Ranger Shooting
by Ken Miller

On Saturday August 3rd, Sacramento County Park Ranger John Havicon was shot in a Rio Linda park as he chased a person suspected of smoking marijuana. Fortunately John was wearing body armor which caught the bullet. John returned fire hitting the suspect in the thigh and other officers took him into custody.

Wow! I’ve chased my share of people who didn’t want to be contacted and written my share of marijuana citations. This event touches me personally.

I’ve known John for a number of years through PRAC and have even been on a ride-along with him. I’m very happy that he was wearing body armor. If he hadn’t been I might be attending another funeral instead of calling him and sending a card.

John’s incident shows all of us the potential harm involved in our jobs. Wearing body armor is one of the ways that we can stack the odds in our favor so that we can go home each night. Get your department to issue you body armor. If that doesn’t work buy it yourself. Yes it’s expensive but body armor is also a five year investment. You can also deduct the cost as a work expense. I deducted my first vest on my taxes before my department issued us body armor.

I’m very glad that this article has a happy ending and that John is OK. Be safe and wear your body armor.

In case you were wondering, the suspects who shot at the East Bay MUD Ranger that I reported in the last issue of the Signpost were taken into custody about a week after the incident.

PRAC Seeking Nominations for Regional Directors

If you have a little bit of free time, enjoy working with others and sharing information then we have a job for you. PRAC is looking for a few good people to serve as Directors for Regions 1, 3, and 5. If you are interested in running for office or if you know of someone who would make an excellent Regional Director, please contact any member of the Nominations Committee or any member of the Board of Directors. Don’t wait, volunteer today! (Or you may get a phone call tomorrow.)

Nominations Committee:

Bern Smith, Chair
work (408) 259-5477
home (415) 712-0773

David Brooks
work (408) 335-7424
home (408) 336-2948

Drew Enright
work (408) 259-5477

1997 California Parks Conference
by Sandy Ferreira

Planning has begun for the 1997 California Parks Conference which will be held next year in Northern California at the Concord Sheraton in Concord on March 13-16, 1997. The committee has selected the theme for next year’s conference—“Parks-Renewing The Human Spirit.”

Committee members are putting together a rough draft of the four tracks and various sites have been discussed where to hold possible tours and field trips. Look for more information in the Signpost for the 1997 Parks Conference, we look forward to seeing you there!
Gang Intervention
by Dave Sloane

While Roseville's gang problem is not as serious as some areas, we are currently attempting to employ gang intervention to prevent the problem from escalating. Roseville has one hundred and forty-five validated gang members. There are others involved in gang activity whom we have not been able to "validate" yet. Our city experienced at least four gang related shootings last year.

The Police Department has implemented gang intervention into its D.A.R.E. program and Cops Care Kids Camp (a two week summer program designed to give fourth through sixth graders a positive direction). It has designated officers assigned to gang enforcement and participates in a county-wide information group. In addition to this, rangers have started work on a gang tattoo removal program.

Many of our gang members, like gang members elsewhere, are showing their commitment to their gangs by getting tattoos. These tattoos are expensive to remove once the juvenile figures out that they are a mistake. While a good percentage of our gang members who have tattoos remain dedicated to the gang lifestyle, some want out. These kids soon learn that their tattoos prevent them from gaining employment or pursuing other paths which are a positive alternative to the gang lifestyle.

The main obstacle of the gang tattoo removal program is cost. Physicians specializing in laser surgery must be involved. They must also have access to the specific type of laser which is used to remove tattoos. The service of these physicians and the use of their specialized equipment is expensive. The juveniles must undergo three to six treatments (approximately six weeks apart) to fully remove the tattoos.

To date we have three juveniles going through this process. We contracted qualified physicians who were willing to donate their services. We spoke to service groups at their functions to raise money for the use of the lasers (which cost approximately one thousand dollars a day to rent and operate). After selecting the candidates with best chance of successfully leaving the gang lifestyle we began the procedure.

Two of the candidates' procedures were paid for with money from service clubs. A doctor treated the third candidate for free on the condition that the procedure be filmed by a television crew for the news and a medical show. The project has been a rewarding experience. The three candidates in this project appear to be staying away from the gang influence. We hope to expand the project to include more juveniles in the near future.

If your agency has any innovative gang intervention programs, give us a call at (916) 774-5478. We are always looking for ways to have an impact on the gang situation in our parks.

San Jose to Hire Park Rangers

The City of San Jose will be accepting applications for full and part time park ranger positions beginning August 19, 1996. The basic requirements include 60 semester units in biology, forestry, park management or other related fields, possession of a valid CPR and first aid certifications and the ability to complete a background investigation, polygraph and psychological screening. Starting salary is $15.27 per hour. For more detailed information and to obtain an application please contact the City of San Jose, Department of Human Resources at (408) 277-4205.
The 1996 CPRS Park & Recreation Administrators Institute
November 10-14
Asilomar Conference Center

The Institute is open to all professionals as a service of the California Park & Recreation Society and the CPRS Administrators Section.

1996 INSTITUTE PROGRAMS
• Positioning parks & recreation in community collaborations
• Politics and ethics of working with boards and councils
• Telecommunications and technology planning
• Public-private partnerships for park development and maintenance
• Interest-based problem solving
• Tour of the Monterey Bay Aquarium
• Informal web surfing; nominal usage fees (tentative)

ENROLLMENT FEE: $595
... includes all instruction, resource binder, continuing education credit, meals and lodging.

Call CPRS at (916) 665-2777 to receive a registration brochure.

Monarch Butterflies
Up Close & Personal
by Sandy Ferreira

Region 1 will be sponsoring an upcoming interpretative workshop and training on the natural history and importance of the Monarch butterfly on Saturday November 16, 1996. (See flying inside this newsletter.) The workshop will be led by Jan Southworth, a noted Naturalist with East Bay Regional Park District and researcher Bobby Gendron who has been tagging and studying the migratory routes of the Monarch butterfly.

The workshop will be held at Ardenwood Historic Farm in Fremont where large number of these butterflies winter-over in the eucalyptus groves. In addition to learning about the life cycle of this incredible insect, you will have the opportunity to take a walk through the groves and experience the Monarchs first hand. Researcher Bobby Gendron will teach participants how to “tag” the butterflies and discuss their migratory routes. Learn tips for effective butterfly gardening in your park or yard. Conclude your day with a tour of Ardenwood's Butterfly nectar garden. Seed and plants will be available for participants to take home.

If you have any questions, please call (510) 791-4340 or (510) 795-9385 for more information. Hope to see you there!

Letter to PRAC
August 7, 1996

Dear Fellow Rangers;

My family and I would like to express our thanks to your thoughtfulness. I am doing fine and expect to be back to work by the end of the week. My injuries consist of some substantial bruising to my right side and my muscles in my ribcage and shoulder are a little sore. I have had worse injuries falling off my deck when I was building it. I feel very fortunate that I am alive. I know that I probably would not be here had I not been wearing that bullet-proof vest and also trained to respond in the manner I did. I am anxious to get back to work because you and I know that even with the dangers of this job, the budget cuts, the hard physical labor and all of the other problems that we face, being a ranger is the best job in world.

Thank you for a very thoughtful gift.

Sincerely,

John Havicon
Ranger 417
Sacramento County Park Ranger

The Signpost
Ranger, Suspect Shot in Rio Linda Park
by Emily Bazer & Walt Wiley. Bee Staff Writers
Reprinted from the Sacramento Bee, Sun, Aug 4, 1996

A Sacramento County park ranger and a Rio Linda man he was trying to apprehend were wounded in an exchange of gunfire shortly before 9 p.m. Saturday evening in Rio Linda’s Central Park, according to Sheriff’s Department officers at the scene.

The ranger, John Havicon, was wearing a bulletproof vest that absorbed most of the impact, said officers who reached the wounded man in a creek bed in the park. He was described as being in stable condition at the scene.

A Sheriff’s Department representative said the wound was a “blunt trauma.” The ranger was taken by helicopter to UC Davis Medical Center in Sacramento, where his wound was not considered life-threatening.

Sheriff’s spokesman Sgt. John McGinness said the confrontation began when the ranger, who was patrolling the area alone, attempted to stop two men believed to be smoking marijuana in the park.

After a short foot chase along a bike trail, one of the suspects turned and fired, hitting Havicon in the chest area, McGinness said.

Havicon returned fire and hit one suspect, identified as 19-year old James Peacock, in the thigh and was able to catch him in the bed of Dry Creek, which runs through the park.

Havicon then summoned help for himself and the wounded suspect.

Peacock was taken by helicopter to the medical center, where he was expected to recover.

The second suspect, a 17-year old from Rio Linda whose identity was not released, was traced to a nearby apartment building on Oak Lane and was arrested by 9:30p.m.

McGinness said the suspects likely will be charged with attempted murder of a peace officer.

County Parks Director Gene Andal said the incident is the first time a county parks ranger has been shot in the line of duty although a ranger shot a knife-wielding attacker about four years ago.

In Saturday’s incident, Andal said ranger Tom Hofsommer called for backup when he began having trouble with some park visitors. Havicon was shot when he responded to assist.

He said officials at the medical center told him Havicon received a deep, blunt-force injury just below his collarbone from the bullet hitting his vest, but the injury was not expected to result in lasting damage.

“Those are both veteran rangers, both outstanding people who, if they were your neighbor, you’d think a lot of them,” Andal said.

“You don’t think of rangers having to do this kind of work, but there are all kinds of bad people out there these days.”

He said the county’s 20 full-time rangers were armed about 13 years ago. They patrol 13,000 acres countywide.

(Editor Note: Both John and Tom are active PRAC members. Just goes to show you what can happen while on "routine" patrol. We wish John a speedy recovery!)

A Day After Gunfight, Park Ranger Savors Life
by Ramon Coronado, Bee Staff Writer
Reprinted from Sacramento Bee, Aug. 5, 1996

The sun had already gone down when Sacramento County Park Ranger John Havicon jumped into the creek bed, chasing a man who didn’t stop when officers ordered.

The darkness in Roy E. Hayer Park in Rio Linda then lit up with a muzzle flash. The sound of a single gunshot echoed in Havicon’s ears. The force of the bullet took his breath. It hit him in the chest.

“I felt a pain, a stinging pain,” Haticon said Sunday, reflecting upon how he cheated death.

The deadly force of the gunshot was stopped by Havicon’s bullet-proof vest, and in moments Havicon returned fire, hitting James Peacock, 19, in the thigh, causing a nonlethal injury.

As Peacock sat in custody Sunday on charges of attempting to murder a police officer, Havicon savored dinner at a restaurant in Folsom. He also savored life with his wife and towhters, ages 10 and 7, who joined him for dinner and later a movie.

Perhaps shell-shocked by his new-found notoriety, the 35-year-old ranger seemed unfazed by his near brush with death.

“I saw the muzzle flash, felt the stinging in my chest, I realized I was under fire. I drew my handgun, I returned fire,” Havicon said in a matter-of-fact tone.

“I still have a little soreness to my chest. I’m very glad to be alive,” He said.

Havicon said he is also thankful for the bulletproof vest that saved his life.

“I have thought twice on some of these hot days we have had and I was very tempted not to wear it,” he said. “I never expected it to happen,” he said of the shooting.

According to the Sheriff’s Department, the shooting occurred after the park closed about 9:30. The confrontation began after another park ranger, Thomas Hofsommer, attempted to stop two men in the park he believed were smoking marijuana.

As he entered the creek bed, Havicon said, he didn’t think he would catch the fleeing suspect, who had been a good distance ahead of him.

“I thought he was across the creek, but when I came running up the creek bed he was sitting there, waiting for me,” Havicon said.

“I don’t know what was in his mind and why he wanted to kill an officer,” he said.

After he realized he was hit, Havicon said “instinctively” he fired off about eight rounds. He heard the suspect say he was hit. Other rangers then came and handcuffed the suspect as Haticon sat still waiting for paramedics.

“I never felt I was going die. I could feel the bullet sitting on the outside of the vest,” Haticon said.

Havicon said he never fired his weapon at another in his 11 years as a ranger.

“I had to shoot a sick skunk once and once a rattlesnake years ago,” Havicon said, breaking his tone with a chuckle.

“It was one of those unbelievable thing,” he said of this shooting.

“I knew I was shot, but it was just unbelievable.”

The Signpost
Letter vs. Spirit of the Law
Jury Duty Through the Eyes of Specialized Law Enforcement
by Russ Hauck

T minus 5 weeks: The daily mail contains an envelope from the County that sticks out like the proverbial sour thumb. It's a Summons for Jury Duty. No problem; I'll be excused because I'm a peace officer. The back of the form has a check box for peace officers to mark. It specifies 830.1 and 830.2 (a) PC (police officers, deputy sheriffs and CHPs). I check the box and write in 830.31.

T minus 3 weeks: The daily mail contains a postcard form the County: "Your request to be excused is DENIED. Report as scheduled." I think to myself, Why? No defense attorney worth their weight would put me on a jury and I think the same is true for a civil case. Oh well. I'll go through the motions. I'll report and as soon as I indicate that I'm a peace officer, they'll excise me.

T minus one day: I'm really busy at work and would prefer not to give up a day when I know they are not going to seat me. I call the phone number on the summons in another effort to be excused:

Me: "I'm scheduled for jury duty tomorrow, and I'm a peace officer, and..."

Clerk: "Then you shouldn't be reporting."

Me: "But I'm not in one of the exempted sections."

Clerk: "Then we'll see you tomorrow."

D-Day: 7:45 am: I report as instructed. After a lengthy orientation, we are free to choose out method of waiting: reading, board games, television. I feel the day beginning to slip away.

9:45 am: An announcement: Due to an out-of-court settlement in a pending case, many jurors will not be needed and the computer randomly selects those to be excised. I am not among them. After the line for parking validation thins, I approach the window:

Me: "Do you have any discretion as to who gets excused, because I am a peace officer and..."

Clerk: "Then you shouldn't be here."

Me: "But I'm not in one of the exempted sections."

Clerk: "Then sit down and wait for your group to be called."

10:45 am: An announcement: my group is to report to Department 39 on the 10th floor. I report as indicated.

11:00 am: The marshal comes out to the hallway and tells us we can go to lunch. Be back at 1:45. I think to myself, 1:45...that's almost three hours!!! The light bulb goes on. I can take a three hour lunch, but because I'm required to return, I won't have time to go in to work today.

1:45 pm: I report as instructed. The marshal calls us into the courtroom and roll is taken. There are three people seated at the table in the center. A criminal case, I think to myself. I'll be out of here in no time. Twelve names are called to assume positions in the jury box. Mine is not among them. I listen as the judge reads the charge: 245 (a) of the penal code. I whisper aloud "Assault with a Deadly Weapon." The man next to me is impressed as the Judge echoes my words. I sense my freedom is near. There is no way that a competent defense attorney is going to put me on this jury.

I listen patiently as jury instructions are given and voir dire occurs for the first twelve individual. These people bare their souls and share their beliefs. I watch as several people are excused by pre-emptive challenge by the attorneys for obvious and not so obvious reasons: (My husband was murdered with a knife, my two sons are police officers, I have stitches in my hand????) Their slots are filled by other prospective jurors. Again, I am not among them. The attorneys accept the jury. Great!!! Now they'll pick two alternates and I'll be out of here.

Names are called, voir dire occurs, people are excused. The, it resounds like thunder to my ears; my name is called. I take my spot in the jury box.

Judge: "Tell us your story."

Me: "I am a peace officer, although not in one of the exempted sections."

Judge: "But that won't interfere with your ability to be fair?!?"

Me: "No Sir."

Judge: Is there anything else you need to tell us?

Me: "I have been the on-duty victim of ADW on two occasions, and I have made numerous arrests on that charge."

Judge: "OK, Mr. Defense attorney, you have the pre-emptive challenge."

I move to the edge of my seat. My feet are underneath me so that I can rise quickly to exit. My ears are keenly tuned to the defense attorney's next words.

Defense Atty: "Your honor, the defense would like to thank and excuse..." (I begin to rise out of my chair and reach for the gate of the jury box) "...Mr. Hauck."

I have left the jury box and passed through the spectator area before the judge says a word. I pass through the courtroom doors as the judge thanks and excuses me for the benefit of the court reporter, as I am already out of earshot as he concludes his sentence.

I'm not one to say I told you so but... The letter of the law says peace officers under 830.1 and 830.2 (a) PC are exempt form jury duty, presumably because of the appearance of biased views on an arrestee's guilt; they spend 40 hours a week arresting people and have a 90%-conviction rate, therefore an arrestee must be guilty. The spirit of the law would infer that any other peace officer would share the same views and therefore would not be seated on a jury either. But because we are not "cops" we are not held in the same regard. Once again, we are forced to prove ourselves.

The jury system in this is based on fairness and equity: presumed innocence until proven guilty, trial by peers, effort made to seat impartial and unbiased jurors. My experience left me with a sense of anything but fairness and equity. Is it fair that I have to give up an entire day to prove that I was not going to be seated on a jury because of my status as a peace officer as a potential juror? I guess I could look at this from another perspective. I did get a day off from the daily grind, and I fulfilled my civic duty. But I can't help feeling frustrated by the fact that I had to prove myself, and in the end, proved victorious knowing full well that it will not save the next person in the same predicament, which very well could be me the next time I get a summons. But after having to prove myself for so long, I'm used to it.

The letter of the law and the spirit of the law are not necessarily mutually exclusive. unless of course, you are a specialized law enforcement officer trying to get out of jury duty.

The Signpost
Coyote Attacks Three Year Old
In District Preserve

by Ken Miller

On July 13th the Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District got some unwanted publicity when a three year old boy was attacked by a coyote in one of our Preserves. The boy was playing when the coyote attacked him, bit him on the head and arm, and dragged him about twenty feet. I want to share some of the information with you about the incident as I believe that encounters like this one are likely to happen more often as people encroach upon natural areas.

Immediately after the incident a plan was put into place. A large section of the Preserve where the attack took place was closed to the public and traps were set for coyotes. Over four days four coyotes were caught by a county trapper who has worked extensively with the District. Two were sent to Davis for analysis, one was released by an unknown person (sabotage?), and our general manager had the fourth one released as we thought that the problem coyote had been captured.

Once the media reported the attack many people called to report problems that they had with coyotes in that area. A few days after the attack and after the initial trapping people reported that a coyote stole a person's shoe and purse, grabbed a blanket in a tugging match, and grabbed onto the shoe of another person stargazing.

So we trapped more coyotes. Five more were trapped from July 22 to 26th. There have not been any more reports of aggressive coyotes so hopefully the problem has been taken care of.

Administratively there were lots of twists and turns to the story. Prior to the attack there was a report of a coyote stealing a jogger's shoe and keys. Staff were told to keep an eye out in the area for aggressive coyote behavior. After the incident our Public Affairs Manager did a good job of fielding the media questions and interviews. Rangers were kept busy doing interviews as well. It is good to have one person in charge of the media contacts. The earlier shoe and keys incident were not mentioned by Public Affairs and an anonymous staff member told the media about the earlier incident.

One of our administrators was a neighbor of the victim and his family. Animal rights people were upset that we were trapping coyotes.

The Department of Fish and Game states that there are three probable reasons that this attack occurred. The coyote was infested with heartworm, the coyote may have been fed and habituated to humans, or the coyote may have been raised by humans and released to the wild. The first trapped coyote had a severe case of heartworm that may have prevented it from being able to hunt food.

We are still waiting for the test results to come in from the trapped coyotes. In the meantime there have been no more reports of aggressive coyote behavior in the area so hopefully the problem has been taken care of.

1996 Park Ranger Training Survey Results

I want to thank all of you who returned your survey forms. Out of 40 surveys sent out, 23 agencies returned them. I will still accept surveys if you have not returned yours. I am still doing some data entry into the database and am planning to have the results of the survey ready for distribution by September 2. I will be sending each returning agency a hard-copy of the raw data tables for each of the nine categories included in the survey.

The raw data is massive and not much use if you want to make comparisons with like agencies. For this reason I will make the database available for anyone who has the Windows version of MS Access 2.0. Using disk data and the query function you can make some interesting comparisons of agencies. I will also include the queries I have done for my own agency. I have also put the PRAC Ranger Directory information into the database so you can use it for your queries. You can also export the queries and table data to MS Excel if you need to publish the information for those Administrative types.

I would also like to facilitate a training panel discussion at the 1997 Parks Conference in Concord. I could do a presentation of the data and then we could have discussion regarding next steps as far as PRAC is concerned. If you are interested in participating please let me know. You can contact me by phone at (408) 388-3741 or E-Mail at: joconnor@gwgate.pk.co.santa-clara.ca.us

Jim O'Connor, Training Coordinator/Park Ranger
Santa Clara County
Parks and Recreation Department
First Fishing Clinic
by Ranger Ron White

Recently on June 20 and 21, the Open Space Division of the City of Walnut Creek hosted the Borges Ranch Fishing Clinic. To successfully put on such an event, we needed a lot of help. To begin with, we contacted the State of California Department of Fish and Game, (Ethan Rotman—Fishing in the City) and Jim Grassi’s “Let’s Go Fishing,” Production for help and advise on setting up our first fishing clinic.

Next, we lined up sponsors to help set up the program. Local service clubs can give financial support and volunteer help. Local fishing clubs can also help with a wide range of support such as; registration, parking, fishing demonstrations and food booths. We had the Diablo Valley Fly fishermen put on casting and fly tying demonstrations. Other volunteers from the Borges Ranch Interpretive Association and the Walnut Creek Open Space Foundation helped with the food service and filled in where needed.

For additional sponsors, we went to sporting goods stores that deal with fishing. These stores can give financial and technical support. Besides demonstrating equipment, they can supply fishing tackle and help set up a loaner rod and reel program. The sponsoring store can put you in touch with their fishing suppliers who can donate equipment and tackle to be given away to the participants. At the Borges Ranch Fishing Clinic we handed out fishing bags that contained a button, pamphlets, a card showing fishing knots, tackle, and a card demonstrating different riggings for each target fish.

One of the first things to do is to line up local fishing talent to demonstrate and teach the classes. Bill Adelman of Rivers End Guide Service, along with tournament pros like Gary Vieira, Shawn Lober and Pat Young volunteered their time to teach and work with the young anglers. Pat Young caught an 8 lb. bass 15 minutes prior to the closing of the event. It was the highlight of the fishing clinic!

One of the biggest jobs involves the publicity. Draft a flyer and use it to obtain sponsors for the event. The finished product should be a hardback poster with tear-off registration forms. Kids love buttons, hats and tee-shirts. Sell these items for a low price, raffle them off or give them away.

Have local youth groups, such as scouts, help with posting of flyers. Get the word out is the key to success. Allow plenty of time to have your event advertised in local homeowners and organizational newsletters and on bulletin boards. Contact the local newspaper 3-4 weeks in advance and submit articles for publication. Local radio and TV stations can help advertise and cover the event.

Do you need fish? Have your sponsors help buy them, or acquire fish from a neighboring agency or land owner. The East Bay Regional Park District and the Contra Costa Mosquito and Vector Control District helped us gather and distribute the fish.

On the first evening of the event, we held a spaghetti dinner and fish talk. During the talk we explained safety rules and taught the basics of fishing in a neutral setting away from the biggest distraction (water with fish in it).

The next day after a couple of hours of fishing, the clinic fishing stations were set up near the pond. Each participant was given a card and told to have it stamped at each station. At the end of the clinic, the participants were told that they would get a certificate of completion. During the closing ceremony, we raffled off donated tackle, and gave recognition and thanks to all the sponsors and volunteers. The participants were then given their certificates of completion. What really put the icing on the cake was when the kids smiled and said those magic words, “Thank you.”

After paying off expenses, why not apply all profits back into the resource for fisheries and wildlife habitat improvements.

Smitty's Book Report

Hope everyone has had a very nice and safe summer. Mine was great! I had heard a lot about the Tennessee Valley Authority, and this summer I had a chance to observe some of their facilities. I have a son who lives in Oak Ridge Tennessee now. I discovered that almost the whole of Tennessee is an outdoor recreation paradise. A mecca for water recreation, as well. Took a trip to Great Smokies National Park, an hour away from my son's home. The most visited National Park in the country, which does not have any entrance stations, or collects any fees. Seems it is in the Park's legislative mandate. Visited Gaitlburg, as well. I had heard about Gatlinburg from some of my national park friends. A very tikie-tacky place, full of curio shops, motels, bungie jumping places, and sleazy shops. I couldn't believe it.

Did get a chance to read at one book concerning the management of public lands. The book, Who Controls Public Lands, was one I spotted on the shelf at my favorite bookstore. Even though the book speaks only to federal land management, and the Forest Service for the most part, it did have a message for any land manager about the role politics played in the laws that govern the management of public lands in the west. It covers mining, forestry, and grazing, and how policy philosophies over the last 100 years have shaped each of those three land use patterns. In mining, the model was what the author calls, "economic liberalism," which mandated privatization of the public lands; in forestry, it called for government ownership and management of land; and in grazing, it was "interest group liberalism," in which the private interests determined government policy. The book was easy reading, and very interesting. It was not difficult for me to get "into" the politics of the book, and I feel that I can better understand the politics of federal land management now that I have read it. It is not long (160 pages), and I forget what I paid for the book, but it wasn't much. I believe it was less than ten bucks.

The Signpost is published by the Park Rangers Association of California (PRAC). The Association mailing address is P.O. Box 292010, Sacramento, CA, 95829. The Signpost Editor is David Brooks. Articles of 1,000 words, or less are welcome. All submissions become property of PRAC and may be edited without notice.

Submissions should be mailed to David Brooks, 560 Hillcrest Dr., Ben Lomond, CA, 95005. Information can also be submitted by telephone at (408) 336-2948. Submission deadlines are the last day of January, March, May, July, September, and November. email: prangerd@ix.netcom.com

DavidB8480@aol.com

CompuServe: 76516,3440

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Membership Application

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City __________________ State ______ Zip ______
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Employer or School __________________
Job Classification or Major __________________

Voting Membership
Regular $35
Non-voting Membership
Agency: (1-25 persons—6 mailings) $75
(> 25 persons—12 mailings) $100
Student $10
Associate $15
Supporting $50

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