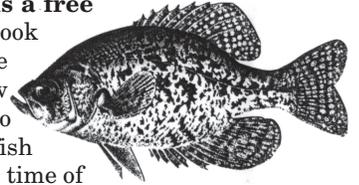


# Fishing in the City

by Sandy Ferreira

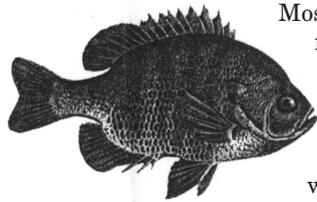
Three years ago while attending a PRAC Conference in Santa Rosa, I met up with Ranger Ron White who works with Walnut Creek Open Space District and an avid fisherman. Ron began to tell me about this great fishing program. I asked him to send me all the information and I would pass it on to our staff. When I returned from the conference, I spoke with Ranger Jeff Howard and Recreation Supervisor Phil Hagmann. Both were excited after I told them about this program. After meeting with department staff and getting approval for the program, Phil and Jeff contacted Ethan Rotman, an enthusiastic Department of Fish and Game employee who oversees this program. With Ethans guidance, we were on our way. *Fishing in The City* program is supported through special Federal excise tax on the sales of fishing tackle and motorboat fuel to improve your fishing and boating opportunities. **This is a free**

**public program.** Each child is given a tackle box with supplies and a book entitled "The Kids Book Of Fishing" written by Michael J. Rosen. There are five stations that each child must go through which teach them how to tie knots, bait a hook, cast, environmental ethics and lastly, how to clean a fish. After completing the five stations, children are allowed to fish in a netted area, recently stocked with catfish or trout depending on the time of year and temperature of the water.



What makes this program so successful is from the support of the Department of Fish and Game and the public. We are now on a monthly fish stocking plan. Community response from local businesses and services groups have provided fishing supplies and volunteer help. We have held three successful Fishing in the City programs to date. The later two programs were two day events. Phil and Jeff decided to invite and teach local schools on the weekday, then open up the program to the public on the second day. This proved to be very successful.

One teacher, Nancy Harrington from Durham Elementary School wrote in a thank you letter; "I want to thank you for the opportunity for Durham's third graders to participate in the fishing event last Friday.



Most of our students are apartment dwellers so fishing was a new experience for most of them. Watching them fish was so heart-warming for me. I could see the sparkle in their eyes and on their faces. They were really concentrating and I was amazed at how well they did both behaviorally and handling their line and bait. Teaching 90 students how to get their fishing pole set up, tie knots and put on bait as well as cast is quite a feat! It was a wonderful experience they will always remember."

I think this last comment says it all. If you would like more information about the Fishing in the City program, you can contact Ethan Rotman , Department of Fish and Game at (415) 892-0460. **Happy Angling!**

## Region 4 Round up Exposed

by George Struble

The training for Region 4 and 5 was a success. Region 5 Director Samantha Moss and I hope to make them a more regular event in southern California. Eric Grossman, a corporate investigator from California Shopping Cart Retrieval Corporation gave a talk on combatting shopping cart problems. In the second session, Jeff Campbell, a police officer from the Burbank Police Department and a Drug Recognition Expert, covered the signs of being under the influence of various drugs. I would like to thank them both for donating their time to make our training a success. I would also like to thank the L.A. City Park Rangers for co-sponsoring the event.

The BBQ got off to a slow start. A word to the wise, if the grill does not produce an adequate flame and the tank is full and all the connections are prop-

erly made, shut the gas off and restart the grill (thanks Samantha). Do not ask why it works, it just does! After we figured out how to get the BBQ flaming hot, President Hauck donned his apron and grilled some mighty mean burgers.

We had 10 agencies represented, with 38 rangers in attendance. The furthest agency attending was Moreno Valley. Thank you to all who attended, and we'll see you at the next one. Since all agencies are gearing up for summer, our next training will be in the fall, probably late September. To those who could not make it last time, we hope to see you next time. Watch for the PRAC mailing. We would like your input for topics for the next training. If you have suggestions, call either Samantha or me, our numbers are on the back page.

# From the President's Favorite Shade Tree

by Russ Hauck

*I received a request to include information from the board meetings in the Signpost to keep the membership abreast of the board's decisions. When board meetings and Signpost deadlines favorably coincide, I'll include that information in this column.*

*We discussed the 1998 conference, which was hugely successful. PRAC's portion of the profit was \$7,628.29. We are looking for a good money market account to place this money in, where the interest generated will eventually fund our scholarships. If you are aware of such an account, let me know.*

*We received a request for a donation from the Cal Poly SLO Recreation Administration Program for the support given to the conference by the students who assisted immeasurably and helped in the conference's overall success. The board voted to contribute \$500 to the program. The money will most likely be used for scholarships for students to attend subsequent conferences.*

*We have been watching SB 2, a proposed bond act intended for the November ballot. This bond would provide \$600 million for park improvements. SB 2 is all but doomed, as it appears that the legislature will allocate \$40 million from surplus to state parks for deferred maintenance. As you might guess, \$40 million is a drop in the bucket to the state park system. (I heard on the radio today that the City of Los Angeles is planning to allocate \$70 million to replace fire hydrants and water supply lines in Griffith Park.) But beyond that, local parks and conservancies will get nothing, while SB2 had specified close to \$300 million for those jurisdictions.*

*We are working on a PRAC web site containing information on our organization and links to relevant sites. If you have suggestions for sites, forward them (including url's) to Doug Bryce.*

*Believe it or not, it is time to prepare for elections. We will appoint a nominating committee in the next month who will have candidates lined up by September. Regions 1, 3 and 5 are up for election this year.*

*We considered the possibility of joining the International Ranger Federation. If we are eligible and the price is right, we'll join. (See related article, this issue.) So stay tuned.*

*Planning is already underway for the 1999 conference. If you have ideas or suggestions, forward them to your regional director who will in turn forward them to the conference committee. As I write this, the planning team is being finalized.*

*That's all for now. Lots of information to share in limited space. Have a safe summer.*

## A Rangers Job is Never Routine

by Sandy Ferreira

One rainy Thursday morning, Brian Ryckewaert, a fellow Ranger and I were teaching a nature program to a group of Kindergartners and parents. As I began to set up the program materials outside, the winds shifted. The rain began to blow sideways and my props and materials started to get pretty wet. Well, I thought so much for that idea. I radioed Brian and asked him to help move our program materials inside to a dryer location. As the bus arrived I met with the teacher and invited her class inside. The kids came prepared with umbrellas and rain gear. I assured them we would finish our nature program outside, we would end the hour with a bird walk. The kids were happy to hear this. We finished up the program then moved outside. As we walked towards the shoreline of Lake Elizabeth, we were greeted by a group of Mallards and Canada Geese. Brian asked the kids "does

anyone know what kind of sound a Mallard duck makes?" Several kids responded with a "quack, quack" sound. Brian reached into his fanny pack and pulled out his duck calls. He began to call like a Mallard. Like magic, the ducks came closer to the kids, they were excited and asked Brian to call to them, over and over again. They followed us like pied pipers...it was great to see the excitement in the kids' eyes. We ended our program with a smile and many "thank yous" from our kids.

We headed back to the Ranger station. In a few moments a call came in from Animal Services advising of ducklings trapped in a storm drain. They asked for Ranger assistance to investigate the situation. Brian and I responded. On arrival, we met with the store clerk who pointed out the location of the trapped ducklings. We could see one dead duckling had fallen

into a 10' storm drain, the others were trapped in another storm drain about 25' away. We could hear ducklings quacking in distress but could not see them. The mother duck was no where to be seen. I quickly assessed the situation. I asked Brian, "do you have your duck calls with you?" he said yes. I told him the ducklings had already imprinted with the mother. Since they were in distress more than likely they would respond to his calls and we could lure them out of the drain then trap and rescue them. Brian hung over the storm drain, net in one hand, flashlight in the other. He could hear the ducks but couldn't see them. I said, "Brian, start calling them, it's worth a try." Brian reached into his fanny pack, pulled out his Mallard call and began calling to them. He called to them for a few moments, then

Continued on page 3

# Is It Resource Management or Is It Maintenance?

by Tom Smith

There have been times in my career, where I have had to explain the difference between park maintenance and resource management. Obviously there is and will be, some overlap in activities between the two. Traditionally, rangers have been the people who have always been “connected” to the activity. I suppose this is true because of their educational backgrounds. However, maintenance people are also connected because they are the people that often have to do the down and dirty work. Hazard tree removal, as an example, is usually the responsibility of park rangers, with the actual work being done by maintenance. So how do we explain this grey area between the two? As a guide for resource management, include any activity designed to (1) understand, protect, or manipulate natural resources or processes, and (2), correct inadvertent environmental modifications attributed to development or human activities within (or even outside, I suppose) park boundaries. As an example: Exclude grounds maintenance, mowing, etc. Routine trash pickup, standard road patrols. Any routine maintenance, protection, or interpretation activities that do not change resources. Include: scientific studies, species control, control of insects and diseases, prescribed fire, road and trail construction (not road and trail maintenance). Bottom line, if the activity changes resources it is a resource management activity. Maybe giving you some definitions from several sources might help. I have included some, below.

## A Rangers Job is Never Routine

Continued from page 2

they called back. Slowly they came within two feet of the exit. Brian quickly netted the two of them then handed them up to me. They were cold, wet, shivering but alive. I put them in a box with towels to keep them warm then delivered them to the Animal Shelter. Everyone was happy that we were able to save the baby ducklings. As we were leaving, Brian said his “duck calls were never leaving his fanny pack.” He was amazed he was able to save those baby ducklings. I just smiled as we walked away, and said, “great job Brian.” Remember it’s never routine. Each day brings a new challenge. As I always say, “life is good....” Today we made a difference.

### Resource Management:

National Park Service: Any activity toward achieving or maintaining a given condition in plant and/or animal populations and/or habitats, in accordance with the conservation plan of the area.

United States Forest Service: A provision for multiple use and sustained yield of goods and serves in a way that maximizes long term public benefits in an environmentally sound manner.

McCurdy: A course of action based upon system policy and law, for continuous protection, management, and maintenance of park resources to achieve park purpose and objectives, and to appropriately regulate the effect of park use on these resources (1985)

California State Parks: Each state park shall be managed as a composite whole in order to restore, protect, and maintain its native environmental complexes to the extent compatible with the primary purpose for which the park was established (#5019.53, Public Resources Code: State Parks: Management: Improvement)

Jubenville: The manipulation of resources variables (air, water, etc) and the people, in order to maintain, or possibly reconstruct, the natural resources setting for various recreational pursuits, which may range from very active, high density recreation, to dispersed types of activities. (1989)

### Maintenance:

National Park Service: The routine, recurring work that is necessary to keep all roads, trails, buildings, utilities, and other facilities in such condition so that they may be utilized for their intended purpose at their original design capacity. This includes replacement parts, the overhaul, or reprocessing of materials to restore any facility to substantially the same original condition and efficiency.

Sternloff: Keeping a park in as nearly as possible, its original condition as designed and built. It includes routine procedures, making facilities safe and accessible, maintaining preventative maintenance programs, minor repair, and meeting governmental health standards.

## Customer Service

by George Struble

Last month, my parents had their barn broken into. A deputy came out to take a burglary report in the rain; no big deal, right?! Wrong. My parents were disturbed by the disinterest of the deputy that responded. They had items taken that had infinite value to them and the deputy’s lack of interest just added to their frustration. That got me thinking about some of my contacts and whether I gave the appearance of not being interested.

We are human and seem to get desensitized to certain events over time. We have to in order to survive the stress of the job. In becoming desensitized, we tend to just go through the motions and remove the compassion that attracted most of us to this career. We need to remember that we are in the customer service business.

Rangers have a unique position that requires knowledge of resources, law, and interpretation. The focus of some programs has shifted because of the growing need for more law enforcement. With this shift, we are exposed to more crime and

can start to adopt the attitude of “just the facts, ma’am.” This attitude is not compatible with the image of a Park Ranger. The kids of today will be the rangers of tomorrow and we need to make sure they maintain the same favorable impressions that we did as kids.

How do we do this? We do not limit ourselves to just law enforcement. Getting out and giving interpretive talks and doing a little resource management will allow us to gain the rewards of customer service. We need to remember that the people we contact have not seen all the problems that we have seen. If we become cynical, they may apply their observations to all park rangers. During contacts, we need to show the same compassion for the victims as we did the first time we encountered that same crime. The rule “treat others as you wish to be treated” applies here. By doing this, we will continue to provide the quality of service that our customers have come to expect and deserve.

# Trail Maintenance—Waterbars

by David Wiess

One of the most interesting but toughest challenges in trail maintenance is controlling and directing the flow of water. Referred to as drainage maintenance, it is an ongoing, constant process. No one thing can damage a trail more than free-flowing water.

Some of the more common devices used to prevent water damage on trails are outslope, drain dips, and waterbars. This article will focus on waterbars, and subsequent articles will discuss the other drainage techniques.

A waterbar is a physical structure installed at an angle across a trail for the purpose of directing water off the trail to the downhill side. However a waterbar should not be the first device used when attempting to rid the trail of flowing water. Waterbars are best used when outslope alone is not enough to get all the water off, and the trail is too steep for drain dips. (Drain dips should not be used on trails with a grade of more than 12%.) A typical waterbar situation is a steep section of trail that tends to channel water. Certain long and steep sections may even require a series of waterbars. The other common use of waterbars is in switchbacks and climbing turns to prevent water flowing down the upper leg from continuing onto the lower leg.

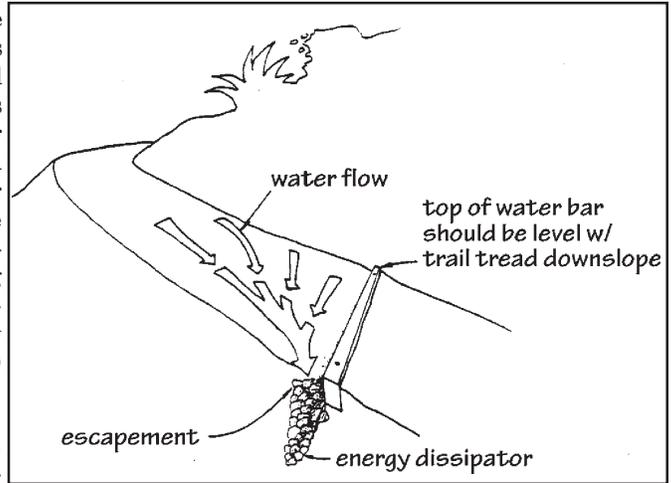
Waterbars can be made of rock or wood, with rock being the material of choice for durability and aesthetics. However, you need to have good quality rock close by. It must be a minimum of 6 x 12 x 4-inches, with a fairly regular shape. At least 6-inches of the rock should be embedded in the trail tread with the main portion of the weight placed low in the trench. Keeping the weight low in this

makes the rock more stable and decreases its chances of being kicked loose. Adjacent rocks should abut each other tightly or overlap in a way that prevents water from flowing through the barrier. The final structure needs to be strong and solid enough to withstand repeated use by 200 pound hikers with 50 pound packs.

Wood is the other material commonly used for waterbars. If using native timbers (dead-fall), select a species with rot resisting qualities and a diameter of at least 8 inches. Examples of naturally rot resistant trees are cedar, locust, cypress, and redwood. Peel off the bark before using since bark will hold moisture against the wood fibers and provide a home for insects. With milled lumber, pressure treated 6x10 is best. Secure it with 2, 3-ft. long pieces of re-bar or pipe driven through holes drilled through the wood. Instead of re-bar or pipe, wooden stakes are sometimes used on the downhill side and cinched to the waterbar with galvanized wire. If possible, abut one or both ends of the waterbar against an immovable object, such as a tree or a boulder, thus making it more permanent.

The angle of the waterbar in relation to the trail depends on the grade and the amount of water. Usually this angle varies from 15 to 40 degrees from a perpendicular line across the trail. If the angle is too small, the waterbar will dam up quickly and require frequent cleaning out.

Too large an angle will cause erosion and undercutting of the waterbar. When the angle is set just right, the flow of water off the trail keeps the waterbar free of soil, silt, and other debris. In other words, the waterbar is self-maintaining. Although this almost never happens, it's the goal to shoot for. The method for determin-

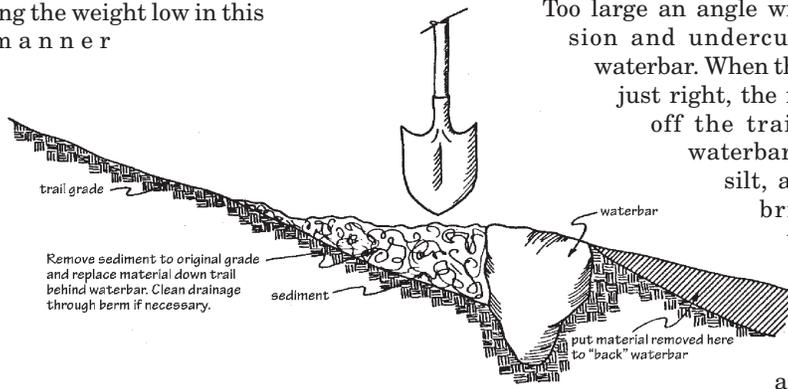


ing proper waterbar angle is to begin with 15 degrees, and add one degree for each per cent of grade. For example, on a trail with a 10% grade, the waterbar is set at a 25 degree angle.

In selecting the site to place a waterbar observe areas of natural drainage. Look for a place where water is already crossing the trail and use the waterbar to reinforce this flow. If there is a steep section with water running straight down it, place a waterbar at the beginning of this section to get the water off before it can gather momentum. A good practice is to observe the trail during a heavy rain, or study the trail carefully after a heavy rain has fallen and look for places that are starting to erode or gully.

Once you have selected your material and determined the angle and the placement, excavate a trench for the water bar. Save the soil you dig up and use it to back the waterbar once it is installed. Place it on the downhill side, tamp firmly and leave it flush with the top of the waterbar. The last five feet of trail approaching the waterbar should have an increased outslope. This is referred to as an 'apron' and is an attempt to get the water off before it ever reaches the waterbar. Take care to install the waterbar in a way that prevents trail users from going around it. If possible, accomplish this with natural barriers such as trees or boulders. On the upslope side, key the waterbar at least 12-inches into the hillside.

The height of the waterbar should be the minimum height that will accommodate the largest anticipated single rainfall.



## Cleaning a Waterbar

not to scale

method for determin-

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## Maintenance of Waterbars

Continued from page 6

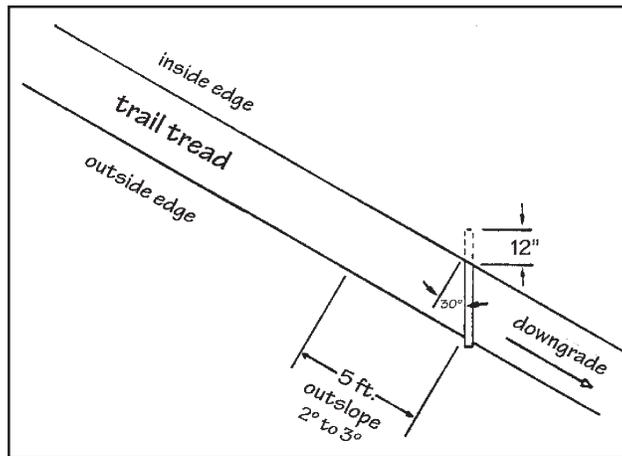
Build it too high and it becomes a hazard, too low and it doesn't function well.

The final step is to construct an outlet ditch at the low point of the apron. This assures that water will be carried away from the trail. If the trail is built on a steep sideslope, an outlet ditch may not be needed. On moderate slopes, however, it should be several yards long. Place brush or rock in the outlet ditch to act as an energy dissipater and prevent hillside erosion.

Once a waterbar is installed, it needs to be maintained on a regular basis. Maintenance includes checking for structural stability and removing all the material that has accumulated in front of the bar. The material you remove should be placed

on the downhill side, made level with the top of the bar and tamped firmly. Next restore the outslope to the apron and clean out the outlet ditch. Unmaintained waterbars start looking like steps, first the uphill side gets completely silted in, then water flows over the bar eroding the downhill side. The frequency of waterbar maintenance depends on the amount of rainfall. A minimum is once before the rainy season begins, and once during the winter.

As with all trail structures, it's best if the trail is designed to function well without them. Needing a waterbar to correct a



drainage problem usually indicates a less-than-perfect trail layout. A trail built along the side of a hill, with a good outslope, reasonable grade, and occasional drain dips, should not need any waterbars.

## There Is Something In My Eye!!

by John Havicon

Many of us deal with eye injuries on our jobs. It may be simple, like a speck of dirt or dust in the eye, to more serious injuries like fish hooks or impaled sticks. Recently, I had the opportunity to talk with ophthalmologist, Dr. Abram Burak, from the University of Davis Medical Center. I was interested on the best methods of treatments of minor and major eye injuries in the field.

Dr. Burak first reviewed the anatomy of the eye with me, which I vaguely remembered from my college class years ago. For minor eye injuries, the important structures are the sclera (the white area) and the cornea (the area that covers the circular iris and pupil). When foreign object lands on the eye, it will land either on the sclera or the cornea. The cornea is the only place in the eye that has pain receptors, so if an object lands on the cornea, it's going to hurt. Most of the time the object lands on the sclera. It's irritating, itchy and our eye starts to tear, but there isn't any pain.

Dr. Burak recommends four items in your first aid kit for eye injuries; "Q-Tips," a saline eye wash, "Advil" tablets, and a cup (like a paper coffee cup). Saline solutions are more comforting to the eyes than plain water. If you compare swimming in the ocean with swimming in fresh water, you'll notice that your eyes tend to sting only in the fresh water. A simple saline solution would be about 1/5 of a teaspoon of salt added to 8 ounces of water.

If a foreign object lands on the eye, the simplest thing to do is try to cry it out. Our tear ducts will start to water and attempt to force the object to the eye lids. If the object still won't come out, have your victim lie down or bend over and turn his/her head so the injured eye is facing toward the ground. Irrigate the eye with the saline solution from the bridge of the nose so gravity carries it down. If the object is under the upper or lower eyelid, have your victim lie on their back. Ask your victim to concentrate on something with their uninjured eye. If the objects on the lower lid, concentrate on object that forces them to look up (if nothing is available place their hand in front of them, arms distance, and have them focus on their thumb). Take a moistened swab, pull the eyelid back and remove the object. Generally the object will land under the upper lid. For upper lid objects, have the victim look down. The eyelid can be inverted by placing the moistened swab half-way against the upper eyelid, grabbing the eyelashes with your other hand and pulling the lid over the swab and that portion of the eyelid (this sounds tough, but is quite simple and if you ever run into me, I will be happy to demonstrate this to you with a willing volunteer.) You can then remove the object from the exposed portion of the eyelid using the wet swab.

Serious eye injuries can be impaled object, fluid or gelatinous material from the eye, abnormally shaped pupils or eviscerated eyes (eyeball outside of the socket). Check the pupils. Eyes are normally equal

and reactive, that means the pupils are normally the same size in each eye and will constrict with light and contract with darkness. Abnormally shaped pupils indicate a serious eye injury, but could also indicate a head injury or stroke. Eyes that don't react to light could indicate a head injury, shock, drug or alcohol use. For serious injuries, protect the eye. Don't remove any impaled object, it will only cause further damage. The victim will probably be more comfortable sitting or standing rather than lying down (there is less pressure on the eye). Take the paper cup and place it over the injured eye. Place the cup on the bony portion of the orbit and tape it down. When bandaging, you don't have to cover both eyes. Ask your victim to close the uninjured eye. If your victim can do this without any pain to either eye, leave the uninjured eye uncovered. Serious eye injuries are not life threatening but are eye threatening. The victim should see a doctor as soon as possible.

Chemical splashes to the eyes require copious amounts of water to the injured eye to wash the eye out. Remember to wash from the bridge of the nose to the side of the face for at least 15 minutes. Try to get the victim to open the injured eye as it's being washed.

The best solution for eye injuries is protection. Wear safety glasses when ever dealing with powertools, working under cars or qualifying at the range.

# In Remembrance

May 15<sup>th</sup> was an important day for all of us involved in protecting our nations park lands, historic areas and open spaces. It was National Peace Officers Memorial Day, a national day of mourning established by the President, honoring those who have died in the performance of their duties. This was the day, all across the nation, that uniformed officers and family members gathered in front of monuments to remember their comrades and remind us all of their service and sacrifice.

Park Rangers, both sworn and non-sworn, share in the dangers of our chosen profession. Many of those who have worn the uniform before us have fallen in the line of duty. They have died as heroes, protecting and rescuing those in need and we should never forget their names or their sacrifices,

## in memory

Ranger Jack Gaylar, National Park Service, Yosemite CA Ranger ..... Died in the line of duty April 19, 1921  
James A. Oary, National Park Service, Hot Springs AR ..... Killed in the line of duty March 12, 1927  
Ranger William C. Godfrey, National Park Service, Crater Lake OR ..... Died in the line of duty November 18, 1930  
Ranger Karl A. Jacobson, National Park Service, Acadia ME ..... Killed in the line of duty November 11, 1938  
Ranger Charles Scarbrough, National Park Service, Yosemite CA ..... Died in the line of duty June 21, 1954  
Ranger Ken Patrick, National Park Service, Pt. Reyes CA ..... Killed in the line of duty August 5, 1973  
Ranger Richard Schnurr, California State Parks ..... Died in the line of duty November 26, 1974  
Ranger Gregory Wayt, National Park Service, Casa Grande AZ ..... Killed in the line of duty November 30, 1974  
Ranger Patricia Scully, California State Parks ..... Died in the line of duty May 6, 1976  
Ranger Opal L. James, Army Corp of Engineers, Blue Lake AR ..... Killed in the line of duty July 1, 1977  
Ranger Richard Doherty, Army Corp of Engineers, Lake Barkley KT ..... Killed in the line of duty September 4, 1980  
Ranger George Kowatch III, California State Parks ..... Died in the line of duty November 2, 1987  
Ranger Clayton Cutter, U.S. Forest Service, Mammoth Lakes CA ..... Died in the line of duty February 18, 1990  
Ranger Robert L. McGhee Jr., National Park Service, Gulf Island MS ..... Killed in the line of duty May 26, 1990  
Ranger Stanley Flynn, Bucks County Department of Parks, PA ..... Died in the line of duty June 9, 1983  
Ranger Robert Mahn Jr, National Park Service, Yellowstone WY ..... Died in the line of duty January 17, 1994  
Ranger Ryan Weltman, National Park Service, Yellowstone WY ..... Died in the line of duty July 3, 1994  
Ranger Paul Pytel, San Antonio Parks, TX ..... Died in the line of duty July 31, 1994  
Ranger Wesley Pox, National Park Service, Washington Parkway, VA ..... Died in the line of duty July 15, 1995  
Ranger William Abrahamson, Providence City Parks, RI ..... Killed in the line of duty October 12, 1995  
Ranger Michael Beaulieu, National Park Service, Bryce Canyon UT ..... Died in the line of duty August 26, 1996

*Submitted by Pam Helmke, San Jose Parks*

*(Anyone knowing of a ranger who has died in the line of duty who is not listed above please forward the information to me through PRAC. I am trying to compile a complete listing)*

## Where Did All These Shirts Come From?!

**by Russ Hauck**

I was looking in the equipment closet of our Ranger Station and saw that we had about twenty old uniform shirts hanging in there. These shirts are in good condition, but they do show enough wear that they probably don't meet the unofficial professional standard of California.

It seems such a waste to see them hanging there, never to be worn again by our rangers. I thought that there must be something we could do with them. Then I remembered something I had heard about at the conference (yes, more shameless conference plugging). The International Ranger Federation is an organization like PRAC, but on a worldwide scale. There are rangers in parts of the world that would spend one month's salary on a new uniform shirt. I'll bet they would love to get a used one (or two) for free.

If you have some old shirts, pants, boots, belts, etc. that could benefit another in our profession, let me know and I'll make arrangement to see that they get a proper home. (See back page for phone number.)

*"Park Professionalism Through Unity."*

## Smitty's Book Report

I guess you all know how difficult it is to find books to report on each quarter. This time was no different. I just do not want to report on any book, but look for things that can use to make your professional life easier. Books that can help. The silent auction room at the conference made my choice a little easier this time. There, sitting on the table, was Jubenville's latest addition of **Outdoor Recreation Management**. I was one of the few to make a bid on this item, which was a little disappointing. I was hoping that.....well, that you guys and gals would start to actually read. I got it for \$10. Cheap to say the least. I believe that the actual cost is \$30, plus or minus. I had used Jubenville's first addition in my classes at West Valley. This book is his third addition. Jubenville has authored four books and is on the faculty of the University of Alaska-Fairbanks. Jubenville's co-author for this addition is a Ben Twight who has a background as a park ranger in the National Park Service, and now is a PhD teaching at Penn State University. In my opinion, the real meat of the text does not begin until you have reached Part II which deals with recreational resource management. Part I deals with the management framework, and although that is important, it becomes sometimes muddled and hard to understand. I think as a college instructor I might find it even difficult to talk about in class. You never want to confuse people trying to explain what you really have problems understanding yourself! The Part II section has chapters in site and turf management, and the management of overstory vegetation, among others. Part II is about visitor management. Jubenville includes a chapter on the principle of dispersal of visitor use. Unfortunately, I personally have problems with the dispersal concept, which attempt to lesson impact by spreading it all around. I don't think that quite works, as your impact also spreads "all around." I would just as soon "give up" an area of land to impact and manage it the best that I could and minimize impacts elsewhere. To each his/her own. Throw in a chapter on interpretation, public safety, hazard management, maintenance management and recreation planning, and you pretty much have the text. Not a bad text, mind you. Indeed, it is a very good one that is loaded with good tips on outdoor recreation management. It also comes from one of my favorite outdoor recreation publishing companies. It should be on your shelf.

Jubenville, Alan, Twight, Ben W. **Outdoor Recreation Management, Third Addition**, Venture Publishing Company, State College Pa. 1993.

Remember, you owe it to yourself to read a little about your profession every day.

## Maybe We Do Get Through Sometimes

**Jeff Gaffney**

I hope that when I am finished with this article I have done justice to all the emotions and energy which surrounded the event I am about to describe. I attended the 1998 Parks conference and I enjoyed my time there, meeting new friends and staying up too late solving all the world's problems. I had an extraordinary experience that to this day I am still amazed by.

The conference had ended and I was sitting talking with a group of rangers from across the state talking about the highlights of the conference. As often happens our conversation turned towards our favorite parks and why. I mentioned I very much enjoyed Patrick's Point State park in northern California, and I also mentioned this is where at the age of seven I decided I wanted to be a Park Ranger. This decision was a result of my participation in the Junior Ranger program.

The gentleman sitting next to me (whom I had just met) was Andrew Urlie a state Park Ranger at Big Sur, he took a sudden interest in my story. At first I thought that storytelling class must have really improved my skills but it wasn't speaking abilities that had peaked Andy's interest. Andy asked me if I knew what year it was that I had participated in the Junior Ranger program, being a math

whiz I added 7 to my date of birth and viola 1978. Andy began to grin almost uncontrollably, "That might have been me, I was a Park Aide At Patrick's Point in 1978."

I was amazed and dumbfounded, here I was sitting at a table with 10 other Park Rangers and sitting right next me is the man who may have set me on the path of my chosen career and my life for that matter. I retrieved my wallet and dug out my Junior Ranger (for all those who don't believe this part Russ Hauck was one of the witnesses and will testify to the facts) card from 1978 and flipped it over. On the back were the initials AU (Andrew Urlie) 07/03/78 signing me off for Botany (I still like salmon berries).

Words left me, I could not think of anything to say but thank you. This is just another shining testament to why these conferences are so important and how they lift my spirits every year. A year has not gone by that I have not had been humbled and awestruck about some aspect of the conference. I hope that I can encourage people to go and someday I hope to meet a Park Ranger who can say that he/she was positively influenced by my actions. What an amazing feeling.

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