

california state park rangers association **REPORTER**

VOL. VI NO. 38

OCTOBER, 1978

PLANNING TAHOE'S FUTURE

The highlight of the Mini-GEC was the appearance of two speakers to discuss the problem of preserving Lake Tahoe. The future of the Lake Tahoe State Parks was one of the issues addressed.

John Hapher, a member of the Forst Service planning team for the Lake Tahoe Basin Management Unit, discussed the USFS concept of the future of the lake. He presented five alternatives, ranging from maximum wilderness preservation to maximum dispersed recreation development, that will be presented to the public agencies, including the State Parks, will retain control of their holdings.

Jim Burns, assistant to Huey Johnson, Resources Agency Secretary,

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REQUEST FOR INPUT

Honorable Huey Johnson, Sec.

Dear Mr. Johnson:

With the recent turn-over of several redwood State Parks to the National Park Service, it was obvious that communications on the issue were very poor. In the future we, the California State Park Rangers Association, would like to be informed of such transfers of jurisdiction of State Parks so as to present our viewpoint to you and your staff prior to a final transfer decision. While we admittedly have a point of view, we may be able to add insights or perspectives overlooked by your normal administrative inputs.

Thank you for your consideration and cooperation.

Sincerely,
Denzil R. Verardo, President

discussed California's official position on Lake Tahoe, which he characterized as a hard-line stance opposed to further degradation of the Basin. Most of his talk outlined California's activity toward preserving the quality of the Area through the Tahoe Regional Planning Agency (TRPA), and especially the California TRPA.

Regarding the State Parks, Burns stated that the Tahoe Conservancy, and organization set up to buy property for public use, may at some time be activated, and that lands purchased may become part of the SPS.

Should the strengthening of TRPA fail to preserve Tahoe, Burns stated, then the State will probably seek the creation of a Tahoe National Recreation Area. Though details of such a proposal are lacking, he indicated that California would work toward a "green line" concept, wherein the lands of the area would be preserved through the combined efforts and administrations of existing agencies (ie: State Parks would

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Denzil R. Verardo, President

california state park rangers association

PRESIDENT:

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Doug Bryce, 8665 Florin Rd., No. 45, Sacto., Ca. 95820

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

As I look around at our park people I become more and more convinced that a DPR physical fitness program needs to be instituted. CSPRA has urged a physical fitness program for many years now, but as yet we have no guidelines by which to promote a DPR sponsored program. A high degree of fitness is essential for our work, and in our work. We, as park and recreation professionals, have a personal responsibility to maintain at least a minimum fitness level. The DPR does not have full responsibility for your body - you have to have enough pride in yourself and what you represent to take care of yourself. CSPRA members must be models for other State employees, and the public, in the realm of physical condition. CSPRA will continue to urge a physical fitness program sponsored by the Department.

On another matter, CSPRA is having an impact on the Department with respect to other issues. For instance, our backing of an insulation retrofit program for exist-

ing facilities is making headway, as well as our urging of a survey for the practical use of wood heat in state park houses. A recent directive from Deputy Director Steinhour has implemented the concept of field involvement planning by designating the Area Manager as a contact between planning teams and the field. Many other professional issues are being considered positively by Director Cahill through your input to this Association. It is imperative that you let your Regional Director or the appropriate Committee Chairperson, know what professional matters you feel important enough for CSPRA support.

Finally, we will hold one Board meeting each year as a "mini - GEC" where we can discuss, and have speakers, on various local issues. The Lake Tahoe session was quite productive and keeps a good grass-roots input to the Board of Directors from members who would not otherwise be able to attend a Board Meeting or G.E.C.

AUDUBON REVIEW AND CHALLENGE

Did you know that the color in the feathers of birds (caused by the pigment mellenin actually makes the feathers resistant to wear as birds fly through brush or across water? How about the fact that one pair of houseflies can produce enough offspring from April to August to cover the earth to a depth of 47 feet!

This kind of (valuable?) information and a lot more came from a two week stay in the Wind River Range of Wyoming at the Audubon Camp of the West. As most CSPRA members know, the Association gives up to three scholarships a year to the camp. This year about 15 Department employees went, sponsored in various ways, including Ranger John Scholl and I courtesy of CSPRA.

The camp is run by the National Audubon Society in cooperation with the University of Wyoming. The instructors are brought from all over the country and are recognized experts in their field. In the two weeks, there are sessions on birds, plants, vertebrates, invertebrates, physical factors and ecology. Your classroom is Torry Valley which combines the environments of alpine, pine forest, sage desert, marsh, river and pond. This variety allows for a considerable mix of wildlife. Many small birds are residents or summer visitors. Golden Eagles patrol the cliffs. The Big Horn sheep uses the valley for a winter range and many sheep were there in summer. Moose, coyote and b. dger were also common. On our free Sunday about 2/3s of the 50 campers went to Grand Teton National Park 1½ hours away for a raft trip down the Snake River. Among the many sights and wildlife on that trip we saw Trumpeter Swans and a pair of nesting Bald Eagles.

To try and share all that we learned of course would take two weeks. Here are some sample concepts. BIRDS: The key to their study is how they use and conserve energy. Their anatomy, their flight, their reproduction methods, their territory all involve their energy needs. PLANTS: One of the most important aspects a plant can have is the ability to fix nitrogen. There is no other way for organisms to obtain nitrogen except from the air through certain plants. Only some plants have this ability and we are approaching a shortage. Lichen fixes nitrogen and also nuclear radiation. Lapplanders, in the path of Russia's atomic bomb tests have 50% more radiation in their food system than other Finns who do not eat as many animals that eat lichen. ANIMALS: Three rules show a relationship between warm blooded animals and their environment. Bergman's rule says that species have smaller sizes in the south and larger sizes in the north. Allen's rule says the opposite about extremities - shorter in the north and longer in the south. Gloger's rule tells us that these organisms will be darker in color in warm, moist areas and light in color in cool dry places. It works on humans as well as other warm blooded animals. ECOLOGY: Spring arrives 1 day later and fall arrives 1 day earlier for every rise of 100 feet in elevation. Paparian trees must be able to reproduce asexually from roots, branches and even leaves because of floods. The Aspen has done this so long that it cannot reproduce from seeds and now faces the potential of being unable to adapt. There is no genic mix (like playing many card games with an unshuffled deck).

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I have just received the August/September "Reporter" and would like to offer the following comments on the N.P.S. takeover of the Redwood Parks and on the elimination of Intake Areas.

The statement in the Reporter stated that it "is blatantly false." That Proposition 13 had an affect of the N.P.S. takeover of North Coast Redwood Parks. I am in agreement that many additional political pressures had an influence on the decision to lease the parks to the National Park Service, however, to say Proposition 13 had no effect and is "blatantly false" is a gross over simplification. After Proposition 13 passed the Department of Parks and Recreation was notified that \$951,000 was being removed from the approved 1978/79 Budget by the Assembly Ways and Means Committee. In the next two weeks, after the passage of Proposition 13, the Department was notified that an additional \$1,734,000 in salaries and \$1,019,000 in operating expense and maintenance was being permanently reduced from the Department's Base Budget.

The Department of Finance in addition has required that the Department generate \$901,959 in salary savings from vacant permanent positions. The total cuts and salary savings for our Department totaled \$4,605,959. For a Department as small as ours, these are significant cuts. When the Agency Secretary made the decision on the transfer of the Redwood Parks he was aware of these impending cuts, and this most certainly had a bearing on his decision. The savings generated from the National Park Services takeover of the Redwood Parks, was applied to the above cuts.

On the elimination of the Intake Areas, several additional factors came into play on the Director's decision other than it was a "luxury." Under Block Hiring of Trainees, it would be impossible to conduct the required background investigation as required by P.O.S.T. (For your information on October 19, 1978 P.O.S.T. will have a public hearing to allow Department of Parks and Recreation and other specialized Enforcement Agencies into the P.O.S.T. program).

Some economic factors, in addition, came into play, the cost of relocating sixty trainees after one year of training has increased significantly in the past few years. When the law was implemented to reimburse an adequate augmentation to cover the additional costs. Training now costs approximately \$25,000 for each Trainee for the first year; in 1977/78 \$800,000 was taken from the Areas' season allocation to fund the Trainee program. If the Department continued with the Intake Area Trainee program and with the permanent cuts that were mandated after Proposition 13, the Areas could have expected a 25% reduction from their authorized Seasonal Base. As long as three years ago, it was the consensus of opinion of the Superintendents and the Chief of Operations that the Intake Area concept should be abolished due to the inordinate costs involved.

A professional organization such as C.S.P.R.A. and a professional newsletter such as the "Reporter" should get facts before publishing inflammatory rhetoric. Proposition 13 has had profound effect on State Government and on the State Park System. It is no longer business as usual; Managers must reevaluate priorities to continue with the mission of the State Park System, and within the constraints placed on the Department.





Jim Burns, Assistant to Resources Secretary Huey Johnson, "Takes a Little Heat" after controversial presentation to CSPRA Membership. See Page 1.

HONORARY LIFETIME MEMBERSHIP

Who? "An Honorary Member may be any person who, for distinguished service devoted to the objectives of the Association, is nominated by a member of any membership class and approved by a two thirds vote of the Board." Section 6, Article 4 of the Constitution of C.S.P.R.A.

How? By placing in nomination a person whose distinguished services meet the following criteria:

I. The individual shall have contributed in an outstanding or extraordinary manner, or to an unusual degree, to the advancement of the State Park concept, the profession of State Park Ranger, public service within the State Parks, or in the field of ecology as it affects the park system or the public use of parks.

II. This service or action is to be beyond that in which the individual would normally have accomplished as part of his job or responsibility.

III. The service may not necessarily be of state or national importance, but is to be judged on its own merit and degree of contribution.

IV. Normally, the recommendation would be made during the person's lifetime.

What? Compose a letter, including the name, address and telephone number of the person, the date and place of his birth, the educational and/or service background and listing the specific accomplishments which you believe qualifies him, or her for the Honorary Lifetime Membership.

When? NOW, complete and sign, along with other participating members, the letter, or letters, of nomination and mail to R. L. Brock at 2270 A Sierra Blvd., Sacto., Ca. 95825.

**NOMINATIONS ARE DUE
DECEMBER 15, 1978**

**AFFILIATION AGREEMENT
BETWEEN THE
CALIFORNIA STATE EMPLOYEES' ASSOCIATION (CSEA)
and the
CALIFORNIA STATE PARK RANGERS' ASSOCIATION (CSPRA)**

1. The California State Park Rangers' Association affiliates with the California State Employees' Association and such affiliation provides both parties with special provisions binding on both associations.

2. The length of time covered by the affiliation agreement shall be from July 1, 1978 to December 31, 1979.

3. Any dispute that may arise in interpretation of the agreement after a good faith attempt to resolve differences will be subject to arbitration. The cost of such arbitration will be equally shared by both parties.

4. CSPRA shall determine in cooperation with CSEA what justified wage or salary is bargained on behalf of employees in those classifications that CSPRA represents.

5. All initial positions taken in negotiations for wages, benefits or terms and conditions of employment relative to State Park Rangers, Managers and technicians will be done by consent of both parties.

6. CSEA shall bargain the "master contract." CSPRA will determine by tier bargaining issues that affect State Park Rangers, Managers and Technicians.

7. CSEA shall provide legal services to CSEA/CSPRA in the same manner that other CSEA members and occupational councils are represented.

8. CSPRA shall be consulted with, and have a voice in, any legislative position taken by CSEA that relates to CSPRA Park Rangers, Managers and Technicians.

9. CSEA will petition to include State Park Rangers, Managers and Technicians in a law enforcement unit.

10. CSPRA will be allowed to appoint one member of CSPRA to the law enforcement unit negotiating committee and said appointee will have a full vote on all matters before the committee. CSPRA will also select representatives to serve on the negotiating committee involving departmental bargaining matters. The number of CSPRA and CSEA representatives will be arrived at by mutual agreement between the parties.

11. CSPRA must have available to it printing services and mailing services that can respond in 48 hours. Such cost will be charged to CSPRA as is now computed for chapter services.

12. CSPRA shall maintain its own identity and operation relating to all professional matters. CSPRA shall have exclusive rights to determine matters of professional concern and to call upon CSEA for representation if necessary. CSEA shall not enter into any agreement with other groups to take positions in opposition to those taken by CSPRA in professional matters.

13. CSPRA shall not be restricted from taking such legislative positions it deems appropriate, relative to matters involving State Park Rangers, Managers and Technicians, also by mutual agreement with CSEA.

14. CSPRA will encourage all members of CSPRA to also become members of CSEA. CSEA will encourage all State Park Ranger, Manager and Technician members to become members of CSPRA. (When agreement



An historic moment at Bothe-Napa Valley State Park CSEA President, William Craib and CSPRA President, Denzil Verardo sign affiliation agreement.

is reached and is effective, all new CSEA active State Park Rangers, Managers and Technicians must belong to CSPRA and all new CSPRA active members must also belong to CSEA.)

15. CSPRA will support CSEA in its position on unit makeup for unit elections.

16. CSPRA will actively support and campaign for CSEA in unit elections.

17. CSPRA and CSEA will jointly develop a communications system to serve all State Park Rangers, Managers and Technicians.

18. Any conflicts that may arise during the duration of this agreement will be brought to the attention of both parties to meet and resolve.

19. CSPRA will deregister, as an employee organization, when unit elections are held and reregister with the state as a professional organization.

20. CSPRA and CSEA will continue to have separate dues deductions made by the State Controller.

21. CSPRA will continue its separate dues deductions for its existing life insurance and dental plans.

22. This contract can be renegotiated by mutual consent of the parties at any time.

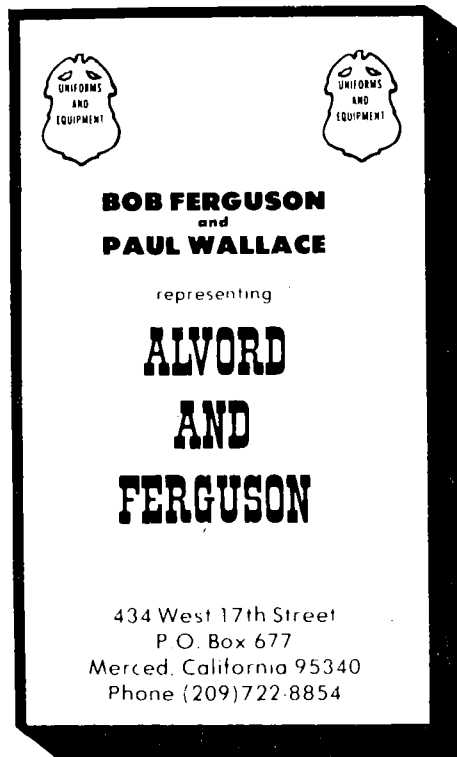
23. CSPRA will have representation, as spelled out in this contract, on the appropriate CSEA negotiating committee in the event that the PERB places State Park Rangers, Managers and Technicians in a unit other than a law enforcement unit.

24. This agreement will exclude any member from mandatory dual membership who would be designated exempt from representation under terms of the State Employer-Employee Relations Act.

Dated: 9/13/78

William A. Craib, President
CSEA

Denzil R. Verardo, President
CSPRA



TAHOE'S FUTURE (Cont.)

remain State Parks).

Burns fielded several questions regarding the Federal Park-land takeover. He admitted to political pressures that resulted in the loss of our redwood parks, but stated that the Governor has indicated a desire not to turn over any more State lands. With regard to the Santa Monica Mountains, the State is interested in the "green line" concept there.

Burn's last comment was that the political pressures are awesome and real, and that the most effective way we can curb the takeover of State Parks is by fostering support from the public. He stated an offer to relay CSPRA's position to the Resources Agency's Secretary.

Submitted by Steve Moore

EMPLOYEE AND GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

Legislation:

Most of the bills (listed two issues back), failed at the end of the legislative session. Non-failing bills included:

S. B. 1725 - Felony assault, and *A. B. 2647* - Safety Retirement, are still under "study", but are not active bills.

A. B. 2294 (Waters) appropriating \$525,000 to purchase the town of Locke, was signed by the Governor. Locke is an old, mainly Chinese community in the delta.

S. B. 1359 (Nejedly) concerning trails in and between state parks was passed, but contained no appropriation.

Employee Issues:

Any employee can protest his designation under collective bar-

gaining. Especially Ranger II should protest if they feel their duties fall under "rank & file" (i.e. leadman or forman concept). Contact CSEA or this committee.

General:

The committee will be working on a complete list of changes that should be made in the various codes (vehicle, penal, resources, etc.) concerning State Park Peace Officers or the State Park System. Examples include safety retirement, changes in the authority to tow and impound vehicles, etc. Anyone with ideas or suggestions please get them to me.

Mike Lynch
Chairperson

AUDUBON -- THERE MAY BE A BETTER WAY(Cont.)

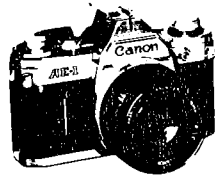
All of this, I hope, has developed your interest. Part of my purpose in attending the camp was to see if it really does meet the needs of California State Park people. For some it does. An employee new to the field of interpretation with a need for basic natural science concepts can gain a great deal from the program. I was particularly impressed with the diversity of the program and the quality of the camp's organization.

The program is not interpretive technique training and does not deal with specific conditions in California. This kind of training is better obtained through our Ecology Workshops, Continuing Interpretation and U.C. extension courses. It should also be noted that this year the Department of Finance turned down the use of State time for the two weeks so all employees went on their own time. That fact, coupled with the summer busy season limits the desirability of sending everyone to the camp.

I am recommending the CSPRA that we discontinue drawing names to randomly award scholarships to Audubon Camp each year. Instead the same amount of money should be put in our Training Committee budget and award scholarships based on need to the applicants who lack the basics in natural science. Those that do attend should be on outservice training on state time. We should also continue to seek out other training opportunities in California.

Even if you cannot get to Wyoming, check out **THE COMPLETE ECOLOGY FACT BOOK** published by Doubleday and Company in 1972. It won't disappoint you.

John Kolb



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SANTA ROSA * ROHNERT PARK

EDITOR'S NOTE:

Following up his concerns about our Audubon Scholarship policy John Kolb addressed the Board of Directors last month at Dinner and recommended the following changes:

1. Discontinue drawings for Audubon Scholarship program.
2. CSPRA continue to look for similar opportunities within California.
3. California alternatives to Audubon (a.) Continue Interpretive and Regional Workshops put on by our Department. (b.) University of California extension courses on life science.

President Verardo referred Kolb's recommendations to the Education and Training Committee, chaired by Bill Beat, for analysis and recommendations at the December Board Meeting. This meeting will convene at 9:00 a.m. Saturday, December 2, 1978 at the Sacramento Airport.

Honorable Russell Cahill, Director

Over the last several years the California State Park Rangers Association has unsuccessfully attempted to have our beach resources more fully protected by pressing for jurisdiction at State Beaches beyond the mean high tide line. We now recommend that the Department of Parks and Recreation work with the State Lands Commission, or other appropriate body, to obtain needed jurisdiction over coastal areas beyond the mean high tide line.

Sincerely,
Denzil R. Verardo, President

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Dear Jack:

Sincerely,
Denzil R. Verardo, President

PRESIDENT'S MAILBOX

Mrs. Victoria Araujo
California State Park Commission
Dear Mrs. Araujo:

The California State Park Rangers Association supports Commission Policy No. 28 and does not wish to see a change which would allow the sale of alcoholic beverages on State Beaches. While certain specific projects may have merit and seem to warrant a change in the Commission's policy, the potential problems, our philosophical attitude, and the precedent-setting nature of such a change, dictates otherwise. The sale of alcoholic beverages within state parks, from a field point of view, is not in keeping with the experience we wish to transmit to people who visit our units.

Again, we strongly oppose any change in Commission policy which would allow the sale of alcoholic beverages at state beaches.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Denzil R. Verardo, President

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Mr. Jack Smyre
Park Safety & Enforcement Super.
Dear Jack:

At our September CSPRA Board of Director's meeting the subject of our regulations was once again discussed. A loophole in our regulation on animals (CAC 4305) is still with the definition of "fish" which technically allows a person to gather crustaceans and insects. We would like to see "fish" defined more tightly so as to eliminate human predation on those animals which are obviously

not game fish. This requires a change in the Fish and Game Code definition. CSPRA recommends that the Department of Parks and Recreation work with the Department of Fish and Game and the Fish and Game Commission to change the definition of "fish" to insure the protection of park fauna not now adequately covered by our code.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Sincerely,
Denzil R. Verardo, President

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Honorable Russell Cahill, Director
Dear Russ:

The California State Park Rangers Association strongly supports resource management programs such as the Calaveras prescribed burn. In the past many of these programs seem to have been jeopardized by a lack of funding, or reliance on inadequate area funds to carry out the program. Proper resource management may well be the key to perpetuation of the California State Park System for future generations; a premise which CSPRA not only endorses, but one on which it was founded. With the difficult fiscal times which lie ahead, elimination of these programs could occur to the detriment of the future of the State Park System. Please realize CSPRA's commitment to these resource programs in general, and the Calaveras burn program in particular.

Sincerely,
Denzil R. Verardo, President



C.S.P.R.A.'s MINI-GEC gathering at Donner heard USFS Planner, John Hapler describes his Department's concept of the future of Lake Tahoe. See Page 1.

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URBAN PARKS QUESTIONNAIRE ENCLOSED

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DECEMBER 15 - DEADLINE FOR HONORARY
RANGER NOMINATIONS

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First Class

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