

# NEWSLETTER

california state park rangers association

VOLUME VI NUMBER 14

January 1990

## Election Results

Bud Getty was elected president for the next two years. He will take office beginning with the first board meeting after GEC. He received 284 votes to 15 votes for 12 write-in candidates. Donna Pozzi was reelected with 223 votes and Rick LeFlore joins the board with 113 votes. Other candidates for director received the following votes:

Nina Gordon	89
Joe Engbeck	92
Ron Shafer	93

Directors, terms of office begin 1/1/90. Six hundred sixty ballots were mailed out and 311 returned for a 47% voter response.

## Save Bodie! Update

by Donna Pozzi

Bodie is still in jeopardy. For the past year, we've been spreading the word that this historic ghost town is threatened by a major gold mining proposal. Perhaps you're wondering what's going on now.

Calling themselves the Bodie  
(Continued on page 3)

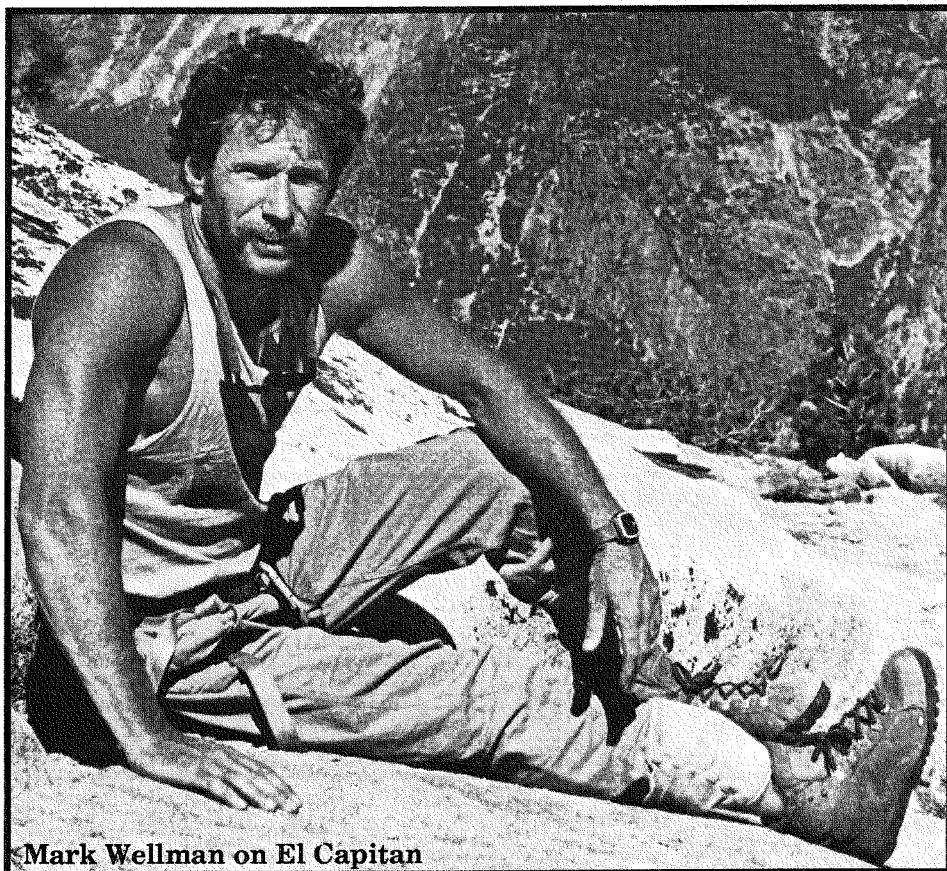
## 1990 CONFERENCE - CHICO

- - Pushing It To The Limit - -

by Nina Gordon, Park Issues and Operations Coordinator

Some 7,000 pull-ups later, Mark Wellman was at the top of El Capitan. This is the extraordinary story of how an adventure-some ranger refused to let a disability deny him his right to pursue the activities he treasures. Working with another expert climber, Mike Corbett, Mark designed adaptive climbing equipment, and the two of them started an eight day adventure which had never before been attempted. Mark will recreate his incredible climb at the 1990 conference through his slide show and narrative. Mark will also talk about his plans to increase accessibility at Yosemite National Park.

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Mark Wellman on El Capitan

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STATE PARK RANGERS  
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For additional information on the  
association, write the  
Executive Manager.

## President's Message

Something strange has been happening to me lately, a sort of permanent sense of déjà vu. As if through some sort of mysterious catharsis, memories of past experiences have seized upon every fiber of my being. In those brief moments I feel as if I am actually reliving the experiences. What is even more unique is that every one of these experiences has to do with a sight, a sound, or a smell from an experience with wildness.

They have surfaced from my first trip to Yosemite as a five year old, from a moonlight walk at the ancient Bristlecone Pine Forest in the White Mountains as recent as last summer, and from my first battle with a steelhead at Richardson's Grove on the Eel River. These instances, which at times are so real at times that I think I might be going crazy, represent a primal relationship between humankind and wildness. It is oneness.

The preservation of these islands of wildness, whether we realize it or not, is essential to the continued existence of humankind, as well as the flora and fauna of which they are composed. From now on, every decision we make as park professionals will have consequences on the quality of life we have come to expect. I have stated in previous messages that the State Park System is under assault from all sorts of special interest groups. The time is coming when we will have to defend the existence of parks which we never dreamed would or could be threatened by development and population pressures.

To prepare for this inevitable battle, we must begin **now** to evaluate our strengths and weaknesses. We must demonstrate through the highest quality interpretive programming possible that the State Park System is an invaluable and indispensable asset to human existence. Our service to the public should become less self serving, and more sincere. Restrooms should be cleaned every two hours or more if needed. And the administration should relentlessly seek a permanent funding source for the Department. Finally, we must ask some tough questions about the State Park System itself. (Continued on page 4)

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## Pushing It To The Limit

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(Continued from page 1)

"Access for Everyone" is the subject of another discussion. Vickie White (accessibility coordinator for Golden Gate National Recreation Area) and Mike Brown, Manager of Technical Services for the California Department of Parks and Recreation, will be presenting both philosophical and practical tools to help park staff in accessing and planning for accessibility.

With Vickie White, a wheelchair user, we will see accessibility through the eyes of someone who has faced the challenges with humor and perseverance. Vickie has just completed a national tour looking at accessibility in parks, culminating in a meeting with congressional leaders in Washington.

Mike Brown will be presenting an accessibility guide recently completed by the Department, which goes beyond restroom facilities to include trails, picnic areas, etc.

Vickie White sums up the issue in her statement: "My desires to enjoy the outdoors haven't changed, just my opportunities." The 1990 conference will bring us closer to providing those opportunities for everyone to enjoy the best of California forever.

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## SAVE BODIE!

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(Continued from page 1)

Consolidated Mining Company, Canada's Galactic Resources Ltd. has been doing exploratory drilling and other project feasibility research on land adjacent to the state historic park. They've also made claims on 47 square miles of public land surrounding Bodie, extending over the Nevada border. Last June, they abruptly stopped drilling during the park's busiest season, when media coverage was also at a peak. Publicity was not given as a reason for the work stoppage and employee lay-offs; however, drilling did resume after the visitor season slacked off in mid-September. Now things seem quiet again. But are they?

We still don't know what type of mining operation they are planning or when they will move forward with their plans. We've heard rumors of possible partnerships with larger, more experienced mining companies. We've also heard rumors of financial problems and know that there have been major personnel changes. Although some say the project is not economically viable, others believe the ore body is incredibly rich. In early September, Mono County's Review-Herald quoted Galactic's chief geologist as saying, "there is probably on the order of one-and-one-quarter million ounces of gold." With gold selling for over \$400 an ounce, we feel our fears for Bodie's future

are well founded.

We need your continued support. Letters to your elected representatives and other decision-makers are very important. If you've already written, please write again. Also, if you can help, we would appreciate a donation of any amount. Contributions are used for postage and printing, to generate more public awareness, and to keep you informed, as well as for legal expenses.

We know that this could be a very long, expensive fight. We believe that Bodie is worth more than gold. It must be preserved unimpaired for future generations. With your help, we can SAVE BODIE.

(This letter prepared by Donna Pozzi was sent by the Bodie Committee to its hundreds of supporters.)

### POSITION AVAILABLE County of San Diego District Park Manager

Annual Salary:  
\$31,949 - \$38,854

Requires BS in park administration, public administration, park design or a closely related field such as biology or sociology AND at least one year of supervisory experience in a park-related field; OR two years of any of the above college level courses and at least two years of experience as a Supervising Ranger or a position of equivalent level responsibility. APPLY BY: 5:00 PM January 26, 1990. For application call (619) 236-2191 EOE



## President's Message

(Continued from page 2)

Are our units really of statewide significance? If not then we should use established law to dispose of marginal lands and use the proceeds to rehabilitate campgrounds and facilities that are in areas of statewide significance. I propose that the State Park Commission sponsor a modern Olmsted study for the purpose of evaluating the statewide significance of our existing state parks, and for the purpose of determining if there are other lands not within the State Parks System which should be. It has been over sixty years since the Olmsted report. It is time we took another look.

## CSPRA Donates \$250 to Pay For District Superintendent Award and Plaque



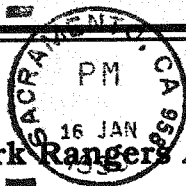
**Recipients of Superintendents of The Year Awards: Left-to-right Bob Macomber - Sierra, 1989; Steve Treanor - Channel Coast, 1988; Mary Wright - Monterey, 1987; Craig Engel, - Calaveras, 1986; and Carl Chavez - Eel River, 1985.**

# Happy

# New

# Year

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