



THE THIN GREEN LINE

NEWSLETTER OF THE INTERNATIONAL RANGER FEDERATION

April - June 2010

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OFFICERS' REPORTS

President's Report

Dear IRF Friends and Colleagues:

In the few months since the last issue of **The Thin Green Line**, we have lost several rangers. Condolence letters have been sent from the International Ranger Federation (IRF) to the families, agencies, and ranger associations for two Puerto Rican rangers - Kenneth Betancourt, age 29, and Felix Rodriguez, age 31 - who were attacked by armed robbers while guarding an agency building. In addition, condolence letters have been sent for Ranger Mauricio Guillen of Huascarán National Park in Peru and for three young marine rangers - John Mapheu age 29; Bonga Skotsho age 28; and Marvin Williams, age 25 - in Addo Elephant National Park in South Africa, who were killed in a car accident on the way to the park boat. Please keep these rangers in your thoughts, and keep yourself safe as you go about your daily work.

Reminder: If you know of the death of a ranger, please send me an e-mail at IRFdeanne@aol.com. I send condolence letters to the family, the agency, and the ranger association and provide information on the IRF's Ranger Dependents' Fund and the Thin Green Line Foundation. In turn, the foundation shares information with IRF when they are notified of a ranger death. Any information you can provide about the death of a ranger is appreciated by both IRF and TGLF.

Report from International Congress on Healthy Parks Healthy People Congress - Melbourne, Australia

Thanks to generous sponsorships from Parks Victoria and an anonymous IRF supporter, eight IRF members attended the Healthy Parks Healthy People Congress in April. The group included the four officers and two regional representatives (Deanne Adams, USA; Wayne Lotter, Tanzania; Elaine Thomas, Australia; João Manuel Dos Santos Correia, Portugal; Tegan Burton, Australia; Ana Carola Vaca Salazar, Bolivia; Marcelo Segalerba, Brazil; and Leonel Delgado Pereira, Costa Rica). All delegates were able to attend congress sessions, as well as IRF meetings and functions.

Melbourne Communiqué

At the conclusion of the congress, delegates were presented with the Melbourne Communiqué and asked to review it after the congress and endorse it online. This is an excellent resolution that summarizes much of what we discuss in IRF about the value of our communities and protected areas. The last sentence says it well: We adopt the Healthy Parks Healthy People (HPHP) philosophy to protect the earth's two most important assets – nature and people.

The International Executive Committee (IEC) reviewed and fully endorsed the communiqué. The communiqué and congress presentations and papers (where provided) will be available on the HPHP Congress website by mid-June 2010. In my endorsement message, on behalf of IRF, I stated again what I said at the closing ceremonies while signing the Parks Victoria-IRF Memorandum of Understanding (MOU), "Today's agreement reflects our belief and that of Mark Stone and Parks Victoria - that Healthy Rangers equal Healthy Parks."

Other work undertaken during the congress included:

- During opening ceremonies, Young Conservationist Award recipient Alasdair Harris gave gracious remarks, which highlighted the effectiveness of the community work he has done in Madagascar. He told us at the end of the week that the visibility from the award is worth more than any cash award. He was contacted by numerous organizations during the week of the congress.
- The MOU between Parks Victoria and IRF was signed during closing ceremonies. The memorandum outlines the details for the three-year professional development assignment of Parks Victoria Ranger Elaine Thomas on a half-time basis in the IRF executive officer position. It also outlines the continued sponsorship of the Young Conservationist Award for three more years. Parks Victoria has already sponsored two years of the award so this agreement supports the award for a total of five years.
- Sean Willmore arranged for me to meet with John Weichard, one of the Thin Green Line Foundation (TGLF) board members. It was my first chance to talk with another board member since I was appointed to TGLF board. Sean and John gave me a good briefing on recent foundation activities, and we discussed plans for cooperation between the two organizations this next year. At the end of the congress, Marcelo Segalerba also met with John to review TGLF website plans and other possible shared actions between IRF and TGLF.
- The TGLF and Victorian Rangers Association shared a booth and made good contacts with potential supporters.
- Marcelo Segalerba of Brazil reported on his work with Google Earth on implementing the Ranger Roll of Honor. He is ready for the next step of formally connecting IRF and Google Earth so we can develop an official agreement. In addition, he is developing a proposal for IRF on Rangers Without Borders. He is an active ambassador for IRF and is working with the executive committee to find the resources to make these projects a reality.



*Signing of the IRF-Parks Victoria MOU:
Chief Executive Mark Stone, Parks
Victoria and President Deanne Adams, IRF*

New IRF Positions

Several new IRF positions have been established:

- On May 10, 2010, Elaine Thomas began her half-time position as the new executive officer for IRF. Her position is paid for by Parks Victoria as a three-year professional development opportunity for Elaine. In her report below, Elaine highlights her short-term priorities for the position. We are fortunate not only to have this position, but also to have Elaine in particular. She is well-grounded in ranger associations, having served two terms as the president of the Victorian Rangers Association. In addition, she has been re-elected to her second term as IRF secretary, so she knows all the administrative work that needs to be done. As the volunteer secretary, she received far more requests for assistance than the rest of the elected executive committee. (It was clear we needed more than an overworked volunteer.) Once we have the strategic plan in draft, the IEC will be reviewing their work and that of the executive officer to set our priorities for the next three years.
- Colin Dilcock, past IRF treasurer, was approved by the IEC to be a payments officer.
- Gordon Miller, past IRF president, was approved to assist the treasurer as the second signatory to the payments officer.

Meetings with Members

While in the Northern Territory, Australia, we had a signing ceremony for the newest member of IRF, the Northern Territory Parks and Wildlife Ranger Association. Association Secretary Julie Trembath (Litchfield National Park) and I signed the member letter, with Julie representing Chairman Cameron Sharpe who was unable to attend. The signing ceremony followed my short presentation on IRF history, accomplishments, and future plans. Prior to the presentation, we met with senior managers of the Northern Territory's park management agency: Graham Phelps, executive director, Parks and Wildlife; Digby Whyte, director of park operations; and Lisha Ulvancy, tourism and visitor services manager.

Thanks to arrangements made by long-time IRF activist, Kristen Appel, I also met with staff of four national parks - Watarrka, West MacDonnell, Nitmiluk, and Kakadu. While at Watarrka National Park with Secretary Elaine Thomas, we met Ranger Shannon Carne and her colleagues. Shannon and Chief District Ranger Gary Weir gave us a thorough briefing on the issues in the park, on visitation use, and an overview of evolving relationships with the local communities. Ranger Kelli Knight of West MacDonnell is also the treasurer of the Northern Territory Parks and Wildlife Ranger Association and gave us good insights into issues the relatively new ranger association is dealing with. Like many associations, they are exploring ways to recruit members and how to market the value of the association.

At Nitmiluk, we had an excellent park overview with Senior District Ranger Andrew McPhee and then a boat orientation to see tour operation issues with Acting Senior Park Ranger Di Bowman, who is also the regional representative for the Northern Territory Ranger Association. Senior Park Ranger James Gorman led us in a successful search for early morning birdlife.

In Kakadu National Park, Operations Manager Hank Schinkel took us on a site visit to several facilities and used the time to discuss the potential of ranger associations, as well as community relationships and beginning partnerships with national parks run by the territory. (Kakadu National Park is run by the federal government, while Nitmiluk, West MacDonnell, and Watarrka national parks are run by the Northern Territory).

The whole trip was an excellent example of the role IRF can play in connecting rangers with professionals in other countries.

World Ranger Day – July 31

The IRF is looking for a champion for World Ranger Day (WRD) - a volunteer who will work with Executive Officer Elaine Thomas to increase ranger association and agency activities in celebration of WRD 2010. Please send Elaine a note at irfsec@yahoo.com.au if you are interested in making WRD a highlight of IRF-related activities.

What does your ranger association plan to do for World Ranger Day? The date, July 31, 2010, will be our fourth year of celebrating rangers. Some associations will use the day to show “The Thin Green Line” documentary by Sean Willmore and have fundraising events for the IRF Ranger Dependents’ Fund or the TGLF. Others may use the day to share with the public what rangers do or to host a training day for rangers. Plan to celebrate!

Looking Ahead

Over the next three months, my time will be focused on building the capacity of IRF with the new executive officer. This will include:

- Working with the committee on reviewing proposals for the next two World Ranger Congresses, making selections, and beginning the congress planning
- Distributing the IRF strategic plan to members and beginning implementation of that plan
- Working with TGLF to finalize our MOU for administration of IRF’s Ranger Dependents’ Fund and for addressing our shared goals
- Working with Marcelo Segalerba, IRF, and with the Thin Green Line Foundation to reach agreement with Google Earth on the Ranger Roll of Honor
- Working with EUROPARC on potential joint projects and preparing for the EUROPARC conference in September in Italy, where I have been invited to address the delegates during the opening ceremonies, as well as share a workshop session.

As you each start your daily work, please remember those we have lost this year and strive to conduct your work safely.

Best wishes,

Deanne Adams

IRFdeanne@aol.com

Vice President’s Report

Thanks to very generous support from Parks Victoria, I was one of eight members of IRF to attend the Healthy Parks Healthy People Congress held in Melbourne during April 2010. The opportunity allowed us to meet and work together during the week, to benefit from the congress sessions, and to network with other conservation people including members from the International Union for Conservation of Nature’s World Commission on Protected Areas. I also used the opportunity to present a workshop session on the benefits of protected areas using case studies from within the Selous-Niassa Transboundary Conservation Area (straddling Tanzania & Mozambique).

Congratulations to Elaine Thomas on her appointment as executive officer of the IRF on a half-time basis from Parks Victoria for the next three years! I trust that Elaine will make the most of this opportunity, as will the leadership of the IRF who are to provide support and strategic direction towards making the most of what this position represents for our organization as we move forward into the future.

Following my visit in Melbourne, I returned to Tanzania via Sydney where I had the pleasure of spending the night with David and Linley Brill in the world’s second oldest national park, Royal National Park. After being treated to a delicious evening barbeque by the reserve’s staff and management from New South Wales National Parks & Wildlife Service, I met with David and Linley to discuss the terms and scope of the twinning partnership we have just started between the Protected Area Workers Association (PAWA) of New South Wales and the Protected Area Management System (PAMS) Foundation in Tanzania. I left the meeting having made two new ranger friends with a common shared purpose and with various equipment they kindly donated for the Ranger Support Program in the newly established, community-managed protected areas in southern Tanzania.

Immediately after arriving back in Tanzania, I left for the Seychelles, where I was invited to conduct a feasibility assessment for implementing our PAMS on Cousin Island. This island is owned by Birdlife International and is managed by Nature Seychelles, a non-governmental organization, which has a goal of being the best-managed marine protected area in the world. Cousin Island is home to some of the world's rarest bird species and is an important breeding site for Hawksbill turtles. For more information, visit www.natureseychelles.org. *Note: The chief executive officer is also the current president of the Western Indian Ocean Marine Science Association (WIOMSA).*

Thereafter, I met with Mr. Julius Francis, executive secretary of WIOMSA based on Zanzibar Island, Tanzania. During this meeting, we discussed various potential areas of collaboration between the IRF and WIOMSA, including membership in the IRF, the potential further use of the PAMS in marine protected areas in the Indian Ocean (including on the East African coastline), collaboration with the certification of nature-based tourism operations and developments, and ensuring the implementation of best social and environmental standards where mining (including gas and oil) is permitted along the coast and in marine protected areas. These discussions follow the IRF's recent endorsement of WIOMSA's Western Indian Ocean Certification of Marine Protected Areas Professionals (WIO-COMPAS) certification scheme for marine protected area resource managers in the field.

More recently, I discussed potential areas of collaboration with the World Wildlife Fund (USA and East Africa) in specific aspects of the developing Ruvuma Landscape initiative between Mozambique and Tanzania. This could hold potential opportunities for IRF and possibly the Game Rangers Association of Africa (GRAA) regarding support and involvement in this major project with regard to ranger training and facilitating effective law enforcement and human-wildlife conflict.

My colleagues and I from the PAMS Foundation are pleased to have started the previously mooted ranger support program for under-equipped rangers in southern Tanzania thanks to the support from the Protected Area Workers Association for the consignment of equipment and to Mrs. Janine Krook from South Africa for her personal cash donation which enabled the provision of bicycles for a team of 12 game scouts. We are also pleased to have submitted a proposal to host the VII World Ranger Congress in Tanzania in 2012 in association with various partners including the GRAA.

I look forward to reporting on progress in the above activities and proposals, working with some of you on making them successful, and on furthering other broader aims of the IRF.

Wayne D. Lotter
wayne@pamsfoundation.com, wlotter@gauff.com

Secretary's Report

More New Members

I am pleased to announce that the applications for membership from the Park Rangers Association of California and the Northern Territory Parks and Wildlife Ranger Association (NTPWRA) have both been successful and that we can now welcome them to the international family of rangers. On her recent visit to Australia, Deanne was able to catch up with a number of the members of the NTPWRA to personally congratulate them and to sign the official documents welcoming them to the federation.

The International Executive Committee (IEC) is currently voting on an application for membership from the U.S. Bureau of Land Management Law Enforcement Association. So, we should have another new member in the near future.

Executive Officer Position

When you read the last edition of **The Thin Green Line**, you learned that Parks Victoria has committed to providing me, one of its employees, the opportunity to work part-time for the IRF for the next three years as the executive officer. I am pleased to announce that my assignment has finally started! The aim of this position is to build IRF capacity and to increase our ability to achieve numerous objectives.

Deanne and I, together with the rest of the IEC, have been working on a plan to guide my work over the next three years. Initially I will be concentrating on “getting our house in order,” or collating and updating all our documents, forms, policies, and protocols. This will give us a strong foundation for the ambitious list of goals and tasks we want to accomplish. In the longer term, I will be working on implementing the goals of our new strategic plan and on projects such as World Ranger Day, the development of a new webpage, fundraising, and developing a sustainable funding model for the federation.

I am honored to have been given this opportunity and hope I can live up to the expectations! I look forward to working with everyone over the next three years and to making a big difference in the IRF’s ability to achieve the many worthwhile projects we have started and the many we hope to start in the near future.

Elaine Thomas
irfsec@yahoo.com

Editor’s Report

Thank you for your patience in waiting for this issue of **The Thin Green Line**. I am happy to say that several people contacted me wondering if they missed it. (Nothing makes an editor happier than people clamoring to read the next issue!)

I hope you enjoy this newsletter. It brings together the unified voice I mentioned in the last issue. Please continue to send in your articles. However, I need to ask you for several favors. Please:

- Spell out any acronyms/jargon for anyone else who might be new to IRF, including me. (This will help your message to be as clear as possible for our readers and reduce the possibility of errors when I try to translate the acronyms.)
- Keep submissions to no more than two pages per person. Otherwise, the newsletter will become exceedingly unwieldy in length. Essentially, if the newsletter is too long, it may discourage some people from reading all or parts of it. Provide links to additional information.
- Provide me with exactly what you want in your submission to **The Thin Green Line**. If you send multiple documents in your submission to me, we will not be able to print all of them and will have to select parts or pieces of what you provided to be in the newsletter. (This way, **you get to choose** what is most important for other IRF member associations to know instead of someone else.)
- Include 1-2 photographs with your submission, if possible.

Thank you for your assistance with these matters. Your input and cooperation is what makes this newsletter and IRF communication with each other successful.

By the next issue, **The Thin Green Line** should be back on schedule, barring any long-term emergencies or incidents at my new job. For those who haven’t heard, on June 21, I will start a new position as the public affairs specialist branch chief at Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks in California in the United States. Both parks lie side-by-side in the Sierra Nevada Mountains in the eastern-central part of the state. The parks’ landscapes include rugged mountains, gently-rolling foothills, deep canyons, extensive caverns, wilderness areas, and the world’s largest trees! All this is located in an area ranging from 1,300 feet (396 meters)-14,494 feet (4,417 meters) in elevation. For more information about Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks, visit www.nps.gov/seki. For a map of where these parks are located within the state of California, visit <http://www.parks.ca.gov/pages/861/files/statemap.pdf>.

This year, I have two main goals for **The Thin Green Line**. By the end of the year, I am challenging myself to update the newsletter format and to include more images within it. (*Feel free to e-mail me any suggestions you might have about a new format.*) In addition, I will publish the newsletter online, as well as in a PDF format.

As always, thank you for your support of IRF and **The Thin Green Line**. I enjoy learning more about our IRF member organizations. Keep your articles (and photos) coming!

Dana M. Dierkes
dmdierkes@verizon.net

North American Regional Representative Report

Spring is a busy time for us in the desert. I attended the California Parks Conference in March in South San Francisco. With many government agencies in financial crisis, the turnout was small, yet it was great fun being with my fellow rangers that could make it. We had dinner aboard the USS Hornet, which is now a museum in Alameda, California. The USS Hornet is best known for its history in the Apollo Space Program. Congratulations to the California State Park Rangers Association and the Park Rangers Association of California for another great conference. Next year's conference is being planned for Yosemite National Park!

My work this quarter centered on contacting various ranger associations, including the Colorado State Rangers, Florida Park Service Alumni Association, Maryland Rangers Association, Navajo Tribal Rangers, Park Ranger Association of Nevada, Park Law Enforcement Association, Tennessee Park Rangers Association, and the Utah State Park Officers Association. All were introduced to the IRF. In addition, I reestablished contact with the Alberta Natural Resource Officers Association and Bureau of Land Management Law Enforcement Association.

I wish everyone a safe summer.

Jeff Ohlfs, North American Representative
deserttraveler2@roadrunner.com

La primavera es una época muy ocupada para nosotros en el desierto. Asistí a la Conferencia de California Parques marzo en el South San Francisco. Debido a que muchos organismos públicos en la crisis financiera, la participación fue pequeña, sin embargo, fue muy divertido estar con mis compañeros guardaparques que lo puedan hacer. Cenamos a bordo del USS Hornet, que ahora es un museo en Alameda, California. El Hornet es el más conocido por su historia en el programa Apolo espacio. Felicitaciones a CSPRA y PRAC para otra gran conferencia. El próximo año, que están planeando para Yosemite!

I restableció el contacto con la Mesa de Recursos Naturales de la Asociación de Alberta y Bureau of Land Management Policía Asociación. Mi trabajo en este trimestre se centró en contacto con las asociaciones de guardaparques siguientes: guardaparques de Estado de Colorado, la Florida del Servicio de Parques Asociación de Antiguos Alumnos, Asociación de Guardaparques de Maryland, los Rangers Navajo Tribal, Asociación de Guardaparques de Nevada, Parque Policía Asociación, Asociación de Guardaparques de Tennessee, y el Estado de Utah Parque Asociación de Oficiales. Todos fueron presentados a la IRF.

Les deseo a todos un verano seguro.

Jeff Ohlfs, Representante de America del Norte
deserttraveler2@roadrunner.com

Oceania Regional Representative Report

It is great news to welcome the Northern Territory Parks & Wildlife Ranger Association into the IRF and also progressively reestablish links with the New Zealand Recreation Association. Hopefully, we'll see some more progress in the offshore areas of the region in the near future.

The ranger associations of Australia maintain a national network through the Council of Australian Ranger Associations (CARA). The Northern Territory is the current host of CARA and is making preparations for a meeting in Litchfield National Park later in the year. It will be a fair distance to travel for some of the participants, however the gathering will be an invaluable opportunity to share experiences and focus on future activities within the region.

In April, the inaugural international Healthy Parks Healthy People Congress was held in Melbourne, Australia. The congress provided a fantastic opportunity for a number of the International Executive Committee (IEC), including myself, to meet and discuss IRF business throughout the week. (Thank you to the generous sponsorship of Parks Victoria!).

Of course, a great deal can be achieved by e-mail, an essential requirement for an internationally-based organization. But there's definitely something to be said for the opportunity to meet and discuss issues at a face-to-face meeting.

From a regional perspective, we also used this opportunity to engage with Parks Forum (the peak body for park management organizations, with members across Australia, New Zealand, and the UK). Now, IRF has a memorandum of understanding with the organization and two key partnership projects in development.

Finally, there has also been work on forging links with the International Union for Conservation of Nature's World Commission on Protected Areas – particularly in the areas of landscape connectivity and contributing our field-based expertise to a taskforce on training. While it is still early on, I am optimistic that we'll see some positive outcomes both regionally and internationally as a result.

On a personal note, I am looking forward to working with Elaine in her new role as a paid support officer for the IRF. Given our broad proximity (being that we are both on the east coast of Australia), I hope to work closely with her to achieve substantial positive outcomes for the IRF.

Tegan Burton
Regional Representative – Oceania
pawa_nsw@hotmail.com

South American Regional Representative Report

Editor's Note: In the future, we would like to be able to translate articles like the one below into English before publication. If you would be interested in volunteering to do so, please contact me at dmdierkes@verizon.net.

Queridos compañeros:

A mediados de marzo del 2010 el Colega Mauricio Guillen, Guardaparque del Sitio de Patrimonio de la Humanidad Parque Nacional Huascarán del Perú, nos sorprende con una muerte imprevista y sin muchas explicaciones, una vez más reflexionamos al ver que somos vulnerables en nuestras actividades diarias y cómo cuando ya no estamos somos noticia.

Ya van a ser dos meses de la muerte de Mauricio Guillen y todavía esperamos los resultados de la investigación para saber que ocurrió realmente con Mauricio Guillen, cual fue el motivo de su muerte, ya que fue encontrado sin vida en el puesto de trabajo donde cumplía sus funciones como Guardaparque del Parque Nacional Huascarán.

Por otro lado, el SERNANP ha lanzado en abril el segundo diplomado para Guardaparques de Áreas Naturales Protegidas del Perú. El ministro del Ambiente, Antonio Back, y el jefe del Servicio Nacional de Áreas Naturales Protegidas (SERNANP), Luis Alfaro, inaugurarán el segundo diplomado "Gestión Sostenible de las Áreas Naturales Protegidas-ANP 2010", el cual tiene como objetivo brindar una formación de calidad a 24 Guardaparques de áreas naturales protegidas.

El diplomado busca capacitar a Guardaparques de diez áreas naturales protegidas de los Parques Nacionales Yanachaga Chemillén y Otishi, Santuario Histórico Machu Picchu, Reservas Nacionales Junín y Lachay, Refugio de Vida Silvestre Los Pantanos de Villa, Reservas Comunes Amarakaeri, Ashaninka y Machigenga, así como de la Reserva Paisajística Nor Yauyos Cochabamba.

Los capacitados recibirán cursos de zonificación en áreas naturales protegidas, manejo de fauna y flora silvestre, monitoreo de la biodiversidad y evaluación poblacional, métodos para la investigación científica, prevención de riesgos y atención de emergencias, bionegocios, ecoturismo, educación e interpretación ambiental y manejo de conflictos. El diplomado será dictado por docentes de la Universidad Científica del Sur (UCSUR), la Universidad Agraria La Molina y especialistas en áreas naturales protegidas con la finalidad de forjar Guardaparques con conocimientos técnico-científicos y estrategias para garantizar la gestión sostenible y efectiva de las áreas naturales protegidas para su conservación.

Encuentro de Policías Ambientales y Guardaparques de Plató y de las Guyanas en Brasil

Se realizó el Encuentro de Policías Ambientales y Guardaparques de plató y de las Guyanas: Problemáticas de la Amazonia en las cuestiones Ambientales: Discusiones y propuestas. Participaron los representantes de las Unidades Ambientales de los Estados de Brasil – Amapá, Pará, Amazonas, Roraima, Sao Paulo, Rio de Janeiro, Minas Gerais, Paraná, Santa Catarina – e do Distrito Federal, así como, los representantes de los Cuerpos de Guardaparques de los países países invitados – Guyana Francesa, Surinam, Colombia e Argentina, desde el día 05 hasta al 07 de mayo del 2010.

En estos días estamos esperando que los colegas de Amapá nos hagan llegar sus resultados finales de dicho encuentro regional que nos traerá noticias de toda la Amazonia de la región sur.

Viaje a Australia de Guardaparques Latinoamericanos

En ocasión del Congreso internacional Parques Sanos Gente saludable, Australia 2010 realizado en Melbourne – Victoria en el mes de abril, fuimos invitados por Directivos de Parques Victoria, tres Guardaparques Latinoamericanos; El Guardaparque Leonel Delgado Pereira de Costa Rica, Marcelo Segalerba de Brasil y Ana Carola Vaca Salazar de Bolivia y delegada para Sudamérica de la Federación Internacional de Guardaparques (FIG). Agradecemos la gran oportunidad que se nos brindó para asistir a tan gran evento internacional.

De forma Especial agradecemos a Ian Christie de Parque Victoria que después del Congreso y de las reuniones de trabajo con el Ejecutivo de la FIG, nos invitó a conocer algunos Parques de Victoria a Marcelo Segalerba y a mi persona, Jamás olvidaremos la gran oportunidad de intercambiar con el personal de las Aéreas Protegidas que nos atendieron muy bien dándonos un ejemplo de camaradería y compañerismo que hizo de nuestra estadía una vacación maravillosa.

Nada hubiera sido tan increíble, sino hubiera sido por el apoyo en la logística de nuestra guía y compañera de viaje Cristhiane Ramos, que nos asignaron muy acertadamente todo el tiempo que estuvimos visitando los Parques y oficinas de Parques Victoria. Quien muy eficientemente manejó la logística de ésta visita que hicimos a varios Parques y muy profesionalmente nos hizo conocer a las personas y a los lugares donde visitamos.

A Cristhiane Ramos, y todos los Guardaparques que nos acompañaron y que nos recibieron en sus lugares de trabajo, seguiremos en contacto, agradecemos inmensamente su esfuerzo profesional y personal por haber dedicado su tiempo y su carisma, para hacer de nuestro viaje una experiencia inolvidable.

Sistema de Protección Bajo el Nuevo Modelo de Gestión Territorial con Gestión Compartida (GTRC)

En el marco de los procesos de Gestión compartida en Bolivia (Estado y comunidades), se están llevando a cabo talleres con las comunidades de las Areas protegidas, Guardaparques y personal del SERNAP para redefinir el rol del Guardaparque y el rol de las comunidades en la protección de la integridad de las Areas Protegidas, personalmente he sido invitada a participar en estas reuniones donde se definirá la participación de las comunidades en la gestión del Área pero con énfasis a su participación en la protección.

Esperemos que después del debate este proceso nos pueda ofrecer un nuevo sistema de protección que se está imponiendo por primera vez en Latinoamérica y podamos compartirlo con otros países que llevan procesos similares. Cabe aclarar que no solo se trata de una experiencia de co-manejo o gestión compartida que en eso ya Bolivia está muy avanzado, se trata del rol de las comunidades en la protección y el nuevo rol de Guardaparque boliviano trabajando en conjunto con las comunidades.

Saludos,
Ana Carola Vaca Salazar
vacacarola@gmail.com

NEWS FROM NATIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

Republic of South Africa Game Rangers Association of Africa

Editor's Note: Given the extended length of the submission and limited space in the newsletter, additional information provided was not included in the newsletter. For the media statement related to the subject below and a position statement on the issuing of a license for the opencast mining and coal-fired power station near Mapungubwe, Limpopo, contact André Botha directly at andreb@ewt.org.za.

The future of conservation in Africa and the protection of its wilderness lies in the hands of its natural resource managers and field rangers. The Game Rangers Association of Africa (GRAA) is committed to ensure that those responsible for the future of conservation in Africa are dedicated, motivated, skills-trained, ethical, and professional in the execution of their duties. Established in 1970 by a group of rangers from the Natal Parks Board and National Parks Board in South Africa, the association has grown and expanded its membership to have representation in 30 countries in Africa and beyond at present. The association prides itself in setting and maintaining standards for rangers at all levels with regard to the training and equipping of these brave men and women who are often the last barrier in the prevention of further loss of biodiversity and who often work under very difficult circumstances.

GRAA Position Statement on the Invasion of Ndumo Game Reserve

The GRAA is deeply concerned about the ongoing situation in the Ndumo Game Reserve, a protected area in Northern KwaZulu-Natal under the jurisdiction of the KwaZulu-Natal Provincial Government.

The GRAA, while understanding the complex and sensitive nature of issues surrounding the situation, is dismayed at the lack of progress the KwaZulu-Natal Provincial Government has made in the last two or three years in resolving them and safeguarding one of South Africa's unique protected areas. This has led to the integrity of the reserve being seriously compromised by the:

- Removal of the eastern boundary fence by members of the Mbangweni Community
- Illegal invasion by people into the reserve in complete disregard of the reported land settlement agreements
- Commencement of unsustainable agriculture on the Pongola flood plain inside the reserve
- Destruction of the irreplaceable sand forest community
- Illegal and wholesale hunting and fishing activities impacting on the white rhino, buffalo, hippo, and other wildlife populations and fish stocks

Radical and criminal groups within the Mbangweni Community have instigated these activities, and the KwaZulu-Natal Provincial Government authorities know the ringleaders and yet no legal action has been initiated against them.

The Ndumo Game Reserve is a key protected area of South Africa's national protected area system with high biodiversity value. It is a registered RAMSAR site, a wetland of global importance. The South African Government, as signatories to the Convention of Biological Diversity and the RAMSAR Convention, has a duty to effectively protect and manage the reserve. The reserve's natural resources belong to all the people of South Africa. The eastern section of the reserve with the floodplain and sand forest community is vital to the viability of the reserve. If this situation is allowed to continue, many more of South Africa's protected areas may be threatened in a similar manner.

The KwaZulu-Natal (KZN) Provincial Government is mandated through the National Environmental Management: Protected Areas Act (2003), with amendments and the National Environmental Management: Biodiversity Act (2004) to apply the law and protect Ndumo Game Reserve. This responsibility was publicly acknowledged by the previous KZN Member of Executive Council for Agriculture and Environmental Affairs,

Mtholephi Mthimkulu in the 50/50 South African TeleVision programme on November 8, 2008, when he said:

“We are putting up a plan, a grand plan with all the other departments such as Departments of Social Development and of Education of Transport, of Health, Local Government and other departments for the development of that area. Because we want to make it a point that the ultimate vision of the Trans-frontier plan of that area is realized. But it has worried me to discover that there are certain elements who are hell bent on thwarting our efforts to try and find the lasting solution to preserve that area. And those elements I am confident that we will crush them and the full might of the law will be exacted on those people because as government we can not allow this national treasure to be depleted and to be thrown down the drain.”

To date, the grand plan that must benefit the people and reinstate the integrity of the Ndumo Game Reserve has not been finalized or implemented.

The GRAA strives to work with wildlife and nature conservation authorities and assist, where it can, in the effective protection and management of Africa’s unique protected areas and to support the game ranging staff who work in these areas. In the opinion of the GRAA, the Ndumo situation is:

- Compromising the biological diversity and the unique natural beauty of the river and floodplain systems, bushveld, and sand forest communities
- South Africa’s commitment to the conventions mentioned above
- Threatening the immediate and long term tourism potential of the Ndumo Game Reserve and also that of the Northern KwaZulu-Natal and the Transfrontier Conservation Area that aims to link the Ndumo/Tembe Protected Area Complex and the iSimangaliso Wetland Park World Heritage Site in South Africa with similar areas in Swaziland and Mozambique
- Has the potential, with unlawful activities, to jeopardize the safety of tourists to the area, especially when South Africa is expecting many World Cup Soccer visitors to visit its national parks and nature reserves in the future
- Causing a feeling of hopelessness and frustration of the Ezemvelo KwaZulu-Natal Wildlife staff who are powerless to curb these illegal activities and have reported received threats to their lives by the criminal elements

The GRAA calls on the KwaZulu-Natal Premier Dr Zweli Mkhize to urgently:

1. Take steps to bring the current state of lawlessness to an end and arrest and prosecute the persons who are contravening the law
2. Reinstate the eastern boundary fenceline
3. Remove all the people who illegally invaded the Ndumo Game Reserve
4. Establish sustainable agriculture practices outside the protected area and rehabilitate the Pongola floodplain to its natural state
5. Resolve all outstanding concerns that the Mbangweni Community and insist that they abide by all the agreements that are in place between them and the KwaZulu-Natal Provincial Government
6. Commencing a full participatory planning process that will benefit the Mbangweni Community and the Tembe Traditional Authority people and call on leading conservation and tourism experts to develop the grand plan publicly stated by the previous KZN MEC of Agriculture and Environmental Affairs
7. Allocate the resources, manpower and funding to ensure that the Ndumo Game Reserve’s integrity is re-established and that the grand plan is implemented

Considering that 2010 is the Year of Biodiversity, it will indeed be a travesty if one of South Africa’s reserves, renowned for its biodiversity value, is allowed to continue faltering under the pressure of unsustainable and illegal practices.

GRAA Meets with Key Organizations in East Africa

Africa Committee members André Botha and Tim Snow visited Kenya, Uganda, and Tanzania in early February 2010 at the invitation of the International Union for Conservation of Nature's (IUCN's) East/Southern Africa Regional Director Dr. Ali Kaka to meet with key stakeholders in the conservation sector in these countries. Another reason for the trip was to canvass support for the hosting of the next World Rangers Congress in 2012/2013, which pending a decision by the International Executive Committee of the International Ranger Federation, will most likely be held in East Africa.

Thanks to the effective arrangements of IUCN and the cooperation of a range of organizations, the trip was a great success. It seems that good progress has been made in the establishment of chapters of the association in Kenya and Uganda and considerable interest in the establishment of a representative body for rangers in Tanzania has been generated. It was indeed an honor to meet with the executive directors and other senior staff of Kenya Wildlife Service, Uganda Wildlife Authority, TANAPA (Tanzania), and the Mweka Wildlife College to discuss issues of mutual interest and to exchange ideas and solutions to challenges that rangers in the region have to deal with. The role of the NGO-sector in conservation in this region should not be underestimated and our discussions with organizations such as Wildlife Direct, World Wildlife Fund East Africa, the Friedkin Conservation Fund, and the Singita-Grumeti Reserve provided valuable insights into the activities of these organizations and their impacts on the conservation of wildlife and large areas of conservation significance in East Africa.

The GRAA is confident that the relationships established and support generated will be of great benefit to rangers in the region in future and will lead to a greater awareness of the challenges and demands of the profession in an area that is facing growing challenges and needs from communities adjacent to protected areas.

40th Anniversary and Annual General Meeting – Berg-en-Dal

The association celebrated its 40th anniversary during its Annual General Meeting (AGM) that was held at the Berg-en-Dal rest camp in the Kruger National Park from March 1-3, 2010. The event saw the best attendance at an AGM in nine years with a number of founder members participating in the festivities. Our patron, Dr. Ian Player, was the keynote speaker during the symposium that focused on the development of the association over the last 40 years and also provided a glimpse of its strategy for the future.

A field trip for delegates through the southwestern sector of the Kruger, led by regional ranger Don English from SANParks, provided encouraging insights into this organization's response to the increase in poaching that is currently threatening rhino populations in South Africa.

At the awards ceremony on March 3, a Silver Medal was awarded to outgoing Secretary Don Yunnie in appreciation for his great service to the association over many years. Three additional certificates of appreciation were also awarded to Johann Oelofse, John Turner, and Peter Coulon, who have retired from the Africa Committee.

André Botha
Chairman, Game Rangers Association of Africa
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England Countryside Management Association

Rangers in England rarely experience the weather extremes of some of our overseas colleagues. We do not have the heat and bushfires of Australia or the tropical monsoons of Asia. But when Mother Nature, in January/February 2010, decided to dump prolonged heavy snowfalls on parts of the UK that normally never see it, then the skills of our profession came into their own. Rangers were turned to like never before.

On the Isle of Wight, just off the south coast of England, Ranger Matt Chatfield writes:

“When the snow began to fall, the council's emergency management process swung into action and pretty soon it became obvious that normal work was not going to carry on. The Rangers here on the Island have two very elderly landrovers, workhorses well on their way to retirement, which suddenly took on extra importance to the council. We were drafted in to assist the council's Mobile Night Service, a programme offering personal care to elderly and vulnerable people 24 hours a day - even when it's snowing. A team of two carers visits clients in their own homes, sometimes several times a day. This was a service that could not be stopped, and as the country parks and nature reserves were pretty much snowbound anyway, we set up a rota and started doing a night shift. Everyone who could drive a landrover volunteered, even old codgers like me. Anyone who has sat in the back of one of those vehicles for long will understand how impressed I was that the carers didn't complain once about sharing eight hours of bumpy riding with a spare tyre, a lot of rope, and greasy old rags - let alone a wizened old Ranger. And even if they did eventually graciously accept my arm to steady them as they clambered down onto the treacherously icy ground for yet another visit, I couldn't help but appreciate that I was just the driver that night: these council officers were uncommonly determined to keep this show on the road.”

****As a footnote to the above, perhaps it's no coincidence when, after the valuable work on the Isle of Wight by the Ranger team, an application to replace their two old landrovers with new 4x4's was immediately approved by management!*

In Derbyshire, Ranger Paul Finn tells of his experiences:

“As an upland area, Derbyshire was particularly hard-hit (see attached photo). This became the biggest test faced by the Ranger team in its 40-year history and for more than a month we provided 24/7 assistance covering Critical Adult Care; Child Protection and Family Support. We carried basic supplies of water, food, and heating fuel to isolated homes. Many villages were cut-off to normal vehicles, so our fleet of landrovers were used to provide the transport for these remote locations. Our Ranger team is all trained in off-road driving and recovery; winching; first aid, and are all-round "good-eggs." A highlight for me was at one call, a lovely old lady provided chocolate because "that nice Ranger will need it to handle four women." We also worked closely with our colleagues in Highways Dept as well as with the Rangers in Peak District National Park and the National Trust. We thank them for all their support during this testing time.”

Roger Cole
Countryside Management Association International Adviser
rangerroger@hotmail.co.uk

New South Wales - Australia Protected Area Workers Association

Sometimes, just keeping an association happily running takes some effort, including reporting, meetings, website maintenance, regular newsletters, etc. After making initial contact at the World Ranger Congress last year, the Protected Area Workers Association (PAWA) is in the process of developing a formal partnership agreement with one of the IRF's newest members, the PAMS Foundation of Tanzania. While this partnership will eventually be much broader in focus, in the early stages we focused on making a delivery of basic field equipment to support village game scouts in southern Tanzania in April.

There are some rapidly approaching events coming up in the future. We are greatly looking forward to hosting the visit of a ranger from Argentina for two months in June-July, and we are also working on at least two (and perhaps four) events around New South Wales in recognition of World Rangers Day on July 31. Having this special annual date is a great opportunity to once again turn the minds of the broader community towards the world of rangers.

Tegan Burton
pawa_nsw@hotmail.com

United States Association of National Park Rangers

Association of National Park Rangers (ANPR) Establishes Revitalization Team

At the annual Ranger Rendezvous, as reported in the last **The Thin Green Line**, a small volunteer taskforce was formed to look at communications, recruitment, fundraising, and other factors that any non-profit ranger organization needs to focus on from time-to-time. The group was made up of highly-motivated, early- and mid-career National Park Service employees and ANPR members. Their task, as directed by the ANPR board, was to provide a report to the board by April 1 with suggestions in five key areas to help revitalize the association. This team was assisted by four long-term members, including two past presidents of the association who acted as advisors to provide historical context to suggestions and procedural advice, but who stayed out of making their own recommendations. Over three months, team members and advisors held conference calls weekly, with additional calls between smaller groups. All calls were facilitated to avoid any wasted time or confusion. The team was extremely effective and focused on completing their task.

The team met its deadline of completing the report to the board by April 1 and, subsequently, after making minor changes based upon board comments, prepared the final document to be shared with the membership. If you are interested in the process and the results, the document will be posted at www.anpr.org.

Australia Visits

In April, I joined officers and others from IRF attending the Parks Victoria Healthy Parks Healthy People Congress in Melbourne, Australia. I was particularly interested in talking with other rangers in the parks in the Northern Territory and meeting with members of the Northern Territory Parks and Wildlife Ranger Association, which was recently admitted to the IRF as a regular member. It was very beneficial to share similar issues in forming and performing in a ranger association, especially since ANPR has faced challenges in this area. I shared some of the work of the revitalization team mentioned above and appreciated how we all face similar issues in working with our associations. Overall, I saw great opportunities for rangers who were active members. See the president's report above for more details about the congress and the visit in the Northern Territory.

Next Ranger Rendezvous

ANPR will host its annual meeting, the Ranger Rendezvous, this year from October 31-November 4 in Bend, Oregon, on the west coast of the United States. The theme is "Building Bridges to the Future." Anyone from an IRF member ranger association is welcome and invited to attend. If interested, you will find further information at www.anpr.org, or feel free to send me an e-mail with any questions.

Travel well.

Tony Sisto
ANPR International Affairs
Tsisto47@aol.com

Portugal Associacao Portuguese de Guardas e Vigilantes da Natureza

Editor's Note: Due to limited space, we were not able to print all of the information submitted as part of this report. For the full submission, please contact Francisco directly at franciscosemedo@gmail.com. In addition, we would like to be able to translate articles like this into English in the future. If you would be interested in volunteering to do so, please contact me at dmdierkes@verizon.net.

Tan cerca y tan legos. Los Vigilantes de la Naturaleza de Portugal tienen una antigüedad similar a la de la Guardería Forestal en España. Apenas unos centenares de kilómetros, decenas en algunos casos, separan os compañeros de España e Portugal. Os Vigilantes de la Naturaleza en el país Luso hace gala de entregarse a diario por la conservación del medio natural a pesar de las duras condiciones de trabajo y la escasez de efectivos a que están sometidos.

Los orígenes

Portugal estuvo en tiempos remotos casi en su totalidad cubierto por vegetación forestal, dominada por especies del genero Quercus. Los pueblos que vivían en la región que actualmente constituye el territorio portugués, antes de la constitución de nuestra nacionalidad, contribuyeron en gran medida para que resten pocos vestigios de la vegetación original.

Tal como en la historia de muchos otros países, la foresta era de tal manera dominante que no permitía que la agricultura se desarrollase para satisfacer las exigencias de las poblaciones.

Con la evolución de los pueblos, sus necesidades en productos agrícolas y forestales aumentaron, en la nación portuguesa, como en otros países en los que se iban desarrollando tanto la innovación industrial como el incremento poblacional, y el área arborizada fue disminuyendo.

Con los descubrimientos portugueses, la situación fue empeorando, porque estas empresas exigían grandes cantidades de madera para la construcción naval.

Afortunadamente, algunos de los monarcas portugueses tomaron conciencia de los problemas de la foresta y su explotación, tomando medidas para su defensa y ampliación de la superficie forestal nacional. Fueron varios los soberanos que desarrollaron importantes medidas para la preservación de la foresta, destacando la creación de la carrera de “Monteiro Mor” (Montero Mayor), que tenia como funciones la defensa de los bosques.

El “Monteiro Mor” se dedicaba sobretudo a la defensa de los acotados reales y de su fauna cinegética, que tenia que mantener abundante y diversificada, para satisfacer a los miembros de la corte en sus cacerías.

En 5 de Diciembre de 1892, son creadas las carreras de “Guardas Rios” y “Chefe de Lanço” que tienen competencias atribuidas en el ámbito del dominio hídrico. En 14 de Junio de 1995 son extintas estas carreras centenarias, e integrados estos profesionales en el Cuerpo Nacional de Vigilantes de la Naturaleza, creado en 1975. El gobierno tomó esta medida por las crecientes necesidades de fiscalización en el dominio hídrico y su evolución, comprendiendo actualmente los recursos hídricos superficiales y los subterráneos, los ríos, los pantanos y lagunas, y otras infraestructuras hídricas y la zona costera.

Los Vigilantes de la Naturaleza fueron instituidos en 1975 como un Cuerpo Especializado en la Preservación del Ambiente y Conservación de la Naturaleza.

Actualmente existen 231 Vigilantes de la Naturaleza, 122 en el Instituto de la Conservación de la Naturaleza e Biodiversidad (ICNB), 28 en las Comisiones de Coordinación e Desarrollo Regional (CCDR), 31 en las Administraciones de Regiones Hidrográficas (ARH), que ejercen funciones tuteladas por el Ministerio de Ambiente e Ordenamiento del Territorio, e 50 VN en las Regiones Autónomas de Azores e Madeira.

Estos profesionales tienen una función meritoria en lo que respecta a la protección del patrimonio natural. Tienen la obligación de asegurar funciones de vigilancia, fiscalización y monitorización relativas al ambiente y recursos naturales, en el ámbito del dominio hídrico, patrimonio natural y conservación de la naturaleza y de los reglamentos de las áreas protegidas.

Francisco Correia
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NEWS FROM THE THIN GREEN LINE FOUNDATION

The Thin Green Line Foundation (TGLF), in coordination with the IRF, has continued to deliver on its promise and objective of both supporting families of rangers killed in the line-of-duty and minimizing rangers' deaths in the field.

Support of Rangers in South America, Uganda, Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), Kenya

Prior to the congress in Bolivia in November 2009, TGLF was able to support the families of the following rangers killed in South America:

- Hector Saez – July 3, 2003 - Drowned on boat patrol, Argentina Lanin National Park
- Jose Bareiro – July 3, 2003 - Drowned on boat patrol, Argentina Lanin National Park
- Martin Duarte, 2008 Colombia- Murdered by firearm, Macarena National Park
- Marta Hernandez, 2004, Colombia - Assassinated at gunpoint by para-military, Tyrone National Park
- Don Clemente Cruz, Bolivia - Drowned on anti-poaching patrol, Parque Amboró, Airton and Marcelo, rangers from Brazil and I also assisted in building a sand bank to preventing flooding of the house of Clemente's wife, Lucia, and their children. We enlisted the help of the local council and army there. Many thanks to all involved.

Some financial support was given to each family, in the form of support for schooling, rent, housing, medicines, setting up businesses, and payment of bills. This takes the number of rangers' families directly supported to 27 in 7 countries. Later, in June or July, we will support another 22 families in DRC and Kenya. Our condolences to all of the above families who have lost their loved ones to conservation and the protection of nature. There are many other rangers' families to support in Southern and Central America. I encourage the South and Central American families of rangers killed or their colleagues to initiate the process of potential support by filling out the TGLF application form (available from me or your IRF regional representative) and forwarding it back to sean@thingreenline.info or posting it to TGLF, PO Box 453 Balnarring Victoria, Australia 3926. Please feel free to contact me if you require any further information or help with the application or contact your regional IRF representative.

Thanks to all the IRF and ranger family in these countries for assisting in the process of supporting the grieving families, especially Hector Valquez (ranger, Columbia); and Julia Miranda (director of Colombian national parks); Ana Carola (IRF representative, South America); and Daniel Paz Bareto, Ricardo Druk, Salvador Vellido (rangers, Argentina).

Mosquito Nets for Uganda and DRC

The TGLF recently made payment for \$5,000 USD to Ugandan Wildlife Authority and to African Wildlife Fund to purchase 1000 mosquito nets for the protection of rangers in Uganda and in the DRC from mosquito-borne malaria and dengue fever. Many rangers have lost their lives or been severely debilitated in their duties due to the high incidence of malaria. While TGLF, under its constitution, cannot support families of rangers killed by malaria (as it is hard to prove where it was contracted), we can prevent further ranger deaths and are happy to provide this support to our colleagues in central Africa.

Support for Families in the DRC

In October 2008, TGLF was able to send \$10,000 USD emergency money to support rangers and their families who were pushed out of Virunga National Park by 5,000 rebel soldiers. The money was used to provide medicines, clean water, and security in the emergency camp.

Further to this, many of you will know that DRC has the highest incidence of ranger deaths recorded. We have been working with the widows; Emmanuel De Merode, the head of Virunga National Park; and Ranger Jobogo Mirindi to implement a safe and sustainable way of supporting the many widows (150+) of rangers killed in Virunga National Park. At the moment, we can finance support for 20 more families and, as funds are collected, we will support more. Support will be in the form of housing, school fees, and starting sustainable businesses, possibly fair trade crafts or similar.

Bulletproof Vests for Guatemala

Thanks to Tim Baily from U.S. National Park Service and all involved for supplying two surplus bulletproof vests, which were given to Tikkal National Park in Guatemala where two rangers had previously been shot. TGLF will attempt to facilitate the distribution of more surplus equipment to help keep rangers safe on the frontline of conservation.

New President of IRF on TGLF Board

A big welcome goes to IRF President Deanne Adams as a director on the board of TGLF. Also, a big “Thank You” to David Zeller, the previous IRF president and TGLF board member, who made an invaluable contribution to TGLF set-up and progression. The policy of TGLF is that the IRF president shall have a voting position on the TGLF board.

July 31 and November 6

TGLF will hold a gala dinner on July 31, in coordination with the Victorian Rangers Association, to raise funds for TGLF and its work. Leading Australian musicians will perform while 300 guests celebrate and support the work of rangers around the world on World Rangers Day. The 2nd Thin Green Line Festival will be held on November 6 on Parks Victoria’s Coolart Wetlands. We will be encouraging all of you around the world to join in this music celebration by hosting your own grassroots music event with fellow rangers, friends, and communities to celebrate the work of rangers across the globe and support the much-needed work of TGLF in its efforts to support families of rangers killed.

Support for IRF Congress from Parks Victoria and the Victorian Rangers Association

Many thanks to Parks Victoria and the Victorian Rangers Association for supporting my trip to South America to attend the IRF Congress in Bolivia and to travel and implement TGLF’s programs with the families of the rangers mentioned above who were killed in the line-of-duty.

Kids’ Books - Ranger in Danger

Our new *Ranger in Danger* series, is now available online at www.thingreenline.info/merchandise, with different endings to educate and engross kids in the work of rangers worldwide. This publication features some of your IRF colleagues as the heroes, while each child reading it is the ranger in danger.

Google Earth Honor Roll

Thanks to Marcelo Segalerba for organizing the Google Earth Ranger Roll of Honor for our fallen colleagues. TGLF will work with Marcelo to implement this, which will hopefully be online in a few months.

Merchandise

Please forward your contacts details about our merchandise and donations page on our website at www.thingreenline.org.au. Great merchandise includes our Power of One Pack, which includes an organic t-shirt, DVD documentary, membership sticker, and calico bag or the set of Ranger in Danger books. All funds help TGLF continue its work. And, just to clarify, 100% of donations received and 100% of DVD sales go directly to the families of rangers killed and TGLF’s proactive projects to prevent ranger deaths. The administration of the foundation is funded by sponsors, writing of books, speaking opportunities, etc.

Thanks to all our sponsors, donors, communities, and especially fellow rangers, who support TGLF’s work for the families of our fallen colleagues and for prevention of further ranger deaths. Bit by bit, paso e paso, “pole pole,” we are making a difference together.

Sean Willmore
Managing Director/Founder
sean@thingreenline.info

CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

2010

- July 31 World Ranger Day - IRF member associations, protected area agencies, individual rangers, sponsors, and the public are invited to create or join in events and activities that recognize the work of rangers across the globe.
www.int-ranger.net/whatsnew.html
- August 11-14 Civic Tourism III Conference hosted by the National Association for Interpretation, Fort Collins, Colorado, USA
www.interpnet.com/civic/
- October 30 - November 4 XXXIII Ranger Rendezvous, Association of National Park Rangers, Riverhouse Resort, Bend, Oregon, USA, sponsored by the Association of National Park Rangers
www.anpr.org/anprrr.htm
- November 6 Second Thin Green Line Festival, Parks Victoria's Coolart wetlands – Host your own event or attend this one to help the Thin Green Line Foundation celebrate the work of rangers across the globe and raise funds for support of families of rangers killed-on-duty.
- November 14 - November 16 Ranger Rendezvous, Scottish Countryside Rangers' Association, Glenmore Lodge Centre, Cairngorms National Park
www.scra-online.co.uk/
- November 16-20 2010 National Interpreters Workshop: An Interpretation Oasis!, Las Vegas Nevada, sponsored by the National Association for Interpretation
www.interpnet.com

2011

- May 4-7, 2011 National Association for Interpretation, International Conference, Gamboa Rainforest Resort, at the Chagres River and Panama Canal, Soberania National Park Rainforest, Panama
www.interp.net.com/ic/

MEMBER DIRECTORY

The following is for quick reference only and does not include the names of individual ranger associations. Where more than one name is listed for a given nation, it is because there's more than one ranger association in that country. For a complete list, please contact Elaine Thomas, IRF secretary, at the address below.

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Past President	David Zeller	South Africa	dazeller@soft.co.za

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Footnotes

*	IUCN World Commission on Protected Areas	**	The World Conservation Union
#	Fauna and Flora International	##	Int. Center for Protected Landscapes
+	Royal Society for the Preservation of Birds	++	Great Apes Survival Project (UNEP)