Share your views!
Signed letters to the editor of 100 words or less may be published, space permitting. Please include address and daytime phone. "Ranger" reserves the right to edit letters for grammar or length. Send to fordedit@aol.com or Editor, 26 S. Mt. Vernon Club Road, Golden, CO 80401.

YES! You are welcome to join ANPR even if you don't work for the National Park Service. All friends of the national parks are eligible for membership. We even have special student rates and gift memberships. Join today — online at www.anpr.org or using the form on the inside back cover of every "Ranger."

Mentoring
The ANPR facilitated mentoring program always is looking for more experienced people willing to serve in a mentoring role. For more details visit www.anpr.org/mentor.htm or contact Bill Supernaugh at bsuper@brightok.net.

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ANPR Calendar
"Ranger" (Summer issue)
deadline ............................................ April 30

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

"Ranger" Rendezvous XXIX ................................ Nov. 11-14
Coeur d'Alene, Idaho

Coming next issue: "The Antiquities Act"

TOUCHING TIME: Debora Threedy's piece on the meaning of Utah's national parks to her life mirrors this edition's theme, "The Power of the Place." See page 4 for her article. Pictured above is an image from Bryce Canyon.
President's Message

The six months immediately prior to a Ranger Rendezvous seem to fly by quickly due to the hectic pace of the preparations for the event. In contrast, the several months immediately following it tend to slow down as we all attend to the holidays and family. It also is the time of year when ANPR begins a transition in the make up of the Board of Directors.

This year is slightly unusual in that four positions on the board have been open for election and none of the incumbents ran for their positions, either choosing not to run or unable due to term limits. This means that there are four new faces on the board (see below), the most at one time in recent memory. I would like to take time here to offer my thanks to those who recently left the board.

As treasurer Wendy Lauritzen has taken time from her busy schedule as a superintendent to oversee the association's budget. It is a task I am familiar with and can understand the demands of the position.

Kendell Thompson worked with education and training over the past year, filling a vacant spot on the board. His presence at the Senate subcommittee hearing last May was greatly appreciated, as is his work on various projects for the association.

Bill Supernaugh has left the position of internal communications where he was the driving force behind the association’s mentorship program and a valuable source of information and advice.

During his time in the position of strategic planning, Ed Rizzotto was responsible for the complete revamping of the association’s short- and long-range planning. He has always been a source of valuable insights and perspectives as well as a respected adviser.

Thank you, Wendy, Kendell, Bill and Ed, for all your efforts on behalf of ANPR. Your presence on the board will be missed, and I hope to see all of you in Coeur d’Alene if not sooner.

L. S. Wess

New ANPR Board Members

Four join ANPR board

These ANPR members are new additions to the board of directors, with three-year terms expiring Dec. 31, 2008.

Treasurer: Liz Roberts
Board Member for Education and Training: Todd Stoeberl
Board Member for Internal Communications: Ken Mabery
Board Member for Strategic Planning: Stacy Allen
The Power of a Place

By Mark Herberger
Minuteman Missile

Not that long ago I had the privilege of running a small visitor contact station in a remote corner of Big Bend National Park. I remember one stormy day while working the Persimmon Gap station, a young couple and their raucous toddler came by to check on some of the typical visitor inquiries: current road conditions, camping information, and interpretive opportunities.

As if I were the director, they took the opportunity to say thanks for the national parks. The young parents spoke of vistas, resource protection and a job well done by the men and women in gray and green. They spoke of a place to which their son will always be able to return — an eternal place on an ever-changing planet.

While the couple talked, a fleeting moment of déjà vu passed by — I then remembered the family from the previous season; their baby had just been born and they were introducing him to Big Bend. This time they were returning for their anniversary. They couldn't imagine a better place to celebrate the memorable occasions of their life, almost like a second home.

I smiled with delight for having shared in the joy of their reunion and in the reality of the words "to conserve... for future generations." Quite literally, "future generations" just walked through the main gate.

Over the years I have encountered that type of homecoming many times. Couples, young and old, increasingly mention how they observe personal anniversaries in the parks, returning year after year. For them, it's a special time at a special place. Public surveys and polls demonstrate that for most visitors, national parks are more than a passing interest, more than a stop on the road to somewhere else, certainly much more than the passport cancellation stamp. National parks are powerful places for many Americans and world travelers, full of meaning and value. In the course of my years, some of the most pleasurable encounters have been with people who had and where you'd least expect it — overlooking a solemn battlefield, on the crowded recreational beach, in an underground bunker, high atop a sandstone cliff, across the theater aisle, passing on the narrow switchback. Maybe it just goes to show how diverse our 388 areas truly are and that they contain an incredible variety of tangible resources tailored for each individual's fancy to learn or experience or enjoy. What's remarkable is when those tangible resources kindle the intangible spark of personalized values or meanings.

Pick up any of the national park travel or guidebooks offered at the local natural history association bookstore and it will most likely open with the splendors and superlatives of the National Park System. At our cultural sites we may visit inventor's workshops, pueblo ruins, ruts created by wagon wheels, presidential libraries, legislative halls or idle factories. At our natural areas we may visit underwater reefs, thermal pools, blue ice fields, towering forests, or charismatic megafauna and vast inland seas.

Without overstating the obvious, all of us within the Service should realize that national park areas brim with resources. These 388 places conserve our nation's finest cultural and natural resources — tangible treasures of history, biology, society and more. So special were the scenic and natural and historic resources that, in 1916, Frederick Olmsted Jr., along with the help of some friends, penned a composition that was used by Congress to create the Park Service Organic Act. The "conserve and protect" legislation was set in motion and focuses the stewardship spotlight directly upon us. Conserving the icon(s) of our nation and our cultures can be an extraordinary responsibility.

Atop this equation, ponder the totality of a System of powerful places. The 1970 General Authorities Act enriched and further defined the original Organic Act when Congress stated that areas of the National Park System "though distinct in character, are united through their interrelated purposes and resources into one national park system as cumulative expressions of a single national heritage; that, individually and collectively, these areas derive increased national dignity and recognition of their superb environmental quality through their inclusion jointly with each other in one national park system preserved and managed for the benefit and inspiration of all people of the United States..." Perhaps it is time to put to...
rest the “crown jewel syndrome” and listen to what visitors have been telling us all the time: you don’t have to be charismatic megafauna to have meaning. Each and every area — the smallest, the tiniest, the farthest away, the ones with unusual titles, the ones that challenge our morays, the ones that interpret controversy — have in their own way and in their own right, something for anybody. Sometimes I realize that I may not totally appreciate what a particular park area conserves but I do know, that for someone else, it may be the perfect place, the most powerful place imaginable for his or her personal celebration.

At a higher level still, beyond the cumulative 80 million acres, 100 million museum items, and 19,000 historic structures, the national parks conserve far more than the tangible resources. In the 1978 Redwoods Act Amendment, perhaps Congress touched on this level when it reasserted and elaborated once again upon the original Organic Act. The act stated, “…the authorization of activities shall be construed and the protection, management, and administration of these areas shall be conducted in light of the high public value and integrity of the National Park System and shall not be exercised in derogation of the values and purposes for which these various areas have been established…” Wow, the conservation of “values.”

After the Sept. 11 attacks, the public rediscovered many of the intangible resources — those values we conserve — veiled behind the tangible resources. Director Fran Mainella spoke of them as hope and renewal, of courage, determination and perseverance. I wonder in how many other places can one touch the icon and, at the same time, have the icon end up “touching” us. Disneyland and Las Vegas may be fun, but they can never do that. And if the whole of the System exceeds the sum of its parts, then the collective power of the parks is something we should never take for granted or diminish.

Former Director Roger Kennedy wrote, “...the national parks are common property. Like the ‘commons’ of any village, they are gathering places that give us a sense of renewal and shared purpose. National parks are, in their community ownership, like memories held by all of us, or the tunes all of us can sing; like the smell of salt marshes borne on the generous wind of spring, or the sky above our most ambitious buildings. The parks belong to all of us. They are beyond patenting or preempting. They are there, awaiting us, calling us to share in the wisdom they offer; not insisting, just being available.”

The resources and themes within the National Park System can evoke a variety of feelings within individual visitors. The people, places, events and things that comprise our national park stories have the power to stir us and quiet us, and affect us spiritually, emotionally, intellectually and physically.

If not every day, then at least every Aug. 25, our collective System should be the toast of the town (on Founders Day for the National Park Service). The parks and monuments, the memorials and parkways, the historic sites and recreational areas — pick any designation — deserve nothing less than the best from their stewards.

“Future generations” is a long, long time and only the highest level of resource protection will ensure the opportunity for young couples, not-so-young couples and toddlers just entering the front gate to enjoy the resources — the values — the power of the parks, in the state and for the purpose for which they were set aside.

Mark Herberger, superintendent of Minuteman Missile, is Ranger magazine editorial adviser.
When the craziness of the human world begins to wear away at the fabric of my being, when there are too many people moving too fast, making too much noise, I take off for red rock country. What draws me is not pleasure, not aesthetics, though I certainly respond on an aesthetic level. What I’m talking about goes beyond aesthetics. I need the canyonlands, need them like I need food and breath, to go on living. I am restored, calmed, made sane again by simply being there.

I walk until I’m tired and then I find a comfortable rock to sit on, preferably with some place to lean my back against, preferably in dappled sun and shade. I settle down to listen and watch. To the sounds the world makes when we are quiet, to the shifting light and shadows and the stirrings of small lives.

In the silence, time slows, thickens, becomes as palpable as sandstone. Deep time is etched in these canyon walls. It puts my life, our lives, in perspective. What’s fifty years compared to one hundred fifty million? Less than the time it takes for my breath to go in and out. The blink of an eye. Even if you pile up all the human time on this planet — a couple hundred thousand years — that’s only a small fraction of the time this sandstone wall has been here.

Some people say that Lake Powell and its dam have destroyed Glen Canyon “forever.” Not hardly. I am sorry I never saw Glen Canyon, never ran the Colorado through that lost Eden, but the river has cut through more impressive obstacles than a wall of concrete. Just stand on the rim of the Grand Canyon and look at the miles of emptiness. Eventually, the river will run through Glen Canyon again. It will only need time, and the river has more than we do.

I read somewhere that in southern Utah a grain of sand has gone from rock to sand, back to rock again, up to seven times. Somehow, that makes the immense roll of years, not comprehensible exactly, but fathomable. The time it takes for a rock to erode, for sand to be buried and compressed to rock, so that it can erode once more, over and over again.

Today sage and pinon and juniper grow here, but once there was a sand desert larger than the Sahara. Before that, this was a place of river deltas and swamps. And before that, an inland sea. All in this one place. And they’re all still here, or at least their petrified remains are, layered below me in thick strata of fossil time.

These Navajo domes were once dunes, creeping across a vast sea of sand. Now they’re caught and held in place, turned to stone, like dinosaur bones. You can see the skeleton of the dune that once was in the thin bands sloping across the face of the dome. If you stare long enough, you can hear the soft sibilance of sand hissing down the front of the dune, feel the hot wind blowing.

I touch the sandstone wall. The day is cooling, the late autumn sun low in the south, but the wall is warm beneath my hand. This rock was here long before my kind and it will be here long after I’m gone. This does not sadden me. Oddly enough, it comforts me. I can’t touch eternity, but touching this wall, all that time made tangible, comes very close indeed.
Lasting Connections

By Jenna Sammartino
Cape Cod

It was an April day on Cape Cod. The weather was racing out of the north, the rain was nearly horizontal, and the grey sky blended seamlessly with the steely, angry Atlantic. I suppose I wasn’t surprised that no one showed up for my beach hike program, but I was a little disappointed. After all, it was the perfect day for a walk on the beach; my audience would have had Mother Nature on hand to help form some great connections about the constantly changing character of our shoreline.

I decided to take advantage of the fine weather and struck out north along Nauset Light Beach. The beaches here are never the same place twice and I was sure I’d find something to make my soaked boots worth the while.

I had my “garbage radar” on and soon came across a plastic water bottle partially buried in the sand, rockweed and finger sponge strewn about it. I kicked the bottle free and noticed that it seemed to have some sort of paper inside. As I knelt to pick it up I realized that, along with a goody amount of sand and pebbles, the bottle did contain a piece of green paper wrapped in a zip-lock bag. Now, I’m 33 years old, but I’ll admit that my heart raced when I realized that I’d truly found a genuine message in a bottle.

And just in case I had any doubts, scrawled on the outside of the green construction paper in white crayon were the words “Message in a Bottle.” The letter itself, neatly printed with red and blue crayon, was brief and to the point. “4-8-05 If you find this message contact me—Tyler. ...Sent from Nauset Light Beach Cape Cod, MA.”

You’d think I’d found a gold doubloon from some ancient treasure wreck, I was so thrilled. (My coworkers back at the Visitor Center obliged me by acting like they were excited, too.) The fact that I’d found the bottle on the same beach from which it had been thrown into the waves only a few short days earlier mattered nothing to me. I was a girl who’d grown up in the Colorado mountains only to fall in love with the ocean, and messages in bottles were the stuff of Robinson Crusoe and Treasure Island.

Thus began my continuing relationship with 10-year old Tyler. I’ll admit I waited about a month before writing him back. I didn’t want to totally take the wind out of his sails by telling him his letter was found so soon after its voyage had begun. And I used the fact that the bottle had traveled a distance of oh, say 20 yards, as an example of how the ocean works.

“Sometimes things will get caught up in currents,” I said, “and carried all over the world.” I told him how in school I learned about a ship’s container of Nike shoes that got dumped overboard and how those shoes ended up in countries all over the Pacific. But I also told him that sometimes the ocean puts things right back where it found them. “This is important, too,” I wrote, “because this is how a lot of our sand gets put back onto the beach every summer after big winter waves eat the sand away.”

I may not have had any takers for my beach walk that day, but lasting connections were made with a visitor nonetheless. Tyler and his parents have come to visit me a couple of times since I sent him that letter. Each time he comes armed with more questions about how the oceans and beaches work. I show him pictures and draw out diagrams in an attempt to clarify complex issues. And he gets it all. Cape Cod may have been a fun vacation at one time, but for Tyler now it is a living science experiment. Last time he was in, he told me that he gave a surfer at Coast Guard Beach another of his messages and asked him to paddle out far beyond the surf line and throw the bottle out into the ocean. He said the surfer waved back at him from way out in the water and then threw the bottle as far as he could. He had probably given the surfer a lesson on coastal processes before he paddled out!

The essence of interpretation is not really about information—it’s about inspiration. In a place as dynamic as Cape Cod, there are endless opportunities to connect both intellectually and emotionally. Like the Cape’s shifting sands, inspiration can go both ways. Whatever intellectual connections I may have precipitated for Tyler, he’s more than returned the favor, providing an emotional connection that will stay with me on all my beach walks.

“People can’t be expected to care about resources if they don’t understand them. Stewardship lies at the intersection of information, understanding and inspiration—and interpreters are like guides, helping people to find that intersection.”

— Jenna Sammartino

As a girl growing up in the mountains of Colorado, NPS interpreter Jenna Sammartino didn’t visit the ocean until she was 14, but it left an indelible impression. She went on to study coastal and environmental management in college and graduate school, landing on Cape Cod in 1997 to do temporary work with the North Atlantic Coastal Laboratory at Cape Cod National Seashore. As the locals say the “sea sand in her shoe” and after various other jobs, she’s been working as a park interpreter for the past two years.
The Inscription Rock loop trail runs from the waterhole out below the sandstone cliff, where you can view almost 2,000 etchings in the rock. A free guide to the inscriptions is available at the visitor center.

By Sue Olin
Bureau of Land Management

This massive sandstone bluff is known as A’ts’ina, “place of writings on the rock,” to the Zunis; as El Morro, or “the headland,” to the Spanish; and as Inscription Rock to Anglo-Americans.

All were drawn to the same waterhole—the only reliable water for 30 miles around—and left their marks in the sandstone cliff. So El Morro is a time machine: it lets you step back for a moment and imagine yourself in the same place, under the same midwinter sun, with other people who led very different lives here.

What was it like, perhaps, to have been born here about 1200? A’ts’ina had at least 875 rooms and was home to between 1,000 and 1,500 people. Rainwater was collected on the top of the mesa in cisterns and natural tinajas (water holes), but no doubt many trips were made to the pool at the base of the rock. Hand- and footholds, carved into the steep rock faces near the pool, attest to the “shortcut” down... and it’s not hard to imagine that an adventurous teenager might consider it a test of skill to do the trip down as quickly as possible. On the other hand, there must have been some lazy, sunny afternoons, for these people left the first carvings in the rock.

Four bighorn sheep suggest they saw animals we don’t see now. A bear paw, lightning and other, sometimes enigmatic marks give hints of native lives. Perhaps these carvings conveyed information about travel routes, hunting, events—or more mysterious things. How long did it take to carve one bighorn sheep, using a stone tool?

El Morro first appears in Spanish-American history in 1583, as El Estanque del Peñol, “the pool at the great rock.” Antonio de Espejo documented his stop at the waterhole on his way north to the Rio Grande pueblos, but he did not carve in the rock.

The first Spaniard to do that was Don Juan de Oñate, who led 400 colonists into New Mexico in 1598. He continued to explore the area and, in 1605, stopped at the cliff and made his inscription, the first to be added by Europeans. His phrase—paşó por aquí, or
“passed by here”—was copied by many more to follow. But who else “passed by” with Ofiate? It is easy to imagine some young soldiers, watering horses and checking gear while their leaders discussed plans, later climbing the rock to scout to the west. Perhaps they marveled at the spectacular sunset. Perhaps they calculated how many leagues away their parents and sweethearts were, back in old Spain, and wished to be home.

Nineteenth-century Anglo-American soldiers passed by here too, carving their names in the rock and documenting a rather unusual experiment in southwest travel. “Beale” and “Breckinridge” were part of the U.S. Army Camel Corps. With water so scarce in the Southwest, in 1855 the U.S. Army went to Africa to buy 33 camels and hire three Arab handlers. They sailed back to Texas and began training in the American deserts. Forty-one more camels were added in 1857, the year Edward F. Beale, P. Gilmer Breckinridge and the camel corps passed by El Morro. Perhaps the camels didn’t need a drink, but the men probably still did! The corps was based at Camp Verde, Texas, which fell to the Confederates during the Civil War, ending the short but rather successful history of the camel corps. Imagine camels grazing in the open fields below El Morro! Some of the animals were auctioned and ended up in zoos and circuses, but others escaped, and for at least a few decades the Southwest supported a population of free-ranging camels.

Only a very few women have left their names in the rock, but clearly many women have also “passed by here.” Many Native women would have raised children in this world which seems made for “hide-and-seek”—and those mothers no doubt worried for their sons’ and daughters’ safety as the children scampered all over the mesa. Their lives must have been quite different from those of the pioneer women and girls who passed by much later. The name of Sallie (Sarah) Fox is inscribed at El Morro: 12 years old in 1858, she was one of about a hundred pioneers heading through New Mexico to new lives in California. But when their party reached the Colorado River, they were attacked by Mojave Indians. A few of the men were killed, but all their horses and cattle were driven off, ending the journey west. They walked the five hundred miles back to Albuquerque. What did Sallie Fox think about her early adventures? Were there other girls her age to talk with as they paused at the waterhole on their way west? On the long walk through the desert back to Albuquerque, what was it like to recognize the monolithic El Morro in the distance and know for sure that water was there?

Seeing these inscriptions, walking this trail, the water drew these many different people here. Now they, in their turn, draw us here. Like a time machine, the inscriptions of El Morro take us back to other worlds.

Seeing these inscriptions, walking this trail, the water drew these many different people here. Now they, in their turn, draw us here. Like a time machine, the inscriptions of El Morro take us back to other worlds. The lettering may be square and simple, or elaborate; the inscription may be an entire poem in Spanish, or just a set of initials. But, in a way different from that of photographs or other images from the past, they are the past itself: not a representation, but the marks themselves, left by those who stood earlier where we stand now. Pasó por aquí—we too have now “passed by here.”

Susan Olin is a park ranger for the Bureau of Land Management at the multiagency Northwest New Mexico Visitor Center in Grants, New Mexico. El Morro was one of the first sites she visited when she began to explore New Mexico. She has also worked as a seasonal interpreter and biotech at Glacier and Isle Royale.

1906 Antiquities Act

El Morro was America’s second national monument established under the Antiquities Act.

The summer issue of Ranger magazine will celebrate the 100th anniversary of this important piece of legislation.

Pasó por aquí, “passed by here,” begins the 1605 inscription of Don Juan de Oñate, the first European to carve in the rock of El Morro.
Antietam Creek and Burnside Bridge

**ANTIETAM: Peaceful & Thought Provoking**

Brian Baracz
Antietam

Throughout my years working at Antietam National Battlefield, I have come to recognize that visitors are drawn to this site because of two compelling themes — the stories of those whose lives were altered by their experience during the battle and the work that has been done to preserve and restore the landscape which allows visitors a better appreciation and understanding of this park site.

The battle of Antietam was the culmination of Confederate General Robert E. Lee’s first attempt to bring the Civil War to the North. Lee and his Army were stopped in this attempt by Union forces commanded by General George McClellan. The 12-hour battle resulted in more than 23,000 casualties, making it the bloodiest day in American history.

McClellan’s ability to halt Lee’s invasion provided President Abraham Lincoln the opportunity he needed to announce the preliminary Emancipation Proclamation. The gripping accounts of this horrific battle and the stories of Americans who died for their country draw people to visit Antietam.

Youngsters visiting the park today can try to imagine the thoughts and fears of Charlie. They can try to imagine being away from home or the feelings of losing a beloved younger brother or sister. Parents can try to relate to the loss of a child and through these connections their visit becomes much more personal.

Antietam is one of this nation’s most well-preserved Civil War sites. As park rangers lead visitors around the field and relate stories, such as that of Charlie King, the open and rolling landscape makes it possible to imagine what the soldiers saw on Sept. 17, 1862.

Returning the battlefield to its September 1862 appearance is a major park goal. We are accomplishing this on many different fronts. Throughout the past 10 years, more than 10,000 volunteers have replanted approximately 20,000 trees in the North and West Woods, as well as in the Piper Orchard. Seventy-five percent of the land owned by the NPS is leased out to the local farmers to help provide the agricultural appearance that was present in the fall of 1862. Finally, many of the historic fence lines have been replaced with the same type of fence that dotted the landscape when Lee and McClellan’s forces clashed.

The lack of modern construction and commercialization provides the visitor the similar view of the landscape as that of those who fought. Numerous first-time visitors to the park comment on the fact that looking at a photo or reading a map of the area led them to question the decisions made by those in charge at the battle. As these visitors tour the park, the landscape begins to change their previous views, judgments and conclusions. The pristine nature of the landscape provides people an understanding they could not get from reading a map, nor an understanding they receive at any other Civil War site.

It is through the gripping accounts of sacrifice and suffering, as well as the hard work and dedication of numerous individuals to protect, preserve and restore the historic landscape that will compel people to visit Antietam for generations to come.

Brian Baracz has worked at Antietam for six years. Born in Cleveland, Ohio, he and his wife now live in Frederick, Maryland.

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Aug. 14, 2005

Dear Superintendent,

My husband and I visited your Manzanar National Historic Site recently. The exhibits, displays and film have impressed us deeply. This museum provides the public with an invaluable service — historical restitution.

“To err is to be human,” someone once said. We believe all visitors leave this museum as better human beings; more sensitized to the effects of our racism, national hysteria and unchecked fear. We pray that we will never again build concentration camps for American citizens and innocent people. Thank you!

— Norma and Alan Williamson

Cerritos, California
Manzanar was more than an internment camp; it became a functioning community for the duration of the war. Milestones such as birth, marriage and death continued inside the camp fences. Visitors today can explore the hospital area with its stone foundation and the cemetery monument prominent in the distance.

By Gretel Enck

Manzanar

The high desert landscape of the Owens Valley rolls on uninhabited for miles, dominated by scrub vegetation grazed by cattle and horses on crisp winter days. Snow lingers long into spring on the high Sierra Nevada peaks and fills the creeks that run throughout the summer. The land is defined by open space, aridity, and clarity. This spartan landscape, described by many as harsh, is the setting for Manzanar National Historic Site.

Manzanar entered my vocabulary from a friend whose mother was interned here as a child. When I started a seasonal job at nearby Death Valley in 2001 my first priority was to drive over the hills to visit this place called Manzanar. Although 10,000 Japanese Americans occupied one square mile of land here during World War II, almost everything was removed after the war. With a few facts from a historical marker and stories from my friend's family I explored the site — first on the designated auto tour, then on foot. Yes, the buildings were gone, but enough evidence remained to permeate my experience with a haunting sadness. What were these foundations? Whose feet traveled this roadbed? Then I came across the remnants of a rock garden with pools and fountains which didn't match my idea of a prison camp. Did the internees have the luxury of gardens and beauty? The landscape had so much to tell me, but without the tools to read it the information scattered like tumbleweeds in a dust storm.

Manzanar opened its interpretive center in April 2004; more than 150,000 people have visited since. Through extensive text and period photographs, a tabletop model of the camp, a movie featuring voices of former internees and the theme of "10,000 Lives, 10,000 Stories," visitors are now given the tools to make a personal connection with Manzanar. Stories of loss abound — loss of possessions, of homes, of family unity, of stability; but also from the children of the camp stories of adventure and community. The exhibits don't shy away from contradictions or controversy but rather put a human face on the story of internment.

A visit to the Interpretive Center is meant to be a beginning. With the knowledge gained in the center the landscape comes alive and the visitor is ready to read the signs left behind in the dirt: that rusty tin can lid with a hole in it served a valuable purpose in the windy spring of 1942; the latrine foundations become poignant after viewing the poster in the center's bathroom; and when a visitor comes across a rock garden they know that internees did, in fact, create and experience beauty in the desert.

Young internee Hikoji Takeuchi illustrated this contradiction in an oral history interview that is excerpted for the park film. He remembered waking up after the first night in camp, covered with sand that had blown in through knot holes in his barracks' ceiling and walls. But that experience followed a night of gazing at the star-studded desert sky visible through those holes. He had never seen a sky so beautiful and concluded, "I guess no matter how rough things get people do appreciate beauty."

Takeuchi's story belies the fear and shame that so many internees felt, but it also adds a building block to our understanding of Manzanar. This landscape is striking, but it becomes compelling and meaningful when we are equipped with the right interpretive tools. The initial emotions of sadness are worthy, but beyond sadness is where we learn the true complexity of the experience and the resilience of the human spirit.

Gretel Enck, a park guide at Manzanar National Historic Site, has worked for the National Park Service for six years. She lives in Independence, California, with her dogs and cats, musical instruments, hiking boots, yarn and punk-rock vegan cookbook.

The historic entrance of Manzanar War Relocation Center features stone buildings designed and constructed by renowned stone mason and Manzanar internee Ryuzo Kado. Mount Williamson rises snow-covered above the site.

The Manzanar Interpretive Center is housed in the adaptively restored 1944 camp auditorium. Some 8,000 square feet of exhibits tell the stories of World War II Japanese American internment and previous inhabitations of this land by Paiute Indians, ranchers and an orchard community.

Foundations, remnants of internee-constructed rock gardens and other evidence of Manzanar's layers of history await the curious visitor.
Bear Paw
Solitude

By Robert West
Bear Paw

As the wind whisks through this lonely piece of Montana prairie, many visitors experience a powerful connection with events that happened here over 128 years ago. Located 16 miles south of Chinoook, Montana, the Bear Paw Battlefield commemorates the final conflict of the Nez Perce War of 1877. To most this is a fascinating place, to some simply the site of a U.S. Army battle, and to others including many Nez Perce of today, this is a sacred and haunting landscape — a place to mourn those who have fallen and to celebrate those that survived.

Following the breakout of war in Idaho, nearly 800 Nez Perce spent a long and arduous summer fleeing U.S. Army troops first toward Crow allies in Wyoming and then toward refuge in Canada. Forty miles short of the Canadian border and following a five-day battle and siege, the Nez Perce ceased fighting at Bear Paw on Oct. 5, 1877, in which Chief Joseph gave his immortal speech: “From where the sun now stands, I will fight no more forever.”

The battlefield eventually became the Chief Joseph Battleground of the Bears Paw State Monument. The site experienced highs and lows as state budgets and interest in the battlefield rose and fell. Unlike many notable Indian battlefields in the American West, Bear Paw remained unnoticed and largely undeveloped for many decades. The National Park Service began management of Bear Paw in 1992 and acquired title to the property in 2005.

The lack of interest in Bear Paw Battlefield may eventually prove to be its greatest savior. Numerous proposals for visitor centers and development have come and gone over the years. Aside from vault toilets, a picnic shelter and a few wayside signs, the battlefield looks much as it did 1877. This condition has become the ideal for many historic sites who seek to restore or maintain their locations as they appeared when notable events occurred. Many Civil War battlefields wish to make the landscape appear as it might have the day before the battle. A lonely stretch of county highway aside, Bear Paw Battlefield maintains its historic setting.

The lack of “improvements” at Bear Paw allows the visitor to experience the tragic events of 1877 without the distractions of vehicle traffic, airplane flyovers, campground noises or retail clutter. One simply has to sit on the battlefield and allow the wind to travel through the grass, feel the changing of the seasons, and be enveloped by the solitude to hear this powerful place speak.

The heartbreaking events that occurred resonate loudly as voices of Nez Perce warriors and U.S. Army soldiers clash in eternal conflict. The crying of Nez Perce children is heard by many as if traveling on the wind, while other visitors tell of hearing the horses of battle whinny and neigh. This sparse landscape has inspired many a poet to place pen to paper and express their moving experiences. Bear Paw Battlefield is truly hallowed ground where the pastness of history fades, if only for a short while.

Bear Paw Battlefield is a unit of Nez Perce National Historical Park.

Robert West is a park ranger at Bear Paw Battlefield. He previously has served at Big Hole National Battlefield and Nez Perce National Historical Park. West recently took the position at Bear Paw after graduating from the parks management program at the University of Idaho. He, his wife and two sons live in Chinook, Montana.
**WEET’U CIKLITUKT: There is no turning back**

By Steven L. Minter

Big Hole

The National Park Service has the role to interpret a vast number of natural, cultural and historical stories in its many varied sites across the United States.

The National Park Foundation has stated: “The National Park Service must ensure the American story is told faithfully, completely and accurately. The story is often noble, but sometimes shameful and sad.”

This refers to the parks recognizing the internment camps for Japanese Americans during World War II. At a closer view this same statement is fitting for a number of other national parks whose compelling stories are on slavery, equal rights, civil rights and the plight of the American Indians.

Big Hole National Battlefield in southwest Montana is situated in a high mountain valley known for its harsh winters, but lush summers. Tribal people for centuries often passed through the valley to hunt and gather roots while traveling from summer to winter homes. The battlefield’s stories take place in August of 1877 between the non-treaty Nez Perce and the 7th Infantry when they clashed in the fiercest battle of a four-month-long war. Big Hole’s stories are of survival and freedom and its stories still reach out and touch the lives of visitors today.

One can witness the emotions of war on the battlefield’s trails, including walking out to where the Nez Perce had camped just days before the battle or into the siege area where the soldiers retreated and stayed surrounded while Nez Perce families escaped. It is also true by wondering around the battlefield’s visitor center and museum or viewing the 26-minute introductory video, “WEET’U CIKLITUKT: There Is No Turning Back,” recently produced by Harpers Ferry Center. As the following story shows, even though there was no turning back for the Nez Perce people after this battle, today we can still look back and feel the effects of this battle.

During the spring of 2005 I was helping with interpretive activities in the visitor center when a Nez Perce mother and her 12-year-old son from the reservation in Lapwai, Idaho, introduced themselves. The mother explained her son was doing a school project on the 1877 Nez Perce War and had brought along a digital video camera to record the history of what happened here. She also mentioned that she and her son were descendents of Josiah Red Wolf, a young boy during the war of 1877 and a survivor of the battle and war.

The mother and son were shown around the visitor center and the son taped the various exhibits on display. I then showed the 26-minute introductory video to the mother and son, along with an older couple in the visitor center. After the video was over, the older gentleman went up to the mother and asked if she was Nez Perce. When she said yes, the older gentleman gave her a hug and said he was sorry for what happened in 1877. At this point, everyone had tears in their eyes, including me.

So, it is still possible for people to personally reconcile with what happened 128 years ago, and the National Park Service must never forget what an important part of this process we can be.

Big Hole is a unit of Nez Perce National Historical Park.

Steven Minter's interest in working at national parks began with driving buses for two summers at Glacier in 1981-82. He then started his NPS career as a seasonal for collector in 1983 at Devil's Tower. For the next three years he worked in fee collection, resource management and interpretation around the country. Minter got his first permanent position in 1986 as a cashier at Carlsbad Caverns. He then moved into administration as a payroll clerk at Younmit, and has worked in various administrative positions at Oregon Caves, Harpers Ferry, Harpers Ferry Center and Big Hole. While working in administrative positions he has provided support as needed for other divisions during special events and visitor center activities.
New York City is a place that thrives on power. Finance, politics, entertainment, sports, communications, plus innumerable other enterprises have their power base in the New York metropolitan area. As the home of the United Nations, New York can truly be called the "capital of the world." There are millionaires and billionaires, stars and moguls, CEOs, presidents, diplomats and even some royalty. New Yorkers understand power because there is so much of it here.

There are also powerful places in New York. The Statue of Liberty's power is in its message of hope and freedom to all of humanity. Ellis Island's power is in the stories of the millions of immigrants who made their way to the United States in search of a better life for themselves and future generations. Morristown National Historical Park's powerful message is one of sacrifice and perseverance in the name of liberty while facing overwhelming odds and challenges. In fact, every National Park Service site in the New York/New Jersey metropolitan area has a powerful story or message for the park's visitors.

Gateway National Recreation Area is no different, but the messages can be subtler. Gateway was created in 1972 by combining a variety of military and city-owned properties in and around the entrance, or "gateway," to New York Harbor. One of the purposes for creating the park was to bring the national park experience to the people of the nation's largest city. In this, Gateway has been phenomenally successful. Just as Yellowstone or Gettysburg can fill a given visitor with an appreciation of the power of nature, or the powerful struggle to rid the nation of slavery and preserve the Union, Gateway can give the same visitor the same senses of natural beauty and history. It also provides millions of people recreational opportunities not usually associated with New York City. Often at Gateway, nature, history and recreation are combined into one experience. And you can get there on the subway.

One of the sites, Floyd Bennett Field, clearly demonstrates the park's success and the power that the park has to renew, inspire and educate visitors. Floyd Bennett Field was opened in 1931 as New York City's first municipal airport. Located on the southern shore of Brooklyn on Jamaica Bay, it was the site of many recordbreaking flights by such aviation pioneers as Wiley Post, Amelia Earhart and Howard Hughes. The field was purchased by the U.S. Navy in 1941, just prior to the nation's entry into World War II. During the war, Floyd Bennett Field was the busiest naval air station in the United States. Test flights were conducted, antisubmarines patrolled and newly manufactured aircraft ferried to the fleet during the war. Floyd Bennett Field continued to operate as Naval Air Station–New York until 1971, when it was closed by the Defense Department. It was included in Gateway NRA when the park was created in 1972.

Today the original terminal and control tower house the park's Ryan Visitor Center. The eight original hangars flank the building on either side. If visitors stand looking out toward the runways and think they hear an old airplane engine off in the distance, they're not hearing things. Across the field in Hangar B, park volunteers are restoring 10 vintage aircraft so the aviation and military history of the field will be preserved, and the story will continue to be told to future generations. In May Floyd Bennett Field will celebrate the 75th anniversary of its opening, with new exhibits and a fly-in by historic aircraft from around the country.

Floyd Bennett Field isn't just an aviation and military history site. At approximately 1,400 acres (almost twice the size of Central Park) it provides the largest area of contiguous open space in New York City. The North Forty Natural Area provides hiking trails where visi-
Often at Gateway, nature, history and recreation are combined into one experience. And you can get there on the subway.

Environmental educational camping program at Floyd Bennett Field.

Floyd Bennett Field isn't just an aviation and military history site. At approximately 1,400 acres (almost twice the size of Central Park) it provides the largest area of contiguous open space in New York City.

Visitors can see the many varieties of birds, wildlife and flora that Jamaica Bay has to offer. The grasslands between the historic runways are managed to provide nesting areas and habitat for native open country birds, whose populations had been in decline. In addition, Floyd Bennett Field is the home of the largest community garden in New York City. More than 600 plots are available for apartment dwellers who like to get dirty planting fruits, vegetables and flowers.

Floyd Bennett Field also has a thriving small boat program. Park rangers and volunteers provide instruction to visitors in canoeing, kayaking and small boat sailing. Thousands of inner city children have taken their first boat ride at Gateway. Of course, the field's shoreline along Jamaica Bay makes it one of the best spots for fishing in the entire area.

Floyd Bennett Field also has the only public campground within the boundaries of New York City. Gateway has worked with the New York Department of Education to give hands-on environmental education to local school children for many years. This includes an overnight camping program, which gives the students the opportunity to learn proper camping techniques, such as "Leave No Trace," and to learn about the ecology of the bay. People from around the country, and even around the world, can be found in Floyd Bennett Field's campsites during the summer.

One of my favorite camping stories happened when a couple from France came to camp at the field for their vacation. I directed them to the campsite in the morning and stopped in to see them in the late afternoon. I was surprised to see them dressed for a night on the town — he in a suit and tie and she in a dress and high-heeled shoes. They were heading off for an evening dinner and a Broadway show.

I guess that perfectly sums up the power of Gateway and Floyd Bennett Field — a place where the natural, recreational, historic and urban worlds can all meet — and find that they can coexist.

Lisa Hallowell is a native New Yorker and has lived in the metropolitan area his whole life. He is a lifelong student of the city's history. A graduate of Fordham University, he earned a bachelor's degree in history in 1991. He began his NPS career in 1994 as a seasonal park ranger at Castle Clinton, then moved across New York Harbor to the Statue of Liberty, and next to Ellis Island where he gained permanent status as a park guide. Currently he is a park ranger/interpreter at Gateway's Jamaica Bay Unit. He is the new ANPR field rep for New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania and Connecticut.
Memorial Day Reflection: The Significance of a Place

From a letter written to the South Dakota media by visitor Steve Simmons, May 2005, reprinted with written permission of the author.

This week marks the observance of Memorial Day, a time when the contributions of those who have served in our armed forces, and especially of those who died in defense of our nation, takes center stage in the public’s consciousness. One year ago, Memorial Day (2004) served as a backdrop for observance of the 60th anniversary of the D-Day landings at Normandy, France. In conjunction with that milestone, veterans of the Normandy invasion and their families visited the hallowed coast of France. Their reasons for journeying to this place were undoubtedly varied and complex. But for some it was certainly an opportunity to return to a place that had been extremely important in their formation as adult human beings. And as people grow older and perhaps wiser, such experiences of returning to formative places can be very significant. All of us have places like this, whether we have taken the time to think about them or not — places where, as we look back on them now, were very significant for helping to “form” us as the people who we are today.

This past week my wife and I, along with some special friends, Steve and Jane, made a visit to a very significant place for us located just east of Wall (South Dakota). This place is the recently established Minuteman Missile National Historic Site. Our time at the site turned out to be much more meaningful for me than I had anticipated. Thirty-three years ago, Steve and I served as Minuteman Missile launch officers and worked in launch control centers and missile launch facilities much like those preserved in association with this historic site.

It is impossible for me to describe the emotions that Steve and I felt as we rode the elevator down into the below-ground launch control center for the first time since our last “alert” duties in May and June of 1972. Serving as a missile launch officer was my hardest job ever. I was just 21 years old when I completed my certification as a launch officer in the fall of 1968, and I have never had a job since that carried more responsibility or was more stressful. On each of our 24-hour tours of duty, as a launch officer I had responsibility for 10 nuclear-armed intercontinental ballistic missiles.

On the good days, all 10 green “on alert” lights on the launch control console, each representing one of the missiles under our command, remained illuminated. Whenever there were mechanical malfunctions or security violations, we would receive alarm indications and would initiate response procedures that involved following any of a number of prescribed checklists. Sometimes these procedures included dispatching maintenance or security personnel to the unmanned missile launch control center. The “worst case” scenario — one that all of us launch officers thought about but seldom discussed — was the prospect that we would one day receive a coded “launch message” from the headquarters in Omaha, Nebraska, that would order us to execute the missile launch process. Most of us launch officers likely lived in some level of denial that such a “doomsday” scenario would happen, and thankfully such a launch message never came.

I have come to understand that my young-adult experiences at places much like the Delta One and Delta Nine missile facilities associated with Minuteman Missile NHS served to help define my values, attitudes and perspectives about the world and my self-awareness more than probably any other period of comparable length in my life. Many of these are remarkably intact today.

Minuteman Missile is a unique and extremely important place for all of us. Although I would not expect everyone to experience the emotional impact in visiting this site that it had for me, many people and especially those from the “boomer” generation do have strong impressions and values that were formed as a result of the Cold War. Whether it was because of the “nuclear attack drills” in schools during the 1950s, the Cuban Missile Crisis of the early 1960s, the strong anti-Soviet rhetoric of the Reagan administration in the early 1980s, or any number of other memories from the Cold War era, anyone 40 or older likely carries some perspectives and values that were formed, in part, from having grown up during that time.

This Minuteman Missile NHS is an extremely valuable resource for anyone who wants to know more about this period of our nation’s history and its impact on our American culture. In time, as the site develops greater recognition, I expect that it will become an important tourist attraction, just as Normandy coast or even the Vietnam Memorial in Washington, D.C., have become over time. But for many visitors like myself, I expect that Minuteman Missile will also be a special place that serves as a catalyst for helping them to “make meaning” of a very formative time of their lives.

Steve Simmons is a resident of St. Paul, Minnesota.
The people behind the powerful places

Adapted from the *Morning Report* on the eve of the year 2000, Bill Halinen, Editor, Division of Ranger Activities

It's hard not to wonder at times whether the incidents that occur in the national parks are a microcosm of the nation at large or are for some reason unique to this agency. At times it seems that the parks are a magnet for people prone to misdeeds, mishaps and misadventures, but, in truth, we're probably not much different from the rest of the country. Except that we perhaps oversee more places where you can get yourself in trouble.

Those of you who have been regular *Morning Report* readers over the years have undoubtedly been struck by the repetitive nature of many of the incidents that occur in the parks, sad refrains sung over and over again. Even though none of us knows for sure what the year 2000 will bring, we know with a high degree of certainty that a climber will commit a fatal mistake, that an unprepared hiker will disappear in some park, that a despairing soul will end his or her life in a remote area, that a swimmer will misestimate his abilities and be pulled from a lake or river by park divers. We also know that someone will be saved in a hair-raising rescue, that a criminal who thinks he's clever will be outsmarted by a ranger who's smarter and more dedicated, that a wildfire will be contained through hard and unstinting efforts of firefighters. And we know that there'll be a half dozen incidents which will leave us shaking our heads, wondering at their oddity or incomprehensibility.

It's therefore important to keep a few things in mind when reading the *Morning Report* — that there are scores of millions of visits to the park each year that don't end up in tragedy, during which people from the United States and a hundred foreign lands experience vignettes from our history, explore and wonder at the last fragments of wild America, and share in a common heritage; that the work of the National Park Service is done not only by rangers, but by thousands of dedicated employees in all divisions, offices and centers; that, despite encroaching cities, global warming, declining ecosystems, preservation funding shortfalls and other tribulations, we still successfully protect the majority of what has been passed on to us and which we will pass on to the next generation. The latter is not always evident, nor something we appreciate when dealing with the sometimes overwhelming challenges of protecting parks and leaving them unimpaired for our children. But think what your area would look like if neither you nor the National Park Service were present — the battlefield subdivided and filled with tract housing; the park wilderness area crisscrossed with billboard-lined highways, its flora and fauna decimated; the historic structure torn down for a fast-food restaurant.

The same applies to your efforts to protect park visitors. The *Morning Report* too often is a summary of instances in which someone could not be saved or protected. But that's only rarely through lack of effort by rangers and other park staff. Not everyone can be educated on park dangers, protected from their own ignorance or foolishness, or stopped from willful criminal activity. The *Morning Report*, moreover, doesn't report on the people who are still walking this earth because they were successfully protected from themselves or their environment. There's no reporting system that tallies the cases in which visitors didn't become victims for the obvious reason that those incidents never occurred. They're out there, though, and you are the invisible guardian angels at their shoulders.

Similarly, there's no statistical summary that quantifies the artifacts protected, the mitigation of impacts to natural resources, the reduction in threats or dangers, much less the attitudes changed or values imparted. But you accomplished all those ends as well.

This country is blessed with public employees in every sector who still believe in service to America and its people, who work with heart and dedication for the common good. But you'd have to look hard to find people more dedicated than those in the National Park Service. Despite moments of discouragement, frustration and outright anger at conditions that stem from reduced staffing and funding and increased burdens (particularly paper burdens), you press on, doing more with less, innovating, wheeling and dealing, unwilling to give up hardships, patient to resolve problems — despite everything, still dedicated to the mission of the Service. You're one hell of a crew.

Over the years, a lot of people have paid tribute to the employees of the National Park Service. Perhaps it's most fitting, though, to close this last *Morning Report* of the year with the closing words of Horace Albright's 1933 farewell letter to his friends and coworkers:

"We have been compared to the military forces because of our dedication and esprit de corps. In a sense this is true. We act as guardians of our country's land. Our National Park Service uniform which we wear with pride does command the respect of our fellow citizens. We have the spirit of fighters, not as destructive, but as a power for good. With this spirit, each of us is an integral part of the preservation of the magnificent heritage we have been given, so that centuries from now people of our world, or perhaps of other worlds, may see and understand what is unique to our earth, never changing, eternal."
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The Last Season

Reviewed by Peter Stekel

On the morning of July 21, 1996, Randy Morgenson tied together the tent flaps of his ranger station at Bench Lake in Kings Canyon National Park and went on patrol. He was never heard from again. What happened to Morgenson and how that story was pieced together is the subject of Eric Blehm's The Last Season.

Tracking down every detail of the Morgenson disappearance, Blehm interviewed the missing backcountry ranger's family, friends and co-workers. He also sifted through reports and logbooks from the Morgenson search and rescue. Not confining himself to a paper search, Blehm walked the ground, following Morgenson's probable last steps. The author's research, his affinity for the missing ranger and Morgenson's probable last steps. The author's research, his affinity for the missing ranger and Morgenson's probable last steps. The author's research, his affinity for the missing ranger and Morgenson's probable last steps. The author's research, his affinity for the missing ranger and Morgenson's probable last steps. The author's research, his affinity for the missing ranger and Morgenson's probable last steps. The author's research, his affinity for the missing ranger and Morgenson's probable last steps. The author's research, his affinity for the missing ranger and Morgenson's probable last steps.

Blehm conveys how backcountry rangers live outdoors in conditions that would make Spartans blush. The job requires an individual who is comfortable with solitude and knows how to handle loneliness. But misanthropes need not apply because, paradoxically, people who gravitate to this job must also be friendly and gregarious since they spend so much time working with the public. Backcountry rangers also must be self-motivated because they work their entire season without significant supervision. These days, in addition to their regular duties (which have changed little since 1965) backcountry rangers have also become medics, law enforcement officers, SAR specialists, interpreters, scientists, research technicians, resource managers and campground rangers. And they still pick up trash.

Randy Morgenson was raised in Yosemite Valley where his father worked for the Curry Company. As a boy during the 1950s, Randy played in the meadows of Yosemite Valley much the same way city kids played in urban parks. Weekends were spent exploring the high country with his brother and father, learning the natural history of the Sierra. Growing up, Morgenson knew Wallace Stegner, Ansel Adams and other Yosemite notables. Stegner coached the young writer on how to prepare his work for publication. Adams gave Randy one of his first cameras. Dana Morgenson instilled a father's love of the Sierra while also teaching young Randy the natural history of John Muir's Range of Light.

His love of the high mountains secure, Morgenson joined the Peace Corps, wanting to climb in the Himalaya Mountains. After three years away he returned to California, realizing the Sierra Nevada offered everything he would ever need.

Blehm has used the techniques of creative non-fiction, but without putting the author in the center of the story, to make The Last Season quite different from other books about rangers. It's not presented as a chronological catalog of events, memories and experiences. Neither is it a natural history book nor a research-oriented regurgitation of incidents or personal history. To the contrary. Facts in The Last Season are thoroughly checked and double-checked — no doubt to the annoyance of many interviewees who had to constantly field questions and provide information over the six years of the author's investigations.

The work, the wait and the questioning were well worth it. What emerges from The Last Season is the story of Randy Morgenson as a ranger par excellence. Yet, the central theme of the book remains the mystery of what happened to Morgenson that day in July and it plays as such — the clues, the tension, failures, friendships, love and human frailty. And it's also the story of the National Park Service when the Wilderness Act of 1964 was young — before it forever changed the concept of how our nation's wild lands would be visited and managed.

How things have changed in 45 years! In 1965, Randy Morgenson's first year as a seasonal backcountry ranger, he wasn't required to know CPR. He carried no sidearm or handcuffs and had no training in search and rescue. In fact, Morgenson received no training of any kind before taking up his station at Rae Lakes, deep within the wilderness of Kings Canyon. At his post, located along the John Muir Trail, Morgenson was responsible for "spreading the gospel" of wilderness to as many hikers and packers as possible. He issued fire permits, picked up trash, naturalized campsites, picked up trash, gave assistance whenever possible (and radioed for help whenever assistance was not possible), picked up trash and represented the law of the land. Oh, and he picked up trash.

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motivations, a cast of characters, the investigation and finally the denouement.

Blehm delicately covers the topic of Morgenson's extramarital affair — a love story with three broken hearts. Torn by his actions and aware of the pain he caused, Morgenson was deeply depressed the summer of his disappearance. This led to some searchers thinking Morgenson had either deserted his post or committed suicide. Feelings are still passionate about Morgenson and that summer. Working a SAR, as any ranger knows, is difficult physically and emotionally. But to be searching for one of your own adds a dimension deeper than any civilian can ever comprehend or understand.

The Last Season handles the lessons from the Randy Morgenson SAR unaffected by strong emotion or prejudice. No person is excoriated for failing in their duties, overlooking or missing clues. If anything, Blehm is unstinting in his praise for all the people involved in the search. Not so the systems they were required to use or the follow up, including the issue of how duty-related deaths are handled.

When NPS duty-related deaths occur (as when a fire fighter was killed in Kings Canyon National Park a few years ago), findings and recommendations are published and quickly acted upon. However, ranger divisions are much slower to act. Important recommendations made by the serious accident investigation team after Morgenson's death have still not been implemented nationally. They include a daily check-in procedure for rangers working in remote areas, GPS trackers and emergency beacons. These procedures would enhance protocols already in place for checking on rangers who haven't reported in over 24 hours.

Another issue Blehm mentions involves health care benefits for seasonal rangers. Simply stated, long-term seasonal don't get health benefits.

Blehm is also concerned that no program exists to honor length of service for seasonal rangers. He cites how Morgenson worked 28 seasons for the NPS yet received no recognition of his service. Randy, in his log books, especially toward the end of his life, was upset with this lack of recognition. He always felt that the issues of recognition and health benefits were an indication that seasonal weren't being treated fairly, that their work was neither understood nor appreciated.

The Last Season also examines the role of communications failures in remote national parks. If radio contact with the backcountry is as poor today, as Blehm maintains, as it was when Randy Morgenson went missing in 1996, then perhaps nothing was learned. This would be a tragedy. Radios issued in the spring of 1996 were bad. Not one of them was tough enough to survive the Sequoia and Kings Canyon backcountry. There were problems with the radio repeaters too, with huge dead zones in the backcountry. Sequoia and Kings Canyon finally mapped these zones and tried to improve the repeaters but, as of summer 2005, success has been limited.

Weaving a genuinely interesting personal story along with important ranger issues, Eric Blehm has written an important book. He has succeeded in informing readers about wilderness, backcountry rangers and important NPS issues — all through the lens of Randy Morgenson's life and death.

For information about book signings and more, go to www.thelastseason.com. JWaW

Peter Stekel writes on the subjects of science and nature from his home in Seattle, Washington. If he wasn't a writer, he would be a ranger, he says, because it's great work and you meet great people. For more information visit www.peterstekel.com
The Professional Ranger

Administration

Acting Administrative Officer — During my maternity leave from Sept. 20, 2005, to Jan. 17, 2006, Yosemite Chief of Interpretation and Education Chris Stein was designated as acting chief of administration. He stated that he gained a new respect for the administrative operations and provided some valuable input for Yosemite to consider. I would like to share his words with Ranger readers:

> Serious position management needs to take place now. To effectively accomplish this, I recommend that you bring in a NPS human resource person who has done this elsewhere (preferably at a large park). The squad needs to work with this person (for up to a week) to develop a core organization chart of employees we must have, those that are nice to have, and those that may not be needed anymore. When these difficult personnel decisions are made, we'll know what we need to do in the future to hire and develop the human resources of our park.

> The first move in serious position management is to immediately put the brakes on hiring (in this case, hiring on ONPS monies, but it applies to soft monies as well). No division chief will take you seriously unless they personally 'feel it.' Freeze the hiring of all ONPS-funded positions. Yes, there will always be exceptions to the rule, but, for the most part, very few exceptions should be made to this hiring freeze (everyone has a sad story). You may also consider freezing every position (even soft money funded jobs) because this soft money may be needed to pay for another position (if legally possible) after position management decisions are made.

> Yosemite spends a million dollars (or more) each year in ONPS monies for seasonals and PLTFT salaries above and beyond our six-month obligations. Realizing that 'it's not that simple,' this initial foray into how our ONPS money is spent deserves further investigation because it could potentially be an area to look at to help balance the budget in the future. Any new ONPS rules should be given to division chiefs at the start of the fiscal year (or sooner) so they can forewarn their branch chiefs and budget analysts.

> Seasonal housing policies (e.g., how bed numbers are distributed, who is selected for housing, etc.) need clarification. With our increase in hiring of TERM LTFT employees (who are currently eligible for seasonal housing), we might seriously be limiting housing availability for "true" seasonal employees.

> I recommend that Heather continue to periodically take all administration employees for educational outings in the park so they can see why they work at Yosemite. I know that Heathcr has done this in the past. During my detail, during the scheduled power black out, I took the administration team over Tioga Pass to Mono Lake (unbelievably, some employees had never been there before). I also took the team on a Valley Floor tram tour — they loved it! I feel that these "outing" are essential for administration staff who do not regularly visit the park.

From the sound of it, Chris learned a lot in a few of the complex things we deal with from day to day in administration and can now appreciate more all we do. I encourage others who aren't admin specialists to take similar opportunities to understand more about admin operations.

— Heather Whitman

Yosemite

Interpretation

Editor's note: New Ranger columnist Jeff Axel describes himself as a paid snowbird. He is sharing duties of this interpretation column with Rick Kendall of Death Valley.

I should tell you a secret. I work at two parks. I'm permanent. As far as I know, I am the only interpretive ranger in the National Park Service who is permanent, GS-9, and can call two parks home. I spend the summer at Lake Roosevelt National Recreation Area in Washington state managing the interpretive operation at Fort Spokane. I spend the winters at balmy Tumacacori National Historical Park in southern Arizona. I've been in this position since 2002.

Most NPS seasonal are lucky if they can find work in winter and summer. They have to pay for their own biannual migration. I am paid per diem and travel expenses to drive between my two parks. In addition, I have the same benefits as any permanent employee. This job is called a "split" position. Neither park that hired me had enough funding for a permanent full performance ranger year round, but together they did. They also have different peak seasons, so the position benefited both parks. Lake Roosevelt hatched the idea to split a vacant interpretive ranger to meet the park's most dire interpretive needs. Tumacacori had lost a GS-9 to retirement and could not afford a replacement, but needed help during the busy winter season. Both parks had to let go of off-season interpretive projects. They found each other after an announcement on InsideNPS.

The job was conceived as a GS-5/7/9 position with the potential to bring someone new into the NPS. This was the open door that allowed me to build my NPS career and reach the professional level. After four years I've begun looking for a job where I don't have to move any more. Almost every day I think how lucky I am to be in such a position. I still remember when I got the call. I was sitting in my bedroom at Zion at 44 Watchman looking out my bedroom window at the Navajo sandstone cliffs when the phone rang. That call ended my five years as a seasonal and the next 35 years came into focus.

Why would I like to see my position emulated at other parks in the Service? It is unconventional and fun. It built my skills quickly because it exposed me to two different park operations. I met many NPS employees and vastly increased my knowledge of other parks in the system. The job opens a door to permanent employment for those dedicated to the Service but still living a flexible life. As we all know, it is profoundly difficult to break into the permanent ranks because of the level of competition. Current permanent employees who don't want to move would be disinclined to apply. This reduces the number of applicants and increases the selection odds for seasonal employees. I have friends out there, still seasonal, who are chomping at the bit for permanent employment. They wouldn't mind the inconvenience of moving.

For managers reading this: if you are pondering sharing a permanent employee with another park you would do the NPS a great service by bringing in new employees to replace the retiring ranks and give deserving applicants a chance at a federal career. Plus, without having to fund a year-long FTE, you can find budget relief. This sort of creative position allows you to meet basic needs without losing a position in our current budget situation. Depending on the career field, the position may be open to special hiring authorities such as outstanding scholar, disability and SCEP hires.

There are challenges to the job. I had not anticipated the complications of maintaining two desks, two computers, two filing systems,
Addendum: Jeff Axel started working as an interpretive ranger with the NPS straight out of college in 1998. He worked first as an SCA intern at Lake Roosevelt, later a GS-7 seasonal supervisor, and now as the interpretive supervisor at Fort Sphonage in Lake Roosevelt NRA. He also has worked at Carlsbad Caverns, Zion, and Tumacacori. Currently he works for the Juan Bautista de Anza National Historic Trail. He looks forward to continuing to write columns for Ranger magazine. If you want more information about split-position jobs, contact him at jeff.axel@nps.gov.

Protection

Dare You to Move — In Army infantry units, soldiers are expected to be able to "shoot, move, and communicate." So much so, that it has become an infantry mantra. The parallels between the infantry and rangering in the Park Service are uncanny, and like infantry troops, we rangers need to be able to shoot, move, and communicate.

I'd like to focus here on the "move" part. A few years ago a contemporary rock music band called Switchfoot released a song titled, "Dare You to Move." In an interview about the song, band members explained that it was meant to inspire people to get off the couch, to get outside and experience the world, to really live. Remember Braveheart: "Every man dies. Not every man really lives."

In short, the song was meant to inspire people to — move. When we are doing our jobs right, we are definitely moving. We ride, hike, run and pedal trails, climb the peaks, run the rivers, patrol the mountains, deserts, canyons, forests, shorelines and city streets. We catch the perps, fight (and light) the fires, treat and rescue the injured, search for the lost, and we manage the resources via any number of varied patrol mediums.

Moving like this can be times be arduous work, but for many of us, that's one of the few things that attracted us to rangering. It makes us feel alive. We relish the opportunities to sweat, to breathe hard, to bleed, to move. If it hurts a little, so what? In his autobiographical account of his unprecedented running feats, Ultramarathon Man, author and running legend Dean Karnazes quotes a man named John Short: "What counts in battle is what you do when the pain sets in."

As we begin to move more, an amazing thing happens — we become more fit. The more fit we become, the easier it is for us to do the physically challenging parts of our jobs. Physical exertion actually becomes an enjoyable aspect of our jobs.

The Park Service allows us three hours per week of devoted physical fitness time. Many of us take advantage of this, but many do not. How many people do you know who would welcome the privilege of exercising on the clock?

I can think of hundreds of reasons why rangers should place a high premium on physical fitness throughout our careers, and for that matter, our lives.

If you maintain a good frame of mind regarding fitness, it shouldn't be an irksome task that we dread. Instead, it ought to be a crucial part of our day that we actually look forward to, that we seek out. Our workouts should make us feel alive.

The fact that we can spend time on duty pursuing a level of physical fitness is a sweet benefit of our already-envious jobs. But three hours a week won't cut it. That's where our frame of mind comes in. If we place that high premium on fitness, our attitudes will reflect it during our off-duty time, too.

Why not walk laps at a local charity relay? Devote one evening a week to a family bike ride. Run a 5k or a 10K. Better yet, a marathon — 26.2 miles. Seems like a lot. But with diligent training, you can do it. And once you do, those endorphins kick in — you are alive! P-Diddy and Oprah did it. Go on, run a marathon, I dare you.

I dare you to get out of the cruiser. Hit the trails. Get that heart rate up — your loved ones will thank you later. — Kevin Moses Big South Fork

Resource Management

In preparing for a presentation to the National Park Foundation's Ecological Research Fellows, a group of post-doctoral scientists performing basic research in national parks across the country, I was asked to explain why parks are often — in the words of the researchers — "unfriendly" to research, especially to experimental design and manipulative studies.

The question was the complete opposite of those which I frequently get asked in parks, by rangers and other staff, which generally go something like this: "What good is that research anyway? Why can't they do it somewhere else?"

I gave the "post-docs," who already have earned Ph.D.s but are usually in a sort of purgatory between grad school and having a faculty job at a university or research institution (or holding a term position with the NPS), a bit of Management Policies, with a touch of the Omnibus Act of 1998 thrown in. That parks can support both applied (helps address a specific park-related issue) and basic research (may help society as a whole or simply advance the state of knowledge without a direct application known at present). That we are compelled to use the best available science to help us make decisions about how we manage resources and people. That, while older policies asked us and the scientists to consider whether the research needed a park environment and, if not, it was likely to be disapproved, that stricture no longer holds. However, I said that studies which manipulate park resources, even for a short-term experiment, are a harder sell, even to a chief of resources like me. Like a medical doctor, I'm programmed to "first, do no harm."

I also told them that, in my view, NPS culture, especially in the parks, is still rather conservative if not suspicious about research. It is certainly easier to get research review boards, resource councils, wilderness committees and park managers to approve studies that tackle critical park issues. The denials and/or the jokes come more often for someone studying the sex life of bumblebee wasps (a real example from my current park), even if no NPS money or support is involved.

The post-docs working in parks from Acadia to the Santa Monica Mountains, few in wilderness settings, spoke passionately about the value of basic research — and how parks were often an ideal location in which to work because they are such an undisturbed, healthy natural environment compared to almost anywhere else in the nation.
plant ecologist put it, “There’s so much less noise in the system.”

Researchers generally love to talk about their work. I always encourage them to check in with park rangers (and follow the rules and be low maintenance!), explain what they're doing and, later, share interesting findings and implications with many audiences through various means. Still, the very nature of research is slow and meticulous, calling for great deliberation and analysis, and often equivocal in outcome. It’s not atypical to wait two years after the completion of field work for results to be presented, especially if the researcher seeks peer-reviewed publication — the highest test of quality work. It’s the polar opposite of most protection rangering, at least — immediate, adrenaline pumping, and calling for quick, decisive judgment, action and documentation.

The “fellows” left me pondering the chasm that may exist between what the scientific community thinks parks should provide, not just to them but to society, and what rangers think about permitting and supporting research in their parks. I invite you to converse, if not with me and other readers in Ranger, then with your local resource managers and researchers. — Sue Consolo Murphy

Grand Teton

Retirement
Columnist Frank Betts is taking this issue off for some travel time. Watch for his column in the summer edition of Ranger.

If you’re serious about advancing your career . . .

try the ANPR Mentoring Program

Whether you want to be a protégé or a mentor, the first step is filling out an application. You will find the forms on ANPR’s website at www.anpr.org. Go to the link under Membership Services.

Questions? Contact Bill Supernaugh, ANPR’s mentoring coordinator, at bsuper@brightok.net.

ANPR ACTIONS

Actions by Association President
Over the past months Lee Werst, ANPR’s president, has spent time on these items:

- Responded to a request by an elementary school class for information on the duties of a park ranger.
- Reviewed correspondence dealing with membership and fundraising possibilities.
- Numerous conversations with friends and partners of the association to find new methods for increasing membership and fundraising.
- Preliminary work on the next fiscal year’s budget.

ANPR Reports

Updates from the Membership Front
For the past year, Membership Services Board Member Kale Bowling-Schaff, former ANPR President Dick Martin and many other volunteers have been working hard to tackle the many challenges of membership retention and recruitment that ANPR faces going into our fourth decade.

Some of these challenges include:

- reaching out to new generations of NPS employees from a variety of disciplines, grade levels, educational institutions and park partners
- ensuring that every expiring member gets plenty of notice to renew
- doing a better job of publicizing the numerous professional and personal benefits of an ANPR membership
- increasing the number of members who are actively recruiting others and volunteering on committees

Meet Your New Field Representatives
We realized very quickly that we needed as much assistance as we could muster from active volunteers across the country. So in Charleston the board approved a new system of field representatives to better serve ANPR’s members on a more personal level. Unlike the old regional rep system in which reps were board positions and served a wide variety of functions, these new field rep positions will function primarily in retaining and recruiting ANPR members in a small field area.

The members listed on the next page have generously agreed to act as your field representatives. Contact them for assistance with:

- the status of your membership
- updating your contact information (we especially need your personal e-mail address and home phone number)

Field reps also need your help to keep ANPR healthy and relevant! Even if you have only a few hours a month to volunteer, your help is needed in:

- recruiting or retaining members at your park or office
- recruiting members at your current college or alma mater that has NPS-relevant degree programs
- contacting recently expired members in your area
- any other contacts or membership ideas you have to contribute
Clair and Liz Roberts, SITK (liznclair@att.net, 907-966-2732)

Pacific Northwest (WA, OR, ID) and Canada:
Michelle Supernauh Torok, OLYM (mtorok@olypen.com, 360-417-3711)

Plains (ND, SD, NE, KS, IA, MO):
Todd Stoeberl, THRO (darkside0704@yahoo.com, 701-842-2267)

Rockies (MT, WY, CO):
Dan Greenblatt, GRTE (dan_greenblatt@yahoo.com, 307-543-0925)

California:
Bob Bryson, MOJA (rubryson@earthlink.net, 760-245-2507)

South Central (OK, TX, AR, LA):
Dick Zahm, WABA (rizahm@dobsonteleco.com, 580-497-3154)

Midwest (MN, WI, MI, IL, IN, OH):
Randy & Mary Beth Wester, LIBI/MWRO (rmbwester@psci.net, 812-544-2283)

Southeast (MS, AL, TN, KY, GA, SC):
Adam Prato, GUIS (acprato@bellsouth.net, 228-872-6785)

Mid-Atlantic (NJ, DE, PA, NY, CT):
Linc Hallowell, GATE (jlhallowell@yahoo.com, 201-333-2193)

Field Reps are still needed in:
Southwest (AZ, NM, UT, NV)
Florida
Capital Area (NC, VA, MD, DC, WV)
New England (ME, VT, NH, MA, RI)

SPECIAL PROJECTS (contact these folks with your ideas or to help in the following areas)
Kevin Damstra (kdamstra72@yahoo.com) and Scott Johnson (scott_johnson08@hotmail.com)

EDUCATION COMMUNITY OUTREACH
Steve Dodd, Northern Arizona University (steve.dodd@nau.edu, 928-526-5779), and Mark
Giese, Ohio State University (giese.1@oou.edu, 614-527-1441)

SEASONAL OUTREACH
Cindy Hawkins (cindyhawk81@hotmail.com) and Jared Brewer (brewdog81@yahoo.com)

LIFE MEMBER and FOUNDING MEMBER OUTREACH
Dick Martin (qsmamo@frontiernet.net, 559-240-1036)

Won't you help build a better ANPR into our fourth decade? Contact Membership Services
Board Member Kale Bowling-Schaff at 530-667-5018 or anpr_membership@animail.net
to volunteer or for more information. We look forward to hearing from you!

Introducing . . .
Gift Memberships

When was the last time you checked out the membership application on the back inside cover
of this magazine or on the website? There's an important new addition!
The board and members attending Rendezvous late last year approved the
addition of a “Gift Membership” category. Though many ANPR members
regularly give memberships to friends and co-workers as gifts or awards, this
new category gives the added incentive of a reduced rate: $25 for one year or
$45 for two years.

While this category is intended only for single-time gifts to new members (no
renewals or lapsed members, please, or “gifting yourself”), imagine the possi-
bilities for enlarging and diversifying the ANPR membership. If every member
gave just one gift membership, we
would double our membership!

As an additional incentive, ANPR
partner American Park Network has
generously agreed to donate a keychain
LED flashlight to 200 new ANPR
members.

So have you got a talented seasonal in
mind who could benefit from the profes-
sional advice in Ranger magazine or the
mentoring program? How about your
old natural resources professor who likes
to keep up on NPS issues? How about
the management team co-members you
always talk policy with, or a cooperating
association representative?

Go ahead and do it! Maybe the person
you gift will become a leader in ANPR
for decades to come. •
New ANPR e-mail service comes online

Special Concerns Board Member Tom Bowling-Schaff has also been working hard since Rendezvous to create an e-mailing service for ANPR. While members will continue to get quarterly updates through Ranger and occasional mailings, e-mails will allow us to keep in touch with the membership on a more regular basis.

Whether breaking news or a chance to add your voice on an NPS policy issue, updates on ANPR accomplishments, opportunities available in mentoring, training, or special subsidies to attend conferences, e-mails will keep you more up to date and give you more opportunities to be actively involved in ANPR than ever before. Rest assured that your inbox will not be flooded with messages or your address shared with anyone (other addresses will not appear in headers of messages coming from us).

Front Range Internet, which hosts the ANPR website, is providing this service. By now you should have received messages through frii.com. If you have not, it means one of two things:

- Your security settings will not allow messages from anprmail@frii.com to go through. **Solution:** add this address to your settings.
- You have not provided a personal e-mail address to ANPR. We only have personal e-mail addresses for approximately one-half of the current membership, and prefer not to send ANPR messages to nps.gov addresses. **Solution:** Go to www.frii.com/mailinglists/list-info/anprmail and add your information.

Please note that maintenance of addresses in this mailing list is self-service, meaning that additions and changes to your e-mail will not be processed by the business office or the board, with the exception of the recent entry of all available personal e-mails at the startup of this service.

If you wish to change the address at which you receive e-mails from ANPR, please follow the links at the bottom of any e-mail from us, or go to the web page listed above.

Currently this service is set up to only generate outgoing messages. It cannot receive replies or act as a discussion board. However, each message will have a board member or other member's e-mail inside the message to handle replies or comments. You can also write to any board member or volunteer with ideas for an all-membership message you would like to see sent out.

Your comments and patience are welcome as the bugs are worked out in this new system. We look forward to being able to e-mail 100 percent of the membership in the near future. Register your address today!

Founding member/life member issues challenge

Former ANPR president and current membership volunteer Dick Martin recently stepped up to the plate in a big way with a donation of $1,000 earmarked for membership and recruitment activities.

Thanks to Dick and spouse Mary for their most generous and continued support of a dynamic and growing ANPR. Over the years, many life members have also generously “upgraded” their memberships by becoming Second and Third Century members, and ANPR extends its gratitude to these members.

For those of you who have not had the opportunity to help out in recent years, Dick extends the following challenge to ANPR’s numerous founding members:

“I recently sent a check to ANPR for $1,000. Over the past 20 plus years that I have been a life member I have cost ANPR about $900 (at about $45 per year). My original life membership cost me only $200.

“The $1,000 seemed cheap compared to the great benefits that I have received from ANPR. ANPR has provided me with some of my best friends, some of my most memorable trips, many of my best-remembered funny stories. ANPR gave me the opportunity to exercise leadership, to favorably influence NPS direction and policy, to mentor and be mentored, to network and to have fun doing them. I, of course, continue to look forward to and to receive ANPR’s premier publication, Ranger.

“ANPR is providing these sorely needed benefits to today’s members. At the most recent Rendezvous, I was greatly inspired by the young people that are the energy of today’s ANPR. They have the drive, brains and dedication to go on to make ANPR into the employee organization for which there is an ever growing need, particularly in today’s world.

“All we founding members need to do is provide a little continued support and encouragement.”

Founding member or not, you can send your donation to the Business Office address listed on the back cover of this magazine or online at: https://www.anpr.org/donate.htm.

There are exciting times ahead for ANPR as we enter our fourth decade and look forward to the centennial of the National Park Service.

Whether you can become a field rep, volunteer a small amount of time to help the field reps, send along your ideas or contacts from years of experience, or reach just a little farther into your pocketbook to help membership efforts, we thank every one of you in advance for doing your part. —Kale Bowling-Schaff

Membership Services

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Scotland IRF Congress — The 5th World Ranger Congress in Stirling, Scotland, begins June 14 and runs through June 21. More than 180 people have registered in advance, the most received by this date of any other Congress. If you are an ANPR member and haven’t registered to attend yet, please consider doing so. World congresses provide a unique opportunity to interact with rangers from more than 40 countries with similar management, resource and field experiences to share. For more information see the IRF Consultancy website at www.ranger-irfc.com or the IRF website at www.int-ranger.net.

Ranger Winter Competition in Germany — On a trip to Italy in January, I toured some of the Lazio regional parks north of Rome with Guido Baldi, chief ranger of Lago Di Vico Natural Reserve and the current president of the Italian Ranger Association (Associazione Italiana Guardie di Parchi e delle Aree Protette – AIGAP). He and several other rangers from his region will attend the IRF Congress in Scotland. Baldi and a team of rangers attended the European ranger winter competition Jan. 27 in Berchtesgaden National Park in Germany. This competition, held every year somewhere in Europe, brings teams of rangers from different countries together for a weekend to participate in competition including alpine skiing, grand slalom and shooting (compressed air rifles).

I spoke with him about the possibility of ANPR being able to form a team in the future (next year the competition will be in Italy). He felt that we would be welcome. It was too soon after the competition to get a report from him for this issue of Ranger, but I will try and have a report with pictures in the next edition. Any takers for such a challenge next year? — Tony Sisto

Acclaimed Idaho resort is site for Rendezvous in November

Planning is underway for this year’s Rendezvous at the world famous Coeur d’Alene Resort on the lake in downtown Coeur d’Alene, Idaho.

This is truly one of the best properties to host a Ranger Rendezvous. For the third consecutive year the resort has received the prestigious Platinum Choice Award from the readers of Smart Meetings Magazine. This award, which is the publication’s highest honor, is voted on by meeting planners and awarded to properties with “exceptional facilities that provide exemplary service.”

In addition, the resort was also named one of the Best Hotels in the World by readers of Travel Leisure Magazine. The resort is an experience in itself with such features as a spa, simulated golf driving range, bowling alley, gym, swimming pool, Starbucks and several world class restaurants.

A Legacy of Leadership

Rendezvous Program co-chairs J.T. and Flo Townsend and Roberta D’Amico have selected a theme of “A Legacy of Leadership” around which to develop our program and workshops. Along with speakers and workshops we will also have our exhibit hall and other evening entertainment, some old and some new.

One highlight of the week may be an evening dinner cruise on Lake Coeur d’Alene. The Rendezvous agenda will be slightly different this year than the past several years. We are trying to limit attendee expenses so we will schedule a free afternoon rather than a full day; thus we are able to drop the last half day from the agenda and allow attendees to spend one less night at the hotel.

The Rendezvous will begin Friday, Nov. 10, with an all-day board meeting and an evening function. Registration will begin Friday afternoon, but the Rendezvous will officially open Saturday morning, Nov. 11. Sessions will run through midafternoon Tuesday, Nov. 14. Coeur d’Alene is about 45 minutes from the Spokane, Washington, airport via Interstate 90. We have secured a $75 hotel room rate that is approximately 50 percent off the resort’s normal room rates. This year’s Rendezvous will be an experience you won’t want to pass up. So come join old friends and make new ones in Coeur d’Alene this November.

For additional details on the hotel you can visit their website at www.cdaresort.com. A draft agenda and pre-registration information will be posted on the ANPR website — www.anpr.org — as it becomes available so check the site regularly. — Dan Moses

Rendezvous Coordinator
**All in the Family**

Please send news about you and your family. All submissions should include the author's return address and phone number.

Send via e-mail to fordedit@aol.com or write to Teresa Ford, Editor, 26 S. Mt. Vernon Club Road, Golden, CO 80401. You also can send All in the Family submissions and/or update your address/home phone/personal e-mail by visiting ANPR’s website: www.anpr.org. Go to the Member Services tab.

Julena Campbell (GRTE, SHEN, USFWS, BLRI, SHEN) and Jeff Martinelli (GRCA, GRCA, SHEN) were married at a casual outdoor ceremony on the Campbell family farm in Virginia on Sept. 24, 2005. A picnic reception and dancing in a renovated goat barn followed. They are happy that several NPS friends from previous parks could attend. The wedding was a blast! Julena supervises operations at the Byrd Visitor Center at Big Meadows and Jeff is a protection ranger in the Central District of the park. They live at 2406 Lanier Lane, McGaheysville VA 22840. jeffandjulena@earthlink.net

Marten and Margarita Schmitz (WABA, PECO, AGFO, PEFO, JELA, CHAM, NAVA, LECA, CAVE, FODA, BIBE) are happy to announce the birth of their daughter, **Sara Rocio Magdalena**, who weighed in at 6 pounds and 15.5 ounces on Jan. 30. She joins **Sebastian**, 12, and **Marcy Carmen**, 7. The family can be reached at 304 Lakeview Road, Elk City, OK 73644; 2mars@itlnet.net

Oberweissenbrunn in northern Bavaria, the birthplace of **Ranger** editor Teresa Ford's grandmother, Lena Reinhart.

Welcome to the ANPR family!

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

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<tr>
<th>Name</th>
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<tr>
<td>Philip Basak</td>
<td>Columbus, OH</td>
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<td>Philip Batalion</td>
<td>Cambridge, MA</td>
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<td>Tim Bommer</td>
<td>Jackson, WY</td>
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<td>Claudia Chalden</td>
<td>Tinley Park, IL</td>
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<td>Tammi Corcher</td>
<td>Marvel, CO</td>
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<td>Dana Dierkes</td>
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<td>Greg Dudgeon</td>
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<td>Jon Fish</td>
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<td>Joe Hoffmann</td>
<td>Plantation, FL</td>
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<td>March Johnson</td>
<td>Marble, CO</td>
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<td>Parks Canada Library</td>
<td>Manitoba, Canada</td>
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<td>Stephen Martin</td>
<td>Washington, DC</td>
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<td>Francis McMauamon</td>
<td>Oakton, VA</td>
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<td>Ami Thompson</td>
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<td>Clarence Wadkins</td>
<td>Sitka, AK</td>
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Missing Members

We've lost track of these members! Send information to ANPR, P.O. Box 108, Larned, KS 67550-0108; anprbusiness@anpr.org

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Location</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>John Krambrink</td>
<td>Eatonville, WA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>David Parker</td>
<td>Saint Augustine, FL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Daniel Swank</td>
<td>Grass Lake, MI</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
for three generations

A whirlwind tour through Bavaria took Ranger editor Teresa Ford, her daughter, Melissa, and Teresa's mother, Miriam Thome, to several national parks and the birth village of Miriam's mother.

The summer trip in 2005 was the culmination of more than 10 years of genealogical research to find the late Lena Reinhart's birthplace. Lena, Miriam's mother, came to the United States at 6; then lost track of her birth records and her family in Europe when her mother died of tuberculosis.

An added bonus of the three-week trip was the chance to meet newfound relatives, some still living in the Reinhart family home in Oberweisenthann, Bavaria. The trio also visited several national parks.

Dining at a German restaurant.

What can ANPR membership do for you?

The Association of National Park Rangers is an organization looking out for your interests for more than 28 years. As a member, you have access to many benefits. Included are:

- Quarterly Ranger magazine with thought-provoking articles
- Employee voice to upper management and Capitol Hill
- Social functions with all disciplines from NPS
- Sponsored training with discounts to members
- Annual Ranger Rendezvous with professional workshops and other venues
- Access to partner organizations
- Sales items that enhance pride and morale

Prospective members, see the membership form on inside back cover.

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For more information: visit the ANPR website at www.anpr.org or contact board member Kale Bowling-Schauf; anpr_membership@animail.net.

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<tr>
<th>ITEM</th>
<th>PRICE</th>
<th>QUANTITY</th>
<th>TOTAL</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Long-sleeved polo mesh shirts: Men's M - L - XL - XXL Women's S - M - L - XL Colors: gray heather, white, honey gold (circle size and color)</td>
<td>$35.00</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Short-sleeved polo mesh shirts Men's M - L - XL - XXL Women's S - M - L - XL Colors: gray heather, steel heather, beige, white (circle size and color)</td>
<td>$30.00</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Large belt buckle, pewter, 3-inch</td>
<td>$28.50</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Small belt buckle, pewter, 2-inch</td>
<td>$25.00</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Ballcap, khaki</td>
<td>$17.00</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>T-shirts from 2003 Rendezvous in Plymouth, Mass. Long sleeves; sizes: M - L - XL - XL</td>
<td>$5.00</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>T-shirt from 2004 Rendezvous in Rapid City, S.D. Red with black letters; sizes: M - L - XL - XL</td>
<td>$5.00</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>T-shirt from 2005 Rendezvous in Charleston, S.C., short sleeves, light blue with logo on front, scene on back; sizes: M - L - XL - XL</td>
<td>$12.00</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ANPR coffee mug (ceramic)</td>
<td>$4.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Writing pen</td>
<td>$4.00</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ANPR cloisonne pin or 25th anniversary pin, silver with relief, 3/4-in. round (circle choice)</td>
<td>$2.00</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Mousepad, tan with ANPR logo</td>
<td>$2.00</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ANPR decal</td>
<td>$1.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Can koozie</td>
<td>$1.50</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Subtotal |

Shipping & handling (see chart) |

TOTAL (U.S. currency only)

Check [www.anpr.org/promo.htm](http://www.anpr.org/promo.htm) for more color images of products

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Questions?
Contact Teresa Ford at fordedit@aol.com

Send order form and check — payable to ANPR — c/o Teresa Ford, 26 S. Mt. Vernon Club Road, Golden, CO 80401.

Name
Address
Phone
E-mail
MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION — Association of National Park Rangers

☐ New Member or ☐ Renewal / Returning Member Date __________

Name of ANPR member we may thank for encouraging you to join ______________________________

Name(s) ____________________________ 4-letter code of park / office where you work __ __ __

(Retired NPS employee=RETI, Former NPS Employee=FNPS, Student/Educator=EDUC, Park Supporter=PART)

Address ___________________________ City ___________________________ Home phone ___________________________

State ________ Zip+4 ________ Personal e-mail address ___________________________

ANPR will use e-mail as an occasional — but critical — communication tool. We will not share your information with any other organization. It is our policy not to conduct ANPR business via NPS e-mail or phone.

Type of Membership (check one)

Gift Membership

Name of person gifting gift ___________________________

Active (current & former NPS employees and volunteers)

☐ $25 ☐ $45

Seasonal/Intern/Volunteer

☐ $25 ☐ $45

Under $30,000 annual salary (GS-4/5 or equivalent)

☐ $35 ☐ $65

$30,000 – $44,999 (GS-7/9 or equivalent)

☐ $45 ☐ $85

$45,000 – $64,999 (GS-11/12 or equivalent)

☐ $60 ☐ $115

$65,000 + (GS-13 and above)

☐ $75 ☐ $145

Associate Members (other than NPS employees)

Student ☐ $25 ☐ $45

Regular ☐ $45 ☐ $85

Life Members (May be made in three equal payments over three years; indicate if paying in one installment ☑ or three ☐)

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☐ $750 ☐ $1,000

Associate (other than NPS employees)

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Library Subscription Rate / Non-Profit Organization Membership (two copies of each issue of Ranger sent quarterly)

☐ $100 for 1 year

It costs ANPR $45 a year to service a membership. If you are able to add an additional donation, please consider doing so. Thank you!

☐ $10 ☐ $25 ☐ $50 ☐ $100 ☐ Other ______

TOTAL ENCLOSED: __________

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☐ Fund Raising

☐ Membership

☐ Rendezvous Activities

☐ Mentoring

☐ Other (list: __________________________)

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