

The CSPRA

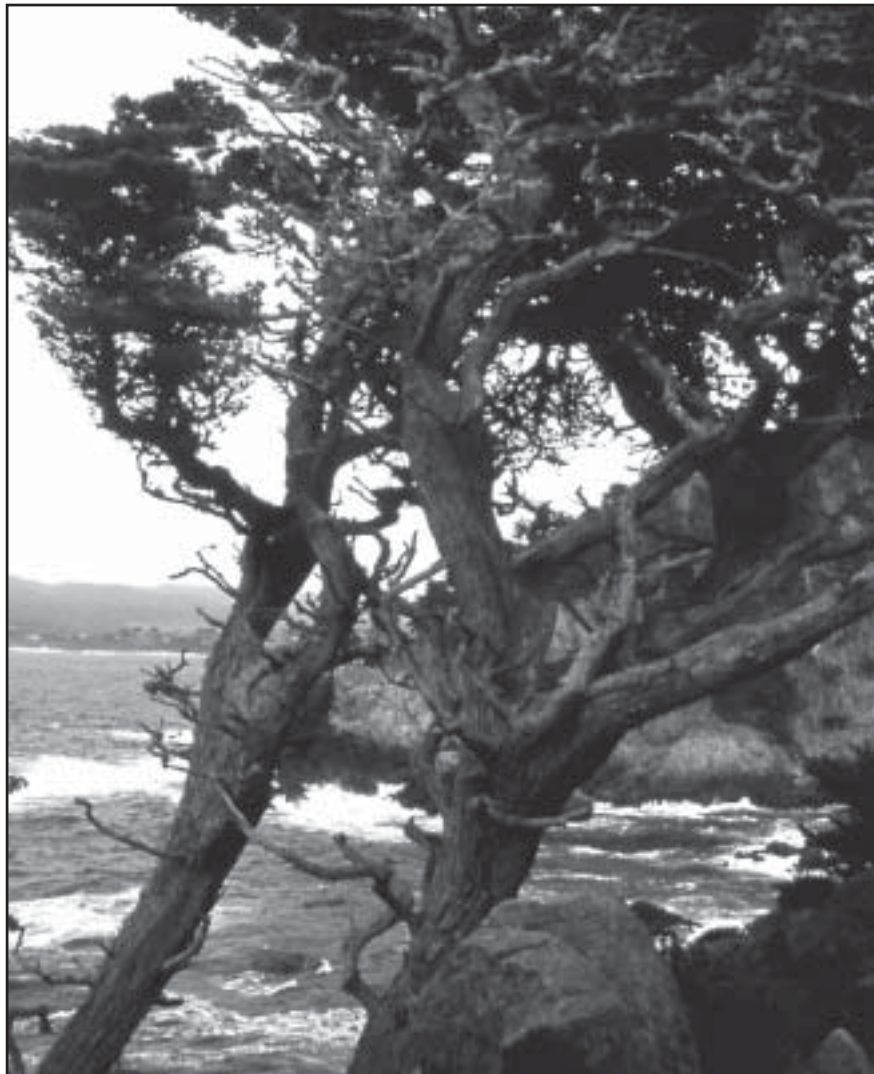
Wave

VOLUME 4, NUMBER 4

CALIFORNIA STATE PARK RANGERS ASSOCIATION

JULY - AUG 2004

MEMORABLE MONTEREY



Pfeiffer Big Sur SP
Julia P. Burns SP
Garrapata SP
Point Lobos SR
Henry W. Coe SP
Fremont Peak SP
Andrew Molera SP
San Juan Bautista
SHP

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



VALERIE BRADSHAW
CSPRA President

How is it possible that another summer is already upon us? Seems like just last week we were preparing for Y2K. Time is most certainly flying by at incredible speeds – at such a fast pace it is nearly impossible to keep up with everything. But we must keep up and YOUR Professional Association can help!

CSPRA was originated in 1964 in response to issues that required a strong professional organization to speak on behalf of employees in order to provide representation for the professional staff as one-voice for the ongoing benefit of the department. With the unionization movement in the 70's, the role of Professional Organizations was modified so that these associations would work on issues that were not considered to be part of the bargaining process – but by no means weakened the need for what CSPRA can offer its members.

CSPRA has and will continue to work towards furthering the Mission of the Association as “an organization of park professionals, established to support and preserve California State Parks for present and future generations”. We accomplish this by What We Do: “Provide exchange of professional thought, defend the State Park System integrity, support quality Department efforts, sponsor and fund professional training, and comment and make recommendations on park management issues”.

The benefit of networking with professionals not only in this organization but also from local, city, county, regional and national associations cannot be emphasized enough. This networking provides an incredible support program for all that we do. It provides an opportunity for not only sharing of resources and ideas, but presents a “united front” for the Parks and Recreation field in presenting and promoting the best that is offered to millions of visitors each year while protecting the invaluable resources we are charged with protecting. This is achieved by continuing to demonstrate that we are PROFESSIONALS and that we are the experts in the field.

In order to continue to build this professionalism and maintain the respect the profession has earned, we need to be in the forefront of further developing professional skills and promoting the highest standards possible for all of the areas of expertise – resource protection, interpretation, public safety, planning, development, operations and administration. Through this we will see an increase in the respect that is so well deserved for each and everyone of you; which cannot help but to pay dividends in the long haul for a job well done!

Retired member **Doug Bryce** wrote about the History and Accomplishments of CSPRA (posted on the CSPRA.com website) in 1998 and stated that “more than ever CSPRA and its members are needed to serve as the conscience for the Department of Parks and Recreation, and to do everything they can to maintain the integrity of our natural, historical, and cultural heritage.” This still holds very true today. This is what the organization is about. It is where each and every one of us does contribute on a daily basis, and it is where our “reward” will be down the road. Let's continue to work together and build our alliances to persevere and demonstrate the integrity we have so richly earned and deserve.

Memorable Monterey

by *Phil Jenkins*
District Superintendent >>

What is Monterey District? As you drive along Highway One between Moss Landing and Monterey and look towards the Pacific Ocean, you are likely to see a hang glider, or perhaps a parasail, gently floating over the sand dunes seemingly suspended motionless in the air. The hearty souls who engage in this sport probably took off from one of the beach units of the Monterey District. Continuing south you will pass the historic district of Old Monterey, California's first capitol and the location where the state's first constitutional convention was held. Here you can explore historic sites that date back to the earliest exploration and settlement of California by Europeans. A bit further south along Highway One takes you to "the greatest meeting of land and sea in the world" at **Point Lobos State Reserve**. If its camping in the redwoods that you are looking for, a bit more driving along the coast gets you to **Pfeiffer Big Sur SP**.

And that's just the coast! Going inland you could visit **San Juan Bautista's** historic buildings at the Mission Plaza, or continue along to the second largest park in the system, **Henry W. Coe SP** with its 90,000 acres of back country to be explored. Stargazing? Yep, we have that too, at **Fremont Peak SP** where the Fremont Peak Observatory Association maintains their observatory.

Those of us who work in the Monterey District count ourselves very fortunate to have the opportunity to spend our time working towards the interpretation and preservation of such a special place. Taken as a whole, the district staff is an incredible resource in itself. With all of the challenges that the Department has been facing, the one area of consis-



tency that does not seem to change is our ability to attract and retain intelligent and dedicated employees. Monterey, like much of the Department, has had the mixed blessing of bringing on board many new employees over the past couple of years. It has been very difficult to deal with the loss of many of our most experienced staff members, while at the same time very invigorating to train and work with new people who bring new ideas, fresh perspectives, and lots of questions.

One area of continuity amongst all this change has been our partnerships with our cooperating associations and the dedicated hard work of our volunteers. The many cooperating associations in the district have been trying hard to understand the changes they see happening in our operations. There have been some bumps in the road, change is difficult and stressful.



^^Interpreter *Dave Schaechtele* and volunteers parade at Monterey SHP

What keeps us all going and working in the same direction is the continued focus on core values and the mission of the department.

I cannot completely describe how much of a privilege it is to serve as the District Superintendent for Monterey. I grew up in these parks and remember many dinner table conversations where my dad and other park people would debate this or that policy concerning how to manage fire in **Big Sur** or grazing at **Henry Coe**. I always wanted to join in on those conversations. Now I get to do exactly that. Next time you are in Monterey, stop by the district office and let's talk.

[Ed. note: Phil's father was Ray Jenkins, the maintenance supervisor for Big Sur starting about 1969. He later became the supervising ranger at Big Sur, then, in 1972, the District Superintendent for the old Gavilan District (San Juan Bautista, Fremont Peak, and Henry Coe). These units are now part of Monterey District.]



^^Park aide *Joni Coombe* at the Big Sur Multiagency Visitor Center

Where are the Redwoods?

by Ranger **Barry Breckling**

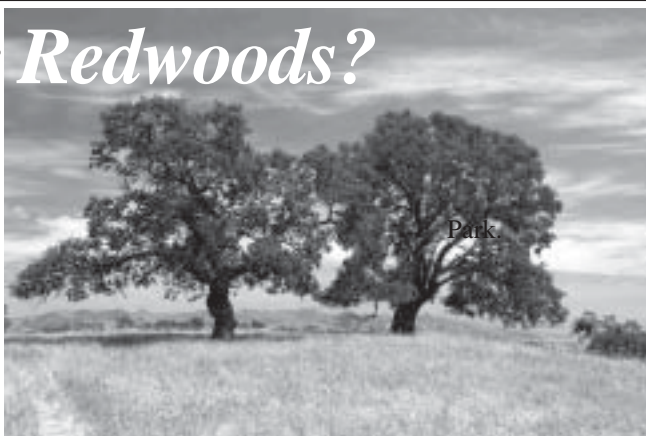
“Henry Coe Park. Yes I know it. It’s that park with the redwoods, the one by Santa Cruz. I’ve been there several times.”

“No, not Henry Cowell Redwoods State Park. I said Henry W. Coe State Park. It’s that little, not so well known, orphan of a park in the Diablo mountain range east of the Santa Clara Valley. Well, I’d better correct myself. It’s not little. It’s the second largest state park in California. Only Anza Borrego is larger. It’s over 86,000 acres and growing. That’s about three times the size of San Francisco.”

Coe Park became a state park in 1958 after Sada Coe donated her beloved 13,000 acre Pine Ridge Ranch. Over the years, thousands of acres have been added to the park, and 23,300 acres of it has been designated State Wilderness. The Coe’s old ranch house, blacksmith shop, and barns perch high on a knoll not far from the top of Pine Ridge, and on distant hillsides and in canyon bottoms, old homestead cabins still stand. The rich history of homesteaders and cattle ranching is preserved in the buildings, in old photographs, in stories told by old timers, and in the park’s visitor center. Going back before the homesteaders, Coe Park was the home of two Native American groups, the Ohlone on the west and the Yokuts on the east.

Coe Park lies somewhere in the middle of nowhere, but it’s only an hour’s drive from downtown Silicon Valley. This location situation has caused the park to be a bit of an orphan, as it’s been passed from the Diablo District, to the Monterey District, to the Gavilan District, to the Four Rivers District, and, for now, back to the Monterey District. The park is a beautiful, rugged slice of

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Steer Ridge. Photo by Dave Hildebrand

California. It has grassy meadows dotted with large valley oaks, black oak forests on the cooler slopes, ponderosa pines on the higher western ridges, and blue oak/gray pine woodlands in many areas. Tall ridges are sliced by steep canyons. It is full of grand vistas. Many of the creeks dry up in summer, but some keep water year ‘round and are habitat for a number of native fish, including rainbow trout.

Wildlife abounds, with deer, re-introduced tule elk, bobcats, gray foxes, coyotes, badgers, and many other mammals. Birds, amphibians, reptiles, and insects are also numerous. The area was a late refuge for the California Grizzly; the last one in the area was killed in about 1910. Golden Eagles and mountain lions are still seen.



Johnny-jump-ups. Photo by Barry Breckling

Most people are looking for places to vacation in the summer, but that is not the best time to visit Coe. It is hot and dry.

Spring, however, is spectacular. The hills are covered with pastel shades of green and red as oaks put out new leaves. Fields

and slopes are covered with wildflowers, one of Coe’s special blessings, and migrating birds return to take part in the bounty of the season. Fall is another nice time in the park, with cooler temperatures, soft colors, and pleasant fragrances. Winter can bring snow to the higher ridges, but there are always winter days where the temperature reaches well into the 60’s or low 70’s.

Due to its large size, Coe has more than its share of people and resource problems, but the biggest problem of late for such a beautiful and valuable place has been thieves: those who would steal the land for uses other than those for which it has been set aside. A recent battle, won by the good guys, kept the Santa Clara Valley Water District from building a dam in the park or one outside that would back water up into the park. Now, the California High-speed Rail Authority has proposed potential routes for its “bullet trains” that would go right through the middle of the park’s Orestimba Wilderness. Should this sacred land, set aside for the people of California to be preserved and protected for all time, now be up for sale to any agency that could make “good” use of it? It should not.

Without a single redwood tree, Henry W. Coe State Park is a jewel in the crown of the State Park System, a spectacular chunk of California to be protected for your children, and their children, and on and on.

KEEPING THE HISTORY ALIVE

by Ranger **Kathy Wilson** >>
Big Sur Sector

Mention Big Sur to folks from all around the world, and visions of dramatic rocky cliffs and expansive beaches, pricey hors-d'ouvres at fancy restaurants, or camping in the redwoods may all come to mind. Few, however, are likely to think about the early pioneer days, before Highway 1, when it was a grueling three-day horse ride from Monterey over a rough trail with impassable river crossings during the rainy months. Only some of our longest returning visitors may remember hearing about or seeing river cobble bridges, redwood round picnic benches, or the beaches of the public swimming pool constructed from a diversion of the Big Sur River. Surprisingly, almost seventy years later, you still don't have to look far in any direction to see evidence of the classic "rustic aesthetic" building style of the park's early construction, including river cobble camp furniture, buildings and walls and unmilled redwood picnic ramadas.

Yet sometimes it seems easy to overlook the history in a busy park that is full of modern day campers and equipment. Step into the ranger office (known as the Recreation Hall) and envision the multitudes of people who danced and laughed on the now creaky wooden floors. Ignore the musty smell inside the long-since-occupied Warden's cottage and imagine the years of families who made this beautiful river-side building their home. Sit in one of the rows of the campfire center and picture the early campfire shows packed with generations of families laughing and singing. Peer around the seemingly countless tents, RVs and generators at the remaining stone camp furniture and you can almost see straight back



in time; back to a time when the country was in the Great Depression, and to better the citizens and the country, help was found in a work program known as the Civilian Conservation Corps. In the short seven and one half years of their Big Sur tenure in the 1930s, the CCCs transformed seven hundred acres of relatively undeveloped land into a wilderness playground for tourists, equipped with trails, picnic areas, camping benches and stoves, and even a public swimming pool. Pfeiffer Big Sur State Park became a bustling, yet still seemingly remote vacation destination, and that spirit



"...picture the early campfire shows packed with...families laughing and singing."

continues today.

To help maintain that spirit and sense of place, a General Plan for the park was adopted in 1999, and in 2000 an ambitious effort was begun to implement the General Plan. The three-phase project will take years to complete, but we'll soon start construction of Phase I. This phase creates the traffic and circulation patterns that will allow Phases II and III to occur: development of a new camping area so camping can be removed from the prime redwood resources in the campground section known as Main Camp.

The seventy-one sites of Main Camp that are nestled in and out of the redwoods and skirt along the Big Sur River were by no means placed there by accident. Sawmill Flat, as it was once called, was the largest and flattest redwood grove in the area, lending itself perfectly to camping sites. Unfortunately, decades of campers, cyclists, backpackers and day users have taken their toll on our majestic redwood groves. The once characteristically spongy soil around the base of the redwoods now feels



A CCC era drinking fountain

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BIG SUR AND MONTEREY SECTORS

HISTORY, from p. 5

hard and compacted and their roots are bare and exposed. However, closing Main Camp and eliminating all the CCC built campsites and furniture to protect the delicate redwood ecosystem would no doubt conflict with our mission to protect cultural AND natural resources. As a result, Main Camp will eventually retain some low impact forms camping, such as hike and bike and possible walk-in campsites, outside of the main groves, in addition to a new interpretive trail network and elevated boardwalk sections in more sensitive redwood grove sections.

Another beautiful illustration of the CCC masterwork can be seen at the Park Warden's cottage and garage in the entrance to the campground. Even its location along the main campground entrance road couldn't have spoiled the magic of living in this river cobble/wooden house perched among the redwoods along the bank the Big Sur River in the '30s and '40s. In an effort to convey that early park spirit, the cottage and garage will be transformed into a CCC tribute and natural and cultural history center, respectively. Through

displays and hands-on exhibits, visitors will be able to understand all the features of the park, past and present, and actually become part of the rich Pfeiffer history themselves.

Time has also taken its toll on many of the wooden CCC-built structures, including the redwood picnic ramadas in the day use area. Rotten roof and support beams forced the closure of both covered picnic areas last summer. As part of a two-phase Cultural Stewardship project, they are both receiving face-lifts, so to speak, by an extremely talented group of individuals from the National Park Service Preservation crew. Unbelievable care is taken to hand select perfectly sized redwood rounds to match each rotten post, which are then hand carved and notched to fit. Once completed the group picnic ramadas will look virtually identical to the original CCC design.

One of the goals of Phase II is to develop a greater diversity of accommodations for our visitors. As visitor camping groups become larger and larger, our parks and campgrounds seem to only get smaller and smaller. In an effort to accommodate larger camping groups, Pfeiffer hopes to

pilot a new campground idea that will include what we affectionately call "mini group loops." While the 8-person occupancy limit will not change, this area would include a loop of campsites that could be rented in pairs and accommodate up to sixteen people and a few extra cars. Other types of accommodations will also be considered, such as tent cabins for those who want the experience of 'roughing it' but with the luxury of a roof.

What other changes can campers expect? New kiosks, bridges, trails, and campsites will slowly be appearing, and most of Main Camp will be restored. And while the list of changes is long, all are intended to keep the flavor of our rich history, through re-use and similarly designed buildings. So what does all this mean for Pfeiffer for the next ten years? Camping might be a little noisier, the roads may be a little dustier, and we employees may be a little crazier. But, in the end, Pfeiffer Big Sur State Park will merely be a more modernized version of the park spirit that the CCCs envisioned and realized nearly seventy years ago.

CROWN JEWELS

by *Dennis Hanson*

Monterey Sector Superintendent

Everyday I am amazed by my good fortune to be assigned to the Monterey District, especially as the Superintendent for Monterey Sector. On a personal level, the area's scenery is beautiful, the weather is generally mild, and there are plenty of opportunities for those who enjoy a physical lifestyle (kayaking, bicycle riding, hang gliding, hiking, surfing, scuba diving) or more sedate or cerebral activities (cultural events, museums, live plays, concerts, and art galleries). On a professional level, the Monterey Sector provides diverse

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Ranger Loren Rex and park aide Nancy Otter in the entrance station at Pt. Lobos

experiences that come with operating a State Historic Park, a State Reserve ("the greatest meeting of land and sea on earth"), a State Park, five State Beaches, several State Preserves and the excitement of new acquisitions.

However, my greatest fortune as a

to work with the staff assigned to and the volunteers working in the Monterey Sector. Our volunteers contribute several thousand hours each year providing interpretive services and/or maintaining our facilities, and the staff continues to take on more, with less, and keeps coming back to do it again!

It would take volumes for me to list the accomplishments of these dedicated people. But it is my opinion that Point Lobos State Reserve, referred by many as the "Crown Jewel of the State Park System", is not this Department's jewel, it is my staff and our volunteers that are the true "Crown Jewel". If you don't believe me, stop by my office next time you are in Monterey and I would be happy to prove it.

Point Sur SHP -- A Changing Park

by *Lois Harter*
Big Sur Sector Superintendent

One of the landmark sights that define a visit to the world-renowned Big Sur coast, is the view of Point Sur Light Station atop Moro Rock. Since it began operation in 1889, the Point Sur Lighthouse has been a beacon for travelers.

For years the Light Station was operated by the Lighthouse Service. However, in 1939 in response to the outbreak of war in Europe, the Lighthouse Service was abolished and re-incorporated under the U.S. Coast Guard. As part of the efforts toward military preparedness, a major renovation of buildings and systems was undertaken. In the mid-1940s a barracks and mess hall were constructed for the Coast Guard, large enough to accommodate forty men.

The modernization atop the rock signaled a new era for Point Sur.



Experiments in sonar and radar had begun in the late 1930's. This developing technology was the focus of operations well into the 1950s. During the post-war years, the numbers of Keepers and their families declined. In 1972 the Lighthouse was completely automated and the majority of the buildings that had supported the Keepers were boarded up and abandoned. The Coast Guard

retained ownership and continued to maintain the light and radio beacon.

Today the Light Station complex is part of Pt. Sur State Historic Park in Monterey District. The original acquisition in 1984 consisted of most of Moro Rock and the Light Station buildings atop it, the Schoolhouse site located adjacent to Highway One where the

Lighthouse Keepers' and local children were once taught, and the Spring Site which once served as a water source for the Light Station.

Acquisition of the Light Station complex atop Moro Rock is just now being finalized. In a ceremony on April 23, 2004, U. S. Secretary of the Interior **Gale Norton**, California Secretary of Resources **Mike Chrisman** and California State Parks

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Restoring the Point Sur Light Station

by *Gary Nelson*, Park Maintenance Supervisor, Big Sur Sector

Point Sur SHP is one of the finest examples of a collaborative effort by State Parks with others in support of a park unit. The Central Coast Lighthouse Keepers (CCLK) cooperating association and the PSSHP volunteers have been key partners in helping State Parks achieve its interpretive and restoration objectives. The park is open to the public only through docent led tours, and each year over 6,000 visitors enjoy the three hour walking tours provided by the 80-100 docents. In addition, volunteers participate in the repair, maintenance and cleaning of the Light Station, operate a small visitor center, conduct historical research, perform administrative and clerical support functions for the program, and prepare interpretive

material. The Point Sur volunteers donated almost 14,000 hours in 2003.

To raise funds, CCLK has sponsored special events, received grants and donations and encourages membership in the organization. An example of a particularly innovative, as well as restoration-enhancing, fundraising activity by CCLK is the Deck Prism Project. For \$1,000, individuals and groups can purchase replicas of the deck prisms that are then placed where the missing original ones were in the Point Sur Lighthouse. The donors receive prism replicas as well. At a special prism ceremony, each donor personally places his/her prism in the lantern room deck. A permanent donor display board

is being developed to acknowledge these contributions.

This type of innovative fundraising is necessary because maintenance activities needed at Point Sur are very costly. Over \$2,000,000 has been spent in restoration and maintenance efforts since 1996. Of this amount, CCLK raised over \$550,000. An additional \$6,000,000 is needed to

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POINT SUR LIGHT HOUSE

POINT SUR, from p. 7



Interior Secretary Gale Norton transferred the Point Sur Lighthouse to State Parks in April, 2004

Director **Ruth Coleman** implemented the formal process for transferring the Point Sur Lighthouse itself, property, and remaining structures from the U. S. Coast Guard to California State Parks. This is the first lighthouse transfer of its kind on the West Coast.

Meanwhile, in 2000, the park's focus was broadened when 38.54 acres of the former Point Sur Naval Facility (NAVFAC) property was acquired. Located on the flat marine terrace near Moro Rock, NAVFAC was built in 1957. With the devastation wrought by submarines during World War II, the U.S. Navy sought a more effective means of detecting undersea threats. Decades of covert activities led to technologies like SOSUS (a passive acoustical SOUND SURveillance System) which enabled the U.S. to track Soviet submarines.

Beginning in the late 1930s, experiments by the U.S. Navy led to

the development of the precursor technology to SOSUS, the Sound Fixing and Ranging (SOFAR) system. At Point Sur, SOFAR was housed in a small concrete building near the barracks atop Moro Rock. The subsequent discovery of a deep underwater sound channel just off Point Sur led to the establishment of Point Sur NAVFAC.

With changing technology and political climate, NAVFAC became obsolete and was de-commissioned in 1984. The Naval Postgraduate School continues to operate out of the one building retained by the Navy, collecting data from hydrophones with a new focus on natural conservation.

When State Parks acquired the NAVFAC, it included over a dozen buildings plus twenty-four housing units, all in disrepair and full of asbestos and lead based paint. The identified acquisition purposes were to: provide a safe staging area for the Light Station tours, provide employee housing, and improve the critical viewshed visible from Highway 1.

With such an eyesore, it was understandable why many wanted to see all of the abandoned buildings torn down as soon as possible. In 2001, the District obtained authorization from the Coastal Commission for the demolition of several NAVFAC structures. It was at this point,

however, that the District stepped back and realized that such action would be premature. Before we destroyed them forever, what was the cultural and historical significance of these NAVFAC buildings? With the acquisition of NAVFAC, had the park's purpose changed? What was envisioned for the future of Point Sur State Historic Park?

Through the General Plan process, which began in 2001, it became evident that feelings about the NAVFAC buildings ran the gamut from tearing down all buildings, including the housing, to retaining all the buildings. It was a very divisive topic, both internally as well as in the local community and with regulatory agencies.

In assessing the NAVFAC buildings, the challenge was to try to understand their exact level of historic significance. NAVFAC was a part of the continuing maritime and military presence at Point Sur SHP, and its part of the history at Point Sur is important enough to retain some buildings for interpretive and educational reasons. State Parks deemed the site culturally, if not historically, significant.

With this assessment, a plan was developed that allowed for the rehabilitation and adaptive re-use of some buildings while allowing demolition of others. The housing units will continue to be used until such time that it can be relocated elsewhere in the Sector. A main park entrance at NAVFAC will accommodate visitors, enhance interpretive opportunities and provide a safer tour staging area.

The process of preparing a General Plan for PSSHP has been enlightening for all. Everyone has come to have a much greater appreciation of the park's natural and cultural resources, and our stewardship responsibilities for those resources.

RESTORATION, from p. 7

complete the Light Station restoration.

Through planning efforts by California State Parks and CCLK, a \$750,000 ISTEPA Grant initially jumpstarted the restoration activities at PSSHP in 1996. State Parks funding has come through grants, maintenance program funding, and the Cultural Stewardship Program. Major accomplishments at PSSHP include restoration of many of the buildings, removal of lead based paint, and seismic analysis.

Now that the General Plan is almost

complete, development of a Cultural Resources Management plan will identify and prioritize key actions required to protect significant cultural resources, and function to guide park management and programs for preservation treatment of these historic structures. With the wind, fog and rain that constantly raise havoc throughout the year, buildings deteriorate rapidly. Continued maintenance and repairs by dedicated State Parks staff and volunteers will ensure the Pt. Sur Light Station remains for all future generations to enjoy.



Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary and State Park Partnership

by *Patricia Clark-Gray, District Interpretive Specialist*

The Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary, the largest and deepest of the nation's marine sanctuaries, reaches 275 miles from the Gulf of Farallones National Marine Sanctuary near San Francisco to Cambria in the south and covers 5,300 square miles. The sanctuary is home to 26 threatened or endangered species, as well as 226 recorded shipwrecks.

California State Parks – Monterey District has a unique partnership with the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary. The MBNMS has a 20 member Sanctuary Advisory Council (SAC) and State Parks has a seat as one of the government agencies.

Dave Vincent, Santa Cruz District Superintendent, is the primary representative (**Phil Jenkins**, Monterey District Superintendent, is the alternate). In addition, I am the Sanctuary Education Panel Chair, thus the Education representative.

The MBNMS is a leader in marine-related education in the Monterey Bay. We have many partnerships with the sanctuary. I will focus on two of the educational partnerships. The first partnership is Monterey District's involvement in the planning phase for a MBNMS Scenic trail, a recreation and interpretive pathway that links existing and new trail segments into a continuous coastal trail around Monterey Bay. It is a coast highway for walkers, joggers, bikers, families, locals, and visitors. Many of the scenic trail segments will pass through or near California State Park's property. One of the proposed segments will be on the future Fort Ord Dunes State Park (see p. 10). We are hoping to get funding to develop interpretive signage for the scenic trail. **Ken Gray**, Resource Planner,



has been involved in the alignment working group and I have been active in the interpretive working group. She has been working with MBNMS education staff, Dawn Hayes and Seaberry Nachbar, National Park Service consultant, Linda Stonier, Kyrria Sevco, Program Manager for Association of Monterey Bay Area Governments (AMBAG), and Lee Otter, Coastal Commission staff to develop an Interpretive Plan for the MBNMS scenic trail.

The second partnership is with the Multicultural Education for Resource Issues Threatening Oceans (MERITO). In 2003, the MBNMS co-sponsored the effort in Monterey for the California Coastal Clean-up. MERITO staff worked with State Park staff and the local Spanish radio station to promote a bilingual beach site at Salinas River State Beach through radio PSA's and bilingual flyers posted throughout Watsonville community. As part of the Junior Ranger Activity Guide program, Michelle Templeton, MERITO Manager and bi-lingual educator, just completed a Sanctuary Junior Ranger

Adventure Guide that focuses on watershed and ocean protection that will be available in both English and Spanish. We are looking forward to distributing these to our state park sites along the coast in the Monterey District.

On a personal note, I have thoroughly enjoyed and benefited from my partnership with the MBNMS staff. I have participated in several interpretive training programs that the MBNMS sponsored. As a result of my involvement in the Sanctuary Education Panel (SEP), I am aware of the educational programs of other marine-related education organizations such as the Monterey Bay Aquarium and local schools.

Because of the SEP, we have found creative and exciting ways to work together to educate the local community and the tourists about the amazing coastal resources that all of us need to protect. As Julie Packard, Monterey Bay Aquarium co-founder, stated "What better gift can we give the next generation than a passion for science and discovery, and a commitment to caring for the natural world?"

Carmel Lagoon Restoration

by *Ken Gray, Resource Planner*

Work was to begin in June to convert 100 acres of fallow agricultural land within **Carmel River State Beach** to open water, wetland and riparian habitats. 200,000 cubic yards of fill soil excavated from the project area will be placed on agricultural property east of Highway 1. The project will create 9.1 acres of open water, 3.5 acres of wetland, 63.5 acres of riparian and 7.2 acres of oak woodland habitat. 12.6 acres around the historic Odello farm buildings is designated for agriculture to preserve the cultural landscape around the barn.

FORT ORD DUNES STATE PARK

by *Ken Gray, Resource Planner*

Imagine the opportunity. Four miles of shoreline and 1,000 acres of dunes on Monterey Bay. When the announcement was made in 1990 that the 28,000 acre Fort Ord Army Base would close, some had visions of developing the shoreline with hotels and high priced homes. Instead, it was decided that the coastal land should be managed by State Parks. Thanks to the vision of and support of leaders like former White House Chief of Staff Leon Panetta and Congressman Sam Farr, the developer's dreams were never realized and the future Fort Ord Dunes State Park is scheduled to transfer to the State in 2005.

Creation of Fort Ord Dunes State Park has been a work in progress for 14 years. It's hard to believe that work has been underway on this project for that long and the property has not yet been transferred to the state or opened to the public. Despite the delays and frustrations, steady progress is being made. Here is a recap of important milestones that have occurred:

--In 1990 then Secretary of Defense Dick Cheney announced that Fort Ord was on the Base Closure list.

--In 1992 State Parks submitted an application to the National Park Service for the property, which was approved in 1994.

--In 1995 the State Parks and Recreation Commission named and classified the property as Fort Ord Dunes State Park and work began on a general plan for the park. The plan was approved in 1997 but later rescinded due to threatened lawsuits.

--In 1996 State Parks completed a \$100,000 / 50 acre anonymous donor funded habitat restoration project.

--In 1997 State Parks completed a \$75,000 EEM Grant funded project



Fort Ord outfalls >>



involving removal of fifty-seven small abandoned buildings visible from Highway One. The buildings were associated with former small arms firing ranges.

--In 1998 the Army completes a \$10+ million Superfund Project to remove over 100,000 cubic yards of lead contaminated soil associated with the former firing ranges. The Army also spent \$1 million to restore landforms and funds State Parks to undertake a \$500,000/5year program to restore 150 acres of habitat.

--In 2000 the Army completed work on a system to treat a plume of contaminated groundwater; the system is expected to be in operation for 30 years.

--In 2003 a project was completed that ended the direct discharge of stormwater into the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary. Four massive stormwater outfall pipes were removed from the beach. The stormwater pipes were truncated to divert the runoff into existing dune depressions. The stormwater now percolate into the ground allowing natural processes to cleanse the water before it enters the bay as groundwater.

--Also in 2003, the demolition of Stilwell Hall was completed. This 53,000 square foot landmark building

was removed because ongoing coastal erosion was threatening to undermine the building and cause it to collapse into Monterey Bay. Efforts to raise funds to move the building inland were unsuccessful. As part of the demolition process, the rock placed along the shoreline to slow coastal erosion was also removed. Removal of the rock eliminated the only obstruction to lateral coastal access between Monterey and Moss Landing. When Fort Ord Dunes State Park is open to public use it will be possible to walk this entire distance on the beach.

A new State Park General Plan has been prepared for the future park. It proposes preservation of 785 acres of the 990 acre park as open space and restored habitat. Day use beach access, a campground and a recreation trail are also proposed. Environmental Research Associates (ESA) prepared the plan under the guidance of NSC Landscape Architect Jason Spann. The intent is to submit the plan for approval by the State Park and Recreation Commission before the end of 2004.

For more information see http://www.parks.ca.gov/default.asp?page_id=22727 or contact Ken Gray at kgray@parks.ca.gov or (831) 649-2862.

CUYAMACA RISES FROM THE ASHES

by **Brian Cahill**, *Interp. Specialist*

Earth Day had special meaning this year at Cuyamaca Rancho State Park. Nearly 500 volunteers gathered to help restore the park that had been closed since last year's devastating fires swept through Southern California. "There was a lot of work to do, but hundreds of people called with offers to help," said Superintendent **Laura Itogawa**. "Since State funds and resources are limited, we must count on volunteer assistance to get the job done."

All but 300 acres of the 26,000-acre Cuyamaca Rancho State Park were burned in the fires that struck Southern California last October. The deadly fires destroyed more than 20 historic structures and many of the campground facilities. The park has been completely closed for six months.

"Earth Day is a day when we all can do something that will have a positive impact on the preservation and protection of our park lands," said State Parks Director **Ruth Coleman**. "This is especially meaningful at Cuyamaca." After a long day of repairing trails, building fences and restoring campsites, the volunteers gathered for a barbecue. There Director Coleman made the much anticipated announcement that Cuyamaca Rancho State Park was reopening May 1, thanks to the work that volunteers were able to accomplish on Earth Day.

Although many facilities are still closed and may remain closed for some time, the Green Valley Campground and a large portion of the trail system have re-opened. The forest is healing too. Oak trees are covered with tender new leaves and the shrubs are sending up strong new



Resounding cheers filled the air as Director Coleman announced the re-opening of Cuyamaca Rancho State Park

shoots alongside their blackened skeletons. Spectacular wildflower displays also greeted the Earth Day volunteers.

When will the park and forest be back to normal? Expert opinions differ, and it's not really fair to call the pre-fire conditions normal. There will be changes, there always have been. In some parts of the forest, oaks may replace pines. Natural processes are very much at work, it will be exciting to watch and see. In fact we're seeing amazing regrowth already. We are confident that Cuyamaca Rancho State Park will heal.



Tender green shoots stand in sharp contrast to the blackened skeletons. Life has undeniably returned to Cuyamaca.



Volunteers rebuilt miles of fences, restored trails, replaced signs and made a large portion of the park safe enough to reopen.

Park Superintendent **Laura Itogawa** >> gives much of the credit to park volunteers for getting the park re-opened so quickly.



BOARD MEETING MINUTES

March 7th, 14:00

CSPRA board meeting

Crown Plaza, Garden Grove

In attendance: **Dana Jones, Val Bradshaw, Karen Barrett, Joe Rogers, Ron Brean, Angy Nowicki**

1. We reviewed the minutes from our last meeting. Minor changes were suggested. Val moves the minutes be accepted as amended, second by Joe, all in favor.

2. Dana: During this meeting we will be going over the budget for next year and the agenda for the GEC.

a. We brain stormed ideas to present to the GEC in place of an overview on what we accomplished over the past year: i. What direction would the membership like to see the board take CSPRA during the next year?; ii. How would they like to see the Regional Representatives program change?; iii. How can we get more membership involvement?; iv. Can we offer something that would encourage them to participate more? Training?

3. If we need to increase the cost of membership, would they be willing to contribute \$10?

4. We have asked Monica Miller Governmental Advocates to present to the GEC. She will inform them what she does for us.

5. Discussion on where we hope to have the conference 2004/05. We will make a decision once we have a chance to discuss it with it with PRAC. The selections were Double Tree in Rohnert Park and Marriot in Napa. Board supported Napa as their first choice.

6. Mr. Huell Howser will not make it to the awards ceremony. Val and Dana have suggested that he be given his award at Park Advocacy Day. Val and Dana will be working on making sure it happens.

7. Financing is tight for this year's Conference Committee. State Parks Foundation has been asked to pay in advance for the reception.

8. Next year's budget. See attached

presentation to the GEC. (Dana's notes)

9. Val has been asked to add CSPRA support on a letter addressing the opposition on the toll road bill (see attached 3-1-04)

10. We got an email regarding the Bullet Train. Workshop and hearing on 3-23-04 Val is committed to go in Sac. She may be testifying.

11. Bill Moro has a bill to reintroduce horses to Coyote Canyon and to run a road. Dana will submit a letter.

12. CSPRA Meeting dates for 2004/05: a. May 4th, 2004 Rohnert Park (Conference Site with PRAC); b. July 20th, 2004; c. Retiree's Rendezvous October 1-3, 05; d. Dec 7th, 04; e. Feb 1st, 05; f. Sunday of the next conference. March 6th, 2004

13. Meeting adjourned until the GEC.

GEC -Garden Grove 2004 California Parks Convention Joe Rogers, Val Bradshaw, Dana Jones, Ron Brean, Angy Nowicki, Gar Salzgeber.

1. Brought to order 11:55 Dana introduces herself. a. She asked everyone to sign in, so that we can document who was in attendance; b. We are very interested in hearing from the membership as to what direction they would like to see CSPRA head. Are there any suggestions from the members? None mentioned! c. Requests for scholarships are up this year. The board decided to increase the amount of money we had budgeted; d. El Morro issue! The State Parks will be taking over the property January of 2005. We will be watching the issue closely in the event there is a change of plans. A letter was sent to Gov. chwazenegger requesting his support; e. We have been given some 25 pages of legislation from Monica to review regarding State Parks; f. Val Bradshaw, Dana Jones, and Monica Miller (Gov Advocates) have gone to a number of meetings at the Capitol. This will make sure we keep State Parks on

their minds; g. We have begun a partnership with State Parks Foundation regarding issues. They have also hired Governmental Advocates; h. State Park Advocacy Day. We encourage you to attend on March 22nd, 04 to be a part of the solution; i. Conference. Thank-you Frank Padilla for volunteering to be this year's co-chair and for 2006 conference. Frank is working on an idea having the conference on a cruise ship; j. Next year's conference March 7 through 10th. In Napa (has been changed to Rohnert Park); k. Janet Carle is the newsletter editor. She has done a great job on the WAVE. Thanks-you for all your effort. Next years newsletter will be sent out prior to the next conference; l. Election results are posted on the Web Site; m. We have based our **budget** on the trends that we have seen over the past few years: i. Please note every thing actually balances! ii. \$16,113. Was transferred from the Maintenance Supervisors Association to CSPRA: 1. They were all given one years free membership; 2. Some have signed up and some have not; 3. This money will be earmarked for maintenance scholarships.

n. Motion to pass the budget i. Motioned Ann Menegozzi; ii. Kathleen Franklin second; iii. All approved

2. Monica Miller with the **Governmental Advocates** a. Monica introduced herself and tells the GEC what she does for us; b. She is working very closely with CSPRA, SPF in bringing Parks to the forefront; c. 2152 bills were introduced about 172 bills that affect State Parks. She encouraged all in attendance to join us on Park Advocacy Day. This is a great way to build partnerships. We encourage you to attend in period costume, with your Cooperative Association, and your family; e. We can make the Bills available for review to the members on the website; f. We would like to encourage a team of people to help on

GEC MEETING MINUTES

the legislative committee. Jeff Gaffney volunteered; g. Janet Carle asked that Monica draw up a brief on what she is working on for the WAVE; h. Monica wants to get point people for individual bills. She needs contacts in the field; i. We have set a goal to speak to the legislatures personally at least bi-monthly; j. State parks Foundation requests our assistance: i. The Foundation supports our mission on State park uses; ii. At this time the Governor could determine a change of use not based on our Mission; iii SB 1327, if this passes, the director makes the decision not the Governor; iv. High speed rail line stands to impact 22 state parks. It will either go through our parks or be very close to them.

3. Barbara Hill Acting Director of the California **State Parks Foundation** :a. Barbara introduced herself.; b. Partnering with CSPRA is critical; c. CSPF makes sure that State Parks is on the track! d. A few of the projects that CSPF are working on: i. Restoration of 32 acres of restoration at Candlestick point; ii. New marine educational center at Ano Nuevo; iii. Pigeon Point Light house and restoration; iv. Cuyamaca and Silverwood restoration. They were also involved in the collection of funds for Fire Victims. e. CSPF have partnered with State Parks regarding marketing. Raising the visibility of State Park: i. CSPF has hired a Brand marketing firms; ii. They have also hired a firm to generate sponsorship to support park projects and programs; iii. If you have any suggestions please contact State Park Foundation.

4. Dana Jones: a. Bud Getty and Darren Cook are the out-going Directors. They were unable to attend. b. Jill Dampier and Pam Armas will be taking their place. They were also unable to attend; c. President Elect will be Ron Brea; d. Ron's position will be filled by Karen Barrett. Karen will be the first District Interpretive Specialist on the board; e. President Elect Val Bradshaw will be taking over for Dana Jones. Val is the first Maintenance person to be president of

CSPRA; f. Val was given the toilet brush as a scepter and a rubber mallet as her gavel; g. The real gavel will be brought to the next meeting;

5. Val Bradshaw: a. Thank you Dana, this past year has been fun; b. We have gone along way this year under the direction of Dana; c. We need more involvement: i. On the board; ii. On the Conference Committee; iii. Legislative committee; iv. **Regional Reps:** 1. We have reps per districts but we would like to revamp the program. 2. Should we group districts into regions? To work with PRAC in the local area. Do we need to concentrate on disciplines? d. Dave Carle: suggested that at least once per year reps should attend board meeting; e. Jeff Gaffney: We are trying to cover to big of an area. We should model ourselves after PRAC Representative design; f. Ron Brea: Years ago that the District Reps hosted regional meetings. One of the Board members would attend the meeting; g. Val Bradshaw: She has done a break down of PRAC to our department layout. This would give us 5 active Reps; f. Ann Meneguzzi: Can you post the meetings on the Web site? i. Angy will contact Jeff to have it happen; g. Barbara Hill: SPF has an email alert that has been very helpful; h. Dave Carle: suggests that we need to come up with a job description and responsibilities: i. We need to restructure the district volunteers; k. Mary Pass: suggests that we take 5 minutes at all trainings to give out CSPRA information; j. Val Bradshaw: agreed that we need to sell ourselves as to what CSPRA does and what it is all about. We need to be clear as to what membership involvement means? k. Mary Pass: Suggested target recruiting for scholarships for non traditional members.

2. We will be raising the **retiree's membership fees** to help recover the cost of their membership. Active membership dues will remain the same, we will focus on increasing membership.

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Membership

To join CSPRA, mail this application to: P.O. Box 247, Carpinteria, CA 93014-0247

For all except "Active" member payroll deduction, please include check for 1 year's dues.

Name

Address

City State Zip

Job Classification

Social Security #

Phone: Work

Phone: Home

District, Section, or Park:

Membership type (Circle one):

Active \$8/month

Active Retired \$36/year

Supporting \$36/year

Organization \$50/year

Benefactor \$1,000/life

I hereby authorize the State Controller to deduct from my salary and transmit as designated an amount for membership dues in the California State Park Rangers Association. This authorization will remain in effect until cancelled by myself or by the organization. I certify I am a member of the above organization and understand that termination of my membership will cancel all deductions made under this organization. Send to: CSPRA, P.O. Box 247, Carpinteria, CA 93014-

0247

Signature

Date



OFFICE MANAGER'S MAILBAG



Gar Salzgeber, Office Manager

Correspondence

Getting personnel notes from our retired members about what they're doing with their lives warms the cockles of my heart and sends chills of joy up my spine. I hope everybody else enjoys them as much.

Bill Reinhardt writes: Still doing some research on the airplane (US Navy-Marine) that crashed off coast of Orange County. Somewhat familiar with that and other fighter planes early WWII in So. & SW Pacific during my tour of duty with USN. 42-45. I do remember the F.4.U. well because it had gull like wings and was used extensively by Marine Fighter Sqdn's early 42-43. Somewhat underpowered as to the Japanese fighter planes during the Battle of Coral Sea. May 1942 & Battle of Midway June 1942! (Pres. Bush (41) there sometime I think. He was a fighter pilot). Thanks for good work. More later.

David Milam wrote: So far my wife Carol and I have enjoyed working together on the re-landscaping of our back yard. I have also managed to do some volunteer work at San Luis Reservoir SRA and Pacheco SP. I am hoping to get my house remodeling work done before Christmas this year - it has been ongoing for the past 3 years.

[Also **David Milam** joined as a new Active Retired Member]

Office Business

Recently the Board of Directors did a cost analysis breakdown considering what it costs to provide services to our members. It was learned that it costs nearly \$3 a month for each retired member. Hence the Active Retired membership dues will increase to \$36 per year. The new membership fee will become effective July 1, since we are on a fiscal year. I am currently working with PERS to see if we can have an option of getting \$3 a month deducted from our retirement checks. This deduction option would be up to each member. I will be mailing out more information as I get it.

Lastly, as most of you know I've had a tough year and lots of time to reflect upon how short and dear life is. I've decided to resign from my position in the near future (according to the needs of the board) to spend more time enjoying life. I'm currently looking forward to spending 3 months bicycling in New Zealand and another 3 months bicycling Alaska (I'll be traveling with a retired Cal Poly professor who has bicycled about 35 countries, we expect to bicycle 40-60 miles a day unless we're having too much fun and camp or motel as needs dictate. Let me know if you're crazy enough to join us.)

Working as your Executive Manager has been a great experience, particularly since it kept me so close to the park family that has been with me through my entire life. I will continue my Active Retired membership and look forward to seeing you at our future events.

Cheers, **Gar**

Welcome new members:

Marilyn Murphy, a Superintendent from Tahoma; **John Louis**, Larroque Park, Maintenance Supervisor from Lower Lake; **Steven Speakman** a Park Maintenance Worker from Salida.

Office Manager Needed! Apply Now

CSPRA's Office Manager Gar Salzgeber has decided to retire from his position and ride off into the sunset. The Board of Directors is accepting letters of intent for any persons interested in applying for this position. A monthly stipend of \$1000/month plus travel and office expenses are provided. The Office Manager serves as the Association's accountant and processor of all documents necessary to maintain the membership roles and authority to operate with identities such as the State Controller's Office and Secretary of State. Please submit a letter of interest, ASAP, mailing it to **Val Bradshaw, California State Parks, 1416 Ninth Street, Room 1431, Sacramento, CA 95814.**

Want a CSPRA scholarship?

Contact **Fred Jee** at
(760) 767-4651,
jeology@yahoo.com

2005 Parks Conference A New Dimension

by **Jeff Price, Retired**

The 2005 California Parks Conference will offer a "GrayBears Track" to accommodate the particular interests of retired members. Registration profiles for past conferences show few retired members attend. We plan to provide a new specialized program at the conference, leaving the option open for the customary events, meetings and banquet.

Currently the core planning team is comprised of retirees Paula Peterson, Janet Carle, Denzil Verardo and myself. If you want to help out, please email me at jeff@jprice.net or call (805) 278-9201. The conference will be at the Sonoma Wine Country Double Tree Resort in Rohnert Park, March 7-10 (Monday-Thursday). Look for updates in your next issue of the CSPRA Wave or online at <http://www.cspra.com>.

humor in unicorn



Mixed Metaphors and Malaprops

by Jeff Price, retired

Rumors: I hear headquarters is making Bill Berry's birthday an honorary holiday, since he retired. People still have to go to work, but wouldn't actually have to do anything or make any decisions and could go home at noon.

Head and shoulders above the norm.
That really gets my dandruff up, and after we pulled their bacon out of the fire.

Duplicate duty?
Why is there so much reputation in law enforcement?

Early tool departure.
She flew off at the handle.

Tool mayhem?
Being shorthanded really rakes havoc.

GET CONNECTED

CSPRA ONLINE

Catch up on CSPRA activities contact your District Reps, Board or Officers, get latest information.
www.cspra.com

GRAYBEARS

Attention Retired Members!
Want to keep in touch after you leave DPR? Join the *GrayBears* list server. It is FREE and EASY to use. Just send your name and e-mail address to:
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Mission Statement



The California State Park Rangers Association is an organization of park professionals dedicated to advancement of the highest principles of public service, and established to support, protect, and defend the integrity of State Parks for present and future generations.



Founded 1964