



OK Gang It's That Time of Year Again Elections for Regions 1, 3, and 5 by Patrick Boyle Region 1

At least with these elections there is very little worry of millions being spent on TV ads, 1 minute sound bites, and tons of junk mail. But maybe that's the problem....If there are no members running for office why spend the money...Better yet why put forth any effort at all...

I have often thought what do I have to offer this organization. I consider myself average nothing special. There are lots of you who would be so much better at this than me. I thought the hardest part of being a director would be writing articles for the *Signpost*. Turns out I do not mind that part at all. I always figured at some point y'all would get tired of my blathering on and on and recall my butt.... Anyway we are looking for some folks to step up to the plate and take a few swings. I will not say it is always easy but it's really not that hard. You get to know some fantastic folks and make some great connections. I know we are all busy with our lives and our jobs but we need you to be involved to make a difference and keep us moving forward.

Take a chance step and run for office...or better yet nominate a co-worker that you think would be an awesome addition to the team. It's always nice when we get some folks running for office. After all... y'all got stuck with me when nobody else stepped up to run. Don't wait to see if someone else is going to do it. We need you....

- **Region 1:** Alameda, Contra Costa, Del Norte, Humboldt, Lake, Marin, Mendocino, Napa, and Sonoma Counties.
- **Region 3:** Alpine, Amador, Butte, Calaveres, Colusa, El Dorado, Fresno, Glenn, Lassen, Madera, Mariposa, Merced, Modoc, Mono, Nevada, Placer, Plumas, Sacramento, San Joaquin, Shasta, Sierra, Siskiyou, Solano, Stanislaus, Sutter, Tehama, Trinity, Tuolumne, Yolo, and Yuba counties.
- **Region 5:** Imperial, Orange, San Bernadino, San Diego, and Riverside counties.

Throw your name in the hat or nominate your friend by contacting John Havicon at onbelay@bluestonemeadow.com

From the Presidents Desk

The end of summer has arrived and most park agencies are winding down from the busy season. Many park folk are taking well deserved time off to recharge their batteries. The exception would be the folks who volunteer to produce the California Parks Training that will be held at the Embassy Suites Monterey Bay in February of 2013. The conference committee has been working hard to secure some truly awesome training programs and we hope to have program specific information out by November. From now until the end of the conference the committee will be pushing hard to make sure that we can provide information and skills that you need to succeed in your job. It's not too late to contact us if you have an idea for a great training - If you've got a topic that just crying out for attention contact the PRAC co-chair, Pat Boyle, at region1@calranger.org and pass the word.

Speaking of training, in the last issue of the Signpost I asked our members to contact us if they had issues or needs and our colleagues in Santa Barbara County have asked for PRAC's help in providing a series of trainings in Region 4. We'll be starting off with a full day on Customer Service and Conflict Resolution on November 8th that will be taught by Michelle Jackman, a well known expert in the field. While this training was set up for Santa Barbara County it is open to all and more information is on our web page.

Fall is also election time for PRAC. Our nominations committee will be seeking people interested in serving on the Board in Regions 1, 3, and 5 as well as our vacant student liaison position. We hope some of you will answer the call and spend a little time giving back to our association. Being a board member is fun, informative, and not really that difficult. The remaining board members will be here to help you succeed.

Wishing you a calm and quite off season.

Stay safe

Pam Helmke, President

**From the Bedside Table
of Patrick Boyle**

Mind of the Raven

by Bernd Heinrich

If you have ever wondered why Ravens are so mischievous, mysterious and steeped in folk lore this is the book for you. Bernd Heinrich has spent the better part of his life studying these birds in the wild and in his aviary. He is a biologist who specializes in behavioral adaptations. He has a unique writing style that effortlessly combines the scientific analysis and great storytelling that allows us the reader to feel comfortable and understand the lingo without getting lost in the jargon. We can learn a lot from the ravens. Open up the pages and introduce yourself to Goliath, Fuzz, Lefty, and Houdi.

I happened to see a great interpretive program in the Grand Canyon about ravens and it peaked my interest in this bird. The folk lore from the native Americans is just the tip of the iceberg as to how intelligent these birds are. After reading this book I have a greater understanding of the “trickster” and look forward to my own adventures with this Wolf –Bird. Hope you get a chance to do a little reading by the fire or in the sun this fall.



PRAC & the A's

Region 1 and 2 combined for a day at the ballpark right after Labor Day. We watched our green collar counterparts take on their division rivals the Angels. Unfortunately our boys lost but a great time was had by all those that attended. We had a tailgate party prior to the game and Anthony was the star of the



game with his A's foam finger. As I sit down to write this article our boys have just beaten the Rangers (Don't take it personally) and won the A.L West Division. A Cinderella story in the making considering they were slated to finish in last place this year. Lets Go Oakland!!!!



2013 Annual California Parks Training Update

Your committee has been busy working on getting things ready for you for this year's event. So do not miss out on this valuable opportunity to get some training and make some new friends and discover what is going on in the world of Parks.

Schedule

Mon. 2/25: Field trips / Reception

Tues. 2/26: Guest speaker/ Training Sessions/
Evening programs

Wed. 2/27: Training Sessions/ PRAC and
CSPRA General Membership Meetings and
Evening Banquet

Thurs. 2/28 Specialized Training

Training topics we have scheduled for you include

- Strategic Planning for Social Media
- Conflict Communication: Applying Negotiation Tricks of the Trade
- Project Wet Training (full six hours on Wednesday)
- The Park Ranger Model in an Aquarium
- OHV Training
- Obtaining Voluntary Compliance (POST Perishable Skills Program)
- Tactical Communication)
- Marketing your Public Safety Program: Communicating the Important
- Services you Provide
- Working with Police K-9's: Presentation and K-9 Demo
- With All Due Respect / Sexual Harassment Prevention for Supervisors



Other topics we are working on include

- The Homeless in Parks: A Panel Discussion on Homeless Issues and their Impacts on Parks
- The possibility of offering more POST Perishable Skills Program training
- (Arrest & Control, Defensive Driver, Firearms, etc.)
- Water Treatment

We still have some room if you would like to present a topic or need some specific training needs. Let us know and we will see what we can do for you. After all, this entire event is about you.

The Monday field trips are shaping up with lots of possibilities for organized and on your own options.

We are still looking for nominations for our Honorary Member Award, and do not forget to start thinking about those silent auction items.

Once again we are set for the **Embassy Suites at Seaside** (Monterey).

Remember Tahoe? The \$84 room rate, the free cooked breakfast, and the managers' nightly reception with complimentary appetizers with beverages.

Just replace snow with sand and there you are..... Go ahead and book it now....

Look for an updated training topic list on the PRAC website and course descriptions as well as the registration forms and other important info as we get it penned in.

For more details keep checking us out at <http://www.calranger.org/2013conf/index.html> or drop me a line at region1@calranger.org

Check Your Birthday Suit on Your Birthday

As park professionals we spend a great deal of our work day outdoors exposed to sunlight. Too much sun can cause damage to the skin and possibly lead to the development of skin cancer.

Skin cancer is one of the most common types of cancer. Over 2 million Americans will be diagnosed with skin cancer each year. Skin cancer is one of the easiest to cure if diagnosed and treated early.

The American Academy of Dermatology (AAD) recommends that everyone conduct a simple self exam every year – simply put - check your birthday suit on your birthday. If you have a history of skin cancer you may want to do self checks more often.

How To Check Your Birthday Suit

Examine your body front and back in the mirror, then look at the right and left sides with your arms raised.

Bend elbows and look carefully at forearms, upper underarms and palms.

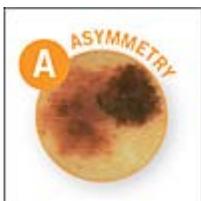
Look at the backs of your legs and feet, the spaces between your toes, and the soles of your feet.

Examine the back of your neck and scalp with a hand mirror. Part hair for a closer look.

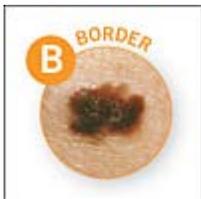
Finally, check your back and buttocks with a hand mirror.

What To Look For During Your Self Check

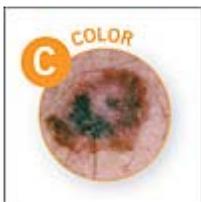
Remember the ABCDE's for checking your spots and moles:



A = Asymmetry
One half is unlike the other half.



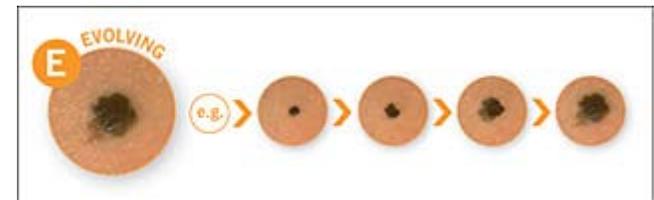
B = Border
An irregular, scalloped or poorly defined border.



C = Color
Is varied from one area to another; has shades of tan, brown or black, or is sometimes white, red, or blue.



D = Diameter
Melanomas usually greater than 6mm (the size of a pencil eraser) when diagnosed, but they can be smaller.



E = Evolving
A mole or skin lesion that looks different from the rest or is changing in size, shape or color.

For more information go to the AAD web page www.SpotSkinCancer.org

The Only Presidential Park Ranger

From the National Park Service Morning Report

Gerald Ford—Park Ranger and President

Gerald R. Ford holds a special place in the hearts of those in the National Park Service family. He will be remembered by the world for his many accomplishments as President of the United States and his compassion in healing the nation's wounds following the war in Vietnam. For those of us in the National Park Service, though, he's considered as one of our own—the only American President to have served as a park ranger in the National Park Service.

In the summer of 1936, Gerald Ford worked as a seasonal park ranger at Yellowstone National Park. Ford later recalled that time as “one of the greatest summers of my life.”

According to his supervisor at Yellowstone, Canyon District Ranger Frank Anderson, Ford was “a darned good ranger.”

While serving in Yellowstone, one of Ford's assignments was as an armed guard on the bear-feeding truck. The National Park Service no longer feeds the bears, but Ford always remembered that duty and often regaled his family with stories about the bear-feeding truck.

During his summer at Yellowstone, Ford also worked in the Canyon Hotel and Lodge, meeting and greeting VIPS—a job Ford explained to his supervisor was “undemocratic and un-American to give special attention to VIPS.”

According to Wayne Repogle, Ford's roommate that summer, one of the duties that Ford particularly enjoyed was the early morning check. From 5 a.m. to 7 a.m. every morning, each automobile in camp had to be checked for make, model, state and license number.

Repogle said that the rangers had to run most of the time to get the 150 to 200 licenses listed in two hours. As a football player, Ford was very fit and saw this duty as an opportunity to stay in shape. Repogle said that Ford genuinely enjoyed “everything we rangers had to do.”

As President of the United States, Ford oversaw an era when the National Park Service, under the leadership of Director Gary Everhardt, tightened the criteria for national parklands. Previously, for an area to be recommended for inclusion in the National Park System, it had to be considered nationally significant and lend itself to administration, preservation, and public use. The new emphasis would also consider whether the area was assured of adequate protection outside the system and whether it would be available

for public appreciation and use under such protection. During his time in office, President Ford added eighteen new areas to the National Park System.

*[Submitted by Gerry Gaumer,
Public Affairs, WASO]*

Park Ranger Openings

Washoe County, Nevada

Washoe County, NV is currently recruiting for a Park Ranger I and a Park Ranger II, and I thought your members might be interested. I have attached a link to our Human Resources website along with some information on the position.

<http://www.washoecounty.us/humanresources/careers/jobs.htm>

Legal Update

Suspect's Admissions and Probable Cause to Search:

United States v. Pope (9th Cir. July 17, 2012) 686 F.3rd 1078

Rule: A refusal to comply with a police officer's demand to empty one's pockets fails to implicate the Fourth Amendment. A defendant's admission to possessing a controlled substance constitutes probable cause to search.

Facts: El Dorado National Forest Law Enforcement Officer Ken Marcus responded to a call concerning a loud party. Defendant approached Officer Marcus, apparently to inquire about a friend of defendant's who had already been taken into custody. Defendant appeared to be under the influence of marijuana and, when asked, admitted to smoking the stuff. Asked if he had any marijuana on him, defendant denied that he did. Not believing him, Officer Marcus ordered defendant to empty his pockets. Defendant just stood there, ignoring the order. When asked again whether he had any marijuana in his possession, defendant admitted that he did. Officer Marcus therefore told defendant to "place the marijuana on the hood of the patrol car." This time, defendant complied. Defendant was cited for possession of the marijuana and released. Charged in federal court with the misdemeanor possession of marijuana (21 U.S.C. § 844(a)), defendant's motion to suppress the marijuana was denied. He pled guilty and appealed.

Held: The Ninth Circuit Court of Appeal affirmed. On appeal, defendant argued that he was searched unlawfully. The Government argued that the officer's first command to empty his pockets, being ignored by the defendant, was not a search and that the Fourth Amendment was therefore not implicated. The Court agreed. Likening this situation to when an officer threatens to unlawfully detain a suspect, where the Supreme Court

has held that it's not a Fourth Amendment violation unless, and until, the suspect is in fact detained (*California v. Hodari D.* (1991) 499 U.S. 621.), merely threatening an illegal search similarly fails to implicate the Fourth Amendment. Therefore, the first command to empty his pockets, being ignored by the defendant, is a non-issue. The second command to put his marijuana on the patrol car's hood, however, was a search in that defendant complied with the officer's command. However, this command was preceded by defendant's admission that he did in fact have marijuana in his possession. Having so admitted this supplied the necessary probable cause to search. There being no opportunity to seek a search warrant under these circumstances, exigent circumstances justified the immediate warrantless search. The marijuana was therefore lawfully seized.

Note: Had defendant complied with the first demand to empty his pockets by pulling out the marijuana at that time, we'd then be discussing whether the officer had probable cause to make that first demand. I can see a good argument being made that when you contact a person that you recognize in your training and experience to be under the influence of marijuana, and then he admits that he's been smoking it, that is sufficient to constitute probable cause. But the Court didn't have to decide that issue, defendant's refusal to comply negating any need to consider the Fourth Amendment.

Robert C. Phillips

*San Diego County Deputy District Attorney
(Ret.)*

September 15, 2012



Announcement!

NATURAL RESOURCES COMMUNICATION WORKSHOP

January 7-11, 2013

The Natural Resources Communication Workshop, sponsored by the Western Section of The Wildlife Society, is designed to help natural resource workers more effectively communicate with general as well as technical audiences through personal presentations using good visual aids. The workshop focuses on the use of computer-generated images created with Microsoft's PowerPoint software. The workshop is practical-oriented and enhances participants' communication skills in planning, preparing, presenting, and evaluating presentations. Since many of the problems in natural resources management are people-oriented, more effective communication can significantly improve many management programs.

Workshop Content:

1. Discussion topics include:
 - Planning: communication principles, audience analysis, graphic design
 - Preparing: creating computer-generated graphics, photographic composition, rehearsal tips
 - Presenting: equipment setup, speaking tips, dealing with difficult audiences
 - Evaluating: evaluation of performance
2. Each participant will bring a selection of computer-generated images (ex., graphics created with PowerPoint or other presentation software programs) for organization into an illustrated talk.
3. Each participant will prepare graphics (titles, graphs, charts, maps, cartoons, etc.) to be used in their presentations.
4. Each participant will give a 5- and 15-minute presentation (which will include graphics prepared during the workshop). These presentations will be evaluated by the class and the instructors.

Instructor: Dr. Jon K. Hooper, Professor, Calif. State Univ., Chico (Certified Wildlife Biologist, Certified Interpretive Trainer, Ph.D. in Wildlife Ecology, 35+ years teaching communication workshops around the country). Dr. Hooper will be assisted by Ms. Kim Rubin, who has experience as a tour guide and environmental interpreter. She has 13 years experience facilitating the Natural Resources Communication Workshop.

Location: California State University, Chico (90 miles north of Sacramento)

University Credit: Participants receive 1-unit CSUC Continuing Education credit. The workshop is worth a maximum of 40 contact hours in Category I of The Wildlife Society's Certified Wildlife Biologist Renewal/Professional Development Certificate Program.



Application Procedure: The initial deadline for applications is October 31, 2012 (Wednesday). Late applications are accepted (such applicants will become participants if the workshop is not yet full; otherwise, they will be placed on a waiting list in case of cancellations). The tentative registration fee is \$789. The workshop is limited to 16 participants. Since more applicants usually apply than there are spaces available, the registration fee is not due until an applicant has been officially accepted into the workshop (this occurs shortly after the October 31 deadline).

Since the workshop has a limited capacity, all applicants will be contacted after October 31, 2012 to notify them if they have been accepted. Instructions on paying the registration fee will be provided at that time. Payment must be received before applicants will be fully registered. Failure to make timely payment will result in alternate applicants being selected.

To apply, send a letter, fax, or email describing: (1) your current position within your agency or organization, (2) how you will use the training, (3) any special reasons why you feel you should be chosen as a participant, and (4) if you already have official agency/organization approval to attend. In your application, include your job title, address, phone number, fax number, and email. To apply or for more information, write or call:

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Dept. Recreation, Hospitality, and Parks Management
California State University, Chico
Chico, CA 95929-0560
(530) 898-5811 or 898-6408
fax: (530) 898-6557 e-mail: jhooper@csuchico.edu

* * * * *

FLASH!!! Participants in the 2013 workshop will not only learn professional tips for using PowerPoint, but also will gain exposure to Photoshop Elements (digital photo editing software).

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Board Officers 2012**

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