



# *The CSPRA* **Wave**

*Newsletter*

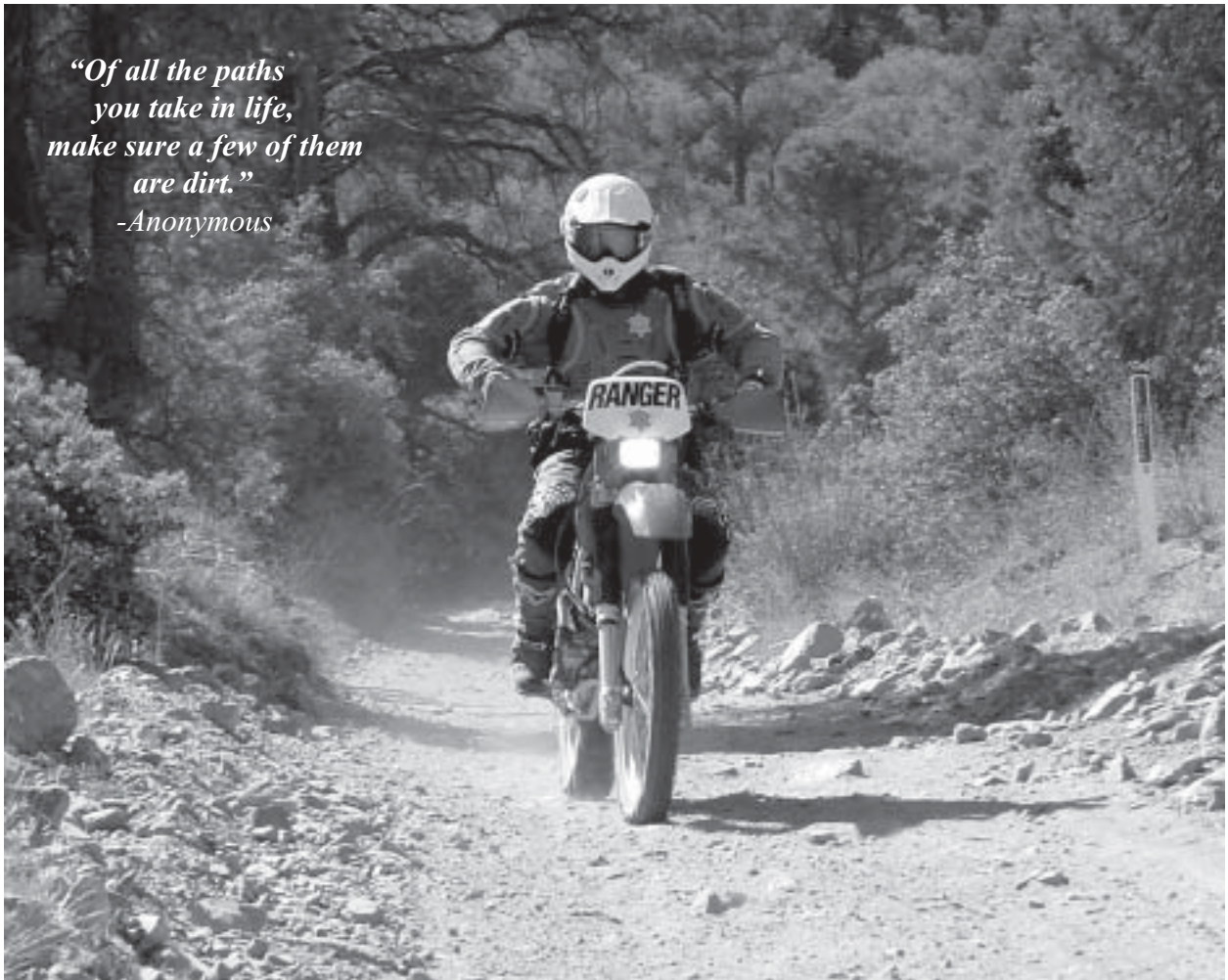
VOLUME 4, NUMBER 3

CALIFORNIA STATE PARK RANGERS ASSOCIATION

MAY - JUNE 2004

## **A TASTE OF HUNGRY VALLEY**

*"Of all the paths  
you take in life,  
make sure a few of them  
are dirt."  
-Anonymous*



Ranger Andrew Castro on patrol, Hungry Valley State Vehicular Recreation Area, see pages 3, 4



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**PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**



**VALERIE BRADSHAW**  
*CSPRA President*

*It is an honor to have been elected President of such a well respected organization.* I hope that this next year allows the association to continue to grow in all areas in order to further the recognition of the professionalism of all California State Park staff.

To that end, I have been asked what my goals are for my term. While there are many, I believe I can categorize them into two main categories: Internal and External to the Association. It is impossible to say which is more important as they tend to feed off each other. So in no order intended, I would like to 1) Increase membership and member involvement and 2) Increase external promotion of the benefits of the California State Park System while striving to make decision makers better informed of the important role of not only Parks, but of the Park Professionals.

To begin with, I challenge all current members to work on recruiting new members in addition to challenging everyone to get involved! Part of the task in recruiting new members is to work on the name identity issue. The term RANGER in our association name is what provides us with recognition and respect from outside the department – the Legislature! We must remember that to most

people outside of California State Parks, a Ranger is the person who is caring for our parks – Our Heritage! That means that a RANGER is all people working for California State Parks – whether they be interpreters, natural or cultural resource specialists, maintenance, engineers, architects, law enforcement, lifeguards, or admin staff. It takes ALL of these professions to have the top notch association and department that we have. It is imperative that everyone is on the same page of what the term RANGER as a means to bond all park professionals together. We must accept that this is a universal term known outside of our department for the well respected and dedicated professionals given the challenge and tasks of caring for California's State Parks.

Get Involved! Through the years I have talked to many people about the need to get involved in professional associations. The typical response is I don't have time. Getting involved does not mean that you need to spend hours, days, or weeks on association business, but it does mean that you need to take a few minutes from time to time to provide input or even to vote! There are so many ways that individuals can and need to participate that are as simple as taking five minutes to help provide supporting information/documentation on issues.

A major role of the Association is to represent our varied professions to the Legislature by writing letters and testifying at hearings. What we need is for everyone to share with the Board of Directors information you have on any proposed Legislation so that as an association we can support or oppose as is in the best interest of the overall organization. While the Board is diverse, we cannot possibly know all of the ins and outs or intricacies of individual locations or issues. This is where we need the membership to take time to provide us with the professional basis for why we support/oppose issues. For example, The High

# The Road to Success

by **Kathy Sanders**, *Interp. Specialist  
Hungry Valley District*

*"You should have seen this place years ago before the rangers were here,"* is an all too familiar remark heard frequently at Hungry Valley SVRA from many of our park visitors.

For as long as anyone can remember, the town of Gorman, just off Interstate 5 and 60 miles north of Los Angeles, has always been a popular area to go riding off-road. For many years, hundreds of off-road enthusiasts had enjoyed unrestricted and unregulated use of this privately owned land, as they carved their own trails into the surrounding hillsides with little thought to the consequences of their activities on the local environment.

All that changed in 1980 when the state, recognizing the need for managed off-highway parks in California, salvaged nearly 19,000 acres and created Hungry Valley, the second largest state vehicular recreational area in the state park system. In addition to acquiring the already damaged areas from illegal off-highway use, nearly 4,000 acres of native California bunch grasses and 60 acres of pristine oak woodlands and cultural sites were included within the park boundaries and set aside for protection under the general plan. The Hungry Valley Native Grasslands Management Area was established to tightly control motor vehicle use throughout this sensitive area and the oak woodlands became a preserve and permanently closed to all off-highway use.

## **The Challenge**

Was it even possible to successfully combine off-highway activities while protecting the park's natural resources? For Hungry Valley management and staff that challenge has not only been met, but has surpassed even the expectations of many environmen-



*Ranger Gary Hughey explains about the importance of legal spark arrestors on bikes to Louie Escue, age 8 and his 5-year old brother, Dillon, visiting Hungry Valley SVRA*

talists, including the local Sierra Club. Since bringing a full time resource ecologist on-board eight years ago, Hungry Valley has become the "poster child" for erosion control and hill restoration.

The biggest challenge by far, was restoring "Middle Wall," the most popular hill climb in the park. Already badly scarred by over 40 years of off-highway use before the state took over, Middle Wall was a textbook example of the kind of devastation that can be caused by unmanaged land use by off-roaders. Once described as "almost irreparable" by one environmental group, Middle Wall has become the most successful restoration project of its kind. The entire hill was redesigned, stabilized and re-vegetated. The deep gullies caused by erosion and soil loss were filled with specially designed hay "waddles" and hydro-seeded with seeds from native

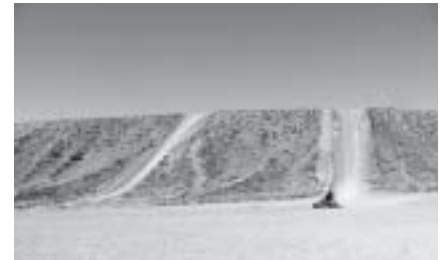
grasses and shrubs which were gathered from within the park. Four new runs, easily maintained and groomed by maintenance crews, were created and fenced off from the rest of the hill. By maintaining control over future erosion, riders today can still enjoy the challenge of Middle Wall.

## **Habitat Monitoring**

Seven years ago, an extensive award winning scientific habitat monitoring system was put into place to monitor the habitat conditions of the park's flora and fauna. This annual program is designed to recognize any impact off-highway use may have on the plants and animals in the park and enables the ecologist to redirect or even close off sensitive areas to motor vehicle use if needed. Many times throughout the year, our ecologist can be found giving nature tours for environmental and school groups in one these protected areas. To date,



*Middle Wall in 1979, BEFORE, and...*



*...today, AFTER restoration.*

See **HUNGRY VALLEY** p.4

## HUNGRY VALLEY SVRA

### *HUNGRY VALLEY, from page 3*

over 8,000 acres throughout the park are closed to vehicles as protected habitats for hundreds of native plants and animals.

We are also initiating a satellite photo monitoring program. This will be less expensive and provide greatly enhanced detail over traditional aerial photos. These photos will be used by all core areas, including interpretation, to more efficiently manage the park.

#### **Wildfires**

Another highly successful “in progress” project is our Wildfire Management Plan. Because of the park’s proximity to Interstate 5 and the increased risk of wildfires, a program was designed to protect the park’s natural resources from adverse fire suppression. By gathering signatures from the U.S. Forest Service and firefighting agencies from three different counties, everyone



involved in fighting a fire inside the park will adhere to the same guidelines. This new program will enable the Hungry Valley staff to control how a wildfire will be allowed to burn, greatly decreasing damage to the environment. The District Superintendent, **Tom Tanner** (above), is now designated as the “Co-Incident Commander.” This has already been essential in keeping bulldozers “on the trucks and off the fire lines” in our most recent 300 acre fire.

#### **Hungry Valley Today**

Springtime is Hungry Valley at its best. The hillsides next to the park

entrance that years ago were a mass of eroded trails, are now a lush green. Meadowlarks dart across the grasslands and native bunch grasses ripple with the wind next to colorful arrays of wildflowers that stretch for miles throughout the Native Grassland Management Area. In contrast, the campgrounds along the main valley are a beehive of activity as riders unload their dirt bikes and ATV’s and roar off to explore over 130 miles of scenic trails. There is no mistaking the excitement of an off-highway vehicle park!

#### **The Road to Success**

Visitors are still amazed at the changes that have been made over the years. The riders that used to come here “before the rangers” are now here with their families, passing on their love for the sport to the next generation. A few of them miss the old days, but most are grateful to have us here patrolling, protecting and providing a safer environment for them to ride in. Responsible land management has been and will continue to be Hungry Valley’s road to success.

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## WORKING HUNGRY

*“It’s exciting. There is a lot of activity and the days are fast paced and fly by.” --Ranger Gary Hughey*

That pretty much sums up a weekend spent on patrol at Hungry Valley SVRA. From the moment the visitors enter the park, the excitement level is super charged with anticipation for a day of fun in the dirt. The main focus for the staff at Hungry Valley has been to provide safe, fun and sustainable recreation to the thousands of visitors that pour into the park every year. One-way trails, fencing and trail rating signs are just a few of the many safety features found throughout Hungry Valley to help visitors enjoy their stay. However, even with all these precautions, accidents can and do happen occasionally on busy weekends. Patrolling the park on a motorcycle or quad is

not only a fun part of the job, but it also helps the rangers get to the injured riders quickly.

Public safety contacts are combined with interpretation. Many rider, new to the sport, are just as often reminded to secure their helmet straps as they are informed about the need for legal spark arrestors and registration.

Ranger led interpretive wildflower tours through the 4,000 acre Native Grassland Management Area are a favorite annual springtime event for many of our visitors. These native grasslands are home to some of the most spectacular wildflower viewing areas in the state. Protecting the park’s natural resources by making sure riders stay on the designated trails throughout this sensitive area is a top priority.

Rangers mention that another plus of working at Hungry Valley is the

supportive management. Receiving needed equipment and funding through the OHV Division helps the rangers to make positive changes that make a difference. Recently passed laws on noise regulations were quickly backed up with the equipment needed to do the testing on site in the park. Visitors can now call ahead and have the noise levels tested on their motorcycles and ATV’s before they ride. Reducing the noise emission levels in the state recreational areas helps protect the riders “right to ride.”

By far, the best part of the job is watching the families having fun together. Younger riders are often seen trailing along behind an adult rider like ducks in a row, looking like little spacemen in their gear as they bounce along on miniature motorcycles and ATVs. Passing by the campsites, we can’t help but grin back at the big smiles we see stretched across tired, little dusty faces. Now that is what working at an off-highway recreation area is all about.

## Re-Discover the Magic: A California Adventure

Southern California is known for its sunny skies, and they were out in evidence for the Parks Conference in Anaheim in early March. Santa Ana winds contributed unusually clear skies, with snowy peaks rising above the city and temperatures in the low 80s. All in all, it was a perfect setting for park professionals to meet, network, compare notes, attend sessions and thaw out from winter.

A breathtakingly warm and beautiful Monday was the day for field trips and competitions. Golf was held at the Anaheim Hills Golf Course and pistol shooting at the Orange County Indoor Range. A day long field trip of Orange County attractions visited Mission San Juan Capistrano, Caspers Wilderness Park, and the Tree of Life native plant nursery. Those of us on the whale watch cruise enjoyed T-shirt weather, calm seas, congenial com-

panions, and views of 3 gray whales and many white nosed dolphins.

presented his multi-slide projector show on the "Range of Light", his impressions of the Sierra Nevada over 40 years. **Ira Bletz** of the East Bay Regional Parks finished off the evening with his famous interpretive Beer Tasting.

On Tuesday, sessions opened with a keynote address from **Mike Carona** of the Orange Co. Sheriffs Dept. A wide range of sessions were offered during the day, from Grant Writing to Dealing with Armenian Gangs. One of my favorites was the session on PORTS (Parks Online Resources for



Teachers and Students) presented by Supervising Ranger **Jim Serpa** (above) and Supt. **Ken Kramer** of Orange Coast District. They demonstrated the technology that allows an interpreter to be on-site in a park, even underwater in the ocean, while interacting with children in a classroom. Ranger **Kevin Williams** of Ano Nuevo SR, assisted by **Joe Von Herman** and **Alan Friedman** of

Interpretive Services, talked to us from the park as we sat in the hotel in Anaheim watching elephant seals cavort in the background. Another interesting session was on sun damage to skin, of concern to all of us that work outside. Dr. Ashlee Anderson explained skin cancers and preventative measures, including wearing sunscreen under your uniform as well as on exposed skin. Some of us had a shock when we saw our weathered skin under her dermatologist's skin scanner.



panions, and views of 3 gray whales and many white nosed dolphins.

The California State Parks Foundation provided a wonderful reception on Monday evening. DPR Director **Ruth Coleman** welcomed the group, encouraging us to enjoy our jobs as we deal with budget cuts in a trying time. She announced that it looks like the worst of the "grinding cuts" are over for DPR for now. Retired Orange Coast Ranger **Jim Long** then



*l to r: DPR Director **Ruth Coleman**, Orange Co. Sheriff **Mike Carona**, and Director of Orange Co. Harbors, Beaches, and Parks, **Kevin Thomas***

CSPRA held its annual members meeting at lunchtime on Tuesday. The presidency was passed from **Dana Jones** to **Valerie Bradshaw**, the first person from the maintenance field to serve as president. **Jill Dampier**, **Pam Armas** and **See CONFERENCE, p. 6**

## PARKS CONFERENCE - 2004

### CONFERENCE, from p. 5

**Karen Barrett** (the first person from the interpretive classification to serve on the Board) were installed as new CSPRA board members.



*THE CSPRA TEAM, back row, l to r: Karen Barrett, Ron Brean, Joe Rodgers, Gar Salzgeber, Dana Jones; front l to r: Janet Carle, Angy Nowicki, and Val Bradshaw*

CSPRA's lobbyist in Sacramento, **Monica Miller**, updated the group on legislative matters, including SB1327, a bill to protect State Park units from inappropriate uses. Ranger **Jeff Gaffney** from Brannan Island SRA agreed to serve as the chair of CSPRA's legislative committee. **Barbara Hill**, Acting Director of the State Parks Foundation, reported on their projects, including wetlands restoration at Candlestick SRA and a new marine mammal education center at Ano Nuevo. Discussion of district representatives vs. regional representatives ensued. The Board is hoping to increase involvement from the field by re-activating the reps, be they regional or by district.

Tuesday was capped off by a visit to the House of Blues in Downtown Disney. A musical interpretive program on the history of the blues was followed by a delicious dinner on the balcony.

Warm weather continued for Wednesday. "Rock on! with the Glendale Boys" showcased the fully portable climbing wall built by Glendale Park Rangers and used for special events around the city. Rattlesnake bites, verbal judo, mountain lion attacks, and drug

recognition were just a few of the sessions offered on Wednesday. Retired ranger and author **David Carle** was the luncheon keynote speaker, discussing his book *Burning Questions: America's Fight with Nature's Fire* on 100 years of fire suppression and the evolution of prescribed burning.

The traditional banquet included presentation of CSPRA's Honorary Ranger award to **Huell Howser** (see article p. 8) and PRAC's awarding of certificates to 13 park professionals that have completed over 440 hours of training to be "certified generalist rangers."

Some of us headed home on Thursday, but all-day sessions continued for those who stayed to learn about Interpreting Wildland Fires, Chainsaw Operations, Racial Profiling, and Using Magic for Outdoor Education with **Frank Padilla** (below) from the Angeles District.



*RANGERS AT THE TABLE: l to r: Robyn Ishimatsu, Angy Nowicki, Ann Meneguzzi and Vince Anibale*



*MRCA Ranger Kevin Perrine taught a Care of Firearms session*

Orange County put on its best face for the conference. A nice additional perk was a free 3-day pass to Disneyland and California Adventure for peace officers and fire personnel. The "rangers" at Redwood Adventure posed with many real rangers during the conference. It was good to see Office Manager **Gar Salzgeber** in attendance after a very rough year. Next year's conference will be at the Napa Marriott on March 7-11. Hopefully, more of you will be able to attend next year. The Parks Conference not only provides a host of interesting learning opportunities, but also a chance to meet your fellow park professionals, not only from DPR but also from park agencies all over the state.

<<Ranger **Robyn Ishimatsu** on the ropes

## PARKS CONFERENCE - More photos

CONFERENCE, from p. 6



^WHICH IS WHICH? A real ranger (editor/retired ranger **Janet Carle**) meets the Disney version in the California Adventure redwood grove.



COMMUNING WITH MICKEY MOUSE, Ranger **Ann Meneguzzi** and her mother, **Carmen**.



NEW CSPRA MEMBER, Ranger **Matt Khalar**, of Angeles District, staffed the DPR recruitment booth.



NPS Ranger **Jeff Ohlfs** displayed his collection of ranger uniforms from around the world



<<THEY CO-CHAIRED THE CONFERENCE: **Amy Lethbridge** (of the Mountains Recreation Conservation Authority) and **Frank Padilla**, Angeles District



^^THE WHALE WATCHERS: l to r: **John George**, Santa Clara County Parks; **Janet Carle**, WAVE editor; **Anne Waisgerber**, Los Angeles City Parks; **Linda Hyman** and **Chris Crockett**, both from Santa Clara County Parks.

DANCING AT THE BANQUET:: CSPRA's Secretary-Treasurer **Angy Nowicki** and Office Manager **Gar Salzgeber**



# HUELL HOWSER

## STATE PARKS' GOLDEN FRIEND

by *Janet Carle*, WAVE editor

CSPRA's 2004 Honorary Ranger award went this year to Huell Howser, producer and host of the PBS shows "California's Gold" and "California's Golden Parks". Huell, through the power of television, has perhaps introduced more Californians to their parks than any other person in the state.

Originally from Tennessee, Huell began his California career with PBS station KCET in Los Angeles in 1987 with a show called "Videolog". "California's Gold" which began in 1991, is now in its 14<sup>th</sup> year, and has 186 shows in the can. Many of them were done at State Parks, including Clear Lake, Will Rogers, Bodie, Mono Lake, and Coloma. Huell's experience with parks in "California's Gold" led to the creation of a new series in 2002. "California's Golden Parks" focuses primarily on State Parks, but also county, city and national parks. "We had been visiting so many State Parks in our travels", Huell said in a phone interview, "We felt the parks deserved their own show. The best way to get a feel for what California is all about is to explore the parks. They are inclusive and there for everyone."

Huell has done a 10 part series on "California Missions" and has recently started a new series called "California's Green" which explores innovative and creative ways to solve environmental challenges. This new series has received rave reviews and has covered such topics as re-using old tires, straw bale construction and gardening with native plants.

Huell recently served as emcee for the Park Advocacy Day rally on the Capitol steps in Sacramento on



March 22. "Sometimes our wonderful State Park System gets taken for granted" said Huell. "Visitors don't realize that parks are fragile and need to be protected. It takes money to

keep standards high in the best state park system in the nation." Huell visited with members of the state Assembly and Senate, urging them to support parks. "I have seen first-hand as a TV journalist the problems faced by park personnel. It's easy to say you support parks, but sometimes action needs to be taken by participating in events such as Park Advocacy Day."

One of the things that makes Huell such a good TV personality is his infectious enthusiasm for the places he visits and the people he meets. "Even with budget issues and difficult times, the happiest and most fulfilled people I have met in my travels are State Park employees. I am thrilled to have my own Stetson now, and to be named an Honorary Ranger."

We are thrilled to have you, Huell, sharing parks with so many through the magic of television.

*Past-president Dana Jones presented Huell with his Honorary Ranger Stetson at the Park Advocacy Day reception in Sacramento.*



# ADVOCATING FOR PARKS

by **John Mott** and **Jenan Saunders**  
*Interpretation and Education Division*

If you weren't able to attend Park Advocacy Day on March 22, 2004, you missed quite an event. The day was a great success! One hundred legislators, or their staff members, were visited by teams of park advocates made up of park employees (on their own time), cooperating association members, park volunteers, Police Activities League members, community groups and others. Participants had attended prior orientation sessions around the state, so when they arrived in Sacramento they were ready! Throughout the course of the day, each team visited three to six senators or assembly members during appointments pre-arranged by the California State Parks Foundation (CSPF).

Park Advocacy Day started off at the Resources Building with a welcome from **Barbara Hill**, Acting Executive Director of the CSPF. During this session, State Parks Director **Ruth Coleman** urged everyone to spread the message that parks are "cool, hip and here to stay," emphasizing that our goal is to make cutting the state parks budget a "third rail" issue that would have shocking consequences in the political process. Participants then formed into groups, received appointment lists, and headed out to advocate for state and local parks. The CSPF provided the groups with copies of "The Nation's Leading State Park System is On the Edge," an excellent full-color flyer detailing the fiscal crisis facing state parks. We had plenty of these flyers to hand out to legislators.

The morning was filled with legislative meetings. Generally we were welcomed and warmly received. Some legislators or their staff members had specific comments or questions about particular parks, while



others were more interested in the system in general. Many learned for the first time that there are state parks in their districts or that their constituents use state parks.

A noon rally on the west steps of the Capitol drew a large crowd. The Mostly Mediocre Monarch Mariposa Musicians from Santa Cruz provided entertainment. Friends of Santa Cruz, the Angel Island Association, the California Police Activities League, State Parks, and the OHV division had booths on the lawn. Speakers, including celebrity **Huell Howser**, extolled the virtues of the CALPAL/State Parks partnership, and State Parks in general.



*Acting State Parks Foundation Director **Barbara Hill** (right) presented Assemblywoman **Fran Pavley** (D-41<sup>st</sup>) with the Foundation's Legacy Award*



***Huell Howser**, Master of Ceremonies for the noontime rally on the Capitol steps*

During the afternoon, legislative advocacy meetings continued, concluding with an evening reception honoring **Senator Tom Torlakson** (D-7<sup>th</sup>) and **Assemblywoman Fran Pavley** (D-41<sup>st</sup>), which also attracted six other legislators.

Past-President **Dana Jones** awarded Huell Howser an Honorary Ranger hat, which he graciously accepted.

During our legislative visits we often quoted from a CSPF flyer that pointed out: for every general fund dollar invested in state parks, \$2.35 is returned to the general fund. The \$2.35 not only comes from State Park and Recreation Fund (SPRF) revenue, but also from the taxes generated from the \$3 billion that our 85 million visitors spend in local communities each year. This spending provides nearly 100,000 private sector jobs and cycles through the economy to create \$7 billion in total output.

Next year's Park Advocacy Day will be even better—visits to all 120 legislators plus the governor will be the goal. We hope to see you there.



# LET YOUR EXHIBIT CASE DO THE WORK!

by *Nancy Mendez*

*Interpretive Planner, S. Service Center*

Nearly 5 million people visited a California State Parks museum or visitor center last fiscal year (Source: Department of Parks and Recreation 2002-2003 Annual Interpretive Summary). Much of the public education provided through these visits was linked to interpretive exhibits, many of which contain museum collections. As park stewards of these and future museum exhibits, it is imperative that we provide for both public education and preservation of museum objects. Unfortunately, many museum collections are poorly maintained due to:

- insufficient funds for the proper display of museum objects
- historic buildings being used as interpretive centers and museums for the display of objects, although they were not originally designed to for that function
- lack of climate control
- inadequate housekeeping due to staffing shortages
- the tendency to fund expensive conservation treatments for a few artifacts rather than preventive approaches for many objects

A workshop sponsored by the California Association of Museums, Conservation and Museum Exhibition: Display Cases that Preserve, made a strong argument for utilizing a well-designed sealed exhibit case as a means of addressing all of these deficiencies. Held at the UCLA Hammer Museum on November 19th, 2003, the day-long workshop provided the latest in museum conservation practices for the design and construction of collection-friendly display cases.

All three workshop facilitators provided excellent presentations that highlighted the variety of inert, conservation-grade materials that are available

for exhibit case and mountmaking construction. A comprehensive notebook was compiled by workshop leader Toby Raphael, exhibition conservation coordinator for the National Park Service. Other presenters were: Pamela Hatchfield, Head of Objects Conservation at the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, and author of the recently completed book, *Pollutants in the Museum Environment – Practical Strategies for Problem Solving in Design, Exhibition and Storage*; and, Robert Sieger, exhibit mountmaker and president of Fine Art Service, and former antiquities conservation mountmaker at The J. Paul Getty Museum.



***The exhibit enclosure is possibly the most overlooked tool in our preservation toolbox.***

What criteria are to be considered for constructing a sealed exhibit case?

A well-designed sealed exhibit case will include features that address all nine agents of deterioration: physical forces, vandalism and theft, fire, water damage, contaminants, pests, light, temperature, and humidity.

Do all museum objects need to go in a sealed exhibit case?

A checklist provided at the workshop helps determine which types of objects are most sensitive, and then further recommends what

degree of exhibit case seal will be needed. The use of ventilation in exhibit cases should be carefully considered: air from the building is being brought into the case, increasing the chance for agents of deterioration to enter. Additionally, ventilation systems often rely on mechanical equipment, which adds to ongoing maintenance and increases the chances for something to go wrong. A well-designed sealed case is a passive system which in many instances requires virtually no maintenance.

How can we 'Think Green' while protecting museum objects?

A number of the preservation recommendations made at this workshop are also environmentally-sound practices. Some of these include:

- Turn off lights when visitors are not in exhibit rooms. It saves energy, money, and the longevity of museum collections.
- Use only inert materials in exhibit case and mountmaking construction. Products that are acid free, formaldehyde free, and otherwise have a low reactivity are good for the environment and for the long-term preservation of museum collections.
- Select passive exhibit designs such as sealed and climate controlled cases over active, mechanical ones.

Providing air conditioning and humidity control throughout a building is often unnecessary, as a well-engineered sealed case design can save money, energy, and maintenance costs. If collection-friendly display cases are to be utilized, consultation with conservation specialists is necessary and qualified exhibit fabricators must be used.

For more information regarding this workshop and recent applications of a sealed exhibit case design in California State Parks, contact me at the Southern Service Center, (619) 688-6105; [nmendez@parks.ca.gov](mailto:nmendez@parks.ca.gov)

**February 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2004, Sacramento**  
**In attendance: Dana, Val, Joe, Bud and Angy. Visitor Karen Barrett.**  
**Absent: Ron, Darren, Kevin.**

1. The election results are in: Pres Elect is Ron Brean; two year Directors, Jill Dampier and Pam Armas. One year board term: Karen Barrett replaces Ron's director slot. Angy completes her second year as secretary treasurer. Bud Getty and Darren Cooke have completed their terms.

2. El Morro Trailer Park

No new movement! Sent a letter to the Governor regarding the support of Crystal Cove. Department will take over the property in 01-05 per the agreement. Assembly member Campbell might attempt to push the issue but at this time seems reluctant.

3. Parks Conference 2005: Napa was selected. March 7-10. Any volunteers to assist in the planning?

4. Park Advocacy Day March 22, '04 Training Dates are set. Motion made by Val second by Rogers to boost contributions to the State Park Foundation from \$250 to \$500. All in Favor, all approved. We need a CSPRA Member to represent us at each of the Advocacy day Trainings. If you can attend please let us know ASAP. Dates for Advocacy Day Training are: Feb 21<sup>st</sup>, 2004 10-1 Sacramento; Feb 29<sup>th</sup> 1-4 Los Angeles; March 6<sup>th</sup>, 9-12 San Francisco; March 6<sup>th</sup>, 9-12 San Diego; March 11<sup>th</sup>, 9-11 Anaheim (Conference); March 21<sup>st</sup>, 2004 4:30-6:30 Sacramento. For more information check [WWW.calparks.org](http://WWW.calparks.org)

5. Val and Dana met with Monica regarding progress of the lobbies. The question was: Are we getting the best bang for our Buck? The answer was absolutely! We need to make sure to keep Monica in the loop. Consider set up a meeting with her at least quarterly. She will be here today to do a quarterly report. President will contact Monica prior to each meeting for update.

6. Mike Christman new person in charge of Resources Agency

7. We need to keep an eye on the following bills: a. A Non mission use bill introduced the bill on behalf of State Parks foundation; b. Candy bill regarding Columbia; c. Anza Borrego/ Coyote Canyon; d. Bullet Train; e. Toll Road

8. Monica Miller: Governmental Advocates: Monica handed out LAO Liz Hill: Legislative Analyst. Overview of Governor's Budget. This past year was a wild year with the recall. It is critical to keep parks in front of the legislature. This is the second year of the Leg Cycle. Usually in January the budget is released and in May a revision is published. The Governor has said that the budget will stand as is with out change. Donna Arduin hired by the Governor is a supporter of Privatization.

9. Bud shared information regarding reservation system per Roy Stern Reservations are up. Jan. 2003 we had 7000. Jan 2004 we are up to 12150 Feb. 2003 we had 8000. Feb 2004 we are up to 10,000. It is estimated that there is one ranger per every 10500 people in Calif. Estimated about 23 million dollars damage from the 2003 SO. CAL fires.

10. It is highly recommend that when you host an event in your park that you also invite your legislator!

11. Bud has typed a letter to Christman regarding Anza Borrego for Dana's signature.

12. A meeting has been set with State Parks Foundation on Tuesday the 9<sup>th</sup> 9:00 AM just prior to the GEC

13. VAL suggests that we look at the restructure of the Rep lines. DANA has a copy of the dept map and will bring it to the next meeting. We may consider a tie to the PRAC regional structure. We need more representations from each discipline. Let's consider having at least one from each: Ranger, Maintenance, Interpretation, Administration, Resources. Most discipline might be from HQ.

15. CSPRA will donate \$100 donation in memory of Shione Salzgeber, (Gar's Wife) Val

moved, Bud second.

16. We are waiting for the recommendations of the Honorary Ranger: Committee: Frank Padilla, Jill Dampier, John Mott., Nick Franco. VAL will follow up to see who they selected. Huell Howser, and Milt McAuley names have been mentioned Hat needs to be ordered soon!

*PRESIDENT, from p. 2*

Speed Rail is proposed to go through numerous State Parks. We can "generically" come up with reasons such as endangered species, for why the Parks are not a good location for the HSR, but what we really need are the specifics for the individual park unit.

We need your input to continue to fight for what is best for all of our professions and these Parks we are so blessed to be charged with caring for. Please join us in expanding our membership and by getting involved. Check out our website from time to time to see what the current issues are. Contact a Board Member if you are interested in assisting in keeping an eye on legislation so that we don't miss an important issue. Let us know what training/events the association can assist in offering to further support your professional development. Napa will be a wonderful location for the 2005 conference – but we need your help in putting the conference together. Talk to the Board and talk to others about what the Association should be doing to meet the objectives as outlined in our constitution: "to represent, advance, and promote the interests and standards of professionalism of California State Park Employees, to promote the interpretation of our natural and cultural environment, and to promote sound judgment, high quality, and economy in the planning, development, operation, and maintenance of facilities and services offered the public by the Department of Parks and Recreation."

## Legislative Advocate's Report

by *Monica Miller*  
Governmental Advocates, Inc.

As many of you may be aware, California State Parks just celebrated our 2<sup>nd</sup> annual Park Advocacy Day, which was very successful with over 150 participants. The day proved to be successful in many ways. It was not only an opportunity to talk with Legislators and their staff about parks but also a way to connect with them and encourage them to visit their state parks. Additionally, it provided us with an opportunity to talk about the funding of state parks and proposed legislation impacting state parks.

The Governor has proposed in his state budget to increase park fees to offset the General Fund, which in-turn has left State Parks budget whole. What this means to you – there will not be any increased funds for State Parks, however we will be able to continue to operate at our current capacity. The legislature will now take the Governor's proposed budget and look at possible ways to modify his spending plan. It is important to remind your legislator that we cannot take any more money from State Parks, not one cent.

On the legislative front, there are several bills of interest to CSPRA. Specifically, SB 1327 by Senator Sheila Kuehl on the non-mission use of State Parks. SB 1327 would establish that the director of DPR will not approve a development or project within a park unit that is inconsistent with the mission of that state park unless that development or project is approved by the Legislature as part of the annual budget process. As you may be aware, the current process of approving projects is up to the Governor's discretion. We believe that because the legislature created State Parks they should have input on any changes that are made to their mission.

**12** *The CSPRA Wave*, May-June, 2004

This bill has passed its first policy committee and will now be heard in a fiscal committee. Your legislative team will keep you posted on this issue and many more issues of interest to CSPRA in the future.

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## CSPRA Legislation Chairman

Hello out there in the world of State Parks. My name is **Jeff Gaffney** and I am a relatively new DPR ranger at Brannan Island SRA. I have been a regular attendee of the CSPRA/PRAC conference for the last ten years, but I was a **county** park ranger. This was my first year at the conference as a CSPRA member (I helped plan the Lake Tahoe conference but I wasn't able to attend because I was doing that silly academy thing).

Anyway enough about me, I accidentally attended a lunch at the CSPRA conference and now I find myself writing an article about the legislative needs of the organization. I am still getting up to speed but I know this much is true: we all need to get involved. We cover the entire state as a membership and the same should hold true when it comes to our influence over the legislature.

Did you know that there was a bill in the legislature right now that could put an end to the flow of state park money going to various local jurisdictions and return the money to the OHV fund (state parks)? These are the types of bills that we can all become a part of. We can all help add to the support or opposition of such endeavors. I will be working diligently to provide the membership with up to date information on bills of interest and concern.

I'm not certain of my role in this or how much help I might need but I will update everyone regularly through this outlet. I know that we are a powerful organization and we

can aid in the success or defeat of major bills of importance. We must make our voices heard on these issues. We are the ones who can speak from knowledge on whether or not bills are in the best interest of parks and the park visitor as . If you have questions about legislation or want to offer input or suggestions on it please feel free to contact me. I will keep you informed on bills of interest.

"Do something. Either lead, follow, or get out of the way." Ted Turner

**Jeff Gaffney** 408-802-9460  
E-mail - [jgaffney@parks.ca.gov](mailto:jgaffney@parks.ca.gov)

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## WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

New Active Members are: **Rey Monge** of Oceano Dunes, **Matthew Spruill** of China Camp, **Joseph Walters** in Santa Cruz District, and **Matt Khalar**, Angeles District;

New Supporting Members are: **Mollie Behn**, a student at UCSD, **Scott Sipes** of Wilder Ranch, **Robert Pavlik**, a planner from San Luis Obispo and **June Perez** a docent/ Board Member of the VOM NHA;

New Retired Members are: **Ken (KK) Smith**, **George Cook**, **Herman Schlerf**, **Charles Cline**, **James Tucker**, **Bruce Kennedy**, **Steven Kahn**, **David Carle**, **Patrick Watkins**, **Harvey Clark**, **Steve Moore**, **Janet Carle**, **Bill Berry** and **Victoria Long**.

Cadets: **Nicole Ackermann**, **Jaymz Blanton**, **Brian Kieth Carroll**, **Peter Cook**, **Greg Gilbert**, **Josh Jaco**, **Sean James**, **Kunihiro Kitjama**, **Steve Meece**, **Barbara Morris**, **Jason Rule**, **Dennis Scully**, **Matt Tews**, **John Verhoeven**, **Jeff Yribarren**;

Supervising Rangers: **Michael Ferry**, **Dave Horvitz**, **Gary Lyons**, **Ken Morse**, **John O'Rourke**, **Will Pierce**, **Rich Rozzelle**, **John Russo**, **Dan Stefanisko**, **Aaron Ward**, **Bob Young**.

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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.

Since I try to stretch out your letters to use throughout the year, I apologize if some of your letters are so old they look like they came out of an archeological dig! The writers may even get a kick out of reading what they wrote almost a year ago.

**Richard Irwin** writes: ...keeping busy means that I don't always read the incoming mail. I had a pile of "WAVEs" built up. I took time to read them this past week. The features on the districts/sectors/sections have been superb!! Keep them coming!

Even in tight times, park employees are still doing good things. I recently took a friend to Petaluma Adobe. We saw part of the ADA program there – easy for a visitor to use. It was better than anything I had seen for that park in over 25 years! Good work! And, thank you to those who are producing ADA programs.

My son, **Jonathan Irwin**, after completing cadet ranger training last November (2002), has been working at Border Field SP, Tijuana Estuary and Silver Strand SB. ...Jon and Becca were married on July 12 at her

hometown church in Twentynine Palms.

I'll miss the Retirees Rendezvous. I have a volunteer commitment on Saturday morning that should be kept.

**Richard Brock** writes: A short note! We are still alive and kicking. However age is gaining! We are both in reasonable health. Considering! We keep busy with chores around the yard, club activities, and a monthly luncheon with other "old timers". Hope to make this year's trip to McConnell Retirees Rendezvous. Best regards.

**Terry Roeder** writes: Sending in my dues. I won't be able to attend the Rendezvous. Enjoying my retirement and my entire family of 4 kids and 4 grandchildren are doing well. You are doing a great job as Executive Manager. Good title. Take care.

**Jim (Sam) Stewart** writes: Kay and I are staying close to home and enjoying lots of company this summer. Also catching up on yard and house maintenance, fishing, swimming and enjoying our kids and grandkids. Has anyone given thought to having the Rendezvous at Big Trees? Seems it would be cooler and more enjoyable there! It might also encourage more retirees to attend. It sure would have my vote!

(I apologize for overlooking **Kirby Morgans** letter). Kirby writes: Our lives still continue to be disrupted by a variety of events not of our choosing. I have recovered fairly well from my bypass surgery and was released to start moving our "house" at the end of February (2003). First part of March was spent returning to normal activities and preparing the rig to start traveling again.

Those plans were canceled when Carol's mom needed assistance in Modesto. We ended up traveling to my Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, Department of California and Pacific annual Encampment at San

Luis Obispo by car. I was surprised to receive the Officer of the Year (2002-03) award from the Department Commander for my work within the Department.

On June seventh we were notified that my son Kenneth L. Morgan had terminated his life at his residence in Murphy's CA. So it was off to arrange for the family gathering at a grave side service on Friday June 13<sup>th</sup> at 1300 hours. It was not planned that way, it just turned out that way. We suspect Kenneth would appreciate this quirk of fate. Actually the service started a bit late and I glanced at my watch to find it was 1313 hours.

Sunday morning, 15 June, we were preparing for church when the phone rang. Carol's mother was in ER Emanuel Medical Center in Turlock. Within the hour the car was reloaded and we were in route to a motel in Turlock. Carol spent the next two weeks at her mom's bed side except for an hour or two a day when we took her out for one good meal. "Mom" was at death's door several times and then would recover a bit. I gave support services and went home to bring the rig up to the hospital parking lot. Then Carol could finally get about four hours of lay down rest each day and more normal meals.

This trailer park is a little over four miles from the hospital and out side of the city of Modesto. Carol is able to spend 8-10 hours a day with her mom who is now refusing to eat and is losing 8-10 pounds per week. She says she is going to get light as a feather and blow away, that still will take a couple of months it would appear.

On 10 July 2003 "Mom" was moved to a convalescent hospital in Modesto. We have moved our "house" to Terrace Trailer Park, which is located just SE of the south end of the 9<sup>th</sup> street bridge on the south side of the river.

humor in unicorn



### Mixed Metaphors and Malaprops

by Jeff Price, retired

An enveloping modification of judgment.

*You can't change a book by its cover.*

Das boot.

*He's one of those guys who has grown up with his own bootstraps.*

Fingertip pain.

*You hit it right on the nail!*

Puzzling anticipation.

*Finally the other shoes are beginning to drop into place.*

#### GET CONNECTED

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Catch up on CSPRA activities contact your District Reps, Board or Officers, get latest information. [www.cspra.com](http://www.cspra.com)

##### GRAYBEARS

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The CSPRA Wave, May-June, 2004 **15**



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## **CALIFORNIA STATE PARK RANGERS ASSOCIATION**

### **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***