural areas found the baton useful against aggressive dogs and animals. All evaluators expressed the belief that they felt better equipped and possessed greater confidence in dealing with individual or group confrontations while carrying the special baton.

The only negative comments received referred to the difficulty experienced in carrying the baton in the conventional ring. Upon receipt of the modified baton ring, these complaints ceased.

Conclusions

Based upon evaluator critiques, follow-up interviews, and instructor observations, it can safely be concluded that the Monadnock Prosecutor baton is far superior to the conventional model presently in use by the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department.

The following advantages are evident as a result of the evaluation study:

1. The special baton can be carried comfortably in the ready position without offending the opponent or the public. The possibility of citizen complaints prevalent with the publicized and often photographed overhand blow to the head with the conventional baton, is reduced considerably with the special Tonfa style baton. This is due primarily to the configuration of the baton, which makes it extremely difficult to utilize in this manner.
2. Jabs, chops, blocks, and other techniques can be used from the ready position with tremendous effectiveness.
3. Weapons can be disarmed from opponents with accuracy, speed, and force.
4. Superior leverage enables the application of several come-along holds.

According to the Department's present baton instructor, training in the special baton would require no more time or expertise than is presently being utilized in teaching the conventional baton, using Bo-Jitsu or Kendo baton techniques.

The Police Weapons Center of the International Association of Chiefs of Police, Incorporated, formally accepted the Monadnock Prosecutor baton on November 1, 1973, and issued registration control number 050 to the device.

Recommendations

As a result of the evaluation study, two recommendations are readily apparent.

1. Officially adopt the special baton as an issue item of safety equipment for use by personnel of the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department, or
2. Officially adopt the special baton as an optional item of safety equipment for use by personnel of the Department.

Whether the new baton is adopted as an issue, or optional item, instruction and certification prior to carrying it should be mandatory.

MONADNOCK BATCH, FIELD EVALUATION

Name _____ Month evaluated _____
Unit of Assignment _____

1. During the evaluation period, did you utilize the special baton during your field assignments? YES 2 NO 2
2. If you did utilize the special baton, state briefly the circumstances and whether or not the baton proved to be advantageous.
3. Do you feel better equipped to deal with individual or group confrontations since carrying or using the special baton? YES 4 NO _____
4. Additional comments:

I feel much more confident that I could defend myself better with this new baton. It is easier to use, easier to conceal and easier to carry. Most deputies don't utilize the old baton as an effective piece of police equipment because, for the major part, they just leave it in the car. I believe that if every deputy had the Monadnock baton he would be carrying it and would feel as confident as I do.

About its capabilities, there is a great interest and curiosity shown by almost all deputies at ELA in regards to the Monadnock baton. John, they too would like to carry one!

During a carnival, a large group of people were causing a disturbance at a beer dispensing stand. They ignored my verbal commands & attempts to physically separate the disturbing parties were futile because of the size of the crowd. (A reserve & I were the only officers at the location.) I used the baton when all else failed & was very successful in segregating & controlling the disturbing parties with minimal force or visible offensiveness. The baton remained mostly concealed & was never swung during the encounter.

In the above encounter, I proved to myself that the baton is a very effective TOOL that has a definite & advantageous use in modern patrol work. I would like to see refresher courses given from time to time in its use, & at these times more deputies should be trained in its use.

I was attacked by a professed expert in karate. One overhand blow to the jaw knocked him down & several others made handcuffing possible. The baton was invaluable because of the speed of the delivery of the first blow.

Please arrange for the special baton ring!

BOOK REVIEW

by Matt Sugarman

Tree Talk - The People and Politics of Timber

By Ray Raphael (Island Press, 1981), paperback \$12.00

This book is "must" reading for those of us who live (and work) in or near an area where the timber industry has exerted its influence on the local or regional economy.

Mr. Raphael's open and frank style of writing pulls no punches in objectively discussing both sides of such controversial issues as:

Monoculture vs. Diversity

Herbicide Spray vs. Manual Release

Tree Farming vs. Holistic Forestry

He discusses all aspects of forest and harvest technology including tractor logging, horses, balloons and helicopter logging.

The economics and politics of the timber industry are frankly aired in a discussion of harvesting of trees as they reach "economic" maturity (based on return on capital investment) rather than waiting until they reach "productive" maturity. He points out that today's industrial forests are managed for their return on investment, not their value to wildlife, fisheries or recreation. Mr. Raphael states "Because of interest computations, economic maturity of timber occurs long before biological maturity..."

Extensive statements by experts in all aspects of industrial lumbering, conservation and academia give personal as well as professional insights to each chapter.

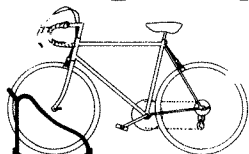
He concludes his book with a realistic view into a possible future for the timber industry in a chapter titled "Landed Forestry—A Vision For The Future." The reader is given a view of how the rangers of the future will steward their wildland responsibilities.

The book contains a colorful glossary (for those neophytes among us) as well as illuminated reference notes, selected readings and a very complete index. If we are going to fully understand the area we live in and interpret our forests, their history and their future, this book should be your next indulgence.

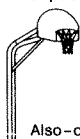
Matt Sugarman is currently a supervising Ranger at Klamath Area.

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ABOUT THE COVER:

Ranger I Frank Balthis, of the San Mateo Coast Area, took this photograph of a Ranger discussing coastal resource concerns with a member of the U.S. Coast Guard.

The California Ranger

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