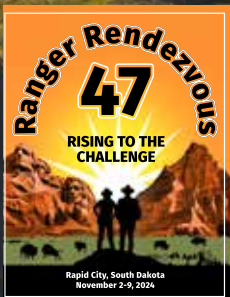


The Journal of the Association of National Park Rangers

RANGER

Stewards for parks, visitors & each other

South Dakota beckons: Ranger Rendezvous 47



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Fall
2024

Rendezvous 47: The more the merrier!

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On the cover: A visitor revels in the beauty of Badlands National Park. This year's Ranger Rendezvous, in Rapid City, S.D., will include a field trip to this iconic national park. Photo: Visit Rapid City

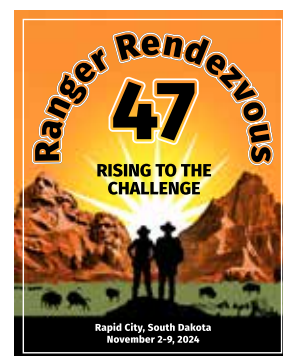
AS THIS ISSUE OF *RANGER* MAGAZINE IS BEING READIED FOR THE printer, I'm looking out my window at the yellowing leaves of autumn, already arriving on the south face of the Chugach mountains that abut our home in the Eagle River Valley.

Over the last few years as your editor and business manager at ANPR, this time of year also heralds impending travel away from the beauty of my valley. In my four short years with ANPR, it is already an anticipated tradition — the Tucson regional rendezvous in 2021, the full-blown Tucson event in 2022, and last year's Jacksonville Ranger Rendezvous, which had been delayed for so many years due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

This year, the tradition continues, and there has been so much behind-the-scenes work in making Ranger Rendezvous 47 in Rapid City a week to remember. Our planning committee has worked tirelessly to provide compelling presentations, entertainment, engagement opportunities and more. This one week brings together the committed members of ANPR who continue to stay involved, whether new in their careers or many years retired. It is a privilege to meet so many new faces each year and learn about the work that continues to be done to protect our natural and historical spaces in this country — and beyond.

This issue of *Ranger* will likely hit your mailboxes with just a few weeks before early bird pricing for Ranger Rendezvous registration expires. After that, prices will go up. So, don't dally! Read more about this year's program on pages 6-9. Visit our Super Raffle site (details on Page 14) and take a chance on some great prizes (that San Juan Mountains cabin is calling my name!), scroll through your camera for some inspiring photos for the photo contest, and above all, book your rooms! We want to see everyone in Rapid City, because as well all know: The more the merrier!

— Melissa DeVaughn
Ranger magazine editor



Keep 'So There I Was' alive and entertaining

Ranger magazine launched "So There I Was," in our winter 2023 issue, and it has been a hit ever since. These excerpts, at times humorous, solemn, self-deprecating or somewhere in between, document some of the most entertaining and memorable aspects of the park ranger experience. And we need more entries! Please send us your 800-1,200-word stories (preferably with photos to accompany) to mdevaughn@anpr.org to be included in a future issue of the magazine. Thank you!

RANGER

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In meeting these purposes, the Association provides education and other training to develop and/or improve the knowledge and skills of park professionals and those interested in the stewardship of national parks; provides a forum for discussion of common concerns of all employees; 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.

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FINAL DEADLINES

Spring issue Jan. 30
Summer issue April 30
Fall issue July 30
Winter issue Nov. 15



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The honorable work of our world's rangers

President's message

— Rick Mossman

HOPE YOU HAD A GREAT SUMMER AND WERE ABLE TO TRAVEL AND ENJOY the things you like to do. This summer, I traveled with my wife, Kendra, to Africa. We visited parks in Uganda that were amazing! We hiked in to see the mountain gorillas, visited the Rwanda genocide site, (somber, and it stays with you), and we visited Jean Pierre Jobago, the former manager of Kahuzi-Biega National Park, who also was a guest speaker at last year's Ranger Rendezvous in Jacksonville, Fla. Kahuzi-Biega is a World Heritage Area in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC). The park is one of the last strongholds of the eastern lowland gorilla (less than 3,000 left), and we were lucky to see them in real life.

While there, I spoke to the widows and orphans of many park rangers who have died in the line of duty in their country. I spoke to the rangers. Three of them showed me their bullet wounds from poachers and rebel insurgents. The rangers in the DRC work under tough conditions, and much of the country and parks are beset by wandering rebel groups and poachers.

But two things really struck me on this trip. One was that the rangers in Kahuzi-Biega National Park truly embrace the fact that they are a World Heritage Area. I don't feel we embrace the World Heritage designation in America like we should. One ranger in the DRC said to me, "We are saving these gorillas for the world; we are a World Heritage Area. The world expects us to save them. That is why we will defend them to our death." How many American rangers have that passion?!

The second was when I talked to a ranger in Queen Elizabeth National Park and asked him how many rangers they had. He said approximately 500. Then he went on to say, "We have rangers in law enforcement, rangers-conservation (i.e. interpreters), rangers-accounting (budget analysts), rangers-maintenance." In Uganda, they consider *all* park employees to be rangers. I asked him why. He said, "Every employee of the park is protecting the park and the animals by doing their job." This was so refreshing to hear, since I have also advocated that with our NPS. All employees should embrace themselves as rangers protecting something important for the greater good, no matter what that job entails. Let's hope we can encourage that as individuals, and as an organization.

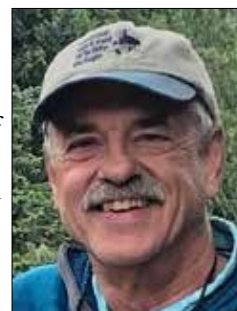
Please remember that we're getting closer to Ranger Rendezvous 47 in Rapid City, S.D. I hope you can make it. We have lots of good programming and fun planned.

I have always loved the writing of Mark Twain, and my favorite quote of his, which I try to emulate, is this:

Twenty years from now you will be more disappointed by the things you didn't do than by the ones you did do. So, throw off the bowlines, sail away from the safe harbor. Catch the trade winds in your sails. Explore. Dream. Discover.

Go visit Africa! Come to Ranger Rendezvous! Happy trails!

— Rick Mossman, ANPR President



Commemorating 2024 World Ranger Day

By Jeff Ohlfs and Jamie Richards

TO COMMEMORATE World Ranger Day 2024, 152 park rangers representing 30 different agencies and four ranger associations, as well as members of the general public, gathered in Oakland, Calif., at East Bay Regional Park District's (EBRPD) John Sutter Regional Shoreline Park. Representatives from ANPR were in attendance, along with members of the California State Park Rangers Association (CSPRA) and the Park Rangers Association of California (PRAC). This year's celebration became truly a world celebration. Rangers from across California were joined by Mari Takehara, a visiting park ranger from Japan.

Established by the International Ranger Federation (IRF), World Ranger Day (WRD) has been celebrated on July 31 every year since 2006. World Ranger Day was created to both celebrate the ranger profession around the globe and the critical work rangers do to protect treasured natural resources and cultural heritages. It is also a day to honor and remember our fallen peers who either lost their lives or were seriously injured in the line of duty over the past year. This year we honor the memory of 140 rangers from 37 countries who were killed in the line of duty (June 2023 to May 2024). A moment of silence was observed for our fallen peers.

This year's commemoration ceremony was particularly special, as we gathered to honor the memory of East Bay Regional Park District's officers Paul F. George and Kenneth L. (Scotty) McGregor. Both were killed in the line of duty 50 years ago. The George family was in attendance. During this year's ceremony, the George family

was presented with an American flag flown over the California State Capital and Fraternal Order of Police Supreme Sacrifices medal.

EBRPD Chaplain Richard Guest was the master of ceremonies. The program included the presentation of the colors by the San Ramon Police Honor Guard. EBRPD General Manager Sabrina Landreth and Chief of Police Roberto Filice offered welcome remarks, followed by the keynote address from DOD Military Ocean Terminal Concord (MOTCO) Police Chief David Armacost. The program concluded with the Irish Pipers of San Francisco playing "Amazing Grace."

Additional activities included an opportunity to meet with EBRPD mounted rangers, EBRPD helicopter, and a multi-agency ranger vehicle display. This special event was supported by the Ranger Foundation, the California State Park Rangers Association, the California State Park Anniversary Committee, Park Rangers Association of California, and the East Bay Regional Parks Foundation. Following the ceremony, lunch was provided by the East Bay Regional Parks Foundation.

Planning for California's World Ranger Day 2025 celebration is already underway and is expected to be hosted in southern California.

To hear IRF President Chris Galliers' World Ranger Day message, go to www.internationalrangers.org/world-ranger-day-2/.



Uniformed rangers commemorate World Ranger Day July 31 in Oakland, Calif. Photo: Carl LaRue



WORLD RANGER DAY 2024

ROLL OF HONOUR

Recognising Ranger Deaths in the Line of Duty
Deaths by Region/Country - June 2023 to May 2024



AFRICA Region (42 deaths)

Angola	Francisco João Vontade	Attacked by poachers
Benin	Bio Gnaworgui Gilbert	Killed in motorcycle accident
Benin	Aziz Abdel Soumanou	Died during official visit
Benin	Gnamo Kouga Innocent	Shot by unidentified individuals
Botswana	Sterling Montsoi	Trampled by elephant
Cameroon	Amawissa Haman Jean Paul	Attacked by separatists
Cote d'Ivoire	Tiéoura Célestin	Car collided with bus
Cote D'Ivoire	Lt. Zazan Gregoire Richmond	Motorcycle accident
D R Congo	Mulopwe Majondo Saidi	Killed in militia attack on his post
D R Congo	Banze Mupafu Eurasmie	Rangers attacked by insurgents
D R Congo	Djibril Mutambala Kabengano	Died in attack by armed group
D R Congo	Mahangaiko Bazirake Celestin	Killed by elephant
D R Congo	Alex Masungi Ndonga	Drowned trying to save tourists
Ethiopia	Milijon Tolom Lokare	Shot by poachers
Ghana	Daniel Kyei Bobson (Robert)	Shot escorting timber poachers
Ghana	Titus Avoka Azasiyande	Shot by unknown assailants
Kenya	Rakoi Sengenye	Missing presumed drowned
Kenya	Simore Karkar	Drowned
Kenya	Enock Ntaloi Mpetti	Aneurysm while on duty
Kenya	Simon Lorunyei	Killed by elephant
Kenya	un-named	Killed in clash with cattle herders
Mozambique	Lucas Martinho Vinte	Attacked by poachers
Mozambique	Harish Chandra Pandey	Killed by poachers
Nigeria	Musa Yusuf	Limited details
Nigeria	Idris Mohammed	Shot on anti-poaching patrol
Nigeria	Peter Ayemhoba	Stoned to death by bandits
Nigeria	Julius Adeola Adedokun	Stoned to death by bandits
South Africa	Sphamandla Phiyawinkosi Mthembu	Killed by hippo
South Africa	Johannes Chengeredze	Hit & run incident
Sudan	Garang Ruay	Abducted and hung
Tanzania	Mkwabi Ndelembi	Drowned while chasing poachers
Tanzania	Ezekiel Kilusu	Drowned while chasing poachers
Tanzania	Bryson Elisha	Vehicle accident while on patrol
Tanzania	Alphonse Boniface Olomi	Drowned moving poached cattle
Tanzania	Taiko Olesalei Marau	Attacked by a buffalo
Tanzania	Samwel Edward Nassari	Killed by buffalo
Uganda	Brian Gigo	Unexplained sudden death
Zambia	Josephat Singoyi	Elephant attack
Zambia	Obvious Mushitala	Snake bite
Zambia	Edward Sambwa	Tripped & accidentally shot himself
Zambia	Adamson Zimba	Shot in friendly fire incident
Zimbabwe	Bernard Magisambiti Musimeki	Killed by elephant

ASIA Region (74 deaths)

Bangladesh	Md Sajjaduzzaman Shahjahan	Run over by soil poacher truck
China	Un-named	Head forester killed firefighting
China	Un-named	Forest ranger killed firefighting
India	Chankanta Das	Attacked by elephant
India	C.M. Balan	Trampled by own elephant
India	Rajbir Ahmed	Attacked by timber poachers
India	RFO Prakash	Suspected insect bite
India	Raisuddin Ahmed	Drowned whilst on duty
India	Mati (Mathy) Handsah	Shot dead by poachers
India	Yogesh Naika	Accidental pesticide poisoning
India	Santosh Dundi	Killed by bear
India	Imran Yousaf Wani	Shot at timber checkpoint
India	Ravi Raj	Attacked by gaur (buffalo)
India	H.H. Venkatesh	Killed trying to tranquillise elephant
India	B.Girish	Trampled by elephant
India	Irumban Kumaran	Killed by elephant
India	Thankachan	Trampled by elephant
India	Sudhakar B. Atram	Killed during elephant incursion
India	Rajkumar	Bike hit by speeding truck
India	Ramesh Chandra	Killed by elephant
India	Atul Kalita	Killed trying to relocate elephants
India	Ranjan Kumar Sethi	Electrocuted by trap wires
India	Robin Basumatary	Killed by buffalo
India	Pawan Kumar	Killed by tiger while on patrol
India	Ramchandrar	Attack by wild elephant
India	V. Ragunathan	Road traffic accident
India	Rithey Subba	Killed by elephant with calf
India	Chitralal Tossa	Heart attack whilst on duty
India	Rajesh Meravi	Drowned on patrol
India	Prashant Pal	Killed by elephant
India	Harish Chandra Pandey	Found in lake after 2 week search
India	Saif Ali Rehman	Killed when EV on test hit tree
India	Shailesh Ghildiyal Kumar	Killed when EV on test hit tree
India	Parmod Kumar Dhyani	Killed when EV on test hit tree
India	Aloki Devi	Drowned in canal following EV crash
India	Basdev Baitha	On duty incident
India	B.Raju	Trampled by elephant

India	Pakkam Vellachalil Paul	Trampled by elephant
India	Abdul (Ali) Qayam Miyan	Trampled by elephant
India	Prabin Boro	Respiratory attack on duty
India	K. Venkadesh	Heart attack during patrol
India	Apurba Momin	Killed by buffalo
India	Biren Rabha	Elephant attack
India	Kuleshwar Boro	Elephant attack
India	Rajendra Singh Kusre	Heart attack after all-night firefighting
India	Amalendu Halder	Boat patrol attacked by poachers
India	Serikzhan Toktassyn	Died in massive forest fires
Kazakhstan	Alexey Gubayev	Died in massive forest fires
Kazakhstan	Maksim Fominykh	Died in massive forest fires
Kazakhstan	Sayat Nurzhigitov	Died in massive forest fires
Kazakhstan	Konstantin Nachinyonov	Died in massive forest fires
Kazakhstan	Alexander Sidorin	Died in massive forest fires
Kazakhstan	Meiramgul Zhiyenbayeva	Died in massive forest fires
Kazakhstan	Viktor Sidorin	Died in massive forest fires
Kazakhstan	Sergey Puzyryov	Died in massive forest fires
Kazakhstan	Pyotr Grazhdankin	Died in massive forest fires
Nepal	Dhan Bahadur Ban	Killed by elephant
Pakistan	Abdul Jabbar Sakna	Electrocuted by falling powerline
Pakistan	Zeeshan Shah	Jeep plunged into gorge
Pakistan	Afaq Ahmed	Jeep plunged into gorge
Philippines	Alejandro Traya	Shot in back by unknown person
Sri Lanka	S. Sridaran	Trampled by elephant
Thailand	Warawut Kanprachum	Heart attack following patrol
Thailand	Yutthana Rabbat	Heart attack whilst on patrol
Thailand	Sangworn Nuanthip	Killed whilst on patrol
Thailand	Jongrak Jongsri	Killed trying to relocate elephant
Thailand	Pansak Jaimongkol	Heart attack whilst on patrol
Thailand	Mor. Akham Chuvannaket	Aneurysm during patrol
Thailand	Wallop Burapha	Elephant attack
Thailand	Wutipngt Sriota	Brain aneurysm on patrol
Thailand	Khomsin Kating	Drowned
Vietnam	Nguyen Kim Anh	Body found with multiple gunshots
Vietnam	Tran Van Khien	Killed during firefighting efforts
Vietnam	Truong Thi Lan	Killed during firefighting efforts

CENTRAL AMERICA Region (6 deaths)

Nicaragua	Sergio Julián	Shot by armed settlers
Honduras	Luis Hernán Baca Valladares	Clubbed by persons unknown
Mexico	José Ángel Pelcastre	Illegal loggers attacked patrol
Mexico	Ventura Ojeda	Illegal loggers attacked patrol
Mexico	Florentino Castro	Illegal loggers attacked patrol
Panama	Delvis Abdol Mojica Gomez	Cause not stated

EUROPE Region (6 deaths)

Ukraine	Serhiy Volkov	Hit by Russian artillery on patrol
Ukraine	Ivan Romanchenko	Hit by Russian artillery on patrol
Ukraine	Oleksandr Hlushenko	Hit by Russian artillery on patrol
Ukraine	Andrii Mykhaylenko	Hit by Russian artillery on patrol
Ukraine	Serhiy Zabolotny	Hit by Russian artillery on patrol
Ukraine	Andrii Burakov	Hit by Russian artillery on patrol

NORTH AMERICA Region (1 death)

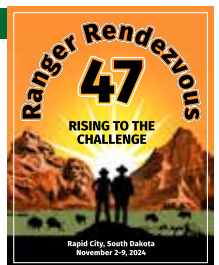
USA	Benjamin Charles Sapper	Fire truck accident
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OCEANIA Region No Ranger Line of Duty Deaths

SOUTH AMERICA Region (11 deaths)

Argentina	Silvio Ariel Schuquel	Cause not stated
Chile	Jarol Rodríguez Jiménez	Motorcycle collided with truck
Peru	Elver Castillo Ávila	Heart attack whilst on duty
Peru	Pedro Antonio Saldaña Cárdenas	On duty RTA & heart attack
Peru	Ricardo Aaron Zapata Ruiz	Ambushed by motorbike thieves
Peru	Jailer Edinzon Jota Coquinche	Dengue fever (died during medevac)
Peru	Victorio Dariquebe Grewa	Murdered by unknown persons.
Peru	Angelo Tentés Antonio	Heart attack on patrol
Venezuela	Andres Joendy Gomez Vasquez	On duty heart attack
Venezuela	Synthia Virginia Lamas Vegas	Aneurysm
Venezuela	Urbaneja Martinez Richard Antonio	Heart attack

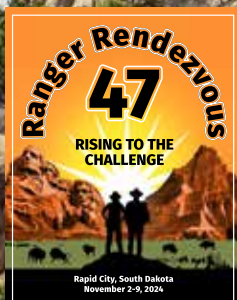
The Unknown Ranger



Total number of lives lost - 140 from 37 countries
(June 2023 to May 2024)

RAPID CITY,

here we come!



Mount Rushmore National Memorial. Photo: Visit Rapid City

Ranger Rendezvous 47

RAPID CITY, S.D., IS ONE OF THE FEW PLACES IN THE UNITED States that is within a 1.5-hour drive to six major National Park Service areas. Fortunately, for those who attend this year's Ranger Rendezvous, our highlighted field trips will visit at least four of them.

The full Ranger Rendezvous program begins Wednesday morning, Nov. 6, and runs through end of Saturday, Nov. 9. Friday, Nov. 7, will be devoted to one of two all-day field trips:

- Mount Rushmore National Memorial and Wind Cave National Park
- Badlands National Park and Minuteman Missile National Historic Site
- Or explore the area on your own!

MAIN PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

This year's program schedule is packed with interesting speakers and topics. Some of the highlights include:

- Both Department of Interior Secretary **Deb Haaland** and NPS Director **Chuck Sams** have been invited.
- **Alan Spears**, cultural resources expert from National Parks and Conservation Association will present, "An advocate's

views on the state of our national parks: DEI, budgets, cultural resources, America 250, and that nagging matter of national parks (not!) being America's best idea."

- **Dan Wenk**, former Yellowstone superintendent and NPS deputy director, will share his experiences.
- Former Acting Director **David Vela** will also share his experiences.
- **Walt Dabney**, former superintendent of Canyonlands National Park, chief park ranger of the NPS and director of Texas State Parks, will present "History of U.S. Public Lands" and also share his experiences while assigned as an "aide" for a year to author and legendary interpreter Freeman Tilden.
- **Dr. Joy James**, a professor in the Recreation Management and Physical Education Dept of Appalachian State University, will give two presentations – "Soft Skills for Hard Conversations" and "Park Rx: Bridging Stewardship and Wellness through Initiatives, Research, and Partnerships."
- **Paul Horsted**, photographer and author, will talk about "National Parks Yesterday and Today."
- **John Leonard**, division chief, Law Enforcement and

Emergency Services, will provide an update on resources protection and visitor management.

- There will be updates from the World Ranger Congress, scheduled for France in October; and on the Museum of the National Park Ranger, in Yellowstone National Park.
- The ANPR Board of Directors will meet all day on Tuesday, Nov. 5. This meeting is open to any ANPR member.

HONORING THE OUTSTANDING

An awards ceremony is scheduled for Friday evening, Nov. 8. Award presentations will include the Stephen T. Mather Award by the National Parks Conservation Association, along with awards from ANPR. Following will be a “by ticket only” reception honoring the award recipients and then entertainment by “The Song Pilots” with nationally known musicians. The entertainment will be open to everyone.

DAILY HAPPENINGS

Throughout Ranger Rendezvous, the traditional raffle and auction will be ongoing during breaks and at the beginning of each day. Stop by to place your bids on items donated to the larger cause. And it wouldn't be a Ranger Rendezvous without the hospitality room – now known as “Nancy's Place.”



Above, former ANPR board member for fund raising Jeanette Meleen helps runs the daily raffle with Supernaugh Scholar Eli Teague during Ranger Rendezvous 45 in Tucson, Ariz. Photo: Andy Hall
At right, Nancy Ward and Tim Moore, at Ranger Rendezvous 46 in Jacksonville, Fla., serve as loyal hospitality suite hosts each year. Photo: Jonathan Shafer



REGISTER NOW!

Registration is still open, although early bird pricing ends Sept. 26. Go to www.anpr.org/rendezvous/47 for registration and hotel booking information. Lodging is at the Rapid City Downtown Holiday Inn and Conference Center. Call 844-516-6415 anytime or refer to your welcome letter to the link for online booking. The Association of National Parks Rangers' Ranger Rendezvous group code is RRZ.

And one last note: Election Day will take place during Ranger Rendezvous so be sure and vote early or absentee. Every vote counts! See you in Rapid City.

The ANPR pistol shoot is back!

REMEMBER THE FUN OF PAST RANGER Rendezvous pistol shoots? Well, South Dakota seemed the ideal location to bring this great Ranger Rendezvous tradition back again! Register today to save your spot!

The “old fashioned pistol shoot” is on for the 2024 Ranger Rendezvous!!

We invite any registered Rendezvous attendees to participate, although we have to limit the number of participants to 15. Pennington County Deputy Sheriff Thomas Mossman will be the range master and coordinate the activities.

The event will occur at approximately 6:30 p.m. on Thursday Nov. 7, at the Public Safety building, 300 Kansas City St. The shoot will last approximately two hours.

We will all meet at 6:30 p.m. at the front doors to the public safety building (a map will be sent to attendees). We will go down to the range a few minutes after. Due to the building's secure status, you must be with the group when we go downstairs. If you are late, you will likely not be able to get in.

Items to bring:

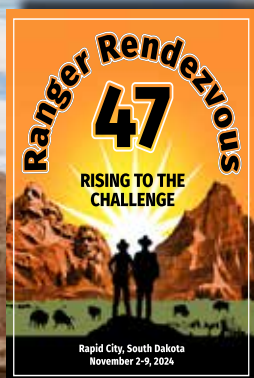
- Good-quality handgun
- At least two magazines or loading devices
- Magazine holder for spare magazine
- Firearm holster
- Eye protection
- Ear protection
- Ball cap

One-hundred rounds of 9mm or .40 caliber ammo will be provided. If shooting anything else, bring at least 100 rounds of FMJ ammo.

Due to the size of the range and time, the shoot will be limited to 15 shooters total. There is very limited room for spectators, so the total number of people will be limited to 25. Please plan accordingly. To register for your spot, or for questions, email Thomas.mossman@pennco.org or rmossman@anpr.org so we can get a head-count.



RR 47 SCHEDULE



* Ranger Rendezvous planning is still underway. The preliminary schedule below will be updated and available online closer to the event. Above, a couple hikes in the Badlands. Photo: Visit Rapid City

Saturday, November 2- Tuesday, November 5

This year's featured pre-Rendezvous training is Interpretation 150. See details on facing page.

Tuesday, November 5

- 9 a.m.-4:30 p.m.: Board of Directors meeting (open to all members)
- 2:20 p.m.: Registration opens
- 7 p.m.-?: Trivia night, hospitality room open

Wednesday, November 6

- 8-10 a.m.: Welcome addresses by ANPR president, area superintendents, regional director, local dignitaries
- 10-10:30 a.m.: Beverage break
- 10:30-11:15 a.m.: Speaker David Vela, "The View From a Former NPS Director"
- 11:15 a.m.-Noon: BOD reports
- Noon-1:30 p.m.: Lunch
- 1:30-2:20 p.m.: Breakout sessions:
 - Butch Farabee, "Dope Lake Incident, YELL"
 - Rick Mossman, "Resources and Issues in DRC's National Parks"
 - Tara Ross & Nancy Martinz, "Crime Off the Grid Podcast"
- 2:20-3:15 p.m.: Breakout sessions:
 - Shannon Wilson, "Accessibility"
 - Jeff Ohlfs & Rick Mossman, "Not Ours, Others, Gone & Didn't Make the Cut"
 - Tim Moore, "(Not So) Secrets From a Hiring Official"
- 3:15-3:45 p.m.: Beverage break/Raffle
- 3:45-4:30 p.m.: Partner Panel: John Garder

- (NPCA), Cheryl Schreier (Coalition), Dan Wenk (Katahdin Wood and Waters/Mount Rushmore, NM Society)
- 4:30-5:15 p.m.: National Parks, Paul Horsted
- 6-7:30 p.m.: President's reception
- 7:30-9 p.m.: Casey Osbeck, "Touching the Pen, the 1868 Fort Laramie Treaty"
- 7:30 p.m.-?: Hospitality room open

Thursday, November 7

- 7:30-8 a.m.: Announcements/ Raffle
- 8-8:50 a.m.: Keynote: Alan Spears, NPCA, "An Advocate's Views on the State of Our National Parks, DEI" and more
- 9 a.m.-?: Field trips, golf tourney, personal time
- 6:30 p.m.: Rick Mossman, Thomas Mossman, Pistol Shoot, Public Safety building
- 6:30 p.m.-?: Hospitality room open
- 7:30-8:30 p.m.: Custer County SAR
- 8-9 p.m.: Guest speaker

Friday, November 8

- 6:30-7:45 a.m.: Breakfast with board of directors for first-time RR attendees
- 7:45-8:15 a.m.: Announcements/ Raffle
- 8:15-9 a.m.: Keynote speaker
- 9-10 a.m.: Dan Wenk, "Perspectives From a Former Deputy Director and Yellowstone National Park Superintendent"
- 10-10:30 a.m.: Beverage break/ Raffle
- 10:30 a.m.-Noon: Membership meeting
- Noon-2:20 p.m.: Lunch/free time to explore
- 2:20-3:15 p.m.: Dr. Joy James, "Soft Skills for Hard Conversations"
- 3:15-3:45 p.m.: Beverage break/ Raffle

3:45-4:45 p.m.: Breakout sessions:

- Updates from World Ranger Congress
- Ranger Museum Update from mgmt. team
- Butch Farabee, "Why Study Death in National Parks"
- 6-6:45 p.m.: Awards celebration (all invited)
- 6:45-7:45 p.m.: Awards reception (for ticketed guests)
- 7:45-10 p.m.: Live music, The Song Pilots (all invited)
- 10 p.m.-?: Hospitality room open

Saturday, November 9

- 7:45-8:15 a.m.: Announcements/Raffle
- 8:15-9 a.m.: Walt Dabney, "Travels With Freeman Tilden"
- 9-10 a.m.: Membership meeting
- 10-10:30 a.m.: Beverage break/ Raffle
- 10:30-11:15 a.m.: Breakout sessions:
 - Bill Wade, "New Best Practices for"
 - Jeri Frederick, "An Interpretive Perspective on Wind Cave/Jewel Cave"
- 11:15 a.m.-Noon: Rene Ohms, "Cave Exploration & Management"
- Noon-1:15 p.m.: Lunch
- 1:30-2:10 p.m.: Dr. Joy James, "Park Rx: Bridging Stewardship and Wellness Through Initiatives, Research, and Partnerships"
- 2:20-3:15 p.m.: Walt Dabney, "History of U.S. Public Lands"
- 3:15-3:30 p.m.: Beverage break/ Raffle
- 3:30-4:15 p.m.: John Leonard, "Update on NPS Visitor and Resources Protection"
- 4:15-5 p.m.: Closing Keynote
- 6 p.m.-?: Hospitality room open

CONTINUING EDUCATION:

Interpretation 150 course teaches the art of connection

RANGER RENDEZVOUS IS PART REUNION, PART EDUCATION, PART entertainment — and *all* fun. Not only do the main program sessions provide informational updates on all things related to the NPS and its operations, but preceding the main conference is a chance for education and training. This year's featured training program is called Interpretation 150. This "introductory-plus" interpretive training course, developed by the Association of National Park Rangers, is designed to meet the needs of employees of the U.S. National Park Service and other federal and state agencies. These include the U.S. Forest Service, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, U.S. Bureau of Land Management, state parks, utility districts, county park districts, city parks departments, chambers of commerce, and other visitor centers, nature centers, and museums.

Employees who have, as part of their duties, visitor contact, information, education, and/ or interpretative services, will benefit from this training. All employees who work in parks, regardless of job title — including guides, interpreters, naturalists, rangers, technicians, aids, visitor-use assistants, park maintenance workers, fee collectors, administrative technicians, biologists, natural/cultural resource managers, supervisors, park managers, or students who aspire to one of these positions — will value this training.

This course shares (and allows participants to practice, with feedback) techniques ranging from the foundational, tried-and-true interpretive techniques practiced since the early-to-mid 1900s (Freeman Tilden), up through modern-day techniques (Audience-Centered Experiences, "ACE"). Numerous theories and examples will be presented. Designing and presenting a high-quality interpretive talk, with guidance, peer review, and instructor feedback, is the end objective. A certificate of completion, including the number of hours completed, will be presented to course participants. The 32-hour

course is offered in-person, from Nov. 2-5, 2024. There is a sliding-scale fee based on membership and GS level, when applicable, varying from \$250 to \$375. Compare this course price to others on the market today and you will see that this year's Interpretation 150 course is quite the bargain. Registration deadline is Oct. 1, 2024. For details, visit www.anpr.org/rendezvous/47/registration-info.

ABOUT THE INSTRUCTOR:

Michael Stuckey was a 33-year career National Park Service ranger with 13 parks, including natural and historic sites. His career required proficiency in a variety of interpretation venues, interpretive skills instruction, law enforcement, wildland fire, supervision, management, and exhibit design. Post retirement included three years with the American Battle Monuments Commission in France and Italy and professor of history at the college level.



Stuckey feels that interpretation is a journey for the interpreter and the audience, taking one step at a time to see, feel, and connect to the resource. Interpretation is successful if it engages the audience on multiple levels and offers opportunities to relate on a personal level. It helps the audience gain perspectives and understanding as they will be given the chance to answer the question, "So what... Why should I care?" Stuckey said interpretive training is about the participant, and the given subject that the person has committed to. He feels that guiding the direction of a classroom environment is sometimes fun, and sometimes serious, with various teaching techniques, to get to the goals of professional interpretation, which is what this class will endeavor to accomplish.

Interpretation 150

Interpretive Skills for Park
Employees

32 hour class presented Nov. 2-5, 2024 at
Ranger Rendezvous 47

Learn the Art and Science of Interpretation
and Public Communication: Providing Care,
Service, and Connecting Park Visitors to Park
Resources

Topics include: Themes, Universal Concepts,
Intellectual and Emotional Connections to
Place, Formal and Informal Interpretation

ANPR Member Price (sliding scale):
\$250 (GS 0-5) seasonals, students, retirees
\$300 (GS 6-9) journeyman
\$350 (GS 10-15) managers and
administrators

Instructor: Michael Stuckey (33-year NPS
career and trainer/facilitator)

For more information, contact
tbanks@anpr.org

The history of interpretation in the **National Park Service**

A**F****T****E****R** **R****E****T****I****R****I****N****G** **I****N** **A****P****R****I****L** **O****F** **2022** from an incredible 35-year career as a park ranger with the National Park Service (NPS), I began to reflect on those years spent in the field of interpretation. Looking back on our profession's history is a favorite pastime of mine: The stories are so compelling, the faces so varied! Won't you join me in a trip down memory lane?

Let's begin with the oft-asked question: Just what *do* you interpretive rangers do, anyway? Having worked in both little and big parks, I have worn so many hats and performed so many duties it is a wonder I can see straight!

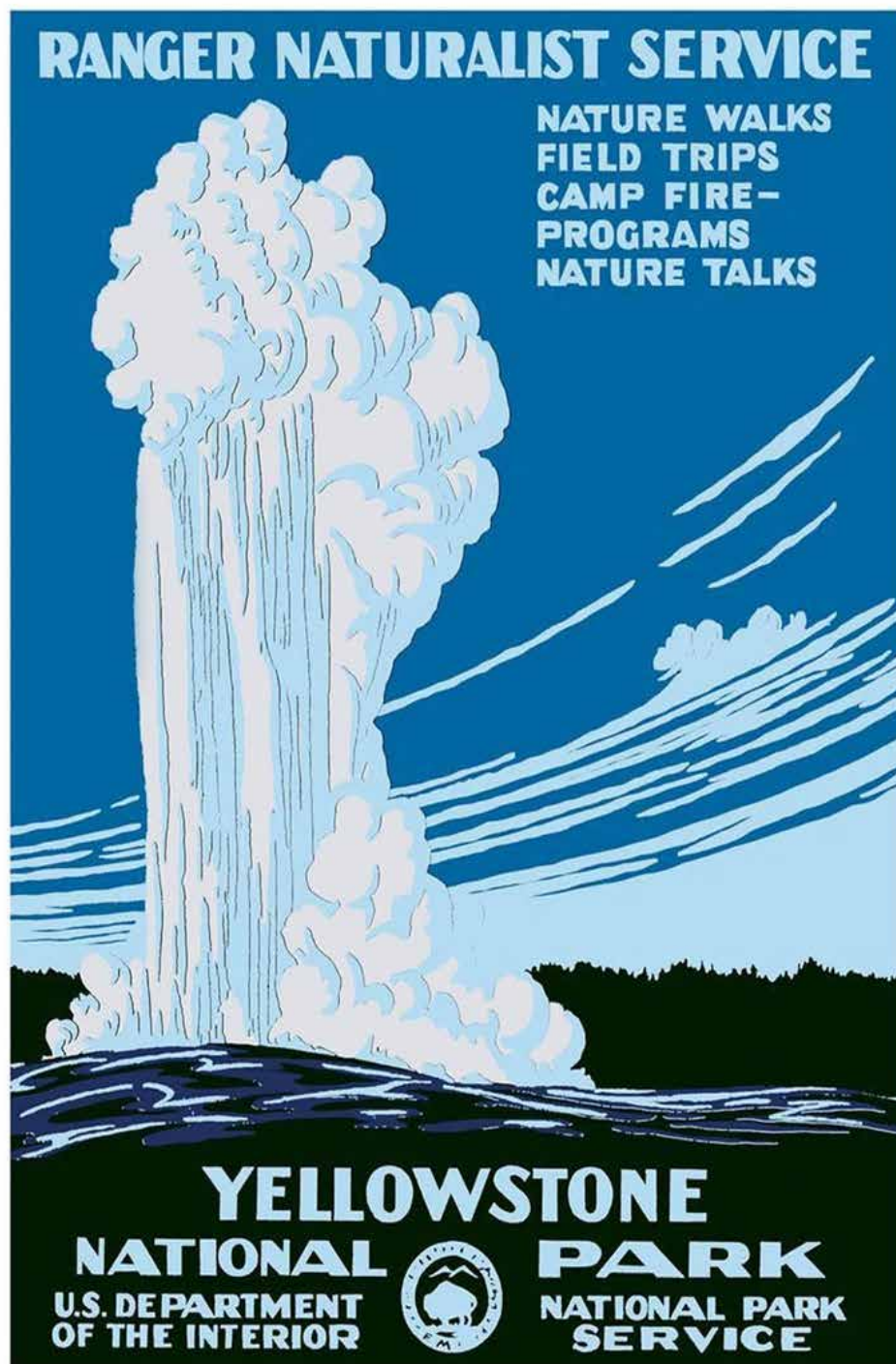
Our division of interpretation in Washington, D.C., helps us with this definition:

Interpretation is the practice of sharing the stories of a place in order to connect visitors and their experiences to our nation's natural and historic resources. Our profession is driven by the philosophy of engaging audiences for the purpose of inspiring them to care about park resources and the collective history of our nation. Through this practice, the National Park Service communicates the values of environmental conservation and social justice in support of our mission of preservation, protection, and recreation.

Yes, a mouthful – but take just a moment and read it over two or three times and let it sink in. A lofty goal, this interpretation stuff.

As with almost all professions, interpretation has changed and grown; I do love that always, at the core of things, protection of these sacred NPS lands was the primary aim. To study the story of interpretive rangers we must first study all rangers, and in the origins of national parks there weren't any! U.S. Army Cavalry and Buffalo Soldiers were dispatched to keep an eye on things and discourage poaching. These early parks were lucky to have such caretakers, but needed dedicated, trained staff to be available to the growing number of park visitors.

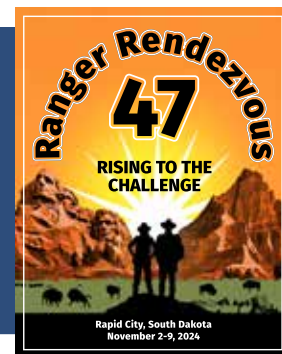
Early park visitors, those intrepid "sagebrushers," were on their own in most instances. Slowly, park lodges and ranger stations appeared, with many offering "lectures." Visitors were looking at the resources and marveling at the natural wonders of our nation's fledgling parks, and that marveling



The start of the Ranger Naturalist Service in the national parks helped the profession grow,, blending the power of inspiration with some good, well-researched information. This 1938 WPA poster was part of the effort. Photo: Courtesy Kathy Brazelton

In the 1950s, the NPS sent playwright and author Freeman Tilden on a nationwide journey to try to get a working definition of interpretation.

ANPR life member Walt Dabney will present a program on his “Travels With Freeman Tilden,” at 8:15 a.m. Saturday, Nov. 9, 2024, as part of Ranger Rendezvous 47 in Rapid City, S.D.



was GOOD – but rangers started wondering if we couldn't pair it with a program to help them learn about the wonders as well. Stephen Mather, the first director of the NPS, enthusiastically recruited some university professors from California (Dr. C.M. Goethe, Dr. Loye Miller, and Dr. Harold Bryant, for those who wish to research these fascinating men further). Director Mather stated that “one of the chief functions of the national parks and monuments is to serve educational purposes.” We are grateful to this day for his vision! It has been noted from the start of the NPS in 1916 that a well-informed visitor was usually a “better” visitor, much less likely to engage in activities that would harm the very resources they had come to enjoy. This early recognition of the phenomenon of “care about = care for” was the foundation of the establishment of interpretation in the national parks, and the promotion of stewardship is still at the forefront of our daily work.

For many at this time, education simply meant naming: This is a redwood tree, this is a mule deer, this is a monarch butterfly. Now, don't get me wrong: I am the ranger who *delights* in botanical Latin and the use of scientific names! But names are only the base of the pyramid of knowledge – what about meanings? Values? Relationships? Environmental writer Barry Lopez said, “The quickest door to open in the woods for a child is the one that leads to the smallest room, by knowing the name each thing is called.” Rocky Mountain National Park's own Enos Mills recognized a new profession of “Nature Guiding,” stating, “A nature guide is not a guide in the ordinary sense of the word, and is not a teacher. At all times, however, he has been rightly associated with information and some form of education. But nature guiding, as we see it, is more inspirational than informational.” The start of the Ranger Naturalist Service in the national parks helped it grow even a bit more, blending the power of inspiration with some good, well-researched information.

In the 1950s, the NPS sent playwright and author Freeman Tilden on a nationwide journey to try to get a working definition of interpretation. He declared it “an educational activity which aims to reveal meanings and relationships through the use of original objects, by firsthand experience, and by illustrative media, rather than simply to communicate factual information.” He went on to outline six principles that are still in use today (read more at Tilden's “Six Principles - The History of Meaning Making,” at [nps.gov](https://www.nps.gov)). These principles helped us understand more about communication, and the importance of the **visitor** in these interactions! In what I have

heard called our “accidental arrogance,” rangers told the visitor the meaning and value of the resource. As we learned more about learning itself and the myriad ways our visitors might absorb park information, we kept tweaking our interpretive efforts. We branched out into exploring feelings, “grokking” oranges with our fingertips, and other inspired techniques that often sadly left out the science part of the message. How to strike a balance?

Great minds from the interpretive world of the NPS got together in the late 1990s/early 2000s to develop a network of competencies – a combination of knowledge, skills, and abilities that allow employees to perform a task or function at a specifically defined level of proficiency. This view of interpretation proposed a dynamic mix of offerings, including emphasis on the importance of both intellectual connections and emotional connections between the resource and the visitor. The “interpretive equation” was coined (for my mathematics-oriented friends, it is a *metaphor*, not a real equation), $(KR + KA) \times AT = IO$, where KR is Knowledge of the Resource, KA is Knowledge of the Audience, AT is Appropriate Techniques, and IO is Interpretive Opportunity. Notice, no guarantees — it is an opportunity offered to our visitors, not a sure connection.

And our latest take on this effort to offer a consistently high quality product across the service is called “Audience-Centered Learning.” This approach includes the visitors and their opinions, values and experiences in the actual building and presentation of the program. It takes a well-trained ranger to be a facilitator in these programs, embracing the sharing of ideas, insuring the accuracy of the science, and protecting the rights of all in the group to participate.

In my musings, I was thrilled to witness the metamorphosis of a profession to be proud of, building on the rich heritage of the NPS and yet remaining open to new ideas and approaches. This metamorphosis reminds me of T.S. Eliot's Four Quartets: “We shall not cease from exploration, and the end of all our exploring will be to arrive where we started and know the place for the first time.”

In my 35-year adventure I feel blessed to have been a part of the growth and ideas. I offer my heartfelt thanks to the employees at each park I've worked at, the park friends and volunteers, our partners like Rocky Mountain Conservancy and the wonderful park visitors. It has been an honor to do my part to care for and educate about our precious park resources. Even if not dressed in the “green and grey,” I pledge to *always* fight for our parks! See you on the trail.

Kathy Brazelton spent 35 years rangering with the National Park Service, holding positions in interpretation, law enforcement, and resource management. She served in Rocky Mountain National Park, Redwood National Park, Florissant Fossil Beds National Monument, Curecanti National Recreation Area, Timpanogos Cave National Monument, and Great Sand Dunes National Park and Preserve. She holds a B.S. in Forestry/Outdoor Recreation with a minor in Natural Resources Management from Colorado State University, and an M.S. from Southern Oregon State University in Outdoor Education with a minor in Plant Ecology. Hobbies include backpacking, botanizing, reading (always learning about our natural world!), hanging with her two wonderful kids, Morgan and Micah, and poking dead things with a stick with her husband/wildlife biologist, Gary.



SO THERE I WAS ...

A hostile crowd in The Last Frontier

By Rick Smith

AND THERE I WAS IN WASHINGTON D.C. IN 1979 IN THE OFFICE OF LEGISLATION, a job in which I probably learned more about the National Park Service than in any other assignment. I was looking at another hot summer in the city when a series of events occurred, which are still somewhat unbelievable.

- Using the authorities granted to the president in the Antiquities Act, President Jimmy Carter declared some 50 million acres of Alaska as national monuments.
- Secretary Cecil Andrus and NPS Director Bill Whalen decided that a small contingent of rangers would be assigned there during the hunting season to establish an NPS presence in the new areas and to do what they could to control hunting, which would now be illegal in the monuments.
- Bill Tanner, already in Alaska, and I were selected to be co-directors of what became known as The First Alaskan Task Force.

We were told that we could select any ranger who then would be detailed to Alaska for the summer, no questions asked. We were told we could select 20, which seemed a pitifully small number of people to cover the vast acreages involved. Bill and I met in D.C., and personnel gave us the names of all the law enforcement rangers then in the NPS. After two days and some good-natured disputes, we had our 20 and took them first to Deputy Director Ira Hutchison for his sign-off. After studying the list for what seemed to me to be a long time, he handed the list back to us and said, "I don't want the whole damned Yosemite Mafia up there."

Going back to the lists, we made a few changes and then received the approval of Ira and Director Whalen. The list included an interpreter and a park policeman. We then had to call the superintendents of those selected to tell them that they would be missing a person from their staff during the busiest part of the summer. I was pleased that the superintendents I talked to understood the importance of the new Alaskan areas to the NPS and didn't put up much of a squabble.

We then called the selectees and told them what was up. All, of course, were excited and eager to participate. We told them that they should be ready to travel to Alaska a few days before hunting season opened.

I went up to Alaska somewhat earlier to coordinate with Tanner about logistical details, housing needs, and to get to know the people in the Anchorage office. Alaska was not yet a region, and John Cook was the state director. In our first conversation, John told me that he while he would support us, he did not expect to be actively involved in the taskforce's business. This was a great decision. It separated the state office from all the negative publicity surrounding the new national monuments. Already the opponents of the monuments had adopted a logo: a husky taking a leak on a sign that said "national monument." When I had my first meeting with the Alaska state troopers, I said that I hoped we could count on them for back-up if something serious happened.

Their reply? "Quite frankly Ranger Smith, we don't want you up here." Looked like it was going to be a long summer.

A few days before hunting season began, taskforce members



Surprise Lake from the rim of the crater at Aniakchak National Monument and Preserve, one of the 11 Alaska national monuments created by President Jimmy Carter in 1978 as part of the Antiquities Act.
Photo: NPS

began to trickle in. The next several days were filled with briefings on the areas in which we would be working. Some people would be assigned to locations in or near the monuments, while others would remain in Anchorage so that they could be deployed to trouble spots. We all had to requalify with the weapons we would be carrying.

Meanwhile, the opponents of the monuments were busy. Two of the better-organized were “Fight Back Alaska” and “The Great Monumental Trespass.” The state’s newspapers were almost universally opposed to our presence in Alaska, particularly the Anchorage Times and the Fairbanks Daily News Miner. Their opposition generated hostility among those who had traditionally hunted in the monuments, now closed to hunting due to President Carter’s monument declarations.

While Tanner kept busy with logistical details, I assumed the role of spokesperson for the taskforce. I answered almost daily calls from the Alaska delegation, accusing us of some gross mistreatment of Alaskan citizens. All these claims were bogus, as were the newspaper stories. Taskforce members participated in numerous public meetings, explaining the role of the NPS and encouraging those in attendance to advocate for a compromise solution to conserve the stunning resources of the state. Some of these public meetings were memorable, such as the one at Duffy’s Tavern. We were met at the door and told that we had to check our weapons. I glanced at the crowd and thought to myself, “I hope they had to check their weapons, too.”

During the hunting season, we made two arrests. While that

doesn’t sound like much, remember our goal was to establish an NPS presence in the monuments. We certainly did not have enough taskforce members to adequately patrol the monuments. As you can imagine, the first arrest of an Anchorage dentist was the lead story in the newspapers and TV for a couple days.

We did make some headway with the state and federal law enforcement agencies. We were invited to participate in the Alaska Police Olympics. We were awarded a bronze medal for a running relay, a silver in tennis, and, lo and behold, we took five of the six medals in pistol shooting. As Congressman Don Young hung the medals around the necks of those who won the shooting medals, he said, “Well, we now know that the rangers can run fast and shoot straight.”

Finally, it was fall and hunting season was over. Taskforce members began heading back to their usual assignments. As I was almost ready to leave, a writer for the Fairbank’s paper asked me if I would do an exit interview with her. I’m not quite sure why I said yes since that paper had raked the taskforce over the coals continuously. At the end of the interview, she asked me what I was most proud of regarding the work of the taskforce.

I replied, “There are no dead Alaskans and no dead rangers.” She nodded. “That’s a pretty good answer.”

Rick Smith worked in six national parks, the Washington office, and two regional offices. He served short-term acting assignments as superintendent of Fredricksburg National Battlefield and Yellowstone National Park. He spent the summer of 1979 in Alaska as co-director of the First Alaskan Ranger Task Force.

SUPER RAFFLE KEEPS GETTING BETTER!

THE 2023 SUPER RAFFLE DID NOT MAKE THE CUT for Ranger Rendezvous 46, in Jacksonville, Fla. And members missed it! We did, too! In addition to the daily silent auction and drawings at this year's Rendezvous, the Super Raffle comprises top-end prizes for those buying tickets ahead of time. Go to rafflecreator.com/pages/38397/super-affle-by-anpr to view this year's prizes. Or scan the QR code to the right.



This year, the Super Raffle is back, better than ever. We have compiled some terrific prizes ranging from custom artwork to weeklong river rafting trips.

There will be a \$500 gift card from Amazon as a prize for the most donations for tickets by an individual, and a \$100 gift card from Amazon for the person who donates for each of the tickets drawn for the "grand prizes."

Although not a "Ranger Rendezvous" function as such, ANPR will conduct the drawing on Friday, Nov. 8, 2024, at the RR in Rapid City, S.D. (presence at the drawing is not required).

To take part, you can "donate" for "tickets" for yourself and/or you can solicit donations for tickets from family, friends, or whom-ever, by sharing the raffle URL or QR code above. Ask your donors to enter your name in the "Credit these tickets to" field, so you can get credit for the ticket(s). Or, you can seek donations from others, and then manually enter their information into the dashboard.

Here are a list of some of the prizes so far:

Grand Prize 1: Roll Your Own Trip. You select the destination(s), number of days, and the number of travelers. An ANPR "arranger" will help set up the trip. ANPR will pay \$2,500 to the arranger, and any additional expenses will be the responsibility of the traveler. Or, you can take the "cash in-lieu of" choice of \$1,500.

Grand Prize 2: Grand Canyon Raft Trip. Canyoneers is pleased to donate two passenger spaces toward the ANPR Super Raffle on one of its



2025 **8-day Grand Canyon raft trips.** This prize, valued at more than \$3,700 per person, will take passengers through Grand Canyon National Park, with camping and fine dining along the way.



Holland America Line

offers a luxury rail package for two that includes a two-night stay at McKinley Princess Wilderness Lodge or

Denali Princess Wilderness Lodge in Alaska. Value: \$1,000.



San Juan Mountains five-day cabin stay. Relax in the quiet and beauty of an off-grid log cabin nestled in southwest Colorado's San Juan Mountains at 9,500 feet. Sit by the stream, sip coffee on the deck, access the Sneffels Wilderness for a hike. Cabin has all modern amenities. Value: \$1,000

Five-day whitewater rafting or sea kayaking



adventure: ROW Adventures and their family of companies is offering a 2024-2025 Salmon River Canyon (lower) or Hell's Canyon Idaho whitewater rafting trip — or choose to go sea kayaking in Loreto Bay, Mexico. The choice is yours! The prize does not include travel to Idaho or Mexico. Value: Raft trip, \$4,000; sea kayak trip, \$3,500.

San Diego Harbor Cruise. Four-hour day trip for two in the San Diego Harbor on the replica Flagship of Juan Cabrillo Rodriquez, the *San Salvador*. Thank you, Maritime Museum of San Diego and Thomas Workman! Value: \$200

Custom Ranger Carving. Hand-carved ranger caricature, "Doing More With Less," by Rob Arnberger in basswood and acrylics; 13" tall & 10" long. Value: \$450.



Ranger Rendezvous Quilt. A throw quilt with T-shirts from past Rendezvous on one side and a fabric with NPS patches on the other. Quilt shown just covers the top of a queen-sized bed. Donor: Rick Mossman and Kendra Balasz. Value: \$800



There is more on our website, including a gorgeous memory quilt offered by ANPR member Liz Roberts (\$750 value); a signed Artist's Proof Print and "Horse of the Sea" Photography Book (\$65 value); an NPS-themed quilt; vintage leather carved carry-on bag and print (\$300 value); and a Fred Machetanz hand-signed print, "Fishing Rights" (Value \$250). Check back often as prizes get added.

Send us your best shots

SUBMIT YOUR PHOTOS FOR THE 2024 ANPR PHOTO CONTEST AT RANGER Rendezvous 47. Categories include:

- Landscape (Land, sky and/or waters at a distance)
- Wildlife (Wild animals in the image)
- Historical and Cultural Resources (Image represents history or cultural parts of NPS sites)
- The Human Connection (Person/people in the image)
- In the Details (A macro, close-up image)
- Big Sky (New category: Large sky in the image)

- Ranger Rendezvous (Taken at a Ranger Rendezvous)

Remember, all photos must be taken within a national park unit, international protected area, or previous Ranger Rendezvous. Submitted photos should be unframed and 8x10 inches.

Write your name, location of the photo, and the category on the back of each print. Drop off photos at ANPR Rendezvous registration desk upon arrival or by end of day Nov. 5. If unable to attend, photos or digital images can be sent to arrive no later than Oct. 27, 2024, to Bill Wade, 12675 N. Sunrise Shadow Drive, Marana, AZ 85658 or bwade@anpr.org. Rendezvous attendees will vote for their favorite photos. Winners will be selected from each category, and a "Best of Show" photo will take the top spot.

World Ranger Congress expects a full house

THE 10TH WORLD RANGER CONGRESS HAS BEEN A ROUSING success so far. There were so many people registering to attend that the organizers in France had to cut off all new registrations on Aug. 1. The Congress will be held from Oct. 7 to 11 in Hyères, France, on the Mediterranean coast.

ANPR is expected to have a dozen or more delegates to the Congress. If you are registered and planning to attend, please let ANPR's International Liaison Meg Weesner know at mweesner@anpr.org. We will try to gather for a photograph and perhaps sit together at one of the meals.

ANPR delegates will be posting reports about the activities at the Congress. Seek out ANPR's Facebook page to follow along. Congress organizers are planning to record all of the plenary sessions and make them available online. The website for the Congress is worldrangercongress.org. There will be a presentation about the 10th WRC at the Ranger Rendezvous in Rapid City in November.

— Meg Weesner, International Liaison for ANPR



ANPR President Rick Mossman, fourth from left in the back row, celebrated World Ranger Day with rangers in the Democratic Republic of Congo this past July. Mossman will be one of about a dozen ANPR members attending the World Ranger Congress in Hyères, France, in October. The Congress brings together rangers from around the world uniting for their profession.

Photo: Courtesy Rick Mossman

DOI reports record-high economic-impact figures

Local economies in every state boosted by national park visitor spending

ON AUG. 27, THE DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR'S National Park Service released a report finding that visitor spending in communities near national parks in 2023 resulted in a record high \$55.6 billion benefit to the nation's economy and supported 415,400 jobs.

"The Biden-Harris administration has made historic bipartisan investments to restore and enhance national parks across our nation," said Secretary Deb Haaland in the release. "This report illustrates the significant economic benefits national parks provide to nearby communities and the U.S. economy, and the value of our work to safeguard these public lands in the wake of the climate crisis, upgrade visitor experiences and invest in park infrastructure and staff."

"I'm so proud that our parks and the stories we tell make a lasting impact on more than 300 million visitors a year," said National Park Service Director Chuck Sams in the release. "And I'm just as proud to see those visitors making positive impacts of their own, by supporting local economies and jobs in every state in the country."

The National Park Service report, **2023 National Park Visitor Spending Effects**, finds that 325.5 million visitors spent \$26.4 billion in communities near national parks. This spend-

ing supported 415,400 jobs, provided \$19.4 billion in labor income, and \$55.6 in economic output to the U.S. economy. The lodging sector had the highest direct contributions with \$9.9 billion in economic output and 89,200 jobs. Restaurants received the next greatest direct contributions with \$5.2 billion in economic output and 68,600 jobs.

The latest report is informed by improved socioeconomic survey data enhancing the accuracy of spending estimates and helps the National Park Service learn more about park visitors.

Results from the visitor spending effects report series are available online via an interactive tool. Scan the QR code here to see the report. Users can view year-by-year trend data and explore current year visitor spending, jobs, labor income, value-added, and economic output effects by sector for national, state and local economies.

To learn more about the annual peer-reviewed economics report, prepared by economists from the National Park Service, visit www.nps.gov.



ADMINISTRATION



A Visitor Use Assistant (VUA) greets a vehicle at the South Entrance station of Grand Canyon National Park. VUAs not only collect visitor fees but answer questions and are often the first rangers visitors encounter when they enter the park. Photo: NPS

NPS 'Fees' program is more than just the 'booth'

VERY EARLY IN MY CAREER, I WORKED AS A GS-04 ON THE South Rim at Grand Canyon National Park. Talk about trial by fire! But it was also a very grounding experience. To be the first green and gray a visitor would encounter, I had the opportunity to leave a lasting impression, be it good or bad. It's hard work with a great deal of responsibility, but I really enjoyed my time in the booth.

Fast forward almost 25 years and the fee program ("Fees") is still part of my work — just in a much different way behind the scenes.

When you mention Fees, most people envision those patient souls in the green and gray working the fee stations across the service. In fact, the NPS has been collecting fees since 1908 when Mount Rainier became the first unit to admit automobiles.

But there's so much more to the program than meets the visitor's eye. The remittance of collected monies is a back-of-the-office activity and deposit reconciliation happens in yet another office. This is why the fee program spans multiple programs from Interpretation to Visitor and Resource Protection to Administration.

But wait — there's more!

Both the collecting of fee monies and the use of same are governed through the Federal Lands and Recreation Enhancement Act (FLREA), which allows the NPS to collect and retain revenue and requires that retained revenue be used to enhance the visitor experience. This means that even Facilities Management and Resources Management can be part of the mix.

Out of the 430 units in the NPS, approximately 25 percent charge an entrance fee, and another approximately 35 percent collect entrance and/or "expanded amenity fees" for activities such as boating, camping, and interpretive tours.

According to the InsideNPS intranet Fee Management page, in 2023, the NPS collected \$376,234,323. Depending upon the size of the park's fee program, it may retain anywhere from 80 percent to 100 percent of the fees it collects. For the units that retain 80 percent, the remaining 20 percent is used to benefit low-revenue and non-collecting units.

Recent examples of completed projects funded by FLREA funds include:

- **Shiloh National Military Park** (Tenn./Miss.) installed three new restrooms on the Shiloh Battlefield.
- **Channel Islands National Park** (Calif.) replaced their old dock on Anacapa Island so that visitors can safely embark and disembark from boats.
- **Salem Maritime National Historic Site** (Mass.) replaced exterior doors to the Salem Visitor Center to provide universal accessibility and wider entrances.
- **Wind Cave National Park** (S.D.) constructed boundary fencing to provide for a safer viewing of bison and elk herds.
- **Dry Tortugas National Park** (Fla.) restored their coral reef habitat to improve fishing and snorkeling opportunities.

And I haven't forgotten several other very important entities that play important roles in park fee programs! Each regional office and the Washington office has a team of employees providing guidance, reviewing annual reporting, and visiting parks to audit fee programs on a rotating basis. In particular, I've found the folks at the Intermountain Region's Fee Office to be so knowledgeable and so very patient and kind in their communications. (A special shout-out to



Thanks to funds from fee collections, NPS staff constructed boundary fencing for safer viewing of elk and bison — like Bison Bull No. 4, shown here — at Wind Cave National Park. Photo: NPS

Employees who want to learn more about the NPS Recreation Fee Management program can reference Manual RM #22A and Director's Order 22, located at https://doimspp.sharepoint.com/sites/nps-Manage_Fees.

recently retired Sherry Basham who led the fee program at Mesa Verde for many years before moving up to the IMR fee program!)

As Admin folks across the service prepare for the budget year-end close-out, there will be no interview for this submission. Hopefully everyone will balance the books in great fashion, take a well-deserved rest, and be ready should I request an interview for the next edition!

Get out there and enjoy our NPS locations with the knowledge that the entrance (and other) fees you pay support every visitor's experience across the service!

— *Marin Karraker*, Administrative Officer, SEAZ Group

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INTERPRETATION

Get 'em while they're young!

Early impressions create lifelong appreciations

WHEN I WAS 7 YEARS OLD, MY PARENTS TOOK ME ON A TRIP to places with names like Yellowstone, Grand Canyon, Carlsbad, and Bryce. I don't recall an exact moment, but somewhere that summer I decided on my career. I was going to be a National Park Service ranger. It wasn't about a uniform, the fabulous pay, or even the spectacular settings where these people worked. It was that they were so dang smart. Was there anything rangers didn't know?

So, through my years working as a ranger, I always had a soft spot for the parents who had their own 7-year-olds with them. It wasn't always easy to engage them, but I prided myself on "finding the right arrow;" the thing that would get them excited enough to start talking. Over the years, one tool for engaging kids became ubiquitous across the NPS: the Junior Ranger Program.

Programs vary widely from park to park, but most have a booklet of some sort with questions, puzzles, scavenger hunts, and other challenges that help youngsters have a self-paced, programmed learning experience during their park visit. After completing the prescribed activities, a ranger tests their knowledge and those deemed worthy get sworn in as a Junior Ranger and receive a wooden badge as a collectible keepsake.

But you know what? Seven-year-olds don't drive! They are not at the park alone. So while the kid gets the badge, parents, grandparents, camp counselors, older siblings ... everybody's learning. And some of those kids don't stop when they become teenagers. Some of my favorite Junior Rangers were college kids on spring break dragging their friends in because they were gonna keep on collecting badges regardless of their age. Many parks began creating "Not-So-Junior Ranger" programs geared specifically to older audiences.

Sandra Ramos remembers her first national park visit 10 years ago: Gettysburg National Military Park. Feeling a bit overwhelmed, she asked the ranger at the visitor center what the best way to learn



The author with four brand new Junior Rangers on the National Park Service's Centennial, Aug. 25, 2016. Photo: Courtesy Gary Bremen

about the park was. The ranger proffered a Junior Ranger book, and she's been hooked ever since.

"Junior Ranger booklets provide a consistent way to learn what the park staff feels are the most important parts of the park," Ramos said. "We all learn better when we are being interactive, and these programs provide that in a way that is not at all cumbersome." She has since convinced other adult friends to start doing Junior Ranger



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Our custom printed badge stickers will bring a smile to a child's face. Our junior park ranger badge stickers are ideal for community events, school classroom visits or when children visit your battlefield, national park, heritage corridor, historic site, lakeshore, national monument, recreation area, scenic riverway, scenic trail or seashore. Badge stickers are printed on either shiny gold or silver foil. Customized for your location at no extra charge. Fast and reliable delivery.

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programs, and they often trade videos of one another's swearing in ceremonies. But Ramos took things to a whole new level: She did a nationwide survey of adults who participate in the programs and used that information to create Biscayne National Park's "Reef Ranger Program" geared specifically to adults. Her passion for the parks, spurred by that early experience at Gettysburg, has led to a career of protecting parks as the Texas Coastal program manager for the National Parks Conservation Association.

For Cheri Maitland, Junior Ranger programs became a way for this mother of two to connect with her family on an unexpected level.

"We didn't just expand our knowledge of American history. The Junior Ranger programs provided meaningful moments with our kids that will remain for a lifetime," she said. She and her husband, Jim, began taking their kids, plus the international exchange students they hosted, to every single national park — all 400+ at the time. For them, the parks opened their eyes to aspects of history they never learned.

"We felt lied to in our own learning, and realized we could use the parks to teach our homeschooled kids the true American stories that we didn't get in our own white-washed education," she added.

As rangers, we understand the value of telling stories in the place where those stories happened. Placing your fingers into the grooves of a cliff dwelling at Walnut Canyon National Monument, watching boulders the size of your head roll around in the surf at Pola Island in the National Park of American Samoa, or feeling history course out of the



Cheri and Jim Maitland's kids, above, received Junior Ranger badges at more than 400 national parks, and their international exchange students can easily claim more badges than most U.S. residents! Below, Biscayne National Park volunteer Jim Maitland swears in a Junior Ranger. Photos: Gary Bremen

Edmund Pettus Bridge and into your very being at the start of the Selma to Montgomery National Historic Trail are experiences that simply cannot be replicated by any book, brochure or video game...but they CAN happen in a national park. A collectible wooden badge and a booklet of well-crafted puzzles and scavenger hunts can help forge special connections to special places and lead to a new generation of park stewards ... and maybe even some career rangers.

Until he retired in 2022, Gary Bremen could often be found unlocking Biscayne National Park's Visitor Center 20 minutes after closing time to issue one more Junior Ranger badge.



\$ Donor Recognition list

(Updated 8/31/2024)

Half Dome \$500-749

- Mike Lynch

Devil's Tower \$100-249

- Ed Rizzotto
- Steve Dodd
- Roy Cordell

Appalachian Trail \$50-99

- Tim Pagano

Liberty Bell Up to \$25

- Demmy Vigil

Old Faithful (monthly donations/ \$25+)

- Wendy Lauritzen
- Meg Weesner



Kudos List

These people have either given someone a gift membership to ANPR or recruited a new member. Thanks for your help and support!

(updated 8/31/2024)

- Rick Mossman
- Scott Pfeninger
- Ed Rizzotto

PROTECTION

Why vacancies in protection are bad: Part 3

Editor's Note: This is Part 3 of "Why protection ranger vacancies are bad," a multi-part series spanning several issues of Ranger magazine. This part picks up where Part 2 left off in the summer issue of Ranger.

THE PRIMARY ASSERTION OF THIS SERIES IS THIS: Allowing protection ranger vacancies to go unfilled, even for a little while, is B-A-D — because any time a park has fewer rangers than it should, some, and often a lot of, critically important work doesn't get done.

Part 1 of this series highlighted the emergency response, proactive patrols, and mandatory collateral duties that often get underserved amid shortages. Part 2 dived into additional collateral duties that, though not mandatory, remain vital, and are also far too frequently overlooked due to vacancies. This third part explores supervisory duties that often get neglected when vacancies exist, in addition to field-level duties.

ADMINISTRATIVE DUTIES THAT SUPERVISORS MUST COMPLETE IN ADDITION TO THE TASKS OUTLINED IN PARTS 1 AND 2

- Checking patrol schedules to ensure adequate "coverage"
- Certify payroll
- Annual property inventory
- Write EPAPs and progress reviews for permanent and seasonal rangers (a heavy lift!)
- Mandatory yearly supervisory training
- Attend all-supervisors meetings (in addition to all-employees meetings)
- Hiring seasonal staff every year (another heavy lift!)
- Filling permanent vacancies (if they're actually approved to be filled)
- Submitting award nominations (STAR awards, performance-based awards, honor awards, etc.)
- Purchasing: Managing budgets and attending to the administrative requirements of using a government credit card.



A patrol boat on the Chattahoochee River. This is just one of many job duties that can go unfilled when parks have too many protection ranger vacancies. Photo: Kevin Moses

- Delegating tasks that come down from above, such as investigating safety concerns or reported violations, administrative tasks, coordinating things with personnel from other divisions, etc.

- Responding to complaints against direct reports

- In addition to our own IMARS reports, we must approve hundreds of IMARS reports generated by those we supervise.

- Generate Travel Authorizations in Concur, including "No-Cost TAs"

- Entering SMIS reports whenever an accident or near miss occurs

- Working directly with rec fee planner on PMIS project management

- Attending to periodic fire road gate combo changes.

- Conducting reference checks on former employees (sometimes a couple dozen per year).

- Answer FOIA inquiries.

- Submit serious incident notifications to regional office per RM-9 requirements.

THE DIFFERENCES BETWEEN SUPERVISING LAW ENFORCEMENT / EMERGENCY RESPONSE PERSONNEL

Law enforcement and emergency response personnel are not "special," but they are different than any other profession in the world, save maybe the military.

Supervising law enforcement officers (LEOs) and emergency services responders is very different than supervising non-emergency services employees. For that matter, simply "being" LEOs and emergency services responders is very different than serving in non-emergency response roles: We wear body armor and defensive equipment to work every day. Think about this: We do it because we have an expectation that some person we encounter might want to harm us or others.

We unfortunately have memorials all over our country to honor our fallen warrior brothers and sisters that drive this point home.

The average full-performance, GL-09 protection ranger has a four-year-degree, has completed a seasonal law enforcement academy to earn his or her Type 2 Law Enforcement Commission, and later graduated a three-to-four-month Land Management Police Training at FLETC, followed by another almost four months of field training to earn his or her Type 1 Law Enforcement Commission. On top of this, that same ranger completes all the training mentioned in Parts 1 and 2 at least once, but in most cases, on a recurring refresher basis, as well as scheduled, periodic, thorough background investigations. In other words, protection rangers are typically well-educated, highly trained, highly skilled self-starters who serve in positions of public trust, which is an appointment taken only with the highest degree of solemnity and dedication.

Supervising them simply is different. We trust these rangers to “do the right thing” and allow them a high level of discretion because we must, given the hundreds of variables that might get thrown at them over the course of any shift. We do not over- or micromanage them because they typically do not require that style of leadership. We do provide specific direction from time to time, but only when necessary to meet specific operational needs. And though we trust them, we verify that they are accomplishing mission goals, operational objectives, and serving in their position of public trust morally, legally, and ethically.

Emergency Tone-Outs: Emergency services personnel are often, in the blink of an eye, required to drop whatever task they might be working on to respond to an emergency. This emergency might span a few minutes or a few days. Either way, being pulled away from projects and tasks in this manner has the cumulative effect of causing rangers to be backed up on reports, miss deadlines, lose their trains of thought or momentum on projects, and simply get side-tracked. Additionally, the emergency for which they were toned out often results in even MORE administrative work. This is not an occasional thing, but rather a frequent one.

Liability: We live in a litigious society, and the current widespread culture is one that does not fully trust law enforcement as an institution. This makes our chances of being sued or criminally charged higher than they were even a decade ago. This adds yet one more stress to our jobs. We purchase individual professional liability insurance to protect us in the event of a lawsuit or criminal proceedings (the NPS will reimburse us for half of the cost of this insurance). We also purchase membership in associations that will offer legal assistance to us in the event of a lawsuit or criminal proceedings. The NPS does not reimburse us for any of the cost of maintaining membership in these associations.

Liability continued, with emphasis on seasonals: Because permanent rangers are frequently so busy accomplishing all the above collateral duties, trainings, tasks, and responsibilities, we often have to ask our seasonal rangers to do the most patrolling, which means

they end up making the most cases, which means they are the ones who are more likely than others to be sued, have a complaint filed against them, end up in a use of force incident, etc. We patrol together with them for as long and as often as we can, but all the above duties—many of them mandatory—simply pull us away from this vital, sacred role. Especially in the case of first-year commissioned rangers, we run them through their ROE, sign off their task books, and kick them loose for solo patrol, despite the fact that they’re “green” as can be. As supervisors or veteran permanent rangers, we’re available to them via radio, phone, or travel time to their scene, but we’re woefully “not physically there for them enough.”

Complexity of the Work: It’s been brought to my attention by more than one bureaucrat that the Office of Public Management says first-line supervisors can handle spans of control upwards of 13 or more. My problem with that ideology is that I don’t believe OPM is giving enough consideration to the complexity of ranger work. Ranger work involves conducting law-enforcement operations where Fourth Amendment and other Constitutional rights of citizens must not be violated, yet use of force, high-speed pursuits, and split-second decisions must be made frequently by rangers typically NOT working near close backup; responding to EMS and SAR emergencies, often in austere environments; fighting wildland and structural fires where values—including human life—might be at risk; low-level-flight, special mission aviation operations; and so on. A friend of mine who’s a maintenance supervisor once chided me, “Quit your complaining, I supervise 17 guys.” His crew mostly mowed lawns around park facilities. I replied to my buddy, “First of all, it’s not OK that the NPS asks you to supervise 17 employees—that in and of itself is just plain wrong. Beyond that, though, there is a significant difference between supervising a crew of emergency response personnel and supervising a crew of lawn mowers.” That is not to say that mowing lawns is unimportant or doesn’t have its challenges, it’s simply comparing apples to oranges regarding the complexity of work.

Many law enforcement functions are not quantifiable in an FBMS database—we cannot write a project titled, “Protect the Park, its Visitors, and Resources,” assign a deadline to it, tell employees to go do it, then call it done and write a summary about it. Protecting the park is an ongoing, neverending operation with many facets that spans a 24/7/365 time frame.

This wraps up Part 3 of “Why Protection Ranger Vacancies Are Bad.” Please tune in next issue for Part 4, which will pick up where this article left off, and will explore where rangers pick up the slack created by other positions being left vacant, programs and functions that suffer when positions are allowed to lapse for lengthy periods of time, and how all of this directly affects SAFETY.

— Kevin Moses, supervisory ranger, Shenandoah National Park

It’s been brought to my attention by more than one bureaucrat that the Office of Public Management says first-line supervisors can handle spans of control upwards of 13 or more. My problem with that ideology is that I don’t believe OPM is giving enough consideration to the complexity of ranger work.

Recognizing and honoring women's history

CULTURAL RESOURCES

ON MARCH 27, 2024, PRESIDENT BIDEN ISSUED EXECUTIVE ORDER 14121 RECOGNIZING AND honoring women's history. The Executive Order (EO) stated that, "Women and girls of all backgrounds have shaped our country's history, from the ongoing fight for justice and equality to cutting edge scientific advancements and artistic achievements."

The president then noted that while our national parks commemorate and honor the legacies of women such as Harriet Tubman, Eleanor Roosevelt, and Mamie Till-Mobley, that women's history "is vastly underrepresented in our National Park System." The March 27 EO directs the Secretary of the Interior to rectify this lack of representation through the launching of theme studies that will identify threads and themes in women's history that can be added to the Park Service's interpretive array.

President Biden's EO is a good first step. The proper advancement of this work, however, will depend upon the ability of National Park Service (NPS) to devote not just adequate but abundant resources to the recognition and honoring of the contributions and legacies of girls and women.

The good news is that women's history already dots or commands the landscapes of most of national parks. The diplomatic and interpretive skills of Sacagawea, a Lemhi Shoshone woman, aided the Corps of Discovery during their expedition up the Missouri River in 1804. Elizabeth Thorn, a German immigrant and resident of Gettysburg, was 30 years old and five months pregnant during the summer of 1863, when she left her job as a grave digger at the Evergreen Cemetery and volunteered to guide Union troops into their battle lines. JoAnne Bland joined the Student Non-violent Coordinating Committee (SNCC) at the age of 8 and was one of the foot soldiers who marched for voting rights across the Edmund Pettus Bridge that fateful and bloody Sunday in March 1965.

The historic interpretation at the Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail, Gettysburg National Military Park, and the Selma to Montgomery National Historic Trail, would be diminished if the contributions of women like Sacagawea, Elizabeth Thorn, and JoAnne Bland were overlooked or deliberately ignored. Women's history, the way in which women make history from the quotidian to the extraordinary, provides critical insights into the way our nation was founded and shaped. Committing the nation to elevating women's history is a good, necessary, and long overdue thing.

The president's EO does spark a few concerns. First, the funding and staffing levels for NPS cultural resource management, the people who will handle much of this work, have been cut significantly over the last 10 years. A strong cohort of Mellon fellows currently working for the NPS on historical research projects and the proposed cross-governmental nature of the effort (which will engage the White House Gender Policy Council and the Secretary of the Interior) will help. But let's remember: Budgets matter.

A second concern regards the call for additional studies and reviews. *The American Latinos and the Making of the United States: A Theme Study* (2013) and the *Asian American Pacific Islander National Historic Landmarks Theme Study* (2017) were both landmark documents designed to spur the preservation at the federal level of Latino/Hispanic and AAPI history and culture. Released to great fanfare, the effect of both studies has been muted. Care must be taken to ensure a similar review of women's history lands with more impact.

In her brilliant book "The Colors of Courage: Gettysburg's Forgotten History," author Margaret Creighton writes about Elizabeth Howard, the wife of Union general Oliver Otis Howard. Howard commanded the Eleventh Corps, and it was elements of his force that a pregnant Elizabeth Thorn guided through the fields of Gettysburg on July 1, 1863. Creighton describes Elizabeth Howard as an "ideal wartime wife." She cared for the general's ailing mother, maintained the household, and volunteered with soldier's aid programs in Maine.

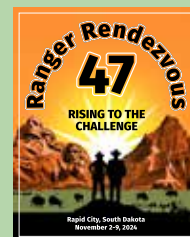
She did so Creighton notes "without bitterness." Howard's husband once wrote to her that "if women stopped supporting the war, the soldiers would 'go down,' too worried about home to stay in the fight."

The same could be said of a country that fails to honor and recognize the lives and legacies of its girls and women. Doing so takes our history "down" and diminishes us all.

— Alan Spears, National Parks Conservation Association



A statue of Elizabeth Thorn, a German immigrant who at five months pregnant helped guide Union troops into their battle lines in 1863, can be found at Gettysburg National Military Park. Photo: Alan Spears



Spears will give a keynote address 8 a.m. Thursday, Nov. 7, during Ranger Rendezvous 47. "An Advocate's Views on the State of our National Parks."

IN PRINT

More women doing amazing things behind the limelight

TWO BOTANISTS FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN, ELZADA CLOVER and Lois Jotter, intrigued by the unstudied, set out in 1938 to “botanize” the Grand Canyon. This was long before the construction of the Glen Canyon dam, and their trip would last 43 days. They were the first women, other than a few American Indians, to run the river.

Running the Colorado had not yet evolved into the relatively safe adventure many people experience today. Boats were not as good, rubber rafts had not yet made their appearance, and boatmen had not made, as some do now, literally dozens of trips at various water levels. It was not only an adventure, but dangerous as well. Clover and Jotter were truly pioneers. Moreover, they were expected to do “lady’s” work on the trip, cooking meals, washing dishes and the like. They were not allowed to row and walked some of the rapids. They were lucky to find an expedition leader who would consent to have women on a trip. The collections they made provided the first scientific insight into what grew in the Colorado River corridor.

In many ways, Clover and Jotter wouldn’t recognize the Colorado that flows through Grand Canyon today. The Glen Canyon Dam has changed the botany of the canyon. No longer do heavy snowpacks produce flows nearing a 100 c.f.s. Dry falls do not reduce the flow they used to, as the dam now regulates the flows.

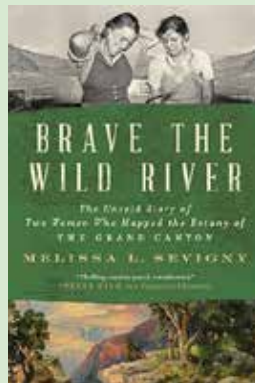
Yet their contributions to our store of knowledge about the Colorado corridor remain an invaluable early look at a place that few scientists had studied up to that point. What *was* there is important in understanding what is *now* there. Clover and Jotter’s work added to our store of knowledge about the Colorado River corridor.

I was fascinated by this book. Although I have run the Grand Canyon a few times, I was fairly ignorant about the river above the dam, counting only one trip through Cataract Canyon. And I must admit that I was more concerned about rapids than what was growing around me. This book helped me think about what we saw as we traversed the canyon.

I think almost any reader of *Ranger* will like this book. Not only is it a look at the Colorado as it flows through Grand Canyon, but a chance to learn what the river looked like before the dams. And I admire the courage of Clover and Jotter to undertake a trip that few people had done previously and the desire to add to our collective scientific knowledge about the area.

On one trip through the canyon, we decided to row past Diamond Creek, the usual take-out point, to Temple Bar in Lake Mead. I think we were on the river for 15 days. I was never so glad to reach a take-out point. It is hard for me to imagine Clover and Jotter spending 43 days on the trip. I guess you have to be tough to be a U. of M. botanist.

— Rick Smith, Ranger magazine book reviewer



“Brave the Wild River,”
Melissa Sevigny, W.W.
Norton Co., 2003.

Welcome to the ANPR family



Here are the newest members of the
Association of National Park Rangers
(updated 8/31/2024)

Jason Batchelder
William Brown
Jeri Frederick
Wesley Harty
Nancy Martinz
Hannah Norris
Fran Norton
Allyson Read
Tara Ross
Brianna Santucci
Vincent Santucci
Stacey Schmeidel
Elizabeth Schwartz
Carmi Strom
Victoria Sutton

Fort Lauderdale, FL
South Jordan, UT
Estes Park, CO
Ruston, LA
Custer, SD
Burlington, WA
Vero Beach, FL
Chattahoochee River
Ashton, ID
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Gettysburg, PA
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Juneau, AK

NPS celebrates Women's Equality Day

WOMEN'S EQUALITY DAY COMMEMORATES THE passage of the 19th Amendment that gave women the right to vote and highlights the continued struggle for equal rights and opportunity. The National Park Service on Aug. 26, 2024, highlighted Washington, D.C.'s Belmont-Paul Women's Equality National Monument, which served as headquarters of the National Woman's Party and was epicenter of the struggle for women's suffrage and women's rights.

The 19th Amendment was added to the Constitution on Aug. 26, 1920, after Tennessee became the 36th state to ratify the amendment eight days earlier. After the ratification, suffragists like Alice Paul knew that their work was not finished. While the government recognized women's right to vote, many women still faced discrimination. Women of color, immigrants, and lower income women were often deterred from voting by laws and social pressure.

Learn more at www.nps.gov/bepa.



Belmont-Paul Women's Equality National Monument in Washington, D.C., was once headquarters of the National Woman's Party.

Photo: NPS / Victoria Stauffenberg



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