

NEWSLETTER

CALIFORNIA STATE PARK
RANGERS ASSOCIATION

December, 1985

JAMES WHITEHEAD DIES

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James Whitehead, a retired State Park Superintendent who epitomized environmentalism for generations of park employees, died at home Saturday after spending the day working at Torrey Pines State Reserve.

Whitehead came home half an hour earlier than usual, his wife, Margaret, said. He lay down to take a nap and died peacefully in his sleep.

"Jim was a true conservationist," said William Penn Mott Jr., National Park Service Director and former chief of the California Department of Parks and Recreation.

"He was proud to be called an environmentalist," Mrs. Whitehead said. "He thought nothing much else was important if we didn't take care of the environment."

Whitehead, 70, and his wife lived across the street from Torrey Pines in Del Mar. There, he did Royal Canadian Air Force exercises and walked briskly before breakfast.

A tall man with a shock of white hair, fond of bagpipe music, Whitehead was District Superintendent of the southern region for 13 years. He retired in 1978.

A native of Providence, R.I. he came to California in 1945 after serving in the Army Air Corps during World War II. He joined the department in 1947 as a Ranger at Big Basin Redwoods State Park.

Whitehead opened Hearst San Simeon State Historic Monument in 1958, hiring the original staff and helping to shovel out the winding road to the castle after storms washed it out.

He grew to love Anza-Borrego Desert State Park after his promotion and transfer to the south. The desert fascinated him; the seemingly barren and inhospitable environment actually supported a rich variety of wildlife.

John Walstrom, a southern district manager who worked for Whitehead, said Whitehead once ordered him to stop the car on a drive through the desert in a summer thunderstorm. Whitehead got out of the car and stood in the rain, telling Walstrom it was "something I'd always wanted to do."

The year he retired, Whitehead was appointed to the California State Park and Recreation Commission by governor Edmund G. "Jerry" Brown Jr., becoming chairman before his term expired in 1982.

Robert Trent Jones Jr., a former commissioner as well as a renowned golf course designer, said Whitehead fought to use state park bond money for worthy projects.

Once the commissioners toured a dilapidated Fresno school that a legislator wanted to designate a park. Whitehead looked at the site settling the matter for his colleagues when he said, "Where's the park?"



HONORARY MEMBERSHIP NOMINATIONS OPEN

by John Mott

Do you know someone who has made outstanding contributions to the California State Park System and the objectives of the California State Park Rangers Association? Wouldn't they enjoy being formally recognized for their accomplishments? Why not nominate them for Honorary Membership in CSPRA? The Board of Directors will be acting on all nominations in early January.

Be sure to send you're nomination in no later than Jan. 6, 1986 to: Honorary Member Committee, Attn: John D. Mott, 120 Christal Oaks Rd., Scotts Valley, CA 95066.

To nominate a candidate, send the committee the following information:

- Nominee's name, address, phone and brief resume.
- Nominating CSPRA member(s) name. A petition format is fine.
- What the nominee has done to make outstanding contributions to the State Park System and the objectives of the California State Park Rangers Association? (Ideal candidates will have made regional or statewide contributions).

The winning candidate will receive a beautiful plaque, all rights and privileges of Associate membership, and formal recognition at the 1986 Conference Banquet this March.

The Committee encourages members to submit all nominations prior to the deadline in case further information or clarification is required.

Current CSPRA Honorary members include: Joe and Katheryn Stone, James Whitehead, Vern Whittaker, William Penn Mott, Jr., Harriet Allen, Phil Geiger, Earl Hanson, Howard King, Edward Dolder, Claude A. (Tony) Look, Everett Powell, William Goodall, Josephine P. Read, Bertram K. Dunshee, Ansel Adams, John B. Dewitt and Dr. Harld Biswell.

LEGISLATATIVE MONITOR by Michael Whitehead

CSPRA has had some legislative success in the past resulting from actions of our members and our liason with the PCL. Through research and everyday operations we are able to gather information on possible ideas for new and continuing legislation. If members have any ideas for future legislation or legislative remedies for everyday operational problems, please contact your CSPRA representatives.

People interested in assisting in CSPRA's involvement with testimony on issues of interest to its membership at State Park Commission meetings are also encouraged to contact CSPRA via their elected representatives.

Whitehead continued

He was outspoken about dangers the parks faced. Rangers recalled him warning that "these are perilous times for our park system."

"One of the greatest threats is that there's always someone with dollar signs in his eyes," Whitehead said in an interview several months ago. "That's not what parks are all about. The integrity of parks is something we owe to people who are going to come later."

Service was held at 11 a.m. November 21 at St. Peter's Episcopal Church in Del Mar. Burial followed in Fort Rosecrans National Cemetery. El Camino Mortuary was in charge.

Survivors include his wife, son Michael, of Idyllwild; and two grandchildren. The family suggested donations to the California State Park Rangers Association.

FROM JEFF PRICE

As President of the California State Park Rangers Association, I am pleased and honored to have been asked by the family to deliver a brief eulogy at these services.

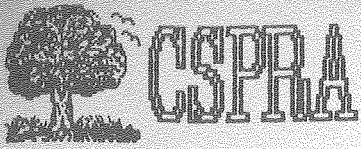
Eulogy is from the greek meaning speaking of or speaking about goodness. In the instance of Jim Whitehead, this seems so appropriate. Jim's keen perception of land and conservation ethics, good judgement and high standards made knowing him an inspiring experience. Few men I have known could so eloquently speak to the spirit of a profession. I can earnestly say the people of California's park movement will truly miss Jim.

Those of us in CSPRA saw Jim share his perfected skill as an inspiring and dynamic speaker by serving as our professional organizations installation officer. Jim's sense of significance and tradition was intense when he administered the oath of office. His style made one feel honored and responsible - A good feeling.

CSPRA will try to be a responsible recipient of gifts in Jim's name and will establish an appropriate memorial for this dynamic man. Many of us will continue to remember Jim's unique extemporaneous pep talks on doing better, looking sharp and being a professional. Many of you were touched by Jim's enthusiasm and it changed your outlook. His insistence on personal contact in dealing with park visitors is legendary.

There is so little any of us can say for there are no words that have ever been invented to fit the loss of a great man. Of course no one is really ever gone who lives in the hearts and minds of others. So it will be with Jim Whitehead and the PANACHE he brought to the park profession.

To the Family - May God's Love Comfort You.



GUEST EDITORIAL

by Denzil Verardo

I was prompted to write this letter by two events which occurred recently which reinforced both my pride in the State Park Ranger and my optimism for the future of the State Park System. Let them stand as reflections by a CSPRA Past-President.

The first was indeed a "major" event -- the POP Into Parks Angel Island Field Trip. Not only was the event an enormous success by any standards, but all 30 park employees who participated in leading walks, playing in the ranger band, or assisting with the logistical considerations, performed at the highest professional level. As a group, the employees represented a cross section of the field staff's diversity. They represented different classifications, ages, years of service, affiliations, attitudes and philosophies. But all transcended their individual natures and became, as a group, unified as park rangers (small "r" on ranger to include all classifications), and walked that "extra voluntary mile."

The school children, teachers, volunteers, and public relations people loved it. Best of all, so did the rangers. And so did I. We don't reflect often enough on the great good we do through our work. It's another facet of why the State Park System has been perceived as one of the greatest park systems anywhere.

The second event which caused this now rather lengthy reflection, was my listening to Carl Burger's "Dark Side of the Forest." Why should that reinforce pride in being a ranger? Because we have once again gotten to the point of laughing at ourselves -- healthy laughter. It is one of the indicators of positive organizational morale. The tape Carl prepared represents not a personal attack on any individual, but a humorous look at our perceived "system," with a touch of cynicism and sarcasm at our perceived excesses. Good work Carl -- you have illustrated to me, like the Angel Island event, that we can transcend individual expressions of doubt and supplant it with a positive group mission, group philosophy, and morale.

We have perhaps learned to adjust to our new systems for collective bargaining, our new equipment and standards for law enforcement, our new roles in public relations, our new field organization, our new titles, our new volunteer associations, and our expanded expectations and duties with regards to all the above. Coupled with our old, and never faltering, environmental ethic we are, once again, collectively the State Park System. And it shows.

Editor's note: Denzil Verardo is a Past President of CSPRA and now chairs the Ways and Means Committee.

MOVE THE OLD GOVERNOR'S MANSION?!

AB 1411 (Papin) proposes that the proceeds from the sale of the new Governor's Mansion in Carmichael be deposited in a special account and be used for the purpose of relocating the Old Governor's Mansion. The bill proposes to move the mansion to the block bound by 15th, 16th, L and N Streets. It would also renovate the old mansion to accommodate the needs of the Governor and to provide suitable executive office space.

A summary of the amendments of the bill is as follows:

It would establish a 9 member Commission on the Governor's Mansion.

It would require the Commission to evaluate and make recommendations to the Legislature regarding relocation sites for the Mansion.

It would appropriate money from the General Fund to the Commission for purposes of the bill.

The Department of Parks and Recreation opposes the relocation of the old Governor's Mansion for (in part) the following reasons.

1) The move would destroy the Mansion's historical integrity.

2) Public tours within the Mansion could not continue.

3) The Mansion would not provide adequate office space.

4) There is still the feeling that most Governors would not be interested in using the Mansion as a residence.

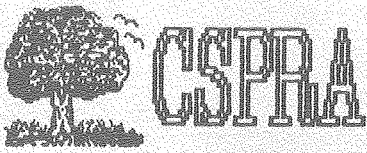
The Department also questions the need to create a new Commission to evaluate and recommend to the Legislature on relocation sites for the old Mansion. An existing advisory body for the Legislature presently makes recommendations on matters dealing with the Capitol Area. This body would be the appropriate choice for advising the Legislature on alternatives to the office space problem.

A bill analysis by the Department details their reason for the recommendation not to support this bill. The Department's concern rests with protecting and preserving the Governor's Mansion "One of California's most significant cultural resources". The relocation could jeopardize its historical designation, and the structure itself. The basement, grounds and pool of the Mansion could not be moved. Cutting the (108 year old) home in half could cause serious damage.

It seems that the the bill was primarily designed to find additional office space for the Legislature. They are seeking 26,430 sq ft. of space and hope to include the Mansion's 9,000 sq. ft. of usable space.

Mr. Papan states that the public could enjoy touring the mansion in its new location, but are offices, a governor's residence and public tours compatible all in one building?

CSPRA will undoubtedly oppose this resolution, though as of yet, no official position has been taken.



MORE FROM EIC

By Gar Salzgeber

CSPRA member Fred Soderlund informs me of the following crisis that has the potential of providing a dangerous precedent to the future of our state park system.

He says Chevron Oil is expanding their oil treatment facility that is about one mile outside Gaviota State Park. For reasons that are too long to explain it looks like this expansion will create pressure to take away 1--15 acres from the Las Cruces area, in Gaviota. To add insult to devastation, this action will also create an inholding in Gaviota State Park.

The Las Cruces area was bought with the stated purpose of keeping the scenic qualities from being destroyed by development.

John Foster, from DPR, looked at the site and said that the area is the prime archeological site of the whole Gaviota area. Foster said he thought the area should be set aside as a Cultural Preserve. Also found in a creek in the area is the Red Legged Frog, listed on the Endangered Species List.

Oil companies are also considering placing pipelines through Gaviota State Park and a fire station on State Park Land, just east of the campground.

While there is a great deal of pressure being put on DPR in the Gaviota area, the Department is being firm in holding to the desire for no development on park lands. However, there is big

money involved and that can have a telling effect. We must oppose these actions that would destroy forever those values that we are seeking to protect. To keep parks forever we cannot allow intrusions into what we seek to preserve for future generations.

Write to your Senator or Assemblymember voicing your opinions about this particular threat and any future threats to units of our state park system.

CHARLIE WARREN APPOINTED TO THE COASTAL COMMISSION

by Rick Parmer

Charlie Warren a former Assemblyman has been appointed to the California Coastal Commission. Warren will replace Mel Nutter.

During his 16 years in the Assembly Warren authored the Coastal Act of 1976, making the commission a permanent body which regulates coastal development. He has chaired the Resources, Energy, and Land Use, Energy and Diminishing Materials and Judiciary committees.

By co-authoring the Warren-Alquist Act he helped establish the California Energy Commission.

Warren was appointed Chairman of the President's Council on Environmental Quality, by the Carter administration.

Given the recent trend to appoint developers to the Coastal Commission, this should be a very favorable appointment.

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NEWSLETTER

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CSPRA INFORMATION

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

name:

street:

city: St:

zip:

clip and mail to Doug
Bryce, CSPRA P.O. Box
28366, Sacramento CA
95828

SALE ITEMS

PIG\$18.00

Decals-3"\$ 1.00

Decals-1.5"\$.75

Lapel Pin\$ 2.50

Tie Tac\$ 3.00

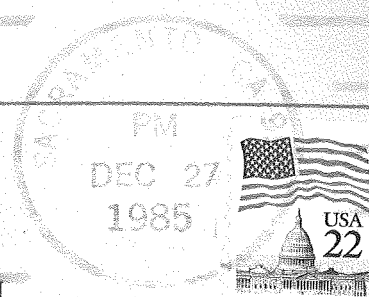
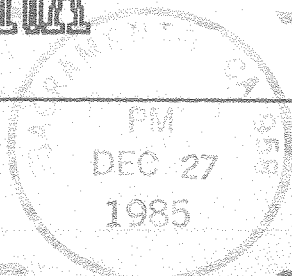
Patch\$ 3.00

Trivia\$ 2.00

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CALIFORNIA STATE PARK RANGERS ASSOCIATION

NEWSLETTER

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mail to:

TERRY D. ROEDER
P. O. BOX P - 1
FELTON CA 95018

BALLOT RESULTS

PRESIDENT: Rick Parmer - 97 (elected) Write ins, Verardo; Nixon; Beat; Sturm; Salzgeber; Simmons; Mott; Horvitz; Lynch; Price; Gorman; M Guiney each 1 vote. Frincke & Jee each 2 votes.

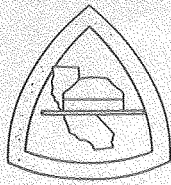
DIRECTOR: Frincke - 125 (elected; G. Salzgeber - 114 (elected); Jee - 85; Nixon - 76; and Ross - 38.

BALLOT ISSUE: Shall Article IV be amended to establish a new class of membership for students? YES 112 , NO 85 FAILED 2/3 majority of those voting required to amend the Constitution.

CSPRA NEWSLETTER Published for its members by the California State Park Rangers Association, Jeff Price President. Editor, Steve Horvitz, Post Office Box 1701, Coarsegold CA 93614.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS Contact Doug Bryce.

CSPRA is a tax exempt corporation



california state park rangers association

RETIRED MEMBER INFORMATION

INSTRUCTIONS: Please return completed sheet to Joe McCall at least four (4) weeks prior to retirement date to ensure prompt arrival of CSPRA Retirement Plaque.

MAIL TO: Joe McCall, Chairperson
Retired Members committee
9028 Talisman Drive
Sacramento, CA 95826
(916) 363-7566

RETIREE'S BACKGROUND

Name to appear on plaque:_____

Location, title, date when hired by DPR as a permanent employee:_____

Date first hired as a DPR seasonal (if applicable):_____

Total years with DPR:_____

Ending date, location, and position with DPR:_____

Notable accomplishments during career:_____

The retiree is best remembered by co-workers for being:_____

Name of spouse:_____

Plaque inscription should refer to retiree as a: *Ranger*;
Manager; *Employee*; or _____

RETIREMENT PARTY INFORMATION

Time, date, location:_____

CSPRA member who could present plaque:_____

Coordinator's name and phone number:_____

COMMENTS:_____

EDUCATION AND TRAINING COMMITTEE SCHOLARSHIP REQUEST FORM

Instructions: Please return completed sheet to Frederick Jee, in sufficient time to receive your grant prior to your training.

Name _____ Address _____

CSPRA Member? _____ When did you send your DPR 392 in? _____

Description of training _____

How will it be of value to you? _____

To the Profession? _____

Tuition \$ _____ Materials \$ _____ Travel \$ _____

Miscellaneous \$ _____ Total requested \$ _____

How much will the Department pay? \$ _____

Please attach a copy of your returned DPR 392 and a course announcement
Return this to Frederick Jee, Chairperson, Education and Training Committee,
P.O. Box 483, Borrego Springs, CA 92004.