



NEWSLETTER

14000 FRUITVALE AVENUE ● SARATOGA, CALIFORNIA 95070 ● (408) 867-2200, EXTENSION 375

Report of Annual Convention

The Annual Convention was held in Sacramento the first week of March, at the Woodlake Inn. It was held with the California State Park Rangers, and a good time was had by all. Former Treasurer, Pat Hayes won a trophy for being closest to the hole, in the golf tourney, that is, considerable amount was consumed (food and drink) and the workshops were well worth attending. The Annual business meeting was held on March 6. A financial report was given (see attached) and a budget was passed for 1982-83 (also see attached). Business items included the following:

1. "California Ranger" Ms Heidi Doyle, of the California State Parks has volunteered to edit the journal, and Tom Smith of PRAC will coordinate our end of the journal. You will possibly will have received a copy by the time you read this newsletter.
2. Signpost Newsletter. As stated above, Tom Smith of West Valley College, will try to put out a monthly newsletter on those months not covered by the "Ranger."
3. Report of training. A training session was held at West Valley College in rescue and recovery the last week in February. PRAC received around \$80.00 as their cut in the profits. There will be another training session in November of 1982 in "The Ranger Without Weapons": A law enforcement orientated training session.

New Business

1. Budget
2. Site of 1983 Conference. At this writing, the 1983 conference will be held in Reno with the California State Parks and the Nevada State Parks. The 1984 Conference will be held in Death Valley. We have firm commitments on prices at both places and they are very reasonable.
3. Elections of new officers. Your new officers for the next two years are:

President: Diane Blackman Oakland City Parks
Vice Pres. Tom Hofsoner County of Sacramento
Central Rep: Jim Boland Mid Pen. Open Space
Nocal Rep: Gary Greenough Sonoma County
Socal Rep Don Pimentel NPS
Treas. Bruce Baker Los Gatos parks

President's Message

You seldom know where to start on a message like this. We have spent several years together, and I am looking forward to spending several more, as this Organization is important to me. When I took this job three years ago, I made several rash statements and promises. I promised that we would try our best to expand our membership. We have pretty much remained static. I was particularly interested in expanding into the south State, and we have made some very modest gains there. I thought we could somehow pool our expertise with the California State Park Rangers Assn, and we have done that through our affiliation and I thought that we could get by with one publication, and the joint "California Ranger" was born. We tried hard to pin POST down to recognizing a real need for park ranger training. We conducted a survey to try to illustrate this to POST, and now POST is really taking a hard look at 832PC in an effort to strengthen that required training.

I feel strongly, that this Organization has more people out there that we can draw upon, and place in the fold. USFS, BLM Corps people, they all have rangers and technicians that do what we do. All of us have to take on the personal challenge to make sure that all are reached. Gosh, agencies can join for just \$25. There is no reason, even in this day of tight money, for every agency not to belong.

It is easy for us to get tired of fighting. I picked up a publication the other day, that had the results of findings of a recent survey that revealed that President Reagens budget cuts are falling heavily on city parks and recreation departments. The survey of over 100 cities, conducted last novemebr, showed that 65% of the respondants(71) have made plans to make reductions in their cities park and recreation budgets, and that 1.1 million was the average dollar reduction. Of the 71 cities reporting, termination or cuts in services, 30% havev reduced or eliminatd parks and recreation programs. The state assistance portion of the Land and Water Conservation Fund, the main source of federal dollars for state and local park development projects, received no fiscal 1982 monies for the first time since its creation in 1964.

The new wave of volunteerism, and the emphasis on the private sector, is supposed to bail us all out. Certainly volunteers that perform such services(such as interpretive docents), also take committed dollars to train so that they give the visitor the same standard of excellance. Volunteers cannot be given carte blanche. As far as the private sector is concerned, contract services have not yet been proven to be cost effective. A recent attempt by three of us, to contract a Forest Service camp-ground has shown that it really isn't a winning proposition. Cutting costs as tight as we could, we still projected a loss of several thousand dollars.

PARK RANGERS ASSOCIATION OF CALIFORNIA
Income/Expense Financial Statement 1981

INCOME

| | |
|-----------------------------|---------------|
| Membership Fees | \$1,125.00 |
| 1980 Conference Proceeds | 1.65 |
| T-Shirt Sales | 84.00 |
| Publication Sales | 9.00 |
| Advertisements | 100.00 |
| Resources Workshop Proceeds | <u>280.36</u> |

\$1,600.01

EXPENSES

| | |
|----------------------------|--------------|
| Executive Manger Fee | 550.00 |
| Executive Manager Expenses | 180.22 |
| Publications | 685.36 |
| T-Shirt Production | 259.43 |
| Treasurers Expenses | 27.50 |
| Membership Solicitation | <u>37.02</u> |

1,739.53

1981 Year Balance (-139.52)

| | |
|---------------------------|----------------|
| Balance January 1, 1981 | 748.18 |
| Expenses above income | <u>-139.52</u> |
| Balance December 31, 1981 | \$ 608.66 |

PATRICK E. HAYES, Treasurer
February 1, 1982

The PARK RANGERS ASSOCIATION OF CALIFORNIA
1982 Operational budget

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|-----------------|--|-----------|
| <u>INCOME</u> | Membership dues | \$1200.00 |
| | Annual Conference Registration | 400.00 |
| | "T" Shirt Sales | 90.00 |
| | Training Seminar Registration | 450.00 |
| | | <hr/> |
| | | 2140.00 |
| | | |
| <u>EXPENSES</u> | Executive Manager | 200.00 |
| | Annual Conference (facility, publications, speakers) | 400.00 |
| | Executive Board Operation (postage, printing, travel) | 200.00 |
| | "T" Shirt Production | 40.00 |
| | Training Seminar (facility, printing postage, speaker per diem) | 300.00 |
| | Publications (California Ranger, Signpost, brochure) | 1000.00 |
| | | <hr/> |
| | | 2140.00 |

Presented March 4, 1982



Patrick E. Hayes, Treasurer

We have all heard that the free lunch is over. Even education, with a stronger tax base, is in trouble. Our college, as an example, with a strong reserve, is running almost 2 million in the red. Talks of dropping programs, reductions in fringe benefits, early retirement plans, etc., are in the wind. Several colleges are phasing out their park programs. I just heard that Sacramento State's fine park resource programs, is being phased out. Dollars are becoming more important than quality. Where in the hell are all our park professionals going to come from? What impact will this have on in-service training programs when you will all have to start people from ground zero? Does this show us that this Organizations' importance is coming even more into the forefront?

We cannot tire of fighting. This is the time that we need real strength to keep going, to fight, to preserve.

Might I stare into the future, and see what road we are running down. What, after three years as President, I see happening to PRAC and parks in general. First, our affiliation with CSPRA was a real "biggie" for us. CSPRA is also facing hard times. There even have been rumors that some CSPRA members are thinking about coming over to PRAC (mainly because our dues structure is so much cheaper). I don't want to see that happen. I know that it has occurred to both organizations, that we run on a parallel track, and that really might be the way to go. I feel that future leadership should continue to pursue the possibility of a "California Park Rangers Association" by combining both organizations into one, with each "division" having their own newsletter, etc. I think that PRAC needs to do the following:

1. Strengthen our image in the field.
2. Improve our publications
3. Continue to promote interaction, and intra action with other professional organizations such as CSPRA, CPRS, and ANPR.
4. Continue low cost, timely training for our members, and our affiliate members.
5. Get more involved in our environmental "watchdog" activities.
6. Get more involved in fostering the image of the park professional, get more people involved.

I have enjoyed being your President these past three years. I feel that we all have grown professionally during this time. We have taken some giant strides forward, and, yes, we have even slipped a little. I look forward to the future of PRAC, and will be watching in the wings. I am proud and happy that you put your trust in me. I hope that I have been able to make some contribution, however big or small to fostering park professionalism.

Thanks for letting me serve.

Smitty

California Ranger-

Heidi Doyle has asked me to put out the call for articles for the California Ranger. Manuscripts must be typed and double spaced on 8½ by 11 paper, one side only. Be careful of errors (dont be like me) Submit any pictures or drawings. Count the number of words in each papagraph and place that number in the right margin. Include name, occupation, address, home and work telephone numbers. Submit either to me or to Heidi.

Tom Smith
West Valley College
14000 Fruitvale Avenue
Saratoga, CA 95070

Heidi Doyle
Channel Coast Area State Beaches
24 East Main Street
Ventura, California 93001



- 22 -

Audubon 3/82