



2014 California Parks Training Conference

Presented by the California State Park Rangers Association and the Park Rangers Association of California

March 3-6 - Yosemite Lodge in Yosemite NP

Special Programs

Nationally acclaimed special presentations:

Spirit of John Muir
by Lee Stetson

Buffalo Soldier
by National Park Ranger
Shelton Johnson

Screening of the new
Ken Burn's film
*Yosemite: A Gathering
of Spirit.*

Plus

Evening reception and
banquet dinner
at the famed
Ahwahnee Hotel

Galen Clark Memorial
Ceremony in the Yosemite
Cemetery on Clark's 200th
Birthday Anniversary

Galen Clark live
Meet and get your picture
taken with Yosemite's
first Guardian
(Miles Standish)

Welcome to

The Heritage of Parks in California



A GIFT FROM THE PEOPLE
TO THE PEOPLE



INSPIRING GENERATIONS

150 YEARS ~ 1864-2014

California Parks Training Conference - March 3-6, 2014 - Yosemite NP

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Conference Co-Chairs

Mike Lynch - CSPRA

Jeff Ohlfs - PRAC



General Conference Information

Conference Check-In

Conference attendees will need to check in at the conference registration and information desk to receive their conference information packets, meal tickets, and any pre-ordered conference apparel. The conference registration and information desk will be in the Garden Terrace Room at the Yosemite Lodge starting Monday, March 3 at 12 noon and will be open throughout the Conference.

Special Details

- **Bring your uniform** (or at least a uniform shirt). We want everyone who can, to wear a uniform to the opening session on 3/4/14, as we will be taking an historic group photo right at the end of the session. Participants will get a copy of the group photo by email.
- The concluding gala banquet will be held at the **Ahwahnee Hotel**, one of the most famed National Park lodges in the country. We want to make this special, so we are asking you **dress up for this event**. Guys, at least get out that tie, if not a jacket.
- No silent action this year, but we will be giving away free door prizes. **Please bring any item you think would make a good door prize.**
- Some of the **optional tours** have limited space and **require a reservation** in advance. These include: Ahwahnee Hotel Insider Tour, the Hetch Hetchy Tour, the Geology Tour and the Insiders Tour of the Visitor Center. RSVP to Jeff Ohlfs at : deserttraveler2@roadrunner.com.
- There will be a **patch, pin and insignia trading session** on 3/3/14 at 5:30pm. Bring those patches, pins and other goodies to trade.
- The **descendant's of Galen Clark & Fredrick Law Olmsted**, two of the towering figures in Yosemite history, will be coming to the conference.

Training Certification

PRAC Certification offered for this conference.

California State Parks Training support: see the Department memo at www.cspra.com.

Field Trips, Events & Special Presentations

Monday, March 3

Ansel Adams Gallery Camera Walk, 9:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. — Free Camera walks are led by staff photographers. Meet and depart from the Ahwahnee Hotel at 9 AM. Limited to 15 people. Reservations only, call **209-372-4413** to reserve space on Saturday March 1 ONLY. FREE. ON YOUR OWN ACTIVITY.

Valley Tour, 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. & 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. and continuously during the conference.

Take a two-hour tour, guides introduce some of Yosemite's most famous sight-seeing points in Yosemite Valley. Enclosed and heated motor coach with large windows allowing unimpeded views of Yosemite's sights. Depart from Yosemite Lodge at the Falls, Shuttle Stop #8, call (209) 372-4FUN for a reservation. Cost: \$25 per person. ON YOUR OWN ACTIVITY.



Hetch Hetchy Dam Tour, 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. - Join representatives of the Hetch Hetchy Regional Water System (operated by the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission) for an overview of this historic regional water and power system. Presentation will include system history, current operations, and cooperative work with National Park and U.S. Forest Service.

Meet at Hetch Hetchy Dam. Participants will be responsible for their own transportation, a one and a half hour drive from Yosemite Valley. LIMITED TO 30 PEOPLE. RESERVATIONS REQUIRED, email Conference Co-chair Jeff Ohlfs at deserttraveler2@roadrunner.com

Valley Geology Hike, 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. - Join Park Geologist **Greg Stock** for a field-based explanation of Yosemite's geologic history, from the molten origins of granite to the icy sculpting of the soaring walls. In addition to a geologic overview of the park, Greg will also discuss the challenges that natural processes such as flooding and rockfalls pose for management of Yosemite Valley. Meet Greg at Sentinel Bridge, a short walk from Yosemite Lodge. **LIMITED TO 25 PEOPLE. RESERVATIONS REQUIRED**, email Co-chair Jeff Ohlfs at deserttraveler2@roadrunner.com.

Galen Clark Memorial - 4:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Ceremony in the Yosemite Cemetery on Clark's 200th Birthday Anniversary, in memory of Yosemite's premier pioneer, Commissioner and Guardian. Clark's Great-Great Granddaughter Lita Karlstrand will be attending. The cemetery is at Yosemite Village a short walk from the Visitor Center.



Field Trips, Events & Special Presentations



Patch Trading Session, 5:30 p.m. to 6 p.m. Join the conference chairs, Mike & Jeff, to trade your agency and conservation patches, pins, badges and memorabilia.

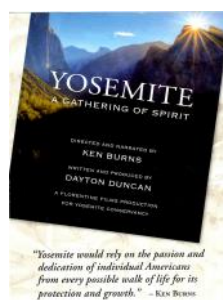
Welcome Reception, 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.— Hors d'oeuvres, beverages and an opportunity to meet old friends and make new ones. Sponsored by **Bud Getty** and **Mike Lynch**. Included with full registration.

Tuesday, March 4

10:00 a.m. Screening of the new Ken Burn's film

Yosemite: A Gathering of Spirit.

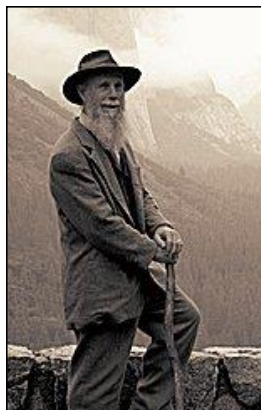
Written & Produced by Dayton Duncan - Directed and Narrated by Ken Burns.



Luncheon & Program, 12:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.— Tuesday's luncheon will feature a presentation by California State Parks **Chief Deputy Director Aaron Robertson** and Parks & Recreation **Commission Chairman Ernest Chung**. Included with full registration.

Meet the Authors, 5:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. — Come and visit with some of our favorite ranger authors like **Mike Lynch, Tom Smith, Rodi Lee** and the **Dave and Janet Carle**. Bring your books to have them autographed.

Special Presentation by Lee Stetson Portraying John Muir, 7:00 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.



Lee Stetson's presentation of naturalist John Muir has been presented in Yosemite National Park since 1983 to more than a quarter of a million visitors. Lee will perform a special show he developed especially for the Conference attendees to include Muir's time with Yosemite Guardian Galen Clark and the fateful 1903 trip with President Teddy Roosevelt, which resulted in Yosemite State Park being returned to the Federal government to become part of Yosemite National Park in

1906

Wednesday, March 5

Buffalo Soldier, 8:15 a.m. to 9:15 a.m. - National Park Ranger **Shelton Johnson** program "Yosemite Through the Eyes of a Buffalo Soldier" is presented regularly throughout the park and at venues throughout the country. We are honored to have him give us his presentation.

Associations' Luncheon, 11:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.— Lunch followed by the associations' respective business meetings, included with full registration.

Reception, Dinner Banquet & Awards, 6:30 p.m. to 11:00 p.m.— Enjoy a pleasurable dining experience with conference attendees while networking with fellow professionals. As the banquet will be at the Ahwahnee Hotel, this will be a **formal dress** night. Load buses at 6:30, receptions at the Ahwahnee, followed by dinner and the recognitions and awards program. Bus back to the Lodge about 10pm. Included with full registration.



Thursday, March 6

Ansel Adams Gallery Camera Walk, 9:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. — Free Camera walks are led by staff photographers. Meet and depart from the porch of The Ansel Adams Gallery at 9 AM. Limited to 15 people. Topics include the history of Ansel Adams in Yosemite National Park and his photography, how to use your camera and landscape composition. Reservations only, call **209-372-4413** to reserve space FREE. ON YOUR OWN ACTIVITY.

The Ahwahnee Behind the Scenes, 9:30 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. Meet The Ahwahnee Chef and get a behind the scenes tour of The Ahwahnee kitchen. LIMITED TO 12 PEOPLE. RESERVATIONS REQUIRED, email Conference Co-chair Jeff Ohlfs at: deserttraveler2@roadrunner.com.

Yosemite Valley Visitor Center Behind the Scenes Tour, 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. - Join National Park staff to tour this million dollar interpretive exhibit. Learn about the exhibits and how the visitor center is operated for this special park. Meet at the Visitor Center. **RESERVATIONS REQUIRED**, email Conference Co-chair Jeff Ohlfs at deserttraveler2@roadrunner.com.

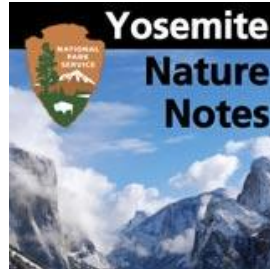


Speaker Presentations & Training Sessions

Tuesday Morning, March 4

Yosemite Nature Notes Online, 11:00 a.m. to 11:50

a.m.— Photographer, videographer, editor & producer **Steven Bumgardner** heads up an extraordinary effort to create educational and entertaining nature video content for the web. Steven talks about how he does it and will show some of his favorite creations .



State Guardians of Yosemite, 11:00 a.m. to 11:50 a.m.

- **Mike Lynch**, author of two books on the history of California state park rangers, details the first park rangers at Yosemite Valley and the Mariposa Big Tree Grove during the 42 years the areas were a state park. Foremost among these was Galen Clark, first state park ranger and arguable the first park ranger in the nation

Bats, 11:00 a.m. to 11:50 a.m.— Bats are frequently misunderstood and under valued. Ranger **Dawn Soles** of Livermore Area Rec. & Park District will give a quick look at the world of bats and how they affect people. A review of the species in California, facts and fiction for the public, challenges bats themselves are facing and how bats benefit mankind both here in the US and around the world.

Tuesday Afternoon, March 4

Bears, Bullets, and Bureaucrats, 2:30 p.m. to 3:20 p.m. From Galen Clark to Margaret Anderson: How revealing the good, the bad and the ugly of the ranger profession actually improves the public's appreciation of the real men and women under the hat. A multi-media presentation by **Andrea Lankford**, the author of *Ranger Confidential: Living, Working and Dying in the National Parks*.

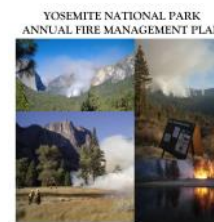
Yosemite Ranger Activities, 2:30 p.m. To 3:20 p.m. - **Kevin Killian**, Chief Ranger of Yosemite, will give an overview of the Yosemite Protection Division in all of its complexity and chaos. Four branches, almost 200 employees and over 3.5 million visitors...a statistical journey.



Park Police Model, 2:30 p.m. to 3:20 p.m. — **Chief Anderson** will describe the unique challenges of policing the East Bay Regional Parks District, the largest regional park system in the United States which has 65 parks spanning two counties covering over 1,500 square miles. The District sits on the eastern side of the San

Francisco Bay, and even though it is comprised of mostly open-space parklands, the District's police force must deal with problems arising from the "urban interface" including robberies, assaults, fatalities, and burglaries. To effectively police the parks, the District has made an adaptive approach utilizing high technology, volunteer patrollers, a variety of patrol methods and working closely with allied law enforcement partners in the East Bay.

40 Year History of Yosemite Fire - Then and Now But What About the Future?, 4:00 p.m. to 4:50 p.m.



2009

Yosemite has a long standing history of using wildland fire throughout the park. Yosemite was one of the first federal land management agencies to break rank with the suppressionists and experiment with prescribed fire and natural ignitions in the late 1960's. Join Yosemite's Chief of Fire and Aviation, **Kelly Martin**, who will take you through a journey of starting a wildland fire program and discovering the hidden, behind the scene successes that enable a unit to maintain a progressive program in light of setbacks and political pressures. Bigger, more urgent questions beg all of us to examine a future in the face of global climate change as wildfires continue to take life and property.

The Hetch Hetchy Legacy, 4:00 p.m. to 4:50 p.m.—

When it was designated a national park in 1890, Yosemite included two iconic glacier-carved valleys. The eponymous Yosemite Valley is today world famous and draws 4 million visitors per year. Yosemite's Hetch Hetchy Valley, however, lies buried beneath a reservoir that helps to store water for San Francisco and other Bay Area cities. The damming of Hetch Hetchy Valley was the one time in American history that such development has been allowed in any of our national parks. **Spreck Rosekrans**, Executive Director of Restore Hetch Hetchy, will speak to the history of how Hetch Hetchy came to be dammed, its importance in the conservation movement in the United States, and how Restore Hetch Hetchy intends to return the valley to the American people.



California Outdoor Recreation Opinion Survey, 4:00 p.m. to 4:50 p.m. —

Bill Hendricks, a Professor at Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo presents results of the 2012 California Opinions and Attitudes Survey on Outdoor Recreation. The discussion will provide an overview of current outdoor recreation patterns, behaviors, demographics, and views of Californians. Hendricks will discuss two adult surveys and a youth survey.

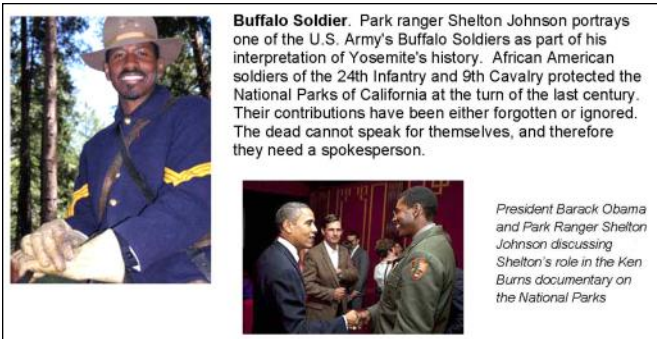
PRESENTED BY THE CALIFORNIA STATE PARK RANGERS ASSOCIATION AND THE PARK RANGERS ASSOCIATION OF CALIFORNIA

Speaker Presentations & Training Sessions

Wednesday Morning, March 5

**General Session, 8:00 a.m. to 8:15 a.m.
Announcements and Updates for the day.**

Buffalo Soldier, 8:15 a.m. to 9:15 a.m. - National Park Ranger **Shelton Johnson** has been honored for his work on the Buffalo Soldier program in the park which is designed ultimately to diversify access and support for national parks and forests throughout the country. Johnson's program "Yosemite Through the Eyes of a Buffalo Soldier" is presented regularly throughout the park and at venues throughout the country. We are honored to have him give us his presentation.



Yosemite Ranging Down Through The Years, 9:30 a.m. to 10:20 a.m.

Historian, author, and retired NPS Superintendent **Charles R. "Butch" Farabee, Jr.** presents a colorful, potpourri look at rangers and their lives, equipment and incidents, using historical photos from the Park's extensive archives as well as accounts from a variety of written narratives.

History of the California State Park Rangers Association (CSPRA), 9:30 a.m. to 10:20 a.m. CSPRA is celebrating its 50 Year Anniversary in 2014. Learn about the history of CSPRA from its formation in 1964 and its accomplishments over the 50 years it has represented state park rangers and other park professionals. **Pat Clark-Gray, John Mott, Janet Carle and Nina Gordon**, CSPRA.



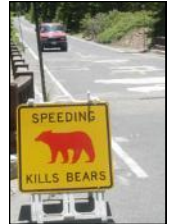
Yosemite Gateway Partners, 9:30 a.m. to 10:20 a.m.

Parks at all levels are surrounded by Gateway Communities made up of busi-



nesses, government agencies, and citizens. For example, one cannot reach Yosemite without driving on a California highway, through a local town or through a National Forest. **Bob Asquith** of Yosemite Gateway Partners will share its 10 years' experience as a communications conduit between Yosemite and its Gateways for the mutual benefit of all.

Yosemite Bear Management, 10:30 a.m. to 11:20 a.m. - **Caitlin Lee-Roney**, Yosemite Wildlife Biologist, will give an overview of Yosemite's bear management history, bear biology, and Yosemite's current Human-Bear Management Program.



High Impact Interpretation, 10:30 a.m. to 11:20 a.m. — Environmental Interpretation has been used by Rangers throughout history for countless purposes. In these times of greatly impacted staffing levels interpretation is often the first aspect of operations to be cut. Sadly this impacts not just the agency but also the community, often with devastating effects to both the park(s), staff, and future funding levels. This course will focus on how to reintroduce interpretation to an agency with minimum impact on staff time and maximum impact in the community. Gain new programs ideas, renewed motivation, and a sense of how to reset your agencies interpretation plan. A great course for all rangers, including generalists and enforcement officers. Taught by Park Ranger II **Marie D. Fong** of Washoe County's Department of Regional Parks and Open Space.

150 Years—California State Parks and Yosemite, 10:30 a.m. to 11:20 a.m. - In this 150th anniversary year, find out how the anniversary commemoration for California State Parks and Yosemite evolved. See a short pictorial history of California State Parks and Yosemite and what find out what great events are in store for the rest of the anniversary year. **Donna Pozzi & Mike Lynch**, Co-chairs of the California State Parks 150th Anniversary Committee and **Kass Hardy**, Yosemite Anniversary Coordinator.



Speaker Presentations & Training Sessions

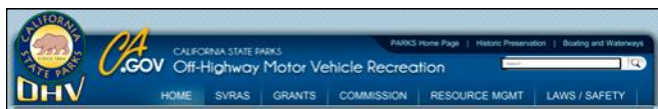
Wednesday Afternoon, March 5

Floods, Fires, Rockfall, and a Serial Killer: A glimpse into the world of Public Affairs at Yosemite National Park, 2:00 p.m. to 2:50 p.m. - Yosemite National Park

has been the focus of national and international media attention regarding a wide variety of incidents such as rockfalls, fires, floods, serial murders, and complex search and rescues. **Scott Gediman**, the park's Public Affairs Officer for the past 18 years, gives an insight to these events, "behind the scenes" stories about them, and shares his experiences and lessons learned during his tenure in the park. Additionally, Scott will talk about camping with Oprah and encounters with celebrities, both famous and infamous.



How the Chinese Built Yosemite National Park (and nobody knows about it) , 2:00 p.m. to 2:50 p.m. — When Yosemite was first set aside in 1864 it was a remote wilderness destination, only accessible by days of travel on rough roads and stock trails. After the transcontinental railroad was complete, local businessmen had a greater demand, and an available and skilled construction force to build roads into and through Yosemite. What they had failed to do for years was then done in a few months. At one point in time there were likely thousands of Chinese American and immigrants in the Yosemite area building infrastructure, mining, exploring and working in service to the growing tourist trade. Yet today there is still very little trace beyond the roads, wall and buildings they helped create and left behind. Join Yosemite's Historical Landscape Architect **Kevin McCardle**, Archeologist **Barb Bane**, and Interpreter **Yenjen Chan**.



California Off-Highway Motor Vehicle Recreation (OHMVR) Division Outreach Program, 2:00 p.m. to 2:50 p.m.

The California Off-Highway Motor Vehicle Recreation (OHMVR) Division, California State Parks, oversees a robust and intensive statewide outreach program. The program incorporates a dedicated team of professionals throughout the state that includes interpreters, rangers, seasonal park aides, volunteers, state and federal agen-

cies, and non-profit partners. OHMVR accomplishes this goal by utilizing various methods of education and interpretation, hands-on safety training, and targeted social media messaging. **Natalie Lohi** is the OHMVR Outreach & Interpretation Program Manager

Parks Forward Commission, 3:30 p.m. to 4:20 p.m. -

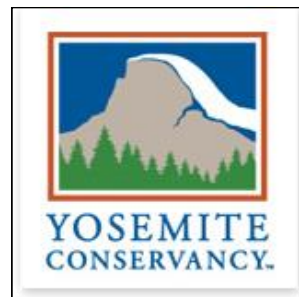
Listen to an exciting new initiative designed to bring out the very best in the California State Park system. Over the course of 18 months, an independent commission made up of experts, advocates and thought-leaders is conducting a wholesale assessment of the park system.



This independent process is designed to address the financial, operational, and cultural challenges facing State Parks to ensure the system's long-term viability. In the fall of 2014, the Parks Forward Commission will adopt a long-term plan for a State Park system that meets the needs of all Californians, now and in the future.

Yosemite Conservancy, 3:30 p.m. to 4:20 p.m. -

Yosemite Conservancy is the parks philanthropic partner. During this session you'll learn about how Conservancy donors make it possible for the Conservancy to provide grants to Yosemite National Park that help preserve and protect Yosemite today and for future generations. Yosemite Conservancy is dedicated to enhancing the visitor experience, whether one is hiking a restored trail, spotting protected wildlife, earning a Junior Ranger badge or joining an Outdoor Adventure program. **Adonia Ripple**, General Manager Yosemite Operations.



California Protected Areas: A History & IRF News, 3:30 p.m. to 4:20 p.m.— Historian, NPS Chief Ranger, and IRF North American Representative Jeff Ohlfs provides a brief look at the history of parks, park agencies, and rangers in California. Jeff will also provide an update on the International Ranger Federation and the upcoming World Ranger Congress in 2016 in Colorado.



**INTERNATIONAL
RANGER
FEDERATION**

PRESENTED BY THE CALIFORNIA STATE PARK RANGERS ASSOCIATION AND THE PARK RANGERS ASSOCIATION OF CALIFORNIA

Special Individual Benefactors for the Conference

A special thanks goes to the following individuals who made a very generous personal donation to make this conference something special.

- **Peggy Whitehead**
- **Bud Getty**
- **John Mott**
- **Mike Lynch**
- **Jeff Ohls**



Acknowledgements

The 2014 California Parks Training Conference Committee would like to thank the following sponsors:

California State Parks Foundation



California State Railroad Museum



California State Parks Anniversary Committee (CSPAC)



Sponsors and Supporters



The Parks Conference is presented by the California State Park Rangers Association of California (CSPRA) and the Park Rangers Association of California (PRAC) every year. To learn more about these organizations or download additional conference registration forms and to obtain updated conference information please visit the CSPRA and PRAC websites at www.cspra.com and www.calranger.org.



Park Heritage





Phone: (530) 305-1166

California Parks Training Conference, P.O. Box 3212, Bowman, CA 95604-3212



Heather Reiter, PRAC President



Matt Bellah, CSPRA President

Your 2014 California Parks Training Packet

Reminder: There is an entrance fee to enter Yosemite National Park for the Conference.

2014 California Parks Training



The organizing committee hopes to see you at the Yosemite Lodge in Yosemite for what will be one of the best conferences ever!

***Our Park Heritage!
Be a part of the history!***

