

# RANGER

The Journal of the Association of National Park Rangers

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ANPR  Stewards for parks, visitors and each other 

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**Rangers in Remote Locations**

# Letters

## ANPR: Don't Throw It Out Yet!

I am writing this letter to weigh in on the issue before the membership proposed by Rick Smith, Bill Wade and Rick Gale to consider a possible name change and restructuring of ANPR. As a longtime life member of ANPR (Rendezvous III) and having spent over 12 years as an ANPR board member, I have seen rise and decline cycles of membership in ANPR over the past 25 years. I believe ANPR is an issue-driven organization and the fluctuations in membership supports this belief. I also believe ANPR is basically sound with a core group of members who have provided most of the active participation and volunteer support to the organization over the years. Is it better to have an organization with a core membership of active volunteers or a larger organization where membership rises and falls based on a "what can you do for me" concept? I don't know the answer but I think it is the basis for the internal dilemma we now face as an organization.

I greatly respect the opinions of our three illustrious members who have devised this restructuring concept, but I don't agree that we need to move in that direction at this time. This organization was founded as a supportive "fraternity" to the ranger profession and our original mission statement was developed around that concept. Simply refer to the text on the home page of the ANPR web site under the titles "Leading the Way," "A Respected Forum" and "Dedicated Membership" for a good review of what our organization is all about. We've had many discussions over the years, during times of declining membership, about the generic concept of "ranger" and how that term is a symbolic term that applies to all NPS employees. Many of our longtime members who have been active in ANPR and supported our organization over the years both monetarily and in significant volunteer hours joined ANPR because of its tie to the ranger profession.

What is the goal of this plan to change the name and restructure ANPR? I don't believe we have a clear goal as to what this proposal is intended to accomplish. As an organization we should be greatly concerned with the decline in our membership over the past several years. I see this name change concept as a possible way to reverse that trend. I would submit, however, that we have no indication that a change in name will reverse this trend. This change quite possibly could do the exact opposite through a dilution of membership into specialized groups with self-motivated agen-

das that may not be reflective of ANPR's history as a voice for the National Park System. I don't accept this "build it and they will come" concept. I believe the real decline in membership can be attributed to a variety of reasons, such as lack of an ANPR recruitment program, lack of significant actions on issues by ANPR during the past several years, loss of the regional representative positions on the board, and an overall apathy among NPS employees. I read Einar Olsen's letter to the editor in *Ranger* (Spring 2001) and agree there are some significant resource issues that ANPR could address. The ANPR position paper on the taking of eaglets at Wupatki NM is a case in point.

We began to see significant declines in membership when we changed the ANPR board structure and dropped the regional representative positions. We lost an important link in communications to the membership that we haven't been able to replace. The regional reps were the primary recruiters and communication link to the general membership. This was also about the same time the issue of Ranger Careers lost steam.

So, what is the answer to our dilemma? Perhaps our ANPR board should look at our past, evaluate our successes over the last 25 years, and develop a plan of action to resolve these internal dilemmas before we resort to a drastic change in ANPR structure and a name change that may ultimately cause more conflicts than it resolves. We have spent the past 25 years building an identity among the NPS family and with Congress, and recently have been successful trademarking our ANPR logo. This restructuring proposal could potentially set us back years in organizational growth if we aren't very careful in our deliberations.

— Dan Moses, East Wenatchee, Wash.

## ANPE Proposal Good Idea

For what it's worth, here are my thoughts on the ANPE proposal from Rick Gale, Rick Smith and Bill Wade. ANPME (Association of National Park Maintenance Employees) should embrace it as the first positive step toward an organization whose time is long overdue.

From my perspective, there would never have been an ANPME if ANPR hadn't been so insular from the outset. I've always viewed ANPR as created (mostly) by and for law enforcement rangers, and it only began seriously addressing issues relating to other NPS divisions about the time that ANPME was formed. ANPME was formed in large part because while ANPR was

(continued on page 28)



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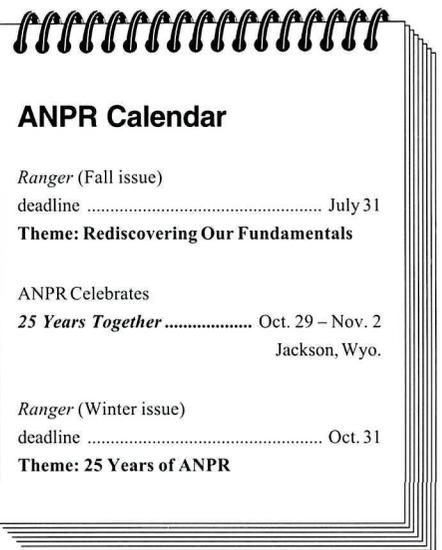
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## ANPR Calendar

*Ranger* (Fall issue)  
deadline ..... July 31

**Theme: Rediscovering Our Fundamentals**

ANPR Celebrates  
**25 Years Together** ..... Oct. 29 – Nov. 2  
Jackson, Wyo.

*Ranger* (Winter issue)  
deadline ..... Oct. 31

**Theme: 25 Years of ANPR**

*Ranger* (ISSN 1074-0678) is a quarterly publication of the Association of National Park Rangers, an organization created to communicate for, about and with park rangers; to promote and enhance the park ranger profession and its spirit; to support management and the perpetuation of the National Park Service and the National Park System, and to provide a forum for social enrichment.

In so meeting these purposes, the Association provides education and other training to develop and/or improve the knowledge and skills of park rangers and those interested in the profession; provides a forum for discussion of common concerns of park rangers, and provides information to the public.

The membership of ANPR is comprised of individuals who are entrusted with and committed to the care, study, explanation and/or protection of those natural, cultural and recreational resources included in the National Park System, and persons who support these efforts.

ANPR's official address is P.O. Box 108, Larned, KS 67550-0108. Members receive *Ranger* as part of their membership dues. Consult the inside back cover for membership and subscription information.

### Submissions

Prospective authors should contact the editor or editorial adviser before submitting articles. Editor, Teresa Ford, 26 S. Mt. Vernon Club Road, Golden, CO 80401, (303) 526-1380 or [fordedit@aol.com](mailto:fordedit@aol.com). Editorial adviser, Ken Mabery, (503) 341-6716 or [maberyken@aol.com](mailto:maberyken@aol.com).

### Deadlines

Spring issue ..... Jan. 31  
 Summer issue ..... April 30  
 Fall issue ..... July 31  
 Winter issue ..... Oct. 31

Submit copy to editor in Microsoft Word format or Rich Text Format as an attached file to [fordedit@aol.com](mailto:fordedit@aol.com) or on computer diskette to the address below.

### Advertising

Rates and specifications are available for advertising in *Ranger*. Interested parties should contact the editor, Teresa Ford, 26 S. Mt. Vernon Club Road, Golden, CO 80401; (303) 526-1380.

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**Cover:** Ranger Melanie Berg on horse patrol at Arrow Lake, Glacier National Park. Photo by Chuck Cameron.

# Oh, Those Days at Remote Duty Stations!

By Ken Mabery

Regional Ecosystem Office

There is a phrase, used throughout the Park Service that may be older than the Organic Act, and it is used almost as often. Like the Organic Act quote, it is sometimes misquoted.

Sometimes this phrase is said half in jest, sometimes with a touch of irony. When quoted to visitors, it is most often said with a note of pride and self-satisfaction, maybe even achievement. When said to housing review teams or classification specialists (pre-1986, anyway), it is said with some rancor or anger.

Developing the articles for this issue of *Ranger*, we had this phrase in mind. We didn't prompt anyone on how to treat the subject of serving at remote duty locations, however. Honestly, we thought *Ranger* would feature a range of articles from those who waxed enthusiastic to those focused on trials and tribulations. True to the spirit of rangers, the authors picked up on the essence of this famous phrase. As you will find reading this issue, each author has rather strong feelings about the phrase.

We wanted to remind ourselves about marathon volleyball games and outdoor potlucks that attracted the entire off-duty staff, every evening, in the days before radio and TV reached some of these duty stations. Many of these events would last well after dark, just from the joy of the companionship. Reminders of living in derelict trailers with cats to keep the mice down. But it was okay because everyone else was in the same circumstance and it provided for humorous conversation topics. Or driving hours over dirt roads that

turned to grease when wet, just to join friends/coworkers for a night at the movies or a special concert. And returning home that same night, in a close caravan to help each other out in case of trouble. Or taking a government radio on trips to town in the winter to be able to call for help because the road may not have any other cars on it for days. Reminders of rescuing friends/neighbors/coworkers when they got stuck in snow banks or mud puddles. Or laboring six to seven hours after

quitting time to get the back-up generator running to provide power to the little housing area—not because the power was needed for refrigerators, radios or battery chargers, but because everyone wanted to finish the volleyball game or potluck dinner.

We need to be reminded of meeting visitors on backcountry patrols when we were lucky enough to be hiking the same trail for a day or two. Remember your lifelong friends that resulted from these encounters? Of giving that once-in-a-lifetime program where everything clicked, the weather was perfect, every phrase was turned perfectly and, to top it all off, everyone got to see the rare bobcat, or birds hatching in a nest, or a unique historic inscription. The warm feelings that everyone went home with caused them to write thank-you letters. Of being out on a hot, sweaty patrol, with not quite enough sunscreen and no way to keep your precious water cool, and finding the most unique vegetation or cultural site known in the park. Of going to that secret water hole or mountain meadow, known only to the local staff, and having the most pleasant, relaxing day with friends, especially because the previous two weeks had been just *the worst!*

In each of the above circumstances, someone would usually evoke our famous phrase. What phrase could possibly carry so much meaning? And apply to so many circumstances? Photographers, romantics and poets always know what we are talking about: "We get paid in sunsets." 

Ken Mabery, editorial adviser of *Ranger* magazine, is ANPR's president elect and will assume the duties of president Jan. 1, 2002.



**ISOLATION:** Ranger Ed Pontbriand's cabin in the Stehekin area of Lake Chelan gets snowed in every winter. Read about the changing seasons of the community on the next page.

Ed Pontbriand

# Stehekin Time

By Ed Pontbriand  
North Cascades

The Lady Express' horn blows as she approaches the boat landing. There's a mini traffic jam as the postmaster heads to the landing to pick up the mail and local residents arrive to pick up their groceries or meet returning family members and friends. Boat time is the time to catch up on news — see who is coming and going. The Lady Express is a link to the outside world. During the winter months, the boat arrives on Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays and Sundays. Mail comes just three days a week.

One would think that Stehekin is an island. In a way, you get the feeling that it is. Stehekin is located at the end of 55-mile-long Lake Chelan in the north central portion of Washington. It is part of Lake Chelan National Recreation Area, which is administered by North Cascades National Park Service Complex. There are no roads into Stehekin, although once you get here, there is a small road system. The only way into Stehekin is by boat, float plane or your own two legs. You will see motorized vehicles, some dating back to the 1950s and 1960s. Cars in Stehekin only get better with age, like a fine wine.

The line forms at the calling card phone booth around boat time. There is limited phone service in Stehekin. The ranger station is like any other government facility. It has phones, voice mail, fax, e-mail and Internet service provided by the NPS microwave phone system. The calling card

phone is an extension of this system. The visitor center, lodge office, ranger station and a few NPS residents around the landing also have phone extensions. To keep up on local news, the Chelan FM radio station has a small repeater. Some residents have satellite dish television. Most don't. Change comes slowly to Stehekin.



Winter in Stehekin is a mix of eastern Washington cold and western Washington wet. The result is snow and lots of it! The pace is slow. The roads are single lane with walls of snow on both sides. Shoveling snow can become a daily task. Keeping your doorway clear and windows accessible to light is the goal. Time is spent working on hobbies, craft projects, writing letters, skiing or snowshoeing, shoveling snow. Most houses were build for summer occupation, yet are still used in the winter. Careful attention to the wood stove is a must.



Delicate glacier lilies push through the snow. Trilliums fill in the bare ground. Mud is everywhere. Trees are in bud and the air is filled with the fresh scent of pine. The roar of Rainbow Falls can be heard vibrating off the walls. The spray of the falls can be seen from the Stehekin Valley Road. The river is rising as the water melts. This river likes to flood! The banks have been armored and the current tamed with bio-engineered water barbs to protect private properties and the Stehekin Valley road, a



**LONG VIEW:** Left, looking north from Stehekin Landing is McGregor Peak at 8,122 feet. It is the most accessible peak to climb from Stehekin and can be done in one day. Below, Ed Pontbriand takes a break from avalanche training with SAR dog, Trace.

Ed Pontbriand



Kelly Pontbriand

joint effort between the NPS and private landowners.

After spending the winter downlake in Chelan, the horses are loaded on the barge. They jostle for position surrounded by vehicles, building materials, fuel tanks and furniture, a sort of makeshift corral. All large items too big for the Lady of the Lake boat service are barged up lake. The 55-mile ride up the lake on the barge is finally at an end after eight hours on the lake. The horses can smell the land and want off. Many are old veterans of the barge trip. Cargo is moved to make a gateway for off loading. One old veteran is selected. He makes it off without incident and the rest of the horses follow. Tails are tied to halters and off they go, headed for the ranch eight miles up valley.

Once the barge is off loaded, it is quickly reloaded with vehicles that are junk or need repair, empty gas or propane tanks, and recycled or compacted trash. The NPS runs a small recycling center recycling items such as aluminum, plastics, glass, cardboard, paper, magazines and clothing. Everything but the clothing is compacted into cardboard boxes and sent to the local landfill and recycling center. Clothing is taken to Goodwill to be reused.



During the summer months, the Lake



Ed Pontbriand

**WINTRY OVERLOOK:** This view is up valley from Stehekin and Lake Chelan.

Chelan Boat Company brings up to 200 people a day to Stehekin. Most people stay for a few hours before taking the boat back to Chelan. During boat time, the road is lined with hikers and bicyclists making their way to the Stehekin Pastry Company. Like salmon swimming upstream during the spawning season, Stehekin visitors are drawn to the bakery. One hour later, the flow will be reversed as the bikers and hikers go back to the landing carrying little white bags filled with baked goodies.

Occasionally a bicyclist will crash and require some medical attention. There are no medical facilities in Stehekin, but rang-

ers and a few local residents have EMT certifications. An occasional physician is in the valley on vacation but that is rare and not to be counted on. The ranger station has a small first aid room where simple injuries can be treated. Cuts needing stitches, broken bones and major illness all need to go down lake. The NPS rescue boat is equipped with radar and GPS to as-

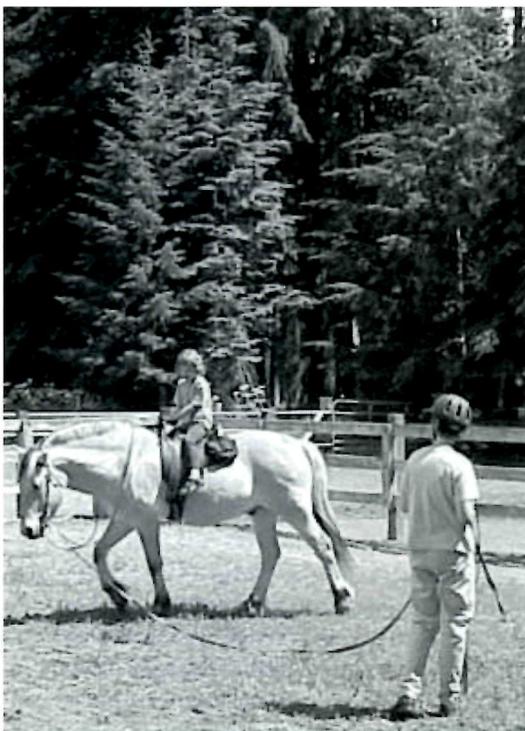
sist with midnight boat runs when somebody needs to go to the emergency room and helicopters can't fly.

Those who come for a longer visit can use the NPS shuttle bus service to get to trailheads along the 22-mile long Stehekin Valley Road. From the trailhead, all hikes lead up. Hikers on the Purple Pass trail often lose count after they hit 50 switchbacks. The views are worth the effort. The boats in Stehekin look like miniature toys, but the visitors are too small to see. The trees begin to thin and the western larch joins the Douglas fir as Purple Pass draws near. In September, it's not unusual to find a patch of snow on the north side of the pass from an early snowfall.



As fall approaches, colors of gold and red paint the mountainsides and the kokanee salmon add splashes of vibrant red to the Stehekin River. The salmon come from Lake Chelan to the Stehekin River to spawn. The rainbow trout follow, gobbling salmon eggs as they go. Bears come out of the high country to reap nature's bounty. They work the pools feeding on fish just like pros. When done with the fish, bears go for fresh fruit at the Buckner Apple Orchard. The NPS maintains the orchard as an historic district.

**HORSE PLAY:** Kate Pontbriand rides her horse, Dusty, under the watchful eye of her mom, Kelly. The horse is a Norwegian Fjord, bred for northern climates. The local outfitter prefers this sturdy breed for packing, driving and riding.



Ed Pontbriand

Bears aren't the only ones who enjoy the apple harvest. Locals pick their share and use the orchard's old cider press to make fresh cider. David Bean and Andris Vezis resin their bows and warm up their fiddles for a fall dance at the Golden West Visitor Center. Vezis is in the valley to conduct prescribed burns, and fall is a good time to burn. The days are shorter, cooler, better humidity recovery and we have better smoke dispersal. Some large pieces of wood are saved for the trail crew to be used for backcountry trail bridge construction.

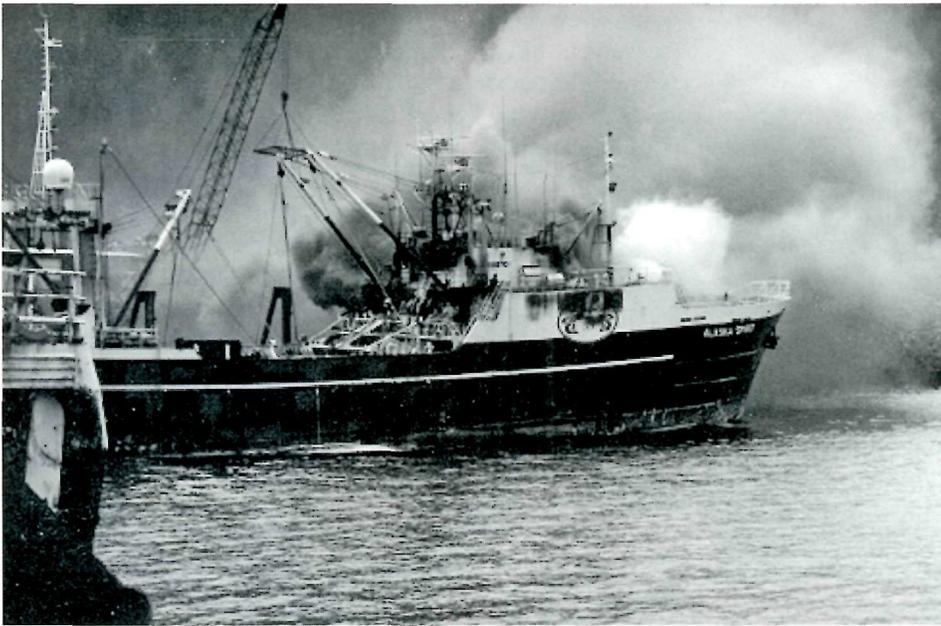


Autumn leads to winter. The leaves fall off and snow dusts the high country. The mosquitoes go into hiding for another year. Most visitors and summer residents have left for the year. November is quiet. A time to rest, reflect on the busy summer. Time to catch up on case reports from the summer and finish projects that I never had time to complete. Time to finish splitting the firewood for the backcountry cabins at High Bridge and Bridge Creek. The boats have to be serviced for winter use and hiking trails flagged for winter snowshoe trails. Time to break out the avalanche beacons, hot wax the skis, waterproof the boots and prepare the snowmobile. The cycle is completed for another year. 🏠

*Ed Pontbriand is the Stehekin District ranger at Lake Chelan NRA, part of North Cascades National Park Service Complex. The small community of Stehekin, with no road access, is located at the head of Lake Chelan. Access is by commercial passenger ferry, barge, floatplane service or hiking trail. Winter population is approximately 100 residents.*

*Ed's wife, Kelly, works part-time as an administration technician. Their daughter, Kate, is completing first grade at the Stehekin School, a one-room schoolhouse with grades K-8. Ed has an identical twin brother, Dan, who works at Olympic National Park as the Crescent Lake District ranger.*

*Previously Ed worked as a permanent ranger at Independence NHP, Wind Cave and Dinosaur. He was a seasonal at Glacier, Grand Teton, Shenandoah, Lake Mead and Acadia.*



# Fire on the F/V Alaska Spirit

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Photos courtesy of  
Seward Fire Department

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## The Taste of Fear

By Peter Fitzmaurice  
Kenai Fjords

It is some time after 2 a.m. Saturday morning of Memorial Day weekend and the screaming wail of the Seward Volunteer Fire Department's emergency pager has once again violently jarred me from a deep sleep.

"We have a report of a ship fire at 4th of July Creek. We have a report of a ship fire at 4th of July Creek. We have a report of a ship fire at 4th of July Creek," the dispatcher repeats with an ominous yet professional tone.

In the silent moments that follow, as the adrenaline surges to every fiber of my body, I try to shake the sleep from my head, think about what to wear, what to grab. My "turn-outs"—fire-resistant protective clothing that includes helmet with neck shroud, head and neck hood made of flame-resistant Nomex, insulated vapor-barrier pants and jacket, heavy gloves, and knee-high insulated boots—are still scattered near the wood stove where they came to rest after last week's training session in the rain. We had practiced, in a typical Seward driving rain, a simulated ship's fire on board the US Coast Guard Cutter *Mustang*. We had then studied the deck plans of one of Seward's typical cruise ships. I had been reminded once again that I fear the notion of a dock-side ship's fire—the labyrinth of narrow companionways, multiple confusing decks, confined spaces with hazardous substances

and potentially hundreds of passengers. I find the necessary pieces of my uniform, fumble with my glasses, grab the radio and head out. Sleepy voices emit from my radio—the chief and deputy chief are en route to the scene. Others are headed to the firehouse to pick up Engine 3 and the Rescue Truck. The Bear Creek volunteers are called as our mutual aid backups, and the Seward Volunteer Ambulance Corps is called to stand by for possible injuries. I add my voice to the chorus checking in with Dispatch and head out of Forest Acres toward SMIC, the Seward Marine Industrial Center, at the end of Nash Road.

There is already a glow of dawn in the east. At the Seward Highway, I can see the flashing red lights of the engine and rescue unit a mile or so behind me. The drive gives me time to collect my thoughts, slow my breathing, go over my mental check list of things I need to remember to stay alive.

I arrive at the scene and see the Alaska Spirit, a 202-foot bottom trawler, belching black smoke and bright orange flames from the upper decks of its forward superstructure. Engine 4, which is housed nearby, has been deployed near the ship: a massive 5-inch diameter hose links a nearby hydrant to the engine; a bulky 3-inch supply hose snakes from the engine, over a rickety gangplank that seesaws precariously from shore to the ship's rail, and onto the vessel's

dance-floor main deck. A valve at the end of the 3-inch hose feeds "tack" lines — the ones we will take to the fire.

Teams of three or four are forming up, donning 35-pound breathing packs, and beginning to enter the upper decks. In a "normal" fire, firefighters enter a burning structure at a relatively cool point, advance inward to the hottest part of the fire, and apply a powerful stream of water to extinguish and literally push the fire out of the structure. But this is different. The superstructure is a steel box. The wheelhouse on the top deck is engulfed in flames. Flames are spewing from vent pipes above the wheelhouse. The next deck down, containing the crew's quarters, has hatch doors aft but no doors or windows forward. It is a closed steel furnace of narrow cubbies and passages, with combustion fueled by thick polyurethane foam insulation and wood paneling. Unseen, but felt, the fire rumbles within. The deck below, from which we are mounting our attack, spews smoke but is not yet aflame. Somewhere forward, within the caldron, the decks are connected with steep, narrow stairs.

My first assignment is to climb two outer ladder-like stairways to the wheelhouse deck, use one of the hoses to cool the wheelhouse, and then climb another ladder to extinguish the flames on top of the wheelhouse. The steel deck beneath our feet is steaming, heat slices through my heavy boots. Smoke is everywhere, puffing from every orifice. I wonder about explosions, look over the rail, and note that it is almost 60 feet down to the frigid bay waters.

We are then called back to prepare to enter the middle deck, where the main fire

is. Our air tanks should provide some 30 minutes of inside working time, but the heavy work in extreme heat can cut that time in half. Our teams have to perform short relay entries, with one team after another trying to whittle away at the blaze.

The chief briefs us at the entrance: go forward in the hallway, find the hall crossing to the left, beware of a stairwell somewhere on the right. They are trying to get someone to lead, to go in first with the nozzle, and I somehow fail to avoid being chosen. We press forward slowly into the inky blackness, first on our feet, then on our knees to get below the heat. Loose wires, hoses and fixtures, burned and melted loose from overhead, sweep over our shoulders and helmets as though part of some Halloween haunted house. And right now, this ship does seem haunted. Deeper into the void, inch by inch. I feel the heat—around my head, pressing in around my suit, beneath my boots—squeezing me. Something hot drips from above, finds the gap between helmet and jacket collar, bites me on the back of the neck. Cursing my lack of extra care, I tuck my hood further into my jacket. The eerie glow of flashovers, superheated combustible gasses, flare and dance over us. I set the nozzle to a wide, cooling fog pattern, swirl the nozzle in front of me, and then overhead. The effect is immediate, the flashover is pushed back, dense white steam closes down on us—that is why the vapor barrier clothing: without it, we could be severely scalded by this steam bath. As the heat releases its grip from my suit, I hear muffled cheers from my younger compatriots supporting the hose behind me. The textbook response is to apply just enough fog to cool the gasses while not creating so much steam and smoke as to obliterate visibility. In the coffin-like blackness and confinement of this passageway, I cannot apply enough fog to keep these heat demons at bay.

I shut down the nozzle, crouch on my knees in the coal mine darkness and muck, and listen. I am alone in the relative safety of my air pack mask. My breathing, sounding Darth Vader-like through the regulator, is slow and deep, practiced to preserve air and energy. I can hear the fire working in some distant corner. Nearby, the steel framework is creaking and groaning: hot metal protesting the onslaught of the cooling water. The vessel is rock-

ing gently at its moorings, the rumbling of its generators far in the stern vibrates softly through my knees. We press on.

The orange glow of flames is faintly visible through the burned out cabin partitions. I open the high-pressure nozzle, set it to a penetrating straight stream, and unleash a howitzer blast of water—some 150 gallons per minute at almost 150 pounds persquare inch. The scene goes even blacker. Dense smoke pushes downward from the ceiling. Over the roar of the nozzle, I hear the hissing of hot materials instantly cooled, of loose bits of wall and debris blasted away. Without my fellow firefighters pushing me forward, I would be rocked back on my butt. Close the valve and listen again. We are further inside this beast than I want to be, and still cannot seem to get to the heart of this fire. The jangling of someone's airpack bell, warning that only a few minutes of air remain, tells us it is time to retreat. No one complains. We finally burst into the welcome twilight and regroup. Another team trundles in to carry the fight further. The relay seems to have no end.

Later in the fight I am back on the wheelhouse deck. We are cutting holes in the heavy steel top deckplate. A gas-powered circular saw heaves a fountain of bright sparks, the hot steel screams in protest as the incisions are made. A series of star-shaped cuts are made, and the triangles of the stars need to be beaten downward to allow insertion of a penetrating water nozzle

(a spike-tipped rod with a circle of holes above the tip for emitting a round fog of water). A 10-pound sledgehammer is thrust into my hands. Soon I am bent over, peering through dense smoke and the smudges of my face mask, trying to locate the holes. I balance the 35-pound airpack on my back, swing the sledge, and breath between strokes. Four holes on top, one large triangle in the forward bulkhead. We pour water everywhere and still the fire rages.

The firefighters are starting to wear down. Some delays develop between the entry of subsequent teams, and the fire has started to really work once more. Dense black smoke is again belching out of the companionways and vents. The crew quarters area is entered through a watertight hatch door, the lower threshold of which is about 24 inches above the deck. The cabin area is now flooded to this lower lip with water. As we step inside, the black ooze surges up and over the top of my boots. Filthy, oily water, mixed with large pieces of charcoal, now slosh around my boots. As we advance up the hallway the water gets less deep but the heat is more intense than the last time.

We have entered some 30 feet and it is pitch black again. I feel the doorway of a cabin on the left, and know that the hall will turn left just beyond it. There is some fire in the room on the left. Gary, behind me, says to hose it down. I pivot the heavy hose and nozzle to the left, and pull back on the gate lever. As expected, the force presses me





back into the right wall, only now the upper half of the wall is burned out. I begin to fall backward. I am trying to hold onto the bucking nozzle, and reach out with one arm to grab any remaining supports (there is a flash of knowing in my head that I do not want to end up on my back, with some 50 pounds of clothing and air pack attached to me, in whatever is in the next compartment). I grab a steel upright, but I am losing the nozzle. Gary is trying to keep me from going over, and trying to hold onto the hose. The nozzle whips straight up, and the fire has begun to flash over and around us again. There is an other-worldly flare of orange in front of my facemask as the flashover swoops and upwells beneath the nozzle tip—an instant vision of Hades—and then the nozzle gets away from me. It whips down, strikes Gary on the knee, whips up and hits me with full stream in the center of my chest, flails around in front of the other two, and then we somehow manage to get control of it. The heat is closing down on us again, I can hear Gary's muffled shouts about his knee, as we yell to all to "back out." The smoke and fire seem to chase us down the hall. Gary stumbles forward into the knee-deep water and momentarily disappears completely under water beneath his heavy air pack. I vaguely remember helping to jerk him to his feet as we lurch out of the door into blessed daylight again. Another team must go in. The fire is working harder than ever. We have used up the better part of our air tanks, expended too much energy, and have failed to make progress against the beast inside. It is utterly discouraging.

Morning drags into midday. A crewmember tells me sadly that the ship's skipper is missing, and they fear he is lost inside. The man tells me further that the ship has been his home for five years. He

lost "everything" inside. I feel his sadness, see the distant look of loss in his eyes, but even in my weariness I know I can offer nothing to console him.

We finally prevail over the fire. The unfortunate captain's body is eventually found in a small room next to his quarters. We gather our mountains of filthy gear and head back to town for more hours of cleaning and re-outfitting

the engines. I drive back alone with my thoughts. Resurrection Bay spreads majestically before me, as always, as I reach the crest of Nash Road. Tears well up as I consider the tragic death of the boat's skipper, his fatherless children. The pressure of my own suppressed fear and exhaustion vents itself, raining down my grimy face.

That night, in my dreams, I encounter a brief image of that ship, the *Alaska Spirit*. It is ghostly blue, with diffuse, white light behind it. I float in air past its upraised bow—our misty images pass in the night and move on. 

*Peter Fitzmaurice is the chief ranger at Kenai Fjords in Seward, Alaska. He served on NPS structural fire departments at Zion, Yosemite, Crater Lake and Lassen Volcanic. He also has served as engineer, firefighter and president of the Seward Volunteer Fire Department. This article originally was published in 1995. It is reprinted here with permission from the author.*

## Do you have a story, too?

*Ranger* would like to hear from you. Do you have any anecdotes about your remote-duty assignments that you'd like to share with readers? Drop us a line and we'll publish items in Letters to the Editor or a special section. Photos are always appreciated, too.

Share your experiences with others. Contact the *Ranger* editor at [fordedit@aol.com](mailto:fordedit@aol.com) or the address on the back cover.



Loft Romie

*The staff and VIPs at Coronado National Memorial work at this Arizona site near the Mexican border. The 4,750-acre site commemorates Hispanic heritage and the first European exploration of the Southwest by Francisco Vasquez de Coronado in 1540-1542.*



**By Vidal Davila**  
Big Bend

**M**y National Park Service career has been a blessing in disguise. The 25 years have been wonderful, mostly spent in isolated parks. I've lived 21 years in these parks: Big Bend, Guadalupe Mountains, Great Basin, and a second tour of Big Bend.

I started my career at Amistad National Recreation Area as a seasonal park naturalist and later as the YCC camp director during the summer months of 1974-1977. Next I left a teaching job in my hometown of Pearsall, Texas, to accept my first permanent position at Big Bend. A fellow teacher offered this advice, "Be sure you have a week's supply of food in case it snows; it's a long way to the grocery store."

During my first tour at Big Bend I worked as a park naturalist. The job was challenging, different in every way and enjoyable. The Park Service thought of everybody as "family" and I felt right at home upon arriving here. Everyone was so nice to me, and I got invited to a lot of "let's get to know you" dinners. The nearest grocery store, doctor and dentist were 100 miles away in Alpine, Texas. Park employees would stock up on groceries and other things before traveling south to the park. A popular place was Sam's Warehouse in El Paso or Odessa, a great place to buy large quantities of groceries in bulk. Whenever somebody went into town, they always asked if you needed anything. My Class A trousers were often picked up by the contract mailman, Mr. Freeman, because the cleaners was next to the bakery and he picked up the bread for the park concessionaire. I would meet Mr.

# Living in Isolation

Freeman at the back door of the visitor center at noon and pay him the \$3 per trousers he picked up for me.

During this time I was single, 21 years old, living in a one-bedroom apartment and had what I considered one of the best living units in the park. There were other single males and females living in the apartments. When somebody got sick, we would volunteer to take leave and take them to the doctor in Alpine. One time I came down with a terrible cold and my boss's wife heard about it and came over take me to the doctor. This is what the NPS family was all about.

The Schwan's frozen food truck had not yet begun coming to the park. Bringing ice cream back from town was a challenge, especially during the summer months when the temperature was past the 100-degree mark. I purchased a hand-operated ice cream machine, bought ice and salt and invited the local apartment residents over. We all took turns at the hand crank making ice cream during the hot summer nights.

During the late 1970s, the nearest movie theater was again 100 miles away, so movie nights in the community room were a threat. VCR recorders didn't come into the park until the early 1980s. A park ranger bought the first one and after he hooked it up, we saw the movie "Chariots of Fire" two times in one night. After I got married in 1982, my wife and I often made trips to Del Rio or Odessa, Texas, for shopping trips and one day saw three movies in one afternoon. It was the only way to catch up on movies.

Entertainment was always plentiful in the form of potlucks and going-away parties in the park. Dances were a once-a-month event in the late 1970s and the early 1980s in the park and at Lajitas, Texas. The dances in Lajitas were in an open-air pavilion 45 miles west of the park. Friends and neighbors would pile into cars and drive over for the 9 p.m. starting time and usually stayed till 1 a.m. Then we had the one-hour drive back to the park. We learned to make our own fun. I coached the women's softball team one year (1979) and we managed to win a few games.

School kids attended a kindergarten- to eighth-grade school located in the middle

of the housing area at Panther Junction. After that, the kids in grades 9-12 endured a 200-mile roundtrip bus to Alpine – the longest school bus ride in America. Usually the parents were eager to transfer to another park or they would board their kids with friends or relatives in nearby towns.

In November 1984 I was selected to the second Natural Resource Management Training class and we moved to Santa Fe, N.M., where I was stationed for two years. The first time we went to a grocery store in Santa Fe, we started piling large containers of groceries into our cart. Finally it dawned on us that we didn't need to do this anymore.

Two years later, having gotten accustomed to what a large city had to offer, including theaters, rodeos, opera, doctors, dentist and ice cream shops, we moved to Guadalupe Mountains National Park in west Texas. I became the first natural resource management specialist to live in the park. Guadalupe was similar to Big Bend; however, it was also different. The wind would blow from October through May, sometimes in excess of 100 mph. Several tractor-trailers were blown over at Guadalupe Pass while I was there. We experienced the same type of isolation as Big Bend; the nearest town — Carlsbad, N.M. — was 50 miles away.

Snow and ice storms would hit the park, sometimes cutting our electricity off for a couple of hours or days. School kids endured a bus ride down the mountain to Dell City, Texas, 45 miles away or Van Horn, Texas, 58 miles. The community at Guadalupe Mountains was a lot smaller than at Big Bend, maybe 12 to 15 families. You learned to get along with everybody in this small park community. While amenities were only 50 miles away, we traveled to El Paso, Texas, for bigger shopping trips during the Christmas holidays.

Daughter Rachel was born in 1989 in Carlsbad. The doctor had to induce labor because we were afraid we might not make it to the hospital on time. Family potlucks were common. We all pitched in on weekends to construct the community room called the Cholla Chateau. Before that, we partied in an old trailer with two rooms.

After five years of wind from October through May, I applied for a promotion to Great Basin and we left Guadalupe Mountains in November 1991. My arrival at Great Basin was in time for the first snowfall; it continued to snow through May and Nevada reported the snowiest year in 100 years. The snow piled three feet high in the front yard during those long months. We felt so isolated in the winter at Great Basin. The nearest big town was Ely, Nevada, 70 miles away over two mountain passes. In the winter we always hoped the passes would stay open.

The natural resources here were great. The best thing about Great Basin was that during the winter months the resources rested for six months under the snowpack. We learned winter sports such as cross-country skiing and sledding. The community here interacted with the small town of Baker, Nevada, population 50, located five miles away.

In October 1995 our son Gabriel was

born in Cedar City, Utah, 140 miles away where the nearest pediatrician practiced. Labor was also induced because of the distance needed to travel. My daughter attended school in Garrison, Utah, 17 miles away. She was one of only two kids in the park. She socialized with grownups and grew up quickly.

In October 1996 we moved back to Big Bend with our 7-year daughter Rachel and 1-year old Gabriel. Time had changed the park, the community was bigger, the family had grown, and we now had more responsibilities. Returning gave us a sense of well being and community involvement. It has given me an opportunity to hopefully make a difference at work and in the community, having served on the local health clinic board for two years and as a school board member for two years. We have learned to do without many amenities and have taught our children self-reliance and how to depend on one another for help. We look upon our next-door neighbor and know that we

can call them and ask to borrow a egg for making cookies for the school play social at 9 p.m. because we haven't been to the grocery store in two weeks. We can also call on one another to pick up our Class A uniforms at the cleaners and not have to pay them until they deliver them to our front door at the end of a long 200-mile town trip. The park may be isolated, but we love it. It is a different way of life, but it's the National Park Service family and I would never change it. 🏠

*This article is dedicated to all the men and women who have worked in isolated parks, especially Big Bend. This is but a fraction of the story that we all have endured in order to protect and preserve our national treasures.*

*Vidal Davila is chief of the Division of Science and Resource Management at Big Bend. He and wife Jody, married 19 years, have two children, Rachel Hope, 11, and Gabriel James, 5.*

# A Ranger Family's Journey through Parks

By **Bill Pierce**  
Washington, D.C.

Like many of us I was a single seasonal ranger while going to college. At Crater Lake I lived in the dorm with other rangers, and we had a "dorm mother" who had meals in the mess hall and ran the dorm like a tight ship. Room and board ran about \$80 a pay period. It was great having hot meals and no K.P. (kitchen patrol) while working the night shift on road patrol!

Most will not believe the extent of my law enforcement training at that time. It consisted of two days of training in writing tickets for park violations and then the issuance of a citation book, a night stick and an old military pistol in a sealed envelope that was to stay locked in the glove compartment at all times. The first time I stopped a trucker trying to cut through the park at night my voice was two octaves higher than normal. Since we had no dispatcher after 5 p.m., the other rangers listening to their radios at home knew I was stressed out and in need of reassurance!

Next my new wife, Nadine, and I moved to an intake ranger position in Tupelo, Miss., on the Natchez Trace Parkway. Not

an isolated assignment one might assume! However, Tupelo in 1968 had its own isolation for a federal law enforcement family from the north. We will never forget the separate stores, pools, libraries, schools and other facilities that we discovered by mistake when we found ourselves in the "wrong" place. However, the park staff was great and although our quarters were small and old, the rent was good at less than \$30 a pay period.

A park neighbor stopped by after we had moved in, while Nadine was baking. She commented to Nadine that the quarters would look nice once our furniture arrived. Nadine told her it already had! As newlyweds just coming from our seasonal days we had moved in our Volkswagen bug.

After a short break for the U.S. Army, the Federal Law Enforcement Academy (then in D.C.) and the addition of a son, our next stop was the east side of Glacier. The few possessions we had picked up while in the Army were stored in a barn in East Glacier and we moved into a triplex apartment in Two Medicine for the summer. We were right at the campground and the large sign on our end of the apartment identified us as the ranger 24 hours a day. The two seasonal families that shared our apartment



*Seth and Sean on the back porch at Many Glacier Ranger Station*

complex had been coming back to the park for years with their families. They were far luckier than the newer seasonals who were in the old "silver bullet" trailers just behind the apartment. We had no phone (except for the extension from the campground office), no TV and no radio, but we had a great park family that hiked and had many get



### Christmas in July at Devils Tower

together. Christmas in July has been a favorite with us ever since! We had our share of interesting occurrences, like the time a visitor asked Nadine how she liked cooking for “all those people.” When Nadine gave her a puzzled look, she asked to look around inside the “commune” we had. The visitor assumed that we all lived in one big family a la “hippie” days. Or the early morning screaming of the frantic camper whose tent was being torn up by a young male grizzly since it was in his “turf.”

That fall the park decided to move us to St. Mary subdistrict to fill a vacancy there. We loaded all our household goods from the barn into the park’s stake bed truck and hauled them up to our first Mission 66 house at St. Mary. In the winter St. Mary consisted of three ranger families on the eastern edge of Glacier with the isolated expanses of the Blackfeet Reservation next to us. We drove the 180 miles to Kalispell in the spring and fall in our VW bug for our family shopping and got the rest of our supplies in Canada since it had the closest town with any stores. There was no TV and only a couple of Canadian radio stations.

We had great experiences in the park and with our two ranger family neighbors. The Frausons were the strength of our little group with over 15 years of experience in St. Mary. Their two daughters went to school in Canada with Ann driving the 18 miles to the border twice a day to get them on the bus for the next 15 miles. We had great family parties with them and celebrated all the holidays and birthdays together. Our second son was born one December and we were able to get across the border (only open 9 a.m. - 6 p.m. in the winter) and make it to the hospital in Cardston, Canada, in plenty of time.

The mail came three days a week. Nadine would tow the kids in the sled to get the packages and sort the mail for the families. We all ordered from the catalogs; the Sears

lady in Seattle knew all the families by name and the sizes of all the children.

At the end of our second winter we shifted again to our third subdistrict on the east side, Many Glacier. This spectacular part of the park had a combined ranger station and house that was 8 miles into the park and more snow and ice to deal with. When we moved up in April it snowed on our stake bed truck and the conditions were almost a whiteout. We hauled water for the first six weeks since the water shutoff valves

were buried under feet of snow. This was an interesting challenge since we had two boys in the old cloth type diapers. But we enjoyed it all and had experiences of a lifetime there.

There was the time a problem bear from the campground climbed over the fence into the kids’ play area and I had to dart it, then call for the culvert trap and took Seth (my son) along while I followed the bear into the woods. All this happened while Nadine was out for the day and I was watching the boys. Nadine was the subdistrict dispatcher after the ranger station closed and had people at her door at all hours with their problems: from climbers who had fallen to irate campers and parents with lost children.

It was back and forth like this for a couple more years as we wintered in St. Mary, summered at Many Glacier and occasionally spent the fall at the Sherborne Entrance, along with all the field mice that came in from the cold. The seasonal staff was great and many had been coming back for over 20 years and became friends for life. We had blizzards, fires, floods and other emergencies, but what a great place for a young ranger family to enjoy each other and the park!

We moved on to the Everglades where we lived in a trailer next to the maintenance area; then another trailer and finally a small apartment at Pine Island. The seasonals were a great team and we put a lot of smoke in the air but also had great volleyball games and chickee events.

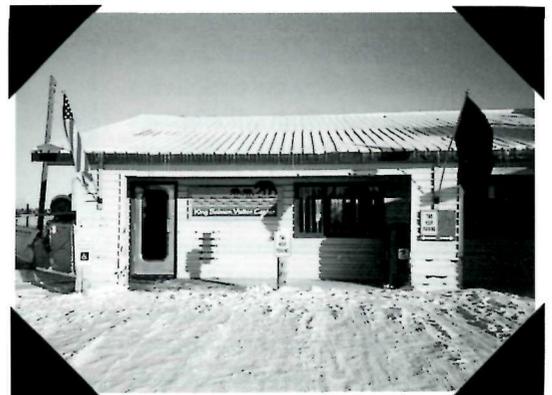
We moved back into a Mission 66 house at Deep Creek when we transferred to the Great Smokies and found ourselves in rural North Carolina with a few enemies nearby. There was the time fires were set along the lake

as a diversion while a fire was set near the residences to burn us out. Most of the people, however, were friendly and made us part of the community.

From there we went to an old ranch house in Point Reyes that we shared with another ranger family. We had fun with a basement with two large walk-in freezers left over from the old ranch days when the hands stayed in the basement and processed meat there.

After living in a relatively populated area at Shenandoah, we moved back into government quarters at Devils Tower in Wyoming. We lived in the original log house built by the CCC at the base of the tower for a year and then moved down into one of the Mission 66 houses near the entrance. The small town of Hullett was 9 miles away and the ranching community accepted us with open arms. The school was kindergarten through 12th; Seth and Sean graduated from there with graduating classes of 12 to 20, respectively. They worked on a ranch each summer and learned many skills that they use today. We made trips to Spearfish, S.D., for our doctors and shopping. Nadine graduated from Black Hills State University after almost 20 years of pursuing her degree as we moved around the country. We found ourselves once again in a quiet, isolated part of the country that allowed us to be family. We cut and hauled firewood every fall for our heat, biked and hiked all over the area and even climbed the Tower on occasion. We joined neighbors in the winter for a Christmas tree hunt and progressive decoration. We held Christmas in July with all the seasonals as well. Everyone pitched in plowing snow, fighting fires and helping to handle the 400,000 visitors each summer.

Adventure called us to Alaska after a few



Visitor Center (part of airport terminal) at Katmai-King Salmon

years at Olympic. We traveled to King Salmon to work at Katmai National Park. Here was a park that was spectacular; not since we left Glacier had we seen wildlife and country like this. Bears, fish, caribou, millions of acres of wilderness, streams, coastline and mountains sublime. We also found ourselves back in government quarters since there was little else in the town and no roads on which to travel more than 10 miles in any direction. We had to fly in from Anchorage (290 miles away) and lived in an apartment just yards from the airport, an active Air Force base for the first year. We found that F-15s scrambling to intercept Russian aircraft would go vertical just opposite our housing and rattle everything from windows to shelves apart.

We would shop at Costco in Anchorage when we flew into town, box up all the non-perishables and take them to the post office where we would mail them to ourselves in King Salmon. Perishables were purchased last and went into two large coolers that we taped shut and took with us on the plane. Everything but ice cream made the trip pretty well. We soon learned the tricks of living in the bush from our neighbors.

The winters were long and dark but the people were great and there are many memories: from the grizzly bear who pulled our grill off the porch at 4 a.m. to the killer whale chasing belugas up the river by our place. It was a strange feeling, thinking back to our days in Glacier and comparing the two assignments. King Salmon had cable TV and radio stations, computers were everywhere and you could e-mail or reach almost anyone in the world. Yet it was like you were living on an island and the airport was your link with the outside world.

We didn't live in the park but rather at the airport where logistics were easier but access to the park was harder. In many ways it seemed like we had gone back over 25 years to Glacier, since we were back living with great seasonals who kept coming back and our summers were short and hectic with long quiet winters. The isolated parks in Alaska have some of the most trying living conditions but also have some of the best of what the Park Service was 30 years ago: good old-fashioned public contact, resource management of outstanding wilderness and decisions that will make a difference on what the parks will be for decades in the future. Almost nowhere else can you work in an environment that has

had little impact from man and see the processes at work that keep all the natural systems intact.

Now we find ourselves in Washington, D.C., after 30 years and 18 residences in the field, reflecting on our journey through the parks as a family. What can we tell you from our experiences? We went to each new assignment excited about the new adventure and the new people we were going to meet. We didn't know what we were going to find at the new park, but we knew we would make friends quickly with the park and local people.

We always came to a new area with the approach that we were going to live there the rest of our lives. We joined everything right away and became involved in all that the local area had to offer. In some ways Sachel Page was right when he said "never look back" at the parks you've been at. It also is important to never "look forward" to your next park or you will miss the essence of the park you are at.

The Park Service family is the best group of people we know. They're always there to help you out and cheer you on. Take the risk and try new jobs, parks and even Washington, D.C. You are only as isolated as you make yourself think you are. Some of the best family time you will ever have will be in the quiet, off-the-beaten-path parks. The family may not have all the "advantages" of the bigger towns, but the times you spend playing together and being each other's friend can't be replaced. 

*Bill Pierce, his wife Nadine, and their sons Seth and Sean, have been a Park Service family for more than 33 years. Currently he is the Alaska desk officer for the Alaska Region, working in Washington, D.C. Bill has enjoyed great assignments as subdistrict ranger in Glacier; resource, fire and aviation specialist at the Everglades; backcountry ranger in the Smokies; natural resources and emergency operations specialist at Point Reyes; assistant chief ranger at Shenandoah; superintendent at Devils Tower; chief ranger at Olympic; and superintendent at Katmai, Aniakchak and Lake Clark.*

# Life After

**Fire isn't new** to the landscape of Bandelier National Monument or the Jemez Mountains of northern New Mexico. Natural fires have burned across this area of the Southwest every five to 15 years in cycles dating back hundreds of years. The Cerro Grande fire began as a National Park Service-prescribed burn on May 4, 2000. However, the initial fire escaped, and after burning for five days it

## Cerro Grande Fire Survivor

By Sally King  
Bandelier

It's been a year since the Cerro Grande fire rolled through the community of Los Alamos, New Mexico. A year — but for the survivors, little time to soften, let alone erase the chaos of evacuation, the fear, the anger and the denial of loss, the frustration and helplessness of not knowing. For some it was the joy of reprieve, and for all the slow and painful process to begin healing.

This process was made increasingly difficult by critical shortfalls in insurance coverage, legal uncertainties created by government-built housing, later subdivided, sold and converted to condominiums, and political promises for quick and easy settlements that soon bogged down in government bureaucracy. Today, we are still learning the long-reaching impacts of being "Cerro Grande Fire Survivors."

The call to evacuate the north community came shortly after 1:30 p.m. Wednesday, May 10. Even though the sky was an eerie shade of orange, the air was choked with smoke and ash had been steadily accumulating on the lawn for several hours, the reality of evacuation was still a surprise. My neighbors and I had met numerous times on my front lawn in the preceding three days to discuss and contemplate possible outcomes for this fire as the ominous cloud of smoke billowed ever larger above the mountains. It seems naive now, but the overwhelming belief was the fire wouldn't, no couldn't, make it to the townsite. When

# the Cerro Grande Fire

moved into the nearby community of Los Alamos the afternoon of May 10. More than 230 residences were destroyed. Some 18,000 people were evacuated from two communities, and nearly 48,000 acres of Forest Service, Park Service, Department of Energy, county and Pueblo lands burned. Two rangers share some of their experiences and thoughts during and after the fire.

the actual evacuation call came, my duplex neighbor, Cindy, and I rushed to gather last minute necessities, catch her escaped cat, and put fire extinguishers/ladders/hoses in easy reach for firefighters in the unlikely case the fire made it that far. In less than 15 minutes, Cindy and I bid each other what we expected to be a short farewell. We truly believed we would return home within days.

The trip off “the hill” to White Rock was unbelievably easy. Drivers showed extreme courtesy. There was no honking or panic, just a sense of extreme urgency. Watching houses burn on the TV news that night, I tried with no success to identify mine. I was certain it was gone. I had barely fallen asleep when my friends woke me to say we were being evacuated again. The second evacuation was not as easy as the first. We drove about six blocks, and then we didn’t move again for over five hours. The sun was glowing in the east and the fire in the west as we finally made it out of White Rock and headed to a shelter at Santa Fe High School. We checked in with the Red Cross, and then were lucky to find room in a hotel where we stayed for the next week.

News coverage was constant. At one point a camera crew drove down my street. I recognized the Virginia creeper and the Colorado blue spruce in the yard across the street. The large green duplex I used to see from my front window was gone. I shouted at the television for the crew to turn around. They didn’t respond, but continued focusing on the other side of my street where not a single house remained standing.

At the Santa Fe SSO on Friday where many of the NPS refugees had gathered, we received an update from our chief ranger. My house was still there. My relief was incredible. However, the fire had entered



**INFERNO:** *The Cerro Grande fire torched trees in parts of Waterman Canyon on May 9, 2000.*

L. McCoy

my neighbor Cindy’s half of the duplex — and damage was heavy.

Cindy and I made our first journey back to Los Alamos that Sunday on a bus filled with people who had lost their homes. There was much talking as the bus made its agonizing way up the hill. As we got closer all the traffic disappeared. Los Alamos was once again a closed town. As we neared the first of the burned neighborhoods the talking ceased. The driver asked us to tell him if anyone wanted to stop at any time, but no one would be allowed to get out. Apparently no one on this bus lived in the first communities we visited. The bus slowly moved on.

Finally an elderly couple near the front of the bus saw their home. What remained was part of a chimney — and unrecognizable debris. They didn’t cry but simply mumbled words of disbelief. In silence we shared their sorrow. The bus rumbled on. Finally the bus pulled onto my street and chugged to a stop. We and several others were allowed to get off the bus for a moment. Our house looked just fine. Cindy ignored the National Guard escort and rushed over to our front yard. On closer inspection it was obvious her kitchen had burned. The windows were broken, and black soot streaked the roofline. Everything in her house was black, the window in the back door had run like taffy, and her 27-inch television was now only 6 inches tall.

The front door was rimmed by black but ironically, the comical “Billy Bass” mounted fish still sang “Take Me To the River” when she pushed the button. The National Guard returned us to the bus and we continued on. We watched many families come to terms with their loss that day. For many, acknowledgment was hugs and silence.

For survivors the rest of the summer and on into fall, then into winter, has been

spent attending meetings. Meetings on insurance, meetings on new county ordinances, meetings on the Cerro Grande Fire Assistance Act, and meetings to learn how best to support each other. We are becoming experts on topics that most of us, and probably most of you, have never given a second thought to. We have learned that most people are under-insured for loss of their homes and belongings. We have learned how little help we as a nation give to the survivors of disasters. We are very thankful for the Cerro Grande Fire Assistance Act that promises someday to assist us financially in rebuilding our lives.

However, many of us are tired of the bureaucratic trappings that cling to government and have slowed the process to the point many have yet to see a penny. My 84-year-old neighbor is dipping deeply into his savings to rebuild his house. He’s afraid to wait for a government check. If he does, he believes he’ll never live in a home of his own again.

We have also learned how well our community can work together in times of crisis. We’ve learned how generous individuals can be. Survivors received quilts from several programs including one initiated by the Park Service. Christmas ornaments were received from people worldwide. Most importantly of all, we’ve learned that what doesn’t seem possible is, and when the

worst, most impossible things do happen, we can survive.

As an NPS employee who lived in this devastated community, I have found myself in a unique, not always comfortable situation. I have not stood and announced in survivor meetings that I work at Bandelier. At first I felt uncertain of the reception I would receive if others knew my occupation. At some early meetings, anger toward the Park Service was clearly evident as suggestions were made that the debris from burned homes could find a final resting place in Frijoles Canyon at Bandelier. First with the demolition company and then FEMA's arrival on the scene, and the transfer of anger to each of these in turn, it became apparent to me that this anger is

just the frustration of people whose lives have been forever altered and who continue to deal with the day-to-day agonizing complexities of moving on. For those survivors who did learn or already knew of my association to Bandelier, the most common reaction: "Would you please tell Roy Weaver (our superintendent at the time of the fire) we don't blame him and we wish him well."

Weeks after the fire, our damaged home was declared not salvageable. In late September, demolition crews cleaned our lot and removed all evidence of the two-story duplex Cindy and I called home. Although I originally planned to rebuild, in October I bought and moved into a house in the neighboring community of White Rock. I just can't imagine going through the ordeal

of the rebuilding process. Cindy is still living in temporary housing with her 10-year-old son. She had hoped to rebuild, but in the wake of the fire, building costs are soaring. She has just decided to buy. She can't afford to build without the promised governmental assistance. The first weekend in May a celebration was planned in Los Alamos. The first day will be a celebration and a "thank you" for the heroes. The second day is for healing. 🏠

*Sally King began her career with the National Park Service as a seasonal at Carlsbad Caverns in 1979. She has worked in 10 NPS areas in a variety of positions. She currently supervises the visitor center staff at Bandelier.*

## Families Stick Together during Hard Times

By Carl Newman  
Bandelier

I worked late Thursday night, May 4, doing the typical wrap-up before a little vacation time. There were bits and pieces over the dispatch radio that night about the prescribed burn that was taking place, a relatively small burn. The next morning found me stopping by the park to finish my checklist. As I passed by dispatch, I heard the resource manager on the radio calling. I stopped, and answered. She asked me to get the superintendent, and to tell him she had just "declared the burn a wildfire." I walked toward his office, and found Roy eating lunch by himself in the lunchroom. I will never forget that look on his face. Lunch wouldn't be finished that day. Many lunches wouldn't be finished in the days to come.

I made my plane that afternoon. The fire was small and resources were coming. Your dad only turns 80 once! Through the weekend I didn't hear much about the fire. It seemed pretty quiet. I called and talked with my wife, Ginny, and kids on Sunday. I talked with my rangers several days. Things seemed to be under control, or at least not out of control. On Monday my wife called and said I should watch the news. They had partially evacuated town earlier, schools and the National Laboratory had wisely been closed. But there was also talk of



**WIND WHIPPED:** The Cerro Grande fire kept firefighters busy along the southern control line near State Highway 4.

reopening them both later that week.

On Wednesday afternoon as I made my flight back home, the news was about the evacuation of Los Alamos. Ginny had called my folks to say they had evacuated once to friends' on the east end of town, then later to another friend's home in neighboring White Rock. But fires weren't totally unknown to us. There were fires at Olympic, and smoke choked the air sometimes from 30 miles away. Air tankers had scooped from the lake we lived on. We had already packed up for evacuation from our park home in Bandelier in 1996 during the Dome Fire. The Oso fire in 1998 had moved toward town. Fire is part of this life.

The flights were late. As I drove toward White Rock, the radio was all I had. It

sounded pretty bad. I have become accustomed to what the media can do in a situation like this though, so all I cared about was finding my family and fulfilling my fatherly role. I located my family at 1:15 in the morning, 12 hours after their first evacuation. I sat for 10 minutes watching scenes of Los Alamos on the TV. No one seemed to know for sure how much had burned. Ginny relayed the rumors of the college gone, or the high school gone, or whatever gone. If true, we were pretty sure our home was gone too. As we watched, the evacuation of White Rock was announced. We left as a family this time, for Santa Fe. The next morning I drove up the hill to Bandelier. It was

10 days before I saw my family again. That day I was able to get into town. I wanted to see if we still had a neighborhood. I wanted to meet up with some of the folks I had worked with for years—the fire chief and a particular captain, the emergency coordinator who had organized the evacuation plan, the emergency operations people from the Lab. All of us had worked together through a fire simulation exercise one afternoon just weeks before. This time it had been real.

The following day, Friday, I went back into town with one of my patrol rangers. A gathering had been organized for the park staff. Most had been separated from each other for many days with no central point of contact. Many had been forced to evacuate

as well. Via cell phone I described what we saw to the room of people staring at a speakerphone at the other end. Fires still burned around the town site. It was very smoky and you couldn't see the hills that surround the neighborhoods of Los Alamos. Driving down the main streets you couldn't tell there had been a fire. Town was amazingly intact and "normal" in appearance. We drove through the various sections of town and I described the various community locations and their status. Upon request, we drove down particular streets. There were lots of rumors and inaccurate reports since town was still closed. People on the other end of the phone asked questions about areas where friends in town lived. Everyone had expected the worst. There was a lot of relief expressed back through those phones that morning.



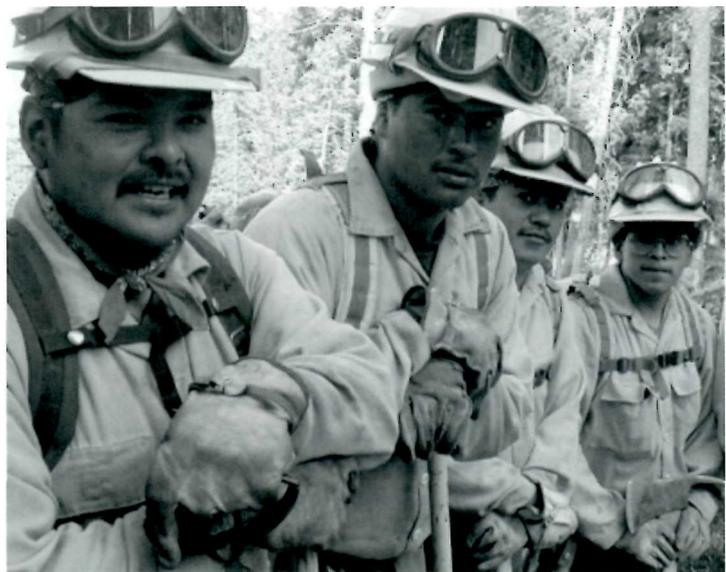
It's now a year later. Each morning on my drive to work I crest a small hill and my view isn't the same as it was. The fire burned particularly hot through the area I see, and blackened sticks shoot vertically from the snow on the hillside. Rock outcroppings I never saw beneath the trees now dominate the panorama. I know that just beyond the houses directly in front of my view, many homes burned. The house where I helped a friend put in a doggie-door is one of those that is gone. That whole neighborhood is gone.

The "Quilt Project" brought one specific fire victim into my life. The first person I helped deliver a quilt to had a story of his own. His year had started out with a diagnosis of a debilitating disease that was soon to render him helpless to care for himself. He was young, in his mid-30s. His grandmother, who had raised him and was obviously very important to him, had passed away. His sister had died suddenly. His

home had burned in the fire. We couldn't help noticing that his living room was full of boxes, packed with the personal items his family had left. The packers had just left. The movers were coming tomorrow. He was leaving northern New Mexico forever. He was moving his family to a nice home on a lake in Montana, closer to his parents. He was preparing for his disease. Through all that, he told us very matter-of-factly that we should tell the people of Bandelier and the Park Service that he held no grudge. "Tell the rangers I'll see them at the parks in the north," he said. Count on it.

Los Alamos is a *very* special community. It's home to the Los Alamos National Laboratory. Birthplace of the atomic bomb. But also home to several of the fastest computers on the planet, repository of the HIV database for the world, the place where some scientists designed the work that found water on the moon. The relationship between the monument and the town was also *very* special. You see the monument preceded the town by some 25 years. The scientists who first lived in the "Secret City" visited the park. They supported our mission. For 50 years they've brought the visiting relatives to see *their* place, brought scientists and visitors from around the world to *their* national park, in *their* backyard. It's also been Park Service nirvana. EVERYONE liked you! It took some time for me to get used to, considering some of the areas I've worked in. But if you stopped

by the store on your way home in uniform, people thanked you for taking such good care of *their* park. At parties and gatherings, everyone was interested in what you did, how was it to work as a ranger. "Could my high-schooler drop by sometime and talk with you?" they ask. It was the best. It's still pretty good. I *am* more aware of when I'm in uniform in town now. Some of it's me. I know that for some people it reawakens feelings they don't



**GROUP EFFORT:** Members of the Zuni firefighters crew help with the fire.

Courtesy of Andrea Booher, FEMA

want to feel anymore. I do get looks I never got here before, but I understand.

We here are reminded of the effects of the Cerro Grande Fire daily. Sometimes it's subtle, like a sudden view of the surrounding burned hillsides. Sometimes it's blunt, like another letter to the editor in the local newspaper. But it's there, everyday. Through it all though, most people have not vilified the Park Service or us at the park. That speaks not for what I do, but what all dedicated Park Service employees do, and have done, throughout the eight and a half decades that Bandelier and the NPS have existed. Years of enthusiastic, devoted people have kept Bandelier a *special* and loved place. Many of the people I know in Los Alamos County remain as much a part of "The Family" as we all are. And families stick together. 🏠

*Carl Newman is chief of protection at Bandelier. He is a life member of ANPR, and will celebrate his diamond anniversary with the National Park Service this summer. He and his family moved to the community of Los Alamos in 1998 after 22 years in park housing.*

**HOTSHOTS:** The Flagstaff, Ariz., Hotshot crew took time out to pose for a group shot.



Courtesy of Andrea Booher, FEMA



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# New Management Policies & the Field Ranger

By Jolene Johnson  
Washington Office

When NPS Director Stanton approved the newly revised Management Policies for publication early this year, the version became the first update of the document since 1988. Management Policies is the highest order (or level 1) document of the NPS Directives System, and as such outranks even the essential, dog-eared copies of level 2 documents such as Director's Orders #9, and older guidelines such as NPS-6, that may sit on a shelf in your office. Management Policies serves as the primary Service manual to guide decision-making by superintendents and other NPS managers. Adherence to Management Policies is **mandatory** unless specifically waived or modified in writing by the Director.

Does Management Policies offer anything to division-level field staff? Yes!

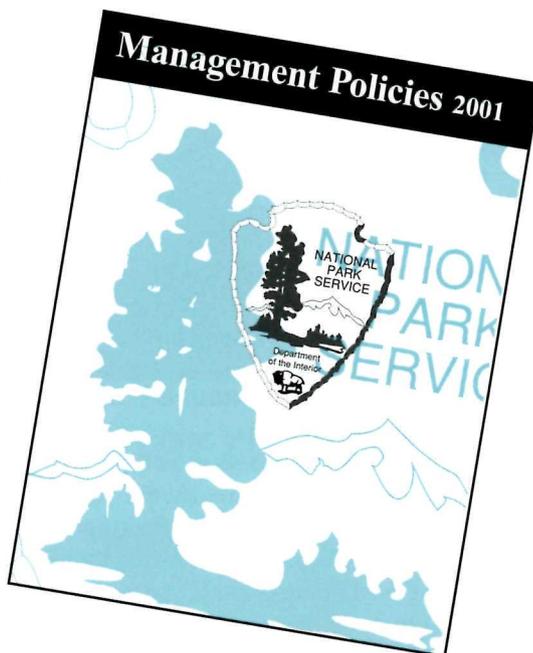
A temporary move from the field to an assignment in the Office of Policy convinced me of the usefulness and field-friendliness of Management Policies. I found the Directives System, and the documents that originate from it, both useful and relevant. The Office of Policy staff is approachable and very open to suggestions, feedback, and concerns from the field.

Management Policies or The Book, as it is sometimes known, includes guidance for almost anything you might need to know in a surprisingly brief and well-organized document (less than 125 pages—not counting the index, appendix, and glossary). The Book summarizes and guides the reader through the myriad laws, regulations, codes, executive orders, policies, rulings, and their interpretations, that affect how business is done in the parks. The Book provides the guidance we need to be consistent in our approach to decision-making and problem solving.

## What's New in Management Policies

Here are some highlights of Management Policies that are of interest to rangers and other field employees:

- The responsibility of every employee



to know about the policies relating to their work is emphasized.

- The Directives System is explained.
- A Foundation chapter includes increased emphasis on compliance with the 1916 Organic Act and the 1978 amendment to the General Authorities Act (the Redwood amendment). One significant difference is a clear message that *when there is conflict between conserving resources and values and providing for enjoyment of them, conservation is to be predominant.*
- The importance of interpretation and education in building public support is affirmed. The Book emphasizes management's responsibility to keep interpreters informed about the decision-making process so that they can more effectively support management decisions. The requirements for interpretive development plans and comprehensive interpretive plans are included.
- The importance of the superintendent's involvement in neighboring jurisdictions' planning and regulatory activities is emphasized.
- Chapters on natural and cultural resources have been expanded and updated to reflect changes in statutory

requirements such as the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act of 1998 and consultation requirements.

- The distinction between adverse impacts and impairment caused by park uses is clarified.
- Our commitment to environmental leadership is affirmed, along with the introduction of requirements for sustainable practices, water and energy conservation, and the use of "green" products.
- Appendices, an index, and a glossary have been added. The appendices are well organized with cross-references that provide information on major laws, executive orders, memoranda, and director's orders. Especially helpful are the references to pertinent websites. The index makes research simple, and the glossary defines key terms.

**How to use Management Policies.** I don't recommend reading The Book all in one sitting. Instead, the next time you must solve a problem or make a decision, or even before you post a question to a bulletin board, pick up a copy of Management Policies. Scan the index for the subject(s) related to your situation. Most likely you will get the guidance you need in as few as two to five paragraphs of text. The CD-ROM version of Management Policies has a search function to help you find the guidance you need even faster. A quick consultation with The Book can save time and help you avoid re-inventing the wheel. More importantly, it can help you and your superintendent stay out of trouble.

By now you should have reviewed a copy of the new Management Policies. Copies were sent to all regional and park offices in February 2001. Management Policies can also be viewed at [www.nps.gov/refdesk/mp/index.html](http://www.nps.gov/refdesk/mp/index.html). For a copy of the book or CD-ROM, call the Office of Policy at (202) 208-7456. □

Jolene Johnson is chief ranger at Casa Grande Ruins on a detail assignment at the Washington Office as part of the Executive Leadership Program.

# A New Way of Doing Business

By Dawn O'Sickey  
Grand Canyon

Grand Canyon National Park is leading the NPS into the 21<sup>st</sup> century without cold, hard cash. A large portion of income is now being collected electronically. Don't be spooked away from this article if you aren't in administration, because this program has implications that also affect people who work in concessions, fee management, protection and safety. So read on!

The Pre-Authorized Debit (PAD) program through the Department of Treasury Automated Clearing House (ACH) is an electronic collection process that is controlled by the park. Unlike wire transfers, the collector initiates the process, not the payee. Grand Canyon uses PAD to collect many different types of payments including utilities, franchise fees, rent for quarters and other buildings, fuel and aircraft usage, air tour fees, and entrance fees by river concessioners and commercial tour operators including the railway company and a company with backcountry road access.

Grand Canyon's process is thought of in two portions: 1) all payments other than entrance fees for commercial tour operators, and 2) entrance fees for commercial tour operators. For all non-entrance fees, the benefits of using PAD are many including the fact that the Budget and Fiscal Office has control over when payments are made, bills of collection are not issued, and the payees do not send checks that must be deposited. We are not at the mercy of when the payees choose to send payment. This means we do not spend time tracking whether or not payments have been made, and we do not spend time on Dunning Notices. The number of bills of collection has decreased by approximately 75 percent. The number of deposits and size of deposits has decreased accordingly. The turn-around time for rejections is only one to two days as compared to several weeks for bounced



checks. Rejections are minimal and relatively easy to correct — usually by simply calling the problem payee.

The use of PAD for entrance fees for commercial tour operators began as an experiment late in FY99. Because of the numerous benefits, PAD payments were written into all of the Incidental Business Permit (IBP) renewals in January 2000 for companies that visit more than five times per month (this number may be decreased in the future). Through teamwork with the Concessions division and the Fee Management branch approximately one-third of all entrance fees are now paid electronically. In FY99, the park's total PAD deposits were just less than \$4.8 million with approximately \$20,000 as entrance fees for commercial tour operators. FY00 saw a drastic increase to a total of \$10.16 million including \$3.73 million for entrance fees.

The time each bus spends at the entrance station has been cut in half because the drivers arrive with their passenger certification forms complete, and money is not exchanged (no change to be made, no scrutiny of checks, no time waiting for the credit card machine). Additionally, security has been improved in several areas because of PAD. The drivers do not carry as much cash, the companies do not write as many checks (some companies enter the park as much as ten times a day), and/or the drivers are not responsible for credit cards. The entrance staff are responsible for less cash/checks/credit card numbers which means the armored car service is not carrying as much to Flagstaff (1.5 hours away). Although a would-be burglar will not know that there is less money, that burglar would not have as many checking account numbers or credit card numbers at his/her disposal, and the size and number of bundles of cash is decreased.

PAD is written into contracts, agreements and permits as they come up for renewal. PAD cannot be required until it is in writing as part of an agreement, but we strongly emphasize the use of the program with current payees. Although PAD has

saved time and effort in the long run, the start-up process can be time-consuming and a bit cumbersome (as with any new program). Some entities were resistant at first because of the concerns of "Big Brother" accessing their bank accounts. However, taking the time to thoroughly explain the process and the security of working through Treasury, most users have come around. An unexpected benefit to this process has been the increased and improved communications with the IBP holders.

We plan to continue expanding the use of the program. For instance, we are currently in discussions with our cooperating association to use PAD for their donations to us, and we are trying to expand the number of air tour companies signed up for the program.

Acadia has recently inquired about their possible use of the program because they have only one entrance station that collects money, yet companies may enter through a variety of ingress areas. PAD may serve Acadia through the use of a reporting system similar to that which Grand Canyon uses for the river companies. The companies provide a monthly statement of their total entrance fees, and we debit their account on the 20th of every month.

In discussions with the Treasury staff in Kansas City we have learned they are eager to grow. They began working with Yosemite in January and should be getting Lake Mead on-line soon. Treasury has a staff member for marketing purposes, and they are increasing their computer capacity. They will travel to the location and provide software, training, and technical support all at their expense. The contact information is:

ACH PC Collections  
Kansas City Financial Center  
Lori Freeman (816) 414-2104

Please feel free to contact Dawn O'Sickey, accounting technician, at (520) 638-7727 with questions; you may speak to Susan Lakes, (520) 638-7713, regarding concessions questions, or to Jim O'Sickey, (520) 638-7951, regarding entrance and remittance operations. □

*Dawn O'Sickey is an accounting technician at Grand Canyon. She has been with the NPS since 1990, including seven seasons at Mesa Verde and two years in the Backcountry Office at Grand Canyon. She has managed the PAD program since shortly after its inception. She also is the secretary of the ANPR Board of Directors.*

# PARK LANDS & DISNEYLANDS

By William Tweed  
Sequoia and Kings Canyon

The papers have been full of items recently about the opening of Disney's new California Adventure theme park in Anaheim. One item in particular caught my eye. It takes 21,000 employees, it seems, to run the adjacent California Adventure and Disneyland parks. Significantly, it also takes about 21,000 permanent employees to run the entire National Park System.

The contrast is interesting. When we talk about the national park system, we're not talking about two theme parks, but more than 380 units spread from Puerto Rico and Maine in the east to Samoa, Guam and Alaska in the far west. Think of the magnificent scope of what we're talking about. Here are just a few highlights – Yellowstone, Yosemite, Grand Canyon, Denali, Hawaii Volcanoes, Olympic, Mount Rainier, Glacier, Carlsbad Caverns, Death Valley, Petrified Forest, Acadia, Shenandoah, Great Smoky Mountains, Everglades. Then there are the historic sites – Jamestown, Independence (in Philadelphia), Yorktown, Gettysburg, Shiloh, Little Bighorn Battlefield, Brown vs. Board of Education, Rosie the Riveter, Women's Rights, Tumacacori, Lyndon Baines Johnson, Theodore Roosevelt Birthplace, Fort Clatsop, Fort Vancouver, St Gaudins, New Orleans Jazz. And there are also national recreation areas, national seashores, national memorials and much more.

My point is that all this ought to be recognized as an enormous bargain. The single biggest cost of preserving the best of America's natural and historic heritage is personnel to staff the sites, and we run the entire national park system with no more employees than it takes to run two side-by-side theme parks in southern California.

Here at Sequoia and Kings Canyon our permanent staff adds up to not quite 200 people. In the summer we add another 200 seasonal employees. With this relatively small staff we run a national park that is a bit larger than the state of Rhode Island. And we do this all without demanding much in the way of services from the governments around us. We pay for our own law enforcement and emergency medical response systems. We maintain our road system and keep much of it open all year.

We run water and sewer systems, operate campground and picnic grounds, and provide educational services to visitors and school groups. Our visitor centers provide information to half a million people annually. We manage wildland fires and monitor air quality conditions. We even provide 800 miles of trails leading across what is probably the most rugged terrain in the 48 contiguous states. When you think about it, our 200 employees work pretty hard.

It's also hard not to think about fees when we look at theme parks and national parks together. I understand that the new California Adventure park is charging \$43 a day per person for admission. Here at Sequoia and Kings Canyon, \$10 will buy entrance for a full carload of people for seven days. Again, we're a bargain.

None of this is meant to criticize Disney's new park. The Disney folks are known for doing things well and I'm sure that the California Adventure Park will meet that standard. And certainly, Disney's new park will provide services and experiences that you'll not find here in our national parks. But there is something we have that Disney will never have and its worth noting. What we have for you in national parks is reality – the real thing! It may not be as predictable or as managed as the designed experiences available in a theme park, but ultimately I think you'll find it far more satisfying. Seeing a wild animal unexpectedly in the woods almost always beats seeing a mechanical imitation timed to growl at you as you ride by with 100 other people.

So enjoy Disney's new theme park, but don't forget that the real California adventures are not in Anaheim. They're out here waiting for you in your national parks, preserved for you and for future generations by the staff of the National Park Service. □

*William Tweed is the chief of interpretation and cultural resources management at Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks in California. This essay was first published in February 2001 in Tweed's regular park column in the Visalia Times-Delta newspaper. It is reprinted here with the author's permission.*

## IRF Update

The organizing committee of the Victorian Ranger Association in the state of Victoria, Australia, has established dates for the **4th World Congress** of the International Ranger Federation — March 21 – 28, 2003, at Wilsons Promontory National Park. The tentative schedule looks like this:

**March 21:** Arrive in Melbourne with a welcoming function with Australian rangers who can't attend the Congress.

**March 22:** Travel to Wilsons Promontory Park via the scenic route.

**March 23-24:** Congress Program

**March 25:** Field Trip

**March 26:** Congress Program

**March 27:** IRF Business Day, Close

**March 28:** Departure

The Congress organizers will provide pre- and post-Congress tours and shadow rangers opportunities for interested participants. Organizers plan to focus the Congress program on the tasks that rangers most commonly perform: protection, interpretation and resources management. Suggestions for program items can be sent to Andy Nixon at [anixon@parks.vic.gov.au](mailto:anixon@parks.vic.gov.au) or Elaine Thomas at [ethomas@parks.vic.gov.au](mailto:ethomas@parks.vic.gov.au).

**IRF Consultancy:** International Ranger Federation Consultancy Ltd. has now been registered as a Company Limited by Guarantee in the United Kingdom. IRFC Ltd. will be the trading and business arm of IRF, with any surplus transferred to IRF. The company is wholly owned by IRF.

**Newest member of the IRF, the Ivory Coast:** Congratulations to Joachim Kouame and his colleagues in the Ivory Coast for their efforts in promoting the preservation and protection of that country's heritage. Joachim, the first president, can be reached at [ahounze@yahoo.fr](mailto:ahounze@yahoo.fr). Please write him and congratulate him on taking this important step toward the future.

**IRF website:** IRF will establish a website soon. In the meantime, read the latest IRF information on ANPR's website at [www.anpr.org](http://www.anpr.org). The information is available in Spanish and English. □

— Rick Smith

# ANPR ACTIONS

## Wupatki Rule

ANPR President Cindy Ott-Jones sent this letter to the Ranger Activities Division of the National Park Service in March 2001 to oppose Proposed Rule 36 CFR Part 7. Board member Scot McElveen helped draft the letter and report.

The Association of National Park Rangers (ANPR) herewith submits its comments on the above referenced proposed rule, *Religious Ceremonial Collection of Golden Eaglets from Wupatki National Monument*, and the environmental assessment. ANPR represents 1,100 park professionals that support the National Park Service (NPS), the National Park System, and the park ranger profession. ANPR provides official comments on actions or legislation that has or may affect these three areas of consideration. We oppose the rule as an unwarranted exception to long standing NPS policy and practice and one that would open the door to additional exceptions.

The Department of the Interior, through the NPS, has proposed a special regulation at Title 36 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) § 7.101 that would permit Hopi tribal members to gather golden eaglets at Wupatki National Monument. ANPR realizes that this a contentious issue for the Department because it pits two of the Department's primary responsibilities against each other—those being the preservation of National Park System resources and its special trust responsibilities for Native Americans.

The NPS denied a 1999 request by members of the Hopi tribe to take golden eagles

from Wupatki National Monument for religious purposes, citing the NPS Organic Act of 1916 (16 USC § 1) and its amendments and Title 36 CFR 2.1, 2.2, and 2.5. A Hopi appeal of the denial to the Department resulted in a withdrawal of that denial pending reconsideration.

The proposed rule, absent specific Congressional authorization, alters the long history of the national parks and monuments as strict sanctuaries for wildlife and conflicts with existing laws and court rulings that span decades. The proposed rule does not, indeed cannot, point to any recent enactment of Congress or decision of the Federal courts that alters the meaning of the Organic Act mandate to conserve wildlife unimpaired or allow the derogation of park resources unless specifically authorized by Congress. The rationale for the proposed rule is incomplete, not objective, and therefore lacks credibility.

The Department believes the proposed rule is not significant and that an Environmental Assessment is sufficient to meet the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act. ANPR believes it is significant because the proposed rule is precedent setting, therefore has implications for the entire National Park System and by extension, on the cumulative takes of wildlife for ceremonial religious use in similarly situated parks. As such, we believe the proposed rule possesses sufficient controversy to warrant an Environmental Impact Statement before it is considered further.

ANPR's 1,100 park professionals **vigorously oppose** the proposed rule, and we ask that it not be adopted as official NPS regulation. The attached position paper provides a more detailed rationale for our decision.

Thank you for the opportunity to participate in this comment period. We wish to be informed of any decisions as to the future rejection or acceptance of the rule.

## Testimony on Omnibus Management Act of 1998

In late March Scot McElveen, ANPR board member for Special Concerns, offered testimony on the National Parks Omnibus Management Act of 1998 before

the Senate Subcommittee on National Parks, Historic Preservation, and Recreation of the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources. He traveled to Washington, D.C. on his own time and at his own expense, and gave testimony as an Association member, not as an NPS employee.

He addressed topics including:

- National Park Service Career Development, Training, and Management
- National Park System Resource Inventory and Management
- Study Regarding Addition of New National Park System Areas
- National Park Service Concessions Management
- Fees for Use of the National Park System
- National Park Passport Program
- National Park Foundation Support

The full text of McElveen's comments can be found on ANPR's website: [www.anpr.org](http://www.anpr.org). □

## SUPER CONCERNS

**Editor's Note:** This column allows superintendents to briefly outline their top resource/management issues. Rather than dwell on famous historic events, natural wonders or budget limitations, we hope to offer new insights to individual parks and show the challenges of field management. To contribute to this column, contact the editor at [fordedit@aol.com](mailto:fordedit@aol.com).

Past articles have been supplied by the superintendents of Cape Cod National Seashore and Zion National Park. Please help educate our readers by writing a brief article for this column.

Ideas are welcomed by the editorial board. Contact information is above. □

## ROAD MAP for my heirs

ANPR has prepared this "Road Map" to assist family or friends in handling the many details required when a spouse or loved one dies.

The notebook contains personal information (fill-in-the blank) forms about:

- who to notify and your desires about final arrangements
- civil service, military & Social Security benefit details
- insurance facts
- bank account, property, credit card, TSP, investment & retirement account numbers & information
- synopsis of life, obituary & family history
- list of disposition of personal items
- anatomical gift wishes
- examples of durable power of attorney for health care & finances

*This Road Map makes a caring, loving gift for family and friends.*

The book costs \$10, plus \$4 for shipping and handling. U.S. currency only.

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4560 Larkbunting  
Drive, #7A  
Fort Collins, CO 80526

## The Professional Ranger

### Interpretation

**Taking the Mystery Out of Media: The HFC Interpretive Media Institute** — Harpers Ferry Center and parks have created many award-winning media experiences for park visitors in the last three decades. The best of these projects are testaments to close collaboration among media specialists, park rangers and subject experts.

William C. Everhart founded HFC in 1970 to plan, design and produce interpretive media for the National Park Service. While parks focused on personal services, HFC's role was to continuously upgrade movies, publications, museum exhibits, wayside exhibits, historic furnishings and other interpretive media offerings. In the decades that followed, the National Park System expanded while HFC's workload capacity remained relatively flat in terms of staffing, space and resources. By the mid-1990s HFC was able to handle only about half of the media work in progress.

After the NPS reorganization in 1995, it became clear that parks and their managers would have to take on many responsibilities formerly handled by regions and service centers. In this new environment, how could HFC help parks with their critical needs for newer and better media?

When Gary Cummins became manager of Harpers Ferry Center, he brought a client perspective to the task of realigning HFC. Part of that effort was the establishment of the Interpretive Media Institute in 2000. IMI's mission is to be a source of media knowledge and standards for the NPS, and to provide growth opportunities for media professionals.

IMI supports all those in the NPS who are responsible for planning, designing, producing and maintaining interpretive media. In January 2001 IMI, in partnership with the Northeast Region and HFC staff, coordinated a two-day training course for park managers entitled "Managing Interpretive Media Projects to Meet Park Goals."

At this course, HFC described the media development process from beginning to end using an interdisciplinary approach, focusing on what was common in developing exhibits, movies and publications. One manager commented, "Too often we operate on assumptions that eventually create barriers. I now feel much more comfortable



*The Interpretive Media Institute develops software that assists NPS staff in planning and managing media projects.*

working with HFC to create effective and efficient media for the visitors that come to my park."

In the coming months HFC hopes to offer similar training across the NPS. A synopsis of the course and selected training documents may be found at HFC's web site at [www.nps.gov/hfc/](http://www.nps.gov/hfc/). Go to "Departments," then "Interpretive Media Institute."

Media projects can be daunting when you consider the many disciplines and requirements that are involved, and the levels of detail that must be mastered. Training courses presented by experienced media professionals are one way to help take the mystery out of media.

Internships and detail assignments at HFC are another way to advance park media goals, as well as building field media capabilities for the future. IMI is committed to helping NPS field media specialists and generalists gain the experience they need to keep the media in their parks the best in the world. During the past year HFC has provided hands-on media experience for a number of rangers and interpreters. Laurie Heupel, interpreter at Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail, came to HFC for two weeks in February. Working with wayside exhibit designer Ron Roos and planner Winnie Frost, she left with a number of attractive panel designs for use at key partner sites.

Another way to efficiently upgrade interpretive media in the NPS is through the use of media development software. This year IMI completed Version 16 of the Museum Exhibit Planner application. First developed by HFC in 1993, the plan-

ner is used in the NPS and the private sector for managing text, graphics and artifacts in the exhibit planning process. The new version accommodates exhibit objectives and field data for digital graphic layouts.

Using the Museum Exhibit Planner application, it is possible for rangers, interpreters, curators, historians, naturalists and other subject experts to expand their role in the exhibits process. Customized work screens speed tasks such as label writing, editing, graphic sizing, photo reproduction ordering and artifact tracking. Drop-down menus provide standardized field entries. Print screens are designed to output desktop publishing-quality reports and schedules, which are incorporated into final plan packages. More information on the Museum Exhibit Planner may be found on the IMI web page.

Last year IMI, in collaboration with the HFC Department of Wayside Exhibits, created a new application software for writing wayside exhibit proposals. This application speeds the preparation of reports, and helps planners manage all the data on objectives, locations, panels, bases and costs. Another program, the Project Agreement Writer, helps project managers define project objectives, processes, responsibilities, budgets and schedules.

IMI offers review of ongoing media projects through its "Project Roundtables." At the roundtables project staff give brief presentations of their projects and receive valuable feedback from media planners, designers and producers. Projects reviewed in recent months include the document cases for Independence NHP, a Discovery Station for Rock Creek Park Discovery Center, a brochure for Dinosaur National



*Bill Gordon, Jack Spinnler, and Tom Patterson review the Dinosaur National Monument brochure at an IMI Project Roundtable at Harpers Ferry Center.*

Monument, a Global Climate Change Interpreters Kit for the Environmental Protection Agency, and the new visual identity standards for NPS wayside exhibits. NPS staff or partners who would like to have a Project Roundtable review of their project by media specialists may call David Guiney at (304) 535-6057.

The Interpretive Media Institute currently has a director in the HFC Department of Client Services, and a collateral duty adviser in each of the seven media departments. All are involved in media project work, as well as in instructing and consulting. You may learn more about them at the IMI web page. 

—David Guiney, Harpers Ferry Center  
Interpretive Media Institute

## Resource Management

The 11th biennial conference on research and resource management in parks and protected areas, a.k.a. the **George Wright Society** conference, took place in mid-April in Denver. It was the largest GWS conference ever, with almost 800 people registered. In addition to the regular complement of natural and cultural resource managers and researchers, more than a few interpreters, protection rangers and maintenance professionals were seen and several gave papers, posters, or participated on panels. More than 40 superintendents and four regional directors were there.

The buzz began the first evening and lasted the entire week. One person from another agency, attending her first GWS conference (and probably her first meeting with large numbers of Park Service types), was overheard saying that she'd never been to a meeting with so much energy, camaraderie, or humor! Apparently we know how to throw a good meeting. The GWS conference had much in common with Rendezvous: amazingly committed people, many of them friends, getting together to share stories about what they love best: the parks. With sometimes eight concurrent sessions going at once, there was both a frenetic pace and considerable frustration over all the good things going on that you just couldn't attend.

I want to share three of my own highlights from the conference.

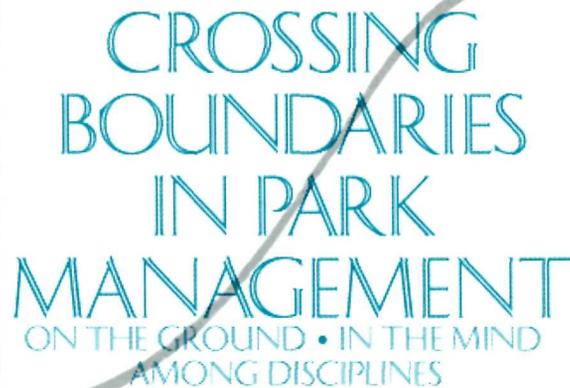
**First**, the clear stepping up to the plate of the NPS resource protection community. Two concurrent sessions tackled the issue of resource protection head on. The first,

organized by Ken Johnson and Tom Blount of Shenandoah, was called "One Eye Shut and One Hand Tied Behind Our Backs: Exploitative Resource Risks and the Integration of Science and Protection Assets." That was followed the next day by a session called "A New View of Resource Protection: Integrating Law Enforcement with Resource Management." The latter included excellent papers by ANPR's own Scot McElveen (John Day), Terry Hofstra and Bob Martin (Redwood) and Mac Brock (Crater Lake), and another by Todd Swain (Joshua

Tree) dealing with how resource managers and law enforcement rangers are working together in Pacific West Region parks to truly protect resources, not just talk about them. After years of ranger careers and resources careers, it was rewarding to see us working together!

**Second**, Robin Winks' remarks at the awards banquet on Thursday night. Professor Winks, eminent historian, author, mystery reviewer and writer, is an engaging speaker of the highest order. His funny and powerful remarks admonished and challenged us to take responsibility NOW for the success of the NPS and the resource preservation mission. His message that we can't wait until later was poignantly brought home by his reminder that George Wright himself no doubt thought he had more time, but died in a tragic car accident at the age of 32. Wright, of course, was the brilliant biologist who founded and led the NPS Wildlife Division in the 1930s. His untimely death began a long decline in the Service's attention to natural resources not reversed until decades later.

**Third**, an unexpected moment at that same banquet. As conference chair and president of the GWS, I used the bully pulpit at this conference to talk about the Society itself, and how its mission and its fortunes depend on its members – not unlike ANPR, again. Despite the great success of its conferences, and the growing sense many inside and outside the NPS have that the GWS is *the* intellectual center for parks and protected areas today, too few people support the Society with their membership and their dollars. In my short "State of the Society" report that evening, I described the Society's "Towards \$150,000" cam-



# CROSSING BOUNDARIES IN PARK MANAGEMENT

ON THE GROUND • IN THE MIND  
AMONG DISCIPLINES

THE GWS BIENNIAL CONFERENCE  
DENVER, COLORADO • APRIL 2001

paign to boost its endowment to what we believe is a level that will sustain current and future programs without fear each time the stock market drops. After I sat down, and while I was listening to Robin Winks' remarks, unbeknownst to me several baskets began passing between tables and up towards the front where I was sitting. The wonderful people at the banquet reached into their wallets and raised over \$1,000 that night towards the future of the George Wright Society, all of which ended up at my plate in small bills and a few checks!

As I indicated here last issue, the ANPR and GWS boards have agreed to meet together in Jackson this fall, just before Rendezvous. We'll likely also meet together with reps from other organizations with similar interests, such as Partners in Parks. GWS will also likely be an exhibitor at Rendezvous. While the George Wright Society and the Association of National Park Rangers have different niches in the protection and management of parks, they are by no means mutually exclusive. Quite a few NPS folks are members of both organizations, and there's a lot we can gain from each other. We need to break down the idea that resource management is somehow distinct from park operations, and this joint get-together, six months after the successful GWS conference and days before the highly anticipated 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary Rendezvous, is another step in that direction. Check out [www.georgewright.org](http://www.georgewright.org) and consider membership – and put the week of April 14, 2003, on your calendar so you can be part of the next GWS conference in San Diego. 

—Bob Krumenaker  
Valley Forge

## Protection

### An Ounce of PSAR is Worth a Pound of SAR:

As rangers, we are blessed to have interesting, rewarding, challenging and often exciting jobs, and we're further blessed to be able to do them in some of our country's most treasured landscapes. At the close of most of our shifts, it's safe to say we usually head home feeling good about the work we accomplished. But, as rangers, we are occasionally exposed to the other end of the spectrum . . . sometimes we head home harboring intense and unsettling feelings about something we saw or otherwise experienced during our shift. Of course, the extreme example of this is when a visitor dies during an incident in one of our parks. Those of us who have been involved in missions where visitors lose their lives can testify that the incident stays with us long afterward. And many rangers can recall every fatality they've responded to.

Some of these incidents are unavoidable. They just happened and no one could have done anything to prevent them. And, unfortunately, they will continue to happen. But many would-be mishaps, rescues, searches, accidents . . . fatalities *can* be avoided. That is where preventive search and rescue comes in. The old saying, "an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure" applies perfectly to the SAR world. Imagine the number of lives that can be saved every year if visitors will listen to our admonishings. And, of course, there are those who will never listen to us.

Many already are. Most of our parks that suffer a heavy casualty load due to SAR-related incidents have a strong PSAR program in effect. One of the keys to a successful program is to target your park's problem areas and cater your PSAR messages to those areas. What follows is a list of ideas to plug into a PSAR program. Many of these ideas were passed on to me from rangers throughout the Service, and all work well if applied with thoughtful thoroughness.

- Work with your park's public information officers to coordinate public service announcements detailing steps visitors can take to make their trip safer.
- Ask local fast-food restaurants to donate free-meal gift certificates for kids wearing PFDs in areas where PFD use is not mandatory.
- Talk with local tube or boat rental business owners and ask them to make

PFDs available to their patrons, even if they are not required to.

- Put together an interpretive program highlighting a problem particular to your park and steps folks can take to make their trip safer.
- Develop a brochure highlighting the same problems and safety tips and make them available at trailheads, campgrounds, backcountry registration kiosks, visitor centers and more.
- Apply for special money and produce a short video covering PSAR messages that backcountry travelers can watch prior to heading out.
- Organize a "Hug-A-Tree" course or ANPR's "Lost . . . but Found, Safe and Sound," course for children and hold it at your park.
- Include a PSAR message and activities in your park's junior ranger curriculum. When the kids earn their badge, give them a complimentary roll of orange flagging, a space blanket and a whistle (these items can be donated). Teach them and their parents how to use them if the child becomes separated on the trail.
- Travel to local schools with your rescue rig and present a PSAR program. Let the kids play with all the groovy, pretty-colored, techno-geek gadgets that seem to spill out of rescue trucks. Maybe one or two will even grow up to become rangers.
- Put some PSAR pointers on your park's web page.
- Include those same pointers on your park's Unigrid "Official Map and Guide."
- Contact local outdoor gear businesses and ask if they'll allow you to drop off brochures or post PSAR messages in their establishments.
- Convince your cooperating associations that PSAR is an important aspect of your park's overall operation and compete for their assistance.
- Approach local colleges or universities to see if they might be willing to sponsor a PSAR-related class.
- Contact local media after successful SARs and ask them to print or air the stories. Use their attention as an opportunity to communicate a PSAR message.
- Contact the media after unsuccessful incidents (although they'll usually contact you first) and advise them of steps that led to the incident that might have

been prevented if only the visitor had known better.

- If need be, close problem areas where numerous accidents have occurred.
- Post signs warning of historically mishap-prone areas (this can apply to seemingly common-sense situations like "don't climb the waterfall" and keep back from the edge"). Check with a legal expert on this, as there may be some potential for liability (attractive nuisance torts, etc.).
- Call other parks and local rescue squads and ask them what steps they're taking toward furthering the PSAR cause.
- And the most common sense ideas: When you see someone engaging in what you know to be foolish behavior (trying to cross a swollen stream), respond decisively and immediately with whatever action the situation dictates to prevent a tragedy.

There you have it . . . PSAR at its simplest. Some of these may work for you, some may not. Most of these ideas are inexpensive and all are relatively simple to put in place. Their most demanding requirements are your time, energy and most of all, compassion. Attitude is critical to PSAR — you have to know in your heart that your actions now just might save a life down the road.

As long as you're doing something to curb the number of SARs in your park, you're at least heading in the right direction with PSAR. And the fewer the tragedies that occur on your shift, the fewer the names you'll carry with you. And the fewer the faces you'll never forget for the rest of your life. 

— Kevin Moses  
Great Smoky Mountains

**"Study nature, love nature,  
stay close to nature. It will  
never fail you."**

— Frank Lloyd Wright (1868-1959)

### ANPR Elects New Officers

ANPR members elected three candidates this spring to the ANPR Board of Directors.

**Ken Mabery** is the new president elect and will hold that position until Jan. 1, 2002, when he becomes president of ANPR for three years. **Rick Jones** was reelected to the board position of Fund-Raising Activities, and **Kathy Clossin** is the new board member for Membership Services. Election results were posted online in early April at [www.anpr.org](http://www.anpr.org). □

### ANPR Spring Board Meeting

The ANPR Board of Directors met in Las Vegas, Nev., April 20–22. With President Cindy Ott-Jones absent due to health problems, Treasurer Lee Werst ran the show.

The meetings were productive, with just the right amount of fun sprinkled around. Board members discussed all the usual issues (finances, elections, membership, fundraising, mentoring, training) and, with great anticipation, the upcoming Rendezvous in late October in Jackson Hole, Wyo. (See pages 24-25 for a detailed agenda.)

Special concerns and professional issues here or on the horizon include difficulties in hiring seasonal law enforcement rangers, problems created by medical standards, and upcoming activity from Bush administration. Attendees also spent time discussing the ANPR reorganization proposal offered by several members.

— Dawn O'Sickey, Grand Canyon

### Internal Communications

As the board member for Internal Communications I have been particularly interested in improving our ANPR web site ([www.anpr.org](http://www.anpr.org)) both from a visual and a content point of view. Now, after working with several volunteers and through the continued efforts of our website coordinator, Teresa Ford, members can log on to find out the latest information on the upcoming Rendezvous, read the text of position letters or testimony our president or the designated board representative have provided on issues of importance to our membership, sign up for member services such as the facilitated mentoring program, and join discussions and respond to readers questions about the organization and the Service. If you haven't visited the website

lately, check out the improvements to this 21<sup>st</sup> century communications feature.

*Ranger* magazine continues to be the professional journal of the Association. We are partnering with the NPS Division of Employee Development to produce a special edition this fall. It will highlight core values, history and mission of the Service from the perspective of every NPS employee. Watch for it – it will be coming to a training center, office or mailbox near you!

“How do I get to be a ranger?” We've all heard that question and the answer is still hard to explain. Efforts are currently under way to revise and reissue the ANPR-produced and out-of-print booklet. This should be a popular item, available as a sales item for a nominal cost, and distributed to park personnel offices and affiliated schools around the country.

Some of us think the Association lost a line of communication when the positions of regional representatives were put aside. While we aren't advocating a return to that structure in a formal way, there was a flow of information and communication from the regional representative to park representatives. When it worked, it worked well. Remember Mini-Rendezvous, Regional Newsletters, Situation Reports and other ways to get readers the current happenings?

*I'd really like to hear your ideas on ways to involve more of the membership in the activities and issues the board deals with as your elected (or appointed) representatives. Drop me a note or share your views through a letter to the editor.*

— Bill Supernaugh, Badlands

### Mentoring

The ANPR mentoring program is an opportunity for members in the early or mid-point of their career to gain from the insight of a more experienced employee. Want to give your goals a reality check? Looking for ways to increase your marketability? Or, are you in need of a jump start to your career track and have ideas that you want to bounce off an impartial listener? The mentoring program can provide these kinds of opportunities and more. The program is designed to fit your needs and is currently providing this kind of linkage for employees ranging from seasonals to mid-level managers.

Our success is also proving to be a limitation – ANPR members who have the ability to take their years of experience and use them to develop a protégé seeking new

avenues or techniques, are sorely needed. If you want to be part of the solution, and if you have a proven interest in creative management and employee development, sign up to be a mentor.

We have an opportunity to pass on the lessons we have learned, sometimes by trial and error and sometimes by facilitated discovery. One part of the legacy one leaves behind after a rewarding and fulfilling career is the transfer of our enthusiasm and knowledge to the next generation of park stewards. If you are interested, look for the mentor application online at [www.anpr.org](http://www.anpr.org) or contact me at the address found on the back cover.

— Bill Supernaugh, Badlands

### Retirement

**A Little History and What's Ahead:** Is the worst behind us? Hopefully yes. The S&P 500 had a good week in mid-April, and even though it dipped below 1,100, the index closed above 1,200, a gain of over 7 percent. By the time you read this you'll know if we reached the bottom. The last half of the year looks better, so don't panic.

It was unnerving when the technology-driven Nasdaq plunged 25 percent in a week, and didn't stop there. But you might remember from mid-October 1999 to early March 2000 the Nasdaq advanced 88 percent. Also, don't forget the C-fund made a record-breaking surge (1996 to 2000) of 230 percent. The recent drop took approximately 20 percent off that unprecedented growth. Those who panicked and moved their funds are the ones who really lost money. The rest who gutted it out lost only on paper while each monthly contribution bought more shares of the C-fund, which will be worth more as the S&P 500 Index price increases.

Some advice: don't listen to the geniuses in the Wall Street establishment. Their so-called expert analyses and dire predictions make money – for them. Can you explain how they can tout a stock with a buy signal with 70+ p/e ratio and then give it a sell signal after it has fallen 75 percent six months later? When do financial newsletters and magazines sell? When they forewarn of bad news. Same as the brokers and their technicians with their crystal balls spew bad advice, which causes panicked investors to use their services, which makes money for the brokerage houses.

(continued on page 27)

# Of Substance and Symbol: The Reorganization of ANPR

By Tony Sisto  
Pacific West Region

I commend Messieurs Gale, Smith and Wade for their article in the Winter issue of *Ranger* (“It’s Time to Move Onward”) in which they recommended creating from the supposed ashes of ANPR a new “inclusive” association for all employees. I commend them for their lifetime of commitment to the field ranger and the ranger profession; and for their unwavering support of and hard work on behalf of ANPR and the International Ranger Federation (International Employee Federation?). I commend them, but I disagree with their recommendation.

ANPR was created 25 years ago, in part “to communicate for, about and with park rangers,” with a membership composed of those employees “entrusted with and committed to the care, study, explanation and/or protection of those natural, cultural and recreational resources included in the National Park System, *and persons who support these efforts.*” (italics added). I propose we do not give this up.

The organization has always been open to all NPS employees and any others who support national parks. I imagine we have had members from every program and profession at one time, and probably still have. (I am in concessions, for instance).

And yet, it was a group of field protection rangers and supervisors who established the Association those years ago in the Tetons, who saw the ranger as a field professional protecting park resources and visitors. It was created in part, I imagine, from an esprit de corp of shared experiences and values.

Over the years, this small group grew and captured the imagination of employees from all professions. For instance, in 1982, barely five years after being formed, a survey was conducted of the membership on a variety of topics. On a question of where funding should be increased, 50 percent said natural resource management programs; 25 percent said visitor services; 25 percent said interpretation; 15 percent said maintenance; and 10 percent said research. That covers a wide breadth of Service programs, and also helps belie the belief that the Association is just about law enforce-

## PERSPECTIVE

ment rangers (although the Association has done substantial work in support of that profession).

My point is, the Association was created by field rangers as an inclusive organization, but one that recognized both the substance and symbol of the park ranger. These elements, I propose, are at the core of the national park experience, both for agency employees and the general public. Whether you have “park ranger” in your job title or not, the substance and symbol of the park ranger is a strong identity for the agency and for ANPR. Don’t give it up.

### My Proposal

We must remain as an association of national park rangers. It is what makes us unique. The “ranger” is a title that is recognized worldwide (Australian Ranger Association; Association of Protected Area Rangers of the Czech Republic; Galapagos Ranger Association; Scottish Countryside Rangers Association; Tamilnadu Forest Rangers Association of India; Game Rangers Association of Africa; and other similar names). We should not change that in our Association.

I propose that not only do we not change to a generic “employees association,” but that we even more fully embrace the “park ranger” substance and symbolism. Let’s consider the membership structure of the Game Rangers Association of Africa, which is over 30 years old. There are five levels of membership:

**1. Professional Member:** “Designed for those who are permanently employed in the game rangers profession,” with a minimum of five years experience.

**2. Member:** “Designed for the same individuals as the Professional Member category,” but with less than five years experience.

**3. Associate:** “Intended for any individual who has special affinity or interest in conservation and game rangers but who is not permanently employed in this field.”

**4. Honorary Member:** For anyone recognized for their “prominence in the field of conservation or their assistance in the furtherance of the objectives of the Association.”

**5. Corporate Member:** For “any business who has a special affinity of interest in conservation and game rangers.”

Those interested in joining GRAA must *apply*, then be *approved* by the committee of the Association. In short, members must earn their membership. My application for “Associate,” which described my work with the NPS, was answered as follows:

“*It gives me great pleasure to formally inform you that your application as an Associate of the Game Rangers Association of Africa was approved at a recent Committee meeting. Congratulations!*”

While I may be accused of being a cheap date, I like that letter!

I propose that we adopt a similar system for ANPR, and make the Association one that people aspire to be a member of (rather than to join a generic employee organization); one that seeks clear objectives and provides active support to resource protection and education in all its forms; and one that supports and promotes, dare I say, *rangering*.

As Bill Halainen might say, “What a concept!” 

Tony Sisto is the chief of concessions in the Pacific West Region.

“

**Whether you have ‘park ranger’ in your job title or not, the substance and symbol of the park ranger is a strong identity for the agency and for ANPR. Don’t give it up.**

# Last chance at CLEARANCE SALE prices!



SALE ITEMS	ORIG. PRICE	SALE PRICE	#	TOTAL
ANPR coffee mug (ceramic)	\$6.00	\$4.50		
Large totebag, cream & forest green	\$15.00	\$10.00		
Croakies (eyeglass straps) - <b>Forest Green, circle style:</b> "National Park Service" or "Park Ranger"	\$4.50	\$2.50		
Rendezvous T-shirts - <b>circle size</b> Ft. Myers - Large only Tucson - Medium and Large only	\$15.00	\$2.00		
Mousepads, tan with ANPR logo	\$4.50	\$3.00		
Canvas Carry-on Bag - green with tan lettering (National Park Service)- 19x10x10 with two end pockets	\$29.50	\$25.00		
Leather folder, tan with gold ANPR logo in lower right corner	\$19.50	\$15.00		
CLEARANCE BOX at least 50% off original price	ORIG. PRICE	SALE PRICE	#	TOTAL
Insulated mug, large, black (20 oz.)	\$6.00	\$3.00		
Insulated mug, small, gray (12 oz.)	\$4.50	\$2.25		
Pewter key ring	\$4.50	\$2.25		
Large belt buckle, pewter (3-inch)	\$25.00	\$12.50		
Penlights (marbled gray only)	\$10.00	\$5.00		
Small Swiss army knife (black, red or blue - circle color)	\$20.00	\$10.00		



*Help us* decrease our inventory so we can order some new items. A **free gift** will come with each order. Place your order now for the best selection. Some items will be discontinued forever!

See photos of other products at ANPR's website: [www.anpr.org](http://www.anpr.org).  
Go to Member Services.

Send order form and check — *payable to ANPR* — to Jeannine McElveen, HCR 82, Box 110, Kimberly, OR 97848.

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Questions??? Call Jeannine McElveen at (541) 934-2423; [jmc004@aol.com](mailto:jmc004@aol.com)

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Orders up to \$25 ..... \$6.00  
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 \$50.01 to \$75 ..... \$9.00  
 \$75.01 to \$100 ..... \$11.50  
 Over \$100 ..... call or e-mail for cost  
 Orders shipped outside U.S. .... call or e-mail for cost

Interested in assuming the sales coordinator post for ANPR? Jeannine is retiring from these duties after the Rendezvous in October, so consider applying for this important volunteer position. Contact [jmc004@aol.com](mailto:jmc004@aol.com) for details.

OTHER POPULAR ITEMS!	PRICE	QUANTITY	TOTAL
ANPR decal	\$1.50		
Cloisonne pin with ANPR logo	\$2.00		
Ball cap (beige) with embroidered ANPR logo	\$10.00		
Hoofnagle Rangeroon notecards - winter scene, blank inside	10 for \$7.50		
Can koozie	\$3.50		

Subtotal	
Shipping & handling (see chart)	
<b>TOTAL (U.S. currency only)</b>	

# ANPR Plans 25th Anniversary Rendezvous

## Draft agenda

### SATURDAY, OCT. 27, 2001

1:00 PM – 5:00 PM Board of Directors Meeting – Open to ANPR Members

### SUNDAY, OCT. 28, 2001

8:00 AM – 5:00 PM Board of Directors Meeting – Open to ANPR Members

### MONDAY, OCT. 29, 2001

9:00 AM – 9:45 AM Conference Opening

- ◆ Welcome from President: *ANPR President Cindy Ott-Jones*
- ◆ Welcome from the Host NPS Areas
  - Intermountain Region: *Regional Director Karen Wade (invited)*
  - Grand Teton National Park: *Superintendent Jack Neckels (invited)*
  - Yellowstone National Park: *Superintendent (invited)*

10:15 AM – 11:15 AM **Keynote Address:** Director, National Park Service (invited)

11:15 AM – NOON **Plenary Session**

- ◆ Presentation of the Stephen Tyng Mather Award: *Tom Kiernan, President, National Parks Conservation Association*
- ◆ Presentation of the Harry Yount Lifetime Achievement Award: Chief, Division of Ranger Activities

1:30 PM – 1:45 PM Raffle Drawing, Fines and Announcements

1:45 PM – 3:00 PM **Plenary Session – Natural Resource Management Track:** *Rick Smith, Coordinator*

- ◆ Where We've Been: *Bill Supernaugh, Superintendent, Badlands NP*
- ◆ Where We Are Now: *Bob Krumenaker, Assistant Superintendent, Valley Forge NHP*
- ◆ Where Will We Be In The Future: *Mike Finley, retired Superintendent, Yellowstone NP*

3:30 PM – 5:00 PM Plenary Session – Natural Resources Management Track - Continued

5:15 PM – 6:00 PM **Fun Run** – *Lisa Eckert, Coordinator*

6:00 PM – 7:30 PM Reception — Honoring the “Original 33” Attendees at Rendezvous #1 in 1977

7:30 PM Special Interest Group Meetings

### TUESDAY, OCT. 30, 2001

8:00 AM – 8:30 AM Raffle, Fines and Announcements

9:00 AM – 10:00 AM **Plenary Session – Protection Track:** *Rick Gale, Coordinator*

- ◆ Where We've Been: *Jim Carrico, Superintendent, Big Bend NP (retired) (invited)*
- ◆ Where We Are Now: *Chief, Division of Ranger Activities, WASO (invited)*
- ◆ Where Will We Be In The Future: *Paula Nasiatka, Chief Park Ranger, Saguario; Mike Pflaum, Chief Park Ranger, Mount Rushmore*

10:30 AM – 12:30 PM Plenary Session – Protection Track (Continued)

2:00 PM – 3:00 PM ANPR Business Meeting #1

State of the Association: *President Cindy Ott-Jones*

- ◆ Overview of the week; Process for resolutions from the floor
- ◆ Introduction of Current BOD and Business Manager
- ◆ Financial Report, Budget and Discussion: *Lee Werst, Treasurer, Jim VonFeldt, Business Manager*
- ◆ FY00/01 Budget: *Lee Werst*
- ◆ Membership Report: *Jim VonFeldt*
- ◆ Nominations from the Floor to the Board of Directors: *President Ott-Jones*

3:30 PM – 5:15 PM Anpr Business Meeting #1 - Continued

8:00 AM – 5:00 PM **Training: Interpretation Module 111 – Personal Safety and Security:** *John Scott, Superintendent, Pea Ridge NMP*

*Myra Dec, Chief, Resources Educ. Apostle Islands NL*

6:00 PM – 7:30 PM Reception with Exhibitors

Includes Raffle Drawing

7:30 PM – 9:00 PM Film Festival courtesy of Harpers Ferry Center (planned)

### WEDNESDAY, OCT. 31, 2001

7:00 AM – 8:00 AM Continental Breakfast for “Newcomers”

Open to first-time Rendezvous attendees and ANPR Board Members only; hosted by ANPR

8:00 AM – 8:30 AM Raffle Drawing, Fines and Announcements

8:30 AM – 10:00 AM **Plenary Session – Interpretation Track:** *Maureen Finnerty, Coordinator*

- ◆ Where We've Been: TBD
- ◆ Where We Are Now: *Corky Mayo, Chief, Division of Interpretation, WASO*
- ◆ Where Will We Be In The Future: *Panel*

10:45 AM – 12:30 PM Plenary Session – Interpretation Track (Continued)

2:00 – 3:15 PM Workshops, Block #1

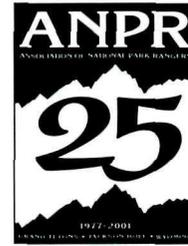
4:00 PM – 5:15 PM ANPR Business Session #2

8:00 AM – 5:00 PM **Training: Budget, Leadership and Management Skills for the 21st Century**

6:00 PM – 7:30 PM Reception with Exhibitors

Includes Raffle Drawing

8:00 PM Halloween Party



If you're never attended a Ranger Rendezvous before, this is one to experience! In addition to the spectacular setting adjacent to the Tetons — where the Ranger Rendezvous was born in 1977 — an expected high turnout will make for stimulating workshops and conversation.

Mark your calendars now — Oct. 29-Nov. 2 — for this 25th anniversary celebration of ANPR. Accommodations are available at Snow King Resort: 1-800-522-KING; [www.snowking.com](http://www.snowking.com).

Registration materials were mailed recently to members, or you can check ANPR's website: [www.anpr.org](http://www.anpr.org).

**NOTE:** If you plan to tour the Grand Teton/Yellowstone area, please come *before* the Rendezvous starts because road maintenance ends by Nov. 1.



National Park Service

#### THURSDAY, NOV. 1, 2001

- 8:45 AM Raffle Drawing, Fines and Announcements  
 8:45 AM – 10:00 AM **Plenary Session – Cultural Resources Management Track**  
*Rick Smith, Coordinator*
- ◆ Where We've Been: *Leslie Hart, Superintendent of Lyndon B. Johnson*
  - ◆ Where We Are Now: TBD
  - ◆ Where Will We Be In The Future: *Karen Wade, invited*
- 10:45 AM – 12:30 PM **Plenary Session – Cultural Resources Management Track - (Continued)**  
 2:00 PM – 3:15 PM Workshops Block #2  
 4:00 PM – 5:15 PM ANPR Business Session #3  
 5:30 PM Mystery Guest???
- 7:00 PM – 8:00 PM Special Interest Group Meetings  
 8:00 PM Dance

#### FRIDAY, NOV. 2, 2001

- 8:45 AM – 9:00 AM Raffle Drawing, Fines and Announcements  
 9:00 AM – 10:30 AM **Plenary Session – ANPR Track: Rick Gale, Coordinator**
- ◆ Where We've Been: TBD
  - ◆ Where We Are Now: TBD
  - ◆ Where Will We Be In The Future: TBD
- 11:00 AM – 12:30 PM Plenary Session – ANPR Track - Continued  
 12:30 PM – 2:00 PM Banquet Luncheon with Speaker
- ◆ *U. S. Senator Craig Thomas of Wyoming (invited)*
- 2:00 PM – 5:15 PM ANPR Business Session #4 – Putting It All Together and Closing

### Potential Workshop Topics and possible presenters for Wednesday, Oct. 31, and Thursday, Nov. 2

**NOTE:** Final titles of presentations may change. Some may be converted to "Special Interest Group" evening sessions because of limited breakout room space.

- Role of Protection Ranger in Resources Management – Jeri Hall, Yosemite
- *The Process of Interpretation (Module 101)* – TBD
- ORVs, PWCs and Naked People – Kym Hall, WASO Ranger Activities
- How Do We Protect the Protectors? – ANPR International Committee
- Protecting a 2100 Miles Long X 300 Yards Wide Park – Pam Underhill, Appalachian Trail Office
- Adding Reality to the Rhetoric: Models for Assessing the Fiscal and Resource Needs of National Parks – Laura Loomis, NPCA
- Understanding the Ranger's Role in Cultural and Natural Resources – Jeri Hall, Yosemite
- Visitor Needs and Characteristics (Module 110) – TBD
- Retirement Workshop – Frank and Kathy Betts
- The Buck Stops With You – Leslyn Ericson, Federal Protective Service
- The Black Hole: Structural Fire – TBD
- What Everyone Should Have Learned from Cerro Grande – Rick Gale and Bill Wade
- The Incident Management Program – Dave Lattimore, Yosemite
- Talking to Ourselves: Internal Communications in the NPS – Bill Halainen, Delaware Water Gap NRA

## Training Sessions

ANPR will sponsor two, possibly three training sessions of interest to many NPS employees during the Rendezvous.

- ▶ **Module 111: Personal Safety**, instructors Myra Dec and John Scott; Tuesday, Oct. 30.
- ▶ **Mini-Basics Course for Using Automated National Catalog System Plus (ANCS+)** for Mandatory Museum Reports and Submissions, Tuesday, Oct. 30.
- ▶ **Budget, Leadership and Management Skills for the 21st Century**, Wednesday, Oct. 31.



## Photo Contest

Display your best park-related photos at ANPR's photography contest at the Rendezvous. Prizes will be awarded.

Send your **prints (no slides)** — any size, color or black and white — to Ranger editor Teresa Ford, (address on back cover). *Also allowed are paper prints of digital images. If you don't have a color printer, e-mail the digital file to the editor.* Selected photos become the property of *Ranger* magazine and may be used in the publication.



## Start looking for raffle items

Raffle donations are needed for the 25th anniversary Rendezvous! We're expecting big crowds so we need lots of prizes! Create (or shop for) that distinctive, creative item that will have everyone rushing to buy tickets! Since this is an anniversary year, perhaps you have a relic from an early Rendezvous that has become a collector's item you'd like to share with the membership. Don't forget to check with your local history association or other vendor for donations! Bring them with you to Jackson Hole, but if you can't attend, then ship items to:

### Dan and Diane Moses

622 13th St. NE  
 E. Wenatchee, WA 98802  
 (509) 884-7093 • [mosesdd@aol.com](mailto:mosesdd@aol.com)

*We're trying to locate the two raffle ticket drums* made some years ago. They haven't been seen for the past several years. If anyone knows who has them or if they're collecting dust in your garage, we'd like to know so we can make arrangements to get them to Jackson Hole for the Rendezvous.

## All in the Family

Please send news about you and your family. All submissions must be *typed or printed* and should include the author's return address and phone number.

Send via e-mail to [fordedit@aol.com](mailto:fordedit@aol.com) or write to Teresa Ford, Editor, 26 S. Mt. Vernon Club Road, Golden, CO 80401. Changes of address should be sent separately to the ANPR Business Manager, P.O. Box 108, Larned, KS 67550-0108.

**Tom Graham** (BLRI, CUGA, DEWA, FLETC, LAME, OZAR, UMES/FLETC, Retired 95), after retirement in 1995, went into full-time ministry in Maryland. In 1996, he and his wife, **Peggy**, moved back to their home state, Alabama, to care for elderly parents. After pastoring the Munford-Bethlehem United Methodist Charge for four years, he moved in June 2000 to pastor the Odenville United Methodist Church. Though doomed to live in Alabama, they say they are blessed now to be in their own home. They enjoy living near two of their children and two of their three grandchildren. Cards, letters, calls, visits and e-mails are welcome. Address/phone: 605 Third Ave., Odenville, AL 35120; (205) 629-6624; [rrrrtom@yahoo.com](mailto:rrrrtom@yahoo.com).

**Tom Haraden** (YELL 72-74, GRTE 75, WICA 77-79, LIHO 79-80, MORU 80-83, GOSP 83-87, CANY 87-93, GRTE 93-97, ZION 97-present) has taken a one-year detail to Utah Division of Parks and Recreation as interpretive services coordinator. Formerly he was assistant chief of interpretation at Zion. He'll remain working out of

his Zion office for the duration of the detail, keeping the same address, phone number and cc:Mail. During this time Rob Quist, manager of Coral Pink Sand Dunes State Park, Utah, is detailed to Zion as a training assignment. Address: Zion National Park, (435) 772-0161; [tom\\_haraden@nps.gov](mailto:tom_haraden@nps.gov).

**Allen Vaira** (YELL 778-79, DENA 88-89, YELL 00, DEVA 00-01) currently is a seasonal interpretive park ranger at Klondike Gold Rush NHP in Skagway, Alaska. He completed a season at Canyon in Yellowstone and at Scotty's Castle in Death Valley as an interpreter. Address/phone: P.O. Box 965, Skagway, AK 99840; (907) 983-9221. □

“The wild places are where we began. When they end, so do we.”

— David Brower



**ON TOP OF THE WORLD:** Pictured on the left is Kevin Dowell, trail crew at Camp Curtis, Mount Rainier, with Little Tahoma Peak in the background. At right is Lori

## Hunter Sharp Wins Harry Yount Award

Vice President Dick Cheney and Interior Secretary Gale Norton have presented Chief Ranger **Hunter Sharp** with this year's Harry Yount Award. Hunter is currently stationed at Wrangell-St. Elias National Park and Preserve.

He received the award April 27 as the National Park Service's "top ranger" in the Vice President's Ceremonial Office in the Eisenhower Old Executive Office Building in Washington, D.C. Acting NPS Director Denis Galvin also presided at the ceremony, which coincided with National Park Week, April 23-29.

## Welcome (or Welcome Back) to the ANPR Family!

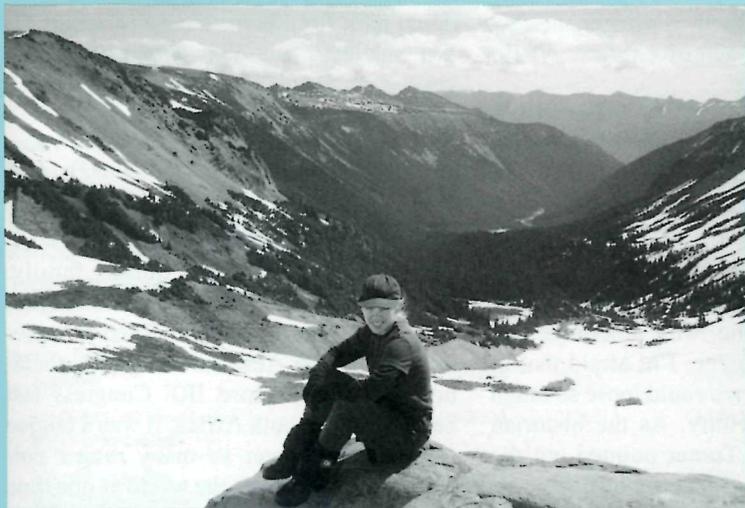
Here are the newest members of the Association of National Park Rangers:

Diane Chung	Denali NP, AK	Mike Lewelling	Springdale, UT
& Doug Lucchetti	Port Angeles, WA	John Lynch	Medford, MA
Barbara Ashley	Hurricane, UT	Maureen Lynch	Canada
Henry Bastian	Washington, DC	Mark Maciha	Carlsbad, NM
K.C. Becker	Death Valley, CA	Charlie Maguire	Minneapolis, MN
Richard F. Boland	Martinsburg, WV	Eileen Martinez	Page, AZ
Donald C. Boucher	Crater Lake, OR	Grace N. McGrath	Thousand Oaks, CA
John Broward	Springdale, UT	Lisa Mendelson	Falls Church, VA
Jack Burns	Centreville, VA	Patty Shafer	Estes Park, CO
Wayne Cottrill	W Springfield, MA	Charles Sigler	Columbia Falls, MT
Thomas Dugan	Dayville, OR	Gil Soper	Novato, CA
John F. Fiedor	Page, AZ	Three Creeks, County	
Lisa Ford	Mountaintain NM	Metro Parks	Westerville, OH
Glenn M. Fulfer	Glen Ridge, NJ	Heather Todd Rice	Anchorage, AK
Maryanne Gerbauckas	San Francisco, CA	Marc Vagos	Derry, NH
Roger Goldberg	West Reading, PA	Jayeson Vance	San Francisco, CA
Ryan Hafer	Yellowstone NP, WY	Leslie N. Winston Jr.	Richmond, VA
Elizabeth A. Helms	Arlington, VA	Tom Young	Newbury Park, CA
Margaret A. Leffel			

## Missing ANPR Members

The ANPR business office needs your help to find these people. Those listed below with an asterisk before their names are life members. It is important to locate them so they may continue to receive their ANPR membership benefits. Many of these names have appeared in previous issues of *Ranger*, but addresses haven't surfaced yet. Please check the list and send information to ANPR, P.O. Box 108, Larned, KS 67550-0108; [anpr@larned.net](mailto:anpr@larned.net)

*Ann Belkov	New York, NY
Cathy Buckingham	St. Mary, MT
*Linda R. Emerson	Hopkinton, MA
Cynthia Fret	Moran, WY
*Barbara J. Griffin	Yosemite NP, CA
*Haywood S. Harrell	Savannah, TN
Jack Kane	Altoona, PA
Dave Lattimore	Groveland, CA
*R.J. Marsh	Yosemite, CA
*Richard F. Ryan	S. Wellfleet, MA
*Peter J. Ward	Washington, DC
Philip W. Ward	Vail, AZ
* life member	



Courtesy of Lori Rome

Rome, a seasonal backcountry ranger at Mount Rainier, on a rest stop on the Interglacier just above Glacier Basin campsite.

## Retirement *(continued from page 21)*

The opportunity in May to invest in two new stock mutual funds gives employees a chance to diversify their 401(k) TSP contributions. The new S-fund invests into medium/small size companies in the Wilshire 4500 Index. The S&P 500 Index invests in large companies so there is no investment duplication if employees are invested in both funds. The new I-fund follows the Morgan Stanley Capital International Index. This index invests in 27 foreign areas including Europe, Australia and the Far East. Employees might consider changing their contributions from 100 percent in the C-fund to 75 to 80 percent in the C-fund and split the rest of the contribution between the two new funds. Or stay 100 percent in the C-fund. Don't move any C-fund money into the new funds – just change the contributions. Also, don't forget that both FERS and CSRS employees can increase their contributions 1 percent: FERS contribution up from 10 to 11 percent and CSRS up from 5 to 6 percent. It is necessary to do this during an Open Season.

The promised new TSP Records Keeping System is a fiasco. This is too bad as the new system provides you, the investor, with better information and services. They now say it may be in late September. Yeah, but in what year?

In tax relief news, on May 3, 2001, the House voted for a phased increase in the allowable contribution to an IRA from \$2,000 annually to \$5,000 over three years. Beginning in 2002 and ending in 2004 the allowable contribution will increase \$1,000 per year, so next year, plan on contributing

in tax-favored retirement plans (TSP); \$5,000 "catch-up" contributions to 401(k) (TSP) for workers age 50 and over; phased-in pension increases in the limit on salary reduction contributions to 401(k) plans reaching \$15,000 in 2005; and raising the limit on deductions to certain types of defined contribution plans to 20 percent of compensation. Hopefully, federal employees will also be rewarded with the new 401(k) rules. The Senate should soon follow their colleagues in the House and the President will sign the bill. □

— Frank Betts  
Retired

## If you're serious about advancing your career . . .

### Try the ANPR Mentoring Program

Whether you want to be a protégé or a mentor, the first step is filling out an application. You will find the forms on ANPR's website at [www.anpr.org](http://www.anpr.org). Go to the link under Membership Services. It's easier than ever to sign up online.

For more information contact Bill Supernauth, ANPR's mentoring coordinator, at [bsuper@gwtc.net](mailto:bsuper@gwtc.net).

## IN PRINT

**K**aren Sweeny-Justice, a former NPS ranger at Shenandoah, Lowell, Valley Forge and Big South, announces the electronic publication of her first novel, "Shenandoah Surprise." Published by Wordbeams Publishing, "Shenandoah Surprise" is a contemporary romance. It received a three-star rating from Romantic Times magazine, and is available via download or diskette at [www.wordbeams.com/shenandoah.html](http://www.wordbeams.com/shenandoah.html). E-books can be read on a computer screen, printed out or viewed on hand-held electronic reader devices.

A member of the Romance Writers of America, Sweeny-Justice is a member of the Smoky Mountain Romance Writers. She is a regular contributor to Rubberstampmadness magazine, is a book reviewer for Inscriptions e-zine and Affair deCoeur magazine. She also has had projects featured in Highlights for Children and Crafty Kids magazines.

After recently completing an article on Historic Rugby, Tennessee, for an upcoming edition of the CRM Bulletin, she joined the staff at Historic Rugby as a part-time interpreter. Sweeny-Justice currently lives in Oneida, Tenn., with her husband, Randy, a ranger at Big South Fork. □

## ANPR's award-winning "Lost . . . But Found, Safe and Sound" video



**Designed to show children, ages 4-12, what to do if they become lost in remote areas such as parks or forests**

*\$10 for ANPR members; \$15 for others; quantity discounts available; Visa/MC accepted*

### Contact ANPR's business office:

P.O. Box 108, Larned, KS 67750-0108  
(316) 285-2107 • [anpr@larned.net](mailto:anpr@larned.net)

- \* Silver World Medal, New York Festivals Film and Video Competition
- \* First Place Gold Camera Award, 33rd Annual International Film and Video Festival,
- \* Finalist Award, Houston International Film Festival
- \* Gold Seal item at [www.toyportfolio.com](http://www.toyportfolio.com)

having some success at being heard by NPS management; it also wasn't addressing the issues of maintenance employees. We realized that "If they can do it, why can't we?" and, "If we don't do it, who else will?"

The central idea that swelled the ranks of both organizations was the perception that NPS employees should have a voice in their own welfare, and the only way we were going to get it was to step outside the NPS organization. Adequate housing and "Ranger Futures" (with the concomitant perception that there was a "Maintenance Futures" out there, too) were the major rallying cries. The adequate housing issue was mostly resolved by the "Trailer Replacement Fund" after lobbying in Congress by both organizations. Through a lot of work by ANPR, Ranger Futures evolved into Ranger Careers and brought a modicum of needed professionalism to the GS-025 series in the form of realistic wages (GS-9) for non-supervisory career employees and servicewide standardization of position descriptions and grade levels. Unfortunately, it didn't also bring the "Master Ranger" idea to fruition, an idea ANPME could and should have rallied around.

Maintenance Futures died a quiet death, in large part because neither ANPME nor anyone else came forward with the desire, time and dedication (or funding!) to take on what was perceived as a tough sell to the NPS hierarchy and OPM.

Membership and energy levels in both organizations are in serious decline, in large part because neither organization has had much success recruiting members from the next generation of NPS employee.

I would bet that most of the active membership in both organizations are well into their second or third NPS decade. We have become supervisors, division chiefs and even superintendents. In short, we have become the NPS management that our organizations worked so diligently to influence only a decade ago.

Let's face it, those of us who were so full of organizational zeal and energy a decade ago now devote that time and energy into families we didn't have then (children, grandkids and eldercare!), more time-demanding career positions, home ownership, and/or the struggle to have a comfortable retirement. I've been seeing the same names in ANPME offices for the last 10 years. The reality is that many of us are burned out, we're ready to hand off the baton, and there aren't enough hands reaching for it to keep separate organizations viable.

Rick, Rick and Bill have come to the realization that without a merger, neither organization has much of a future. ANPE might have a future.

— Gerry Wolfe  
ANPME Treasurer

### Wupatki Rule Detrimental

Thank goodness for an opportunity to comment on the Wupatki Rule (a.k.a. The Babbitt Rule). Truly, we are blessed to live in this great republic, with a heritage and patrimony next to none. I'm afraid that in this time of plenty, we could lose so much of our national identity. As the historian Frederick Jackson Turner pointed out the wilderness has had an enormous impact on the psyche of who and what we are. The proposed rule will be but a small tear in the fabric of our national quilt. However, it has the potential to start an unraveling that may result in an attack on the very warp-and-woof of the National Park System and our national essence.

The proposed rule in the Federal Register of Jan. 22, 2001, to allow members of the Hopi Tribe to remove golden eaglets from Wupatki National Monument, and to sacrifice and use the eaglets for religious/ceremonial purposes, is an issue that is detrimental to the fundamental health and purposes of the National Park System and the National Park Service. The flawed (and blatantly political) reasoning and rational used to support the proposed rule is precedent setting and can (and certainly will) be used to open other National Park System units around the country to similar religious taking and conversion of resources.

Resource preservation has been the fundamental purpose of the NPS since it was created in 1916 under the NPS Organic Act. The rationale and the Supplementary Information used with the proposed rule improperly modify the NPS Organic Act on the basis of religion.

I recently retired from the NPS. I was privileged to have been directly involved with resource protection for decades, sometimes actually putting my life-and-limb on the line. I retired, in part, because it absolutely sickened me to see the Clinton administration use environmental friendly rhetoric and gestures (such as the creation of national monuments) while trading away real long-term conservation efforts, such as those at the core of the Ranger Corps, for short-term gains (a.k.a. votes).

I hope you will rethink this terrible precedent-setting rule. Just because I'm a practicing Buddhist shouldn't give me license

to "take" a cedar or redwood from a national park for a home shrine (*Ranger*: "Is that our last piece of petrified wood that you've got there?" *Visitor*: "Yeah, but it's OK, I'm a geo-logian.")

— Phillip A. Young  
Santa Fe., N.M.

### IRF Helps Dreams Come True

Thank you, worldwide ranger family. Among more than 300 ranger colleagues from 58 countries, I felt honored to represent our young Austrian Ranger Association during the Third IRF Congress last September in South Africa. It was a unique experience to meet so many ranger colleagues from all over the world at one time at one place — listening to their stories, learning about their daily life in protected areas, feeling strong commitment and enthusiasm and sharing the same kind of humor.

The IRF congress seemed to be the perfect time for my dream coming true — the dream of working as a volunteer ranger for the NPS in the United States. I have worked four months now in the Everglades in the visitor centre (especially for German-speaking visitors), conducting interpretive talks and helping my fabulous team at the Gulf Coast Ranger Station in Everglades City. My cordial thanks to all rangers who have enabled and supported my dream, and particularly to my Kruger friends: Deanne Adams, Tony Sisto, Jay Wells, Maureen Finnerty, Cherry Payne, Candace L. Tinkler and many more. Thank you all very much!

Now I am going to share my experiences with my colleagues in Austria. I will tell them how important national and international ranger networks are for us, not only for exchange programs, but also for our better understanding and even deeper appreciation for our work. A work which is far more than a job; instead, it is daily commitment for people and our heritage on earth.

On behalf of AURA I would like to congratulate ANPR for its 25th anniversary this year! We wish you the same inspiring future for all following ranger generations as you have been the biggest vivid example of active ranger responsibility for the last 25 years!

Whatever ranger associations are called and wherever they are located, all together we belong to the same family.

— Barbara Mertin,  
Vienna, Austria  
a8845001@unet.univie.ac.at

# MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION — Association of National Park Rangers

Renewal or  New Membership Date \_\_\_\_\_ Park Code \_\_\_\_\_ Region \_\_\_\_\_  Retired?

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_ Office phone \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_ Home phone \_\_\_\_\_  
 City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip+4 \_\_\_\_\_ Home e-mail address \_\_\_\_\_

### Important Notice

In order for ANPR to be an effective, member-oriented organization, we need to be able to provide board members with lists of members by area. It is, therefore, vital that you enter the park and region four-letter codes before submitting your application.

**Note: It costs \$45 a year to service a membership. ANPR suggests additional dues based on your annual income according to the chart below.**

Type of Membership (check one)	Individual		Joint	
	One year	Two years	One year	Two years
<b>Active</b> (all NPS employees and retirees)				
Seasonal	<input type="checkbox"/> \$25	<input type="checkbox"/> \$45	<input type="checkbox"/> \$40	<input type="checkbox"/> \$75
Under \$25,000 annual salary (GS-5 or equivalent)	<input type="checkbox"/> \$35	<input type="checkbox"/> \$65	<input type="checkbox"/> \$50	<input type="checkbox"/> \$95
\$25,000 – \$34,999 (GS-7/9 or equivalent)	<input type="checkbox"/> \$45	<input type="checkbox"/> \$85	<input type="checkbox"/> \$60	<input type="checkbox"/> \$115
\$35,000 – \$64,999 (GS-11/14 or equivalent)	<input type="checkbox"/> \$60	<input type="checkbox"/> \$115	<input type="checkbox"/> \$75	<input type="checkbox"/> \$145
\$65,000+ (GS-15 and above)	<input type="checkbox"/> \$75	<input type="checkbox"/> \$145	<input type="checkbox"/> \$90	<input type="checkbox"/> \$175
<b>Associate Members</b> (other than NPS employees)				
Associate	<input type="checkbox"/> \$45	<input type="checkbox"/> \$85	<input type="checkbox"/> \$60	<input type="checkbox"/> \$115
Student	<input type="checkbox"/> \$25	<input type="checkbox"/> \$45	<input type="checkbox"/> \$40	<input type="checkbox"/> \$75
Corporate	<input type="checkbox"/> \$500			
Supporting	<input type="checkbox"/> \$1,000			

**Life Members** (May be made in three equal payments over three years)  
 Active  \$750  \$1,000  
 Associate  \$750  \$1,000  
**Library/Subscription Rate** (two copies of each issue of *Ranger* sent quarterly)  \$100

To help even more, I am enclosing an extra contribution  \$10  \$25  \$50  \$100  Other

**Return membership form and check payable to ANPR to:**  
**Association of National Park Rangers, P.O. Box 108, Larned, KS 67550-0108**  
*Membership dues are not deductible as a charitable expense.*

### Payment by Visa or MasterCard accepted:

Visa \_\_\_\_\_ MasterCard \_\_\_\_\_  
 Card # \_\_\_\_\_  
 Expiration date \_\_\_\_\_  
 Name on Account \_\_\_\_\_  
 Signature \_\_\_\_\_

► **ANPR may publish a membership directory, for distribution to members.** May we publish your:  
 e-mail address?  yes  no

► To assist the ANPR board in planning Association actions, please provide the following information.  
 \_\_\_ Do you live in **park housing**?  
 \_\_\_ **Number of years** as a NPS employee  
 \_\_\_ **GS/WG level** (This will not be listed in a membership directory)  
 \_\_\_ **Your job/discipline area** (interpreter, concession specialist, resource manager, etc.)



## Share your news with others!

*Ranger* will publish your job or family news in the All in the Family section.

**Send news to:**  
 Teresa Ford, Editor  
 26 S. Mt. Vernon Club Road  
 Golden, CO 80401  
 or e-mail: [fordedit@aol.com](mailto:fordedit@aol.com)

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Past Parks — Use four-letter acronym/years at each park, field area, cluster (YELL 88-90, GRCA 91-94) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**New Position** (title and area) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Old Position** (title and area) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Address/phone number** (optional — provide if you want it listed in *Ranger*) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Other information** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

# Directory of ANPR Board Members, Task Group Leaders & Staff

## Board of Directors

### President

Cindy Ott-Jones, Glen Canyon  
P.O. Box 390, Page, AZ 86040; home: (520) 608-0820;  
fax: (520) 608-0821 • rcoj@page.az.net

### President Elect

Ken Mabery, Regional Ecosystem Office  
12608 SE Alder, #53 • Portland, OR 97233  
(503) 341-6716 • maberyken@aol.com

### Secretary

Dawn O'Sickey, Grand Canyon  
P.O. Box 655, Grand Canyon, AZ 86023  
(520) 638-6470 • dosickey@grand-canyon.az.us

### Treasurer

Lee Werst, Carlsbad Caverns  
1300 N. Pate St., Apt. F163, Carlsbad, NM 88220  
home: (505) 628-8497 • lswerst@aol.com

### Education and Training

Max Lockwood, WASO  
3420 16th St. NW, Suite 102  
Washington, D.C. 20010 • maxlw@juno.com

### Fund Raising

Rick Jones, Glen Canyon  
P.O. Box 390, Page, AZ 86040; home: (520) 608-0820;  
fax: (520) 608-0821 • rcoj@page.az.net

### Internal Communications

Bill Supernaugh, Badlands  
HC 54, Box 103 • Interior, SD 57750  
(605) 433-5550 • bsuper@gwtc.net

### Membership Services

Kathy Clossin, Bureau of Land Management  
130 Watt St., Battle Mountain, NV 89820  
(775) 635-2580 • glades\_quilter@yahoo.com

### Professional Issues

Erin Broadbent, Kings Mountain  
302 S. Shelby St., Blacksburg, SC 29702  
(864) 839-6887 • ebroadbent@aol.com

### Seasonal Perspectives

Melanie Berg, Badlands  
HCR 54, Box 104, Interior, SD 57750  
(605) 433-5580 • badlspitfire@hotmail.com

### Special Concerns

Scot McElveen, John Day Fossil Beds  
HCR 82, Box 110, Kimberly, OR 97848  
(541) 934-2423 • jmc004@aol.com

### Strategic Planning

Ed Rizzotto, Boston Support Office  
P.O. Box 407, Hingham, MA 02043

## Task Group Leaders

### International Affairs

Rick Smith, Retired  
2 Roadrunner Trail, Placitas, NM 87043 • (505) 867-  
0047; fax: (505) 867-4175 • rsmith0921@aol.com

### Mentoring

Bill Supernaugh, Badlands  
HC 54, Box 103, Interior, SD 57750  
(605) 433-5550 • bsuper@gwtc.net

### Promotional Items

Jeannine McElveen, John Day Fossil Beds  
HCR 82, Box 110, Kimberly, OR 97848  
(541) 934-2423 • jmc004@aol.com

### Rendezvous

Pat Quinn and Tessy Shirakawa, Petrified Forest  
P.O. Box 2296, Petrified Forest, AZ 86028  
(520) 524-1956

### Retirement

Frank Betts, Retired  
4560 Larkbunting Drive, #7A, Fort Collins, CO 80526  
(970) 226-0765 • frankbetts@prodigy.net

### Ranger Magazine Adviser

Ken Mabery, Regional Ecosystem Office  
12608 SE Alder, #53 • Portland, OR 97233  
(503) 341-6716 • maberyken@aol.com

### Advertising

Dave Schafer, Lyndon B. Johnson  
Route 1, Box 462, Blanco, TX 78606  
(830) 833-1963 • dschafer@moment.net

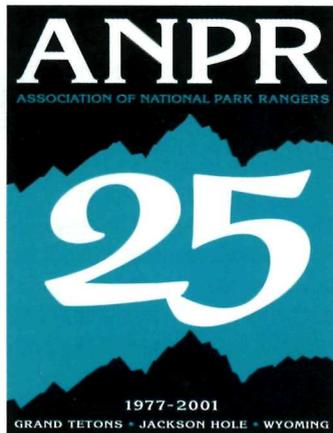
## Staff

### Editor, Ranger

Teresa Ford  
26 S. Mt. Vernon Club Road, Golden, CO 80401  
Office & Fax • (303) 526-1380 • fordedit@aol.com

### Business Manager

Jim VonFeldt  
P.O. Box 108, Larned, KS 67550-0108  
(620) 285-2107 • fax: (620) 285-2110 • jlv@cpavbv.com



ANPR's **25th anniversary**  
**Rendezvous** — this October  
in Jackson Hole, Wyoming.  
Plan to attend! Details on  
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P.O. Box 108  
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