

The Signpost

March-April, 2013



Training Opportunities Abound at Monterey This Year Patrick Boyle Region 1

Don't miss out on the tremendous opportunities this year at the Annual California Parks Training event in Monterey. Field trips are filling up fast and I think this is one of the best all-around trainings I have seen in a while. All the field trips are free or on a donation basis. Get out on Monterey Bay and see its marine mammals with The CDFW aboard the vessel Steelhead; Hike the gem of the state park system, Pt Lobos with a guide;

Check out the newest National Monument, Ft Ord; or Explore the Hollister Hills SVRA Park. We are also offering specialized training with ATV/ROV certification, CEU's for water system operators along with Haz Mat FRA training, Project WET (Watershed Interpretation for Teachers) for Interpreters, and POST certified training.

Don't forget about the social dinner night at the Monterey Bay Aquarium. Come on down and eat with the fish. We have a special guest as well, at the moment **Clint Eastwood** will be at the banquet on Wednesday to accept the **CSPRA Honorary Ranger Award** and we will be recognizing two of our own; **Ranger Chris Kemp** with the **Medal of Valor Award** and **Officer William Deleon-Grandos** with the **Life Saving Award**.

We look forward to seeing all of you at Monterey this year whether it is for the whole time or just a day. This is your training, come on out and see some old friends and make some new ones at this years event.

(Continues on page 3)

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From the Presidents Desk

Happy New Year and I hope that many of you are preparing to attend the California Parks Training in Seaside at the end of the month. If you haven't signed up yet it's not too late. We have lots a high quality programming on a wide range important issues that are affecting our parks and open spaces. From managing homeless encampments to cultural resource protection, to honing your supervisory or interpretive skills we've got something for everyone. New this year is a number of sessions with information on the International Ranger Federation. Combined with a fantastic location on Monterey Bay this promises to be great time and a great value for keeping up with your professional development and training.

Speaking of training, PRAC was able to close out 2012 with a really great training session on Dealing with Difficult Visitors and Conflict Resolution. Michelle Jackman, a well know expert in the field of communication and working with difficult guests, gave two presentations so we could cover both northern and southern parts of the state. The rooms were packed for both sessions and the course evaluations gave the program high marks. We'd like to thank our colleagues in Santa Barbara for suggesting this topic.

Your Board of Directors is currently working on more training sessions for 2013. If you have ideas or need a training on a specific topic I hope you contact your regional director or you can call me directly. Working through PRAC to offer trainings is a great way to keep costs down and to develop your networking resources with other agencies.

I'd also like to thank everyone who has taken the time to renew their membership for 2013. If you haven't sent in your renewal yet I hope you'll reconsider and renew. Membership is what keeps PRAC in business and allows us to offer the annual conference and training as well as the regional trainings you ask for. PRAC also serves as a voice for park and open space agencies across California and Nevada..

I'm looking forward to seeing many of you at the General Membership meeting in Seaside.

Stay Safe

Pam Helmke, President

Training Opportunities Abound

(Continued from page 1)

Here is a list of Classes you do not want to miss out on.

Public Safety Classes

- Obtaining Voluntary Compliance
- Homeless in Parks
- Strategic Planning for Social Media
- Peace officer and Employee Associations
- Connecting with Your Public Safety Stakeholders
- Leading Small Groups in Times of Organizational Change
- Working with police K-9's

Public Resources and Management Classes

- Resource Crimes
- Cultural Resource Crimes
- Vernal Pools
- All About CEQA
- Public Safety When it Comes to Wildlife
- 10 Tips for Getting Grants
- Sudden Oak Death Public Relations at Mt Madonna
- Use of GIS in Wildland SAR
- Use of remote Sensors and UAV's in Parks
- Resource and Techniques for Erosion and Sediment Control
- The State of the State Tree

Water and Waste Water; Making Every Drop Count

- Teaching Safe and Effective Tool Use
- Career Development: Interview Strategies

Interpretation Classes

- The Park Ranger Model at Monterey Bay Aquarium
- Applying Negotiation Techniques to Difficult Situations
- Stream Ecology
- Project WET Certification

Mandatory Training Opportunities

- With All Due Respect
- Sexual Harassment Prevention for Supervisors

International Classes

- Brining the Compton Posse to Africa
- Training Rangers in Oman
- Anzo-Borrego's Sister Park in Mongolia
- What is the IRF (International Ranger Federation)?
- Management Issues in African Parks
- The Thin green Line Film

Don't forget to help us out by bringing an item for the silent auction. This really helps us keep our costs down. Thanks again to everyone who is participating and helping to make this a great event. See you in Monterey.



Hello Region 5

My name is Candi Hubert and I am very excited and pleased to be the new director of Region 5. My degree is in environmental studies with an emphasis in natural resources and parks from Sonoma State. I am going on six years as a ranger at Orange County Parks. I have worked over 2 years at Laguna Coast and Caspers Wilderness Parks and my current assignment is South Coastal Operations, which covers seven and half miles of beaches from Aliso beach in Laguna to Poche beach at the border of San Clemente. This will be my 5th PRAC Conference/Training and I have thoroughly enjoyed them all. I am looking forward to meeting Region 5 attendees in Monterey very soon. Some of the trainings I am thinking of for this year include: trail maintenance, title 22, animal tracking and bird/marine mammal rescue in case of oil spill on coast. I would also like to do a whale watching trip for a get together. I encourage all of you to let me know what kind of training and activities you are interested in during the year.



Save the Frogs Day

Patrick Boyle Region 1

In an effort to raise awareness of the plight of amphibians, the scientific community has declared Saturday April 27th, 2013 the 5th Annual 'Save The Frogs Day'. Amphibians are without a doubt the most endangered group of animals on the planet: nearly 1/3 of the world's 6,485 species are on the brink of extinction. There are six major factors negatively affecting amphibians, and all are due to human activity: habitat destruction, infectious diseases, pollution and pesticides, climate change, invasive species, and the over harvesting of amphibians for the pet and food trades.

We all realize how important it is to protect amphibian populations, and this will not be possible unless we educate the public about the amphibian extinction crisis. This Save The Frogs Day, please consider giving a public presentation on amphibians, or lead a frog walk to

show people wild amphibians in their native habitat. This is a great way to spread the word about amphibian declines, and it is guaranteed to get students interested in amphibian conservation.

This is a great opportunity for us as interpreters to tie in to this group. There are grants, a free PowerPoint presentation, posters, cards and plenty of frog photos that can be used in presentations. Even if you do not plan on doing a presentation there are plenty of free images you can download to post on a bulletin board. If you are looking for Save The Frogs Day inspiration or ideas, please visit www.savethefrogs.com and

visit the [2009](#), [2010](#) and [2011](#) events webpages: they hold an enormous wealth of ideas that will help you create your own fantastic frog-saving event! This is such an easy ready to use program even a Luddite like me can use it. Get out there and Save the Frogs!!!!



Earth Day

Patrick Boyle Region 1

Earth Day was first celebrated on April 22 1970. Protests over the Vietnam War were going on throughout the nation, we all drove large American gas guzzling cars, and industry was largely unregulated when it came to what it put into the air or water. Just another day at the factory, and most of us Americans were oblivious to any real environmental issues.

Rachel Carson's book Silent Spring was a New York Times best seller and raised public awareness and concern about the state of the environment. Earth Day 1970 is considered to be the birth of the modern environmental movement. It is the brain child of Gaylord Nelson. He organized a national teach in on the environment after the devastating oil spill in Santa Barbara in 1969. He brought together both democrats, republicans,

anti-war protesters, and those who were fighting at the grass roots level for environmental change. All parties could find common ground. The Environmental Protection Agency was formed and the [Clean Air](#), [Clean Water](#), and [Endangered Species](#) Acts were passed.

Earth Day began to sputter a bit in the 80's but during the 1990's it took off again with recycling becoming a main stream issue and launched the first United Nations Earth Summit. 2010 saw James Camerons one million tree planting program take off. Today, Earth Day is celebrated worldwide. We can only hope that it can still be a catalyst to bring us all together and make positive changes for our planet and our backyard. What are you doing for Earth day?

My name is Jessica Erdahl, and I am pleased to be a new member of the PRAC Board of Directors. I've worked in public service for the past 14 years, the last 6 of which as a Park Ranger for the City of Chico. Contributing to and supporting the Ranger profession is especially important to me and I look forward to the new opportunities and experiences I will have as a part of PRAC.

I believe it is important to belong to professional organizations, as it provides opportunities to get training, share information and collaborate with other professionals. I have been a PRAC member for over 5 years, have attended 2 conferences and feel that the organization provides many benefits to its membership. It is my hope, as a Board member, to assist with providing training opportunities, address budget issues and be a resource to the organization.

Jessica Erdahl

Senior Park Ranger

City of Chico



Sponsorship Challenge

Ok so all things old are new again. Those of us who have been around a while may remember that for the Conference we used to have sponsorships. We have two levels of sponsorship this year one at the \$500 level and one at the \$750 level. Timing may have worked out well in this regard as our vendor situation for this years event has run into a wall. This year for vendors we have had a minimal turn out partially due to the economy, partially due to us moving our date up a couple of weeks, and advertising budgets are going to other places such as internet and large scale conventions, so us smaller guys are feeling the squeeze.

\$500 Sponsor Level:

- Corp logo and name on a shared sponsor banner at the registration table.
- Recognition at the opening general session.
- One-eighth (1/8) page ad in the conference program.
- One business card size ad in the CSPRA and PRAC e-newsletters.
- Two lunches and the banquet for representative.

\$750 Sponsor Level:

- Corp logo and name on a banner or poster board indicating sponsorship of a training room
- Corp logo and name on a SHARED sponsor banner at the registration table.
- Recognition at the opening general session.
- One-quarter (1/4) page ad in the conference program.
- One-quarter (1/4) page ad in the CSPRA and PRAC e-newsletters.
- A link to their corp website on the PRAC and CSPRA sites. (For 3 months)
- Two lunches and the banquet for representative.

If any of you know of any vendors / associations / or groups that may be interested in something like this have them get in touch with Mike Peasland or Patrick Boyle.

From the Bedside Table

Campfire Stories and Campfire Tales

**by William Forgey
Patrick Boyle Region 1**

Want to hear a scary story?..... Have I got a great set of books for you! Things that go bump in the night, ghost, goulies, and long legged beasties are just a few of the things that will make your friends skin crawl on a dark and stormy night around the campfire. These tales can be easily be modified to fit your audience. The author also supplies a simple set of guidelines on how to set the stage and tell your ghost story. He also provides a brief outline of the story highlights at the end of each tale so you can set it to your needs and not miss out the important parts of the story. William Forgey is a Boy Scout Leader and a doctor. He spins some great tales of his own as well as some classic stories from beyond the grave. Grab this set of books and set the mood for a sleepless night around your next campfire program. Hope you get a chance to sit by the fire and do a little reading.....after this you may want to sleep with the lights on....



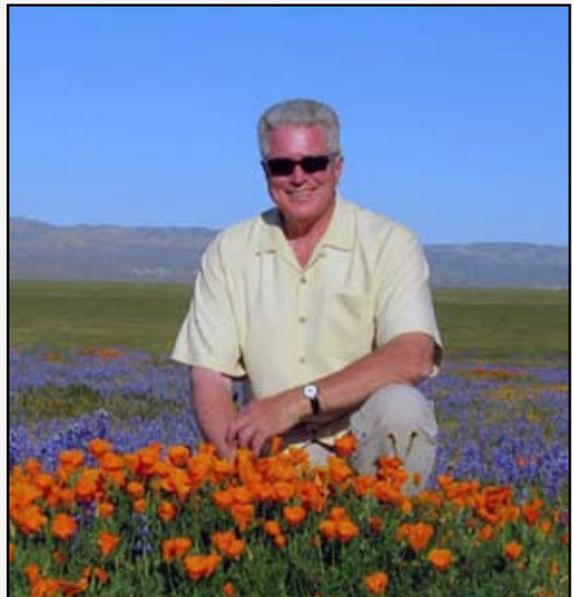
Passing of Huell Howser

In January PRAC lost a dear friend and true advocate for California's parks and open spaces. Television producer and host Huell Howser passed away on January 7th shortly after his retirement in November.

Huell was a well know figure across California. Traveling the state searching for the all the unique areas that make our state so special. With his effervescent personality, down home charm and true enthusiasm for his work Huell's programs explored our state and he encouraged his viewers to go out and find their own bit of California to call their own. His most popular program, California's Gold, aired from 1994 to 2012 for 443 episodes. Huell also developed and produced a number other popular shows including California's Golden Parks, focusing on the State Park System; and California Green looking into environmental issues across the state. When asked his view about his programming Huell replied: "We operate on the premise that TV isn't brain surgery. People's stories are what it's all about. If you have a good story, it doesn't have to be overproduced. I want our stories to reveal the wonders of the human spirit and the richness of life in California, including its history, people, culture and natural wonders."

Huell's work promoting parks and cultural resources earned him both the Park Rangers Association of California's Honorary Lifetime Membership Award and the Honorary State Park Ranger Award from the California State Park Rangers Association. Only Huell Howser and William Penn Mott Jr. have been honored with both Associations highest award.

Huell was a true friend to parks. He not only taught visitors about California but he taught Californians about California. With a warm heart, and infectious grin and an insatiable drive to explore Huell will be missed but his spirit will live on in our hearts and in our parks.



Election Results

The ballots are in the votes counted!! Congratulations to our new and returning board members.

New to the board for 2013 are:

Region 3 Director Jessica Erdahl from the City of Chico

Region 5 Director Candice Hubert from the County of Orange

Returning to the Board are:

Region 1 Director Pat Boyle form Humbolt County

Region 4 Director Richard Weiner from the City of Claremont

Region 6 Director Marie Fong from Washoe County, Nevada

Welcome to our new members and thank you everyone for volunteering your time to this wonderful organization.



“Standing on the Shores of our Future”

California Parks Training

Feb 25 – 28, 2013

Conference Registration

Annual parks training presented by:



Embassy Suites 1441 Canyon Del Rey Boulevard Seaside, CA 93955
(831) 393-1115 www.embassymonterey.com

Name:	
Additional Guest/Spouse Name:	
Membership Status:	CSPRA <input type="checkbox"/> PRAC <input type="checkbox"/> Full time Student <input type="checkbox"/> Retired <input type="checkbox"/> None <input type="checkbox"/>
Address:	City: State: Zip:
Telephone Home:	Work: () Ext.
E-mail Address:	
Agency/College/Business:	
<input type="checkbox"/> I am a Conference Vendor/Exhibitor/Presenter	Advance Conference Apparel Orders Crew neck T-Shirt (\$15 each) S ___ M ___ L ___ XL ___ XXL ___ XXXL ___ T-Shirts \$20.00 at conference and subject to availability Total.....\$_____
Conference Refund Policy Prior to February 9 th100% After February 9 th\$40 service fee After February 20.....No Refunds	
Have Silent Auction items? If yes, describe items and suggest a minimum bid.	Make your hotel reservations BEFORE JAN 26, 2013 to get the reduced rate of \$84 single \$104 double a night. Mention you are with the California Parks Training. Embassy Suites Seaside (831) 393-1115

This form is available as a PDF download on the PRAC and CSPRA Websites: www.CSPRA.com or www.CalRanger.org

Questions? Write to address below, or call (831) 649-2954 ask for Joanne Danielson . Send completed registration form to :
 2013 California Parks Training
 PO Box 699
 Pacific Grove, CA 93950

\$50 Refund for First 100 CSPRA Members Who Return Full Registration Packets!

BASIC REGISTRATION FEES	Fee	Qty.	Amount
Member Full Registration – (MEALS - 2 lunches and dinner banquet included)	\$195		
Non-Member Full Registration - (MEALS - 2 lunches and dinner banquet included)	\$225		
Student Full Registration - (MEALS - 2 lunches and dinner banquet included)	\$160		
Retired Member/Guest/ Spouse Full Registration - (MEALS - 2 lunches and dinner banquet included)	\$160		
Guest/Spouse (MEALS 2 lunches and dinner banquet included)	\$150		
Retired Member/Guest/ Spouse/ Student Full Registration - (MEALS not included)	\$50		
Single Day Registration (CHECK DAY: <input type="checkbox"/> Tue <input type="checkbox"/> Wed lunch included)	Member \$75/day Non Member \$100/day		
Single Day Full Time Student / Retired / Spouse (CHECK DAY: <input type="checkbox"/> Tue <input type="checkbox"/> Wed (lunch included)	\$50/day		
Total:			\$

Activities/ Meals -2 lunches and dinner banquet included noted with - * - are included with Full Registration – *Do not include these fees in the total amount if you are a FULL registrant. Lunch included with Single Day Registrations

2013 California Parks Training – Registration Form

MONDAY ACTIVITIES	<i>Fee</i>	<i>Qty.</i>	<i>Amount</i>
<i>Monday Activities are off-site, and are not included with Full Registration.</i>			
Point Lobos Hike (limit 25 people)	Donation		
Ft Ord National Monument (limit 20 people, rain cancels) 3pm at Ft Ord	Free		
ATV Training Hollister Hills includes lunch (limit 8 people) 11:00 – 3:00	\$20		
Boat Tour with California Department Fish and Wildlife (limit 15 people)	Free		

Total: \$

TUESDAY ACTIVITIES	<i>Fee</i>	<i>Qty.</i>	<i>Amount</i>
*LUNCH (INCLUDED IN FULL REGISTRATION) BUFFET:	\$45		
Dinner and Behind the Scenes Tour of Monterey Bay Aquarium	\$75		

Total: \$

WEDNESDAY ACTIVITIES	<i>Fee</i>	<i>Qty.</i>	<i>Amount</i>
*Luncheon Buffet (INCLUDED WITH FULL REGISTRATION)	\$40		
Project WET Interpretation Track	\$30		
Water Treatment CEU class / Haz Mat FRA / FRO (INCLUDED IN FULL REGISTRATION) This training is off site at the Mott Training center and being offered "a la carte" \$20 for PRAC/CSPRA Members \$50 for non- members	See left		
*Evening Banquet (INCLUDED WITH FULL REGISTRATION) choose one: <input type="checkbox"/> Flame grilled chicken <input type="checkbox"/> Roasted Pork Loin <input type="checkbox"/> Vegetarian	\$65		

Total: \$

THURSDAY TRAINING AND ACTIVITIES	<i>Fee</i>	<i>Qty.</i>	<i>Amount</i>
<i>(Extended Training Sessions, not included with Full Registration)</i>			
ATV / ROV Certification Hollister Hills Includes lunch <input type="checkbox"/> ATV AM Class 8:30 - 12:30 <input type="checkbox"/> ROV AM Class 1:00 – 5:00 <input type="checkbox"/> ATV PM Class 1:00 – 4:00 <input type="checkbox"/> ROV PM Class 1:00 – 5:00 ATV max class size 8 ROV max class size 6	\$20		
Tour of Hollister Hills State Vehicular Recreation Area (SVRA) 10:30 – 12:30 and 1:00 – 3:00 (12 person limit per tour)	FREE		

Total: \$

**To Reserve a space for the ATV / ROV Training or any Tour email Pat at
region1@calranger.org**

Basic Registration & Daily Activities (Calculate above totals)		\$
Conference T-shirt (Transfer total from other side of this form)		\$
Late Registration Fee - After February 19 th Members & Non-members, add \$40. Students, add \$25		\$
At the door Full Registration – Members & Non-member, \$250. Students, \$200 Includes 2 lunches and Banquet Daily Registration – Members & non- member \$150. Students \$100 Includes lunch		\$
TOTAL:		-
CALIFORNIA PARKS TRAINING 2013 Grand Total:		\$
Method of Payment		
Full Payment Enclosed (Check or Money Order) - Payable to CSPRA		
Bank Credit Card <input type="checkbox"/> Visa <input type="checkbox"/> MasterCard Account # _____ Exp. Date _____		
Card Holder's Signature: _____		
Print Name _____ Date _____		

Although meals are included with Full Registration, I will not be attending Tuesday Lunch _____, Wednesday Lunch _____, Thursday Banquet _____. My meal ticket may be given to volunteers attending the Conference.

**Park Rangers Association of California
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SUBMISSION DEADLINES ARE THE LAST DAY OF JANUARY, MARCH, MAY, JULY, SEPTEMBER, AND NOVEMBER.

EMAIL:
prangerd@ix.netcom.com

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

NAME _____		
ADDRESS _____		
CITY _____	STATE _____	ZIP _____
PHONE _____		
HOME _____	WORK _____	
EMAIL ADDRESS _____		
EMPLOYER OR SCHOOL _____		
JOB CLASSIFICATION OR MAJOR _____		

Voting Membership

REGULAR.....\$50 _____
 RETIRED.....\$35 _____

NON-Voting Membership

AGENCY:
 (1-24 PERSONS—6 MAILINGS)..... \$100 _____
 25 PERSONS—12 MAILINGS)..... \$150 _____
 STUDENT.....\$20 _____
 ASSOCIATE..... \$35 _____
 SUPPORTING..... \$100 _____

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 P.O. Box 153, STEWARTS POINT, CA 95480

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 STEWARTS POINT, CA 95480-0153

FIRST CLASS