



*The CSPRA*

# *Wave*

*Newsletter*

VOLUME 6, NUMBER 5

CALIFORNIA STATE PARK RANGERS ASSOCIATION

SEPT-OCT 2006

## HELLOS &



New Cadet class with their training officers (L to R): Michelle Gardner (CTO), Blake Bonham, Ian Hoehn, Michael Story, Travis Lowry, Derek Davis, John Conroy, Duke Heberling, Connie Breakfield (CTO)

## GOODBYES

John Shelton, page 3

Tony Look, page 10



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Articles and letters are always welcome.  
All submissions become the property of  
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## PRESIDENT



**ANGY NOWICKI**  
*CSPRA President*

They say when it rains it pours; ....In this case, bring on the flood! The pendulum has swung in park's behalf again! All California State Parks will share \$250 million dollars deferred maintenance, an increase from last year's allocation of \$66 million. We have 6 years to spend it, but don't take your time!

This budget windfall will help rebuild recreational and historic sites in dire need of attention. It will repair roads, roofs and water system, reducing the current \$906 million maintenance backlog that has been piling up for more than 20 years. The money will reduce some 10,000 pressing state-wide projects that are currently in the process of being prioritized and ranked.

As if that wasn't great enough, that windfall was accompanied by a jump in the general fund of \$27 million dollars. Much of that increase will be used to hire 50 NEW PY, all disciplines, but maintenance will get the lion's share. There is a rumor that DPA has seen the error of their ways and have considered giving park employees a raise including the much underpaid seasonal staff. Keep those toes and fingers crossed. (Ed note: Union 7 raises have just been announced).

In November, we will be asking for your support on Proposition 84. This is the Water Quality, Safety and

Supply, Flood Control, Natural Resource Protection, & Park Improvements. The \$5.4 billion bond measure would provide critically needed funds to ensure the availability of safe drinking water, improve local water supply reliability, strengthen flood protection, and preserve California's natural landscapes, including parks, lakes, rivers, beaches, bays, ocean and coastline. Keep your eye on the development of this bond and stand by for "Talking Points" that will be published soon.

I met with Ruth Coleman for the third time this presidency just last week. Ms. Coleman is very supportive of California State Park Rangers Association and our Mission. During this meeting we discussed CSPRA's meeting with Bill Herms, DPR's new Deputy Director for Legislation, the deferred maintenance funding, new positions, training funding for California Parks Conference for March of 2007 and the most recent issue of park employee housing. While in her office, she was continually putting out spot fires that erupt in your parks. Rest assured she has the parks and employees best interests at heart.

Enjoy the good time! As my predecessor Ron Brean has said "Don't screw it up!"

### **WELCOME NEW CSPRA "ACTIVE" and "SUPPORTING" MEMBERS** As of 8/16/06

**Deanne Adams, NPS**

**Charles Bancroft**

**Blake Bonham**

**Liz Caldwell**

**John Conroy**

**Margo Cowan**

**Derek Davis**

**Tim Guardino**

**Duke Heberling**

**Stan Paez**

**Loren Rex**

**Robert Simoneaux**

**Michael Story**

**Robert Tolin**

**Ronald Walker, Jr.**

# ***REMEMBERING JOHN SHELTON: 1951-2006***

by **Dick Troy, retired**

On July 25, friends and co-workers joined Director Ruth Coleman at Folsom Lake to pay their final respects to a great park person, John Shelton. After a two-year battle, John succumbed to liver cancer on July 12<sup>th</sup>.

As a native son, John loved California, its parks and its people and he pursued those interests in his life's work. John grew up in San Diego where as a teen he enjoyed surfing and backpacking. He graduated from San Diego State University with a degree in Outdoor Recreation and worked for San Diego County Parks and the Youth Conservation Corps before joining State Parks in 1981.

His career with California State Parks spanned 25 years and included assignments at Torrey Pines, Salton Sea, Providence Mountains, Crystal Cove, the Inland Empire District, (formerly Los Lagos) and Sacramento Headquarters. During his career, he worked as a park ranger, superintendent, district planner, legislative analyst and office chief. And in all his assignments, he exhibited a passion for parks and work ethic that was envied and

admired by all.

In 1998, John was appointed Chief of the Concessions, Reservations and Fees Office. As Chief, John became renown for his fairness, level-headedness and integrity and greatly improved the workings of the office. John steadily improved the relationships between the department and its many and varied private concessionaires, calming troubled waters and building trust and confidence. He was the point man on several large, controversial and sometimes contested contracts including Hearst San Simeon, Asilomar and Old Town San Diego. Each one was successfully awarded and included improved service to the public and a fairer financial return to the department. In recognition of his work in leading the Concessions Office, the department honored him in 2004 with the esteemed Newton Drury Award for Professional Integrity.

The many speakers at the memorial remembered John's dedication to getting the job done. Many remembered him as being the first person with a smile and the last person to leave work. Always steady



under pressure, John could hunker down and battle in the toughest negotiations and later emerge with a better deal for State Parks and the people of California. John's wife Jackie, stepdaughter Caitlin and stepson Matthew and others spoke of his dedication to his family, his willingness to listen and his always- friendly manner in dealing with people.

John left a legacy of integrity and dedication that will be long remembered in the State Park System. His life and career reminds all of us who remain why our career choices are important and how a personal commitment to public service can make such a difference.

# SO TELL ME, GAIL,

by **Gail Sevrens**  
*Legislative Committee Chair*

# WHAT CAN I DO?

CSPRA is working hard in the Capitol to protect parks and park values. There are plenty of opportunities for you to become involved as well—even some ways that take very little of your time.

## **Legislative Committee**

CSPRA's legislative committee is actively recruiting new members. Recently joining the committee are former Deputy Director **Dick Troy** and Chief of Interpretation **Donna Pozzi**. Dick has been a leader in the fight against the proposed toll road through San Onofre State Beach (see below for more details) and Donna led the successful campaign to save Bodie State Historic Park. Both will be able to provide valuable insight into the legislative and political process for CSPRA membership and help to analyze pending legislation.

In addition to members of the legislative committee, CSPRA is looking for members who would be willing to meet locally with legislators to explain CSPRA goals and positions, or who could speak at public hearings that take place in various places throughout the state, including but not limited to Sacramento. Time commitments would be minimal and we would provide you with background information. Your job would be to provide that vital first-person story of what parks mean to you.

## **Support for Legislation and Proposals**

I write this during the final frantic days of the 2005-2006 legislative session. As CSPRA lobbyist **Monica Miller** says, "anything can change until that last gavel goes down." [See Monica's report, page 10]. Therefore, contents and status of bills are a

moving target, but as of this writing CSPRA is supporting the following bills:

**SB 1125 (Chesboro) Tidelands Oil Money for Parks.** This bill supports funding for deferred maintenance for Parks and highlighted on Parks Advocacy Day 2006. At this writing it is on "suspense", which means it may not go to the floor.

**SB 153 (Chesboro) Support for Proposition 84.** Prop 84 is the initiative to provide bond money for Parks.

**AB 2497 (Laird) Study to look at acquisitions for parklands being approved by a mechanism other than the Public Works Board (PWB).** This bill would consider other ways to approve acquisitions. Currently our acquisitions must be approved by PWB, which approves most acquisitions of state land, where we must compete against non-resource priorities such as land for prisons, surplus lands to get cash for the state, etc. The PWB is composed of non-resource agencies such as the Department of General Services and the Department of Finance, which have been reluctant to approve land acquisitions that don't have operations funding attached. An alternative is the Wildlife Conservation Board, which includes resource-oriented agencies such as Dept of Fish and Game. Currently, some agencies such as the State Lands Commission and the Dept. of Water Resources have acquisitions reviewed by the Wildlife Conservation Board (although the bill text erroneously states that all state acquisitions go through PWB). CSPRA strongly supports acquisitions of parklands, even if current operations funding is not available. CSPRA believes that

as California becomes more populated and developed, opportunities for parkland acquisition will diminish and become far more costly. We believe the far-sighted option is to acquire land now for future generations.

**AB 2485 (Jones and Laird) Sea Otter protection measures.** Sea otter mortality has increased and this bill would provide measures for protection, including education on how to properly dispose of cat litter to prevent transmission of disease to sea otters.

**SB 168 would have ratified a compact to prevent construction of a casino at the environmentally sensitive Big Lagoon,** but the bill died. This was another bill featured on Park Advocacy Day (PAD) 2006. CSPRA is signing on to a letter of conceptual support for the compact generated by the California State Parks Foundation.

**Proposition 84 will be on the November ballot to provide bond funding for resources, including Parks.** CSPRA urges each of you to talk to your neighbors, family, and friends and explain to them why funding for parks is key. While on duty in your park you are allowed to provide visitors with factual information about Prop 84, although you may not advocate for votes.

CSPRA also actively supported the successful allocation of deferred maintenance funding for parks.

## **Opposition to Legislation and Proposals**

CSPRA opposed AB 1708 (DeVore), which requires the Director of the Department of Personnel Administration and the directors of state agencies to determine the fair

## LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE

### LEGISLATION, from page 4

and reasonable value of housing provided to employees. CSPRA Board Member **Natalie Lohi** was instrumental in spurring us to action. This bill was, however, signed in to law by the governor in July. It remains unclear what the practical implications of this bill will be to employees. The legislation does not supersede existing Memorandums of Understanding (MOUs) between the state and employee unions.

**Proposed Toll Road at San Onofre State Beach.** A broad coalition of organizations including CSPRA, the California State Parks Foundation, and the Sierra Club are fighting this proposal, which threatens a campground, sensitive species, cultural sites, and world-class surfing. CSPRA's **Dick Troy** has been a leader and spokesperson in this battle, which was also highlighted on PAD '06. We fear that in addition to the impacts to San Onofre SB, this would set a precedent encouraging agencies across the state to look to parklands for land for non-park projects.

We are currently looking for members who might be able to meet locally in opposition to this proposal.

Please contact me if you might be able to provide assistance.

**Auburn Dam.** CSPRA continues to warily watch this perennial proposal. Past-President **Ron Brean** heads this issue and is interested in a proactive approach to strengthening Auburn State Recreation Area as a park. Check out Nature Noir, by retired ranger **Jordan Fisher-Smith**, for background on Auburn SRA.

#### Working with DPR

CSPRA feels fortunate that the Department leadership concurs with CSPRA's positions on most of the pressing issues we face. President **Angy Nowicki** met recently with new DPR Deputy Director for Legislation **Bill Herms**, and Angy and I have been conducting quarterly meetings with Director **Ruth Coleman** to coordinate efforts and strategies where appropriate.

#### So, Gail, What Can I Do?

Your CSPRA dues support our activities, including lobbying. There are several other ways you can directly help our efforts, with even just a little of your time.

• **--Join our email alert list.** Many CSPRA members joined before the advent of email (remember those days?) and so we might not have your

email address. Send it either to me ([gail@cspira.com](mailto:gail@cspira.com)) or Executive Manager **Laura Svendsgaard** ([laura@cspira.com](mailto:laura@cspira.com)). We'll let you know about timely action you can take such as calling or emailing legislators, events, and pending hearings.

**--Put local legislators on your park's mailing list.** Lawmakers need to know what is going on in their local parks and the services we provide to constituents, such as education, interpretation, special events, conservation, and recreation opportunities. Find out who your local legislator is ([www.legislature.ca.gov/legislators\\_and\\_districts/legislators/your\\_legislator.html](http://www.legislature.ca.gov/legislators_and_districts/legislators/your_legislator.html)) and add them to your mailing list. Extend personal invitations to special events. Make sure their staff is aware of what we do. Remember, many legislators will change after November elections.


**--Check out CSPRA's Capitol Watch web page.** Found at [www.cspira.com/legislation.html](http://www.cspira.com/legislation.html), webmaster **Jeff Price** posts the latest news from the Legislative Committee and more. You can also follow the status of bills at the website of our lobbyist Governmental Advocates at [www.governmentaladvocates.com/clientaccess.php](http://www.governmentaladvocates.com/clientaccess.php), password CSPRA1005.

**--Plan to attend Parks Advocacy Day March 2007.** Led by the California State Parks Foundation, which is joined by many partners including CSPRA, the annual Parks Advocacy Day provides lawmakers and their staff to meet the faces of the parks: you. There is nothing more powerful than a park employee explaining firsthand the challenges we face out there and the great things that we do. The name California State Park Rangers Association carries a cachet with legislators and they listen. Orientation and training for Park Advocacy Day will be conducted around the state prior to the event and at next year's **CA Parks Conference March 4-8, 2007 at Yosemite.**

CSPRA Wave, Sept-Oct, 2006 **5**

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# *Protecting Resources by Working Together*

by Todd Swain, Special Agent,  
National Park Service

Most of us began our park careers hoping to be outdoors and in the process, do something positive for the environment. As we progressed from seasonal to permanent employee, from ranger trainee to supervisor, we were given more administrative duties. Staff meetings, writing reports and budgeting are but a few of the everyday tasks that now seem to make up the majority of our jobs.

It is important for all of us to remember why we entered into our profession and to reaffirm our commitment to protecting park resources from those that would harm them. Fossils, insects, mining equipment, Native American artifacts, reptiles and wood are but a few of the park resources plundered each year. Some of these are taken as "souvenirs", but sizeable percentages are taken by people who have specific knowledge about the resources they seek.

To stem the removal and degradation of park resources, we must work together as a team. To hold archeological looters accountable for the destruction they cause, law enforcement must work with archeologists. Botanists may notice that a certain plant species is disappearing, but without an inter-

disciplinary approach, may not link the population reduction with commercial trade. A maintenance employee may notice a car parked in the same area of the park each day, but without consulting other park staff, may not realize that an endan-



gered species is living nearby.

A crucial element to this interdisciplinary approach is information sharing. There are parks where resource staff will not provide rangers with the locations of threatened

resources. This practice must be brought to an end if we are to protect those resources. This is not to say that archeological or endangered species locations should be broadcast for all to hear. It does mean that rangers, who are typically the eyes and ears of the park, must have an idea what resources are where and what resources are at risk.

Another portion of the information-sharing matrix involves the Public Information Officer (PIO) and Interpretive Rangers. They should be continually sending messages to the public about the special nature of parklands. This resource protection message is also an important component of criminal prosecutions. When we catch a looter or resource thief and successfully prosecute

them, we must get the "biggest bang for our buck" and publicize our protection efforts. These press releases will hopefully deter others from engaging in similar illegal activities and make the public aware of our protection efforts.

In an effort to stimulate communication between cultural/natural resources staff, rangers and PIOs, the Pacific West Region of the National Park Service developed the Inter-Disciplinary Resource Protection Training. This weeklong course is held in San Luis Obispo, CA and has



## RESOURCE PROTECTION

### **PROTECTION, from page 6**

been attended by staff of the California State Park System. Participants are divided into three teams consisting of a PIO, rangers, archeologist and botanist/biologist. The first day of the course covers laws, legal issues, PIO strategies, damage assessments and team building exercises. The teams then rotate through three all-day resource crime scenarios. As a team they must process crime scenes, interview witnesses and suspects, complete damage assessments, and provide information to the media. These scenarios provide an excellent opportunity for team members from different professions to witness the

skills and strengths of their co-workers. Having successfully completed these scenarios, staff



members are better prepared to handle real resource crimes when they encounter them in their home parks.

Whether you have the opportunity to attend this type of inter-disciplinary training or not, it is incumbent upon all park staff to maximize our protection efforts by working closely with employees in other professions. Our jobs with the park system are to protect park resources for future generations and we must do this as efficiently as possible – the public is counting on us.

*Todd Swain is a Special Agent with the National Park Service in southern California. He has*

*conducted joint NPS/CSPS investigations and presented training for CSPS staff and volunteers.*

### **New CSPRA members**

**Loren Rex:** A Supervising Ranger in the Monterey Sector of Monterey District, Loren is actively involved in all aspects of being a field ranger. He is an EMR, Firearms, and Scuba Instructor. He started his career as a Park Aid in 1995. After graduating from Chico State with a Geosciences Major, he went through the Ranger Cadet program. He felt very lucky to come to Monterey right from the Academy. We feel at the Monterey District that we were also lucky to get such an energetic, friendly, and park-oriented Ranger working in our district. In his free time, Loren enjoys scuba diving, snowboarding, and woodworking.

**Chuck Bancroft:** Chuck started his career with State Parks in 1977 as a SP Technician in Mendocino, then worked as a Ranger at Will Rogers/Topanga for two years. Chuck is a Master Interpreter and is beloved by

the local school children for his excellent school presentations in the Monterey Dist. He also has assisted countless Eagle Scout candidates to complete their Eagle Scout projects.

He has a Forestry Technician certificate from Santa Rosa JC and an Environmental Studies/Regional Planning degree from Sonoma State. He has been married to his lovely wife for over 23 years.

His passions are nature photography, wild mushrooms, good wine, old movies, 60s Rock and Roll, and British Blues.

#### **John Conroy (Oceano Dunes):**

**Background:** I was teaching scuba and working retail at Dive N' Surf in Redondo Beach since 2002. Before that I was two years in Fiji running the dive operation of a four star resort... that was sweet. I applied to State Parks shortly after returning from Fiji in 2002, so it has been a long time waiting to get in. I lived in Guam for more than 5 years,

primarily employed in the field of hazardous waste management.

**Why a park career?** I have a degree in Geog.-Natural .Resource Conservation from UCLA and have always wanted to protect our resources for future generations. Ranger **Tim Corliss** was my housemate in Half Moon Bay in 1999, so I was able to envision a career with State Parks. I did have to make the diversion to Fiji first, however.

**Where would you like go in your career?** My wife is still living in Redondo Beach and working in the South Bay. I hope to transfer to Angeles District when the time comes. If fate has it that I remain here at Oceano, I will feel like a lucky man.

**Outside interests?** Surfing & Scuba. I remain in close contact with my friends in Fiji and work with stateside friends assisting Fijians through the Laloma Foundation. Check it out at <http://www.lolomafoundation.org/>



**CSPRA Board Meeting – Minutes  
April 10, 2006, One Capitol Mall.  
Sacramento, CA**

**Call to Order:** President Angy Nowicki called meeting to order

**Roll Call,** Present: Angy Nowicki, President; Gail Sevrens, President Elect; Natalie, Brett, Sal, Joe Mette, Board Member; Ron Brean, Past President; Laura Svendsgaard, Executive Manager (later: Becky Schenone-Chase)

**Consideration of Minutes:** Motion to approve—Sal, second, Brett; approved

**Report of President**

Meeting with Ruth will be done on a quarterly basis. Ruth has expressed interest in involving other groups, such as California State Park Foundation, CALPA, etc. Angy working on it.

**Monica Miller:**

Unable to attend, was unaware of PAD= Sal will do an assessment for the Leg committee. Gail will provide assistance as needed.

Note: Later the roles were reversed; Sal will provide assistance for Gail

**Historian:** We are currently looking for a new Historian to replace Kim Baker. We have 42 years of history. Angy is asking retirees (we have 180)

AB 1924-bird bill to raise penalties.

Angy will contact agencies and Monica to get more info.

**Glendale Rangers**—asking for letter of support against cutting two of their four ranger positions. Letter sent.

**Report of Committees**

**Awards and Recognition**—director's awards will be 4/18/06, we will again cosponsor, providing money for printed programs and an after reception. At least two CSPRA members are receiving awards: Kim Baker and Terri Lopez.

Directors award not to exceed \$ 300.00  
**Conference**—final accounting on 5/15.

**Finance – Laura:**

- Detailed finance reports provided and discussed.
- Bank statements will go going directly to treasurer Natalie's for review then forward to Laura for reconciliation and filing.
- Insurance: Laura is pursuing liability for CSPRA and errors/omissions for its Board.
- CPC accounting is slow—2005 still not available.

**Secretary / Treasurer**

Becky will take the Secretary position, and Natalie will take the position of Treasurer.

**Conference 2007**

Yosemite—Tenaya lodge

Site visit Dana/Pam—conference committee – May 15—conference call will be available

Hotel fee \$ 84 to state parks

**Misc**

Seasonal bylaws re-write –Ron will send .

Newsletter- over budget— we need to offer fewer pages—suggestion on a different form. Included items like Scholarships, Leg committee info, face lift on membership form.

Gail will write CHP- letter of condolences for officers lost in the line of duty

**Toll road issues**

Quickest route is not thru a park- 73% polled opposed the toll road.

Lawsuit was filed on behalf of Surf riders, SPF and more

**Park Advocacy Day**

Well attended and well organized —170 volunteers showed up. Organized by Tracy Verado with SPF (office in Sac)

**Interview Training**—CSPRA looking into setting up Interview training, many candidates are poorly prepared for the interviewees

**Next Meeting**—Conference call—May 22<sup>nd</sup> 10:00 A.M. 1 hour

Meeting – Oct 1<sup>st</sup> weekend 7,8<sup>th</sup>

McConnell SP

**Exciting Career Opportunity**

CSPRA's Executive Manager position will soon be available. Those interested in working for a wonderful group of people and for a wonderful cause should contact Laura at 800.749.8749 or laura@cspira.com

**RETIREE'S**

**RENDEZVOUS is coming!  
Oct. 6 & 7, McConnell SRA**

This is an informal gathering of friends who have a common tie through CA State Parks. There will be a potluck BBQ on Fri. evening, & a breakfast and lunch on Sat. A group campsite is avail. CSPRA's Board will be meeting at the event also. Letters with more detail will be arriving soon. Info: Kirk at 209-586-3209

***New & Renewing Retiree  
Members of CSPRA- thanks!***

**Laura Svendsgaard**  
*CSPRA Executive Manager*

**Honored Benefactors:** Peggy Whitehead  
Mike Lynch, Elaine Price & Doug Bryce

**Members:** R. Allen, B. Anderson, K. Angier, J. Ball, B. Beat, S. Bitting, D. Bosch, J. Bowdoin, R. Brean, R. Brock, C. Buchter, C. Burke, J. Burke, DBuschke, J. Caldwell, K. Caldwell, R. Campbell, D & J. Carle, W. Cater, C. Chavez, H. Clark, L. Clark, B. Clark, D. Clement, P. Cloney, G. Cook, I. Cook, M. Curry, J. Davis, W. Dillinger, D. Doberneck, T. Domich, D. Donahue, C. Dooley, J. Doyle, C. Drake, D. Dungy, R. Elliston, R. Felty, L. Ferri, L. Fletcher, R. Freeman, G. Fregien, J. Geary, M. Gehr, M. Getty, D. Gotelli, D. Grant, M. Guiney, B. Hale, D. Hanson, J. Harbison, J. Hardcastle, L. Harter, G. Hayes, B. Heacox, R. Henry, S. Hill, D. Hoyle, H. Huenemann, R. Irwin, E. Itogawa, R. Jenkins, J. Jennings, B. Jones, G. Jones, J. A. Jones, JJ Jones, K. Jones, E. Junette, S. Kahn, M. Kania, B. Kennedy, T. Kishbaugh, J. Kolb, C. Kraft W. Krumbein, M. Kutsch, D. Lakatos, R. Lawton, D. Lawyer, K. Leigh, F. Lemley D. Long, V. Long, C. Lonneck, CLYden R. Macomber, W. Marshall, K. Martin, J. McCall, R. McCall, L. McCargo, R. McCullough, J. McCummins, D. McGrath, K. McKowen, C. Mehlert, J. Melvin, W. Miller, J. Mitchell, S. Moore, K. Morgan, T. Morgan, A. Morley, M. Muetz, J. Neal, D. Nelson, A. Oliver, B. Olson, F. Padilla, S. Paez, J. Peat, P. Pennington, P. Peterson, G. Picard, J. Price, R. Ray, N. Reid-Sandler, T. Reinhardt, W. Reinhardt, J. Ritter, K. Robinson, R. Robinson, J. Schlotter, C. Scimeca, R. Sermon, K. Smith, J. Snider, W. Stahlberg, M. Stephenson, S. Stewart, M. Stokes, J. Stowe, D. Stratton, C. Strickler, K. Sturm, T. Tanner, R. Todd, J. Tranmer, S. Treanor, R. Troy, M. Tubbs, J. Tucker, A. Ulm, D. Van Cleve, D. Verardo, G. Waggoner, S. Wagy, K. Wallace, P. Watkins, R. Westberg, M. Whitehead, K. Wilbur, C. Willard, R. Wohl, M. Woodward, T. Young.



# BACK IN THE DAY

by David Donahue, retired

Summer, 1956. I was parking cars at the San Diego County Fair. Days were long, 12 to 14 hours, but the pay was good! I was making \$2.11 an hour. **Tom Miller** asked what I was going to do after the Fair. With all that money, living at home beach bum. Want to come to the mountains and haul garbage and clean restrooms? Sure. The Fair was closed Sunday night and it was late when I got home to Hillcrest in San Diego. No freeways.

Monday at 8:01AM: Mom woke me and said a Morrie Morgan was on the phone. Dad drove me to Cuyamaca Rancho State Park on Wednesday. Part of the deal was I was to have the same days off as Tom and we would ride together. Levis and plaid shirt work clothes. Could I get a khaki shirt? Sure. Some time later would I sew a patch on the shirt? Oh boy, yes I would.

Cleaning restrooms was done with a sponge and cleanser, Ajax preferred. Monday they received a complete washing. The tongue and groove walls were washed and wiped down with a sponge as were the showers and laundry rooms.

Hauling trash. 33 gallon trash cans were placed between campsites. A ton and a half stake side truck was loaded with 55 gallon drums. Driver and two swappers hauled the trash. One rode in the bed and emptied the can given to him by the other person who rode on the running board and jumped off to pick up the can and put it on the side rack where it was taken and dumped into one of the 55 gallon drums. A 2x4 was used to tamp the larger drums. This was in the days of ice boxes and it seemed once a run while tamping you would hit a carton of sour milk.

Worked four seasons at Cuyamaca then went into the Navy for two years. Got out and was hired as a Park Aid at Silver Strand. While at the Strand and on my summer Naval

Reserve Cruise, I received an offer for a Ranger I position at Bodie SHP. When you were 48 on a ranger list you took any thing that was offered. Made arrangements to drive to Bodie where I was interviewed and accepted. Drove into Bridgeport as there were no phones in Bodie. Stockton was called and informed and I was to go to Stockton the next day for an interview. Showed up in Stockton and was told I had to go to Sacramento. There was no Resources Building at the time. Ended up in **Leo Crawford's** office. I had confused things by accepting Bodie. They had a married ranger to send to Bodie. Leo finally offered me Bolsa Chica SB. I said yes as I wanted a job. **Jim Avant**, the Bolsa supervisor, never got to interview me. Leo called and told him that he had hired his ranger. Stopped in San Clemente on the way home. **Lydia Sleppy** signed me on. Got to San Diego and went to Albert's Uniforms and bought my wool pants, wool long sleeved shirts and felt Stetson. Bolsa was an independent unit. Staff was **Jim Avant** RII, **Hugo Hoy** and **Ross Henry** RI, **T.J. Hicklin**, **George Stoker** and **George Segreson** Park Attendants.

I was lucky to get T.J. as my training officer. T. J. was a retired Marine Master Gunnery Sergeant. Bolsa was patrolled in a Ford ¾ ton 4x4 pickup. At this time there were still railroad tracks on the beach. Our inland boundary was marked by a row of chemical toilets and trash cans. We used to patrol along the top of the berm as we could see the beach and water at the same time. The tracks were convenient when patrolling in the evening. You start out in low, pull out the hand throttle and cruise down the beach at a stately 3 mph and didn't have to steer. Grunion night it was a different story.

*David Donahue retired in 1992 as Manager of Technical Services at Hearst Castle. He worked as a ranger*

## DISTRICT REPORT

### Colorado Desert District report by CSPRA Rep Jeri Zemon

Cuyamaca Rancho State Park: The Los Caballos Horse Camp has been closed since the Cedar Fire of Oct. 2003. Archaeologists have been concerned over protecting a large Kumeyaai burial site near the Horse Camp. This site is spiritually important to the local tribe members. Unfortunately, the long time horse campers are very unhappy about the closure. So far a satisfactory location for a new Horse Camp has not been agreed upon by the horse campers.

A new land acquisition on the east side of the Santa Rosa Mtns. may eventually be administered by the Ocotillo Wells SVRA and Anza-Borrego Desert SP staff. The Cahuilla property overlooks the Salton Sea and contains ancient fish traps and other artifacts, as well as sensitive plant species. Portions of this property have been used by off-roaders for years. About 2-and-1/2 sections are owned by the Anza-Borrego Foundation. The patrol Ranger reports that he has found 12 roads that trespass into the ABF property from off-road activity. The fate of the remainder of the Cahuilla property remains to be seen.

Finally, the 36th annual Bighorn Sheep Count was a success. The count was the second highest ever at 254 sheep. Dedicated volunteers came to Anza Borrego from all over the country to count the sheep over the July 4th weekend.

*at Bolsa Chica and Mt. San Jacinto, Maintenance Supervisor at Huntington SB, Director of the Mott Training Center, and Chief Ranger at Russian River District, among other assignments in his long career with California State Parks. He currently works as a retired annuitant doing background checks.*

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## LOBBYIST REPORT

# *The End-of-Session Push*

by **Monica Miller**, CSPRA Lobbyist

The California Legislature is in full swing as we wrap up this 2005-06 legislative cycle which ends on August 31, 2006. With term limits fully taking effect we are running against some tight deadlines. One-third of the legislature will not be returning, so the pressure is on to accomplish those long awaited legislative goals. Additionally, we are faced with the last minute "gut and amend" bills on issues that died earlier in the year and now legislators are taking this opportunity to re-introduce those bills in the upcoming late night sessions. This is all part of the annual tradition of the end of session. Every year we seem to be able to get through several months worth of work in just a few weeks.

CSPRA is working on several different pieces of legislation this year to help keep the mission of state parks. Some of those include protecting Big Lagoon, allowing state parks to receive funds from oil revenues from tidelands along with other various issues. Additionally, we are happy to announce that your Board has assembled a legislative team which is in full swing and ready to respond to last minute bills and positions. Once the legislature adjourns, the Governor has until the end of September to sign or veto bills or they become law. His adminis-

tration is facing over 900 bills in the next month and a half that they have to act on.

Once the legislature has adjourned and the fall recess begins we are in full campaign mode. With this November's election looming, you should be aware that the ballot is heavy with various infrastructure bonds and local sales tax measures. The legislature is overturning one-third of its body and there is a potential of a new administration. The 2007-08 legislative cycle should be interesting at best and will provide a steep learning curve for the freshman class. As the election approaches, take time to get to know your elected officials or ones that potentially may win. It is great to spend some time sharing the beauty of your state park with them and building that relationship.

Once we have completed this legislative session we will provide a full report on all of the bills and issues that CSPRA took positions on and their outcomes. Look for that report in the October issue of Wave. In the meantime, go to the CSPRA website and take a look at bills that CSPRA is currently working on to help better protect the mission of state parks and your ability to do what you love in your park.



**Tony Look, 1917 - 2006**  
**"The John Muir of Santa Cruz"**

Tony was CSPRA's Honorary Ranger in 1973, executive director of the Sempervirens Fund, and the primary force behind the expansion of Castle Rock, Butano, & Big Basin State Parks.

photo by Rod Searcey

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## humor in unicorn



## Mixed Metaphors and Malaprops

*by Jeff Price, retired*

What a jerk.

*Hey, are you really serious or  
just tickling my chain?*

Horses; Smorses.

*Don't change boats midstream.*

Romantic business setting.

*Your workspace is dim; you need  
more candle light in here.*

Treatment is the bomb.

*He was getting a mixture of  
cancer drugs, a real Molotov  
cocktail.*

Curse of the tombstone.

*The crowd was screaming  
epitaphs in Farsi at the security  
force.*

## GET CONNECTED

**CSPRA Online:** Catch up  
on CSPRA activities, contact  
your District Reps, Board or  
Officers, get latest information  
[www.cspra.com](http://www.cspra.com)

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	Ann Meneguzzi	<a href="mailto:amene@parks.ca.gov">amene@parks.ca.gov</a>
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Northern Buttes	Val Nixon	<a href="mailto:nixons@mchsi.com">nixons@mchsi.com</a>
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Representatives are needed for:

Mendocino District, Grants, Historic Preservation, Northern Service Ctr,  
Southern Service Ctr, Interpretation Div., Cultural Resources Div., Natural  
Resources Div., Planning Div., and Tech Services Div.

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## Do you know someone who is retiring?

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or email [laura@CSPRA.com](mailto:laura@CSPRA.com),  
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## **CALIFORNIA STATE PARK RANGERS ASSOCIATION**

### **Mission Statement**



**The California State Park Rangers Association is an organization of park professionals dedicated to advancement of the highest principles of public service, and established to support, protect, and defend the integrity of State Parks for present and future generations.**



***Founded 1964***