

RANGER

The Journal of the Association of National Park Rangers

Stewards for parks, visitors & each other

Vol. 29, No. 3 | Summer 2013

Rising Tide: Water Issues in National Parks





**Our theme is set,
planning continues.
See page 21 for
Rendezvous news.**

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Letters

Remember Memorial Day

America's national parks preserve the remnants of the battle for freedom. Trenches and earthworks cut across the landscape of Yorktown or Petersburg. The shipwreck of the USS Arizona rusts in the depths of Pearl Harbor. Artillery pieces gape across the fields of Fredericksburg and Fort McHenry. Spent bullets litter Antietam. Countless bodies lie in cemeteries nationwide.

Interpreting this history commemorates the fallen's sacrifice. For when visitors understand how the soldiers at Valley Forge faced a brutal winter or soldiers at Gettysburg risked being killed or maimed they also understand what a sacrifice they made. And only when they see the reality of imperialism or slavery do they see why people made those sacrifices, appreciate them.

Interpreting the struggle for freedom perpetuates it. The dead were so successful that they created a country where we take liberty for granted. Yet it is axiomatic that we only protect what we understand, and only people who understand our freedoms will protect them. And knowing that previous generations faced being killed or maimed just as terrorist victims do today, yet triumphed, gives us more courage to face them today.

One million crosses stand worldwide as monuments to America's belief in freedom. They stand in Yorktown, where Americans fought a siege for independence. They rest in the forest of the Argonne, where the doughboys charged German trenches to make the world safe for democracy. They guard the shores of Normandy, where Americans stormed ashore to liberate the concentration camps. There will be independence, democracy and freedom after colonialism, imperialism and fascism, and even the crosses themselves, are no more.

Stephen Moroz, Waldorf, Maryland
scmoroz@hotmail.com

Share your views

Do you have a comment on a particular topic featured in this issue? Or about anything related to national parks? Send your views to *Ranger*: fordedit@aol.com or to the address on the back cover. Your opinions count.



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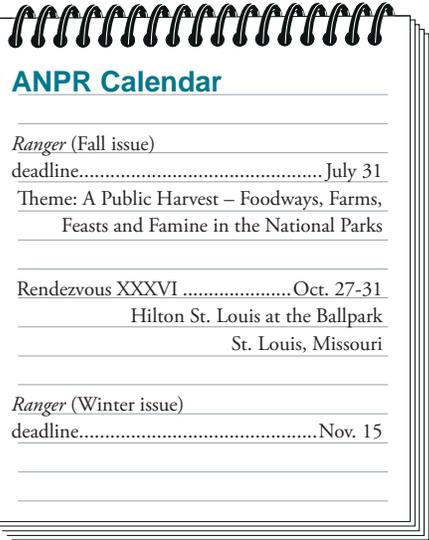
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ANPR Calendar

Ranger (Fall issue)
deadline..... July 31
Theme: A Public Harvest – Foodways, Farms,
Feasts and Famine in the National Parks

Rendezvous XXXVI Oct. 27-31
Hilton St. Louis at the Ballpark
St. Louis, Missouri

Ranger (Winter issue)
deadline..... Nov. 15

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

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

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Deadlines

Spring issue Jan. 31
 Summer issue April 30
 Fall issue July 31
 Winter issue Nov. 15

President's Message

More than 70 years ago Aldo Leopold noted, "Mechanized man, having rebuilt the landscape, is now rebuilding the waters. The sober citizen who would never submit his watch or his motor to amateur tamperings freely submits his lakes to drainings, fillings, dredgings, pollutions, stabilizations, mosquito control, algae control, swimmer's itch control and the planting of any fish able to swim."

Leopold further acknowledged, "So also with rivers. We constrict them with levees and dams, and then flush them with dredgings, channelizations, and the floods and silt of bad farming." In Leopold's farsighted view of the natural world, water was forever tied to soil in what he cited as "our biotic constitution" — recognizing they are not separate biotic systems but form one organic system.

The same understanding can be applied to water's relevance to every unit of the National Park System. Water is linked to the existence of all known life and tied to the existence of national parks. Whether it is contained in utility systems used to flush visitor toilets, flows forth at the push of button from drinking fountains, roars downstream in the Colorado River channeling through the Grand Canyon or repeatedly gushes from the geological depths below Yellowstone's Old Faithful, water is pertinent to the existence and stewardship of national parks. Water has shaped man's history on earth.

Environmental concerns about water and its availability for human populations (not

to mention all known forms of life) around the world are sobering. Only 2.5 percent of all water on earth is fresh, and nearly 99 percent of that consists of ice or groundwater. Thus, a major issue concerning water is its geographical distribution or lack thereof, given that roughly 70 percent of the fresh water used by humans goes to agriculture. Some estimates cite that by 2025 more than half of the world population will face critical "water-based vulnerability."

Every living creature depends on water, and life on the planet is governed in direct relation to the geographical abundance of water. 

Stacy D. Allen



IN THIS ISSUE

Summer is a good time to plumb the depths of some of our national parks more slippery resources. In this issue of *Ranger*, we meet a former vice president as he discusses the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act, glimpse a specked dace, duck a flying carp and gaze into our offshore future.

When John Wesley Powell penned his own summer issue in August 1869 from the depths of the Grand Canyon, there were eight native fish in the river. He wrote: "We are now ready to start on our way down the Great Unknown. Our boats, tied to a common stake, chafe each other as they are tossed by the fretful river."

Similarly, we are tied to our common mission to protect the water resources of the National Park System where there is still a great deal that remains unknown. How do we save the Colorado River's fish? How do we measure the advance of invasive carp? What is our legacy, writ in water, and how will we address the competing futures of eco-friendly wind power vs. the unencumbered view of whales from the Eastern coastline?

How we think about our water resources goes beyond simple stewardship. A river runs through more than our landscape; it also runs through us and ties us to the land in subtle ways, explored in this issue by America's poet laureate Natasha Trethewey.

— Kendell Thompson
Ranger editorial adviser

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Grand Canyon fisheries biologist Brian Healy acclimates young fish to their new home in Havasu Creek. *Grand Canyon photo.*

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Saving ‘uglified’ rivers

Former Vice President Walter Mondale talks about the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act

President Lyndon B. Johnson signed the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act into law on Oct. 2, 1968. The act established a national system of rivers protected by the National Park Service, the Bureau of Land Management, the Forest Service and the Fish and Wildlife Service. The St. Croix River of Minnesota and Wisconsin was one of the first of eight rivers protected by the legislation. The system today includes 203 rivers nationwide. The St. Croix was included as one of the first rivers thanks to the efforts of Sen. Gaylord Nelson of Wisconsin and then-Sen. Walter Mondale of Minnesota. Today, former Vice President Mondale has a home along the St. Croix and still remains one of its biggest supporters. St. Croix National Scenic Riverway Superintendent Chris Stein had the opportunity to chat with the vice president about the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act and its legacy.

Walter Mondale stands on the banks of the St. Croix River. Photo provided by the National Park Service. ▲

Chris Stein: How did you become involved with the St. Croix River?

Walter Mondale: Many ways. I always loved the river, I had close friends who invited us to enjoy the river. Joan and I floated down the river in a canoe, and it led to our marriage. I was a close friend of the wonderful Gaylord Nelson who inspired me to help protect our magnificent river. Now I live alongside of it.

Stein: In creating the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act, Congress said, in part: “that the established national policy of dams and other construction...needs to be complemented by a policy that would preserve other selected rivers or sections thereof in their free-flowing condition.” As one of the sponsors of the congressional legislation that established the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act, what are your wishes for its future?

Mondale: My wish is that the river will be protected to comply with the stated purposes declared by Congress upon its adoption and by the terms of the act itself. We’ve done well, but those goals remain a tough challenge.

Stein: What was the state of America’s rivers when the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act was passed? Were there any issues that caused legislators to pass it?

Mondale: It was mixed. Many of the rivers in highly populated, older communities had become “industrial” rivers, polluted, overdeveloped and “uglified.” Meanwhile many American rivers, like the St. Croix, remained largely undeveloped and unpolluted, but most of them were under threat by the same trends that “industrialized” the rivers described above. There was an emergency-type threat to rivers like the St. Croix across the country.

Stein: What are the benefits that have been derived from listing rivers as Wild and Scenic? Do you think that the state of the rivers in the U.S. has improved because of this act?

Mondale: I am absolutely certain that the law’s enactment and the listing of protected rivers have served in a big way to protect these rivers, but these rivers remain under severe challenge from “nicks and cuts” — a little pollution here, a power line there, a big bridge here, an eroded shore bank there, a removed magnificent tree here, a communication tower there — that destroys the natural beauty and environmental magnificence we sought to protect. What shocks me is how easily commercial interests can subvert the meaning and even direct provisions of the law by the pressure they can apply. The amorphous and intangible belief

in the beauty of nature, even with the law in its support, seems helpless in the fight against the commercial. This is precisely what the law was intended to change.

Stein: Has the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act done everything you envisioned?

Mondale: It has done everything that could be expected of it, but of course there is a shortage of federal and private funds. Often the scope of the legal protection was narrow and fragile, and much is dependent upon riparian communities’ commitment to the protection of the river. Contamination seeps into many rivers from every conceivable source.

Stein: Have there been unintended consequences, either good or bad, from the act’s passage?

Mondale: I believe the consequences have been magnificent, but the challenges are greater than I had anticipated. One inspiring aspect of the legislation has been the gifted and even brave role played by the National Park Service. These professionals, every day, for all of these years, have applied their high professional stature, their understanding of nature and its protection, and the strong traditions of their agency to enforce and protect these rivers under the law. By both teaching and example, and by inspiration, the National Park Service increases public awareness and commitment to these marvelous rivers for generations to come.

Stein: If given the chance, how might you amend the act?

Mondale: It depends on the river, but I would try to increase funding for the National Park Service and the other federal agencies that manage these rivers so they could better do their jobs. I would like to expand the protections of the law along the St. Croix River by easement and purchase to prevent spoliation, and I would like to add protections against noise and light pollution. I also wish there were ways to strengthen the sanctity of the water course, as the law now provides. In our experience with the big new bridge, it didn’t seem to make much difference.

I don’t know how to do this and perhaps it can’t be done, but it would be very valuable if the Department of the Interior, including the secretary, would be more supportive of the National Park Service when the rangers are fighting to enforce the law and to achieve the purposes of its enactment.

Stein: You recently gave the St. Croix National Scenic Riverway the pen that LBJ used to sign the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act for safekeeping

and display in our visitor center. First off, let me say thank you, but second, what do you think that pen symbolizes?

Mondale: I hope the National Park Service will keep this pen because it helps us remember the passage of the bill and of the high purposes, including the support of President Johnson, that helped make it possible.

Stein: What do you think might be some of the challenges of managing a long, skinny 250-mile-long national park unit like the St. Croix National Scenic Riverway?

Mondale: It’s a thin ribbon of protection. Everything that happens in the watershed eventually happens to the St. Croix River. The park operates in a complex political landscape spanning two states, many counties and local communities. The character and culture of the river changes as one moves along it. This, plus the fact that the National Park Service only owns a quarter of what you actually manage, must make things challenging. This makes you dependent on the good will of others.

Stein: You’ve had the unique opportunity to be able to work with every federal agency. What do you think about the National Park Service?

Mondale: I spent much of my life in federal service. I don’t think there is a better agency in our government than the National Park Service. The rangers have never disappointed me. I keep my honorary ranger hat with me when I am at our river house.

Stein: A fly-fishing guide along the St. Croix River has stated that when the riverway was created, “They weren’t taking our river away from us, they were giving it back. But I still consider it *my* river!” What does it feel like to come back to the St. Croix and Namekagon rivers more than four decades after the signing of the act to see these protected rivers still wild and being enjoyed by so many people?

Mondale: I love it. My family loves it. My favorite time in life is to sit on my deck in the late afternoon and hear the canoes coming down the river with the kids laughing and obviously having a magnificent time, surrounded by God’s nature, which has been protected for them to enjoy. Hopefully with their help, the river will be protected for their kids to see and enjoy far into the future. 

Chris Stein, superintendent of the St. Croix National Scenic Riverway in Minnesota and Wisconsin, has been a park ranger with the National Park Service for the past three decades. Previously he served as a park ranger with the state of Utah for three years.



Asian carp explosion, T. Lawrence, Great Lakes Fishery Commission

Carpe Carp!

Asian carp invasion on the Upper Mississippi River present challenges

By Paul Labovitz, Mississippi National River and Recreation Area, Minnesota

Getting slimed or breaking your nose isn't what most folks expect when paddling or boating on the Upper Mississippi River — until now.

Silver carp, one of four invasive species of carp from Asia including bighead, black and grass carps, can weigh 60 pounds and jump 10 feet out of the water. Couple this performance with their schooling nature and you can suddenly be boating through a cloud of giant, flying fish.

River issues are complex. Navigating the competing uses, values and missions of various river stakeholders creates a dynamic environ-

ment not so different from the sometimes turbulent waters themselves. Mix ecological health and economic uses into a waterway that runs through or along 10 states and you have just defined complex and challenging.

Little adds more excitement and wonder to a trip on the Mississippi River than the prospect of getting whacked by a silver carp. Yet the novelty of this experience is quickly replaced by the implications of the larger, and even perhaps more slimy, impacts of these invasive fish.

The Mississippi National River and Recreation Area is the national park about North America's greatest river. Some argue that the Mississippi is a branch of the Missouri River, but anyone living north of the confluence near

Saint Louis knows there is but one *Great River*. Everything else is just a tributary.

The river affects everything along its wide path. Water quality and quantity issues begin in the upper Midwest. More than 40 percent of the continental United States drains to the Mississippi, and water issues combine like a spring flood to eventually manifest themselves into the hypoxic, dead zone in the Gulf of Mexico.

Formed from glacial melt, the Mississippi River has been a defining feature of the landscape for more than 10,000 years. Forty percent of North America's water birds use the Mississippi River flyway as a migration route twice a year between nesting and wintering habitats. The river has been a restless neighbor for people

too. For more than 200 years human uses have changed the Mississippi River in dramatic ways. Much of the Upper Mississippi above Saint Louis is a channelized waterway. It has 29 locks and dams to facilitate commercial navigation that moves more than 40 percent of America's agricultural commodities. Changing land use and agricultural practices, coupled with vast changes in the river floodplain, have piled up impacts resulting in the dead zone, roughly the size of Massachusetts, at the river's mouth.

Enter the four species of Asian carps, now all generically referred to as bigheaded carp (further confusing the matter). Silver and bighead carp both grow fast and become large on a diet of plankton. Black carp prefer mussels while grass carp eat aquatic vegetation. Together these four species clean up the bottom of the food chain and overwhelm the ecosystem to the point that native species mostly disappear. In Minnesota, this is a major threat to the robust sport fishing industry that underpins the very culture of the state.

Bighead, silver and grass carp have moved well up the Mississippi River. Black carp are moving a little slower, and the current breeding population is still below Lock and Dam 19 in Keokuk, Iowa. Not only are the carp taking advantage of the river highway to gain access to an ever-larger range, they are slipping through political cracks. The Mississippi River is mostly a boundary between states, so no comprehensive action is underway to slow, stop or mitigate the impacts of these invasive exotic fish.

Nutrients and sediments in the Upper Mississippi River, along with main stem and backwater habitats, appear to be an almost perfect bigheaded carp production facility. Minnesota and Wisconsin are struggling to develop plans and actions in the face of an unknown timeline for infestation.

Scientists have warned that every attempt must be made to slow or stop these fish from becoming established any further north. But economic uses of the Mississippi River have paused serious invasive fish management action. The river community struggles with the balance of moving commodities via barges with the control of these and future invasive fish. The navigation system was developed to facilitate fish movement to allow native species to continue moving up and down the river, and encourage efficient, unencumbered movement of barges. Now that system also encourages migration of these invasive fish into places where they are definitely unwanted.

The current struggle involves solving riddles surrounding carp biology and behavior. How

do we detect the presence of these fish? Filter-feeders won't take a lure. In small numbers, bigheaded carps appear skittish and are able to evade commercial fishing practices. Collateral detection with technology involving filtering water samples for telltale DNA may not be 100 percent reliable for early detection. How fast can these fish swim? What triggers movement and spawning? What kind of river habitat is preferred? What time of day or season is important?

Detection and control research is ramping up. Discussion about this issue has inspired the Minnesota Legislature to create an Aquatic Invasive Species Institute at the University of Minnesota. Research design is underway to frame and address these and other questions. The U.S. Geological Survey is working on research to develop a "bio-bullet," a toxin only digestible in the stomach of specific fish species. Telemetry study is proposed to release sterile bigheaded carp to see if congregation locations can be identified and then removal methods can be efficiently deployed. The hope is that answers will be available to river managers before the carp have destroyed the native environment.

Much of the focus on bigheaded carp is on the transfer between the Mississippi River and Great Lakes watersheds. Consequently, not much attention is paid to bigheaded carp movement on the Upper Mississippi River. Discussions between various federal agencies, states and a host of river stakeholders in the environmental and commercial realm continue, but on-the-ground action is slow. There is no single agency or nongovernmental organization with ultimate authority over the



A fisherman with his catch along the Wabash River, A. Muir, Great Lakes Fishery Commission

Mississippi River.

Despite an occasional broken nose, river lovers are lucky, in a way, that the silver carp jump out of the water. Absent that, these fish would continue to move upriver and cause harm to an already impacted system without garnering much attention. Perhaps lessons hard-learned in dealing with bigheaded carps will shorten the learning curve to deal with the next threat to the mighty Mississippi. For a preview of that monster, do some homework about the northern snakehead.

The upside to the Asian carp invasion into the Upper Mississippi River is a new market for paddling helmets and facemasks.

Carpe carp — seize the carp! 🐟

Paul Labovitz is superintendent of the Mississippi National River and Recreation Area in Minnesota. He conducts frequent surveys focused on fish diversity (also known as fishing) of the Upper Mississippi River.

Silverfin Provençale

From www.chefphilippe.com

Serves 4

Ingredients

4 silverfin fish steaks
 4 tablespoons of olive oil
 4 ounces of white wine
 2 tablespoons of lemon juice
 1 tablespoon of finely chopped fresh garlic
 2 tablespoons of finely chopped onion
 1 diced tomato
 1 bunch of parsley, finely chopped
 Seasoning to taste

Instructions

Season silverfin to taste.
 Pour olive oil in a baking pan, add silverfin steaks.
 Sprinkle garlic, onion and parsley over fish.
 Add lemon juice.
 Bake at 325 degrees for 5 minutes.
 Add white wine and diced tomato.
 Continue baking at 325 for 12 minutes.
 Serve over pasta, rice or mashed potatoes.

Native Fish Restoration in Grand Canyon

Saving the 'specialists' of the Colorado River

By Martha Hahn, Grand Canyon

The Colorado River running through Grand Canyon once hosted one of the most distinctive fish assemblages in North America.

Only eight fish species were native to Grand Canyon and three-quarters of these species are endemic, that is, only found in the Colorado River basin. At the same time, many of these Colorado River specialists share unique physical characteristics.

For example, the distinctive humpback chub, with its small eyes and skull, thick leathery skin, and typical hump or keel behind the head could grow up to 2 feet in length. In contrast, the Colorado River pike minnow adult could be as large as 5 feet in length. From the smaller speckled dace to the larger razorback, flannelmouth and bluehead suckers, roundtail chub and bonytail, the native assemblage represents this range of specialists within the Grand Canyon.

Human-caused changes to the Colorado River in Grand Canyon have created serious declines in the park's native fish populations. Today, only five of Grand Canyon's native fish are still found in the park and two are listed as endangered. The humpback chub, listed in 1973, is specifically adapted to the deep swift

reaches of the Colorado River; the razorback sucker, thought to be an extirpated species within the park, was recently discovered in western Grand Canyon.

The Colorado River's natural ecosystem was first altered when non-native fish, such as channel catfish and trout, were introduced into the system in the 1890s. These non-natives were generally restricted to the tributaries due to the sediment-laden Colorado.

The construction of Hoover Dam in 1933, which inundated the western 40 miles of Grand Canyon and blocked fish migration, added to the decline of the canyon's native fish. Glen Canyon Dam, completed in 1963, caused the single largest change to the aquatic ecosystem in Grand Canyon. Located 15 miles upstream of Grand Canyon National Park, Glen Canyon Dam blocks more than 90 percent of the sediment that used to flow through Grand Canyon, eliminated large annual floods, and created massive changes to the physical and aquatic environments downstream. The dam releases cold, clear water from well below the surface of Lake Powell. Because the native fish were adapted to a river that was seasonably warm, they do not spawn or grow well in much of the Colorado River, which now has an average, year-round temperature of 48 degrees Fahrenheit.

Threats to native fish

Non-native cold-water fish (mostly rainbow and brown trout) now thrive in the post-Glen Canyon Dam Colorado River, especially in the upper reaches close to the dam. They are more abundant than native species, and both prey on and compete with native fish for food and habitat resources. In particular, brown trout are voracious predators. Because of the high turbidity of the Colorado River prior to the construction of Glen Canyon Dam, most



NPS fisheries biologists carefully empty hoops nets in Havasu Creek.

native fish were not site feeders, nor were they adapted to avoid "sight predators" such as trout. In addition, colder waters decrease the ability of native fish to escape predation by slowing their swimming abilities and growth.

National Park Service management policies require that native species and natural ecosystems are preserved, and that recovery actions are taken when park resources have been damaged or compromised. Furthermore, a variety of laws, including the Endangered Species Act, require the protection of threatened and endangered species. To that end, the NPS and its cooperators have initiated a multifaceted program to restore native fish in Grand Canyon. This program includes translocating humpback chub to suitable tributaries and active management of non-native species. Tributary translocations are a versatile recovery tool for native fish in that they may lead to the establishment of additional spawning populations, thereby increasing the species' odds of survival. Tributaries also provide rearing, or grow-out, habitat for young chub. Fish that are larger when they reach the river have a greater chance of survival and may add to the number of humpback chub that live in Grand Canyon. The overarching goal is to have translocations become part of a comprehensive conservation effort that ensures native fish survival in Grand Canyon.



Glen Canyon Dam

*All photos courtesy
of NPS/Grand Canyon*

Havasu and Shinumo Creeks translocations

Researchers identified Havasu and Shinumo creeks as among the most suitable tributaries for translocations outside of the Little Colorado River (currently the only major spawning area for this endangered species). Shinumo Creek is a small, clear tributary stream with a barrier falls just above its confluence with the Colorado River. The barrier falls isolates humpback chub habitat from non-native predatory fish in the mainstem river. A total of 902 humpback chub were released into Shinumo Creek from 2009 to 2011 in a series of translocations.

The park also began translocations to Havasu Creek in 2011. The young humpback chub were collected the previous years from the Little Colorado River, flown out of the canyon via helicopter, and driven to hatcheries for treatment to remove parasites. Prior to translocation they were implanted with unique PIT (passive integrated transponder) tags to individually identify each fish for monitoring purposes. On translocation day, humpback chub were flown via helicopter to the release sites where they were acclimated to creek water and released.

Extensive monitoring and food web studies are integral parts of the translocation projects. Results to date indicate that the translocated humpback chub are in good condition and have



Young humpback chub

good growth rates. In fact, the growth rate of humpback chub in Havasu Creek is equal to, if not higher than the highest observed rate in the Little Colorado River.

Sexually mature-sized chub have been captured in both creeks, and fisheries biologists hope to find evidence of reproduction in future monitoring. Translocated chub have also been captured in the mainstem near Shinumo Creek, augmenting the aggregation (or small, localized group of humpback chub) found there, which is an additional benefit of the tributary translocations.

Ecological integrity, saving the specialists

Future work to restore native fish in Grand Canyon National Park includes finalization of a comprehensive fisheries management plan that allows for continued restoration efforts across a broader range of native species, including the rare razorback sucker. Grand Canyon's native fish are an integral and unique part of the canyon's natural ecosystems, and robust populations of native fish are important indicators of an aquatic system's overall health. Restoring native fish to the extent possible in the Colorado River and its tributaries is essential

to maintaining and enhancing the ecological integrity of Grand Canyon and saving these "specialists" that have evolved against the greatest odds. 

Martha Hahn is chief of science and resource management at Grand Canyon. In her spare time she stalks elusive fish with her fly rod.



Two successful fisherman display a stringer of humpback chub near Phantom Ranch, circa 1911.



Conserving Seascapes at National Seashores

By Bryan Faehner and Mark Meyer

National seashores are unique to the National Park System because visitors often look outward onto the open sea and beyond park boundaries. Visitors recreate and relax to sounds of crashing waves and unobstructed views of the ocean.

At Cape Hatteras and Cape Lookout national seashores in North Carolina, visitors may glimpse a ship, the majestic soaring of a pelican, dolphin or surfacing whale. The seascape becomes even more sweeping atop historic Bodie Island, Cape Hatteras and Cape Lookout lighthouses, which are eagerly climbed by park visitors.

This view and experience could change in the future. The Bureau of Ocean Energy Management, or BOEM, is a sister bureau within the Department of the Interior and manages the exploration and development of U.S. offshore resources. The bureau is undertaking an effort to designate wind energy areas off the coastline where future wind turbine development could take place. Unlike land-based wind turbines that average about 200 feet in height, much larger offshore wind turbines may rise over 650 feet. A single blade from these new turbines will be nearly as long as a football field.

While offshore wind development holds promise in helping to contribute clean energy to the electricity grid, it could, depending on location and design, have far-reaching visual impacts on park seascapes, and possible impacts

to natural and cultural resources.

For example, wind turbines situated close to shorelines can put ocean birds at great risk for collision as they attempt to dodge the blades. Possible construction of associated electricity transmission cables across parklands (if an NPS right-of-way permit were to be issued) could also impact natural and cultural resources and complicate management efforts to allow barrier island and shoreline beach dynamics to occur naturally. Because the U.S. lacks offshore wind farms, we only recently have begun to contemplate their ecological, social and economic impacts.

BOEM is largely focused on research and consultation with state renewable energy inter-governmental task forces to determine where wind turbine development should occur. The NPS is active with a number of the state task forces and anticipates more participation. Although construction has not yet begun, BOEM has designated wind energy areas off the coasts of Massachusetts, Rhode Island, New York, New Jersey, Delaware, Maryland and Virginia. These wind energy areas are similar to solar energy zones established by the Bureau of Land Management in the southwestern U.S. Both have rich potential for energy development capacity with potentially fewer environmental impacts and conflicts with other resources and values. North Carolina has a long coastline, strong winds and shallow seafloor that make it an ideal and less costly location for the

▲ The above image is a simulation of the 656-foot Vestas V164, 7-megawatt turbine at 10 nautical miles offshore of Longpoint Camps, Cape Lookout. *NPS photo illustration.*

construction of wind turbines, so analysis is beginning here, too.

The NPS supports the Department of the Interior's effort to be "Smart from the Start" in planning and permitting renewable energy projects while also ensuring they are protective of natural and cultural resources.

To better understand potential visual impacts associated with offshore wind at Cape Hatteras and Cape Lookout national seashores, BOEM partnered with NPS and funded a visual simulation study. Importantly, NPS provided input on the turbine models selected and the offshore distances necessary to simulate offshore wind development.

Two towers, a 481-foot Siemens SWT, 3.6-megawatt turbine and a 656-foot Vestas V164, 7-megawatt turbine machine, were simulated for the study at distances of 10, 15 and 20 nautical miles from shore. Views were examined at 10 locations within both seashores and included both day and night modeling.

Based on the study results, the turbines were visible at 20 nautical miles offshore on clear days. As expected, the impact to seascapes was greater for simulations prepared from atop Cape Hatteras and Cape Lookout lighthouses. Blinking red lights on the turbines for aviation safety could also impact pristine night skies

at both parks, considered among the most spectacular for star gazing along the entire Eastern Seaboard.

Although it's still early in BOEM's permitting process, together with BOEM the NPS has provided key viewshed information that can be carefully considered when BOEM designates wind energy areas off the coast. Moreover, NPS has requested to become a cooperating agency for associated environmental reviews to be better able to coordinate with BOEM to ensure that national park resource values are addressed.

Of course, adhering to the 1916 NPS Organic Act's onus to "conserve scenery" is a systemwide challenge. Parks are located within ever-changing landscapes that are increasingly affected by many types of development, much of it energy-related infrastructure outside park boundaries. This includes electric transmission lines, oil and gas wells and pipelines, coal mines and coal-fired power plants, and solar and wind facilities. These kinds of changes can have long-term visual impacts on the visitor experience, park resources and the special sense of place that park units provide.

Past and recent studies confirm that park visitors continually rank scenic views as one of the top reasons for visiting units of the National Park System. To assist parks in evaluating visual impacts from energy development, the NPS Air Resources Division is preparing guidelines to assess the quality of the visual impact analysis that is typically completed for projects. The guidelines will help park staff identify the key components in a visual impact analysis to help ensure that simulations effectively depict potential impacts to visual resources.

With a mandate to conserve the scenery and preserve park resources for future generations to enjoy, we can't take this critical resource for granted. We need to be more proactive in engaging others, and the new visual impact guidelines will help us do that. Resources will be better protected and our roles as public stewards made easier by effectively engaging in energy development challenges that await us around the corner or out in the sea. 

Bryan Faehner is the energy and environmental protection specialist for the Southeast Region. Mark Meyer is the renewable energy visual resource specialist for the Natural Resource Stewardship and Science Directorate.

Our rivers tie us to more than just recreation, they also tie us to who we are. Here are words from America's poet laureate.

Elegy

By Natasha Trethewey

For my father

I think by now the river must be thick
with salmon. Late August, I imagine it

as it was that morning: drizzle needling
the surface, mist at the banks like a net

settling around us — everything damp
and shining. That morning, awkward

and heavy in our hip waders, we stalked
into the current and found our places —

you upstream a few yards and out
far deeper. You must remember how

the river seeped in over your boots
and you grew heavier with that defeat.

All day I kept turning to watch you, how
first you mimed our guide's casting

then cast your invisible line, slicing the sky
between us; and later, rod in hand, how

you tried — again and again — to find
that perfect arc, flight of an insect

skimming the river's surface. Perhaps
you recall I cast my line and reeled in

two small trout we could not keep.
Because I had to release them, I confess,

I thought about the past — working
the hooks loose, the fish writhing

in my hands, each one slipping away
before I could let go. I can tell you now

that I tried to take it all in, record it
for an elegy I'd write — one day —

when the time came. Your daughter,
I was that ruthless. What does it matter

if I tell you I learned to be? You kept casting
your line, and when it did not come back

empty, it was tangled with mine. Some nights,
dreaming, I step again into the small boat

that carried us out and watch the bank receding—
my back to where I know we are headed.

"Elegy" from *Thrall: Poems* by Natasha Trethewey, to be published by Houghton Mifflin Harcourt Publishing Company. © 2012 by Natasha Trethewey. Reprinted by permission. All rights reserved.

Director, partners kayak Greens Bayou Paddle Trail

The National Park Service brought the parks to the people during National Park Week in April and showed communities how they connect with the agency even if they don't have their own national park.

Director Jon Jarvis paddled the Greens Bayou and talked with community partners about the value of the NPS working with communities in Houston, Texas.

He met with NPS staff of the Rivers, Trails and Conservation Assistance program, the Greens Bayou Corridor Coalition and other local partners to learn about the 20-mile Greens Bayou Paddle Trail.

The NPS is helping local partners develop a strategic plan, identify funding sources to improve the corridor, and pursue designation as a Texas Paddle Trail and National Water Trail.

Jarvis emphasized how part of the NPS mission is to connect with Americans beyond parks, at the community level. Programs like Rivers, Trails and Conservation Assistance, federal historic preservation tax incentives, and the Land and Water Conservation Fund invest money and staff to help communities protect and improve their special places and resources.

These partnerships help create successful conservation and outdoor recreation opportunities, and they inspire people to visit their local and national parks.

Learn more about the Greens Bayou Corridor Coalition at <http://greensbayou.org>. Find out about RTCA's work in Texas at www.nps.gov/ncrc/programs/rtcal/whatwedo/projects/TX.pdf. For more information contact Kathryn Nichols, kathryn_nichols@nps.gov.

American Rivers: Colorado River tops list of country's 10 most endangered rivers

The nonprofit river advocacy organization American Rivers has placed the Colorado River at the top of its annual list of the country's most-endangered rivers.

The Colorado draws the most attention in the report. Along with its tributaries, it touches parts of Dinosaur, Black Canyon of the Gunnison, Canyonlands, Grand Canyon, Glen Canyon and Lake Mead.

The problem — too many people, too little water. The Colorado River Basin Water Supply and Demand Study, prepared by the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation and released last December, noted that more water is being allocated from the Colorado than it receives.

Matt Niemersk of American Rivers, the group's director of western water policy, was hopeful this year's list of endangered rivers might spur action to reverse the trend and save the Colorado.

On the group's website at www.americanrivers.org, it outlines the need to protect rivers for future generations. The 2013 report highlights a number of key threats, and shines the spotlight on rivers running dry because of outdated water management, wasteful water use and persistent drought. It notes that, as with the Colorado River and other rivers on the list, when humans withdraw too much water from rivers, communities and wildlife suffer.

In justifying the Colorado's No. 1 most-endangered ranking, the organization cited the Bureau of Reclamation's study and noted that more dams and diversions are planned, especially in the upper basin in Colorado. Several proposed projects along the Front Range of Colorado would remove more than 300,000 acre-feet of new water from the Colorado River and its tributaries.

American Rivers' report is the latest attempt to draw attention and spur action on behalf of the Colorado. The National Parks Conservation Association in May 2011 released a report detailing how dams that dot the massive river basin affect the Colorado.

Further, Jonathan Waterman's book, *Running Dry*, was published by the National Geographic Society in August 2010. The author urges officials and residents to protect the Colorado River, which can't survive in the face of current demands placed on it.

NPCA has said the dams that interrupt the Colorado River in its flow from the headwaters

to the Gulf of California have altered nature by constricting high runoff flows, artificially enhancing low flows, changing sedimentation patterns and impacting water temperatures to the detriment of native fisheries.

Unless the current trend is reversed, national parks in the Colorado Basin will continue to see impacts, ranging from declining health of riparian corridors to increased exposure and erosion of archaeological sites.

To read American Rivers' full list of endangered rivers, visit www.americanrivers.org/endangered-rivers/2013.



Refill your water bottle

Grand Canyon installed designated water bottle filling stations in high traffic areas on both rims of the park in 2012, making it easy to refill your water bottle.

The stations provide free spring water from the park's approved water supply at Roaring Springs. Zion and Hawaii Volcanoes also have phased out the sale of disposable water bottles.

The nonprofit Corporate Accountability International is encouraging more national parks to phase out packaged water in favor of fresh tap water and refillable bottles. Included are Yosemite, Mount Rainier, Independence Hall and Golden Gate.

Invest in the future of the past

ANPR's oral history project needs your support

The Association of National Park Rangers launched its oral history project at the 2012 Ranger Rendezvous in Indian Wells, Calif. National Park Service oral historians conducted 16 interviews with longtime employees in an attempt to safeguard the collective memory and expertise of those who have shaped the NPS over the years. The audio recordings and transcriptions of these oral histories will be archived at the Harpers Ferry Center in West Virginia.

Why do these interviews matter?

ANPR's oral history project joins a long tradition in the NPS of using interviews to preserve the agency's cultural and historical memory. It also advances the top priorities of NPS Director Jonathan Jarvis by passing on important lessons to a younger generation of Park Service personnel. These oral histories speak to issues such as relevance, stewardship, and workforce development—all of which will guide the NPS in its second century.

Why do we need your support?

ANPR is committed to properly preserving and protecting the interviews that it conducts. Every interview will be transcribed, edited, and archived—a process that is both time-consuming and costly. The Association hopes to conduct more interviews at the Ranger Rendezvous in October in St. Louis, Missouri. To do this, however, we must ensure that funds exist to shepherd each interview that we collect through the various phases of the oral history process.

Please invest in this work!

Money for this project comes from the Rick Gale Memorial Fund. You can make a monetary donation to the fund online at www.anpr.org/donate.htm.

— Alison Steiner
Board Member for Strategic Planning



'It was best to be honest'

Ranger J.D. Swed: An interview with historian Lu Ann Jones

ANPR's oral history project demonstrates that stories from the past offer guidance for the future. Interviewed at the Ranger Rendezvous in 2012, J.D. Swed traced a "fabulous career" that began in 1974 as a seasonal ranger at Yosemite and ended in 2009 as chief ranger at Sequoia and Kings Canyon. Early on he learned how to deal with fatalities. An education that began at Tuolumne Meadows continued at other sites. Join us as we talk.

My first (visitor) death was a climbing accident that happened on Puppy Dome. A Boy Scout group was up there learning to climb. Near the end of the day, one of the kids needed a couple of carabiners, so he untied one of the ropes and then tied it off with an overhand, and then took the carabiners out so he could rappel one more time. Another kid rappelled off that rope, and it just came untied and he fell to his death. We had to carry him out and we had to do the investigation, and I was involved in that.

Jones: How do you learn to deal with the fact that you are dealing with death sometimes?

Swed: You know, that death was the first one, and it was pretty vivid. I mean, he was pretty broken up, and there was a lot of blood and brains around, but it was just one of those things. The way we dealt with it in those days was at night we got around the campfire and we drank a few more beers than we did the night when those things didn't happen. And

it was a macho deal, I learned later, you know, much later.

Then my next fatality, that I handled all by myself, was at Tetons. That one taught me a lot of lessons because it was a young woman who rolled her truck and died, and her parents wanted to go to the exact location. Of course, there's a large bloodspot, and I took the fire truck out there and tried to wash it all off and I couldn't. Then, morally, I had to decide whether or not I'd take them to the exact spot because of that bloodspot. I battled with that internally for a little while to try to figure it out. I don't know if I asked for any help; I don't recall that, but I decided that it was best to be honest. I've always done that with all the deaths, and I've handled hundreds with the Park Service in my career now, and that's always paid off well for not only me but for the people that I was dealing with. (For this young woman's parents) I just set it up for them and told them, because I didn't think it was fair to take them to a place that was a hundred yards down the road, because they would always have the wrong spot.

When I was up in Alaska at Denali, in those 10 years there were almost a hundred deaths that I helped manage or dealt with directly, so I got really good at it. I still have people who write me letters or notes on the anniversary of their loved one's death and thank me for helping them get through that. So it's one of those things that I really take great pride in, in how I was able to help people all those times.

Jones: It's interesting when you can find those gifts like that inside yourself and are able to use those.

Swed: Yes. There were a lot of people, especially on my staff up at Denali, who didn't want to make that call, couldn't make that call, and I would always take that burden. It never seemed to be a burden to me, because I always felt that I could really help people — just (by) going through a number of those (incidents), and then I picked up some training on dealing with death and stages you go through, and I always used that to help people.

There's this one example that this woman's husband (and a friend of his) died on a (climbing) route called the Orient Express on Denali, and they never could recover the bodies. Although they could see the bodies frozen in some ice and snow, they could see some colors, it was too dangerous (to get to them). Well, the first year I was there I found the file (on the accident) and I called her, and I said, "I just wanted to let you know that I just flew the area." She had not heard from anybody for years. She was really appreciative. And I said, "This is what I found. I'm not sure I could see a blue parka through there, but there was a different color change, and I think he might still be there, and if I had to guess, I'd say he's there." And she just was so thankful, because for years she had this thought of him dangling on the rope, blowing in the wind, and that was her image of his death and his state. I just encouraged her. I said, "Why don't you come up sometime? When you're ever ready, you come up, let me know. I'll set up a flight for you. We'll take a fixed-wing, I'll fly with you, and we'll go. Have you ever been here?" "No."

"You need to come up here, because I think it'll be healing for you, but you need to do it when you're ready. Don't do it just because I tell you to."

So a year later, she and the wife of the other guy that died came up. We had lunch and we flew over. Then we had dinner. (Seeing the site) just helped them move on. I don't like "closure," because I don't think there is closure in that, but it helped them move on and get (rid of) some of the negative images that they had. Lots of dealing with death in my career. I know that sounds grim, but search and rescue offered me opportunities to do a tremendous amount of good for park visitors. 🏔️

J.D. Swed is retired and lives in Nevada. Lu Ann Jones is a staff historian with the NPS Park History Program in Washington, D.C.

Lunch and Learn... *about the NPS*

By Richard West Sellars

It's not easy being green and gray — especially when you are early in a career with the National Park Service and want a better understanding of why your work matters and how it fits into the big picture.

I have been there and found it really frustrating. In time I found a solution that was effective, a genuine pleasure and a boost to my career. Just as important, it was bargain-basement cheap. Especially today, the Park Service's severe budget woes make this worth considering. I have in mind no more than noontime brown-bag discussions held once a week.

Probably unlike most other Park Service employees, I was 27 before I even learned that the agency existed. Trained as a geologist, then involved with oil prospecting around the country, I had been to a number of parks but paid no attention to who was managing them. And in 1973, when I joined the NPS as a historian, I had never heard of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966. Cultural

resource management had not yet sparked much interest within the academic world from which I had just emerged to begin a second career.

Clearly I needed training and so has everyone else who has worked for the Park Service. Little long-distance learning was available then. Most employees depended on either on-the-job guidance usually related to one's own specialty, or, for the big picture, the hard-to-come-by chance to attend a course at Mather or Albright training centers.

I got into a three-week course — a broad introduction to the NPS — at Albright in 1976. It helped a lot, yet it did not include much analysis of cultural resource management, a topic seldom covered extensively at the time. Given the array of NPS historic preservation responsibilities, there was much I needed to learn, but no systematic “in place” learning programs were available to me.

After becoming Southwest Region's historian in the mid-1970s, I set up an informal brown-bag learning program in my office. It

was a group-mentoring effort that, because it could be taken in small doses and better absorbed over a span of time, brought more beneficial results for me than the formal training I had taken.

In the spring of 1976, I hired Dwight Pitcaithley who was finishing his doctorate in history at Texas Tech University. Not long after he arrived, Jane Scott, who had studied history at Yale and had recent experience as a seasonal interpretive ranger at Mesa Verde, began working in the Santa Fe office, first with the archeologists, then with my office.

Together, the three of us started the brown-bag discussions on topics related to the National Park Service and System. Soon we were joined by perhaps four or five co-workers, mostly archeologists. It was a completely volunteer, self-selected group; and it required individual effort. Some left while others joined us. And several stayed for the long haul. I came to realize that while one person is comfortable with learning through group discussions, another may not be.

We began by reading the NPS official Management Policies, one chapter per week, and discussing them over lunch. The policies were bureaucratic by their nature, and in no way did we become experts; but our readings and discussions on the policies revealed aspects of the Service's operations that were valuable to us.

Once we finished the policies, we turned to articles and book chapters on national parks and related topics. Now and then we discussed broad environmental issues and natural resource management, but mainly the group focused on historic preservation policy and practice in the National Park System. We also examined historic preservation activities elsewhere around the country, including the National Register programs.

Occasionally our discussions ran over the time allotted for lunch, but not a lot. Besides, we were learning more about our work and the Park Service itself. To me, this was time well spent.

Compare the extra minutes when we ran overtime with the costs of attending formal training courses: the travel and per diem, the time away from the duty station and more. Brown-bagging is a lot cheaper, and it can often benefit from expert commentary by experienced co-workers within a park or office, perhaps even the superintendent.

These brown-bag sessions brought important long-range personal benefits, helping me gain a better grasp of the ins and outs of Park Service historic preservation policies and

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Yellowstone Falls and Old Faithful Geyser / Melissa Dalgetty

the laws behind them. Without a doubt, the sessions deepened my commitment to the goals of the NPS. They helped me feel that I belonged. And they helped build morale and teamwork within the office.

Adding greatly to the satisfactions my career would bring me, the brown-bag discussions, along with my other historic preservation efforts, eventually led to a number of teaching assignments at Albright and Mather training centers. This culminated in the 1980s and '90s with about a dozen, two-week courses in cultural resource management for mid-level managers. Held at Mather Training Center, they provided a broad overview of perspectives, experiences and policies that helped sharpen the understanding of cultural resource management. I remain firmly committed to learning both at home and away. In tandem, they are especially effective.

Even today, Jane, Dwight and I are part of a small book group of friends, each of whom has had Park Service experience. Since about 2005 we have met several times per year via telephone conference calls to discuss books that relate in some way to the National Park System, providing perspectives on historical matters and the natural environment. Diverse titles have included Edward O. Wilson's *The*

Future of Life, Chris Hedges' *War is a Force That Gives Us Meaning* and William Faulkner's *The Bear* (the only work of fiction).

Below is a sampling from our book group. If the list seems fairly wide ranging, keep in mind that the National Park System involves both human and natural history — it cuts a giant swath.

Think about starting a brown bag at your

park or office. It might prove stimulating. If I were doing it again, I would still start with the official Management Policies, selectively perhaps, given their size. Follow that with any readings the group thinks are appropriate for its needs. Lunch, learn and enjoy! 🍎

Richard West Sellars is a retired National Park Service historian and author of Preserving Nature in the National Parks: A History. He lives in Santa Fe, N.M.

Sample Titles from Book Group

James Oliver Horton and Lois E. Horton, eds., *Slavery and Public History: The Tough Stuff of American Memory*, New Press, 2006.

Tony Horwitz, *Confederates in the Attic: Dispatches from the Unfinished Civil War*, Pantheon, 1998.

Mark David Spence, *Dispossessing the Wilderness: Indian Removal and the Making of the National Parks*, Oxford, 1999.

Keith Basso, *Wisdom Sits in Places: Landscape and Language among the Western Apache*, University of New Mexico, 1996.

E.O. Wilson, *The Future of Life*, Knopf, 2002.

Wallace Stegner, *Where the Bluebird Sings to the*

Lemonade Springs: Living and Writing in the West, Random House, 1992.

Patricia Nelson Limerick, *The Legacy of Conquest: The Unbroken Past of the American West*, W.W. Norton, 1987.

Chris Hedges, *War Is a Force That Gives Us Meaning*, Anchor, 2003.

Douglas Wilson, *Lincoln's Sword: The Presidency and the Power of Words*, Random House, 2006.

David Quammen, *The Reluctant Mr. Darwin: An Intimate Portrait of Charles Darwin and the Making of his Theory of Evolution*, Atlas, 2007.

Full book list: www.anpr.org/brownbag.htm

NPS housing — A look back

Before the advent of the Mission 66 style of house, some NPS families had to contend with less than ideal housing. Many early buildings had former lives with the Civilian Conservation Corps and the Army, or as homesteads, barns and even storage sheds.

By Leslie Spurlin

Dwight and Mickey Hamilton spent their first summer of married life in 1947 at Glacier in a rented, one-room tourist cottage with a community bathroom and shower.

Their second summer was atop a fire lookout in Rocky Mountain (*Ranger*, Winter 2007-08), a trying experience. They had to haul water and weather the storms on top of the mountain.

The next summer they lived briefly in the park in a one-room cabin before moving into one end of a three-car garage in Little Horseshoe Park. It had a sleeping loft above the living area and running water, but a temperamental, smoky cookstove and an icebox filled with ice cut from a lake.

From April to July of 1950, Dwight and Mickey lived in another one-room cabin at the now nonexistent Big Thompson River Entrance Station. This cabin had a hotplate for cooking and an outhouse with “an excellent view of Longs Peak” when the door was open. The rest of the summer was spent in the “Black Hole of Calcutta” at the Grand Lake entrance, their first two-room cabin. The back was a kitchen and the front a sleeping porch. Bathing was done in a rubberized folding tub, which drained through a hole in the floor. That tub was Mickey’s big luxury. One morning while Mickey was still in bed, a squirrel that

had been busily storing nuts in the ceiling fell from a rafter onto Mickey’s face.

At Mount Rainier later in Dwight’s career, he often filled in for other rangers on vacation. When their daughter **Cyndee** was young, home was Paradise Ranger Station near Paradise Inn. In the spring before plowing, the snow was so deep they used the upstairs window as the front door.

They also lived at White River Entrance Station, and photos attest to the amazing depth of the snow. It was here when Cyndee was 2 that they were without power for a month, even through the Christmas season. So the tree was left up after the holidays. When the superintendent visited, Mickey explained they’d left it up so when power came back, they could turn on the lights for Cyndee. In no time someone was out and got the power restored. One New Year’s the Hamiltons hosted a party, inviting the maintenance and road crews. The men asked what they could bring and Mickey requested ice for the drinks. They arrived clutching 5-foot-long icicles they’d snapped off the house.

While living at Dinosaur below the quarry in the late 1950s, awful drinking water was the challenge. Mickey recalled that the park wives collaborated on a plan to improve the situation: for several weeks prior to a group coming from the regional office, lawn sprinklers were allowed to spray the house windows, leaving the droplets there until the minerals were baked on. No one from the regional office noticed, however, and it took hard scrubbing to clean the windows. Eventually, the houses were provided with bottled water. There weren’t any dispensers so they had to lift the heavy bottles and pour the water into something smaller. You couldn’t use tap water for cooking or drinking it was so bad. “We didn’t even wash the cars with it,” Mickey said.

Despite the challenges, Mickey

never thought it hard being a city girl going into the Park Service. In fact, she wouldn’t have given up the experiences. She did admit, however, to crying at every move and at first not liking any of the housing. Dwight was prepared for this; in the end Mickey rallied and made each place a home.



Louis and Ruth Kirk, stationed at Organ Pipe Cactus in the early 1950s, lived in a place with cracks under the doors so wide snakes and scorpions would wriggle in. They checked for snakes each evening, and kept the bed legs in glass jars so insects couldn’t crawl into bed with them. They found the insects still could crawl up the walls and drop from the ceiling. The protocol was to pause long enough to figure which way they were crawling on you and then “hasten them on their way with a mighty swing of the hand,” Ruth recalls. Later, the Kirks lived at Theodore Roosevelt National Memorial Park, “right on the river in a homestead house built of railroad ties. Wind during a winter storm would drive snow in through the chinks.”

None of these types of challenges seemed troublesome to Ruth. “What I loved was the setting and the deep sense of purpose in being there so that city folks could come and experience the rhythms of nature at least for a little while. So what if housing was odd? The place and the life were incredibly pleasing.”



Moving from place to place so often, several NPS wives kept a box of curtains that could be made over into something new. **Linda Reed**, whose dad was ranger **Monte Fitch**, remembers their family having a box of curtains. When stationed at Mesa Verde after World War II, the four-member Fitch family lived in a one-bedroom house with a small basement.

“Several sleeping arrangements were tried, including having my brother and me sleep in the basement,” Linda recalls. “This meant going outside to the outside entrance to the basement, then locking us in the basement for the night. An unsafe situation at best. Then my dad built a fold-down bed over our eating nook, which they took down and put up each night and day. For a time, we shared that tiny house with another ranger who lived in the basement and took his meals with our family.”

Their next assignment at Colorado National Monument provided a house with an unusual bathroom: the toilet was in a small closet by itself, the sink was outside of this in one of



Cyndee Hamilton, White River Entrance Station, Mount Rainier, 1952



Ruth and Louis Kirk, Paradise Ranger Station, Mount Rainier, early 1950s

the bedrooms, and the shower was around the corner in the third bedroom.



Bill and Virginia Clemons spent 3½ years in Alaska, stationed at Mount McKinley (now Denali), beginning in 1946. Their first house at headquarters was two stories with a full basement, and Virginia learned to cook on a wood/coal stove for the first time in her life. She perfected bread-baking in the process. She was also expecting the couple's second child. Fairbanks was 120 miles away, and because there was no road there, they would take the train.

McKinley had no 24-hour electric power. It was turned off at 10 p.m. every day but Tuesdays, when it was left on so laundry could be done on a wringer washing machine that belonged to the park. Bill operated the generator. The Clemonses had a gas refrigerator, but it wasn't dependable, so in the winter they used a screened-in space outside for their perishables. Of course, they couldn't put meat there as it would attract animals.

Grocery shopping meant turning in orders to headquarters once a month. You could split a case of canned vegetables with others. Butter, several pounds of it, came in a type of nail keg packed in salt brine. Eggs were another matter. Cold storage eggs weren't good, so folks bought "airborne" eggs in Fairbanks along with fresh meat. Some had canned caribou meat.

When daughter **Susan** came along and was little, Virginia didn't go to town for more than a year. She kept busy with her children, which included older son, **Billy**. She learned to make good cakes using diluted canned milk (otherwise the cakes were too heavy); later she

used powdered milk called Klim (milk spelled backwards), since fresh was unavailable.

A transfer to Dinosaur in 1958 necessitated living in an Airstream trailer for several weeks before the new housing was completed. Susan recalled decades later that it was "hotter than hot in September even though they are famously well insulated. They were fully furnished with the ugliest set of dishes I had ever seen, which shows something about my sense of taste since I have seen them in antique stores for outrageous amounts."



Before the quarry building and housing at Dinosaur were completed, **William Paul Ellis**, wife **Kay** and their three children lived in a one-room cabin at the top of 62 stairs behind the old visitor center. Paul was a seasonal for several years before going permanent.

Daughter **Karen** remembers that the cabin had no electricity or water, with an outhouse in back. Snakes liked to spread out in the doorway of the house. A little metal tub was used for bathing. As kids "we thought the cabin was great fun for the summer. Looking back I am sure it was a lot of work for Mom and Dad. The only time it wasn't fun was when we came home from town with groceries and carrying them up the stairs."

One season the family moved into a small trailer with electricity and a propane stove. As Kay attempted to light the oven, it exploded and burned her face, eyebrows and eyelashes, just in time for a visit from family members.



When **Alan and Jeanie Mebane** were at Lehman Caves (now part of Great Basin) in the early 1960s, they and their two young children lived in a 24-foot surplus Army trailer next to the public restroom. Diesel generators supplied power to light the cave and the buildings, and for residential use. The washing machine was located in one of the stalls of the ladies' room. There was no dryer and no clotheslines were permitted, so Jeanie hung wet diapers and clothes on the backs of chairs and curtain rods in the trailer.

"There were only three telephones in the monument, which did not include our trailer," Alan said. "All were connected to a party line shared with 16 ranches and homes between headquarters and Ely, Nevada, 90 miles away. It usually worked if you shouted loud enough and could find a time when the line was not in use. We always assumed that eavesdropping was part of every phone call."



Badlands National Monument (now a park), was **Chuck Budge's** first permanent position in June of 1950. Wife **Ronnie** said they probably got the job because they had their own housing, a trailer. It had no bathroom or running water, but it did have electricity. They hauled water in 50-gallon garbage cans, and in the winter Ronnie chopped ice for dishes and cooking. Since they had no facilities for bathing or laundry, in the summer they showered in the utility area under the grease rack where they serviced the vehicles.

"It was a cobbled up contraption with a showerhead mounted on an oil barrel, and the water was 'heated' by the extreme summer heat," Ronnie said. "Since it was at least 110 degrees out, it wasn't as bad as it sounded."

Later, an old structure was made into a utility building with a stove inside with a water jacket so they were able to shower and do laundry; they also had their deep freezers there. A salvaged shower and toilet came from Wind Cave and Mount Rushmore.

"Ironically, until we had these the NPS had not charged us rent," Ronnie said. Daughter **Brenda** was small when living there, but she said "living in that trailer was probably more luxurious than a lot of folks had in Interior, South Dakota, in those days. I don't remember too much about it, just how much work it must have cost my mom to drag everything out and put it all away again. I do remember the 'new' house in Badlands because we had real furniture — a dining room table, couch and chairs, and I had my own bedroom."



Isle Royale ranger **Karl Gilbert** and his bride, **Ruth Curtis**, married in 1942. "Little did Ruth know how many moves and houses would be ahead of her," recalls their daughter **Karla Gilbert**. (The eventual count was 27 houses and 32 moves.) Their first summer was spent in a tiny, one-room tar paper shack sitting on a rock-pile foundation, the exterior walls of which were favorite scratching posts for moose. Ruth wrote home to her parents that she was anxious to have the couple's springs and mattress arrive by boat because they had been using army cots. "I surely would hate to be a soldier boy for long," she wrote. Years later, stationed at Carlsbad Caverns, nocturnal ringtails would race each other on the Gilberts' flat-roofed house and sound like a herd of elephants.

With all those housing moves over the years, Ruth carted her curtains from place to place,

adjusting hems as necessary to fit different windows. While living at Old Faithful in Yellowstone, sheer rayon coverings were inadequate, with tourists peeking in the windows to see how rangers lived. “Out came the Montgomery Ward catalog and an order was made for some plastic yard goods — red strawberry for the kitchen windows and a silver geometric pattern for the bathroom,” Karla said. “Even those curtains were adapted for a number of other houses over the years.”



In the first of 19 moves in 23 years, ranger **John Henneberger and wife Barbara's** first home was a tent in Yosemite Valley in 1952. Barbara cooked on a woodstove and the nearest restroom was across the campground. Not long into their stay, a trap was set up nearby to catch a troublesome bear, only to catch its cub. The sow became frantic and began circling the trap and then their tent. John cut a hole in the back of the tent so that he and Barbara could escape into the back of a pickup truck.

The Hennebergers' two daughters were born in Yosemite and their son later in Olympic. Here they lived in a house that also was the ranger station. There was a window in front that a visitor could lift up. Barbara said that it was important to “look efficient and to wear decent clothing.” One day her doctor lifted up the window to say he was going into the backcountry for three days. “Hope nothing happens with your baby,” he stated, knowing the baby was due around Labor Day.



On June 5, 1966, **Joe and Barbara Kastellic** celebrated their first anniversary in a 10-foot by 30-foot houseboat attached to a nearly quarter-mile-long metal floating marina in Forbidding Canyon at Rainbow Bridge National Monument, administered by Glen Canyon NRA. Joe became the first NPS permanent residing ranger, which at that time was accessible by a two-hour boat ride from Wahweap (headquarters) near Page, Arizona, or by a 14-mile hike through the Navajo Reservation. The marina consisted of marine fuel tanks/dock, small concession store, public restrooms, sewer lift station, NPS storage and office, propane tank storage, housing area, and at the very end, a generator. The housing area included three houseboats and a large storage area with shelves for groceries, a freezer, washer and dryer.

As Barbara writes, “We had the best view out our windows, but every time the wind blew



Rainbow Bridge Marina in Utah, circa 1965-67

through the canyon, we immediately lost our pilot light. Many times there were cold showers, and meals cooked on an outdoor barbecue grill.”

The length of the houseboat was split into thirds: the living/dining area, the kitchen and bathroom (on opposite sides), and the bedroom. The beds were two twin sea bunks attached to either wall. The Kastellics likely were chosen for this assignment because the superintendent concluded after meeting them that they were a compatible, childless couple who could handle the ruggedness and remoteness. “Well, compatible we were, and in spite of the twin sea bunks, very soon after our assignment, it became quite clear that my motion sickness was actually morning sickness,” Barbara continues.

Communication at Rainbow Bridge with the outside world was limited to mail delivered by whichever Park Service or concession person came up the lake, the NPS two-way radio which usually worked, and an occasional regular radio signal at night. Entertainment was fishing with a line thrown over the side of the house or docking, swimming and lots of reading.

“Winter, on the other hand was rather grueling,” Barbara writes. “First of all, because of the high canyon walls, there was no sunshine, and frequently we would go weeks at a time without seeing another soul other than those of us stationed there. The only sound was the droning of the generator that became alarmingly quiet when it needed repairing or restarting.”

Daughter **Kimberly** was born in March. Shortly after her birth, she rode up Lake Powell in the bow of the ranger boat comfortably next to a Coleman catalytic camping heater. Barbara recalls that “all went very well, until the spring winds blew out the pilot light of our houseboat for several days. Diaper rinsing/washing hap-

pened in cold water. Having an opened hang nail, I ended up with a pretty significant case of blood poisoning and Kimberly ended up with diaper rash.” The Kastellics were wisely reassigned to Wahweap and the adventure came to an end, but that year was one of the major highlights of Joe's career and of his and Barbara's life together.



Housing continued to be an ongoing issue. In 1979, **Gerry and Cyndee Altoff** transferred to Perry's Victory and International Peace Memorial. They moved into a cute little summer cottage on Lake Erie, built in 1905. It sat on pillions in case of flooding, which often happened in the spring when the ice on the lake broke up and storms sent water over the seawall in the backyard. The house was often surrounded by water, but water rarely got into the house.

Since the place was not originally intended for year-round living, it wasn't insulated until the Park Service acquired it, and then only the downstairs. That made the upstairs “either a sweatshop or a freezer,” recalls Cyndee. There was a space heater in the small bathroom where the Altoffs and their daughter would often end up on cold mornings. In the living room, holes in the walls were covered by rearranging the furniture, and large cracks opened up in the walls in the winter. “The superintendent lowered our rent to about \$25 a month as he realized the house sorely needed help . . . or bulldozing,” Cyndee said.

The pipes, under the house, were always freezing. The wrong insulating tape was once used and a fire started, only discovered when Cyndee brought their misbehaving dog back from a walk early. All the gorgeous original glass windows in the house had to be covered with thick Visquine for insulation. Despite the problems, when the house was bulldozed in 1995, Cyndee cried as she videotaped the destruction.



Throughout its history NPS housing has been unconventional. Residents still fondly remember their early days making the best of situations and raising families in some of the most beautiful places in the country. Even today, part of the charm of the Park Service includes this type of unusual housing, which continues to draw the young and adventurous. 🏠

Leslie Spurlin, the daughter of Mickey Hamilton and the late Dwight Hamilton, and the sister of Cyndee Altoff, lives in Grand Junction, Colorado.

The Professional Ranger

Administration

Park Administration in the Era of Sequestration — We now are about halfway into the fiscal year, and parks have received their budgets. Although it is finally a number we can begin to reconcile, it is indeed a reduced number due to sequestration, which amounted to a 5.1 percent mandatory cut to each park unit budget.

That percentage meant something different for a large park like Yellowstone that needed to cut \$1.795 million from its budget to a small monument like Yucca House that was required to cut \$5,000. Big or small, each park was required to submit a plan to operate under this reduced budget and strive to maintain mission-essential activities.

The sequester went into effect March 1 and resulted in more than \$800 million in reductions to Department of the Interior programs. With this new era of operating under sequestration comes cautionary planning for hiring, travel and training. Since the sequestration was implemented, the DOI instituted a hiring freeze that has been exempted only by submitting waivers for positions. Luckily, the NPS has been granted authority to continue to hire temporary workers without undergoing the waiver process. This has al-

lowed parks to plan for their summer seasonal workforce as long as the personnel services remain within the 95 percent budget plan parks have submitted. For filling permanent positions, park superintendents must submit waivers to the regional offices, which then submit a regional request to the Washington office.

To streamline the waiver process we are waiting to hear if DOI will set a limit of full-time equivalents for the National Park Service to be portioned out to each of the seven NPS regions. Each region would receive a portion of the allotment of the total NPS FTE. The approval of the hiring waiver requests would then reside with the regional offices.

Parks have had to scale back their travel and training budgets under sequestration. Approval for travel has been limited to activities related to mission essential, related to employee and visitor life, health and safety, and mandated training certifications required for an employee. Group and conference travel is still prohibited unless approved at the regional or WASO level.

Employee morale has certainly been affected, and parks will need to monitor their workforce during this crucial financial time. DOI has frozen cash awards and has revamped the nonmonetary award policy, which has left managers puzzled on how to maintain

employee morale. It is left to the NPS family to take care of each other and offer comfort to each other as we struggle through this financial crisis. The NPS has been able to avoid furloughing permanent employees, and with careful planning perhaps this will remain the case.

As parks tighten their belts the remainder of the fiscal year, we must start to look ahead to next year and plan for another budget under sequestration. Parks must start to plan now for what could be at best a flat budget year. Another budget with the 5.1 percent sequestration means parks will need to continue to plan strategically to serve the public as best as they can. This could mean reduced or delayed visitor services and reduced staffing.

Parks will need to scrutinize their ratio of discretionary and nondiscretionary costs. Looking at where they have flexibility in reducing fixed costs to increase their discretionary costs will be a tool park managers will need to employ. Park administration will be busy this fiscal year not only learning how to close the books in a new budget program but looking ahead on how to serve the public best and take care of the resource within what is sure to be another reduced budget year.

Be kind to a park budget officer. These will likely be some tough fiscal years ahead. □

— Michelle Torok, Saguaro

Interpretation

Reaching Nonvisitors — The primary goal of interpretation is to facilitate connections between people and parks. Oftentimes the people most in need of the services of an interpreter are those who have no connection to a park and those who will likely never visit. The largest groups of people who meet that criterion are school kids, underserved populations and those who live too far away to drive to the park.

Historically, reaching these three groups has been a difficult, if not impossible, task for most parks. That is no longer the case. Thanks to Steve Jobs and his iPad, the distance between children, underserved groups and parks has been virtually eliminated.

For under \$1,200, a park with third-generation technology, or 3G, can provide an unlimited number of programs anywhere in the world for two full years. If cellphone reception is sketchy or nonexistent, parks can work with their cooperating association to install and operate a Wi-Fi system with enough range to get the job done. If the nominal cost (about \$200) of doing that is picked up by the

cooperating association, the total cost to the park drops to \$942.

Here is what you need:

- Apple 4G iPad with retina display Wi-Fi and 4G, 16 GB: \$630
- SLIK PRO 700DX professional tripod with panhead: \$170
- iPad Tripod Mount - G5 Pro By iShot mounts, adapter, holder, attachment: \$30
- Motorola HX550 Universal Bluetooth headset, black: \$42
- OtterBox Defender Series case with screen protector and stand: \$60
- BoxWave EverTouch Capacitive Stylus: \$10
- Attach your iPad to your park's cellphone plan: \$10 a month or \$120 a year

Once you have purchased these items and downloaded Skype, GoToMeeting and Facebook (all three provide video chat capability) to your iPad, you are ready.

The last thing to do is coordinate with a school or group and make sure they have a computer with an Internet connection and the ability to project the session in a way that everyone in attendance can see and hear it.

Turn on the iPad, connect the Bluetooth headset, log onto Skype or other program, and go. The iPad can be mounted on the tripod and used like a video camera or carried and used as a virtual set of eyes.

I came up with this idea a little over a year and a half ago as a way to reach those we most need to reach and to create "virtual classrooms" as part of the Call to Action. I have thoroughly tested this idea at Wright Brothers National Memorial. It not only does this work, the way in which most of us do our jobs is about to change.

Reaching the people who most need to be reached is now simple and inexpensive. The challenge ahead is figuring out how to secure the staff necessary to meet what will soon be a demand of epic proportions.

For example, the Wright brothers and their story are part of the curriculum of every fourth and eighth grade class in North Carolina. The story is such an integral part of the state's history that the Wright Flyer is on the license plate. North Carolina currently has 1,329 elementary schools and 465 middle schools. Assuming that each school was able

to collect all of their fourth and eighth grade classes into the same room, that could mean as many as 1,794 requests for programs from North Carolina schools alone. These schools run for 180 days of instruction. To present one

program per school, Wright Brothers would have to handle 10 virtual classroom programs a day, every day of the school year.

My thoughts on staffing to fully use this potential will be the subject matter of future

articles. For now, I'm pleased about sharing this with the world and seeing where it goes. If you have any questions about my experiences or want to know more than is presented here, contact me at joshua_boles@nps.gov. □

— Josh Boles, Wright Brothers

Protection

SFST Wet Labs: safe, educational, easy and fun — A Standardized Field Sobriety Test (SFST), or “wet lab,” is a controlled training event wherein commissioned rangers and fellow law enforcement officers can test their intoxication detection skills on live subjects who are experiencing varying degrees of intoxication. This is a vital skill set for any commissioned officer, and it's especially important for them to hone such skills preceding the approach of the busy “drunken” season.

Wet labs, when done right, can be safe, educational, easy and fun, but you must adhere to parameters for conducting one. Here are 10 recommendations to follow whenever conducting a wet lab:

1. Certified Instructors. At least one (preferably two) National Highway Traffic Safety Administration-certified SFST instructor must be onsite while the lab is being conducted.

2. Subject Drinkers. Persons volunteering to serve as subject drinkers must meet minimum criteria:

- a. They must be between 21 and 65.
- b. They must be in good physical condition with healthy blood pressure and heart rate.
- c. They must have no history of alcoholism.
- d. They must sign a NHTSA-provided waiver stating that the National Park Service will not be responsible for their actions after they are transferred to the care of a responsible third party.
- e. Instructors should aim for a drinker-to-officer ratio of about 1 to 4. This will prevent any major bottle-necking of officers waiting to administer SFSTs.
- f. Instructors must ensure that drinkers are provided a safe ride home at the completion of the lab, and that they are officially turned over to a consenting, responsible, adult third party.

3. Conduct a Risk Analysis. A wet lab lends itself perfectly to a GAR (green/amber/red) risk analysis process. Completing a GAR risk analysis for a wet lab prior to engaging in the training ensures that it will be safe for

all involved. The whole point of the GAR or a similar risk analysis process is to generate intelligent conversation about the potential risks involved in the activity, and then to find ways to mitigate those risks.

4. Conduct a Safety Briefing. Prior to beginning the lab, ensure that all participants attend the briefing. Pass around a sign-in sheet to capture signatures of those present.

5. Pre-Training Screening of Drinkers. At the start of the lab, instructors must check each subject with a preliminary breath testing (PBT) device to ensure that their blood alcohol content (BAC) is 0.00; check their blood pressure and heart rate; check their eyes to ensure they don't have a resting nystagmus; and record their weight.

6. Alcohol Consumption Monitoring Logs. Instructors must monitor each subject drinker and his/her alcohol consumption on a log. They reference a chart that provides guidelines for how much of a particular 80-proof beverage to give to a subject over time to achieve a particular BAC based on each subject's weight. As the training progresses, instructors carefully document how much alcohol each subject drinker consumes, the time he/she consumes it, what food each drinker eats, and the time a drinker eats it. Instructors also periodically check each drinker's BAC with a PBT and record the BAC reading on the log. In order to challenge the officers who are practicing their SFST administration and their ability to detect alcoholically impaired persons, instructors should aim for a target BAC of 0.07 percent to 0.09 percent for the core of drinkers, with maybe one or two drinkers achieving slightly lower or higher BACs. Also, it's a useful training tool to sometimes have one of the drinkers consume no alcohol and watch how officers interpret his or her “level of impairment.”

7. Safe SFST Administration Location. Instructors must provide an appropriate location for the SFSTs to be safely administered. A flat, level, open parking lot well away from heavy traffic and public view, with straight lines painted on the surface is ideal. It's helpful, too, if the location has a restroom facility

and a “control room” nearby in which subjects can consume alcoholic beverages out of sight of the officers, but within the control of the instructors.

8. Incorporate Scenarios Whenever Possible. Wet labs are best used in conjunction with scenarios, such as a staged traffic stop. By creating scenarios, instructors can provide an element of realism to the wet lab, such as adding flashing blue lights, a spotlight and controlled traffic passing by.

9. The Alcoholic Beverages. Instructors should carefully choose the alcoholic beverages to be given to the subject drinkers and follow some recommended guidelines:

- a. Use only 80-proof liquor. This will ensure a timely state of intoxication and help the instructors monitor the subjects based on the chart that compares weight vs. the number of 80-proof drinks consumed.
- b. Use only containers whose seals have not been broken. This ensures that the product being provided has not been altered.

10. After Action Review, or AAR. Once the training is complete, all participants convene for an AAR. Instructors run the show and record on a large board the number of clues of intoxication each officer recorded for each drinker for each SFST. They then ask the officers to guess the drinker's BAC and ask if they would arrest the drinker for DUI had they been driving a vehicle.

Wet labs are useful training tools to help rangers hone their SFST administration skills. They're great for fostering interagency cooperation, especially if a park doesn't have a NHTSA-certified instructor, but a neighboring agency does. Wet labs also make handy remedial training for parks in the NPS Field Training and Evaluation Program with field trainees struggling to detect alcoholically impaired drivers. □

— Kevin Moses
Buffalo National River

Refer three, Get next year free

ANPR's membership drive is in full swing through June 30. As noted in the all-member email in mid-April and promoted on Facebook, we are offering a significant incentive to our annual members.

If you refer three people to become annual or life members at the standard rate, you will receive your next year of membership for free! ANPR is specifically seeking new members from the ranks of volunteers, interns and partners who perform a tremendous amount of resource stewardship for our public lands. The next generation of resource managers and professionals will be a huge asset to ANPR, and we want those Student Conservation Association, Pathways and all other interns with us *now!*

A membership poster is available on our website at www.anpr.org. It outlines specific membership benefits, and we ask you to post poster within your parks and offer to potential members.

We are planning regional get-togethers

Also new for this year are regional gatherings to provide opportunities for you and other members to get together and swap stories. For those of you who can't make it to the upcoming Rendezvous in October in St. Louis, this is a great alternative.

Our first gathering is planned for the National Capital Region, and others are being planned for the Fresno area and southwest Utah. If you want to help out or plan a gathering in your area, contact me at RangerFrain@gmail.com.

Thanks for your continued support of ANPR.

— Gannon Frain
Board Member for Membership Services

Life members: Please send your email address to Ranger editor Teresa Ford, fordedit@aol.com, to get on ANPR's email list. We send *occasional* emails to update the membership about association business, but we are missing contact information from about 30 percent of life members.

ANPR ACTIONS & NEWS

Fallen Ranger Memorial

ANPR is investigating the possibility of officially sponsoring a "Fallen Rangers Memorial" that would be provided to family members of individuals who are killed in the line of duty while working for the National Park Service.

Sculptor emeritus Lawrence J. Nowlan has graciously offered his creative services to produce (at no cost) the prototype sculptures (i.e. male and female) of uniformed NPS employees. These would be used to develop the casting molds required to produce individual bronze statues.

The cost to produce the two molds would total about \$1,400, with the individual casting of each bronze statue totaling at least \$800 to produce when needed. For now, the board is examining the financial implications of long-term sponsorship of this meaningful memorial program and investigating potential partnerships to assist in its support.

Oral History Project

The ANPR-sponsored NPS employee oral history project is proceeding with the transcription of interviews conducted at Ranger Rendezvous XXXV last year. Lu Ann Jones and Alison Steiner report that the quality of the transcriptions are excellent, and once the entire series of initial interview transcriptions are completed, the program will have an outstanding product of relevant value for the NPS.

Excerpts of select transcriptions will be published in *Ranger* (turn back to page 11 to read the first one) and on our website. To complete the project, another 33 hours of transcription services will be required. These services will cost about \$4,500. As stipulated by the ANPR Board of Directors, the Rick Gale Memorial Fund forms the financial foundation for this project.

As ANPR continues to use the money, we will need to replenish the fund. Interested members are encouraged to donate directly to the Rick Gale Memorial Fund to support future oral interviews and transcriptions. Please visit www.anpr.org and click on the "Donate" tab at the top right of the home page. You can stipulate that the donation goes directly to support the relevant work of the Rick Gale Memorial Fund.

Eighth World Ranger Congress

ANPR has contacted the George Wright Society to entertain the possibility of contracting with GWS for conferencing services for the next World Ranger Congress. The congress, with specific dates to be announced, will be held in Estes Park, Colorado, in 2016 during the centennial year of the founding of the NPS.

This professional conference attracts rangers and park employees from around the world. The GWS has substantial expertise in providing professional conferencing services for conferences, workshops or symposia that are directly related to parks, protected areas and cultural sites.

The ANPR organizing committee for the Eighth WRC will draft a scope of work for contracting the services needed, from which GWS will make a formal bid. For now, both parties are taking steps to formulate and negotiate on potential services. We agree that the potential benefits from such a partnership would be an excellent opportunity to enhance meaningful cooperation and collaboration between ANPR and GWS. □

Join ANPR on social media

 www.facebook.com/parkrangers

 www.linkedin.com/company/anpr

 [@anpranger](https://twitter.com/anpranger)

Search for Association of National Park Rangers on any of the sites.

ANPR Reports

Kudos List

These people have either given a gift membership to a new member or recruited a new member or an old member to return to ANPR. Thanks for your membership help.

Erika Jostad	Charles Wahler
Mark Christiano	Jason Allen
Gannon Frain	Skagit Valley College
Nancy Wizner	Jodi Rupp
Ben Walsh	Jennifer Goucher
Mark Herberger	Jessica Browning
Lavell Merritt	Tim Moore
Tony Sisto	

Promotive connects you to name-brand discounts

If you're in the market for outdoor gear, join ANPR's Promotive team for deep discounts on many products. The savings could easily pay back the price of your ANPR membership. Email fordedit@aol.com for sign-up details.

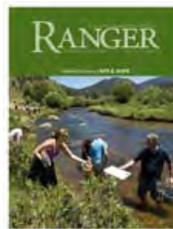
Mentoring Program

Ken Bigley and Roberta D'Amico are serving as co-chairs for this popular ANPR program. Initiated in the early 2000s, the program provides a valuable service to members and facilitates learning partnerships between protégés and their mentors.

After a brief hiatus in the program in 2012, Ken and Roberta are off to the races with their efforts to revitalize the mentoring effort. Protégés who were patiently waiting for mentors have been matched with a trusted NPS individual. The ANPR mentoring handbook is being edited, and key tips and tricks, along with basic guidelines for the program, will be posted on ANPR's website. A session proposal has been submitted for Ranger Rendezvous 36, and Ken, Roberta and several program participants will share lessons learned from their mentoring experiences.

The key to the success of this program is mentors, preferably current ANPR members

Give a friend or work colleague an ANPR membership! Details on page 25.



ANPR members, we need you as mentors

Sign up now:

www.anpr.org/mentoring.htm

Protégés need you!

who are still actively involved in the NPS. The majority of the protégés are seeking assistance in networking, so recent retirees have worked well.

The No. 1 concern of potential mentors is the time commitment. This program is informal, and the recommendation is three to six phone discussions. Then see where the relationship goes. Quite often, mentors and protégés become friends for life.

So mentors, unite. Sign up now. Protégés need you! Visit www.anpr.org/mentoring.htm.

Interested in switching to electronic version of *Ranger*?

If you prefer to read *Ranger* magazine in full color on your computer screen instead of the paper version, sign up for electronic delivery. If enough members sign up for this format, we could reduce the print run and save paper and money. Contact fordedit@aol.com.



ANPR member Jeanette Meleen, Katmai

Health Insurance for Seasonals, Volunteers

- ▶ Three options available
- ▶ Coverage not affected by employment status
- ▶ Visit www.anpr.org/insurance.htm for details and enrollment information

DISCLAIMER: The National Park Service does not sponsor, sanction or endorse this health insurance plan.



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

Available on DVD

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

DVD: \$6 for ANPR members, \$10 for others; VHS: \$4 for members, \$6 for others; also available in CD-ROM PowerPoint presentation; quantity discounts available; credit card payment (Visa/MC) accepted

Order online at www.anpr.org/lost.htm

Questions?

Contact ANPR's business office:

25958 Genesee Trail Road, PMB 222

Golden, CO 80401 • ANPRbiz@aol.com

EXPLORE THE POSSIBILITIES



ASSOCIATION OF NATIONAL PARK RANGERS RANGER RENDEZVOUS XXXVI ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI

Rendezvous planning kicks into high gear for October meeting

The theme of “Explore the Possibilities” will usher in the Ranger Rendezvous Oct. 27-31 at the Hilton St. Louis at the Ballpark in St. Louis, Missouri. The new logo, designed by member Allison Barnes, expresses the ethos of this annual gathering.

The programming seeks to bring new ideas and helpful tips to inspire you be a catalyst for adaptation in challenging times. The Rendezvous team continues to work on program planning, vendor relations and registration details, and will announce specifics this summer.

Organizers thought in depth about what best represents the Rendezvous in St. Louis and the future of the National Park Service. The logo encapsulates five of the most important elements from a cultural and natural standpoint.

The Mississippi River and the plains to the West are powerful symbols in American thought and experience. The arch stands as an icon to Thomas Jefferson’s westward expansion and pioneering ethos.

The Spirit of St. Louis, Charles Lindbergh’s

plane, made the first transatlantic flight. Lewis and Clark represent the adventure and exploration into the unknown. Dred Scott, a slave who sued for his freedom, lost in the judicial system, but inspired a nation to move forward to fulfill the Declaration of Independence’s promise of freedom for all men.

These people and places symbolize an indomitable spirit that represents the best of American hopes and aspirations. Common amongst all these icons is that as each journey began there was great uncertainty, not unlike what we face today. Yet the great adventure was undertaken and each transformed a nation.

We hope you will be part of Ranger Rendezvous 36. If you’re not on ANPR’s email list, please contact us so that you can receive the latest information.

We will announce the program schedules and registration this summer. It’s not too late if you want to have a say in the Rendezvous offerings, and we still have a limited number of openings if you want to present a program.

Contact us at CommentsRR36@gmail.com.

Start planning today to join us as we “Explore the Possibilities.”

Hotel arrangements

Rooms at the Hilton St. Louis at the Ballpark will run \$109 per night for a double. ANPR will coordinate room and ride sharing to keep the conference affordable for attendees. Early room registration is at 877-845-7354.

St. Louis rocks

The Gateway City with the iconic landmark arch offers a diverse backdrop to historical places, a free world-famous zoo, great restaurants and enjoyable entertainment venues.

We know you will find the Rendezvous a professionally enriching and fun event. If you’ve never joined ANPR members at this annual gathering, give it a try. You won’t be disappointed. Visit www.explorestlouis.com to learn more about the area.

Stay tuned via email and Facebook to hear the latest about this year’s Rendezvous. 

— Mark Christiano and Tim Pagano

All in the Family

Send your news to Teresa Ford, *Ranger* editor: fordedit@aol.com or 25958 Genesee Trail Road, PMB 222, Golden, CO 80401. You also can send All in the Family news and update contact information at ANPR's website: www.anpr.org. Go to **Member Services**.

ANPR member **Charles Beall** in one of two Bevinetto Fellows selected for 2013-14. The other is William "Gordy" Kito. Charles is working this year as congressional staff for the Committee on Natural Resources in the U.S. House of Representatives. Gordy is working for the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources in the U.S. Senate. In the second year they will work in the NPS Office of Legislative and Congressional Affairs and an office of the NPS directorate. Charles came from North Cascades where he served as chief of interpretation and education for the last six years.

Two ANPR members — **Deny Galvin**, former deputy director, and **Charlie Jacobi** of Acadia — were among the five "Imagine Excellence" winners at George Wright Society's biennial conference in March. Deny received the 2013 George Melendez Wright Award for Excellence for his outstanding lifetime achievements on behalf of America's national parks as a leader, innovator and mentor to NPS employees. Charlie received the 2013 GWS Communication Award for his innovative work to promote Leave No Trace principles at Acadia, where he is a resource specialist. More details are at www.georgewright.org/gws2013_awards.pdf.

Russ Smith is the new superintendent of the brand-new First State National Monument in his home state of Delaware. Previously he was superintendent of Fredericksburg and Spotsylvania National Military Park for the past 10 years.

Charlie Strickfaden is the new superintendent at Fort Union. Previously he was chief ranger at Wupatki, Sunset Crater Volcano and Walnut Canyon. He started his NPS career as a seasonal interpreter at Lava Beds and worked seasonally at Biscayne and Denali. Other duty stations have included Lewis and Clark, Montezuma Castle, Grand Canyon, Great Smoky Mountains, Fort Necessity, Whiskeytown, Golden Gate, Point Reyes, Sequoia and Fort McHenry. He, wife **Heidi** and daughter **Megan** moved to Santa Fe this spring. □

Welcome (or welcome back) to the ANPR family!

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

Richard Ahern.....	Homestead, FL	Philip Johnson.....	Yosemite, CA
Russell Andris.....	Sacramento, CA	Patrick Kenney.....	Harkers Island, NC
Richard Ayad.....	New Carrollton, MD	Megan Kinkade.....	Keystone, SD
Tom Banks.....	Pioneer, CA	AJ Legault.....	Harrison, NE
Laura Bellasalma.....	Tule Lake, CA	Thomas Lewis.....	Ballwin, MO
Shannon Berry.....	Atascadero, CA	Kae Lourie.....	Everson, WA
Carol Clark.....	Merritt Island, FL	Caroline Mellor.....	Bethesda, MD
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- New technology/new ways of doing business
- Special places — discoveries you've made
- Photos, photos and more photos!

Contact the editor or editorial adviser for more information or with your ideas:

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What parks actually protect

By Sean Smith

On Sept. 11, 2001, I was horrified by al Qaeda's attack on America, the destruction of the World Trade Center towers and the damage to the Pentagon. We were barraged that day with countless replays of the tower's collapse and smoldering buildings. Like the towers, it appeared the nation teetered on the edge of ruin. But it survived. Since that time, I have thought about the possible next attack. Will this one take down the nation and if so where is America's Achilles heel?

That question is at the center of my new novel, *Unleashing Colter's Hell*, a political thriller set in Yellowstone. The story centers on a madman who has acquired an atomic bomb with a plan to detonate it the park. Yellowstone is one of the world's largest super volcanoes. The geologic record shows that the Yellowstone volcano erupts roughly every 600,000 years. These past eruptions have buried much of the Midwest in tens of feet of ash. The sun would



Please share your photos for use on ANPR website and several publications

We need more photos to rotate on ANPR's newly redesigned website: www.anpr.org.

Besides national park scenics, we're also interested in photos of you at your park site. In addition to using photos on the website, we need profile pictures for the cover of our publication, "Live the Adventure: Join the National Park Service." These should be high-resolution images to allow for print publication.

Please email them to Teresa Ford, fordedit@aol.com. Horizontal format works best for the webpage slideshow, but verticals are fine for other uses.

Be sure to state your name, location of photo and other pertinent information. Thank you, in advance, for your contributions.

PERSPECTIVE

have been blotted out for weeks and possibly cast the world into years of winter. It's a plan to literally destroy the United States. But is it possible to actually destroy the country?

The park system and the park rangers who work in them protect some of the world's most iconic scenery, and some of our most sacred historic and cultural sites. During my childhood, my parents took my brother and me nearly every summer to our national parks. We made trips to Mount Rainier and Glacier, Yellowstone and Denali, the Grand Canyon, Gettysburg and the Everglades.

I didn't always enjoy these trips. It seemed to me that parks were little more than boring scenery and dusty old buildings. Yet since then, I've spent years in our national parks. I've trekked the rainforests of Olympic, tramped the canyons of Zion, walked the hallowed grounds of Shiloh and hiked the coasts of Acadia. Through the trips I've come to realize that the essence of America is actually protected in our park system, because America isn't a place or even a people. It's an idea, one inscribed on the walls of the Jefferson Memorial. It's the simple idea that all humans are created equal and endowed with inalienable rights such as life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. Where there is at least one person who believes this "self-evident truth," there is America.

The destruction of the World Trade Center towers was a powerful image. Yet, for me a far more powerful symbol was that of the Statue of Liberty silhouetted by the burning towers. Lady Liberty stood in defiant rejection of al Qaeda's attack. Other parks, such as Mount Rushmore and Independence Hall, sent the same message.

So, is it possible for a terrorist or even a large terrorist organization to destroy America? Lincoln summed it up best when he said no foreign power or combination of foreign powers could by force take a drink from the Ohio or make a track on the Blue Ridge in a trial of a thousand years. Rather, as long as Americans hold simple truths and charge the National Park Service to protect the ideas, hopes and values we hold sacred, the country will endure.

Sean Smith is a former Yellowstone ranger and writes national park thrillers from his home in western Washington. Follow him on Twitter: @parkthrillers or at his blog: www.seandavidsmith.blogspot.com.

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Life members who contribute an additional \$125 are recognized in the **Second Century Club**. **Third Century** membership can be attained by contributing an additional amount to bring your total life membership to \$500; **Fourth Century** membership can be attained by contributing an additional amount to bring your total life membership to \$750; **Fifth Century** to \$1,000; and **Sixth Century** to \$1,250 or more.

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In Print

Last Stand: Ted Turner's Quest To Save a Troubled Planet, Todd Wilkinson. Lyons Press, 2013. ISBN: 978-0-7627-8443-1, 271 pages. \$26.95, hardcover

Reviewed by Rick Smith

I thought this would be a fun book to read and review for the readers of *Ranger* for two reasons. First, many of us know Mike Finley as perhaps the only NPS employee who served as superintendent of three major parks — Everglades, Yosemite and Yellowstone. He also is a former ANPR president, and now he's the CEO of the Turner Foundation. Secondly, I've always wondered who Ted Turner really is. Finley speaks highly of Turner's commitment to resource stewardship and the environment.

Yet much of what I had read previously about Turner cast him as an entrepreneur who brought us the 24/7 news cycle via CNN, founded the Turner Broadcasting System, owned fast sailboats, was the owner of the Atlanta Braves, the former husband of Jane Fonda and for a while, the owner of the biggest chunk of land in the country.

That seemed to be a contradiction to me. When I got my hands on the book, I noticed the back cover had praise for Turner from people like Tom Brokaw, Terry Tempest Williams, E.O. Wilson and David Quammen. I thought to myself, "These kinds of people don't lavish the praise that appeared about Turner unless there is substance to what Finley had said."

According to Todd Wilkinson, author of this book, Turner carries no business cards. Instead he carries a printed copy of Eleven Voluntary Initiatives of Ted Turner:

- I promise to care for planet earth and all living things thereon, especially my fellow human beings;
- I promise to treat people everywhere with dignity, respect and friendliness.
- I promise to have no more than one or two children. (He broke that one.)
- I promise to use my best efforts to help save what is left of our natural world in its undisturbed state, and to restore degraded areas.
- I promise to use as little of our nonrenewable resources as possible.
- I promise to minimize my use of toxic chemicals, pesticides and other poisons, and encourage others to do the same.
- I promise to contribute to those less fortunate

to help them become self-sufficient and enjoy the benefits of a decent life, including clear air and water, adequate food, health care, housing, education and individual rights.

- I reject the use of force, particularly military force, and I support United Nations arbitration of international disputes.
- I support the elimination of all nuclear, chemical and biological weapons, and ultimately, the elimination of all weapons of mass destruction.
- I support the United Nations and its efforts to improve conditions on the planet.
- I support clean renewable energy and a rapid move to eliminate carbon emissions.

So, what is he doing to accomplish these initiatives? His support for the United Nations is evidenced by his establishment of the United Nations Foundation, which he endowed with a gift of \$1 billion dollars and which was, until recently, directed by former Sen. Tim Wirth of Colorado. The foundation has awarded millions of dollars of grants to stamp out diseases that plague the developing world and promote the cause of women. In all of this he is not a starry-eyed idealist. He readily acknowledges the flaws of the organization but considers it indispensable. He believes that World War III would already have occurred had the U.N. not existed.

With former Sen. Sam Nunn of Georgia, he cofounded the Nuclear Threat Initiative, which seeks the elimination of nuclear weapons in the countries of the world with the goal of keeping such weapons out of the hands of terrorists or fanatics. The initiative has also cooperated with the former Soviet Union to safeguard the weapons that it still possesses.

Turner is the second largest landowner in the U.S. His portfolio of land covers 3,125 square miles spread across 15 ranches, five plantations in the South, a coastal barrier island, a trio of ranches in Argentina's Patagonia, a scattering of residential retreats and an office building in downtown Atlanta. The U.S. ranches serve as the cornerstone of his efforts to restore the bison, where appropriate, to their free-ranging status. This again is not pure idealism. He has founded a chain of 40 restaurants that serve bison meat harvested from his ranches. These ranches also offer home to a variety of species that are less welcome on neighboring properties: wolves, grizzlies, prairie dogs and black-footed ferrets.

In the book's appendix, there is a list of grants the Turner Foundation has made, totaling \$358 million. It is an astonishing list of

organizations that work to make life on our planet more sustainable and just. It includes almost all major environmental groups, social justice advocacy organizations, many major health NGOs, women's rights coalitions, and a host of investigation and research institutes.

I asked Finley which grants he is most proud of. He mentioned those that are trying to reverse the practice of female genital mutilation in Africa. He also is proud of the grants that protect entire watersheds from headwaters to the ocean in Russia. He thinks that the grants the foundation has made to trade associations involving businesses such as restaurants and hotels have helped "green up" these commercial activities. Finally, he cited the grants made to renewable energy groups to help us reduce our carbon footprint in the U.S.

This is a fascinating book. I finished it in three days. It's a good story of how Turner became a committed environmentalist and how he has used his wealth to promote sustainable activities both here and abroad.

I came away from the book with a higher regard for Ted Turner, even though I had listened many times to Finley's accounts of what he said Turner had accomplished. I highly recommend that the readers of *Ranger* pick up a copy. Todd Wilkinson has done a good job in helping us understand who Ted Turner really is. □

Rick Smith, a life member and former president of ANPR and the International Ranger Federation, retired from the National Park Service after a 31-year career. His last position was as associate regional director of resources management in the former Southwest Region. He then served as acting superintendent of Yellowstone. He lives in New Mexico and Arizona.

Are you interested in reviewing a book for *Ranger*. Contact editor Teresa Ford to suggest a book title. fordedit@aol.com

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