

Volunteer Corner

BY: CHERYL WEGNER, VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR

Meet our Volunteer of the Month, Bob Gauthier!

Robert Gauthier has been a volunteer coach at 4S Ranch Sports Park for 3 years. He's coached the youth hockey program and has given up his Saturdays to provide a youth hockey clinic. Bob has also helped coordinate a U10 hockey tournament held at 4S Ranch Sports Park and coordinated a youth skating clinic with CJ Yoder, Olympic athlete and professional roller hockey player.

Bob will be honored at the beginning of the Board of Supervisors meeting on Tuesday, July 12th in celebrating National Parks and Recreation Month.



Parks Society News

By: George Hanson, President of the San Diego County Parks Society

In discussing and establishing taxonomy, most biologists at least tacitly admit that the entire profession can be placed in one of two categories: the clumpers and the dividers. The clumpers like to simplify, to not posit complexity without necessity. The dividers are persons of nuance who see every observable variation as perhaps evidence that evolution, working through micro-environments and micro-climates, has produced a dizzying array of species on the planet.

Similarly, all of us, biologists or not, can be divided into the two categories of stacker-uppers and thrower-outers. (My mom was a stacker-upper, collecting over the years a bewildering amount of sheer trash. My dad, on the other hand, is an inveterate thrower-outer, whose zeal or carelessness once caused him to discard his perfectly valid passport.)

Based on the archaeological evidence discovered by myself, Ralph Strahm, Cindy Williams, and Bill Woolman on May 28, when we assembled with the clear purpose of cleaning out the Parks Society office on Sweetwater Road, most, if not all, of the past presidents and general managers of the Parks Society have been stacker-uppers.

I applaud them all for their marvelous attention to detail and meticulous storage of records. Still. Does the Parks Society really need to retain bank deposit slips dating back to the '80s? Or, for that matter, any number of records, brochures, and correspondence all now made obsolete by time?

Those of us who assembled on May 28 decided not. In about an hour we had filled a large dumpster about three-quarters full with what we judged to be extraneous materials, or sheer rubbish if you have a less euphemistic turn of mind. We left with seven boxes of records, which we plan to render down even further some leisurely time in the future. We kept three boxes of clerical supplies, which will also see a future refinement. On this one day, at least, the Parks Society was made up entirely of thrower-outers. Don't worry: We keep careful custody of all our current affairs. But I hope our little cleansing mission can become an annual event.

