

# NEWSLETTER

CALIFORNIA STATE PARK RANGERS ASSOCIATION

## EXPERIENCING THE "OLD WAYS"

by John Mott

Preparing and cooking acorn mush, skinning a deer with obsidian knives, cooking meat in an earthen pit, carving maple saplings into gambling sticks, chewing alder bark for orange dye, processing deer sinew to make thread and spinning cordage from native plant fibers are but a few of the "all-but-forgotten" skills and techniques I learned or practiced during an intensive four day seminar given by master ethnologist Craig Bates of Point Reyes National Seashore. This annual event is an outstanding "hands on" experience. I'd highly recommend it for rangers or docents seeking more pizzazz for their interpretive programs.

Each day usually begins at 8 00 pm and may end anywhere from 10 00pm to 2 00am depending on how much work your particular projects need. Throughout the session we are immersed into the history culture art and environmental ethics of the first people in Central California.

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### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE:

CSPRA President Rick Parmer addresses some of the Associations activities over the past few months. As well as those events that tend to touch us in our profession.

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### ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES:

CSPRA's environmental issues committee chair, Gar Salzgeber discusses advertising in State Parks, and some entities that are "eyeing" the Department's lands.

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### INSPIRATION FROM ABBEY:

"Do not burn yourself out...."outlive the bastards!"

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### CSPRA - HUGGING IT UP!

Sign up as a new member and get a mug. Sign up a new member and get a mug. Either way, keep your coffee warm in one of CSPRA's new mugs.

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### RETIRED MEMBER INFORMATION:

Know a member that will be retiring soon, or you, yourself? Don't forget to notify CSPRA's retirement committee. Joe McCall will prepare a CSPRA plaque that can be presented to the member.

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### AND THE LAST PAGE:

A Santa Cruz paper's letter to the editor on one of the State's Beaches. Not very flattering. New Departmental signs? -- ala Jeff Price.

have a look!

## DESPITE WOES, TOURISTS STILL PACK CAMPGROUND

by Lynn Masiak  
copyright The Citizen  
1986

"A continual parade of cars floods through the gate at San Elijo State Beach Campground

in Cardiff the restrooms according to those interviewed for this article are "atrocious" and a park aide says that theft is a big problem.

Stringent rules exist for underage visitors to the campground, too. Minors must camp with

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## RESIDENT'S MESSAGE

by Rick Parmer

### CALIFORNIA STATE PARK RANGERS ASSOCIATION

Sacramento address, office of the Executive Manager: P.O. Box 28366, Sacramento  
California, 95828

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For the address and phone numbers of CSPPRA officers and committees, for 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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| office of the PRESIDENT .....         | 707-763-8626 |
| office of the VICE PRESIDENT .....    | 714-659-4478 |
| office of the EXECUTIVE MANAGER ..... | 916-381-4620 |
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for general information contact the Executive Manager

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|                                   |                        |
|-----------------------------------|------------------------|
| The NEWSLETTER's editor is:       | Steve Horvitz          |
| assistant editor:                 | Donald Murphy          |
| assistant editor:                 | Terri West             |
| production supervisor:            | Doug Bryce             |
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| contributing editors and authors: | as noted               |

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.

Fighting year after year before the Legislature and Governor for scarce General Fund dollars to keep up with the ever increasing demand for State Park services is no fun for anyone.

What we need are long-term funding solutions that allow for expansion of budgets.

This coupled with innovative programs to increase work force productivity should hold us in good stead for the future.

Toward that end, CSPPRA is working with the PCL to examine the fee structures of other State Park Systems. We will be using our staffing campaign coalition to come up with recommendations for the future revenue generating strategies.

A State Parks study is currently underway directed by the Conservation Foundation in Washington D.C. I have been in contact with the project leader and have offered our support as an organization. They have completed an interim report: State Park in a New Era: A Survey of Issues and Innovations. The project undertook a

turn to the last page



## ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES

by Gar Salzgeber

The California Department of Parks and Recreation accepted a donation from American Honda of a 3/4 ton, stakeside, 4wd truck for maintenance and litter pickup of one of our off-highway vehicle areas. Nobody complained until CSPRA noticed that the vehicle was also a moving billboard for American Honda. It had an advertisement on the side of each door stating: "AMERICAN HONDA MOTOR COMPANY, INC. join our team help us keep parks clean."

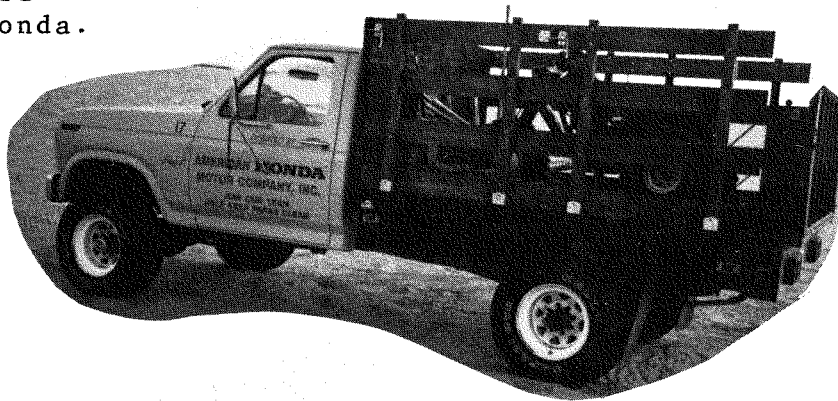
The signs were so large that there was no place for a departmental decal on the side of each door.

With visions of "Chicken of the Sea" billboards on the sides of restrooms at Point Lobos, CSPRA requested that our department modify the advertisements so that they would be more donar recognition signs than advertisements.

The sign was relocated

to the metal portion of the truck bed, below the state-sides. It is a line of 3" high words saying "DONATED BY HONDA MOTOR COMPANY INC."

During times of budget crunches CSPRA agrees with the concept of donar recognition signs but draws the line when they become advertisements. Beware, your unit may be next!



Recently I talked with Dan Preece, Superintendant of Gaviota District, regarding oil companies trying to take over state park lands.

Regarding the proposed school development on DPR Las Cruces Adobe Property, he said that the school district is still trying to grab some of our land through court, but since alternative property sites appear

to be equally good, there's a strong possibility the court won't allow the school district to take over our property.

The Celerion Oil Pipeline is being laid through park land in Gaviota at this minute. While it was allowed a 100' right of way, there are several locations where it has used up to 300 feet of land due to debris running off of the steep slopes of hillsides.

The Department has recently withdrawn support for the Marine Supply Base on Gaviota State Park

property and is also fighting UNOCAL (Union Oil of Calif.) to prevent them from developing an electrical substation in the park that would supply electricity to off shore oil wells.

In addition to all these problems the County Fire Department of Santa Barbara is trying to select Gaviota State Park land for a fire substation, which the department is also resisting.



"OLD WAYS" - from  
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The cultures of the Coast Miwok of Marin, the Miwok and Maidu of the Sierra and the Pomo of the Napa/Sonoma valleys are the primary focus of the course. Craig Bates uses active participation nicely interwoven with stimulating discussions and eye catching demonstrations to interpret the past and present cultures of native people. Besides learning to make tools of bone, stone, sinew and wood; we are also introduced to basket weaving, cordage making, fire by friction, traditional gambling games, songs and dances.

Seminar participants were overwhelmed by the breadth and depth of the exciting experiences we shared (I can see why some people take his seminars two or three times.) Craig Bates teaches "Old Ways" throughout the Western U.S. If you are ever fortunate enough to take a seminar from him be sure to bring a camera, plenty of film, and a portable tape recorder with extra tapes. I took four 36 exposure rolls of film and recorded approx. two hours of lecture,

discussion and stories.

I owe a special "Thank you" to Chairman Fred Jee and the CSPRA Education and Training Committee for awarding me the scholarship to take this training. I also am grateful to CSPRA for making their scholarship program so convenient and free of "red tape". I encourage other CSPRA members to take advantage of CSPRA's unique scholarship program.

Editors note: See September's N/L for an application to the Education and Training Committie's scholarship or contact Doug Bryce at our Sacramento address.

CSPRA offers scholarships to all its members - no strings. The procedure is simple. In the past few years CSPRA has granted thousands of dollars worth of scholarships.

Make use of this valuable resource! Send your applications in today

For more information contact Fred Jee, Chairman, P.O. Box 483 Borrego Springs Ca 92004.

INSPIRATION FROM  
i ABBEY..

From Western Winds

"Do not burn yourself out. Be as I am a reluctant enthusiast-a part-time crusader, a half hearted fanatic. Save the other half of yourselves and your lives for pleasure and adventure. It is not enough to fight for the West; it is even more important to enjoy it. While you can. While it's still here.

So get out there and hunt and fish and mess around with your friends ramble out yonder and explore the forests, encounter the grizz, climb the mountains, bag the peaks, run the rivers, breathe deep of that yet sweet and lucid air, sit quietly for awhile and contemplate the precious stillness. that lovely mysterious and awesome space.

Enjoy yourselves, keep your brain in your head and your head firmly attached to the body, the body active and alive and I promise you this much: I promise you this one sweet victory over our enemies, over these deskbound men with their hearts in a safe deposit box and their eyes hypnotized by desk calculators. I promise you this: you will out-live the bastards!" ++





So why join CSPRA?

To: exchange ideas  
between professionals.

To: Open lines of  
communications.

To: Receive education  
and training grants.

To: Receive the  
monthly NEWSLETTER.

To: Receive the  
Cal Ranger

To: Better the  
profession as a  
whole.

To: Make a  
difference.

Become act-  
ive, join  
now.

**M**UG IT UP  
WITH  
CSPRA!

Between now and Nov-  
ember 15th CSPRA will  
have a membership drive.

Every new member that joins  
will receive a free 11oz  
"CSPRA" mug.

And ... every current mem-  
ber that convinces another  
permanent employee to join  
will also receive a mug.

CARDIFF from page-1

parents or just like school-present a note from a parent granting permission to do so. Minors who don't abide by the 9pm curfew can expect a \$75 fine.

But despite the crowds and the rules, the lure of the ocean and the proximity to shopping and restaurants along the coast keeps campsites at this tent and trailer city on Highway 101 booked all summer long. Securing a spot requires reservations eight weeks in advance. Repeat visitors, who say they also enjoy camping at less congested spots, make use of the seven-day limit and simply ignore the close proximity of their camping neighbors.

"You just tune 'em out," said Chino resident Sandi Berger, who recently spent a weekcamping at San Elijo State Beach with her husband...

Walk-ins ... have created problems at the campground according to officials and campground regulars Neal and Shirley Flippin.

The Flippins, of Fountain Valley, have



Don Boomer / The Citizen

Among San Elijo visitors are Sean and Debbie Drake, along with young Matthew.

been coming to San Elijo State Beach for 16 years and while they obviously like the place enough to return, some of the changes over the years haven't been for the best, in their opinion.

"Since the passage of Proposition 13, they no longer have a ranger...all night," Neal said,... "They lock the gate, but there is access, and we do get people coming through. They don't speak English. They use the restrooms."

Berger said that two hours after the restroom is cleaned, "it's trashed," adding

that since she'd been there, the shower door had been ripped off or had fallen off.

...Radios, surfboards, boogie boards, skateboards-they'll steal anything,...

...campers are partly to blame when their belongings are stolen.

"People leave things in stupid places, like ghetto blasters in full view. You have to use common sense. You can't leave wetsuits and surfboards out..."

"To me this isn't camping, it's like a hotel." Said a park aid. "If I'm going to camp, I'll backpack in the mountains."

### 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 retire as a: Ranger; Manager; Employee or:

### RETIREMENT PARTY INFORMATION

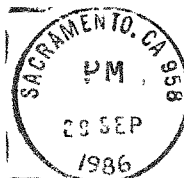
Time, date, location: \_\_\_\_\_

CSPRA member who could present plaque: \_\_\_\_\_

Coordinator's name and phone number: \_\_\_\_\_

#### COMMENTS:





CALIFORNIA STATE PARK RANGERS ASSOCIATION

P.O. BOX 28366, SACRAMENTO CA 95828

mail to:

JOHN D. MOTT  
120-A CHRISTAL OAKS DR  
SCOTTS VALLEY CA 95066

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE  
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survey of State Park Directors nation-wide and the results are published in a June 1986 report.

And guess what the top priority of the survey was? Yes, funding. "Funding questions are uppermost in the minds of most directors. The pervasiveness of funding problems seems to be independent of size of the system, geographical location, or sources of revenue which here supported parks. The decline in state park budgets since 1980 is sharper than that for other state governmental programs or federal and local park systems." ++

**Q**UOTE for October

"Rangers don't know everything, despite their big Smokey Bear hats."

-Steve Rubenstien

A Bay Area columnist



"State Parks have really changed since Carl Maier took over the sign shop."

submitted by Jeff Price

**D**EAR EDITOR - from the Santa Cruz Sentines 8/26/86

"State Beach Problems Residents of Seacliff are very disturbed with the conditions of Seacliff State Beach because of trash, garbage, dogs running

lose, broken glass on beach, driftwood on beach, restrooms in a filthy condition, lack of maintenance on the beach trails, pier out of service all summer and very little ranger presence. ... It is hoped some solution can be found to these problems." ++