

NEWSLETTER

california state park rangers association

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January 1992

SAVE BODIE! News Flash: "Galactic May Sell Bodie Holdings" by Donna Pozzi

The January 9, 1992 *Mono Review-Herald* carried a front page story with the above headline, elaborating on an earlier article in *The Wall Street Journal*.

To cover environmental reclamation costs at their disastrous Summittville mine in Colorado (estimated at \$3 to \$5 million per year for the next three years), Galactic is attempting to sell off most of its assets. They have already agreed to sell for \$16 million their 48% share of a South Carolina mine and hope to get at least \$15 million for their 50% share of a Nevada mine.

Galactic's president and CEO Peter Guest said they would first try to sell their Bodie property to the state to add to the state park, placing its market value at between \$25 million and \$30 million. Guest was quoted as saying: "We feel strongly about our rights to mine there, but we sense the almost unfair preponderance of sentiment and activity to prevent mining there." Meanwhile, it is "business as usual" with the EIR for additional exploratory work according to Galactic's project manager at Bodie. (This document is now nearly 14 months overdue.) That means that despite this very interesting news about the future of Galactic's plans for Bodie, it's "business as usual" for SAVE BODIE!

Past President Don Murphy Appointed DPR Director

Governor Wilson has appointed a new director for Parks and Recreation. Donald W. Murphy is a career state employee with the State Park System. He previously served as the district superintendent for seven parks in the Big Sur Park District. Prior to this assignment he was at the Chino Hills District in Riverside and Plumas Eureka State Park in Plumas County. He is a member and past president of the California State Park Rangers Association, as well as a director of the Planning and Conservation League. Mr. Murphy's first day at his new job was January 2, 1992. (See comments on page 2 — President's Message)

"Multi Virum Volvens Durando Saecula Vincit" by Mark R. Faull

Within his poem *Georgic II* Virgil refers to the stately oak, a tree that is more enduring than man. "Many a generation, many an age of man rolls onward and [it] survives them all." The phrase conjures a stalwart image, of nature's triumph. Since encountering this phrase I have contemplated how easily the tree could be replaced. In its stead I've envisioned our California State Parks and our mission of multi-generational endurance, our lasting landscape preservation. How this phrase echoes the enabling language in the Yosemite Grant ("for all time") and mimics our mandates for protection and unimpaired transfer to future generations. Certainly the parallels are evident.

I have also considered what an impressive motto this Latin prose would make for our agency. I have envisioned the text
(Continued on page 7)

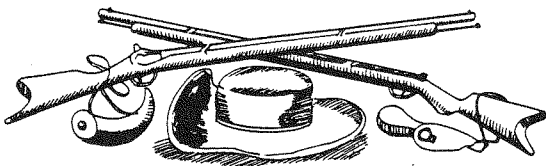
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President's Message

Budget Cuts Could Destroy State Park System, Critics Say.

Sacramento Bee
headline 1/13/92

Happy New Year! And it is! We have leadership. For the first time in the history of the Department, we have someone from within in charge. By the time this reaches your hands, we should have other internal promotions, appointments, and reassignments that will give Don Murphy the team he needs to overcome the deep fiscal crisis, the lowest employee morale ever, and the poor image we have with the Legislature. Our image also suffers within the environmental community, sister agencies, and with the general public who are bewildered by the lack of direction by which we've all been paralyzed.

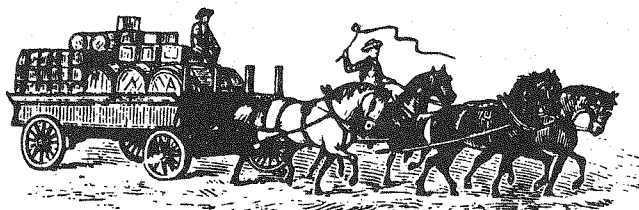
Don is going to have to make some extremely difficult decisions; all of us will probably have at least one of our pet oxen gored. We still have the right to bellow, but once decisions are made, we do need to pull together. And we need to be in it for a long haul. It's going to take some some time to overcome the problems.

The news from Bodie also holds promise. If we can believe Galactic, some of the immediate threat to Bodie and its environs may be lessened. 1992 could be the year of destiny for Bodie — one of the most important properties we have the responsibility for safeguarding.

People are being interviewed for the State Park and Recreation Commission. Soon a full Commission can start working with the Department again. This important forum for the public can also help to give all of us a chance to explain the new programs, policies, and direction that are so necessary.

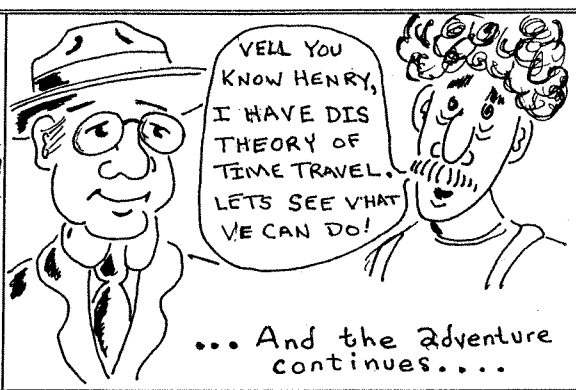
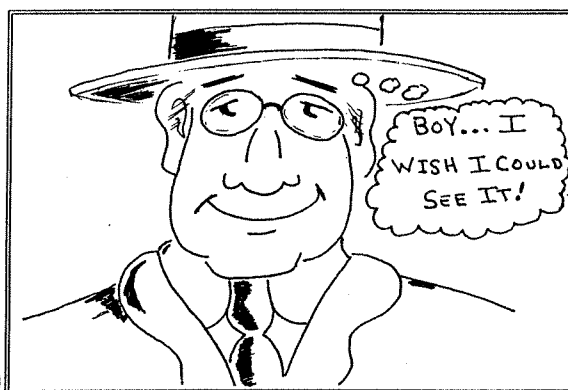
There's lots of work ahead and the times aren't easy. But we're going to get some inspiration from the very top of the Department. Maybe we can pass that along to everyone. It could be contagious. If we can again believe in both the California State Park System and the Department, we can turn things around and again be in a leadership role in the park movement.

Let's do it — it will be exciting and may even be fun again.



THE ADVENTURE OF RANGER HENRY WELLS

Our story begins on a cold spring morning in 1901, when Park Ranger Henry Wells, contemplates the future of parks with his friend Albert, a park maintenance worker....



... And the adventure continues....

CSPRA/PRAC/SPPOAC Annual Workshop

March 16-20, 1992
Inn at the Park, Anaheim

It's time to start thinking about the 1992 combined **CSPRA/PRAC/SPPOAC** Annual Workshop, scheduled for March 16 - 19, 1992 in Anaheim, California. This year's theme, "Parks In The Nineties -- The Future Is Here," will generate exciting, provocative, and educational discussion. But hold on.....there is more to do, see, and learn at this workshop than ever before!

Not only will the traditional golf tournament and evening socials occur, but special tours and outings are arranged for you. Bus tours of premier state and county regional parks as well as visits to Mission San Juan Capistrano, the California Native Plant Garden and Wildlife Oasis, and historical sites are available for those who choose to see first hand the "Future of Parks." Other activities and places to visit are nearby. These include Disneyland, Knott's Berry Farm,

Universal Studios, Queen Mary/Spruce Goose, and other entertainment venues, such as museums, theaters, etc. But you'll want to save some time in your schedule for a Southern California Beach Party with bar-b-que dinner and music! This could set a new standard for future workshops.

Further details regarding the workshop will be forthcoming in future newsletters. Information on group rates and fees will be sent to you with your registration. Since rates are based upon a minimum number in attendance, we need your commitment early in order to lock in a particular rate. **So don't delay!** When you receive your workshop announcement, and pre-registration form, fill it out and return it immediately. Ensure your place in what promises to be the most exciting and rewarding workshop ever!

See you in Anaheim!

Other Activities Include

Keynote Speaker
Joe Edmiston,
Executive
Director, Santa
Monica
Mountains
Conservancy.

Closing Speaker
Jeff De Bonis,
founder &
Executive
Director of the
Association of
Forest Service
Employees for
Environmental
Ethics.

Announcement!

Registration materials were mailed last week.

Register now and invite two friends

You/we need your involvement!

125 years A Ranger Tribute

by Margaret Van Cleve
SPR I, Ocotillo Wells SVRA

It began many years ago—
One hundred and twenty-five to be exact.
I don't think Bud Getty was even born then
Though I'm not quite sure about that fact.

This is the story of park rangers
And how the job has changed over the
years,
And about the special breed of men and
women
Who chose this profession as their career.

It started with ol' Galen Clark,
The guardian of Yosemite.
His job seemed to be so ideal
As he wandered through the backcountry.

He educated the visitors
And gave the park direction.
And through foot patrols and horse patrols,
He gave the park protection.

But if Galen Clark were here today,
Would he want to fill our shoes?
A ranger today is not quite the same.
Is this still the job he would choose?

Could he face the challenges that we do
today?
Could he keep the dream alive?
Could he qualify in defensive tactics?
Would his range score be at least 105?

Did he think about liability?
And did he worry about being sued?
Could he have made it through Asilomar
And eighteen weeks' worth of that food?

Could he drive Code 3 to a 415
As a SPPO for the DPR?
Could he get his 449 and 634 in on time?
Was he an EMT who knew CPR?

Could he insert an oral pharyngeal airway
Even though the training was "who knows
when"?
Could he do a Junior Ranger program
With thirty screaming children?

Would he know how to comfort a rape
victim?
What would he have done with an oil slick?
Would he have willingly manned the kiosk
When the park aide called in sick?

Would he ever receive any training
If his IDP was overlooked?
Would he know how to do a refund
When MISTIX occasionally overbooked?

Could he write a report about non-native
plants,
Do a scat count and a wildfire plan?
Would he volunteer to work at Doheny
The first weekend of the alcohol ban?

What would he think of revenue
generation?
How would he deal with our endless budget
cuts?
Could he handle the red tape from
Sacramento,
Or would the bureaucracy drive him nuts?

When November 30 rolled around
Could he plan next year's vacations?
Would he want to rattle door knobs at
Hearst
And write dog-off-leash citations?

Did he know the standing modified?
Could he have taken someone to jail?
And what do you think Galen would have
said
Had he met Cali the Quail?

Would he have packed his bags and headed
south,
And said "Good-bye" to Yosemite,
If he had wanted to promote,
And the only opening was at the Salton
Sea?

So much has changed since Galen's day,
But his goal is not antiquated:
"Protect the people. Protect the land."
But now it's so damn complicated.

So would Galen still want to be a ranger
If he were with us here today?
Would he, and could he, do this job?
What do you think he would say?

I'm not knocking Galen Clark.
He opened the door for us all.
He has allowed us to fulfill our dreams,
To answer that faraway call.

He started this job that now fills us
With the pride that we feel today.
And like Galen Clark and his
predecessors—
We are obviously not here for the pay.

But being a ranger has really changed.
We don't patrol just on foot or horse.
There are planes and trains and
automobiles,
And boats and motorcycles, of course.

(Continued on page 5)

Ranger Tribute

(Continued from page 4)

And the problems that we face today
Were unheard of 125 years ago.
Yet the spirit of the job remains unchanged
As the department continues to grow.

We are here to serve the people,
To introduce them to our park—
To let them pet a rosy boa,
To hear the song of a meadowlark.,

To walk them through a redwood grove
So that they can feel the serenity
That is found in the darkest of shadows
Beneath an ancient redwood tree.

Or, let's take them to a tidepool
And show them the creatures that live
there.
Let us teach them that they are fragile
And to only handle with care.

Better yet, let's go to the desert
And they can learn about this vast rugged
land.
I can show them some bighorn sheep
And let them hold a tarantula in their
hand.

We can visit some Native American sites
Or go to Jamestown and see the trains.
We can teach them about geology
And the difference between egrets and
cranes.

Let's show them how to be safe in our park
And teach them about the environment.
We can give them directions to the
trailhead
And help them set up a new tent.

And after the parking lots are closed
And we have escaped from the crowds,
We can quietly contemplate the stars
And watch the moon rise through the
clouds.

So we attempt to put the park to bed
And tuck it in, just like a child,
And relive the pain that we faced that day
And the moments that made us smile.

Sometimes the day is way too long,
It seems that it will never end.
Sometimes it passes too quickly,
On that day that we've made a new friend.

There is endless good and quite a bit of bad
that goes along with our ranger careers.
But an unspoken camaraderie is often
revealed
When we share our laughter, hopes and
fears.

Take a look at the people gathered here
And realize that the closeness never ends.
Many of the co-workers of yesterday
Have since become life-long friends.

We've grown up together through the years
And the changes have been very trying.
Being a ranger can sometimes get old—
But is any other job so satisfying?

We're saving the best of California, forever--
At least that's the goal toward which we
strive.
And I think even Galen would be proud to
see
That we've kept the dream alive.

We take the compliments and the com-
plaints in stride
Along with the frustrations and the danger,
So that we can hold our heads up high
And say, "I'm a State Park Ranger!"

Repatriation of Native American Materials

by Wendy Welles Franklin

With the help of a CSPRA scholarship, I attended the annual meeting of the Museum Computer Network, held in Santa Monica in November. The meeting covered a broad range of subjects, from technical to issue oriented, and gave me a chance to learn more about the use of computers to help manage and interpret historic collections. Like any conference, the sharing of ideas with other people was one of the greatest benefits. This conference was attended by representatives from all types of museums throughout the United States, Canada, and several other countries. A full discussion of all the workshops I attended would be too lengthy for this forum, so I have chosen one topic of particular relevance to State Parks with artifact collections.

Repatriation of Native American materials, an issue many of us will face in the near future, was discussed at length in a workshop given by representatives of the Smithsonian, the Peabody Museum at Harvard University, and the National Museum of the American Indian (NMAI). Federal legislation passed in November of 1990, the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA), requires museums with Native American collections (including the artifact collections held by State Park units) to prepare inventories of these holdings, and to return certain categories of materials to Native

(Continued on page 6)

Repatriation (Continued from page 5)

American groups: human remains, funerary objects, sacred objects, and objects of cultural patrimony. Recent California legislation by Assemblyman Richard Katz also requires museums in California to repatriate Native American burial materials. Much discussion has previously occurred within the museum community regarding the pros and cons of repatriation, but now that NAGPRA and the Katz legislation are realities, the focus of this workshop was on methods of complying with the mandate, and the implications for museums.

The great quantities of data to be compiled and published make computers essential tools for carrying out the requirements of the repatriation legislation. Part of the workshop focused on the techniques of using computer databases for compiling the information NAGPRA requires for the collection inventories. Computer technology also will make it easier to share information among institutions and Native American groups. It was proposed, for example, that museums begin participating in electronic networks such as existing computer bulletin boards that focus on museum issues and Native American issues. Another proposal called for the development of a national database to record the repatriation of specific collections.

Presenters of papers in the workshop offered their approaches to the tasks mandated by NAGPRA, including their own institutions' staffing assigned to the project. The typical repatriation staff included anthropologists, archeologists, curators, information (computer) specialists, and clerical staff. The Peabody Museum and the NMAI had also instituted discussion groups between museum staff and Native American groups. All three of the institutions represented on the panel had previously dealt with a repatriation claim, and they shared their experiences. Sensitivity to the beliefs and traditions of Native American groups requires non-Native American people to abandon some assumptions and think about artifacts in a new way. One of the models presented in the workshop was a series of "consultations" held by the National Museum of the American Indian with Indian groups around the United States to discuss the form and function of NMAI's new facility under development in Washington, D.C. These regional meetings, usually lasting a day or two, were attended by thirty to forty people, mostly Native American, and provided the museum staff with input about

different ways of understanding artifacts, and the importance of access to artifacts for Native Americans. One of the results of these discussions is NMAI's shift away from designing a traditional museum to a resource center which would provide access to artifacts for a variety of purposes, including use in ceremonies.

The workshop served as the beginning of a discussion group which plans to share information as the work on repatriation proceeds. Correspondence between the participants in this workshop has already begun. Repatriation is certain to present challenges to those of us who are responsible for Native American collections in State Parks. I hope we can emerge from the experience with a better understanding of the cultures whose objects and lifestyles we try to interpret in our State Parks.

CSPRA Membership

The California State Park Rangers Association (CSPRA) has been dedicated to protecting and preserving features of the California State Park System for almost three decades.

Membership is open to all current and retired employees of the California Department of Parks and Recreation.

CSPRA was organized in 1964 by California park professionals as a non-profit, tax exempt, professional society to encourage quality interpretation, resource management, public protection, maintenance and management of the State Park System.

CSPRA actively promotes advancement of the ideals and philosophy for which state parks were originally founded.

For membership information write:

CSPRA, P O Box 292010,
Sacramento, CA 95829-2010.
(916) 383-2530

Preservation vs Recreation

(Continued from page 1)

encircling the California Grizzly on our logo. The symbolism is powerful and prophetic: the dream of endurance contrasted with the reality of relaxed vigilance — extinction. The balance of these two images represents "the struggle" to retain representative examples of wild California to share with future generations.

But these days are difficult times and one can not dwell long on abstract images. A sense of despair pervades the field staff. No one speaks of the long term. The focus is on the immediate, the printed articles on budget deficits and park closures. Rumors abound in the absence of definitive statements. It is evident that changes are in the wind, but the wind only whispers unclearly.

Mandates, originally established with the Yosemite Grant in 1864, pit public recreation against long-term preservation within each of our individual park units. This struggle for balance between preservation and recreation at our units is never ending. The same is equally true at the agency level.

The enabling legislation creating our sys-

tem of parks in 1927 (SB 439 — Breed) specifically labeled us the "state park system," and so (initially) our focus was directed. Recreation, however, has slowly but steadily enlarged its focus. Today in reality most preservation agencies and organizations view us as the "state recreation system." How can we change this impression when we find that our Division of Off-highway Vehicles can loan our entire agency money, due to acquisition of special funding programs not achieved by the system as a whole.

Facing severe budget restrictions, the dramatic decisions of today could shape our system for many years to come. Those parks rumored for transfer to other agencies and for partial or full closure share a common theme: they are by and large historic and natural resource units. Recreation has apparently prevailed.

But what are our mandates? If "we," the appointed guardians of sensitive and scenic California, do not address the needs of unborn generations, who will? Will they be happy that we placed reservoirs above scenic and historic resources?

In his *Satire VI*, Juvenal parodies a question raised by Plato in his *Republic*, "*Quis custodiet ipsos custodes?*" The Latin has been translated as, "Who will guard the guardians?"

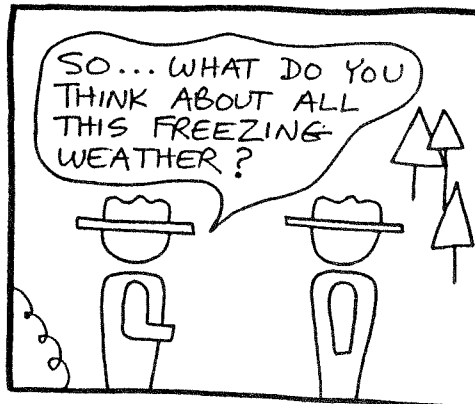
"Who will guard the guardians?"

from Plato's *Republic*

RANGER LOGO

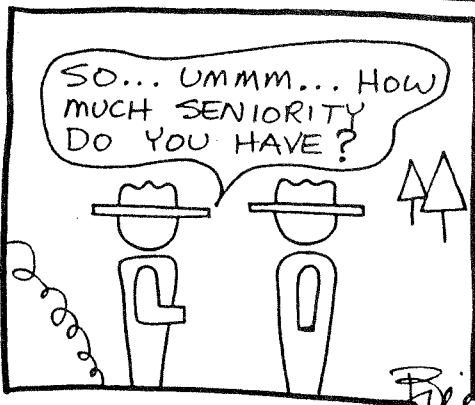
DECEMBER 1990

A TYPICAL CON-
VERSATION STARTER
FOR CALIFORNIA
STATE PARK
RANGERS ...



DECEMBER 1991

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**THE CALIFORNIA STATE PARK
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A professional association.**

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Calendar

Second ballot due
to CSPRA on
2/4/92

New officers take
office
3/92

**Annual Wkshop,
Inn at The Park
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3/16-19, 1992**

**1993 Workshop
Santa Clara
3/93**

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committees use CSPRA address.

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Executive Manager.**

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January

Register

for

the

Anaheim

Workshop!

1991

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