

Region 2 Picnic

by Ken Miller

Seventeen people including kids attended the Region 2 picnic on August 23rd at Almaden Lake Park. The weather was a perfect California day and the kids provided some extra entertainment. One of the founding members of PRAC, Tom Smith, even attended. We also said goodbye to Dan Stefanisko who was leaving the Santa Clara County Parks Department to go to Asilomar and start the State Parks Academy. Good luck Dan. The barbeque lighting committee got down to business and the feast was on. After stuffing ourselves we started a very entertaining volleyball game. Matt Anderson and Jim Oconner won three out of five games against four people that included Michael Newburn with a broken toe. The games could have been on ESPN. Michael Newburn, Mike McMahon, and Lori Raymaker signed up as new and returning PRAC members. Overall the barbeque was a success and next year we can even revive the Ranger Games.

Natural Resources Communication Workshop Announced

Two sessions of the Natural Resource Communication Workshop will be held in 1995 at California State University, Chico. The dates will be January 9–13 and January 17–20, 1995. The week-long workshop is designed to help natural resource workers more effectively communicate with the general public through personal presentations using good visual aids—especially 35mm slides. Since many of the problems in natural resources management are people-oriented, more effective communication can significantly improve many management programs.

The hands-on workshop is practical-oriented and enhances participants' communication skill in planning, preparing, presenting, and evalu-

ating presentations. A variety of topics are covered including selecting communication strategies for specific audiences, creating graphics, and handling equipment problems. A special session entitled "Verbal Victories" provides hints for handling difficult, or even hostile, audiences.

The workshop has been sponsored by the Western Section of The Wildlife Society for 24 years. The deadline for applications is November 4, 1994; the course fee is \$400. For more information, contact Dr. Jon K. Hooper, Dept. Recreation and Parks Management, California State University, Chico, CA 95929-0560 or call (916) 898-5811.

From the President's Desk

It is with mixed emotions that I write this message. On one hand I write it with great glee because it is the last one I have to do as president of this association. But at the same time there is a feeling of sadness because it is my last message as President.

As I have said in the past, writing is not my favorite activity so I have no problem in saying good-bye to this bi-monthly column for awhile. What I will miss is the great times I have had being a part of the board for this fine association. The board members that I have had the pleasure of working with over the past two years have all become good friends. We have shared some great experiences together. I have also had the opportunity to travel up and down the state speaking to various ranger groups, city counsels, and regional boards. All of these experiences have helped me to grow and appreciate the profession I am so proud to be associated with.

There are many people I need to thank for their tireless efforts for PRAC. Space does not allow me to name everyone, but there are a few I must. I would like to start with Cheryl Goss and Carol Fredrickson for all the time they have given graciously in support of PRAC. They did so much to make sure that workshops and conferences were successful. They were always cheerful and willing to go the extra mile. Don Watstein was also tireless worker, who was always ready to take on a project and make it work and is currently the PLEA liaison. David Brooks, who does a great job on the *Signpost*. It is somewhat a thankless job but he always does such a professional job. PRAC owes both he and his wife Patty a great deal.

The current board which consists of Dave Lydick, Bill Trunick, Ken Miller, Kelly Byrne, and Ron Simm have worked hard together to overcome some problems we encountered. If you have been a member for a while you know the kind of work Dave does, He has been associated with PRAC for a number of years and most of the time has either been on the board or active on a committee. He truly deserves a thankyou from all members. He is the consummate professional.

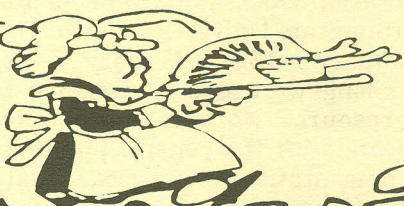
And finally, I want to thank the one person who has kept PRAC together all these years. Through Doug Bryce's guidance, PRAC has stayed afloat through good times and especially through the bad times. Presidents and board members come and go all the time, but Doug is the one constant that keeps PRAC headed in the right direction. After my term is complete, I hope to still be able to use Doug as a source of knowledge. His insights and knowledge have helped tremendously through my tenure.

As I said, space will not allow me to mention everyone who has been an influence and helped me in this job, but believe me when I say "Thank You" to all of you, its been great!

I hope everyone will support the new president whomever he/she may be. They have a job ahead of them, but I pledge my support and help to make it an easy transaction. I urge each and every member to become involved; it helps the board to make informed decisions and makes PRAC a very healthy association.

Thanks to all of you for great two years. It was a ride!

See Ya in Santa Rosa
Bob Donohue



Happy Thanksgiving

Trail Conflicts

by Ken Miller

The Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District has experienced growth in visitation and associated trail conflicts since its formation. Hikers, equestrians, and off-road bicyclists are the three categories of trail users. Complaints from all three user groups and serious accidents involving all three groups have been on the increase. To address the conflicts the District instituted a multifaceted program that involves District staff, volunteers, and private organizations.

Park staff are involved in a few approaches. The District instituted a 15 MPH trail speed limit. Rangers are using radar with a display board on a trial basis to both educate visitors and enforce the limit. Public reaction has been mixed going from very positive to very negative. We have written a few 30 MPH citations which I feel are more than justified for our multi-use trails. Some of our Rangers are now patrolling on bicycles on a trial basis. The bikes are great for PR and help our credibility

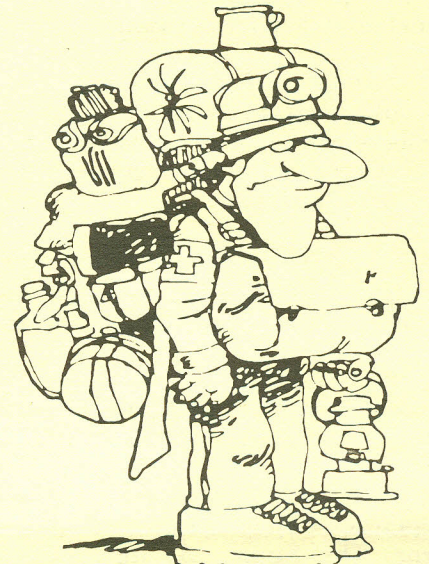
with the other cyclists. We also have a "Sharing the Trails" brochure that is available on-site with trail maps.

The District has a group of dedicated Trail Patrol Volunteers comprising of hikers, cyclists, and equestrians who patrol the trails in uniform and make educational contacts. The volunteers complete a trail log to document any problems or comments that they may have while on patrol.

A private cycling club, Responsible Off-road Mountain Pedalers, has set up information stations in our Preserves to publicize their club and to discuss trail conflict issues with visitors.

When everything has been said and done the one thing that all of these approaches have done is to make the concept of "trail speed" an issue. The publicity surrounding "trail speed" has facilitated much communication among park staff and the various trail user groups.

The response to trail conflicts at our District has certainly been multifaceted. Personally I feel that accidents and conflicts are down and I think that the program has had a positive effect. There are still some minor logistical problems but I think they are due to the newness of the program. Things seem to be working well.



Why Not Hire Park Rangers With That Money?

by Kelly Byrne, City of Los Angeles

Each morning that I have time to read the newspaper, I look for information concerning the "crime bill." Many municipal governments favor this bill because it gives money to hire more police. The cities have to match a certain amount of the funding but the bottom line is that we should be getting more police officers.

I couldn't be happier about getting more police, but when I stop and ask other Park Ranger agencies about getting new Rangers, I usually receive a look of someone in mourning and a response of "maybe next year."

My own department has been having more than their fair share of hiring problems. We have 23 full time Peace Officer Rangers in the field who also have to share the work load in dispatch where we have only 3 full time staff and we operate around the clock. Although full time positions have

been frozen since the ice age, we have been able to supplement the staffing with part time employees under the title of Security Officer Exempt. The Security Officers or Park Patrol cover various tasks that are allocated funds from council or through the department of Recreation and Parks. The City of Angels has 330 parks including beaches, senior centers, and museums.

Some agencies tried having a Reserve Park Ranger program to supplement staffing. Then someone checked the Penal Code and found out that 830.6 does not cover Park Rangers. There is effort to amend this legislation to include Park Rangers and PRAC is researching all the pros and cons regarding this law.

If I wasn't doing the amount of law enforcement that I'm doing (about 98% of my job), I certainly wouldn't

equate adding rangers the same as Police. I'm not saying the job is the same because it isn't, but providing a safe park is the job of the Park Ranger and of the Police. Rangers are cheaper than Police in my area and if there is enough funding to go around, I certainly hope the Rangers are kept in mind.

If your department is in a hiring freeze, I certainly don't see a problem in asking about funding from the crime bill and see if the powers that be might be able to propose hiring a few Rangers. I realize there are a lot of limitations and restrictions that Personnel Departments and City Councils have to abide by, but isn't it worth a question?

Planning for your retirement? Read these articles!

Reprinted with permission from Jan Hobbs, Certified Financial Planner at Innovative Financial Planning Services located at 17542 E. Seventeenth St., Tustin, CA 92680 (714) 544-8352

Accumulating Dollars

Wealth accumulation takes the discipline to get at the head of the line each month and pay yourself first.

That's right. But it takes more than that: it requires the money that you get in that line, time and an investment.

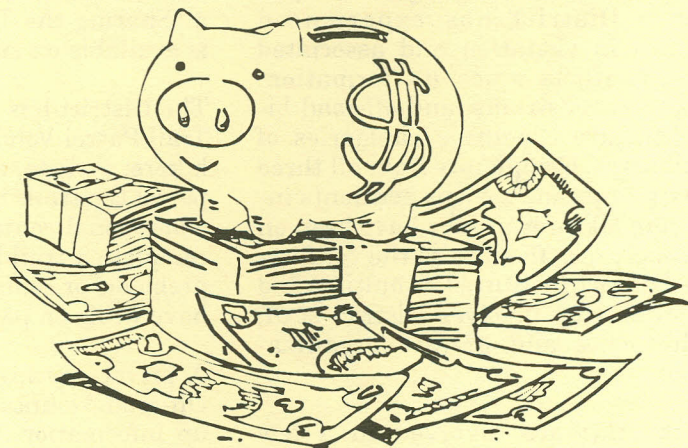
The table below shows how much you'll have to invest on a monthly basis in order to accumulate \$1,000. Various numbers of years are provided (how long it will take to reach your goal) along with varying percentages of return on your investment.

But the table is really more than that. It's a table that will allow you to identify what you'll need in order to accumulate \$5,000, \$10,000, \$100,000 or even \$1,000,000!

For instance, if you want to accumulate \$10,000 in 10 years and estimate that you can earn 10 percent on your money, you'll have to invest 48.40 per month ($10 \times \$4.84$).

The figures in the graph are hypothetical and do not imply or guarantee that you investments will achieve these returns. The figures do not represent any particular investment, nor do they take taxes or inflation into account. Your investments may do better or worse, depending on market conditions.

Monthly Investments Needed to Accumulate \$1,000			
Anticipated Rate of Return (Compounded Monthly)			
Number of Years	6%	8%	10%
5	\$ 14.26	\$ 13.52	\$ 12.81
10	\$ 6.07	\$ 5.43	\$ 4.84
15	\$ 3.42	\$ 2.87	\$ 2.40
20	\$ 2.15	\$ 1.69	\$ 1.31
25	\$ 1.44	\$ 1.04	\$.75
30	\$.99	\$.67	\$.44



A Fate Worse Than Death

The only thing worse than death is running out of money first.

In 1900, according to national census statistic estimates, there were only three million Americans over age 65 (1 in 25). By the end of 1993, 23 million (1 in 10) were over age 65.

Current census estimates show that in 25 years (2030) 1 in 6 Americans will be in this category and that the fastest growing segment of the United States' population is the over 85 age group.

Due to this rapid change in demographics, most retirees never planned for their retirement funds to last 25 or 30 years.

Today, workers can expect to retire earlier and live longer with a lot less help from employers and the government. In order to avoid "going broke safely" and the sorry fate of outliving retirement resources, financial experts recommend that you:

- Always maximize contributions to tax deferred retirement accounts
- Invest for at least some growth to protect future purchasing power
- Never pay taxes on income you don't intend to spend
- Diversify your investment and use professional managers
- Reduce income taxes by every legal means available

Last, but not least; develop a formal retirement security plan and monitor it regularly. Don't procrastinate. Do it now!

Not doing so could mean a fate worse than death.

Peace Officer Research Association of California (Written by PORAC)

Porac - Important To Each Of Us

What is PORAC?

The Peace Officers Research Association of California (PORAC) is an association of associations, currently with a membership of some 500 law enforcement associations with a total of over 38,000 individual members. PORAC is the catalyst to bring all these organizations together in a common voice and with a common purpose to protect the rights and benefits of individuals and associations.

How does PORAC do this?

Legislation: Each year hundreds of different bills are introduced and monitored by PORAC's Office of Governmental Affairs, at the direction of the membership.

In the past PORAC has been instrumental in drafting and working Assembly Bill 301 (Peace Officers' Procedural Bill of Rights); Assembly Bill 1435 (Confidentiality of Peace Officers Records); and many other bills that provide for the constitutional protection of law enforcement officers. PORAC has sponsored a long list of workers' compensation and retirement benefit bills. Some of these include providing for protection when outside your employer's territory, continuing full pay for up to one year on "4850 time" when injured on duty, certain types of survivor's benefits and scholarships for dependents of officers killed in the line of duty. All of these issues were initiated by PORAC's legislative program.

PORAC was the dominant influence and force in the creation of a P.O.S.T. Commission. PORAC then worked to ensure that a rank and file member was added to the Commission (which has always been at the nomination of PORAC), along with two civilian members. Most recently, PORAC actively worked to pass legislation that added two additional rank and file positions to the P.O.S.T. Commission.

PORAC is rated by outside capitol observers as one of the most effective lobbying groups in Sacramento and its success rate (both for bills passed and bills killed) is one of the highest.

PORAC currently has three registered legislative advocates (lobbyists), a legislative analyst and a political action specialist on staff. These people work the halls of the capitol and other specialized groups to protect PORAC's position(s). No other organization can claim the legislative victories that PORAC has. PORAC also has the "muscle" to tie up and/or kill legislative issues that are detrimental to peace officers through its active involvement and logical presentation of facts.

Political Action: Political action is the backbone of PORAC's legislative program. This involves keeping supportive legislators in office and removing legislators that fail to support us. A voting profile is kept of all legislators' positions on PORAC'S bills. The Political Action Committee endorses friends and supports them with monetary contributions from the PAC Fund. PORAC's endorsement has always been the most important endorsement any candidate can receive from the law enforcement community.

In addition to state legislative races, PORAC now has the expertise to work with and aid local associations in local elections. Many local issues have been coordinated with local DSAs and POAs, receiving suggested direction, assistance with candidate mailings (both Democrat and Republican), in some cases with cash contributions, and other coordination that can be valued at several thousands of dollars.

Legal Defense and Representation: The representation of PORAC's membership is as critical to the well being of a law enforcement association, as the need for good discipline is necessary for a well run department. The fact that associations actively seek out protection for their members in this time of public scrutiny is no surprise. PORAC established a Legal Defense Fund (LDF) for just that purpose. By pooling the resources of all those up and down the state, a fund was established to protect individual members against administrative, civil and criminal actions that could arise as a result of the members' course and scope of employment.

LDF is administered by elected members of PORAC who constantly ensure that the best service providers (attorneys) and types of coverage are made available. If an initial decision has been made that an incident should not be covered, there is an appeal process that is heard and decided by working cops. It has long been the philosophy of the LDF board that any close call or error in judgement will be made in favor of the member.

Members have been protected from overzealous administrators, political payback, and just "dumb decisions". The representations provided have, in some cases, been worth tens of thousands of dollars for the member; a cost that neither the individual nor even the association could not have afforded.

Insurance and Benefits: While PORAC's local associations can provide many beneficial products to their membership, PORAC's Insurance and Benefits Program also offers a wide variety of group and individual insurances. Many of PORAC's members currently enjoy insurance benefits provided by PORAC sponsored providers, such as auto and home insurance through California Casualty, Cancer and Intensive Care insurance through American Family Life or Long Term Dis-

ability insurance through Myers-Stevens. As an added bonus, every regular and limited status member is **automatically** registered for a \$100 death benefit. In addition, each member is automatically eligible for a \$1,000 AD&D coverage just for being a PORAC member and sending in and registering with the carrier. A unique policy, PORAC sponsored programs agree to submit to binding arbitration. Disputed claims are heard in front of the Insurance and Benefits Committee who renders a final decision.

PORAC has also worked with PERS and Blue Cross to establish a Health coverage program that is available to PORAC members employed by a city or county who have a Public Employees and Medical Health Care Act (PEMHCA) contract. The Prudent Buyer Plan, outfitted with an exemplary benefits schedule, offers members the freedom of choice from California's finest physicians and health care facilities.

A special benefit of PORAC membership is provided through A&R Associates. They will review your insurance portfolio and prepare a "benefits booklet" outlining all of your benefits (including some you may not be aware of). In the event of the death of one of your members, A&R will send a representative to assist the surviving family with death benefit claims and other assistance. Offered free of charge, this service eases the frustration of dealing with insurance companies. A comforting idea as a result of PORAC membership.

Local Assistance: At the "drop of a hat" assistance from other law enforcement associations in the local chapter, as well as throughout the state, can be accessed. A collective strong voice commands better attention than independent voices attempting to be heard. When one person speaks representing all law enforcement associations in the area, it makes politicians take notice. Simply getting the word out that PORAC is on your side carries enormous weight. Add to that the support of the State Headquarters and you have a position that must be carefully weighed by the local board of supervisors or city council.

NAPO: PORAC is a member of the National Association of Police Organizations, which means all member associations of PORAC are NAPO members as well. Membership in this extremely important organization is funded through a portion of PORAC's dues. NAPO's involvement at the federal level is critical to such issues as mandatory Social Security coverage, protection of retirement systems, and taxability of certain deferred compensation programs.

PORAC News: While nearly every local association provides some sort of communications method, PORAC likewise publishes and distributes the PORAC News to members. A monthly publication, the information pro-

vided includes legislative issues, labor law issues, LDF actions and Insurance and Benefits Committee actions and concerns. Also are included are articles from local representatives on issues or functions of importance to the rest of the law enforcement community. With a distribution of nearly 32,000, the PORAC News is the most widely read and respected law enforcement publication in the State.

Member Services: PORAC is committed to providing assistance or direction to local associations and leaders. An inquiry to PORAC Headquarters on just about any issue will generate recontact or response to inquiries. Assistance ranges from department policy issues to answering questions about workers compensation to retirement, and assistance in constructing association by-laws. PORAC encourages associations to take advantage of this very important service.

Seminars and Training: PORAC is aware of the importance of ongoing educational training.

Each year PORAC schedules seminars throughout the state for the specific purpose of assisting local associations. These seminars include subject material on Leadership, Collective Bargaining, Labor and Discipline issues. PORAC's intent is to assist local members in educating themselves on the current issues that are vital to their professional, economic and social advancement.

As you can see, PORAC membership affords many direct and indirect benefits. The value of the membership to local associations, as well as law enforcement in general, is immeasurable.

PORAC Headquarters welcomes your inquiries. If we can be of any assistance, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Important Safety Precautions for Chain Saw Users

(Reprinted from *NorCal Turf and Landscape News*, 1/94)

A. Kickback Safety Precautions Warning!

Kickback may occur when the nose or tip of the guide bar touches an object, or when the wood closes in and pinches the saw chain in the cut. Tip contact in some cases may cause an lightning fast reverse reaction, kicking the guide bar up and back towards the operator.

Pinching the saw chain along the top of the guide bar may push the guide bar rapidly back towards the operator. Either of these reactions may cause you to lose control of the saw which could result in serious personal injury.

Section 4.12 of ANSI B 175.1-1985 sets certain performance and design criteria related to chain saw kickback. STIHL has developed a color code system using green and yellow to help you select a powerhead, bar and chain combination that complies with the kickback requirements of the ANSI Standard. See the sections entitled "Safety precautions" and "Specifications" of the Manual.

Do not rely exclusively upon the safety devices built into your saw. As a chain saw user, you should take several steps to keep your cutting jobs free from accident or injury.

1. With a basic understanding of kickback, you can reduce or eliminate the element of surprise. Sudden surprise contributes to accidents.

2. Keep a good firm grip on the saw with both hands, the right hand on the rear handle, and the left hand on the front handle, when the engine is running. A firm grip will help you reduce kickback and maintain control of the saw. Don't let go.

3. Make sure that area in which you are cutting is free from obstructions. Do not let the nose of the guide bar contact a log, branch or any other obstruction which could be hit while you are operating the saw.

4. Cut at high engine speed.

5. Do not overreach or cut above shoulder height.

6. Follow manufacturer's sharpening and maintenance instructions for the saw chain.

7. Only use replacement bars and chains specified by the manufacturer or the equivalent.

B. Other Safety Precautions

1. Do not operate a chain saw when you are fatigued.

2. Use safety footwear; snug-fitting clothing; protective gloves; and eye, hearing, and head protection devices.

3. Use caution when handling fuel. Move the chain saw at least 10 feet from the fueling point before starting the engine.

4. Do not allow other persons to be near the chain saw when starting or cutting with the chain saw. Keep bystanders and animals out of the work area.

5. Do not start cutting until you have a clear work area, secure footing, and a planned retreat path from the falling tree.

6. Keep all parts of your body away from the saw chain when the engine is running.

7. Before you start the engine, make sure that the saw chain is not contacting anything.

8. Carry the chain saw with the engine stopped, the guide bar and saw chain to the rear, and the muffler away from your body.

9. Do not operate a chain saw that is damaged, improperly adjusted, or not completely and securely assembled. Be sure that the saw chain stops moving when the throttle control trigger is released.

10. Shut off the engine before setting the chain saw down.

11. Use extreme caution when cutting small size brush and saplings because slender material may catch the saw chain and be whipped toward you or pull you off balance.

12. When cutting a limb that is under tension be alert for springback so that you will not be struck with the tension when the wood fibers are released.

13. Keep the handles dry, clean, and free of oil or fuel mixture.

14. Operate the chain saw only in well ventilated areas.

15. Do not operate a chain saw in a tree unless you have been specifically trained to do so.

16. All chain saw service other than the items listed in the Owner's Manual maintenance instructions, should be performed by competent chain saw service personnel. (For example, if improper tools are used to remove the flywheel or if an improper tool is used to hold the flywheel in order to remove the clutch, structural damage to the flywheel could occur and could subsequently cause the flywheel to burst.)

17. When transporting your chain saw, use the appropriate guide bar scabbard.

18. Reduced kickback bars and low kickback chains are designed to reduce the risk of kickback injury. Ask your STIHL dealer about these devices.

Note: When using a chain saw for logging purposes, refer to the Code of Federal Regulations, Section 1910.266(5); 2.5.1 of American National Standard Safety Requirements for Pulpwood Logging, ANSI 03.1-1978; and relevant state safety codes.

Is it Your First Day?

by Bill Trunick

With the start of school and personnel changes at my agency I thought a few tips on how to start off right might be useful to all of us even if we are starting by turning over a new leaf.

Expect To Be Bored

You will have to fill out form, sign out keys, get uniforms issued and shown how to do certain tasks, Sometimes a handbooks or Policy/Procedure manual will be given to you to read and become familiar with.

Expect To Be Confused

You will be exposed to new places, names, procedures as well as new policies and rules. It may help if you carry a notebook to jot down names and functions of the people you meet.

You Will Have Many Questions

Learn what you can and know who can answer your questions. Do you first go to a colleague or to your boss? It often helps if you have several questions before interrupting people to ask them.

Don't Be A Pest

Others have their work to do. Most are willing to help but they can only help so much before their work suffers. So be careful to limit the number of times you interrupt them. Also be sensitive to their mood when it changes from cheerful assistance to grudging help.

Accept A Student Role

Learn how you will be trained and accept it and adapt to it. Training maybe video, on the job or shadowing. Take all training seriously just as you might a school course in which you want a "A."

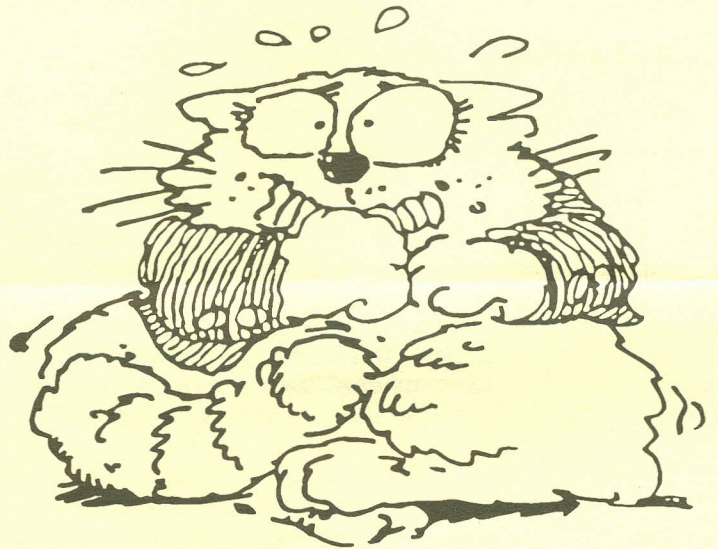
Learn The Rules

Every job has something that are required to do, some that are nice to do and some that really don't need to do. Learn early on which are which. Learn the normal working hours, lunch time and break times. Keep within these limits no matter what others may do.

Pick A Successful Role Model

You may want to select one or more employees whom you respect and try to work up to their level. Don't force friendships to soon or you may find yourself close to someone who, in the long run, may be bad news.

Remember you got the job by successfully competing against others. They wanted **you** to be part of **their** agency, so work together.



Ranger I Wanted County of Orange (Santa Ana), CA

Salary: \$27,576-\$36,852, annually.

The County of Orange is currently accepting applications for Park Ranger I. You will perform technical and professional duties involving the operation and management of a park, coastal, or recreational facility; and, supervise park maintenance personnel. In addition, you will prepare and present creative recreational and interpretive programs and coordinate special recreational or historical programs with other public agencies and commissions or by private contract service provider. The qualified candidate will have related experience/education and ability to qualify for limited Peace Officer status and obtain a Class C or higher CA driver license, Further, the candidate must be able to traverse slopes and moderate grades, lift and carry up to 25 pounds and work outdoors year around.

Apply Immediately! The recruitment may close at any time. Call for information and a mailed application and supplemental information form or pick up materials in person. Resume cannot be accepted. **Apply at:** County of Orange, Human Resources Department, 10 Civic Center Plaza, Santa Ana, CA 92701. **Phone:** (714) 834-2844. Affirmative Action Employer M/F. Principals Only.

PRAC Scholarship Winners!

Statement of Interest from Denise D. Smith

I am currently a full-time student at San Francisco State University. In May of 1995 I will have completed all the requirements for a Bachelor's degree in Recreation and Leisure Studies with emphasis in outdoor recreation. I am also a participant in the Cooperative Education Program, which enables me to develop critical job skill while I proceed with my education, and expose me to the work environment of my future career field.

I presently work in the San Mateo County Park System as a Park Aide, where I perform vehicle and foot patrols, general maintenance duties, and visitor protection. I would like to transfer my skill to another agency and position such as, California State Park Ranger or Mid-Peninsula Open Space District Ranger. I am currently researching other agencies for internship placement and job opportunities.

I also have been volunteering with the National Park Service for the past two years. I work at the Marin Headlands Visitor Center where I develop my interpretive skills by assisting rangers on interpretive programs given to park visitors. In addition, I perform volunteer work for the U. S. Park Police in San Francisco. This volunteer experience has provided training in emergency law enforcement communications in an urban setting, and other law enforcement and administrative tasks.

While attending school I work part time as an attendant for a fellow student disabled by cerebral palsy, and I am an employe paid by the San Francisco State University shipping and receiving department in the University's work study program. I also volunteer with the American Indian Contemporary Arts Gallery in San Francisco.

I have been trained and certified by the American Red Cross in CPR for Professional Rescue, both infant and adults, as well as Standard First Aid. These are obviously important skills that will be useful in my future career as a park ranger, and I have had the opportunity to put my CPR skills to use while working as a San Mateo County Park Aide.

As a member of the Park Rangers Association of California, Association of National Park Rangers, National Park and Conservation Association, and National Recreation and Parks Association, I have been exposed to many of the current issues that are facing parks and the challenges that recreation professionals have to face to enhance the quality of recreation.

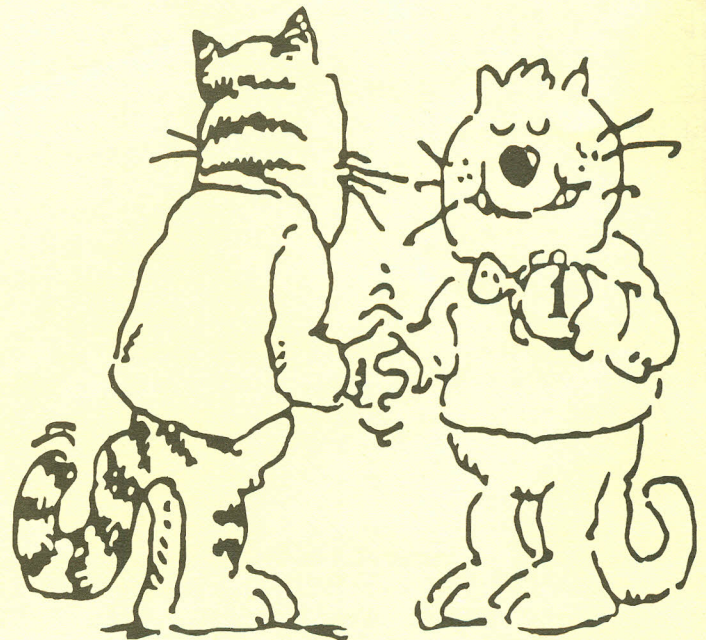
I feel that the above hands on work experience and education will make me a well rounded ranger and I have the experience and knowledge to understand the concerns of park staff and park operations, as well as visitor safety issues.

As an independent, self-supporting student having a learning disability, it has been a challenge and a struggle for me to not become discouraged as I attend classes full time, while concurrently gaining experiences in my field through my employment and volunteer work. The cost of living in San Francisco is rising constantly, and, as most Californians know, tuitions costs have increased dramatically in the past few years. This endowment will allow me to devote more time to my education and career goals, and will enable me to reach my goal of obtaining my degree and pursuing my interest in protecting our environment and National Parks. Thank you for your consideration.

Statement of Interest from Jill Russi

I am currently attending Santa Rosa Junior College to obtain my general education. After completing my general education I hope to go to Cal Poly and obtain a degree in Natural Resource Management with emphasis on Wildlife. I am also enrolled in a school program at Lake Sonoma which will hopefully lead into a full time as a Park Ranger.

My reason for applying for this scholarship is that I am the oldest in a family of three kids. My parents, although not strapped of money, cannot afford to send all three of us to college without our help. I am working part time while attending college, but this does not cover all of my expenses. I were to receive this scholarship, I would use it to help pay for my course at Santa Rosa Junior College. Thank you for your consideration.



PARK RANGERS ASSOCIATION OF CALIFORNIA

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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.

Membership Application

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Student \$10 _____

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