california state park rangers association

NEWSLETTER

ISSUE NUMBER 39 AUGUST 1983

POETRY in INTERPRETATION

BY ROBERT C. PAVLIK

As interpreters, many of us have the opportunity to live and work in some of the most "poetic" scenery in the state, those areas of inspired beauty that set pen to paper in a literary attempt to capture that which so thrills and excites us. Poetry had its beginnings in the spoken word, men and women using rich voices and dialects to convey their knowledge and appreciation. As written languages appeared these descriptions were set down in a more permanent form, in order to lend others the information who were not directly in the observer's presence. Today many people shy away from poetry because it has a reputation for being flowery, hard to understand, or too cumbersome and out of date for people to relate to. My belief is that there is not only a wealth of good, attainable understandable poetry, but that we as interpreters can use it to enhance our programs, to foster appreciation among our audiences, to entertain the public, and to educate people in the process. In our day to day lives poetry is at work all around us, and as interpreters we can, with the right material and our rich voices, make poetry live and vibrant for our audience and ourselves.

As with any well planned interpretive program, the poetic aspect must be well chosen, appropriate to the situation, setting and audience, and well rehearsed. This is not to say that the selection has to be memorized word for word, repeated with a blank stare in monosyllabic tones. The selection should be practiced out loud (preferably in front of a mirror) with careful attention paid to volume and inflection, facial expression and hand movement. By having the book in hand as a reference not only assists the reader but lends credence to the delivery. The selection should be a personal favorite, one that the interpreter has a genuine enthusiasm for and wishes to share with his or her audience. The selection must have relevance to the topic, and if possible represent the area and/or the time period being discussed. Almost every region of California has a writer who "represents" that area: Robinson Jeffers of the Big Sur coast; Mary Austin of the high desert; John Muir of the Sierra Nevada; William Everson and William Saroyan of the San Joaquin valley.

continued page 3

GEC Information Needed

A project is underway to collect information from past CSPRA General Executive Councils (GEC) to compile into a GEC Coordinators Handbook. Such a handbook will assist in the planning process and will provide program ideas for future CSPRA conferences.

Any past GEC coordinators or members who have attended are urged to send any words of wisdom, suggestions, or memorabilia (especially GEC programs) to Director Janet Carle, Box 99, Lee Vining, California 93541. GEC programs for years prior to 1977 would be especially appreciated. Copies are fine if you would like to keep the original.

★★★ *Membership* ★★★

Please send me more information on the benefits of CSPRA membership.

_____
name

_____
street

_____
city state zip

Clip and mail to Doug Bryce, CSPRA P.O. Box 28366, Sacto, CA 95828

Interpreting Controversial Issues

The Association of Interpretive Naturalists (AIN) will be sponsoring a fall workshop in Mammoth Lakes, California on September 13 through 15. The theme will be "Interpreting Controversial Issues." The conference will include field trips to Mono Lake and the Mammoth volcanic area, as well as a panel discussion on interpreting controversy.

The workshop will be held at Tamarack Lodge, a rustic hideaway in the eastern high Sierra. Registration fee is $35.00 for AIN members and $40.00 for non-members. Lodging cost is $27.00 for three nights in a dorm with kitchen, or $90.00 for three nights in a private room with bath, (includes breakfast).

For more information or registration materials please contact Rosanne Higley, Box 314, Lee Vining, California 93541, (619) 934-8544 work, or (619) 647-6359 home, or CSPRA Director Janet Carle at (619) 647-6431.

Don't miss this opportunity to see a beautiful part of the state and learn from your fellow interpreters!

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CHANGE OF ADDRESS Contact Doug Bryce, Box 28366, Sacramento, CA. 95828.

Poetry in Interpretation (cont. from page 1)

There are also writers of particular periods of California's history: Father Francisco Palou, Richard Henry Dana, Robert Louis Stevenson, Joaquin Miller, Bret Harte, Jack London, Will Rogers, Richard Brautigan, Gary Snyder. Writers of poetry and prose need not be restricted to California's bumper crop of literary greats. Old favorites such as Robert Frost, Carl Sandburg, Walt Whitman and Robert Service will certainly find favor among park audiences. And not all dramatic readings need to be "poetry." The beautifully descriptive prose of John Muir, the bleak landscape and harsh conditions told by Richard Henry Dana, the humorous (and still timely) observations of Will Rogers are all appropriate for reading to audiences. Poetry and story books that are appropriate are good additions to a Junior Ranger library as well. The interpreter, by careful selection and practice, adds dimension and power to the written word, and enhances his or her own program with the recognized work of an accomplished artist.

Some selections may seem too "deep" or complicated for an audience to fully understand and appreciate on the first reading. The interpreter should be careful on this issue; however, a selection that inspires thought and provokes interest beyond the initial reading is a valuable one. (One idea may be to read the selection first to a select audience, i.e. park staff and then solicit comments as to appropriateness, understandability etc.) The visual images and melody of the human voice is as important as the message it carries. After the presentation make the author and selection available to the audience. A few slips of paper and pencils will be appreciated and utilized.

Part of the enjoyment of reading verse is in the search. Imagine yourself in the ranger station, feet up on the desk and flipping through the pages of a poetry anthology. What could be better, living in poetic surroundings and reading about it at the same time!

For a suggested bibliography see page 15.

THANKS

CSPRA wishes to thank Park Maintenance Supervisor II David B. Donahue for accepting President Mott's appointment as CSPRA's representative to the 1984 California Parks and Recreation Society Conference Committee. As such his responsibilities will include designing and coordinating sessions to insure the conference's success.

State Rangers Honor Panetta

The California State Park Rangers Association (CSPRA) recently awarded central coast Congressman Leon E. Panetta their "Certificate of Appreciation." The rangers commended Congressman Panetta for his "constructive action and sound judgment in protecting our nation's resources and leading the fight against offshore oil and gas drilling."

CSPRA President John Mott and Environmental Issues Committee Chairman Larry Santoyo met with Panetta in his Salinas office on July 6th to present the certificate. During the meeting Mott pledged continuing support for HR 2059, Panetta's bill to impose a 20 year moratorium on offshore oil and gas drilling along California's coastline north of the Santa Maria river.

"Over 60 California state parks and beaches border the areas protected by HR 2059," said Mott, as he thanked the Congressman for "daring to think and act boldly in protecting our local, state and national resources."

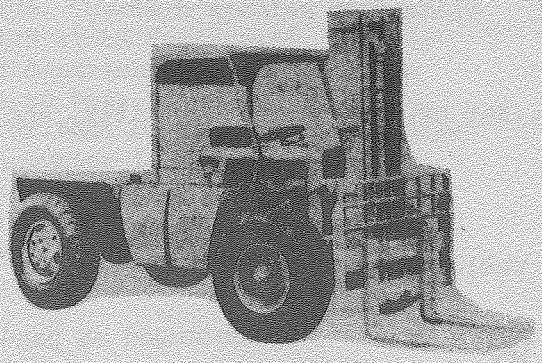
Congressman Panetta explained that House passage of HR 2059 looks good, however Senate passage will "be much work." Congressman Panetta thanked the Association for the award and vowed to continue his efforts to protect parks and other environmental resources.

THANK YOU TO 1983 GEC RAFFLE CONTRIBUTORS

Amador Tribal Council
Anza-Borrego Desert Natural History Association
Butler's Uniform
Calaveras Big Trees Association
Empire Mine Association
Folsom Lake Marina
Humboldt Redwoods Interpretive Association
Ide Adobe Association
Mirassou Vineyards
North Coast Redwoods Interpretive Association
Northern Counties Logging Interpretive Association
Pacific Express Airlines
Sacramento Docent Council Association
Santa Clara County Parks Ranger Association
Tahoe Sierra State Parks Association

Al Salzgeber
Carol Bradshaw
Dylan Whitehead
Ken and Pat Gray
Peggy Whitehead
Sue Whitehead
Vic Maris
William Penn Mott, Jr.

CLARK RANGER FORKLIFT



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Sacramento, CA 95820

In a recent episode of "T. J. Hooker" (June 18, 1983) the star, William Shatner was selling "Ranger Girl" Cookies for his daughter.

Thank you to "Ranger Stuff" contributors: Mike Whitehead, Bill Krumbein, and K.R. Morgan!

Just Another Routine Visit

Submitted by John Bollinger

Day # 1 A park visitor is issued a refund for his dog, a chihuahua, which has an allergic reaction to a flea collar and cannot be kept on a leash. The dog is wearing an old sock around its neck.

Day # 2 The same park visitor returns. But his dog has no rabies vaccination tag and is refused admittance. The park visitor claims it doesn't need a rabies vaccination because it is not a dog.... but a cat! The cat (sock still around its neck) had to be shaved because of a rare skin disease.

The park aide at the entrance station exclaims, "That's a chihuahua!"

As the visitor persists he is directed to the park office. Instead the visitor proceeds to run the gate and head into the park. A ranger is dispatched to the scene and encounters the park visitor driving on the wrong side of a narrow mountain road.

The vehicle is directed to a safe location. A brief discussion is held on the potential hazards of driving the wrong way on a winding mountainous road. Then comes the dialogue.

"Why did you enter the park after the park aide directed you to the office?"

"Well, she wouldn't let my cat in...claims it needs a rabies vaccination."

"That's a chihuahua."

"It's a cat."

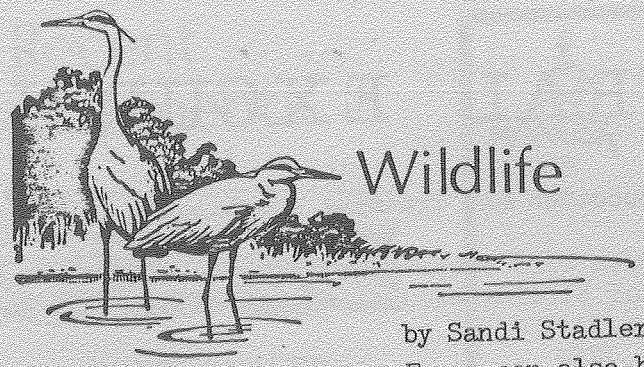
"It's a dog."

"It's a cat. Just call it...say here kitty, kitty, kitty, and see what it does."

(Pause. He continues.)

"I suppose that <u>people</u> need rabies vaccinations?"

continued on page 11



Wildlife

by Sandi Stadler

We have all come across a pair of brown eyes staring up at us while working in the yard or hiking in the park. Our first impulse is to pick it up and mother it. Don't do it. Walk away and assess the situation. Ask yourself the following questions.
1) Is the animal in distress? If so:
2) Can you remove the cause of the distress yourself?
3) Is the animal injured?
4) Is it the type of animal that is left alone while the parent forages?
5) Is the animal normally found in a nest?
6) Can the nest be located and the animal put back into it?

The only time you should remove a wild "baby" is if it is injured and would die without outside help, or if it is endangered by an unnatural factor such as loose dogs.

If you find yourself the temporary parent of such an orphan, find out what you have. Certain species of mammals are high risks for rabies. County health departments will not allow skunks or bats to be raised by humans for that reason. If the orphan you encounter is of a rabies prone species the best course is to avoid handling the animal, and find alternate ways to move the animal if it is necessary.

Fawns can also be hazardous to your health but for different reasons. A three week old fawn can break your ribs with those pointy hooves. Fawns should never be picked up unless it is life threatening for the animal to remain stationary. Female parents often leave their young for up to 12 hours while they forage. It is best in this situation for you to leave the area, returning only to check on the fawn from a distance every few hours. If a park visitor walks up to you carrying one of these gems explain the situation and escort them back to the exact location where they picked it up. You might suggest the visitor find a vantage point out of view and watch for the reunion of parent and fawn.

Raccoons, fox, coyote, rabbits, and squirrels should be quickly housed in a clean cardboard box and given towels or blankets to curl up in. Depending on the age of the young heat is necessary to maintain good health. Do not handle unnecessarily; young mammals can die of stress brought on by human contact.

Do not try to feed. Most spur of the moment diets do more harm than good. A young mammal's system is delicate and can be upset by unnatural foods. If you know the animal will be in your care for more than 24 hours call the nearest wildlife rehabilitation center for care information.

NATURAL EXCURSIONS

Steve Horvitz, Education and Training Committee

The Point Reyes bird observatory will be offering several natural history and birding excursions of "educational depth and conservation emphasis."

To list a few:

Condors and Storks, Southern California Specialties
August 24 - 28, $165.00

Observe Wood Storks, Whistling Ducks, Least Bitterns, and Gull-billed Terns, plus Vermillion Flycatchers, Greentailed Towhees, and the California Condor. From the Salton Sea to Mt. Pinos.

Owls of Carmel Valley
September 9 - 11, $70.00

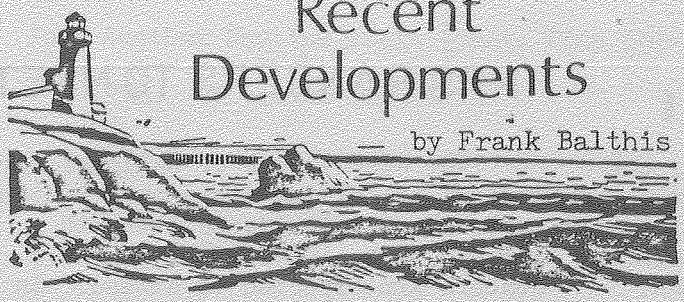
Screech, Pygmy, Saw-Whet, Great Horned and Barn Owls, plus Poor-Will and nocturnal mammals. Includes an afternoon discussion of owl natural history and how to call and observe them.

To register, and for information on other excursions write: Natural Excursions, 4990 Shoreline Highway, Stinson Beach, California 94970. Phone (415) 868-1212.

Let us help with the cost of these courses. Write to me for applications to the scholarship fund!

1984 GEC Switched to Santa Cruz

Due to unforeseen technical and administrative difficulties with the Asilomar facilities the 1984 GEC has been moved to the Holiday Inn in Santa Cruz. The dates remain the same: March 11th through March 15th, 1984. The preparations seem promising. More details will follow in next month's newsletter.



Recent Developments

— by Frank Balthis

14 K GOLD

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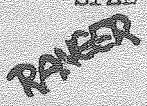
ACTUAL SIZE



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TIETACK
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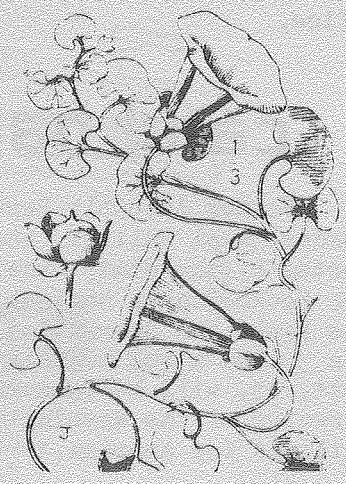
1042 E. Main, Suite 234
VENTURA, CA 93001

QUEST FOR SHARPNESS: CAMERA HANDLING

One of the most important things you can do to improve your color slide photography is to secure a magnifying lens (i.e. AGFA - LUPE). This inexpensive device gives you a quick and effective method of evaluating your transparencies. Those images you thought were sharp may in reality be very soft and fuzzy. Careful study of your slides may not only keep you from wasting money on poor enlargements, but more importantly, give you feedback on your camera handling techniques.

The greatest cause of unsharp photographs is camera movement. Hand holding a 200mm lens at 1/30th of a second is a recipe for blurry failure. Fortunately there is a solution. Sturdy light tripods that will even fit in a day pack (i.e. SLIK 500 G). Here is a basic rule or formula: the minimum suggested shutter speed for hand holding is equal to 1/focal length of the lens. Therefore if you are using a 200mm telephoto lens use a tripod at 1/125th of a second or slower. However, with a 28mm wide angle lens you have more leeway. Use a tripod if photographing at slower than 1/30th of a second. It should be noted that there are alternatives to tripods; clamps, braces, even bean bags. Any suggestions from the field? Cable releases and self-timers can also minimize movement.

Question for next issue: How can film selection influence sharpness? What are the "costs" of using "fast" film?



STEWARDSHIP Added to Bond Act

In late June AB 2099 (Farr), the $370 million California Park Bond Act Bill, passed the Assembly. In mid-July CSPRA supported the Sierra Club in having a "Stewardship" amendment added to this important legislation. The amendment will not increase the total amount of the $370 million bond, but will allot $5 million dollars of the bond toward much needed resource management programs, as well as rehabilitation and restoration of many state park units.

In CSPRA's letter to Senator Presley (Chairman of the Senate Natural Resources and Wildlife Committee), Legislative Chair Dave Vincent stated, "CSPRA finds it essential that AB 2099 be amended to include specific funding for stewardship."

If the Bond Act passes the Senate (which is expected) it should be on the November 1984 ballot. For more information on AB 2099 contact Dave Vincent or your locat legislator's office.

carol hallett

Former Assembly Republican leader Carol Hallett, who was rejected by the state Senate as Governor Deukmejian's nominee to head the Parks and Recreation Department, has joined a new organization. Hallett, 45, will be Western Regional Director of the Washington D.C. based citizens for America.

NPS RANGERS TO MEET

The Association of National Park Rangers is holding its annual meeting in Las Vegas, Nevada October 9th through 12th, 1983. Over 300 ANPR members are expected to attend. An invitation has been extended to CSPRA members. For registration information contact CSPRA/ANPR liaison Rick Parmer.

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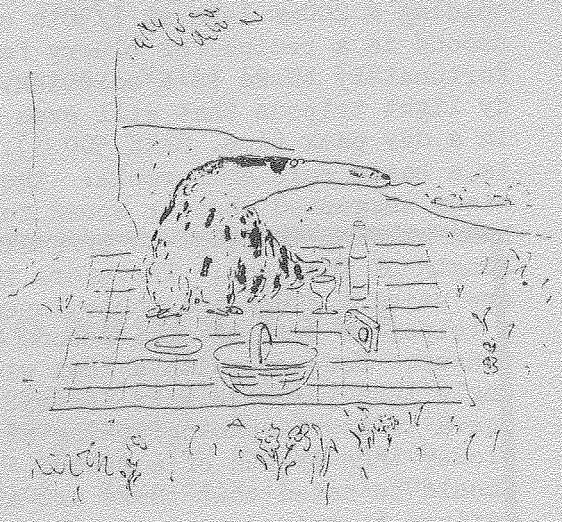


Just Another Routine Visit (cont. from page 6)

"No. Of course not."

"Well...do cats need vaccinations?"

"It's a good idea to get your cat vaccinated."

"But do you need to show proof of cat vaccination to get in?"

"No. Cats have to be under your immediate control and..."

"It's under my control...why can't I come in?"

"It's a dog."

"It's a cat!"

"Why did you refer to it as a dog yesterday, with a flea collar infection?"

"It's a cat."

"And today you claim it's a cat that has been shaved due to a rare skin disease?"

"Just call it.. here kitty, kitty."

"I can direct you to the office where you may call your vet..."

"Well, I don't think I want to come here anyway."

"Okay - you can exit here. Make a right turn at the stop sign."

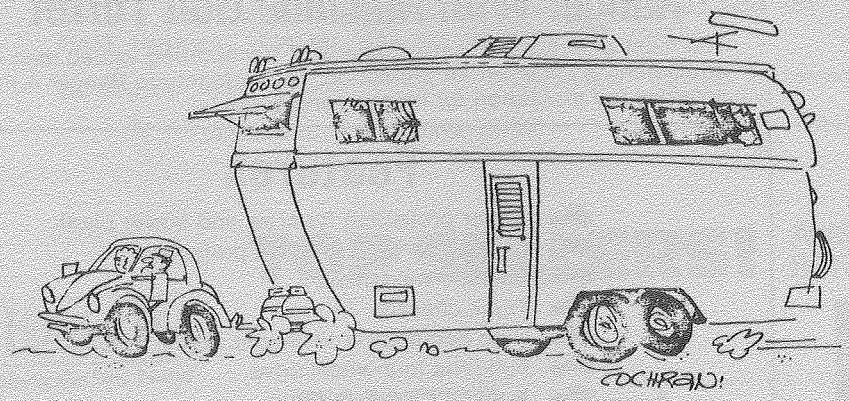
"Can't I go back to the check station and get a refund?"

"Did you pay?"

"Oh...no."

"Then you cannot have a refund."

The visitor gets into his car and exits, followed closely by the ranger just in case he gets lost again!



"Sometimes I wish we had gotten the smaller one without the heated pool and bowling alley."

NEWS FLASH !

We have recently learned from a subversive source deep within the heart of our department (who will be known only as "Deep Lips") that due to the increasing challenge of efficient campground patrol our department will respond with an improved design for newly purchased patrol vehicles. Below are excerpts from the leaked documentation...

COMMANDO Ranger

the Ranger gives armor protection

Command Vehicle

Without compromising its maneuverability the Ranger increases its firepower capability by the installation of the standard Commando twin machine gun turrets.

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The Ranger's armor body allows the Command vehicle to function in hostile surroundings.

Ranger With Machine Gun Turret

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- Full-time four-wheel drive
- Automatic transmission
- Electronic ignition
- Small turning circle
- Air conditioning standard

THE POLITICAL ACTION COMMITTEE'S

legislative slate

Note: The choices and interpretation of the bills appearing below are the authors. Due to publication deadlines some bills may have advanced or been killed. Check with your local representative for a bill's status currently.

AB 2148 ALLEN Requires the DPR to submit to the State Park Commission, prior to classification or reclassification of a unit, a survey of all features within that unit instead of the currently required inventory of features.

AB 2122/2123 COSTA DPR, disposition of revenues. Current law states that all revenues (except SVRA's and boating revenues) in excess of $7 million go to the General Fund. These would require all revenues (including the castle) to go to the State Park and Recreation Fund.

AB 2114 ROOS Creates STATE OLYMPICS TASK FORCE with 17 members including DPR, providing for the various public needs.

AB 1437 KATZ Executive reorganization plan. Talks of abolishing some agencies and general duties of the secretaries of each as of fiscal '84 or earlier. Talks of transferring and consolidating functions. Mentions Resource agency. Speaks of a California Wilderness Preservation System.

AB 1405 MOLINA Extends concession contract and does not limit renegotiation and adjustment of terms of contract or approval at El Pueblo de Los Angeles State Historic Park.

AB 436 SHER Requires Department of Corrections to establish and construct minimum and medium security work-based facilities for 2000 inmates. Half will be housed and employed (250 each at least) by CDF, CalTrans, Water Resources, and DPR. Corrections would handle inmates.

AB 532 GOGGIN Requires acts of the State Park Commission to be advisory only and non-binding on the Director who would have the final decision. (Similar bill was defeated last year).

PAC Chair: Dave Vincent
1515 47th Street
Sacramento, California 95819

Columnist: Michael Whitehead
P.O. Box 8
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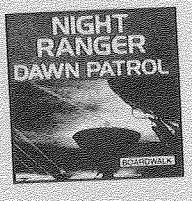


HIP BOOT

Environmental Update!

MONO LAKE

The number of California Gull chicks born this year has risen dramatically since last year, indicating a possible revival for the endangered birds. 16,500 chicks were hatched this season compared to only 5000 last year. In 1981 almost the entire chick population died from exposure and lack of food. This year success in hatching is due to an increase in lake water level from the increased run-off from the record snowfall this winter in the Sierras.

OIL SPILLS

Virtually the entire population of Sea Cows in the Persian Gulf have been killed by the massive oil spill flowing unchecked as a result of the Iran/Iraq war. Three wells continue to dump 1200 barrels of crude oil daily into the gulf.

WHALING BAN

Chile has joined an international ban on whaling. The only nations continuing to commercially hunt whales are the U.S.S.R., Japan, and Peru.

CONDOR CHICKS

"Friends of the Earth" has nearly completed a documentary on the birth of the condor chicks at the San Diego Zoo. The film was funded by the State Resources Agency and the Public Television Center. "Friends of the Earth" is looking for interested groups to hold benefit screenings of the new film for the general public. The proceeds would be split between the Condor Project and the organization which holds the screening. This could be a worthy fund raising event for interpretive associations. Interested parties should contact Charles Drucker at the Condor Project, 1045 Sansome Street San Francisco, California 94111. Phone (415) 433-7373.

MONO LAKE BILL PASSES HOUSE

The protective legislation establishing the Mono Lake National Forest Scenic Area, which CSPRA has formally supported, was approved by the House of Representatives. It has been passed on to the U.S. Senate where Senator Alan Cranston has introduced similar legislation.

* JOB OFFER THAT WILL TRIM YOUR WASTE ! *

Californians Against Waste, who brought you the bottle bill, have immediate openings for one statewide coordinator and several regional coordinators. Pay is $800.00 to $1000.00 a month. Contact C.A.W. 1517 23rd Street Suite 2 Sacramento, California 95816 or call (916) 443-5422 and ask for Bill.

Suggested Bibliography of Poetry, Verse and Prose for Interpreters

(Including materials for background information and oral interpretation; those selections identified with "*" are specific to California writers or California themes, locations or references.)

Nature

Abbey, Edward The Journey Home; Desert Solitaire
Angulo, Jaime de Indian Tales; The Jaime de Angulo Reader *
Austin, Mary The Land of Little Rain *
Bos Ross, Lillian The Stranger *
Frost, Robert The Poems of Robert Frost
Hemingway, Ernest "Big Two Hearted River" from The Short Stories of Ernest Hemingway
Jeffers, Robinson The Selected Poems of Robinson Jeffers; Jeffers Country *
Leopold, Aldo A Sand County Almanac
Muir, John The Yosemite; My First Summer in the Sierra *
Snyder, Gary Turtle Island *
Whitman, Walt Leaves of Grass

Children

Austin, Mary The Children Sing in the Far West *
Fisher, Anne B. Stories California Indians Told *
McDermott, Gerald Arrow to the Sun
Mizamura, Kazue I See the Winds
Silverstein, Shel Where the Sidewalk Ends

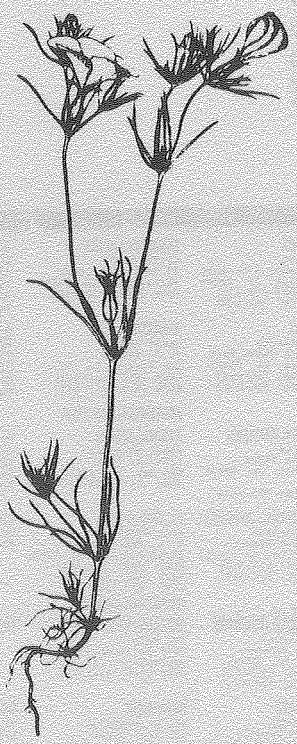
General

Bates, Craig Legends of the Yosemite Miwok *
Dana, Richard Henry Two Years Before the Mast *
Everson, William The Residual Years *
Godfrey, Elizabeth Yosemite Indians *
Harte, Bret The Complete Works of Bret Harte in Poetry and Prose *
Keroac, Jack October in the Railroad Earth; assorted titles *
London, Jack The Valley of the Moon; assorted titles *
Margolin, Malcolm The Ohlone Way; The Way We Lived *
McLuhan, T.C. Touch the Earth
Miller, Joaquin Selected Writings *
Mowat, Farley The Snow Walker; assorted titles
Oxford University Press, The Oxford Book of American Verse
Sandburg, Carl Complete Poems
Service, Robert The Best of Robert Service; The Spell of the Yukon
Steinbeck, John Travels with Charley in Search of America; The Grapes of Wrath; assorted titles *
Stewart, George R. Fire; Storm; Ordeal by Hunger *
Stevenson, Robert Luis Treasure Island *
Storm, Hyemeyohsts Seven Arrows
Thoreau, Henry David Walden Pond

Rare

J. Smeaton Chase, California Coast Trails *

Reference: Ferlinghetti, Lawrence and Nancy J. Peters Literary San Francisco *



california state park rangers association

NEWSLETTER

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AUGUST 1983

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Araujo Endorsed

CSPRA has strongly endorsed the reappointment of Ms. Victoria Araujo to the State Parks and Recreation Commission. In a letter to Governor Deukmejian President Mott wrote, "During her past eight years on the commission Ms. Araujo consistently demonstrated the dedication, leadership and impartiality needed to be effective and respected." In 1980 CSPRA presented Commissioner Araujo with a Certificate of Appreciation for her outstanding service "in promoting, protecting and improving the California Department of Parks and Recreation."