

# NEWSLETTER

california state park rangers association

Volume VI Number 30

June-July 1991

## Honorary Membership Selection

Honorary membership nominations are now due for the October 125th Celebration.

Please prepare your nomination and send it along with biographical information and justification to Mary Wright, Honorary Member Chair, 20 Custom House Plaza, Monterey, CA 93920 by August 1, 1991.

(An Honorary member may be any person who for distinguished service devoted to the objectives of the Association is nominated by any member and approved by a two-thirds vote of the Board.)

## New California Foundation Launched by Rick Parmer

On Saturday, April 20, 1991, the Cal Ranger Foundation was formed. In the historic setting of the old State Capitol at Benicia SHP, representatives from CSPRA and PRAC put the finishing touches on the bylaws and articles of incorporation.

The pros and cons of establishing a foundation with distinct and independent functions has been discussed by park supporters in both organizations for many years.

Much of the debate centered on whether simply improving or expanding functions of the existing organizations would better serve park professionals. In the end, representatives from both organizations felt that restrictions of existing missions and organizational structures hampered progress in several key areas of professional advancement.

Public interest and demand for parkland resources and services has grown dramatically since the early sixties. Additional services were developed and staff trained. However, in many cases, opinion polls and basic research were ignored or given inadequate  
(Continued on page 4)

## The History of Firearms in the California Department of Parks and Recreation by Kenneth G. Wilbur, SPS I

In 1968 when William Penn Mott Jr. was Director of the Department of Parks and Recreation, the Toothman report, titled **Crime Control in the California State Parks A Survey - 1968**, was completed by the Commission on Peace Officer Standards and Training. This report identified many responsibilities of the Department concerning the law enforcement function and recommended "a comprehensive program designed to improve the capability of the Park System to cope with the incidence of crime and related problems, and establish crime prevention controls." The report stated that "the Park System is ill equipped and unprepared both in terms of trained personnel and the essential equipment, to cope with the problems of crime and disorder in the Parks." There was at the time "an informal policy where park rangers, while on duty do not carry firearms, handcuffs or batons. Thus in the context of standard peace officer capability, they are not equipped to meet their obligations as peace officers." The report went on to recommend that "selected rangers should be thoroughly trained in the use of firearms and other defensive weapons. The concentration of a large volume of crime in a few park areas emphasizes the need to establish full time policing units in some of these areas. The following areas should be given priority: Orange Coast, San Mateo, Folsom, Mendocino, Big Basin, San Diego Coast, Big Sur and Carpentry."

After much review and discussion of the Toothman report, Director Mott authorized the carrying of defensive equipment, including firearms, in 1971, with the issuance of equipment in 1972 in selected areas based on actual crime statistics.

The cost of enforcement equipment for 100 rangers was also identified in the report. The total was \$10,527.00, broken down as follows: Smith and Wesson .38 Special Revolver, 4-inch barrel (\$57.43);  
(Continued on page 3)

**THE CALIFORNIA  
STATE PARK RANGERS  
ASSOCIATION**

A professional association.

Executive Manager  
Newsletter Editor

**Doug Bryce**  
P. O. Box 28366  
Sacramento, CA 95828  
(916) 383-2530  
FAX (916) 387-1179  
\*\*\*\*

PRESIDENT  
**Bud Getty**  
Santa Cruz Mtns  
Superintendent  
(408) 335-9145  
\*\*\*\*

VICE PRESIDENT  
**Rick LeFlore**  
Delta District Ranger II  
(916) 777-7705  
\*\*\*\*

TREASURER  
**Kate Foley**  
Lake Oroville, Chief Ranger  
(916) 538-2208  
\*\*\*\*

DIRECTORS  
**Donna Pozzi**  
Supervisor of Interp. Programs  
(916) 322-8545  
**Nina Gordon**  
SPS Planning  
(916) 322-8710  
**Ron Schafer**  
Chino Hills Dist. Sup't.  
(714) 780-6222  
\*\*\*\*

CAL RANGER  
**David Brooks**  
\*\*\*\*

**SAVE BODIE!** and all other  
committees use CSPRA address.  
\*\*\*\*

## VICE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By the time this newsletter reaches you, the 125th ranger anniversary celebrations will be well on their way. In a time of fiscal crisis, and more being asked of our already strained ranks, it is entirely appropriate to look towards our beginnings and perhaps reaffirm our choice of park work as not just a profession, but a lifestyle.

Edward Abbey best sums things up for me in his writings on being employed in Arches National Park: "I like my job. . . The fringe benefits are priceless: clean air to breathe (after spring sandstorm), stillness, solitude and space, an unobstructed view every day and night of sun, sky, stars, clouds, mountains, moon, cliffrose and canyons, a sense of time enough to let thought and feeling range from here to the end of the world and back; the discovery of something intimate — though impossible to name — in the remote." Imagine the seniority points it would take to get a job like that!

As I sit at my desk for yet another light year of fee collection analysis, I find myself longing for that far away ranger vision of Abbey's. Yet as we enter this coming busy season, let us pause and look back to the 125-year heritage we are entrusted with and reaffirm our commitments to this chosen profession. This summer, as in the previous 124 summers, rangers will be called upon to perform "above and beyond" the call of duty countless times throughout our state — truly a proud heritage well worth celebrating!

— Rick LeFlore, Vice President (President Getty is in Great Britain on vacation.)

The NEWSLETTER (ISSN 0887-9176) is published by CSPRA, P.O. Box 28366, Sacramento, CA 95828.

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. **The deadline for articles is the 15th of the month prior to publication.**

---

## Firearms

(Continued from page 1)

---

1000 rounds of ammunition (\$69.90); holster, swivel type with flap (\$9.50); belt (\$10.95); cartridge case (\$4.25); cuff case (\$4.25); handcuffs (\$13.50); and baton (\$4.00).

The newly formed Dan Wesson company received the "low bid" for the .38 Special 4" barreled handguns. They were issued to rangers and used for training purposes at both the Modesto and Riverside Sheriff's Academies. They soon developed a poor reputation as they often malfunctioned, sometimes even disassembling themselves during shooting. Instead of a bang, bang, bang, there were the familiar sounds along the shooting line of bang, click, click, bang, click! Many of these Dan Wessons have been permanently disabled and are used at Asilomar as "Red Handles." In 1974 Colt Trooper Mark III's and Smith and Wesson Model 10's were purchased to replace the Dan Wessons.

In a February 26, 1975 memorandum Director Mott authorized "the use of peace officer protective equipment in all areas of the Park System." The Operations Division was to "select equipment that will provide a low profile...and update appropriate sections in the Operations Manual on the use of peace officer protective equipment so that an enforcement image will not become paramount but, rather, will share equally with the other basic responsibilities of a State Park Ranger peace officer..."

In 1975 several small weapons were tested in specific units to consider their feasibility as duty weapons. The three Smith and Wesson handguns tested were a Model 15 .38 Special with a 2" barrel, a stainless steel Model 60 .38 Special with a 2" barrel, and one auto pistol, a Model 39, 9mm with a 4" barrel. Even though there seemed to be an agreement among the rangers testing these three weapons that the 9 mm auto pistol was preferred, when the test results were released the 4" barreled, 6 shot revolver was identified as best suited for Department use at that time. Smith and Wesson .38 Special, Model 15's with a 4" barrel were then purchased and issued in late 1975 and early 1976 to all remaining peace officers who had not received weapons in 1972. Cordovan colored leather gear consisting of a Sam Browne belt, top draw holster, ammo drop pouch, baton holder and handcuff case was also issued. In 1977-78 all leather gear was dyed black. This Peace Officer Protective Equipment (P.O.P.E.) was issued in black bowling ball bags, but could only be worn on special occasions such as night patrol or when a situation degenerated to a point when the officer's safety was jeopardized. After several years of complaints and

near tragedies, this policy was changed to mandate the wearing of P.O.P.E. and included exceptions to when it did not have to be worn.

The first duty ammunition was the .38 Special, 158 grain Lubaloy lead round nosed bullet that was the accepted standard of other law enforcement agencies. In 1976 the Department changed to a somewhat lighter 150 grain lead round nosed bullet with a plus P rating (plus pressure) with higher velocity. After extensive tests by the California Highway Patrol a 110 grain controlled expansion bullet (jacketed hollow point) with a plus P plus rating was authorized and issued in 1978.

In 1984 and 1985 the Colt Trooper Mark III's, Smith and Wesson Model 10's and Model 15's were replaced with stainless steel Smith and Wesson Model 67's.

The first documented authorization for the use of shotguns was in 1979 at Prairie Creek Redwoods where they were used to dispatch wounded elk. The routine carrying of shotguns was first authorized by memorandum in August 6, 1984 in the Folsom Lake Area. Since then many districts have established a shotgun policy authorizing the routine carrying of this tool. Generally, the Remington Model 870 12 gauge was the weapon used even though several Smith and Wesson Model 3000's and a Mossberg were obtained through the "beer kegs to shotguns program" or through the infamous "Brass Account."

Several rifles have also been authorized for special occasions in the State Park System. In 1983 an AR-15 in .223 was authorized for use by the marijuana eradication team at Eel River. In the Marin District both a .223 and Marlin 30-30 have been used in the deer herd reduction program. Feral cats and wild pigs have been dispatched using a variety of weapons throughout the state. Specialty weapons such as dart guns have also been used by rangers. Another weapon used by a small, but distinguished group of rangers and lifeguards has been the .38 Special target revolver.

The first Firearms Instructor Class, presented by the F.B.I., was held in June 1975 at the Stockton P.D. range. Several subsequent instructor classes were presented by the F.B.I. until 1980 when the Department developed their own Firearms Training Manual. Qualifications were on a 300 point course until 1982 when the Combat Survival Firing Course, scored on a possible 150 points, was authorized. This course emphasized close combat shooting. Night shooting was also required. The isosceles style of shooting was taught until 1988 when the Weaver Technique was authorized. Optional equipment such as speed loaders and breakfront holsters were authorized in 1978.

(Continued on page 4)

---

## Firearms

(Continued from page 3)

---

In 1985 a firearms inspection course was developed and presented to 20 peace officers at William Penn Mott Jr. Training Center. Two later classes were presented bringing to sixty the total number Firearms inspectors who have the responsibility to ensure that all firearms used on duty are maintained within factory specifications. The Inspectors program receives both support and direction from a small group of factory trained departmental armorers.

In 1989 semi-automatic pistols were authorized for duty use by Regional Directors for special assignments such as working with multi-agency drug task forces. General approval for all State Park Peace Officers to carry 9 mm semi-automatic pistols on duty came in February of 1991. The 147-grain subsonic bullet was the authorized ammunition for the 9 mm.

The Department has come a long way in just a few short years. It has developed from an "ill equipped and unprepared" group of Rangers to a well equipped and highly trained staff of professional State Park Peace Officers.

---

## New Foundation

(Continued from page 1)

---

consideration by the decision makers involved in policy, operation, and planning functions. Dwindling budgets and fierce competition with education, health, and welfare agencies saw park budgets suffer in the legislative process.

Advocacy and lobbying groups such as the Planning and Conservation League were formed to compete for attention and funding in the state-wide political arena.

Land acquisition and facility needs in the State Park System spawned the development of the highly respected California State Parks Foundation. Many other local and state environmental groups such as the venerable Save-The-Redwoods League and friends of the parks played key support roles.

Foundation development representatives carefully surveyed existing organizations to see if they could serve our needs in the following areas affecting local and state parklands. It was determined that only a new foundation could meet these goals on a local and state-wide level.

### 1) Basic Research

There is a need for independent high-quality studies on topics such as long-term strategies for park resource management, interpretation, law enforcement, maintenance and professional certification. And most important, there is a need to secure stable funding to meet these goals.

### 2) Scholarship and Academic Support

Existing efforts have been piecemeal and somewhat uncoordinated. The foundation would serve as a clearinghouse for major grants to individuals and groups.

### 3) Fundraising

The need to establish endowments and planned giving programs has existed for years. Through the estates of park supporters and professionals, academic chairs can be endowed in park management. Studies can be commissioned on issues such as Bodie SHP and Yosemite for planning, public service, and operational purposes. These efforts should complement and not compete with the efforts of the State Parks or Planning and Conservation foundations.

### 4) Publications

The plan is to eventually take over publication of the existing *California Ranger* and to cover national, state and local park issues affecting California.

The foundation is initially established without voting members. Supporting members are encouraged to make annual contributions and will receive publications and activity updates.

New board members will come from CSPRA, PRAC and park supporters in the general public. The board will have six to twelve directors with a president and secretary/treasurer.

Candidates with a strong interest in parks are now being sought to fill initial vacancies. Desirable individuals with park management experience, a law degree, CPA credentials, professional fundraising or an academic background are encouraged to apply.

Doug Bryce has been appointed Executive Manager. Founding board members include: Tom Smith, past president of PRAC; Rick Parmer, past president of CSPRA and acting foundation president; Dave Lydick, past VP and region rep of PRAC; and Inez Cook, acting secretary/treasurer and retired administrative officer for DPR.

If you are interested in recommending candidates for the two remaining board vacancies, please contact Doug Bryce.

The next board meeting will be June 8th at Benicia Capitol at 10:00 a.m.



## Letters

Mr. Bud Getty, President

Dear Bud,

Since CSPRA seeks to provide a forum for the exchange of information on many park-related topics, I would like to inform you of a proposal which has major implications to several units of the State Park System. The Department of Water Resources proposes to construct Los Banos Grandes, a major State Water Project off-stream storage reservoir in western Merced County. DWR states that the project will provide needed additional water storage for Central and Southern California, improve the delta fishery, and provide additional recreation facilities. The proposal includes:

1. Constructing a 400' high earthen dam in the designated wildlife area within the western portion of the State Recreation Area above Los Banos Creek Reservoir. Such a structure will obliterate Menjoulet Canyon and the year-round Los Banos Creek which provides unique habitat to many plant and animal species on the west side of the San Joaquin Valley. Eighteen of the Department's Resource Management Directives are impacted by this structure.

2. Flooding the Los Banos Valley to create a 1.73 million acre foot reservoir (approximately equal in size to San Luis Reservoir and just .5 mile south of this unit). This new storage reservoir will inundate over 6 miles of riparian habitat including one of the largest native sycamore groves in the Central Valley.

3. Constructing two conveyance channels, each over 300' wide and several thousand feet long to carry water from the California Aqueduct through the park and into the storage reservoir. These channels will destroy several documented sites used by native Californians as well as eliminate the existing bass fishery and wilderness recreation experience.

4. Creating a new reservoir recreation area which will require over \$13 million in capitol outlay funds and between \$2 and \$3 million in new support funds to operate. This reservoir will be adjacent to San Luis Reservoir which has not yet been fully developed.

DWR plans to dredge and channel the north and south delta around DPR's property at Delta Meadows to provide the increased volume and water quality necessary to fill Los Banos Grandes Reservoir.

The attached information provides more detail on

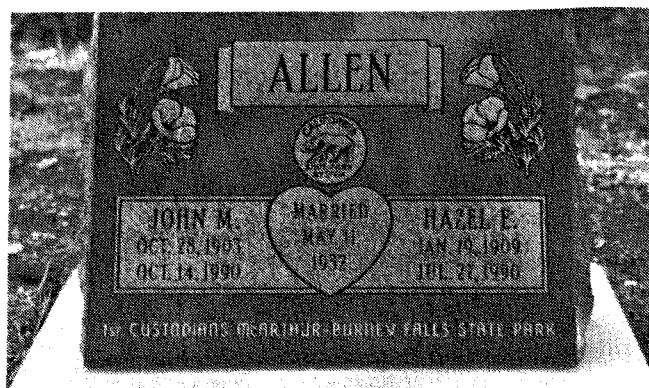
this project. Three draft EIR's have been prepared on Los Banos Grandes plus the delta projects. The deadline for public comment is June 30, 1991. Our Department is studying the proposals but has not yet responded with comments. I urge the CSPRA Board to consider these proposals and take whatever action they feel is appropriate. I also hope the details will be transmitted to the membership for their information as well.

Sincerely, John Kolb, Four Rivers District

**Jack Allen**  
**First State Park Custodian at**  
**McArthur Burney Falls Memorial**  
**State Park 1929-1937**  
**by Lois White, Park Aid**

The State Chief of Parks came to Burney looking for someone to hire as "caretaker" of Burney Falls State Park. The owner of the local store and the postmaster both recommended Jack Allen. Jack moved to the park in the spring of 1929 and lived in a tent that the State provided.

In 1932 he built the pump house and rock water fountain, and helped build the park house which now stands sentinel at the park entrance. One of his guests that year was President Herbert Hoover. Jack started building the trail down to the falls, and the CCC finished it. He also built the original bridge above the falls.



In 1931 he put in an application at the local fish hatchery for 25,000 fish, and ended up getting an extra 25,000 after the hatchery stocked all of its orders.

Jack resigned in 1937 to go back to heavy equipment operating.

Jack and his wife Hazel passed away in 1990, and are buried in the Burney Falls Pioneer Cemetery.

## Attention Mailers

by Brian Cahill  
North Coast Redwood  
Interpretive Association

The new postal rates have hurt small organizations who send out newsletters and other mailings. But your postmaster can tell you several ways to reduce costs, depending on your needs. A lot of groups are looking at the savings offered by using zip plus 4 codes and presorting their mailings. Dedicated volunteers have already spent countless hours looking up the codes and updating mailing lists. There is, however, a better way for most folks using computers.

The Post Office will use your floppy disk to check the spelling and format of each address and add the correct zip plus 4 code. Your disk is returned along with a list of any problem addresses. They are currently offering this service free, but it is not too widely known.

### RANGER LOGO



Don't be surprised if no one at your local post office has heard of this. It may help if you ask for "PS FORM 5603 MAY 1989." You may also phone the National Address Information Center at (800) 238-3150. I have a hunch they won't do this for free forever so don't wait too long.

Specific requirements include: IBM PC/XT/AT or other MS DOS compatible computer with a 3-1/2 or 5-1/4 or 8-inch diskette. They are not too picky about what software you use, as long as it has fixed length fields. I had good results with our membership records using the PCFile program which runs nicely on the park's Mistix computer.

## A Ranger Is . . .

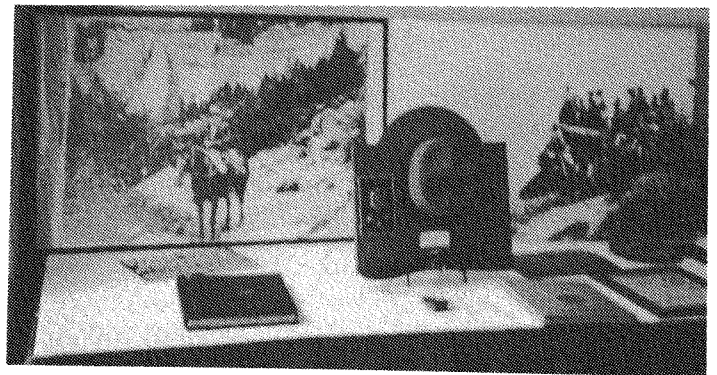
### The PRAC Workshop

by Mike Lynch

Gangs, graffiti, drugs, assaults, hug-a-tree, budget cuts, use of deadly force, signs, and AV techniques — all in ranger's day. The rangers in this case are mainly the local park rangers who make up the membership of the Park Rangers Association of California (PRAC) attending the PRAC workshop at Yosemite on March 11-13, 1991.

The three-day workshop tracked what was happening in the local park rangers' world in the areas of law enforcement, resource management and interpretation. The workshop was attended by over 150 people, including a half dozen state park rangers and a similar number of federal agency park rangers. In addition to the 18 individual sessions, a large display of the State Park Ranger 125th Anniversary material was set up and "staffed" by Kathy Yee, Anne Mene-guzzi and Mike Lynch.

It came as no surprise that local park rangers face virtually the same problems as rangers in state service. The only difference being that an individual local agency may be dominated by one approach or problem. For instance, the Long Beach rangers gave an interesting session on their fight to keep illegal gang activity and graffiti out of the city parks. This problem requires them to make a serious commitment to law enforcement duties, similar to what is required at many of the high-use state parks like Folsom Lake, Pismo Beach and other beach and recreation areas.



125th Anniversary exhibit at PRAC Workshop.

Aside from Santa Clara parks, everyone seemed to be up against budget and financial reduction or at least uncertainty. Several agencies had seen an increase in enforcement work and reduction in interpretation and other programs as a response and possibly a method of holding off budget cuts.  
(Continued on page7)

---

## A Ranger is . . .

(Continued from page 6)

---

And a small side note, at the panel session, the Yosemite National Park enforcement representative J. R. Tomasavic related some of the Yosemite enforcement figures. For 1990, with about 3.5 million visitors, Yosemite rangers wrote 6,000 tickets, made 700 arrests, and had about 1,600 prisoner days recorded, and about 150 search and rescue operations were mounted.

In one session, State Park Deputy Regional Director George Cook made presentation on the use of deadly force, drawing on the two state park incidents at Huntington Beach and Lake Perris. Participants were keenly interested in the circumstances, effects, procedures and outcome surrounding the use of deadly force by park officers.

The workshop concluded with a banquet which honored William Penn Mott Jr., who was made an Honorary PRAC member. With a Yosemite covered by freshly fallen snow as a back drop and a good program developed by conference chair Bob Donahue, PRAC President Chris George and PRAC Executive Manager Doug Bryce. The PRAC workshop was interesting, enjoyable and quite a successful event.

### Humor In Unicorn

by Jeff Price

Beware! The fourteenth column of Mixed Metaphors and Malaprops is here. Thanks to each of you who have sent "overheards." I'm getting other stuff as well, which seems to be coming together under the title of "Oxymorons and State Government." A sampling soon, but now back to your diet of malaprops and mixed metaphors.

Huh? What did she say? Speak up!: "If I could just talk out loud for a moment . . ."

So, what is that, a 4 centimeter objective?: "I have wanted to do this ever since I was knee-high to a door nail."

On stand-by, waiting painfully: "You can't just sit back on your fingers forever."

When a fellow worker has a little trouble getting going in the morning, you just can't describe the feeling any better: "He's not firing on all gears today."

Now there was a collector's item worth having: "She had a Florida CDL."

When describing how lies eventually trip up deceivers: ". . . so she became encased in a web as large as a womb." (I can't understand all of these myself, I am just a dutiful reporter).

As difficult as it may be, we must bring this column to a close . . . but first, something completely different . . . No sharp dressed man here: ". . . he's just a wolf in cheap clothing."

### Park Service Defends Itself to Supporters

by Chronicle Staff Writer Carl Nolte

**But some say that it is underfinanced,  
under managed and unclear on its  
mission.**

The National Park Service is 75 years old this year — but to hear some of its best supporters tell it yesterday, the park service and regional treasures it manages are in big trouble.

The park service, a conference sponsored by the National Parks and Conservation Association was told, is beset on every side. Speakers said it is underfinanced, under managed and unclear on its mission.

A "deliberate policy" of deferred maintenance has led to a \$2 billion backlog of repair and public safety projects. That statistic said association President Paul Pritchard, is nothing short of astounding."

Last year, he said, one of the buildings at the Martin Luther King Historic Site in Atlanta collapsed 'into a pile of kindling' as a result of deferred maintenance. Some old farm houses at the Antietam NMational Battlefield are on the verge of collapse, and the lumber schoioner C.A. Thayer at the San Francisco National Historical park may sink if it is not repaired soon.

Worse yet, said Howard Chapman, retired western region director for the park service, interference from politicians is so prevalent that "Political intrigue has become a fact of life."

Even Congress is in the act, Pritchard said. Assorted senators and U.S. Representatives are so busy nominating sites in their districts for consideration as parks, regardless of their real value, "that at times the National Park Service has been called the National Pork Service."

The association's answer is to get the park service out of politics by removing it from the Department of (Continued on page 8)

---

## NPS Defends Itself

(Continued from page 7)

---

the Interior and making it an independent agency.

Pritchard, who is president of the 200,000-member association, said an independent park service would have some of the clout of outfits like the Smithsonian Institution and the Library of Congress and less of the politics.

"The current concept," Pritchard said, "doesn't work." The service came under more tough criticism during the day-long conference at the Marines Memorial Club in San Francisco. Author Alfred Runte, a frequent critic, said the service was not doing enough to resist pressure from businesses in the parks and from the people who felt they had a right to drive cars and large mobile homes into parks, regardless of the damage to the natural resources the parks are supposed to preserve.

Robin Winks, a Yale historian, said he is worried that the park service is drifting away from a preservationist organization and into what he called "entertainment recreation," such as power boating, snowmobiling and downhill skiing.

The park service reaction to all this criticism was mild, as befits a venerable organization on its 75th anniversary.

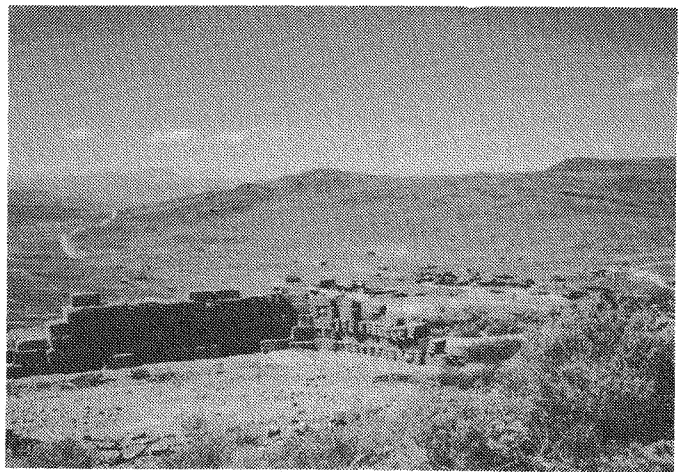
Park Service Deputy Director Herb Caples said the service is not only the nation's "most popular federal agency, according to poll," but continues to be "a dynamic evolving organization," dedicated to "preserving the past, managing the present and investing in the future."

### Bodie Update

by Donna Pozzi

CSPRA's efforts to save Bodie have been underway for more than two and a half years. This massive campaign has been so successful because so many of our members have been willing to get involved. Most recently, retired members Inez Cook and Jean Bowdoin staffed our table at the Big Basin kick-off event for the 125th Ranger Anniversary. In April, Inez coordinated a team of volunteers for the State Capitol Earth Day celebration. Among those who helped by talking to the public about Bodie and selling SAVE BODIE! t-shirts were Pat Cloney, Gene Itogawa, Dorene Clement, Lin Lindert, Bill Dall, Ken Jimenez-Anderson and Nina Gordon. Thank you, one and all.

What else have we been up to? In some ways, this has been a quiet time — perhaps the calm before the storm? We're still waiting for long-delayed documents from Mono County and the Bureau of Land Management. The county is working on an EIR for the next phase of Galactic's mineral exploration activities. Originally due out in December 1990, they're now telling us "later this summer." BLM is rewriting portions of their Bishop Area Resource Management Plan and Environmental Impact Statement to address the public's concerns about Bodie. They've told us that they will soon be releasing a map showing some 2000 acres for withdrawal from mining. While this is what we asked for (our letter-writing campaign was enormously effective!), and we're very encouraged by this action by BLM, we'll need to study that map very carefully: this is a much smaller area than we know is needed to protect Bodie.



View of Bodie from one of Galactic's Test Sites

This past spring brought another round of tours by VIPs to Bodie. New Resources Agency Secretary Doug Wheeler and Undersecretary Michael Mantell have expressed their concern for Bodie by making a visit to the park one of their early priorities. CSPRA was included in the tour which also involved BLM, Mono County, DPR, the National Trust and of course Galactic. This was followed by a tour of congressional staff who are looking into federal legislation to implement SJR 60. This interest and concern for Bodie back in Washington resulted in action by Mono County's Board of Supervisors. They've just passed a resolution extolling Bodie's virtues as a mineral resource, and opposing any congressional action. They also feel this is an issue of "local control" and that they and BLM can properly protect Bodie. We'll see . . . and so it goes.



---

---

## Letters

---

---

April 29, 1991

Honorable Douglas Wheeler  
Secretary for resources  
1416 9th Street  
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Mr. Wheeler,

The California State Park Rangers Association was very pleased with Governor Wilson's April 22 announcement of his proposed \$628 million bond act supporting a range of conservation and environmental purposes. It is genuinely exciting to see the new administration taking such a positive and active role.

However, the Association does have one point of substantial concern with the Governor's proposal. We are concerned with the lack of grant funds for local jurisdiction.

We understand that, in compensation for this omission, a proposed amendment to the Constitution will allow local jurisdictions to pass their own park and recreation bond measures with a simple majority of the voters. Such actions will put the decision-making on local park bonds directly in the hands of those most effected. If a jurisdiction chooses to allocate its money to parks and recreation, its voters are free to do so, independent of any direction or pressure from the state. Alternatively, the voters can choose to spend their bond money elsewhere, or to pass no bonds at all.

The Association is very concerned about those economically distressed jurisdictions for which this choice is an empty one. California has millions of people who live in cities and counties that cannot afford the luxury of their own park and recreation bond act, regardless of how few voters it would take to pass it. Dozens of older, heavily urbanized cities, as well as many of the state's counties, do not have the fiscal resources for even the basic infrastructure — improved roads, schools, modern sewer systems. These jurisdictions certainly cannot afford their own bonds to pay for parks and recreation, important as these facilities may be. Such areas will not have sufficient parks and recreation facilities unless the state can provide financial assistance.

Historically, every statewide bond act for park and recreation purposes has contained an allocation for grant money to be conveyed to the park agencies of California's cities, counties, and special districts. This is a tradition we strongly believe must be continued, at least to the point that the state provides

assistance to those jurisdictions that cannot provide for themselves.

We suggest an alternative. If the jurisdiction cannot support a local grant program for which all jurisdictions are eligible, the administration should include one which will be more sharply focused on those jurisdictions which are demonstrably needy. Such a program exists today in the Department of Parks and Recreation, but its funding is severely depleted. To be eligible for this program, local jurisdictions must meet criteria showing economic need, as well as the ability to complete the grant and operate the facility. A specific share of this local grant money could be earmarked for the rehabilitation of worn-out grounds and facilities, an extremely pressing problem in such jurisdictions.

The Association urges you and the administration to amend its proposed bond act to include funds for park and recreation grants to jurisdictions that are demonstrably needy. We urge that at least \$50 million be made available through the existing Roberti-Z'berg-Harris program, having shaped that program's focus to the purpose indicated above.

This suggested modification of the Governor's proposed bond act is essential to make the measure better serve the needs of all Californians. In addition, it will better show a social concern in the conservation/ environmental area that will temper any charges of "elitism" that such measures sometimes generate. Everyone needs parks, recreation, and open space, and the administration's bond act would be better and more widely received if its benefits were directly felt by the maximum number of people.

I would be pleased to meet with you to discuss this with you at your convenience.

Sincerely,

Maurice "Bud" Getty, President

---

Mr. Maurice "Bud" Getty, President  
California State Park Rangers Association  
2979 Graham Hill Road  
Santa Cruz, CA 95060

Dear Mr. Getty:

Thank you for your letter of April 29, 1991, expressing the support of the California State Park rangers Association for Governor Wilson's proposed \$628 million California Heritage Lands Bond Act of 1992.

I can understand your Association's concern that the Governor's proposal does not include any funds for (Continued on page 10)

---

## More Letters

(Continued from page 9)

---

local park grants which has been a traditional element of statewide park bond proposals in the past.

At a time when California is facing unprecedented population growth, difficult choices must be made as to how to handle that increase in population, provide the necessary infrastructure, and maintain and improve the quality of life for all Californians. An important part of preparing for that growth is providing parks, open space, wildlife and recreational facilities. From a statewide perspective, however, these needs must compete with other critical needs such as higher education, school facilities, health facilities, transportation and prisons.

We believe that the critical local parks needs can be provided through local bonds if the present two-thirds vote requirement were replaced by a simple majority vote requirement. For that reason the Governor's "Resourceful California" includes a ballot proposal to provide for a majority vote to pass local park bonds. At the same time, the governor is proposing a statewide bond to meet state park needs at a level which is considered prudent when taking into account all of the other state bond needs which will have to be presented to the voters in 1992.

While at this time we are not planning on including any funds for local park grants as part of the California Heritage Lands Bond Act, we believe that enactment of a constitutional amendment to permit approval of local park bonds by a majority vote will go a long way in helping to meet local park and recreation facility needs.

Sincerely,

Douglas P. Wheeler

### 125th Anniversary Kick-off Breakfast

Kirk Wallace, Retired Ranger and Charter CSPRA member, organized and co-hosted with CSPRA a pancake breakfast honoring retired DPR employees. The celebration was part of the 125th Anniversary Kick-off Day activities at Big Basin State Park on May 21, 1991. Assisting Kirk were: Wes and Celeste Cater, Clyde & Rosemary Strickler, Jim & Bev Neal, Bob & Dee Simmons, Laura Whaley, Helen Tardif, Dick Rausch, Marie Wallace and Tim Wallace.

Kirk lists the following materials needed to feed 290 people.

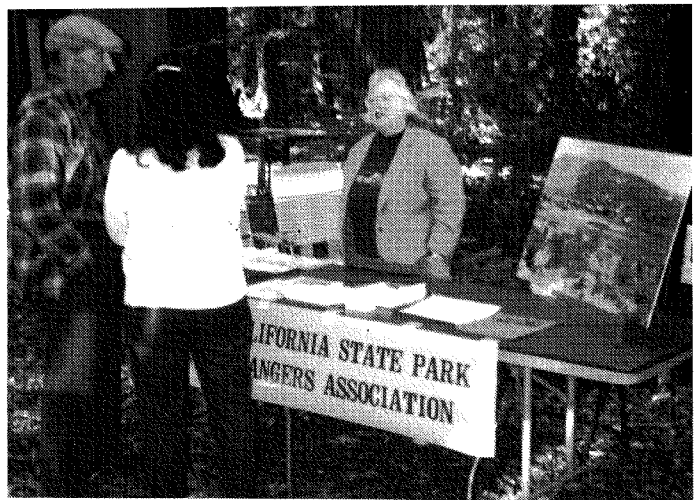
39 pounds of ham (.13 lbs/person)  
40 pounds of pancake mix  
7 quarts of syrup (.77 ounce/person)  
24 pounds of coffee  
7 gallons of juice  
4 pounds of margarine  
7 gallons of fruit



Pancake Breakfast at the Kick-off for the 125th.



Ranger Brooks Collum greets Tiny Philbrook as part of the Wells-Fargo "Free Day in Early Parks" to commemorate the 125th.



Inez Cook and CSPRA/SAVE BODIE! booth.

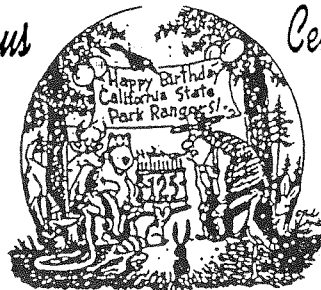
Put these dates on your calendar!!

**125th Anniversary**

**of the**

**State Park Ranger**

*Help us Celebrate*



**DPR-CSPRA-SPPOAC**

**Joint Conference**

Red Lion Inn, Sacramento, California

Sept. 30

Association Business Meetings

October 1-3

Conference

Reception and Stage Production

Awards Brunch

Picnic at Coloma

Conference Sessions

Banquet

Film Debut

*Reservation forms will be mailed mid-July.*

A Joint Project of the California Department of Parks and Recreation,  
the State Park Peace Officers Association of California  
and the California State Park Rangers Association.

## New Members

We are happy to introduce these new members to our organization. CSPRA offers a forum for sharing ideas and concerns and a means for making an impact in the field of the park professional. 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.

Jean Bowdoin, Retired, Sacramento  
Katherine Charlano, Big Basin  
Barbara Conrad, SPRC, MTC  
Mark S. Hilligan, SPCL, Riverside  
Jeff Davis, Arroyo Grande  
Daniel Ingells, SPCL, Ventura

Robert Stewart, Retired, Mt Ranch  
Liz Burko, SPRC, MTC  
Mark Langner, SPRI, MTC  
Jim Serpa, San Diego  
Mathew Fuzie, Modesto

### Notice

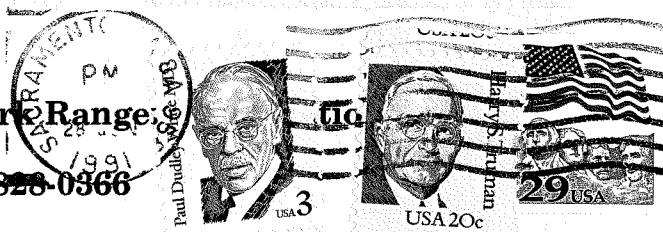
We are considering filing a restraining order to prevent the Department from issuing a permit for oil exploration at Frank's Tract.

June/July 1991

#### Calendar

Deadline for Honorary Member nominations 8/1/91  
Board Meeting, Sac 9/7/91  
PRAC Interpretive Workshop  
— San Jose 9/26/91  
125th Celebration 9/30-10/3/91  
Nominating Committee meeting 10/91  
Elections 11/91  
New officers take office 1/1/92  
1992 Annual Workshop, Inn at  
The Park — Anaheim  
3/16 - 19/92

California State Park Range  
P. O. Box 28366  
Sacramento, CA 95828-0366



Mail to:

Returned For Better Address



Recycled & Recyclable