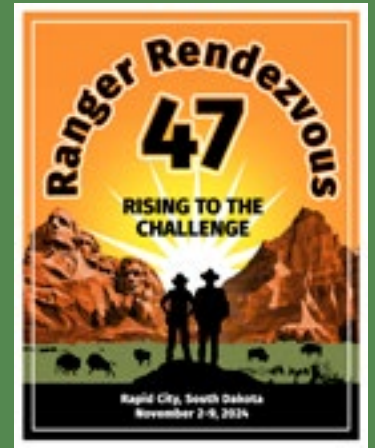


Association of National Park Rangers presents

Ranger Rendezvous 47

Schedule of Events



November 5-9, 2024

Holiday Inn Downtown • Rapid City, South Dakota

Ranger Rendezvous

47

www.anpr.org

W

elcome to radiant Rapid City, S.D., where the skies are huge and the opportunity for adventure vast. This year's Ranger Rendezvous offers engaging programs and sessions throughout the week, plus a day of fun-filled exploration to see the area's surround national park sites. Special thanks to this year's sponsors, the National Parks Conservation Association, Badlands National Park Conservancy, and all those who donated extra dollars to the Supernaugh Scholarship fund, and coffee/hospitality funds.



Downtown Rapid City is walkable, and has a cowboy flavor (above). It also, top right, is the "City of Presidents." See how many president sculptures you can find!

Photos: Visit Rapid City



RANGER RENDEZVOUS 47 MANAGEMENT TEAM

- | | |
|------------------|----------------|
| Bill Wade | Mike Pflaum |
| Jamie Richards | Colleen Derber |
| Melissa DeVaughn | Rae Emerson |
| Troy Hunt | Greta Ketchner |
| Wendy Lauritzen | Shannon Wilson |

ON THE COVER: A hiker enjoys the Flume Trail, a 4-mile hike in the Black Hills National Forest just outside of Rapid City, S.D. In early fall, there are countless hiking opportunities in the area. **Photo: Visit Rapid City**

Frequently Asked

Qs

Is there an airport shuttle to/from the hotel?

Yes, there is a shuttle but you must call the hotel ahead of time (605-348-4000) to schedule a pickup from the airport. To reserve a shuttle to the airport upon checkout, be sure to stop by the front desk to schedule.

Is breakfast included with my reservation?

No, breakfasts are on your own, except for the first-timers breakfast for all first-time attendees.

Where do I pick up my Welcome Packet?

The registration table will be in the preconference area just outside the Salon meeting rooms.

Can I still sign up for a field trip?

We sometimes have spots available. See Colleen Derber at the RR registration table.

Will there be a place to stop for lunch on either/both the field trips, or should I plan to bring my own lunch?

Although we may have a chance to make a short stop, there is no formal lunch option for either trip, so plan to bring your own food and water along with you.

Are there any T-shirts left?

Yes, we sometimes have a few leftovers. Check at the registration desk for availability. Short-sleeved T-shirt are \$25. The long-sleeved quarter zips are \$35.

If I win a Super Raffle prize, where do I pick it up?

All Super Raffle prizes will be delivered to you by regular ground, best available rate. Winners can pay extra for faster shipping.

Where is the Hospitality Suite located?

Evening socialization can be had in the President's Suite, Room 807, on the eighth floor. See you there!

Can I still purchase tickets for the Awards dinner?

There could be a few tickets available. See Colleen Derber at the RR registration table, but in any case, don't miss the after-dinner reception with live music from The Song Pilots.

How do I enter the photo contest?

It's easy! Write your name, location of the photo, and the category on the back of each print. Drop off photos at ANPR Rendezvous registration desk upon arrival or by end of day Nov. 5.

Categories include:

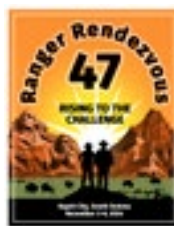
- Landscape (Land, sky and/or waters at a distance)
- Wildlife (Wild animals in the image)
- Historical and Cultural Resources (Image represents history or cultural parts of NPS sites)
- The Human Connection (Person/people in the image)
- In the Details (A macro, close-up image)
- Big Sky (New category: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

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

Rendezvous attendees will vote for their favorite photos. Winners will be selected from each category, and a "Best of Show" photo will take the top spot.

The Montana Room is not on the map. Where do I find it?

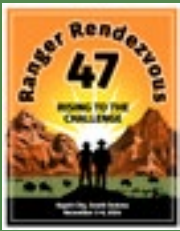
Our map includes the bulk of activity, all on the first floor. The Montana Room is on the second floor. From the elevators, take a left and you will pass first the Wyoming Room, then the bathrooms, then the Montana Room, which is signed.



Can I still buy Super Raffle tickets?

Yes, there is still time! The raffle closes at 11 p.m., Thursday Nov. 8, and the drawing will be held during Rendezvous on Friday, Nov. 8. To purchase tickets, go to rafflecreator.com/pages/38397/super-raffle-by-anpr to view this year's prizes. Or scan this QR code.





Ranger Rendezvous 47 Schedule of Events

Room Key: **Salon B** **Salon C** **Salon D** **Salon E** **Montana Room** **Hospitality Suite** **Salons G & H**

Tuesday, November 5

- 9 a.m.-5 p.m., **Salons G&H**: Board of Directors meeting
- 2-6 p.m.: Registration opens
- 6:30-9 p.m., **Montana Room**: Trivia Night (second floor)
- 7-8:30 p.m., **President's Suite**: Hospitality Suite open

Wednesday, November 6

- 8-10 a.m., **Salon D**: Welcome addresses by ANPR President Rick Mossman, regional director, local superintendents; State of the Association
- 10-10:30 a.m., **Salon D**: Beverage break
- 10:30-11:15 a.m., **Salon D**: "Embracing Adversity: A View From a Former NPS Director," David Vela
- 11:15 a.m.-Noon, **Salon D**: General session: BOD reports
- Noon-1:20 p.m.: Lunch, on your own
- 1:20-2:10 p.m.: Breakout sessions:
 - "How Satellite Communication is Changing Communication With Park Visitors," J.S. Bergeron - **Salon B**
 - "Rangers, Gorillas and Guerillas: The Real Africa," Rick Mossman, - **Salon D**
 - "The View From Here," Shannon Wilson - **Salon C**
- 2:20-3:15 p.m.: Breakout sessions
 - "(Not So) Secrets From a Hiring Official," Tim Moore - **Salon B**
 - "Crime Off the Grid Podcast: An Insider's Look at True Crime Stories in Wild Places," Tara Ross & Nancy Martinz - **Salon D**
 - "Not Ours, Others, Gone & Didn't Make the Cut," Rick Mossman & Jeff Ohlfs - **Salon C**
- 3:15-3:45 p.m., **Salon D**: Beverage break and raffle
- 3:45-4:30 p.m., **Salon D**: Partner Panel: NPCA, Coalition to Protect America's Parks, Katahdin Woods and Waters/Mount Rushmore NM Society. Presenters: John Garder, Cheryl Schreier, Dan Wenk
- 4:30-5:15 p.m., **Salon D**: "National Parks Yesterday and Today," Paul Horsted
- 6-7:30 p.m., **Salon E**: President's Reception
- 7:30 p.m.-?, **President's Suite**: Hospitality Suite open
- 7:30-9 p.m., **Salon D**: "Touching the Pen, the 1868 Fort Laramie Treaty," Casey Osback

Thursday, November 7

- 7:30-8 a.m., **Salon D**: Announcements and raffle
- 8-8:50 a.m., **Salon D**: Keynote: "An Advocate's Views on the State of our National Parks," Alan Spears, NPCA
- 9 a.m.-5 p.m.: Field trips, personal time
- 6:30-8 p.m., **Public Safety Building**: Pistol Shoot
- 7:30 p.m.-?, **President's Suite**: Hospitality Suite open
- 7:30-8:30 p.m., **Salon D**: "Managing Change: A Panel Discussion on Career Transitions in the National Parks," Jonathan Shafer
- 8-9 p.m., **Salon C**: "DOD Fuel Support for NPS, Defense Logistics Agency, Marc McConahy, Tom Pisarich, Terry Poole

Friday, November 8

- 6:30-7:45 a.m., **Montana Room**: Breakfast with board of directors for first-time RR attendees. Montana Room is on the second floor.
- 7:45-8:15 a.m., **Salon D**: Announcements and raffle

This at-a-glance schedule provides an abbreviated version of the full conference program. To view details on each program and see an alphabetical list of presenter bios, scan the QR code at right or visit <https://www.anpr.org/rr-47-program-guide>

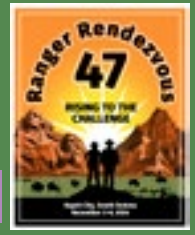


- 8:15-9 a.m., **Salon D**: Keynote: "The View From NPS Leadership," Bert Frost
- 9-10 a.m., **Salon D**: "Perspectives From Former Deputy Director and Yellowstone NP Superintendent," Dan Wenk
- 10-10:30 a.m., **Salon D**: Beverage break and raffle
- 10:30-Noon, **Salon D**: Membership meeting, Part I
- Noon-2:20 p.m.: A longer lunch break so you can explore the surrounding Rapid City area
- 2:20-3:15 p.m., **Salon D**: "Soft Skills for Hard Conversations," Dr. Joy James
- 3:15-3:45 p.m., **Salon D**: Beverage break and raffle
- 3:45-4:45 p.m.: Breakout sessions:
 - "Updates From the World Ranger Congress," Meg Weesner - **Salon D**
 - "Ranger Museum Update From Yellowstone National Park," Mary Wilson - **Salon B**
 - "Why Study Death in National Parks," Bruce Farabee - **Salon C**
- 6-6:45 p.m., **Salon D**: Presentation of Awards, open to all
- 6:45-7:45 p.m., **Salons E, F, G and H**: Awards Reception; ticketed guests only
- 7:45-10 p.m., **Salons E, F, G and H**: Entertainment, open to all, live music with The Song Pilots
- 10-? p.m., **President's Suite**: Hospitality Suite open

Saturday, November 9

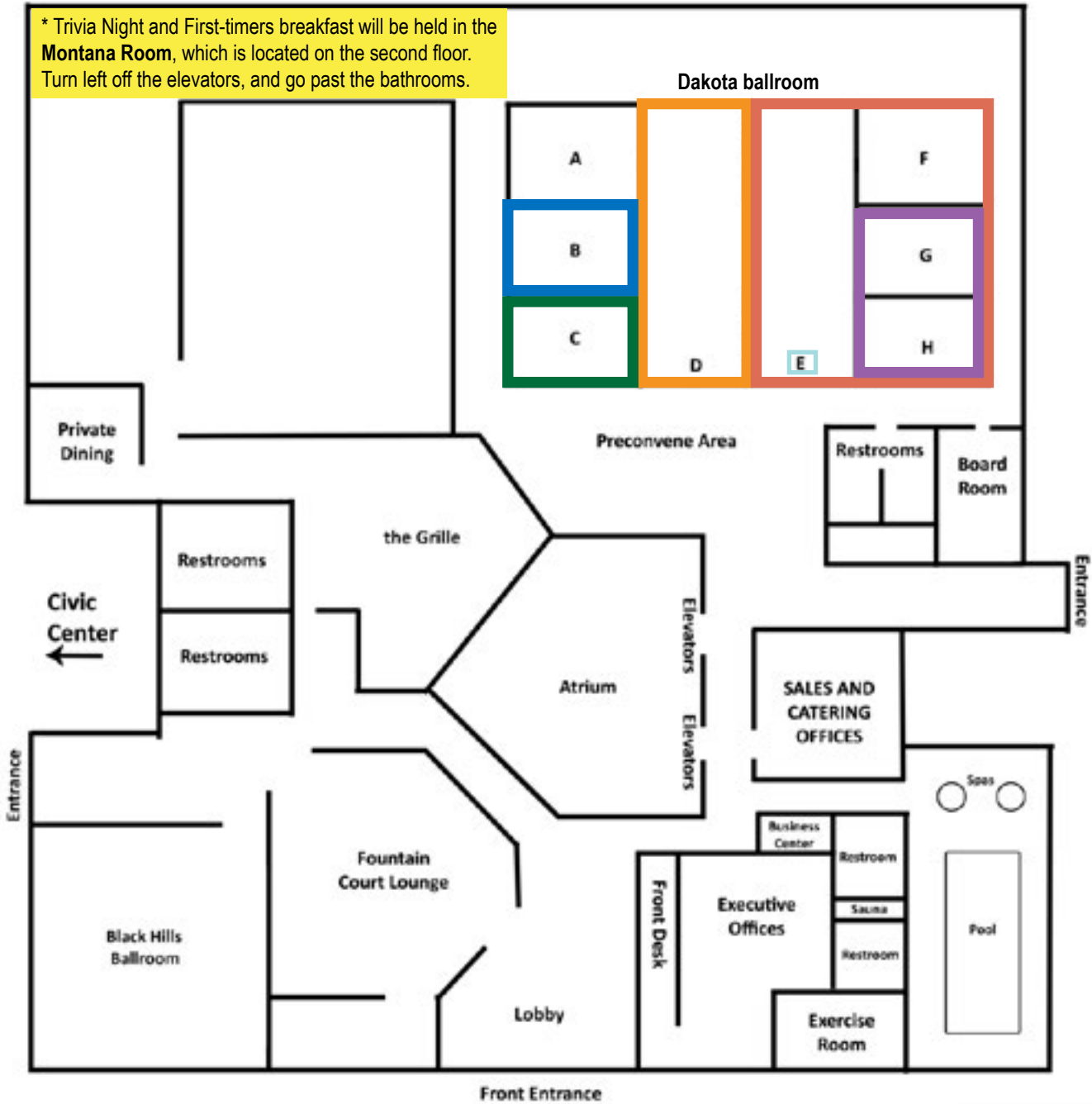
- 7:45-8:15 a.m., **Salon D**: Announcements and raffle
- 8:15-9 a.m., **Salon D**: "How the NPS is Responding to a Changing Climate in our Parks," Shawn Norton
- 8:15-9 a.m., **Salon C**: "Travels With Freeman Tilden," Walt Dabney
- 9-10 a.m., **Salon D**: Membership Meeting, Part II
- 10-10:30 a.m., **Salon D**: Beverage break and raffle
- 10:30-11:15 a.m., **Salon D**: "New Best Practices for Employee Engagement," Bill Wade
- 10:30-11:15 a.m., **Salon C**: "Do You Have What it Takes to Be a Caver," Jeri Frederick
- 11:15 a.m.- Noon, **Salon D**: "Cave Exploration and Management," Rene Ohms
- Noon-1:15 p.m.: Lunch on your own
- 1:15-2:10 p.m., **Salon D**: "Park Rx: Bridging Stewardship and Wellness Through Initiatives, Wellness, and Partnerships," Dr. Joy James
- 2:20-3:15 p.m., **Salon D**: "The History and Future of America's Public Lands," Walt Dabney
- 3:15-3:30 p.m., **Salon D**: Beverage break and raffle
- 3:30-4:15 p.m., **Salon D**: Keynote: "Update on NPS Visitor and Resources Protection," John Leonard
- 4:15-4:30 p.m., **Salon D**: Keynote Closing, Rick Mossman
- 6 p.m.-?, **President's Suite**: Hospitality Suite open

Holiday Inn Rapid City Downtown Map



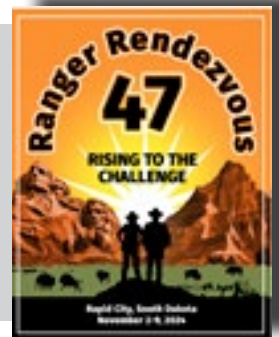
Room Key: **Salon B** **Salon C** **Salon D** **Salon E** **Montana Room*** **Hospitality Suite** **Salons G & H**

* Trivia Night and First-timers breakfast will be held in the **Montana Room**, which is located on the second floor. Turn left off the elevators, and go past the bathrooms.



Visit our Hospitality Suite!

Each evening, ANPR's Hospitality Suite will be open for attendees to socialize and network. A selection of beverages, including beer and wine, sodas and water, will be available. The Hospitality Suite is located in one of the hotel's **presidential suites** — which is fitting because we will be following, live, election results in the Hospitality Suite on Tuesday, Nov. 5. Follow the signs — or the noise — to the fun!





Ranger Rendezvous 47 Schedule of Events

Thank you to our presenters for sharing their time and expertise at this year's Ranger Rendezvous. Scroll to the end of this program to view an alphabetical list of each presenter and their bios.

Room Key: **Salon B** **Salon C** **Salon D** **Salon E** **Montana Room** **Hospitality Suite** **Salons G & H**

Tuesday, November 5

Registration Opens

- 2-6 p.m., TBA

Board of Directors meeting (open to all members)

- 9 a.m.-5 p.m., Salons G & H

Trivia night

- 6:30-9 p.m., Montana Room, Second Floor, go left from elevators.

Hospitality Suite

- 7-? p.m., located in President's Suite, Room 807.

Wednesday, November 6

Welcome Address

- 8-10 a.m., Salon D

ANPR President, regional director and local superintendents; local dignitaries; State of the Association.

Beverage break

- 10-10:30 a.m., Salon D

General Session: David Vela, Embracing Adversity: A View From a Former NPS Director

- 10:30-11:15 a.m., Salon D

Ever wonder what it was like to sit in the director's office during COVID, national unrest as a result of the murder of George Floyd, and in a changing political environment? Perspectives will be provided on the personal toll that was experienced, the strains on the system and related impacts on those charged with their protection and management, and guidance for future park leaders in a second century of service. Presenter: David Vela, retired deputy director, exercising the authority of the director of the National Park Service.

General Session: BOD reports

- 11:15 a.m.-Noon: Salon D

President Rick Mossman and the members of the ANPR Board of Directors will give their annual, brief board reports.

Lunch, on your own

- Noon-1:20 p.m.

How Satellite Communication is Changing Communication With Park Visitors, Especially Visitor Safety

- 1:20-2:10 p.m., Salon B

For better or for worse, national park visitors are increasingly connected where they haven't been before. More and more users of national park campgrounds are using Starlink satellite internet during their stay. And this is just the beginning! What does the much-publicized future availability of cellular service using satellites mean for visitor experiences? For park rangers? As satellite communication becomes more accessible and more present in remote areas, it is rapidly changing how connected national park visitors are during their

visit. What does this mean for visitor safety? How can National Park Service rangers prepare for this change today and in the next year or two? Presenter: J.S. Bergeron

Rangers, Gorillas and Guerrillas: The Real Africa

- 1:20-2:10 p.m., Salon D

Presenter Rick Mossman went on a safari as an "ambassador" trip to celebrate World Ranger Day with rangers in the national parks of Uganda, Rwanda and the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC). In the DRC we met with rangers and the widows and orphans of rangers to talk about problems and ideas for solutions. The poverty is astounding, and the needs of the rangers are great.

The View From Here

- 1:20-2:10 p.m., Salon C

ANPR board member Shannon Wilson will help increase awareness of our disabled visitors' needs to access more trails with emphasis on those with limited mobility.

Moving time between sessions

- 2:10-2:20 p.m.

(Not So) Secrets From a Hiring Official

- 2:20-3:15 p.m., Salon B

There are dozens of trainings and tips out there on the federal hiring process. They're great, but they have to stick to the script. This session is an informal look behind closed doors. What really happens in the hiring process, what are the do's and don'ts that we're not supposed to talk about. We'll go off script and talk about what we do when we're hiring and the kinds of things that will get you noticed, both for good and for bad. Bring your resumes and get some uncensored feedback. Presenter: Tim Moore

Crime Off the Grid Podcast: An Insider's Look at True Crime Stories in Wild Places

- 2:20-3:15 p.m., Salon D

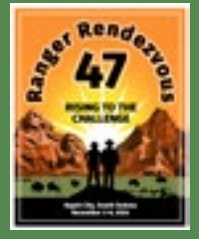
The Crime Off the Grid podcast discusses true crime cases from national parks, national forests, BLM, or other wild and off-the-grid places. In the majority of stories we discuss, we try to include a safety message for those traveling to parks and forests, inform listeners about the dynamics of certain crimes for education and awareness purposes, where to report or seek help, and inform the public about the dedicated responders who make our parks and wild places as little bit safer. And...we try to provide a little entertainment in each episode. Presenters: Tara Ross and Nancy Martinz

Not Ours, Others, Gone, & Didn't Make the Cut

- 2:20-3:15 p.m., Salon C

Hear about some National Park System (NPS) history that you will not get at "Ranger Skills." Get an overview about what is not in the NPS, who has similar areas, what has left the NPS, and what didn't make it into the NPS. Who knows? Maybe you might learn about an answer for trivia night! Presenters: Rick Mossman and Jeff Ohlfs

Ranger Rendezvous 47 Schedule of Events



Beverage break and raffle

- 3:15-3:45 p.m., Salon D

Partner Panel: NPCA, Coalition to Protect America's Parks, Katahdin Woods and Waters/Mount Rushmore NM Society

- 3:45-4:30 p.m., Salon D

Partners John Garder (NPCA), Cheryl Schreier (Coalition), and Dan Wenk (Katahdin/Mount Rushmore) will converge to discuss support of the NPS.

National Parks Yesterday and Today

- 4:30-5:15 p.m., Salon D

Paul Horsted worked for five years on a personal project to locate and re-photograph historic photo sites at 24 of the oldest and grandest National Parks. The results were published in "Treasures of the National Parks Yesterday & Today," published in 2017. Paul will also discuss similar work he has done across the Black Hills including rare images from the 1874 Black Hills "Custer" Expedition.

President's Reception

- 6-7:30 p.m., Salon E

Touching the Pen, the 1868 Fort Laramie Treaty

- 7:30-9 p.m., Salon D

Fort Laramie National Historic Site defines the pure fabric of the American West. For more than 56 years, "The Grand Old Post on the Laramie" was a cultural crossroads, and a center of "global" business and cultural interaction during the American Fur Trade, Euro-American Expansion on the "Great Platte River Road" (Oregon/California Trails) and throughout the 41-year military presence. Linked to Fort Laramie is the "Embassy on the Plains." Twenty-five Northern Great Plains Indian tribes including Teton Lakota, Northern Cheyenne, and Northern Arapahoe today view Fort Laramie and surrounding geographical landscapes as sacred to their continued diplomacy with the United States government as relating to the 1868 Treaty.

"Touching the Pen" will focus on the site's relevance as a diplomatic center through a thematic, "first-person" character who observed the treaty ceremonies first-hand in April of that year. Joseph Casey, 2nd Lt., 2nd U.S. Cavalry, will be played by Casey Osback, who will be dressed in 19th period clothing with a cavalry saddle, replica Sharps Carbine and Colt Revolver along with other props). Osback's character, an 1866 graduate of West Point Military Academy and former resident of Litchfield, Connecticut, will bring a 19th century Euro-American context and viewpoint to the audience. Highlighting the observations of this young lieutenant will be photographs of the 1868 Treaty taken by 19th century photographer Alexander Gardner.

Gardner's original photographs are part of a collection of images known as "Images in Indian Country" housed at the Newberry Library in Chicago. These images, totally 64 in number, are an ethnographic goldmine and some of the first to capture Indian Tribes of the Northern Great Plains in camp settings using Euro-American canvas tipis, utensils, plates and other cookware as well as men wearing surplus Civil War uniforms during the treaty negotiations. Lastly, the ultimate goal of this program is for the audience to gain a new appreciation of Fort Laramie as a world-recognized cultural and sacred site linked to

the American West as well as a diplomatic center for Northern Great Plains Indian Tribes.

Hospitality Suite open

- 7:30-? p.m., located in President's Suite, Room 807.

Thursday, November 7

Announcements and raffle

- 7:30-8 a.m., Salon D

Keynote: "An Advocate's Views on the State of our National Parks: DEI, Budgets, Cultural Resources, America 250, and That Nagging Matter of National Parks (Not!) Being America's Best Idea"

- 8-8:50 a.m., Salon D

If you've ever cared to learn what an iconoclast and a true believer think about our National Park System, then here's your chance. Hear from an advocate with 25 years' experience working to protect and enhance our national parks, wrangle congressional support for agency enhancements often from the same people who advocate for cuts to the NPS budget, and address the desire of diverse constituents increasingly hungry to see that federal preservation efforts adequately represent their interests. Presenter: Alan Spears

Field trips, personal time

- 9 a.m.-5 p.m., field trips depart from hotel at 9 a.m. sharp.

ANPR Pistol Shoot

- 6:30 p.m.-8 p.m., Public Safety Building, 300 Kansas City St. Find ANPR President Rick Mossman for details.

Hospitality Suite open

- 7-? p.m., located in President's Suite, Room 807.

Managing Change: A Panel Discussion on Career Transitions in the National Parks

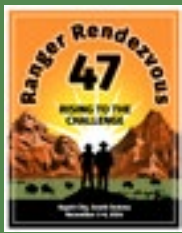
- 7:30-8:30 p.m., Salon D

Attendees will gain perspective from current and former NPS leaders about managing the transitions for themselves and their staff among parks, professions, and positions. Managing transitions can be challenging in any organization that simultaneously values initiative and careful adherence to often unfamiliar policies. This contributes to a work culture where new staff and especially managers must lead while doing. Presenter: Jonathan Shafer, Wrangell-St. Elias NP

DOD Fuel Support for NPS, Defense Logistics Agency

- 8-9 p.m., Salon C

Defense Logistics Agency (DLA) serves more than just our partners in the military. Did you know DLA supports a wide range of civil and government organizations such as the U.S. Forest Service, FEMA, and more? DLA will present its offerings, including medical supplies, energy & fuel, uniforms, signal flags, tents/mobile camps, stable foods for the field, tools & equipment, and its Special Equipment Program, which includes everything from drones to night vision goggles. Join us to learn how DLA can help support and enhance your park & ranger operations. Presenters: Marc McConahy, Tom Pisarich, Terry Poole



Ranger Rendezvous 47 Schedule of Events

Room Key: **Salon B** **Salon C** **Salon D** **Salon E** **Montana Room** **Hospitality Suite** **Salons G & H**

Friday, November 8

Breakfast with Board of Directors for first-time attendees

- 6:30-7:45 a.m., Montana Room, Second Floor, left off elevators.

Free breakfast with the ANPR Board of Directors. Come meet your Board of Directors and mix with other RR "first-timers."

Announcements and raffle

- 7:45-8:15 a.m., Salon D

Keynote: The View From NPS Leadership

- 8:15-9 a.m., Salon D

Presenter: NPS Regional Director Bert Frost

Perspectives From Former Deputy Director and Yellowstone National Park Superintendent

- 9-10 a.m., Salon D

Presenter: Dan Wenk

Beverage break and raffle

- 10-10:30 a.m., Salon D

Membership Meeting

- 10:30-Noon, Salon D

Part I, led by ANPR President Rick Mossman

Lunch, on your own

- Noon-2:20 p.m.

A longer lunch break to allow you to explore nearby Rapid City.

Soft Skills for Hard Conversations

- 2:20-3:15 p.m., Salon D

Engage in this dynamic workshop designed to equip you with the essential soft skills necessary for navigating challenging conversations with confidence and tact. Gain insights into fostering respect and inclusivity while mastering conflict-deflection techniques. Using Tongue Fu!® methods, explore effective communication strategies and cultivate positive interactions with colleagues, supervisors, and customers. Learn to preempt conflict and respond adeptly with kindness, even in challenging situations. Discover words to avoid and those to embrace, enabling you to diffuse tensions and foster an inclusive atmosphere. Elevate your communication prowess and create harmonious relationships in any context. Presenter: Dr. Joy James

Beverage break and raffle

- 3:15-3:45 p.m., Salon D

Updates from the World Ranger Congress

- 3:45-4:45 p.m., Salon D

Presenter: Meg Weesner, ANPR International liaison

Ranger Museum Update from Yellowstone National Park Management Team

- 3:45-4:45 p.m., Salon B

This presentation will provide a brief overview of what we refer to today as the Museum of the National Park Ranger (MNPR): the history of the structure itself and its early day use, establishment of the MNPR as part of the NPS's 75 Anniversary celebration, current physical condition of the structure, and future interpretive story overview. Presenter: Mary Wilson

Why Study Death in National Parks

- 3:45-4:45 p.m., Salon C

There are now at least a dozen national parks with books dedicated to the deaths in them. Why this interest and what are their values and what can we gain from them? The short answer is: "All the above." History and records (Why, When, Who, Where, How.) Family liaison. Safety and accident prevention. Budget allocation. Press releases and the public's right to know. Fascination, interest, and curiosity. Documentation for the future. Profit. Butch Farabee, using his 25 years of research on nearly 2,000 deaths in Yosemite as a model, will provide insight into this, admittedly, rather strange, but important subject.

Presentation of Awards

- 6-6:45 p.m., Salons E, F, G and H, everyone invited

Awards reception

- 6:45-7:45 p.m., Salons E, F, G and H, ticketed guests only

Celebration Party and Cash Bar

- 7:45-10 p.m., Salons E, F, G and H, everyone invited, with live music by The Song Pilots

Hospitality Suite open

- 10-? p.m., located in President's Suite, Room 807.

Saturday, November 9

Announcements and raffle

- 7:45-8:15 a.m., Salon D

How the NPS is Responding to a Changing Climate in our Parks

- 8:15-9 a.m.: Salon D

The effects of climate change are evident across the National Park System, with impacts permeating every aspect of National Park Service (NPS) responsibilities, including natural and cultural resource stewardship, facility management, planning, park operations, and visitor experiences. To achieve its mission, the NPS must address climate change caused by human activities as part of its core responsibility to protect resources unimpaired for future generations. This obligation is anchored in the 1916 Organic Act, management goals in park-specific enabling legislation, and park guidance. The NPS Climate Change Response Strategy and Green Parks Plan build on our response to climate change and integrate components of science, adaptation, mitigation, and communication. These plans offer important new goals and approaches that reflect growth in knowledge and experience. The complex and wide-ranging impacts of climate change will require unprecedented investment, collaboration and innovative solutions that provide the best possible future for parks and people. Presenter: Shawn Norton

Travels With Freeman Tilden

- 8:15-9 a.m.: Salon C

In 1970, Walt Dabney spent a year assigned as aide (Park Ranger GS-5) to NPS "senior author and editor" Freeman Tilden. He was

Ranger Rendezvous 47 Schedule of Events



23 and Tilden was 86. During that year, they “boarded” in the same house, worked and traveled together based out of the Harpers Ferry interpretative Design Center. They interacted with employees and students on their travels, all over the country, and got to know each other well. Dabney kept a journal of the year and refers to that journal 47 years later to put together a program, not on what is interpretation, but who was Freeman Tilden for the National Association of Interpretation.

Membership meeting

- 9-10 a.m., Salon D

Part II; led by ANPR President Rick Mossman

Beverage break and raffle

- 10-10:30 a.m., Salon D

New Best Practices for Employee Engagement

- 10:30-11:15 a.m., Salon D

This session will be most useful to current employees who are supervisors, or aspire to be a supervisor. Learn what engagement is and what the current best practices are for how employees can be engaged. Engagement assessment form will be available to those who want it. Presenter: Bill Wade

Do You Have What It Takes To Be A Caver?

- 10:30-11:15 a.m., Salon C

Come join Jeri Kizer Frederick in a talk to discover whether you have what it takes to be a cave explorer. In addition, you will learn about the 6th oldest national park, Wind Cave National Park. The mixed-grass prairie at Wind Cave is home to bison, elk, prairie dogs, burrowing owls and the 3rd longest cave in the country, 6th longest in the world, about 170 miles in length.

Cave Exploration and Management

- 11:15 a.m.-12 noon, Salon D

Caves are some of the last unexplored places on Earth. In several caves managed by the National Park Service, cavers are making exciting discoveries that contribute to our understanding of these remarkable resources. Two of the world’s longest caves are in South Dakota’s Black Hills, at Wind Cave National Park and Jewel Cave National Monument. Recent discoveries in Wind and Jewel have aided park management by producing critical maps, documenting unusual features, and identifying bodies of water connected to the aquifer. As more is discovered, exploration continues to deepen our scientific knowledge and provide parks with tools for effective management. Presenter: Rene Ohms

Lunch, on your own

Noon-1:15 p.m.

Park Rx: Bridging Stewardship and Wellness Through Initiatives, Research, and Partnerships

- 1:15-2:10 p.m., Salon D

The Park Prescription (ParkRx) Movement, widely adopted by parks and recreation agencies, prompts healthcare providers (HCPs) to “prescribe” parks to patients for wellness. While ParkRx aims to promote health benefits and land stewardship, assessing their effectiveness has been challenging. A historical analysis was conducted

to uncover factors influencing success and identify areas for further research. This session provides an overview of ParkRx initiatives, ongoing research efforts, and invites discussion on the movement’s impact. Presenter: Dr. Joy James

The History and Future of America’s Public Lands

- 2:20-3:15 p.m., Salon D

This presentation covers how and when we got the “public lands,” what the Constitution says about them, how the states were formed, how lands were transferred out of public ownership, why some states have lots of public lands and others virtually none, how the parks and forests were established and issues and threats to these lands today and the efforts to transfer the public lands from public ownership.

Presenter: Walt Dabney

Afternoon break and raffle

- 3:15-3:30 p.m., Salon D

Keynote: Update on NPS Visitor and Resources Protection

- 3:30-4:15 p.m., Salon D

This presentation by John Leonard, Chief of Law Enforcement, Security, and Emergency Services since 2019, will cover updates and issues in the NPS Visitor and Resources Protection functions.

Closing Keynote

- 4:15-4:30 p.m., Salon D

Presenter: ANPR President Rick Mossman

Hospitality Suite open

- 6-? p.m., located in President’s Suite, Room 807.



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J.S. BERGERON

Jean-Stéfane (J.S.) Bergeron retired from the Canadian Federal Government after an extensive career focusing on public safety, risk, and emergency management. An avid outdoorsperson, J.S. has seen technology change outdoor experiences, even in the most remote areas. Four years ago, he founded a company to use technology to help people stay safe from severe-weather, flash flooding, wildfires and other safety risks in the most remote areas using satellite communication. He is quickly becoming a leading subject matter expert about using satellite communication to improve outdoor safety. He recently authored an article for the National Weather Service about being better prepared for severe weather. He will present "How Satellite Communication is Changing Communication With Park Visitors, Especially Visitor Safety," 1:30 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 6, in Salon B.

WALT DABNEY

Walt Dabney graduated from Texas A&M. His National Park Service career began in 1969 as a student trainee (ranger-naturalist) at Yellowstone. He then worked as a ranger or district ranger in Yosemite, Mount Rainier, and Grand Tetons. He transferred to Everglades as resource management chief and then Washington, D.C., as chief of Ranger Activities. His final NPS assignment was as the Southeast Utah Group superintendent responsible for Arches, Canyonlands, Natural Bridges and Hovenweep. He became director of Texas State Parks for 11 years, retiring in 2010. He continues to teach and present subjects related to park management and public lands. He will present "Travels with Freeman Tilden," 8:15 a.m. Saturday, Nov. 9, in Salon B and also "The History and Future of Americas Public Lands," 2:20 p.m., Saturday, Nov. 9, in Salon D.

BUTCH FARABEE

In 1961, Butch began on the backcountry trails in Sequoia and Kings Canyon, for five summers ("The best years of my life?") then became a Tucson policeman for three years. He served in 11 different NPS areas in 15 different positions, from trail crew to superintendent, retiring in 2000 with 35 years of service. He then worked for Texas Parks intermittently for four years. Farabee has his bachelors of science in Zoology and a masters of arts in Criminal Justice and went to the FBI Academy. He has written six books on "rangering" and emergency response. Farabee was ANPR's first president, but his proudest accomplishment is his two sons and four grandkids. He will present "Why Study Death in National Parks," 3:45 p.m., Friday, Nov. 8, in Salon A.

JERI FREDERICK

Jeri Kizer Frederick, life member and fellow of the National Speleological Society (NSS), joined the Smoky Mountain Grotto (SMG) cave exploring club during her college years at the University of Tennessee. With the SMG, a very active caving club, she surveyed and explored dozens of horizontal and vertical caves throughout the Tennessee, Alabama and Georgia (TAG) region during the 1970s, including the Xanadu Cave Project. In addition, she worked as a cave tour guide, explored and

surveyed in Wind Cave National Park 1977-1981. She returned to Wind Cave as a summer seasonal 2008-2021 and continued to help survey. She also introduced visitors, staff and regional school children to caves and cave exploring. She will present "Do You Have What It Takes To Be A Caver," 10:30 a.m. Saturday, Nov. 9, in Salon B.

HERBERT FROST

Dr. Herbert C. Frost has been the regional director for the National Park Service (NPS) in Omaha, Neb., since October 2019. As regional director, he oversees all NPS operations in Interior Regions 3, 4, 5, which encompasses 62 park units, one national trail, eight national heritage areas, 1.4 million acres, approximately 2,300 employees, and a budget of about \$330 million. Prior to coming to Omaha, Bert was the regional director for the Alaska Region, where he oversaw operations of 16 park units, 54.7 million acres and 1,000 employees. He also oversaw programs in natural and cultural resource protection, climate change, subsistence, planning and compliance, partnership and outreach programs, recreation, and facility management. Before joining the ranks of regional directors, Bert was the associate director for Natural Resource Stewardship and Science (NRSS) duty stationed in Washington, D.C. He also served as the chief scientist for the NPS and had programmatic responsibility for all aspects of the natural resource and science programs throughout the NPS. As associate director, he spent much of his time on issues relating to climate change, renewable and traditional energy development, transmission lines, air tour management, ungulate overabundance, bison conservation and trying to protect park resources for future generations. He was also deputy Associate director for NRSS for three years. Prior to that, Bert was the NPS research coordinator at the Great Basin Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Unit (CESU), located at the University of Nevada, Reno. There he worked with parks throughout the country and 12 major universities in the Great Basin region on a wide variety of natural, cultural, and social science topics. He also worked as the wildlife biologist and Natural Resource program manager at Gettysburg National Military Park, and Eisenhower National Historic Site. He has a B.S. in Wildlife and Range Management, a M.S. in Zoology, both from Brigham Young University and a Ph.D. in Wildlife Ecology from the University of Maine, Orono. He is married to Kristiina White and has two daughters, Lindsey and Chelsea. Frost will present "The View From NPS Leadership," 8:15 a.m. Friday, Nov. 8, in Salon D.

TOM PISARICH

Tom Pisarich is liaison officer to the USDA Forest Service. He provides non-energy support through DLA's other supply chains to all federal agencies engaged in wildland firefighting with supplies and equipment. This includes extensive support for the Wildland Fire and Maintenance Repair and Operations programs, which have direct application to NPS needs. He will be part of a panel with Marc McConahy, Defense Logistics Agency; and Terry Poole, DLA Energy's Customer Account Specialist, on "DOD Fuel Support for NPS," 8 p.m., Thursday, Nov. 7, in Salon B.

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JOHN GARDER

John Garder is senior director of Budget and Appropriations at the National Parks Conservation Association. For 14 years, he has worked in their Government Affairs shop to advocate for enhanced funding for the National Park Service. This has included annual appropriations, disaster relief, the Great American Outdoors Act, and Inflation Reduction Act. He is a budget analyst, lobbyist, and campaigner. He holds a B.A. from the University of Colorado at Boulder and a M.S. from the University of Michigan's School of Environment and Sustainability. When he's not at his desk, he can be found in the woods, mountains, or rivers or on the coast engaging in varied outdoor pursuits. Garder will be part of a Partner Panel discussion with Dan Wenk of Katahdin Woods and Waters/Mount Rushmore National Memorial Society and Cheryl Schreier of the Coalition to Protect America's Parks, 3:45 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 6, in Salon D.

PAUL HORSTED

Paul Horsted has photographed people and places across the Dakotas and the United States for more than 40 years. Early on, he was a staff photographer at the Sioux Falls Argus Leader, and later chief photographer at the South Dakota Department of Tourism. For the past 35 years, Paul has worked as an independent photographer with numerous national publication credits. His passion is "re-photography" of historic photo sites across the Black Hills and Dakotas, and more recently in 24 national parks. Results are published in several books and featured in his live presentations. Based in Custer, S.D., he's currently working on a book about South Dakota "yesterday and today" scheduled for release in 2025. More info is at paulhorsted.com. He will present "National Parks Yesterday and Today," 4:30 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 6, in Salon D.

DR. JOY JAMES

Dr. Joy James has served as a professor in the Recreation Management program at Appalachian State University since 2007, engaging in teaching, research, resident camps, and interpretation for more than 25 years. Her research and interest includes a focus on Environmental Socialization, exploring how individuals become at ease in outdoor settings. She recently served as an NPS interpretive ranger at Chaco Culture National Historical Park, providing her valuable insights into the intricacies of the National Park Service employment process. Joy directs her efforts toward molding the next generation of environmental stewards of parks. She will present two programs: "Soft Skills for Hard Conversations, 2:10 p.m. Friday, Nov. 8, in Salon D; and "Park Rx: Bridging Stewardship and Wellness Through Initiatives, Research, and Partnerships," 1:15 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 9.

JOHN LEONARD

With more than 25 years of service in the National Park Service, John Leonard has been chief of Law Enforcement, Security, and Emergency Services since 2019. He oversees 26 national programs, including law enforcement, investigations, search and rescue, and manages 1,600 officers and special agents. Leonard's key initiatives include reforming law enforcement policy, investing in improving officer mental health and

resilience, increasing training and staffing, and recently implementing the NPS body-worn camera program to enhance transparency. He will present the keynote address, "Update on NPS Visitor and Resources Protection," 3:30 p.m., Saturday, Nov. 9, in Salon D.

MARC McCONAHY

Marc McConahy has provided energy support to the military, federal agencies, and commercial companies throughout a 45-year career. He recently took on new responsibilities as DLA Energy's program manager for the U.S. Treasury Government Invoicing compliance for petroleum and aerospace sales. Marc constantly seeks opportunities to visit with federal customers to improve DLA Energy's product and service offerings. Outside of work, Marc is an adventurer at heart — he's rafted the Colorado River through the Grand Canyon twice and has a goal of visiting all the national parks in the lower 48 states. He will be part of a panel with Tom Pisarich, DLA liaison officer; and Terry Poole, DLA Energy's Customer Account Specialist; on "DOD Fuel Support for NPS," 8 p.m., Thursday, Nov. 7, in Salon B.

TIM MOORE

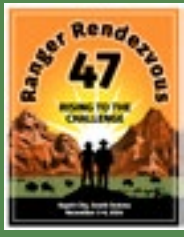
Tim Moore is the site manager of Ford's Theatre National Historic Site and Belmont-Paul Women's Equality National Monument. As a hiring official for the past decade, Tim has hired nearly 1,000 positions ranging from seasonals, temporary promotions, permanent entry level, supervisors, even division chiefs. Having seen just about everything from candidates, he can help you navigate the recruitment process. *Ethics Office Disclaimer: Tim will be sharing his personal tips and tricks to the hiring process; they do not represent, nor are they endorsed by the NPS, DOI, or OPM.* Moore will present "(Not So) Secrets From a Hiring Official," 2:20 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 6, in Salon B.

RICK MOSSMAN

Mossman spent 36 years working with the NPS as an interpreter and protection ranger in 13 park areas. He retired in 2012 as the chief ranger of Wind Cave National Park. He currently is the director for the NPS Park Ranger Law Enforcement academy at Skagit Valley College, Wash. Mossman spoke at the first International Ranger Federation Congress in 1995 in Zakopane, Poland, and has attended three other World Ranger Congresses. He will present "Rangers, Gorillas and Guerrillas: The Real Africa," 1:30 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 6, in Salon D. He will also be co-presenter with Jeff Ohlfs of "Not Ours, Others, Gone, & Didn't Make the Cut," at 2:20 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 6, in Salon A. As ANPR president, he will provide the closing remarks to this year's Rendezvous, 4:15 p.m., Saturday, Nov. 9, in Salon D.

SHAWN NORTON

Shawn Norton currently serves as the U.S. National Park Service (NPS) Branch Chief Sustainable Operations. He is responsible for integrating agency sustainability goals and objectives into NPS parks and program centers including climate change resiliency and adaptation, sustainable building design and construction, energy/ water conservation, greenhouse gas mitigation, and renewable energy system design.



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Norton has a master's degree in environmental science and engineering from Virginia Tech, Blacksburg, Va., and a bachelor's degree in Forest Biology from the State University of New York, College of Environmental Science and Forestry, Syracuse, N.Y. Norton's presentation is "How the NPS is Responding to a Changing Climate in our Parks," 8:15 a.m., Saturday, Nov. 9, in Salon D.

JEFF OHLFS

Jeff started his 45-year parks career in California with San Jose City Parks and retired as a chief park ranger with the National Park Service. Still active in retirement, he is a governor's-appointed director to the Mount San Jacinto Winter Park Authority and a division supervisor (Reservist) for FEMA's Operations Response Division. Jeff continues to be very active in the international ranger community honoring the "Thin Green Line." He has attended every World Ranger Congress and is the Father of World Ranger Day. Jeff has been a member of ANPR since 1981 and received the ANPR's Rick Gale President Award. This presentation is part of his pastime as a closet park historian. He will present, with Rick Mossman, "Not Ours, Others, Gone, & Didn't Make the Cut," 2:20 p.m., Wednesday, Nov. 6, in Salon A.

RENE OHMS

Rene Ohms has caved throughout the United States and in several other countries, and has done 59 underground camp expeditions. In South Dakota, she has explored and mapped more than 50 miles of Jewel Cave and 10 miles of Wind Cave, making discoveries to help the parks document these large cave systems. She is a fellow of the National Speleological Society (NSS) and a recipient of the NSS lifetime achievement award for exploration. Rene also worked for the National Park Service for 25 years, at Wind Cave, Jewel Cave, Devils Tower, Fossil Butte, Badlands, Mount Rushmore, and the Midwest Region. She will present "Cave Exploration and Management," 11:15 a.m., Saturday, Nov. 9, in Salon D.

CASEY OSBACK

Casey J. Osback is a 29-year career National Park Service employee (NPS) currently serving as the chief of Interpretation & Visitor Services at Fort Laramie National Historic Site (southeast Wyoming). A third-generation Wyoming (Torrington) native, Osback started his NPS career as a volunteer and seasonal park ranger at Fort Laramie National Historic Site in May 1989. Osback is a 1997 graduate of Chadron State College (CSC) in History and Criminal Justice and a 2002 graduate (NPRI-202) of the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center (FLETC). He spent 22 years as a commissioned ranger in the NPS with assignments at Salinas Pueblo Missions National Monument (New Mexico), Agate Fossil Beds National Monument (Nebraska), Mount Rushmore National Memorial (South Dakota), Lake Mead National Recreation Area (Arizona/Nevada), Jewel Cave National Monument (South Dakota) and Badlands National Park (South Dakota) as the longest-serving chief park ranger in the park's history (2010-2021). Osback has received numerous awards within the NPS including the FLETC Director's Award (NPRI-202),

several patrol awards for distinguished service at Lake Mead National Recreation Area including Mohave Ranger of the Year (2009) and the "Golden Handcuffs Award for the Mohave District (2008). Most recently (2021), Osback was a recipient of the prestigious Department of the Interior (DOI) Valor Award for Heroism. Osback was a member of the elite NPS Honor Guard Team (2007-2010) and a taskforce officer with the U.S. Marshal Service (Rapid City, S.D.) Black Hills Interagency Fugitive Taskforce. While operating as a taskforce officer, Osback was featured on A&E's Live P.D. Warrants. He has also been on the Weather Channel as a guest presenter. Osback is a master interpreter, researcher and writer who specializes in the American Civil War and Indian Wars. He will present "Touching the Pen, the 1868 Fort Laramie Treaty," 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 6, in Salon D.

TARA ROSS AND NANCY MARTINZ

Tara and Nancy are both retired supervisory National Park Service law enforcement rangers with more than 30 years of experience each. Nancy also worked for the U.S. Forest Service as a captain before returning to the NPS where she retired as a chief ranger. Tara spent her career primarily in Yellowstone National Park except for her last five years where she developed the NPS-wide Victim Assistance Program with new victim specialists positions placed in YOSE, YELL, GRCA, and GRSM. They will present "Crime Off the Grid Podcast: An Insider's Look at True Crime Stories in Wild Places," 2:20 p.m., Wednesday, Nov. 6, in Salon D.

JONATHAN SHAFER

Jonathan Shafer is the recently appointed Kennecott management assistant at Wrangell-St. Elias National Park and Preserve. Shafer previously worked at parks in the southeast, intermountain, and pacific west regions as well as the National Capital Regional Office. Shafer hopes to feed discussion about how we can all contribute to a productive, inclusive, and gracious work culture. Shafer studied chemistry as an undergraduate and history as a graduate student. He will be part of "Managing Change: A Panel Discussion on Career Transitions in the National Park Service," 7:30 p.m., Thursday, Nov. 7, in Salon D.

CHERYL SCHREIER

Cheryl Schreier retired as superintendent at Mount Rushmore National Memorial after nearly 40 years of service with the National Park Service. Prior to her tenure at Mount Rushmore, she served as superintendent of Herbert Hoover National Historic Site, Knife River Indian Villages National Historic Site, and completed a stint as acting superintendent at Cuyahoga Valley National Park. Cheryl has worked at 10 different national park units throughout her career, including Bryce Canyon, Yellowstone, and Death Valley national parks. Cheryl has been a member of the Executive Council of the Coalition to Protect America's National Parks since 2021 and is currently the treasurer for the organization. Cheryl has worked on a variety of issues, including writing op-eds, commenting on park air tour management plans and commercial services planning, meetings with Congressional delegations advocating for the NPS mission and NPS employees, administration transition

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documents, and other important Coalition work. Schreier will be part of a Partner Panel discussion with Dan Wenk of Katahdin Woods and Waters/Mount Rushmore National Memorial Society and John Garder with National Parks Conservation Association, 3:45 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 6, in Salon D.

ALAN SPEARS

Alan Spears has been advocating for our national parks for 25 years since joining NPCA as an intern in 1999. As NPCA's senior director for Cultural Resources, Alan services as an advocate for the interpretation, management, and preservation of cultural and historic resources and programs inside the NPS. He will present "An Advocate's Views on the State of Our National Parks: DEI, Budgets, Cultural Resources, America 250, and that Nagging Matter of National Parks (Not!) Being America's Best Idea," 8 a.m., Thursday, Nov. 7, in Salon D.

DAVID VELA

David Vela, retired from the National Park Service in September 2020 after 30 years with the agency, most recently serving as Deputy Director, Exercising the Authority of the Director. He also served as Chair for the Committee for the Preservation of the White House. David was the first Latino to be nominated by the President of the United States to serve as Director. David serves on a number of national nonprofit boards, is a national motivational speaker, and is the founder and president of Vela Heritage Consulting, LLC. He is a graduate of Texas A&M University, and is the author of *Hola Ranger, My Journey Through The National Parks*. He will present "Embracing Adversity: A View From a Former NPS Director," 10:30 a.m., Wednesday, Nov. 6, in Salon D.

BILL WADE

Bill retired from the NPS as a park superintendent. During and after retirement, he has conducted several thousand hours of training in leadership, supervision, team effectiveness and related topics. He is currently the executive director of ANPR and is a life member (since 1978). He will present "New Best Practices for Employee Engagement," 10:30 a.m. Saturday, Nov. 9, in Salon D.

MEG WEESNER

Meg Weesner is the ANPR international liaison. She has attended all 10 World Ranger Congresses to date. She served three terms on the IRF Board of Directors, as well as two terms on the ANPR Board. She will present "Update on the World Ranger Congress," 3:45 p.m., Friday, Nov. 9, in Salon D.

DAN WENK

Dan Wenk retired in 2018 after a 43-year career with the National Park Service. He is currently supporting conservation initiatives across the country including Greater Yellowstone Coalition, Friends of Katahdin Woods and Waters, National Parks and Conservation Association Wildlife Committee and the Mount Rushmore National Memorial Society.

Dan's NPS career included Yellowstone National Park superintendent 2011-2018; interim president, National Park Foundation 2014-2015; deputy director Operations 2007-2011; acting director 2009; director Denver Service Center 2001-2007; superintendent Mount Rushmore National Memorial 1985-2001, and various positions as landscape architect 1975-1985. Wenk will be part of a Partner Panel discussion with John Garder of NPCA and Cheryl Schreier with the Coalition To Protect America's Parks, 3:45 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 6, in Salon D. He also is presenting "Perspectives From a Former Deputy Director and Yellowstone National Park Superintendent," 9 a.m. Friday, Nov. 8, in Salon D.

MARY WILSON

Mary Wilson is the North District ranger for the division of Resource Education and Youth Programs (REYP) in Yellowstone National Park. She oversees front-line resource education and interpretive facilities and activities for the Mammoth, Norris, and Tower/Lamar Valley subdistricts of the park. This is Mary's 40th year working for the NPS, having served in a variety of parks and positions in Interpretation, Visitor and Resource Protection, Administration, and Management. She especially enjoys helping rangers be more successful supervisors, provide excellent customer service, and more effectively handle visitor and wildlife safety challenges. She will be part of a panel discussion "Ranger Museum Update From Yellowstone National Park Management Team," 3:45 p.m., Friday, Nov. 8, in Salon B.

SHANNON WILSON

Shannon Wilson graduated with a degree in Recreation Management minoring in Outdoor Leadership from Western Kentucky University. After graduation, she worked for The Outdoor School in Marble Falls, Texas, and 4-H on Jekyll Island in Georgia. She joined the NPS in 2012 as a seasonal park guide at Jewel Cave National Monument. From there, she held seasonal positions at GRCA, MIMI, DES, and LIHO. She transferred to SEKI as full-time fee collector. Shannon was forced to retire from her post in May 2020 due to medical issues. She joined the ANPR Board of Directors in 2022 as the membership specialist. She will present "The View From Here," 1:30 p.m., Wednesday, Nov. 6, in Salon A.