

NEWSLETTER

california state park rangers association

VOLUME VI NUMBER 4

JANUARY 1989

ELECTION 88

Bud Getty was elected to a second term as Director while Kevin Joe was elected Treasurer and Jeffery Price returns to the Board as a Director. Joe will be replacing Kathy (Watton) Franklin and Price will be replacing Mike Whitehead. The new officers will take office immediately after GEC. Election results were as follows:

TREASURER

Paula McDonald	131
Kevin L. Joe	132

DIRECTOR

Bob Foster	84
Ed Navarro	42

BOARD MEET- ING

December 11, 1988

BODIE

Donna Pozzi led a discussion on the proposed strip mining at Bodie and what CSPRA could or should do about it. Pozzi was appointed as chair of a committee to work on this problem. Frank Lortie, Bill Dillinger, Rick Parmer, and Joe Engbeck will be on the committee.

OFF HIGHWAY VEHICLES

Rick Bates, President, and Robert E Ham, Executive Director, of the California Off Road Vehicle Association (CORVA); and Marge Sut -

SPARE THE ANIMALS

by Jan Kendig and Angy Happle

In rebuttal to the October 1988 issue of the CSPRA NEWSLETTER "Free The Animals" by Rod Parson, we would like to offer the following.

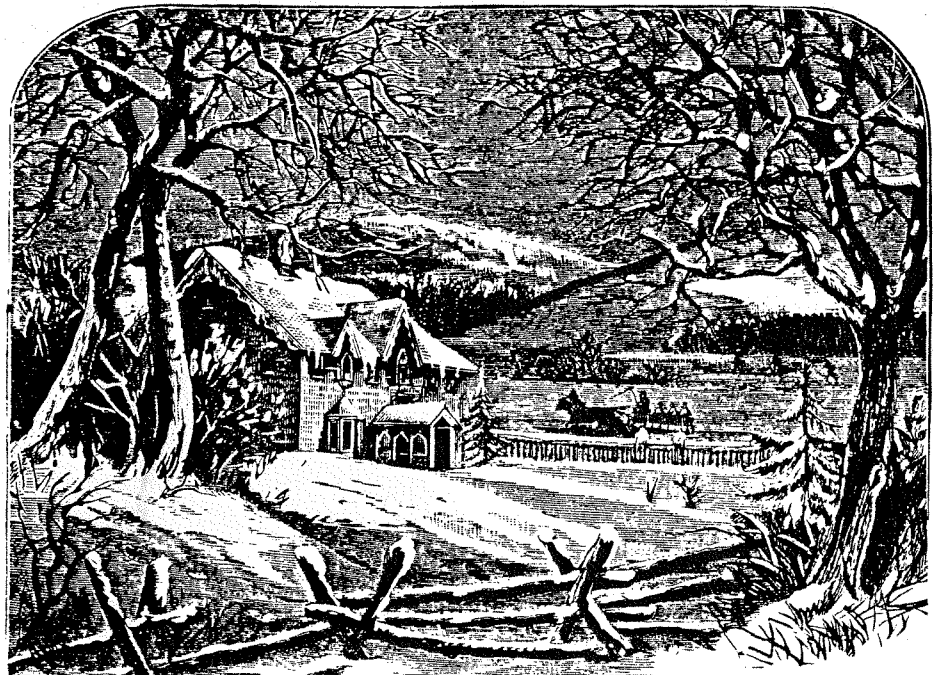
"Pardon the rodents, reptiles, and raptors held captive in our State Parks. Let them scurry, slither, or fly back to their native habitats."

While this might be the ideal solution, it sometimes may not be in the best interest of the animal or wildlife population. Due to the unknown history of some of the animals, we cannot be sure that they are not imprinted or are carriers of some diseases. If these animals are released into the wild they could transmit those diseases to other wildlife.

"Maybe your unit is one of the growing number of California State Parks that has captive wildlife on public display."

Candlestick Point Wildlife Center was set up this year to offer wildlife education programs to various groups of individuals including, but not limited to, those who are physically disabled, school children, hospitalized individuals, and other local community members. These audiences have had little or no exposure to live animals. As professional interpreters we feel that using live animals has a greater emotional impact than many other interpretive techniques.

(continued on page 3)



**THE CALIFORNIA
STATE PARK RANGERS
ASSOCIATION**

A professional association.

Office of the
Executive Manager

Doug Bryce

P. O. Box 28366
Sacramento, CA 95828
(916) 383-2530
* * * *

PRESIDENT

Don Murphy

(714) 780-6222
* * * *

VICE PRESIDENT

Mike Whitehead

(415) 435-1915
* * * *

TREASURER

Kathy Watton

(209) 339-4637
* * * *

DIRECTORS

Donna Pozzi

Bud Getty

Patricia Posner
* * * *

NEWSLETTER

Doug Bryce, Editor

Susan Ross, Ass't. Editor
* * * *

CAL RANGER

Ed Stuckrath, Editor

(714) 780-6222
* * * *

For additional information on
the association, write the
Executive Manager.

AUDUBON ECOLOGY CAMP

by John Quirk

Next summer groups of fifty or so people will gather for two weeks at a time in a secretive valley of Wyoming beneath the alpenglow of receding glaciers and marvel at what is between and beyond. The outdoor classes they attend will take them backward in geologic time to fossils and ice-carved rock. They will view the present effects of acid rain as measured in the valley soil and lichens. They will look to the future and the possibilities of a greenhouse effect evidenced by the receding glaciers. As the mood strikes, they will go off by themselves for a day to reflect, or they will gather in groups at night under showers of meteors to speculate, to eat, to drink, and be merry. What has been said of the astronauts who have gone into space is true also of these people: they will all return home somehow changed. They will never be quite the same.



I speak from experience. I participated in the August camp this past summer and I recommend it to you. There is neither time nor space here for me to tell you much but I can say this: this is not just another interpretive training session for rangers. In fact there may be no rangers there at all, and you probably will not hear the word interpretation. Even in the unlikely event that you learn nothing new about ecology, you will come home feeling refreshed and good about yourself. That alone is worth the trip.

I am forwarding a promotional packet on the camp to Fred Jee for awarding of the Whitehead Scholarship. Contact Fred or myself for further information. 🍏

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The **NEWSLETTER'S** Editor is Doug Bryce; contributing editors and authors are as noted. Articles are welcome, 1000 words or less. All submissions become the property of CSPRA and may be edited without notice.

BOARD MEETING

(Continued from page 1)

ton and Hugh McGwigan Jr. of the Off Highway Motor Vehicle Recreation Commission discussed their duties and their feelings on the use of Green Sticker vehicles in Anza Borrego Desert State Park. It was decided that Jeff Price would provide liaison from the board to the OHMVR Commission and that they would be informed of our board meetings.

SAVE OLD SACRAMENTO

Dick Troy updated the board on the plans to construct a high-rise office building next to Old Sacramento. He requested the use of CSPRA's name and financial assistance in opposing this development. The board voted to contribute \$250 to the Save Old Sacramento group and to allow the use of CSPRA's name.

MANZANAR

Bud Getty reported that a committee chaired by Karen Owen with members Olen Golden and Russell Kimura will develop a program that CSPRA can support to protect this World War II Japanese internment site. NPS is interested in including the site as part of their War in The Pacific Program. But it will have to survive the change in administrations and the budget process.

PROPOSITION 99

Corey Brown of PCL discussed the process for creating legislation to appropriate the resource protection funds created by this proposition. The Board discussed various uses that had been suggested by the department and members of CSPRA. Pozzi and Bryce were asked to represent CSPRA at a

meeting to be held by PCL to get input from all interested organizations including the Department.

JUNIOR PAST PRESIDENT

The board amended the Bylaws to provide that the Junior Past President would be an ex-officio member of the board to provide continuity.

PCL BOARD SEATS

The Board amended the Bylaws to provide that the President and a member of his/her choice will be CSPRA members of the PCL Board.

REGIONAL MEETINGS

The Board decided that meetings should be held in various cities around the state so that the members and non-members can learn what CSPRA is doing and CSPRA can learn what the membership wants its organization to do. Doug Bryce will arrange for these meetings. (See page 8 for an announcement of the first meeting.) 🍏

SPARE THE ANIMALS

(Continued from page 1)

We believe that the attitudes and actions of urban youth towards the environment must include hands-on exposure to wildlife which in turn can lead to responsible adult behavior and support of the community.

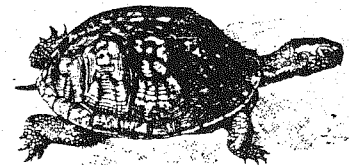
"My biased opinion tells me that our mission is first to protect and then to interpret these wildlife resources."

Due to our interest in wildlife education, these animals which would

have been euthanized now have a functional role in the community. Our curriculum involves educating the public about indigenous animals of the Bay Area and California, and how they relate to an urban setting. We do this by showing live animals at our program, playing environmental games, and providing written activities. In our curriculum we share the history of how we got the animal and emphasize that ideally wildlife should only be observed in the native habitat undisturbed.

Our animals were obtained from a local rehabilitation center. These animals are termed "Non-releaseable" and therefore will never return to the wild. In addition to donating these animals, the rehabilitation center has agreed to train the staff at Candlestick in the care and handling of the wildlife. Our animals have daily care, feeding, and handling by staff at our park. Wildlife medical care is being donated by Dr. Mark Restani, D. V. M.

Our wildlife program includes a gopher snake and a desert tortoise and a tide pool with indigenous animals, which are currently being used in interpretive programs in the park and local schools. We are in the process of obtaining more reptiles.



The San Francisco SPCA has a wildlife education program in which they go to schools with wildlife obtained by rescuing animals from people who have mistreated them. We have arranged to train with the SPCA by observing their programs and through handling their animals.

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SPARE THE ANIMALS

(Continued from page 3)

After the training we will be conducting wildlife programs using SPCA animals in conjunction with their educational program.

It is true that some of the State Parks have good intentions by having a live animal display, but are not aware of those special needs. If Rangers in other parks are keeping wild animals that can be released (which can be determined by the Department of Fish and Game), then by all means they should be released. But if they have been determined to be non-releasable, then releasing them would only prove fatal for the animal. Instead you should encourage learning more about these animals and their special needs or give them to a qualified wildlife rehabilitator. Please "Spare the Animals."

If anyone has any questions about how we set up our program, please feel free to call Candlestick Point SRA. 🍏

"BURNING BRIDGES"

A new satirical tape by Carl Burger in the tradition of "Dark Side of The Forest" and "Probable Causes."

\$7 per Cassette

Thanks again for your support. Proceeds from the sale of this "music" will benefit the California State Park Rangers Association. Carl Burger, c/o Portola State Park, La Honda, CA 94020.

Rethinking Old Sacramento

The City Council action to permit construction of a 15-story office building at 111 Capitol Mall, adjacent to the Old Sacramento historic district, has produced a strong and swift counterreaction. Opponents of the project, proposed by Thomas Stagen of Beverly Hills, have launched a petition drive to stop it. After reconsidering the issue, we have decided that our own initial support for the project was a mistake. The council, too, should heed the public outcry and reconsider its action.

Although the site of the Stagen project is outside the official boundaries of Old Sacramento, a 15-story building there would be, for all intents and purposes, a part of Old Town. Aesthetically and environmentally, it would also be an unwelcome presence. Although the workers in the building would bring an economic boost to Old Sacramento

businesses, the traffic they would produce would degrade the historic district's appeal and the visual intrusion of a large, modern structure would detract from its authenticity.

Mayor Anne Rudin has asked the council to place a moratorium on the Stagen project until opponents have a chance to collect the signatures they need to force a referendum on the issue. That may eventually be necessary. But the better course right now would be for the council to change its mind without this issue having to go to a public vote. That would disappoint the developer, who believes he has won his approval fair and square. But it would best serve the city's interest in Old Sacramento, and it would bring the quickest and cleanest reversal of a policy mistake.

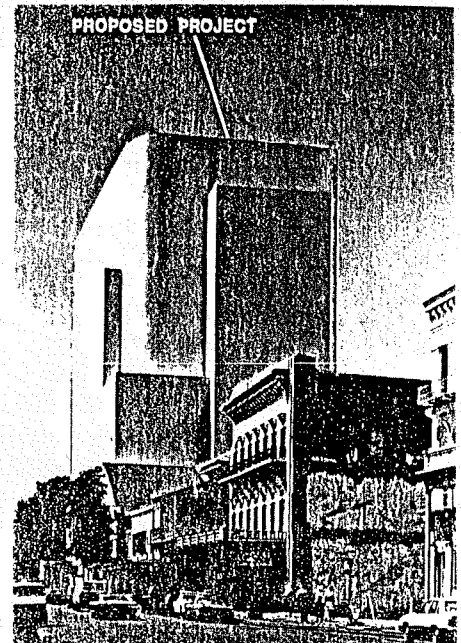
LETTER TO THE SACRAMENTO BEE

October 12, 1988

The Bee is to be commended for your editorial "Rethinking Old Sacramento." The California State Park Rangers Association is alarmed about the future of Old Town and Old Sacramento State Historic Park should the 15-story Stagen Building be constructed. We were discouraged when The Bee endorsed this project and dismayed when it received council approval. The Bee showed great courage in admitting your support for the project was a mistake. We now hope the council will do likewise.

Our local members are participating in the petition drive while our statewide membership watches with concern to see if Sacramento will preserve the integrity of its nationally significant historic district.

Donald Murphy, President
California State Park Rangers Association
1879 Jackson Street
Riverside, California 92504



ARTIST CONCEPT OF BUILDING AGAINST EXISTING SKYLINE

JESS CHAFFEE

Jess Chaffee passed away on Friday, January 6, 1989. Jess began his career as a TAU laborer at Big Sur State Park on April 1, 1935. He spent the last 12 years of his career as District Superintendent of District 4 in Monterey. He retired in 1968. 🍏

I WANT YOU BABE



Palm Springs

STATE PARKS FOUNDATION

The California State Parks Foundation was formed in 1969, to enhance, protect, and expand California's State Park System. In the past 20 years, CSPF has raised more than \$77,000,000 in funds, lands, and artifacts, while completing more than 55 parks projects around the state.

Though it is not a formal part of the State bureaucracy, CSPF works on a close, cooperative basis with the California Department of Parks and Recreation, mutually assessing and addressing the needs of a state park system that is always growing.

When the cottage of the late author Jack London needed restoration, CSPF mounted a major campaign that raised more than \$350,000, which will be used to restore the cottage.

Over the past few years, CSPF has opened the Sonoma Coast Trails Project, a lovely, 3-1/2 mile trail that meanders from the Sonoma hills to Sonoma Coast State Beach; provided leadership and direction for the creation of White Oak Farm, which will be a working, turn-of-the-century ranch just minutes away from downtown Los Angeles; and dedicated the Stagecoach Hills Azalea Preserve, a botanical wonder-of-the world...here, by the thousands and in breathtaking variety grow wild, self-hybridizing native azaleas (*Rhododendron occidentale*). No two plants are alike, ranging in size from 16-inch dwarfs to 12-foot-high giants, eight feet across at the base, in every hue and color possible...a veritable "flower forest" preserved through the efforts of CSPF.

The list of CSPF's projects that have made a major contribution to

California's State Park System goes on and on.

Effective January 1, 1989, new membership rates for joining CSPF are:

Seniors, for \$25/year, receive 10 day-use passes, along with a "Passport To The Parks," road-map and guide, as well as CALIFORNIA PARKLANDS, The State Parks Magazine. Each issue of this color magazine explores California's spectacular natural and historic beauty, while providing plenty of terrific vacation ideas.

Family members (\$35/year) receive 15 day-use passes, as well as all the Senior benefits and also CALIFORNIA PARKLANDS.

Frequent Visitors (\$75/year) receive the magazine and an annual day-use pass (good for a year from the month a member joins), while Touring Members (\$100/year) receive the magazine, the annual day-use pass as well as a free copy of CALIFORNIA STATE PARKS, the spectacular, full-color book that's a classic on the natural beauty found in California.

Life Members (\$750) receive the State Parks magazine for life, and other recognition.

Gift memberships are also available.

In other news, Wayne N. Guthrie, III, President and CEO of CSPF was recently presented with the Golden Bear Award, the highest honor bestowed by the California State Park and Recreation Commission, during a ceremony on November 10 in San Diego.

by Reed Huegel, CSPF

FIRE & WATERSHED CONFERENCE

by Marla Hastings, Associate State Park Res. Ecologist

I recently attended the Fire and Watershed Conference held in Sacramento on a CSPRA training scholarship. This conference was especially timely in light of the recent Yellowstone Fire Controversy and two seasons of extensive wildfires in California.

Many issues were discussed in this conference, including the use of prescribed fire for fuel reduction, increasing urbanization of wildlands, the effects of wildfire on soils, erosion, and flooding along with watershed rehabilitation.

It is clear that many of our parks remain at risk to both wildfires and wildfire suppression techniques. Entire watersheds, such as the Bull Creek Watershed at Humboldt Redwoods, remain in a state of recovery from previous land use abuses and/or wildfires. With proper immediate rehabilitation actions, many of these impacts could have been avoided or reduced. These actions should be employed following future wildfire events.

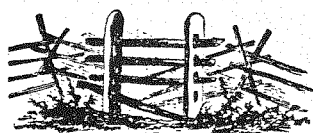
The prescribed burn program endeavors to reintroduce fire into the ecosystem in locations and vegetation types that evolved with the influence of fire. Prescribed burning allows park staff to manage fire instead of allowing fire to manage the parks. An active burn program greatly reduces the wildfire risk to the parks. This program, although sometimes politically unpopular, must aggressively continue while remaining conservative and prudent in its approach. This program satisfies many management goals, including fuel reduction. Our wildfire management plans assist us in

(Continued on page 7)

coping with the inevitable wildfires that occur in the parks. These plans assist in the reduction of negative impacts created by wildfires and their suppression. This planning is essential in light of the proximity of our parks to urbanized areas. Wildfire suppression priorities are to protect human life and property over the protection of our natural and cultural resources. As the threat to life and property increases with greater urbanization, so, proportionately does the threat to the resources.

Wildlife management plans will assist in mitigating suppression activities which include the construction of fire lines and trails, destruction of cultural sites, the introduction of fire retardants into stream courses, and sowing of exotic grasses. Such basic mitigating measures as stockpiling top soil for future replacement following fire line installation should be included in the plans.

Training such as this conference in watershed management is essential for park staff to make correct decisions regarding emergency rehabilitation measures following wildfires. Watershed type and area, soil characteristics, slope and erosion potential, fire intensity, and geology/flood probabilities must be evaluated. Our expertise in this field assures us that our days of blindly sowing exotic annual rye grass seed following wildfires are over. An interdisciplinary team should be mobilized following each event to assure that all aspects of the rehabilitation effort have been addressed.



HELP BODIE

As reflected in the board meeting minutes, fighting the proposed mine adjacent to Bodie SHP will be a major CSPRA project in the months to come. The next NEWS-LETTER will provide more background on this serious threat to the State Park System. Meanwhile, if you are interested in getting involved, please call or write Donna Pozzi, 300 23rd Street, Sacramento, CA 95816. (916) 322-9587 or 443-3359.

RETIRED MEMBERS

ORVILLE SHORT

As some of you know, Orville had a stroke when he retired from Parks and Recreation; however he's doing fine, enjoys the NEWS-LETTER and keeps on top of all things concerning the California State Park System. Keep up the good work!

Sincerely,
Louise M. Short, also former park employee.

KIRBY MORGAN

We find our fifth wheel home parked at Camp Mt. Meadows, on the north edge of the Kern/Tulare County line. The county line runs through the camps lodge. The camp is at 7,200' NWN of Lake Isabella.

We are both working for the Girl Scouts. I as the camp caretaker and Carol as an administrative assistant. She helps with camp programs, drives van, buys groceries, makes garbage run, and helps me with maintenance. We came to camp a little after May 1st, delayed by snow storm, and we leave by September 30th. We maintain a home base in Grass Valley - we were there 2 1/2 months last year. We took our rig and went to Mississippi last fall for a vacation and to see friends and relatives along the way. With 8 grandchildren, our part time work, and church activities we are definitely not bored. Life continues to be wonderful and exciting for us.

Respectfully,
Kirby Morgan

Editor's note:

I need letters from some of you other retired members. Certainly you are not so busy having fun that you can't let your friends know about your activities.
Doug Bryce

COMMUNICATION FOR THE FORESTRY SUPERVISOR

An Analysis of the principles and practices of communication and its relationship to park ranger personnel.

Presented by Park Rangers Association of California and Santa Rosa Junior College

Monday evenings January 30 - February 13, 1989
7 - 10 PM
Lark Hall, Room 2030

Register at Bailey Hall, Santa Rosa Junior College Forestry 280.16, Section #6637, 1/2 unit, \$5.50

SCHOLARSHIPS

A scholarship has been awarded to: Ann Meneguzzi, SPR I, of McConnell SRA to attend a conference on oak woodlands and their reforestation. If you are interested in a scholarship, see the article on page 4 of the September NEWSLETTER, and then contact Fred Jee, P. O. Box 483, Borrego Springs, CA 92004.

REGIONAL MEETINGS

The first regional meeting will be held in Eureka on the evening of January 26, 1989 from 7:00 pm until 10:00 pm. It will be at Angelo's Pizza Parlor, 7th and Pine, Eureka. Subsequent meetings will be in Santa Cruz - March, Modesto - May, and San Diego - September.

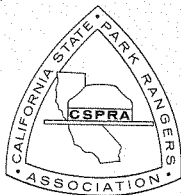
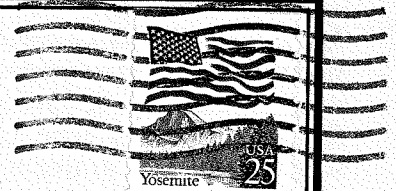
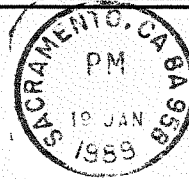
WELCOME TO CSPRA

We are glad to introduce these new members to our organization. CSPRA offers a forum for sharing ideas and concerns and a means of making an impact in the professional field of the ranger. There is a place for each of you here, and your commitment to CSPRA requires a commitment to you from this organization. Each of us by getting involved can help the other. Again, welcome to CSPRA. 🍏

Frank N. Lortie, Inland Region
Dianne Mary Hertig, Big Basin

Margaret L. Farber, Anza Borrego
Jan Anderson, Cascade District

P. O. Box 28366
SACRAMENTO, CA 95828-0366



Mail to:

JOHN D. MOTT
116 TREETOP DRIVE
SANTA CRUZ CA 95060