

The Signpost

November - December
1992

PRAC EVENT BOARD

Verbal Victories Workshop a Success

by Bob Donohue

A workshop designed to calm potentially confrontational contacts by park ranger was attended by 35 rangers from northern California last October 15 at the Fairfield Center for Performing Arts. The instructor was Dr. Jon Hooper, a Chico State professor and coordinator for the Parks and Recreation Administration program there, a very dynamic and humorous speaker.

Rangers attending the workshop came away with a lot of beneficial information. What made this workshop unique was the fact that the participants not only received theory but also practical application of what they learned. Each ranger was asked to write down a common complaint they hear from citizens in their park. Each ranger then did some role playing with other rangers on how to respond to those situations so that both the ranger and the citizen could come away feeling good about the exchange. It was information that could be used the moment the attendees returned to their parks. I have used the system several times since the class and am happy to say it works.

Dr. Hooper, who also is a member of PRAC, used humor throughout the program to help make his points. This humor was used in such a way that it stuck in your mind to be used in the future. Even though Dr. Hooper has several letters of the alphabet behind his name it becomes readily apparent right away that he is really one of us. He has spent a great deal of time in the field doing grunt work for various agencies he has worked for and still prefers to do field work rather than be stuck behind a desk. He has given this workshop to other agencies such as the Bureau of Land Man-

1993 Santa Clara Conference Interpretive Update

by Bruce Baker
Interpretive Chairman

Planning is continuing for the Joint Conference March 4-7, 1993, in Santa Clara, California

We have scheduled several excellent interpretive sessions that I feel will not only be informative but timely as well.

To date, we have lined up speakers on a variety of topics including docent programs, interpretive software, grant writing, watershed interpretation, philosophy of interpretation, following the State's science framework and more.

In conjunction with these sessions we have arranged for tours of some of the local parks and a trip to the National Weather Service in Redwood City.

We look forward to a great conference in 1993 and hope to see many of you there.

For more information on the upcoming conference, see more articles inside.

agement, and the California Department of Fish and Game.

The workshop will be given again in April of 1993 in southern California. I highly recommend that if you get the opportunity to attend, do so because it is well worth your time and effort.

Santa Clara Conference Resource Management Track Update

The resource management track of the upcoming 1993 Conference focuses on assessing and monitoring the natural features of our parks and wildland areas.

Because of the importance of this topic, we have obtained Dr. Michael Morrison of the University of California, Berkeley to deliver a special resource track keynote address. Dr. Morrison will talk about the concepts and applications of monitoring. Dr. Morrison has recently completed a review of U. S. Forest Service inventory and monitoring programs for the Congressional Office of Technology Assessment. Among other things, he is currently working the State Parks in the monitoring of mixed-conifer forest communities in the Lake Tahoe Basin.

We have provided three talks on the use of computer technology to assist in the inventorying and/or monitoring effort. These discussions will be on Geographic Information System modeling, fire monitoring, and The Nature Conservancy's natural features inventorying program.

On Friday, March 5, we will present a full day of resource management track presentations. In the morning, speakers will discuss monitoring park boundaries, monitoring fisheries, and monitoring resources on a small budget. In the afternoon, we'll carpool to the Palo Alto Baylands Interpretive Center to hear discussions on monitoring natural features of the San Francisco bay. Topics discussed will include water quality, endangered species, exotic species, shorebirds and invertebrates.

On Saturday afternoon, we'll travel to Foothill Park in Palo Alto to learn methods for monitoring vegetation, small mammals and birds in upland communities.

The entire resource track is designed to provide information and help. Both for those of us who feel the need to be involved in protecting our natural features, yet don't know where to start or how to do it, as well as for those of us who have experience but want to get an update on new monitoring trends. We hope to see you there!



Volunteers Needed!

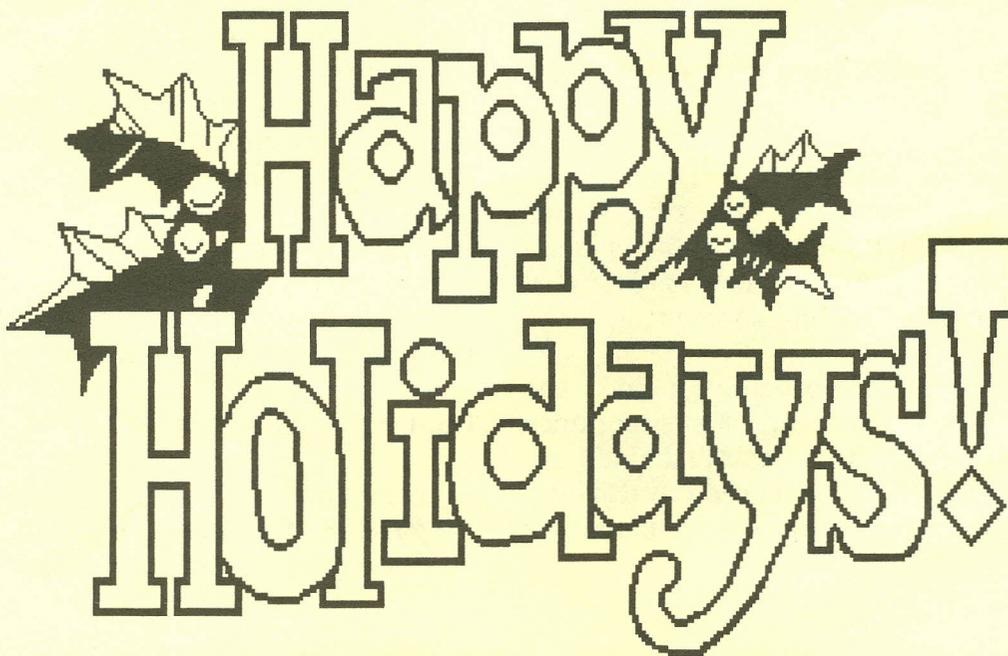
Major Fun Working at Major Event

You all know that the next Joint Annual Conference is coming up in March of 1993. We have received a great response from many people asking if they can help, giving their suggestions for sessions and offering to lead sessions themselves.

We need lots more volunteers! During the two weeks right before the conference we will be very busy. We need your help. (Yes! You). You don't need any special skills to volunteer, in fact you may learn some special skills if you volunteer. Please take a minute to look over this list of positions and decide where you fit in. If you have any questions or would like to sign up for one, or more, of the following positions, call Janet McGowan at (408) 277-4319.

Position	Number of People Needed	Times Needed
Registration Table	10	flexible, negotiable
Wine Servers	6	Friday, 3/4, 5:30-9:30pm
Blackjack Dealers (will train)	10	Saturday, 3/5, 7:00 pm-midnight
Creative Consultants (Decorations Committee)	12	flexible, negotiable, (February, 93)
Driver	4	flexible, negotiable
Audio Visual Specialists	2	flexible, negotiable
Hot Shots (for miscellaneous duties)	10	flexible, negotiable

Volunteering is your chance to meet people from other agencies, broaden your skills and have a great time. Please give this serious consideration.



There Are No Mission Indians

by

L. Lawrence Baird

Moreno Valley Parks & Recreation Advisory Committee

Many times while enjoying Native American interpretive programs I hear the term "Mission Indians" when referring to those Native Americans of the areas settled by Spaniards. I may too, at one time referred to them as Mission Indians because that was what I was taught in school.

A few years back I suddenly stopped using the term and every time I hear it I am reminded of an experience on the Morongo Reservation.

I had attended a trade show in Phoenix, Arizona and was returning on highway 10 west of Palm Springs. For a break in the trip and some enlightenment on the local Native Americans I stopped at the Morongo Reservation Museum. I had only been in the building a short time when I came upon a display of Indian Police memorabilia. In the display was a badge lettered "POLICE MISSION INDIAN FEDERATION." I read the inscription

aloud and was startled by the response of the museum caretaker. It was as if I had spoken kind words about Hitler at the Simon Weisenthal Center. "There are no Mission Indians" she loudly exclaimed. "That's what they called us!" and gone on to explain that the local natives were used like slaves to build whatever the Spanish wanted and to work around the missions. She raved on about the proper names for the natives of the area for at least five minutes obviously resentful of the invasion of their lands by Europeans.

Since that time I have never used the term "Mission Indians" to refer to any of the tribes.

I share this information so that when we are sharing information about those who lived here before us, that we may avoid a term that is obviously inflammatory to those about whom we speak.

An Open Letter From the University of Maine at Presque Isle

The University of Maine at Presque Isle has recently introduced a new degree option in the area of Outdoor Law Enforcement. The degree option is a combination of our Criminal Justice program and our nationally accredited Recreation and Leisure Serviced Program.

A major component of this 4 year Bachelor of Science degree is a full time, full semester, senior practicum. Each intern will spend the fall semester (15 weeks) of their senior year working and learning with an outdoor law enforcement agency.

The program has three major components: the general education core, the recreation sequence and the criminal justice and social science requirements. We feel it is well designed and it will be reviewed and evaluated on an annual basis.

My question to you is whether or not your agency would like to serve as a possible placement site for these senior Outdoor Law Enforcement majors? In the event you would be interested in working with one of our students, please give me a phone call (see below). A file will be established for your agency and a contact person's name will be placed on our master list.

In the event you have any questions please feel free to contact me at (207) 764-0311 ext. 365. Our students are quite excited about this degree program and we hope you are as well.

I am looking forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

Jack C. Sheltmire, Ph. D.

Coordinator, Recreation/Leisure Services

Resource Protection Law Enforcement

This is the theme of the next annual educational conference of the Park Law Enforcement Association (PLEA), the professional association for recreation law enforcement. The workshop is open to anyone with a professional interest in recreation law enforcement. The resource protection theme will bring together nationally recognized experts to provide current, "hands-on" strategies to better protect the resources that make our parks and natural resource areas exceptional attractions.

This workshop will run March 3-6, 1993, at the Peppermill Hotel in Reno Nevada. Registration cost for the workshop is \$205.00 for PLEA members and \$220.00 for non-members. Registration must be received by February 15, 1993.

For further information concerning the workshop or to make reservations write:

PLEA Workshop
Charles Nelson, Coordinator
Department of Park and Recreation Resources
131 Natural Resources Building
Michigan State University
East Lansing, MI 48824

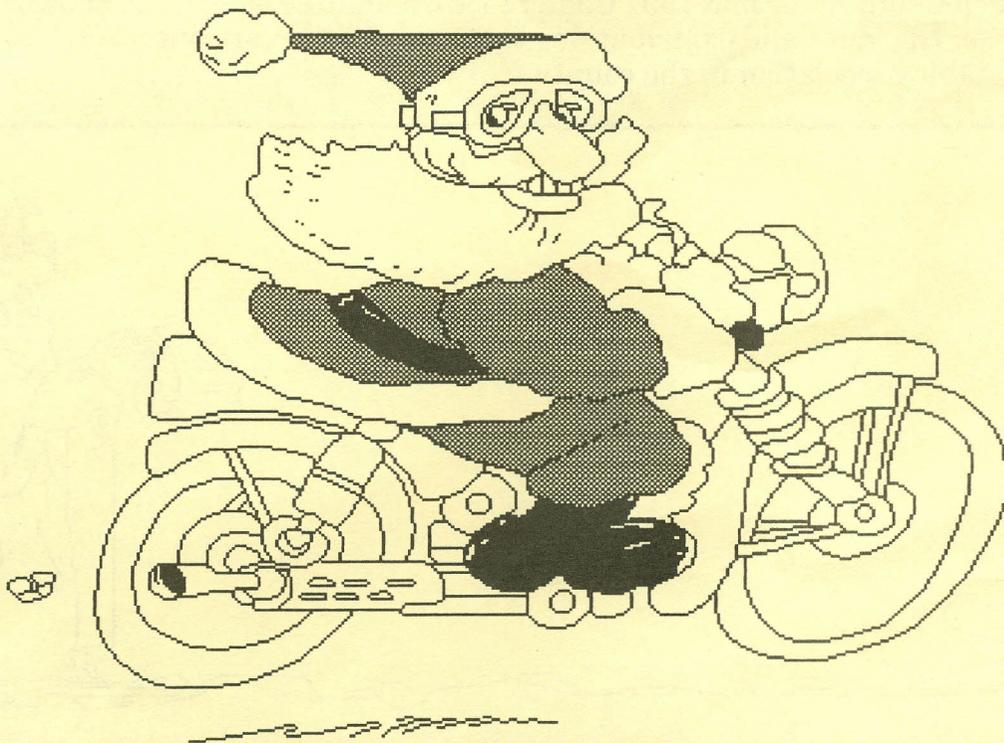
Phone: (517) 353-5190
Fax: (517) 336-3597

Parks and Recreation Law Enforcement Institute

The institute is a week-long practical education program designed for field law enforcement personnel. It is sponsored by Michigan State University. The Institute has both a basic and an advanced section. The program runs February 7 thru February 11, 1993, in East Lansing, Michigan. Tuition is \$350.00 for either the basic or advanced course. (Lodging is not included.) Housing is available at the Kellogg Center for Continuing Education, a 167 room hotel that is also the site of the Institute sessions. Registration must be received by January 15, 1993.

For further information, write:

Park and Recreation Law Enforcement
Institute
Charles Nelson, Director
Department of Park and Recreation Resources
131 Natural Resources Building
Michigan State University
East Lansing, MI 48824-1222
(517) 353-5190



From the Presidents Desk

By Chris George

As of January, we will close one chapter in PRAC's history and welcome in another.

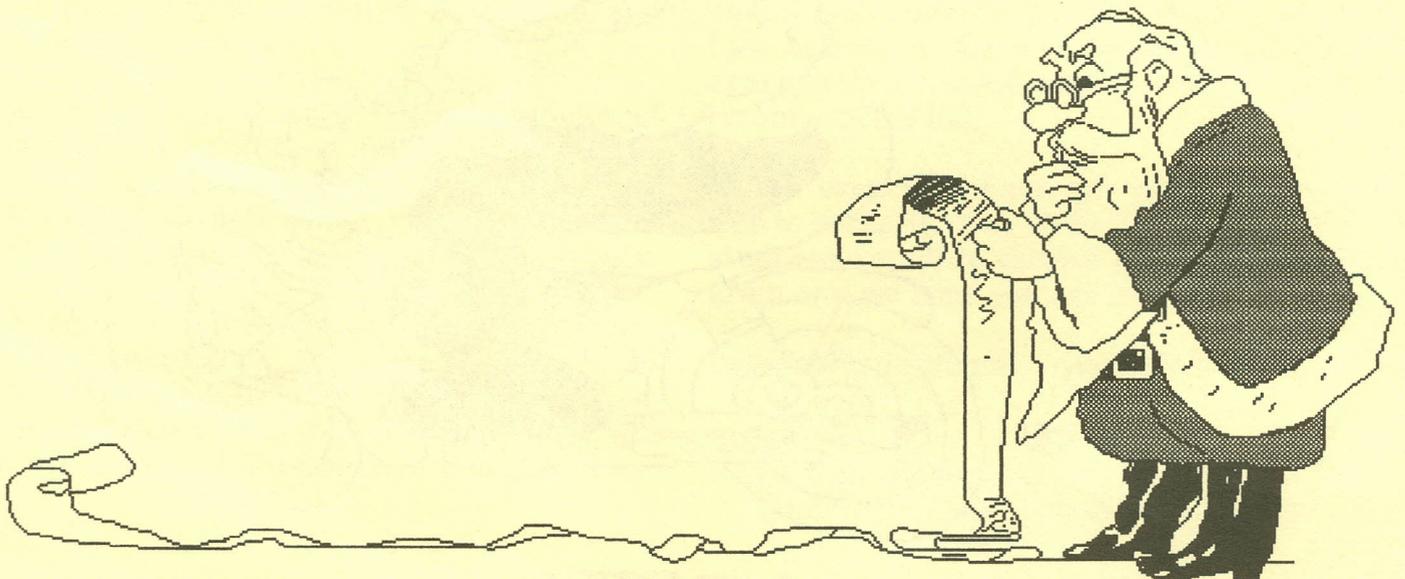
For the past two years, I have had the honor of being your president. During this period, I feel we have made many accomplishments that have gained recognition and support for our association. Not only from California park rangers, but rangers and recreation oriented individuals from across the nation.

As president, one is obligated to do and be many things and speak with many voices. I have attempted to do just that. I pledged myself that I would speak for all park rangers throughout California with a proud, professional, understanding voice and image. I have opened my mind to the many park ranger members that I have spoken with. I began to understand more and more how important it is to be receptive and to try to make the association work for their needs.

However, a president does not serve alone. I wish to publicly thank those whom I have had the good fortune to work with. My deepest thanks go out to my two Vice Presidents; Bruce Weidman and Jeff Ohlfs—Treasurers; Barry Murphy and Paul Roberts—Regional Representatives; Glen Kenney, Judy Morris, Cheryl Goss, Ernie Del Rio, Brent Mason, Bill Trunick, Carol Fredrickson, Don Watson—CPRS Liaison; Dave Lydick—Signpost Editor; David Brooks—Past President; Bill Hendricks —Office Manager; Doug Bryce.

To these people I owe a world of gratitude to. They have worked hard and long to keep PRAC moving forward, and their efforts have shown all the way. To these Board members (and my friends), and anyone else I may have overlooked, I say thank you for making my term as president something I can always be proud of.

To our next President, Bob Donahue, I say congratulation! Bobs' work and commitment will carry PRAC into new and exciting areas that will make us proud to be involved. Bobs' hard work as Workshop Coordinator and 1991 Conference Committee Chair, has shown that Bob is dedicated to our cause. His ideas and contributions to the association are ones that will make PRAC one of the most notable association in the county.



The New PRAC Officers

Yes, the election is over.

The votes are all counted.

There will be a few changes this January based on how you members voted. (Well, at least those that did vote!) Here are the winners:

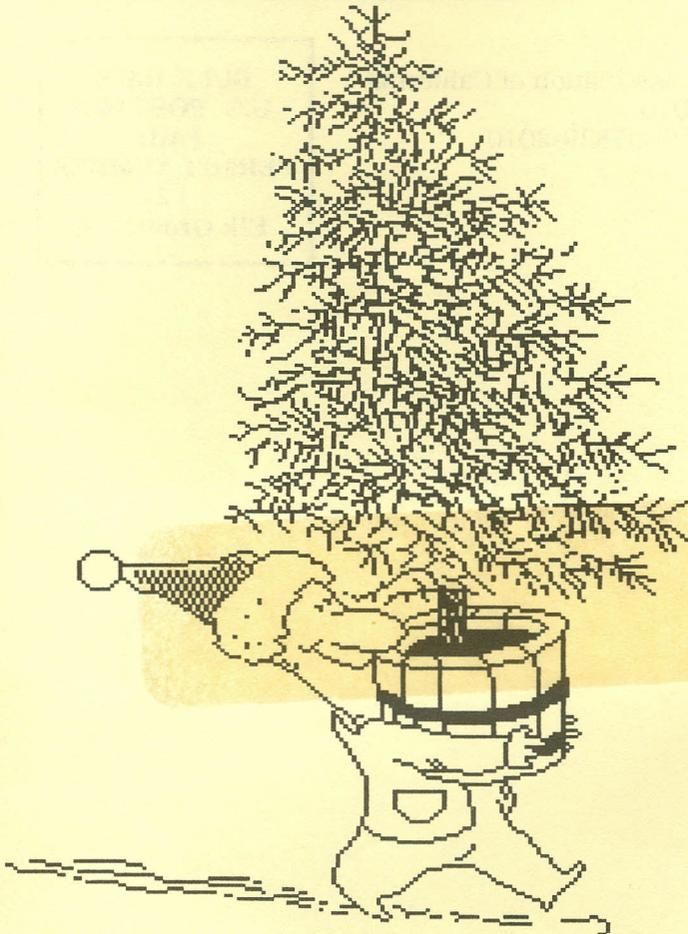
President Bob Donohue

Director—Region 1 Bill Trunick

Director—Region 3 David Lydick

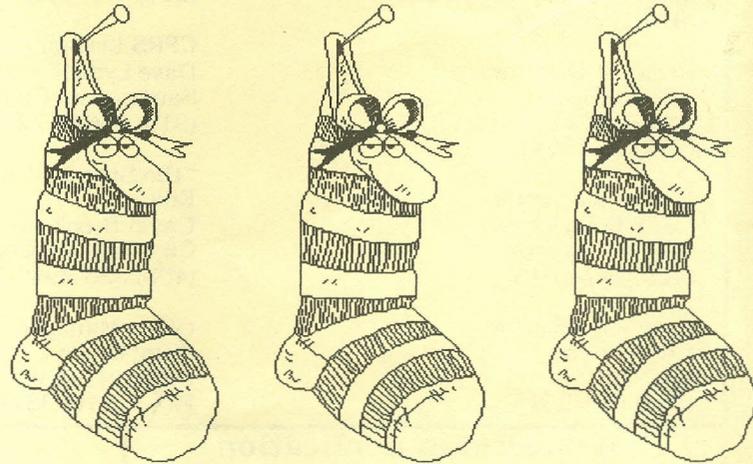
Director—Region 5 Ron Slimm

Thank you to everyone who ran. To the winners, congratulations and good luck in your coming term. To the rest of you who didn't make it, there is still a place for dedicated people in PRAC. Don't forget we always need volunteers for a variety of tasks and committees.



Board Meeting

The next PRAC Board Meeting will be on January 13, 1993, at Almaden Lake Park, 6099 Winfield Blvd., in San Jose. All PRAC members are welcome to attend, after all this is your organization. This is a good opportunity to become involved in the various things that PRAC is involved with. If you have something you want brought up to be discussed, contact your Regional Director. Your voice can be heard even if you are not able to attend.



It's Renewal Time!

All PRAC members should have received their renewal notice in the mail by now. Show your support by renewing your membership. I know times are tough, but try to find a way to keep up your support. For a professional organization, \$35.00 is relatively inexpensive.

By continuing your membership, you will still receive 6 newsletters, two journals and an opportunity to attend a variety of training sessions and of our annual conference this March.

So how about digging down in your pocket and renewing today? In case you lost the renewal notice, there is a copy of it on the back page of every Signpost (including this one).

PARK RANGERS ASSOCIATION OF CALIFORNIA

Board Officers
1992

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Submissions should be mailed to David Brooks, 560 Hillcrest Dr., Ben Lomond, CA, 95005. Information can also be submitted by telephone at (408) 336-2948. Submission deadlines are the last day of January, March, May, July, September, and November.

Membership Application

name _____		
address _____		
city _____	state _____	zip _____
Phone _____	home _____	work _____
Employer or School _____		
Job Classification or Major _____		

Park Rangers Association of California
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