

NEWSLETTER

CALIFORNIA STATE PARK RANGERS ASSOCIATION



DECEMBER 1986

Happy

Holidays

From

CSPPA



DIRECTOR'S RESPONSE

CALIFORNIA STATE PARK RANGERS ASSOCIATION
Sacramento address, office of the Executive Manager: P.O. Box 28366, Sacramento
California, 95828

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membership information, sale items, educational grants, retired membership
information or general communications write the Executive Manager at CSPPRA's
Sacramento address.

to phone CSPPRA

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You may contact CSPPRA via ECDNET at the following "addresses":

EXECUTIVE MANAGER CSPPRA1
ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES CSPPRA2
NEWSLETTER CSPPRA
and CSPPRA3

for general information contact the Executive Manager

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Articles are solicited and welcome. Send (1000 words or less) to the NEWSLETTER
address. All submissions become the property of CSPPRA and may be edited without
notice. Text accepted in writing (typed and double spaced please), or recorded
over the phone or electronic data transfer.

POSTMASTER: send address changes to the EXECUTIVE MANAGERS office.

The content of the NEWSLETTER is the sole responsibility of the editor, and may
not always reflect the opinion of individual CSPPRA officers.

Last month the
NEWSLETTER printed, what
might have been its most
controversial issue to
date.

Two articles highlighted
the allegations by a
former DPR employee
against the Director and
his Deputy. One was an
edited version of a
local paper's report on
the issue, and the other
was an editorial, re-
printed in its
entirety.

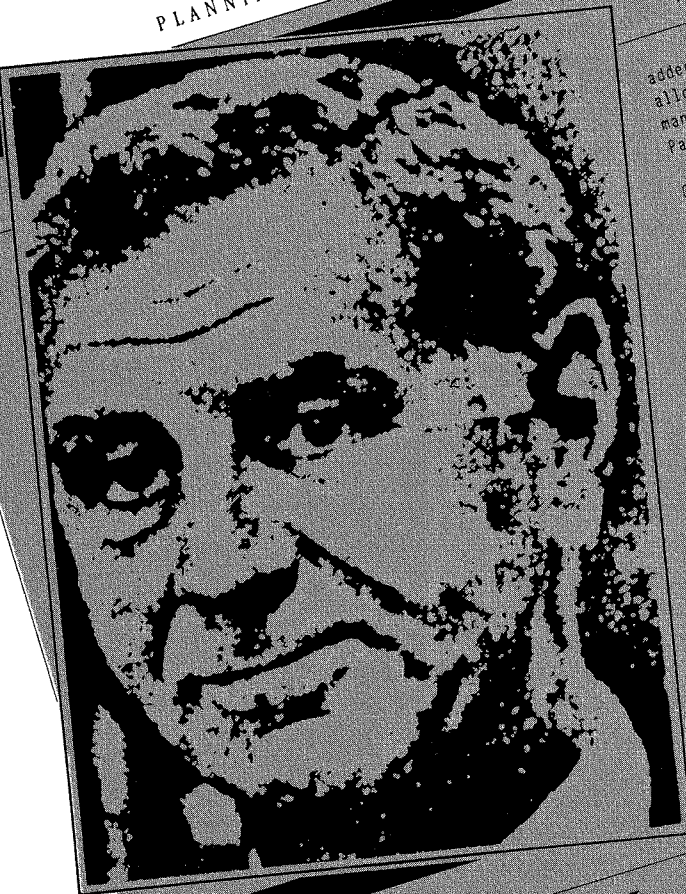
With our continuing
policy of providing
"equal space" the
Director was contacted
and offered an oppor-
tunity to respond, or
present his position.
Unfortunately, with the
issue still pending Mr.
Briner said he is
prohibited from com-
menting and felt it
would be improper to
reply at this time.

However, the space will
always be available -
should the time come
that the Director or his
staff be allowed to - or
feel comfortable with
responding to these
allegations.

We look forward to being
able to print the "other
side" of the story. ++

-Ed.

PLANNING & CONSERVATION LEAGUE



added, the Department had not been allowed to fill them. This leaves many of our most important State Parks dangerously understaffed.

The Natural Resources Defense Council criticized the Governor's position regarding off-shore oil drilling. The Governor responded that a drilling moratorium was not in the State's best interest.

However, he conceded that the Department of the Interior's own procedures for new drilling were not being followed by Interior Secretary Hodel. In contrast to the Governor, conservationists favor a moratorium on new drilling.

The Mono Lake Committee asked the Governor to help in the effort to preserve that most beautiful and endangered lake. The City of Los Angeles is diverting water from the lake, causing it to shrink and grow ever more saline. The Governor replied that he was reluctant to involve himself in the Mono Lake dispute until after the election, since his opponent will be Los Angeles Mayor Tom Bradley, and action at this time might be viewed as partisan.

The Sierra Club asked the Governor to take a position on the proposed toxics initiative. The initiative would limit the discharge of toxic chemicals into drinking water supplies and greatly increase penalties for illegal discharges. The Governor noted that the initiative applied to large industries, but not to cities or small businesses. He said he would not take a position until the initiative qualifies for the ballot (it has now qualified).

At the end of the meeting the Governor stated that if he is re-elected he would be willing to consider a yearly meeting of this type with the California environmental community.

Deukmejian is Noncommittal at Meeting

GOVERNOR MEETS WITH CONSERVATIONISTS

For the second time during his administration, Governor Deukmejian has met with representatives of the California conservation community to discuss issues of mutual concern. PCL Executive Director Jerry Meral worked with Environmental Affairs Secretary Jan Sharpless to arrange the meeting. In addition to PCL, our Board Members Friends of the River,

Californians Against Waste, Mono Lake Committee, and League to Save Lake Tahoe were present, as well as PCL affiliates Audubon Society and Save San Francisco Bay Association. Six other groups also attended.

In response to an issue raised by PCL, the Governor said that staffing in State Parks was adequate, but PCL's Meral noted that while some positions had been

From PCL's CALIFORNIA TODAY - with our appreciation



**COMMUNICATING
WITH THE PUBLIC**
**TREAT THE EARTH
GENTLY**

The following article is written by a ranger for rangers. It contains twelve years on interpretive ramblings - ramblings in the sense of continual joyful interpretive encounters with many park visitors over those years.

by Alan Roadknight,
Ranger, Bogong
National Park

Ramblings in the sense that my approaches to interpretation have and are continually changing. Ramblings in the sense that its all untrained. It just is. Whatever it is, it has simply been based on my love and enjoyment for the natural world and a desire to share that with others because of a belief that we must develop within people a caring attitude to treat the earth gently.

Imagine a brilliant blue, cloudless vital alpine sky, fresh warm sun bathing the lush alpine plains - the greens are greener, the wildflowers vibrant and

bursting and the snowgums a rainbow of colors. Forty people have joined hands and are lying on their backs in a circle heads to the center of the circle, their eyes closed, in silence ... I am the hub of the circle, I read the following from a book titled Tough the Earth.

"The Lakota was a true naturalist - a lover of nature. He loved the earth and all things of the earth, the attachment growing with age. The old people came literally to love the soil and they sat or reclined on the ground with a feeling of being close to a mothering power. It was good for the skin to touch the earth and the old people liked to remove their moccasins and walk with bare feet on the sacred earth. Their teepees were built upon the earth and their alters were made of earth. The birds that flew in the air came to rest upon the earth and it was the final abiding place of all things that lived and grew. The soil was soothing, strengthening, cleansing and healing.

That is why the old Indian still sits upon the earth instead of

COMMUNICATING
by Rob Saunders

To some people, communicating with the public still seems to consist of publishing brochures, erecting signs and talking to people as if they are sponges just waiting to absorb some juicy fact or item of information.

To me communication is much more exciting. It is the opportunity not only to inform but also to learn. It is a key not only to achieving our objectives but also to assessing those which the public becomes actively and creatively involved in the work of our Departments - to our mutual benefit.

So what does this philosophy mean 'on the ground'? Well for one thing it means that when I am asked to give a talk or show a film I might surprise everyone by involving them in a case study or a role play exercise. Group interaction is a particularly powerful way of opening up communication and is probably the most effective way to expose, explore and even change people's attitudes.

propping himself up and away from its lifegiving forces. For him, to sit or lie upon the ground is to be able to think more deeply and to feel more keenly. He can see more clearly into the mysteries of life

WITH PEOPLE

Interpretation Officer

It also means a change of emphasis in the way we structure our activities and our facilities. The recently opened You Youngs Forest Park Visitor Center (near Geelong), for instance does not contain a formal lecture theatre or auditorium where an audience knows its role is to listen to the speaker out in front. Instead it has an inviting fire-side discussion area, and another spot where interest groups can meet, developing a sense of proprietorship and responsibility towards the park.

The role of our on-site interpreters is a very active one too - developing programs and resources, liaison with regional education consultants and community groups and acting as a link between the community and the Department. ++

Ed's note: Rob Saunders is an Interpretation Officer in Australia

and come closer in kinship to other lives about him ...

Kinship with all creatures of the earth, sky and water was a real and active principle. For the

animal world there existed a brotherly feeling that kept the Lakota safe among them and so close did some of the Lakota come to their feathered and furred friends that in pure brotherhood they spoke a common tongue.

The old Lakota was wise. He knew that man's heart away from nature becomes hard. He knew that lack of respect for growing, living things soon led to lack of respect for humans too. So he kept his youth close to its softening influence."

... I then read an Aboriginal legend of how the sun came into being. "Now let's slowly stretch, let the sun seep into you, roll onto your stomachs and see, feel, taste the earth and all its magic today." The scene has been set, the mood, the feelings are there - we are interpreting!

...You are a guide into the excitement and wonder of the natural world of which we are all a part. Visitors should feel that they are a part of this world not above it. Somehow the interpretation of things being presented should relate to their own personal world.

As Freeman Tilden stated:

"Visitors are unlikely to respond unless what you have to tell, or to show, touches their personal lives, social position, or whatever else. If you cannot connect their ego with the chain of your revelation, they may not quit you physically but you have lost their interest."

What this really means is if our interpretation is to be effective then we should really try to get to know our visitors.

Give them what they want, not what you want, or what the Department wants or whatever.

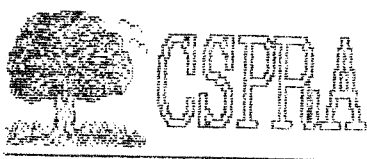
"Do not satisfy your vanity by teaching a great many things. Awaken people's curiosity. It is enough to open people's minds, do not overload them. Put there just a spark. If there is any inflammable stuff it will catch fire."

-Anotole France

Through interpretation,
understanding

Through understanding,
awareness

Through awareness,
protection.
+++



BIG SUR - FEDERAL PROTECTION?

by Gar Salzgeber

California's most awesome coastline without argument, is Big Sur.

It's particularly so during these sunny days of fall. Offshore the gray whales lazily flap southward, occasionally revealing their locations by their waterspouts. Onshore, ferns seem to float along the shaded floor of the deep canyons, filigreed in the breeze and flashing an occasional flicker of sunlight through the sycamores and cypresses. The Big Sur Coastline lulls and enchants.

At any canyon mouth, creeks meet the rough powerful aquamarine Pacific breakers crashing against rock towers. Wind peels the tops of waves off into streams of sponddrift. Cliffs march into the haze of the horizons. Big Sur excites, overwhelms....

The Big Sur Coastline is protected only by a county ordinance!

Now a law has been

proposed in Congress by Sen. Pete Wilson (S 2159) with the intent of reinforcing the County plan through creation of a Big Sur National Forest Scenic Area under the U.S.F.S. The bill would protect the federal lands from most commercial development, including logging, mining and offshore oil and gas drilling. It also establishes a mechanism for buying coastal lands from willing sellers.

THE BIG SUR NATIONAL FOREST SCENIC AREA BILL WILL GIVE PROPERTY TO DPR WHEN SELLERS FIND THAT THEY CANNOT DEVELOP THEIR PROPERTY.

this bill will established a very positive and constructive starting point for the overdue national recognition of Big Sur. Recognition that it truly deserves.

The Wilson bill designates as a "National Scenic Area" a 70-mile long strip of coastal property from Carmel to the northern San Luis Obispo county line.

The Forest Service would serve as a guarantor of the new local Monterey County plan - empowered to condemn and buy up private land threat-

ened with development, should the state and county ever alter that plan to accomodate more construction than it now permits.

The bill also provides seed money for raising a private trust fund to buy property for preservation from willing private sellers - a critical element of the local plan, which Monterey County has no funds to implement. But whether condemned or voluntarily sold, the federally bought land

then would have to be offered, at no cost, to the county,

the state or a private organization to own and manage, on condition only that it be kept undeveloped.

The Big Sur National Forest Scenic Area bill will give property to DPR when willing sellers find that they cannot develop their property.

I recommend active support of this bill by writing or telephoning your local Senator. The State of California needs all the help it can get in preserving and protecting the Big Sur Coastline. ++

Ed's. note: Fore more information, contact Gar Salzgeber.

RETIRED MEMBER INFORMATION

INSTRUCTIONS: Please return completed sheet to Joe McCall at least four 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 permanent by DPR: _____

Date first hired seasonally by DPR (if applicable): _____

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 & TRAINING SCHOLARSHIP REQUEST

Name, address: _____

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

Description of training: _____

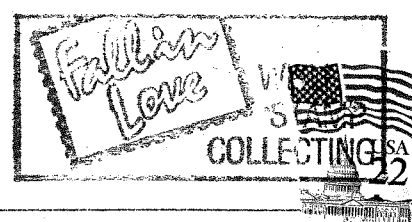
How will it be of value to you? _____

To the profession? _____

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

Total requested \$ _____ How much will DPR pay? \$ _____

attach your returned 392 and mail to Fred Jee, P.O. Box 483 Borrego Springs CA



CALIFORNIA STATE PARK RANGERS ASSOCIATION

P.O. BOX 28366, SACRAMENTO CA 95828

mail to:

JOHN D. MOTT
120-A CHRISTAL OAKS DR
SCOTT'S VALLEY CA 95066

♫ TWO RECEIVE AWARDS FOR FLOSON LAKE RESCUE

Two men received commendations from Director William Briner Nov. 5th for rescuing a 16-year-old girl from apparently certain death when the seaplane she was in crashed into Folsom Lake.

Mark Carey, of Orangevale, sailing a "Hobie Cat" and Karl Dittner, of Roseville, in a fishing boat, saw the plane crash into the water and start to sink.

When the plane hit the water, it flipped upside down and sank, and the girl, Ginger Arey, became entangled and trapped inside.

Dittner was first on the scene and immediately began diving to extricate the girl. Carey arrived seconds later and started diving on the other side of the sinking plane. Dittner dived twice

and Carey three times. On his third dive, Carey managed to disentangle the girl and bring her to the surface. Dittner gave her mouth-to-mouth resuscitation, and she revived.

Briner said it was "through the combined efforts of these two heroic individuals that a girl's life was saved. ++

♫ PCL ENVIRONMENTAL LEGISLATIVE SYMPOSIUM

The Conference will be held on January 31 and February 1, 1987 at California State University, Sacramento.

The Symposium will inform environmental activists of major issues that will be before the legislature in 1987.

For more information, contact Anne Hedges at PCL, 916-444-8726. Last year CSPRA representatives found the symposium an excellent source of information.

MISSING

If you have any information that could lead to the recovery of this missing child, call 800-843-5678

For more information or for posters write: the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children, 1835 K St N.W., Suite 700, Washington, D.C. 20006.



14. Joseph Palancia
DOB: 5/27/83 Mamaroneck, NY