

NEWSLETTER

california state park rangers association

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February 1993

Mono Lake Viewpoint

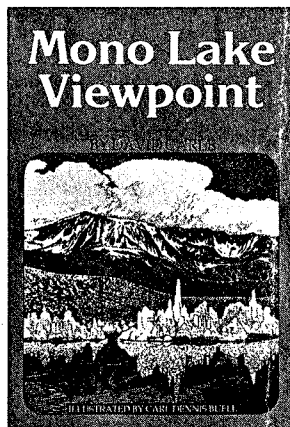
Reviewed by Denise La Verde, Fall Intern,
Southern California Office,
Mono Lake Committee

(Reprinted with permission from the
Mono Lake Committee Newsletter —
Winter, '93)

For David Carle, the marvels of Mono Lake are part of his daily life. Since 1982, he and his wife Janet have shared the one available full-time ranger position at Mono Lake Tufa State Reserve. His decade of experience enables him to write engagingly about Mono's birds and brine shrimp, tourists and tufa, freezing winter fog and debilitating summer hay fever.

For years, Carle has authored a regular column in the weekly *Mammoth Times*. Now *Artemesia Press* has gathered a collection of his essays, coupled them with impressive illustrations by this newsletter's cover artist Carl Dennis Buell, and produced a witty, easy-to-read tribute to the little mysteries that make the Mono Basin unique.

(Continued on page 3)



CSPRA's Future And Other Board Meeting Discussions

At a regular Board meeting on February 6 the Board was presented recommendations for the improvement of CSPRA. The recommendations included:

Utilize telephone surveys and polls frequently. (To this end we are considering the use of an 800 number.)

Implement a CSPRA hotsheet to inform the membership of significant issues, training opportunities, (Continued on page 4)

Update on Bodie — Galactic Bankrupt by Donna Pozzi

On January 27, Galactic Resources, Ltd. of Vancouver filed for bankruptcy in Canada. There had been earlier filings of their American subsidiaries, Galactic Resources, Inc. and Summitville Consolidated Mining Company, and the parent company was expected to follow suit. Nonetheless, this is still exciting news. Galactic had been aggressively pursuing the sale of their holdings at Bodie and we were dreading a buyout by another mining company. Now a bankruptcy trustee has been appointed to meet with (Continued on page 3)

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President's Message

By tradition, this is the time of year when the CSPRA president offers the official New Year's Wish to all members, so here it goes:

I Wish For All of You to Attend GEC!

That's the trouble with traditions — they're always over so fast. Although I suppose I could vamp a bit, and tell you how this will be the best ever, etc. The "best ever" is, of course, a matter of taste and/or lack thereof. For instance, there is no guarantee that Mike Lynch will conduct the banquet raffle. But it will have our own special California State Park blend of good cheer, education, pathos, and opportunity for you to tell one and all just how this business of ours should be run.

Seiously, the PRAC/CSPRA Workshop Planning Committee has put special effort into making this convention/workshop appropriate for our times and trials. Last year's GEC was caught off guard by looming budget cuts, reorganization, and threatened layoffs — seeming to many of us as slightly surreal. Our hope is that this year's GEC will be ready to confront the critical issues we are facing, and give us a chance to learn more about how we are to function as park professionals in a drastically revised system.

It would have been silly for us to join the current trend in conference planning, and declare as a theme "State Parks 2000: Facing The Recreational Needs of a New Millenium!" A more apt theme might be "What next?" The point is, we hope that this year's conference will give us a much needed opportunity to get together, talk things over, and maybe reinforce that important but lately strained institution: the park family.

I hope that the Santa Clara GEC will also provide an opportunity to present the New, Improved CSPRA. The draft proposal on revising our organizational structure should be finished by the beginning of February, and will be considered at the February 6 meeting of the Board of Directors. As mentioned before, the intent was to revamp CSPRA so that field participation is enhanced, thus reducing the tendency for our association to exist only as a Board of Directors for most of the year. GEC will give you all the chance to review and comment on the proposed changes.

As was the case in 1988, the Planning and Conservation League (PCL) is preparing a park and conservation bond initiative. Scheduled for 1994, this proposal is the next opportunity for the State Park System to obtain valuable funds for acquisition, development and resource management. Unfortunately, a recent law forbids any group that might benefit from an initiative from participating in its planning. This meant that if CSPRA had actively proposed or supported any project covered in the bond, we could not have worked with PCL on its design. We opted to join the PCL Initiative Steering Committee, relying on other organizations to propose those projects of vital interest to the California State Park System. Our representative to the committee, John Knott, and the other members have their work cut out for them; the initial list of projects submitted from all over the state worked up a tab of over \$9 billion dollars.

Mono Lake Viewpoint

(Continued from page 1)

"This is not a guidebook," Carle explains in his introductory chapter. "Yet I set out to inform. Environmental education is a part of my job as a ranger, after all." He then leads the reader through each of the four seasons to a final philosophical section called "In Search of Happily Ever After."

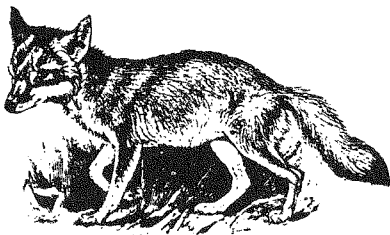
Above all, Carle maintains an imaginative approach to his material. In the beginning, he gives us our first cooking lesson on how to make Mock Mono Lake Soup (create a little of Mono Lake in your very own home!) The section "Spring" celebrates the life cycle of one of Mono's tiny creatures in "The Once And Future Shrimp," a take-off on the T.H. White classic, complete with Merlin the Magician.

For anyone who has not yet explored Mono Lake in summer, the essay "Take a Tour" prepares you for the experience. Here are Tufa towers, the "shy" alkali flies, California gulls, Mono's young volcanoes, and much more. "The Mystery of the Red-eyed Bird" is revealed in the section "Autumn," and "Winter" brings "Ouzel Omens."

Carle has ingeniously turned this book of facts and expertise into delightful tales of the Mono Basin to be shared by everyone.

Mono Lake Viewpoint, by David Carle, with illustrations by Carl Dennis Buell, 1992, Artemesia Press, 128 pages, paperback \$5.95.

(If you want to order, contact Artemesia Press, P O Box 119, Lee Vining, CA 93541. (619) 647-6496. \$5.95 & 7 1/4% tax, which includes shipping. Bookstores can get the book for requestors: ISBN #0-932347-06-1.)



Update on Bodie

(Continued from page 1)

all the creditors and liquidate the company. The trustee plans to visit Bodie soon since Galactic's claims and leases there represent their major assets. There is a small window of opportunity for these properties to be acquired for preservation purposes, or they could be bought by another mining interest.

The Draft Environmental Impact Report for new exploratory work at Bodie is still awaiting action. Comments are due March 1. While we hope the trustee will withdraw Galactic's permit application and suspend the DEIR process, we cannot count on that and must continue with our critique of the draft. CSPRA's attorneys have solicited comments from a variety of experts and expended a great deal of effort in analyzing the voluminous document. Meanwhile, Mono County and the Bureau of Land Management have initiated a joint planning effort for the Bodie area and are in the process of appointing a citizens advisory committee.

Name _____

Address _____

City, State & ZIP _____

Enclosed find my contribution of \$ _____.
(Make payable to "CSPRA")

☐ I've written letters as requested.

☐ Copies enclosed.

☐ Tell me what else I can do to help.

Send to SAVE BODIE! P. O. Box 292010,
Sacramento, CA 95829. Phone (916)
383-2530; FAX (916) 387-1179.

The Bodie Protection Act of 1993, HR 240, has yet to be heard in subcommittee but we are hopeful that it will be acted on soon. We are also looking forward to introduction of the Senate version of the bill. This legislation is extremely critical now because of Galactic's bankruptcy. The bill would prevent another mining company from filing new claims on the public lands surrounding Bodie.

(Continued on page 4)

CSPRA

Update on Bodie (Continued from page 3)

As you can see from this brief update, there have been some very positive developments regarding the future of Bodie. But these things don't just happen.

Many CSPRA members have joined in this righteous campaign and our successes are due to their support. As for the rest of you, your help is needed **now**. Please write at least one letter as requested in the last CSPRA newsletter. If you want more details, call or write for a copy of the latest **SAVE BODIE! News**. If you didn't get a copy, you're not on our mailing list; anyone who requests to be added to the list will be. If you're too busy to write letters or read another newsletter or get involved in a new cause, just send money! Your help is critical to our continued fight to SAVE BODIE!

CSPRA's Future (Continued from page 1)

and other time-sensitive material that does not fit into a newsletter timeframe.

Establish a small committee to continue efforts to expand membership involvement.

Establish District Representatives to provide a contact person between the membership and board to provide better communications. (President Harrison has asked Joe von Hermann to establish this procedure.)

Increase the effectiveness of the newsletter.

Request members to attend park commission and other meetings.

Initiate and sponsor local activities (recreation, social, professional training, and political) on a regular scheduled basis. (Harrison appointed Rick Sermon to develop a workshop along the central coast for this fall to start this program.)

Recruit members for specific projects, especially for local issues and activities.

Sponsor campouts, picnics, hikes and other outings. Possibilities include "working events" such as resource management, rehabilitation, and trail projects. (We can learn, have fun, and do some good for a park at the same time.)

Poll membership for "resident experts."

Sponsor training that had been offered at Asilomar and has now been cut.

Revive the Ecology Workshops that used to be provided in interpreting regional habitats.

Establish a "Letter of the Month" program. Provide information and contacts on one major issue each month and ask members to write a brief letter or call the contacts listed in support or opposition of the issue.

Require regional representation on the board.

Establish "sunset dates" for all committees and chairpersons, thereby requiring board action to continue them.

Establish goals and objectives annually.

Develop an annual report that would recap the years activities and accomplishments.

Explore the need and feasibility of standards for accountability of board members and committee members. Items that should be considered for inclusion are: attendance at scheduled meetings, completion of required reports, and other activities.

Summary: Common themes expressed by CSPRA members were.

Improve and increase activities of all types — regional activities received very strong support.

Improve responsiveness to local issues.

Improve communication between the board and the members.

There was strong support for political action and the "watchdog" role of CSPRA.

A willingness to commit to local and specific projects was frequently expressed.

Other Board Actions

Met with Jerry Meral of the Planning and Conservation League to update the board on recent activities and inform new board
(Continued on page 5)

Items recommended by CSPRA's Goals committee will be discussed and voted on at the annual conference. Come to the GEC at Santa Clara and participate in developing CSPRA's Future.

CSPRA's Future (Continued from page 4)

members of PCL-CSPRA activities since we have been members of PCL.

Discussed our role on the PCL bond initiative review committee. John Knott is representing us on this committee whose task it is to select 2 billion dollars worth of projects from approximately 9 million dollars worth of projects submitted.

Charlie Willard made a presentation encouraging the board to continue opposition to the Lake Natoma bridge since the local political climate has changed. CSPRA will continue to oppose this particular route.

Selected a honorary member to be announced at the annual conference in Santa Clara.

Chose the Riverside Sheraton as the site for our 1994 annual workshop/GEC.

The next board meeting will be at the Santa Clara Biltmore on March 4 at 0830.

Local Reps Needed

CSPRA would like to have a "contact person" in each of the new DPR districts. Initially, these representatives could facilitate the flow of information between the field and CSPRA. They would also provide information on local issues and make local contacts as the need arose. In the future, these positions may form the basis for a restructuring of CSPRA's governing body.

Joe von Hermann will be coordinating CSPRA's efforts to establish this list of field representatives. If you are interested, please contact Joe at the Calaveras (former Columbia) District office (209) 532-0150 or at home (209) 728-8149. You can write him at P.O. Box 2545, Murphys, California, 95327.

Concession Projects

Threats to the integrity of the State Park System seem to be right up there with death and taxes as constants in our lives. Budget woes aside, the next major threat on the horizon appears to be an expanded reliance on concessions for revenue. CSPRA would like to gather information about both the potential problems and benefits of proposed concessions affecting your park. As you become aware of projects suggested in your unit, please contact (by phone or letter) Doug Bryce, Wayne Harrison, or any CSPRA director.

Events Calendar

47th National Preservation Conference — The Challenge of Livable Communities — September 29-October 3, 1993 — NTHP, 1785 Massachusetts Ave. N.W., Washington, DC 20036. 1 800 YES-NTHP.

4th Annual March For Parks (An Earth Day Event) — April 16-18, 1993 — Organize your own March For Parks — Contact Nat Pks & Cons Assoc, 1776 Massachusetts Ave. N.W., Washington, DC 20036.

Bay Area Orienteering Club — Why not try the thinking sport — For more information and a schedule of events contact BAOC, 3015 Holyrod Dr., Oakland, CA 94611.

The Wild Pig in California Oak Woodland: Ecology and Economics — A Symposium: May 25 and 26, 1993, Embassy Suite Hotel, San Luis Obispo, California — For more information contact Bill Tietje, UC Cooperative Extension, 2156 Sierra Wy, Ste C, San Luis Obispo, CA 93401.

5th Annual National Interagency Wilderness Conference Tucson, Arizona, May 17-21, 1993. Call NPS Alan Schmierer (415) 744-3959

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.

Humor In Unicorn

Here's another look at mixed metaphors and malaprops.

Must have been an electrician position, or maybe a lifeguard. "I got wet feet and pulled out before the interview."

The case of the very safe chicken dinner. "They serve good food, but not condom bleu or anything like that."

What's this, a divine float happening? "He's going to occur the raft of God!"

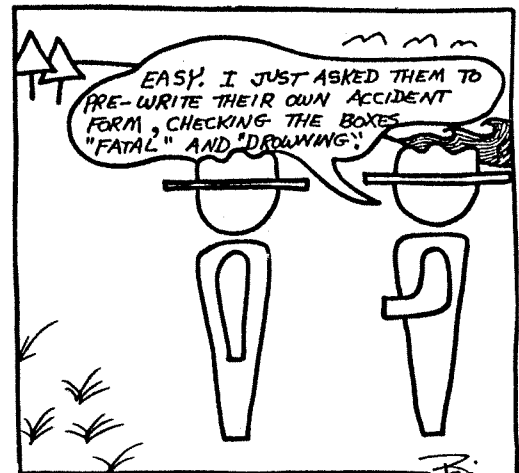
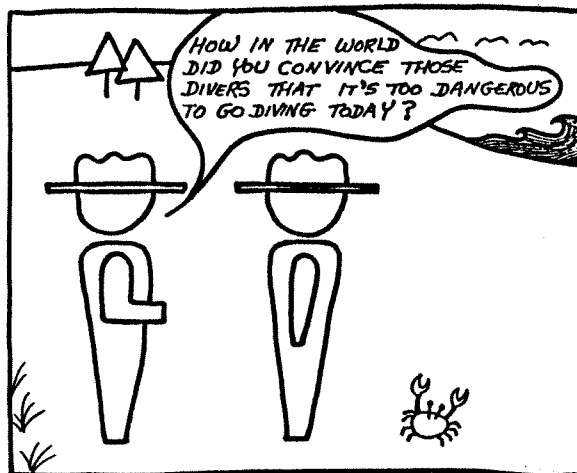
I hear you can get back trouble from climbing. "He lives in a mansion, spinal staircase and all."

What a point of view. "I wasn't ignoring you...when I'm in a hurry I don't see people, I'm very straight-headed."

The Ranger was just about to take his break, when...the timer went off at the bakery. "When we saw the gun, we thought our cookies were done for sure."

No whine before its time. "Don't quit now, give it a grain of salt first."

RANGER LOGO



RETIRED MEMBER INFORMATION

(Please save until needed)

INSTRUCTIONS: Please return completed sheet to Joe McCall at least four (4) weeks prior to retirement date to ensure prompt arrival of CSPRA retirement plaque.

MAIL TO: Joe McCall, Chair
Retired Members Committee
9028 Talisman Drive
Sacramento, CA 95826
(916) 363-7566

RETIREE'S BACKGROUND

Name to appear on plaque: _____

Location, title, date when hired by DPR as a permanent employee: _____

Date first hired as a seasonal employee (if applicable): _____

Total years with DPR: _____ Total years of state service: _____

Ending date, location, and position with DPR: _____

Notable accomplishments during career: _____

The retiree is best remembered by co-workers for being: _____

Name of spouse: _____

Plaque inscription should refer to retiree as a: Ranger; Superintendent; Manager; or _____

Retirement party information (time, date, location): _____

CSPRA member who could present plaque: _____

Coordinator's name and phone number: _____

COMMENTS: _____

**The California State Park
Rangers Association
A professional association.**

Office Manager - Newsletter Editor

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Calaveras Big Trees
(209) 795-2334

Director

Rick Sermon
District Superintendent, I
Asilomar State Beach
(408) 372-4087

Treasurer

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

Calendar

Next Board Meeting 0830, Santa Clara Biltmore,
3/4/94

GEC Santa Clara Biltmore, 0800
3/6/93

**1993 Workshop
Santa Clara**

3/4-7/93

Directors

Ron Schafer
Chino Hills District Superintendent
(714) 780-6222

John Knott
State Park Superintendent
Legislative Office
(916) 653-9909

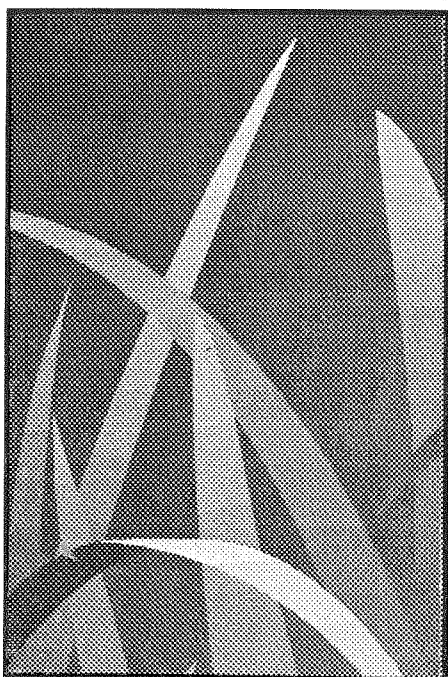
Kathryn Yee
State Park Ranger I
Candlestick Point SRA
(415) 557-4069

Save Bodie! and all other
committees use CSPRA address.

**For additional information on the
association, write the
Office Manager.**

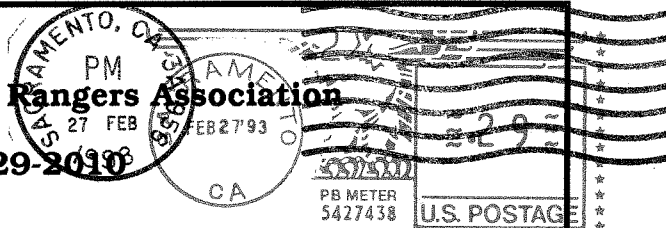
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FEBRUARY



1993

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NO



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