

MAY 2014 REGION 29 BULLETIN

So I write the article and was surprised when we started getting inquiries from our members. The next thing is I find myself traveling to San Francisco with Nick, At least as far as Treasure Island, where we attend a Region nine meeting. Some shaved headed Captain named Voss is running the show, and he runs a very tight meeting...very Teutonic seems to me. On the way back Nick tells me that Region nine is the only region north of Los Angeles. South is Region 6 LA and Region 23 San Diego. "So if we had our own region we'd have half the state to recruit from." Imagine that!

Well in the fullness of time, Nick convinces Mike Lynch and Vic Trivisanut from State Parks Police, to join IPA and form a committee to apply for a new region. I contacted my old friend, Gene Muehleisen from POST, and asked him if he would like to get involved, and Gene being a joiner of reputation agreed. Well we all agreed to apply to the IPA bosses for a region, after first checking with Herr Voss of Region nine for his endorsement. Captain Voss did not like this at all, and had very unpersuasive arguments to bolster his position. We even had a special meeting to discuss these salient issues, with little success in changing his mind. Now without the endorsement of the base region things would not go smoothly for us rebels.

So Gene and I agreed to develop a position paper promoting our application. The paper had to be extremely persuasive to overcome the initial handicap of opposition. Since Gene and I had both spent many years at POST we were very familiar with weasel-wording, and overwhelming our opposition with a myriad of facts... some even germane to our position. Since I had access to the printing press it fell to me to assemble and print our application and position paper. Gene was always a pedantic boss when it came to putting anything in writing; he preferred to be the critic. He insisted that the application be very professional looking... and long. The longer the better.



Joint meeting of R9 and us. Baratta arguing while Gene Muehleisen and Mike Lynch look on.

So Mike and Nick, armed with numerous copies of our submission approached the IPA PEB and practiced their groveling. Needless to say it worked to our benefit, and we were assigned number twenty-nine... along with a flag.